



THE GRAPEVINE



A Publication for the Employees and Friends of Eastern New Mexico University

ENMU-ROSWELL FOUNDATION HONORS JENNINGS

Close to 200 business and community leaders joined campus employees and ENMU-Roswell Foundation members for the Foundation's Sixth Annual Foundation for the Future Banquet held April 17 at the Best Western Sally Port Inn and Suites. The featured speaker was Dr. Garrey Carruthers, former New Mexico Governor and currently Dean of the College of Business and Vice President for Economic Development at New Mexico State University. The 'Harris Award for Distinguished Service to ENMU-Roswell' was presented to Senator Timothy Z. Jennings for his continuing support of the campus.

Carruthers served as Governor of New Mexico from 1987 through 1990. Since July 1 of 2003, he has worked as the Dean of the NMSU College of Business Administration and Economics. In his remarks, Carruthers told the audience that the key to economic development growth is ensuring that all New Mexico students complete high school and graduate with a college degree. Simply put, he said higher education levels translate into higher salaries. He stressed the importance of promoting a K-16 education, not just K-12. He said steps must be taken to close the educational attainment gap that exists among various ethnic groups.

Jennings has been a State Senator for the past 29 years. Education and health issues have been the focus of much of his legislation. Provost, Dr. Judy Armstrong said Jennings has been a staunch supporter of the campus for many years. "He has sponsored legislation to provide additional funding for capital projects, including statewide GO Bond issues," she said. "He has provided ongoing support for the nursing and aviation programs at ENMU-Roswell and recurring funding for our unique Special Services Program. He has sponsored new program development, such as dental hygiene and bachelor's degrees in EMS Management and Aviation. He also promoted the relocation of the Rehabilitation Center to the ENMU-Roswell Campus. He is proactive and visionary and one of our strongest advocates."

Jennings said he was humbled to receive an award named for Lawrence C. Harris, who is a long-time family friend. Jennings said it is up to everyone to follow the example of Harris and do their part in supporting education and giving back to the community. Jennings also took some time to recognize Linda Green, the former director of the Special Services Program at ENMU-Roswell. He presented Green with a legislative proclamation citing her exemplary work in improving the lives of students with disabilities. He called Green a hero.

Armstrong and Bob Cates, President of the Foundation, also recognized two students with scholarships during the banquet. Xanthia Cheney received the E. Ray Phelps Scholarship. She is currently studying to be an elementary school teacher. Dalianna Gonzales received the Greg Knoch Scholarship. She is pursuing a career as a Medical Billing Specialist.

The annual foundation banquet is an opportunity to raise awareness about the work of the foundation and is a time to publicly recognize and thank those who have helped to foster the growth of the university.



Provost Armstrong and Bob Cates presented Senator Tim Jennings with his Harris Award.



Garrey Carruthers was the featured speaker.



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MAY BIRTHDAYS

- Michael E. Gomez 1
- Michael Vandiver 4
- Jason Molnar 5
- Brent Hildebrand 5
- Rodney Ray 6
- Francis D. James 6
- Chris Lucero 17
- Raymond Torrez 21
- Derek Dubiel 26
- P. Maureen Olguin 26
- Rossie Morris 26
- Todd DeKay 31

More Foundation Dinner Photographs on Page 2

FOUNDATION DINNER PHOTOGRAPHS



A distinguished crowd attended the event.



Dalianna Gonzales with Dr. Armstrong and Bob Cates



Members of the SkillsUSA chapter and the club's faculty advisors were special guests at the banquet.



Xanthia Cheney with Dr. Armstrong and Bob Cates



Dr. Steven Gamble spoke at the event.



Senator Jennings presented a special legislative proclamation to Linda Green.

NASCAR Racing Simulator Comes to ENMU-Roswell

The ENMU-Roswell Student Activity Board invited students and the public to experience the only full-size NASCAR Nextel Cup Chevy Monte Carlo racing simulator in the world on Tuesday, April 17.

