

Que en Paz Descansen



Carol “Ms. Carol” Thompson,

former resident of Mission Trails Mobile Home Community passed away on March 13, 2015. The Esperanza Center and buena gente along with the many people who supported her efforts in defending the Mission Trails Mobile Home Community extend our heartfelt sympathies to her family and many friends. Jessica O. Guerrero of Fuerza Unida and community supporter of Mission Trails residents notified everyone with the following note:

Ms. Carol was one of the most vocal residents of this mobile home community. She was a fierce presence in collective opposition to her and her neighbors’ displacement. She spoke often about her concern for her beloved dogs and the difficulty in finding a new home for them alongside her. Ms. Carol met with her neighbors and supporting community countless times, rain or shine, cold or hot, always in the front row of that picnic area at Mission Trails. She was a mother figure to her neighbors and her loss is a new weight on their shoulders.

Leno F. Díaz entered into rest in Los Angeles, CA at the age of 95 in February and will now reside in “El Otro Barrio” — as he would often joke. Born in Cd. Juárez, Chihuahua, Mx, on May 6, 1919, Leno came to the U.S. at an early age with his family of 10 siblings settling in the Boyle Heights and Maravilla barrios of Los Angeles. He served in World War II as an airplane mechanic in the China-Burma-India Theater receiving commendations. He then earned a B.A. in Education at Texas Western College (now The University of Texas at El Paso) that began a 25-year career in 1954 as a bilingual educator and administrator. Leno was a tireless advocate for the Latino community in both civic affairs and the cultural arts. He travelled extensively with Elisa, his beloved wife of 65 years, who also retired as a schoolteacher. In retirement he honed his skills as an artist and enjoyed life. Leno and Elisa lived in San Antonio for 13 years when their son, Eduardo, and former daughter-in-law, Beverly Sánchez-Padilla, moved here to be part of the cultural arts community. Micaela and Siboney, Eduardo and Beva’s daughters, grew up in San Antonio and currently reside here. Elisa and Leno made many a friend in San Antonio and are fondly remembered as an integral part of the social justice and cultural arts community. The Esperanza staff and buena gente extend our deepest sympathies to Leno’s family, friends and community especially to his wife, Elisa—and to Eduardo, Beva, Mika and Siboney. —*Que En Paz Descanse, Leno*

