



Commissioner Sergio "Chico" Rodriguez Precinct One Journal



Mar 18, 2010 Volume II, Issue 3

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 2010

- 20: 10:00am
UHS Parking
Garage Ground
Breaking
@ 4502 Medical Dr
- 22: 1:00pm
MPO
@ VIA
- 24: 6:30pm
Lackland JLUS
Public Mtg
@ Edgewood
Academy
- 27: 8:00am
Basura Bash
@ Mission County
Park

10:00am
Lackland JLUS
Public Mtg
@ McAuliffe
Middle School

11:30am
Dedication to re
name Juvenile
Probation Ctr
@ Probation Ctr
235 E Mitchell
- 30: 11:00am
Commissioners
Court
@ Courthouse

6:30pm
Lackland JLUS
Public Mtg
@ Knights of
Columbus Hall
- 31: 6:30pm
Lackland JLUS
Public Mtg
@ Brentwood
Middle School

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as County Commissioner for Precinct 1. It is truly an honor to serve the fastest growing and largest Precinct in the County. I strive to maintain the promise of accessibility by holding frequent town hall meetings, organizing constituent meetings through neighborhood visits, and by being actively visible in the community. Please provide any feedback and comments that will allow me to better serve you.

Sincerely,

Last week during Commissioners Court, here is how I worked to better serve you:

Business Opportunities: Last week during Commissioners Court, it was my proud honor to welcome and congratulate newly graduated business owners from Bexar County's Mentor Protégé Program. Promoting economic development in Bexar County is just as important as promoting local businesses. I was proud to support the Bexar County Mentor Protégé Program run under the leadership of Rene Watson in the Small Minority Women & Veteran Business Enterprise Program. In cooperation with the Associated General Contractors, the SMWVBE is a program geared to build effective working relationships between leaders of well-established companies and locally owned smaller companies. The mission is for new companies to benefit from the knowledge and experience of the older and more established firms. The Mentor Protégé Program requires a one to two year commitment where the protégé, two mentors, and the County Mentor Protégé Program Manager work together to help develop the protégé firm's marketing operations and financial performance strategy. The business owner applicants are required to graduate from the Bexar County's Construction Basic Training Program before consideration as a Protégé and during the Program, the mentor teams meets regularly with the protégé to review their business and action plans and to teach them how to market their company to ensure success. Congratulations to Polly Burditt, President and Owner of Burditt Tile & Stone and to Julissa Carielo, President and Owner of Tejas Premier Building Contractors. These two protégés could not have accomplished their goals and tasks had it not been for dedication to the Program from Mentors Jim Ansary with Clark Construction, Mike Boyle with MJ Boyle, Rene Garcia from Zachry Construction and Doug Nunnelly with F.A. Nunnelly. I will continue to support the SMWVBE Program because it produces local success. For information on this or other business programs, please contact Rene Watson at (210) 335-2478.



Helpful Numbers

Commissioner Sergio "Chico" Rodriguez
(210) 335-2611
chico@bexar.org

Public Works

Cagnon Service Center
(210) 465-4528
Southton Service Center
(210) 465-9004

Community Resources

(210) 335-3666
Utility Assistance
(210) 335-6770
Housing & Development
(210) 335-6538
Mental Health Advocacy
(210) 335-6638
Veteran's Services
(210) 335-6737
Community Programs
(210) 335-6598
CDBG Grant Funds
(210) 335-6648
Community Health
(210) 335-3581

