



# Depot Express



Edinburg Chamber of Commerce E-News Letter

Volume 2, Issue 6

May/June 2011

**NEWS HEADLINES:**

**Texas Cook'em  
Coming Soon!**



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## Market Days

Mark your calendars for the last Market Days of the season, happening in Downtown Edinburg in the Town Square. Market Days will take place from 8am-2pm on Saturday, May 17th. Come shop for unique artisan hand crafted items, one of a kind findings, antiques, collectibles, food and more! If you are an interested vendor, please contact the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce at 956-383-4974 for additional information on how you can become involved and register for a space at Edinburg's newest weekend endeavor. Please sign on to [www.edinburg.com](http://www.edinburg.com) to download your form and register



**Saturday, May 17th**



# Ribbon Cuttings and Ground Breakings



### TCCEA

Mr. Rafael Rodriguez  
1232 Chris Circle  
Edinburg, TX 78539

### Leadership Edinburg Class XXII Project

**American Legion, Freddy Gonzalez,  
Post #408** Mr. Gus Garcia  
4605 S. Closner Blvd.  
Edinburg, TX 78539  
956-383-1182

### Shah. Eye Center

Mrs. Esmer Flores  
5513 N. McColi Rd.  
McAllen, TX 78504  
956-583-0202

## Feature Business of the Month ...



### April

**Sherwin Williams Paints**  
2223 S Closner  
Edinburg TX 78539  
(956) 383-3101



The Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors Committee are a group of volunteers who are all members of the Chamber. The Ambassador's meet the first Wednesday of each month to discuss various topics within the community, organize fundraisers and to select a business as a Feature Business of the month; the criteria for selection is as follows: 1. *Special Acknowledgement and recognition of years of support of the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce and/or recognition of outstanding support of the community* 2. *Number of years in business* 3. *Contributions and support of Edinburg Chamber of Commerce programs and events* 4. *Recent renovation and/or expansions of their business* 5. *Silent members (strong supporters) of the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce in good standing.*

If you are interested in being an Ambassador, please contact Martin Rivas at 956-383-4974.



# Welcome new ECOC Members:



**ABC Pediatrics**  
 604 S Jackson Rd  
 Edinburg, TX 78539  
 (956) 287-6106  
 Amelia Hinojosa

**Valley Care Clinic**  
 4302 S Sugar Road, STE. 106  
 Edinburg, TX 78539  
 (956) 381-6856  
 Sarah Rodriguez

**Edinburg Nursing & Rehab**  
 5215 S. Sugar Rd.  
 Edinburg, TX 78539  
 782-9666  
 Mr. Vanessa Ocanas

**Shah Eye Center**  
 1506 E. Griffin Prkwy  
 Mission, TX 78572  
 (956) 583-0202  
 Esmer Flores



### Edinburg Boys & Girls Club Legacy Center

Ms. Sabrina D. Walker Hernandez  
 702 Cullen Street (Rogers Road & 281)  
 Edinburg, Texas 78539  
 956-383-8522

# Welcome!

## @ The Depot

Have a small group that you or your business is hosting? Bring them by the Historic Depot, current home of the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce to learn some facts about the historic train station, or just to say hi.

### DID YOU KNOW:

The first president of the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce was Marshall McIlhenny in 1925?

Please support the Depot Restoration Committee; call Elva Jackson Garza for further information

956-383-4951



# Thank you VIP Members:



- Boggus Motor Sales, Inc.
- Charles Clark Chevrolet
- Edinburg Industrial Foundation Inc.
- Elite Rehab Services L.L.C.
- Exquisita Tortillas, Inc.
- Kolder Inc.
- Roy's Hauling Service, Inc.
- Teleperformance
- D. Wilson Construction Company
- South Texas Health System
- Edinburg Regional Health Center
- Santiago Gonzalez, Jr., CPA



- As a Chamber VIP Member you will receive:**
- 50% discount for one Leadership Edinburg Participant
  - 4 VIP tickets to Fiesta Edinburg
  - 10% discount on all Chamber advertising
  - 3 participants to each Chamber-sponsored seminar
  - Set of mailing labels
  - 2 E-Newsletter Inserts
  - Broadcast Fax



## Leadership Edinburg Class XXIII



Leadership Edinburg (LE) Class XXII will complete their final session which was the "Quality of Life" session. Quality of life in any city is not only important, but instrumental in having a flourishing community gather together and explore healthy, active lifestyles.

Other Leadership Edinburg sessions include: Education, History, Healthcare, Economic Development and Criminal Justice.

Leadership Edinburg Class XXII also completed their class project, each LE class gives back to the community in more ways than one, Class XXII purchased new flags for the American Legion Post 408, had their parking lot re-stripped and also purchased a new sign.

Leadership Edinburg will have their graduation ceremony on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Following the graduation, the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce will be accepting applications for Class XXIII during the summer months.

