Live **Nativity** continues its 30-year tradition

BY ROXANNE HILL Staff Writer

Christmas is around the corner, and one way people can share in the joy and spread holiday cheer is by taking part in a special event to celebrate Jesus' birth with a live nativity. Karen McGuire has been directing and organizing it in Alpine for 30 years. The event is produced by Michael's Mountain Ministry, named after McGuire's

This year will be a non-camel year, but there will be a new addition to Mary's ride - a donkey named Pumpkin brought by Heidi Wassermann, owner of Wassermann's Wranch in Sunny Glen.

oldest son who passed

away in 1991.

Children from age four and up, to adults of all ages are needed to be the Wise Men, angels, shepherds, and more. The only requirement is to show up between 6-6:30 p.m. to dress up and be given simple cues to follow.

See NATIVITY • 6

INSIDE



FEATURED

See sports on page 8.

Rainfall totals at **Alpine-Casparis Airport**



Burn Ban ON

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Candidates set for March primary and beyond

BY GAIL DIANE YOVANOVICH Managing Editor

The filing period for the March 1, 2022, primary ended Monday, and the field is crowded for the number one spot in Brewster County.

The county positions up for grabs in the Nov. 8, 2022, general election include county judge as incumbent Democrat Eleazar Cano chose not to seek reelection.

For the Republican Party, attorney Monty Kimball, Terlingua businessman and EMS/VFD

chief Greg Henington, and the county's Chief Deputy Ryan Skelton have all filed for the county judge seat.

On the Democratic the Pct. 4 side, Sul Ross State University Professor Benjamin Barrientes, attorney Mimi Smith, and Oscar Cobos will run for the top county position.

Although not relevant from a primary perspective, in November Republican Mark Chiles will challenge Democratic incumbent Commissioner, Pct. 2, Sara Allen Colando for that position; and Republican Mo Morrow will take seat since Democratic

Cano incumbent Mike Pallanez chose not to run again. No Democrats filed for Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1, but incumbent Bob

Eleazar

Republican primary. In the Pct. 2 Justice of the Peace race, Repub-

Steele will face Alpine

businessman Scott Was-

sermann in the March

lican Paul Rashott will face Democrat Timothy Relleva in November, and incumbent Democrat Susana Gonzales will run unopposed in the general election.

No Democrats stepped up to challenge Republican incumbent Rene Ybarra for Constable, Pct. 1, so he will retain that position.

Long-time District Clerk Jo Ann Salgado, a Democrat, will retire at the end of her term, and only Democrat Sarah Fellows Martinez has filed for the position.

Incumbent County Treasurer Julie Morton will face Lorene Villanueva in the March Democratic primary, and no Republicans filed for the slot.

In the clerk's office, acting County Clerk Sarah Vasquez, who assumed the position when long-time clerk Berta Rios-Martinez chose to retire, will run unopposed in November.

And finally, in the general election Mary Bell Lockhart will run unopposed for the Brewster County Democratic Party Chair.

Bringing the fiesta to Marfa!



Members of the Marfa ISD Ballet Folklorico Aztlan perform for an enthusiastic crowd at the Marfa Chamber of Commerce's first annual holiday bazaar held on Dec 11 in front of the Presidio County Courthouse. The Chamber welcomed locals and visitors to get in the holiday spirit with vendors selling Christmas gifts, a holiday decorating contest, a visit from Santa, crafts for kids, and live entertainment.

Avalanche photo by Roxanne Hill

Visitor Center revamp moving forward

BY ROXANNE HILL

Staff Writer

Chances are that both locals and visitors have driven or stopped by the Alpine Visitor Center, whether on their way to other places in the Big Bend, or simply to enjoy all Alpine has to offer. The Alpine City Council approved a revamp for the center earlier this year, with funds coming from the hotel occupancy tax reserve and proposed for the 2022 budget.

About \$191,100 was used for construction of five 24-hour public restrooms and a storage room and new patio. In addition, about \$89,000 was set aside for a new pavilion.

The construction and revamp are being completed by Alpine general contractor U Construction. "We have a prime location, and that's why

Construction of additions to the Alpine Visitors Center is underway, including a new pavilion. we want to maintain the building and help it grow," said Heather Yadon, the city's tourism coordinator. "The back patio will be really nice, an intimate place where

side music." The Visitor Center front side yard will fea-

we can host some out-

ture a new 35x35-foot pavilion for outdoor dining, along with covered space where guests can gather and enjoy other activities. Yadon is excited that the revamp will bring in added tourism and allow visitors to enjoy amenities not previously available.

"Our traffic here is what makes us such a good location because when people drive into town, we are one of the first things they see. They can stop here, refresh, and get all the information before they head to downtown," said Yadon.

Avalanche photo by Roxanne Hill There are paved alleys in back that will offer additional parking, and Yadon noted a lot of visitors come in with RVs, and the Center is one of only a few places that can accommodate those visitors.

See REVAMP • 6











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BITUARIES

Raul W. Ramos

Raul W. Ramos, 77, of Alpine, Texas, entered eternal life on Dec. 11, 2021, at Big Bend Regional Medical Center with his beloved family by his side.

Raul was born on Nov. 10, 1944, in Terlingua, Texas, to Juan C. Ramos and Jesusita White Ramos. Raul later met and married the love of his life Sylvia Molinar Ramos.

Raul worked for 32 years at Sul Ross State University as a ranch hand for the Range Animal Science Department.

Praying of the Most Holy Rosary will be held on Sunday, Dec. 19, 2021, at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, Dec. 20, 2021, at 10 a.m. with Father Pablo Matta serving as celebrant. Burial will follow at Holy Angels Cemetery.

Serving as pallbearers will be Freddy Her-

Dina Sue Turner Sledge

75, beloved mother and

wife, went home to be with

the Lord on Nov. 4, 2021.

She was born in Alpine,

Texas, to the late Cecil

"Beke" and Shirley Turner.

her husband Steve of 57

years; sons Steven and

wife Zulema of San Anto-

nio, Texas, Chris and wife

Annette of Peaster, Tex-

as; grandsons Cresten and

wife Kassie, and Cash-

don, all of Peaster; broth-

ers Alan Turner of San

Angelo, Texas, and Bake

Turner of Alpine; sisters

Sally (Al) Tobola, and

Cherry Turner, all of Al-

pine; and brother-in-law

Kenneth (Regina) Sledge

Dina was predeceased

by her parents Cecil

"Beke" and Shirley Turn-

er; brother Jim Turner; sis-

ters-in-law Gay Turner and

Linda Wooley; and broth-

Dina graduated from Al-

pine High School in 1964,

where she participated in

basketball and drama club,

er-in-law Bobby Sledge.

of Big Spring, Texas.

Dina is survived by

Dina Sue Turner Sledge,



nandez, Raul Hernandez, Jesse Vega, Joshua Vega, George Anthony Sanchez, Jason Llanez, Julian Molinar, and Gerardo Sanchez. Serving as honorary pallbearers will be Izaak Lujan, Iden Lujan, and Michael Rodriguez.

Raul was a godly man. He loved spending time with his family. He especially enjoyed having family day on Sundays. He enjoyed hanging out with his friends, especially on his front porch. He enjoyed watching the Andy Griffith show, as well as driving around town with his beloved wife Sylvia.

Those preceding Raul in death were his parents;

and was editor of the high

She married the love of

her life and high school

sweetheart, Steve Sledge,

on Dec. 27, 1964. She at-

tended Texas Tech Univer-

sity for a short time, then

settled in to raise her young

family and help Steve build

She was very active

as home room mom for

both Steven and Chris,

and helped with the Al-

pine Boy Scouts Program.

In 1982, she furthered her

career and graduated from

Sul Ross State Universi-

ty as a Licensed Vocation-

al Nurse; and in 1994, she

obtained her Registered

Nursing license from New

York Regency Nursing

Program. She deeply cared

for each of her patients,

and worked in multiple

their home from scratch

school newspaper.

his son Raul Ramos, Jr.,; and his three brothers, Lionel Ramos, Alvaro Ramos, and Ervay Ramos.

Those left to honor and cherish the life of Raul is his beloved wife of 55 years, Sylvia Ramos; son Tommy Ramos; daughters Vicky Vega, JoAnna Ramos, and Monica Llanez; grandchildren Jason Llanez, Crystal Lujan, Freddy Hernandez, Stephanie Llanez, Crystal Martinez, Raul Hernandez, Jesse Vega, Melissa Martin, Joshua Vega, George Anthony Sanchez; 16 great grandchildren; sisters Florinda Ramos, Elva Rodriguez, and Celia Vasquez; as well as numerous nieces and nephews and many beloved friends.

Online condolences may be left at alpinememorialfuneralhome.com.

The Ramos family has entrusted services to Alpine Memorial Funeral

Home. specialties including respiratory therapy, x-ray, OB nurse, surgical scrub tech-

structor, and an educator at the LVN Sul Ross nursing school. Nursing was truly her calling, and patients

were blessed by her care.

nician, charge nurse, out-

patient surgery, and cardiac

care. She was a CPR in-

Anyone who knew Dina knew that family was most precious to her. She and Steve happily hosted many family events and holidays. Her numerous nieces and nephews called her Aunt Dina, and in 1996, she proudly changed her name to Grandma. Most of her grandchildren's friends

and teachers also referred

to her as Grandma. She will be truly missed in the "Turner Family Pickin's," as she would play various instruments and perform vocals with her brothers, sisters, sons, grandsons, nephews, and nieces. She loved her family fiercely, and will be missed by all.

Services have been entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home..

Mary Ellen Ayers

Mary Ellen Ayers, 93, of Dilley, Texas, peacefully passed away on Dec. 3, in Kerrville, Texas, surrounded by loving family.

