

Salvation Army Captains deploy to Atlanta

by Sadie Macias, Public Relations Coordinator

The Commanding Officers, Captains Luis and Laura Melendez of The Salvation Army in McAllen/Hidalgo County are called to serve in Atlanta, Georgia.

Captain Luis Melendez is heading to the Evangeline Booth College as Assistant of Personnel to train the new incoming officers of The Salvation Army and Captain Laura Melendez will be the Assistant Director of Curriculum. Both Captains are ready to serve in their new assignments come June. Their last day in the Rio Grande Valley will be Sunday, June 18th.

The Salvation Army Officers are periodically transferred to different locations, typically every 3-4 years. Captains Luis and Laura Melendez have been leading the McAllen Corps office since 2013 and have touched the lives of many people looking for hope and a fresh new start in life. "It has been a privilege to serve the community of Hidalgo County and discover the opportunities for ministry here," said Captain Luis Melendez. The couple also known as pastors are responsible for all church programs, social services, emergency shelter and Family Thrift Store.

During their assigned stay they have maintained the mission of The Salvation Army, its ministry is motivated by the love of God to

preach the gospel and to meet the human in His name without discrimination.

"We are really going to miss the folks from the community and the relationships we have established during our four years" said Captain Luis Melendez. The couple stated "We look forward to God's new call in Atlanta where we will be training new incoming officers for their call of duty."

The Melendez' will be sent off with a special luncheon following the Sunday services of June 18th. The new officers Captain Stephen and Lt. Bernadette Correira from Texarkana, Texas will be arriving after their departure to take the reins of the ministry serving Hidalgo County and the needs of the community. Many people don't realize that The Salvation Army is a church," said Captain Melendez. "We invite everyone to join us for Worship each Sunday at 11:00 AM, at The Salvation Army, located at 1600 N. 23rd Street, here in McAllen. We look forward to meeting you soon!"

For more information about the programs and services available at The Salvation Army, or to make a donation, please call (956) 682-1468, or go to our website at www.salvationarmytexas.org/mcallen/



Captains Luis and Laura Melendez



DOING THE MOST GOOD™

June is National Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month



When someone thinks about the Food Bank RGV they often think about food drives and collecting canned food. So, it's surprising to know that millions of pounds of fresh produce are collected and distributed to 250 pantries across the Rio Grande Valley to help feed thousands of people.

Being on the border and having access to locally grown produce and imports from Mexico and South America, the Food Bank RGV is able to mitigate food waste and help donors provide a variety of fresh produce to struggling families. In the course of a year, we've been able to get: watermelons, citrus, cabbage, onions, tomatoes, mangoes, spinach, kale, cucumbers and many varieties of fruits and vegetables to Valley families and other food banks in the rest of the country.



Unfortunately, there's a transportation cost to get fresh produce to our pantries and other food banks in the big state of Texas and the rest of the country. With local donations, we will be able to ensure that local distributions are made to cover costs like manpower, fuel and truck upkeep.

Find out more on how you can help feed struggling families with healthier fruits and vegetables today! Visit the Food Bank RGV at 724 N. Cage Blvd., Pharr, Texas or call: 682-8101.

Omar I. Rodriguez, Manager of Communications & Advocacy, can answer your questions online at: omarir@foodbankrgv.com.



June is Adopt A Cat Month

The Valley Spotlight

is published by

Created Images and More

11924 W Business 83

La Feria, Texas 78559

www.RGVaff.com

contact: Rod Graham ... 956-457-8600

rod@RGVaff.com

June 2017 issue Vol. 4 No. 1

© 2017 all rights reserved

Observations On Life by Ben Dover

Be A Sport

How many times did I hear those words when I was a youngster? I have also heard those words again and again while I have gone through the rest of my aging process. What do these words really mean? Well, I guess this is the accepted manner in which one person uses to convince another that they should go along with what has been established as an agreed norm. But if we look at those words, and think for a moment, what is really being said? Then all the rules change.

Do you want to create a child age sport legend? As a child whose bodily structures are in the genesis of formation, care must be considered as an absolute necessity and constant concern. How many of us oldsters have aches and pains that originated in those pre-adult years? We have added physical insults to those muscular systems that are at best delicate. We then assume that all repairs will be accomplished in accordance, along with bodily aging. Well, now we know better.

That body can be slowly or rapidly and effectively destroyed as the result of over stressing areas of delicate containments.

My reason for this short dissertation has been prompted by the viewing of children's sporting events. We as a society feel we must be the winner of any event in which we participate. That means we must exert ourselves to the point of absolute failure, if we want to compete with those who are willing to do so. The learning process we must be willing to perform, teaches that we are only as good as the dangers, hardships and deprivations we are able and willing to bear and execute.

Sporting events for children might appear as cute performances including our desires for watching those little tots do their thing. It must be realized however that we are assigning unnatural and dangerously affective trauma producers on that little body. The level of excellence is the only limiting factor to how massive the effects might be applied.



Stressing a body part especially at a young age of an individual can cause permanent damage to that body, which might not manifest itself for many years. Then, we are the victim of those physical insults created in previous years. It might be added here, that this continuation of physical insults is an absolute guarantee of my concerns as written here. Welcome to the Olympic games. Have a nice day...

The Father of Flag Day

Bernard J. Cigrand was first and foremost an American patriot. From the 1880s through the 1930s, he preached respect and honor for the nation and its flag.

In 1885 Cigrand, still a teenager and only at the beginning of his journey, entered dental college mixing his professional studies with the promotion of the flag.

