

Serving while reaping rewards in Marfa

BY ROXANNE HILL
Staff Writer

A new year is for new beginnings and new goals, and for the Marfa Nutrition Center and the Marfa Public Library, all it takes is time commitment from volunteers.

The Marfa Nutrition Center provides Meals on Wheels for homebound seniors 60 years and older. Marfa native Edward Cobos, Director of the Nutrition Center, said there is always a need for Meals on Wheels volunteers to step up and substitute for the regular volunteers who occasionally may be out of town and unable to make the deliveries.

Cobos said between 85-90 clients are typically served, and around 10 clients come in person for lunch. Some of the most popular activities at the senior center are bingo, jigsaw puzzles, and visiting during lunchtime, but Cobos also enjoys visiting with the seniors at their homes.

"I love taking care of these people — feeding them, and I love to see their smile when we show up at their door with a meal,"

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FEATURED

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Rainfall totals at Alpine-Casparis Airport

2022.0.00"
January.0.00"



Burn Ban ON

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PLEASE REMEMBER TO THANK A VETERAN, A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES, OR A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EVERY DAY.



EMS services still up in the air

BY GAIL DIANE YOVANOVICH
Managing Editor

Brewster County commissioners held a special meeting in Marathon on Jan. 18, and a main focus was the current EMS situation in the county.

A task force had recently been established to address the situation left by the dissolution of the long-standing ambulance service that ended with Mike Scudder's death. As a stop-gap measure to insure continu-

ation of EMS services throughout the county, the county and the City of Alpine reached an agreement with Terlingua Fire and EMS to provide emergency medical service to the same coverage areas provided by West Texas Ambulance, effective Jan. 1 and continuing for 120 days.



Sara Colando

County EMS Director Stephanie Elmore told the court nothing had changed since the task force discussed the issue last week.

"We're still working on what we need to do after that 120-day plan. I think we're looking more toward the hospital district, but that's as far as we've come," she said.

County Judge Eleazar Cano had been working closely with the task force, and added some detail to the options. He said if the

county were to take over EMS, it would involve a \$1.3 million per year commitment.

"That's a lot of money for anybody, but for us that's beyond what we can commit to," said Cano.

A second option would involve soliciting bids from vendors to provide ambulance service subsidized by the county, the city, and the hospital district.

The third option would be the Brewster County Hospital District, if the

board is willing to take the lead and provide some funding.

"It would be more by way of grant, but they would provide the seed money to help subsidize what we have already built on," said Cano.

Basically, the hospital district, the county, and the city would contribute funds to continue EMS service, but Cano stressed it would

See COUNTY EMS • 6

Alpine ISD receives \$50,000 check



Dollar General on Jan. 12 donated \$50,000 to Alpine ISD, with the funds specified for literacy use. AISD Interim Superintendent Dennis McEntire stressed that money collected for literacy at local Dollar General stores remains in the community. In the photo, Dollar General employee Amy Webb, Victor Candelaria, Dollar General District Manager Darlene Vincent, Dollar General Regional Director Kyle Kollman, middle school Principal Judith Pardo, elementary school Principal Jessica Murphy, Dollar General employee Melinda Hinojos, and interim high school Principal Verl O'Bryant.

Courtesy photo

Fightin' Buck cheerleaders make some noise

BY ROXANNE HILL
Staff Writer

A lot of buzz has been generated with the Alpine High School Fightin' Buck cheerleading squad — from memorable once in a lifetime events joining top cheerleaders from around the country at the Citrus Bowl, to a recent Texas UIL competition in Fort Worth, this talented team of cheerleaders have what it takes to succeed on and off the field.

Whether pumping up the fans in the stands at Buck Stadium, or showing their purple and gold school spirit at home basketball games, these dedicated young athletes combine athleticism with poise, and engage the entire community in many ways.

At the state UIL competition in Fort Worth, they

placed 28th overall, and only the top 20 teams advanced to the finals. Not bad for a small school in Far West Texas joining the likes of huge 4A and 5A schools.

Senior cheerleader Angela Martinez noted the strong work ethic that allowed the team to perform to the best of their ability.

"My coaches had worked really hard ever since the beginning of November, and there were some days where we would spend all day, including Saturdays and Sundays, just practicing for state," said Martinez. "So, it took up a lot of our time. Everything turned out well. There is so much to prepare for, and I think we did amazing."

To usher in the new year, the four seniors participated in the Citrus



Fightin' Buck 2021-2022 cheerleaders Ryan Gooch, Jaime Rodriguez, Brittany Maltos, Sierra Maxwell-Valenzuela, Madalyn Warren, Masiela Miranda, Marco Martinez, Ryka Morales, Angela Martinez, Jaelyn Monclova, Roxell Adams, Ileana Hamilton, Lourdes Acosta not pictured: Kimberly Lara, Johanna Barber, Alyssa Duenez, Genesis Huerta, Danica Mulholland, and Lucas Rios.

Courtesy photo

Bowl held in Orlando, Fla., which All-American cheerleaders Martinez, Kimberly Lara, Lourdes Acosta, and Marco Martinez, aka "Belvie" the team mascot, will surely remember this for years to

come. They performed in front of over 50,700 fans.

"We got to meet a lot of other mascots from Texas and other parts of the U.S.," said Marco Martinez. "I really liked representing who I am, and represent-

ing my school, and showing what people could do if they try, and they can accomplish and go to things like this."

See CHEER • 6

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Falcon nesting sites to be protected at national park

Beginning Feb. 1 and continuing through May 31, the National Park Service will again temporarily close select areas in the Chisos Mountains to protect nesting falcons.

In August 1999 the Peregrine Falcon was removed from the federal endangered species list, a move prompted by the falcon's comeback from the brink of extinction. However, in Texas it still listed as a threatened species.

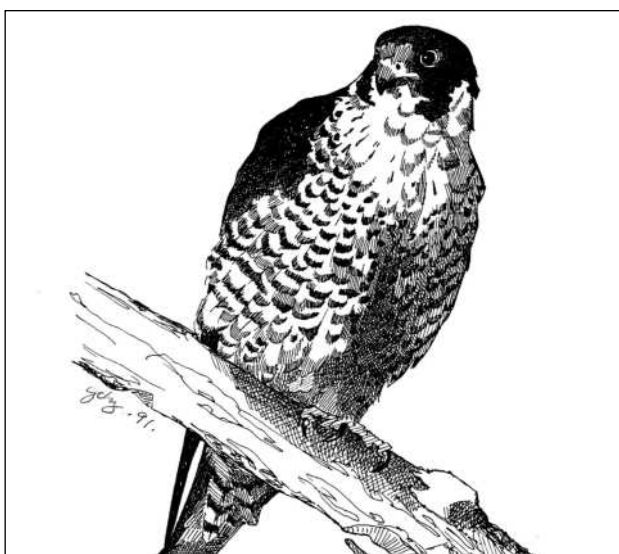
National Park Service policies require the protection and preservation of all state-listed species and all species of concern, regardless of federal or state classification. In keeping with this mandate, and to provide the nesting falcons with areas free of human disturbance, the Park Service will again temporarily

close or place restrictions on the use of certain lands at Big Bend National Park.

The areas to be closed to public entry are a portion of the East Rim Trail from the southern junction of the Boot Canyon Trail to a point just north of Campsite ER-4; East Rim Campsites: ER-4-9; and technical rock climbing on rock faces within one-quarter mile of known peregrine eyries.

Restrictions may be modified if peregrine behavior or nesting sites do not follow traditional trends.

The 2021 South Rim Fire burned 1,300 acres of woodlands in the Chisos, including some areas above historical falcon nesting sites. Biologists will survey the area this spring to ascertain the status of nesting birds.



Peregrine Falcon.

Illustration by Gail Diane Yovanovich

Through the efforts of federal, state and private agencies, the peregrine has staged a remarkable comeback since it was placed on the federal list in 1970.

Superintendent Bob Krumenaker remarked, "The small population

found in Big Bend National Park and the Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River represents most of the peregrines found in Texas. We appreciate the continued public support and cooperation to protect these remarkable birds."

OBITUARY

Dennis Brian Stephenson

Dennis Brian Stephenson peacefully passed away surrounded by his family at home in League City, Texas, on Jan. 13, 2022, at the age of 85.

He was born March 28, 1936, in Galveston, Texas, to Anna Barbara Zima Stephenson and Ray Eli Stephenson.

