

2014 STATE OF COUNTY

SAN ANTONIO CHAMBER

OCTOBER 24, 2014

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TRACY

STORY OF ALAMO ENTERPRISES:

**STARTED WITH TWO YOUNGER BROTHERS AND DAD SELLIN SECONDS IN
ROOFING ON THE STREET CORNERS OF SW MILITARY IN 1961**

MOVED TO AN ABANDONED FILLING STATION ON ROOSEVELT.

DAD AND I REGISTERED ALAMO ENTERPRISES WITH THE COUNTY CLERK

HOT CHECK- LOAD OF ROOFING

**MOVED TO AN ABANDONED FEED HOUSE ON LONE STAR, ADDED MORE
PRODUCTS**

SHEETROCK KINGS

**FIRST TO CONCENTRATE ON SMALL CONTRACTORS — EVEN TOOK THEIR
HOT CHECKS**

FIRST TO BUILD SHOW ROOMS FOR DO-IT-YOURSELFERS

FIRST TO EXPAND TO OTHER MARKETS IN SOUTH TEXAS

**ADDED MORE STORES BECAUSE WE KEPT INVESTING, BUT TOOK OUT ONLY
ENOUGH TO LIVE**

1978 SOLD 8 STORES AND DISTRIBUTION CENTER TO A NATIONAL CHAIN

STORY OF SUN HARVEST

FIRST TO OPEN ALL-NATURAL SUPERMARKET IN SA IN 1979 ON NACO.

RD. ONE YEAR BEFORE WHOLEFOODS OPENED

FIRST TO CREATE LARGE BULK SECTION

FIRST TO USE PRODUCE AS A LOSS-LEADER

FIRST TO CREATE COMPREHENSIVE VITAMIN AND HERB DEPARTMENT

CONTINUED TO ADD STORES AND EXPAND PRODUCT LINES

WE EMPOWERED OUR 750 TEAM MEMBERS TO TAKE CHANCES, MAKE

MISTAKES

SOLD NINE STORES AND DISTRIBUTION CENTER IN '99 TO WILD OATS

STORES ARE STILL HERE IN SAN ANTONIO, INCLUDING THE ORIGINAL

I TELL YOU THIS STORY BECAUSE I HAVE TAKEN THE POWERFUL

PRINCIPLES OF ENTREPREURIALISM THAT I LEARNED IN BUSINESS AND

APPLIED THEM TO COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

OUR COUNTY EMBRACES THE ENTREPREURIAL PRINCIPLES OF:
AGGRESSIVENESS, COMPETITION, CONTINUOUS INVESTMENT, RISK-TAKING,
ECONOMIC GROWTH, COST CONTROL, AND INNOVATION.

WE EMPOWER AND INSPIRE OUR TEAM MEMBERS AND OUR TEAM HAS
RESPONDED; THEY'VE DELIVERED:

THE FIRST ALL-DIGITAL LIBRARY IN AMERICA

THE LARGEST RESTORATION OF AN URBAN RIVER,

FIRST 13 REGIONAL SPORTS PARKS

FIRST STATE-OF-ART PERFORMANCE HALL IN SA

THE FIRST CHILDREN'S COURT IN TEXAS

AND WE HAVE DONE ALL OF THIS WHILE DRIVING OUR COSTS DOWN;
SAVING \$700 MILLION OF YOUR MONEY BY CUTTING TAX RATE IN LAST 13
YEARS.

WE PROVIDED ANOTHER TAX CUT THIS YEAR SAVING TAXPAYERS ANOTHER
\$12 MILLION PER YEAR.

PLEASE STAND

JOINING WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR OUR COLLECTIVE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT HAS PUSHED OUR COMMUNITY FORWARD. WORKING TOGETHER WE ARE ECONOMICALLY STRONGER THAN EVER BEFORE:

30,000 NEW JOBS THIS YEAR, 4.7% UNEMPLOYMENT

ALL OUR INDUSTRIES ARE GROWING.

TO CONTINUE TO MOVE OUR COMMUNITY FORWARD WE SHOULD ESTABLISH PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE. THEY NEED TO BE WIDE ENOUGH TO ADJUST TO THE QUICKLY CHANGING WORLD.

SEVEN PATHWAYS TO A VIBRANT FUTURE:

1. PREPARE OUR WORKFORCE FOR THE NEW ECONOMY

OUR WORKFORCE MUST UNDERSTAND TECHNOLOGY, THE INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA TO FUNCTION IN THE NEW ECONOMY. BEYOND THAT THEY MUST LEARN WHERE TO ACCESS, DIGEST, AND USE INFORMATION. WITH THE WORLD IN FRONT OF THEM WE LEAD THEM TO DIGITAL LIBRARY OF AMERICAN, TO THE WORLD LIBRARY, TO THE THOUSANDS OF FREE BOOKS ON GOOGLE BOOKS AND GUTENBERG, MANGO AND ATOMIC LEARNING SITES.

