

## Controversy plagues city over high gas bills

BY ROXANNE HILL  
Staff Writer

The City of Alpine held its regularly scheduled council meeting on March 15, and controversy surrounding customers' unusually high gas bills was the main topic of discussion. Council, Ward 3, Sara Tandy was absent.

The information only item generated plenty of discussion and debate regarding exceptionally high gas bills from residents in the Carpenter Addition. Resident Bret Bell told the council that many of the residents' gas bills doubled and even tripled from the customary rates.

Bell also cited billing, usage, and gas repair problems, along with a plethora of issues that were inconsistent with past bills, adding, "From my observations along with other citizens of

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## INSIDE



FEATURED

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### Rainfall totals at Alpine-Casparis Airport

2022 . . . . .0.06"  
March . . . . .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.**



## Emergent gets EMS nod

County and city make unanimous decision on 911 provider

BY GAIL DIANE YOVANOVICH  
Managing Editor

After many weeks of meetings and discussions, Brewster County commissioners and City of Alpine council members separately chose Emergent Air of El Paso as their 911 service provider.

With an April 30 deadline looming, a contract still needs to be negotiated and set in place before service can begin.

Because of his experience in South County, Terlingua

EMS Director and Big Bend Regional Hospital District Treasurer Greg Henington had taken the lead in providing information and advice to the county and the EMS task force. Since Jan. 1 Terlingua EMS has been providing assistance with 911 calls in north Brewster County and the city.

At Tuesday evening's special commissioners court meeting, Henington reviewed EMS service options that had been considered, including the county or the

hospital district taking over 911 service, along with private sector service providers picking up the task. He noted that after many meetings and presentations, the decision was made to go with the private sector.

Referring to the county running an EMS service, Henington said, "Romantically I like the idea. It would be fun to build one from scratch and do it the right way, and learn from mistakes we've made

See EMS • 6



Brewster County Sheriff and EMS task force advisor Ronny Dodson addresses commissioners court at a Tuesday night special meeting.

Avalanche photo by Gail Diane Yovanovich

## Grilling for a good cause



Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church Knights of Columbus in Alpine held their annual Friday night Lenten fish fry on March 11 at the Parish Hall. Here Knights members Carlos Rodriguez, Bucho Garcia, Mark Padilla, Jeff Castillo, Joe Waggoner, and Eligio Rivas pause for a photo as they prepared delicious fried fish with all the fixings. The take out-only fish fry was a big success, and helped further the Knights' goal of raising funds for charitable causes in the community.

Avalanche photo by Roxanne Hill

## Celebrating women's achievements

BY ROXANNE HILL  
Staff Writer

March is Women's History Month, a time to celebrate the contributions of women in all aspects of society, and Sul Ross State University will be sharing that across a variety of fields on Friday, March 25, for the First Annual Women's Conference.

Assistant Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness Jeanne Qvarnstrom credited Sul Ross President Pete Gallego for bringing the conference to fruition, and she hopes this will be an annual event for the community. Qvarn-

strom, who is also a Sul Ross faculty member, is excited to welcome a distinguished panel of guest speakers along with successful women, both local and from across the country.

The conference will kick off on Friday at 9 a.m. in Marshall Auditorium, and all area high school students are welcomed to join Sul Ross students and staff. Keynote speaker will be San Antonio corporate executive Sonia Pérez, president of AT&T Southeast States.

"We are looking for-



Jeanne Qvarnstrom

ward to a great presentation from her," said Qvarnstrom. "She is going to tell us pretty much about her journey to where she was and where she is now."

The evening concert on the same day will be free and open to the public, and will culminate with a special performance by Chicago indie-folk singer and songwriter Naomi Ashley, who considers herself the "female Bob Dylan."

Ashley will be joined by Chicago multi-instrumentalist and record producer Jon Williams, who plays in several

bands ranging from rock to bluegrass to jazz.

The daytime conference will feature assorted panels to give different perspectives on the women's experience - female trailblazers, women in education, and women in sports. The sports panel will feature Sul Ross Director of Athletics Amanda Workman, Alpine High School football coach Monica Salmon, and Annika Canaba, a former Alpine Lady Buck and student athlete. Qvarnstrom hopes that the presenters across all fields and areas will be models for high school students, both girls and boys.

"We have the presenters in different professions, and we are anticipating that the high school students will see the world now is open in many ways for women as it had not been in the past," she said.

Women leaders know that leadership and integrity are some of the keys to long term personal and professional success, and the Sul Ross Women's Conference is a suitable place to celebrate that success.

"This is a very meaningful opportunity for me, to bring attention to

See WOMEN • 6

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## Library participating in technology project

Marathon Public Library is participating in the pilot phase of the Library Space Technology Network project. The project is a collaboration between the John G. Wolbach Library at the Center for Astrophysics and the Libre Space Foundation to create new infrastructure to support small satellite missions, and offer public library communities the chance to build and engage with space technology.

During the pilot phase, five public libraries around the world will build SatNOGS-powered ground stations, and provide feedback to the core team. The feedback from participants will ultimately help inform plans to expand the network and build resources to support participating library communities. The libraries will also help plan for educational programs and resources to go with the ground stations.

Satellites communicate with Earth through ground stations. For a ground station to receive data from a satellite, the satellite must be overhead. For this reason, to



maximize the amount of time satellites can send data back to Earth, it makes sense to use a network of ground stations set up in many different locations across the globe. As a space technology is at risk of being increasingly closed off by private corporations, SatNOGS is focusing on building an open community dedicated to developing a

network of connected ground stations that uses only open technologies and open source software.

Funding for the Library Space Technology Network is provided by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation through a grant awarded to the John G. Wolbach Library at the Center for Astrophysics and the Libre Space Foundation.

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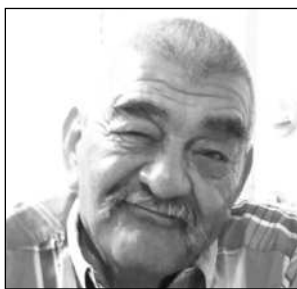
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## OBITUARY

### Freddy C. Rubio

Freddy C. Rubio passed away March 9, 2022, surrounded by his family in Fort Davis, Texas, at the age of 74 years. He was born on Feb. 23, 1948, to Crispin and Librada Rubio in Falfurrias, Texas.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Linda F. Rubio; children Amy Rubio, Freddy Rubio and wife Shelly, Andrew Rubio, and Priscilla Rubio; sister Josie Lopez; grand-



children Haley Muniz, Anthony Muniz, Sarah Muniz, Alea Rubio, and Reagan Rubio.

He was preceded in death by his father and

mother; brother Robert Rubio; and sisters Janie Garcia and Sara Reyna.

Visitation was held on March 11, 2022, at Davis Mountain Funeral Hall. A Mass of Christian Burial took place on March 12, 2022, at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Fort Davis. Burial followed at Saint Joseph Cemetery.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at mmoftexas.com.



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By J. Garza

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Raise your voices and your flag high above bombs, cruelty, and soldiers  
Though the battle be weary and unjust fight for truth, peace, sovereignty

Praise your citizens who defend it and maintain reverence for life  
March and rally your homeland heroes for thee we join in your battle song  
At sundown call out prayers, thanks for all shelter well, to live to fight another day.

## Bar Foundation gives Crowley recognition

Alpine native Beryl P. Crowley of Austin has been selected as one of five recipients of the 2022 Texas Bar Foundation's Outstanding 50 Year Lawyer Award. The award recognizes attorneys whose practices have spanned 50 years or more, and who adhere to the highest principles of the legal profession and service to the public.



Beryl Crowley

Beryl "Berry" Ponton Crowley is still practicing law after 50 years. She started out as a real estate focused lawyer after her first job as an associate in a Brenham law firm. This work was a wellspring for her to become an accomplished real estate attorney for the next 48 years.

She and her family moved to Austin, and she started her law firm career at the Austin office of Jackson Walker. She was there for 20 years, where she became first woman partner, and continued her real estate focused practice. In 1983 she was elected the first female attorney in a State Bar race as she became the first female president

of the Texas Young Lawyers Association. In 1984 she married Austin attorney Mike Crowley, and they blended their family of five children.