Fire Marshal

(210) 335-0300

Dispute Resolution Center

(210) 335-2128

Parks & Facilities

Reservations
(210) 207-PARK
Security
(210) 335-4950

JP Precinct 1, PI 1

(210) 335-2803

JP Precinct 1, PI 3

(210) 335-4500

Sheriff's Office

(210) 335-6010

Constable Precinct 4

(210) 335-4950

Bexar County Elections

(210) 335-8683



Mental Health Initiatives: Mental health issues affect all of us in Bexar County. Those community members who suffer from mental illness and go undetected and un-identified negatively affect our schools, workforce, hospitals, neighborhoods, and our jails. I was proud to support the recommendation of our Community Resources Director, Aurora Sanchez, to create a full time position for a licensed clinician that would be stationed at Central Magistration so the mental health screenings could be provided for those who are obtained into custody. The objective Aurora identified, which is important to me, is to deter mentally ill arrestees from entering the Bexar County Jail. The full time clinician would appropriate the mental health screenings to facilitate their release by way of a Personal Recognizance Bond with special conditions and their facilitation into treatment. Last week during Commissioners Court, I was proud to support and approve an Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County's Hospital District, the University Health System. Under the terms of this Agreement, the UHS will provide the mental health screenings that are conducted at the Central Magistration. The screenings, under the oversight of a licensed Clinician will streamline mental health services necessary for appropriate treatment and support services. This mental health screening proactive measure is only part of Bexar County's initiative to reduce the jail population.



Giving Back To Our Youth: Part of Bexar County's success in reaching out to its youth is in part because of the hard work from non-profit agencies like Communities in Schools of San Antonio. For the past 25 years, Communities in Schools has devoted its resources to encourage and help students stay in school by

bringing necessary resources into the schools to help students and families make the right choices. Agencies, services, parents, and volunteers come to the schools to create a holistic, one-to-one case management approach to reach out to those students identified as the most at risk to dropping out of school. Communities in Schools has an average stay in school rate of 97% over the past 10 years and during the School Year 2008-09, they served more than 7,300 students and had a 98% stay in school rate with 92% of the participants successfully moving up to the next grade or reaching graduation. My interest in decreasing the high school drop out rate is because I am focused to produce in Bexar County, the most productive and successful work force in our community. Communities in Schools has received recognition as the most cost effective drop out prevention program and it was truly an honor last week during Commissioners Court to recognize Communities in Schools of San Antonio in their federal appropriation receipt that will allow them to expand their program to reach more schools in Bexar County's school districts. For information on how to donate or volunteer, please call (210) 520-8440.



Supporting Organizations Who Give Back: Many people do not realize that the San Antonio Opera provides more to our community than just wonderful music. They also provide a gift to school districts as part of their initiative to educate our youth and community. When the San Antonio Opera came to Bexar County Commissioners Court and requested funding for their Opera4Kids educational enrichment program that is geared to reach out to disadvantaged youth, I was proud to offer my support and stand behind them in their efforts. The \$20,000 I supported to give to the San Antonio Opera is going to touch more than 10,000 elementary and middle school children for various school districts throughout Bexar County. This Program enhances the cultural education of students, opens their eyes and minds to the beauty of music, and hopefully will inspire them to join the artistic world by engaging in music appreciation in the schools. For information on how to give to the San Antonio Opera or participate in their programs, please contact (210) 225-5972.



Serving Those Who Served Us: During the 81st Legislative Session, State Senator Leticia Van de Putte, authored and passed SB 112, which allowed Bexar County to establish a Veteran's Court Diversion Program for military service personnel and veterans whose service related disability contributed to non-violent criminal offenses. It was during a visit to Bexar County when Senator Van de Putte toured the Haven for Hope and the Restoration Center, which led her to discover that 25% of those served at the Restoration Center were military veterans. The Veteran's Court established by Bexar County will allow veteran defendants through no fault of their own who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and have established substance abuse issues the opportunity to be recognized as PTSD victims. These Veterans will also be allowed services to assist in treating the root of their substance abuse problems. Judge Olivarri has been instrumental to Bexar County in setting the parameters of the Veteran's Court and in collaboration with Aurora Sanchez and her staff, Bexar County has begun to work on obtaining the necessary funds from both the State and Federal governments. It has

been my honor to support the initiatives brought before Commissioner Court and I will continue to fully support these efforts. For information on other Veteran Services, please call (210) 335-6737.