Mary was born on July 24, 1928, to Lonnie Lee Coleman, Sr., and Lottie DeSpain Coleman in Oilton, Texas. She attended high school in Miranda City, Texas. Mary married O.D. Ayers in September 1947, and they made their home in Carrizo Springs, Texas. They went on to have five children together. Mary was a business partner and housewife, devoting her life to her husband and raising her children.

Mary was a woman of deep Christian faith, and a long-time member of the First Baptist communities in Carrizo Springs and Dilley. She was a sixth generation Texan, and extremely proud of her Texas roots and heritage. She was a member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and a member of the Alamo Heroes Chapter in San Antonio, Texas, where she served as chaplain for several years. She was a member of the VFW Auxiliary in Dilley, and supported veterans wholeheartedly as the widow of a World War II veteran.

Later in life, Mary stayed with her daughters in Alpine, Texas, and loved attending Art-Walk and Cowboy Poetry events for many years. She enjoyed trips to Big Bend National Park and Fort Davis mountains, and was always amazed with the beauty of West Texas.

Mary was predeceased by her parents; her husband; her brothers Oran Henry Coleman, Daniel Arnold Coleman, and Lonnie Lee Coleman, Jr.; and her sister Kathryn Madge Orr.

Mary was a loving and dedicated mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, and is survived by her children Lonnie D. Ayers and wife Linda of Floresville, Texas, Linda K. Myers and husband, Texas, Laura E. Bedgood and husband Carl of Victoria, Texas, and Debra Lynn Younghaus and husband Jim of Alpine; sister-in-law Mary Coleman of Knoxville, Tenn.; grandchildren Ryan Archer and wife Alyssa, Quinn Leinen and wife Kristen, Neil Leinen and wife Jessica, Shannon Ayers, Loni Ayers, Jeremy Ayers, Jase Ayers and wife Pam, Lyndsi De La Rosa and husband Henry, Tambri Tagliabue and husband David, Alysia Bedgood, Tasha Culberson and husband Jack, Amanda Collins and husband Shane, Cassie Zimbelman and husband Adam, and Tristan

Younghaus. She is also survived by 21 precious great grandchildren and several very special nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, we ask that you please send donations to First Baptist Church in Dilley.

The family would like to thank the staff at River Point Memory Care and Sid Peterson Hospice of Kerrville for their excellent care and compassion in her final days.

Graveside services were held at the Dilley Cemetery on Dec. 10, and a reception followed at the First Baptist Church of Dilley Fellowship Hall.



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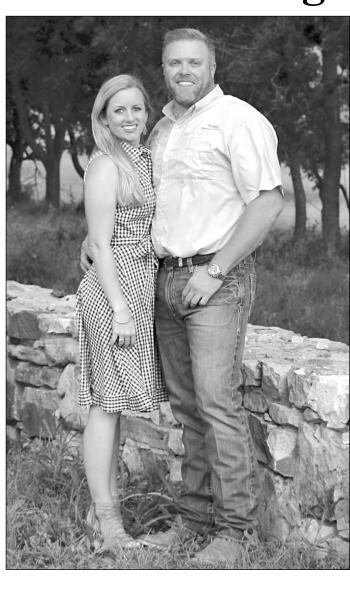
Stech-Peters Marriage

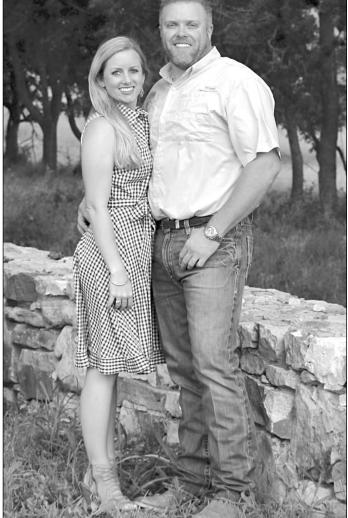
Callie Stech and Todd Peters were united in marriage on Nov. 20, 2021, at Bethany Lutheran Church in Fredericksburg, Texas, with Pastor Casey Zesch officiating.

Callie is the daughter of Stuart and Kay Stech of Fredericksburg. She is a graduate of Fredericksburg High School and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. Callie is a speech language pathologist with Fredericksburg ISD.

Todd is the son of Wayne and Donna Peters of Alpine, Texas. He is a graduate of Alpine High School and Angelo State University. Todd is employed with Hill Country Telephone Co-Op.

Callie and Todd will make their home in Fredericksburg.







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District Clerk Salgado retiring

BY ROXANNE HILL

Staff Writer

Brewster County Commissioners Court held its regularly scheduled meeting on Dec. 14 and announced that District Clerk Jo Ann Salgado would retire effective Dec. 31.

County Judge Eleazar Cano recognized Salgado for her 38 years' service to the county, and 394th Judicial District Court Judge Roy B. Ferguson selected Sarah Fellows Martinez as acting district clerk, effective Dec. 31.

Next, County Treasurer Julie Morton updated the court on property tax collections, saying the 97.3% so far collected

was slightly higher than projected in the preliminary budget. On hotel motel tax revenue, Morton said

Jo Ann Salgado

for fiscal year 2021, collections totaled nearly \$1.7 million, including from Air BnBs and hotels.

In other business, Emergency Management Coordinator Stephanie Elmore requested a 45-day renewal of the county wide burn ban, and commissioners approved.

With the upcoming holiday season came a recommendation to restrict certain fireworks sales and prohibit certain aerial fireworks in unincorporated areas of the county because of drought conditions. Cano then read an order that would expire on the date the Texas Forest Service determined drought conditions no longer existed in the county.

The prohibited fireworks include skyrockets with sticks and missiles with fins. Commissioners approved the restrictions.

Next, Brewster County Elections Administrator Lora Nussbaum requested that commissioners approve a Pct. 8 polling location change from the Alpine Neighborhood Center to the new Alpine Food Pantry at 933 East Gallego Ave.

"With the redistricting of the polling locations, we were using the Alpine Neighborhood Center, which is now in the Pct. 2 voting area," said Nussbaum. "I reached out to the Food Pantry, and they reached out to their board and unanimously agreed that we could use their building for a polling location. I think it will be great, and they will rearrange their food distribution around us."

Commissioners approved the change.

Finally, Cano recognized former EMS Director and Alpine Fire Chief Michael Scudder for his 47 years' service to the county. Cano said there would be an emergency services transition, and chose Greg Henington of Terlingua EMS to lead a task force to produce a 120-day plan.

"We should see this as an opportunity to restructure the whole fire and EMS for northern Brewster County, and Big Bend Regional Hospital District will play an intricate part," said Cano. "They have the resources as they are a taxing entity, and they can help us quite a bit with some of the funding."

Further, Cano said that at the next commissioner's court meeting on Dec. 28, there would be a discussion on changes to the City of Alpine and Brewster County contract with West Texas Ambulance.

Cano hinted at a possible campaign that would require voter approval, adding, "One of the reasons South County is outstanding is because they are a taxing entity. They actually pay their fire guys and their ambulance drivers reasonable wages. That is a long-term goal, and something we can do."

The next regularly scheduled commissioner's court meeting is set for Tuesday, Dec. 28, at 9:30 a.m. in the commissioners' courtroom and via Facebook Live.

Agents apprehend large group in national park

Border Patrol agents and national park rangers apprehended a large group of undocumented migrants from Venezuela.





On Dec. 1 Border Patrol Big Bend Sector agents with the assistance of Big Bend National Park rangers apprehended a large group of undocumented non-citizens south of Alpine.

The group consisted of undocumented migrants from Venezuela. From Nov. 25-Dec. 1, Big Bend Sector has encountered over 200 subjects in the national park.

"Big Bend Sector agents work hard every day along with local agencies to protect the American people and safeguard our borders," said Sector Chief Patrol Agent Sean McGoffin.

"We appreciate our relationship with the National Park Service rangers and all of our partners in the Big Bend."

All individuals were transported to the Alpine Border Patrol Station for processing, and will be processed under established Big Bend Sector guidelines.

Deputy apprehends smuggler

Early on Dec. 14 a Brewster County deputy observed a suspicious vehicle traveling north on U.S. Highway 118. Due to the large number of recent incidents involving individuals attempting to circumvent U.S. Border Patrol

checkpoints, deputy maintained visual contact with the vehicle, and assisted



Christopher Wallace

Border Patrol agent on a vehicle inspection once at the checkpoint.

It was determined that the driver, Christopher Wallace, was attempting to smuggle a group of illegal aliens into the U.S.

Wallace was trans-

ported to the Brewster County jail where he was booked for state charges of smuggling of persons.

The aliens were released to Border Patrol agents for processing and deportation.

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Helping the Crisis Center



The Alpine Lions Club recently donated \$500 to the Family Crisis Center to boost their efforts in the community. In the photo, Lion Mac Tucker, Letty Carrillo, Tina Vega, Gina Wilcox, and Lion Vice President John Sutterfield.

Courtesy photo





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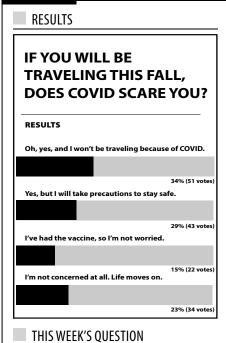


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Should states have the authority to ban private employers from mandating vaccines?

- Yes, vaccines are a personal choice, and should not be mandated by any government entity.

- Yes, but only with employers whose personnel are not in a high-risk field.

 No, employers should be doing everything they can to protect their employees.

I think the U.S. needs to achieve 100% vaccination for everyone.

Vote for this week's poll online at: www.AlpineAvalanche.com

Send us your letters.

Please include your name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Only your name and city will be published.

Letters should be no more than 300 words.