The next phase of her career began in 1994 when she departed her firm, and became executive director of the Texas Center for Legal Ethics. While there she devised the format for Ethics Jeopardy, and succeeded in making the course called A Guide to the Basics of Law Practice mandatory for all new lawyers. She continued her volunteer work for the state bar, and became chair of the Board of Trustees of the Texas Bar Foundation, then chair of the Fellows of the Texas

Bar Foundation. She created the Professionalism Committee of the State Bar.

She left this position in 2006, and became a sole practitioner with Beryl P. Crowley, Attorney and Counselor. As well, she became a legal recruiter for Major Lindsey and Africa, then with Crowley Legal Recruiting. She still practices real estate law.

The Bar Foundation commissioned an oral history to recognize and preserve the accomplishments of Crowley's legal career. Additionally, she will be publicly recognized at the Texas Bar Foundation annual dinner held on June 10 at the Marriott Marquis in Houston.

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# Bringing bluegrass to West Texas

BY ROXANNE HILL  
Staff Writer

While Big Bend residents share a keen sense of community, they also boast a culture expressed through appreciation of music. Joining in that legacy is the Big Bend Bluegrass Association. Bluegrass music, like folk music, incorporates traditional country and gospel, and has become one of the mainstays of American music since the 1940s. And now, Alpine resident Cyndi Perdue wants to share in her excitement for bluegrass for all to enjoy.

Formed in August 2021 by Perdue, the association hopes to gain membership and give back to the community by enhancing the thriving Big Bend music scene. A typical bluegrass band is composed of banjo,

guitar, bass, mandolin, fiddle, harmonica, and accordion. Perdue is a musician herself, primarily playing the upright bass, while also jamming with the guitar and mandolin.

"I'm originally from Wickett, and my family and I played bluegrass music for many, many years," said Perdue, whose father Harold Ferguson was instrumental in starting a bluegrass festival in Wickett. "We started out in country, playing for country dances, and migrated into the bluegrass gospel scene, and went to lots of different festivals."

Because of COVID concerns, the Wickett festival was discontinued, but Perdue decided to relocate it to Alpine, where she met her husband.

Excitement is already brewing with the inaugural

Big Bend Bluegrass Festival, to be held in October at the Alpine Civic Center. The festival is designed as a major fundraiser for the association, and sponsorships are available for the event. The Big Bend Bluegrass Association welcomes everyone, whether bluegrass fans or not, and one of the current projects is starting a music scholarship to benefit Big Bend area high school seniors who wish to continue their education.

The association is also part of the "Play It Forward!" instrument lending program created by the Bluegrass Heritage Foundation. Young people who may not have the financial means to play an instrument, and are eight to 21 years old, are eligible, and may borrow bluegrass instruments for one year.

Bluegrass remains an artistic treasure that will be cherished for generations to come, and Perdue is hopeful that more members join the Big Bend group.

"From the tourism perspective, I think it's a fantastic thing that she is doing this," said City of Alpine Tourism Director Chris Ruggia, who is also a liaison to the Texas Music Office for Alpine, a Texas music friendly community. "This is a great addition to Alpine's musical community, because we already have a small but active group of musicians who play in a variety of genres, and this just opens a whole new facet onto the world of Alpine music."

For more information or to donate, contact Perdue at bigbendbluegrasstx@gmail.com or 432-238-6850.



Cyndi Perdue plays for the crowd.

Courtesy photo

# Darge exhibit highlights Big Bend

BY GAIL DIANEYOVANOVICH  
Managing Editor

Museum of the Big Bend will open its spring exhibit on April 22 with "Fred Darge Paints the Big Bend and Beyond," and many are eagerly awaiting its unveiling.

Born in 1900 in Rendsburg, Germany, Darge entered the U.S. in 1923 in Port Arthur. He attended the Art Institute of Chicago from where he graduated. In 1933 he settled in San Antonio, then in 1935 moved to Dallas where he painted during the winter and spent the summers painting and sketching on ranches in West Texas, mostly the area between the Davis Mountains and the Rio Grande, and in New Mexico.

Darge stayed as a guest on many of the Big Bend ranches during the late 1930s and early 1940s, paying his room and board with paintings he executed when there. He soon learned to follow the life

of the ranch hands, and became adept at riding and roping.

"He has a long and very personal history here. Regionalism was big at that time, and anything Western and cowboys was highly popular. So he was creating paintings to sell for his livelihood," said museum Director Mary Bones. "He was creating sketches and preliminary works that he then took back to Dallas to complete. He did paintings for ranch owners as thank you gifts to the ranching families."

She said there would be some work included in the exhibit rendered prior to Darge's Big Bend works, primarily from New Mexico, although the show will focus on the time he spent on local ranches.

Bones stressed that many of the paintings were from private collections.

She added, "The odds of folks seeing most of these works is almost zero. At the reception and symposium many of those who loaned the paintings will be here. So folks will have the opportunity to visit with those who actually own the Fred Darge pieces."

The museum will host an opening reception April 22 from 5-7 p.m., and a symposium on Saturday, April 23, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The reception will feature complimentary beer and wine, and a cash bar.

The symposium will feature presentations by Darge biographers Bonnie and Robert McKee, Michael Grauer of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, Trappings of Texas and cowboy artists Mike Capron and Alice Leese, and more.

Said Bones, "It's a true celebration of the beautiful country that we call home. It's special to look

at it from the 1930s from the perspective of a German immigrant who really

identified with this area." The exhibit runs through June 4.



"Stampede" by Fred Darge.

Courtesy photo

# Illegals apprehended



On March 14 Brewster County deputies, U.S. Border Patrol Agents, and Department of Public Safety Air Operations responded to remote southeastern Brewster County in response to a large group of suspicious persons trespassing on private property. After several hours of tracking, 14 illegal aliens from Mexico were apprehended. The suspects were referred to Border Patrol agents for processing and deportation.

Courtesy photo



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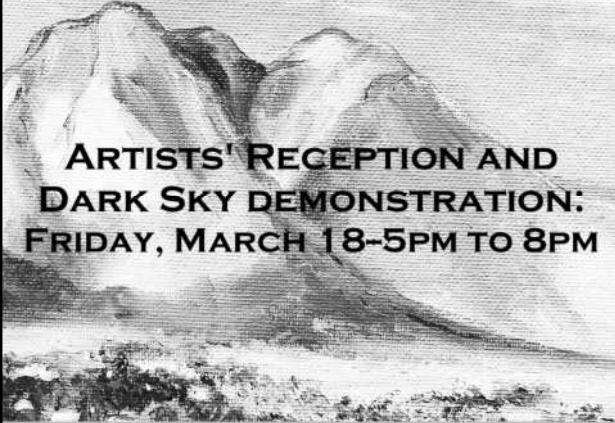
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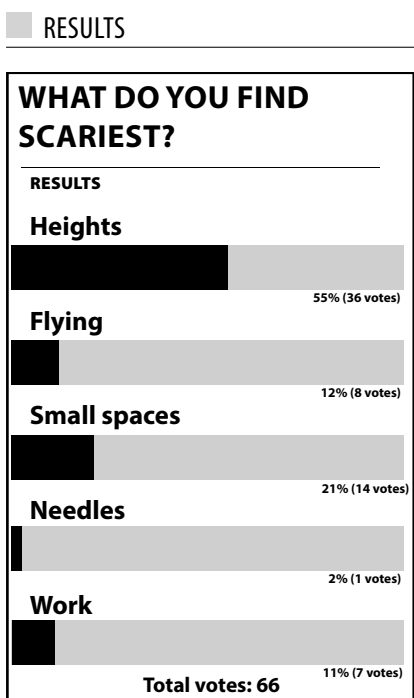
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# Opinions

## ONLINE POLL



**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION**

Now the Avalanche asks:

Do you see Russia's military power as a threat to the U.S.?

- Yes. Russia's extreme actions against Ukraine show that they will stop at nothing to advance their cause.
- No. Unless we make the first move, Putin won't attack the U.S. directly.
- Unsure. With the extreme events occurring so far, anything can happen.

