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Honoring A Local WWII Hero

The Valley Spotlight

**FREE
TAKE ME HOME**

April 2015

The Little Paper You'll Want To Keep & Share

Vol. 1 No. 11

SPRING HAS SPRUNG!

The sun is finally hanging around enough to enjoy. Ample rainfall has encouraged the growth of springtime flowers. It is April. A month which is full of holiday tradition.

Beginning with **April Fool's Day** and ending with **National Honesty Day**. The latter having been established by M. Hirsh Goldberg, former press secretary to a governor of Maryland. Goldberg felt that the month of April, which begins with a big day of lying (April Fools Day), should end on a higher moral note.

Most notable of all April holidays of course, **Easter**, this year on April 5th, celebrates Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead, and is Christianity's most important holiday. I can remember as a young boy getting up before the sun came up on Easter morning and going to church for a sunrise service. Afterwards we would feast on pancakes, bacon and eggs. Then we would head home and my brothers and I would search the house for the hidden baskets full of candy left by *The Easter Bunny*. Even though my father was a Southern Baptist preacher, the two Easter traditions seemed to find their way together in our home.

On April 20th we celebrate **Patriots' Day**. First proclaimed in Massachusetts in 1894 by Gov. Frederic T. Greenhalge. This is a civic holiday commemorating the anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, the first battles of the American Revolutionary War on April 19, 1775.

Although this day is mostly celebrated in New England states, many people across the US observe this day as a day of remembering the brave patriots who fought for our freedom from English rule. This ragged band of farmers and shopkeepers were our first military heroes and are well deserving of the honors we bestow upon them by recognizing their efforts.

Volunteer Recognition Day is also celebrated on April 20. This is a day to honor all volunteers who are working on behalf of others without being motivated by financial or material gain. Be sure to take the time on Volunteer Recognition Day to thank volunteers you know about for their selflessness, and get involved yourself in a volunteer activity or donate to a volunteer group.

American Independence

On April 18, 1775 Paul Revere and William Dawes rode out of Boston about 10 p.m. to warn patriots at Lexington and Concord of the approaching British. At dawn the next day in Massachusetts, about 70 armed militiamen stood face to face on Lexington Green with a British advance guard unit. An unordered 'shot heard around the world' began the American Revolution. A volley of British rifle fire was followed by a charge with bayonets leaving eight Americans dead and ten wounded. In 1983 the American Revolution ended with the signing of The Treaty of Paris. Six years later on April 30, 1789 George Washington became the first U.S.

It Happened in April

President as he was administered the oath of office on the balcony of Federal Hall at the corner of Wall and Broad Streets in New York City.

Early Postal Service

In the American West, the Pony Express service began as the first rider departed St. Joseph, Missouri on April 3, 1860. For \$5 an ounce, letters were delivered 2,000 miles to California within ten days. The famed Pony Express riders each rode from 75 to 100 miles before handing the letters off to the next rider. A total of 190 way stations were located about 15 miles apart. The service lasted less than two years, ending upon the completion of the overland telegraph.

North vs. South

The American Civil War began on April 12, 1861 as Confederate troops under the command of General Pierre Beauregard opened fire at 4:30 a.m. on Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina. After over 500,000 American deaths, the Civil War effectively ended on April 9, 1865 as General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant in the village of Appomattox Court House. Just six days later on April 14, 1865 President Abraham Lincoln was shot and mortally wounded at Ford's Theater in Washington. He died the following morning at 7:22 a.m.

continued on page 11



Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work Day falls on April 23rd this year. Originally established in 1993 by the Ms. Foundation for Women. The intention was to give girls additional direct attention and an insight into work world opportunities available to them. Its popularity quickly sparked interest by the boys, who soon felt left out and were required to go to school for the day, while the girls "got the day off". As a result, the day has turned into "Take Your Son or Daughter to Work Day" in many areas. While this takes away from the original intent to give more attention to adolescent girls, it has become a valuable and popular career day opportunity for girls and boys alike.

On April 27th we honor one of baseball's greatest players ever, Babe Ruth. On April 27, 1947, Babe Ruth attended Yankee Stadium for **Babe Ruth Day**. It was to be the second last time he was at the stadium. In 1946, Babe Ruth was diagnosed with Throat Cancer. Back then, there was not as much treatment as there is today. On this day in 1947, "The Bambino" returned to "The House that Ruth Built" to be honored and true baseball fans across the US continue this tradition to this day.

Operation Fool Knute

by Auntie Kreamsaugen

Several spring times ago, my niece Gina, and her 12-year-old son Lars came for an overnight visit. Gina was 8 ½ months in the family way and as big as a house, she was a great prankster and Knute was always one of her favorite targets. This was good because the next day was April 1st and Knute was always an easy one to get an “April fools” joke on.

The April Fools planning began in secret. “Operation Fool Knute” began the morning of April 1st as the sounds coming from me in the bathroom were unmistakably the “two bucket” disease. Powdering my face to look pale I left the bathroom, looking at Knute and doing my best not to snicker. I moaned, “Knute, you will have to get breakfast for everyone, I am soooo sick.” Knute said, “Ya Kreamsaugen you go back to bed I will take care of everything”.

