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North Texas Premiere Latino Publication



**Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales':
Fearless Chicano Leader**

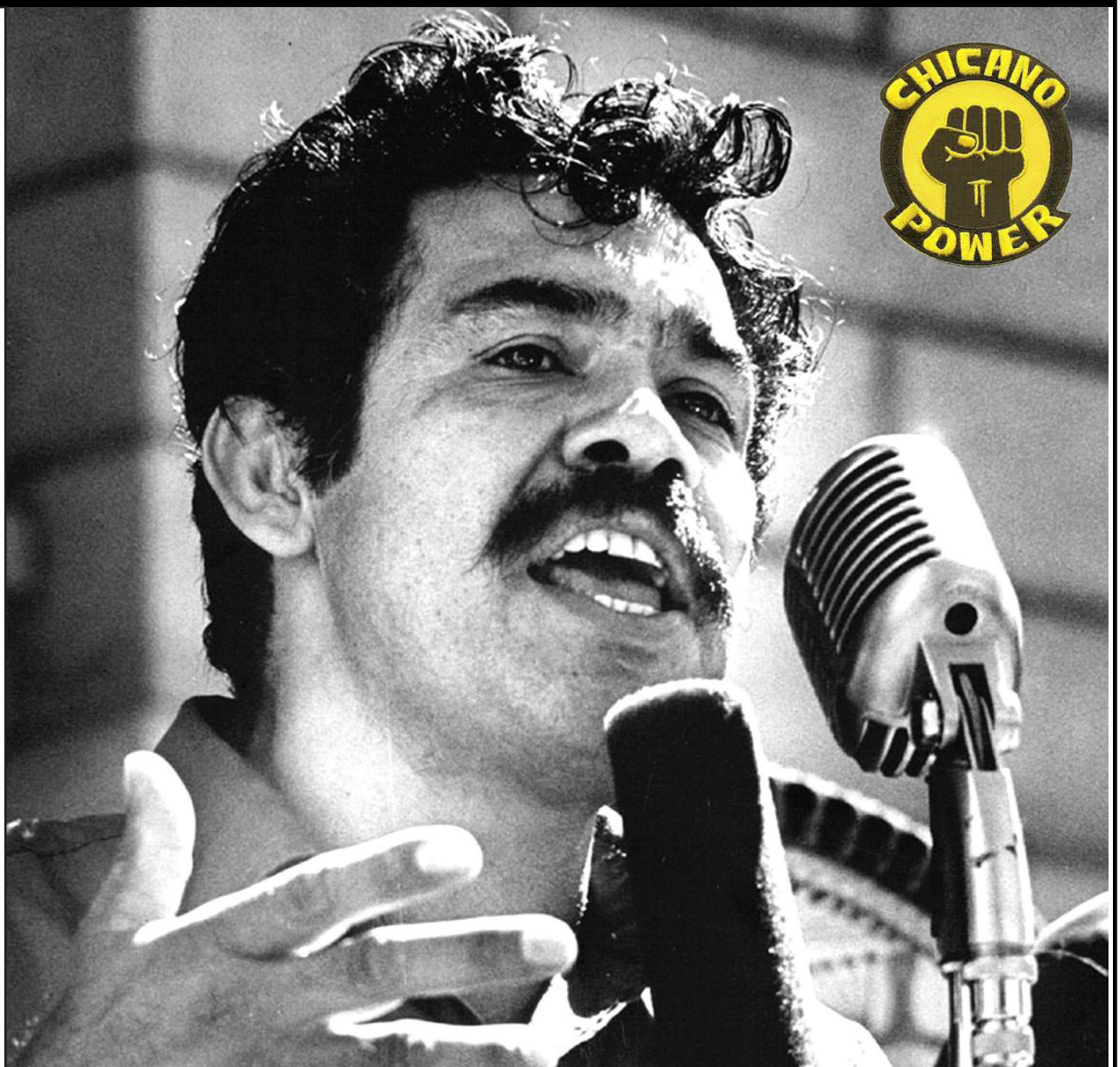
A Pep Talk for Some in the Catholic Faith

El Cowboy 2015 Draft, Best Ever?

Se Juntaron el hambre con las ganas de comer

An Encounter of Hunger and Food.

Denton LULAC 4366 2015 Banquet



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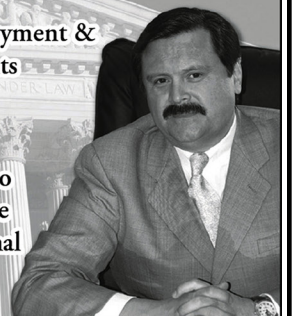


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Our Print Edition is Distributed in Dallas, Denton and Tarrant Counties at over 375 locations. We reach both English and Spanish buyers online and offline in all your service areas.

Letter from the Editor

Felix Alvarado

Well. It is that time of the year to give Caesar what is Caesar's. It is also election time. Locally there are city council, school board and water district elections. Many people are already sporting "Ready for Hilary buttons". We all want to participate in presidential elections yet, local elections are much more important to us on a day to day basis. We are all familiar with the dismal state of public education. Your school board has a lot to do with that. The state legislature is trying to do away with the Dream Act. Looks like the Texas legislature is trying to make the school to prison road wider.

All the problems around you cannot be fixed by Hillary. They can only be fixed by you and the fix is your vote. It seems to me a little odd that we keep reelecting the same school board members, over and over again. Obviously we are not looking at the numbers, the achievement gap, the dropout rate, the disciplinary numbers that show African-American and Latinos kids punished in higher numbers than their Anglo counterparts. Hilary is not going to fix that. Your vote can. And on the way to vote. Take ten family members or friends with you. The objective of elections is this, keep the politicians get rid of the bad ones.

This issue we tell the story of Bridgeport. It is fascinating to uncover the story of what brought Mexicans to North Texas. During the Industrial Age one group of people contributed significantly to the economic development of North Texas. That group was the Mexicans. The Mexicans answered the call when the demand for skill labor was sent out.

We are getting signatures on a petition to name a street after Cesar Chavez. It is only right. Fort Worth in the Metropolis benefitted the most from the abundant labor in Mexico. Mexicans were recruited for the meat packing companies and the steel mills in the Southside. Yes. Mexicans were good for Fort Worth. This was before immigration was an issue and American industrialists were looking for young, strong people to work. It is time for the city to recognize the contribution of Mexicans to the economic development of Fort Worth. Name a street after Cesar Chavez. It is only right.

Go Vote.

We welcome Denton. As you can see they have a lot to say. They have been looking for a voice. They have one now.

Pan American Golf Association of Fort Worth

An organized amateur golf club



It was in 1951 that Al Rodriguez, an avid golfer, sold the Gutierrez brothers, Amador and Gilbert, on the idea of organizing a golf club among Mexican-Americans. A few weeks later this trio of super salesmen organized the Latin American Golf Association consisting of 12 charter members. The first president was Al Rodriguez. The first trophy tournament held in 1951 was won by Rudy Flores Sr., with Gilbert Gutierrez coming in second. In 1956, the name was officially changed to Pan American Golf Association of Fort Worth.

Since then, the membership has grown from 12 members in 1951, 65 in 1964, 108 in 1968, 133 in 1973 156 in 1996. We are now experiencing the trend that young people are not getting into golf. Membership is down to 105 in 2015. Golf is a hard game to learn but when you learn the basics you can play and enjoy the game the rest of your life.