Military Installations: Bexar County develops partnerships with non-profit organizations, local governmental entities and public organizations in our efforts to improve our communities. One of my strongest focal points as County Commissioner for Precinct 1 is not only development, it is preservation and with the support of my fellow Commissioners Court members, Bexar County is taking the lead in a proactive initiative to preserve and protect Lackland Air Force Base and its surrounding areas. Bexar County, in cooperation with the City of San Antonio and Port San Antonio has begun a collaboration with Lackland AFB known as the Lackland Joint Land Use Study, or in simpler terms, the Lackland JLUS. This partnership is a research into how the purpose of Lackland and Port San Antonio, in their efforts to

protect the safety and well being of our community, can in turn be protected. Residential neighborhoods and business owners must be mindful of land use plans, and how noise pollution and traffic issues can quickly compromise the daily functions of the military and its missions. When commercial or residential development occurs too close to the area in which training activities are conducted and too near an airfield, the missions and daily operations of that military installation can be strongly compromised and the ability for the military to function is limited. The Lackland JLUS will focus on avoiding future land use conflicts while promoting positive development and investment into the community and neighborhoods. The Lackland JLUS, as any other development effort that occurs in Precinct 1 must include one crucial element; community input. Next week will begin the first phase of a series of public community meetings that will be held throughout Precinct 1 to allow neighborhoods, schools, business owners, and anyone else active in their community, the opportunity to share their concerns and ideas as we move forward with the study of the how we all impact our military presence in Bexar County and how we can build better relationships with each other. Bexar County encompasses what has become nationally known as "Military City USA" and as such, Lackland AFB opened its doors to call Bexar County its home more than 68 years ago when it established its mission to be the basic training installation for all enlisted members of the military for the Air Force, the Air Force Reserve Command, and the Air National Guard. Language skills, security, law enforcement, the working dog program, and combat arms have become the daily operations of Lackland's training mission. Detailed and skilled basic training for pilots is also a crucial mission at Lackland where they train in aviation expertise on the C-5s, F-16s, and now, soon to be the F-35 military aircraft. Last week, I was proud to announce and support the military's efforts to phase in the new aircraft F-35s as they plan to retire the F-16s. Bexar County will luckily reap the benefits of this effort made possible by my brother, Congressman Ciro Rodriguez whose devotion to our military secured \$7.9 million to fund the improvements and upgrades for the aircraft maintenance building currently housed at the Kelly Annex Field. Congressman Rodriguez took the lead in preserving our military efforts in Bexar County at the federal level and I am proud to follow his leadership to take the lead at the local County level. The positive economic developmental impact of Lackland is unmatched. It has more than 45,000 personnel and has positively impacted our local economy of approximately \$2 billion. Port San Antonio assists in the mission of Lackland in their operational oversight of the industrial area of the section formerly known as Kelly AFB. There is a multi-modal distribution center and aviation related companies at Port San Antonio. Preservation is clearly necessary when it comes to the most sensitive areas of Bexar County and Precinct 1. The Lackland AFB and Port San Antonio area will continue to be one of my priorities. As we move forward with our public meetings and development of strategies to enhance the surrounding neighborhoods, I do look forward to receiving input from you; the community. For information on the Lackland JLUS, please contact Michele Parlette at (210) 335-0034.

WED, MARCH 24TH

Host: Councilman Dist 6
Ray Lopez
Edgewood Academy
607 SW 34th Street
San Antonio, Tx 78237
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

SAT, MARCH 27TH

Host: Commissioner Pct 1
Sergio "Chico" Rodriguez
McAuliffe Middle School
9390 SW Loop 410
San Antonio, Tx 78242
10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

TUE, MARCH 30TH

Host: Councilman Dist 4
Philip Cortez
Knights of Columbus Hall
5763 Ray Ellison
San Antonio, Tx 78242
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

WED, MARCH 31ST

Host: Councilman Dist 5
David Medina, Jr.
Brentwood Middle School
1626 Thompson Place
San Antonio, Tx 78226
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

www.lacklandjlus.com

Contact: Michele Parlett | 100 Dolorosa, Suite 120A, San Antonio, Texas 78205 | 210-335-0034 | mparlett@bexar.org



