

**THE NEWSLETTER IS REVIVED!**



**BCDP MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

**January 2021**

**INAUGURATION EDITION**

**ELECTION RESULTS & CELEBRATIONS**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**NEW YEAR'S ADDRESS FROM THE BCDP COUNTY CHAIR**



### A New Year, A New Administration

Dear fellow Democrats,

There is a slow, collective sigh of relief as we wave goodbye and shed the painful year that was 2020. Looking ahead to the dawn of 2021, let us all hope by next year's end that we as a nation finally have this pandemic under control so that we may all gather once more in groups to socialize, converse, and exchange ideas as we had prior to the outbreak. Until we can get to that point with the vaccines currently being delivered across the country, I am reluctant to say that we will have to continue to keep our meetings limited to the technologies of Zoom and e-mail. Despite these limitations we as a party were able to make great strides and achievements from organizing and outreach to our communities to ensure that we are not abandoning them out of the very politics and social justice issues that we work to promote for them day to day. I want all of you to be able to really celebrate this new year with all of the great accomplishments that you helped us to achieve in 2020 despite the stark reality of all that occurred in a dismal year for American politics.

When the celebrations quiet down, know that the Bexar County Democratic Party will never go silently into the night as we have still much of the road to cover until we get Texas Blue all the way through! That means that we are looking ahead to the next election, and that we will not be content with the losses suffered in the Senate and House races. The setbacks of highly qualified candidates such as Wendy Davis and Gina Ortiz Jones will be our new rallying point, knowing well that it should be their voices working for us in Texas and the US Congress. We will take the lessons learned from those election shortcomings and turn them into a strategic gain for the races to come, because failure is but a steppingstone to success. Your Bexar County Democratic Party will ensure that our next campaign efforts take such wisdom forward into those contests.

We must ask everyone involved to help us for this new year in seeking out new minds willing to contribute their time, talent, and effort in expanding our base overall. They are out there as we have seen quite a few new faces step forward and pitch in enthusiastically during the entire length of the campaign races through election day itself. To those who stepped up to the plate I would like to send out a welcome invitation anytime to continue your contributions and become a presence known as your points of view are critical insights as to how we will be able to better perform outreach to those who may have been politically disenfranchised members in Bexar County.

I am calling upon educators, communicators, artists, writers, singers, media savvy technicians, and leaders to join us in making battle plans for the very tough election roadmaps ahead. We intend to carry out an efficient operation as we have made

significant financial gains in terms of fundraising support and we are always on the lookout for innovative means to continue onward with these efforts. I would like to thank all of those who donated to our organization because without your support we would not have been able to deliver as well as we have this year, the words for extending such generosity can never truly be enough to repay what you have given. We received hope, and that is the one bright light that can shed away the dark curtain of yesteryear, and together I am going to lead us ahead into a brighter 2021 with the beacon of a brand-new administration to look up to as a guide...a lighthouse if you will.

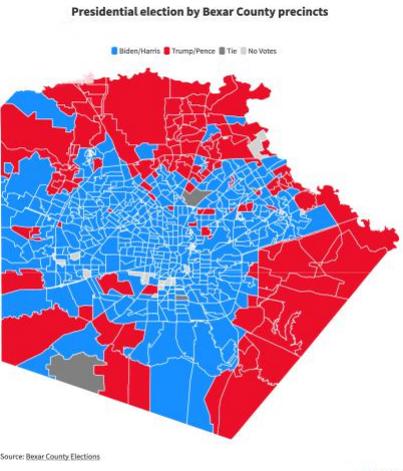
So, I encourage you all to throw out the welcome mat and celebrate, cherish the time spent with your families and loved ones. Bask in the light of the accomplishments that you all have helped make into a success at the Bexar County Democratic Party. As we depart last year with a feeling of relief, our hearts go out sincerely to those who are no longer able to toast with us. I send out my condolences and make a to you this vow: our party will usher forth stronger candidates that share your sentiments, those who can work to see that no further families need suffer what you all have experienced. It is the very least I can do as your County Chair and what I owe to those families who feel those tears of sadness. *Con todo el amor desde el Corazon con el fe en Dios que vamos a sobrevivir juntos en este camino.*

To that end, I bid a good riddance to the year that was tragically 2020, and warm hopeful welcome to 2021. Happy New Year to everyone!