Over 500 graduates have taken the Leadership Edinburg Challenge, if you are interested in learning more about LE and becoming involved, please call 956-383-4974.

*Pictured in the photo are LE Class XXII with Ed Kuprel, Forrester for the City of Edinburg posing in front of a tree recently planted in front of American Legion Post 408 as part of a beautification project*

## Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Ambassador of the Month



*Congratulations!*

**May**  
**Dr. Walter Green**  
**Greene & Associates**  
**Professional Consultant**  
**2201 Point West Drive**  
**Edinburg Texas, 78539**

Walter joined the Edinburg Chamber in September 1985, representing UTPA as their Small Business Institute Director. One of the first committees the Chamber asked me to serve on was their Business Committee. While serving on that committee, the major accomplishments were planning for and holding numerous employee seminars. Several I remember were 'How to answer the phone' and 'How to wait on customers.' Walter has been on every committee the chamber ever had. The Ambassador, Tourists and Hotel committees and many more to name a few were I met many, many friends. I also worked with the Transportation Committee where we proposed and supported TX Dot's plan to expand University Drive in front of UTPA and Wal\*Mart. Now that he has retired from UTPA he looks forward to attending the Chamber meetings and events. "I get much more from the Chamber than I can ever return; great friends, and a sense of helping make Edinburg a better place for everyone to live."

*The Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Ambassador's Committee meets the first Wednesday of every month. If you are interested in investing your time with your community, please call Martin Rivas at 956-383-4974 or email [membership@edinburg.com](mailto:membership@edinburg.com)*



## Edinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau...

# WELCOME

It is the mission of the Edinburg Convention & Visitors Bureau to provide leadership in initiating as well as coordinating the marketing of Edinburg throughout the world as a highly desirable vacation and convention destination; to solicit and serve conventions and other related group business; and to engage in visitor promotions which generate overnight stays for Edinburg, thereby, enhancing and developing the economic fabric of the community.



The Edinburg Convention & Visitors Bureau must continue to be recognized as a viable entity, not only in the Texas travel industry, but also as a marketing strength in the Rio Grande Valley. In order to achieve this goal, there are many projects, programs and activities that need the participation and support of the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce. In addition to many projects that we must do on a daily basis to stay competitive in the marketplace, the Chamber/ECVB will continue to develop and innovative such projects and programs: Tourism Marketing, Conventions and Media.



The Edinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau (ECVB) is here to serve you and to assist in securing conventions and seminars in the Edinburg area. If your business or organization is interested in hosting an event, the ECVB is happy to accommodate to assist in making your event successful. At the ECVB, we will supply your event with hotel listings, business and restaurant listings, plus maps and other helpful information that will make your event or meeting a success. Please contact Imelda Rodriguez for further information 956-383-4974. [tourism@edinburg.com](mailto:tourism@edinburg.com)



The Edinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau will donate 100 goodie bags promoting the City of Edinburg at the Edinburg Lions International Fishing Tournament on June 11th, 2011. Please call Juan Lopez at 956-279-1302 for more information on the Annual Fishing Tournament or the Edinburg Lions Club.



# Edinburg Chamber's Public Affairs Luncheon

With Pedro Salazar with the  
Edinburg Economic Development Corporation

May 18th, 2011

**Topic: Economic Development in the City of Edinburg**

The Public Affairs Luncheons are one of the chamber's latest initiative introduced in 2006. The vision is that it will inform, involve and educate Chamber investors and civic leaders. The event allows business people to meet, network and create opportunities for the companies they represent. We encourage all Chamber investors and others interested in learning about hot topics affecting our community and the Rio Grande Valley to attend.

**956-383-4974**

*Generously sponsored by: Linebarger Goggan, Blair & Sampson*

## Mark your Calendars:



**Edinburg Market Days** Saturday, May 14, 2011  
from 8am-2pm. Market Days will be held at the Town  
Square across from the Court House



**2nd Annual Night Golf Tournament** Friday, June  
10th, 2011 @ Ebony Golf Course 300 West Palm Drive  
from 5pm-midnight



**Texas Cook'em: High Steaks in Edinburg** Satur-  
day, July 2nd, 2011 Edinburg Municipal Park: food,  
fun, cook off, prize money, live music and MORE!



[www.edinburg.com](http://www.edinburg.com)



# Chamber Staff with Tejano Walk of Fame star!



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The Edinburg Chamber of Commerce staff recently had the opportunity to visit with Roberto Pulido and his son, Bobby Pulido in front of the Tejano Walk of Fame sculpture exhibit.

The sculpture was crafted by artist and sculptor, Richard Hyslin which depicts Jose Roberto Pulido, an Edinburg native and one of the pioneers in Tejano Music.

Visit the Tejano Walk of Fame at 415 W. McIntyre St in Edinburg City Hall Courtyard.

