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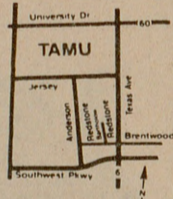
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Cisneros ends productive term

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — When four-term San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros leaves office next spring, it will close a chapter on one of the most productive, high-profile administrations ever seen by his native city.

The popular Hispanic mayor bridged a gap between rich, white businessmen and poor Hispanics and almost overnight became a national political figure. Ivy League educated, he also helped attract numerous high-tech industries to a city where the Alamo and the River Walk continue to attract millions of visitors and billions of dollars each year.

Retired Gen. Robert F. McDermott, chief executive officer of United Services Automobile Administration and one of the city's top business leaders, said Cisneros was able to lead the city because of extraordinary talents.

"Nobody contemplated that a mayor of San Antonio would do what he has done and he's done it by the sheer force of his commitment to getting things done through his intellect, his charisma, his leadership and his salesmanship," McDermott said.

"I think Henry has given us all enough to do. I think we will continue in that direction and complete those projects, such as developing tourism and developing the research park and getting ourselves involved in manufacturing because that's where the jobs are," McDermott said.

Most civic leaders agree that Cisneros' departure signals a continuation, not the end, of growth for the nation's ninth-largest city. Some also say Cisneros — interviewed as a possible running mate by Walter Mondale in 1984 — is sure to return to politics soon.

Cisneros' own comments about his decision to leave the mayoral job for an as yet unknown private venture seem to support that prediction.

"It is now time for me to undertake the disciplines of reading, reflecting and writing, the most effective ways to bring precision to concepts, to originate new and better ways to build the future," he said in a recent interview.

"I am at heart a public service-oriented person, and I want that service to be based on solidly-formed ideas for a new time and on what I can contribute that is unique and creative," he said.

The 41-year-old mayor also wants to spend more time with his young son, who suffers from abdominal disorders, and provide for his teenage daughters' future education needs.

The mayor's job pays \$5,000 a year.

Cisneros will leave behind a community now debating a proposed \$160 million domed multi-use stadium, a regional water plan, a proposed reservoir that opponents say will provide inferior drinking water to poor residents and a public-private education plan that encourages high school students to stay in school so they can receive scholarships and jobs.

Cisneros is praised by business and city leaders, who say he used charm and tough tactics to push through the projects he wanted. Some predict the next mayor may not have it as easy.

Cisneros said he will work for the next eight months as he always has — long hours.

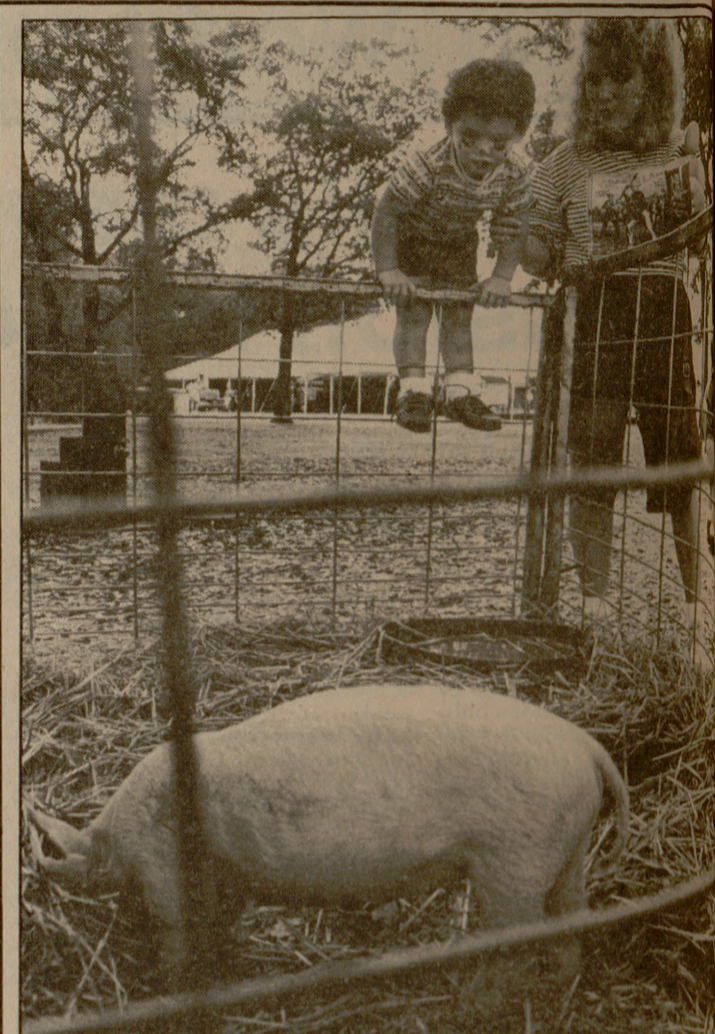


Photo by Kathy Harris

Seth Davis, a two-year-old from Bryan, climbs the fence to get a look at a pig that he said resembles "Wilbur" from "Charlotte's Web." Seth and his mother were at the Brazos Folk Festival Saturday in Central Park.

