



### Tigers' Cut

Citizens Bank's Tiger Debit Card continues to reap profits for HSHS

HSHS • PAGE A7



### Bedecked

'Sassy Red Hat Ladies' talk Deadwood and 'Oklahoma' at Johnny B's

CLUBS • PAGE A2

There is Nothing More Powerful Than The Truth



Email: herald@torcerald.com  
Websites: www.neraldpub.com  
www.theheraldtorc.com

# The HERALD

Truth or Consequences, New Mexico



50¢

VOLUME 90, NUMBER 6 ~ AUGUST 15, 2018

14 PAGES IN 2 SECTIONS • PLUS 1 INSERT

## Marri Earns Main Street Director of the Year Award

By Tamra Temple  
For The HERALD

When it comes to leadership, some lead by telling their team what to do and when to do it. Some lead by example with the expectation that team members will follow suit. Exceptional leaders, however, see the unique qualities of each and every team member and plan their projects to bring out the very best in each person. Teams with such a leader excel in productivity, self-esteem, and happiness and their projects show it.

Sazi Marri is such a leader. After Sazi was awarded Director of the Year for New Mexico's statewide Main Street awards this weekend, she said, "It was the team, not me." Of course she would say that. It's true. It's true in no small part because she really is that kind of leader -- the loving visionary who looks for, finds, and nurtures the very best in people and community. Under her leadership, the TorC Main Street team spear-



Sazi Marri  
New Mexico Main Street Director of the Year

headed countless projects to enhance our Historic Hot Springs District. As she passes the mantle of president to John Masterson, her recognition as New Mexico's Main Street Director of the Year, 2018

is a well deserved capstone to her years of contribution to our community with the Main Street team. Well done, Sazi! Congratulations. Your team is outstanding, as are you.

## TorC Woman Who Parked On Road Arrested for DUI

By Carlos Padilla  
HERALD Reporter

A Truth or Consequences woman is facing charges stemming from an impaired driver arrest late last month.

In the criminal complaint filed in Sierra County Magistrate Court on Aug. 1, Deputy Shane Jeffers stated that just after 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 31, he responded to a complaint of an erratic driver on State Highway 187 near Mile-

post 25. The 9-1-1 caller was able to provide the vehicle's license plate number as well as a description of the vehicle.

When Deputy Jeffers arrived in the area, he was able to identify the vehicle by the information provided by the original caller, and did so quickly, as the vehicle was parked in the middle of the highway with its trunk opened and without any hazard lights to alert other motorists.

Deputy Jeffers initiated his flashing lights and sirens and the vehicle's driver, later identified as 28-year-old Candelaria Hernandez of Truth or Consequences, moved the car to the shoulder of the highway.

When asked by the deputy if she knew why he had stopped her, Ms. Hernandez reportedly responded, "No," and in doing so with slurred speech, indicated to the deputy that she may

See DUI on Page A5

## Fire Dept. Chief Questions City As Lead Entity on SCRDA MOU

By Tony A. Archuleta  
HERALD Reporter

The Sierra County Regional Dispatch Authority's plan to move to TorC Volunteer Fire Department's main station on East Ninth Avenue was a welcome initiative by the department's top brass, along with rank and file -- until the department's name was struck from the proposed memorandum of understanding.

City Manager Juan Fuentes at Wednesday's, Aug.



TorC Fire Chief Paul Tooley

8, City Commission meeting said the city, not the fire department, should be the

lead entity on the MOU. "In my opinion, it is city property, and it's appropriate for the city to be the actual entity to be in place of (the fire department)," Fuentes said.

Fire Chief Paul Tooley said the lease, as originally proposed, would allow the fire department to maintain its independence, comply with state funding guidelines and keep firefighting and training operations running smoothly.

See CITY on Page A5

## City Manager Reports On Muni Pool Staffing, Golf Course Contract

By Tony A. Archuleta  
HERALD Reporter

It's an ongoing challenge finding certified lifeguards to work at TorC Municipal Swimming Pool, City Manager Juan Fuentes reported last week.

The pool's operating schedule as fall and winter approach will largely depend on how many lifeguards the city can hire, he said.

"It's hard to find staff, we're not alone," Fuentes said of municipalities statewide. "If anybody knows anybody, send them to HR

for an application."

### Golf Course Contract Update

Also during the Aug. 8 City Commission meeting, Fuentes reported that TorC Municipal Golf Course contract manager Terry Taylor "did indicate that he wanted to transition out" in the near future.

Fuentes, however, said Taylor is also agreeable to a contract extension should the city be unable to immediately secure a new contractor.