Vote for this week's poll online at: [www.AlpineAvalanche.com](http://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](mailto:editor@alpineavalanche.com) by noon Monday for consideration.

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ALPINE AVALANCHE (014 800) is published every Thursday morning at 118 N. 5th St., Alpine, TX 79830. Periodical postage paid at Alpine, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Alpine Avalanche, P.O. Box 719, Alpine, TX 79831. Subscription rates in Brewster, Jeff Davis and Presidio counties are \$42 per year, \$48 in-state and \$52 elsewhere. 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.



## The need for no



**ELEZAR CANO**  
Brewster County Judge

While reflecting back throughout my time in office, the media has been my constant companion. John Waters of the Big Bend Gazette accompanied me throughout my first campaign. Interesting times.

My first major blunder came in relation to the ETP pipeline when I was quoted as saying, "It's a done deal," in reference to the natural gas pipeline snaking through northern Brewster County. To set the records straight, what I stated was "I'm afraid it's a done deal." Then the infamous, "Cano Shuts Down Brewster County." Really?

Following is from "The Elements of Journalism," by Bill Kovach and Tom Rosenstiel in which they identify the essential principles and practices of journalism.

Journalism's first obligation is to the truth - Good decision making depends on people having reliable, accurate facts put in a meaningful context. Journalism does not

pursue truth in an absolute or philosophical sense, but in a capacity that is more down to earth.

Its first loyalty is to citizens - The publisher of journalism - whether a media corporation answering to advertisers and shareholders, or a blogger with his own personal beliefs and priorities - must show an ultimate allegiance to citizens. They must strive to put the public interest above their own self-interest.

Its essence is a discipline of verification - Journalists rely on a professional discipline for verifying information.

Its practitioners must maintain an independence from those they cover - Independence is a cornerstone of reliability. Independence

of spirit and an open-mindedness and intellectual curiosity that helps the journalist see beyond his or her own ego.

It must serve as an independent monitor of power - Journalism has an unusual capacity to serve as watchdog over those whose power and position most affect citizens. It may also offer voice to the voiceless. Journalists have an obligation to protect this watchdog freedom by not demeaning it in frivolous use or exploiting it for commercial gain.

It must provide a forum for public criticism and compromise - The news media are common carriers of public discussion, and this responsibility forms a basis for special privileges that news and information providers receive from democratic societies.

It must strive to keep the significant interesting and relevant - Journalism is storytelling with a purpose. It should do more than gather

an audience or catalogue the important. It must balance what readers know they want with what they cannot anticipate but need.

It must keep the news comprehensive and proportional - Journalism is our modern cartography. It creates a map for citizens to navigate society.

Its practitioners must be allowed to exercise their personal conscience - Doing journalism, whether as a professional writing for a news organization or as an online contributor in the public space, involves one's moral compass and demands a personal sense of ethics and responsibility.

Citizens, too, have rights and responsibilities when it comes to the news - The average person now, more than ever, works like a journalist. Writing a blog entry, commenting on a social media site, sending a tweet, or "liking" a picture or post likely involves a shorthand version of the journalistic process.

## There's really no hurry to get anything done

"So, do you need a new truck," my friend asked?

The question was not without merit. Nor was it unexpected.

Nice try, I thought. But I already knew the answer. Yes, my 2009 SUV just turned over 200,000 miles. Yes, it appears another trip to the repair shop is going to take place because it is pitching the same fit it threw back around Christmas. Yes, this will be the third trip for what appears to be a very similar problem - the motor and the computer have differences of opinion when I turn the key requesting it to start up.

Just mindlessly turning the key used to bring the motor to life with no thought of any delay. Then off I would go, cruising and singing along with Elvis, Little Richard, Fats Domino, or Buddy Holly on Sirius XM's 50s on 5.

Lately, however, turning the key has too often led to an intermittent mass of instrument panel warnings much less entertaining than Chuck Berry's "motorvatin" over the hill when he saw Maybellene in a Coupe de



**LEON ALDRIDGE**  
Guest Columnist

like "traction lock off" and "service traction link soon" were scary enough. Then for added drama, here comes the check engine light. These distractions ultimately interfere with fundamental driving functions like starting quickly, and worse, my music. What is a traction link, anyway?

The first repair shop visit cost me \$546. That bought me about two weeks of once again mindlessly turning the key to bring the motor to life. Then came the second computer cacophony. That one was just under \$400. But it's lasted since Christmas.

However, I'm still in no rush to replace the trusty steed. I've just now got this one broken in. So what if it's sometimes cranky about

cranking? The good news is that it runs perfectly once the ignition switch convinces the computer that it really is time for the motor to motivate.

"You work on cars, why don't you fix it," came the next question not without merit and not unexpected.

"Because I enjoy working on cars that are just cars," was my response. "Not the ones with computers. Always been my contention that if God had intended for cars to have computers, Henry Ford would have invented both the computer and the car."

"But don't you think yours has too many miles on it?"

"Hardly," I snapped. "Every one of the last four vehicles I've owned had more than 200,000 miles on it before we came to the final fork in the road. And with new cars costing more than I paid for my house, this one may be the one with which I finally break the Bobby Pinkston record."

"I'm guessing you've had this truck a while," I told Bobby the first time I rode

with him. That was my tactful way of noting that his mid-70s Ford long-wheel-base pickup displayed a degree of patina.

"Yeah," said Bobby. "And it's only got 350,000 miles on it."

"Only," I thought? I had no idea then that vehicles would go that far. "And you drive it every day?"

"It's the only thing I drive," he smiled. "I drive it all over the country on hunting and fishing trips and to work every day. I never get in a hurry, and it gets me everywhere I want to go."

During that conversation, I discovered a newfound respect for high-mileage vehicles like Bobby's brown pickup, and the challenge of seeing just how far one will go.

The last question not without merit, and not unexpected from my friend last week was, "So ... you're going to get this one fixed and keep it?"

"Yep," I said. "There's really no hurry to get anything done. I've got at least another 150,000 miles to enjoy this one."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you

Thank you to the community of Alpine and surrounding areas for your words of sympathy and kindness during our time of sorrow and sadness. For the calls, texts, cards, food, etc. Thank you, Father Matta, for the mass and visit at the hospital, Alpine

Funeral Home staff, and Big Bend Regional Hospital staff. Thank you to Rosella Salmon for the Rosary, and the ladies for the luncheon meal. It was last minute, and we appreciate you very much. Everything was good. To everyone who helped in anyway, gracias! To

JoAnn Salgado, Delma Houston, Irma Maldonado, Brenda Alvarez, Debbie Skelton, Joannie Bulner, and Judy Stokes for keeping me company at home. Thanks to Tony Vega and his music, Mark Padilla and his choir, and the pallbearers and honorary pallbearers.

Rudy was a man of kindness who never met a stranger, always offering his help to anyone who needed a hand. He loved his family and friends. Our most sincere thank you.

Frances Garcia and family  
Alpine



# Heard on the STREET

How do you celebrate St. Patrick's Day?



**Ben Lara, Alpine:** The last couple of year's I've had to work for St. Patrick's Day. If I don't work this year, I'll probably end up coming here and drinking again!



**Ryli Sorace, Alpine:** Last St. Patrick's Day, I'm pretty sure I just had a party at my house, like with family and friends.



**Alana Carew, Alpine:** I like doing Jägerbombs. We drink that all the time. It's an Irish drink, and you just drop a shot of whiskey in there.



**Lexi Armendarez, Alpine:** Really just working. Last year, we started giving out Helen Kellers to people, and they were playing and just having a great time. Helen Kellers is a game that we play here at the bar, it's really fun. This year I plan on working- I like being here.



**Jackie Molsbee, Alpine:** Just trying to remember to wear green!

Send your community events to editor@alpineavalanche.com.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**MARCH 18**  
**Fish Fry**, 5-7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 79 at 805 W. Sul Ross Ave. in Alpine. Eat in or take out. Proceeds benefit Legion activities in the community.

