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VALLEY MORNING STAR

Saturday, November 9, 2019 | © 2019

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Holiday meal and good cheer



PHOTOS BY MARICELA RODRIGUEZ/VALLEY MORNING STAR

Keys Academy volunteer Adara Urbina, left, happily swayed to the music on the intercom as she placed turkey slices on plates and handed them down the line yesterday at the H-E-B Feast of Sharing.

Community delights in Feast of Sharing

By ALANA HERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

HARLINGEN — Chilly winds and cloudy skies didn't stop hundreds of attendees from lining up to partake in this yearly community Thanksgiving celebration.

H-E-B hosted its free

26th annual Harlingen Feast of Sharing dinner yesterday afternoon at the Community Center. The tradition was created in 1989 and is part of H-E-B's Food Bank Assistance Program, which works toward preventing hunger.

See FEAST ★ A8



Maria Garcia, right, attended the event with her 3-year-old grandson Noe Rodriguez and her sister Luisa Gonzalez. Garcia says she has attended for many years and looks forward to attending H-E-B's Feast of Sharing in the future.

An average Feast of Sharing dinner serves

- 3,000 pounds of sliced turkey
- 2,500 pounds of cornbread dressing
- 750 pumpkin pies
- 380 gallons of mashed potatoes
- 140 gallons of turkey gravy

Selena tribute singer released after Harlingen arrest

By FRANCISCO E. JIMENEZ
Staff Writer

MCALLEN — Karol Posadas, singer of the Selena tribute band Anything for Salinas, has been released from federal custody after being held in an ICE detention facility following her arrest while attempting to



Posadas

board a flight Saturday, Nov. 2, at Valley International Airport, according to a GoFundMe page.

Adelina A. Pruneda, spokeswoman for Immigration and

Customs Enforcement, confirmed Friday afternoon that U.S. Customs and Border Protection had arrested Posadas at the Harlingen airport.

However, Pruneda issued a statement just before 7 p.m. confirming that Posadas has now been released by ICE "on

an order of supervision."

"Her immigration proceedings are ongoing," Pruneda said in the statement.

Posadas is in the country under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, having been brought to the

See SINGER ★ A5



Michael Vargas

Trial date set for school trustee

DA to request Vargas' temporary removal

By FERNANDO DEL VALLE
Staff Writer

BROWNSVILLE — A judge yesterday set an April 13 trial to determine whether San Benito school board President Michael Vargas should be removed from office on the grounds of intoxication.

Meanwhile, Assistant District Attorney Edward Sandoval said he would request Vargas be temporarily removed from office.

In a hearing in 107th state District Court, visiting Judge Manuel Bañales set the court's announcements for April 3.

The case stems from residents' petition calling for Vargas' removal as a result of his July 5 arrest on a driving while intoxicated charge.

Under Texas Government Code 87.015, the rarely applied law allows residents to petition the court to remove elected officials from office on such grounds as intoxication.

On Oct. 2, residents Janie Lopez, Rosalinda Garcia, Ramon Santos and Oscar Medrano, a former school board member, filed the petition.

Lopez, the district's former Guidance and Counseling coordinator who spearheaded the petition drive, said Vargas' arrest sends the wrong message to students.

"We need a strong role model for our kids," Lopez said after the hearing. "If Vargas is displaying behavior that goes against laws and ethics, he's not meeting the district's gold standard. Vargas also makes decisions that affect employee hiring and terminations. The employees need to know the district is going to be fair."

Lopez said she was counting on an earlier trial date.

"I'm not happy about the length of time it's going to take," she said, referring to the April 13 trial date. "That's almost at the end of the school year. I respect what the law says and I respect the process but it seems like an eternity."

See TRIAL ★ A8

Helping those in need

La Posada Providencia celebrates 30 years of service

By ALANA HERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

SAN BENITO — Year after year, this local safe haven has been welcoming those in crisis who have been fleeing their countries in hope of finding a better life.

This week, the organization celebrated a milestone in the impact

they've made for hundreds of people.

With local, county and state officials in attendance, La Posada Providencia hosted a Proclamation Ceremony yesterday morning in honor of the ministry's 30 years of service.

The San Benito-based ministry provides immigrants and asylum

seekers with shelter, food, local transportation and supportive services such as ESL lessons and assistance to help navigate the immigration process and resettlement.