Knute headed downstairs and part two of “Operation Fool Knute” began. Gina started moaning and carrying on that she was in “labor” and needed help. “Ohhhh, Knute help meeee I am having a baby. “Oof Da I thought...” She is so good at all that carrying on. Groaning and moaning away, there was no response from Knute. Gina called to Lars and said with a wink “Go get Uncle Knute and tell him I need to get to the hospital I am having a baby.” Her moaning continued.



photo by Candis Sommerfeld

Lars bounded down the stairs, but couldn't find Knute in the kitchen, he then heard the shower running and pounded on the bathroom door, “Uncle Knute! Uncle Knute! Come quick! Mom's having a baby!!” Lars ran upstairs and joined his mom and me, All Huddled together we tried not to giggle as Gina moaned even louder!

Knute came running, as he reached the top stairs we shouted “April Fools!!!” but I am not sure who was more surprised; Knute or us, There he stood ... Dripping wet with only a towel around him. Realizing Gina was not in labor and Kreamsaugen did not have the flu he said, “I'll show you April Fools!”

You've heard the phrase “Madder than a wet hen”, Well Knute was Madder than a wet rooster!!!! He chased after us snapping us with his towel. Lars high-tailed it out the backdoor. And Gina and I locked ourselves the bathroom. All laughing and panting at “Operation Fool Knute” gone bad.

Knute began to simmer down, and I turned to Gina and said, “I almost forgot what it was like to be chased by a naked man!” “Ya” said Gina “For me it has been at least a week!!!”

Till next time

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If you purchased a DVD of Auntie Kreamsaugen's 2015 Show there is a possibility that you received the wrong video. Please visit www.auntiekreamsaugen.com for details or call 956-457-8600

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True Tales of a Valley Birder

by Keith Hackland (alamoinn@aol.com)

The Yturria Brand at El Canelo Ranch

Who could have predicted that the Valley would have developed the way it has done today? Probably only Francisco Yturria, the patriarch of the Valley.

It was his astute business acumen that opened this area to settlement and commerce, and developed the large ranches that launched the economy on the back of cattle ranching.

Francisco Yturria ran the first banking business, was de facto realtor for land purchases by the large ranches (Yturria, King, Kennedy), and was the key backer bringing the railroad here, all accomplished over 100 years ago. Today his legacy is shared by his descendants, and benefits everyone who lives here.

While he anticipated much of the Valley's development, could Francisco Yturria have foreseen the popularity and value of birding tourism, here? Probably not. He left that to one of his descendants, Monica Burdette.

Monica and husband Ray Burdette run

El Canelo Ranch, a piece of the original Yturria Ranch. There, typical of Francisco Yturria's brand of business, they operate a diversified conservation ranch, running cattle, breeding genetically improved White-tail Deer, offering exclusive high end hunting, all topped off with exclusive birding.

See www.elcaneloranch.com

In 1989 Monica opened The Inn at El Canelo on their El Canelo Ranch in Kenedy County, just North of Raymondville. Monica is a pioneer. Hers is the first and oldest Birding Bed and Breakfast in the Valley.

El Canelo Ranch is known as the home of the Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl in South Texas, when a pair nested year after year in the garden at the Inn. Birders flocked to the ranch to see it, and Monica demonstrated to the world the economic value to a land owner of caring for a rare species and sharing it with others who care. Birding fees of \$35 per person are typical for short stay ranch birding. That pair of owls was viewed by many thousands of birders. Do the math and figure if caring and sharing birds makes financial sense to land owners.

Not only does El Canelo protect its birds and bucks, it also protects rare plants found in the pastures. El Canelo Ranch was amongst the very first in the Valley decades ago to invite a birder and a botanist to catalogue the species on the ranch and to seek out rare species.

Photo by Steve Sinclair
White-tailed Hawk



This work resulted in the discovery on El Canelo Ranch of a new spurge (a small herb) plant species previously unknown to science.

The El Canelo Ranch bird list and plant list is available for visitors. It has been my privilege to visit El Canelo Ranch and to guide birders there. Here one can see the birds of South Texas living their lives as they always have, across the vast ranchlands of South Texas.

Monica is an amazing gourmet cook, having studied in France and elsewhere. She produces delicious sumptuous spreads for the Inn's guests. This month she has published her first cookbook, The Inn at El Canelo Cookbook. It offers her secrets to her unique brand of South Texas cooking on its 216 pages, interspersed with stories and ranch photos introducing each food section.

Bon appetit. Good birding.



Photo by Steve Sinclair
Crested Caracara

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ATTENTION TEACHERS!

Do you have students who have written essays that you would like to see featured in The Valley Spotlight?

If so, email your request for submission to crimages1@yahoo.com for consideration.

My Friend Freddy

by James Marvell

Freddy Fender and I hit it off immediately back in the early 70s when I was traveling Texas doing shows with the duo, Country Cavaleers. Buddy Good and I (The Cavaleers) had the opportunity to perform with Freddy on shows thanks to our agent John Centinaro who had us booked through The Buddy Lee Agency out of Nashville.

Freddy and I got along well because, being of spanish descent myself we carried on some interesting conversations. We discussed everything from our belief in God to the entertainment industry.

My first experience with Freddy was when he had me baby sit his guitar in San Antonio. We were booked at a show called The River Festival. I guarded that guitar with my life! Another memory was in 1974 when Buddy Good and I were entertaining in Toledo Ohio at The Country Palace, a major country night club. Buddy was in the middle of an impersonation of Freddy singing "Before The Next Teardrop Falls" the crowd started cheering and applauding! We thought it was for us. As they got louder and louder, I whipered to Buddy over the noise "man they love you!" What was really happening ... Fender made a guest appearance from the back of the club, grabbed a microphone and started singing his hit! There we stood in amazement as Freddy took the song over. Freddy was somewhat of a joker and this showed us he really did like The Country Cavaleers.