There are so many beautiful places you can enjoy visiting. Many include a golf courses with their wonderfully manicured landscapes. Oh what a great feeling being out there. You can feel close to God on a beautiful day on a beautiful golf course.

Many golfers find that playing organized golf is more enjoyable than just going out to play. It gives you a reason to practice. Yeah you have a tournament on the weekend and you want to be able to win. This is where the Pan American Golf Association will be of service. The golfing scene provided by our PAGA tournament chairman will include the Partnership, the Handicap, the Trophy Tourney, and the Medal to mention a few. Lest the local scene should get monotonous, an occasional trip is made to other cities to compete with other PAGA Chapters in cities like Dallas, Waco, Temple, Austin, San Antonio, Oklahoma City, Wichita, Kansas, etc. Regardless of your handicap, 26 or scratch, a full golf calendar guarantees you will have golf calloused hands the year round.

The climax of all this golf activity occurs at a very special occasion---the National Pan American Golf Association Convention. It is scheduled during the latter part of July or early August at the host club's option. Fort Worth has been host to this annual event many times, 1958, 1965, 1973, 1982, 1994, 2007, and now this year in 2015. In 1994, the Club was host to over 900 golfers and their families, a total of over 3000 persons. This year we expect 500 to 600 golfers.

The overwhelming success for this year's 58th national event will be testimony to our chapter members' resourcefulness and ability to plan and work as a team.

Yours in Golf,

Joe Govea

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Every Day Heroes

While we do not call ourselves Heroes, our Advocates (Paid Mentors) have often been called that as well as a godsend and other complimentary adjectives through the years. The Youth Advocate Programs have been serving youths and families since 1975. Locally we are the Tarrant County Youth Advocate Program and have been here since 1992.

Our job is to work with at-risk youths in the Juvenile System. In addition we also work on the prevention side with students from FWISD and Arlington AISD. Among our unique strategies is an individual strength based assessment for each client we serve. We pride ourselves in not being a one size fits all program. This strategy among others not only sets apart but also is in large part an important reason why we can reach children when others cannot. Another part of the program is that we work with not only assigned clients but also seek and provide resources for the whole family if needed. In fact the parents, family, school and other stakeholders in the child's life are also very often a large part of the individual client success plan.

Finally we have the Advocates that are assigned to our clients, these men and women are caring adults that very often live in the same community as their assigned clients. The Advocates come from all walks of life they can be college students, part timers or even some retired or semi-retired Individuals. They all do have one thing in common a desire to help others, especially the youth in our community.

To find how you can become a Youth Advocate see our Ad on back cover, college degree not required bilinguals encouraged to apply.



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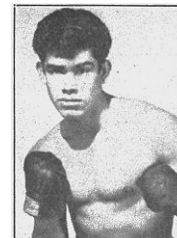
Today!

Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales’: Fearless Chicano Leader

by Franco

“I am Joaquin. The odds are great. But my spirit is strong,
My faith unbreakable. My blood is pure. I am Aztec prince and Christian Christ.
I SHALL ENDURE! I WILL ENDURE!”

– Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales (1928-2005) Chicano boxer, poet and activist.

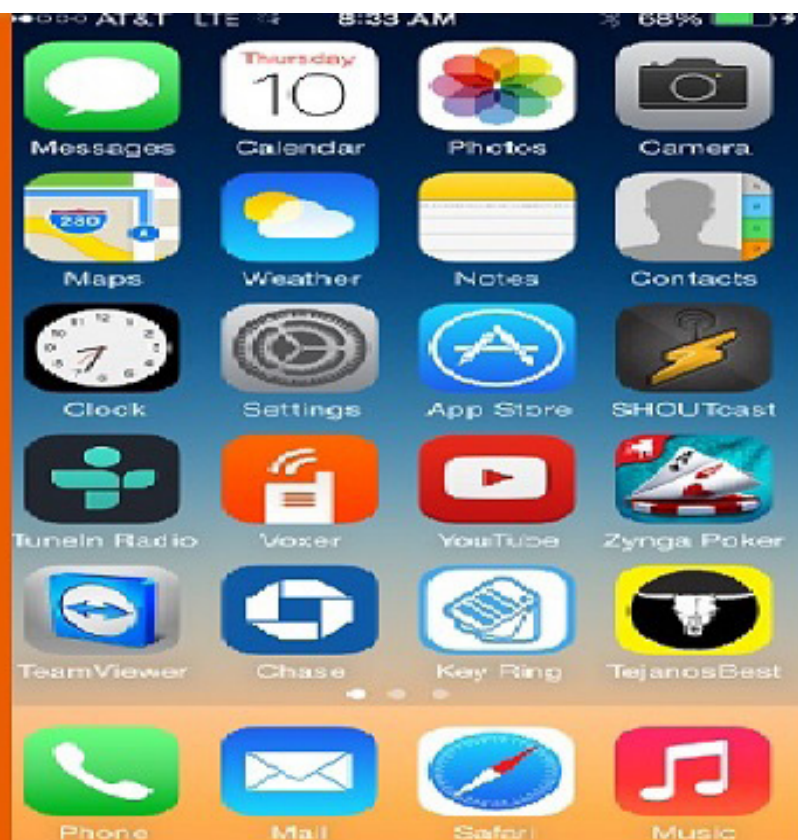
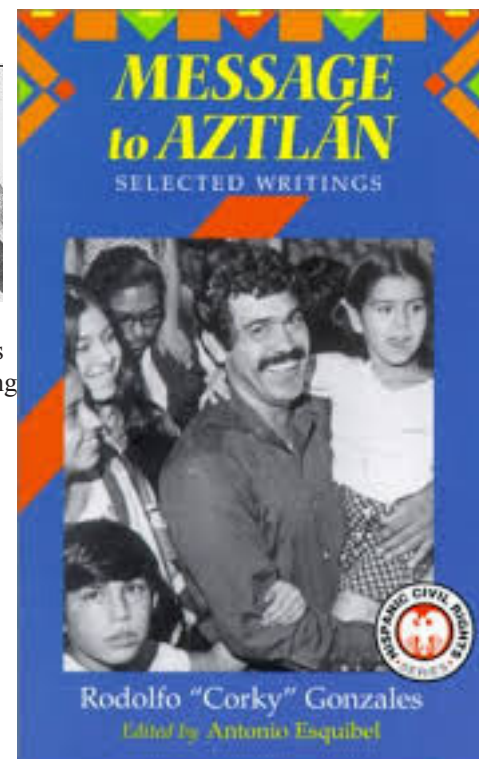


Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales’ childhood was full of extreme poverty in the slums of Denver, Colorado. The depression of the 1930s meant nothing to the Mexican-Americans living in those slums: hopeless misery, unconscionable racism, and lack of opportunities was their way of life. Orphaned at two years of age when his mother died. Gonzales’ survived the toils of slavery in the fields during his childhood. His hopes were to escape the hell of miserable wage-slave labor through education, he managed to complete high school when he was not toiling in the fields. Eventually he succeeded in getting admitted to the University of Denver, dreaming of becoming an engineer. College was forbidden to poor Mexican-Americans, unable to meet the financial hardships of attending higher-education, Corky Gonzales’ went into the boxing ring to escape the meaningless life of starvation wages. He fought the legendary Featherweight champion Willie Pep in September of 1951. He would go on to fight a total of 75 fights but would never be given a shot at the title. The Ring Magazine considered him one of the top Featherweight fighters of his time.

