



Located on the city's westside, TI:ME at Montecillo offers a unique feel. Its artistic flair and variety of restaurants and shops make it a

SHOPPING CENTER LIKE NO OTHER

jordan steyer staff reporter

In a Walmart dominated society, it's nice to see a place for local businesses to flourish. TI:ME at Montecillo, located at 5001 N Mesa, gives young entrepreneurs a chance to be successful.

TI:ME, which opened in July 2014, fits 11 stores and three restaurants. Some of the businesses include Lucky Bean, a handmade jewelry shop, Mom's Fresh Juice, the newest addition, which sells unpasteurized, cold pressed juice, and Stonewood, an American steakhouse.

The trio behind the idea, Octavio Gomez, Nick Salgado, and Rudy Valdes, own the three restaurants, and oversee the developments.

"We saw a need in El Paso for smaller retail spaces," Gomez said. "TI:ME stands for The Independent Modern Entrepreneur. These spaces are a chance for young business people to test out their ideas. We pick them based on their ideas, which seemed like concepts that El Paso would embrace."

Senior Andrew Molina, who worked at Montecillo, has been to TI:ME and says that every time he goes, it is like a new experience.

"I was expecting a regular coffee and donut shop," Molina said, "but

when I walked in, it wasn't what I expected. I've been there three times, but sometimes my parents will bring me donuts. The shops and restaurants there do not disappoint. Everything is so unique. It really is like no other place in the city."

Located about 13 miles from campus, on the west side of town, it can be inconvenient for some to make it to the shopping center. This is the case for senior Juan Grimaldo.

"I've heard of the shops at TI:ME," Grimaldo said. "I really like going to different local places, but it is really far. My friends have told me about Mother of Pearl Vinyl, and I am really into buying records. I have a small collection. I would like to go eventually because I am interested in seeing if it is different from other record stores in town."

The architecture of TI:ME makes it unique. The developers used train cars for many of the buildings, and even bought the old El Paso Times sign to hang up in the front.

"Doing these things is a good way to take something that might be considered trash and put it to good use," Gomez said. "People have really liked TI:ME, they are spending their entire day there. First they get coffee, then shop and walk around, and then they finish the day off with a meal at one of the restaurants."

Clearly visible from Mesa St., the sign for TI:ME is made of recycled shipping containers and the former neon sign from the El Paso Times building. "No one in town had done anything with them," Octavio Gomez, one of three owners, said, "but we loved the way they looked." (photos by jonathan castro)



Located inside Hillside Coffee and Donuts, the hand illustrated calendar highlights events for the month.

The Backyard Patio sells terrarium kits, succulents, homemade soaps and bath salts, and accessories for home and gardens.



Located at TI:ME, Trendy Decor sells locally made gifts and decorations for the home.



PLACES AT
TI:ME
MONTECILLO

SHOP AT

Oath
Al Design
Lucky Bean
Modern Hookah
Mother of Pearl
Trendy Decor
Backyard Patio
High Point
Le Trendy
Tousled

EAT &
DRINK AT

Hillside Coffee
and Donuts
Stonewood
Malolam

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