

Northwest Democrats

News

29 YEARS
And
Still Kicking



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Northwest Democrats, P.O. Box 681911, San Antonio, TX 78268;mererodriguez@yahoo.com

2020-2021 OFFICERS

Chair

Esmeralda Rodriguez
210-771-6984

Vice-Chair

Barbara Moschner
210-492-6630

Secretary/ Treasurer

Brenda Middleton

Program Director

Barbara Moschner
210-492-6630

Special Projects

Gene Marck
210-273-9201

Communications

Ruth Stewart
Sarah Harvey

EC Assistant

Adam Castillo

Past Chair

Jacob Middleton

U.S. Capitol

1-202-224-3121

Rep. Joaquin Castro

1-202-225-3236

February 20th Program

Our first guest speaker is Rob Goodman, who will speak about Medicare and Social Security, a timely topic. Our second guest speaker is James Dykman, Fix SAPD. He will be giving information about the May 1st ballot initiative for a public vote on collective bargaining. Our meeting will begin at 10 am and Zoom information is located on page 3 of the newsletter. BYOB (bring your own breakfast) and wear clothes.

FEBRUARY SPECIAL PROJECT:



Don Green Tree Fund

Cost: \$1,000/tree

Planting: TBD

Location: TBD

See page 3 for details.

**Contact Gene Marck,
210-273-9201, if you have any questions.**

Authorized & Paid for by the Northwest Democrats

To submit an article or other info, email Brenda Middleton at:

bkdmiddleton@yahoo.com

A Few JOYCE Words

At last, the second impeachment trial of former President Donald J. Trump has begun. How great those last words sound! I was very impressed with the legislator's presentation and disgusted with those of Trump's lawyers. I had no idea what his first lawyer was trying to say - but then you have already heard all this.

COVID 19 continues to have too much involvement in our everyday lives. I hope that all of you who are eligible are able to get your vaccine shots. I got my second shot yesterday, and this time I had a reaction. COVID has caused real change in my life. First, it has almost completely shutdown my getting away from home. I have only recently been to any stores – and then only about five. I don't participate any more in the grocery shopping and am almost always frustrated by the items ordered differ from those I received. I miss going out to lunch. I have missed not shopping for personal items. While Amazon is as great a substitute I can find, it does not answer the need for shoe sizes or clothes. I would like to go to the theater and see a movie again. Television has made a valiant effort, but it is not the same. I miss seeing friends, and I don't find ZOOM a great substitute. I miss Northwest Democrats meetings and getting to talk to friends I don't see otherwise. My social life consists mostly of phone calls, and I do enjoy phone calls, but the number of friends I talk to is greatly diminished.

But it is family I miss most of all. For instance, I have a great-grandson who will be a year old in a few days, and I have only seen him in person once when he was about 4 months old. Yes, he lives nearby in Austin. I have a great-great-grandson the same age that I have seen in person twice. No children coming on holidays. What is Christmas without family? I could go on and on about this, but it will make me cry. The choices are both mine and theirs. They protect me, and I try to protect them. My middle son invited me to his house for Christmas, but it was my decision not to go, as badly as I wanted to.

My daughter from Illinois came anyway in the summer for her yearly visit. Anna and my middle son, Tim, come at will. The first time Timothy came, he grabbed me around the waist and hugged me, saying if I can't hug my mother, what good would it be to be alive. I found I agreed. Since then, we all hug when we see each other. Sylvia's daughter has also come to visit and brought some of her family to celebrate my birthday, belatedly. The few times other family have come have been extremely few. But it has been my good fortune that my son, James, and his wife, Tammy, moved in with me about five years ago. James has continued to work (he is an essential worker), but he has taken great care to protect me. Tammy only works a few days a week – usually on a schedule so she can be with me when he is not.

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February 20 ZOOM Meeting

For security and privacy concerns the Zoom meeting ID and passcode will not be displayed. Please contact an officer (listed on page 1, left) for the meeting ID and passcode.



Don Green Tree Fund

February is the month when we collect donations for the tree fund. We will be planting a tree either the last of this month or the first of March in memory of Judge Ray Olivarri, Jr. who passed away in January 2020, from cancer. Your contributions make this a lasting memory of our members' contributions to NWD and our community. We will make sure that all who contribute to Judge Olivarri's tree, get a thank you in the March newsletter. Please designate your donation as "Tree Fund". Contributions can be by check and mailed to NWD, PO Box 681911, SATX 78268 or Act Blue.

NWD Super Bowl Warm-Up Statistics

If you forgot or didn't Zoom with us on February 7, we had a great time. I had more food that I could eat. (Sorry, that was at my house.) Our local elected officials inspired us to carry on with the work of electing great Democrats and updated us on what's new for the coming year. Your generous donations added \$8,000 to our account. We'll be using our money to focus on the state and federal elections in 2022. Thanks for your support.

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It was Christmas that was the worst. For instead of having family in and out, James, Tammy and I were home alone. But, throughout, and I feel we will all continue to be cautious – me for them and them for me.

COVID has taken so much already. I would never want to feel that I endangered someone else. So, even though I've had both my shots, I will continue to wear my mask, wash my hands, and keep 6 feet apart.

Northwest Democrats
P.O. BOX 681911
San Antonio, TX 78268-1911

www.northwestdemocrats.org

IMPORTANT DATES

February 20 Northwest Democrats Zoom meeting

March 20 Northwest Democrats Zoom meeting
Mayoral and City Council candidates
in Districts 6, 7, and 8

April 17 Northwest Democrats Zoom meeting
City Council races (continued) and
NISD Trustee candidates