He graduated from the University of Houston with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, and spent a career working with the process industries as an engineer in sales traveling throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Dennis Stephenson was preceded in death by his parents Anna and Ray Stephenson, and his two brothers Ronald Ray and Barry Roger Stephenson

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Janith Dawn Vest Stephenson; his children Dennis Brian Stephenson, Jr., (Jan



Marie) of Galveston and Vonore, Tenn., Carol Hearn (Brad) of Waller, Texas, and Michelle Dawn (Doug) of Houston, Texas; six grandchildren, Christine Marie Garson (Trevor), Scott Stephenson, Holly Ann Hearn, John Dennis Hearn, Caroline Dawn Huth, Charles Jackson Huth; and great grandchildren Calvin Edward Garson and Elise Marie Garson.

A celebration of life was held Jan. 18, 2022, at Crowder Funeral Home in League City. Burial will be held on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022, at 2 p.m. at Elm Grove Cemetery, Alpine, Texas.

Texas Mountain Trail Region offers heritage tourism grants

The Texas Mountain Trail Region is part of the Texas Historical Commission's award-winning Texas Heritage Trails Program tourism initiative. This economic development initiative encourages communities, heritage regions, and the state to partner and promote Texas' historic and cultural resources. These successful local preservation efforts, combined with statewide marketing of heritage regions as tourism destinations, increase visitation to cul-

tural and historic sites and bring more dollars to Texas communities.

The TMTR strengthens the future of our region by investing in projects that exhibit initiatives that support our mission to support and facilitate recreational, cultural, and educational opportunities and promote economic development compatible with the heritage of Far West Texas.

The Texas Mountain Trail Region offers small grants to help fund special projects, events, and pro-

grams to promote heritage tourism within the region. These grants are designed to promote public awareness, encourage community involvement and participation, and enhance the visitor experience.

Annual grant amount per project is \$1,000, and TMTR will give out two grants per fiscal year. Grant awards are determined through a semi-annual application and review process. Application deadlines are March 1 for the spring cycle or Aug. 1 for the fall cycle.

Committee recommendations must be approved by the TMTR Board of Directors.

Types of projects considered are printed materials and publication, exhibit development, website development, interpretive signage, educational programs, and workshops designed to develop or improve heritage tourism.

For more information and to receive a grant application and guidelines, visit texasmountaintrail.com/partners.

Alpine ISD celebrates School Board Recognition Month

January is School Board Recognition Month, and Alpine ISD is honored to celebrate its trustees for their dedication and commitment to the district's schools and students.

"Our school board members are selfless volunteers who spend long hours working to ensure all of our students have the opportunity to learn and grow," Interim Superintendent Dennis McEntire said. "Celebrating School Board Recognition Month is one way to say thanks for all they do."

Serving as a link between the community and the classroom,

school board members are elected to establish the policies that provide the framework for public schools. The Alpine ISD board is responsible for an annual budget of approximately \$12 million, 975 students, 183 employees, and three campuses.

"School boards are essential to a strong public education system," Texas Association of School Boards Executive Director Dan Troxell said. "It's fitting that we celebrate them in January as their leadership is key to the success of every school district in Texas."

The Alpine ISD Board works diligently in con-

junction with the School Superintendent to fulfill its mission, assuring that "Alpine ISD will provide our children with learning experiences to be responsible, productive, and successful citizens of an ever changing world."

The Alpine ISD board constantly has the best interest of the students and staff in mind as they make decisions. They give freely of their time, receiving no remuneration. The Alpine ISD Board of Trustees were recognized for their service during the regular board meeting held on Jan. 19.

Board members serv-

ing Alpine ISD are Eddie Natera, Board president, Board member since 2012; Mary McCallister, Board vice-president, Board member since 2015; Justin Cross, Board secretary, Board member since 2009; Nikki Ahrens, Board member since 2021; Adrian Billings, Board member since 2017; Jimmy Morris, Board member since 2021; and Joe Portillo, Board member since 2019.

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City discusses waste disposal issues

BY ROXANNE HILL
Staff Writer

The City of Alpine held its regularly scheduled council meeting on Jan. 18, and waste disposal and trash collection considerations drove the discussions, along with department updates.

Mayor Andy Ramos was absent, along with Council, Ward 2, Chris Rodriguez. Mayor Pro-Tem, was Council, Ward 5, Jerry Johnson who presided over the meeting in Ramos's absence.

Representatives from Austin-based waste disposal and trash collection corporation Texas Disposal Systems spoke to the council on a variety of issues pertaining to its contract with the city during an information only item session. Several representatives from TDS attended the meeting, including Director of Sales Rick Fraumann, Director of Operations Brandon Smithal, and JaMar Prince. Besides Alpine, TDS also services

Terlingua, Fort Davis, and Balmorhea.

Johnson was concerned about dumpster maintenance, disposal of wild animals, recycling, and other issues that he brought to the attention of TDS. Prince indicated the maintenance issue would be addressed in the requests for proposals, and ensure that the dumpsters got maintained. Fraumann said recycling was something TDS would be working on with the city as the landfill had considerable costs, along with recycling, illegal dumping, and other issues. Fraumann also addressed issues in the contract, namely length of the contract and more that would be reviewed by City Attorney Rod Ponton.

"We are here to continue to serve the great citizens of Alpine, and we have a very long relation-



Rick Fraumann

ship," said Fraumann.

Interim City Manager Megan Antrim then voiced her concerns about the costs for removing wild animal waste, such as deer, and asked for guidance on disposing of wild animals.

"Parks and Wildlife has nowhere to take them," said Antrim. "They toss them in there, and let mother nature do its job. We have to figure out another way to dispose of them. But as we start adding in the costs, I would like some consideration for the large animals."

Discussions with TDS will continue.

Next, Antrim provided an update on EMS services, saying the city was getting guidance from J.D. Newsom of the Big Bend Regional Hospital District, the city was collaborating with Brewster County and other entities to address the issue, and funding considerations were closely examined. Antrim said there was a request for proposal un-

der review, and the city was meeting regularly to address funding options and cost considerations, as Terlingua EMS had contracted with the city to provide emergency ambulance services through the end of April.

"We want to ensure that no matter what we decide, if it's short term or long term, that it's not just Alpine, it's also northern Brewster County," said Antrim. "The county is also dealing with the loss of West Texas Ambulance Service."

Finally, Environmental Services Coordinator Adelina Beall, and Gas Utility Director Randy Guzman provided reports on their respective departments, along with Parks and Recreation Board Chair Darin Nance.

The next regularly scheduled city council meeting is set for Tuesday, Feb. 1 at 5:30 p.m. at city council chambers and via Zoom videoconferencing.

Deputies apprehend driver after high-speed chase

Early on Jan. 13 LeRoy Walter Kemp was driving north on U.S. Highway 118 south of Alpine when U.S. Border Patrol agents attempted to conduct a traffic stop on his 2011 Kia Sedona. Kemp refused to yield, and a Brewster County deputy joined in to assist.

Kemp continued into Alpine at a high rate of speed before turning eastbound on U.S. Highway 90. Additional units responded to assist, and the pursuit reached speeds of over 100 miles per hour as Kemp continued toward Marathon.

A deputy from the Marathon area deployed stop sticks, and was successful in deflating the driver's

side tires on the vehicle.

Kemp continued for an additional 10 miles before coming to a stop in Marathon. He was taken into custody without further incident, and two illegal aliens from Mexico were apprehended.

Kemp was charged with evading arrest, and two counts of smuggling persons.

The illegal aliens were referred to Border Patrol for processing and deportation. As of press time, Kemp remained in Brewster County Jail.

The case remains under investigation.



Walter Kemp

Road resurfacing to start soon in park



Expect delays on Big Bend National Park roads beginning tomorrow as a road resurfacing project begins.

Driving through scenic Big Bend National Park will soon be a smoother, safer, and more enjoyable experience. Over the next three months, all the park's 120 miles of paved roads will be cleaned, prepped, and resurfaced. During this time, park visitors may experience up to 15-minute delays, but no road closures are expected. Work is expected to be complete in April 2022.

In addition to the main park roads, both the Chisos Basin and Rio Grande Village Camp-

grounds will receive new paved surfaces during April. Campsites at Rio Grande Village for the month of March will be available for online reservations beginning Friday, Jan. 21 at 10 a.m. at recreation.gov.

Intermountain Slurry Seal, Inc., is the lead contractor for this Federal Highway Administration funded project. Major goals are to address worn and degraded road surfaces. Existing pavement will be cleaned, prepped, and all cracks sealed before an entirely new surface is applied. The final step

will be repainting lines for enhanced safety and visibility.

To complete the work in a timely manner, work will occur weekdays from sunrise to sunset, and the work schedule will generally focus on prepping and patching the existing surfaces during January and February. The majority of the final chip seal re-surfacing will take place during April after most of the busy spring break rush.

