



Uploaded to VFC Website

▶▶ ▶▶ **May 2013** ◀◀ ◀◀

This Document has been provided to you courtesy of Veterans-For-Change!

Feel free to pass to any veteran who might be able to use this information!

For thousands more files like this and hundreds of links to useful information, and hundreds of "Frequently Asked Questions, please go to:

[Veterans-For-Change](http://www.veteransforchange.org)

*Veterans-For-Change is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation
Tax ID #27-3820181*

If Veteran's don't help Veteran's, who will?

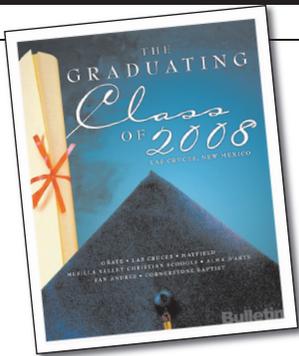
We appreciate all donations to continue to provide information and services to Veterans and their families.

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=WGT2M5UTB9A78

Note:

VFC is not liable for source information in this document, it is merely provided as a courtesy to our members.





2008
Graduation
Guide
Now
Available

THE LAS CRUCES Bulletin

Enjoy a
weekend
of fine
wine and
music
Arts,
Section C



\$1.00 • © 2008 FIG PUBLICATIONS, LLC

FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2008

VOLUME 40 • NUMBER 21

WWII veterans don't complain Pacific war memories still vivid to local veteran

Editor's note: This begins a series of stories called Memories of World War II in which WWII veterans share their experiences. The stories and photos are being provided courtesy of Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico.

Sam Lopez is the type of man everyone should have the opportunity to know.

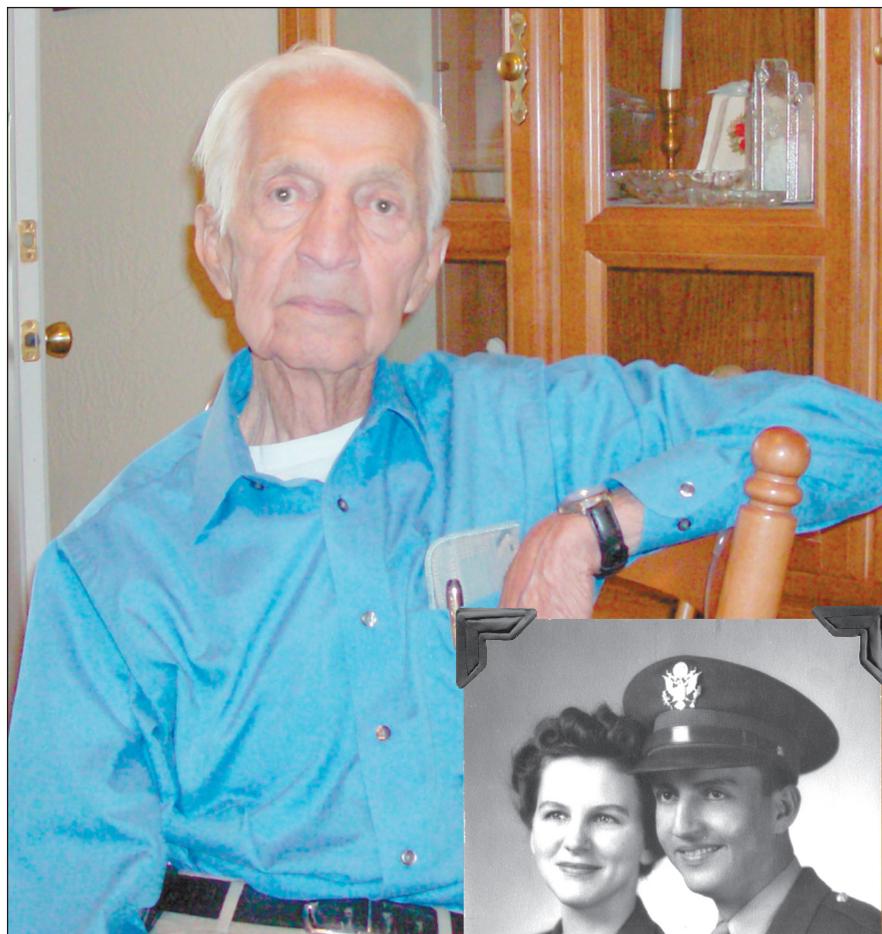
He is an activist, a long-standing community member and a friend to all he meets. He is a man that lives with dignity and a desire to stand for what is right and true. He is also a man that fought a fight he never expected, but took it on with everything in him. He is a World War II veteran.