The Pepsi NASCAR Nextel Cup car was actually driven in a real race by NASCAR driver Jeff Gordon. This official #24 Jeff Gordon Pepsi Chevrolet simulator is the first to combine a hydraulic motion system and computer controls that give the driver the thrill of actual NASCAR Nextel Cup racing. From the green flag to the checkered flag, drivers heard the sounds of the track and felt the excitement of high speed turns through full on-screen instrumentation. Drivers controlled their own race at their own speed in one of 29 different races on the Nextel Cup circuit.



Dr. Judy Armstrong--before driving.....and after



NEW EMPLOYEES AT ENMU-ROSWELL



Laura Smith began her position as Training Specialist for the CWCD on April 2. Laura received a B.S. at Lubbock Christian University.



Keith Ervin began his position as EMS Instructor on April 23. He received an A.S. from ENMU-Roswell. Keith enjoys fishing, hunting, backpacking, and golf.



Dave Simonson
EMS Instructor



Bobby Powers
EMS Instructor

COMEDY-HYPNOSIS SHOW HELD AT ENMU-ROSWELL

ENMU-Roswell students and the public attended a comedy-hypnosis show with Rich Ames on Thursday, April 12 in the Performing Arts Center on campus. The show was free. Ames is a hypnotist with the National Board of Hypnosis Education and Certification and studied psychology as an undergraduate. He trained in Los Angeles and Florida with the top hypnotists in the United States. In addition to his comedy-hypnosis show, Ames also presented a hypnosis workshop designed to help people quit smoking, drop extra pounds, perform better at sports, or improve study habits in school.

Ames has appeared on national network television, NHK Japanese television, and in local and national commercials. He has also performed at colleges and universities throughout the United States.



BERRY SELECTED FOR GOVERNOR'S AWARD

Suzanne Berry, Director of the Child Development Program and Center at ENMU-Roswell, has been selected as one of 21 women throughout the state to receive the 2007 Governor's Award for Outstanding New Mexico Women. The women were recognized and received their awards during a ceremony on May 4 at the Hotel Albuquerque in Old Town.

Established in 1986 during former Governor Bruce King's second tenure, the New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women honors 20 women, selected from statewide nominations, for their exceptional contributions and achievements. Appointed by the Governor, judges award women for their extra efforts to improve the status of women in our state. They are rated on community leadership, effectiveness of advocacy for positive change for women and families, and leadership in their careers.

Berry has a bachelor's degree from New Mexico State University, a master's degree from California State University at Long Beach and a Ph.D. from Ohio State University. She has worked as an instructor and Director of the Child Development Center on campus since 1985. Berry is also a family and child development consultant in private practice in Roswell. "My passion is being with young children, being their teacher, watching them grow and learn," she said. "I also care deeply about the adult students who want to be teachers of young children (birth through 3rd grade) and enjoy teaching and mentoring them."

Berry is a member of both the National and New Mexico Associations for the Education of Young Children. She served as president of the state association in 2005. Berry remains active in the community and is currently a member of the Altrusa Club of Roswell and a member and past co-chair of the Early Childhood Higher Education Task Force. She is treasurer of the Tobosa Developmental Services Board and president of the La Entrada Teen Parenting Program. Berry is a recipient of the NISOD Award for Excellence in Teaching and received a Bronze Teacher of Character Award in 2005 from the Chaves County Teacher of Character Recognition Program. As a life-long learner, Berry is now embarking on yet another degree. She is currently a student in the Occupational Therapy Assistant program at ENMU-Roswell.



APRIL IS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MONTH

The month of April is Occupational Therapy Month. The Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program at ENMU-Roswell is now accepting applications from interested students. The application deadline for entrance in fall 2007 is May 1. Applications can be picked up in room 143 of the Health Science Center on campus. Those interested can also apply online at www.roswell.enmu.edu or call 624-7349 for more information.

"Occupational therapists are trained to work with individuals and in the community to promote wellness and increase participation in all aspects of daily life," said Pat Herrera, OTA Director. "Occupational therapists help people with physical and mental challenges to learn, work, socialize, drive, eat, or just do the things they want to do. Occupational therapy can help a person to do all of these things and more," she said.