Project updates and the latest timelines and project photos will be posted on the Big Bend

National Park website at [ups.gov/bibe/planyourvisit/conditions](https://www.nps.gov/bibe/planyourvisit/conditions).

Park visitors should drive cautiously in the work zones, and be on the lookout for construction equipment and loose gravel.

"There is never a perfectly convenient time for major road projects, and we regret the inconvenience that this work will create, but the results will be an enhanced and much safer park experience for all," said Chief of Facilities Management Doug Griffith.

Courtesy photo

Fugitive from Mexico wanted for murder captured

Manuel Adriano-Ruiz was captured by members of the U.S. Marshals Service Lone Star Fugitive Task Force after Mexican authorities charged him with the aggravated murder. Adriano-Ruiz, 25, was wanted by Mexico law enforcement authorities in the state of Chihuahua after he was formally charged with aggravated murder of his wife in August 2021.

In November 2021, Mexico law enforcement authorities provided information to the U.S. Marshals Service that indicated Adriano-Ruiz had illegally re-entered the

U.S. after previously being deported for serving time in prison on drug charges.

After a diligent investigation led by the Alpine and Midland Lone Star Fugitive Task Force and with assistance from U.S. Probation, the Midland County Sheriff's Office and Midland Fire Department, Adriano-Ruiz was located and apprehended on Jan. 13 in Midland.

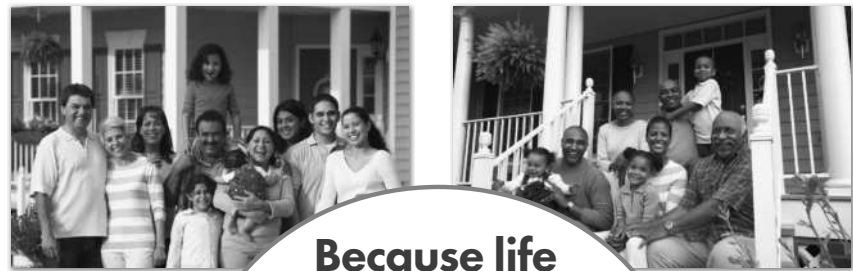
Adriano-Ruiz is currently being held at the Midland County Detention Center on his current charges and pending additional charges for illegal re-entry into the U.S.

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Opinions

ONLINE POLL

RESULTS

SHOULD STATES HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO BAN PRIVATE EMPLOYERS FROM MANDATING VACCINES?

RESULTS

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

38% (90 votes)
Yes, but only with employers whose personnel are not in a high-risk field.

7% (16 votes)
No, employers should be doing everything they can to protect their employees.

26% (60 votes)
I think the U.S. needs to achieve 100% vaccination for everyone.

29% (69 votes)

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Now the Avalanche asks:

What do you think is the biggest threat to U.S. security right now?

- Communist China
- Domestic terrorism
- Climate change
- The current national debt
- Other

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

LETTERS

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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Water wellness



ELEAZAR CANO
Brewster County Judge

Having been born and raised in Alpine, I grew up hearing, "If you don't like the weather, just hang around for a while and it will change."

Earlier today, I did a wellness presentation. The topic that I covered included how human beings are able to adapt to change. Our survival as a species has depended on that. Perhaps Charles Darwin said it best, "It is not the strongest of the species that survives nor the most intelligent. It is the one most adaptable to change."

The following was a campaign commitment that I failed to honor. This is a response letter that I sent to my daughter back in 2014.

"Dear Elena,
"Thank you for your letter. I appreciate the fact that at such a young age, you can appreciate the magnitude and

severity of the topic that you discussed. As you persuasively wrote, water is one of our most precious resources. This holds especially true in the desert, which we are definitely surrounded by.

"As you know, I am currently running for county judge of Brewster County. One of my campaign platforms is based on water. Last week a questionnaire was sent to the candidates running for judge, and we were asked what we felt were some of the pressing issues that, if elected, we would have to deal with. One of my responses related

to water. From my perspective, while much time and energy has historically been dedicated to who has the right to the water we have, minimal time and effort has been dedicated to gathering scientific data related to how much water we actually have. Depending upon whom one talks to, our water reserves are plentiful or we are nearing critical levels of reserves.

"In closing, I wholeheartedly agree with you that we need to look at other regions on a global scale and see what type of research is available, and identify what other parts of the world have done to deal with water scarcity. In addition to this, we also need to look at what type of exploration technology we have available to us two hours north of Alpine. As you know, there is a wealth of

oil and gas resources within the region to our immediate north, better known as the Permian Basin.

"As a public servant, I commit to research and identify exploration technology, instrumentation, and other oil and gas related resources to help us identify and assess what our water reserves actually are in our county. I applaud you and your peers for taking an interest in your community, and encourage you to continue to be good stewards of mother earth."

I regret that I was unable to honor this commitment. The duties and responsibilities of serving as a county judge are endless. The next judge needs to make this a priority.

Living without water is not an option, but adapting to how we treat our most valuable resource is a choice.

Doesn't he look good for his age

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

— C.S. Lewis, British writer and lay theologian.

I've been told I'm getting old, but I refuse to accept that somewhat opinionated viewpoint. It's my personal observation I've simply accumulated a lot of experience.

Lately, however, it's becoming apparent just how much "experience" I really do have. That revelation came a couple of weeks ago while performing the traditional "old year-out and new year-in" reflections routine one more time.

Reading a collection of clippings and the bounty of bound volumes in the newspaper library still trying to assemble something into a book gave me cause to smile.

To borrow from perhaps the most well-known advertising slogan in history, "We've come a long way baby."

Along with noticing how far my column writing style has come, the experiences I've written about offer



LEON ALDRIDGE
Guest Columnist

their own perspective. For instance, reading one recently that I wrote in 1981

clearly noted the changes in both. Ironically, that piece also began as a reflection on being told that I was getting old.

"Imagine if you will," it began, "a day in the life of modern man living in the U.S."

"It starts with his subtle awakening to soft music, noting the time in a liquid crystal display, and comes with a feature that allows him the privilege of intermittent lapses back into the sleep state by simply pushing a button.

"As that awakening process begins in the bedroom, an automatic coffee pot in the kitchen with its own timer brews fresh java that is ready before he ever sets foot on the floor.

"After our modern man eats breakfast cooked in seconds in a non-heat-pro-

ducing oven called a microwave, he heads off to work in a diesel-powered automobile equipped with a cruise control that maintains a constant speed without effort. That same vehicle has an onboard computer informing him of his average speed, fuel consumption, and trip duration.

"Once in the office, he makes calls on his desk phone that automatically stores numbers in memory for future use. That same modern telephone takes messages when he cannot answer it and has a button that allows him to speak into the phone without a long cord for holding the handset in the room.

"During the course of a day, he has at his disposal a calculator that will not only add and subtract but also divide and multiply as well. And it fits into a shirt pocket along with a tiny tape recorder for documenting conversations.

"He travels by flying in jet-powered aircraft capable of navigating through any type of weather with the aid of computerized guidance systems using nothing more

than needles on the instrument panel.

"While flying, he can read a newspaper produced and printed via photographic processes, while the recording device on his television at home will automatically record any of his favorite shows he might be missing.

"Most remarkable is that all the technology described above has been invented in the last 15 years, most of it in 10. We can't help but wonder what impact the next 10 years and beyond will have on our lives."

If 1981 could only see how far we have come in 2021. Computers that were new in 1981 control every aspect of our lives today, whether we want them to or not. Virtually every necessity and convenience in life is reduced to a single device smaller than the pack of trendy cigarettes the advertising slogan mentioned earlier promoted decades ago.

This year, I've resolved to set new goals, and accumulate new experience. I'll say that 40 years from now, I'm hoping those comments about my getting old have changed to, "Wow, doesn't he look good for his age."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Step up

Why can't we keep organizations going in this town? A few have survived but many have gone belly up. Why?

We created the Alpine Downtown Association about six years ago and we're still here, but it hasn't been easy. Now health concerns have caused me to decline another term as president. The good news is that Conley Raser

stepped up. His youth and expertise can be a valuable asset, but filling the other slots was a chore.

I was on the Chamber of Commerce board when it went away for exactly the same reason. Nobody wanted to even be on the board, let alone serve as board officers. The usual answer is that they got burned out with the last public service, and have decided never again.

Step up, folks. Yes, com-

munity service can be time-consuming and frustrating at times. But we are not unique in that only a tiny percentage of the population ever offers their services.

That's true even in the largest of cities. The difference is that a fraction of, say, one percent in a city of 2 million has 20,000 to take up the job, whereas our 6,000 gives us only 60.