Beginning Dec. 5, 1989, the ministry welcomed two refugees from Central America.

Years later, La Posada Providencia grew to help more than 10,000 people from 86 countries.

See LA POSADA ★ A5



MARICELA RODRIGUEZ/VALLEY MORNING STAR
State, county, and city dignitaries as well as invited guests gathered at La Posada Providencia in San Benito yesterday for a ceremony celebrating the 30th Anniversary of its founding.

INDEX

Amusements	B4	Obituaries	A5	TSTC	A4
Crossword	B5	Sports	B1	Valley	A3
Faith	A6	Stocks	B6	Weather	B8

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Today's Page 1
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Whistleblower disputes boil over in impeachment interview

By MATTHEW DALY

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Transcripts released Friday in the impeachment inquiry show Republicans and Democrats repeatedly skirmishing over GOP questions that appeared aimed at drawing out the identity of the whistleblower who filed the initial complaint against President Donald Trump. Trump himself speculated that the whistleblower "should be sued. And maybe for treason."

During questioning last month of Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, a top Trump national security adviser, Republicans repeatedly asked questions that could reveal the whistleblower's identity — leading to sharp



SUSAN WALSH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., talks with reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019, about the House impeachment inquiry.

exchanges with Democrats and Vindman's lawyer.

The chairman of the House

Intelligence Committee, Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., finally intervened, saying: "It is the

ruling of the chair that the witness shall not identify employees, detailees or contractors of the intelligence agency, or provide information that may lead to the revelation of the identity of the whistleblower, someone whose life has been put at risk."

Democrats "are determined to protect the right of that whistleblower to remain anonymous," Schiff said, "and we will not allow bad-faith efforts to out this whistleblower."

Vindman's lawyer, Michael Volkov, said his client would not answer questions about how many people, other than State Department official George Kent, he told about concerns he had over Trump's July 25 call with the president

of Ukraine. The call, and Trump's request for a "favor" from Ukraine are the basis of the impeachment inquiry.

Pressed repeatedly, Volkov said of his client: "Look, he came here. He tells you he's not the whistleblower, okay? He says he feels uncomfortable about it. Try and respect his feelings at this point."

A person then identified only as "voice" interjects: "We're uncomfortable impeaching the president."

Volkov then shot back: "What I'm telling you right now is you have to protect the identity of a whistleblower. I get that there may be political overtones. You guys go do what you got to do, but do not put this man in the middle of it."

LA POSADA

FROM A1

"It's really been a privilege to welcome our brothers and sisters, refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants from all over the world that are facing a crisis because Jesus has asked us — it's a gospel mandate to welcome the stranger," said La Posada Providencia program director Sister Zita Telkamp. "As Jesus' servants, we want to remain true to the gospel mandate."

During the ceremony, Cameron County Judge Eddie Trevino, Jr. presented a framed proclamation to La Posada Providencia.

"Our country, I dare say, is in a very tough spot in its history and as Christians, Catholics, anybody of faith who has any compassion whatsoever for their fellow human beings, we should be very well concerned for the structure and the status

of our country," Trevino said to attendees and La Posada Providencia members. "And in spite of all of the negative and ugly rhetoric that we've heard over the last several years, its groups, work and dedication that you do that continues to inspire us and know that we're still on the right path."

Following Trevino speech, state Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr. presented the ministry with a framed Texas flag that had been dedicated at the capital.

"It's a family affair being here and knowing that we can count on beautiful hearts that are present to give shelter and food to the hungry, to clothe the naked and to do everything that the Lord Jesus Christ would want us to do," Lucio, Jr. said. "This is a celebration of what I consider a beautiful example of being a good neighbor."

Closing the ceremony, Catholic Diocese of



MARICELA RODRIGUEZ/VALLEY MORNING STAR

La Posada Providencia held a ceremony to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of its founding. State, county, and city dignitaries presented Program Director Sister Zita Telkamp with proclamations at the ceremony. Pictured from left to right are San Benito Mayor Ben Gomez, Sister Margaret Mertens, CDP, Sister Zita Telkamp, Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr., La Posada Providencia Board Chair Leticia Eads, and Cameron County Judge Eddie Trevino Jr.

Brownsville Auxiliary Bishop Rev. Mario Alberto Aviles blessed

the ministry's Lady of Guadalupe statue and Butterfly Garden as dozens of attendees sang a gospel song together.