Well-paying and rewarding jobs are available for trained occupational therapists. Herrera encourages those interested to become part of this exciting field.

SUMMER/FALL CLASS SCHEDULES AVAILABLE

Class schedules for the Summer session and the Fall semester at ENMU-Roswell are available at the following locations: ENMU-Roswell, Chaves County Career Center in the Bank of America building (ninth floor), Hastings Books, Music and Video, NMMI (Toles Learning Center), Wal-Mart, NM Department of Labor, NM Income Support Division, Roswell Public Library, K-Mart, Target, Roswell Racquet Club, Blockbuster Video, Counseling Associates, Roswell Visitors' Center, Roswell Chamber of Commerce, Roswell Adult Center, Office Max, Roswell High School, Goddard High School, University High School, Christmas By Krebs, and Artesia Education Center, 602 West Texas, Artesia.

Online registration is now open at www.roswell.enmu.edu. Students can also register any time on campus during regular business hours. The campus is open from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8:00 a.m. until noon on Friday. Summer classes begin June 4. Fall classes begin August 27. For registration information, call 624-7149.

MAI PARRA NAMED TRIO STUDENT OF THE MONTH

The ENMU-Roswell Student Outreach program is pleased to recognize Mia Parra as Student of the Month for February. Mia has been an inspiration to the TRIO program, fellow students, the staff and faculty at New Mexico Youth Challenge.

Mia exemplifies the TRIO Student Outreach ideals of academic determination, extra effort, personal conduct and academic excellence regardless of social, cultural, or economic barriers. Mia expects to graduate in May 2007 with a certificate in Nursing Assistant and to further pursue the medical field.

Mia is an excellent student with great academic grades and is a dedicated, outstanding, and responsible person. Mia has excelled not only as a student but as a cadet and a leader. She currently holds the highest rank at NMYCA. Mia states, "I intend to set the perfect example for my fellow cadets." Mia is the middle child of four siblings and enjoys getting along with her family. Her hobbies are reading, playing sports, hunting, fishing and golfing.

TRIO programs are funded from the U.S. Department of Education.



ENMU-ROSWELL FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES SPRING SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The ENMU-Roswell Foundation has awarded \$4,000 in scholarships for the spring 2007 semester to eight students. Each of the following students will receive a \$500 scholarship: Janyce Callaway, Santiago Lucero, Jesus Chavez, Tammie McKee, Kimberly Goff, Joseph Pabcazinsky, Alexander Krivosheya, and Sandra Spain.

In addition, the ENMU-Roswell Foundation provided scholarships to two high school seniors who attended the Evening with Eastern event on March 1 at the Roswell Civic Center. They are Matthew Cottrell, a senior at Goddard High School, and Travis Hamilton, a senior at Lake Arthur High School

For information on ENMU-Roswell Foundation Scholarships, contact the Financial Aid office on campus at 624-7400.

AMY CLARK NAMED TRIO STUDENT OF THE MONTH

The ENMU-Roswell Student Outreach program is pleased to recognize Amy Clark as Student of the Month for March. Amy has been an inspiration to the TRIO program, her fellow students, and the staff and faculty at ENMU-Roswell. Amy exemplifies the TRIO Student Outreach ideals of academic determination, extra effort, personal conduct and academic excellence regardless of social, cultural, or economic barriers. Amy is currently a freshman at Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell and plans to obtain a degree in Criminal Justice. Amy shows significant determination and perseverance in applying herself to her classes. She is a strong advocate for herself and her fellow students, always seeking to improve herself and her environment while considering the needs of others. Amy currently has a 3.2 grade point average and is determined to have a 4.0 grade point average by finals.



GEAR UP AND MESA PRESENT PARENT INSTITUTE

The Southeast Region New Mexico MESA Program and the GEAR UP Program at ENMU-Roswell invited parents of MESA and GEAR UP students to attend a Parent Institute on Saturday, April 14 at the NMMI Daniel's Leadership Center.