**MARCH 26**  
**Patio Sale**, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Alpine Public Library. The library is accepting donations which may be left inside the



front patio during library hours. All proceeds benefit library activities.

**APRIL 1**  
**Fish Fry**, 5-7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 79 at 805 W. Sul Ross Ave. in Alpine. Eat in or take out. Proceeds

benefit Legion activities in the community.

## 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.

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## Enjoying Fry-Day fish fry



Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church's Knights of Columbus in Alpine held their annual Fry-Day Lenten fish fry on March 11 at the Parish Hall, with many volunteers contributing their time and efforts for a good cause. Here, Christopher Jimenez, 9, of Alpine pauses for a photo as he gets a takeout plate, joining Our Lady of Peace parishioner and volunteer Stephanie Haynes and Knight Robert Polanco.

Avalanche photo by Roxanne Hill

## PET OF THE WEEK

Alpine Humane Society Pet of the Week is Lil Roo, a white Shepherd mix. Lil Roo is a very energetic pup who, even though she looks like an adult dog, is very much still a puppy. Her previous owner described her as loveable and sweet. Roo enjoys treats, and likes to give kisses.

Roo will need some house training and a little work on a leash, but not much. She seems to prefer as much activity time as she can get, and loves playing with her brother, so another dog in the home would be good for her. She has not

had much interaction with cats, but may adjust just fine to them as she seems somewhat indifferent to them.

Additional services are available for your pets at the Alpine Animal Shelter, including microchipping of both cats and dogs, and cremation of your lost loved ones. Microchips stay with your pet for a lifetime, and can help reunite you with your pet should they ever go missing. Most vets and rescue organizations can scan your pet's chip, and find your contact information to let you know they

have been found.

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 North Fifth 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.



432.837.5948 | 108 West Avenue E | ALPINE

ROSWELL LIVESTOCK AUCTION SALES, INC.

**SALE DATE: MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2022**

871 head of cattle sold on a steady to lower market, with excellent buyer attendance. This is the top of the market and prices range down from this according to quality, quantity, condition, and fill. Compared to the last week:

**COMPARED TO LAST WEEK:**

- Stocker Calves:** Steady
- Feeder Cattle:** Steady to \$3.00 higher
- Packer Cows and Bulls:** Steady

300# - 400# Steers	210.00 to 217.00
300# - 400# Heifers	186.00 to 187.00
400# - 500# Steers	185.00 to 210.00
400# - 500# Heifers	157.50 to 186.00
500# - 600# Steers	162.50 to 185.00
500# - 600# Heifers	144.00 to 157.50
600# - 700# Steers	142.00 to 162.50
600# - 700# Heifers	131.00 to 144.00
700# - 800# Steers	120.00 to 139.00
700# - 800# Heifers	Not well tested
Packer Cows	80.00 to 93.00
Canner & Cutter Cows	65.00 to 75.00
Packer Bulls	95.00 to 103.50
Feeder Bulls	75.00 to 85.00
Cow / Calf Pairs - Top Half	1200.00 to 1600.00
Bred Cows - Top Half	1000.00 to 1525.00



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## Desert Sky Quilters of the Big Bend

# 10th Annual Quilt Show

**Saturday, March 19, 2022**  
**10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
**Sunshine House**  
**402 E. Holland Avenue, Alpine, Texas**

### Drawing for this Quilt

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.  
Available from Members and at the Show  
Drawing at 3:00 p.m. (need not be present to win)

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Victoria Sewing Machine Co. (machine sales and service onsite)

**Learn about our Care Quilt and Veterans Quilt Programs**

# A smokin' hot ribbon cutting

It was a nice day for barbecue and cake as DB's Rustic Iron BBQ owner Don Baucham and Michelle Chiles of the Big Bend Chamber of Commerce celebrate the grand opening of the Terlingua barbecue joint's new location on March 2, along with Texas Independence Day. The event was hosted by the Big Bend Chamber of Commerce.

Courtesy photo



## EMS • FROM 1

in the past. However, time is a problem for us. It might be revisited in the future, but right now it probably doesn't work for us."

Outside service providers AMR, City Ambulance Service, and Emergent Air all showed a strong interest in operating in the county, and all made multiple presentations to the county and the city.

"All three agreed to bid on the project based on what we are currently paying," said Henington.

On March 11 the EMS task force met and selected Emergent Air.

Emergent will supply all equipment, personnel, and administrative services to provide 911 service to north Brewster County, including Alpine.

"All three candidates were capable of doing the job, but we felt Emergent Air was the best fit," said Henington.

Task force member and County Sheriff Ronny Dodson remarked, "The main thing was that all of us did background checks with places where the services were working, and there were no negatives about Emergent Air. They're the size we want to deal with in case in the

future they can't make a living here. Their model is something we can probably build our model on if we were going to do it ourselves."

Commissioners then voted unanimously to select Emergent Air, as did the city at a separate, concurrent city council meeting.

County Judge Eleazar Cano pointed out a contract must be negotiated before Emergent could begin services, and Henington suggested the task force remain in place until that was accomplished.

Cano later told the Avalanche, "I feel good about

the decision. I feel confident that we made the right call."

He noted the numbers wouldn't change, but they would work on accountability and "keeping everyone on the same page."

Cano assured the community there would be a seamless transition to the new providers, saying, "There will be a lot of support provided from our end. We want to reassure our constituents, our citizens of northern Brewster County, that they will not see anything different. That's what our aim is."

## BILLS • FROM 1

Alpine, there appears to be a lack of accountability, and something just isn't right."

Bell asked the council to further review the issue, and Mayor Andy Ramos said he would have the council and Interim City Manager Megan Antrim review further.

Alpine business owner Guy Fielder then vied for the city, indicating that the Texas Railroad Commission had approved charging higher gas rates to recover losses from the winter storm back in February 2021. Fielder referenced an article to back up his claims, but did not cite the source.

Next, Alpine ISD Chief Financial Officer Clay

Braden voiced his complaint to council, saying the city charged the school district \$20,000 this month, which was around \$11,000 above average, and that in the previous month, the school district's gas bill was only around \$5,000.

City Gas Utility Director Randy Guzman responded to the complaints, but only provided an explanation for the billing discrepancy by indicating billing for January was on a 36-day billing cycle, as opposed to a 30-day cycle, which was the norm.

Guzman said customers would have a lower bill next month, and suggested gas consumers lower their thermostats to avoid high gas bills,

and contact the billing department for clarification on billing issues.

Regarding AISD, Guzman said usage was high due to the gas units being powered up at the schools, but Braden countered that some of the units were not operational.

Interim City Manager Megan Antrim said there were issues with the online billing system, but would look into it further. Ramos said the city would follow up with the high gas rate issues, but reverted the problem back to the state government, suggesting that displeased customers contact the state's elected officials.

"A lot of times, upstairs, they make deci-

sions for us little guys downstairs, and sometimes it's hard for us to fight it," said Ramos. "But we can look into it. I do not think it's right. It's called price gouging."

Finally, regarding upcoming elections in May, the council approved an order approving the Joint Election Agreement with Alpine ISD for the May 7 elections.

The next city council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, at 5:30 p.m. in the council chambers and on Zoom.

## WOMEN • FROM 1

the contributions women have made in different fields - education, sports, business, music," said Qvarnstrom. "We are looking at this as a way for them to see models and to expand their thoughts about what they may want to do with their lives."

The Sul Ross State University's First Annu-

al Women's Conference, limited to area high school and Sul Ross students, faculty, and staff, will be held on Friday at Marshall Auditorium from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Later that evening, Naomi Ashley will perform at 7:30 p.m. at Marshall Auditorium. The concert is free and open to the public.

