

## This Month:

Iwo Jima Parade - MMA  
Punxsutawney Phil  
Food Bank RGV  
Chasing Birds  
TSA 2016 Facts  
Jeepers Having Fun  
RGV Stamp & Coin Show  
Adelante Alamo Kick Off  
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

IN PRINT, ON-LINE & ON FACEBOOK

# The Valley Spotlight

FREE  
TAKE ME HOME

February 2017

The Little Paper You'll Want To Keep & Share

Vol. 3 No. 9

## Honoring Our Veterans - The Battle of Iwo Jima

In February 1945, about 450 American ships were located off the island of Iwo Jima, approximately 750 miles south of Tokyo, Japan. Since June 15, 1944, the US Navy and the US Army Air Forces had been carrying out naval bombardments and air raids against Iwo Jima in preparation for an amphibious assault on the island by U.S. forces.

Many in the American military assumed the majority of the Japanese garrison were killed by the constant bombing raids. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz was said to have remarked, "Well, this will be easy. The Japanese will surrender Iwo Jima without a fight."

However, Japan's Lieutenant General Tadamichi Kuribayashi, assigned to command the defense of Iwo Jima, had created a network of bunkers and pillboxes connected by 11 miles of tunnels within the island of Iwo Jima. In addition, hundreds of hidden artillery and mortar positions along with land mines were placed all over the island.

On February 16, 1945 the US Navy once more bombarded the island for three days in preparation for the Marine landing force's amphibious assault. The morning of February 19, 1945 was clear and bright. The first wave of Marines landed on the beaches of the southeastern coast of Iwo Jima. The lack of a vigorous response led the Navy to conclude that their bombardment had suppressed the Japanese defenses and in good order the Marines began deployment to the Iwo Jima beach. In the deathly silence, US Marines began to slowly inch their way forward inland, oblivious to the danger ahead of them. After allowing the Americans to pile up men and machinery on the beach for just over an hour, Kuribayashi unleashed the undiminished force of his countermeasures. Time-Life correspondent Robert Sherrod described it simply as "a nightmare in hell."

By the evening, 30,000 Marines had landed. About 40,000 more would follow. Upon seeing lengthy casualty reports and hearing of the slow progress of the ground forces, US Marine Gen. "Howlin' Mad" Smith confessed to the war correspondents aboard the US command ship Eldorado, "I don't know who he is, but the Japanese general running this show is one smart bastard."

What followed was 36 days of brutal fighting before the US finally secured the island.

According to the official Navy Department Library website, "The 36-day assault resulted in more than 26,000 American casualties, including 6,800 dead."

The battle is remembered primarily by Joe Rosenthal's Associated Press photograph of the raising of the U.S. flag on top of Mount Suribachi by six U.S. Marines. The photograph (and a color film by Marine Staff Sgt. Bill Genaust) records the flag-raising on the mountain, which took place on the fifth day of the 36-day battle.

The flag raising picture was later used by Felix de Weldon to sculpt the Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima Memorial), located adjacent to Arlington National Cemetery.

In October 1981, Dr. de Weldon gifted his original, full sized working model to Marine Military Academy located in Harlingen, Texas. The Iwo Jima Monument was dedicated April 16, 1982 on the MMA Parade Ground.

The Iwo Jima Museum, also located at MMA, provides thousands of visitors each year the opportunity to learn more about the Battle of Iwo Jima and other World War II history through an extensive and inspiring collection of souvenirs, photographs and memorabilia.



Marine Military Academy will hold its annual Iwo Jima Parade Saturday, Feb. 18 at 10 a.m. on the MMA Parade Grounds. This year marks the 72nd anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima.

For more information on the Iwo Jima Parade, call (956) 421-9225 or e-mail: [atkinson@MMA-TX.org](mailto:atkinson@MMA-TX.org)

## The Pundits Missed It ... AGAIN! "Media Outlets Are Still Licking Their Wounds Over Their Failure To Predict That Trump May Win" [www.fortune.com](http://www.fortune.com)

by Rod Graham

I don't often declare my opinion within the pages of The Valley Spotlight, but this is one time I will.

I get real tired of so called "media experts" telling me how to interpret something someone has just said in a news story. It is as if they feel that we, the American public, have no cognitive power to understand for ourselves what someone is saying.

It seems as though, all throughout this election season, the media pundits were telling us that Hillary Clinton would soundly trounce Donald Trump. Without a doubt, she would be our next president.

Well, guess what, say hello to President Trump!

I am reminded of a fellow Missourian who also fooled the press. "You could stick a fork in him", to hear the pundits tell it back then.

In 1948, incumbent President Harry S. Truman, who had succeeded to the presidency after the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1945, ran for election for a full term against Thomas E. Dewey. Opinion polls showed that just one in three Americans approved of Truman's handling of the presidency. Members of his own Democrat party jumped ship over his stance on civil rights, forming the States' Rights Party, aka the Dixiecrats, electing segregationist Gov. Strom Thurmond as their candidate. The final pre-election Gallup poll showed Dewey beating Truman by 5 points.

Sounding familiar?

Even on Election Day, an NBC report predicted he would lose. The Chicago Daily Tribune, who had referred to Truman as a "nincompoop", took the pollsters' word and signed off on one of the most famous headlines in history.



Harry fooled 'em and served a second term.

*Kudos President Trump, don't let us down.*

# Observations On Life

by Ben Dover

## Punxsutawney Phil



The modern legend of Punxsutawney Phil, the famous groundhog, since 1887, might be considered to have some validity by believers located in the state of Pennsylvania. It is a wonderful falsity, and a thing that creates hilarity for some. There is a huge celebration each second day of February in that state, and I certainly applaud its existence.