In June 1886 he made his first public proposal for the annual observance of the birth of the flag when he wrote an article titled "The Fourteenth of June" in the old Chicago Argus newspaper. In June of 1888, at the same time he was graduating first in his class from dental college, Cigrand addressed a Chicago organization known as the "Sons of America". In his speech he emphasized the good that would come from a flag holiday. In response, the organization undertook to publish a magazine called the "American Standard" to inculcate reverence for American emblems, and appointed Cigrand its editor-in-chief. Cigrand's articles in this magazine helped direct public attention to the Flag and the date of its birth.

In the years that followed, Cigrand authored hundreds of other magazine and newspaper articles advocating recognition of the June 14th adoption of the Stars and Stripes.



On the third Saturday in June, 1894, the first general public school children's celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held in Douglas, Garfield, Humboldt, Lincoln, and Washington Parks, with more than 300,000 children participating. These observances were held in the five parks again the next year, also on the third Saturday of June.

In the years that followed, 36 Governors, scores of mayors and five Presidents of the United States sent delegates and credentials agreeing that Flag Day should be observed in all states of the Union on the actual June 14 anniversary of the adoption of the flag.



By 1916 flag ceremonies on June 14 had become so prevalent that President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation establishing Flag Day as an annual national event.

Cigrand died of a sudden heart attack on May 16, 1932.

President Harry S. Truman signed the legislation in 1949 and June 14th was properly designated Flag Day. On June 14th, 2004, the 108th U.S. Congress voted unanimously on H.R. 662 that Flag Day originated in Ozaukee County, Waubesa, Wisconsin.

source: The National Flag Day Foundation



MEN! HAVE YOU HEARD? YOUR MALE PERFORMANCE ISSUES ARE NOT A BIG SECRET ANYMORE!

Have you been embarrassed when the time was right because you just could not perform?

You may have E.D. OR LOW TESTOSTERONE!

If you have Male Performance issues, SO does SHE!

STOP kidding yourself let the experts show you how thousands of satisfied MEN just like YOU have changed their lives. DON'T BE LEFT OUT!

Men from 21-85 are PERFORMING BETTER, LASTING LONGER AND HARDER! FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY THE OFFICE VISIT IS ONLY \$99! HURRY WILL NOT LAST FOREVER. Don't buy Male Performance Medications without trying them first.

Regardless, if you are a DIABETIC OR NOT, you get to try the medication right in the Doctor's office and it works. GUARANTEED!

The medication gives you 30 minutes to 2 hours of FULL MALE PERFORMANCE!

Feel welcomed * Private* Professional Staff with 12 years Experience
2 locations to choose from:

5407 S. McColl Rd, Ste A, Edinburg, TX 78539

4407 N. Expressway 83, Ste 204, Brownsville, TX 78526

www.alphamensclinic.com 956-441-2188



Gerald Sneed: Friend of the Wildlife

By Karen G. Hernandez

If you visit Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, you might see a serene gentleman strolling along the nature trails wearing his khaki vest and binoculars. He may turn around with a nod and a smile, and casually mention, "There are some kiskadees in that huisache tree," or he may point out a buff-bellied hummingbird fluttering around a patch of Turk's cap flowers. Ask anyone on the refuge, whether staff, or volunteer, and they will say that he is one of the nicest people they have ever met.

Seeing him on his daily jaunts, you could not imagine that he is a celebrity among us, a brilliant man with a great talent. He is a professional artist and wildlife nature enthusiast whose passion for our Rio Grande Valley's flora and fauna has manifested into unique and stunning pieces of art. Though he doesn't call himself a "birder", there are few people that have more interest or parallel in knowledge of our local and migrating birds. Gerald Sneed, "Gerry", as we affectionately call him, comes by almost daily for his morning walks and a short chat with his Santa Ana friends. Often, he stops by the Friends of the Wildlife Nature Store located in the refuge's visitor center, occasionally bringing in more of his art or just to say "Hello". His spectacular art pieces, a favorite among tourists, are the highlight of the nature store and sell out rapidly.

Gerry is a retired art director, who after the end of a long, outstanding career in New York City, was searching for something different to do. His art career achievements are impressive. As a recipient of the esteemed Clio Award for creative business, and one who has traveled all over the world creating advertisements for giant companies such as Coca Cola and Buick, one wonders how he landed in our backyard. Looking for a warmer climate, it was 1990 when he made his way down to South Texas and became enchanted with the area. So much so, that he made his home here and was inspired to draw one day while he was visiting the refuge. He was immediately drawn to the beauty of our native thornscrub forests and its inhabitants. With a little note pad in hand, he sat for hours studying the curvature of the tree branches and the complex textures of bark. The intricate patterns and shapes of tiny retama leaves and the way the light played on the sabal palm fronds fascinated him. Later, those simple drawings became the basis of producing magnificent art prints and distinctive designs on souvenir items. When Timothy Brush wrote *Nesting Birds of a Tropical Frontier: the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas*, Gerald Sneed was asked to illustrate the cover with a striking, orange Altamira oriole.

Gerry remembers the early days, when he first encountered a javelina on the Chacalaca trail. "It was such an interesting animal to me, something I had never seen before with its poor eyesight and funny walk." He chuckles as he remembers how he stooped down to observe and draw one that was

hovering around a bush.

The javelina, seeing him in a small crouch, decided that Gerry was a formidable enemy and started his attack. Gerry stood up and the javelina seemed to think better of that and retreated. This back and forth dance between animal and man lasted a little while and Gerry was able to successfully complete his first pen and ink drawing at Santa Ana without a scratch.