It was the 1960s and many changes were taking place in American society. African-Americans organized by Jewish-Americans were fighting for their civil rights under the leadership of people like Martin Luther King. It was also a time when exploited and oppressed Native-American and Mexican-American communities started to recognize the impact of cultural genocide on both individuals and communities. Gonzales’ had a spiritual awakening and discovered that he was extremely confused, there was no solid cultural identity to which he could refer to as his own. A reference point was missing, what was his place in this world? He was faced with two alternatives: either embrace the cosmetic American identity of a blue collar worker or become a non-entity, someone that belonged no-where. Out of this cultural impoverishment, identity crisis, and confusion was born his epic poem “I am Joaquin.” The poem is a testament to the confusion and identity crisis that many young Mexican-Americans were experiencing as they were trying to sort out who they were in the America of the 1960s. “Corky” didn’t turn away from his cultural confusion, he faced it, confronted it, and transformed it into a redeeming experience: the wisdom to recognize the importance of recovering Mexican-American culture and history as a foundation to a better future in America.

Gonzales’ believed that Mexican-American children could not be left to the devices of the public education system in America, where most of them were left to stagnate, stripped of pride, robbed of confidence, and exposed to violence, gangs, drugs and the mentality of decay. “Corky” founded a private school (Tlatelolco) in 1970 that he wanted to present as a model to educate Mexican-Americans, building their self-esteem through a solid cultural foundation, allowing children to excel. Public schools were churning out pregnant teens, gang bangers, and day laborers; Gonzales’ school Tlatelolco mission was to produce excellent men and women.

The world is full of many wannabes but only a few “Corky” Gonzales who are the real deal. “Corky” never turned away from difficult situations, he faced them and transformed them. His whole life was a mission to confront injustice: whether it was police brutality, the Vietnam War, voter repression, vicious education policies, institutionalized poverty, “Corky” was confronting them until the end of his life. The Aztec prince, the tireless Chicano leader’s life ended when he was 76 years old in Denver Colorado on April 12, 2005, but his fearless spirit will endure, he will endure.



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Se Juntaron El Hambre con las ganas de comer (An Encounter of Hunger and Food.)

By Felix Alvarado



The late 1880's was a period of rapid economic growth in North Texas. The Comanche had almost been removed as a threat and settlers from Europe and the eastern, southern and northern parts of the United States found plentiful land for farming in North Texas. What was needed was a network to connect all these different parts of the United States to facilitate the movement of goods and people. This void was filled by the railroad. The railroad had put an end to cattle drives, wagon trains, stagecoaches and all sorts of land travel. No longer did it take days to travel east, west, north or south. It took hours. The railroad was the engine that drove the economic expansion of North Texas. It was also the railroad that brought Mexicans to North Texas.

First, Mexicans, were recruited to work the coal mines of Bridgeport, Thurber and Parker County in the early 1880's. Mining was dangerous work and mining operators wanted experienced miners. They found them in Mexico and Europe. Eventually, unproductive mines were shut down and the discovery of oil in the early 1900's led to most of the other coal mines to shut down as well. The result was the unemployment of many Mexicans and Europeans that had come to work on the coal mines. These unemployed workers were forced to seek employment or relocate elsewhere. Between 1880 and 1900 Mexicans were finding their way to Fort Worth.

By the early 1900's industry was booming in Fort Worth. Armour and Swift had opened meat processing plants in the North Side and in the Southside there were grain elevators and rolling mills. Fort Worth provided support for the railroads and the goods to ship to other parts of the country. There was a huge demand for labor. Mexico was there to fill the void. As we say in Spanish "Se juntaron el hambre con las ganas de comer". This is an expression that means that hunger and food came together.

Initially, the Mexicans settled downtown to either side of Main St between Weatherford and Lancaster where there was housing available and it was within walking distance of the Southside and the Northside. Once downtown was filled up Mexicans started moving to the Northside and Southside. Many of these Mexicans brought their family with them. One can conjecture that they had no intention of returning to Mexico.

The period between 1900 and 1920 was a period of great manpower demand in North Texas. It was the railroad and subsequent industrial expansion that expedited the movement of Mexicans to North Texas. Many Mexicans were willing to leave their "Querida Patria" for the opportunity to work. At first it was the railroad that recruited Mexicans, later employers that needed more workers would hire their Mexican foremen, usually the "Majordomo" to go to Mexico and

recruit more workers. There was a void of manpower and Mexico filled that void. Eventually, there was an overabundance of manpower that coincided with the Great Depression. People would look differently at the Mexicans. Their enormous contribution to the industrial development of North Texas would be overshadowed by the economic downturn.

The mythology that it was the Mexican Revolution, that Mexicans came to do agricultural work that they came because of the soup lines, all these mythologies have to be debunked. The Mexicans that came to North Texas were skilled workers. They were the strongest in mind, body and spirit. They were quick to adapt to their new way of life. One can stand proud of our Mexican Heritage.

Se Juntaron el Hambre con las ganas de comer.

Escrito Por Felix Alvarado

La época del 1880 a 1900 fue un período de rápido crecimiento económico en el norte de Texas. El Comanche se había eliminado como una amenaza y colonos de Europa y de las partes del este, norte y sur de los Estados Unidos encontraron abundantes tierras para la agricultura en el norte de Texas. Lo que se necesitaba era una red para conectar todas estas diferentes partes de los Estados Unidos para facilitar el movimiento de bienes y personas. Este vacío fue llenado por el ferrocarril. El ferrocarril puso fin al ganado, trenes de vagones, diligencias y viajes de todo tipo de terrenos. Ya no tardó días para viajar hacia el este, oeste, norte o sur. Tardamos horas. El ferrocarril fue el motor que impulsó la expansión económica del norte de Texas. También fue el ferrocarril que llevó a los mexicanos al norte de Texas.

En primer lugar, los mexicanos, fueron reclutados para trabajar en las minas de carbón de Bridgeport, Thurber y el Condado de Parker en la década de 1880. Minera era un trabajo peligroso y operadores mineros querían mineros con experiencia. Los encontraron en México y Europa. Finalmente, minas improductivas fueron cerradas y el descubrimiento de petróleo en los primeros de 1900 condujo a la mayoría de las otras minas de carbón a cerrar también. El resultado fue el desempleo de muchos mexicanos y europeos que vinieron a trabajar en las minas de carbón. Estos trabajadores desempleados se vieron obligados a buscar un empleo o reubicar en otros lugares. Entre 1880 y 1900 mexicanos encontraron su camino a Fort Worth.

En el 1900 la industria fue creciendo en Fort Worth. Armour y Swift habían abierto plantas procesadoras de carne en el lado norte y el sur había elevadores de grano y laminadores. De Fort Worth salían los ferrocarriles con las mercancías para enviar a otras partes del país. Hubo una enorme demanda de mano de obra. México estaba allí para llenar el vacío. Como decimos en español "Se juntaron el hambre con las ganas de comer". Esta es una expresión que significa que el

hambre y alimentos se unieron

Inicialmente, los mexicanos se establecieron al centro a ambos lados de la calle Main entre Weatherford y Lancaster donde había viviendas disponibles y estaban a poca distancia de la zona del sur y el norte. Una vez que el centro de la ciudad se llenó los mexicanos comenzaron a moverse al norte y sur. Muchos de estos mexicanos trajeron a su familia con ellos. Uno puede conjeturar que no tenían intención de regresar a México.