I don't suppose it is important, nor even germane to include all of the claims, suppositions and other contributory stories that attend this celebration. I do know however that this celebration is real and if you don't believe the facts involved, you might just be stricken by the Yahoodie bug. So there! If Phil sees his shadow, we are going to have six more weeks of winter, and that is that! Incidentally, according to record, he has been right about one half of the time. Just a little history there.

One of the unique facts about the date, Feb. 2, lies in the fact that my own son was born on that date. The story involved with his christening and naming seems to refer to the groundhog story in part. When I was five years old. My mother gave birth to a baby boy.

The folks named him Phillip Edmund. Well, eleven months later that child died of Scarlet Fever and Double Pneumonia. My older brother and I then added the names Phillip and Edmund to our own names. I then became Bernard Louis Edmund Raiche. (One of my reasons for using the name Ben Dover)

When I became twenty five years of age, I married and fathered a daughter and a son. I named that son, Phillip Edmund II. Since he was born on the second day of February, the name seemed to fit in more ways than one. He also then became my reason for identifying with groundhog day. Isn't it interesting how we Americans seem to identify and compare things that in other countries might not have reason for concern at all? Anyway, I celebrate my son's birthday along with remembering that today must be also celebrated and officially named as Groundhog Day.

Have a nice day...

# Love of Christ ELCA Lutheran Church

**Winter Schedule:  
Worship Services  
8AM & 11AM**



## "Ash Wednesday" Service

**Wednesday, March 1st  
4:00 PM**

**Corner of  
Border & Third Street  
in the facilities of  
Faith Lutheran Church  
Weslaco, TX  
956-447-1337  
www.loveofchrist.net**

# The Lean Months of Spring

by Omar I. Rodriguez, Manager of Communication & Advocacy

The Food Bank of the Rio Grande Valley is very fortunate to receive an outpouring of food and donations during the holidays. In fact, this year, we collected over 10,000 pounds of food from food drives organized by schools, businesses and churches! Hundreds of volunteers also helped us collect and sort that food over a course of thousands of hours. But what happens after the holidays?

One year, around 2011, the Food Bank RGV collected a mere 67 pounds of food in June! That was an eye-opening experience that illustrates what happens to many food banks across the nation. There is a definite Springtime slump in donations, both food and funds, during this time. Nothing can really be to blame for it. People still care about those less fortunate and are always willing to help, but it's a consequence of culture. We're brought up to give during the holidays but forget that hunger exists all year round. Working families suffer reduction of hours, or lack of work; families with disabled members struggle to make ends meet.

If anything, Spring and Summer are some of the best times to donate or volunteer at the Food Bank RGV. Especially with Winter Texans getting ready to depart for the North, it's the best time to spend an afternoon at the Food Bank RGV and help us make this Spring manageable for up to 42,000 people we feed on a weekly basis.

Volunteers are welcome, 8 am to 8 pm, Monday through Friday and 8 am to 5 pm on Saturdays at 724 N. Cage Blvd.

Online, monetary donations can be made at [www.foodbankrgv.com](http://www.foodbankrgv.com) or call (956) 682-8101.



McAllen High Jr ROTC drive



Miss Edinburg Pre-Teen Helping in the Community Garden

# The Valley Spotlight

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[rod@RGVaff.com](mailto:rod@RGVaff.com)

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# True Tales of a Valley Birder

by Mary Beth Stowe (alamoinn@aol.com)

## Chasing Birds

The Lower Rio Grande Valley boasts many specialty birds, and we are blessed with many birders who come from all over the world to see our special birds! But among the larger group of “general” birders, there are those who will make a special effort to come all the way down to see a “mega-rarity” - an avian visitor from Mexico that they desire to add to their North American (aka “ABA”) list!

This winter we had a very special “visitor” - one you might call a “reverse” Winter Texan! A female Amazon Kingfisher (a bird that normally ranges from the central coasts of Mexico down through South America to northern Argentina) showed up in Laredo the tail end of October 2016, and stuck around at least through mid-January 2017, drawing birders from far and wide, as this was the third US record of this bird!



During the Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival in November, special vans made the three hour trip up there just to see this bird (one van boasted all four kingfisher species on that trip)! Ironically, I had already gotten the Amazon Kingfisher for the year during a September trip to Costa Rica, so I didn't feel the “urge” to go up there, but we soon got a call from Keith's friend George who definitely wanted to see the bird, so we were on our way!



It was a beautiful day: we arrived at Zacate Creek where the good news was that there was a group of birders already there, but the bad news was that they hadn't seen the bird yet! Several people told us that the bird often moved over to Tres Laredos Park after 9:00, so we headed over and again were encouraged by the same group we had encountered at Zecate, only to discover that we missed the bird by about ten minutes! But she had flown upriver and around the corner, so we hoofed down towards the bridge, where there was a small tributary that forked off and we suspected she had gone down. So we set up watch, enjoying Green Kingfishers, Great Blue and Black-crowned Night Herons, and an Osprey in the meantime. Soon another birder spotted the Amazon deep in the vegetation on the other side, and eventually she came out and perched in the open (but still on the Mexican side), and after what seemed an eternity she finally went after a fish and then did a “victory lap” over the river where (as best as we could determine) she did fly into American air space!

So George was a happy camper as this got him closer to his goal of 800 ABA birds! We even had time to stop at Salineño, where Merle and Lois put out feeders that attract many of the colorful Valley specialties, including the sought-after Audubon's Oriole!



Word gets around, and George had shared his Amazon Kingfisher adventure with his friend Howard, who in turn made arrangements to come down and add another hot bird to his ABA list! My friend Pat tagged along, and we enjoyed stupendous fly-by looks at Harris' and White-tailed Hawks and Crested Caracaras on the way! After parking in the pullout just under the bridge, we headed over to the little overlook, and there was lady Amazon, right where we left her last time! So Howard settled down to enjoy her while Pat scanned for other stuff, and we had a pair of Green Kingfishers and one female Ringed, in addition to a few White-faced Ibis, a couple of herons, some coots, and a Gadwall.