Gerry couldn't help but become captivated with the tremendous diversity of colorful migrating birds or variety of native mammal wildlife just waiting to be illustrated. He was able to capture their likeness and their habitats in the pages of a small sketch pad that he kept in his vest pocket. "Something exciting would always happen... a bird would light above me and observe my work. A bobcat would walk right past me as I sat on my stool and sketched, they're bigger than I thought." When asked if he favors a special bird or animal to draw, Gerry says, "No, I find them all fascinating."

In his opinion, the Chacalaca is probably the most difficult for him to draw perhaps because of its changing attitudes and quirky personality. "They kind of look like a chicken and you expect them to act like one, but they don't. They may ignore you and be evasive or they suddenly follow you around on a walk, squawking at you to feed them." For years, he drew and painted them, but Gerry says it was only until recently that he feels that he finally artistically expressed on paper what he was looking for. His stunning rendition of a running Chacalaca can be seen on a note card for sale in the Friends of the Wildlife Nature Store.



The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play.

"Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently. "But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances."

During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up." At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner."



And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!

Though he began with pen and ink in his first years at Santa Ana, he progressed to gouache, opaque watercolor, which was a medium that he was familiar with as his days as an advertising art director. His first T-shirts were hand painted with simple fabric paint and are still in perfect shape today.

Now, he prefers to work with acrylics and oil paints.



It was after years of visiting the refuge that the Friends of the Wildlife Corridor, a non-profit organization that supports Santa Ana NWR, was established and opened its nature store in the visitor center. Gerry was approached to create the organization's first logo and introduce his nature art through the store.

He began with note cards and t-shirts of the more common wildlife found on the refuge. The great demand and regard for his unique artistic style was immediate and visitors asked for more. Consequently, his brightly colored bandanas, outrageously popular bird mugs, and posters of realistic colored bird heads became the most sought after items.



Gerry continues to be inspired and bring in new merchandise. Just this year, he has designed a beautiful canvas tote and pin with the design of three bird heads. His brilliantly, colorful bird t-shirt line has now expanded to include ladies-cut styles and children's sizes. Now, with the addition of an online store located on the Friends of the Wildlife Corridor Website, people from all over the country can order from his line at any time.

Gerald Sneed is more than just an artist, a visitor, or vendor. His years of dedication and love for our local wildlife are a paradigm for us all. He is a man in tune with the nature and beauty of our place depicting the very soul of the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge in the depths of his canvas. This man is its friend.

Jac-Lin's
**FLORIST
& Art Gallery**



Jacque Hull, Owner
jaclins.florist@gmail.com
www.jaclinsflorist.com

1209 Pecan Blvd.
McAllen, TX 78501
800-880-5253 | Fax: 956-686-7035

956-686-5252

True Tales of a Valley Birder

by Mary Beth Stowe (alamoinn@aol.com)

Migration – Still Great In May!

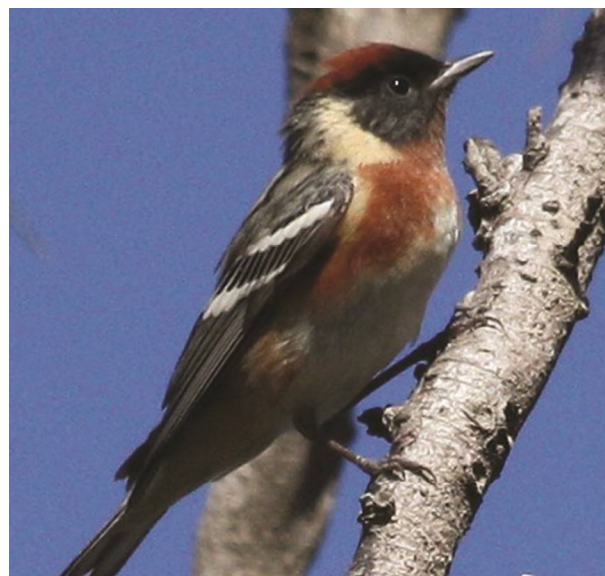
The most popular time to come to the Lower Rio Grande Valley in order to catch spring migration is the last two weeks in April, and not without good reason! One can catch the tail end of the hawk migration (hawk watches generally end around mid-April), shorebirds are coming into their breeding finery, and colorful, fanciful warblers are coming through in good numbers. And because May is such a prime migration month in northern states (such as my native Michigan), most folks think that “the show is over” in the Valley by the end of April.

Not so! In fact, if you check John Arvin’s excellent Birds of the South Texas Brushlands (a bar-coded checklist available from Texas Parks and Wildlife, and downloadable as a PDF file), you’ll see that the peak times for most of the warblers is mid-April through mid-May, and the flycatchers come through primarily during the entire month of May! Other songbirds that reach their peak in early May include Philadelphia Vireo, Veery, and Gray-cheeked and Swainson’s Thrush. And besides many of the common and widespread warblers that are still coming through, the first two weeks of May still offer chances at bagging treasures such as Blue-winged, Golden-winged, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, Black-poll, Cerulean, and Kentucky Warblers, while two species (Mourning and Canada) are primarily May migrants!