The workshop featured a number of speakers who presented on a variety of topics helpful to parents, including the importance of science education, drug information, and financial aid/student loan information. Hands-on math and hands-on science presentations were also on the agenda. The morning keynote speaker was Lonnie Moore, a Franklin Covey Training Consultant, who presented "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Parents."

Each MESA parent who attended the workshop received a \$25 stipend. Those who traveled more than 50 miles to Roswell were paid 40 cents per mile and were provided a hotel room for the night of April 13, if requested. Two laptop computers and several other nice prizes were also given away during the workshop. For further information about the program, contact Betty Chancey with NM MESA, Inc., at 624-7129 or Liz McMinn with GEAR UP at 624-7104.

UNM PROFESSOR TO SPEAK AT ENMU-ROSWELL

Sherri Burr, Professor of Law at the University of New Mexico School of Law, will conduct a free presentation on contemporary racial and economic issues at the ENMU-Roswell Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, May 1, at 12:30 p.m. The presentation is titled "Race and Racism in the New Millennium: The Economic Impact of Unconscious Bias," and is part of the series: 'Sustaining Community, Conversations with the World'. This Chautauqua presentation is funded by the New Mexico Humanities Council and is sponsored by the Liberal Arts Division of ENMU-Roswell. This extremely insightful presentation is free and the public is invited to attend.

According to Burr, as the domestic and international economy evolves, so too has the discriminatory impact of unconscious bias. Burr uses studies such as shopping for cars and mortgages, participating in music competitions, and searching for jobs using phantom resumes to illustrate that while the law has eliminated conscious discrimination against African-Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans and others, these groups continue to be harmed at a more insidious, unconscious level. One of the surprising revelations is that



group members sometimes discriminate against each other.

Burr, a graduate of Yale Law School, has taught as Professor of Law at UNM for over 19 years. She is the author of six published books.

ENMU-ROSWELL NURSING CLASS RAISES FUNDS FOR TEEN PARENTING RESIDENCE

On April 21, the ENMU-Roswell Nursing Seminar class held a garage sale to assist the Teen Parenting Residence.

Every semester the Nursing Seminar class is required to do a project to benefit the Teen Parenting Residence. The garage sale netted \$350.00, which enabled the nursing students to purchase a gas grill, outdoor furniture, toys, books and baby sunscreen for the babies at the residence.



ENMU-ROSWELL TO HOLD COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

More than 200 graduates are expected to participate in Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell's Forty-seventh Commencement Convocation on Friday, May 11 at the Roswell Wool Bowl. Certificate of Occupational Training graduates from the New Mexico Youth Challenge Academy will also take part in the ceremony, in addition to bachelor's and master's degree candidates from Eastern New Mexico University and New Mexico Highlands University. Dr. Steven Gamble, ENMU President and members of the ENMU Board of Regents will attend. Cadets with the Youth Challenge Academy served as the Color Guard and the ENMU-Roswell Community Band and the ENMU-Roswell Chorale will provide the processional and recessional music.

The featured speaker will be Jose A. Chavez, ENMU-Roswell alumnus and former member of the Community College Board. Born in Juarez, Mexico, Chavez and his family moved to Pinon, New Mexico when he was two years old. He graduated from Weed High School in 1978 and attended New Mexico Military Institute on a basketball scholarship. He was an officer and platoon leader at NMMI and graduated in 1980 with an associate degree in General Studies. He attended New Mexico State University in the fall of 1980 where he met Sheila, who would become his wife. They married in July of 1981 and moved to Bloomfield, New Mexico.

Chavez decided he wanted to pursue a degree in Petroleum Production Technology at ENMU-Roswell, so he moved to Roswell in the fall of 1984 to continue his education while his wife stayed in Bloomfield with their two young children, Levi and Felecia. While at ENMU-Roswell, Chavez said he took advantage of financial aid funds and worked at various jobs including washing dishes and breaking horses to make money. He was on the fast track to earn his degree and took 22 hours a semester, plus a 10 hour summer session to complete his required classes. He graduated from the program with straight A's in December of 1985 and moved back to Farmington, where he went to work for Arco Oil and Gas. He was laid off by the company in 1987 and he and his wife moved back to Las Cruces. During this time, a third child, Angelica, was born and Sheila completed a bachelor's degree in Accounting at NMSU. Chavez was again hired by Arco, so in 1988 the family moved back to Farmington.

