KLRN TAMIU LAREDO NEWS UPDATE

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VIDEO AUDIO

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| ON CAM  SUPERS: Camila Cruz  Plastic Bag Ban  The Abrazo  SUPERS: Erika Haynes  SUPERS: Carolina Zaragoza Flores/ Consul General  ON CAM  SUPERS: Camila Cruz | Hi, I am Camila Cruz and this is a news update from Texas A&M International University in Laredo.  The Texas Supreme Court held hearings in early January 2018 regarding the legality of plastic bag bans in the state, concentrating on the ordinance passed by the City of Laredo.  On August 5, 2013 Laredo’s city council voted to pass the Plastic Bag Ordinance to take effect in 2015. Since then, Laredoans purchased reusable plastic bags or paper bags to carry items from stores. The ordinance included the sale price and thickness of the bag that could be used.  After the plastic bag ordinance took place Laredo’s Merchant Associate filed a lawsuit on March 27, 2015. Last year, the Fourth Court of Appeals ruled that the city’s plastic bag ban is preempted by state law.  According to the report of the Laredo Morning Times, the Supreme Court’s decision will take effect on more than 10 cities in Texas.  Dignitaries from both the US and Mexico came together at the Juarez-Lincoln International Bridge February 17, 2018, for “The Abrazo”.  This year marks the 121st Washington’s Birthday Celebration, and Abrazo ceremony.  In this ceremony four children, coming from generations of past participants, are selected for “The Abrazo” or hug in order to show the establishing relations we have with Mexico.    *“It’s also very special for me and my family, because I was ‘Abrazo’ child in 1985 and Liam is the 5th child in our family to represent the US in this ceremony. It joins us, both communities go back many generations and I think it’s important to show that the relationship is still strong.”*  As well as the children, Dignitaries and their counterparts also unite to show their support for the cause.  \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*TAKE SOT\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*  *“Very important moment we are living with the relationship Mexico has with the United States. I think that this is an act that is very symbolic…both cities are working very closely, in the county level, state level, and federal level. I think it ties us these kinds of ceremonies, in being very good neighbors.”*  \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*  The abrazo is one of other 28 events that take place over the span of four weeks for the Washington Birthday Celebration Association of Laredo or WBCA.    The “Taste of Laredo” food expo took place in the Laredo Energy Arena this 8th of February. There were costumes, decorations and food from restaurants from all around the city such as Sushi Madre, Delicias del Contry, Johny Rockets and more.    On February 10th, car and truck enthusiasts participated in the Pipes & Stripes Car show. The showcase included classic cars such as mustangs, customized cars with sound systems and restored vehicles. Winners from this event had an opportunity to participate in the Anheuser-Bush Washington Birthday Parade.    Thousands of people were gathered around the streets of downtown Laredo to see the Parade. There were 160 entries of marching bands and decorated floats.    The 40th Jalapeno Festival was also held as part of the festivities. The event included a food area, a market and live music performances with the headliners being Los Angeles Azules.    \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* ON CAM \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*  That’s all for now, from Texas A&M International University in Laredo, I’m Camila Cruz. Thank you for watching. |
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