

MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Val Verde Regional Medical Center,
801 N Bedell,
Xochy Hurtado, MHA Officer Chief Executive
April 14 at 6:30 pm

APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

SFDRICISD HOSTS DRHCC MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING

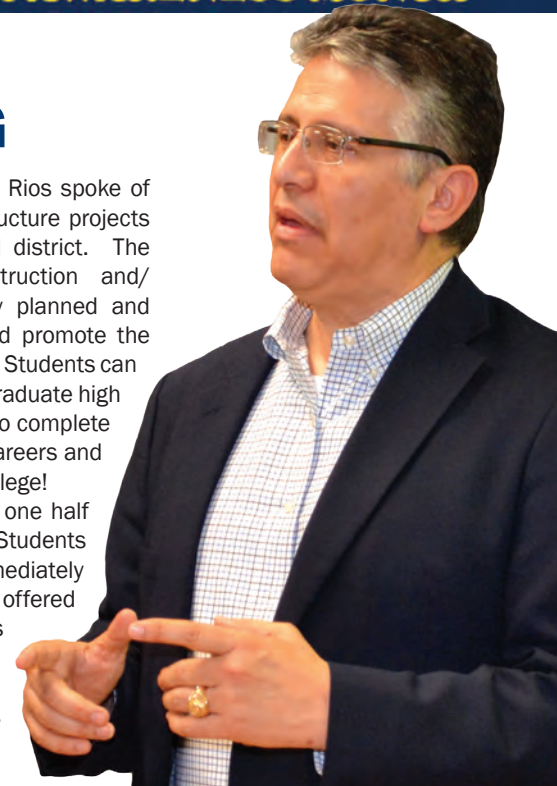
The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce held its monthly membership meeting at the SFDRICISD Administration Building on March 3, 2016.

A membership plaque was presented to Genaly's Filipino Food to welcome this business to the Chamber. Owners Genalyn and Rupert Harmon, spoke to the group about their business and thanked the chamber for its support.

Belinda Reyes, a member of the board of directors of the Education Foundation, spoke about the work of the Foundation and the fund raising activities that the organization conducts to fund grants to teachers for student projects. A sample of one of the various projects produced as a result of funding made available by the Foundation was shared with those in attendance. The Foundation, is doing an excellent job of supporting teacher/student creativity to reach beyond the regular curriculum. Those present at the meeting were invited to join in this endeavor that ultimately benefits everyone.

School Superintendent Dr. Carlos Rios spoke of the many instructional and infrastructure projects in progress throughout the school district. The different structures under construction and/or renovation have been carefully planned and designed to facilitate, enhance and promote the learning experiences of all students. Students can qualify for dual credit courses and graduate high school with enough college credits to complete the first two years of their college careers and save the expense of two years of college!

To most families this represents one half of the cost of a college education! Students who choose the world of work immediately after high school graduation are offered training in various business or trades skills to ready them for immediate integration into the work place. Opportunities abound if students are up for the challenge.



Introducing Our Board Members: Juan Gallegos



Science in Management from Park University in 2013.

Professionally, I have worked in the financial industry with both Border Federal Credit Union and The Bank and Trust. I have also worked with the City of Del Rio as Assistant Tax Assessor/Collector from 2008 through 2013 and as Utility Billing Supervisor from 2013 through 2014.

In January 2015, I began a new venture at Sul Ross Rio Grande Junior College as a Business Advisor for the Small Business Development Center. Currently at this position, I help in assisting prospective entrepreneurs who are in the planning phases of starting their own businesses. I am here to help from square one, including but not limited to research, business plans, all the way to a client's grand opening!

As Director of Economic Development & Small Business

My name is Juan Gallegos and I was born and raised in Del Rio, TX. I am a proud husband to Dariela Gallegos and a proud father of three sons.