Unless we can find a solu-

tion to this problem, we are going to keep losing our civic organizations. That could be a tragedy. These organizations can contribute greatly to the quality of life in a community.

And the rewards of knowing you are performing an important civic service is worth the cost. That's been very true for me.

Jim Street
Alpine



Heard on the STREET

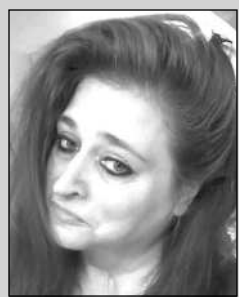
Our Avalanche reporter asked, "What's one thing left to do in your bucket list?"



Scott Wassermann, Alpine: I'd like to go see our kangaroo's relatives in the wild in Australia.



Sarah Vasquez, Alpine: Mexico City! Of course, I would like to see the Aztec ruins of Tenochtitlán. My main goal is the Popocatepetl and the Iztaccihuatl volcanoes.



Kimberly Mobbs, Alpine: Learn how to ride a horse.



Rosemary Christie Ketring, Alpine: Go see Ghost Ranch in New Mexico.



Edna Queen, Fort Davis: I have always wanted to go to Baja to see the humpback whales in their calving grounds, or to Alaska to see orcas. Someday I hope to do one or the other or both.

Send your community events to editor@alpineavalanche.com.

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 bbchorale.wixsite.com/bbcc.

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 210. 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.

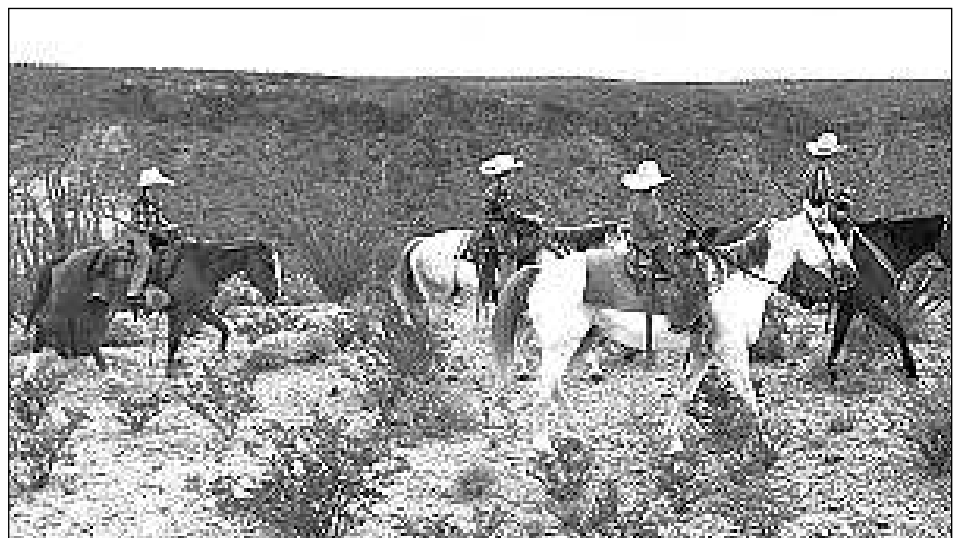
Sons of the Legion, 6:30 p.m., fourth Monday each month, Legion Hall, 306 W. Sul Ross Ave.

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.



Young cowboy poets invited to submit work

Young poets in grades kindergarten through 12th are invited to join in the fun of the Lone Star Cowboy Poetry Gathering by writing and submitting an original poem. Topics must be related to ranch life such as cowboys, cowgirls, livestock, rodeo, ranch pets, the environment, and so on. The

deadline is Jan. 22.

Poems should be submitted to the Marfa Public Library in the designated box.

Each poet will receive a personalized certificate of participation via e-mail. The top three places in each division will receive a special plaque award, and the opportunity to share their poem

during the session "Carrying on the Tradition" held on the campus of Sul Ross State University at 11:00 a.m. on Feb. 19.

For more guidelines or questions, visit lonestarcowboypoetry.com/youth contest/, or contact Elizabeth Baize at youthcontest@lonestarcowboypoetry.com.

PET OF THE WEEK

Alpine Humane Society Pet of the Week is Lacey, who is learning how to love. She is shy, and takes a little while to feel comfortable. However, she is smart, learns quickly, and is responsive to trying new things.

This little ham of a dog has had a rough beginning of life. With lots of love and interaction over the last few months, Lacey has learned to walk on a leash, and to like the company of humans. She is still unsure about most new people, but it does not take long for her to build trust with someone, and once she does, she is a silly, wiggly girl. Lacey does great with other dogs, and may even prefer another dog companion to build her confidence.

Supporting the Alpine Humane Society Thrift Store by donating or buying items helps our mission to improve the lives



of area cats and dogs. Stop by soon and visit the cattery while you are there.

Alpine Animal Services handles pet adoptions 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

Society Thrift Store and Cattery is at 706 N. 5th Street in Alpine, open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For information about shelter pet adoptions, cremation services, or lost/found pets, call the shelter at 432-837-9030. To view adoptable pets, visit alpinehumanesociety.org.

American Legion activities

At its January meeting, Big Bend American Legion Post 79 in Alpine announced its 2022 schedule of activities.

The first order of business will be presentation of the Post's new 65-foot mural. Artist Stytle Read is finishing his work, and a ribbon cutting is planned for March. National celebrities have been invited to the event.

The Post's Legion Riders group will host the Fifth Annual Big Bend Run on March. Riders from West Texas, western Oklahoma, and southern New Mexico are expected to attend. More than 200 motorcycle enthusiasts attended last year.

During Lent, the Post has scheduled four Friday fund raiser fish fries. They will be held March 4, March 18, April 1, and Good Friday on April 15. The meals will be available to eat at the Post either

indoors or out, or as take-out.

Also during March and April, the Post will be soliciting high schools in the Tri-County for their nomination of junior class students for Boy's State and Girl's State. Boy's State will be held in June at University of Texas-Austin, and Girl's State held during June at Texas Lutheran College in Seguin.

On July 4 the Post will carry out its long-standing tradition of providing an Independence Day barbeque lunch. Because July 4th falls on a Sunday this year, the barbeque will be held on Saturday, July 3.

In the fall the Post will host the 16th American Legion District Convention. Posts from El Paso to Big Spring will be in Alpine, with an estimated 120 attendees. The convention is scheduled for Oct. 14-16.

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COMPARED TO LAST WEEK:
Stocker Calves: Steers steady to \$5.00 higher
Heifers: Steady
Feeder Cattle: Steady
Packer Cows and Bulls: Steady

300# - 400# Steers	216.00 to 228.00
300# - 400# Heifers	182.50 to 194.50
400# - 500# Steers	193.00 to 216.00
400# - 500# Heifers	157.00 to 182.50
500# - 600# Steers	163.00 to 193.00
500# - 600# Heifers	146.00 to 157.00
600# - 700# Steers	158.00 to 163.00
600# - 700# Heifers	136.00 to 146.00
700# - 800# Steers	131.00 to 158.00
700# - 800# Heifers	130.00 to 136.00
Packer Cows	65.00 to 71.00
Canner & Cutter Cows	52.00 to 58.00
Packer Bulls	80.00 to 90.00
Feeder Bulls	72.00 to 75.00
Cow / Calf Pairs - Top Half	Not tested
Bred Cows - Top Half	1000.00 to 1325.00

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SERVING • FROM 1

said Cobos. “For those dining in, it’s sitting down and visiting with them and laughing with them. Being part of their lives makes my heart happy.”

Over at Marfa Public Library, Director Nicki Ittner along with Volunteer and Fundraising Director J.D. DiFabbio are on board to share a variety of interesting and useful programs in place for Marfa residents, and to offer fun, enjoyable volunteer opportunities.

Some of those opportunities include gardening at the library, watering plants, tidying up the used bookstore, and setting up the

kids’ room, to name a few. For homebound library patrons there are ways of providing home delivery services. Best of all, the library works with volunteers to set up something that fits within their schedule, and all it takes is as little as an hour a week to start.

Engaging with the Marfa community brings joy and satisfaction to Ittner, a Houston native who has made Marfa her home for the past 12 years.

“The community is so amazing, and just being able to be with everyone - the kids, parents, seniors, I just love being part of our

community in such a real way,” she exclaimed.

Being part of such a rewarding group has perks that benefit the community, and highlight its entertaining side. Gary Oliver, president of the Marfa Public Library Board of Directors, shows family classics throughout the week at the library theatre room, during Gary’s Movie Night.