I still remember the night in Ohio when we



James Marvell with Dr. Eugenio Garza (Freddy Fender's 1st cousin) and Jose Luis Mendez (Fender's brother) at The Freddy Fender Museum

had gone to a Freddy Fender performance. He acknowledged us from the stage and later that night we got together and went out on the town.

All of a sudden I noticed that Fender had vanished and that concerned me because it was nearing 3 am and he just left, taking off to the streets to sight see. Buddy and I felt that we should look for him in case of any danger or problem that might arise.

We found him a while later with a group of folks having a great time. I encouraged Freddy to come with us as we drove up. He let me know that he loved being there with the people and that he loved them. Naturally, I was concerned, after all this was Freddy Fender with the hottest song in the world at the time!

Today, in 2015 I have just released a bilingual song titled "Flower Of My Life" (Flor De Mi Vida). This is a song I wrote over 40 years ago with Buddy Good. It's a song that Freddy Fender was interested in recording himself.

He would often tell me that he loved the song and had plans to do it. I'm happy to report that as I write this on March 8th 2015, Colt Records

Two sisters, one blonde and one brunette, inherit the family ranch. Unfortunately, after just a few years they are in financial trouble. In order to keep the bank from repossessing the ranch they need to purchase a bull so that they can breed their own stock.

The brunette balances their checkbook, then takes their last \$600 out west to where a man has a prize bull for sale.

Upon leaving, she tells her sister, "When I get there, if I decide to buy the bull, I'll contact you to drive out and haul it home."

The brunette arrives at the man's ranch, inspects the bull and decides she does want to buy it. The man tells her that he can sell it for \$599, no less. After paying him, she drives to the nearest town to send her sister a telegram to tell her the news.

She walks into the telegraph office, and says, "I want to send a telegram to my sister telling her that I've bought a bull for our ranch. I need her to hitch the trailer to our pick-up truck and drive out here so we can haul it home."

The telegraph operator explains that he'll be glad to help then adds, "It's just 99 cents a word".

Well, after paying for the bull, the brunette only has \$1 left. She realizes that he'll only be able to send her sister one word. After thinking for a few minutes, she nods, and says, "I want you to send her the word, 'comfortable'".

The telegraph operator shakes his head. "How is she ever going to know that you want her to hitch the trailer to your pick-up and drive out here to haul that bull back to your ranch if you send her the word, 'comfortable'?"

The brunette explains, "My sister is blonde. She'll read it slowly."

out of Nashville tells me that "Flower Of My Life" is being sent to several thousand radio stations around the world and is already showing up at www.indieworldcountry.com, a leading worldwide chart out of Nashville, TN.

Freddy Fender was everybody's friend. I really believe the world loved him and I became a witness to that during the years I knew him. Recently I met his brother Jose Luis Mendez and his first cousin Dr. Eugenio Garza through Rey Avila (founder of the Texas Conjunto Hall of fame and Museum) at The Freddy Fender Museum in San Benito, TX. They brought back the feeling I once felt being around Fender. They treated me super and made time for me as we reminisced about their superstar relative Freddy Fender, a true music legend.

Freddy's brother Jose reminded me this week that Freddy was one to never give up. Jose sees that same ingredient in me. I'm thankful that I'm that way, even now over 40 years later and proud to follow in the footsteps of one of my all time music heroes, Freddy Fender.

(Search Youtube for -
Freddy Fender memories by James Marvell)



Miss Mexico Endorses James Marvell's song!
Yolanda De La Cruz (Miss Mexico 1985)

A Bit Of HUMOR



Adam was walking around the garden of Eden feeling very lonely, so God asked him, "What is wrong with you?"

Adam said he didn't have anyone to talk to.

God said that He was going to make Adam a companion and that it would be a woman.

He said, "This person will gather food for you, cook for you, and when you discover clothing she'll wash it for you. She will always agree with every decision you make. She will bear your children and never ask you to get up in the middle of the night to take care of them. She will not nag you and will always be the first to admit she was wrong when you've had a disagreement. She will never have a headache and will freely give you love and passion whenever you need it.

Adam asked God, "What will a woman like this cost?"

God replied, "An arm and a leg."

Then Adam asked, "What can I get for a rib?"

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Everyone has a story.

At The Mackie Clinic, we have cared for many patients in the Rio Grande Valley, but each patient is unique. Today, we'd like to introduce you to Tiburcio.

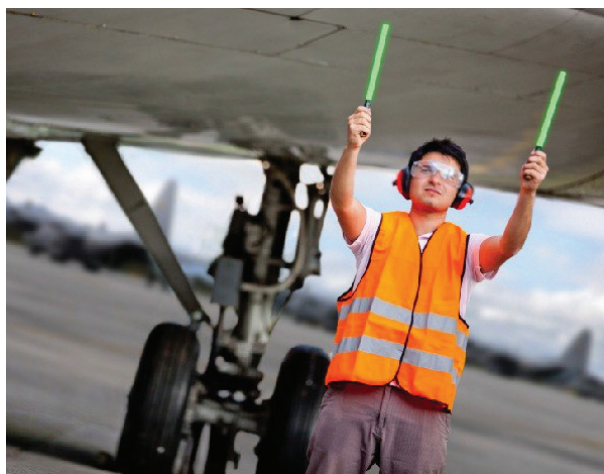
Tiburcio has served in the Air Force and is a retired 6th grade mathematics teacher. He enjoys gardening and making his home beautiful and loves to spend time outside in the mornings before the heat of the day starts. Tiburcio spends most of his time with his wife, Oralia and stays in contact with family.