El período entre 1900 y 1920 fue un período de una demanda grande de mano de obra en el norte de Texas. Fue el ferrocarril y la subsiguiente expansión industrial que aceleró el movimiento de los mexicanos al norte de Texas. Muchos mexicanos estaban dispuestos a dejar su "Querida Patria" por la oportunidad de trabajar. Primero fue el ferrocarril que reclutó a los mexicanos, más adelante los empleadores que necesitan más trabajadores contrataría sus capataces mexicanos, generalmente el "mayordomo" para ir a México y contratar a más trabajadores. Había un vacío de mano de obra y México llenó ese vacío. Finalmente, hubo una sobreabundancia de mano de obra que coincidió con la gran depresión. La gente miraba diferentemente los mexicanos. Su enorme contribución al desarrollo industrial del norte de Texas podría ser eclipsada por la recesión económica.

La mitología que fue la revolución mexicana, que vinieron a hacer trabajo agrícola que vinieron debido a las líneas de sopa, todas estas mitologías tienen que ser desmentido. Los mexicanos que vinieron a Texas del norte fueron trabajados. Eran los más fuertes en la mente, cuerpo y espíritu. Eran rápidos para adaptarse a su nueva forma de vida. Uno puede estar orgulloso de nuestra herencia mexicana.

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Why we worship

A Pep Talk for Some in the Catholic Faith

By Joe Govea

So you're a Catholic and you walk into the church on one Sunday. It has been a long time since you've gone to church but you are yearning to get back to church and God because your spirit knows you need it. You walk in hoping that this time you would get something out of it, not be bored and come out feeling good, kind of like after a concert or show.

Let me tell you how you can get that good feeling from going to Mass each Sunday. First of all the more you participate during Mass the more you are going to feel good about attending it. You are going to have to put something in, to get something out. You do this by taking part in what is going on. You have to sing and pray along with everybody when the singing and praying is being done. Mass is like one big long prayer which includes singing. So sing when you are supposed to sing. It will make you feel good.

If you haven't been to Confession in a while you should go. After you are forgiven for your sins your Soul will be rejoicing. You can then take part in Holy Communion which is what the celebration of the Mass is all about.

What a great procedure Jesus gave for being saved. First you go to confession and are forgiven for your sins, and then you go to Communion. Well when you do this you are going to feel good and isn't that what you were wanting?

The more you get into the cycle of going to confession and then Communion you will continue to feel good. You are going to stop committing those sins and not make the same mistakes again, thus becoming a better person.

You will then be in a continuous state of Grace. How does that feel? Well find the song "Amazing Grace" and read the words with the biblical definition of Grace in your mind.

To add pleasures to everyday life guess what! When people recognize and see how happy and content you are they will be friendlier to you and you to them as well.

So that is how you get the good feeling you were looking for when going to Church. Christ told us what to do during Mass. He showed us the way to be saved. He gave us a way to be happy by being close to God while here on earth. If you partake of the Eucharist, the Body of Christ, and take part in what is going on during the celebration of the Mass your Soul will be cleansed and in position to enjoy everlasting life.

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knowing and truly practicing your Catholic religion and going to Mass as often as possible.

In conclusion, learn and practice your Catholic religion. Understand it well. You will then look forward to attending Mass each Sunday.

Peace be with you,

Joe Govea

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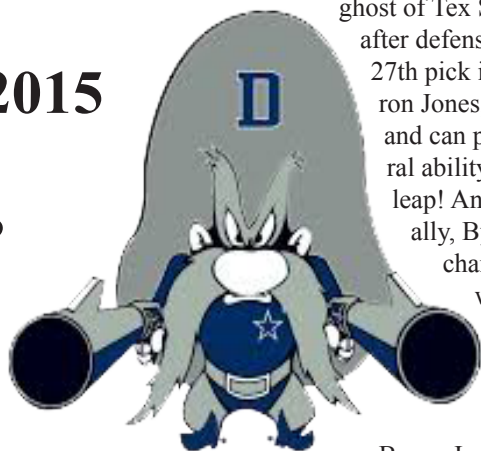
El Cowboy 2015 Draft Best Ever?

Jerry Jones – before the NFL draft -- stated that he and the Cowboys organization felt they were “good” at the running back position. And we all just kinda said, “Yea right.” But, for once at least in the draft, I guess he wasn’t lying. Many experts and observers had said the draft was rich in running backs, that a team could take one in the later rounds and maybe still improve on what the team previously had. Then the Cowboys went strictly with defense until they chose Geoff Swaim with the 246th pick overall. You guessed it, another tight end but I hear this, this Tight End can block maybe Whitten needs a break.

So, what does this draft mean for the Cowboy running game? Do Jones and his minions really believe that anyone can run behind the Cowboy O-line? The Cowboys – or as I like to refer to them, “we” -- have Randle and Dunbar, largely backup or change-up backs, I think, not really starting material. So that leaves us with McFadden, who we got via Oakland, where he averaged about three yards per carry, compared to Murray’s 4.7. I guess they’re hoping – I’m hoping – that McFadden running behind the Dallas line will really boost his average. I for one am not convinced, but hey, I’m just another Mexican with an opinion.

I hope I’m not worrying too much. But how about Peterson, as in Adrian, that talk is not dead, is it? Imagine Romo handing off to Peterson in the NFC Championship game! I know I can. Wishful thinking, maybe? Or do I know something? For one thing, we all know the Cowboys need help on defense. Yes, they did improve last season, but we all know part of the improvement came via DeMarco Murray and the Murray-driven running game. We all know DeMarco has now taken his talents to Philly. Obvious needs are a sack-threat and corner and safety help. In fact, opposing quarterbacks completed 66.5 percent of their passes against our “Boys.” As for our ability to get to the opposing QB, our sack total in 2014 was only 28, with Mincey the leader at six.

With those facts in mind, I figure it does not take the



ghost of Tex Schramm to recognize that we must go after defensive help in the draft. Therefore, with the 27th pick in the first round, the Cowboys take Byron Jones, a 6.5-foot corner/safety. This Jones has and can play both positions. He is fast, has natural ability, great work habits, a 44.5 inch vertical leap! And 4.36 40 yard dash Wow!! Additionally, Byron is known as a man with integrity, character, who leads by example. A player with highly respected character is just what the Cowboys need now. With the Cowboys not picking up their option on Morris Claiborne, Byron Jones is expected to start, barring injury.

Byron Jones was a good pick and I think we will all be happy with all him brings to this team.

But with their 60th pick, the Cowboys made a big splash, taking Randy Gregory. Before the draft, Randy was projected as a top-10 pick, some forecasters even had him as a top-5 pick.

We desperately need a pass rush, and Randy certainly should fill that bill, having made 17.5 sacks in two years at Nebraska. “But” what? What was he thinking? Randy tested positive for pot at the at the NFL combine, “So what”? Many will say, look out that window. Knowing they will be tested for illegal drugs, before they can land the NFL job of their dreams plus a ton of money, all rational, sensible, semi-astute people would abstain from using any outlawed substance prior to testing, at least. Beyond the pot-smoking, Randy has been diagnosed as bi-polar, and according to reports, he has never been able to find the right medication for proper treatment. Maybe the pot helps with that emotional roller coaster. But it is still illegal to use in the NFL and most states.