After having graduated from Del Rio High School in 1998, I earned my Associates in Management from Southwest Texas Junior College in 2006, followed by a Bachelor's of

for the Del Rio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, I bring with me an array of experience from financial, to management, to business experience. I have had the opportunity to meet with a large portion of the Del Rio business

population, have reached out to many people at our events, and continue to grow my clientele list. As a member of DRHCC, I am excited to make a difference in the city of Del Rio and help it continue to grow.

Business Spotlight

Del Rio Housing Facility Corporation



Val Verde Housing Corporation
 200 Space Blvd. P.O. Drawer 4080
 Del Rio, TX 78841-4080
 (830) 298-2860
 Email: gatewayapts.90@gmail.com

- Water, sewer and trash paid
- Tenant activities
- Routine maintenance
- Maintenance on call
- 2 swimming pools
- Laundry mat on site with brand new washers and dryers
- Security Patrol
- Gated country style living
- Private Patio

Conveniently located by Laughlin Air Force Base and only five miles to town. All apartments are two bedroom, one bath, stove, dishwasher and fridge are provided. If you love country style living, then come and see the "Gateway" to the country. These spacious 900 square feet apartments are affordable at \$450 a month for 12 month lease and \$550 for a month to month lease, so come on by and submit your application today!



PORTS TO PLAINS TRADE CORRIDOR

I just received the latest edition of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor Newsletter. I am very excited about the upcoming Ports to Plains Alliance 2016 Energy & Agriculture Summit being held in Lubbock, Texas on March 30th through the 31st. This is an opportunity to hear about the future economic opportunities in both energy and agriculture, as well as demonstrate our support for these important economic drivers in the Ports-to-Plains region. I invite each and every member to make plans to attend. Information will be available prior to the conference at the Del Rio Hispanic Chamber office.

I am very proud of having personally been a part of the effort that both the City of Del Rio and our sister city Ciudad Acuna, have played in the early stages of the creation of the Ports to Plains Corridor. When the Texas Department of Transportation crunched the numbers and analyzed the best route the Ports-to-Plains Corridor would take, the City of Del Rio did not rate high enough to be included on the route. Thanks to the combined efforts of the community and Presidente Municipal, Chacho Ramon (in conjunction with his



Left to right: Presidente Municipal Chacho Ramon, Former Mayor Dora Alcalá, Former County Judge Mike Fernandez. Picture was taken the day of Designation of the city of Del Rio on the Ports to Plains Trade Corridor Route.

Economic Development Team, including Trinidad Herrera), a letter writing campaign produced thousands of letters that we took to the TXDOT Hearing in Austin, Texas. As the Mayor of Del Rio, I along with representatives from Ciudad Acuna's Presidencia Municipal Administration, testified at the hearing and presented thousands of letters written by citizens urging TXDOT to include Del Rio/Ciudad Acuna on the Ports to Plains Corridor route. After some time, we were notified by TXDOT that our efforts had proven successful and the City of Del Rio would be included in the Ports-to-Plains Corridor route. After our designation, we took

an active part in this coalition. Much of the credit for our current success goes to Sid Cauthorn of The Bank and Trust, who took the bull by the horns and joined the Coalition in an executive capacity. The Del Rio Chamber of Commerce also worked closely with the City of Del Rio to bring this Economic Development route to fruition.

As a refresher of exactly what the Ports-to-Plains route does for us, a quote from their web site: "The Ports-to-Plains Alliance based in Lubbock Texas, is a non-profit, non-partisan, community-driven advocacy group led by mayors, councilpersons, economic development officials,

business and other opinion leaders from ten U.S. States served by a nine-state, 2,300-plus mile economic development corridor between Mexico and Canada. In the U.S., these communities reach from Texas on the south to North Dakota and Montana on the north. The corridor extends into the energy and agriculture rich areas in Canada.

