



## School's Out For Summer!

### Crash City UFO Festival 2019

By: Siana Garcia and Joshua Petersen

The 2019 UFO Festival here in Roswell, New Mexico will once again bring people from all over, not just the country, but the entire world to recognize and support the mysterious crash of, what is thought to be, a UFO. As many people know, in July of 1947, an object crashed on a ranch 30 miles north of Roswell. This has risen the speculations of the different possibilities. Does this crash have anything to do with aliens from another planet? There are many questions still yet to be answered about the specific incident. The festival held yearly in Roswell, New Mexico is here to potentially



help people analyze and understand all of the mysteries that are still yet to be uncovered. The three day event will be held from July 5, 2019-July 7, 2019. It will consist of a 24th annual alien chase, an alien costume contest, an alien pet contest, a car show, an Xcel energy UFO Festival light parade, and much more!

### Come Join the Fun in the Sun

The event offers live music, food, and other stands will be set up to buy a wide variety of things. There will be free movies to attend for those who love space thrillers, and alien enthusiasts will enjoy the opportunity to attend lectures given by guest speakers and authors.

On Friday, July 5th, it will be open from 12pm- 10pm, Saturday from 10am-10pm, and Sunday from 10am-3pm. This offers family and friends a weekend to have fun and to get involved in the history of Roswell.

We hope to see you at the festival and have an out of this world time.

### Roswell's Walk for Hope 2019

by Priscilla Castillo

The "Walk for Hope" was started by a group of people in 2010. The committed group of people that begun this inspirational "Walk for Hope" with one purpose that is to raise money and helping people with living expenses as they fight through cancer. The walk for hope is not only for the people who have gone through cancer but it is also for the ones who have lost a loved one to cancer or cancer treatment. It is to honor those who fought through this overwhelming disease. The Chaves County residents that attend this group to focus on the positive things that they can do to help out the community and those cancer survivors. The creators of this group decided to do this so the people who attend can distract themselves from grief and loss. The Walk For Hope is a great



Dr. Ali and Warren Yehl, CEO of ENMC (above)

organization that focuses on helping out the community members of New Mexico. The walk was held this year on May 10th, from 6pm to 10pm at the Cielo Grande Park in Roswell and was sponsored by Eastern New Mexico Medical Center, as well as other local businesses. Great food and free blood pressure checks were just some of the highlights, despite some less than stellar weather.



Staff of Eastern New Mexico Medical Center giving free blood pressure checks to the patrons

### Griffin News Around Campus

by Tyrah Jones

With the end of school upon us, and EOC's, Final Exams, and PARCC fresh on our minds, students have been dealing with a stressful couple of weeks.

Do most students feel like they had a successful testing season? Hard to say, but all are glad it's over.

The Newspaper Staff of The Griffin Gazette want to take this opportunity to wish all of our students, their parents, our teachers, and administrators a very happy summer break. We know that many times the summer months include more school, including college classes for our students and professional development classes for our teachers and administrators. Hopefully, the break will not fly by too fast, and all of our ECHS family will have a chance to have some fun and get some much deserved rest and relaxation.

We look forward to seeing you next year!

*The Staff of the Griffin Gazette*

### Roswell Rings in Cinco De Mayo 2019

by Siana Garcia

The Roswell Chamber of Commerce and Board of Directors along with the Roswell Hispano Chamber of Commerce and their Board of Directions help put together a festival to celebrate the Hispanic Culture known as Cinco De Mayo. This event provided an exciting, family-friendly environment for all ages, including hot air balloons, delicious food, and live music. Taking place at the Russ Dekay Soccer Complex from Friday, May 3- Sunday, May 5, it offered many wonderful opportunities to bring these cultures together. The Roswell Hispano Chamber organized great entertainment for the entire weekend, including balloons launching from

## Aerospace Blasts Off



Mr. Kirk's Aerospace class took a morning field trip to the Cielo Grande Park to launch a number of rockets with some school children from Eastern Plains Elementary.