In 2001, the Chavez family moved to Hagerman, where Jose worked for Agave Energy until April of 2006. Jose then started his own business, Bobcat Production, an oil and gas production and consulting company with eight employees. Chavez said his career and his success have all been a result of what he learned from the instructors at ENMU-Roswell. He wants to stress to students how to take advantage of their education to make a future for themselves. Chavez tells his employees that as the company grows, they all grow with it.

At 47 years old, Chavez still enjoys playing basketball and plays on the National Hispanic 40 and over circuit. He also enjoys ranching and owns some horses and cattle on leased properties in the Hagerman area. Chavez said he also credits much of his success to his wife, who is currently a CPA with Agave Energy. He is also proud of his children. Levi is a mechanical engineer in Oklahoma City. Angelica is a nursing student at NMSU and Felicia is working as his administrative assistant.

Debra Hope, who will be graduating with honors with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Computer Applications and Support, will be the student speaker. Born and raised in Artesia, Hope is a native of Southeastern New Mexico. She lived in Las Cruces, Roswell, and in Texas, and is now back in her hometown. In 2005, Hope, a single mother of three, made the decision to enroll at ENMU-Roswell, returning to school after being out of the classroom for about seventeen years. This summer, she will begin classes towards a bachelor's degree through distance education at ENMU. She has also been nominated for Who's Who Among American Junior College Students.

Hope says the time she has spent at ENMU-Roswell has been wonderful and that the level of instruction is beyond compare. She thanks the faculty members of the CAS department, who have shown a personal interest in her success as a student and eventually in her career. Hope is currently serving her internship as Administrative Assistant to Craig Collins, the Programs Coordinator at the ENMU-Roswell Artesia Education Center. "He has been very supportive and encouraging, and entrusted me with several projects that provided me with learning opportunities and a chance to experience empowerment in the workplace. I feel extremely well educated, trained, and generally equipped for what lies ahead, thanks to my time at ENMU-R. It's an outstanding university."



Jose Chavez



Debra Hope

ENMU-Roswell Students Recognized at SkillsUSA Conference

Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell SkillsUSA Chapter students received high marks at the New Mexico SkillsUSA State Conference held in Albuquerque March 22-24. Several ENMU-Roswell students earned first place positions at the conference and now have the opportunity to compete at the National Leadership and Skills Conference to be held in Kansas City, Missouri, from June 26 through 29.

The following ENMU-Roswell students earned recognition at the state conference at the postsecondary level:

- ▶ Rebecca Starritt, 1st place, Chapter Display
- ▶ Joseph Pabrazinsky, 1st place, Computer Maintenance and Technology
- ▶ Alfredo Garcia, 1st place, Internetworking
- ▶ Aaron Apodaca, 1st place, Welding
- ▶ Stinson Daniels, 2nd place, Welding

The SkillsUSA Championships is the showcase for the best career and technical students in the nation. The approximate cost per student to attend the national conference in Kansas City is \$1000, which includes the round trip flight, hotel and meals. Students plan to participate in activities to raise the funds needed to make the trip. Individuals and/or businesses who wish to sponsor these hardworking students are also being sought. For information, contact the SkillsUSA advisors, Brandon Whatley at 624-7318, Teresa Rhodes at 624-7290 or Robert Sorenson at 624-7418. The Vice President of the Roswell Chapter is Rebecca Starritt, who can be reached at 624-7332.

SkillsUSA is a national organization for students interested in trade, industry, technical, technology, and health occupations education. The organization works in conjunction with business and industry to create world class workers and responsible citizens. The program is designed to prepare high school, college, and adult students for technical careers by developing their occupational, academic, and employment skills. That preparation is based in part on what business and industry considers important to job success.