Remember,

***We are stronger together!***

**Chairwoman Monica Alcantara  
Bexar County Democratic Party**



Political map of Bexar County. Source: <https://sanantonioreport.org/did-your-neighborhood-vote-...>

## Special Address Regarding the Recent Violence at Capitol Hill, DC

We at the BCDP headquarters and newsletter staff want to let our readers know that the Electoral College riot that took place on Capitol Hill in Washington DC in no way reflects what we view as any sort of justified action that should have ever been set in motion by any American. What we have witnessed is an unfounded riot against the very democratic principle of our election protocols which have been repeatedly upheld by courts and certified by the rule of law based on concrete fact, not on any count of baseless opinion lacking any factual standing. The violence that was incited and condoned by the current President of the United States shows that this is a leader that does not commit nor abide completely to the oath of office to support and defend the very Constitution that is the foundation of the country. In Bexar County, we unilaterally and equivocally repudiate any such anti-American hostility as a heinous crime not just legally but morally against our American democracy or its values. It is our hope that this tragic event sets the tone for the sort of healing that the nation, the State of Texas, and Bexar Country truly needs as we are all crestfallen together for an act that will surely inflict its taint at the heart of the United States. We appreciate your support, and we stand ready for outreach not just as your Bexar County Democratic Party, but also as American Patriots dedicated to our sworn oaths.

This is a list of statements that your elected officials, State Representatives, and President-Elect have released to the public:



### **President-Elect Joseph R. Biden**

At this hour, our democracy is under an unprecedented assault. An assault on the Capitol itself. An assault on the people's representatives, on the police officers sworn to protect them, and the public servants who work at the heart of our Republic. An assault on the rule of law. An assault on the most sacred of American undertakings: The doing of the people's business. Let me be very clear: The scenes of chaos at the Capitol do not reflect the true America. This is not who we are.

What we are seeing is a small number of extremists dedicated to lawlessness. This is not dissent. It is disorder. It is chaos. It borders on sedition. And it must end. Now. I call on this mob to pull back and allow the work of democracy to go forward. You've heard me say this in different contexts: the words of a President matter, no matter how good or bad that president is. At their best, the words of a president can inspire. At their worst, they can incite.

To storm the Capitol, to smash windows, to occupy offices, and to threaten the safety of duly elected officials is not protest. It is insurrection. The world is watching — and like so many other Americans, I am shocked and saddened that our nation, so long a beacon of light, hope, and democracy has come to such a dark moment. Through war and strife, America has endured much. And we will endure here and prevail now. The work of the moment and the work of the next four years must be the restoration of democracy and the recovery of respect for the rule of law, and the renewal of a politics that's about solving problems — not stoking the flames of hate and chaos.

America is about honor, decency, respect, and tolerance. That's who we are. That's who we've always been. The certification of the Electoral College votes is supposed to be a sacred ritual in which we affirm the majesty of American democracy. Today is a reminder, a painful one, that democracy is fragile. To preserve it requires people of good will, leaders with the courage to stand up, who are

devoted not to pursuit of power and personal interest at any cost, but to the common good. Think of what our children who are watching are thinking. Think of what the rest of the world is looking at. For nearly two and a half centuries, we the people, in search of a more perfect union, have kept our eyes on that common good.

America is so much better than what we're seeing today. Watching the scenes from the Capitol, I was reminded of Abraham Lincoln's words in an annual message to the Congress whose work has today been interrupted by chaos. President Lincoln said: "We shall nobly save or meanly lose, the last best hope of earth....The way is plain, peaceful, generous, just – a way which, if followed, the world will forever applaud, and God must forever bless." Our way is plain here, too. It is the way of democracy, of lawfulness, and of honor – respect for each other, and for our nation.

Notwithstanding what we've seen today, I remain optimistic about the incredible opportunities. There has never been anything we can't do when we do it together. And this God-awful display today is bringing home to every Republican, Democrat, and Independent in the nation that we must step up. This is the United States of America.

President Trump, step up. May God Bless America.

May God protect our troops and everyone at the Capitol who is trying to protect the order.

Thank you,

Joe Biden

#### **US House of Representatives Texas District 35 – Lloyd Doggett**

"A shocking and tragic day for America – the natural outcome of Trump feeding his supporters a steady diet of lies and spurring them on to block formal recognition of his clear defeat, We will not throw out millions of legal votes or throw out our freedom; we will overcome Trump and his Republican enablers, who would trade democracy for autocracy. But they have done lasting damage to our civic fabric and to America's world standing."

#### **US House of Representatives Texas District 20 – Joaquin Castro**

"It's fine. You can disagree. You have a First Amendment right to do that. But there's obviously a crowd of people who are insurrectionists, who are literally insurrectionists, who are trying to take over control of the legislative branch of government."

The President has basically inspired a coup attempt. I don't know of any other way to describe it but that the President of the United States has inspired people to take over the House and the Senate chambers of the most powerful and more prosperous, longest-standing democracy in our world."

#### **US House Representative Texas District 28 – Henry Cuellar**

"We just witnessed a dark day in our country's history. This was an attack on our democracy and our national security. However, will not let this lawlessness deter us from fulfilling our constitutional duty to certify the Electoral College. The American people spoke with their ballots and they selected a leader that will unite and restore our republic. Now, it's our time to finish our job and ensure that on January 20th, there is a peaceful transfer of power and President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris are sworn in."