by Micah Clark

Earlier this month Mr. Kirk's *Aerospace Engineering* class took a trip to the Cielo Grande Park to launch hand made rockets. There were a number of elementary school students there during the launches, many of who were excited to count down to launch and to experience their first sights of a rocket launch. To many of the Aerospace Engineering class, having successful rockets was a great feeling. As a member of that same class, I felt accomplished when both of the rockets my team launched were successful. This was the fourth project that the Aerospace Engineering class took from planning and design to testing. The other projects were engineering a chair, a kite, and straw rockets. Throughout this class, students learned to engineer and design their own rockets that are able to take off. Later next year, if they choose, students at ECHS can take the second Aerospace Engineering class and further their knowledge in engineering and design.



Mr. Kirk pictured with Aerospace students (L to R), Xavier Fresquez, Mathew West, Evelyn Alvarez, and Eric Ramirez with one of their rockets.

## Lead2Feed Competition

By: Alize Aragon

Early College High School students sponsored a dry and canned food drive through their Advisory classes this Spring, which comprised of a competition between the freshman and sophomores to see which Advisory class would be able to collect the most (in pounds), and the winner would be treated with a pizza party. As a whole the entire school donated a total of 175 pounds of beans, and 343 pounds of rice, as well as various items such as hundreds of plastic bags. The food total came out to 518 pounds, which was then picked up on April 16th by Harvest Ministries here in Roswell. We would like to offer our congratulations to Mr.Sandoval's class for being the big winner with 262 pounds of rice and 92 pounds of beans, Ms. Vistil in second place with 70 pounds of rice and 70 pounds of beans, along with 20 cans of food, Mr. Steslow in third with 20 pounds of rice and 8 pounds of beans and 37 cans of food, and

in fourth place, Mrs. Huckabee with 11 pounds of rice and 5 pounds of beans. The question may be, who did we help? On the Harvest Ministry website, it informs us "Our Non-Profit Food Pantry Service cares for the needy, we help families, working poor, single parents, seniors, veterans, youth, disabled, and the homeless." We as a school are honored to be able to participate in such an event that has helped individuals and families that were in need of this food.



*Hike it and Spike It !*

By: Marlon Gonzalez and Siana Garcia

Every year, Roswell, New Mexico holds a 4-on-4 Charity Flag Football Tournament, bringing in thousands of people from all over the country to participate. It is a great opportunity to gather groups together to play what they love, football! The three day event is held Memorial Day weekend from Friday, May 24th to Sunday, May 26th located at Cielo Grande Recreation Area.

Teams consist of 7 players and enter by age divisions, youth: 8 and under, 10 and under, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18 and adults: 19-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40 and up. For a regular team entry fee, the price varies from \$350-360 per team. Awards will be given to the winning teams; 1st place will win Hike It & Spike It T-shirts with trophy footballs, 2nd place will win Hike It & Spike It long sleeve T-shirts with a sponsor plaque, and 3rd place will Hike It & Spike It T-shirts with a sponsor plaque. Other awards will be given such as best dressed, character counts, and sportsmanship. Another division called "Show Me The Money" is offered; in this division teams will be competing for money. Taylor Orthodontics, Westlake Ace Hardware, Albertsons Market, and many other sponsors are contributing this year for the "Show Me The Money" division, for those that place as the best, flag football teams. 3,000 dollars will be awarded to winning team, \$2,000 for the team that places 2nd, and \$1,000 for 3rd place.

The 24th annual charity event being held, is hoping to bring in a large amount of people to help support the United Way of Chaves County. Not only is this contribution going towards a great cause, but it is a fun way to get hundreds of people involved.

# The Griffin Gazette

Volume 1 Issue 2

Edition: May 24, 2019

## "Hangar 84" Robotics Team Makes Trip to Austin, TX

by Rane Muhr

The Early College High School Robotics team went on an unexpected trip to Austin after returning from their trip to Amarillo where they came in second place. They did not originally plan to go to Austin for a competition in the first place, until they realized that they were not going to drop out of the top 64. Once they realized they were still in the race, they frantically scrambled to raise 10,000 dollars in order to arrange hotel rooms, provide food, find sponsors, and rent buses to transport them to Austin all in a week and a half. After they were able to raise the money, they made arrangements

and went on a 10 hour drive to Austin the day before the competition began.