A side trail produced some flyover Monk Parakeets before we headed back home (again with a stop at Salineño).

So after a couple of trip reports on the list-serves, I received an e-mail from yet another couple who wanted to go chase the Amazon! Unfortunately, this time she was a no-show; we tried to salvage the trip with a pair of Black Phoebes and Green Kingfishers, plus a Ringed Kingfisher that flew overhead calling, but even trying to find some White-collared Seedeaters nearby came up empty, with no time left to even stop at Salineño. However, the happy ending was that there were other targets they had on their list, and the next day we bagged all but one! Yes, chasing birds can be fun, but we all agreed that we can't let that rob us of the joy of simply enjoying our more common feathered friends!



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### Worship Services

11AM Sundays

### Bible Study - English

Sunday 9:30AM

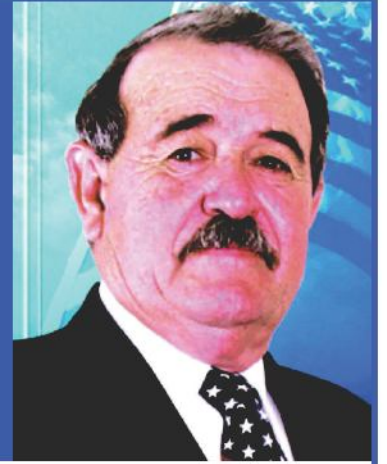
### Bible Study - Spanish

Tuesday 7:00PM

*Everyone is Welcome!*



I once had a sparrow alight upon my shoulder for a moment, while I was hoeing in a village garden, and I felt that I was more distinguished by that circumstance that I should have been by any epaulet I could have worn. .... Henry David Thoreau



# Adelante Alamo!

→ THE NEW VISION →

## Moving Alamo Forward to the Future

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**Reelect** Robert De La Garza for City of Alamo Commissioner Place 3

### THE NEW VISION

- ✓ Transparency in City Government
- ✓ Lowering Our Taxes
- ✓ Fixing Our City of Alamo Roads
- ✓ Raising Money For Charities and Scholarships
- ✓ Mandatory Competitive Bidding
- ✓ Helping Our Elderly and Our Veterans
- ✓ Attracting Winter Texans
- ✓ Develop Bike and Hike Trails
- ✓ Providing Water and Sewer
- ✓ Brush Recycling
- ✓ Use of Renewable Energy Sources in City Buildings
- ✓ Raising Our Minimum Wage For All City Employees
- ✓ Utilize Chamber of Commerce to Promote Local Merchants
- ✓ More Green Areas, Beautification Projects, Graffiti Removal

*We believe that Alamo has the potential to be  
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We Invite YOU to join us at the  
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Palazzo Event Center



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A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car.

His father said he'd make a deal with his son, "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car."

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided, he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

To which Dad replied,

"Did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went?"

# The Salvation Army - McAllen, Hidalgo County 2016 FACTS

Our Social Services Department served 19,325 individuals and families from Hidalgo County.



- ☺ Rent Assistance 101
- ☺ Food Boxes 266
- ☺ Clothing Vouchers per item 15,160
- ☺ Tim's Coats 795
- ☺ Box Fans 856 / AC units 15
- ☺ Local Bus Vouchers 9,881
- ☺ Comfort Kits 280
- ☺ Furniture Vouchers 220
- ☺ Referrals 186
- ☺ Life Skills / ESL / AARP Students 1,198
- ☺ 15,168 Unduplicated nights of lodging provided in our Emergency Shelter
- ☺ 10,695 Hygiene Kits distributed
- ☺ 76,433 Hot meals provided from our Soup Kitchen
- ☺ 1,430 Thanksgiving Day meals served
- ☺ 647 Families and 2,339 children assisted through our Angel Tree Program
- ☺ 15,080 Christmas toys distributed
- ☺ 98,502 Soup served - showers 21,751 - tent night's 20,692 servicing refugees as part of the Humanitarian Relief Effort. Between June 11, 2014 to December 30, 2016.
- ☺ 10,722 Volunteers / 46,490 Volunteer hours
- ☺ 3,200 Meals served by our Disaster Relief Team - Granjeno and Madero high winds



**From The Salvation Army of McAllen/Hidalgo County:**

Thank you, Hidalgo County, for a successful Community Thanksgiving Meal, Angel Tree Program, and Kettle Season.

We couldn't have done it without the support of Small Businesses, Banks, Schools, Winter Texans, Civic Clubs, Churches, Volunteers, Donors, Partner Agencies, Law Enforcement Agencies, Media Partners and the rest of the Community!

The Salvation Army appreciates your continued support in the new year in **"Doing the Most Good"** for those in need in our community.

God Bless You & Happy New Year!

**Captains Luis & Laura Melendez  
Commanding Officers**

The Salvation Army McAllen  
Hidalgo County

1600 N. 23rd  
McAllen, TX 78501  
956-682-1468

The Valley Spotlight is committed to providing a platform for Non-Profit organizations in the RGV.

If you are a non-profit organization with a story to tell, contact:  
Rod Graham ... [rod@rgvaff.com](mailto:rod@rgvaff.com) ... 956-457-8600

***We want to help you help others!***

# Jeepers Getting Together For FUN!

by Alyssa Cavazos

Jeep Night this January was intended for Jeepers to meet up and have a leisure evening. This month we took a break from the competitions and just enjoyed each other's company. Sofie's 'SS' Saloon was the spot for the monthly meeting. Burns Motors' David Nuñez delivered once again and cooked up some delicious bistek tacos for Jeep Night, which was sponsored by Burns Motors. The hours flew by as guests enjoyed good food, great music, and awesome company. With the pressures of competition and awards absent, Jeepers were able to hang loose and intermingle.