The public is always welcome to peruse Marfa’s history in the library’s reference room, where Marfa High School yearbooks dating from the late 1940’s can be found, and the Marfa Airfield Base yearbooks

that feature vintage photos of the airfield’s life during the World War II era. While work and personal commitments are prevalent in today’s busy world, so does the chance to make a difference by volunteering time and talents, whether to keep a public library more engaged and in tune with the community, or to help older adults in need, while at the same time learning about Marfa’s rich history.



Marfa Nutrition Center Director Edward Cobos oversees meal preparation.

Courtesy photo

CHEER • FROM 1

Angela, his sister, quipped, “They were holding the event at Universal Studios, and we stayed at a resort there. We attended two practices, and that is where they got us ready to perform at the huge game. That was definitely an experience not to forget!”

The sky is the limit for the Fightin’ Buck squad, and Coach Sandra Fellows said it best.

“They are some of the most dedicated team members we have,” she said. “The parents’ support with that group is amazing. They know how much

their kids love it, and the seniors have been together since junior high. They have everything a cheerleader needs to have - a passion for it, dedication, commitment. They love cheer. Their dedication, commitment, leadership — it’s the whole package.”

COUNTY EMS • FROM 1

be a separate entity led by the hospital district.

Said Cano, “They are a taxing entity, they do have some reserves, and they do have some wiggle room to raise the tax rate incrementally that could help for the next three to five years. I don’t want to commit them to any more than that.”

The plan would include Presidio County, which is still determining its needs, demands, and resources.

Commissioner, Pct. 2, Sara Colando said Terlingua Fire and EMS was a bandaid, not an interim plan, saying, “We have to

go right from the bandaid to the long-term solution so state certifications for EMS services are continued.”

Commissioner, Pct. 1, Jim Westermann said Terlingua EMS Director Greg Henington was insistent that Terlingua EMS not be cannibalized to benefit north Brewster County.

“His people down there need to stay focused on their jobs,” said Westermann. “They have stepped up to fill in some gaps, but we need a long-term solution.”

Colando told the court, “I appreciate everyone

who has stepped up — the EMTs and Greg and all the volunteers and county officials. Everybody has really put this at the forefront to find a solution. Everybody cares about this issue, and I appreciate everyone’s hard work. No one wants to see service interrupted.”

Cano stressed that service interruption would never happen, saying, “We will find a way to keep the ball rolling, and that includes Marathon. The plans we’re drafting are going to include everything north of the Terlingua service area.”

NFL:

1. Bengals vs. Titans
2. 49ers vs. Packers
3. Rams vs. Buccs
4. Bills vs. Chiefs

1. Titans
2. Packers
3. Rams
4. Bills

RECORD 193-130

1. Titans
2. Packers
3. Buccs
4. Bills

RECORD 216-107

1. Titans
2. Packers
3. Buccs
4. Chiefs

RECORD 193-130

Alpine Auto Rental and Uhaul

1. Titans
2. Packers
3. Rams
4. Chiefs

RECORD 211-112

1. Titans
2. 49ers
3. Buccs
4. Chiefs

RECORD 204-119

1. Titans
2. Packers
3. Buccaneers
4. Bills

RECORD 212-111

1. Titans
2. Packers
3. Buccs
4. Chiefs

RECORD 196-127

1. Titans
2. Packers
3. Rams
4. Bills

RECORD 203-120

ATTENTION PROPERTY OWNERS

Property owners have certain rights that may reduce their property tax burden.

HOMEOWNERS

Persons who own their residence on January 1, 2022, may claim their home as a residential homestead. The filing of this document is only necessary if the homeowner has changed homesteads since January 1, 2021, the appraisal district has requested an updated application, or the owner has become eligible for additional exemptions since last year. A copy of a current driver’s license must accompany the application. Homeowners may also defer the portion of the tax on their residence homestead if the value of the home was raised more than 5% above the previous year. Although the tax collection is deferred, interest continues to run on the unpaid portion of tax at a rate of 8% per annum and the deferred tax remains a lien on the property. To apply for the deferral, the owner should contact the appraisal district which appraised the property in question and complete an application.

DISABLED PERSONS

Persons who are disabled under Social Security law are entitled to additional exemptions on their residential homestead. Disabled applicants must apply with the appraisal district and furnish a determination letter from Social Security. Disabled persons receive all benefits on their home that are available to over 65 persons (see below)

PERSONS WHO ARE OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE- EXEMPTIONS AND DEFERRAL

Persons who are over 65 years of age or disabled persons may file for additional exemptions and a ceiling on school taxes for their residential homestead if they became 65 during 2021 or will be 65 during 2022. Over-65 persons should apply for this exemption at the appraisal district office in their county. Over-65 persons are also eligible to defer paying the tax on their residential homestead if they wish. The taxes continue to accrue during the deferral plus interest, but no attempt will be made to force payment during the deferral. Details and an application may be obtained from any appraisal district or the State Comptroller.

DISABLED VETERANS

Persons who have been declared disabled by the Veteran’s Administration are eligible for additional exemptions on property they own. The declaration letter from VA is mailed annually, but the appraisal district only needs a copy in the first year of eligibility or if the percentage of disability changes. In certain situations where the disabled vet is 100% disabled and unemployable, their homestead can be completely exempt. An annual reapplication for the 100% exemption may be required by the Chief Appraiser.

FARM AND RANCH OWNERS

Farmers and ranchers may be entitled to receive an alternate method of appraisal determined by the farm income to the property. This method is available to farms and ranches commercially raising crops or livestock or which are used as a wildlife habitat under State guidelines. An application for agricultural use value and additional information is available from your appraisal district. Re-filing is only necessary if requested to do so by the Chief Appraiser.

EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS

Exemption applications for all property tax exemptions including total exemptions for charitable, religious, and other total exemptions may be obtained from an appraisal district nearest you or through the State Comptroller’s Office at 1/800-252-9121 or from their website at [HYPERLINK "http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxforms/02-forms.html"](http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxforms/02-forms.html) <http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxforms/02-forms.html>

BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNERS

State law requires the filing of a rendition declaring what types of business personal property that a person or company owns. Failure to file the rendition will result in a 10% penalty. If a fraudulent rendition is filed, a 50% penalty is mandated. A rendition can be obtained from the appraisal district office where the property is located. Deadline-April 15. A 30-day filing extension is available by written request.

AVAILABILITY OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Taxpayers may receive certain notices required by law from the local appraisal district in electronic format. Written agreements with the county appraisal district must be entered first, ensuring what electronic means of delivery are acceptable. If you are interested in receiving communications in electronic format, you should contact your local appraisal district to receive a form requesting electronic communications and how that communication should be transmitted.

PROTESTING PROPERTY VALUE

Taxpayers whose property value increases by at least \$1000 will be mailed a reappraisal notice stating the proposed value. The taxpayer may file a protest of the value change by completing the protest form that will be included in the notice. An informal hearing will be available to taxpayers, and if not satisfied, the taxpayer may have a formal hearing before the Brewster County Appraisal Review Board. Depending on the pandemic situation, the hearings may be via phone or electronic medium.

If you have questions about any of these topics, please contact the Brewster County Appraisal District at 432-837-2558 or come by our office at 107 W Ave E Alpine, Texas. Other information may also be available on the Comptroller’s website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/

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LOOKING BACK

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Alpine Avalanche

January 13, 1972

The administration of Alpine Public Schools announced the appointment of Mrs. Frances Newsom to the board of advisors of the Vocational Office Education program of Alpine High School. She replaces Mrs. Joyce Pate who moved to San Antonio.



January 20, 1972

Directors and staff members from the West Texas Chamber of Commerce made up one of the biggest contingents at the Big Bend National Park hearings in Alpine on Jan. 15. Bottom row are J. Fike Godfrey, R. Flores, Claude Brown, at extreme right is Bill Walker; middle row extreme left Hugh White, extreme right Bob Corkins; back row, Don Newbury, Beaman Fisher, and at extreme right Dick Morrow.

January 20, 1972

Franklin J. Ricketson, 24, of Alpine has been appointed to the 27th Game Management Officer training school by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Upon completion of four months intensive training, he will be commissioned as a game management officer.



January 8, 1972

John W. Carpenter received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration at Sul Ross State University. He is presently a member of the Ex-Student Association and Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

Photos from Alpine Avalanche archives at Archives of the Big Bend, Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library, Sul Ross State University.

Schefflera need bright light

Dear Neil: I received this houseplant as a gift back in August. It has started dropping leaves. What might be wrong?