Despite loving to speak and keep up with his family's life, Tiburcio had been experiencing some problems with communicating with his loved ones. He would get lost in the conversation when he couldn't hear his own voice.



Oralia began having to repeat herself to make sure that Tiburcio heard her. When Tiburcio's sister called him, he was shouting into the phone without realizing it. Tiburcio admitted to himself that he had a hearing problem and took steps to fix it.

Many people who have worked in loud industrial environments may have some hearing loss. During his time in the Air Force he'd worked next to large jets and bombers like the B-52 and he thinks that



during his service there were times when hearing protection wasn't available in the moment and that certainly could cause hearing loss.

Tiburcio went to a local hearing aid specialist, where he got his first pair of hearing aids. But unfortunately, they broke. The specialist honored the warranty, and they were repaired once. After the second break, Tiburcio was told he must pay out of pocket. He didn't want to keep paying for equipment that would break.

A sister-in-law told Tiburcio about the service she received at The Mackie Clinic and she recommended he visit the clinic. Tiburcio made an appointment with our hearing aid specialists and came to the clinic.

Tiburcio said he received excellent service from the team. His favorite part of his Mackie Clinic visit was that the specialists took time to listen to his

individual situation and explained how to operate and maintain his new hearing aids.

After his visit at The Mackie Clinic, Tiburcio can hear great. In the past, when Tiburcio was on the phone, he would have to shout because he didn't hear himself. No longer was he getting lost in the conversation because he couldn't hear his own voice. He was back in the dialogue of family gatherings and his wife, Oralia, didn't have to repeat herself.

Tiburcio now feels more comfortable conversing, speaks clearly and responds immediately.

If Tiburcio's story reminds you of a loved one's or your situation, please call The Mackie Clinic. We have helped thousands of patients across the Rio Grande Valley with their allergy, sinus and hearing symptoms. Our professional staff would be happy to assist you.



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“A Good Attitude Is Priceless, Keep Smiling” ... Martin Beilke

by Rod Graham

Martin Beilke is the oldest member of Love of Christ Lutheran Church in Weslaco, TX. On April 20th, 2015 he will celebrate his 100th birthday!

I recently had the pleasure of visiting with Martin in preparation for this article. With amazing clarity, for a man almost 100 years old, he recounted some of the memories of his life.

Martin was born in a chicken coop on April 20th 1915 in Embden, North Dakota. “It wasn’t actually being used as a chicken coop at the time of my birth” he said with a chuckle, “it was a building that my family was living in temporarily while they were building a house. After the house was finished my birthplace was converted to a chicken coop.”

Edwin and Emma Beilke had 8 children, 5 boys and 3 girls, of which Martin was the oldest.

When the United States entered World War II, Martin and his brother Albin were inducted into the US Army Infantry. They served alongside each other in the South West Pacific theatre including time spent on Guadalcanal. They were both assigned to the

164th Infantry Division. It was their responsibility to supply soldiers with food, ammunition and other necessities.

While performing this duty one day the unit that they were delivering to was under attack by a Japanese sniper. The sniper had wounded or killed several US soldiers when Martin and Albin arrived. One of the casualties was the driver of a jeep used to transport the wounded soldiers to a nearby field aid station. The lieutenant in charge of the area gave Martin the order to take over the job of driving the jeep.

Martin told me that he had never driven a jeep before but he did as he was ordered and loaded the jeep with wounded and started out to the aid station.

“The sniper was shooting at the jeep as I took off for the aid station” Martin said, “bullets were hitting the ground all around me but I just kept going. The area was hilly so I’d go up one hill and down another until I crested a hill and saw the aid station. It was out in the open, just a place where medics were doing what they could for the wounded until they

could be transported to Naval hospital ships.”

Martin continued, “I unloaded the wounded from the jeep and headed back to pick up more. I made several trips back and forth. When I arrived back at the battle front I learned that my brother Albin and a fellow infantryman Jim Finlan had tracked down and killed the Japanese sniper.”

Many lives were saved as a result of Martin and Albin’s actions on that day.

After being discharged from the US Army in 1945 Martin returned to North Dakota where he soon married his wife of 63 years, Viola. They moved to the St. Paul, MN area where he took a job repairing industrial air conditioning and heating units. Martin told me, “It was a hard job in the winter months because the heating units were placed on the rooftops of buildings.

They were just out in the open with no protection from the cold winter winds. One day, I came home and told Viola that I wanted to move as far south as we could to where it was warm in the winter.” Viola agreed and the couple headed south eventually stopping in Brownsville, Texas. They looked around the area and decided that Llano Grande in Mercedes was where they would make their new home.

They joined the Love of Christ Lutheran church in Weslaco where Martin is now the oldest member. Sadly, Viola passed away a few years ago.

Love of Christ honored Martin with a celebration in 2007 when he was belatedly awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor as a result of his actions during his military service.

Now as his 100th birthday approaches, Love of Christ Lutheran Church salutes its oldest member and says “THANK YOU for your service to our country!”



Transporting wounded soldiers by jeep was a dangerous assignment on Guadalcanal. The terrain was rough and hilly. Japanese snipers had plenty of cover in the dense jungles.



The story on this page is just one of hundreds of thousands of stories that could be told of men and women who have served bravely in the service of our country.