"We do all of this out

of compassion," Telkamp said. "I believe that when I consider our freedom, the living conditions in the United States and when I learn about

WHAT IS LA POSADA PROVIDENCIA?

- It's a ministry, sponsored by the Sisters of Divine Providence, for people in crisis from around the world who are seeking legal refuge in the U.S.
- La Posada Providencia provides clients with shelter, food, local transportation and supportive services such as ESL lessons and assistance to help navigate the immigration process and resettlement.
- It was founded in 1989 and is located at 30094 Marydale Road in San Benito.

people who are living in fear of their lives every day, starving and have nothing — they don't come actually to get wealthy or to have a better life, they actually come to save their lives."

ahernandez@valleystar.com

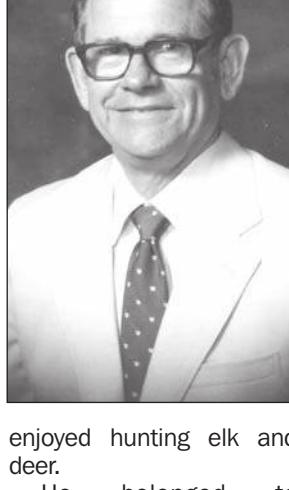
Obituaries



Sign the guestbook at:
www.valleystar.com/obituaries

Carl Moore

May 3, 1930 - Sept. 29, 2019



enjoyed hunting elk and deer. He belonged to Crossroads Church where a Celebration of Life was held on October 5, 2019.

Air Force, they returned to Harlingen and he soon went to work for Deere & Co. He was with Deere 29 years and made many moves ending up in Portland, Oregon where he lived 51 years. After retirement from Deere, he became a general contractor. He is survived by his wife, Nina; children, Charles (Linda), Wayne, Carl Douglas (Kathy), Glen (Carmen); grandchildren Caitlin La, Michael, Kyle, Gabriel and Garrett Moore, great grandchildren Jordan and Caden La.

For hobbies, Carl

SINGER

FROM A1

United States from Guatemala by her parents when she was young, the web page stated.

The GoFundMe was seeking \$15,000 in order to secure Posadas' release from the El Valle Detention Facility, claiming she had been kept in

substandard conditions and away from necessary medical attention for a heart condition.

CBP issued a statement Friday afternoon that had only acknowledged Posadas' arrest without providing any details with regard to the circumstances of her detainment.

"On November 2,

2019, United States Border Patrol agents arrested Karol Posadas following an immigration inspection at the Valley International Airport in Harlingen, Texas," CBP stated. The subject was processed in accordance with agency guidelines."

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Funerals Today

Jose Luis Arce Sr. (Joe Arce)

Funeral service will be held for Jose Luis Arce Sr. (Joe Arce) at 1 p.m. today, Nov. 9, 2019 at Heavenly Grace Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Mont Meta Memorial Park. Arrangements by Heavenly Grace Funeral Home of La Feria.

Daniel Peña Castillo

Chapel Service will be held for Daniel Peña Castillo at Saturday at 5 p.m. - 10 p.m. today, Nov. 9, 2019 at Heavenly Grace Funeral Home. Arrangements by Heavenly Grace Funeral Home of La Feria.

Death Notices

Harlingen - **Maria Enedina Aguilar**, 73, died Friday, Nov. 8, 2019. Rudy Garza Funeral Home of Harlingen is in charge of arrangements.

San Benito - **Gloria (Navarro) Cantu**, 67, died Friday, Nov. 8, 2019. Thomae-Garza Funeral Home of San Benito is in charge of arrangements.

San Benito - **Daniel Espinoza**, 63, died Thursday, Nov. 7, 2019. Thomae - Garza Funeral Home of San Benito is in charge of arrangements.

Brownsville - **Rafaela Z. Villarreal**, 92, died Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019. Darling Mouser Funeral Home of Brownsville, Texas is in charge of arrangements.

Brownsville - **Alicia A. Mayorga**, 65, died Thursday, Nov. 7, 2019. Darling Mouser Funeral Home of Brownsville, Texas is in charge of arrangements.

Weslaco - **Socorro Zamarron**, 89, died Thursday, Nov. 7, 2019. McCaleb Funeral Home of Weslaco is in charge of arrangements.