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Brief Explanatory Statements of Proposed Constitutional Amendments Special Election, May 7, 2022

#### Proposition Number 1 (SJR 2)

**SJR 2** proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for the reduction of the amount of a limitation on the total amount of property taxes that may be imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes on the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled in order to reflect any statutory reduction in the maximum compressed rate of the maintenance and operations taxes imposed for those purposes on the person's homestead from the preceding tax year.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for the reduction of the amount of a limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes on the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled to reflect any statutory reduction from the preceding tax year in the maximum compressed rate of the maintenance and operations taxes imposed for those purposes on the homestead."**

#### Proposition Number 2 (SJR 2)

**SJR 2** proposes a constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from property taxes for public school purposes from \$25,000 to \$40,000.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes from \$25,000 to \$40,000."**

*Published by The Office of the Texas Secretary of State, www.sos.texas.gov, 1/800-252-VOTE (8683).*

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Lee L. Webber, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist, has been practicing anesthesiology and chronic pain management since 2013.

Ms. Webber graduated from the Mayo Clinic Health Systems - Franciscan Healthcare School of Nurse Anesthesia with a Master of Science Biology in 2012. She received her Chronic Pain Management Practice Certification from the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology in 2013 and completed a Fellowship in Acute Surgical Pain Management from Middle Tennessee State University in 2020. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Anesthesia Practice from Rosalind Franklin University.

She holds active nursing licenses in Arizona, Illinois, Indiana, and Texas. She is a member of the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology (AANA) and the Arizona Association of Nurse Anesthesiology (AZANA).



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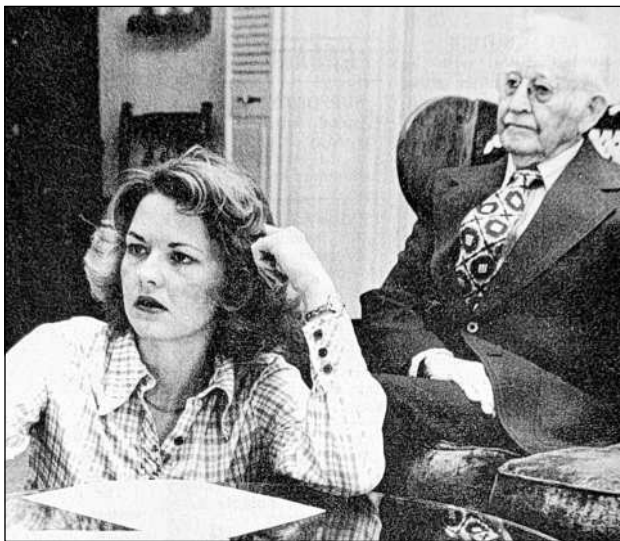
## LOOKING BACK

SERVING THE BIG BEND  
AND DAVIS MOUNTAINS COUNTRY

Alpine Avalanche

**March 24, 1977**

Alpine American Cancer Society Unit President Dr. Clifford Casey and Memorial Chairman Jan Gray discuss plans for the forthcoming residential crusade set for April 5.



**March 31, 1977**

Third grader Tracey Novak looks for some help with his rendition of horse and rider in Mrs. Carolyn Nelson's elementary school art class. Clockwise from Tracey is Kevin Snedecor, Clay Hartman, and Mero Cantu. March was Youth Art Month.

**March 31, 1977**

Vicki Spurlin and Karen Karvonen participate in the style show "Mother Goose Goes Modern" sponsored March 12 by the Alpine Woman's Club for the benefit of Big Bend Memorial Hospital.



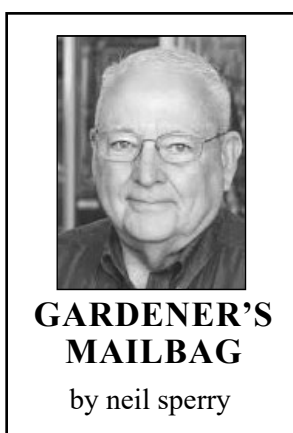
**March 31, 1977**

Bruce Marshall will exhibit many of his award winning paintings at Museum of the Big Bend at Sul Ross State University April 3 through May 1. Behind Marshall is the best know painting, "The Texas Citizen Soldier," which is in the U.S. Army's new National Infantry Museum.

# Propagating esperanza

**Dear Neil: I have tried numerous times to start a new esperanza plant from a cutting. I've tried water, and I've tried rooting them in soil, but I've met with failure each time. Maybe I don't know what a cutting is. How can I succeed?**

The answer I'll give for a home gardener will be different than a commercial greenhouse operator would use for shrubs and vines, including esperanza. If you are propagating Gold Star Esperanza, know that this is a plant that historically has been sold with a special tag indicating that it is a Texas SuperStar® plant selection. Commercial growers are required to sell plants with that tag attached, and consumers should always look for it to be sure they're getting the greatly improved form of



the species Tecoma stans. Your cuttings should be of semi-hardwood growth taken in early summer. They should be four inches long, and you will want to pinch out the tip inch of growth. Peel the leaves off the base of each cutting, and dip the bottom third of the cutting into a packet of rooting hormone powder. Tap off the excess powder, then carefully insert the cutting into a six-inch pot

filled with a mix of equal amounts of sphagnum peat moss and perlite that has been sprayed thoroughly to soak it completely. Repeat several times as you take five or six cuttings. When finished, water the pot again thoroughly. Cover the entire pot, cuttings and all, with a sheet of dry cleaner's plastic to hold in the moisture, and put it in a bright spot out of direct sunlight. The cuttings should begin to form roots within a couple of weeks at which time you can lift them out and pot them up individually.

**Dear Neil: When I cut my lantana back last week I saw the damage to my red maple tree's bark. It's 15 years old and 35 feet tall. It's 32 inches in circumference at one foot above the ground. What would have caused this,**

**and what should I do?**

I'm assuming this happened within the past 15 months. Thousands of Texas oaks and maples were damaged by the extreme cold. A process known as "radial shake" caused those trees' bark to separate in vertical splits. It did little harm to some of the trees, moderate damage to others, and it killed some — all dependent of the magnitude of the bark loss. Leave the bark in place, and stand by to see how the tree leafs out over the next couple of weeks. You may also want to hire a certified arborist to keep an eye on the tree on-site every few months this year.

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



Gold Star esperanza

**ACROSS**

- 1 TX George W. got a B.A. from here
- 5 gem found in Texas
- 6 TX Tarzan Ely, et al
- 7 a Dallas FM radio
- 8 the fleur-de-lis once flew over Texas
- 9 TX-based eatery: "Pizza \_\_\_\_\_"
- 12 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ dirt" (elderly)
- 17 what USAF has in Abilene (2 wds.)
- 20 TX Charley Pride's "Where \_\_\_\_\_ Her Memory?"
- 22 TX Willie Nelson's "Last Thing \_\_\_\_\_ the First Thing This Morning"
- 23 TX Roddenberry's full first name
- 24 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ marm" (teacher)
- 29 TX Dan Jenkins novel: "\_\_\_\_\_ solid perfect"
- 30 title of TX George Jones tribute album: "\_\_\_\_\_ Country"
- 31 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ gates" (heaven)
- 32 in Wharton County: El \_\_\_\_\_
- 36 UT has collection of poet \_\_\_\_\_ Nash
- 37 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ from a gusher" (quickly)
- 43 it gets you up in Reunion Tower
- 45 TXism for a bad defeat