It is with deep gratitude and sincere appreciation that we here at The Valley Spotlight salute each and every one of you and say **THANK YOU FOR BEING THERE FOR US!**

Love of Christ ELCA Lutheran Church

Worship Service
11AM



Holy Week Services:

Maundy Thursday
April 2nd .. 4:00 pm

Good Friday
April 3rd .. 12:00 pm

Easter Sunday
April 4th .. 11:00 am

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Groundbreaking for RGV PAWS: Pet Adoption & Wellness Services

by Rebeca Villanueva

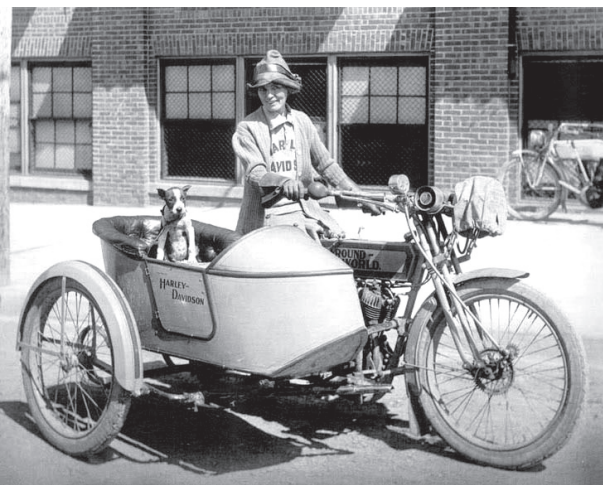
On Tuesday, March 24, 2015 Palm Valley Animal Center hosted a Groundbreaking Celebration for RGV PAWS: Pet Adoption & Wellness Services at 2541 U.S. 281, Edinburg, TX 78541.

Mr. Tim Ousley, PVAC Executive Director, Mr. Ramiro Garza Jr., Edinburg City Manager, and Mr. Bob Simpson, Boultinghouse Simpson Gates Architecture, addressed an overflowing crowd that included local municipality representatives, donors, PVAC volunteers, media outlets, and supporters.

Over the last two years the PVAC Board of Directors, Staff, and Community Leaders have been working toward reaching the goal of raising roughly \$3,000,000 to build RGV PAWS, a limited intake (no-kill) animal center in Edinburg. PVAC is over half way to their goal and they kicked off construction with the Groundbreaking Ceremony.

“To our knowledge RGV PAWS is the only animal adoption center that is located on the same site as a school and a Boys & Girls Club. We want to encourage those who are interested in receiving information and updates about RGV PAWS and/or Naming Opportunities to please contact us.” Tim Ousley, PVAC Executive Director.

RGV PAWS will increase adoptions, expand educational opportunities, enlarge the Foster and Volunteer Programs, and improve the overall welfare of companion animals in the Rio Grande Valley. RGV PAWS will become a gathering place for animal lovers and be instrumental in turning the tide of abandoned and unwanted companion animals, beginning first in Hidalgo County. RGV PAWS: Pet Adoption and Wellness Services will be a 28,000+ sq. ft. facility with state-of-the-art kennels for puppies, kittens, dogs, and cats; a veterinarian suit including surgical facilities with in house spay and neutering; community educational classrooms and resources using multi-media; resources to support volunteers, especially children and youth; dedicated outdoor family recreational and educational areas; memorial areas to commemorate beloved



Della Crewe

Della was a woman, who along with her dog in the sidecar, decided to ride her Harley, from Waco, TX to the big city of New York.

With lots of stops in between, this lady handled the 1914 V-Twin, and toured the back roads (the ONLY roads at the time) of this great nation.



4TH Annual Hogs For Dogs: Rescheduled

Due to the extreme weather conditions Palm Valley Animal Center is rescheduling the **4th Annual Hogs for Dogs** to take place on **Saturday, April 11, 2015** from 11am - 4pm at Desperado Harley-Davidson 1201 S Bentsen Rd. - McAllen.

Palm Valley Animal Center has received great support from motorcycle enthusiast, which culminates with Hogs for Dogs.

The ThunderHorse Hog Chapter is hosting the 4th Annual Hogs for Dogs and this years event is looking to be the best yet!

Hogs for Dogs has become an event that the motorcycle enthusiasts, animal lovers, and the community in general looks forward to each year.

All proceeds goes towards our future no-kill facility RGV PAWS!

Come join the fun while we raise money for the homeless animals in the Rio Grande Valley!

“We want to thank our sponsors, volunteers, and organizers for their ongoing support and we can’t wait to see everyone on **Saturday, April 11!**”

Margot McClelland
PVAC Director of Development.



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(Off Pecan, West of 10th St.)
956-648-2416 Linda Utberg



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

pets; and a public access dog park. RGV PAWS was designed in consultation with national animal care experts and with the help of Boultinghouse Simpson Gates Architecture.

If you would like more information about RGV PAWS or if you are interested in being an RGV PAWS Donor, please contact Tim Ousley, Executive Director, at 2501 W Trenton Rd-Edinburg, TX, call (956) 686-1141, Ext. 30, or email tim@pvaonline.com. Remember our website is open 24/7, www.pvaonline.com.

About:

Palm Valley Animal Center is a private, non-profit organization where we believe “It takes a community effort. Please, spay & neuter your pets”. Founded 1982 in McAllen, Texas, the Center provides services for more than 750,000 people throughout Hidalgo County and thousands of animals annually through adoptions, educational and rescue programs both onsite and throughout the community.