This is a schefflera, and in nature it grows to be a very tall tree. They do make good houseplants, but the fact that it grows to be such a large plant in nature tells you that it probably is accustomed to bright light. Indeed, when we bring scheffleras indoors they often struggle and start to drop lower leaves within a few weeks. New growth that is subsequently produced becomes cupped and rolled and oddly shaped. Your plant is in a very dark environment. I actually had to boost the image you sent me in Photoshop just to see what was going on with it. You need to move this plant to the brightest

GARDENER'S MAILBAG
by neil sperry

south or west window you have in your house. Hopefully it won't be too late by the time that you read this. Scheffleras don't tolerate freezing weather, so you will need to keep it indoors, but light will be your key to success. Keep it moist at all times.

Dear Neil: Our crepe myrtle developed some kind of black mold this past summer. We

sprayed it twice, but now that it is bare, the mold is still there. What should we do?

The fungus you're describing is called sooty mold, but stick with me. It's more involved than that. The real problem is that an insect, either crepe myrtle aphids or crepe myrtle bark scale, fed on the stems and leaves of the plant back in the summer. They exuded sap through their bodies, and that sticky "honeydew" coated the leaves and stems. It became the substrate in which the sooty mold has grown. Without the honeydew would not have accumulated, and without the honeydew the sooty mold never would have formed. Use a systemic insecticide (Imidacloprid) as a soil drench around the root system in

mid-May to prevent the insects ever from feeding. No insects, no honeydew, and no sooty mold. The mold that you have currently will slough off as the old bark falls off this spring and summer. No big problem.

Dear Neil: I have a planting of purpleheart. I was told that it would survive the winter, but it looks like it has frozen.



Schefflera.

Will it still survive?

Yes! It dies to the ground, but then, as the soil warms up in March, it pops out with vigorous new growth that quickly catches up with where it was last season. It makes a lovely perennial ground cover in front of yellow or lavender flowering pe-

rennials. Just remember where you have it growing so you don't accidentally start rototilling and planting in the same space.

Have a question you'd like Neil to consider? Email him at mailbag@sperrygardens.com. Neil regrets that he cannot reply to questions individually.

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
Copyright 2022 by Orbison Bros.

ACROSS

1 TX Al Dexter hit: "Pistol Packin' _____"

5 TXism: "tough _____ old boot"

6 a Texan in New York City?

7 TXism: "run _____ a lawyer" (finalize)

8 a Texas lying competition? "tall _____"

17 Texas-made Blue Bell _____ cream

18 in Corpus Christi: Del _____

21 this Keaton starred in "The Paper" with TX Randy Quaid (init.)

22 he hasn't spent any time in the TX sun

23 "sticks and _____ can break my bones"

24 TXism: "jump bail"

29 TXism: "the ole _____ and chain" (spouse)

30 shirt stain

31 Dallas Cowboys' 5th quarter (abbr.)

32 TXism: "_____ water"

34 what a doctor calls "discomfort"

35 pie _____ mode

36 in Amarillo: "_____ Fair & Rodeo"

37 cowboy _____ buckle

38 "got off _____-free"

39 TXism: "brave _____ in a boomtown cafe"

41 early TX transportation: _____ coach

42 "papa," or "old man"

DOWN

1 focus of "Sea Aggies" at TAMUG? (2 wds.)

2 TXism: "sharp _____"

3 _____ Falls, TX

4 TXism: "quick as you can bat _____"

9 moon to Houston: "...one _____ step for [a] man ..."

10 TX Lee Ann Womack tune: "Last _____" (2008)

11 _____ City, TX

12 first lady of Texas (1963-69) (init.)

13 anesthetic liquid

14 how most Texans like their stew

15 Yankees city (abbr.)

16 TXism: "cute as a bug's _____"

17 dresses for women at "Black Tie & Boots Ball"

18 TX Barbara Mandrell sang "(If Loving You _____) I Don't Want ..."

19 more scarce

24 _____

25 _____

26 _____

27 poker hand: three of _____

28 resident of far western Texas city: El _____

29 TX Holly hit: "That'll _____ Day"

30 _____ and pepper

33 "too lazy to _____ his tail" (indolent dog)

34 _____ land, TX

35 TXism: "high as _____ back" (costly)

37 bar income (2 wds.)

38 another slang for Ford's "pony car"

40 Madalyn Murray _____ (atheist who lived in Texas)

41 stitched up

44 a soccer player from Dallas, Drew immigrants from this country came to Texas in 1890

47 TXism: "you can _____ it in ink" (sure)

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Sports

Crump paces Bucks by Pecos

BY GLENN MCCARTHY
Sports Correspondent

A week after Jayden Canaba got hot and hit 4 three pointers that ignited the whole team against Fort Stockton, Jake Crump was the Johnny-on-the-spot, knocking down three three-pointers of his own. Alpine cruised, beating up on the Pecos Eagles 55-26, and moving their record to 12-5 at the old high school gymnasium on Jan. 11.

Jake talked about his big night and beyond, saying, "I just go out and hustle and put the work in that Coach Morrissey asks of me, and some nights the ball falls more than others. We just need to keep our heads down and work hard and everything is going to fall our way. We have the same goals as we do every year, and that is to win district and go deep in the playoffs. We are going to take it one game at a time."

Aiden Morrissey led all scorers with 15 points, and Jake had 11. Jake knocked down his first three at the 6:24 mark as the Eagles had the lead at 7-5 in the first quarter. Jayden Canaba had a great give-and-go to his brother Jace as he had to deal with some traffic under the basket for a layup, making it look easy.

Teamwork was great again as junior Tray Ervin found a streaking Aiden Morrissey, who wisely kicked the ball back to Esteban Maciaz for a wide-open shot, 14-7 Bucks.

"Good, good momentum heading into district play," said Morrissey. "Our goals are to go undefeated in district play just



Jace Canaba goes up for the basket at the Fightin' Bucks game against Fort Stockton on Jan. 7.

like last year. We want another gold ball, and try to go deep this year."

Alpine scored the next 15 points, and closed out the half on a 22-5 run. The score at halftime was 27-12, and Alpine was just beginning to cruise.

Esteban Maciaz kicked off the scoring in the second half, followed by Ervin getting an easy bucket, and Crump knocking down another three. At the 4:24 mark in the third quarter, Crump had an easy eight-foot semi-hook go in. Then Jace Canaba showed a great move with a fake pass to his brother as he finished a layup off, a very crafty

no-pass. Gavin Wash and Ervin cleaned up some misses with easy layups to end the night.

On the win Coach Morrissey said, "Super proud of our kids. We came out a little flat, but we really responded and played well, finishing the regular season 12-5. We have had a couple of big victories, and some defeats where we learned a lot about ourselves. Now all that matters is district. We must go down to Tornillo and face them, and they were picked preseason to finish second behind us."

Crump had a hot hand, and Coach Morrissey noted, "Yes, what's beau-

tiful about our team is we share the ball so well, so it could be anybody at any given time. Not only was he hitting shots, but he was also catching it in the middle of their zone, and making great decisions and hitting some of our posts."

Unfortunately, the Bucks fell to Tornillo 70-61 on Jan. 14 in Tornillo, with Jayden Canaba leading all scorers with 25 points. Aiden had 21, and Esteban Maciaz put up 12. The Bucks had this past Tuesday off as they head to Kermit on Friday, Jan. 21, for a big district matchup against the Yellowjackets.

Photo by Felipe Fierro

Lobos pull out win against Hardin-Simmons

Caelyb Kerley's largest lead of the first game-winning jumper with 2.9 seconds left finished off a 19-point second-half comeback in an 81-79 final over Hardin-Simmons on Jan. 15 in Alpine.

"I'm proud of our guys for battling back," said Head Coach Xavier Webb. "They stepped up and made some big time plays, not only offensively but more importantly on the defensive end. What a finish to the game with Caelyb Kerley knocking down a shot we've seen him hit multiple times. It was a true team effort and our 4:1 mantra is showing."

HSU opened the first half with an 8-2 lead until the Lobos answered with an 8-0 run for a 10-8 advantage. Trey Nelson and Logan Dixon hit back-to-back triples before Eli Gonzalez took the lead with a layup. Sully's

largest lead of the first half came at 14-10 after back-to-back jumpers from Dixon and Mitchell Martinez. It was their final lead of the half as the Cowboys went on a 9-0 run and set the pace the rest of the first for a 43-32 lead at the break.

In the second half, the Cowboys continued to hold a double-digit lead, eventually upping it to 57-38 with under 15 minutes left. Sully then quickly got it to 10 with a 9-0 answer. Down 61-48 midway through, the Lobos stormed back with a 17-0 run. Julian Paredes gave Sully its first lead of the second half on a triple with seven minutes left for a 62-61 lead. The run then finished with a Kerley jumper, and later a Daveone Bass free throw for a 65-61 advantage.