L-R Back Row: Joseph Pabrazinsky, Alfredo Garcia, Rebecca Starritt, Aaron Apodaca, Nolan Martinez, and Juan Muniz, Front Row: Jordon (Stinson) Daniels and Marcelino Olivas. Advisors who attended (Not pictured): Brandon Whatley, Terry Rhodes, Dusty Heritage, Robert Sorenson, Buddy Brown, and Mike Juliana.

GRAND OPENING HELD FOR ENMU-ROSWELL HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

The new Health Science Center at ENMU-Roswell was officially opened on Wednesday, April 25 with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Students and staff in the Health Division took visitors on guided tours of the state-of-the-art facility which consolidates the majority of the programs in the Health Division under one roof. Classes began in the new building in January.

In her welcoming remarks during the ceremony, Dr. Judy Armstrong, Provost said the dream for the center has become a reality. "The vision we had for a new facility, dedicated to allied health programs, began in 2002, as we developed a concept for the building," she said. The \$7.1 million project was funded through a \$3 million statewide general obligation bond issue passed by voters in 2004 and a portion of an \$8.1 million local bond issue passed by Chaves County voters in 2003. "We have many people to thank, but at the very top of the list are the people of Chaves County, who believed enough in the vision to support it with their tax dollars, and the people of the state of New Mexico, who voted to support this and other higher education projects throughout the state."

A number of university and city officials also spoke during the ceremony, commending Armstrong, Division of Health Chair, Jane Batson, and the staff for their perseverance and teamwork in seeing the project completed.

The former Walker Air Force Base building was renovated and expanded into the modern health training center, complete with classrooms, computer labs, medical labs, and storage for medical equipment and Emergency Medical Services trailers. The 33,000 square foot building houses the following programs: Occupational Therapy Assisting, Emergency Medical Services, Pharmacy Technician, Respiratory Therapy, Nursing, Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy, Medical Coding, Medical Transcription, and Nursing Assisting. Several Child Development classes are also meeting in the new center.



State Senator Tim Jennings thanked Dr. Gamble and the Eastern system for its support of the Roswell campus.



Jane Batson and Dr. Armstrong cut the red ribbon to open the building.



Dr. Gurley and Regent Marshall Stinnett talk with Senator Jennings and Ty Trujillo, Executive Director of the New Mexico Association of Community Colleges, following the ceremony.



A large crowd attended the ceremony.



Dr. Jay Gurley, President of the ENMU Board of Regents, said with the shortages in health care workers, the timing for opening a health training center couldn't be better. He said the Regents will continue to work with university staff to provide facilities and employment opportunities for students.



Nursing students helped to serve cake and show visitors around during the open house. From left to right: Crystal Aguilar, Regina Scott, Becky Ramirez, Jorge Velez, Jennifer Gibson, Shantilly Page

NMMI, ENMU-ROSWELL, NMSU PARTNER IN EDUCATION PROGRAM

ENMU-Roswell, New Mexico State University (NMSU), and New Mexico Military Institute (NMMI) recently joined in a partnership to enable students at NMMI and ENMU-Roswell to participate in classes that will augment and transfer to NMSU's fully accredited Athletic Training Education Program.

In announcing the partnership, NMMI President and Superintendent David Ellison, said that NMMI "...must continue to meet the educational desires and challenges for New Mexicans, and other students, put forward by Governor Richardson and New Mexico's education officials. The addition of this program to NMMI's curriculum, in partnership with ENMU-R and NMSU, adds greatly to our ability to provide more opportunities for our cadets at the college and high school levels and students at ENMU-Roswell by helping them prepare for NMSU's already strong program. Equally important, our high school cadets who desire to pursue a degree in a sports medicine or athletic training and education field may move immediately into the program as a college freshman. That is what we do best as a college preparatory program."