So, given all the above, we can see why he dropped so dramatically from top-10 to at least 50 picks later at 60th. Yes, the Cowboys are taking a gamble on Gregory, given his personal and personality problems. But – there’s that word again – the upside with Randy is huge. There are those critics and fans alike out there who say the Cowboys are becoming the team of choice for the NFL problem children, a la Josh Brent, the recently added Greg Hardy and our problem-child success story, Dez Bryant OK, for the most part. They may have a point.

I for one do not have a problem with the Randy pick but he will require a fulltime monitor, hopefully not for long. Now the recent selection of Hardy did give some folk pause, even me, after hearing all the “High Character” talk by head Coach Jason Garret. However, if you vet any roster in the NFL you will find players or a player with less than stellar behavior on the resume or, in some



Mayweather vs Pacquiao: There’s a Sucker Born every Minute

by Franco

Millions of people who watched the Mayweather vs Pacquiao fight felt like suckers, paying exorbitant prices to watch what they were told would be the fight of the century but wound-up being the flop of the century. Mayweather fighting scared ran throughout the whole fight, Pacquiao chased him around the ring. There was absolutely no significant exchange in punches. It was typical Mayweather, run, run, and run. Pacquiao can’t be blamed for not throwing many punches, you need two for a fight, Mayweather didn’t come to fight, he came as always to run. It doesn’t matter how good you are as a fighter, if your opponent is a slick runner, you cannot make a fight. Mayweather is a prime example of the typical stinker, a fighter who knows how to survive a fight without fighting. Fans hate them because they don’t fight, but they are good enough not to get hit.

The fight was definitely a flop, Mayweather ran all night, and Pacquiao went in with an injured shoulder. For the good of boxing Mayweather needs to retire, he is hurting boxing by suckering poor souls out of their money. Pacquiao needs to be matched against opponents that are willing to fight. I warned many people not to spend money on the fight, but how were so many suckered into paying hard earned greenbacks to watch something so boring. The answer is -Marketing- a science of making people believe they need something desperately. The people who promoted the fight are masters of marketing.

The era of the great boxers is gone, yet there are still some good fights to be watched, Mathyse vs Provodnikov is one that happened a few weeks ago, it was an action-packed fight, a throwback to the golden age of boxing. Yet no fight is worth paying exorbitant money for, especially when it is common knowledge that the fighter in question is a stinker.

The moral of the story: Caveat emptor, buyer beware. Don’t let the hype of the marketers overrule your reason and empty your pockets on flops.

Want to save money? Protest your property taxes.

By Alfredo Sanchez

It seems that we are constantly being reminded about taxes. Last month's edition discussed qualifying for a Homestead Exemption and why undocumented immigrants pay their share of school taxes. This article will also discuss property taxes but from a different perspective.

April 30, is a busy time for the County Appraisal Districts (CAD) as they are busy mailing out the 2015 Notice of Appraised Value forms. If you have not received your Appraisal Value form, it is time you contact the Appraisal District, www.DentonCAD.com and inform them that you have not received your Notice of Appraised Value. If you have received your Appraisal Value form, it is important that you take time and review the appraised value to see if the value of your property has increased or decreased. Most likely the value has increased due to the economy improving. The important thing is that your property value is in line with similar properties that have been sold or that your property has similar value as other homes in your neighborhood.

If your property value increased, as a taxpayer you should seriously consider "protesting your taxes". How do I protest property taxes? Attached with your Notice of Appraised Value form is the Property Tax-Notice of Protest - 2015. This form must be filled out and mailed or hand delivered to the Appraisal District (AD) in order to protest your taxes. The AD allows you until May 31 to return the completed form to their office. Sometimes they will extend the cutoff date, on an individual basis, so do not hesitate to ask for the extension if you are late in filling your form. Make every effort to file on time. Do not be afraid to request the extension if you failed to return the form by May 31. The form is self-explanatory. Equally important is to check the two blocks: 1) value is over market value and 2) value is unequal compared with other properties. The first block has to do with providing appropriate sale comparisons. The second box has to do with the property values in your neighborhood. By checking both boxes you can protest either by using comparative sales in your area or using property values in your neighborhood. I personally like to use property values in my neighborhood. Once you have completed the form mail or hand deliver the form to the AD office. Once the form is received by mail, the AD will schedule you

to meet with the appraiser. If you hand deliver it, the clerk may allow you to meet with an appraiser immediately. If you have not done your homework, request a later date to meet with an appraiser. This will give you time to do your homework. You can either go to the Appraisal District Office and use their computers and ask for assistance or do it at home by entering the Appraisal District Website. Find 3 properties that are similar to your property and sold in the past 6 months, or look at similar properties in your neighborhood. As a landowner you have a legitimate

argument to have property value lowered if you find similar properties valued lower than your property. The appraiser, in most cases, is quite congenial and a compromise likely will be agreed upon. If no compromise is achieved the next step is to take your case and evidence before the Appraisal Review Board (ARB). Like the appraiser, the ARB will review your documents and render a decision. There is also an option to do it on line from the comfort of your home. If you do not agree with the program then you can still talk with an appraiser. This process is open to both citizens and noncitizens. You have the right to protest your property taxes, so do not hesitate. It is a simple process. Once you do it and save money, you will want to do it every year.

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English/Espanol

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Juvenile Law, Tickets, DACA/DACA Renewal, Estate Planning for Same-Sex Couples, Family Law, Probate, Estate Planning for Undocumented Immigrants and Their Children, Naturalization



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Texas Woman's University LULAC Council 4205.

LULAC Council 4205 at Texas Woman's University held their 4th annual Latina Empowerment event on April 1st. This year's event featured speakers included; Cristina Garcia, Texas LULAC deputy director of youth; former District and State Judge Lena Levario who was the first Mexican-American woman appointed in Dallas County as a District Judge; Luz Padilla, General Motors Hispanic initiative team founder and president as well as serving as the bilingual representative for the Arlington GM facility; and Becky Munoz-Diaz accomplished Broadcast TV and Radio manager having worked in both Dallas and Houston markets, and serving as VP/GM for KUVN-TV Univision in Dallas. Our District 3 LULAC representative Christopher Enriquez also attended the event.

The speakers shared their experiences and helped to encourage everyone in attendance to reach toward higher goals, and take advantage of positive opportunities when they present themselves. Our annual Latina Empowerment event focuses on building confidence and a belief in themselves for our students by having successful Latinas in our community share their successes. TWU LULAC representatives in attendance at Denton LULAC Council 4366 annual banquet and scholarship awards ceremony at Denton Country Club on April 18th included faculty advisor Dr. Claudia Sanchez, President Tracy Denton, Vice-president Juana Ojeda-Galvan, and SGA House of Representatives delegates Anay Gonzalez and Jose Juarez.

Coming next month: a look at some upcoming events for fall, and introducing some of the board members who make TWU LULAC successful.

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Denton LULAC Banquet—2015

By Alfredo Sanchez

April 18, 2015 the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) hosted their grandest scholarship banquet to date with Lilyan Prado Carrillo being the featured speaker (read her story in last month's issue).

The guests kept coming even though only 180 guests had registered to attend the banquet.

Ultimately, 215 guests had been seated and served. LULAC hosted their Annual Banquet at the Denton Country Club. LULAC has been hosting scholarship banquets since it was founded in Denton in 1981. The banquets have grown over time. This year's banquet experienced a new plateau due to Anita Strickland Martinez's leadership for the past two years.