**Texas House Member District 135 – Ray Lopez**

“The scenes that took place in Washington D.C. are blatant and disrespectful actions that go against our core principle as a free democracy. A peaceful transfer of power is something all Americans should hold in the highest regard. As a nation, we must come together to support and respect one another. As the 87th Texas Legislative Session approaches, I encourage my colleagues to work together to lead our great state in a bipartisan manner. One that will serve as a shining example for our nation. My thoughts are with all law enforcement who are working to protect our nation and our state Capitol buildings. My prayers are with those who were injured in the violence that plagued our nation’s Capitol. God bless America.”

**Texas Senator District 26 – Jose Menendez**

“Everyone has a right to free speech, but mob rule and violence must always be condemned! People have been seriously injured! Our Democracy is at stake! If you love this Nation you must speak out against the criminals at our Nation's Capital. Donald Trump, where are you?”

**Texas Senator District 21 – Judith Zaffirini**

“We the people should never tolerate violence as a substitute for discourse, especially when it threatens the very fabric of our democracy. "Peaceful protest" is not an appropriate term for the shameful riots, vandalism, disruption, breaking and entering, and acts of physical and property violence at our U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021. This date tragically will be memorialized as a dark day of infamy in our history.

The world witnessed a shameful attempt at mob rule, fomented by misinformation and conspiracy theories, to overturn the results of a free and fair election. Those who know better deliberately and maliciously aided and abetted their failed coup. May they learn from the chaos that ensued, and may they never again travel on that road to chaos. Anything less would be an abject failure to meet the promise of our beloved nation.

Elected and appointed leaders—at all levels and of all parties—owe the public the truth and a shared commitment to democratic values over short-term personal or partisan advantage. My prayer is that President-Elect Joe Biden, his team, and all elected leaders will engage in positive and productive leadership and collaboration to restore this country to civility, cooperation, and bipartisanship in the best interest of the people. What we saw yesterday is what happens when we don't honor these values.”

**Texas Democratic Party Chair Gilberto Hinojosa**

The American people have spoken, and Joe Biden will be the next president. That is how democracy works. Countless election challenges by Trump and his allies have failed. Democrats, Republicans and independents alike have agreed that our democracy must come before any party, and the United States Congress will soon take the next step of formally ratifying the will of the American people and certifying the election results.

Today is not a shock, but not a surprise. In the weeks since Ted Cruz declared his intentions, many have warned of the devastating harm that deceitful rhetoric can and will have. Nevertheless, Ted Cruz acted in bad faith by leveraging fringe theories and blatant disinformation to challenge the legitimacy of the 2020 election results and position himself in the 2024 Republican presidential primary. This is not politics as usual. This is a challenge to the foundations of our country.

Texas Democrats call on Ted Cruz to resign from office immediately. Cruz's actions have undermined our democracy, inspired treasonous, seditious acts, and brought shame to Texas. The tragic results of his actions will reverberate for generations. By leading the objection to the Electoral College certification, all the while knowing the devastating consequences, he has demonstrated he is not fit to serve in the U.S. Senate.

Furthermore, the Justice Department must investigate the violence that took place in the U.S. Capitol today, and Cruz's involvement in the matter."

**San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg**

"It is an extraordinarily sad day when rioters storm our nation's Capitol to violently disrupt Congress as it works to certify the electoral college vote. This is a naked act of insurrection and should be treated as such. The United States of America has a long and cherished history that is founded upon a peaceful transfer of power, and this episode is contrary to our nation's most important principles. We must reject and rise above these violent acts."

**Bexar County Sherriff Javier Salazar**

"It is disheartening to see rioters at the U.S. Capitol attempting to interrupt Congress from doing the work of the people. I can assure you that all proactive measures to safeguard Bexar County facilities, staff, and processes are being implemented."

**Bexar County Tax Assessor Albert Uresti**

"Today is a sad day in America's history. Please pray for our country and its leadership, that they put party aside and do what's best for our citizens. We are not about hatred. We are about treating our fellow Americans with kindness and respect. We are a great country, and we have always been. God Bless America!"

**Bexar County Democratic Party County Chair Monica Alcantara**

"I am calling on every Republican both elected leaders and private citizens to condemn and call off this attack on our democracy. This is not patriotism, and these are not protestors, this is domestic terrorism. We must allow our democratic process to continue. Please pray for the safety of all members of Congress as they do the people's work".

**Final Reflections**

"Of strange, discordant, and even, hostile elements, we gathered from the four winds, and formed and fought the battle through, under the constant hot fire of a disciplined, proud, and pampered enemy.