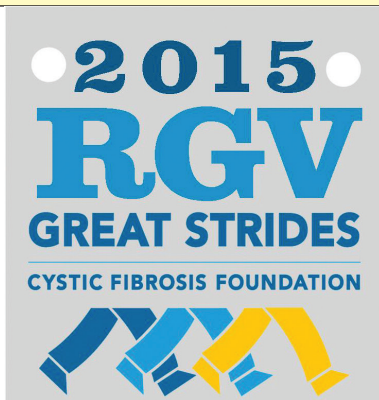
YOU CAN HELP!!

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Lone Star Chapter is proud to announce the 8th annual Great Strides RGV 5K Run/1.2 Mile Walk scheduled for Saturday April 11, 2015 at the UTPA Wellness and Recreational Sports Complex. The Lone Star Chapter serves The Rio Grande Valley and South Texas. Everyone is encouraged to attend with check-in starting at 8 am and the event starting at 9 am. There is a \$15.00 fee for all participants 13 years old and over. Those contributing \$25.00 or more qualify for an event t-shirt. The fastest male and female runners in 5 different age categories from under 13 to over 50 will receive recognition. There will be door prizes and giveaways.

On-line registration is encouraged at www.cff.org/chapters/lonestar/greatstrides

Cystic Fibrosis (CF), a genetic disease for which there is no cure, affects the lungs, pancreas, and digestive system. It is the most common inherited condition among Americans of northern and western European ancestry, affecting some 30,000 people. One in thirty Americans is an unknowing symptomless carrier of the defective CF gene. A child of two carrier parents has a 1-in-4 chance of inheriting CF. The gene responsible for CF was identified in 1989 and Texas began including CF as part of its newborn screening in 2010.

The CF Foundation receives no direct federal funding, which is why fundraisers like this



5K Run / 1.2 Mile Walk
Sat. April 11, 2015

UTPA WELLNESS & RECREATIONAL SPORTS COMPLEX
Fee: \$15 · Check - in: 8 AM · Walk: 9 AM
JOIN THE FIGHT! REGISTER AT:
www.cff.org/chapters/lonestar/greatstrides
Awards for Winners, Door Prizes, Giveaways
Those who raise over \$25 will receive an event t-shirt (while supplies last)



annual RGV Great Strides walk and fun run event are so important.

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation provides a lifeline to potential therapies by funding promising scientific research, medical and education programs including a nation-wide network of 115 CF care centers. Already their work has increased the life expectancy of CF patients to 37+ years; more than double what it was 25 years ago. In 2012, the first drug that targets the underlying genetic cause of CF, Kalydeco, was approved by the FDA.

This drug only helps a small subset of the overall CF patient population but its creation represents an important first step for other similar kinds of treatments currently in development.

Since nearly 90 cents of every dollar raised supports the mission of the CF Foundation to find a cure, every dollar really counts and makes a huge difference.

There are many ways in which you or your company can help: by forming a team and encouraging fundraising, by giving a monetary donation or corporate sponsorship, by providing an in-kind donation such as coupons, gift cards, door prizes or by volunteering before, during or after the event.

For more information, call Ana Escobar at 956-254-7233.

From the Doctor's Desk

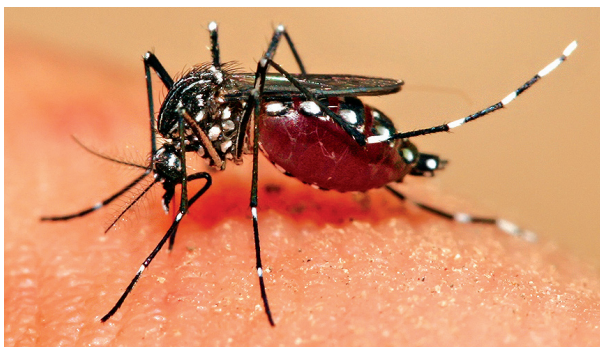
by Dr. Audrey Jones, D.O.

Dengue Fever

The wonderful rain has been excellent for all the beautiful tropical plants in our gardens, but it also brings with it a risk of a painful possible deadly infection. When water collects and stands undisturbed mosquitos can begin to breed.

The aedes aegypti mosquito carries the virus for Dengue Fever; it has white markings on its legs. There are four related viruses carried by mosquitos that can cause Dengue Fever. Symptoms of Dengue Fever are high fevers, headaches, pain behind the eyes, muscle aches and pains, rash and mild bleeding. These symptoms can occur four to ten days after you are bitten by an infected mosquito. If you have been bitten by mosquitos and have these symptoms seek medical care as soon as possible.

There are no antibiotics for Dengue Fever and patients need supportive care.



IV fluids, medications for fever and pain may also be necessary for treatment. Dengue Fever may advance to Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever which could result in bleeding in the abdomen and the lung spaces.

Patients who have Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever need to be hospitalized and receive aggressive care to treat shock symptoms.

The best treatment for Dengue Fever is prevention. After these great rains, you should take a tour of your garden and insure all the standing water in your

FREE Flea & Tick Dip

with the purchase of a

Bath or Grooming

Coats & Tails

Professional Dog Grooming
at Competitive Prices

956-648-2416

1615 N. 11½ St. in McAllen
(Off Pecan, West of 10th St.)



coupon must be presented at time of appointment

garden is drained to eliminate places where mosquitoes can breed in your yard.

Check old tires for standing water and empty them. Check other containers that may hold water and make sure they are drained. Mosquitos like to bite at dawn and dusk. If you are going to work outside then use an insect spray with DEET in it to keep the mosquitos away from you. While you are outside wear long sleeves and long pants.