Dr. Judy Armstrong, ENMU-Roswell Provost stated, "We are excited about our new partnership with NMMI and NMSU and the joint program in Athletic Training that we are developing. This is a wonderful opportunity for students at all of our campuses to earn yet another bachelor's degree. It is our hope that this new initiative will lead to even more collaborative efforts in the future."



John Farmer, Coordinator of the New Student Relations/Career Resource Center (right), talks to attendees at the Department of Labor Job Fair held April 10 at the Civic Center.



Tammi Mathews, ENMU-Roswell Grants Projects Manager, was one of several campus employees who worked at the ENMU-Roswell table during the Goddard Days Science Discovery Festival held April 11-13 at the Yucca Center. More than 2500 kids participated in the three day event.



Bill Suggs and Jacqueline Shaw represented the campus at the Business Showcase sponsored by the Roswell Chamber of Commerce on April 13.



Frances Granado and Gretchen Flanary also worked at the Business Showcase.



Foundation member, Lawrence C. Harris (center) was recognized as an Emeritus member of the Foundation recently by Provost Armstrong and Foundation President, Bob Cates.

CHAVES COUNTY YOUTH AWARENESS SPONSORS 'EVERY FIFTEEN MINUTES'

Chaves County Youth Awareness was started in 1999 by a group of volunteers from various emergency services, comprised of fire fighters, EMTs, police officers, court staff, EMS educators, and members of the general public. The group was formed to promote alcohol awareness among community children, Boy Scouts, and grade schools. The Chaves County Youth Awareness group adheres to the goal of helping as many kids as possible. They state that if they save one life, they have succeeded. The group says that thus far, there have been zero incidents involving alcohol on prom nights, after having participated in this program. The group feels this program will encourage kids to think twice before drinking and driving.

The 'Every 15 Minutes' program began in Bray, California. The first Chaves County program ran at Roswell High School in 1999. Since that time, Dexter High School, Hagerman High School, and Goddard High School have participated in the program. The 'Every 15 Minutes' program is an intense, two day program, targeting the two day period before a prom. Statistics show that prom tends to be the day for parties and underage drinking.

This is a typical agenda: On Thursday morning, prior to the program's beginning, organizers meet with the teachers at the designated school. School staff is briefed on the itinerary. The program begins with a 'grim reaper' entering the classroom and selecting a student. A uniformed police officer enters the room and reads an obituary that the student's parents have written for him/her. The obituary is then placed on the door and will remain there for the rest of the year. The designated student is then placed in a black t-shirt and his/her face is painted white. They are now known as the "living dead". They are not allowed to speak to anyone the rest of the day.

Other students participate in a mock accident that takes place prior to lunch. Two students are transported to the hospital and one student is arrested. At the hospital, an OMI (office of the medical examiner) investigator pronounces a student deceased. One of the local funeral homes goes to the hospital, places the student in a body bag and loads them into a hearse. The student who is arrested is taken to CCJDC (Chaves County Juvenile Detention Center), booked, showered, placed in stripes and put in a cell. The parents of the student who 'dies' at the hospital will be notified that their son/daughter was involved in an accident and will also go to the hospital. They will be allowed to enter the hospital room where a brief overview will be given by a doctor. The parents are told of the findings and then allowed to make a decision as to place their child on life support or not, and they will be informed of organ donation issues. Once the parents make a decision, the injured student is taken back to the rest of the group.

After lunch, students are given a tour of the CCJDC, where they see many reasons not to be incarcerated. They see their classmate as an inmate, and the inmate sees his classmates in a whole new light. Then students go to court, where the driver appears before the judge and faces formal charges. A juvenile probation officer and/or a district attorney prosecute the case. The defendant (driver) has a defense lawyer. Occasionally, students comprise the jury, and must reach a verdict in the case. Parents of the defendant are also in the court room. After the trial, the judge explains all the possible sentences, then executes a verdict.

The driver/prisoner joins the student group. The group goes to the funeral home and participate in the various steps in arranging a funeral. Students are also shown the crematory. In the funeral home chapel, students will unexpectedly walk in on family members of one of the students, who are holding mock funeral services. After the services, the students watch the family members leave.