Letters become the property of the Alpine Avalanche and may be edited prior to publication for spelling and grammatical errors, clarity and length. Ad hominem attacks will not be accepted. Letters that include profanity or libel will not be printed.

Send your letters to editor@alpineavalanche.com by noon Monday for consideration.

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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation will be corrected when such occurs in this newspaper and is brought to the publisher's attention.



BOONIEVILLE







Preparing for the Franken-burger

pecting consumers.

Not surprisingly, the

companies creating

lab-grown products,

academic elitists, and

the usual critics of

animal agriculture are

already arguing they

should be allowed to

use common meat

terms to label their

One day in the not-too-distant future, you may walk into your local supermarket and next to the ground beef, you will see something different. It will look like ground beef, and it might even say "ground beef" on the label, but somewhere in impossibly small type, it will also say "cultured."

However, this new product will not be the same beef we have all come to know and love since humankind domesticated cattle some 10,500 years ago. No, this so-called meat is made in a laboratory, just like Frankenstein. The scary part about this story, though, is that it's real.

In 2013, European scientists created the first lab-grown burger, cultured in a petri dish from fetal bovine serum. That first burger cost about \$300,000 to produce. Today the cost is approximately \$11 per burger, and numerous companies are preparing to sell these lab-grown products to American

The Franken-burger is coming, and we must act now to protect consumer confidence and ensure a level playing field.

The sellers of plant-based meats have already demonstrated their willingness to use prominent cattle images and terms like meat and beef on their packaging to lure unsus-



HUGHES ABELL President Texas & Southwestern

products, too. **Cattle Raisers Association** How these new products are labeled will be critical. Otherwise, you'll be in the supermarket with a magnifying glass trying to read the fine print to figure out if you're buying lab-grown meat that you don't want.

It's also important for cattle producers. Should there be a food safety issue with labgrown products, it must be distinguishable from the natural beef humans have safely consumed for millennia.

In 2019, USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service and the Food and Drug Administration signed an agreement to jointly oversee these products, which they currently refer to as "comprised of or containing cultured animal cells." Under the agreement, USDA will be responsible for how the products are labeled.

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association recently submitted comments to the agency on behalf of cattle producers and consumers, calling for lab-grown products to be clearly labeled and differentiated from natural beef.

These products should be prominently labeled with a term like "lab-grown" to ensure consumers both recognize and understand what the product is. For the same reason, they should refrain from using words like beef, which consumers have come to trust as defining a wholesome, natural product.

Because independent scientists have not yet analyzed lab-grown products to determine their compositional and nutritional properties, it will be imperative to do so before they are publicly available and include any such differences prominently on the label as well.

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association will continue to fight for accurate and understandable labeling of both lab-grown and plant-based products. I hope you'll join in the fight so we can preserve the integrity of real, natural beef for American consumers.

It's more than over-priced gas at service-less stations

in automobile technol-

ogy, and how much

we've lost in customer

Perks included

washing your car on

slow nights, or chang-

service since then.

Keeping cars fueled has changed the way many of us live. Just last week, I had to apply for an increase in my credit limit at the bank, and that was just to buy enough gas to get to the service station. Or, more accurately stated, the inconvenience stores that sell gasoline without service. I heard last week that someone called the police claiming they were robbed at the corner gas station. When the dispatcher asked if they knew the thief's identity, the caller responded, "Yes, it was pump number 6."

Along with affordable fuel, I miss the days of real service stations. Places where drivers bought a tank of gas for less than five dollars without getting out of the car, and received an under-the-hood checkup, tire pressure check, a windshield cleaning, and an interior sweeping at no extra charge. That's a far cry from last week when I paid \$3.49 for "regular" gas that I pumped myself, and after selecting "yes" for a receipt at the pump, the message read "clerk has the receipt."

That's tantamount to being robbed, then being invited inside to thank them for robbing you.

It's also a far cry from memories of buying a dollar's worth of gas at the local station, knowing that would get me to school, to work after school, and home again for several days.

Those after school jobs for me were often at service stations where the life of a high school kid working a part-time job was not only educational but came with perks.

Recounting a few of those experiences



LEON ALDRIDGE

ing your oil using the **Guest Columnist** station's service rack and tools just for the cost of the oil and filter. That sure beat doing it across the front yard ditch at home, lying on my back using the

few worn-out tools dad owned. While I don't remember how much a quart of oil cost in the 1960s, I do recall the advertised price for an oil and filter change at Rex

Kidwells' Fina station was \$5. It wasn't a bad job either when the cute blonde in algebra class you were too shy to ask out on a date happened to drive in to fill up her car. Just enough time to get better acquainted, and find the nerve to ask if she might be interested in going to the midnight show after Friday night's football game. It was, after all, a sci-fi flick, "Terror From Outer Space."

The job even had its humorous moments. Like the night the '57 Chevrolet squealed in the driveway with strains of Chuck Berry's "Maybelline" recognizable through rolleddown windows. The driver barked, "Two bucks of regular, check the tires, and make it snappy, kid. I'm in a hurry." He then re-

to a friend last week turned to swaying with the music of "Mayreminded me of just belline, coming over the hill in her Coupe how far we've come Deville."

Gas pumped and tires checked, I leaned across the fender for the obligatory free windshield cleaning when the radio's volume suddenly dropped drastically. The startled driver turned the knob up and began pounding on the dash. Finished cleaning one side, I stepped back to walk to the other side, and the volume blasted back.

I was halfway around the car when it dawned on me. With the driver's side clean and sparkling, I smiled and walked back to the other side for a touch up. Sure enough, when I leaned across the fender reaching for the windshield, my arm touched the radio antenna. And just like before, the volume vanished. The driver sprang into action again, attempting to fix the radio's volume. I let him go through his antics one more time before moving my arm enough for the sound

Apparently, the antenna had a short or a loose connection, and my touching it was enough to ground the signal. Realizing I was in control, I bumped it a couple more times just to have some fun with before collecting his two dollars.

America has lost more than just money out of working people's pockets for over-priced and over-taxed gasoline at service-less stations. It has lost one of the best places for a high school kid to work - the full-service station where gas was 29¢ a gallon, wash jobs were \$1.25, and every day was fun.

ETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Collaborating for health care

Health care resources in the Big Bend are limited, but as the participants in a recent forum sponsored by the Alpine Public Library discovered they might not be as limited as people think. What is definitely limited is information on available resources. The forum, which took

place Oct. 16, was the second of the community conversations funded by a grant from the American Library Association. It brought together 20 residents of the Big Bend, including five persons from the health care community, to share their experiences with area health care. Two issues dominated - the shortage of health professionals, and the lack of information on health care resources. The first, acknowledged by the government designation of the Big Bend as a Health Professional Shortage Area, is a focus for Dr. Adrian Billings of Preventative Care Health Services. Billings works with educational institutions and state and national governmental officials to make practicing in rural and underserved areas attractive to and feasible for new health care workers. J. D. Newsom, executive

director of Big Bend Regional Hospital District, wants to tackle the second issue, the lack of information on health care resources. This endeavor faces several obstacles, includ-

ing funding, making the information accessible, and keeping it accurate and current. Alpine Public Library is in a good position to help. The staff of APL and the hospital district, along with volunteers, some from within the health care community, will work to gather, organize, and distribute information in formats available to those with internet access and those without it.

Because most of the forum attendees were over 55, the conversations largely focused on health concerns of older residents. Nonetheless, the health-resource clearinghouse, as one discussion group dubbed it, will address the needs of all residents in the Tri-County. In addition the library hopes to host future conversations that focus on the health-related interests of younger adults, teens, children, and babies.

The library would like to thank the American Library Association and the Association of Rural and Small Libraries for funding the conversations that helped bring about this collaboration. We would also like to thank those area residents who participated in our community conversations.

> Lee Smith, President Friends of the Alpine Public Library Don Wetterauer, **Executive Director** Alpine Public Library

#ALPINE AVALANCHE

Heard on the

STREET

Our Avalanche reporter asked, "What was your most memorable Christmas/holiday moment?"



Lauren Johnson, **Alpine:** Decorating the tree with my family.



Stephen White, Alpine: When my Mom gave back the shark. I had given her a tacky plastic shark for Christmas. Her opening the package and squealing was almost the best. She kept the stupid thing all year, and wrapped it and gave it back. Seeing it and my Mom's eyes twinkling as a new family tradition was born was the best!



Jay Simon, Alpine: Spreading cheer and sending gifts to everybody.



Kari Wilson, **Alpine:** It took about an hour to drive to Houston from where I lived where my family used to have big get togethers. The night before Christmas, I had chicken fried rice from a Chinese place so I ended up having food poisoning, and I was sick upstairs the whole entire Christmas.



Michelle Foster, **Alpine:** The kids waking up and excited that Santa ate their cookies and drank the eggnog!

Rocksl<u>ides</u>

Send your community events to editor@alpineavalanche.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 17 Cowboy Christmas Dance, 7-10 p.m. at Big Bend Cowboy Church, 90408 E. Hwy. 90 in Alpine. The whole family is invited. Bring your favorite Christmas party snack. Drinks

will be provided. Free and open

to the public. **Dec. 19**

Community Posada, 6:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, 6th St. and Gallego in Alpine. Food and drinks will be provided, along with piñata and candies for the children. Free and open to the public.

Jan. 1

Black-Eyed Pea Off, turnin at 2 p.m., in Terlingua Ghost Town. Proceeds benefit a continuing education scholarship for Terlingua seniors. Festivities include an open mic quitar pull and raffle. Winners announced at 2:30 p.m.

ONGOING EVENTS

Alcoholics Anonymous, 502 E. Lockhart Ave. Schedules available on front door. For more information, call 915-562-4081 or aa-intergroup.org.