The Grotto in San Benito

1801 West Expressway 83 (3rd House Down from The Longhorn)

Spiritual Gifts That Help Focus Our Attention on Jesus Christ The Savior Of The World Bibles, Rosaries, Prayer Cards, Novenas, Children's Books, Medals, Divine Mercy, Pamphlets, Crosses, Necklaces, Rings, Italian Made Religious Articles, Handmade Religious Wooden Niches, Handmade Decade Rosaries ...

We can also order any item from our supply companies that sell thousands of items for weddings, quinceneras, funerals, anniversaries, prayer groups & religious conferences Come visit our Grotto built in 1953-54 .. The 1st Marian Year instituted by Pope Pius XII.

Come Shop, Stay & Pray

First Communion Gifts NOW IN STOCK ..

TRUNK SHOWS AVAILABLE FOR RV RESORTS and PRAYER GROUPS

CALL 956-241-1967 .. Bring this ad for a 10% discount off your purchase!



For Kids Only
No matter how old you are!

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

The Easter Lily

“Consider the lilies how they grow:
they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you,
that Solomon in all his glory was not
arrayed like one of these” (Luke 12:27)

According to pious legend,
after Jesus’ death and resurrection,
some of these beautiful flowers were found growing
in the Garden of Gethsemane,
where Jesus went to pray the
night before His crucifixion.
Legend has it that these flowers sprung up where
drops of Jesus’ sweat fell as he prayed.



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

Find these words
associated with Easter:

CHOCOLATE

CANDY

DYE

EGGS

FLOWERS

HUNT

LILY

SPRING

SUNDAY

TULIPS

It Happened in April (continued from page 1)

Human Tragedies

On April 27, 1865 the worst steamship disaster in U.S. history occurred on the Mississippi River, as an explosion aboard the Sultana killed nearly 2,000 passengers, mostly Union soldiers who had been prisoners of war and were returning home.

The San Francisco Earthquake struck on April 18, 1906 at 5:13 a.m., followed by a massive fire from overturned wood stoves and broken gas pipes. The fire raged uncontrollably for three days resulting in the destruction of over 10,000 acres of property and 4,000 lives lost.

The luxury liner Titanic sank with 2,224 persons on board. at 2:27 a.m. on April 15, 1912. Over 1,500 persons drowned while 700 were rescued by the liner Carpathia which arrived about two hours after Titanic went down.

At Waco, Texas, the compound of the Branch Davidian religious cult burned to the ground on April 19, 1993. There were 82 persons inside, including 17 children. The fire erupted after federal agents battered buildings in the compound with armored vehicles following a 51-day standoff.

At 9:02 a.m. on April 19, 1995 a massive car-bomb explosion destroyed the entire side of a

nine story federal building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 persons, including 19 children inside a day care center. A decorated Gulf War veteran was later convicted for the attack.

The deadliest school shooting in U.S. history occurred in Littleton, Colorado on April 20, 1999. Two students armed with guns and explosives stormed into Columbine High School at lunch time then killed 12 classmates and a teacher and wounded more than 20 other persons before killing themselves.

Civil Rights

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King was shot and killed by a sniper on April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee. Dr. King is best remembered for his *I Have a Dream* speech delivered at the 1963 Civil Rights March on Washington. Just one week later on April 11, the Civil Rights Act of 1968 was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson. The law prohibited discrimination in housing, protected civil rights workers and expanded the rights of Native Americans.

The Space Race

Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first human in space on April 12, 1961. He

traveled aboard the Soviet spacecraft Vostok I to an altitude of 187 miles (301 kilometers) above the earth and completed a single orbit in a flight lasting 108 minutes. The spectacular Russian success intensified the already ongoing Space Race between the Russians and Americans. Twenty-three days later, Alan Shepard became the first American in space. This was followed in 1962 by President Kennedy's open call to land an American on the moon before the decade's end.

Apollo 13 was launched from Cape Kennedy at 2:13 p.m. on April 11, 1970. Fifty-six hours into the flight an oxygen tank exploded in the service module. Astronaut John L. Swigert saw a warning light that accompanied the bang and said, "Houston, we have a problem here." Swigert, James A. Lovell and Fred W. Haise then transferred into the lunar module, using it as a "lifeboat" and began a perilous return trip to Earth, splashing down safely on April 17th.

The first space shuttle flight occurred on April 12, 1981 with the launching of Columbia with astronauts John Young and Robert Crippen aboard. Columbia spent 54 hours in space, making 36 orbits, then landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

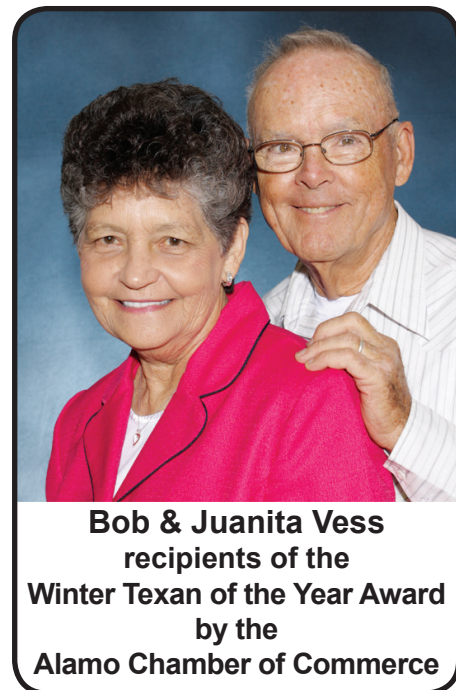


Lots of folks are hitchin' up their wagons and pullin out.

