



Depot Express



Edinburg Chamber of Commerce E-News Letter

September, 2011

Volume 2, Issue 9

The Hobo Convention 2011

NEWS HEADLINES:

Hobo Hap'nin' Reunion!



Check us out
on
Twitter
&
Facebook

Follow us on:



Inside this issue:

Ribbon Cuttings/Feature Business of the Month	2
New Members	3
VIP Members/ Miss Edinburg/Cordon's	4/5
ECVB/BOD/Calendar	6/7
Happy Anniversary Chamber Members	8/9
Hobo Hap'nin' Reunion/ Depot Restoration	10/11
Thank You Note / Letter from the Chairman	12



Thank You!



Conductor: Leadership Edinburg Class XX

Train Master: Edinburg Home Buyers & Business Expo, H-E-B, UTPA Foundation

Railroad Engineer: Edinburg Chamber Night Golf Tournament Committee, Betty Gaston-Gaston Properties, Hacienda Ford, Memorial Funeral Home, Pena Eye Institute, Texas Gas Service, Valley Insurance Services

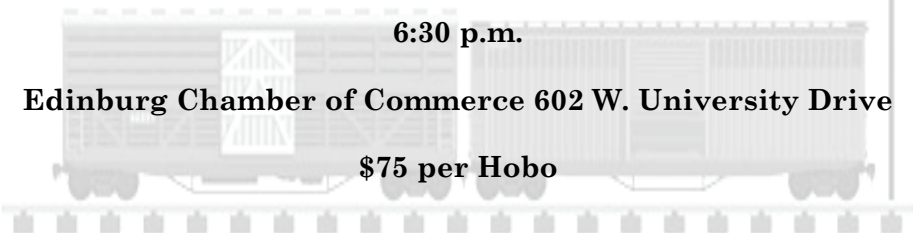
Lineman: Austin Personnel Services, D. Wilson Construction Co., Doctors Hospital at Renaissance, Echo Hotel & Conference Center, EEDC, Edwards Abstract & Title Co., Elsa State Bank & Trust Co., G&S Glass, General Dentistry Center, Gotta Lovette, Inter National Bank, International Bank of Commerce, Law Offices of Garcia Quintanilla & Palacios, Lewis, Montore & Pena—Attorneys at Law, LJH Services, Lone Star National Bank, Peter Piper Pizza, River Rock Band, Sam Saldivar—State Farm Insurance

Saturday , September 17th, 2011

6:30 p.m.

Edinburg Chamber of Commerce 602 W. University Drive

\$75 per Hobo





Ribbon Cuttings and Ground Breakings



Bayou Grill
Ibeth Rangel
 5712 N 10th St
 Suite 400
 McAllen TX
 (956) 627-4091

Raul Resendez
State Farm Insurance
 Raul Resendez
 200 S Sugar Rd
 (956) 383-2886

Maximus
Alejandra Sandoval
 1920 SE Industrial Drive
 www.maximus.com

Jimenez Pediatrics
Nancy Jimenez
 4634 S. Clossner Blvd
 956-720-4333

Feature Business of the Month ...



August
Austin Personnel Services
Mr. Johnny Rodriguez
 220 suite B 12th Street
 Edinburg, TX
 956-318-1104



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:



<p>Amigo Self Storage Homer Gonzalez 5600 Nth Hwy 281 Edinburg, Texas 78539 956-380-0672</p>	<p>Jimenez Pediatrics Nancy Jimenez 4634 S. Closner Blvd Edinburg, Texas 78539 956-720-4333</p>	<p>Miss Edinburg Scholarship Pageant Minerva Olivarez 2125 Nth Alamo Road Edinburg, Texas 78539 956-929-0510</p>
<p>Socrates A. Garrigos M.D P.A Renaissance Adult Care Clinic 5111 S. McColl Road Edinburg, Texas 78539 956-683-0404</p>	<p>Valley Business Report Todd Breland PO Box 2332 Mission, Texas 78573 956-310-8953</p>	<p>Vera's King-O-Meats Vera N. Vera 2012 E. University Drive Edinburg, Texas 78539 956-393-9737</p>

@ 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.