"It made me a man, by God," said Lopez, 84 years old yet with a strong memory, as he remembered a time long ago when he was drafted at the young age of 22. "The war made me a man," he said.

His story as a soldier starts March 16, 1942, when he was drafted with World War II looming in front of him, starting out at Fort Bliss, then moving on to basic training with the Army's 90th Division 358th Infantry at Camp Barkeley in Abilene, Texas. Ten months later, Lopez was discharged on Jan. 19, 1943. It was then he wondered what would become of his training. He felt sure he would serve with the infantry, on the ground fighting a good fight. When he received his papers the next day, he became a second lieutenant – a title he carried for the remainder of the war.

"I was surprised. I thought I would be fighting on the ground, but then I found out I would be with the 4th Engineering Amphibious Command, 544th Engineer, Boat and Shore Regiment," Lopez

See Veterans on PAGE A10



TODD DICKSON | The Las Cruces Bulletin
Above: Sam Lopez today at his home in Doña Ana. Lopez says that his experience as a soldier during the second World War "made me a man."

Right: Sam Lopez with his first wife Alice Staselunas in 1944.



Honor Flight effort begins WWII veterans to be flown to D.C.

Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico is committed to honoring World War II veterans by flying them to the nation's capital, where they will be able to visit the WWII Memorial.

Through local donations, Honor Flight hopes to raise enough money to send community WWII veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit the WWII Memorial if they have not been able to do so yet.

The target date for the first flight from southern New Mexico is October.

Flight arrangements will be made by the National Honor Flight office in Washington, D.C.

To donate, contact Patsy Duran at 644-7243 or Bill Mattiace at 521-1400, or send a check, payable to Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico, to Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico, 301 S. Church St., Suite H, Las Cruces, NM 88001.

Veteran applications are accepted by Steven Alexander at 2210 S. Solano Drive, Suite B, Las Cruces, NM 88001. Applications are numbered by order of receipt and will be approved in that order. Guardian applications should be sent to Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico, P.O. Box 312, Fairacres, NM 88033.

For more information or to download an application, visit www.honorflightnm.com.



WHAT'S INSIDE

- Opinions.....A4-A7
- Coming Up A22
- In Good Company.....B6-B7
- Restaurant Guide..... C10-C11
- TV Listings..... C13-C16
- Brain Games..... C17
- Legals..... D9-D11
- Chile KnightsE10-E11

NEXT WEEK

Planning for the next 30 years
Vision 2040 regional master plan begins to take shape



\$1.00

LSU eyes NMSU's Martin for chancellor

It will be 'a pull, not a push' if he leaves



TODD DICKSON | The Las Cruces Bulletin
New Mexico State University President Michael Martin announces he is the finalist for chancellor at Louisiana State University on Friday, May 16, at the Stan Fulton Center.

By TODD G. DICKSON
The Las Cruces Bulletin

After courting New Mexico State University President Michael Martin since last year to apply for Louisiana State University's chancellor position, LSU's search committee is getting serious by making Martin the sole finalist.

"We feel terrible," said NMSU Regents Chair Robert Gallagher at a press conference Friday, May 16, in the Stan Fulton Center. "Mike Martin has been one of the most outstanding university presidents, leaders and personal friends to people in

this community that this institution has had in 115 years."

Martin acknowledged that he was first approached last year by LSU System President John Lombardi, who Martin knew from his days at University of Florida where he was vice president for agriculture and natural resources before accepting the NMSU position in July 2004.

Although Martin said he wasn't looking to leave NMSU, he didn't rebuff Lombardi, who he described as a friend and mentor as much as a former boss. "I owed him that," Martin said. When the LSU

See Martin on PAGE A12