When they arrived, the Robotics team set up their pit station and settled into their hotel. On their second day of their trip, the competition started.

The team started out strongly, but unfortunately began to slowly drop to the bottom of the board. This made things very hard for them, but they continued to fight for a spot. The second day of the competition, they attempted to bring their team up again but were not able to rise. In the end, our Hangar 84 Robotics Team placed 62nd out of the 64 teams there were to begin with. According to Mathew West, a student that has shown endless dedication to the club from day one state, "Even though our placement was not as high as they had hoped for, they did not consider it a failure." *Continued on page 4*

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## Cinco De Mayo

by Siana Garcia

RISD elementary schools, followed by a balloon glow, and live country music until 10p.m. Finally, the celebration came to an end with the Sunrise Mass Ascension, a beautiful sight that will impress artists, photographers, and balloon enthusiasts.



ECHS students were given a day by the pool and pizza on Tuesday, May 21st for the annual "Lit Day" celebration

## "Lit Day" Festivities Mean Pool Time for ECHS Students

by Tyrah Jones

Students told us here at The Griffin Gazette that last year's "Lit Day" was their favorite end of the year activity. By all accounts "Lit Day 2019" turned out to be another big success.

Despite the strong winds that made the outside temperature a bit cooler than hoped for, the students had a great time, and as long as they stayed in the water, all was fabulous.

The Lit Day festivities included lunch (50 pizzas) and beverages provided by Roswell's local Coca Cola Distributors (Makayla Arthur's parents), and special thanks to all of our faculty, administrators, and of course the ENMU-R campus for giving our students the opportunity to have a fun day in the sun.



Nick Sanchez, Jimmy Ruiz, Jacob Rosario, and Hayden (Henry) Carrasco enroute to the ECHS pool party.



Sophomores (L to R): Leo Juarez, Sebastian Esquivel, and Marlon Gonzalez chillin' by the pool



(Alison Penn Photos)

## Roswell Aquatic Center Opening Soon

By: Joshua Petersen

Summer is approaching and it is getting hot. Wouldn't getting wet sound fun? A new aquatic center is being built. It will be built near Cielo Grande. The opening day is set to be in late May. The center will feature multiple activities such as basketball courts, an indoor pool with a rock wall, and an outdoor aquatic center. This center is meant to replace Cahoon Park Pool and the Yucca Center, both of which were taken down. This center will be more fancy and offer more activities than any other recreation center in Roswell. It will give Roswell children and parents something new in Roswell. If you are looking for something to do this summer, this would be the place to go. Go hang out with friends, take a dip in the pool, and play basketball at the courts. Your summer would be much more exciting if you checked it out.

## Annual Desert Sun Golf Classic 2019

by Hannah Lim

Once again this summer in July, Desert Sun Motors will be sponsoring their annual golf tournament at Spring River Golf Club in Roswell. This 28 year tradition is vital insupporting local charity and has raised nearly \$800,000 which are given to local non-profits, such as the Los Pasitos Early Intervention Program. According to the Desert Sun Golf Classic website, in order to be eligible for the tournament, you must be "16 years of age or older and have a computerized handicap." Winners of the competition will be written a check with the money varying based on the place you won. The tournament draws amateurs golfers, as well as professionals from around the nation. This is the signature golf event for the Nancy Lopez course at Spring River here in Roswell. Good luck to all who participate.



The beautiful 15th hole at The Nancy Lopez Golf Course at Spring River

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## Robotics Team Makes Trip to Austin

He was very proud to admit that they have learned a great amount of information due to the influence of Mr.Kirk. The team is now efficiently able to differentiate between what it is like making it to state competition and making it to world competition. Although the competition did not result how they originally wanted too, they are encouraged and ready to make next year's robot better than ever.