*Pictured in the photo are L to R: Martin Rivas, Letty Gonzalez, Roberto Pulido, Evana Vleck, Bobby Pulido and Imelda Rodriguez*





## Edinburg Lions Club Protecting our Environment



**The City of Edinburg Celebrated National Arbor Day at the Margarito Martinez Heritage Tree Courtyard on April 29th, 2011.**

**The Edinburg Lions Club donated a wild olive tree to commemorate National Arbor Day and to beautify and protect our environment.**

**Present were Guest Speakers with the Edinburg Lions Club, the City of Edinburg and ECISD. Special Guests also present were the grandchildren of Mr. Margarito Martinez who planted the Live Oak tree in 1927.**

**The city of Edinburg is part of "Texas Cool Cities".**

- Trees help provide most of the worlds oxygen.
- Trees also help against the erosion of our topsoil, which is the most fertile to grow anything on the planet.
- Trees provide shade, and provide food for our planet, as well as providing shelter from the heat.



# Eating out is FUN in Edinburg!!!



2724 S Expressway 281  
Edinburg, TX 78542-2928  
(956) 287-1200



**Pictured is the Catfish Po'boy, Grilled fish special, the Fried Shrimp Platter, and Fried cheesecake for dessert!**

Happy Hour & .39 cent wings all day long at Woodreaux's Cajun Grill & Bar. \$2.00 long necks, \$5.00 long island tea, \$2.00 margaritas, \$4.00 mango lava's plus great lunch specials!





## What's Happening in Edinburg!



Rick Diaz recently paid a visit to the Depot to film a segment for the KRGV show "Con Mi Gente" focusing on the building. The Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Building Restoration Committee has discussed plans for the Hobo Hap'nin Reunion for September 17th, 2011. Hobo Hap'nin is a fundraising event to assist in the restoration of the Historic Train Depot, in which the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce and Edinburg CVB currently operate from. For more information, please contact Elva Jackson Garza at 956-383-4951



## 2nd Annual Night Golf Tournament

**Date:** Friday, June 10th, 2011

**Place:** Ebony Golf Course 300 West Palm Drive

**Time:** 5pm-midnight

**Team Levels:**

**\$250** \*Gold Sponsor\*

**\$750** \*Platinum Sponsor\* includes 1 4-man team

**\$2,500** \*Title Sponsor\* includes 2 4-man teams





P.O. Box 85  
 602 W. University  
 Edinburg, TX 78540  
 Phone (956) 383-4974  
 Fax (956) 383-6942

## Letter from the Chairman

[www.edinburg.com](http://www.edinburg.com)

### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

#### Chairman

Johnny Rodriguez \* Austin Personnel Services

#### Chair-Elect

Edna Pena \* Horizon Properties

#### Immediate Past Chair

Cynthia Bocanegra \* Chaps Bar & Grill

#### Treasurer

Elias Longoria \* Lone Star National Bank

#### Vice-Chairmen

Gus Casas \* G&S Glass

Flo Prater \* Rio Valley Realty

Elva Jackson Garza \* Edwards Abstract and Title Co.

Mark Pena \* Lewis, Monroe & Pena Attorneys at Law

Cris Torres \* Inter National Bank

#### Directors

Dina Aragus International Bank of Commerce

Marissa Castaneda Doctors Hospital at Renaissance

Darcy Kelly Peter Piper Pizza

Maggie Kent General Dentistry Center

Robert McGurk Elsa State Bank

Toribio "Terry" Palacios Law Offices of Garcia, Quintanilla & Palacios

Naomi Perales Texas Gas Service

Jacob De Leon Memorial Funeral Home

Dr. Robert S. Nelsen UTPA

#### Staff

Letty Gonzalez President

Evana Vleck Director of Marketing

Imelda Rodriguez Director of Tourism

Martin Rivas Director of Membership

Crystal Sanchez Receptionist/Tourism Asst.



This month will be our last "Market Days" event for the season, Edinburg's newest downtown sensation truly made a large impact on the community and local entrepreneurs; vendors from as far up as Brownsville attend Market Days to sell their arts/crafts, antiques, collectibles and unique hand crafted items. Edinburg Market Days will be at the 6th Annual Texas Cook'em: High Steaks in Edinburg July 2nd at Edinburg Municipal Park and will continue from September-May.

Speaking of Texas Cook'em, it's right around the corner, and there will be a lot in store for everyone from bbq, fireworks, live music by David Lee Garza y Los Musicales and others, a dancing horse show, plus the Texas Snake Man himself, Jackie Bibby! Jackie will have several shows throughout the day on July 2nd featuring noneother than his rattlesnakes! We hope you make it a point to come on out and celebrate 4th of July weekend with the City of Edinburg, the Edinburg Economic Development Corporation and the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce, without the support from the community, this event wouldn't be possible. If you are interested in being a sponsor, there are a lot of great benefits in associating you or your business with Edinburg's largest cook off and the valley's one and only T-bone steak cook off! The Chamber is also accepting cooks and judges, so please call 956-383-4974 and see how you can be involved!

Sincerely,

Johnny Rodriguez, Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Chairman of the Board