**DOWN**

- 1 former newspaper for TX columnist Liz Smith: New \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ beats the eye with a sharp stick"
- 3 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ office business"
- 4 in Hidalgo County on highway 107
- 9 TX Trini Lopez's "If I \_\_\_\_\_ Hammer"
- 10 sellers of preowned autos (3 wds)
- 11 TX senator Cruz
- 47 braided hair: corn \_\_\_\_\_
- 48 TXism: "been \_\_\_\_\_ hard and put up wet"
- 50 TX Guy Clark's "She's Crazy for \_\_\_\_\_"
- 51 help needed signal
- 52 TXism: "wouldn't touch it with \_\_\_\_\_-foot pole"
- 53 TXism: "six of one, half a dozen of the \_\_\_\_\_"
- 54 \_\_\_\_\_ moss
- 55 Lone \_\_\_\_\_ State
- 56 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ dance!" (fight invitation)
- 58 Astro pitcher stat
- 59 TX film critic Reed
- 60 "Star Wars" defense proposal (abbr.)
- 12 TX Benson film: "\_\_\_\_\_ to Billie Joe"
- 13 actor in "Return to Lonesome Dove" (2 wds.)
- 14 Yo Lo \_\_\_\_\_ Creek
- 15 imitated
- 16 TXism: "working between \_\_\_\_\_" (night work)
- 18 \_\_\_\_\_ River
- 19 quilting or spelling
- 21 Cowboy Dalton Schultz pos. (abbr.)
- 24 George W. HUD sec., Preston (init.)
- 25 bidness "big dog"
- 26 nickname of country singer Merle
- 27 instructions to A&M cadets
- 28 Houston father-in-law: \_\_\_\_\_-te-ka
- 33 TXism: "naked \_\_\_\_\_ a jaybird"
- 34 Dallas grocer: \_\_\_\_\_ "Buddy" Minyard
- 35 Gov. "\_\_\_\_\_ " Ferguson
- 37 Coleman High class
- 38 leather strip
- 39 TX writer Horton
- 40 in Morris County on U.S. 67
- 41 TXism: "beats anything \_\_\_\_\_ saw"
- 42 lion's den
- 44 flag-burning case: Texas \_\_\_\_\_ Johnson nurse (abbr.)
- 49 Cowboy Bob Lilly \_\_\_\_\_ the NFL Hall of Fame in '80
- 50 Dak Prescott sack is a \_\_\_\_\_ of yards
- 57 airport transport

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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# Sports

## Alpine Lady Bucks softball still swinging

BY GLENN MCCARTHY  
Sports Correspondent

Head Coach Monica Salmon and her Lady Bucks varsity softball are off and running for a district title. The Lady Bucks are sitting at 3-6 this early in the season.

They narrowly lost their first game to the

Midland Christian Chargers, 5-4, to kick off the season on Feb. 15. They then played in the Concho Classic in San Angelo on the weekend of the Feb. 24-26, and the Seminole tournament on March 3-5. The Lady Bucks absolutely blasted the Crane Lady Birds, 26-6, in Alpine on

March 8, then suffered a 16-0 shellacking to the Pecos Eagles before spring break.

They lost 12-0 to Amarillo River Road Lady Wildcats, lost on the final play of the game to the Shallowater Mustangs, 5-4, and lost 11-0 to the Brownfield Lady Cubs. They did beat the

McCamey Lady Badgers, 7-3, in the second to last game before the break. They also lost a nail biter to the Dumas Lady Demons, 7-6.

Said Salmon on the season so far, "It's been a fast and furious pre-season with the majority of our games coming from tournaments

in the last 11 days. With two seniors, Jenica Portillo and Nicole Baca, and two juniors, Kiara Castillo and Alexis Rodriguez, it has certainly been a learning process thus far with several freshmen and sophomores stepping up to gain invaluable experience at the varsity level.

There have been some growing pains, but I can honestly say lessons have been learned. I have great faith we will bounce back, with rested bodies and minds, after this little break."

District play begins Friday, March 18, at home against Tornillo at 5 p.m.



Chloe Cordova

### Lady Bucks make All-District teams

Alpine Lady Bucks basketball shined in All-District, with Novah Carrasco taking Most Valuable Player, Chloe Cordova taking Offensive MVP, and Coach Rick Garcia receiving Coach of the Year honors.

Amory Aranda, Jenica Portillo, and Alexis Rodriguez were honored with spots on the First Team All-District; and Ali Maroney, Elyse Ramos, and Hope Dominguez made the Second Team All-District.

## Winning on the links



The Alpine Lady Bucks golf team took second place at the Monahans Tournament on March 15, with Piper Wash taking second medalist honors. Courtesy photo

## Lobos win two at Tucson Invitational

Baseball finished their trip at the Tucson Invitational with an 11-1 win over Macalester on March 12, and a 12-9 win over Augsburg on March 13.

"The last two weeks of non-conference have been good for us," said Head Coach Bobby Mesker. "We played a 2021 regional in Texas Lutheran and saw what we need to win games against opponents like that."

Against Macalester, Matthew

Wheeler plated Carsen Thor on a sacrifice fly for a 1-0 lead in the second.

Sully continued to put runs on the board with three more in the fifth. Thor first singled home Lindsey to make it 7-0. Moreno later brought in Thor on a sacrifice fly before Wheeler came around on a passed ball for a 9-0 lead.

Macalester got on the board with a run in the bottom of the

fifth to make it 9-1. Lindsey brought in Karels with a ground-out in the sixth for a 10-1 score.

The Lobos brought in the final run of the game when Roiz scored on an error for an 11-1 lead that eventually went final.

On Sunday, Augsburg got out to a 4-0 lead with two in the first and two in the second.

Ortiz put Sully on the board in the second with a single to plate Thor. Lorenz soon tied the game

with a three-run shot, scoring Peyton Kennard and Ortiz for a 4-4 tie. Jorge Marquez later doubled home Karels and Lindsey for a 6-4 lead after two.

Isaac Gallego took the mound in the ninth and retired the side in order. He finished with two strikeouts for his first save of the season in the 12-9 win.

Sully is continues conference play at home against Belhaven on Friday, March 18.

### Fightin' Buck Schedule

#### Baseball

Mar. 18.....Greenwood @ Greenwood. 7 p.m.

Mar. 22.....Anthony @ Anthony 7 p.m.

#### Softball

Mar. 18.....Tornillo @ Alpine. 5 p.m.

Mar. 22.....Anthony @ Anthony 5 p.m.

#### Track and Field

Mar. 19 .....Fightin' Buck Relays @ Alpine

## Russell, Thor earn American Southwest baseball honors

Sam Russell earned American Southwest Conference Pitcher of the Week, and Carsen Thor was named ASC Co-Hitter of the Week in an announcement made March 14 by the conference office.

"It was a good weekend for our pitching staff and our

hitters pretty much across the board," said Head Coach Bobby Mesker. "I'm happy to see Thor and Russell recognized for the weekend they had."

The Lobos spent the past week at the Tucson Invitational. They went 3-0, picking up wins over Northland

College (13-1), Macalester College (11-1), and Augsburg University (12-9).

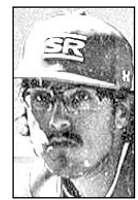
Russell finished with a new career-high, and tied a conference record with 17 strikeouts in a 13-1 win over Northland College.

He gave up one unearned run and one hit, and walked one.

Thor batted 7-for-12 for .583, with four RBI, six runs scored, three stolen bases, a double, and a triple.

The Lobos are currently 10-5 on the season, and 7-2 in conference.

Sully next hosts Belhaven on Friday, March 18, at Kokernot Field.



Sam Russell

**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**

**RIKKI VEGA**

Freshman Pitcher who has stepped up in the circle and started 4 preseason games for Alpine.

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# Customs and Border Patrol releases February numbers

“CBP’s February Monthly Operational Update reflects the continued economic rebound from the depths of the COVID pandemic, with CBP officers processing more than 2.8 million shipments in legitimate trade valued at more than \$236 billion. February also registered a slight uptick in the number of encounters along the Southwest border, with most individuals arriving from Mexico and the Northern Triangle, and the majority of noncitizens expelled under Title 42,” said CBP Commissioner Chris Magnus.

The large number of expulsions during the pandemic has contributed to a higher-than-usual number of migrants making mul-

multiple border crossing attempts, which means that total encounters somewhat overstate the number of unique individuals arriving at the border.

The number of unique individuals encountered nationwide in February was 116,678, a 2% increase from January. In total there were 164,973 encounters along the Southwest land border in February, a 7% increase compared to January. Of those, 30% involved individuals who had at least one prior encounter in the previous 12 months, compared to an average one-year re-encounter rate of 14% for 2014-2019.

More than 75% of encounters were single adults, with 126,151 en-

counters in February, an 11% increase compared to January.

Encounters of unaccompanied children increased 37%, with 12,011 encounters in February compared with 8,760 in January. In February the average number of unaccompanied children in CBP custody was 520 per day, compared with an average of 295 per day in January. Encounters of family unit individuals decreased by 17%, from 31,998 in January to 26,582 in February, which is a 69% decrease from the peak of 86,631 in August 2021.