Did we brave all then to falter now? – now – when that same enemy is wavering, dissevered and belligerent?

The result is not doubtful. We shall not fail – if we stand firm, we shall not fail.

Wise councils may accelerate or mistakes delay it, but, sooner or later the victory is sure to come."

- President Abraham Lincoln, *A House Divided Speech*, June 18, 1858

## Some Upcoming Meetings/Events:

**01/05** - GA Runoff- Go Ossoff & Rev. Warnock

**01/12** - BCDP CEC Meeting @ 6:30pm

**01/17** (Sun) - Pre-Inauguration Riding with Biden event - more details to come from BCDP

**01/18** – Martin Luther King Jr. Day/National Day of Service (Presidential Inauguration Day 1)

**01/19** – Memorial to Lives Lost (Presidential Inauguration Day 2)

**01/20** (Wed) - INAUGURATION – Bye Don & Hello President Joseph R. Biden & Finally, a Madam Vice-President Kamala Harris

\*\*Keep Showing Your Biden/Harris pride by keeping your signs up (if your HOA allows) until after Inauguration Day. Bexar County HQ will be selling some Inauguration swag soon. You can also donate to have your signature in the Inauguration book - contact Rose Marie if interested in having your name displayed. Prices range from \$10 - \$50

Let's Continue Making Progress!!

*\*If you have questions for me, send to [precinct3195@yahoo.com](mailto:precinct3195@yahoo.com) or text me at **210-365-4462**. Responses to this email go the mailchimp group account.*

*Gina Sandoval*  
Deputy Chair, Precinct 3

## Northeast Bexar County Democratic Party

### Membership Meeting

#### Meeting Date(s)

January 9, February 13, March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11, October 9, November 13, December 11 - 2021

#### Meeting Time

10 am - 12 pm

#### Meeting Location (Address with zip code)

Zoom Meeting until further notice - Check your email for locations after 2021 vaccine release

North East Bexar County Democrats holds regular monthly meetings with interesting guest speakers to address current affairs affecting our community.

Sandra Thompson  
[sj\\_thompson@icloud.com](mailto:sj_thompson@icloud.com)  
Comm: (210) 571-5790

#### Event Name:

B & F Committee Meeting

#### Meeting Date(s):

Feb 10th (Weds), March 2nd (Tue), April 14th (Weds)

**Meeting Time:** 6:30

**Meeting Venue:** Zoom

#### SDEC Committee Members

**Joan Simoncelli – SD 19**

**Richard Gonzales – SD 19**

**Jen Ramos – SD 21**

**Max Lars – SD 21**

**Jamie Eickhoff – SD 25**

**Andres Lopez – SD 25**

**Rose Marie DeHoyos – SD 26**

**Robert Vargas – SD 26**



The National Day of Service for the Inauguration of President-elect Biden and Vice President-elect Harris will celebrate and honor the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on January 18, 2021. The National Day of Service is an opportunity for all Americans to unite and serve at a time when the global pandemic calls on all of us to work together and support our communities. No matter where you are, you have an opportunity to give back and the agency to do so. Most volunteer activities only require an hour or two of your time, and all events will be virtual or socially distanced, in accordance with CDC protocol.

Learn more at: Biden - Harris Inauguration ([bideninaugural.org](http://bideninaugural.org))

## CALLING ALL CANDIDATES!

If you live in a municipality outside of San Antonio, and have been thinking about running for office, or know someone who is, please consider one of these positions in your town. Everyone listed here is NOT a Democrat, according to their voting record and is being targeted by the Texas Democratic Party. Our goal is to get as many Dems elected as possible!

### **Alamo Heights**

Council member PLC 2 Wes Sharples  
Mayor At-Large Bobby Rosenthal

### **Alamo Heights ISD**

Board of Trustees PLC 5 Bonnie Giddens  
Board of Trustees PLC 7 Perry Shankle

### **Balcones Heights**

Council Member PLC 3 John Halpin  
Council Member PLC 4 Lamar Gillian  
Council Member PLC 5 Miguel Valverde

### **Castle Hills**

Alderman PLC 1 Joe Izbrand  
Alderman PLC 3 Kurt May  
Mayor At Large JR Treviño

### **China Grove**

Alderman At Large Larry Keller  
Alderman At Large VACANT  
Mayor At Large Mary Ann Hajek

### **Cibolo**

Council Member Dist.4 Ted Gibbs  
Council member Dist 5 Mark Allen  
Council member Dist 6 Tim Woliver

### **Converse**

Council member PLC 5 Richard Wendt  
Mayor At Large Al Suarez

### **Elmendorf**

Council Member PLC 2 Tommy Hicks  
Council member PLC 4 Manuel Decena

### **Fair Oaks Ranch**

Council member PLC 1 MaryAnne Havard  
Mayor At-Large Garry Manitzas

### **Helotes**

Council member PLC 3 Bert Buys  
Council member PLC 5 Paul Friedrichs  
Mayor At-Large Thomas A. Schoolcraft

### **Hill Country Village**

Council member PLC 1 Carl A. Register  
Council member PLC3 Thomas Doyle  
Council member PLC5 Allison Greer

### **Hollywood Park**

Alderman PLC 1 Michael Howe  
Alderman PLC 3 Oscar Villarreal, Jr.  
Alderman PLC 5 Paul Homburg III

### **Judson ISD**

Board of Trustees District 2 Shatonya King  
Board of Trustees District 3 Debra Eaton  
Board of Trustees District 4 Rafael Diaz Jr.