Alpine Lions Club meeting, noon Tuesdays at the Sul Ross University Center, Room 210.

American Legion Post 79 meeting, 6:30 p.m., second Monday each month, Legion Hall, 306 W. Sul Ross Ave. Dinner provided.

American Legion Auxiliary meeting, 6:30 p.m., third Monday each month, Legion Hall, 306 W. Sul Ross Ave.

Big Bend Community Chorale rehearsals on Monday evenings at 6 p.m. in the First United Methodist Church sanctuary in Alpine. All are welcome, but first contact Andrew Alegria at Andrew.alegria@ sulross.edu, call 432-837-8216,



or visit bbcchorale.wixsite.com/

Citizenship Classes, at Alpine Public Library by appointment only, 805 W. Ave. E. 432-837-2621

ESL Tutoring, at Alpine Public Library, 805 W. Ave. E. Call 432-837-2621 to make an appointment.

GED tutoring, at Alpine Public Library, 805 W. Ave. E. Call 432-837-2621 to make an appointment.

Kiwanis Club of Alpine, noon, Wednesdays at the Sul Ross University Center, room

805 W. Ave E. After school club for grades one to three.

Senior Coffee, 9:30 a.m.noon on Fridays at Alpine Public Library, 805 W. Ave E. 432-837-2621.

Sons of the Legion, 6:30 p.m., fourth Monday each month, Legion Hall, 306 W. Sul Ross Ave.

Voter registration assistance, Tuesdays-Thursdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Alpine Public Library, 805 W. Ave E. 432-837-2621.

Walk for Life, 9-10 a.m. Tuesdays beginning March 30. Locations will vary, so call or email to register at Cathy@ cathywright.com or 832-314-8103. A movement intelligence program by Cathy Wright, Learning for Life LLC.

Zumba, 6-7 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday at Alpine Public Library, 805 W. Ave E., with instructor Eva Lambert.

See more at alpineavalanche.com.

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SALE DATE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2021

2262 head of cattle sold on an uneven market, with excellent buyer attendance. This is the top of the market and prices range down from this according to quality, condition, and fill.

COMPARED TO LAST WEEK:

Stocker Calves: Steers steady to \$5.00 higher **Heifers:** Steady

Feeder Cattle: Steady

Packer Cows and Bulls: Steady to \$2.00 higher 300# 400# Steers 185 00 to 212 00

300# - 400# Steers	185.00 to 212.00
300# - 400# Heifers	162.00 to 163.00
400# - 500# Steers	183.00 to 185.00
400# - 500# Heifers	156.00 to 162.00
500# - 600# Steers	165.00 to 183.00
500# - 600# Heifers	140.00 to 156.00
600# - 700# Steers	149.00 to 165.00
600# - 700# Heifers	130.00 to 140.00
700# - 800# Steers	146.00 to 149.00
700# - 800# Heifers	121.00 to 130.00
Packer Cows	70.00 to 82.00
Canner & Cutter Cows	60.00 to 68.00
Packer Bulls	90.00 to 95.00
Feeder Bulls	64.00 to 72.00
Cow / Calf Pairs - Top Half	1100.00 to 1410.00
Bred Cows – Top Half	1000.00 to 1300.00

www.alpineavalanche.com

Pet of the Week

Alpine Humane Society Pet of the Week is Zinnia, a very active young kitty. As a dilute calico, her coat is a beautiful mix of colors.

You can meet Zinnia at the Alpine Animal Shelter, and consider adding her and maybe even another young cat to your home. Growing cats do very well in pairs.

The Alpine Humane in our community.



Society Thrift Store helps to fund the mission of improving the lives of cats and dogs When you donate items or shop at the store, you support our work. The store is open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Donated items should be delivered during store hours, not left by the door.

Adoptions are handled by Alpine Animal Services at the city shelter, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-6 p.m. Monday through Friday at 2900 East Old Marathon Highway. The Alpine Humane

ociety Thrift Store and Cattery is at 706 North Fifth Street in Alpine. For information about adoptions or other services, call the shelter at 432-837-9030. To view adoptable pets, visit alpinehumane society.org.

County Library, 100

Memorial Square in Fort

Davis. The drawing for the handmade hummingbird quilt will be held on Friday, Dec. 17, at noon. Call the library at 432-

426-3802 for tickets and

Hummingbird quilt raffle

Jeff Davis County Library will hold a hum-

mingbird quilt raffle ben-

efiting Friends of the Jeff Davis County Library, a

non-profit organization.

Tickets are available and the quilt is on display at the Jeff Davis

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more information. **CITY OF ALPINE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

The City of Alpine (City) is soliciting Request for Proposals (RFP) for Road Materials. The City is requesting proposals for multiple types of material. (See Exhibit "A" in the complete RFP which can be found online at www.cityofalpine.com/ bids for detailed list of material and quantity).

ROAD MATERIALS 2021-12-01

Sealed proposals are due to the Finance Department Office by January 6, 2022 at 4:00 P.M. Sealed Proposals will be opened January 6, 2021 at 4:00 P.M. In order to be considered, the sealed proposal must address each of the requests for information in the Summary of Qualifications section within the RFP. Questions regarding the RFP may be directed by email edie.molinar@ci.alpine.tx.us before 5:00 P.M. on December 29, 2021. No inquiries will be accepted after this time.

Giving for scholarships



Big Bend Sportsman Club President Jim Westermann on Dec. 7 presented Sul Ross State University Range and Wildlife Club President Jason Crosby with a donation to the Range and Wildlife Club scholarship effort. The Sportsman Club hosted the Wildlife Club's turkey shoot on Nov. 13 at the gun range in Alpine.

Avalanche photo by Gail Diane Yovanovich

NATIVITY • FROM 1

McGuire said there were people who had been participating for many years, and new-comers can follow along with the seasoned vets.

"Audience participation is always encouraged and welcomed," said McGuire. "We would love anybody to come and be in it. Nobody has any lines to learn, and costumes are provided. It's a lot of fun, and everybody in it is a gift to people in Alpine. It's a very sweet reenactment with all the lights and the music."

Professional musician Burt Compton of Marfa will also be present with his impressive gong, an enormous instrument made in Germany that he

has kept since 1972.

"When the spotlight hits me, I hit the gong with great force and dramatically. The sound echoes off the canyon walls of Kokernot Park. I hear its rather stunning!" exclaimed Compton. "The best part of all is when the three wise men come in. Karen encourages the youngsters to come in and play my gong."

McGuire said the Live Nativity is an interdenominational event, and every-



Three dramatic strikes of Burton Compton's gong will announce the arrival of the Three Wise Men along with Bo Peebles as King Herod.

one, regardless of religious affiliation or no affiliation, is encouraged to come see it or participate.

"Its just the coming together of everybody who wants to be a part of a Biblical reenactment.," said McGuire. "It's a beautiful thing, and a time for people to get together and be unified, and to be good neighbors and have some joy in their hearts."

The Live Nativity will be held at the stable area be-

tween Kokernot Lodge and Kokernot Outdoor Theatre in Alpine on Saturday, Dec. 18, Sunday, Dec. 19, and Monday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m., and is free of charge. The audience should bring chairs or blankets to sit on, and dress warmly. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served afterwards.

McGuire stressed that the Live Nativity would not be successful without the dedication and hard work of the volunteers. Courtesy photo

"The volunteers are what makes it work," she said. "Help is needed and always appreciated."

For more information on the Live Nativity, contact McGuire at 432-386-3071.

Sul Ross State University does not endorse the Live Nativity.

REVAMP • FROM 1

The estimated completion date for the pavilion, patio, restrooms, and storage room is sometime in the spring of 2022, with a goal of having everything in place for the spring break crowds.

"Like everything else, the holdup right now is materials for the pavilion," explained Yadon, who indicated the pavilion will be a Mueller metal building. "They don't have a time frame of when they are going to get us the metal. It's all been ordered, and once that comes, it will go up quickly."

Yadon emphasized that Alpine is a music friendly city, and that would allow the Center to open earlier than other local businesses that host live music. At the same time, it will be family friendly, and not compete with businesses that already host evening events.

Ultimately, the Visitor Center goal is not only to drive tourism, but also be a hub where people can obtain amenities often found in other cities, while enjoying the uniqueness Alpine has to offer.

"So many people want to go to wide-open spaces," said Yadon. "Obviously, that's what we really love being out here - we don't have the crowds. That's been so helpful with bringing tourism back here."



Bethany Brookover, Agent

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Alpine Avalanche

December 12, 1991 Vicente Galindo Molinar was honored December 7 at his 98th birthday celebration. He is pictured here with several

of his chil-

dren. Pho-

to by Joe

Thompson

December 12, 1991

Alpine Fightin' Buck hoopster-Charles Angel, number 32, fights for a rebound against the Monahans Lobos. Photo by Dan Deck-



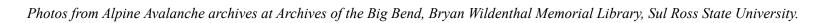


December 12, 1991

Richard Arnold, administrator of BBRMC, and David Moore, Chairman of the hospital board, are shown celebrating with Carole Jackson and Carol Parr, co-chairpersons of the Great Ameri-Smokeout, can as they declare BBRMC a smokefree facility.

December 19, 1991 The Whiz Kids of the Big Bend Dairy

Association demonstrated their showmanship and were presented awards for their 4-H record books, From left are Dana White, Jesse Lea Schneider, Lisa Surber, Michael Uher, Bobbie Baker in front, and Jesse Espinoza in the background. Photo by Martha Floro



Vitex might recover next spring

Dear Neil: My vitex plant had sparse leaves and a few small blooms following the February cold spell. Should I prune it back, take it out, or just wait and see what happens?