It's that time of year when the Valley quiets down a bit. The restaurants and shopping centers are less crowded. The highways and biways don't have as many out of state license plates. Our Winter Texan friends are bidding us a farewell and hittin' the roads.

The Magic Valley says "Happy Trails 'til we meet again!" Whether you are headed home or just off to the next rendezvous, we wish you safe travels and good weather. We look forward to seeing you again.

PS: Bring your friends back with you!



Bob & Juanita Vess
recipients of the
Winter Texan of the Year Award
by the
Alamo Chamber of Commerce

For Those of You Who Are Hanging Around ...

IT'S TIME TO PARTY!

Many RV/Mobile Home Resorts continue having activities throughout the Spring and Summer.

Here are some activities that have been sent in to be posted:

Social Hour with Diego

Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month
3:00 to 4:30 pm ... Pass the hat. Homemade chili, hot dogs, nachos popcorn and soft drinks available.
more info .. 952-200-8646.
Siesta Village
2712 S. International Blvd.
Weslaco

Open Variety Jam

Every Friday at 12:30 pm
featuring our New Summer Band
April 3 through Oct. 30, 2015
No lunch service, but refreshments are available at break
Jam Director is Charlie Cassidy
more info .. 956-464-2272
Casa del Sol MH/RV Park
400 N Val Verde Rd. - Donna

Summer Country Jam

Every Monday at 5:30pm
Last jam is 9/28/2015
more info .. 605-321-5627
Enchanted Valley Ranch
7300 Monroe Street
Mission



If your resort has Spring and Summer activities open to the public and you want them shown here, email your information to rod@wintertexaninfo.com

Spring Has Sprung! Find these words associated with Springtime

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

APRIL
 BASEBALL
 BIRD
 BLOOM
 BUTTERFLY
 CATERPILLAR
 CHICK
 CLOUD
 DAFFODIL
 DIG
 EARTH
 EGG
 FLOWER
 FOG
 GARDEN
 GROW
 HATCH
 INSECT
 KITE
 LEAF
 LILAC
 MARCH
 MAY
 NEST
 PICNIC
 PLANT
 PUDDLE
 RAINBOW
 RAINCOAT
 RAINY
 ROOTS
 SEASON
 SEED
 SHOVEL
 SHOWER
 SOIL
 SPRING
 SPROUT
 STEM
 STORM
 SUNSHINE
 THAW
 TULIP
 UMBRELLA
 VIOLET
 WARM
 WATER
 WEED
 WIND
 WORM

Is The Internet Working For YOU? by Rod Graham

These days having a beautiful website is easier than ever. There are an ever increasing number of “Do It Yourself” websites which make creating your website as easy as pie. In addition there is no shortage of website development companies who, for a fee, will create a state of the art website for you. What is sometimes missing from this equation is, how do you get your website to be seen by prospective clients.

Having a beautiful website is great, but if it does not show up in search results when someone “googles” a search phrase that should lead to your website ...

something is wrong.

If you decide to fire the company who is “managing” your website, and you have to go through a lot of headaches and extra expense to make it happen ...

something is wrong.

It is very important to remember these two facts when creating a website or hiring someone else to create one for you.

1) The domain name is a completely separate entity from the website itself.

2) Search Engine Optimization (SEO) is the most important aspect of getting your website seen by the right people.

One of the first mistakes a website newbie makes is having someone else register their domain name. Just because it was your idea and you came up with the domain name, ***it is not yours unless it is registered under YOUR NAME!***

Unfortunately some, not all, website development companies register the domain name under their company’s dominion. What this means to you is, if you at some point in time want to change to another website provider you will probably have to pay additional fees and jump through a lot of technical hoops to make it happen.

Needless to say this can be quite unexpected and very frustrating! So make sure that the domain name is registered in your name and you have any user IDs and passwords that are associated with it, and don’t lose them!

The same holds true if an outside company is managing your website, you should have control over the content of the actual website if for any reason that company is no longer managing it for you.

Having to completely “recreate” your website is both expensive and time consuming. Again, sadly, there are unscrupulous companies who will “hold your site for ransom” until you give in or pay them what they want. After all, you did pay them to create the site ***FOR YOU*** in the first place.

So ask them the right questions *up front*. Do they register the domain name under your ownership? What is their policy if you decide to terminate your relationship with them?

Remember, there are many GOOD choices for website developers out there. Don’t get yourself stuck with a DUD!

SEO (search engine optimization)

This is simply creating your website in such a way that makes it easy for search engines like Google, Bing and Yahoo to find your site when a user types in relevant key words or phrases. For example, let’s say you own a BBQ restaurant somewhere in the RGV. When a user “googles” *BBQ in the RGV*, they should find your website at or near the top of the first page of search results. If this is not happening for your website then you need to do something about it.

There are three very important things to consider regarding SEO for your website:

1) ***each page’s “meta title”***

This is the first thing the search engine “indexes” as it scans your webpages.

2) ***each page’s “meta content description”***

This is what the search engine indexes next.

3) ***the actual content of each page*** as seen by the user. This must be relevant to the 2 items above and must include key words and phrases used in the title and description.

This should be automatically a part of a reputable website developers services and should not cost you extra money above and beyond their creation fees. Keep in mind that a website is never truly finished. There will be updates to make and some editing may need to be done to improve search engine placement. This is where “website management” comes in and there usually will be a monthly fee to cover general updating. But, the initial creation of your website should include the beginning SEO!