### **Kirby**

Mayor At Large Lisa B. Pierce  
Council Member At Large  
Kimberly McGehee-Aldrich

### **Leon Valley**

Council Member PLC 1 Donna Charlesil  
Council Member PLC 3  
Council Member PLC 5

### **Live Oak**

Council Member PLC1 Mendell D. Morgn Jr.  
Council Member PLC5 Aaron Dahl

### **Northside ISD**

Board of Trustees Dist 6 Carol Harley

### **Olmos Park**

Council member PLC 1 Erin Harrison  
Council member PLC 2 Julliana Dusek  
Council member PLC 3 Sharon Plant

### **San Antonio ISD**

Board of Trustees District 3 Debra Guerrero

### **Sandy Oaks**

Alderman PLC1 Charales Fillinger  
Alderman PLC 3 Thomas Repino  
Alderman PLC 5 Michael E. Yelton, Sr.

### **Schertz**

Council member PLC 6 Allison Heyward  
Council member PLC 7 Tim Brown

### **Selma**

Council member PLC 4 Kevin Hadas  
Council member PLC 5 Jim Parm  
Council member PLC6 Ken Polasek

### **Shavano Park**

Alderman At Large Michele Bunting Ross  
Alderman At Large Mike Colemere  
Mayor At Large Bob Werner

### **Southwest ISD**

Board member At Large  
James Sullivan, Jr.

Board member At Large  
Keith Byrom

### **Terrell Hills**

Council member PLC 3  
William Ochse III

Council member PLC 4  
Peter Mako

### **Universal City**

Council Member At Large  
Bear Goolsby

### **Von Ormy**

Commissioner At Large Deborah Ivy  
Mayor At Large Sally Martinez

### **Windcrest**

Mayor At Large Dan Reese

# Community Spotlight

**A Special Message from Precinct 4 Deputy Chair, Jesus Toro Martinez:**



## Happy New Year!

I would like to thank everyone in Precinct 4 who helped make a big difference in our organization and outreach during the election!

A very BIG Thank You out to my Precinct Chairs, Coordinators, & Volunteers who helped make it all happen, we couldn't have done all of this without each of you!

**Note: This is Diego, and he is a rescue dog from the City of San Antonio!**



I want to thank everyone who helped turn this newsletter into a something our Democratic supporters can really appreciate! I am proud of the hard work our team gives in volunteering to create these pages, and we are looking ahead to do more for our voters in 2021! Let's all keep working to make Texas blue all the way through!

Sara Aranda  
Co-Chair, BCDP Communications Cmte

# **ELECTION RECAP:**

## **Information John/Colt shared about the election:**

### **Bexar County key Results:**

Overall turnout in Bexar County: 65%. **This is huge.**

Increase in total registered voters from **2019-2020 = 23%**

### **US House District 21:** (Wendy)

2016 41.2K voted Dem

2020 67.1K voted Dem

**Increase of 59%**

Republicans only increased 2.4%

### **Texas House District 121:** (Celina)

2018 32.7K voted Dem

2020 43.1K voted Dem

**Increase of 31.8%**

Republicans increased 27.8%

### **County Commissioner 3:** (Christine)

2016 79.8K voted Dem

2020 121.0K voted Dem

**Increase of 53.4%**

Republicans increased 15.3%

### **State Board of Education position 5:** (Rebecca Bell Metereau)

2016 106.7K voted Dem

2020 143.2K voted Dem (and we won!)