The League of United Latin Americans Citizens awarded 20 scholarships with funds raised from donors, last year's banquet, and tamale sale. The scholarships are awarded to seniors in the Denton Independent School District (DISD). The application process normally begins in January when the high schools in the DISD are notified by LULAC Council 4366 that the application process is open. The application can be picked up from any DISD high school counselor. LULAC always receives more applications than they can fund. The selection process is very competitive because applicants have such high grade point averages (GPA) and so many students apply. Students are top notch students with GPAs above 3.5. LULAC always welcomes new donors so that more students will benefit from a scholarship.

If you are inclined to donate, contact the Denton LULAC Council, www.DentonLULAC.com. They take donations all year round. The National LULAC Council will match the donation of a scholarship by 50%. In other words, a \$500 scholarship will become \$750 with matching funds from the National Council. The League of United Latin Americans Citizens awarded 20 scholarships that ranged from \$750-\$1200. The North Central Texas College (NCTC) and Texas Women's University (TWU) were also present to award scholarships. NCTC awarded 4, five hundred dollar scholarships and TWU awarded 6, Twelve thousand dollar scholarships. The scholarship recipient's accomplishments were amazing and parents' faces were gleaming with pride. Not only did these recipients maintain high GPAs, they were also involved in numerous school activities. They will definitely be future Latino and Latina leaders. These parents and students exemplify the motto "Si se puede".

The League of United Latino American Citizens invites the Latino Community to join LULAC Council 4366 to make a difference in the future of the Latino Community. LULAC meets every third Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at the Senior Center at 509 N. Bell Street, Denton, Texas.



Recipients of the scholarships:

Daniel Álvarez, Guyer, Ángeles Astorga, Ryan, Stiphanie Cumbal, Ryan, Flor DeLaGarza, Denton, Karina DeLaRosa, Estefani Escamilla, Denton, Edward Escamillo, Guyer, Anyssa Garcia, Ryan: Edgar Garza García, Guyer, Victoria González, Ryan, Vanesa Jiménez, Denton, Brianna Maldonado, Ryan, Vanessa Mangel, Ryan, Melissa Méjico, Ryan, Ana Mitchell, Denton, Jocelyne Moreno, Denton, Chelsea Pérez, Denton, Allison Reibach, Guyer, Itiel Reyes, Guyer, Enrique Reynoso, Ryan, Annalise Sagaribay, Ryan, Carmen Sánchez, Denton, Eric Sandoval, Guyer, Jonathan Soriagil, Ryan, Yessica Téllez, Ryan, Sergio Torres-Fuentes, Ryan, Joe Vidales, Ryan.

Cinco De Mayo A Day To Celebrate Your Heritage

Cinco de Mayo is a festive day for the Mexican community, like Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated by the Irish, or Oktoberfest is celebrated by the Germans. America is a melting pot of many cultures and that is apparent by all the ethnic holidays we celebrate. Saturday, May 2 the Mexican community gathered to celebrate Cinco de Mayo and "commemorate the Mexican Army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War (1861-1867)".

By 7:30 a.m. people were gathering at the TWU Parking lot and were busy as bees putting on the finishing touches on their floats. By 10:00 a.m. all parade participants had to have their float ready. There was a float contest which some parade participants took very serious based on the looks of their float. Even though everyone was busy, there was a festive mode in the air. Kids in their colorful customs were helping and anxious to participate in the parade. People gathered around their float laughing while putting the finishing touches on their floats. There was lots of multi-tasking going on. There were over 25 floats and some artistic painted vehicles participating in the parade.

One group that made a strong presence at the parade were the people from Muzquiz, Coahuila. Denton has a large active immigrant population from Muzquiz. They entered 4 floats in the parade along with the mayor's vehicle. The Mayor (Alcalde) of Muzquiz,

Luis Fernando Santos, made the long trip to Denton to participate in the parade. The Muzquiz entourage was led by two horsemen carrying a Muzquiz banner. Those I talked to, from Muzquiz, made it a point to let me know that the Alcalde de Muzquiz was present and would be participating in the parade and festivities.

Once the parade was over the people began to gather at Quartertown where the booths, music and children's activities had been set up. The food was delicious and each both had their own unique flavor to some of the same dishes. It was difficult to decide which type of tacos I wanted to eat especially with the aroma of food that permeated the air. On stage a variety of entertainment was provided to include belly dancers, a variety of Ballet Folklorico and Latino music of all flavors and types. It was a little muddy but with all the sunshine and good food who had time to worry about mud on our shoes. The Cinco de Mayo Festival was a time to sit back, enjoy the sunshine, music, food and spend time with friends and family. Next year Cinco de Mayo Festival will definitely be on my agenda of festivals to attend. I invite you all to join me.



Denton Citizens learn to work with Denton Police

By Lee Howell (Police Chief) and Alfredo Sanchez

Having a good police department depends on having honest police officers, and requires that the citizens of the community get to know and get involved with the issues in their community. Citizens' input and implementation of the citizen's suggestions by the Police Department leadership is crucial if citizens are to be able to trust their police department.

The Denton Police Department (DPD) has a long standing tradition of reaching out to Denton Citizens to make the city's neighborhoods a safer place to live. Reaching out to Denton Citizens is an underlying principle of the Denton Police Department and it is called community policing. Since the late 1980's DPD has been in the forefront of creating partnerships with Denton citizens, been involved with responding to community concerns, and have been involved in non-traditional policing roles. One example of a non-traditional role that the DPD has assumed is management of the Citizen Police Academy (CPA). The CPA is an initiative by the DPD designed to open the lines of communication between the police and the community, build relationships, and foster trust under friendly and informative circumstances. The goal of the CPA is to increase "Understanding through Education". The belief is that informing citizens on police procedures, policies, and actions, will reduce misunderstandings between DPD and Denton Citizens. The Denton Police Department believes that policing through partnership and the union of efforts of both DPD and Denton Citizens is essential for an effective Police Department.

The Citizen Police Academy is open to all citizens that live or work in the City of Denton. This includes students at UNT and TWU. You must be 18 years of age or older to participate. Participants are chosen to ensure a broad community representation so that the community will develop an understanding of the effects that social, cultural, educational and economic institutions have on our neighborhoods. Normally one or two classes are held annually with approximately 20-30 citizens participating in each class. Classes meet once a week for 12 weeks for approximately 2 hours and at no cost to the participants. The curriculum is intended to provide a comprehensive overview of DPD operations and the critical role citizens play in our community crime control efforts. Instructors for each class come from the ranks of Police Officers who work every day in Denton. For example, School Resource Officers (SRO) will discuss the SRO program and how it benefits our children in public schools. Traffic Officers will discuss their role in enforcing traffic laws and reducing the number of accidents in the city. Detectives will discuss the types of offenses that occur in Denton and their role in investigating those crimes. As a participant you are also encouraged to go out on a ride out but it is not mandatory. This is your opportunity to see police in action. Many of our perceptions about police officers are based on television, one bad encounter with a police officer, or what others have said about police officers. What many have learned, after attending the academy, is that citizens' behavior or attitude plays a critical role on how a situation may develop when encountering an Officer.

As adults, if our attitude changes about police officers Connect To D/FW Community goveaalberto215@yahoo.com or Call 817-797-4015

that will be passed on to our children.