IN BIBLIOTECH'S FIRST YEAR OUR TALENTED TECHNOLOGY TEAM WORKED WITH 103 THOUSAND ON-SITE VISITORS, MOSTLY STUDENTS — DOUBLE

THAT NUMBER FOR WEBSITE VISITORS, 67,000 E-BOOKS CHECKED OUT,
AND 6,430 E-READERS CHECKED OUT.

OUR TEAM IS GOING INTO SCHOOLS DELIVERING 1000 E-READERS. WE ARE
TAKING THE DIGITAL WORLD TO SCHOOL LIBRARIES AND AT THE SAME
TIME ENCOURAGING STUDENTS TO READ.

WE ARE BREAKING DOWN THE BARRIERS TO READING. DEVELOPING A
LIBRARY WITHOUT WALLS. JUST SIGN UP OVER THE INTERNET TO START
USING OUR LIBRARY WHEREVER YOU ARE.

THE CITY IS STEPPING UP:

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

CITY PRE-K PROGRAM

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE ALAMO COLLEGE DISTRICT ARE MOVING IN THE
RIGHT DIRECTION. SOUTH SAN-STUDENTS CAN CHOOSE A "CAREER READY
PLAN" EARNING A LEVEL A "LEVEL ONE" CERTIFICATE TO BETTER FIND HIGH-
SKILLED VOCATIONAL WORK.

WE NOW HAVE 8 EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOLS, ALL IN PARTNERSHIPS WITH ALAMO COLLEGE.

THE FIVE ALAMO AREA ACADEMIES ARE AT THEIR HIGHEST LEVEL OF STUDENT ENROLLMENT.

WE ARE ON THE RIGHT TRACK.

2. FULLY EMBRACE THE ARTS

THE ARTS ARE A STRONG ECONOMIC GENERATOR WHILE THEY ENHANCE OUR CULTURE.

COUNTY'S \$100 MILLION INVESTMENT IN TOBIN CENTER HAS CREATED A MARQUEE SYMBOL OF SAN ANTONIO'S COMMITMENT TO THE PERFORMING ARTS. IT HAS GAINED US INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION PROVIDING A STATE OF THE ART VENUE FOR OUR LOCAL PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS. BEXAR COUNTY GRANTED \$175,000 TO THE SYMPHONY, BALLET AND OPERA SAN ANTONIO. THROUGH MUSIC AND DANCE WE ARE LIFTING UP THE HUMAN SPIRIT.

WE LED THE EFFORT TO CREATE "THE FUND", AN EMPLOYEE GIVING PROGRAM TO BOOST OPERATING FUNDS FOR LOCAL ARTS GROUPS. HOPE YOU JOIN THE COMPAINES THAT NOW PARTICIPATE.

WE STARTED AN ARTS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM TO FOSTER THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS AND ADVOCATES FOR THE ARTS.

THE COUNTY CONTRIBUTION TO THE BRISCOE WESTERN ART MUSEUM ENABLED IT TO OPEN THIS YEAR. IT HAS JOINED THE CULTURAL CORRIDOR FROM BLUE STAR ON THE SOUTH TO THE MCNAY ON THE NORTH. SOON THE NEW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM WILL JOIN THEM.

GO TO THEIR PERFORMANCES, BUY THEIR PAINTINGS AND GIVE LOTS OF MONEY TO THE LOCAL NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS.

3. IMPROVE AIR QUALITY, ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND WATER DIVERSITY

WE ARE THE ONLY MAJOR CITY IN AMERICA NOT THROWN INTO NONCOMPLIANCE ON AIR QUALITY STANDARDS.

THIS DECEMBER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL ANNOUNCE NEW OZONE COMPLIANCE STANDARDS — WE'RE NOW AT 75 PARTS PER BILLION AND NEW STANDARDS COULD GO AS LOW AS 60 PARTS PER BILLION.

WE HAVE THREE YEARS, INCLUDING THIS YEAR TO GET OZONE LEVELS
DOWN. WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO REDUCE THESE LEVELS BY:

TRAFFIC SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS TO REDUCE IDLING CARS

EXPAND GREEN BUILDING PROGRAMS AND INCENTIVES

EXPAND RECYCLING PROGRAMS

SPECIFY FUEL STANDARDS

MANY OTHERS

AS WE DID WITH THE \$271 MILLION DOLLAR MISSION REACH OF THE SAN
ANTONIO RIVER, WE MUST MOVE FORWARD IN RESTORING SAN PEDRO
CREEK AS IT WINDS THROUGH DOWNTOWN

THE COUNTY CREATED THE CIBOLO DISTRICT THAT PROVIDED FUNDING
FOR THE BUILDING OF THE JW MARRIOTT RESORT AND TWO PGA GOLF
COURSES.