**Increase of 42.2%**

Republicans increased 17.4%

## **2021/2022 Municipal & State Calendar (Thanks Colt)**

2021

Jan 12 – May 31.....Texas Legislative Session Begins

Jan 13 – Feb 12.....Municipal Elections Filing Period Starts

April 1.....Last Day to register to vote in Municipal Elections

April 19 – 27.....Municipal Early Voting

May 1.....Municipal Election day

Sep14.....Filing Period for Primary Elections Begins

Oct 18 – 29 .....November Election Early Voting

Nov 2.....November Election Day

Dec 13.....Filing Period for Primary Elections Ends

2022

Jan 31.....Last day to register to vote in Primary Elections

Feb 18.....Last day to apply for VBM ballot

Feb 14 – 25.....Primary Early Vote

March 1.....Primary Election Day

## **ACCD Runoff Results**

[https://home.bexar.org/el45a.html?utm\\_source=website&utm\\_medium=electionWebsite&utm\\_campaign=2020ElectionDec](https://home.bexar.org/el45a.html?utm_source=website&utm_medium=electionWebsite&utm_campaign=2020ElectionDec)

Thanks to John Goodman for leading this effort and each of you for volunteering to drop literature, mail postcards, send texts and voted in the runoff. Joe Jesse lost by only 69 votes :( but it was so close because of your effort. Laura, Jesse & Minnie thank all of you for your help in this important election. Dr. Pulido in District 4 did win her race so we have a Democrat in that seat. Thanks to everyone that helped with the Pulido race, we wish her the best & we hope to see Joe Jesse in a future election.

## GA Run-off Postcards:

# TEXAS DEMOCRATS

Special shout out to Chino Rao – Wow! In a short timeframe he recruited enough volunteers to get 6,000 Georgia postcards written, labels printed & many stamps donated by YOU. We thank you for our generosity. I also want to thank the volunteers that helped with the other 2,000 that we received. We had a quick turnaround time and you did not disappoint. THANK YOU! Gregory Garcia, Carlos Soto, Kelly Ann Gonzalez and a friend of Greg's drove to Georgia to deliver the cards at their post office. Others that were picked up/delivered after they left were mailed to Georgia.

### ***Another GA Volunteer Opportunity –***

Judy Hall needs volunteers to call low engagement voters in GA, if you are interested please send her an email to: [profjh@hotmail.com](mailto:profjh@hotmail.com)

Early voting started Dec 14 - 31st & Election Day is Jan 5th. If you have friends or family in GA, remind them to VOTE for Jon Ossoff & Reverend Raphael Warnock.

### **Voter Deputy Registrar Re-Certification -**

We are able to take the course online or in person. Per conversation with Bexar Elections, dates and link for online will be available in January. - More information to come.

### **Precinct changes**

In a committee meeting, John Goodman mentioned there were a few precinct changes. A few chairs has to re-apply for their new precinct but not sure who is affected. More information to come as it will be released.

## LOCALLY ELECTED JUDGES

144TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Michael Mery

386TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Jacqueline “Jackie” Valdés

407TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Tina Torres

Chief Justice, 4TH COURT OF APPEALS  
Rebeca Martinez

**We congratulate our newly elected judges!**

### Official Bexar County Democratic Party Event

Bexar County Democrats Budget and Finance Committee

Dates: Wednesday, February 10  
Tuesday, March 2  
Wednesday, April 14

All meeting times are at 6:30 pm, meetings will be held via Zoom

Contact Gina Sandoval for information:

Email: [precinct3195@yahoo.com](mailto:precinct3195@yahoo.com)  
Phone: (210) 365-4462



## VETERANS COMMITTEE

Contact the BCDP Veterans Committee:

POC: [mpg3122@gmail.com](mailto:mpg3122@gmail.com)  
[awongpromo@gmail.com](mailto:awongpromo@gmail.com)

We need donations of hygiene & blankets  
Items for homeless or needy Veterans!  
Christmas Eve, as part of our blanket drive,  
we were able to pass out 23 blankets to  
people in need downtown San Antonio.  
Drop off contributions with a marked label  
“BCDP Veterans Committee” at this address:

1844 Fredericksburg Road  
San Antonio, TX 78201

Thank you for helping those who served!

We would like to send a well-earned  
congratulations out to Georgia’s newest Senate  
members **Jon Ossoff & Reverend Raphael Warnock**  
on being part of a historic win!

Special thanks to everyone that helped with the  
Georgia Postcard Project campaign. The BCDP was  
able to personally deliver 55,000 handwritten  
postcards to Georgia for mail distribution in an effort  
to pick up these two Senate seats! Special thanks to the  
convoy and those that participated in a safe, successful  
operation including Gregory Garcia, Lisa Woodard,  
Kellyanne Gonzales, & Carlos Soto!

