

EVENT

LBJ Museum of San Marcos hosts Christmas program



The LBJ Museum of San Marcos hosted its Christmas program on Dec. 8. Above, children gather to meet Santa. Below, members of the LBJ board take a photo with a Santa. Photos courtesy of LBJ Center of San Marcos

STAFF REPORTS

The Lyndon Baines Johnson Museum hosted its Christmas program on Dec. 8, where Santa made an appearance and students from Bowie Elementary School sang Christmas Carols. The event, which took place at 131 N. Guadalupe St., began with a cookie/hot chocolate reception followed by the students' performance. Mayor Jane Hughson and Santa congratulated the children and then lit the Christmas tree. Photos of the class with Santa Claus and the Mayor were also taken. Santa was also available to hear Christmas wishes and pose



for family photographs. Located on the San Marcos downtown square, the LBJ Museum was established in 1997 and opened in 2006 to honor the 36th President of the United States, a 1930 graduate

of Southwest Texas State Teachers College (now Texas State University). The museum offers exhibits of Johnson's early years as a student and as a teacher in Cotulla that shaped his future political career.

TRANSPLANT FROM PG. 1

level, I always knew I was ready and willing to explore the kidney donation process," Arredondo said. "But I think it's safe to say, yes, it was a no-brainer that I'm willing to do almost anything to help or take care of my parents and in this situation, my mother." Arredondo said his first step was explaining to his parents, and immediate family members, he was interested in donating a kidney and convincing them that he was making the right decision not only for his mom, but for himself. "Once those conversations took place it was time to be screened to see if I was a match, and if my kidneys were healthy enough to be eligible for a possible donation," he said. Arredondo said his mother's "mommy bear instincts" kicked in immediately and didn't turn off through the entire process. "Every step of the way she kept checking-in to make sure I wanted to keep moving forward," he said. "I can't speak for her, but I think she was more scared of what could happen to me rather than what was happening to her. Very typical of most mothers, always wanting to protect their babies." The screening/verifying eligibility process was the most nerve-racking part of the entire process, Arredondo said. "Understanding the number of blood tests, exams, and scans that would happen up until the day of the

surgery had me convinced that something was going to turn up in some lab report that would disqualify me," he said. "It's no secret that I've had a very colorful history with substance abuse. So, I think the fear of ineligibility for whatever reason weighed heavy on me." He admitted to being impatient at this point. "Honestly, I was ready to do this thing several weeks ago when we were first notified, I was a match and eligible for donation," he said. "But I think that's more about my personality and leadership style than anything else. If there is something that can be done to help someone today — right now — why do we have to wait four or five weeks to do it?" The surgery went off without complications. Arredondo said the surgical team and nursing staff and Methodist Hospital Specialty and Transplant in San Antonio said everything went as expected. Moving forward Arredondo said his only limitations following the surgery are that he can't drink energy drinks anymore. "I'm still processing the fact that I can't drink energy drinks ever again," he said. "It sounds silly, but energy drinks helped me get through college and at least a dozen marathon ISD school board meetings. But other than that, my life should be normal moving forward." As for his mother, she's recovered quickly.

"I was a little jealous seeing her recover so much faster than I did the first few days after the surgery," Arredondo added. "But the nurses said women typically handle pain better than men and I believe it. The doctors said her labs looked great and her new kidney was working at 100 percent, which is just wonderful." At Christmas it's hard not to call this a gift and according to Arredondo his mother is grateful. "Of course, she said thank you and called it a gift," he said. "My step dad actually sent me a video to watch when I woke up in the recovery room." In the video his mother thanked him and said they needed to go do something special once they recovered: "Hey sweetheart I hope you are doing well... thank you. I appreciate this, Miguel. I love you." She's adjusting to her new lifestyle and learning about the medications she now must take to ensure her body doesn't reject the kidney, Arredondo said. "But more than anything I'm just grateful and thankful to be blessed with such loving and supportive children, wonderful husband, and extended family members who have been there for us throughout the entire process," she said.

lwinter
@sanmarcosrecord.com
Twitter: @LanceWinter

EVENT

Live Music

Looking for some great musical entertainment this weekend? Look no further than Middleton Brewery — 101

Oakwood Loop — for some of the best in local and regional music. Music lineup includes: • Friday, Dec. 17, 6-9 p.m., Nate Guthrie • Saturday, Dec. 18, 6-9 p.m., Dallas Burrow

• Sunday, Dec. 19, 2-5 p.m., Gerry Burns • Mon Dec. 20, 2021 6-9 p.m., OPEN MIC For more details visit: www.mbtx.com

FOOD

Foodie Friday

Looking for Foodie Friday? The Daily Record took

a break from its weekly series. The food reviews, however, will return shortly. If you know of a restaurant you think we should try,

email Nick Castillo (ncastillo@sanmarcosrecord.com) or Lance Winter (lwinter@sanmarcosrecord.com).

SPLASH FROM PG. 1

tor Mariana Espinoza said. "It is a great way to kick off the New Year and we are extremely happy to once again invite the community to this annual event." The gates to James Adkins Pool will open at 10 a.m. Participants will begin to gather for the splash at 10:25 a.m. and the jump will occur at 10:30 a.m. In the event of inclement weather, the event is set to be rescheduled for Sunday, Jan. 2 at 10 a.m. Those looking to participate in the Polar Bear Splash can register through Team Sideline at https://teamsideline.com/kyle. Regular registration costs \$20 per person and will close on Dec. 31. On-site registrations and late registrations will be accepted for

the price of \$25 per person. Registration for the Polar Bear Splash also includes free hot chocolate. Participants must register by Friday, Dec. 9 to receive polar bear apparel. Spectators may enter for free. In addition to the Polar Bear Splash event, the Love of Go's Annual 5k Resolution Run will also take place on Saturday, Jan. 1 at 9 a.m. at Gregg-Clarke Park, 1231-1301 W. Center St. The cost of registration for the 5K Resolution Run is \$15 per entry. Registration will close on Tuesday, Dec. 28 and participants must register by Thursday, Dec. 16 to guarantee a Resolution Run shirt. The 1K run is free for all participants. Those who participate in

both the 5K and the Polar Bear Splash will receive a special commemorative item for participating in the Kyle Duathlon. Attendees must register for the 5K and the Polar Bear Splash during the registration process in order to be part of the Kyle Duathlon recognition. For additional information or to register, visit www.athleteguild.com/running/kyle-tx/2022-resolution-run-by-for-the-love-of-go. For more details regarding the Polar Bear Splash, visit www.cityofkyle.com/recreation/2022-kyle-polar-bear-splash.

@agonzales
@sanmarcosrecord.com
Twitter: @alysagonz89

Grins Restaurant

A San Marcos Tradition Since 1975
512-392-4746 www.grinsrestaurant.com
802 N LBJ DR SAN MARCOS, TX

VOTED BEST HAPPY HOUR
MON - FRI 3:00 - 7:00
\$9.99 MARGARITAS
Outdoor Dining

FACE MASK REQUIRED

Tastebuds tantalized?

Then visit one of the area restaurants featured on this page.

Interested in becoming part of this appetizing ensemble?

To advertise call, 512-392-2458