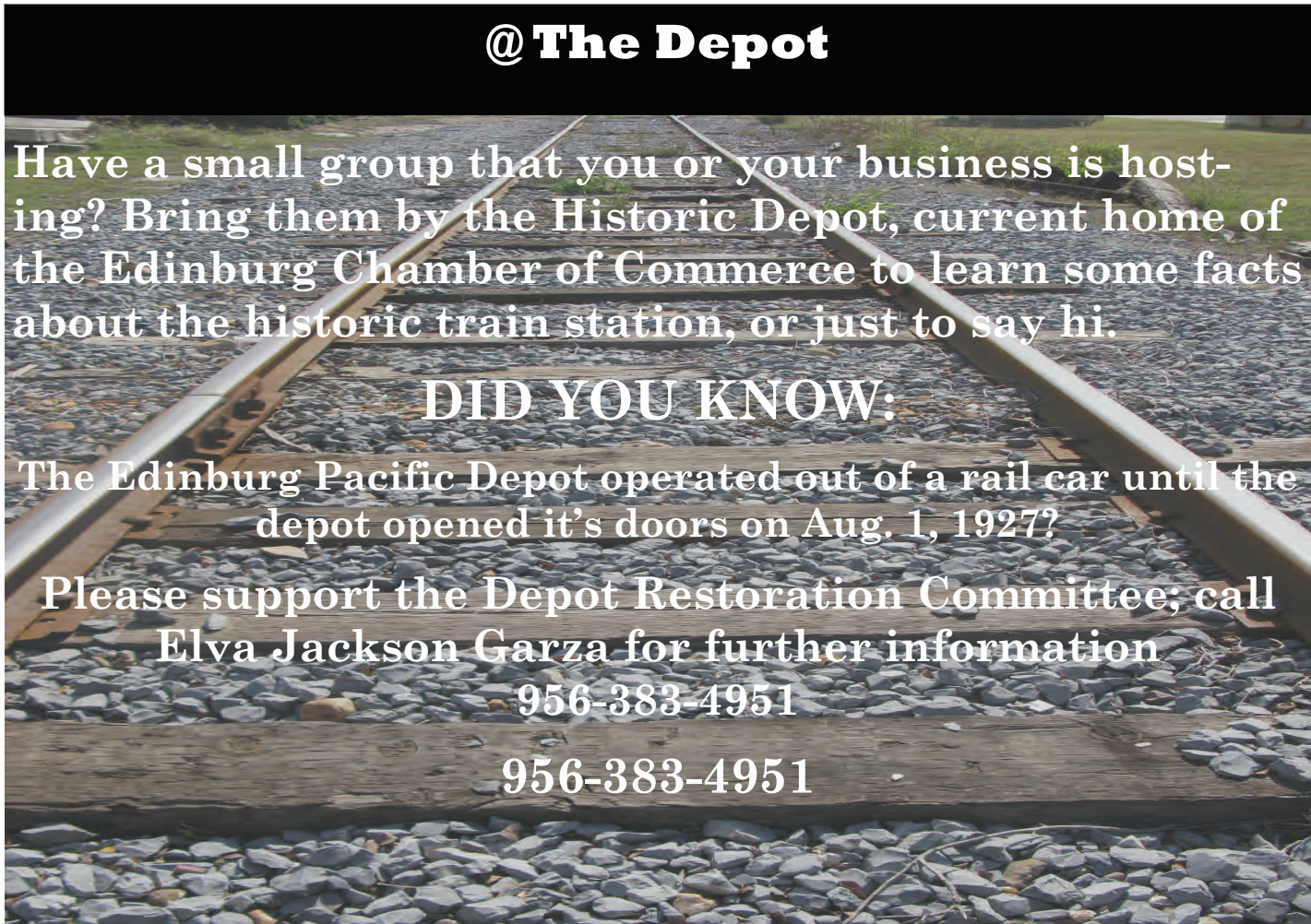
DID YOU KNOW:

The Edinburg Pacific Depot operated out of a rail car until the depot opened it's doors on Aug. 1, 1927?

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

956-383-4951

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



Applicants being accepted for Miss Edinburg 2012 Scholarship Pageant



Pictured promoting the 2012 Scholarship Pageant are from L to R: Ariel N. Olivarez - Assistant Director, Letty Gonzalez; President of the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce, Miss Edinburg 2011 - Ginger Rae Garza, Miss Teen Edinburg 2011 - Yesenia Velis, Minerva Olivarez- Director

The Miss Edinburg 2012 Scholarship Pageant is accepting applicants for the Oct 1 pageant to be held at the Historical Edinburg City Auditorium. Registration is officially underway and will take place until the mid September. Interested applicants should contact Minerva O. Olivarez, Pageant Director, by calling 956-929-0510 or e-mailing missedinburgpageant@yahoo.com

Contestants for Miss Edinburg should be 18-22 years of age, and Miss Teen Edinburg should be from 14-17. Contestants should be well rounded individuals and live in the City of Edinburg. All contestants will be invited to attend a Social Dinner, Etiquette/Self-Improvement workshops. Contestants will be highlighted with the social media. Winners will be awarded Scholarships, a crystal crown, a banner, a crystal trophy, roses, and much more..Winners will have the opportunity to represent the City of Edinburg at various functions, including socials, luncheons, ribbon cuttings, and banquets.