If you are interested in learning more or interested in attending the Citizens Police Academy contact Officer Shane Kizer at (940) 349-7241 or Shane.Kizer@cityofdenton.com. The application is available at the Denton Police Department lobby, 601 E. Hickory, Suite E, Denton, TX, 76205.

Ciudadanos de Denton Aprendan a Trabajar Con la Policía de Denton

Por Lee Howell (Jefe de Policía) y Alfredo Sánchez

Tener un buen Departamento de Policía requiere tener oficiales de policía honestos, y requiere que los ciudadanos de la comunidad se tomen el tiempo para conocer e involucrarse con los problemas de la comunidad. La comunicación entre la comunidad de los ciudadanos y las sugerencias del liderazgo del Departamento de Policía es crucial si queremos confiar en nuestros policías.

El Departamento de Policía de Denton (DPD) tiene una larga y extensa tradición de comunicación con los ciudadanos de Denton para tener una ciudad más segura para vivir. Recurrir a los ciudadanos de Denton es una prioridad para el departamento de Policía de Denton a eso le llamamos comunidad policiaca. Desde el año 1980 el departamento de Policía de Denton (DPD) ha estado al frente de crear una asociación con los ciudadanos de Denton, estando al pendiente e involucrándose para responder a las preocupaciones de la comunidad, y han estado involucrados en asuntos policiacos no-tradicionales. Un ejemplo de un rol no-tradicional es que el DPD ha asumido el manejo de la Academia Policiaca de los Ciudadanos (CPA). El (CPA) es una iniciativa del (DPD) diseñado para abrir líneas de comunicación entre la policía y la comunidad, construir relaciones, pero sobre todo formar confianza y una amistad bajo cualquier circunstancia. La meta del (CPA) es incrementar "Entendimiento por la Educación". El saber que al informar a los ciudadanos sobre los procedimientos, pólizas, y acciones reducirá los malos entendidos entre el Departamento de policía (DPD) y los ciudadanos. El Departamento de Policía de Denton cree que la asociación y unión y esfuerzos de los dos tanto como del (DPD) como de los ciudadanos es esencial para tener un departamento de policía efectivo

La Academia Policiaca de los Ciudadanos (CPA) está abierta para todos los ciudadanos que viven y trabajan en la ciudad de Denton. Esto incluye a los estudiantes de UNT y TWU. Tienes que tener 18 años o más para participar. Los participantes son elegidos para asegurar una amplia comunidad representativa para que la comunidad pueda desarrollar un buen entendimiento sobre lo social, cultural, educacional, e instituciones económicas que tenemos en nuestros vecindarios. Normalmente tenemos una o dos clases anuales con aproximadamente 20-30 ciudadanos participando en cada clase. Las clases se reúnen una vez a la semana por 12 semanas por aproximadamente 2 horas sin

ningún costo a los participantes. El plan de estudios esta diseñado para proporcionar una visión comprehensiva de operación del (DPD) y el papel fundamental que los ciudadanos desempeñan en nuestra comunidad y esfuerzos hechos para controlar el crimen. Los instructores de cada clase son oficiales de policía los cuales trabajan todos los días para la ciudad de Denton. Por ejemplo, oficiales de recursos de las escuelas (SRO) ellos explicaran de que se trata el programa de (SRO) y como beneficia a nuestros hijos en escuelas públicas. Los oficiales de trafico explicaran cuál es su participación al ejercer las leyes del tráfico y reducir el número de accidentes viables en la ciudad. Los detectives explicaran su participación en el tipo de ofensas que ocurren en la ciudad de Denton y su rol en investigar los crímenes. Como participantes les insto a conducir pero no es obligatorio. Esta es su oportunidad para ver a los oficiales en acción.

Muchas de nuestras perspectivas sobre los oficiales de policía están basadas en lo que vemos en la televisión, un mal enfrentamiento con un oficial de policía o lo que alguien puede comentar sobre un oficial de policía, pero lo que muchos se han dado cuenta después de asistir a la academia, es que el comportamiento y la actitud de la ciudadanía juega un rol muy importante en cómo se va a llevar acabo cada situación al enfrentar a un Oficial. Como adultos si nuestra actitud cambia acerca de cómo pensamos de la policía eso será ejemplo para nuestros hijos en el futuro.

Si estas interesado en aprender más o deseas atender a las clases de la Academia Policiaca de Ciudadanos (CPA) puedes contactar al Oficial Shane Kizer al 940-349-7241 o a su correo electrónico Shane.Kizer@cityofdenton.com. Las aplicaciones están disponibles en la siguiente dirección Denton Police Department lobby, 601 E. Hickory, Suite E, Denton, Tx, 76205

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School Vouchers - End of Public Education

By Phyllis Wolper and Alfredo Sanchez

A good education is the greatest gift we can give our children. As my mother used to say, “Your education - no one can take that from you,” but if some Conservative legislators have their way, the means and opportunity for a public education in Texas will disappear.

A majority of Texans are a product of a public education or have children or grandchildren that are. In recent years our public education system has endured a fierce attack by Conservatives that believe that it is a waste of tax dollars. Their solution is to move tax based public education dollars to private schools. Conservatives forget that public education is the cornerstone to building the American dream.

Without public education, the poor – a class many of us started from – never would have realized a life much greater than the generation before us.

All industrialized nations support public education. If public education does not work, why have so many nations embraced it? The reason Industrialized Nations support public education, and have expanded it to include University studies, is that it builds stronger families, stronger workers and stronger economies. Conservatives are quick to point out instances where public education is not working, but rarely identify instances where it does succeed.

I recently attended a LULAC [League of Latin American Citizens] Scholarship banquet where most of the students being honored were from families with few resources. These honor students were graduating with the top grade point averages attainable in high school and expressed their goals of becoming everything from doctors to lawyers to engineers to researchers. They are living proof our public education does work and is producing a large percentage of scholars headed to top universities.

And, since not all students are destined to go to college; our public education locally includes vocational training – and should invest in more. That won’t happen under Conservative plans to cut public education.

The alternative to public education proposed by conservatives is to spend public tax dollars on private schools by passing out tuition vouchers to anyone who wishes them. That is simply smoke and mirrors. They claim vouchers allow poor and middle class families a means to send their children to “better” schools, yet the amount of the voucher falls far short of paying private school costs. Parents who struggle in today’s economy with stagnant wages can’t afford to pay the thousands of additional dollars for private schools beyond what the voucher provides. The reality is that vouchers take tax money from the public school funding and give it to those who are rich enough and already send their children to private schools – a form of welfare to

the well off – and leave less to maintain decent public schools for the rest of us.

The government provides public education. It is a choice, by the wealthy, to send their child to private school. Tax dollars should not be spent when someone makes a choice for private education. The idea of expanding school choice, private versus public, is fundamentally a disaster for the working middle class. The parents who cannot afford the additional funds to send their child to a private institution will be destined to send their child to an underfunded and decaying public school. Vouchers will not provide a higher quality education for our middle class children of Texas. Vouchers provide a stipend to the wealthy to assist them in paying for private school – basically welfare for the wealthy, who already can afford to send their children to elite schools. The voucher program takes from middle class and poor students and gives it to the privileged students.

Vouchers are the first step in dismantling the public school system. Conservative leadership in Austin has proposed to limit the pay of public education teachers to near poverty wages, as low as \$27,000 a year. This would force the best and most experienced teachers to teach at private schools or leave the profession.