Vitex plants were hurt significantly in many parts of Texas. If you have branches that you are sure were killed, you can prune them out over the winter. Otherwise, wait until early spring to see how vigorously the plant puts out new growth. If it's lethargic, you'll have plenty of time to replace it from spring nursery inventories.

Dear Neil: I have a very large, old pecan tree in our pasture. Seedlings have come up beneath it. Do you think I can pull or dig some of them up

any better,

_ dust,

wouldn't allow it'

ashes to ashes'

29 TXism: "so green

a lettuce

patch" (rookie)

30 speaker to produce

32 TX Tanya (init.)

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33 TXism: "parental

36 actress Drake in

high-pitched sounds

'Son of Belle Starr"

the morals of

alley cat"

fed. mortgage ins.

38 TXism: "numerous

dead worm"

he could _

Slavic person

the sheriff



GARDENER'S MAILBAG by neil sperry

they survive the process?

I don't know if the mother tree is an improved variety or just a native pecan, but these seedlings most definitely would be natives. Not that there's anything wrong with native pecans, but you don't have any way of knowseedlings, if they're short enough (less than 4 or 5 feet) and if you lifted them carefully with a sharpshooter spade to move them, you might do pretty well. Hold soil around their roots, and trim their tops back by half after the dig to compensate for the roots that are lost. It's going to be quite a shock when you dig them. Honestly, if you simply want native pecans, you would get bigger trees faster if you were simply to plant pecans that you gathered from beneath the tree now. Plant them an inch or two deep and 40-50 feet apart and exactly where you want them, preferably not

them back in general.

No, and no! In fact, you should not remove much of anything from the tops of your crepe myrtles. I see that homeowners and a few landscape contractors have already started topping crepe myrtles. That is a horrifically barbaric act that ruins their shape forever. When people say



grown too tall, I just have ping slows and diminishes to turn away. There are more than 125 varieties of crepe myrtles, and they range in size from 3-33 feet tall. If a person has a crepe myrtle that's too tall, it needs to be relocated or removed, and a smaller

BARGAINS OF THE MONT

type planted to replace it.

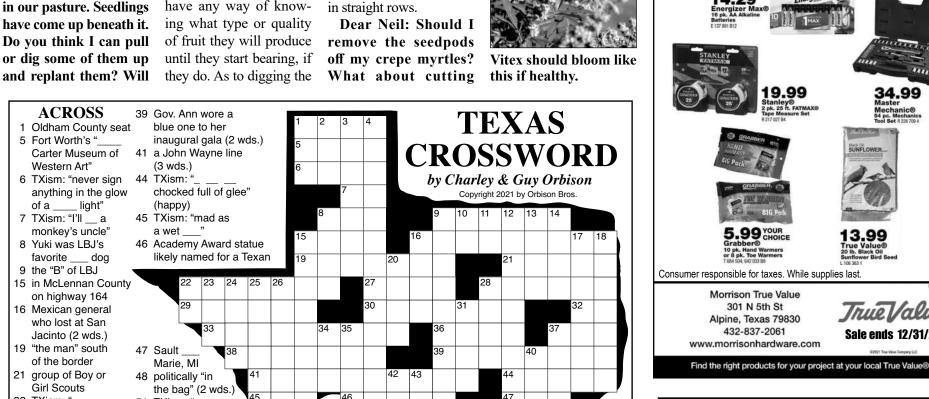
Also, for the record, top-

the flower production in summer. There is no redeeming reason ever to top crepe myrtles. Have a question you'd

like Neil to consider? Email him at mailbag@ sperrygardens.com. Neil regrets that he cannot reply to questions individually.

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Reporter-_

Bucks on war path

BY GLENN MCCARTHY

Sports Correspondent

The Alpine Fightin' Bucks shone at the Stanton Tournament Dec. 9-11, winning all but one game.

The Bucks opened the tournament with a 59-42 win over the Colorado City Wolves. Aiden Morrissey led all scorers with 20, and seniors Esteban Maciaz and Jayden Canaba pitched in 12 and 11, respectively.

Coach Hugh Morrissey felt the game against the Wolves because it was a team with a lot of size. He believed it was the second biggest team the Bucks had faced all season.

In game two of the tournament, the Bucks scorched the McCamey Badgers, 62-42. Morrissey again led all scorers with 24 points.

On Saturday at noon the Bucks suffered their only loss to the Lamesa Golden Tornadoes in a squeaker, 61-56. In the final game on Sunday, the Bucks beat the Big Spring Steers, 57-48. Morrissey pumped in another 19 points on his way to being named to the All-Tournament team.

Canaba had this to say about their play in the Stanton tourney, "This weekend I think we were able to come together both defensively and offensively which allowed us to do well. We were able to get crucial stops when they were needed, and we took advantage of our possessions offensively. Having people who are able to score both outside the perimeter and in the paint is a weapon that I think will continue to help us down the road."

On Dec. 14 the Bucks faced the Midland Greenwood Rangers again at the Alpine Middle School basketball court. Both teams opened with back-to-back threes. Morrissey was finding easy lanes to drive, and the Bucks opened up a 27-13 lead after the first quarter. Morrissey had a filthy jump shot go in as he was falling away from the lane right before half to make the score 41-31.

But the Rangers kept clawing away with a half court press that bothered the Bucks into nine second-half turnovers. After a steal from Canaba, Kevin Kitto scored, and the Rangers had the first tie of the ball game since 3-3 at the beginning. Then Kitto scored again for their first lead at 56-54. Kitto was the leading scorer in the game with 22 points.

Two more turnovers to start the fourth quarter did not look promising for the Bucks, then Canaba canned a bucket from the left side, 56-54. As much as the Bucks wanted to get back into the game, Midland Greenwood was just hot, and their pressing defense produced turnovers.

The final here in Alpine was 61-69 Greenwood Rangers. The Fightin' Bucks are now 7-3 on the season.

Alpine will travel on Friday, Dec. 17, to face the Pecos Eagles at 7:30 p.m., then will be off for Christmas break before lacing them back up for the prestigious Lubbock Caprock Tournament which runs Dec. 29-31.

Lady Bucks trying to find rhythm

BY GLENN MCCARTHY Sports Correspondent

The Alpine Lady Bucks notched a crucial win on Dec. 14 at the Crane Lady Cranes house, 41-36. They also had a big win this past Saturday in the Andrews Tournament against a tough Wink Lady Wildcat squad who went deep into the playoffs last year. Alpine won 44-37. The Lady Bucks lost to the Denver City Mustangs on Thursday night, 52-33, while suffering their worst loss of the season to the Shallowater Mustangs the next day, last Friday.

Coach Rick Garcia said of his girl's recent play, "The girls found out that we can play with those Panhandle schools. I was really proud of their mental toughness. We will probably see one or two of those teams in the playoffs so it was a great experience for all of us."

About the Wink win he added, "The win against Wink capped off a great weekend of basketball. Both teams were tired and beat up. We just showed our mental toughness by sticking to the game plan and working hard for 32 minutes of basketball. These are games that are going to prepare us for District."

Alpine sits at 5-4 on the season, and should be off for Christmas until they head up to Lubbock for the Caprock Tournament. The tournament runs from Dec. 29 to New Years Eve.



The Lady Bucks faced off against the Shallowater Mustangs on Dec. 10 at the Andrews Tournament, but came up short with a loss.

Avalanche photo by J.T. Maroney

Going for the shot



Alpine Fightin' Buck Jake Crump makes easy work of the Greenwood defense on Dec. 14 in Alpine.

Off the fingertips



Tray Ervin goes up for a jump shot on Dec. 14 for the Fightin' Bucks in Alpine against Greenwood.

Photo by Felipe Fierro

Fightin' Buck Schedule

Boys Basketball

• Dec. 17 @ Pecos Gold 4:30 p.m./Purple 6 p.m./Varsity 7:30 p.m. **Girls Basketball**

 Dec. 29-31 Lubbock Caprock Tournament in Lubbock TBA

• Dec. 29-31 Lubbock Caprock Tournament in Lubbock TBA

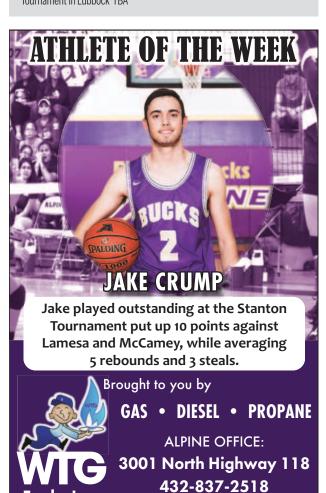


Photo by Felipe Fierro



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Alpine cheerleader marches in Pearl Harbor parade



High School's Madalyn Warren was one of more than 600 high school cheerleaders and dancers from across the country represented Varsity Spirit in the Varsity Spirit Pearl Harbor Memorial rade in Honolulu, Hawaii, from Dec. 4-8. individu-The als invited were part of a select group chosen as All-Americans during Varsity Spirit summer camps nationwide.

Courtesy photo

Lobos fall to Yellow Jackets

Sul Ross men's hoops led most of each half, but a late surge from Howard Payne handed the Lobos a 67-59 road loss on Thursday night in Brownwood.

The Lobos got out to an early 10-6 lead that was capped by a pair of triples from Julian Paredes. They continued to hold the advantage, and grew it to as many as 16 after a 17-2 run. Paredes and Gabe Sanchez each added six before CJ Jemison added the final five for a 27-11 lead. HPU proceeded to cut it to four with a 12-0 run before Sully finished the first half with the final five for a 32-25 advantage at the half.

