

Texas Representative Roberto R. Alonzo's

Capitol Report



Recycle Your Holiday Cards via St. Jude's Ranch For Children Recycled Card Program

Now that the 2015 Holiday Season is fully upon us, it is likely that you will soon, if not already, begin receiving the annual flood of holiday cards from family, neighbors, and friends. The exchange of Season's Greetings cards is a great way to spread holiday cheer to your loved ones; However, once the holidays are over and the sentiment has passed many are left with a bundle of cards that often end up in the trash. This year, join in a great cause and donate your holiday cards to St. Jude's Ranch for Children Recycled Card Program!

As one of the most successful fundraisers at St. Jude's Ranch, the Recycled Card Program recycles your used greeting cards and creates new holiday and all-occasion greeting cards. The kids on the Ranch run the program, and participate in making the new cards by removing the front of the card from its back or inside portion. The donor card front is then centered on either ivory or white backing resulting in a "new" card with a recycled front panel. The benefits are two-fold: customers receive "green" holiday cards for use and the children receive payment for their work and learn the importance of "going green." This process gives the children a sense of accomplishment and establishes a solid work ethic. Each card is signed by the child who assembled it.

If you are interested in donating here are some instructions from St. Jude's:

- Hallmark, Disney, and American Greetings do not allow their cards to be used
- Please confirm that you are NOT sending cards from those companies before sending the card
- St. Jude's prefers 5-by-7-inch cards or smaller and cannot use cards with personal handwriting on the back of the front cover
- Printing from the card company is acceptable, just no handwriting.

Send your recycled cards to: **St. Jude's Ranch for Children, Recycled Card Program, 100 St. Jude's Street, Boulder City, NV 89005.**



Social Media and Holiday Safety Concerns

With the holiday season fully upon us it is important to remain safe and protected, especially if you plan to leave home. One of the most important ways to avoid falling victim to a crook is to watch what you put on social media. Although social media networks such as Facebook and Twitter are great forums to keep friends and family updated on your lives, features such as location sharing may make your house and belongings a target for burglars.

Remember to avoid sharing personal holiday information on social media such as travel plans, where you are going and when you will be back. You may want to check privacy settings on your mobile devices and turn off the location sharing feature, just to be safe. Also, when traveling out of town, wait until you return home to post photos and information about your trip. Don't do it while you are away. Criminals search for personal information on Facebook profiles and may discover an opportunity to burglarize your empty house.

"Publishing too much information on social media is extremely risky, especially during the holidays when our focus turns toward family and loved ones. Please remember to cautious and stay safe!" urged Rep. Alonzo.



(photo left)
Rep. Roberto Alonzo
visiting residents in
City of Cockrell Hill



(photo right)
Rep. Alonzo with
Trinidad Garza and
Pastor Pablo Guardiola
of Cockrell Hill UMC.