



La Voz de Esperanza

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- We advocate for a wide variety of social, economic & environmental justice issues.
- Opinions expressed in La Voz are not necessarily those of the Esperanza Center.

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Articles due by the 8th of each month

Policy Statements

- * We ask that articles be visionary, progressive, instructive & thoughtful. Submissions must be literate & critical; not sexist, racist, homophobic, violent, or oppressive & may be edited for length.
- * All letters in response to Esperanza activities or articles in La Voz will be considered for publication. Letters with intent to slander individuals or groups will not be published.

May is Preservation Month!

Established in 1973 by the *National Trust for Historic Preservation*, *Preservation Month* is observed across the U.S. by local preservation groups, state agencies, and business and civic organizations. The City of San Antonio *Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)* collaborates with San Antonio organizations to curate a comprehensive list of events that honor and showcase the city's cultural heritage and traditions often encapsulated in designated historic sites and neighborhoods [See <https://www.saspeak-up.com/preservationmonth2024>]. This May, the *Preservation Month* theme is "*People Saving Places*" to shine the spotlight on everyone doing the work of saving places. A major event, sponsored by the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center in San Antonio is *Paseo Por El Westside*, now celebrating 15 years. At the 2024 *Paseo*, workshops, tours, and cultural activities will engage participants in Westside life from *Aquellos Tiempos*—from those times in the past when life was simpler and neighbors spoke to each other face to face. The Esperanza along with the *Westside Preservation Alliance* have revived efforts to preserve buildings and sites throughout the Westside but the process is slow, full of roadblocks and arduous. Nevertheless, it has been the *Buena Gente*, often our elders and sabios, that have stepped forward to make preservation of places and cultural traditions of the Westside a reality. Read the article (pages 4-7) in this issue of *La Voz* written by Graciela Sánchez ten years ago for the *San Antonio Latino Legacy Summit* to get an idea of the work we've done together to preserve Westside traditions and places. The work we do matters, especially for the generations to come. Join us on May 4th for *Paseo Por El Westside* to learn more and get involved in the work of preservation.



The property at 836 S. Laredo St., part of the old Laredito neighborhood, needs to be preserved rather than demolished. Efforts are underway to revive this area.



Happy Mother's Day to all mothers, whether with us now or not, who simply strive to make this world a better place for their children and their communities. Feliz Día de Madres de parte de la Esperanza y su Buena Gente.

—Gloria A. Ramirez,
editor of *La Voz de Esperanza*



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VOZ VISION STATEMENT: La Voz de Esperanza speaks for many individual, progressive voices who are gente-based, multi-visioned and milagro-bound. We are diverse survivors of materialism, racism, misogyny, homophobia, classism, violence, earth-damage, speciesism and cultural and political oppression. We are recapturing the powers of alliance, activism and healthy conflict in order to achieve interdependent economic/spiritual healing and fuerza. La Voz is a resource for peace, justice, and human rights, providing a forum for criticism, information, education, humor and other creative works. La Voz provokes bold actions in response to local and global problems, with the knowledge that the many risks we take for the earth, our body, and the dignity of all people will result in profound change for the seven generations to come.