In the second half, Howard Payne brought it to one with back-to-back triples, and soon tied it at 34-34. Daveone Bass answered with a triple, and was fouled on

the shot. His free throw was good for a 38-34 lead that eventually grew to nine after a Sanchez triple and Bass layup. The Yellow Jackets continued to chip away, and took their next lead at 47-46. Martinez later tied it 48-48 with a layup, but HPU answered with a 6-0 run. The Lobos cut it to two twice down the stretch but were unable to come back in a 67-59 loss.

Paredes scored 16 points and added a team-high 11 rebounds.

Mitchell Martinez was the team's leading scorer with 17.

Sully fell to 4-5 on the season and 2-3 in the American Southwest Conference. The Yellow Jackets move to 3-6 and 2-3.

The Lobos continue their season in Marshall against East Texas Baptist on Thursday, Dec. 16.

Volleyball earns sportsmanship award

Sul Ross State University volleyball and six other American Southwest Conference member institutions were recognized by the conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee as recipients of SAAC Team Sportsmanship awards for the fall 2021 sport seasons.

The SAAC Team Sportsmanship award honors the member institution in each ASC championship sport that best displays positive qualities of sportsmanship and fair play from its student-athletes, coaches, and fans

throughout the season.

The fall 2021 awards are presented in men's and women's cross country, football, men's and women's soccer, and volleyball with each of the 11 member SAACs voting within the sports it sponsors.

Belhaven led all schools with two teams

honored. Concordia Texas, LeTourneau, Mary Hardin-Baylor, McMurry, Ozarks, and Sul Ross State each had one.

Sul Ross split the volleyball award with Belhaven. The Lobos were selected for the third time.

LeTourneau was recognized in both men's cross country for the fourth team. The YellowJackets also earned the award in 2015, 2016 and 2019. McMurry earned the women's cross country award for the third time.

Belhaven received the football sportsmanship award for the second time, and Concordia Texas was a first-time recipient in men's soccer. In women's soccer, Mary Hardin-Baylor and Ozarks were the co-winners. The Cru earned the honors for the first time, while the Eagles won for the second time.



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No limit to chicken pot pie

To say I am not a traditionalist is an understatement. I push the envelope when it comes to cooking. That is not to say I am some classically trained chef using liquid nitrogen or a sous vide cooker, it just means that I like to use ingredients outside those listed in a recipe. It means that I like to experiment with different flavors beyond those one may traditionally associate with different dishes. One such dish I most definitely experiment with is chicken pot pie.

Chicken pot pie is a comfort food. A warm, thick, gravy-like center mixed with chicken and



HEAD OVER MEALS

by kara gerbert

vegetables surrounded by a buttery, flaky pie crust is hard to beat. It hits the spot on those chilly fall and winter days, and can be as easy as picking it up in the frozen section of your local grocer. That frozen version just does not work for me. I for one am not a fan of peas. They are one vegetable I have despised since I was a baby, and I see no need to change that now. So what you may ask to I replace the peas with? Well, I replace them with anything I feel like.

I especially like to cook for my friends, so awhile back a made my version of a chicken pot pie for my favorite adopted family. I usually make my own pie dough, but I was in a bit of a rush, so I used the storebought variety. You can also use puff pastry for a flakier crust, but I stick with standard pie dough.

Making your own chicken pot pie versus buying a pre-made frozen variety will not only impress the family but it ultimately uses fresh ingredients which is healthier than those store-bought varieties filled with preservatives. This quick version is also easily made after a long day at work, with little effort and allows for customization if you or your family has an aversion to peas like me.

Questions, comments, or suggestions? Contact Kara at foodie9372@ gmail.com.

Chicken Pot Pie

Directions:

Place one sheet of pie dough into a pie dish, pierce several times with a fork. This helps with steam disbursement. Ideally, one would roast the chicken and use the broth to make the gravy for the pie. Instead, I use a can of cream of chicken soup and a little bit of canned chicken broth to thin it out a bit.

Heat this in a goodsized pot, as you will need to add vegetables to it. I also use a storebought rotisserie chicken because it makes this simple and quick.

I add lightly sauteed

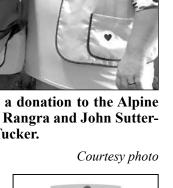
mushrooms, onions, and spinach to the soup mixture instead of the traditional carrots and peas. After cooking the soup mixture and vegetables for a few minutes, pour it into the pie crust. Cover with the second pie crust, crimp the edges together and cut slits into the top for more steam disbursement. Bake at 400 degrees for approximately 45 minutes, or until the top of the crust is a light, golden brown.

Remove from oven and enjoy.

Helping Blue Santa



Alpine Lions Club continues to give back to the community, this time with a donation to the Alpine Police Department's Blue Santa effort. In the photo, Lions Avi Rangra, Amit Rangra and John Sutterfield, Police Department Chief Darrell Losoya, and Lions Andrea and Mac Tucker.





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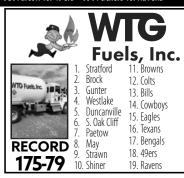
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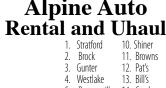
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Fort Davis school selected for national Busload of Books Tour

Dirks-Anderson Elementary School in Fort Davis has been chosen as a stop on the one-time Busload of Books Tour. Supported entirely by private donors, illustrator/ author married couple Robbi Behr and Matthew Swanson and their four children will spend one year visiting Title I schools in every state.

This free enrichment opportunity was highly competitive. Out of over 300 applications, only 52 were selected, one school per state, plus Washington, D.C., with two schools selected in Texas due to its size.

During their visit to Dirks-Anderson, Behr and Swanson will give one free, brand-new book to each elementaryschool student, teacher/support staff, and administrator. They will also provide two interactive presentations about creativity, writing, and art. Additionally, a select group of upper-elementary students will eat lunch with Behr and Swanson, during which time they can discuss

careers in writing, art/media, publishing, and more.

The visit is scheduled for the last week of school in December 2022. To see more about their plans, go to robbiandmatthew.com/ busload-of-books.

A generous grant from the Higher Education Foundation led Dirks-Anderson teacher Amanda Fisher to this competition. With her recently awarded grant money, Fisher updated her fourth-grade classroom library primarily from First Book Marketplace, a non-profit that sells heavily discounted books exclusively to Title I teachers and staff. It was First Book Marketplace, which is partnering with Behr and Swanson, that invited Fisher to apply.

Fisher regularly spends some of her free time researching which books would appeal to which students.

While she enjoys finding books that grow her seasoned readers, nothing is quite as thrilling as hearing a reluctant reader say, "I love this book!"



A Higher Education Foundation grant for classroom library led fourth grade teacher Amanda Fisher to Busload of Books Tour competition.

Courtesy photo

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Devotional Page

"Be not afraid" could be a substitution for "Merry Christmas"

BY MIKE WALLENS

This command kicked off the first message spoken after 400 years of divine si-

the upcoming birth of his son, John the Baptist. It was said to Mary as she received the message that she would be bearing the Savior through her virgin womb. It was spoken to Joseph as he pondered quietly divorcing his betrothed for her seemingly adulterous pregnancy. It was sung to the shepherds as they were hired to be the first incarnation preachers in the coming kingdom. And it is announced to you today as we celebrate this historical moment that is still happening in our midst.

Why it was a shock to see angels is left to our imagination. I'm guessing most of our assumptions about that experience involve a robust sound and light show. We imagine a blinding light, the glow of a non-gender humanoid form in a white robe delivering a divine speech backgrounded by the sonic persuasions of heavenly chords.

with "Be Not Afraid" because it is shat-

tering the security you've found in limited conclusions like this - divine encounters only happen with worthy saints on mountaintops or in sacred places.

ished by our limited conclusions, for their hard decisions.

Maybe the place we experience Godwith-Us today is in the very fears we have about our own lives, our own world, our own future. The fears that keep us from believing anything can be different. The fears that we are here all on our own. The fears that we will be holding at our upcoming

Today, let our fears be the starting place of divine connection, because if a messenger from heaven were to show up with an announcement of good tidings of great joy, a message that will change everything, historically, that proclamation would begin with the greeting "Be not afraid" - or, the way we say it today, "Merry Christmas."

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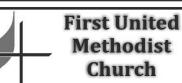


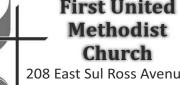


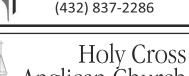
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lence. It was directed to Zechariah as he learned

A message from the Divine must start

And yet the "messengers" are aston-

message is a proclamation of good news such as the divine encounters happen. In the humblest of places, like at your job, in your kitchen, in the headspace of making

May you be not afraid, for Love has drawn near.

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DAR and DRT hold Christmas tea and recruitment



Alpine Daughters of the American Revolution and Daughters of the Republic of Texas held their fourth annual Christmas tea on Dec. 4 at First Presbyof each organization. In the photo, Mary Smith, Judy Parsons, and Kay Houston.

terian Fellowship Hall. Refreshments and conversation amid beautiful Christmas decorations were enjoyed by all, with 13 ladies attending, two being prospective new members

Courtesy photo

Burgers with the Bucks Boosters



Alpine ISD Bucks Boosters Bonnie Lujan, Sarah Fellows Martinez, Paty Saenz, Mesinda Llanez, and Sarah Vasquez pause for a photo at the middle school cafeteria on Dec. 11 as they serve up hamburgers with all the trimmings. The fundraiser will benefit all Alpine ISD athletes.

> Avalanche photo by Roxanne Hill

Olivas receives award

The Board of Regents of the Texas State University System formally recognized recipients of the Regents' Professor, Staff, and Student Scholar awards for 2021. The board adopted resolutions honoring the award winners during its quarterly meeting this week on the campus of Sam

Houston State University in Huntsville.

Among the eight honorees was Gabriela Olivas, an English major at Sul Ross State University.

Regents' Teacher Award winners will be formally recognized at the board's February 2022 meeting at Lamar University in Beaumont.