CBP nationwide total encounters through February were 967,743, with 189,602 for February alone.

# Energy development summit scheduled

The Borderlands Research Institute at Sul Ross State University invites those who are interested in how best to minimize the impacts of energy development on natural resources in Far West Texas to attend a summit on Healthy Lands and Energy Development scheduled in Midland on April 6.

The summit will explore ideas for reducing potentially negative impacts of energy development through collaborative, voluntary projects that engage landowners, community leaders, and energy companies.

The summit is the

latest effort of the Respect Big Bend coalition, which is working to engage a broad constituency of Big Bend community members to better inform them on recent energy projections and potential impacts on communities and conservation values, and to develop creative strategies to conserve the resources and communities of the region.

BRI is taking the lead on local stakeholder engagement efforts, and in response to Respect Big Bend recommendations, recently announced the creation of a Center for Land Stewardship and

Stakeholder Engagement. The center will provide resources to landowners and land managers to help minimize energy development impacts, and is coordinating the Healthy Lands and Energy Development Summit.

The summit is sponsored by the Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation and BRI. The summit will be held from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on April 6 at the Midland Horseshoe Arena. Register by April 1 at [respectbigbend.org/events/summit-on-healthy-lands-and-energy-development/#register](https://respectbigbend.org/events/summit-on-healthy-lands-and-energy-development/#register).

# New play to open at Sul Ross

When Della, a sweet-natured Christian baker, is asked to make a cake for a gay wedding, she’s forced to re-examine her beliefs and definition of love. This is the story of “The Cake,” a comedy by Bekah Brunstetter, presented by the Sul Ross Theatre Program, and opening Friday, March 25, in the Studio Theatre.

“The Cake” was first produced in 2017 by the Echo Theatre Company in Los Angeles. “The Cake” opened its off-Broadway premiere in 2019 at the Manhattan Theatre Club. Brunstetter, writer and producer for hit NBC show “This

is Us” and the Starz series “American Gods,” was inspired to write “The Cake” during the Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission Supreme Court case and by her own father’s opposition to same sex-marriage, a view with which she disagrees.

“The Cake” deals with issues of religious freedom and same-sex marriage from a very personal perspective,” said director and Associate Professor of Theatre and Communication Marjie Scott. “With news articles and court cases, it’s easy to take sides based

only on our own beliefs, but when the issue touches us in a personal way, it’s a lot more complicated. The play is also hopeful and funny, which is refreshing in these polarized times.”

“The Cake” runs weekends March 25-April 10 in the Studio Theatre on the Sul Ross Alpine campus, with performances at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays. “The Cake” contains mature themes, language, and partial nudity. Parental guidance recommended. For tickets, contact [finearts@sulross.edu](mailto:finearts@sulross.edu), or call 432-837-8218.



## CITY OF ALPINE SURPLUS CAR AUCTION PUBLIC NOTICE

Want your own police car? Need a tractor? Desire a dually? The City of Alpine is holding a public auction on Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 9am. Vehicles from every department will be available for bidding “AS IS”. We are advertising the auction from El Paso to Presidio so don’t miss your chance to bid on dozens of City surplus vehicles.

And the good news gets better because after you buy your vehicle(s) at auction, the City of Alpine will gladly leave you to your new purchase without further ado.

We’ll see you out at the Alpine Recycle Center - “15” Acres on Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 9am:

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Vehicle makers available for auction include Chevrolet, Dodge, Ford and GMC, visit [www.cityofalpine.com](http://www.cityofalpine.com) closer to auction date for year, make and model details.



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### Aviso Público de Casa Abierta

TxDOT 2023 – 2026  
Programa de Mejora de Transporte Rural a Nivel Estatal (RSTIP)

El Departamento de Transporte de Texas (TxDOT) El Distrito de El Paso llevarán a cabo tres jornadas públicas de puertas abiertas y una reunión virtual para TxDOT 2023-2026 Programa de Mejora del Transporte Rural en todo el Estado (RSTIP). El territorio de planificación y programación del distrito es de 21,700 millas cuadradas que cubren seis condados en el estado de Texas, incluido el Condado de El Paso, Condado de Hudspeth, Condado de Culberson, Condado de Jeff Davis, Condado de Presidio, y Condado de Brewster. El RSTIP es un programa de proyectos de corto alcance desarrollado por el distrito en cooperación con las organizaciones de planificación rural (RPO) que cubre un periodo de cuatro años. El TIP rural del distrito para la revisión trimestral del STIP de la primavera de 2022 contiene una lista priorizada de todos los proyectos, incluidos los proyectos regionalmente significativos propuestos para financiamiento estatal, federal, y financiamiento local en todas las áreas del distrito TxDOT de El Paso fuera de los límites de la Organización de Planificación Metropolitana de El Paso.

Las jornadas de puertas abiertas públicas se realizarán en las siguientes ubicaciones (todas las puertas abiertas tendrán la misma información):

- **Reunión pública virtual - lunes 28 de marzo de 2022** de 4:00/3:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT) hasta las 6:00/5:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT)
  - a través de Zoom [shorturl.at/dnoJ4](https://shorturl.at/dnoJ4)
  - Para participar por teléfono marque (346) 248-7799, ID del webinar: 861 8159 1969. El código de acceso es 032 822
- \*\* Esta reunión virtual se grabará y se publicará en [TxDOT.gov](http://TxDOT.gov) durante dos semanas hasta el viernes 15 de abril de 2022.
- **Van Horn - martes, 29 de marzo de 2022** de 4:00/3:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT) hasta las 6:00/5:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT), en el Centro de Convenciones y Oficina de Visitantes de Van Horn, ubicado en 1801 A. West Broadway, Van Horn, Texas 79855
- **Alpine - miércoles, 30 de marzo de 2022** de 4:00/3:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT) hasta las 6:00/5:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT), en el Centro Cívico de Alpine, ubicado en 100 North 13th Street, Alpine, Texas 79830
- **Presidio - jueves, 31 de marzo de 2022** de 4:00/3:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT) hasta las 6:00/5:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT), en el Centro de Actividades de Presidio, ubicado en 1400 East O’Reilly Street, Presidio, Texas 79845

Se alienta a todos los miembros de la comunidad interesados a asistir a la jornada de puertas abiertas y proporcionar comentarios sobre el RSTIP 2023-2026. La jornada de puertas abiertas se llevará a cabo en inglés. Algunos materiales impresos pueden ser proporcionados en español. Se recomienda a las personas interesadas en asistir a la reunión que tengan necesidades especiales de comunicación, necesidades de alojamiento o que necesiten un intérprete, que se comuniquen con Lauren Macias-Cervantes (915)790-4200 o por correo electrónico a [Lauren.MaciasCervantes@txdot.gov](mailto:Lauren.MaciasCervantes@txdot.gov). Las solicitudes deben hacerse a más tardar cinco (5) días hábiles antes de la casa abierta al público. TxDOT hará todos los esfuerzos razonables para satisfacer estas necesidades.

La información sobre el RSTIP está disponible para la revisión en [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) (palabra clave El Paso Rural STIP), en la reunión pública o puede obtener una copia en varias ubicaciones de TxDOT, que incluyen: la Oficina de la Sede del Distrito de El Paso ubicada en 13301 Gateway Boulevard West en El Paso, la Oficina del Área de Alpine ubicada en 2400 North Highway 118 (por la autopista Fort Davis) en Alpine; y las Oficinas de mantenimiento de TxDOT: Dell City en FM 1437; Sierra Blanca en 700 FM 1111; Van Horn en 2001 Van Horn Drive (US 90), 1.5 millas al sur de la ciudad; Fort Davis en 104 Musquiz Drive (SH 118); Marfa en 809 West San Antonio (US 90); y Presidio en East FM 170.