At the students' next stop, the Roswell Fire Dept., a speaker from the New Mexico Health Departments walks students through a mock autopsy, using animal organs to illustrate what happens when people abuse alcohol, drugs and tobacco.

Students adjourn to a hotel for dinner, and they listen to guest speakers relate stories about alcohol abuse; parents who have lost a child to drug abuse speak; prisoners speak about incarcerations because of something they did involving alcohol.

After the speakers conclude, the students must write letters home to their parents. Each letter begins the same: "Dear Mom and Dad--Every 15 minutes, someone is killed in an alcohol related accident. Today that someone was me. I wish I had time to tell you..." Councilors and clergy attend to assist students. While the students write, their parents are also writing to them.

After the letters are written, students (weather permitting), go drive go-karts while wearing fatal vision goggles, so they can see what it is like to drive while impaired. Other students observe. Students are given field sobriety tests while wearing the goggles, which shows the affects of drugs and alcohol.

Students return to the hotel for the night. Two to 3 students are paired with a sponsor; males/males, females/females.

On Friday morning the group of students is presented to a school assembly that is set up like a mock funeral. A master of ceremonies explains the program to the student body. The participating students tell everyone about their feelings during their participation in the program. The guest speakers from Thursday evening share their stories. The students can read their letters written to their parents, to the audience if they wish. The parents read their letters, and the assembly is concluded. At the exits, students pass open coffins with mirrors in them, which reflect those who pass. A reception reunites participating students and parents.

The group chooses the participants carefully. They believe that participants will communicate their experience to other peers, who will take the message to heart. The group states that their program continues to grow more successful every year. Years after a presentation, former students thank the group for their program and message. They are all doing this because they care, because they believe in it and give it all they have.

The editor would like to thank Kathy Wells, EMS Instructor, for this article.

GED STUDENTS TO CELEBRATE GRADUATION

The Adult Basic Education Department at ENMU-Roswell will hold its Eighteenth Annual GED High School Completion Graduation ceremony on Thursday, May 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center on campus. Major David Garcia, Deputy Administrator of the Chaves County Adult Detention Facility will be the featured speaker. For adults who did not complete high school, the Tests of General Educational Development (GED) provide an opportunity to earn a high school credential. Since 1986, ENMU-Roswell's GED Testing Center has issued more than 3,000 high school equivalency diplomas.

Garcia is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tony Garcia. He is a 1979 graduate of Roswell High School. He began working as an officer at the Chaves County Detention Center in 1992. He was promoted to Sergeant in August of 1996 and then Lieutenant in October of 1996. He became the Deputy Administrator/Major in July of 2007.

In 1998 and 1999, Garcia studied Business Administration at ENMU-Roswell. In 2006, he returned to ENMU-Roswell, where he is pursuing an Associate of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice. Garcia has attained numerous certificates of training in a number of areas such as handcuffing/defensive tactics, and inmate transportation and restraints. He has completed pepper spray and pepper ball training courses, in addition to supervisor training courses. He also has training certificates in Internal Affairs in Jail Investigations, First Responder Crisis Situations, Continuing Care Forensic Collection, Basic Detention Supervision, and Crisis Negotiation.

Garcia is currently a member of the Roswell Sertoma Club. He has been Chairman of the Activities Committee and the Youth Activities Committee. He is currently a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. His hobbies include riding motorcycles, lifting weights, fishing and hunting. David has two brothers, two sisters, three children and five grandchildren.



The Grapevine is produced by the ENMU-Roswell College Development/Community Relations Office. For further information, to contribute to future issues of the Grapevine, or to contact the Community Relations Office, call Linda Whitehead at 505-624-7404; e-mail linda.whitehead@roswell.enmu.edu. ENMU-Roswell is an Affirmative Action and equal opportunity employer. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its programs, activities, or employment. Persons seeking additional information about the University's nondiscrimination policy should contact the Director of Affirmative Action, ENMU-Roswell, P.O. Box 6000, Roswell, NM 88202-6000.