



Coming Together to bring you the latest Community News



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

RIBBONCUTTINGS CELEBRATIONS



Elik Motors held a ribbon cutting ceremony and reception at their location, 2318 E. Expressway 83 in Weslaco.



Valley Metro unveiled their new transit fleet at the Weslaco EDC parking lot. Members from the Rio Grande Valley Development Council board, along with Mayor Wise, were on hand for the ceremony.

Welcome New Members...

KHIT CHIROPRACTIC AND WELLNESS

916 S. Utah
Weslaco, TX
956-968-2787
Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Khit Chiropractic and Wellness is a chiropractic and medical facility with offices in Mission, Weslaco, Harlingen and Brownsville.

KGBT-TV

9201 W. Expressway 83
Harlingen, TX 78552
956-366-4444
Action 4/KGBT-TV — the CBS affiliate of the Rio Grande Valley — provides news, weather, information, entertainment and sports programming in addition to public service and advertising to Valley residents and businesses. It is also home to the number one website in South Texas — Valleycentral.com — according to the Associated Press. Watch the Valley's own Marcy Martinez every weeknight at 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Action 4 News... Taking Action for You!

AMBIT ENERGY - TANA SOLTESZ

2224 S. 77 Sunshine Strip
Suite 96 PMB 175
Harlingen, TX 78550
605-390-9646
Ambit Energy's plans let consumers do more than keep warm or stay cool. They give them free travel just for switching -- plus the chance to earn free energy. Ambit Inc is the number one fastest growing company on the Inc 500 list. Contact Tana at 605-390-9646 for more information.

TACO MY WAY

1503B N. Texas Blvd
(956) 854-4272
Open Monday - Saturday 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Taco My Way serves authentic Mexican food the way you want it...and fast! Create your own taco by choosing the tortilla, filling, and toppings, made from the freshest and finest ingredients. Tostitos and botanas also served. Stop by for breakfast and build your own breakfast taco. Taco My Way makes it YOUR way.



Left, Leadership Mid Valley Class VI Graduates (L-R): Ashley Dickerson, Nadia Angelica Ochoa, Rick Guerra, Ruby Torres, Amanda Silva, Daniel Jason Valadez, Martin Stenhouse, Tricia Givilanz-Cisneros, Alfredo Aguilera, Gilbert Lopez. Not pictured: Alicia Aguilar and Daniel Ramirez.

Leadership Mid-Valley holds graduation ceremony for Class VI at Business Visitors Center

Special to MVTC

WESLACO — Leadership Mid Valley, sponsored by the Weslaco Chamber of Commerce, is a nine-month program which seeks to identify and motivate emerging leaders and develop their potential for community leadership by exposing them to the realities, opportunities and problems of the community.

Monthly field trips were taken by the students which allowed them to see firsthand how Mid-Valley businesses, agencies and government impact the community. Agriculture, healthcare, and local media are

among the areas visited by the LMV class.

This year's class was able to visit the state capitol as part of their government lesson where they heard from several speakers from our state government and had the opportunity to visit the Texas congressional session. The program began in October and ended in May.

The class, along with the steering committee, selected Rick Guerra as the recipient of the 2011 Torch Award for his exceptional leadership in the class project.

The Class VI project involved landscaping and electrical work for

the Aurora House, a home for the terminally ill in Weslaco. Rick Guerra stepped into the leadership role, and really kept up with the project, making sure every detail was taken care of. He also invested a lot of extra time which proved his commitment and drive.

Guerra was presented with the award at the ceremony, where Martin Stenhouse was selected by his peers to deliver the class speech.

Leadership Mid Valley will be accepting applications for the 2011 - 2012 year in August. For more information, call the Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce at 968-2102.

Green Tip, Chris Warren, Weslaco Beautiful

Weslaco's recycling of cardboard, newspaper, mixed paper, aluminum, and tin takes place at the public facilities yard on Joe Stephens (use the third gate). It is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. They are now closing from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch. Since it is about a four mile drive from the south side of town, get together with a few neighbors and friends and carpool to save money on gasoline!



Red Coat Ambassadors host Mid-Year Lunch at Jose's Cafecito

Special to MVTC

WESLACO — Red Coat Ambassadors are representatives of the Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce at various functions including ribbon cutting and ground breaking ceremonies, welcoming new business members to the community. The Red Coat committee selects incoming ambassadors from chamber members that possess leadership characteristics.

Mid Year Luncheons are held to review Red Coat participation at chamber functions and discuss potential ambassadors to be voted on in October.



Red Coat Ambassadors Mid Year Luncheon at Jose's Cafecito Courtyard.



Brad Bierstedt, Magic Valley Co-Op, discusses the priorities for power restoration after a storm.

Weslaco Chamber hosts Blood Drive

Special to MVTC

The Weslaco Chamber of Commerce, along with United Blood Services, hosted a blood drive on Tuesday, June 14 at the Business Visitors Center.

Blood transfusions save more than 4 million lives each year. It is estimated that blood is needed every two seconds, and that 1 out of 7 people entering the hospital will need blood. Blood is separated into components so that several patients may benefit from one blood donation. Donor Xavier Guerra recognizes



the importance of donating blood on a regular basis. "I used to be a registered nurse, so I understand how important it is to donate blood," remarked Guerra.

David Salinas, right, with the City of Weslaco, stopped by the Business Visitors Center to donate blood.

As an added bonus, donors were entered into three separate drawings. They had a chance to win an iPad, a \$500 gas card, and a European vacation. The gas card entry period runs until the end of June, with the drawing to be held on July 1.

Right, Chamber members mingle at Good Morning Weslaco. Nancy Becker, Port Director for the Progreso and Donna International Bridges, spoke at the Chamber's breakfast event held at Savory Perks Coffee House on June 8.



Weslaco Chamber hosts Hurricane Preparedness seminar

The Weslaco Chamber of Commerce hosted a Hurricane Preparedness Seminar on Thursday June 16 at the Business Visitors Center as part of its monthly Lunch and Learn Series. The seminar featured several different speakers covering areas of businesses and homes that require certain preparations that need to be made before a hurricane hits.

George Garrett from the City of Weslaco's Emergency Management began the seminar with an overall guide on how to prepare for hurricane season, and what to do should any type of flooding occur. Brad Bierstedt from Magic Valley Co-op discussed the necessary steps to take to have proper back-up electricity and what to do in the event of a blackout. Dolores Salinas, Better Business Bureau, provided helpful planning tips such as setting up an alternate business location if needed and giving employees ample time to prepare their own homes as well. Myriam Guerra from Allstate Insurance discussed details about insurance policies that should be looked over, while Hugo Parodi from Sky IT Solutions offered valuable information on properly backing up your data and making sure it's accessible if need be. Carla McCaleb was also on hand to discuss security system maintenance during a hurricane.

Gerry Bower from TLC Total Lawn Care talked about the importance of preparing your landscape, especially the larger trees, making sure they are secure in the ground and not touching any kind of electric lines. Preparing your landscape, he says, has to start with plenty of time in advance.

"In advance to a storm being out in the gulf, this has to happen not five days out, but more like thirty to forty days," remarked Bower. "There aren't enough professional landscapers in the area to handle everyone's landscape right before a hurricane hits."

Talk radio station KURV held a live remote during the seminar, interviewing a few of the speakers from the seminar's lineup.

The Lunch and Learn Seminar Series are held monthly at the Weslaco Business Visitors Center. For more information on these and any other chamber events, contact Laura Espinoza at 968-2102 or visit www.weslaco.com.