Some shorebirds (such as Hudsonian Godwit and White-rumped Sandpiper) focus their passage during May, and many shorebirds are still moving through throughout the month (and are prettier to boot?). Some migrant hawks, such as Mississippi Kite and Swainson’s Hawk, continue well into May, and Black Tern reaches its peak at this time as well. Breeding birds such as Yellow-billed Cuckoo and Groove-billed Ani are much easier to find (Bentsen Rio Grande State Park and Santa Ana NWR are good places to look), and the local Botteri’s Sparrows are beginning to arrive, which can be very tough to find in April; look for them, along with Cassin’s Sparrows, along Old Port Isabel Road, SR 186 (Sacahuistale Flats), Boca Chica NWR, and Palo Alto NHS. Besides the migrants, our specialty species are always around to delight and entertain: Chachalacas are chorusing and chasing each other, and happening upon a family with the adorable youngsters is always a treat!

Many of the more skulky species, such as Long-billed Thrasher and Olive Sparrow, are singing openly and can be much easier to see. While many of the parks quit feeding around mid-March, others continue to stock their feeding stations (e.g., the National Butterfly Center, Quinta Mazatlan, Sabal Palm Sanctuary, and Frontera Audubon Thicket, among others), so the visitor coming to the Valley in early to mid-May can still enjoy the antics of Great Kiskadees, Clay-colored Thrushes, White-tipped Doves, and Green Jays. With the lowering of the water levels in both Santa Ana and Estero Llano Grande, more shorebird habitat is exposed, and the chances of seeing a rare Purple Gallinule are enhanced. On the Island, Scarlet and her volunteers still put out oranges for the hungry birds during fallout conditions, and the boardwalks provide views of nesting Least Bitterns and Common Gallinules, plus lounging Roseate Spoonbills and maybe even a lingering Redhead or two. And there’s always the possibility that a wintering Common Loon or even a Lesser Black-backed Gull may be still hanging around (and speaking of Scarlet, you can always arrange to have her take you out to see the Mangrove Warblers, found nowhere else in the United States, as well as her special dolphins!

Yes, it’s starting to get warm, but no warmer than up north (here it is, mid-May, and I just heard from my friend in Harrisburg, PA, that the high was going to be 90 there...)! Do your birding early in the morning and later in the evening (the latter is a good time to visit the parrot roosts), be sure to “spray up”, take plenty of water, and take advantage of the “siesta”! May is a great time to come to the Valley!



801 Main St. - Alamo, TX 78516

Tel. 956.782.9912

Email: alamoinn@aol.com

www.alamoinnbnb.com

We provide everything needed by birders



*People's Covenant
Church*

800 South Standard
San Juan, Texas 78589
Tel. 956.787.1034

Worship Services
11AM Sundays

Bible Study - English
Sunday 9:30AM

Bible Study - Spanish
Tuesday 7:00PM

*Everyone is
Welcome!*



The Pharmacy Corner

Trino Medina, RPh

Doctors Renaissance Hospital Clinical Pharmacist, CVS Clinical Pharmacist

My fondest memories of summer have always been going to Buhl, Idaho as a migrant farm worker. We would leave in early May and return in late August. I didn't particularly enjoy the hard labor of plowing beets in the fields, but enjoyed the cool days off in the little town. The evenings were always cold even though it was summer.

I can't remember ever being bitten by a bug in Idaho! In contrast, my small town of Alamo, Texas is a different story where you find lots of mosquitoes, bees, wasps, ants, spiders, lice and ticks. The hot South Texas heat makes it a favorable environment for many bugs. It is important to know how to prevent and treat bug bites. Many bites are mild and only require a person taking off the stinger, washing the area with soap and applying a steroid cream like hydrocortisone, sold over the counter. Some people get moderate reactions and require the addition of an oral antihistamine like Benadryl.

Yet others have serious reactions to bug bites with symptoms like swelling of the throat and lips, nausea, respiratory problems, faintness, dizziness, rapid heartbeat, confusion and shock. If you or a family member experiences this you need to seek emergency help immediately. Many adults and children known to have severe allergic reactions to bites fill prescriptions for epinephrine or EpiPen.

My sons and I went hunting at a friends ranch and could not find any deer, but came back infested with ticks. This bug attaches itself to your body and sucks as much blood as it can. We were able to remove them all with tweezers making sure to remove the head portion of the bug. Ticks carry a disease called Lyme disease that is a serious illness transmitted to human hosts. Fortunately my sons and I did not contract it. Lyme disease has three stages starting with a rash around the bite, usually appearing three days to a month after bite.

Secondly, the disease has symptoms such as fever, chills, fatigue, headache and joint and muscle pain. The third stage involves neurological symptoms and arthritis. One of my pharmacist friends almost died when he

went hunting and came back with ticks that infected him with Lyme disease. He ended up at the hospital for a couple of weeks getting antibiotic treatments. He did survive but swears he will never go hunting again! You don't need to avoid an enjoyable pastime, just be smart and wear insect repellent with deet, long sleeves that fit wrists closely, long pants tucked into your socks, and close toed shoes.

Enjoy your summer and don't let the bed bugs bite you!