This assault on public schools comes as more students entering the public education system are of minority status and poor. Therefore the voucher system is really an assault on minority and poor students. Conservatives see no value in educating (to quote one legislator) “all those brown faces”. Our Democracy was founded and strengthened by the implementation of a free high quality public education for all without regard to race, creed, national origin – or financial status.

A mother grizzly bear will stand up to a male grizzly bear, that is much larger, to protect her young. We Latinos, like the mother grizzly bear, must stand up to conservatives that believe our children are not worthy of being educated. Stand up to conservatives that believe that brown children are only smart enough to do menial work.

It is so important to vote and remove those representatives in Austin that assault our children’s education. We vote because we want a better life and for our children to have the same opportunities we had to improve our lives. If you cannot vote make sure your family or friends who are eligible exercise their rights at the ballot box.

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The Case of the Mortuary's (Surprise) Add-on Service Fee

Part One: 1st Rule of Contracting for a Funeral
For nearly a century – according to the business's Website – this Metroplex mortuary has been serving families with a variety of high-quality funeral, burial and related options, delivered with respect and dignity.

So, how can the mortuary justify tacking on a previously unlisted, unmentioned 3 percent fee for collecting the life insurance proceeds on the deceased person's policy? It was a 3 percent reduction in total net proceeds going to the deceased's beneficiaries.

Add-on fees are nothing new to the mortuary business, and certainly not limited to collecting on life insurance. The big question is how to avoid surprises, especially on the bill. And even federal regulations may apply.

The first rule of thumb – as with any savvy consumer decision-making:

UP FRONT, know what's covered for the specific fees to be paid – and what's not covered, said Dina Salinas, funeral director for Calvario Funeral Chapel, Fort Worth.

"Items that are not covered by the contract are items that are out of the funeral home's control," said John Goobeck, vice president and director in charge at Greenwood Funeral Homes and Cremation, Fort Worth.

"Typical examples of services not covered are the obituary, escorts, death certificates, permits and airline shipping, to name a few that come to mind," Goobeck said. "Every funeral home does things differently when it comes to these items."

But, he warned, DO NOT expect the contract to list all items/services NOT COVERED: "If they listed everything that's not covered, the list would be too lengthy," he said.

A typical contract, agreement, will feature four main charges: for the funeral service, the casket, the interment/burial (opening and closing the grave) and the outer burial container (for grave support), Goobeck said.

The package might include fees for transporting the deceased to the mortuary, bathing and embalming and dressing the body, placement/arrangement in the casket, renting visitation and funeral location/facilities, using the hearse, conducting the services and providing the memorial sign-in book and service program cards. The floral charges are often separate, and the

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casket might be.

"Each fun

eral home has its own packages," Salinas said.

"The best rule of thumb is, if the charge is not on the contract, it is not covered," Goobeck said.

On the matter of collecting life insurance proceeds, the mortuary/funeral home often relies on other service providers, the experts advised.

"Usually these third parties charge a small-percentage fee on the amount of insurance proceeds that the family wants to use to pay for mortuary services," Goobeck said.

For the mortuary itself, the fee can be more of a pass-through cost than an add-on charge.

Jessica Koth, public relations manager for the National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA), provided Nuestra Voz with an overview explanation:

"Many funeral homes require payment for services and merchandise before a funeral or memorial service takes place," Koth said, noting that payment can be in cash, credit card, personal check or verifiable insurance policy.

"When a family wishes to assign the proceeds of an insurance policy to pay for a loved one's funeral," she said, "the process and paperwork to verify that the policy is valid and to verify its value can be complicated." Koth added that the process can take 30 to 90 days for the insurance company to process the life insurance claim.

"To avoid this hassle and receive payment prior to a funeral or memorial service taking place, many funeral homes use companies that will fund insurance assignment claims fast, giving the funeral home cash immediately to pay suppliers/vendors for merchandise and services associated with a funeral," she said.

The funding insurance-assignment company charges a fee for its services.

"Funeral homes can take different approaches to this fee," Koth said.

Goobeck said the funeral home often "just passes this charge along to the family. This is normal concerning 'Group Policies,' since these are the most difficult to collect on."

Regardless, Goobeck and Koth said, the mortuary should explain its fee arrangements in advance.

In Part 2 on mortuary fees, next week's column will outline the Federal Trade Commission's consumer-protection role.

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Saúl "Canelo" Álvarez destroza a James Kirkland escrito por Franco

Los fanáticos del cuadrilátero quedaron emocionados con el fiero combate entre Saúl el Canelo Álvarez y su temible rival James Kirkland. La pelea resultó en uno de los knock-outs más espectaculares del boxeo desde que Juan Manuel Márquez noqueó a Manny Pacquiao.

James Kirkland es conocido como un boxeador que asusta, espanta a los mejores de la división mediana que prefieren no enfrentarse a esta máquina de violencia. En una ocasión golpeo salvajemente a Alfredo "Perro" Angulo en México, dejándolo indefenso y

vencido completamente. Kirkland intento hacer de las mismas contra el Canelo. Inmediatamente se lanzo Kirkland sobre Canelo propinando una andanada de golpes que obligaron al Canelo retroceder contra las cuerdas donde soporto la lluvia de violencia. Canelo respondió con lo suyo, y tumbo a Kirkland después de asestarle un derechazo al faltar solo 1 minuto y 15 segundos del primer round.

En el segundo round Kirkland sale nuevamente a espantar al Canelo, recibiendo los golpes del Canelo sin perturbarse, queriendo romper la voluntad del Canelo. Kirkland se mueve hacia adelante forzando nuevamente al Canelo retroceder, Canelo lo castiga con ganchos de izquierda. La estrategia de Kirkland es vencer psicológicamente al Canelo, convencerlo de que no puede lastimar a Kirkland.

En el tercer round luce la técnica del Canelo. Golpea ferozmente a Kirkland con uppercuts, el Canelo comienza a conectar brutalmente sin que Kirkland sepa de donde le llegan los golpes. El Canelo en una obra maestra finta una izquierda al cuerpo, Kirkland baja los brazos para defenderse, y el Canelo lanza un derechazo mortal que estrella en la mandíbula de Kirkland, quebrando la mandíbula de Kirkland que lanza sangre por la boca mientras cae a la lona totalmente inconsciente, su sangre escurriendo por la lona. No hubo necesidad de conteo, Kirkland estaba totalmente noqueado.

Después de la farsa de Mayweather vs Pacquiao, Saúl "Canelo" Álvarez revive al boxeo con una gran pelea, contra el temible James Kirkland.



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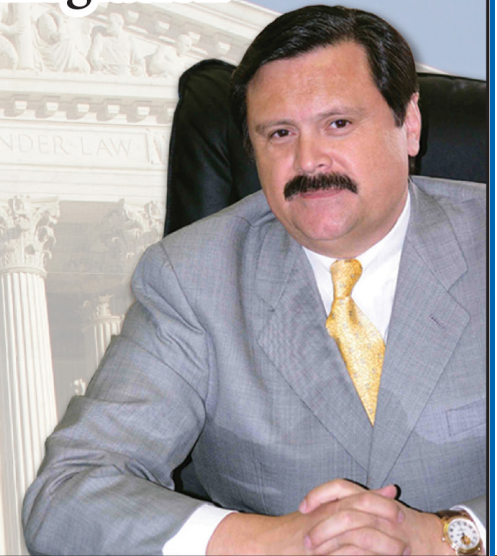
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