“We are looking forward to our upcoming pageant and are very excited to meet all the interested contestants. Miss Edinburg and Miss Teen Edinburg 2012 will be promoting different aspects of our city” stated Mrs. Olivarez.

A Taste of Chicago in Edinburg...



Cordon's

4304 W. Freddy Gonzalez Drive Edinburg, Texas 78539

956-383-4567

Burgers

Pasta

Sandwiches

Chicago Dogs

Desserts & More!



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/CVB 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

Edinburg Market Days September 10th



The Edinburg Chamber of Commerce and the Edinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau is now accepting vendors for "Edinburg Market Days" the 2nd Saturday of each month from September-May.

Market Days will be held at the Town Square across from the Court House in Edinburg, where you will find antiques, Collectibles, Unique finds, Arts/Crafts, music and more!

Visit us on Saturday, September 10th, 2011 from 8am-2pm for fun and excitement! This is one of Edinburg's most popular weekend events that the entire family can enjoy; please come out and see what Market Days has to offer! Please call 956-383-4974 for further information or to register for a vendor space. www.edinburg.com



Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Announces 2011-2012 Board of Directors



The 2011-2012 Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met on Thursday, August 11th, 2011 at the Doctor's Hospital at Renaissance. The Board discussed plans for the upcoming year as well as long-term goals and ideas to enhance events and programs produced by the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce. Johnny Rodriguez will step down as Chairman and welcome Edna Pena on October 15th at the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet at the Echo Hotel and Conference Center. Please call 956-383-4974 for more information. www.edinburg.com

"I am very excited about our new Board of Directors; I feel that we have a great group of individuals who are passionate about the chamber and the City of Edinburg. I look forward to serving as the 2011-2012 Chairman for the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce and am excited for what is to come" Stated Edna Pena.

Pictured promoting the announcement of the 2011-2012 Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors are standing L to R: Alex Rios, Johnny Rodriguez, Edna Pena, Marty Baylor, Letty Gonzalez, Naomi Perales, Jacob De Leon, and Marty Martin Sitting L to R: Elva Jackson Garza, Maggie Kent, and Dina Araguz – Not pictured: Lucy Canales, Gus Casas, Marissa Castaneda, Elias Longoria, Robert Lucio, Robert McGurk, Toribio "Terry" Palacios, and Cris Torres

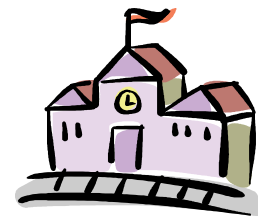
Mark your Calendars:



Edinburg Market Days Saturday, September 10th, 2011 8am-2pm at the Edinburg Town Square across the street from the Court House. Come out for unique shopping: antiques, collectibles and more!



Hobo Hap'nin Reunion Saturday September 17th, 2011 6pm-11pm @ The Depot on 602 W. University Drive. Call for tickets, or donations. Silent auction, live music, food, drinks and more!



Annual Banquet Saturday October 15th Echo Hotel & Conference Center featuring: Happy the Comedian

Edinburg's Night of Lights Saturday December 3rd, 2011 4-9pm at UTPA Quad. Parade, musical entertain-



www.edinburg.com



Happy Anniversary!

1 Year Anniversary:

September 2, 2010 Clark Knapp Honda

September 8, 2010 Ronald McDonald House Charities of the RGV

September 21, 2010 Me Med Spa, LLC

2 Year Anniversary:

September 2, 2009 RDS

September 29, 2009 Dynamic Children Therapy Services

3 Year Anniversary:

September 15, 2008 EZ Computer Solutions

4 Year Anniversary:

September 26, 2007 Innovative Communication Systems

5 Year Anniversary:

September 7, 2006 Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar

September 12, 2006 David Torres

September 13, 2006 Carlos Manrique MDPA

September 13, 2006 Rental World

September 14, 2006 Colima Restaurant

6 Year Anniversary:

September 21, 2005 Texan Guest Ranch

8 Year Anniversary:

September 8, 2003 Core Business Solutions, Inc.

12 Year Anniversary:

September 30, 1999 Richard De Leon





Happy Anniversary!

14 Year Anniversary:

September 5, 1997 Women Clinic of South Texas

15 Year Anniversary:

September 17, 1996 Cytech Heating & Cooling, L.C.