# VETERANS EVENTS IN JANUARY

## Event Listing

**8 January** – SBA Small Business Resource Brief

Info: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sba-veteran-small-business-resource-brief-tickets-115132478342?keep\\_tld=1](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sba-veteran-small-business-resource-brief-tickets-115132478342?keep_tld=1)

**11 January** – Bunker Bingo

Info: <https://kccrew.com/events/bunkerbingo/#signup>

**12 January** – PAVE Connect: Work from Home Opportunities

Registration Info: <https://pva.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYpFuGvrjkiGtdiNrQNqBsZDCa-DfAnbgGD>

**14 January** – SBA Presents: Overview of SBA Programs & Services

Info: <https://www.sba.gov/events/1678905>

**18 January** – **Martin Luther King Jr. Day (National Day of Service / Biden-Harris Inauguration Day 1)**

**19 January** – **Memorial to Lives Lost (Biden-Harris Inauguration Day 2)**

**20 January** – **US Presidential Inauguration Day (Biden-Harris Inauguration Day 3)**

**21 January** – PAVE Connect: Top Tips for Networking

Registration Info:

[https://pva.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMpduuvrDIrHtLio\\_wcRxXIXS4wp\\_UAVwF](https://pva.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMpduuvrDIrHtLio_wcRxXIXS4wp_UAVwF)

**26 January** – Resources to Help Your Business Rebound

Info: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/resources-to-help-your-business-rebound-tickets-131551866173>

## **ADDITIONAL VETERAN SERVICES**

### **VA Welcome Kit for Veterans**

Download the VA Welcome Kit to learn more about the benefits and services you have earned or call VA411 at 800-698-2411. Visit the website: <https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit/>

### ***No Veteran Should Be Without a Place to Call Home!***

**Free Help for Homeless Veterans** Dial 1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838) for 24/7 access to VA services for homeless and at-risk Veterans. Homeless Veteran Chat Confidential, 24/7 online support for homeless Veterans and friends

Please visit <https://www.va.gov/homeless> for more information.

### **Veterans Staffing Network for Veteran Job Seekers**

Contact the Easter Seals Veterans Staffing Network for access to job seeking services to help connect Veterans to careers with Fortune 500 companies. Visit the website for more information at <https://www.easterseals.com/DCMDVA/our-programs/military-veteran-services/veteran-staffing-net-work.html>

### **Free Entrance to US National Parks for Veterans and Gold Star Families**

The US Geological Survey website is offering America the Beautiful Lifetime Passes to Veterans and Gold Star families of fallen service members. Disabled Veterans can order directly from the website <https://store.usgs.gov/access-pass> and pay \$10 for an Access Pass, Parking ID hangar & Information brochure. Veterans and Gold Star family members can also visit any National Park, show military identification or proof of service to receive the Lifetime Access Pass.

### **The USGS Lifetime Pass**



### **Are You a Veteran in Crisis or Concerned About One?**

The VA Offers same day services in Primary Care and Mental Health at 172 VA Medical Centers across the country! *Make the Connection Resource Locator Contact the Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, Chat, or Text 838255. Also visit the following websites for more resources:*

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/78063/postvention-va-offers-support-suicide-loss/> [www.https://operationpopsmoke.com](http://www.https://operationpopsmoke.com)

# Commentaries & Editorials

## A Unique Milestone in History

The inauguration of Joseph R. Biden and Kamala Harris is a historic milestone achievement for American democracy. The nation has been subjected to four long and arduous years under a harsh if not altogether corrupt administration at the heart of our government. The divisive strategies that were employed to divide and ostracize friends, family, or neighbors has shaken us all to some very astonishing revelations. We have seen racism permitted to thrive and socioeconomic classes having a much wider gap than previously incurred. What has happened to America is a serious reckoning with its own dark shadow, paving the way for an internal “battle for the soul” of its institutional democracy. This is the reason why the 2020 Presidential Election became an event viewed by nations all over the world. The world wanted to see who would lead the United States after it had taken a dive as a standard bearer of climate change and foreign policy. The election would highlight the work of two extraordinary people that had their foundations started decades ago. This is how we got to the present precipice in history.

Joe Biden and Kamala Harris represent the best in our nation, two public servants of whom both have a wealth of Congressional and legal experience to once again place ethics in addition to legal precedence back into federal governance. Joe Biden carries the notable distinction of being the first Roman Catholic Vice President to serve in office as well as being the only US President to hail from the state of Delaware. Kamala Harris is the first African American / Asian woman to now hold the office of Vice President. These are testaments to the great firsts that will begin the start of this new administration which illustrates the strides that America has taken to produce this sort of representation at the nation’s highest public offices. After the failures that America has endured under the previous administration’s draconian policies, there certainly will be great challenges ahead that will require their experience to overcome. United by the bonds of strong Congressional ties and a unique connection to spirituality in their respective communities, this administration will have the means to start the healing process of America’s soul.

That leads us to the question of what is America’s soul? If you need an answer, then you can find it inside the history of the United States itself and how it has constantly stood for a beacon of diplomacy, freedom of ideas, expressions, and being the very standard bearer of what democracy means. America has gone through its own struggles with racism, suffrage, scandals, and now this once reputable nation is at its worst with the current leadership in its highest office. The blatant disregard for human civil rights, climate change, and human life itself has been nothing short of appalling. This is not something that should be associated with America’s identity, and this is a stain that has been highlighted during this year’s Presidential Election. President-Elect Joseph Biden and Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris symbolize a special combination in unity through competence in government protocol and blend of spiritual interfaith backgrounds. Joe Biden draws on the strength of his faith from his Roman Catholic ties and Kamala Harris is a Baptist with familial roots in Hinduism and Judaism.

