

# THE RAVEN CARRIER

RGHS Alumni Association Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2013

Volume I, Issue I

RGHSALUMNI.COM • RGHSALUMNI@HOTMAIL.COM

## We are Ravens Helping Ravens



A group of proud Ravens believed that Rio Grande High School's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary was an event to celebrate in

grand style. Hence in the summer of 2008, a planning committee was organized by our founding members. Rio Grande High School celebrated its "50th Golden Anniversary" on June 13, 2009 at Isleta Casino and Resort. The celebration was attended and enjoyed by nearly 1,000 Ravens, from the class of 1959 to the current 2009 students that participated in the entertainment.

Following the memorable event, several of the planning committee members decided to continue to celebrate the deep rooted pride of Rio Grande by forming the RGHS Alumni Association. Proceeds from the event were directed to the creation and installation

A PROUD SOUTH VALLEY TRADITION  
SINCE 1958; "QUE VIVA RIO GRANDE"

of our beautiful "History Wall" located in the Student Commons Building of Rio Grande High School dedicated on August 29, 2011. The 8ft X 24ft structure houses historical memorabilia starting with the original deed and plans to build Rio Grande High School at 2300 Arenal Road SW in Albuquerque, New Mexico to a miniature replica of the original Raven that stood center stage of our beloved campus for years. The wall depicts the rich history of RGHS, a feature for all Ravens... past, present and future to appreciate.

## Message from the Chair

by Rachael Lucero-Maldonado

Once a Raven always a Raven. I graduated 33 years ago and feel nothing but pride every time I meet a fellow Raven and I know many of us feel the same. That is the reason that I joined the RGHS Alumni Association, RGHSAA, and invite you to consider joining us. It is a way to show Raven pride by reaching out to past, present and future Ravens. We work closely with Rio Grande High School's principal to

not only support but also to include current students to participate in events and activities sponsored by RGHSAA. We are also involved with the South Valley business community to help promote and network as they support our ventures as well. We have connected to many of you through social media such as Facebook with over 4,000 friends and our Raven Nation website with over 45,000 hits and counting.

## Distinguished Raven

RGHS Class of 1960: Professor Theodore Parnall  
– Emeritus Professor of Law

Ted Parnall had a 27-year career in U.S. legal education, including serving five years as dean of University of New Mexico School of Law. In addition, he has worked as a long-term resident legal adviser in more than 10 overseas posts in countries as diverse as Ethiopia, and the Kyrgyz Republic. Following graduation from UNM School of Law in 1967, he practiced law with Paul Weiss, Rifkind Wharton & Garrison, a major New York City law firm, where he specialized in corporate and securities law. Since becoming emeritus professor in 1997, he has been the director of projects that include training for the judiciary and for public prosecutors.

## What's Happening

South Valley Pride Day was a success with our inaugural 2013 RGHS Alumni Car Show and food booth which we sold out of our turkey legs and gave over 20 prizes to attendees as co-sponsors of the event.

Membership Recruitment – we are working on building alumni membership during August through November.

We will be participating in RGHS Homecoming events.

Golf Tournament – Planning our golf tournament for July or August 2014, stay tuned for the details.

## Ravens Helping Ravens

## Alumni Membership Drive

Become a vital part of Ravens Helping Ravens by joining the RGHS Alumni Association. We meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00PM at Rio Grande High School in the commons area. We invite you to attend up to three meetings before making your decision.

### Membership Benefits

- 10% off any Association paid events
- Sponsor recognition on website
- Quarterly Association Newsletter
- 10% discount on all Alumni merchandise
- Participation in Alumni event planning
- Pride of Ravens helping Ravens

### Volunteering Program

If you are interested in participating in the Volunteering Program, please contact us.

Annual Membership \$35.00 a year  
Lifetime Membership \$100.00

Make checks payable to:  
RGHS Alumni Association

RAVEN NATION MEMBERSHIP  
RGHS Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 72644  
Albuquerque, NM 87195-2644



**Alumni**  
"Ravens Helping Ravens"



## Fifty Years and Counting

The need for a high school west of the Rio Grande River made way for RGHS, Home of the Ravens, to open its doors on September 2, 1958. The school was built at the cost of \$9.80 per square foot. The original 74,380 square foot school included three classrooms together with science labs, a library, a music room and a wood shop. Rio Grande's first principal was Mr. A. B. Chavez (known as "Father Raven").