The main topic of discussion this month was the Jeep Night and its Jeep Clubs, along with Edinburg Logos Community Church, coming together for the month of April and having an Easter celebration for a colonia in the city of Edinburg. This will be discussed for the next couple months and hopefully we are able to pull an event together for a weekend in April. We will keep the community posted on our Jeep Night facebook page and at the Jeep Nights to come.



Jeep Night powered by Burns Motors is typically held on the second Thursday of each month, unless changes are made beforehand. Next month's Jeep Night will be held February 9th at Sofie's 'SS' Saloon, located at 6801 S 10th St in McAllen, Texas.

Information on Jeep Night and other events held by our Jeep Clubs can be found on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/RGVJeepNight](http://www.facebook.com/RGVJeepNight). You can also get in contact with Burns Motors' Big Lew at (956) 984-4554 or via email at [biglew@burnsmotors.com](mailto:biglew@burnsmotors.com)

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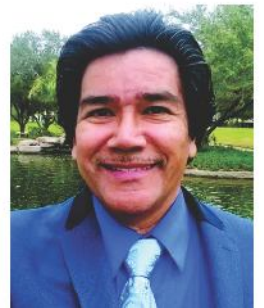


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A 54 year old woman had a heart attack and was taken to the hospital.

While on the operating table she had a near death experience. Seeing God she asked, "Is my time up?"

God said, "No, you have another 43 years, 2 months and 8 days to live."

Upon recovery, the woman decided to stay in the hospital and have a face-lift, liposuction, breast implants and a tummy tuck. She even had someone come in and change her hair color and brighten her teeth! Since she had so much more time to live, she figured she might as well make the most of it.

After her last operation, she was released from the hospital. While crossing the street on her way home, she was killed by an ambulance.

Arriving in front of God, she demanded, "I thought you said I had another 43 years? Why didn't you pull me from out of the path of the ambulance?"

God replied, "I didn't recognize you".

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Site	ADDRESS	DAYS	HOURS OF OPERATION	NOTES
Affordable Homes of South Texas McAllen	1420 Erie Ave. McAllen, TX 78501	Monday-Thursday (Appt Only) Saturday (Walk-In)	8 am - 4 pm 9am-12pm	Opening Date: Jan 23 Closing Date: April 17
Affordable Homes of South Texas McAllen	500 S. 15th St. McAllen, TX 78501	Tuesday & Thursday <b>WALK INS</b>	5 pm - 7pm	Opening Date: Jan 23 Closing Date: April 17
Affordable Homes of South Texas Weslaco	134 W. 5th St. Weslaco, TX, 78596	Monday-Thursday (Appt Only) Saturday (Walk-In)	8 am - 4pm 9am-12pm	Opening Date: Jan 23 Closing Date: April 17
Affordable Homes of South Texas Weslaco	134 W. 5th St. Weslaco, TX, 78596	Tuesday & Thursday <b>WALK INS</b>	5 pm - 7pm	Opening Date: Jan 23 Closing Date: April 17
Bowie Elementary Parental Literacy Center	811 E. Bowie Alamo, TX, 78516	Tuesday & Thursday	5:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Opening Date: Jan 24 Closing Date: April 6 <b>CLOSED SPRING BREAK MARCH 11-18</b>
Calvary Baptist Church	1600 Harvey St. McAllen, TX, 78501	Monday Thursday	5 pm - 8pm 1pm - 4pm	Opening Date: Jan 23 Closing Date: March 23 <b>CLOSED SPRING BREAK MARCH 13-18</b>
College Career & Technology Academy Parental Engagement Center	1100 E. Hwy 83 Pharr, TX, 78577	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday Saturday	5:00 pm - 8:00 pm 9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Opening Date: Feb. 11 Closing Date: April 8 <b>CLOSED SPRING BREAK MARCH 11-18</b>
Goodwill Industries	3502 C, 69 S I Rd Edinburg, TX 78542	Saturday	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Opening Date: Jan 28 Closing Date: April 8
La Joya ISD Palmview High School	3901 N. La Homa Road Mission, TX 78572	Monday & Thursday	5pm-7:30pm	Opening Date: Jan 26 Closing Date: April 6 <b>CLOSED SPRING BREAK MARCH 13-18</b>
La Joya ISD Juarez High School	7801 W. 7Mile Road Mission, TX 78574	Tuesday & Thursday	5pm-7:30pm	Opening Date: Jan 26 Closing Date: April 6 <b>CLOSED SPRING BREAK MARCH 11-18</b>
Palmview Community Center	3401 Jordan Ave. McAllen, TX 78503	Tuesday & Wednesday Saturday	5pm - 8pm 9am - 2pm	Opening Date: Jan 24 Closing Date: April 8
Tech Bus -RGV	3401 Jordan Ave. McAllen, TX 78503	Tuesday Saturday	5pm - 8pm 9am - 2pm	Opening Date: Jan 24 Closing Date: April 8
Rio Grande City Hall	5332 E. Hwy 83, Rio Grande City, TX 78582	Monday & Wednesday	5 pm - 7:30 pm	Opening Date: Jan 23 Closing Date: April 5
Roma High School	2021 N. US Highway 83 - Roma, Texas 78584.	Tuesday & Thursday	4 pm - 6 pm	Opening Date: Jan 26 Closing Date: April 6 <b>CLOSED SPRING BREAK MARCH 13-18</b>
South Texas College - McAllen Tech Library	3700 W. Military Hwy. (BLDG A) McAllen, TX 78503	Monday-Thursday	11:00 am-5:00pm	Opening Date: Jan 30 Closing Date: March 9
University of Texas-RGV Education Building Rm. 2.226	1201 W. University Dr. Edinburg, TX 78539	Saturday	9am-12pm	Opening Date: Feb 4 Closing Date: March 4

Call (956) 607-9030 or email Eslibeth Perez, at [eperez@unitedwayofsothx.org](mailto:eperez@unitedwayofsothx.org)



The 2016-2017 VITA Committee and partners pictured here look forward to another successful year of helping eligible South Texas families and individuals with free income tax preparation services.