Woman enjoys life helping youngsters in Salvation Army

ORANGE (AP) — Surrounded by shouting, screeching, shrieking children, Brenda Teal calmly smiles and softly suggests that her young adults tone it down a bit.

In an instant, the roar melts to a murmur.

Teal, 34, is in charge, and quite obviously in her element, as head of the girls' youth program at the Salvation Army.

"I was in the same group, the Sunbeams, when I was their age," she said. "This is my neighborhood. I was born here, and I know so many of them."

For three years, she has watched over the Sunbeams, first-through fifth-graders, and Girl Guides, sixth grade through high-school age, enrolled in the Army's youth programs — weekly meetings, special parties and pageants, and the Dallas youth camp.

And she's done it as a volunteer, without ever seeing a paycheck.

"As a kid, I was a babysitter for a family down the street, and then I was a Sunday School teacher," she said. "Then I worked for the Mother's Day Out program. I guess I'm just kid-oriented."

She doesn't know it, but her love of children — and her ability to listen to their problems as well as their joys — is one of the reasons Salvation Army Capt. Bruce Williams nominated her as volunteer of the year, a contest accompanying Orange County United Fund's annual campaign.

According to Williams, Teal "is an exceptional woman who makes it a point to know (the girls) personally so she can help them through their difficult times. Usually when a child is unruly or sad, there is a good reason and we have found that Brenda usually knows where the problem lies. Whether it is a home breaking up, financial difficulties, abuse or other problems, the children trust her."

Mrs. Teal said children have always been important to her, never more so than when she believed she could not have them. "We tried adoption, through a lawyer. But just two months before we were supposed to get the child, the couple decided to keep it."

It was six years after her marriage

to Leo Teal — and several early-pregnancy tests later — that Brenda became pregnant.

"The first thing I did was to go out and buy a big fifty-cent pickle," she said.

Her daughter, Kim, is now 8, and the Teals have a second daughter, Brandi, 4.

When Teal thought it was time to help Kim get adjusted to other kids, she headed back to the Salvation Army. But she wasn't there long before she decided they could use some help. "The captain's wife was doing it all alone," she said.

Her love of children does not tend to a carte blanche for bad rum, however.

"Kids need discipline," she said. "If one child is too rowdy, it's the others. We can't have outbursts you don't have discipline. You talk down to kids."

Besides, she said, the Salvation Army is also a church. "We're the back of a church, and we're to have respect for that," she said.

It's the church in which she, Leo were married.

16-year-old ex mayor questions his future

CRABB (AP) — Brian Zimmerman, the boy mayor who put Crabb on the map when he was elected in 1983, is growing up.

He has traded his go-cart for a station wagon and is focusing on things such as fishing, bowling and dating. The 16-year-old isn't even sure if he wants politics to be part of his future.

"There's a million things out there you could do," Zimmerman said. "I want to do something that seems like it's worth doing, that makes a difference."

In a 1983 unofficial straw vote, Crabb residents elected Zimmerman, then 11, over two adult candidates to head the farming community of 250 people about 10 miles southwest of Houston.

His unsuccessful battle to incorporate Crabb and head off annexation by neighboring cities brought him international attention and his life story became the subject of a PBS movie titled "The Lone Star Kid."

Zimmerman's mayoral post lapsed shortly after the incorporation battle was lost. But his young political career will not be forgotten.

A junior high history book titled, "We The People, Citizens and Their Government," scheduled for the classroom in 1989, has a photograph of Zimmerman sipping coffee at a

Paris mayors' conference in 1987. The text says Zimmerman was the youngest person ever elected mayor in the United States.

"It really freaked me out," he said. "I'm still alive, and I'm in a book. I thought history was a thing of the past. My life ain't over yet."

Life following his stint as mayor hasn't always been as successful.

During the past couple of years Zimmerman said he had some trouble at school. His grades fell and even thought of quitting.

"I really lost interest completely for a while," he said. "I always get one gripe or another — not enough patience and a bad temper."

But he has started his sophomore year at B.F. Terry High School in Rosenberg with a better attitude and an improved philosophy on life.

"I try to enjoy life," he said. "When I wake up, I tell myself going to make a good day out of this."

Besides his interest in sports, Zimmerman also is one of the spokesmen for a national Power Election Campaign, which is sponsored by Cheerios breakfast cereal. Last week, he addressed the children in Washington on the importance of voting.

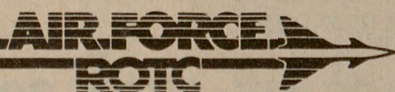
Still, he hasn't decided if politics will be part of his adult life.



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