



Coming Together to bring you the latest Community News



(All photos provided by the Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce)

Ribbon Cuttings



Sigler Winston Greenwood - Members of the Chamber's Red Coat Ambassador committee were on hand to help celebrate the Ribbon Cutting ceremony and grand opening of the new offices of Sigler Winston Greenwood, an engineering firm based in Weslaco. For more information about the firm call 968-2194.



Arturo's Bar & Grill - It was a beautiful day for a Ribbon Cutting at the new Arturo's Bar & Grill. The Chamber's Ambassadors all wearing their Red Coats helped celebrate and were treated to the same quality and service you are used to from the restaurant in Nuevo Progreso. The new Weslaco location is at 702 S. Texas Blvd. With lunch specials everyday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and live music on Thursday and Fridays. Call 351-5772 for more information.

Good Morning Weslaco

STISD Superintendent speaks to Past and Future of District

Special to MVTC

Mid-Valley residents attending a recent Good Morning Weslaco heard about the mission and growth of South Texas Independent School District.

Special guest speaker for the event held at Starbucks was Dr. Marla Guerra, Superintendent of STISD. She spoke about the mission of the district with public, open-enrollment magnet schools. "Our goal is not only to prepare our students for the academic rigor of college, but to empow-

er them with character, discipline, and skills they need to also succeed in the professional workforce," She said.

Magnet schools offer students a special academic focus or thematic environment.

The high quality education students receive at STISD benefits them the rest of their lives. Guerra adds, "I am honored to lead such a wonderful school district. STISD is unique in so many ways, but I believe what truly distinguishes us is our dedication to the students we serve."

The district has four high schools

and a junior high which serve Hidalgo, Cameron and Willacy counties. All the district's high schools have been ranked in both U.S. News & World Report and Newsweek's Top 100 High Schools in the nation.

This year all the high schools have been given Exemplary accountability ratings by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). South Texas ISD also received an Exemplary rating from the TEA, a first for the district.

Currently more than 85 percent of graduates have gone on to attend colleges and universities across the country.



Dr. Marla Guerra, Superintendent of STISD

Chamber News

Chamber members present Texas Scholar Program to Weslaco ISD students

Special to MVTC

A volunteer task force made up of Weslaco Chamber members will be dedicating one week in April to preparing the entire population of eighth grade students in the Weslaco Independent School District for high school and the years to come.

Texas Scholars Program is an initiative to help students focus on education and prepare them for the workforce. The program works to motivate students to excel and aim beyond minimum standards.

Becoming a Texas Scholar requires hard work and dedication. To graduate high school as a Texas Scholar, students must complete the recommended High School Program or the Distinguished Achievement Program, and complete at least two college credit courses. Texas Scholars is chaired by Brad Bierstedt of Magic Valley Electric Coop.

Tax issues for businesses and individuals

The Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce and the CPA firm of Gonzalez and Arrambide provided attendees very useful and timely tax tools at the Lunch & Learn held at the Weslaco Business Visitors Center.

Ruth Gonzalez and Joe Arrambide gave an in depth overview of all the issues that face people both personally and in their business this time of year. There are several new deductions and credits due to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Whether the issues are federal, state or local taxes the laws are complex Gonzalez said. She added, "a prudent business person would want to employ the services of a CPA (Certified Public Accountant) to protect their interests."

For more information call the firm of Gonzalez and Arrambide call 447-9009.

Chamber Calendar of Events

- MARCH 30th**
11 a.m. ribbon cutting at STX GYM - 310 W. Expressway 83.
- APRIL 7th**
12:15 p.m. ribbon cutting at Dahill - 1431 W. Polk Ave. Pharr, TX
- APRIL 22**
5:30 p.m. Candidates Forum at Weslaco Chamber - Business Visitor Center - 301 W. Railroad
- MAY 5th** - 11 a.m. Top Secret Security Briefing - seminar by Security Depot at Weslaco Chamber Business Visitor Center, 301 W. Railroad.

SAVE THE DATE

MAY 14-16 - DRAGONFLY DAYS - Estero Llanos State Park and Valley Nature Center

Welcome New Members

ANOTHER CLOSET SELF STORAGE

Another Closet Self Storage, the Rio Grande Valley's premier storage facility is opening its newest location at 417 E. 18th Street. They will continue to offer the Valley-wide promotion of every tenant who rents a unit gets the free use of a 17-foot moving truck. They also have a full selection of boxes, packaging, and moving supplies. Another Closet Self Storage is ranked in the Top 100 Self Storage operations in the nation of over 46,000 facilities nationwide. We are the only storage facility in the Rio Grande Valley to make the Top Operator list. For more information call 956-969-3400 or visit www.weslacostorage.com.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

First Christian Church of Weslaco is a part of the Restoration Movement of New Testament Churches. Our desire is not be the 'only Christian' but to 'remain Christian only' without any other brand, label, or claim. We have no creed but Christ, no book but the Bible, no name but the Divine. Bible Study open to everyone on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m., a Bible Study for men at 8 a.m. on Friday mornings, Sunday School on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m., and worship at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Church office is open Mon. - Thurs. 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call 968-3623 for more information.

LAW OFFICE OF FERNANDO SAENZ

Fernando Saenz has been practicing law for three years in general practice, criminal defense, family law, personal injury, health law and contract law. The consultation visit is free so call Fernando Saenz at 968-7800 or visit his office at 611 West 6th Street in Weslaco.

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