Left to Right (front row):

Carolina Cantu, UnitedHealthcare; Eslibeth Perez, United Way; Sonia Gonzalez, Wells Fargo and Robert Rosell, BBVA Compass Bank (VITA Committee Co-Chairs); Mary C. Barrera, City of Weslaco; Thelma Garza, United Way; Marlen Ramirez, United Way.

Left to Right (back row):

Zelda Rodriguez, UnitedHealthcare; Rogelio Astudillo, Precinct 2; Gabriel Garza, Prime National; Juan C. Muñoz, Pangea; Cesar A. Suarez, Texas Regional Bank.

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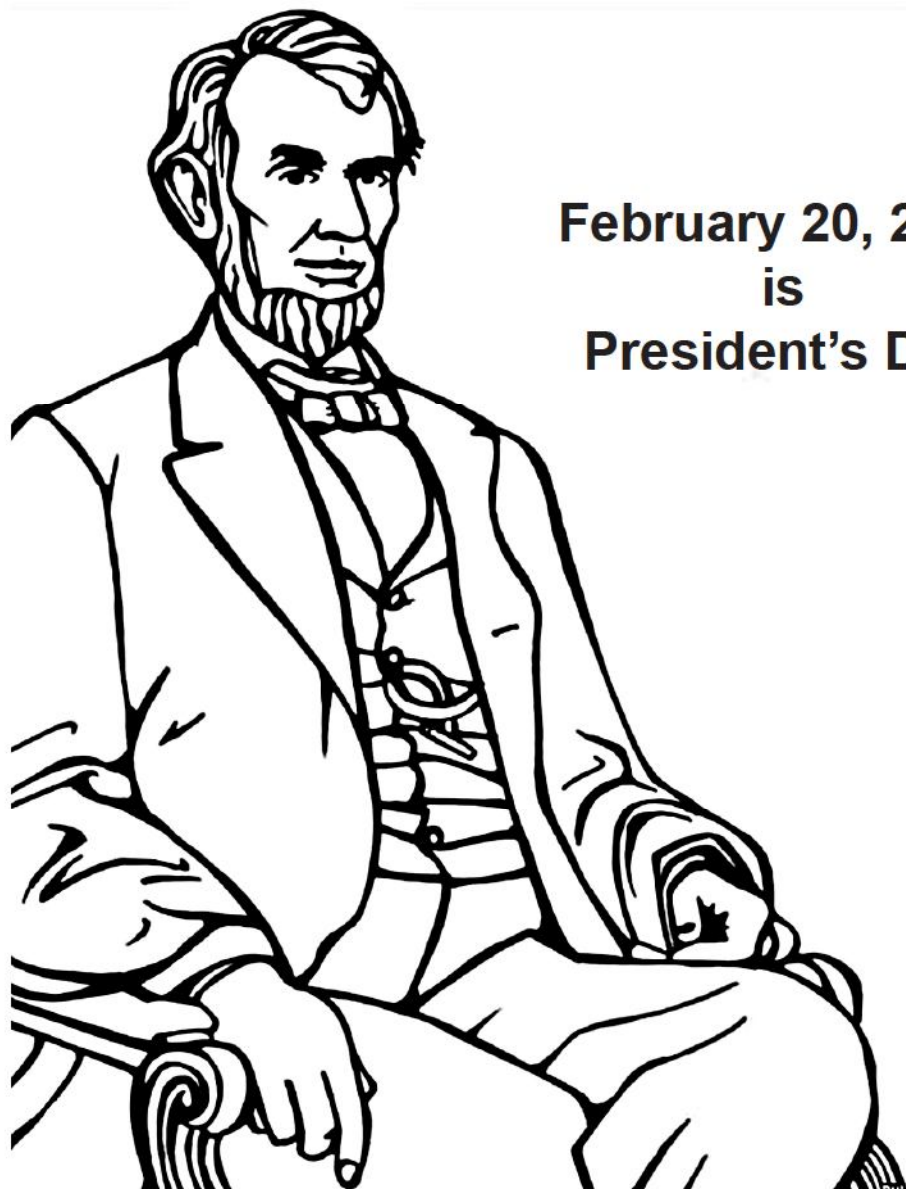
Come and see us to fulfill your  
**Camping and RVing Dreams!**