**GOODING
R.V. CENTER**
PARTS • SALES • SERVICE

1601 E Expressway 83
Mission, TX 78572
(956) 585-4481
www.GoodingRV.com

SALEM
BY FOREST RIVER
TRAVEL TRAILERS

SABRE
FIFTH WHEELS

Quailridge
PARK MODELS



Quailridge Park Models

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



Salem Villa Destination Trailers

Love of Christ ELCA Lutheran Church

**Worship Service
11AM**

Love is our mission

**Please join us for
'Friendship and Coffee' at 10:15
prior to the Service.**

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

**Do You Have A
Mobile Home or Rv
For Rent or Sale?
Advertise it at
WinterTexanInfo.com**

In a trial, a Southern small-town prosecuting attorney called his first witness, a grandmotherly, elderly woman to the stand. He approached her and asked, 'Mrs. Jones, do you know me?' She responded, 'Why, yes, I do know you, Mr. Williams. I've known you since you were a boy, and frankly, you've been a big disappointment to me. You lie, you cheat on your wife, and you manipulate people and talk about them behind their backs. You think you're a big shot when you haven't the brains to realize you'll never amount to anything more than a two-bit paper pusher. Yes, I know you.'

The lawyer was stunned. Not knowing what else to do, he pointed across the room and asked, 'Mrs. Jones, do you know the defense attorney?'

She again replied, 'Why yes, I do. I've known Mr. Bradley since he was a youngster, too. He's lazy, bigoted, and he has a drinking problem. He can't build a normal relationship with anyone, and his law practice is one of the worst in the entire state. Not to mention he cheated on his wife with three different women. One of them was your wife. Yes, I know him.'

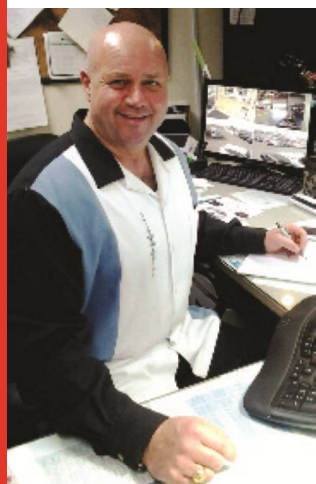
The defense attorney nearly died.

The judge asked both counselors to approach the bench and, in a very quiet voice, said, 'If either of you idiots asks her if she knows me, I'll send you both to the electric chair.'

START YOUR VACATION on the RIGHT TRACK



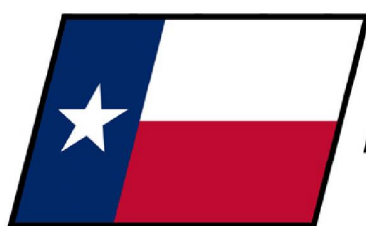
Hit The Road in a NEW 2017 Chrysler Pacifica!



If you are interested in a Chrysler Pacifica and would like more information, I want to encourage you to call me. My name is Big Lew Corya, and I am the Business Development Center / Internet Director here at Burns Motors. I or one of my staff members will do our very best to assist you. Burns Motors has been doing Honest Business since 1948, and we would like to earn yours!

Call me at 844.371.2227 or locally at 984.4433.

**The Rio Grande Valley's
#1 NEW
Chrysler, Dodge, Ram
and Jeep Dealer**



Burnsmotors.com
THE BIG STORE



956-984-4433

Sudoku

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

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

Sudoku No.: 14381

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

Sudoku No.: 31031

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

Sudoku No.: 61753



ELECT

Trinidad
“TRINO”
Medina

FOR CITY OF ALAMO COMMISSIONER PLACE 1

Adelante Alamo!
— The New Vision —

PACHANGA!
MEET THE CANDIDATES

Omni Event Center
106 E. 9th St. Alamo TX.
July 29TH 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm
Entertainment featuring
Country Music by:
Jealous Heart
Tejano Music with:
Ricky Guzman

— The New Vision —

FREE FOOD AND DRINKS



RE-ELECT

Robert
“MAILMAN”
De La Garza

FOR CITY OF ALAMO COMMISSIONER PLACE 3

We Believe That Alamo Has The Potential To Be One Of The Greatest Cities In Texas.

- 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.

- Transparencia En El Gobierno.
- Reducción De Impuestos.
- Mejorar Calles Y Carreteras De Alamo.
- Recaudar Dinero Para Caridad y Becas Escolares.
- Licitaciones Públicas De Libre Competencia.
- Ayuda Para Las Personas Mayores Y Nuestros Veteranos.
- Atraer A Los Winter Texans.
- Desarrollo de Rutas Y Parques de Ciclismo y excursionismo
- Mejorar Los Servicios De Agua Potable Y Desague.
- Reciclaje De Los Residuos Organicos Para Compostas.
- Uso de Energia RENovable En los Edificios Publicos
- Incremento en el Salario Mínimo para todos los empleados de la ciudad.
- Usar la Camara de Comercio para promover los comerciantes locales.
- Mas Areas verdes, Proyectos de Embellecimiento, limpieza de graffiti.

Estamos convencidos que la ciudad de Alamo tiene el potencial de ser Una de las Mejores Ciudades en Texas!

Political Ad Paid For By Candidates | Nellie Medina Treasurer | 809 Ridge Rd. Alamo TX. 78516

A father is one whose daughter marries a man who is vastly her inferior, but then gives birth to unbelievably brilliant grandchildren. ~ Anonymous

Watching your daughter being collected by her date feels like handing over a million-dollar Stradivarius to a gorilla. ~ Jim Bishop

A father carries pictures where his money used to be. ~ Anonymous

For Father’s Day we got my dad a t-shirt that says: “Do not resuscitate.” He wears it whenever my mom takes him to the ballet. ~ Greg Tamblyn

Fatherhood is pretending the present you love most is soap-on-a-rope. ~ Bill Cosby

On Father’s Day, I’m doing something for my dad that he’s wanted for years. I’m getting a job. ~ Melanie White