See LOBOS • 9

Alpine flutist travels to Big Spring



Alpine High School student Alayna Damm represented the school at the Texas High School All-Region Band Meet in Big Spring on Jan. 14-15.

Courtesy photo

Lady Bucks celebrate a win



The Alpine Lady Bucks basketball team stops for a photo after their win over Presidio on Jan. 11 in Presidio.

Avalanche photo by J.T. Maroney

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



MIA MORRIS

Finished 2nd in her weight class - Monahans Tournament
Squat - 155, Bench - 85, Deadlift - 180
Currently sitting 7th in her class in the region



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Fightin' Buck Schedule

Boys Basketball

• Jan. 21 @ Kermit Gold 5 p.m./Purple 6:30 p.m./Varsity 8 p.m.
• Jan. 25 @ Anthony Purple 5 p.m./Varsity 8 p.m.

Girls Basketball

• Jan. 21 Kermit @ Alpine JV 5 p.m./Varsity 6:30 p.m.
• Jan. 25 @ Anthony JV 5 p.m./Varsity 6:30 p.m.

Lobo women's hoops fall to Hardin-Simmons

Women's hoops battled hard with No. 19 Hardin-Simmons, but a lopsided first quarter was the difference in an 85-67 loss on Jan. 15 at Gallego Center in Alpine.

"We played three solid quarters, but need to work on playing a complete game," said Head Coach Katie Novak. "Once we got down, we were playing catch up the whole game instead of trying to play our game. We will get back to the drawing board and be ready to work next week."

In the first quarter, Caitlyn Corley opened the game with a layup for a 2-0 lead that later stretched to 8-5 on a jumper by Alexis Carmosino. The Cowgirls retook the lead at 10-8, and took control from there for a 25-10 advantage going to the second.

In the second quarter, Carmosino trimmed it to 11 with a jumper midway through the second, but HSU upped it to as many as 18 with under five minutes left in the half. Sully got it back to 14 twice, and went to the half down 42-27.

Carmosino scored four in a row midway through the third to cut it to 55-41, but the Lobos trailed 63-48 going to the final quarter.

Marley Rokas started the fourth with a three-point play to bring it back to 12, but the Cowgirls answered back with an 8-0 run to lift their lead to 20. Sully fought back, using a 7-0 run to make it 75-63 with just under five minutes left. Vania Hampton started with a layup before Carmosino drained a jumper. Hampton then drained a triple to complete the run. The Lobos wouldn't get any closer, eventually falling in an 85-67 final.

Carmosino led the game with 25 points and 10 rebounds. She added four steals, and shot 6-of-6 from the free throw line. Rokas scored 13, with seven rebounds and shot 7-of-7 from the line. Hampton was also in double digits with 12 points, adding six rebounds.

The Lobos move to 8-8 on the season and are 4-7 in conference. Hardin-Simmons stands at 12-2 and 7-2.

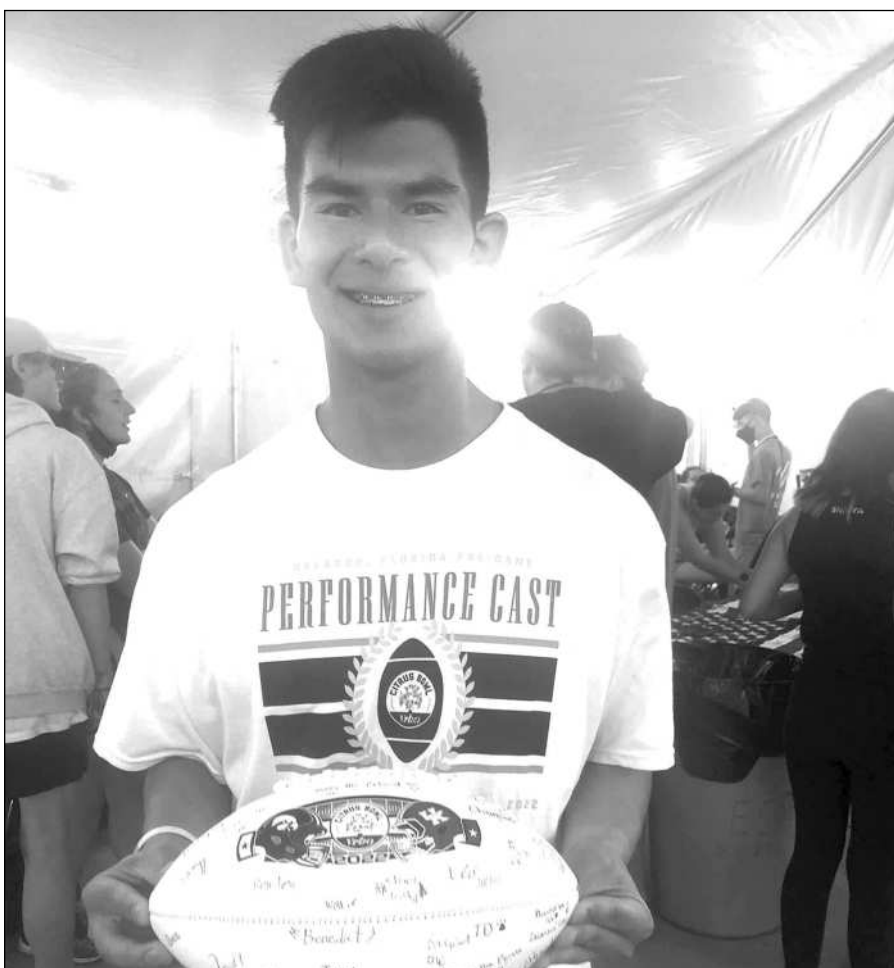
Sully stays at home, next taking on UT-Dallas at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 20.

Alpine cheer representing



Alpine High School Fightin' Bucks varsity cheerleaders Kimberly Lara, Lourdes Acosta, and Angela Martinez ring in the new year at Camping World Stadium in Orlando, Fla., for the New Year's Day 2022 Citrus Bowl. The cheerleaders, all seniors, represented the National Cheerleading Association Varsity Spirit as they are qualified as All-American cheerleaders. Mascot Marco Martinez, aka Beavie, also performed with other mascots around the country during the pre-game show. The cheerleaders paid for the trip on their own, as it was not an officially sanctioned Alpine ISD trip.

Courtesy photo



Alpine High School Fightin' Buck team mascot Marco Martinez enjoys his time at the college football 2022 Citrus Bowl on Jan. 1 in Orlando, Fla., pausing for a photo while interacting with other high school mascots from around Texas and the country. This was Martinez's second appearance at the Citrus Bowl, having participated in 2019.

Courtesy photo

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT Chris Nunez

What are you especially looking forward to in your senior year?

I'm looking forward to making memories with friends and overall having fun with my classmates.

What activities are you involved in during your senior year?

Basketball, track, and robotics.

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

Mr. Valenzuela.

What was your favorite moment the last four years?

My favorite moment was making a pork chop mid-Zoom class and everybody laughing.



Chris Nunez

What are your plans after high school?

My plans are to go to college to pursue a job as an engineer, and hopefully start a family along the way.

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LOBOS • FROM 8

It looked to be under control after a Kerley layup made it 72-66 with under four minutes left, but HSU came back with a 7-1 run for a 73-73 tie with just over two minutes left. Paredes later hit a jumper for a 75-73 lead, but a Cowboy triple put HSU ahead by one.

Tied 76-76, Kerley remained hot, and sank a triple with under a minute left to lead 79-76.

The Cowboys would not go away, answering with a game-tying three-pointer the next time down the floor to force a Sully timeout. With 2.9 seconds left, Kerley finished off the Cowboys with a jumper that sealed the deal in an 81-79 win.

Kerley finished with 12 points on 5-of-7 shooting and 2-of-3 from beyond the arc. Nelson led the Lobos

with 15 points on 5-of-8 shooting. He added five rebounds, three assists and three steals.

Gabe Sanchez shot 5-of-8 and 3-of-5 from three for 13 points. Paredes and Dixon each added 12 points. Paredes led the game with six rebounds.

The Lobos improve to 6-10, and 3-8 in ASC play. HSU drops to 10-4 and 6-3.

Sully next hosts UT-

Dallas at Gallego Center at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 20.