This signifies the type of spectrum of understanding that America needed in its leadership, and one that will be integral in healing the wounds that have divided voters against each other all the way down to their very families. If this nation is to once again return to the “shining city on a hill” that was once embraced, it will have to reinvent itself back to what the late Perry Miller of Harvard described in a private letter to the poet Archibald McLeish as “The great uniqueness of this nation is simply that here the record of conscious decision is more precise, more open and explicit than in most countries”. This is what America must regain in not only its identity, but more importantly in its culture. Therefore, the soul of our nation matters, principally because this election has demonstrated a profound need for a return to such ideals. We deserved much more from our leadership than what we received in these past four dark years and it will be up to Biden and Harris to lead the country in washing the stain of these effects in Washington. Miller once wrote something that we all should keep in mind as Congress is sworn in to serve its new term: “A society that is both clear and articulate about its intentions is something of a rarity in modern history.” This is the America the world needs to see.

**Do you have an idea for a story, or editorial to share? Contact us!**

If you would like to contribute stories, editorials or would like to give any feedback to the BCDP Newsletter, please reach out to us at: [bcdpcomms@outlook.com](mailto:bcdpcomms@outlook.com)

All submissions must be in Word or Google Docs format & presented at least one week prior to the upcoming publication. The Communications Committee thanks each of you readers out there for helping us improve in delivering important information out to the community!

### BCDP Newsletter Team

Communications Co-Chairs.....Joe Flores  
Sara Aranda

Newsletter Editors.....Thomas Booker  
Guillermo Osorio

## BCDP Presidential Inauguration Merchandise

Bexar County Democrats!

We have new swag at the Bexar County Headquarters. In preparation for the Inauguration on January 20, 2021 we have new t-shirts, flags and buttons! We are planning a Riden with Biden Victory Lap on January 17, 2021, with details coming in the next few days. On January 17, 2021 we will also have Fiesta Medals for sale.

Attached are photos of the items we have for sale:



### M"ask.... What YOU can do for YOUR Country"

THE BCDP and its Fundraising Committee is asking YOU to support President Joe Biden's "100-days Challenge" to wear a mask to prevent the spread of the COVID virus in America!!

#### Here's how.....

The BCDP is offering two "limited production" styled masks for an incredible price of \$10 for each style available! One of them is coming off press production by mid-month January, what better way to support President Biden and VP Kamala Harris's "First 100-days.... Americans, ...Wear a MASK"

The second mask in pre-production final stages will salute our new Biden/Harris administration in the White House January 20th....

Up-to-date information will be provided at the CEC meeting on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for details for a "Drive-by Event" on Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup> to BUY your mask of choice OR BUY BOTH! Support the BCDP in 2021.... We NEED your financial support to "TURN TEXAS BLUE 2024"!!

#### NAVY MASK MOCKUP

MAXIMUM ARTWORK SIZE  
2.75" WIDE X 2" TALL



AR AMERICAN ROOTS



LEFT



RIGHT



## A Day of Action

The Bexar County Democratic Party has been asked by the Biden Presidential Inauguration Committee to participate in a Day of Action in honor of Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. The BCDP will be hosting a food drive at the headquarters office located at 1844 Fredericksburg Road. Please be sure to bring only non-perishable food items and they can be donated at our headquarters from now until January 17<sup>th</sup>. Office hours will be from 10 am to 4 pm, if you have any questions please contact the office at (210) 504 - 0507.

We at the BCDP also want to uphold and keep alive the dream that Dr. King envisioned for America, and we can do no less than to sing “We Shall Overcome” in the aftermath of the violence at Capitol Hill. We implore all our elected officials on both sides of the aisle to never forget what people of color have suffered and still to this day are feeling despite years of bias and unequal treatment in a nation that has promised to shelter its hungry and poor from sea to shining sea. We will leave you with this excerpt in memoriam of a man who paid the ultimate price so that others could finally realize such a dream:

**“In a sense we have come to our Nation’s Capital to cash a check . When the architects of our great republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir.**

**This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the inalienable rights of life liberty and the pursuit of happiness.**

**It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given its colored people a bad check, a check that has come back marked “insufficient funds.”**

**But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. So we have come to cash this check, a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and security of justice.**

**We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of Now. This is not time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism.**

**Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice.**

**Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksand of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood.**

**Now is the time to make justice a reality to all of God’s children.”**

**- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. *I Have A Dream* speech, August 23, 1963**