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Toronto Creek neighborhood invites public to Christmas party



Taylor Ramirez. holds the yard sign that a neighbor won in the 2020 lighting contest.

Courtesy

Toronto Creek Estates, a subdivision in Alpine, invites the community to join in a neighborhood Christmas party on Saturday, Dec. 18, at 5 p.m., on Haystack, Doe Court, and Deer Run Drive. There will be hayrides,

driveway goodies, and a Christmas lighting contest. Cookies, hot cocoa, candy, and more goodies will be offered. There will also be voting for best Christmas lights, and the winner gets a yard sign for their front yard.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

What are you especially looking forward

to in your senior year? Making memories

with my friends that will last me a lifetime! What activities are you involved in during

your senior year? I'm an active member of the Buck Band and a member of the National

Honor Society. Who has been your most influential teacher or coach through high school?

Mr. Wilson is the teacher that influenced me the most, and pushed me to do my best not just in band, but also in many more subjects. He truly was a positive influence, and I will always remember him after graduation.

What was your favorite moment the last four years?

My favorite moment



Nancy Hinojosa

had to be all the laughs I've shared with my classmates in various classes. I've honestly never laughed as hard as I had those moments.

What are your plans after high school?

My plans after high school include going to University of North Texas and majoring in hospitality management. Hopefully enjoy the college life and what life has to bring. Go, Mean Green!

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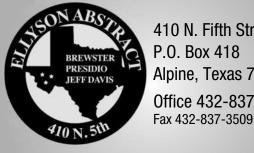
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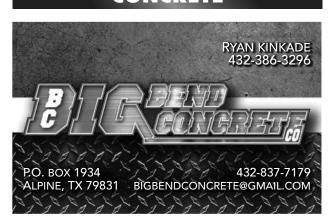


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407 E. Lockhart #7, 1 BR/1 Bath, Rent \$795.00 / mo + Deposit, 432-249-0293

407 E. Lockhart #4, 1 BR/1Bath, Rent \$599.00 + Deposit, 432-249-0293

605 E. Ave E 2 BR/1 Bath Rent \$795.00 / mo + Deposit 432-249-0293

LUXURY DU-PLEX FOR LEASE - Spacious 3bd/2ba duplex for lease, across from the golf course, quiet neighborhood,

FOR RENT/LEASE FOR RENT/LEASE

DEADLINES - All ads are due

in the office by 12:00 (noon) on

fenced backyard with covered back patio, one car garage, stove and frig furnished with laundry area. NO PETS ALLOWED. Available after December 1. 432-364-0500 or 432-294-1480

One bedroom, one bathroom. Washer/dryer hookups. Water paid. \$650 per month. \$650 deposit. Call 432-294-3847.

or np@bigbend.

net

Two houses for rent. 201 E. Uvalde, 1 bed 1 bath, newly remodeled, 875/ month includes water and electric., available immediately. 203 E. Uvalde 2or 3-bedroom, 1 bath, large fenced back

HELP WANTED

yard, covered patio, carport, washroom/ storage, 1050/ month includes water and electric, available Jan 2. --Call or text Tom @432-294-1764 and leave a message.

HELP WANTED

We are seeking mechanics or mechanic assistants for Alpine Diesel Services. We're looking for reliable CDL drivers to join our team at Trails End Logistics. Please call or come into our office to apply today! (432) 244-4490.

Holiday Inn Express is seeking dedicated employees to fill front desk, night audit, and housekeeping positions. Please apply in person at 2004 East Highway 90.

Start to Finish Alpine/Fort Davis Construction needs help. Experience helpful but not necessary if willing to work. Call Jimmy 325-340-0175.

CDL/Dump **Truck Driver** needed for a busy excavation company, located in Jackson, Wyoming. This is a fulltime, year-round position with competitive pay, employee health insurance (employer paid), life insurance, 401K, dental and vision

WANT TO BUY:

I buy cast iron skillets please text or call 512-963-7533



MH CASE MANAGER **Full Time**

PBCC is looking to employ a full-time MH CASE MANAGER to serve Brewster County, Ideal applicants should display 1 Year experience with individuals with mental illness or disabilities

- SALARY \$3,091.50
- Sign on bonus may be available

EDUCATION

 Bachelors degree majoring in Psychology, social work, medicine, counseling, sociology, or, human growth and development.

CONTACT US AND APPLY ONLINE

PermiaCare | (432) 570-3324 |

www.pbmhmr.com



HELP WANTED FORT DAVIS STATE BANK FORT DAVIS

FORT DAVIS STATE BANK is accepting applications for a Full-Time Teller position in Fort Davis. Full time benefits include competitive salary, health insurance, vacation and sick time, 401k contribution and supplemental insurance eligibility. Requirements for this position are basic office and computer skills, experience dealing with money, customer service skills and willing to be a team player. Bilingual preferred but not a requirement. Applications are available at any of our three locations or call (432) 426-3211.

Fort Davis State Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Member FDIC

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PORTER'S

SINCE 1945

This is our story

Now hiring multiple positions

within both Alpine and

Fort Davis Locations.

Flexible Hours and School

Schedule. Please apply at any

of our locations in person.

ALPINE, TEXAS

101 E. SUL ROSS AVENUE

104 N. 2ND STREET

(432) 837-1182

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ARE YOU ADVERTISING?

To grow your business, you must increase

YOUR VISIBILITY.

Alpine Avalanche

to advertise, call us at

432.837.3334

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☆

☆

Join WTNB's Team Alpine Branch

Part & Full-Time Tellers

Please send resume and cover letter to: AGallego@WTNB.com

(101 East Avenue E, Alpine, TX 79830)

Competitive Compensation Packages WINB is a community bank with a pleasant, growth atmosphere and includes excellent insurance and a matching 401k plan. WINB also offers a very generous Paid Time Off (PTO) Plan which begins accruing upon an employee's initial hire date, along with Federal Bank Holidays

WTNB.Z West Texas National Bank WTNB supports a diverse workforce and is an

Equal Employment Opportunity Employer who oes not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, gender, color, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, veteran status or other classification protected by law. MEMBER FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.



THE CITY OF **ALPINE** IS HIRING!

FOR A LIST OF OPEN **POSITIONS VISIT THE CITY'S WEBSITE AT** WWWCITYOFALPINE. COM/EMPLOYMENT.

CDL DRIVERS.

Please come by 1406 W. Hwy 90, or call 432-837-7179



The Classifieds **RIGHT** ON THE

> PLACE YOUR AD TODAY

items for fast cash with

432-837-3334

ALPINE AVALANCHE CLASSIFIEDS

P.O. Box 719 Alpine, TX 79831

STATE OF TEXAS **COUNTY OF BREWSTER** IN THE ESTATE OF MIKEL DUFF TALLEY PR03034

COUNTY COURT

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

To all persons interested in the Estate of MIKEL DUFF TALLEY:

On this 17th day of November, 2020, MIKEL TALLEY filed an Application for Letters of Administration in Cause No. PR03034 in the COUNTY COURT of Brewster County,

Said Application for Letters of Administration was heard and letters were granted to Mikel Talley on this 17th day of June, 2021. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:

Adrian A Valadez 104 W. Callaghan FortStockton, Texas 79735

All persons having claims against this said estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner pre sci bed by law.

Given under my hand and seal of office in Brewster County, Texas, this 10th day of December, 2021.

> **COUNTY COURT Brewster County** 201 W. Ave E Alpine, Texas 79830

SARAH VASQUEZ, Clerk

By: Dara a Varguer

County Clerk

















AND MUCH, MUCH MORE Reach potential buyers

in the Classifieds! Place your ad today at

432-837-3334

ALPINE AVALANCHE **CLASSIFIEDS**



The Alpine Avalanche will make your announcement!

BIRTHS? ENGAGEMENT? MARRIAGE?

Frontier CASA, Inc is in search of an Advocate Supervisor to be housed in the Alpine office. If interested, please submit your resume to veronica.lopez@ frontiercasa.org.

Advocate supervisor's responsibility is to monitor and address volunteer's growth in skills and advocacy on their cases, ensuring that children assigned to the CASA program receive appropriate advocacy services.

Qualifications include a High School Diploma, the ability to pass a background check, good communication skills, basic knowledge of computers, experience with supervising and working with volunteers is preferred but not required, and the ability to work cooperatively with different types of personalities and professionals. Basic understanding of the court system and child welfare system is preferred but not required.

Resumes will be taken until January 1, 2022.

GROUNDSKEEPER

KITCHEN STAFF

HOUSEKEEPING

• LINE COOK

Look Who's Hiring?

Find great job opportunities with us.

PRESIDIO COUNTY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES

Presidio County is soliciting proposals for the purchase of four new ATVs. Proposal documents may be obtained by contacting the Presidio County Auditor's Office at 432-729-1990, email: countyauditor@ co.presidio.tx.us.

Sealed proposals must be received by January 4, 2022, at 4:00 pm and be clearly marked "RFP #22-02 - ATVs," and delivered

Presidio County Auditor PO Box 423 300 N. Highland, 3rd Floor Marfa, TX 79843

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PRESIDIO COUNTY

Presidio County has received an allocation from the American Rescue Plan Act program from the U.S. Department of Treasury and is soliciting proposals to provide administration services for ARP Act eligible projects. Proposal documents may be obtained by contacting the Presidio County Auditor's Office at 432-729-1990, email: countyauditor@co.presidio.tx.us.

Sealed proposals must be received no later than Tuesday, January 4, 2022, by 4:00 p.m. and be clearly marked "RFP #22-03 - ARP Grant Administration," and delivered to:

Presidio County Auditor PO Box 423 300 N. Highland, 3rd Floor Marfa, TX 79843

It is the responsibility of the submitting firm to ensure that the proposal is received in a timely manner. County reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals and may award one or more contracts to one or more service provider(s). Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals. Presidio County is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Servicios de traducción están disponibles por peticion.