Our school mascot and colors were voted on by the students from Ernie Pyle and John Adams Junior High Schools, before they were Ravens. The school newspaper name "La Corriente" means life, progress and energy: "The Steam of Life". Rio's yearbook name, "Po Ye Da" means "Friend" given by

"... THEY WILL LEAVE KNOWING THE MANY TRADITIONS SET BY THEM WILL LONG BE CHERISHED AND UPHELD BY OTHERS TO COME."...

student, Margaret Jojola from Isleta Pueblo. As a famous RGHS landmark, a Senior Tower was built in the center of the patio made of red brick. The tower had a bench surrounding the bottom and proudly featured the letters "RGHS" made of metal at the top. As a gift from the senior class of 1960, the letters at the top of the tower were replaced with a raven sculpture designed by Mr. Herb Goldman.

June 3, 1959 marked Rio Grande High School's first Commencement Ceremony held at the Civic Auditorium where 104 students graduated as Ravens.

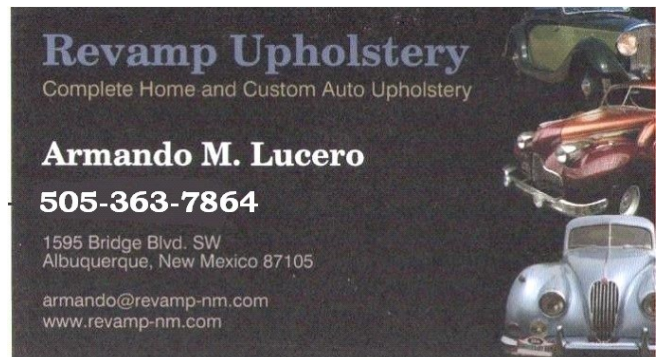


## Alumni Small Business Owners

### RGHS Class of 1982

#### Armando Lucero—Revamp Upholstery

Armando started working with his father in the upholstery business directly after he graduated from Rio and become a master at his craft. He worked for Upholstery by Lucero for several years before deciding to venture on his own. Armando specializes in custom automobiles and his work has won several awards.



**Revamp Upholstery**  
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**505-363-7864**

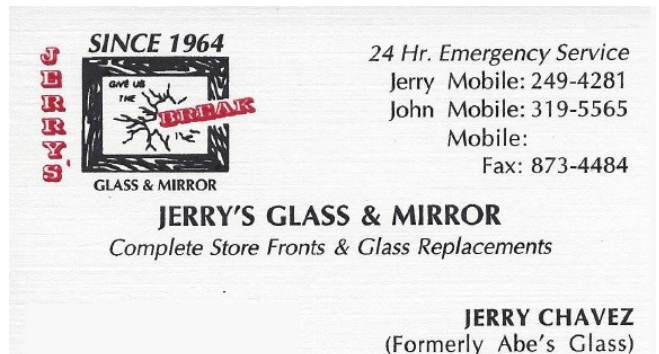
1595 Bridge Blvd. SW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105

armando@revamp-nm.com  
www.revamp-nm.com

### RGHS Class of 1967

#### Jerry Chavez—Jerry's Glass and Mirror

Jerry and his father ran Abe's Glass on Bridge Blvd, and serviced the South Valley and surrounding areas for 40 years. Jerry now started his own company, Jerry's Glass and Mirror working along with John Griego, RGHS Class of 1984. It is 95% commercial plate glass replacement for major corporations around the city. They will cut glass for individuals by appointment only.



**SINCE 1964**

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John Mobile: 319-5565  
Mobile:  
Fax: 873-4484

**JERRY'S GLASS & MIRROR**  
Complete Store Fronts & Glass Replacements

**JERRY CHAVEZ**  
(Formerly Abe's Glass)

RGHS Alumni: Please submit your company profile if you are interested in being featured in future editions.