"We're still working out

there, and he's doing a good job, in my opinion," the city manager said of Taylor. "He's got a good working relationship with staff."

### Push For Sales Tax Revenue

Fuentes said the city frequently gets criticized for its chamber-of-commerce-like initiatives, but he said the new reality is that in the face of shrinking state funds cities must do more to generate their own sales tax revenue -- and that cen-

See GRT on Page A5



TorC City Manager Juan Fuentes (left) and Mayor Steve Green

## \$8K Trip to Mojave a Rumor, Mayor Says, But \$1K? Maybe As Virgin Galactic Ramps Up Operations At Spaceport City Leaders Bid Welcome

By Tony A. Archuleta  
HERALD Reporter

TorC Mayor Steve Green last week dispelled a widely circulating rumor that the city is on the verge of spending \$8,000 for a trip to California to meet with

Virgin Galactic representatives in a bid to sell them on TorC/Sierra County as a residential alternative to Las Cruces/Doña Ana County, where the Spaceport America anchor tenant's regional offices are

located and growing. Green did not disclose the source of the rumor, according to draft minutes released by City Clerk Renee Cantin, saying only that it was a "gentlemen he re-

See MOJAVE on Page A5

## Inoperable License Plate Light Leads To Criminal Drug Charges for Local Man

By Carlos Padilla  
HERALD Reporter

During a routine traffic stop, a local man kept pulling items seemingly out of thin air that continuously led to one criminal charge materializing after another.

Truth or Consequences Police Officer Jose Marin was patrolling the southwest quadrant of the city late Monday, Aug. 6, when he noticed a gold SUV with a nonworking license plate light, prompting the offi-

cer to initiate a traffic stop at the intersection of South Broadway and Radium Street.

The SUV was bearing a temporary Texas registration that expired April 2, 2017.

According to the criminal complaint filed in Sierra County Magistrate Court, 35-year-old Aaron Roel Landa of Truth or Conse-



Aaron Landa

quences was able to provide the officer with his Texas drivers license, but not his vehicle registration or insurance policy information.

Landa was granted permission to exit the vehicle to inspect the nonworking light, and as he exited the SUV, Officer Marin saw a glass marijuana pipe in the driver's door.

Landa claimed he had a medical marijuana card

See PLATE on Page A5

## Meltdown at Denny's

Alamogordo Man Charged With Assaulting, Resisting Officer, Disorderly Conduct After Previous Run-Ins at Restaurant, Walmart

By Carlos Padilla  
HERALD Reporter

A 49-year-old Alamogordo man identified in court documents as Wayne R. Wolfe is facing a handful of criminal charges, having been the source of multiple emergency 911 calls in the

span of a few hours. Sierra County Sheriff's Department Sgt. Joel Trejo chronicled the various incidents in a criminal complaint filed in Sierra County Magistrate Court on Thursday, Aug. 2.

Sgt. Trejo states that the

incidents began at approximately 9:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 31, when he and officers with the Truth or Consequences Police Department responded to Walmart due to a report of an intoxicated male

See MELTDOWN on Page A5

### WEEKLY WEATHER WATCH 8-DAY FORECAST

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 15	THURSDAY AUGUST 16	FRIDAY AUGUST 17	SATURDAY AUGUST 18	SUNDAY AUGUST 19	MONDAY AUGUST 20	TUESDAY AUGUST 21	WEDNESDAY AUGUST 22	NEED PRINTING? Competitive Prices! Let Us Bid On Your Next Printing Job. The HERALD 1204 North Dale PO Box 752 TorC, NM 87901
High 96 Low 71 20% Mostly Cloudy SSE Wind: 11 mph Sunrise: 6:31 am Set: 7:54 pm	High 95 Low 71 20% Mostly Cloudy S Wind: 10 mph Sunrise: 6:32 am Set: 7:53 pm	High 95 Low 71 20% Mostly Sunny SSE Breeze: 9 mph Sunrise: 6:33 am Set: 7:52 pm	High 93 Low 71 30% Thunderstorms SSE Breeze: 9 mph Sunrise: 6:33 am Set: 7:51 pm	High 94 Low 71 20% Mostly Sunny SE Wind: 10 mph Sunrise: 6:34 am Set: 7:50 pm	High 94 Low 70 10% Mostly Sunny E Wind: 10 mph Sunrise: 6:35 am Set: 7:48 pm	High 91 Low 69 20% Partly Cloudy SE Wind: 10 mph Sunrise: 6:35 am Set: 7:47 pm	High 89 Low 67 20% Partly Cloudy E Breeze: 9 mph Sunrise: 6:36 am Set: 7:46 pm	