MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020



#### **LOCAL** HOSPITALITY

Jim Pace remembers starting to volunteer at the Good **Neighbor Settlement House** before the Migrant **Protection Protocol went** into effect in January 2019 where he helped thousands of people from several countries settle into their new life after fleeing their home.

➤ PAGE A2

#### **NATION**



#### Mainstream CONSPIRACIES

President Donald Trump was more than halfway through his speech at a rally in Milwaukee when one of his hand gestures caught the eye of a supporter standing in the packed arena.

➤ PAGE A5

#### WORLD



#### Locust **O**UTBREAK

At a glance, the desert locusts in this arid patch of northern Somalia look less ominous than the billion-member swarms infesting East Africa in the worst outbreak some places have seen in 70 years.

➤ PAGE A8

#### **POPULAR ON THE WEB**

#### DISTRICT SHOWCASE

The Brownsville Independent School District is taking the BISD Children's Parade during Charro Days back to the days when all BISD schools participated in the lead-off parade during Charro

#### BrownsvilleHerald.com



Good Morning! Thank you for reading today's edition of The Brownsville Herald



# GLIMPSE INSIDE

## Tent courts opened to public



**ILLUSTRATION BY RYAN HENRY**/THE BROWNSVILLE HERALD

Above: In this courtroom sketch, an immigration judge presides via a video conference monitor over cases of asylum seekers gathered in Courtroom C on Friday at the immigration tent courts at Gateway International Bridge in Brownsville. No cameras are allowed inside. **Below:** A banner with "Rigged Courts Are Not Due Process" is strung between a tree and a post Thursday, across from the tent courts outside Gateway International Bridge.

BY ERIN SHERIDAN STAFF WRITER

'tent court' ystem - set at Gateway International Bridge to hear asylum cases under the Trump administration's Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP, 'Remain in Mexico' program) – was opened to the public in late December following months of outcry from attorneys, advocates, and journalists barred from observing proceedings.

PLEASE SEE **TENTS**, **A4** 



**DENISE CATHEY/THE BROWNSVILLE HERALD** 

## In 2020, **GBIC** finds its feet

Strategic plan, new board give **EDC** direction

> BY STEVE CLARK STAFF WRITER

With a full board, strategic plan and amended bylaws in place, the Greater Brownsville Incentives Corporation has a sense of direction that was missing a year ago, according to Executive Director Mario Lozoya.

Not that no work was getting done, but with a partial board and inconsistent direction, "we were kind of shotgunning things," he said. The nonprofit is on its third board since Lozoya arrived in July 2018, he said.

Before Lozoya's arrival, GBIC had commissioned Austin-based TIP Strategies Inc. to develop a strategic plan, which was finalized in 2019. It provides guidelines for growing Brownsville's economic prosperity in keeping with state laws governing "Type A" economic development corporations like GBIC, which are intended to prioritize industry and manufacturing.

"It's a five-year plan," Lozoya said. "We can't implement it all in one year, so we're taking pieces of it. Right now the direction of the board, in alignment with the city's strategy, is to try to increase the industrial footprint."

That's based on a consultant's analysis showing a woefully insufficient portion of land within the city limits as being devoted to industrial activity, which means less revenue generation in the form of property taxes, Lozoya said.

"If the city says we want to increase industrial land use a little bit more, then we need to accept that direction and follow it," he said. "We're working now with the city to understand what is the overall target of the city's land use and where does GBIC fit in that."

PLEASE SEE GBIC, A3

### Mainland China virus cases rise again after earlier decline

BY JOE MCDONALD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — Mainland China has reported another rise in cases of the new virus after a sharp decline the previous day, while the number of deaths grow by 97 to 908, with at least two more outside the country.

On Monday, China's health ministry said another 3,062 cases had been reported over the previous 24 hours, raising the Chinese mainland's total to 40,171.

Earlier, France closed two schools after five British visitors contracted the virus at a ski

resort. Malaysia, South Korea and Vietnam reported one new case

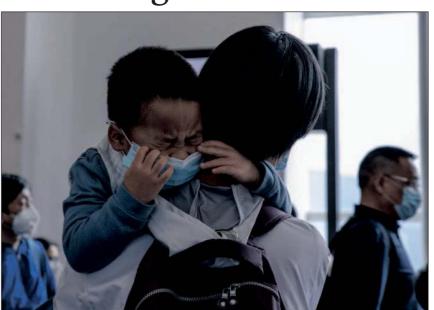
Meanwhile, the mother of a physician who died last week in the hardest-hit city Wuhan said she wants an explanation from authorities who reprimanded her son for warning about the virus.

Monday's rise was a turnaround from a significant reduction in new cases reported Sunday, 2,656, down by about 20% from the 3,399 new cases reported in the previous 24-hour period.

PLEASE SEE VIRUS, A3

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cries as he waits in line to board a plane for Beijing at the airport in Hong Kong on Sunday.

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