## ENMU-R Intramurals Finish Strong

by Siana Garcia

Every year there are competitions associated within the ENMU-R campus. These competitions include a variety of sports that anyone can participate in. Some examples are free throws, half court shot, softball throw, volleyball serves, agility run, mile run, football punt and pass, ping pong, and so much more. This offers a great opportunity to involve everyone that is taking college classes at ENMUR. If an individual places in 1st, 2nd, or 3rd, they have the chance to win an Intramural Tee Shirt or an ENMUR lanyard, both coming in a wide range of colors. While taking classes, it allows individuals to become active in their college environment.



## Spring Break in Hawaii

By Makayla Arthur, Travel Correspondent

When the thought of Hawaii comes to mind, a place of paradise is imagined, and it is exactly that. When traveling to Hawaii, the thought of what it would be like was extremely limited. I knew Hawaii would have warm weather covered in palm trees, but what surprised me most was how involved all of the different cultures were. Island natives were more than friendly, and visitors were very happy to talk and share their experiences of the island. In a way, the experience was life altering. In nature, I would say that I am not a nice, socially active person, but seeing how individuals were in Hawaii, gave me a different perspective on life. It really encourages me to rethink the way that I connect with people. What the Island has to offer is so much more than a breathtaking sight with opportunities of adventure, it allows individuals to experience something they never have before; the beauty of life.

When we arrived in Hawaii, we were welcomed with real flower leis and a loud "Mahalo and Aloha, we welcome you to our island!" We drove to our resort, had some fresh fruit, took a walk on the beach, rented a movie, and relaxed the rest of the night in preparation for the rest of our vacation. Following our arrival, we went to a flea market. We encountered men and women carving wooden statues and trinkets. Informed by our native Uber driver, my family and I discovered that majority of the wooden carvings made in Hawaii, are made my women. Along with these beautiful creations, there were many tents set up to sale fruit that was being freshly cut. It was simply great, because when the slightest breeze came through, the sweet succulent smell or fruit filled the air. Not only was the smell breathtaking, the taste of the fruit grown on the island were incredibly sweet; it can not even compare to the fruit here. Along with freshly grown fruit, there are shrimp and fish trucks everywhere which consisted of sweet shrimp and fresh, tender, fried fish. We ended our day with fire and hula dancing at a luau.

Continuing our trip, we started our day at the resort's buffet. What amazed me most was the rainbow bread that was provided. After eating an insane amount of food here, we decided it would be a good idea to have a day at the beach. This is when I got the sunburn of my life, and sadly, after spending \$27.53 on sunscreen, I still managed to forget to it on my back! Despite the sun, the water was warm and the waves were soft with character. When snorkeling, the sight was completely beautiful, the water was subtly pleasant on my skin, and the fish were so curious to see why they were being observed. Hours later in the evening, I decided to go paddle boarding and it is definitely not as hard as I thought it would be; 9/10, I am an absolute pro. After being starved from being in the water all day, we stopped at a sushi & hot pot place. The fish served was the best I have ever had; the sushi chiefs made everything fresh right in front of us.

The next day of our trip did not necessarily go as planned. We attempted to go to a volcanic garden, but we ended up getting lost on the island. We found ourselves in a residential area that was beautiful and grassy with rolling hills and children playing in parks. Public transportation was beyond frustrating after many hours of walking around, we had an uber pick us up. He welcomed us by saying, "Mahlo, can I get you ladies some water, you look exhausted." After this, we went back to our room, we got some food and pineapple smoothies, then enjoyed our dinner by the beach while taking in the beautiful sunset and the soft and soothing roars of the ocean.

Our final day, we visited the aquarium and the zoo. The fish at the aquarium were vivid in color and unique in shape and the monkeys at the zoo were very entertaining, playing their own version of tag. We ate our final meal in Hawaii and headed to the airport. We flew out around 8 a.m. Hawaiian time and midnight our time. After sixteen hours of an exhausting flight, we made it to Albuquerque. The amount of sleep I needed after the trip, was completely insane and my sunburn lasted longer than the trip itself, but it is an adventure that I would be willing to take again, just to go back to the beautiful Hawaiian island.