Para obtener información adicional sobre la reunión pública, la documentación del proyecto o cualquier otra pregunta relacionada con el proyecto, por favor comuníquese con Rebecca Reyes al (915)790-4200 o por correo electrónico a [Rebecca.Reyes@txdot.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Reyes@txdot.gov). Los comentarios públicos, tanto verbales como escritos, pueden presentarse en el horario de puertas abiertas al público. Después de la jornada de puertas abiertas, los comentarios escritos pueden enviarse por correo al Departamento de Transporte de Texas- El Paso, atención a Rebecca Reyes RE: 2023-2026 RSTIP, 13301 Gateway Blvd. West, El Paso Tx 79928 o por correo electrónico a [Rebecca.Reyes@txdot.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Reyes@txdot.gov). Los comentarios escritos deben enviarse por correo antes del viernes 15 de Abril, 2022 para formar parte del registro oficial.

TxDOT está llevando a cabo o ha llevado a cabo la revisión ambiental, la consulta y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes federales aplicables el medio ambiente para este Proyecto 23 U.S.C. 327 y un Memorandum de Entendimiento del 09 de Diciembre, 2019, y ejecutado por FHWA y TxDOT.

### Public Open House Notice

TxDOT 2023 – 2026  
Rural Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (RSTIP)

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) El Paso District will conduct three public open houses and one virtual meeting for the TxDOT 2023-2026 Rural Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (RSTIP). The District planning and programming territory is about 21,700 square miles covering six counties in the state of Texas including El Paso County, Hudspeth County, Culberson County, Jeff Davis County, Presidio County, and Brewster County. The RSTIP is a short-range program of projects developed by the District in cooperation with rural planning organizations (RPO) that covers a four-year period. The District Rural TIP for the Spring 2022 Quarterly STIP revision contains a prioritized listing of all projects including regionally significant projects proposed for state, federal, and local funding in all areas of the TxDOT El Paso District outside the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization boundaries.

The public open houses will be held at the following locations (all open houses will have the same information):

- **Virtual Public Meeting – Monday, March 28, 2022** from 4:00/3:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT) until 6:00/5:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT). Participants can join:
  - via Zoom [shorturl.at/dnoJ4](https://shorturl.at/dnoJ4)
  - via telephone (346) 248-7799, webinar ID: 861 8159 1969. Passcode: 032 822
- \*\* This virtual meeting will be recorded and posted to [TxDOT.gov](http://TxDOT.gov) for two weeks until Friday, April 15, 2022.
- **Van Horn - Tuesday, March 29, 2022** from 4:00/3:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT) until 6:00/5:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT), at the Van Horn Convention Center and Visitors Bureau, 1801 A. West Broadway, Van Horn, Texas 79855
- **Alpine - Wednesday, March 30, 2022** from 4:00/3:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT) until 6:00/5:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT), at the Alpine Civic Center, 100 North 13th Street, Alpine, Texas 79830
- **Presidio - Thursday, March 31, 2022** from 4:00/3:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT) until 6:00/5:00 p.m. (CDT/MDT), at the Presidio Activity Center, 1400 East O’Reilly Street, Presidio, Texas 79845

All interested community members are encouraged to attend the public open house and provide feedback to the 2023- 2026 RSTIP. The open house will be conducted in English. Some printed materials may be provided in Spanish. Persons interested in attending the meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs, or need an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Lauren Macias-Cervantes (915) 790-4200 or via email at [Lauren.MaciasCervantes@txdot.gov](mailto:Lauren.MaciasCervantes@txdot.gov). Requests should be made no later than five (5) working days prior to the public open house. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Information about the RSTIP is available for review at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) (keyword El Paso Rural STIP), at the public meeting, and/or a copy may be obtained at various TxDOT locations, including: the El Paso District Headquarters office located at 13301 Gateway Boulevard West in El Paso, the Alpine Area Office located at 2400 North Highway 118 (Fort Davis Highway) in Alpine; and the TxDOT Maintenance offices: Dell City on FM 1437; Sierra Blanca at 700 FM 1111; Van Horn at 2001 Van Horn Drive (US 90), 1.5 miles south of town; Fort Davis at 104 Musquiz Drive (SH 118); Marfa at 809 West San Antonio (US 90); and Presidio on East FM 170.

For additional information about the public meeting, project documentation, or for any other project related questions, please contact Rebecca Reyes at (915) 790-4200 or [Rebecca.Reyes@txdot.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Reyes@txdot.gov). Public comments, both verbal and written, may be submitted at the scheduled public open house(s). After the public open houses, written comments may be mailed to the Texas Department of Transportation - El Paso, Attention: Rebecca Reyes: 2023-2026 RSTIP, 13301 Gateway Blvd. West, El Paso TX 79928 or emailed to [Rebecca.Reyes@txdot.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Reyes@txdot.gov). Written comments must be submitted and/or postmarked by Friday April 15, 2022 to be part of the official record.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 9, 2019 and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

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

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## ALPINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Alpine Independent School District is accepting applications for an immediate opening for the position of campus secretary. Qualifications include: ability to multi-task; organizational, communication, interpersonal, and computer skills, including competency with MS Word and Excel.

Application Procedure: Submit district auxiliary application (may be downloaded from <http://www.alpine.esc18.net> under District/Employment), resume of experience, and credentials to:

Verl O'Bryant, Principal  
Alpine High School  
300 E. Hendryx Avenue  
Alpine, Texas 79830  
Email: [vobryant@alpineisd.net](mailto:vobryant@alpineisd.net)

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

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# After Fat Tuesday, the season of Lent

Many people in southwest Texas celebrate lent. Lent is an observation of the 40 days (about one-and-a-half months) Christ fasted in the desert. It is observed by many church denominations, most prominently Roman Catholic. Beginning on Ash Wednesday each year, observers are called upon to give up luxuries, and abstain from eating meat on Fridays until Easter.

In lieu of meat on Fridays, many people and restaurants will serve fish of some sort. As you know, living in West Texas good fish is not always easy to come by,



## HEAD OVER MEALS

by kara gerbert

but there are some commercially good options.

If I am looking for non-battered fish options, my go-to brand is Orca Bay. They offer options such as salmon, flounder, ahi tuna, cod, and mahi mahi. While I like all of them,

my favorite is salmon. Now granted, this will not rival fresh caught, next day at the farmer's market in northern Washington state salmon, but it is a tasty option for the last frontier.

So what is my preferred way to make salmon on you ask. First remove the salmon from the freezer, and place it in the refrigerator overnight to thaw. To begin the preparation, I preheat my oven to 350 degrees before I remove the salmon from the refrigerator. I like to finely chop up about half a medium sized white or yellow onion and slice a lemon crosswise to add

to the top of my salmon for added flavor.

I like to serve it with some sort of vegetable side and wild rice. There are numerous options for preparing frozen fish filets that you can find online if you are not accustomed to preparing it yourself. All you must do is ask Google, and in seconds you will have a plethora of Friday Lenten options at your fingertips. Here is wishing you all good eating in the season of Lent.

Questions, comments, or suggestions? Contact Kara at [foodie9372@gmail.com](mailto:foodie9372@gmail.com).

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## Salmon Fillet

Ingredients:  
1 package salmon filets  
1/2 medium white or

yellow onion  
1 or 2 lemons  
Olive oil  
Lemon pepper

### Directions:

Once they have thawed, place the filets in a glass baking pan such as Pyrex, and coat it with olive oil. Then sprinkle the filets with lemon pepper, and add the chopped onion and lemon slices to the top of the filets, and use the juice of half another lemon to squeeze onto the fish.

Place in the oven, and

bake for about 15 minutes, or until filets flake easily with a fork.

If your filets have skin on them, place them skin side down in your baking dish, making sure to coat the bottom of it with olive oil to help keep it from sticking.

At this point the salmon is ready to eat.



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For a full Job Description and application, visit: <http://www.brewstercountytexas.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Brewster-CountyMagistrate-Jail-Assistant-Clerk.pdf>  
Applications may be printed from our online link or picked up in person. Please complete an application and resume and submit to the Brewster County Sheriff's Office at 201 W Avenue E, Alpine, TX 79830 or you may leave it with Applications and resumes may also be emailed to [sheriff.dodson@co.brewster.tx.us](mailto:sheriff.dodson@co.brewster.tx.us).  
For questions, contact 432-837-3486

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