

## Meet your neighbor Ginger Franco

"I'm trying to establish a legacy in our Las Cruces community, supporting our wounded heroes and heroines through my Girl Scout Gold project with Operation Wounded Warrior and American Legion Post 10," said Ginger Franco, 18, a 2011 Las Cruces High School graduate who will soon begin her freshman year at New Mexico State University. For more information about Operation Wounded Warrior, visit [operationwoundedwarrior.org](http://operationwoundedwarrior.org). To make a donation through the American Legion, send checks payable to American Legion Riders, c/o American Legion Post 10, P.O. Box 7, Las Cruces, NM 88004, with a memo note: For Operation Wounded Warrior.

**1. Red or green?** Green for the heat, but red's got a nicer taste!

**2. How long have you lived in Las Cruces?** All my 18 years

**3. What was the first car you owned?** 1997 Gold Nissan Maxima — first and only.

**4. What's your favorite Mexican restaurant in the area?** You can't ask that! I love them all.

**5. What do you have on your iPod right now?** It's full of my favorites, so just to name a few: Regina Spektor, Modest Mouse, Georgie Fame, Rihanna, Atmosphere, The Streets...

**6. What's the best thing about Las Cruces?** It is a small town that can give you the big-city sensation, so the size is just right.

**7. What's the worst thing about Las Cruces?** So many things have become run-down, I wish everything could glisten a little better — clean it up and fix leaks, etc.

**8. What's your favorite movie? Favorite book or author?** The book "Here Comes Ginger," by Elaine L. Shulte — you can guess why. Also, "Dragon Seed," by Pearl S. Buck, and the books by Khaled Hosseini (not the way he writes, but his stories). I really like the movies "Inception," "Goodwill Hunting," "Annie," "The Hangover," "August Rush," "The Sound of Music" and "Touched by an Angel," the old TV series.

**9. What's the best thing that's happened in Las Cruces in the past five years?** The pro-life movement

and Billings Method of fertility has been established more throughout the community.

**10. If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be?** On a RV with a lifetime supply of gas to explore the world as far as roads go.

**11. If you could time-travel to any place or time in history, where would you go?** 1920s, because of the fashion.

**12. What super power would you like to have?** Super speed — I'd never have to worry about not having enough time to accomplish the important things.

**13. How would you describe Las Cruces in one word?** Agile.

**14. What's your favorite sports team?** Green Bay Packers.

**15. What would you do if you won the lottery?** Invest-Give

**16. If you could magically add one thing to Las Cruces, what would it be?** A big, huge, well-financed orphanage with enough child-care workers.

**17. Who is your celebrity crush?** Hayden Christensen and Georgie Fame — if only I were older, of course!

**18. If they made a movie about your life, which actor or actress would portray you?** Probably Jennifer Love Hewitt, I guess.

**19. Where do you go in Las Cruces or Mesilla to relax?** Relax? Hah! Outdoors and shopping is always great.

**20. What material possession or object do you own that you treasure?** My stuffed dog, Peaches.

**21. What's your favorite annual event in Las Cruces or Mesilla?** The fair.

**22. What was your nearest brush with fame?** Being in the Miss Teen New Mexico Pageant.

**23. What do you consider your greatest achievement?** Being able and open to strive for achievement.

**24. What sustains you?** God.

**25. What have you left uncompleted?** I still have to clean out my room and shop for college!

**26. When you cook, what's your specialty?** Does my Nina Frances' 5-cup fruit salad count? Ask me about baking, that's a different story.

**27. What do you do in your free time?** Rock climb, sing, time with friends, volunteer community service with church, school, scouting, etc., and honestly, organize — my inside thoughts and outside things.

**28. Do you like questionnaires?** No! I'm just not a favorites kinda person, I like variety.

*This week's Meet Your Neighbor was compiled by Amanda L. Bradford and S. Derrickson Moore. If you have an idea for a person to feature in Meet Your Neighbor, contact Amanda at [abradford@lcsun-news.com](mailto:abradford@lcsun-news.com); (575) 541-5464.*



Las Cruces Girl Scout Ginger Franco, 18, poses in the American Legion Post 10 building with but a few of the 100 blankets she collected for her Girl Scout Gold Award project. The Las Cruces teenager invited members of the community to sign the blankets with words of encouragement before sending them to Operation Wounded Warrior, which helps active military personnel who have been wounded while serving, she said.

Norm Dettlaff photo

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