IT HAS SET THE STANDARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. WITH
SEVERAL HUNDRED ACRES OF LAND SET ASIDE, WE ADDED TO IT WHEN WE
PURCHASED THE DIERKS TRACT TO PROTECT THE GOLDEN CHEEK

WARBLER. BY SO DOING WE ALSO PRESERVED THE TRAINING MISSION AT CAMP BULLIS.

WE HAVE RECENTLY CONTRIBUTED \$500 THOUSAND TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF LAND NECESSARY TO PROTECT BRACKEN CAVE. WE NEED ADDITIONAL DONATIONS FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

THE COUNTY BUILT 13 REGIONAL SPORTS FIELDS, GREEN OASES FOR SOCCER, BASEBALL, FOOTBALL, AND TRACK AND FIELD.

COUNTY FIRST TO INSTALL SOLAR PANELS ON A DOWNTOWN BUILDING AND THE FIRST LEED **SILVER** CERTIFIED PUBLIC BUILDING IN THE CITY.

I SERVED 9 YEARS ON THE CPS BOARD. WE TOOK FIRST STEP TOWARD RENEWABLE ENERGY WHEN ADDED WIND POWER TO ITS PORTFOLIO. WE SUPPORT CPS AS THEY CONTINUE TO DIVERSIFY THEIR ENERGY SOURCES.

DURING MY TERM AS MAYOR WE CREATED SAWS BY COMBINING THREE DIFFERENT AGENCIES. SAWS HAS A GREAT RECORD OF CONSERVATION AND

DIVERSIFICATION OF ITS WATER SUPPLY. WE SHOULD SUPPORT THEM AS THEY MOVE FORWARD WITH THE VISTA RIDGE PROJECT.

4. EXPAND QUALITY HEALTH CARE

LEAVING A PORTION OF OUR COMMUNITY WITHOUT ACCESS TO QUALITY AND AFFORDABLE CARE SERVES NO ONE.

IT'S NOT GOOD FOR THE INDIVIDUAL, IT'S NOT GOOD FOR EMPLOYERS AND IT'S NOT GOOD FOR TAXPAYERS WHO FOOT THE BILL FOR INDIGENT CARE. HEALTH CARE IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST UNFUNDED MANDATES FROM THE STATE.

WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT A RED STATE PLAN – A REPUBLICAN PLAN LIKE 9 OTHER CONSERVATIVE STATES HAVE DONE TO EXPAND HEALTH CARE COVERAGE – THAT WOULD USE PRIVATE COMMERCIAL INSURANCE AND COPAYS. EXPANSION OF AFFORDABLE CARE WOULD SAVE OUR HOSPITAL DISTRICT \$50 MILLION PER YEAR.

IF THE LEGISLATURE WOULD DO THAT WE COULD FURTHER CUT OUR HOSPITAL DISTRICT TAX RATE, STOP OUR FEDERAL SHARE OF MONEY FROM GOING TO OTHER STATES AND IMPROVE THE STATE OF OUR HEALTH.

THE COMMISSIONERS COURT \$900 MILLION INVESTMENT IN OUR 10 STORY SKY TOWER AND EXPANDED BRADY GREEN CLINIC AND ADDITION OF NEIGHBORHOOD CLINICS GREATLY IMPROVES HEALTHCARE IN THIS COMMUNITY.

WE ALSO NEED TO WORK WITH THE LEGISLATURE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MEDICAL RESIDENCIES IN TEXAS SO PHYSICIANS WILL STAY HERE AND TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR RESEARCH.

UNTREATED MENTAL ILLNESS AFFECTS OUR JAIL POPULATION, CRIME RATE AND PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM. THE BETTER THE TREATMENT WE CAN PROVIDE, THE BETTER OFF WE ALL WILL BE.

THIS YEAR WE CREATED A MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO COORDINATE ALL MENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES AND TO DIVERT MENTALLY ILL PATIENTS FROM CENTRAL MAGISTRATION TO AGENCIES THAT WILL HELP THEM.

5. JAIL THE BAD GUYS AND HEAL THE ILL

OUR DRUG, MENTAL HEALTH, VETERANS, AND DWI COURTS ALSO ARE ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY BY INSTITUTING TREATMENT PROGRAMS FOR DRUG, ALCOHOL AND MENTAL ILLNESSES. INSTEAD OF SENDING THEM TO JAIL OUR PROGRAM HAS SAVED OVER A 1000 LIVES AND REDUCED OUR JAIL POPULATION.