NOTICE BREWSTER COUNTY

ELECTION PRECINCT BOUNDARY CHANGES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A BOUNDARY CHANGE IN BREWSTER COUNTY ELECTION PRECINCTS. Pursuant to an order of Brewster County Commissioners Court on December 14, 2021, in accordance with Chapter 42 of the Texas Election Code, the Commissioners Court approved the realignment of County Election Precincts, as reflected in the maps posted to the County's website. These changes go into effect on January 1, 2022. A detailed map of the County Election Precinct is available online at www.brewstercountytexas.com.

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Onions offer a myriad of benefits

The history of the onion is thought by some archeologists to date back as far as prehistoric times. Long before the written word or farming, wild onions were thought to have been a food source for early humans. Most researchers believe cultivation of onions began around 5,000 years ago. They are thought to have been one of the earliest cultivated crops because they are easily transported and grow in most any soil.

They were a great portable food source for early humans because they could be preserved, and they were a valuable way



of preventing thirst. Onions come in three basic colors, each suited for diverse preparation methods and use. For example, the yellow onion is better suited for sautéing or caramelizing. This allows it to be used in dishes such as French onion soup. The red or

purple onion is best raw, grilled, or roasted. Red onions with their vibrant color are often found on sandwiches. Finally, the white onion is best raw, grilled, or slightly cooked, and are best used in white sauces, potato and pasta dishes, and Mexican cuisine. Compared with the other two types, the whites have a shorter shelf life.

Certain compounds found in onions have shown to function as antioxidants and inflammation inhibitors, and aid in various cardiovascular and osteoporosis conditions.

Their nutritional val-

ue is also a factor. One serving (a medium-sized onion) contains only 45 calories, yet has 11.8 mg of vitamin C, 34 mg of calcium, 15 mg of magnesium, 43.5 mg of phosphorus, and 190 mg of potassium, as well as trace amounts of other vitamins and minerals.

Onions can be used in a myriad of dishes, but one of the best ways to prepare an onion is to batter and deep fry it. I'm talking about the classic onion ring.

Even the Australian-themed restaurant chain Outback Steakhouse has its version of the battered and fried on-

ion. It doesn't come in ring form, but is sliced into strips, leaving a base to sit on once it is battered and fried. It resembles a flower,

which is why they call it the Blooming Onion.

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



Onion Rings

Ingredients:	1 cup milk or beer
2 large onions cut into rings	1 egg
1 cup all-purpose flour	2 tablespoons vegetable oil
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour	1 teaspoon salt
	Vegetable oil for frying

Directions:
Whisk one cup plus two tablespoons flour, milk or beer, egg, two tablespoons vegetable oil, and salt together in a bowl until smooth.
Heat oil in a deep fryer or large saucepan to 375 degrees F.
Dip rings in batter, working in batches, until evenly coated, and arrange in one layer on a plate.
Fry the battered rings, working in batches, until browned, about five minutes. Transfer rings to a paper towel-lined plate using a slotted spoon
Traditionally they are dipped in ketchup or some other dipping sauce, and are a favorite as a side dish in place of fries or even sometimes added to a burger.



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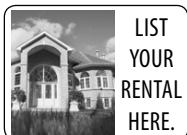
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WTNB is a community bank with a pleasant, growth atmosphere and includes excellent benefits. Benefits include health and vision insurance and a matching 401k plan. WTNB also offers a very generous Paid Time Off (PTO) Plan which begins accruing upon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

WTNB West Texas National Bank

WTNB supports a diverse workforce and is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer who does 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.

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

EOE.

BIG BEND CONCRETE CO.

IS HIRING CDL DRIVERS.

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

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit and Package Store Tasting Permit by Railroad Liquors LLC dba Railroad Liquors, to be located at 103 1st street, Marathon, Brewster County, Texas. Officers of said Limited Liability Corporation are members Mark Dwinell and Emely Rodriguez Dwinell

FORT DAVIS STATE BANK

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

The Alpine Community Credit Union is now hiring for full-time teller.

Please come by 111 N 2nd St, Alpine or call (432) 837-5156, for job description and application.



BBT

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 and goals.
- 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).

Technology Service 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 decisions 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.

EOE

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

BREWSTER COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE JOB OPENING

The Brewster County Road & Bridge Department is seeking a qualified worker to perform duties under the direction of the Superintendent of the Department. The Brewster County Road & Bridge Worker is an employee of Brewster County. Therefore, the employee must understand and abide by the Brewster County Employee Handbook. The duties include, but are not limited to: operating equipment such as loaders, mowers, dirt compactors, maintainers, and dump trucks. Applicants must have a CDL. Applicants will go through a 90 day probationary period, and must be able to pass a background check and a drug test. Applicants must also demonstrate good people skills, must be able to follow directions and orders, and be a flexible team player. In addition to salary commensurate with experience, Brewster County employee benefits will also be a part of the package.

For Job Description and application, visit: www.brewstercountytexas.com

Frenchie Causey, Road & Bridge Superintendent, 2601 N Hwy. 118, Alpine, TX 79830 or you may leave it with the County Judge's Office at 201 W Ave. E Alpine, TX 79830
For questions, contact Frenchie Causey at 432-294-0398

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of **Johnny Carl Griffis**, Deceased, were issued on January 4, 2022, under Docket No. PR03072, pending in the County Court of Brewster County, Texas, to **John Ray Griffis**.

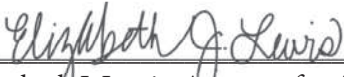
Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:

Representative,
Estate of Johnny Carl Griffis, Deceased
c/o Elizabeth J. Lewis, Attorney at Law
SIBLEY ANDERSON LEWIS
117 N. 6th St.
Alpine, Texas 79830

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

DATED January 11, 2022

John Ray Griffis

By 
Elizabeth J. Lewis, Attorney for Applicant

Look Who's Hiring?

G A G E
H O T E L

Find great job opportunities with us.

- GROUNDSKEEPER
- KITCHEN STAFF
- LINE COOK
- HOUSEKEEPING



Please stop by and pick up applications at the Gage Hotel • Front Desk Marathon TX

ALPINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Alpine ISD is accepting applications for a full-time custodian. Individual will provide general cleaning and maintenance in all areas of the assigned campus. Must have own transportation.

District application may be picked up at 704 W. Sul Ross Avenue or may be accessed on-line at www.alpine.esc18.net under District/Employment. Return completed application to:

**Chayo Gonzales, Maintenance Dept.
Alpine ISD
704 W. Sul Ross
Alpine, Texas 79830**

Alpine ISD is an E.O.E. – questions concerning application procedure should be directed to (432) 837-7700. Applications will be accepted until position is filled.



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



TRANSPecos BANKS

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.

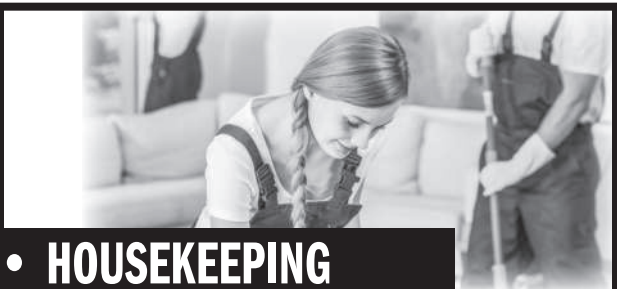
UNIVERSAL TELLERS - We are hiring part time tellers for our Alpine and Marathon locations. Must be customer friendly, and able to work quickly and accurately with numbers. Experience a plus.

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

 Follow us on Facebook @ TheAlpineAvalanche



• HOUSEKEEPING



• MEDICAL DOCTOR

• FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

• FULL TIME- NURSE SUPERVISOR

• DENTIST

Must be licensed in the State of Texas
Alpine Location

• PART TIME - DENTAL HYGIENIST, Alpine Location

• PART TIME- CALL CENTER, OPERATOR

• FRONT DESK SUPERVISOR

• FULL TIME BILLER/CODER

• FULL TIME BOOKKEEPER/ACCOUNTANT

Applications maybe picked up at
1605 N. Ft. Davis Hwy.
Please call us before arrival
432-837-4812



PREVENTATIVE CARE HEALTH SERVICES

For info, please call 432-837-4812
Applications can be picked up at
our locations or online at:
pchsmedclinic.org



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
jettsgillrestaurant@gmail.com

LOOKING for Full time or part time work?



WE CAN HELP!

We are currently looking to hire
MORNING SHIFTS.

6am-2pm or 8am-5pm

We can accommodate any schedule you have

- Starting pay - \$10/ per hour
- Closing pays 10% more per hour
- 5% weekend differential
- Benefits- Health and 401K
- Overtime Available
- Paid Vacation
- College Assistance
- Flexiable schedule
- Uniform provided
- Discounts on meals



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