**ADVERTISE IN THE VALLEY SPOTLIGHT**  
**CALL 956-457-8600 TODAY!**

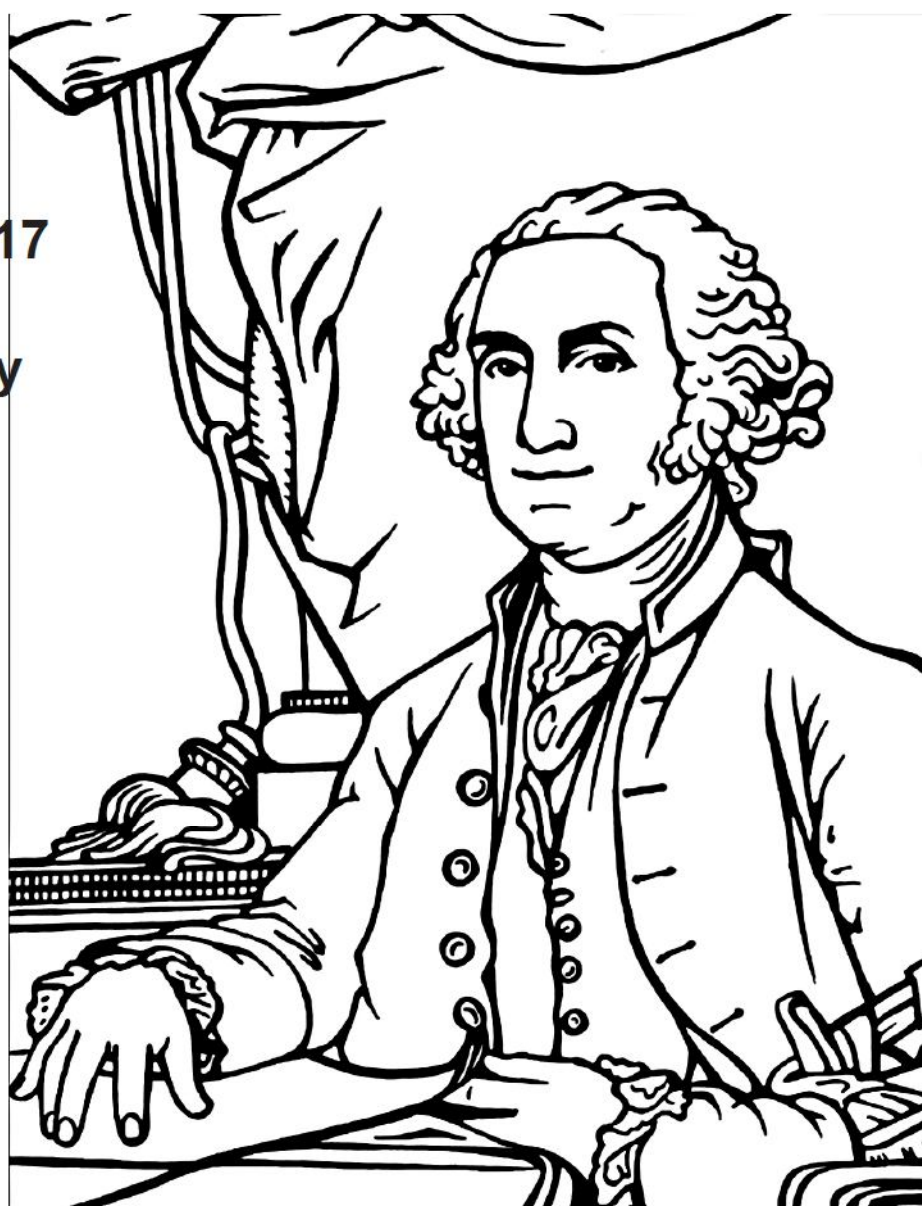
# For Kids Only

No matter how old you are!

Have Fun and Learn  
while you solve these puzzles and  
practice your coloring skills



February 20, 2017  
is  
President's Day



President's Day is a day set aside to honor all of the U.S. presidents. We often think of two great presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln when we celebrate this holiday, as it falls by design between their birthdays.

Can you tell which picture above is George Washington and which is Abraham Lincoln?

Find these words associated  
with electing a new President

- BALLOT
- DEMOCRAT
- ELECTION
- ELECTORATE
- CAMPAIGN
- CANDIDATE
- CONVENTION
- DEBATE
- DELEGATE
- INAUGURATION
- NOMINATION
- PARTY
- PLATFORM
- POLLS
- PRIMARY
- PUNDITS
- REPUBLICAN
- SPEECHES
- VOTE
- WINNER

N G I A P M A C M R O F T A L P H P  
 V N Z Z S P U N D I T S F U B E Z R  
 Q H O L T R Q I S U U L T J Y R A I  
 Z K C I K V O T E T A R C O M E D M  
 N Q D J T E T A R O T C E L E F R A  
 R S W N N N E K O S D L U V W J W R  
 D C Q O N Z E D N Q T R A P A R T Y  
 Q A W I A U K V E R E L E C T I O N  
 K N F T C S V J N B R O J N M L R K  
 H D W A I P H X C O A Y L O N B F G  
 I I T N L E G N D C C T C M L I P P  
 S D V I B E N K R Y S Q E Q M J W W  
 H A Y M U C F Y U F F T T O L L A B  
 J T I O P H I N A U G U R A T I O N  
 A E O N E E L A E J R R I I K U B V  
 Q R D T R S K T O K S L L O P P K B  
 S I B S C J A R F R T M S F D N K B  
 J D E L E G A T E K Y X L V G E C B

# WinterTexanInfo.com

**Your On-Line Source for Everything Winter Texan**

<b>Home More</b>	<b>Winter Texan Communities</b>	<b>4 SALE or RENT Classified ADS</b>	<b>Public Activities In Resorts</b>	<b>Entertainment Schedules</b>	<b>RGV Features</b>	<b>Winter Texan Bulletin Board</b>	<b>Games and More</b>
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## Explore Over Two Hundred Pages of Information About The Rio Grande Valley

WinterTexanInfo.com is your *Number One Resource* for finding information pertaining to the Winter Texan Lifestyle.

### Winter Texan Communities

This website is a great tool to help you become familiar with the Winter Texan Resort communities in the Rio Grande Valley.

All Resort / RV-Mobilehome Parks are listed with contact information and web addresses, where available. They are listed by city and are also plotted on maps showing their locations. This can be invaluable to you as you are planning your daily and weekly itineraries.

### 4 SALE or Rent Classified ADS

Buy and Sell just about anything in the classified ads section. Here you will find Mobile Homes and Park Models for sale or rent in many of the Valley's 55+ resorts.

The miscellaneous items section is open to the general public as well as Winter Texans for listing items such as golf carts, bicycles, musical instruments, electronics, tools and just about anything else you have for sale. For just \$20 your ad will be posted for a three month period.

This is one of the most viewed sections of this website, with hundreds of Winter Texans checking in every month.