WE ARE GOING AFTER THE BAD GUYS. THE NEW COUNTY BUDGET INCLUDES FUNDING FOR 2 PATROL SUB STATIONS, ONE ON THE NORTHEAST AND ONE ON THE NORTHWEST SIDES OF THE COUNTY. THIS WILL LOWER RESPONSE TIMES AND INCREASE PATROL PRESENCE IN NEIGHBORHOODS.

THE INCREASE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT POSITIONS WITHIN THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE ALSO WILL INCREASE NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY.

WE HAVE ENTERED AN AGREEMENT WITH BEXAR METRO NINE- ONE-ONE TO CREATE A NEW PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION CENTER AT I-10 AND LOOP 1604. IT WILL GUARANTEE CONTINUITY IN EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMUNICATIONS WITH REDUNDANT SYSTEMS.

6. IMPROVE MOBILITY

THERE ARE SOME 20 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE LOS ANGELES METRO AREA, AND AT ANY GIVEN TIME 19 MILLION OF THEM ARE PARKED ON FREEWAYS.

WE MUST HAVE A BALANCED INVESTMENT BETWEEN PUBLIC TRANSIT AND HIGHWAYS AND ROADS.

LOCALLY BEXAR COUNTY HAS INVESTED OVER \$260 MILLION IN STATE HIGHWAY PROJECTS. MOVING FORWARD ON 281 AND 1604 AND OTHER PROJECTS.

BUT THERE IS A LIMIT TO LOCAL SUPPORT OF HIGHWAYS. WE MUST SUPPORT PROPOSITION 1 IN THE UPCOMING ELECTION.

A 'YES' VOTE DOES NOT REQUIRE A TAX INCREASE AND MOVES THE STATE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION BY PROVIDING \$1.7 BILLION A YEAR IN NEW FUNDS FILLING A PORTION OF THE \$5 BILLION ANNUAL GAP IN TRANSPORTATION FUNDING.

SUPPORT EXPANSION OF VIA. PARK AND RIDE AT 281 AND STONE OAK, BROOKS, AND RALPH FAIR AVENUE AND IH. 10. MULTIMODAL FACILITIES EAST AND WEST OF DOWN TOWN.

7. OFFER CHOICE OF URBAN/SUBURBAN LIVING

WE HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC INVESTMENTS IN THE URBAN CORE OF OUR CITY AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR HAS RESPONDED WITH HUGE INVESTMENTS. THOUSANDS OF HOUSING UNITS NEAR NORTH AND SOUTH DOWNTOWN.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS WANT A MENU OF ENTERTAINMENT OPTIONS WELL WITHIN THEIR REACH. BARS, RESTAURANTS, MUSIC VENUES, AND RECREATION ALONG THE RIVER HAVE GIVEN THEM A LIFESTYLE WE NEVER OFFERED BEFORE.

FORBES REPORTS SAN ANTONIO IS THE NUMBER ONE CITY FOR MILLENNIALS WHO LIKE AN URBAN LIFE. WE HAVE A STRONG ECONOMY, LOW COST OF LIVING, AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

BUT URBAN LIVING IS NOT JUST IN THE CENTRAL CITY. THERE ARE PERFECT EXAMPLES OF SUBURBAN AREAS WHERE CLUSTERS OF PEOPLE LIVE, WORK AND RECREATE ALL WITHIN ONE AREA:

ALAMO QUARRY

LA CANTERA

LIVING CLOSER TOGETHER IS BETTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND HELPS REDUCE CONGESTION ON HIGHWAYS.

7 PATHWAYS

1. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
2. THE ARTS
3. THE ENVIRONMENT
4. HEALTHCARE

5. MOBILITY

6. PUBLIC SAFETY

7. VIBRANT CENTERS OF LIVING

IN CLOSING LET ME SHARE WITH YOU FOUR PRINCIPLES THAT DRIVE ME.

1. NOT WHAT YOU SAY BUT WHAT YOU DO

2. NOT WHAT YOU ARE AGAINST BUT WHAT ARE YOU FOR

3. NOT ABOUT EQUIVOCATION BUT STANDING UP FOR WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN AND NOT BEING AFRAID TO MAKE HARD DECISIONS.

4. NOT WHETHER YOU ARE A DEMOCRAT, A REPUBLICAN OR INDEPENDENT, BUT WHETHER YOU ARE WILLING TO WORK TOGETHER ACROSS PARTY LINES FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR COMMUNITY.

SO LET'S WORK TOGETHER, APPLY THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT AS WE REINVENT OURSELVES AND OUR CITY. LET US NOT FEAR THE FUTURE NOR BE TIMID AS WE CHART OUR PATHS TO GREATNESS.