PRESIDIO COUNTY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

VEHICLES

Presidio County is soliciting proposals for the purchase of four new vehicles. Proposal documents may be obtained by contacting the Presidio County Auditor's Office at 432-729-1990, email: countyauditor@ co.presidio.tx.us.

Sealed proposals must be received by January 4, 2022, at 4:00 pm and be clearly marked "RFP #22-01 - Vehicles," and delivered to:

Presidio County Auditor PO Box 423 300 N. Highland, 3rd Floor Marfa, TX 79843



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Shipping/Receiving Clerk with NEW PAY RATE OF\$15.00 per hour to start. Opportunity to earn \$16.00/per hour upon competent completion of training. Fast Track to Management

Responsibilities include loading unloading, forklift operation, preparation of shipping documents, verify deliveries, maintain warehouse and other general duties. Requirements: Must be willing to work flexible hours including evenings, weekends and holidays, ability to work independently, verbal and written communication skills, working knowledge of computers and forklift experience preferred. Opportunity to move to Supervisor level and pay within the first 6 months of employment. Must be able to pass a pre-employment drug screen.

Interested candidates should email or fax resume to (432)729-3071 Ext. 607 or texashr@ villagefarms.com, applications are also available at Village Farms Security Stations 3 Miles N. Hwy 17 Marfa, TX or 3 Miles S. Hwy

Greenhouse Grown

TRANSPECOS BANKS

Please stop by and pick up

applications at the

Gage Hotel• Front Desk

Marathon TX

TransPecos Banks continues to grow and needs additional hard working, dedicated employees to fill the following positions. All positions require a high school diploma or GED. Credit and background checks will be performed.

UNIVERSAL TELLERS - We are hiring part time tellers for our Alpine and Marathon locations. Must be customer friendly, and able to work quickly and accurately with numbers. Experience a plus.

Compensation based on related experience.

Please apply at www.tranpecosbanks.com Equal Opportunity Employer. Member FDIC.

TransPecos Banks, P. O. Box 9600, Alpine, Texas 432-837-0094

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HOUSEKEEPING

MEDICAL DOCTOR

• DENTIST

Alpine Location

• PART TIME - DENTAL

• PART TIME- CALL

ACCOUNTANT

RCHS

CENTER, OPERATOR

FRONT DESK SUPERVISOR

• FULL TIME BILLER/CODER

• FULL TIME BOOKKEEPER/

Applications maybe picked up at

1605 N. Ft. Davis Hwy.

Please call us before arrival

432-837-4812

PREVENTATIVE

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

• FULL TIME- NURSE SUPERVISOR

Must be licensed in the State of Texas

HYGIENIST, Alpine Location



THE HOTEL PAISANO IN MARFA

is accepting applications for the following positions:

Front Desk Clerk Overnight,

10 p.m.-7 a.m. Monday-Wednesday/ Thursday

Front Desk Clerk, Part time, evenings/weekends, 2-10 p.m.

Gift Shop Clerk, Part-time, retail experience required, hours TBD

> Housekeeping, Part-time Maintenance, Handyman skills/experience required

Applications available at the front desk

or email:

manager.hotelpaisano@gmail.com for an online application. References required.

JETT'S GRILL

AT THE HOTEL PAISANO

is accepting applications for the following FOH positions:

Servers, will train

Bartenders, experience preferred.

Applications available on property or email jettsgrillrestaurant @gmail.com

LOOKING

for Full time or part time work?



We are currently looking to hire MORNING SHIFTS.

- Starting pay \$10/ per hour
- 5% weekend differential
- **Paid Vacation**

- Uniform provided



Text "mcdworksforme" to 36453 Mcdonalds.com/careers 900 E. Avenue E Alpine Texas



WE CAN HELP!

6am-2pm or 8am-5pm

- We can accomadate any schedule you have
 - Closing pays 10% more per hour
 - Benefits- Health and 401K
 - Overtime Available
 - College Assistance
 - Flexiable schedule
 - Discounts on meals



TABLE MEALTH SERVICES For info, please call **432-837-4812** Applications can be picked up at our locations or online at:

pchsmedclinic.org

www.alpineavalanche.com

Trail Life Troop hits mark



Members of the Holy Cross Anglican Church Trail Life Troop 40 enjoy a Saturday morning of target practice at a gun range south of Alpine on Dec. 11. The boys participated in a range day where they practiced with .22 rifles and more under the close supervision of Trail Life volunteer Atticus Freeland and Gunsmoke Training & Defense founder Zach Vaughn of Alpine. Vaughn instructed the youngsters on basic firearm and marksmanship skills.

Avalanche photo by Roxanne Hill

University offers wild game workshop

As a service to the Big Bend community, the Sul Ross State University Meat Lab hosted a wild game processing workshop. Twelve participants gathered on Dec. 4 as Hip-O Taxidermy's Caleb

Hughes presented topics on field dressing and taxidermy considerations. Marfa Meats' Nicole Tancik broke down a mule deer carcass as participants asked questions.

After lunch, the group



Participants learn about wild game processing at a Sul Ross wild game processing workshop.

broke into teams and processed a batch of sausage under the leadership of Dr. Demetris Reed, assistant professor of Meat Science.

Participants worked from a recipe through grinding and stuffing casings, and all participants tried their skills at the stuffer. Venison sausage recipes included 10%, 20%, and 30% pork added to show how the amount of pork changes the flavor of the sausage. Take-home included venison jerky and summer sausage, with some participants leaving with venison trim to try athome sausage making for the first time.

All venison was donated by Apache Ranch of Van Horn.

Some participants attended the workshop by sponsorship of the Sul Ross Range and Wildlife Club. A student attendant was also sponsored by Dr. Paul Will, past professor emeritus, Department of Animal Science at the university.

Ideas for future meat lab workshops can be submitted to Rosemary Ketring at meatlab@sulross.edu.

VB Edge, LLC would like to place on notice the proposed construction of one or more 20-30' (including appurtenances) communication structures known as WTX #1 Brewster SAT501 (Alpine, TX) located at 29°37'01.52" north latitude and -103°34'05.46" west longitude at the approximate vicinity of at near 51519 Highway 118, Alpine, Brewster County, Texas 79830. If you have any concerns regarding historic properties that may be affected by this proposed undertaking, please contact: Miles Walz-Salvador, Lotis

Environmental, LLC, at NEPA.NHPA@TheLotisGroup.com or (716) 276-8707. In your response, please include the proposed undertaking's location and a list of the historic resources that you believe to be affected along with their respective addresses or approximate locations.

432.837.3334 **Subscribe** today!

www.alpine avalanche.com



AVAILABLE POSITIONS

Commercial Sales Associate

If you are looking to start a new and exciting career, have strong communication skills and enjoy the challenge of meeting and exceeding your income goals, Big Bend Telephone is the perfect place to start. The ideal candidate will generate business with customers/prospects and propose exceptional technology solutions to enhance business operations and solve issues. Training, using leading edge sales tools and tactics to promote and sell BBT products and services, will be provided. Responsibilities and qualifications are as follows but not limited to:



- Develop new accounts by researching and identifying potential leads, soliciting new business, building
- connections, providing technical information and advice, and preparing quotes Drive continued sales by checking established accounts and suggesting new and related products and explain
- and provide basic training on products and technical features Stay informed of market changes with technology by attending educational workshops and reviewing
- professional publications. Accept ownership for maintaining and expanding sales and accomplishing assigned individual and team tasks
- Ability to understand ROI and Business Plans.

Applicant must be able to travel, stay overnight, and work overtime on weekends and holidays, as needed. Competitive applicants must possess a valid driver's license, have a good driving record as well as be insurable under the Company's insurance policy. Competitive compensation and Benefits Package are included. There is a \$1,000 signing bonus for new hires (terms and conditions apply).

Construction Technician

Great opportunity for an Individual who enjoys working outdoors. Previous telecom work experience would also be a plus. Individual should expect physically demanding assignments as well as an 80 lb. lifting requirement. Candidates will need to possess basic computer skills. Also, candidates may be required to work overtime and/ or weekends and holidays as needed. Individual must have CDL license, or be able to obtain one within 90 days of employment. There is a \$1,000 signing bonus for new hires (terms and conditions apply).



<u>Technology Service</u> **Associate**

A career opportunity is available in the Big Bend area. BBT is looking for a Technology Service Associate to provide excellent customer service with advanced technology while living and working in the Terlingua/Lajitas area. The job entails networking comprehension, Wi-Fi services, installation and troubleshooting of fixed wireless, fiber optics, copper, and satellite platforms. In this ever changing industry,

applicant must be able to adapt to change and make decisons based on established procedures. Must possess and utilize good customer service skills along with being able to work in the desert outdoors. Position requirements are minimum High School Diploma or GED equivalent with 2 years of experience in a related field. Applicants must possess a valid driver license, have a good driving record and be insurable under the Company's insurance policy. Being technically inclined would be ideal for this position. There is a \$1,000 signing bonus for new hires (terms and conditions apply) and long-term career potential for the right applicant.

There is a \$1,000 signing bonus for new hires. (terms and conditions apply) For more information we invite you to visit http://www.bigbend.net/employment/

Please mail your application or resume to BBT, Attn: HR, 808 N. 5th St., Alpine, TX 79830 Or email resume to: HR@bigbend.com Please no phone calls.

BBT participates in E-Verify and promotes a Drug-Free Workplace.







2600 E HIGHWAY 90 ALPINE, TX • 432-837-5792 **OUTWESTKUBOTA.COM**