### Public Activities In Resorts

Do you want to plan ahead for your New Year's Eve outing? Do you want to find where your favorite dance band is playing this week? Are you interested in attending or participating in music jams or karaoke?

You need look no further than the Public Activities section of WinterTexanInfo.com!

Here you will find schedules for ...

ENTERTAINMENT  
DANCES

JAMS & KARAOKE

HAPPY HOURS

CRAFT SHOWS

PARK WIDE YARD/PATIO SALES

PUBLIC MEALS

Activity directors from all Winter Texan resorts are invited to submit their season's schedules for all of these public events.

At WinterTexanInfo.com we strive to keep this information as accurate as we can. However, there is always the possibility that schedules may change after they have been posted. It is a good idea to call the venue ahead to verify the information. When it is made available, we always provide the phone number for you to call.

### Entertainment Schedules

Follow your favorite entertainer and dance band by looking in the Entertainers Section. You can read about what to expect when attending their shows/dances and find out when and where they are performing. You can also post comments about how you enjoyed their performances.

Many of these Shows & Dances are open to the general public.

All entertainers who perform for the Winter Texan population of the RGV are invited to participate in this section. If you are an entertainer or dance band, not listed here, contact Rod Graham, 956-457-8600 or email [rod@wintertexaninfo.com](mailto:rod@wintertexaninfo.com) and we will get it done!

### RGV Features

This section provides information about the Rio Grande Valley to help make your stay here more enjoyable. Find out about the many birding and nature refuges, wonderful museums, Mexican border towns, fishing opportunities, festivals and much more! The Rio Grande Valley is unique place with lots to offer our winter visitors.

## The Winter Texan Connection Bulletin Board

This is an interactive bulletin board where you have the opportunity to post announcements about anything and everything regarding the Winter Texan lifestyle here in the Valley. The general public is invited to use this board as well as Winter Texans. Whether you are a local school, museum, art gallery or any other organization wanting to get your message out to the Winter Texans, this is the place to do so.

In addition, Winter Texan groups and clubs may post announcements for meetings, reunions, state picnics, RV club gatherings etc.

*There is also the opportunity here to:*

Participate in discussions on topics related to the Winter Texan Lifestyle.

Post opportunities for volunteering.

Make announcements regarding Winter Texan sporting events.

Post an inquiry about something you are looking for, or lost and found items.

Share your experiences while traveling in Mexico. And much more!

Take some time to browse through the many categories of the Winter Texan Connection Bulletin Board to see how it be helpful to you or your organization.

This is a moderated bulletin board. This means that when you post something, it goes to a moderator for consideration. As soon as it is approved it will show up on the board. This process may take up to 24 hours. We at WinterTexanInfo.com reserve the right to choose not to allow a posting for any reason.

This is not a "gripe board" so if you have something of a negative nature to say, do it politely.

This board is intended for events which occur in venues outside of the Winter Texan Resorts.

## Advertising at WinterTexanInfo.com

Keeping WinterTexanInfo.com updated is a very time consuming enterprise. In order to keep it as a FREE SERVICE for Winter Texans and their Resorts to use, we offer advertising opportunities.

### Banner Ads

Banner ads are an effective way to reach your prospective customers. These are the advertisements you will see along the outer edges of each page. Unlike other websites who place your ads on specific pages, at WinterTexanInfo.com your ad will show in the same position on **ALL HIGH TRAFFIC PAGES!** For more information about Banner Advertising call Rod at 956-457-8600 or email: [rod@wintertexaninfo.com](mailto:rod@wintertexaninfo.com)

### Classified Ads

In the classified ads section you may list your items for sale or rent under three categories: Homes, Miscellaneous Items and Services

Your ad cost is \$20 and it stays posted for 3 months or until you request that it be removed.

This section is viewed by hundreds of Winter Texans each month.

All year long Winter Texans and potential Winter Texans are viewing this section while planning their next trip south.

**If you have a home  
for Sale or Rent in the RGV,  
THIS IS THE PLACE TO LIST IT!**

### Why Advertise Here?

WinterTexanInfo.com is the most visible website on the World Wide Web. It shows up on page one of search engine queries regarding Winter Texans more than any other Winter Texan targeted website.

In the summer of 2016, a monthly average of 7500 viewers visited this website looking for information about the RGV as they planned their trips south. The number of visitors will expand to over 14,000 per month throughout the Winter Texan season. (based on previous statistics)

**Call or Email Rod Graham today to get WinterTexanInfo.com working for YOU!  
956-457-8600 ... [rod@wintertexaninfo.com](mailto:rod@wintertexaninfo.com)**

### Did You Know?

- In 1911 - Burgess and Curtiss become the US's first licensed aircraft manufacturer.
- In 1918 - Regulation of the airways begins as US President Woodrow Wilson issues an order requiring licenses for civilian pilots and owners.
- In 1921 - A team of pilots completes an experimental coast-to-coast mail flight; flying by day and night, they have linked San Francisco and Long Island in a day and half's flying time.
- In 1933 - The first Boeing 247 takes to the air opening a new era in air transport, representing the new age of all-metal monoplane designs.
- In 1968 - A standard Learjet 25 sets a new "time-to-climb" record by climbing to 40,000 feet in 6 minutes 29 seconds.
- In 1969 - First flight of the Boeing 747 "Jumbo Jet" airliner takes place in Seattle, Washington.
- In 1977 - The converted Boeing 747 space shuttle carrier makes its first flight with the shuttle Enterprise on its back.
- In 1979 - Former astronaut Neil Armstrong climbs to 50,000 feet in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina in just over 12 minutes in a Gates Learjet Longhorn 28, breaking five world records for business jets.

# LEARN TO FLY

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Call to schedule your \$100 Introductory Flight

McCREERY AVIATION Flight Academy



McCREERY AVIATION CO., INC.