The Government of Alberta joins many communities in Alberta and Saskatchewan looking to expand infrastructure serving the economic needs of their regions and the whole Ports-to-Plains Corridor. In Mexico, development is taking place connecting the Texas/Mexico border in communities along the corridor stretching to the Ports of Mazatlan on the West coast of Mexico. Over the past decade and a half, Ports-to-Plains Alliance members have seen billions in federal and state funding for road improvements in the Ports-to-Plains region." Today we continue to collaborate with our federal and state leaders, partners in Canada and Mexico, and industry partners to deliver the infrastructure, food, fiber and fuel that secure the quality of life of America's great cities. The corridor serves North America's energy heartland including the oils sands in Alberta, Bakken, Niobrara, Permian, Cline, Eagle Ford and emerging Mexico energy plays. At the same time, we embrace America's new energy economy and are capitalizing upon wind power, biofuels and other innovation sectors to renew one of America's greatest legacies, the rural heartland."

We are very proud to be part of the Port-to-Plains Coalition. DORA G. ALCALÁ, Former Mayor, City of Del Rio

Local Hispanic Chamber of Commerce representatives attend TAMACC Quarterly meeting in Seguin, Texas February 18 and 19, 2016.



Texas Association of Mexican-American Chambers of Commerce

The city of Seguin hosted the most recent meeting of The Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce which meets on a quarterly basis in different cities in the state. Attending from Del Rio were Otila Gonzalez, President, and Paulo Pacheco, Parliamentarian. The two day gathering consisted of one day of workshops, with the official meeting of the group taking up the second day. Participants received training in the importance for employers to maintain Employee Eligibility Forms, I-9 forms for all employees; Factors to consider for you and your business in the application of the Texas Open Carry Law; and Board of Directors and Staff responsibilities in running an effective Chamber Organization

that provides legislative advocacy for the Hispanic business community in Texas and is the most active state Hispanic organization in the country. TAMACC focuses on Legislative Advocacy, Procurement Programs, Training and Development of its members.

The Annual Convention of the organization will be hosted by the city of El Paso on August 4,5, and 6, 2016. El Paso has an ambitious program of activities, workshops, tours and more planned for attendees. The convention is a great opportunity to promote your community and to learn about what other businesses throughout the state are successfully doing. Let's plan to attend.

The TAMACC is an organization



Ribbon Cuttings/Presentations



RIBBON CUTTING
Whitehead Museum March 4. Rural Texas Women at Work Exhibition



SFDRICISD, Carlos H. Rios and Leslie Herrera



Genaly's Philipino Foods, Rupert Harmon, Genaly and Leslie Herrera



Please Join us for this Special Event!

Administrative Appreciation Luncheon

Wednesday April 27, 2016 11:30 a.m. – 1 :00 p.m.



Connie Mendoza

In Memory of Connie Mendoza,
DRHCC Finance Director

featuring

Shayla Rivera, NASA Engineer turned
Comedian



Shayla Rivera

www.funnyrocketscientist.com

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Gold Sponsor



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Individual Tickets: \$15.00
Silver Sponsor: \$200.00
Gold Sponsor: \$300.00 or above
Platinum : \$1000.00
Tables of 10 chairs

Door Prizes!
Call 830-488-7422

Ramada Inn Grand Ballroom
Business Casual attire

DRHCC Calender of Events

April 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Informative Notice: *Membership meeting are on the second Thursday of the month * Board meetings are on the last Monday of the month.					1 April Fool's Day	2 Cajun Fest Whitehead Museum
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Thomas Jefferson's Birthday	14 Monthly Membership Meeting	15 Tax Day	16 Spring Bazaar @ Doc Holliday's
17	18	19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23
24	25 Board Meeting	26	27 Administrative Luncheon	28	29 Relay for Life Arbor Day and Leon's Club Convention at Ramada	30

Del Rio Hispanic Chamber Of Commerce

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Phone: (830) 488-7422 Email: Hispanic.Chamber@drhcc.org Website: www.delriohispanicchamber.org