Remember: What Dad really wants is a nap. Really. ~ Dave Barry



The Grotto

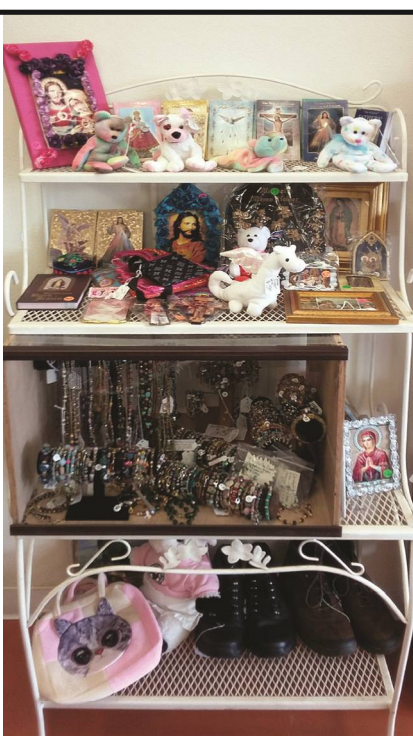
now selling by consignment at
b baydepot and Vintage Store





703 N. 77 Sunshine Strip .. Harlingen, TX
(next to Quips & Quotes)

Open Monday to Saturday ... 956-216-7517
Handmade Jewelry and Religious Articles




Carlos R. Canas

over 35 Years Experience!
Singing Only the Very Best Oldies!
American Standards
Country Classics
50s Rock & Roll
Easy Listening 40's - 70's

AVAILABLE FOR
Dances, Reunions, Ret. Communities
RV Resorts, Dinner Music, Special Events
Weddings, Funerals, Rosaries, Wakes
and Sing-A-Longs
Mornings - Afternoons - Evenings

Call 956-241-1967 to book Carlos for YOUR EVENT TODAY!
Available Statewide Year 'round



It Is Hurricane Season Be Prepared!

Hurricane season lasts from June 1 to November 30.

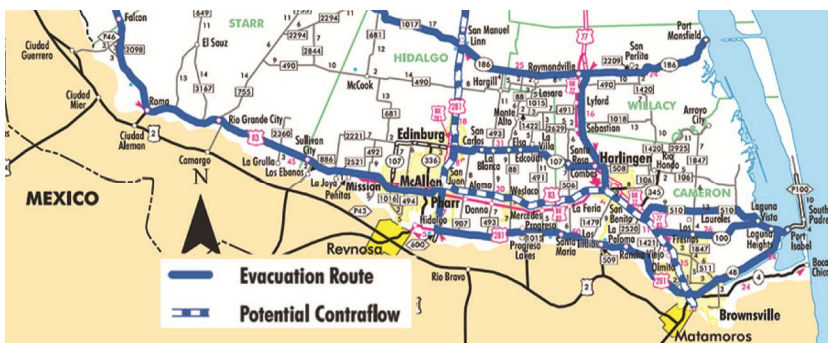
The most extreme weather events on the Texas Coast are hurricanes occurring most frequently in August and September. Hurricanes are capable of killing thousands and destroying coastal towns. Make sure you are prepared for a hurricane by following some simple tips.

Residential:

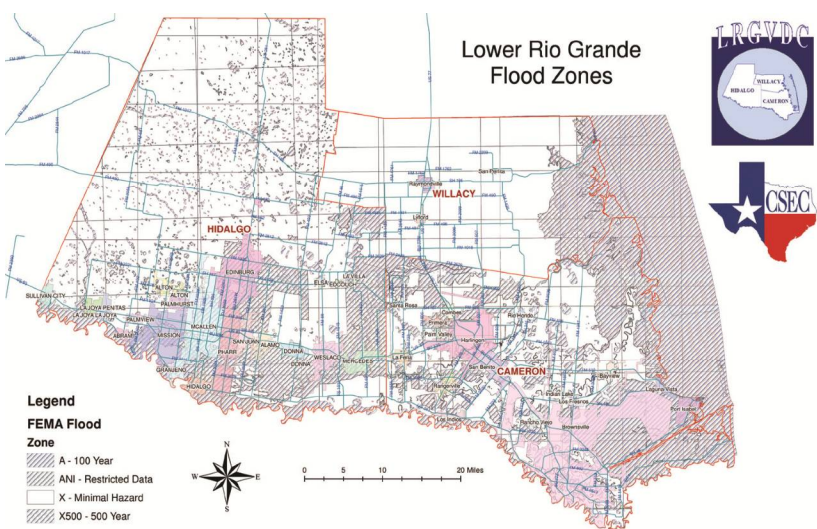
Assess the type of hazards that could affect your residence; storm surge, flooding and wind. Locate a safe room or the safest areas in your home or nearby community for each hurricane hazard. Know the designated hurricane evacuation route for your community, and designate a place where family members can meet up.

Business:

Prepare for a hurricane by writing down and practicing a simple plan. List all major equipment and review which items should be secured, protected or removed. Important business records or back up copies should be removed from the facility. Employees should know how to turn off the electricity, gas and water at their sources.



Become familiar with the evacuation routes nearest you.



Recognize the potential for flooding in your area.

Prepare A Hurricane Survival Kit

Remember, the most important concern when facing a hurricane is your family's safety and well being. Take the necessary steps to insure that your family is ready for such an emergency.

Start early to avoid the rush at home supply stores, grocery stores and other venues which are often crowded and chaotic when hurricanes are predicted.

You should stock these basics for your home:

water, food, first aid supplies, clothing and bedding, tools and emergency supplies.