## 686-1774

### Mark Your Calendars For March 18-19, 2017!

The *Magic Valley Stamp Club* in Harlingen and the McAllen Stamp Club will host The 6th Greater Rio Grande Valley Stamp and Coin Show at the Harlingen Cultural Arts Center, 576, 76 Drive.

Our theme this year is: "Trains Built the Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas."

Next time you find yourself stopped at a train crossing waiting for a train to go by, imagine what life was like before this reliable rail system came into being, and how difficult it was just to deliver important things like postage and money.

We are so used to seeing trains in the Valley that we don't realize how recently they arrived. Though the concept of rail lines in the Lower Rio Grande Valley dates from the mid-1800s, their reality and reliability were only realized in the twentieth century.

The LRGV of Texas became what it is today because of the development of a reliable rail system, specifically the Missouri-Pacific Railroad. Local banks and post offices came to depend on the trains' efficiency; thus trains, postage, and coins have become, to collectors, historically interrelated.

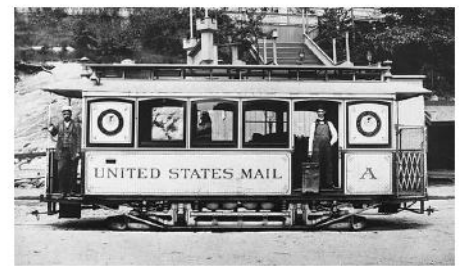
From the early days, trains had special "Mail Cars" that handled only closed-pouch mail, sealed until the destination was reached.

As time went by, mail started being sorted en-route for connecting lines and local post offices.

On August 16, 1988 the US Postal Service issued a 21-cent coil stamp commemorating the role of the Railroad Mail Car of the 1920s. Certainly if you collect stamps, coins, postcards or model trains, our show will intrigue you.

**Please come join us for informative fun on**

Sat. March 18, 2017, 9am-4pm  
Sun. March 19, 2017, 10am-4pm



Mail Train circa 1900



### Senior Computer Issues

As we Silver Surfers know, sometimes we have trouble with our computers.

I had a problem yesterday, so I called Eric, the 11 year-old next door, whose bedroom looks like Mission Control and asked him to come over. Eric clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem.

As he was walking away, I called after him, "So, what was wrong?"

He replied, "It was an ID ten T error."

I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired, "An, ID ten T error? What's that? I want to know, in case I need to fix it again."

Eric grinned ... "Haven't you ever heard of an ID ten T error before?"

"No," I replied.

"Write it down," he said, "and I think you'll figure it out."

So I wrote down: ID10T

I used to like Eric, that little smart alec ...

# Winter Texan APPRECIATION DAY

at

## Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge



Saturday, February 18th  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Free admission and refreshments.

Call (956) 784-7500.

Tram Rides only \$2.00

Tram Schedule:

9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. 12:15 p.m., 1:30 p.m. & 2:45 p.m.

# FREE!

**CALL**

**956-264-2203**



Have you recently purchased a home here in the Valley?  
 Is your roof more than a few years old and in need of being inspected?  
 Have you experienced roof damage from winds or hail?

That's where we come in to help. RGV Roofing Company has clients throughout the entire Rio Grande Valley from Brownsville to Mission. We service both traditional and manufactured homes.

From commercial to residential,  
*no project is too big or too small for us.*

# ROOFING DONE RIGHT!

## Professional Roofing at Affordable Costs

**Call Us Today to Arrange a FREE Estimate!**

### Sudoku

Every Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically.

Enter numbers into the blank spaces so that each row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

Fill in each square with one digit, using only the numbers one through nine

Numbers cannot repeat within an individual box of nine squares

Numbers cannot repeat down a column

Numbers cannot repeat across a row

		1	3	5	9			
	3	9	1	6		2		5
	7			8		3		1
2	5	6	8		1		3	
		4	7				1	
	1	8			5	6		4
1	6			7	8	9	5	
	4	2		1				6
				9			4	

Sudoku No.: 18236

				6	3	7		4
2	7				9			
	3				5			2
	4					5		9
3	9		6					7
	5	7		4				6
5	6		3			9		
				8		2		
		3	7					5

Sudoku No.: 38857

		5	8	2				6
3								4
					7			5
		7				6		3
					8	2	4	
				9				8
			6	3				
4	2							
	1	9		5				

Sudoku No.: 65176

### Happy Valentine's Day

Tuesday, February 14

Find these words associated with Valentine's Day  
 AFFECTION BELOVED BOUQUET CANDY  
 CARD CHOCOLATE CUPID FLOWERS  
 FRIENDSHIP GIFT HEART KISS LOVE  
 PRESENTS ROMANCE SWEETHEART

O	G	A	F	F	E	C	T	I	O	N	Q	C	T	R
Q	L	C	M	B	B	Z	P	F	T	G	U	U	C	V
V	U	B	H	H	O	U	R	R	F	X	D	P	U	N
R	D	T	M	X	U	F	E	I	I	H	S	I	P	N
S	Z	R	J	H	Q	F	S	E	G	L	F	D	K	A
K	J	A	Y	E	U	C	E	N	A	C	L	E	R	H
V	D	E	Y	A	E	S	N	D	H	A	N	C	W	S
U	R	H	D	R	T	S	T	S	W	D	K	N	V	L
O	A	T	N	T	T	I	S	H	B	E	G	A	W	S
B	C	E	A	E	Q	K	U	I	E	W	R	M	Y	R
D	D	E	C	O	Z	J	C	P	L	U	B	O	Y	E
E	D	W	E	T	A	L	O	C	O	H	C	R	C	W
L	U	S	F	K	W	G	R	Y	V	P	M	A	X	O
Y	D	R	T	E	R	T	E	Z	E	Y	T	L	U	L
P	F	U	V	F	L	F	C	X	D	E	V	O	L	F