



Taking It To The Streets

Downtown becomes a playground during KidsPalooza

On March 28, something quite extraordinary will happen in Downtown -- children will take to the streets during the second annual Downtown KidsPalooza.

Children along with friends and family will be boarding trolleys to attend a multitude of places and happenings as they embark on a remarkable cultural cruise of Downtown El Paso. Among the sites are the magnificent Plaza Theatre, the newly-renovated Cleveland Square, historic Union Plaza and Lynx Exhibits. Free trolley & Sun Metro rides will be available to take people from one stop to another.

A group representing El Paso's prominent Downtown arts organizations has come together to collaborate on this one day, fun-filled family event, including children's concerts, art and music workshops and dinosaurs and robot dancers.

Among the day's events:

- The El Paso Diabetes Association begins the day with a Family Fun Walk at 8:30am (1.5mile & 2.5mile routes) starting in front of Lynx Exhibits, 300 W. San Antonio Street.
- The El Paso Symphony Orchestra will also have two interactive children's performances of Brothers Grimm's "Rumpelstiltskin" at noon

and 2 p.m. at the Plaza Theatre. Tickets for these concerts are \$10 reserved and \$5 general admission.

The City of El Paso will also play a big role in the day's events, including:

- Performances and educational workshops from the Museums and Cultural Affairs Department.
- The Parks & Recreation Department will turn Cleveland Square into a Fun Activities Zone, with arts and crafts booths featuring "green" projects, face painting and games.
- The Downtown Public Library will host three performances by Kids Excel, featuring interactive demonstrations using music and dance.



Insights El Paso Science Museum will offer tours of the Dinosaurs exhibit, four science shows throughout the day and crafts and "Hands-On, Take Home" projects at different stations. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and military and \$3 for ages 4-11. There will also be two "make and take" workshops from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2 p.m.-4 p.m. at the Creative Kids OLO Gallery, 504 San Francisco Street.

The El Paso Convention and Performing Art Centers will have tours of the historic Plaza Theatre at 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.

More Info: (915) 532-3776

Sign of Incentives

A new sign is up on the historic Camino Real Hotel, thanks in part to the reduced fees incentive program through the City of El Paso.



Magoffin Park Villas offers new housing options

Another housing project is moving closer to reality, as the Magoffin Park Villas received the green light from City Council to move forward with their plans in the historic Magoffin area of Downtown.

Representatives approved several zone changes and street closings for the construction of Magoffin Park Villas, a high-end apartment complex at the corner of Magoffin and Ange streets. The unanimous vote allows for the vacation of a block of Ange Street and parts of two alleys in order to allow Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe and its real estate partner, TVO Development, to build the 91-unit project.



The apartment complex, which will cost an estimated \$7.7 million to build, would include modern amenities in an effort to attract professionals to live in Downtown El Paso. La Fe has



also made a commitment to provide 20 percent of its units (approximately 19) to low-income families for at least 40 years. The remaining 72 units would be rented at market rates. The ground floors of the buildings would also have 1,700 square feet of retail space.

Magoffin Park Villas joins the 1st Avenue Lofts project as the first to provide new housing options in Downtown El Paso.

February Events

The Tweaksters — The duo of Regan Patno and Julia Snyder blend balletic feats, precision juggling, acrobatics and creative choreography with odd objects.

Where: Abraham Chavez Theatre

When: Feb. 20 @ 7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$20

Info: (915) 542-2022 or showtimeelpaso.com

Concert — Guest conductor Andrew Grams and guest artist Eric Ruske (horn) join the symphony for a performance.

Where: Plaza Theatre

When: Feb. 20 @ 7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$11-\$37

Info: (915) 532-3776

David Copperfield — Celebrated illusionist.

Where: Abraham Chavez Theatre

When: Feb. 22 @ 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$30-\$50

TIRZ Board of Directors

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Business Spotlight: Sacred Heart Tortilleria & Grill

Tucked away in South El Paso is one of the true gems of our community. While

Sagrado Corazon

(Sacred Heart Church)

and its long history as

one of El Paso's first

Catholic churches are well known to many, its Tortilleria & Grill is not as well known.



According to manager James Martinez, the Tortilleria is self-sustaining and has recently expanded their catering service.

"We can tailor a meal for any event and come to you or host it here," he said.

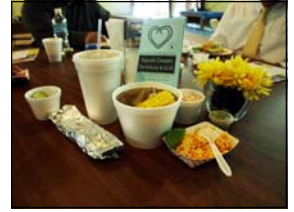
On the menu, patrons will find a variety of Mexican fare, including *caldos* (soups), fresh made *buñuelos* (thin Mexican pastries), *champurrado* (Mexican hot chocolate) and some of the best *arroz* (Spanish rice)

around. Also, fresh-made tortillas are a part of the meal and available for carry-out. Weekends are busy for the restaurant, with menudo a top draw.

The nonprofit restaurant operates out of the church kitchen and uses the gymnasium as the dining room.

The Tortilleria & Grill contributes to Sacred Heart's many programs and also provides employment opportunities in the neighborhood.

With wonderful food, a very affordable price and providing support to worthy causes, Sacred Heart Tortilleria & Grill is a truly unique experience.



Where: 231 Father Rahm

When: Tuesday-Sunday, 7:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m.

Phone: (915) 533-8980 or 603-8424

Online: www.sacredheartelpaso.org/id7.html

Property Highlight: 400 W. San Antonio

The Union Plaza Transit Terminal has retail shell space in four units (more than 6,700 square feet total) available for lease. Each unit has a separate heating and cooling system. The terminal also features more than 400 parking spaces and direct access to the free Downtown circulator. For more information, call Bryan Crowe at (915) 594-0667.

To feature a Downtown building in *el centro*, send an email to rosalesv@elpasotexas.gov or call (915) 541-4670.



Meet the Board



Eduardo Castorena, TIRZ Board Member

Development Director, Sacred Heart Church

Eduardo Castorena has an extensive history of community service. He earned a Bachelors in Sociology and a Masters in Education from the University of Texas at El Paso. He has held a variety of positions with health care organizations and church ministries. Castorena is a former Vice President, Board of Directors, Bien Vivir Senior Health Services, former Vice President, Board of Directors, Rio Bravo Interfaith Council and has also served on the board of the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation.

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