Keep the items you will most likely need in an easy to carry container such as a large, covered trash container, a camping backpack, or a duffel bag.

Don't forget take important documents with you such as passports, vehicle titles, insurance papers etc., protect them by placing them in watertight containers.

Keep your vehicle's fuel tank full in case you have to evacuate the area.

A Synopsis of the History of Hurricanes in the Rio Grande Valley

October 2, 1867, a hurricane formed in the Gulf of Mexico, off the coast of northeastern Mexico. The hurricane struck Texas, near the mouth of the Rio Grande, and devastated both Brownsville and Matamoros. Most buildings in Brazos Santiago were leveled. Clarksville, two miles inland, was also devastated and shortly later abandoned.



A category 1 hurricane made landfall in Texas between Brownsville and Corpus Christi on September 23, 1886. The hurricane quickly weakened and dissipated over Texas the next day. Landfall was accompanied by record amounts of rainfall. Twenty-six inches fell in Brownsville in three days and winds destroyed 200 houses.



Early on September 5, 1933 a hurricane struck near Brownsville with winds estimated at 125 mph causing heavy damage to the RGV citrus crop. The hurricane left \$16.9 million in damage and 40 deaths in southern Texas. A 13 foot storm surge inundated coastal Cameron County levelling all dunes on South Padre Island.



Category 5 Hurricane Beulah made landfall south of the mouth of the Rio Grande on September 22, 1967. This storm remains the significant storm of record for longtime residents of the Rio Grande Valley and Deep South Texas affecting people from Cameron to Zapata County. In all, Beulah caused 58 deaths and \$217 million in damage.



Hurricane Allen reached its peak of 190 mph winds as it paralleled the south coast of Cuba. As Allen entered the Gulf of Mexico on August 8, 1980 it weakened to a category 4 storm. On its two day journey westward across the gulf Allen re-intensified into a category 5 but abruptly dropped to category 3 just before landfall at Brownsville.



Hurricane Gilbert crossed the Yucatan Peninsula re-emerging into the Gulf of Mexico on September 15, 1988. It made landfall at LaPesca, MX 205 miles south of Brownsville, TX. Impacts on the RGV from this storm included a notable storm surge that flooded South Padre Island, and hurricane force wind gusts to 83 mph, in Coastal Cameron and Willacy County.



On August 23, 1999 Hurricane Bret made landfall in central Padre Island as a Category 3 hurricane with winds of 115 mph. After moving inland, the storm quickly weakened to tropical depression status on August 24. Bret caused relatively little damage however, strong winds left approximately 64,000 people without electricity in South Texas



Tropical storm Dolly emerged over the Gulf of Mexico near Cancun on July 21, 2008. As it traveled northward it gained strength reaching category 2 hurricane status. Hurricane Dolly weakened to cat.1 just before it made landfall at South Padre Island on July 23. Dolly was one of the most damaging hurricanes to affect Texas with \$1.05 billion in damage.



The Rio Grande Valley dodged a tropical bullet on June 30, 2010, as Hurricane Alex slammed into the north central coast of Tamaulipas, Mexico around 100 miles south of the Rio Grande. The Valley was subject to persistent outer feeder bands which brought moderate to strong tropical storm force (39 to 66 mph) winds, heavy rains causing scattered flooding, and embedded tornadoes.



For Kids Only
No matter how old you are!

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

**Happy
Father's
Day**



Color this page and give it to your DAD for FATHER'S DAY - Sunday, June 18

Find the words in this puzzle which describe the Dad you LOVE!

APPRECIATED	Z W B E R W Q A Z E Z F U T L D D L O H
BRAVE	A I V L Z G X G A C O B A N E O J D E I
CARING	F A M B W N G K P A W G Y T G N Y E N H
COMPASSIONATE	Z B A I K I S N P R I W O V N T U S S A
DEPENDABLE	Z D V S P T T O R U S V I P V C P F H N
DEVOTED	Z R R N R A F W E V E D M Q U I W R I D
ENCOURAGING	I V C O O V S L C D H K S U R G H D X S
FUN	W E X P T I Z E I V X Y C A G N U E D O
GENTLE	O X T S E T F D A O Y F T T A I X V E M
HANDSOME	N N K E C O W G T M G I V X P K A A P E
HARDWORKING	D I A R T M I E E U O B H V P R W R E N
INSPIRATIONAL	E B W R I M X A D N S G E Z G O I B N C
KNOWLEDGEABLE	R D Y Z V Q C B A U Z E W T L W U W D O
LOVING	F Z Y Q E A V L C G U N V A N D C I A U
MOTIVATING	U E E P R T A E O T D T N J T R V J B R
PROTECTIVE	L S Y I A E O C R N Z L T R G A H H L A
RESPONSIBLE	D Z N O A U J A C B C E U F H H K V E G
SMART	D G B A C O M P A S S I O N A T E E T I
TENDERHEARTED	M E J S N S D E T R A E H R E D N E T N
UNDERSTANDING	U N D E R S T A N D I N G N L O V I N G
WISER	
WONDERFUL	

Juan Diego Academy Announces Top Academic Honors for Class of 2017

Juan Diego Academy Catholic Regional High School in Mission (JDA) is pleased to announce the Co-Valedictorians and Salutatorian of the Class of 2017. For the first time in its history, there are Co-Valedictorians for the school's graduating class.