## Ravens that have Benefitted

Varsity Cheerleaders—2009  
ROTC—2009  
Girl's Varsity Softball Team—2010  
Castenettes—2010  
RGHS Alumni Fund—2010\*\*  
RGHS Teacher Appreciation—2012  
RGHS Baseball—2013  
South Valley Leadership Corps—2013  
NM Early Care and Learning Center—2013  
RGHS Softball—2013

The South Valley Leadership Corps is a group of Ernie Pyle and Rio Grande ROTC students that compete in Archery. They won the state championships and were given the opportunity to compete in Nationals.

Their challenge was to raise \$10,000.00 to help fund the travel expenses. They participated in fundraisers for months. We were able to help support their efforts to reach their goal. It was a wonderful experience for these youth, an experience they will never forget.



*\*\* We have established the RGHS Alumni Fund with Rio Grande High School, which is to be used at the principal's discretion to support students in need. The RGHS Alumni Association works with the RGHS Administration to identify goal areas that will benefit our current RGHS students and their school community.*

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## A Message from RGHS Student Ravens



Coming soon... our very talented writers will be submitting articles for our newsletter.

The RGHS Newspaper, La Corriente, has a staff of 18 reenergized students this year. Half of them are returning students who are the acting editors for school year 2013-14. Nicole Alderete, the Editor in Chief, will oversee the entire newspaper. The yearbook teacher, Michael Garcia, and La Corriente teacher, Albert J. Martinez, have taken their staffs to Nationals the past few years. They have traveled to Denver, Portland, Phoenix and last year were in San Francisco. The national convention and workshops will be in San Diego this year. In previous years, the newspaper, La Corriente, has done very well. Mr. Martinez is very excited for this year's group; they are very focused and are ready to roll. Donations to La Corriente will help them with printing costs, please send a check to RGHS Alumni Association, Attention: La Corriente, P.O. Box 72644 Albuquerque, NM 87195-2644. "La Corriente" on the memo line.

### Active Members

#### Executive Board

Rachael Lucero-Maldonado, Chair  
Class of 1980

Pete Sandoval, Vice-Chair  
Class of 1964

Trish Gallegos, Secretary  
Class of 1989

Lillian Archibeque, Treasurer  
Class of 1987

Maria Barraza, Class of 1980

Dennis Duran, Class of 1973

Armando Lucero, Class of 1982

Karla Moore, Class of 1987

Alberta Sandoval, Class of 1964

Zoila Rodriguez, Class of 1960

JW Zinter, Class of 1961

## Our history—RGHS Principals

A.B. Chavez – 1958-1963  
Gilbert E. Miranda – 1964-1971  
Milton C. Sanchez – 1971-1974  
Loyola Burgess – 1974-1978  
Tony Martinez – 1978-1982  
Larry Day – 1982-1986  
Milton Baca – 1986-1989 & 1990-1992  
Bill Zamora – 1989-1990  
Veronica Garcia – 1992-1995  
Eduardo Soto – 1995-1998  
Gloria Vigil – 1998-2002  
Alfred Sanchez – 2002-2009  
Linda Torres – 2009-2010  
Linda Sink – 2010-2011  
Yvonne Garcia – 2011-2013

We would love to hear from you. Please submit your stories, requests, suggestions and memories to share with our Raven family.

Our next edition due January 2014.



*Raven sculpture designed by Mr. Herb Goldman*

**Look for Who's Who in RAVEN NATION @ [www.rghsalumni.com](http://www.rghsalumni.com)**

## RGHS Reunions

Anyone interested in planning a reunion for the RGHS classes of 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974 & 1975?

Contact Dennis Duran @ 505-873-0574 or email [dennisduran@q.com](mailto:dennisduran@q.com)

Let us know if you have reunion information that you want to get out to your long lost classmates or if you are trying to find out if someone is planning a reunion. We will publish in this quarterly newsletter, Facebook and our website, [www.RGHSAumni.com](http://www.RGHSAumni.com)

Contact us:

RGHS Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 72644  
Albuquerque, NM 87195-2644

[RGHSAumni@hotmail.com](mailto:RGHSAumni@hotmail.com)

## A Blast from the Past



**1960 RGHS Cheerleaders**