Advocating For Our Victims: Bexar County, under the leadership of District Attorney Susan Reed, has worked diligently to develop efforts to reduce the violence committed against women. Congress created their Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women Later in Life Program to provide tools to local governments in their efforts to combat violence against women. With the assistance of Congress' Program, Bexar County was able to develop a coordinated comprehensive strategy to end violence against women. Last week during Commissioners Court, I was proud to support the presentation of this



Program and its funding request to provide training of criminal justice professionals, governmental agency staff and victim assistants to enhance their ability to address elder abuse, neglect and exploitation in our Bexar County communities. Under the SAFE Program, Safety Alliance For Elders, there is also an opportunity to provide cross training for professionals working with older victims and to develop and enhance a community coordinated response to elder abuse. The Program will also provide for enhanced services for female victims who are 50 years of age and older. The SAFE Program will allow the training of the San Antonio Police Department, the Bexar County Sheriff's Office, Bexar County Criminal District Attorney's Office, Adult Protective Services, and non-profit staff from the Bexar County Family Justice Center to develop outreach activities and services for older victims. Bexar County's SAFE Program, is also focused to establish a multidisciplinary community collaboration in Bexar County to identify and respond to cases of domestic violence or abuse of women victims 50 years of age and older. Our Bexar County vision is to have state agencies, local coalitions, and organizations come together in a collaborative effort to curb violence against women in Bexar County. Partners in the SAFE Program will collaborate under the leadership of Judge Monica Guerrero and Judge Jo Ann De-Hoyos to work with Aurora Sanchez and her staff and other Program partners to curb the violence against elder women. For information on how to help a victim or volunteer, please contact the Bexar County Family Justice Center at (210) 208-6800.

Accolades for Bexar County Juvenile Facility in Precinct 1: Bexar County's facility for juveniles, the Cyndi Taylor Krier Juvenile Correctional Treatment Center, was recently recognized by the State of Texas as a treatment facility providing the state's highest "level of care" rating for Intensive Level of Care. The Krier Center was the first and the only probation department managed facility in the State to receive this designation. I have been extremely proud to support the efforts to improve this facility and its services brought forth by David Reilly, Bexar County's Chief Probation Officer. With the support I receive from my fellow Commissioners Court members, the vision set by partners within the juvenile system, Bexar County has created a one of a kind facility where troubled youth can receive the rehabilitation services they need to turn their lives around. The Krier facility has a highly specialized and structured therapeutic setting that services a clearly defined unique population of youth. One may not expect to find that inside the Center, juvenile offenders receive counseling, educational, medical, recreational, psychiatric, and transitional aftercare services within a highly structured behavioral program that aids in the development of discipline through a system of incentives for positive behavior. Visitors are excited to learn that the tall structure they saw when first driving up the facility is not a guard tower at all, but is actually a 50-foot climbing wall, a component of the Ropes Course on campus. This and other innovative approaches to treatment, such as the use of animals to develop empathy and gardening to teach the value of hard work, have helped contribute to the development of an exceptional treatment program. Judge Laura Parker, Chair of the Juvenile Board, said "We are fortunate to have a secure residential facility of this caliber in Bexar County as an alternative to TYC commitment. At the Krier Center, offenders get structure and they also get support and treatment designed to give them a chance to turn their lives around." The Krier Center has refined treatment services to meet the unique needs of four special populations: mentally ill offenders, female offenders, substance abuse offenders, and pregnant offenders. To achieve the high rating, the clinical program components must effectively manage and treat these discreet populations in an appropriate fashion. It was also necessary to demonstrate that appropriately licensed and mental health professionals manage and administer these intensive service models. The services required to achieve this standard must be multi-disciplinary. David Reilly, explains, "The program and services components required by the state are no different than the requirements that apply to the private sector residential treatment facilities across the State. I can say that only a relatively small number are approved, licensed and designated as providing Intensive Level of Services. What makes this even more significant is that it we received the designation for a very diverse resident population and in a correctional setting." For information, contact (210) 335-7500.



Bexar County Juvenileonline