19 Year Anniversary:

September 29, 1992 Boys & Girls Clubs of Edinburg RGV

28 Year Anniversary:

September 1, 1983 Miller & Associates

36 Year Anniversary:

September 1, 1975 Long Chilton, LLP

September 10, 1975 Magic Valley Electric, Cooperative

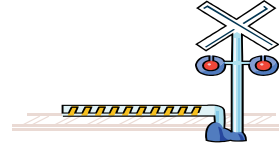


Thank You!

We'd like to extend a very expressive thank you and gratitude to our members; we are very pleased to have you a part of our chamber, working together for the community. We firmly believe that your involvement with the Chamber of Commerce helps strengthen ties between your role as an individual community member and a business member; our goal is to work together and to maximize your membership benefits. The Edinburg Chamber of Commerce hosts regular luncheons and seminars that are strategically created to educate, inform, promote and market you and your business. Please contact the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce for further information, and ask how you can become more involved; we'd love to hear from you! Visit us online at www.edinburg.com and on face book at www.facebook.com/edinburg.chamber 956-383-4974.



Hobo Hap'nin' Reunion Tickets on Sale now!



All aboard! Get on track with the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Depot Restoration committee and efforts to preserve the historic train depot located at 602 W. University Drive. The Hobo Hap'nin' Reunion will bring to life one of the most successful events and fundraisers that brought the community together for one common purpose. The event is scheduled on Saturday, September 17 starting at 6:30 p.m. filled with live entertainment, live and blackboard auctions and a scrumptious dinner.

Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased at the Chamber office or from Depot Restoration Committee members and board of directors. Tickets are \$75.00 per hobo. "I want to invite all of our local business owners from Edinburg and the surrounding communities to get excited about being a part of preserving a one of kind and historic building," said Johnny Rodriguez, Edinburg Chamber Chairman of the Board. "It takes all of us working together to ensure that the Southern Pacific Train Depot stands for generations to come," he said.

According to historic records, on January 11, 1927 the first Southern Pacific train rolled in to Edinburg. On February, 1927 the Southern Pacific Railroad began passenger service. The Depot takes us back to a time when Valley residents were able to ride the train to a vacation destination, travel on business or to visit with family and friends. The Depot served as a freight depot until 1982 and through the years welcomed many dignitaries such as first ladies Eleanor Roosevelt and Margaret Truman and artist Jose Greco. In recent years, Governor Rick Perry and local state officials such as Representative Aaron Pena and Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa have visited with the staff, board of directors and other volunteers.

"A special thanks is owed to several chamber and city leaders that had the vision and understood the importance of purchasing and restoring the Southern Pacific Railroad Station that is now fondly called "The Depot", said Elva Jackson Garza, Depot Restoration Committee Chair. In 1994, the Edinburg Industrial Foundation purchased the building with a \$400,000 grant from the Texas Dept. of Transportation and the City of Edinburg matched it with a \$100,000 grant. Subsequently, 3 previous Hobo Hap'nin's have raised over one million dollars that were invested to refurbish and restore the facility. In 1997, the Depot opened its doors as the home of the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce, Edinburg Convention & Visitor's Bureau and Edinburg Economic Development Corporation.



Hop on Board to Hobo Hap'nin Reunion



The Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Building Restoration Committee is excited for the Hobo Hap'nin Reunion scheduled 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

Depot Restoration Photos



Depot Restoration



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

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

Chairman

Johnny Rodriguez *Austin Personnel Services

Chair-Elect

Edna Pena * Horizon Properties

Immediate Past Chair

Cynthia Bocanegra

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 Aragoz 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.



What can I say - it's been a great year. I am honored to have served as Chairman of the Board for the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce for the 2010-2011 term, but all good things come to an end such as this. I am excited to report that we had a very productive

work session at our Board of Director's and Staff Retreat; we looked at budgeted items and discussed different ways on how to save monies, offer more to our members and enhance our special events. You will see that the upcoming year will bring great things as I hand off my gavel to Edna Pena; we have great faith that her leadership will carry out all of our past and future goals as a community organization working for the City of Edinburg and our members. I will still be around, being as active as I was before and attending events like Texas Cook'em and volunteering with my family in February with Fiesta Edinburg—I can't wait to see the changes! From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank each and every one of you, starting with my fellow Board of Directors and staff of the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce, the City of Edinburg, ECISD, Hidalgo County and the EEDC, not to mention all of the ECOC members and supporters—you all have made my job seem easy! I look forward to working with all of you on future endeavors and wish nothing but success; thanks for everything! Please join us for the Hobo Hap'nin Reunion on September 17th, 2011 and our Annual Banquet on October 15th, 2011.

Sincerely,

Johnny Rodriguez, Edinburg Chamber of Commerce Chairman of the Board