The first is Nathaniel Robert Dyer, son of Bob and Christina Dyer of McAllen. Nathaniel began volunteering at Juan Diego Academy with his parents before the school even opened. He then decided to attend JDA so he "could receive an education unlike any other place in the Valley". At JDA, Nathaniel was captain of the Varsity Soccer Team for four years. He also participated in Liturgical Ensemble and Robotics. He served multiple years on Student Council, including two years as Class President and a year as Student Council Treasurer. Nathaniel helped lead multiple school retreats throughout his four years at JDA. He is a member of the National Honor Society and the Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica. Outside of school, Nathaniel plays club soccer for McAllen Dynamo STX, plays piano for the School of Pat Hudsonpillar, and serves as an altar server and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for St. Paul's Catholic Church in Mission, where the Dyers worship. Nathaniel enjoys spending time with his friends and family, participating in youth ministry, and watching movies. Nathaniel will be attending the United States Air Force Academy in the fall, majoring in Aeronautical Engineering. Reflecting on his high school experiences at JDA, Nathaniel says, "Soak it all in, work hard, have fun, and trust in God's plan."

The second Co-Valedictorian is Daniela I. Salinas, daughter of Mr. Juan de Dios Salinas and Mrs. Martha Ofelia Leal of Ciudad Camargo, Tamaulipas. After learning about JDA from her middle school, Immaculate Conception in Rio Grande City, Daniela applied and was accepted into JDA.



Salutatorian **Co-Valedictorian** **Co-Valedictorian**
Mary B. Graham **Nathaniel Robert Dyer** **Daniela I. Salinas**

Daniela is a member of Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica, where she served as President for the founding two years of that organization at JDA. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Club (serving as Treasurer for three years), Gardening Club, and Liturgical Ensemble.

Daniela was recognized as an AP Scholar with Honor by the College Board in spring, 2016. She participated in Quiz Bowl, Soccer, Volleyball, and as a Lector at JDA. She has actively volunteered within her local community and church. Daniela will be attending either The University of Texas at Austin or Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey in the fall and plans to major in Biology.

Daniela states about her high school experience, "Enjoy high school, knowing that it will not be a perfect or smooth ride, but it will be a memorable ride. Do what you love, with the people you love and never have any regrets."

The Salutatorian of the Class of 2017 is Mary B. Graham, daughter of Dr. Franklin Graham and Mrs. Shannon Graham of Mission.

Mary was first introduced to JDA through her mother, who was particularly interested in the school since hearing of its inception. After enrolling there, her activities throughout high school featured participation as captain in the school's Quiz Bowl and Masterminds teams, as well as membership the National Honor Society. Mary was appointed Editor-in-Chief of the Yearbook for two consecutive years. Outside of school, her hobbies include painting, baking, and multiple coding projects.

Mary will attend The University of Texas at Austin in the fall to major in Electrical and Computer Engineering. Reflecting on her high school experience at JDA, Mary says, "The most important memory you can have about high school is how those first steps can impact the rest of your journey."

For more information about Juan Diego Academy and its graduation events contact the school at 956-583-2752.

Coats & Tails



Professional Grooming at Competitive Prices

1615 N. 11½ St. in McAllen (Off Pecan, West of 10th St.)
956-648-2416
Salvador Regalado

Flea & Tick Dip

 Dog Sitting

Bring this ad with you and get a **FREE Flea & Tick Dip** with the purchase of a bath or grooming

"Your Pet's Comfort is Our Priority!"

Paws and Claws Pet Resort

call to arrange a **FREE TOUR** of Our Facilities



990 S. Tower Road ... Edinburg, TX 78542 (956) 384 - 9301
 Mon - Fri, 9 am - 6 pm Sat, 9 pm - 12 Noon ... Sun, 3 pm - 6 pm
 www.pawsandclawsgv.com pawsandclawsedinburg@gmail.com

"It is not what I like, it is what "Sully" the border collie likes. He gets the best of care ..."
"Our dogs always love staying at Paws and Claws ... we appreciate all you do to make them feel so comfortable!"

A Sunday School Teacher asked her pupils some questions. The following dialogue occurred:

"If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into Heaven?" she asked the children. "NO!" the children all answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into Heaven?" Again, the answer was, "NO!"

"Well, then, if I was kind to animals and gave candy to all the children, and loved my spouse, would that get me into Heaven?" she asked them again. Again, they all answered, "NO!"

"Well," she continued, "then how can I get into Heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "YOU GOTTA BE DEAD!"

Mesquite RV Park in La Feria, TX OPEN ALL YEAR!

**UNDER NEW
MANAGEMENT**



**Now Accepting
Permanent Park Models!**
Call us Today about our
MOVE-IN SPECIAL

LOW SUMMER RATES!

As low as \$6.20* PER NIGHT

*Based on minimum 30 night stay (monthly rate = \$185 + electric)

**Families on Vacation
Construction Crews
Medical Professionals
Missionaries**

EVERYONE is WELCOME!

Mesquite RV Park
11924 W Business 83
La Feria, TX 78559

956-357-8686
MesquiteRVpark@yahoo.com
www.MesquiteRVparkTX.com

ADVERTISE IN THE VALLEY SPOTLIGHT

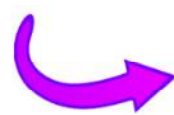
CALL 956-457-8600



Are they finding you?



If your website is not showing up in search results
We Can HELP!



YOUR BUSINESS

Professional Website Analysis and Consultation
956-457-8600

We analyze the design, content and source code of your website, then offer consultation on improvements designed to bring you more customers via the World Wide Web