

New principal focuses on smooth transition

BY ROXANNE HILL
Staff Writer

Although back to school is still a month away, administrators and teachers at Alpine ISD are diligently prepping for the 2022-2023 school year with new beginnings and a clean slate filled with excitement and anticipation.



Jarrett Vickers

Alpine ISD will also be welcoming a new high school principal, Jarrett Vickers. A 16-year veteran in the education field, this will be Vicker's second year at the district, having taught high school government, economics, and athletics last year. Before then, Vickers relocated to Alpine from Shamrock up in the Panhandle, where was the athletic director and head football coach for three years. He now makes Alpine his home, along with wife Amanda who is athletic director

See PRINCIPAL • 6

Tax and fee increases on city's radar

BY ROXANNE HILL
Staff Writer

The City of Alpine held its regularly scheduled council meeting on July 19, and plenty of discussion ensued on the prospect of increasing taxes and utility and service fees as ways to balance the proposed 2022-2023 budget.

Mayor Catherine Eaves, City Manager Megan Antrim, and council members Judy Stokes, Ward 1, and Jerry Johnson,

Ward 5, all voiced full support for raising the proposed tax rate.

Antrim said no tax rate had yet been set, and that was dependent on information received from the certified tax roll. She has been working with Brewster County Appraisal District Chief Appraiser Denise Flores and her staff, who are preoccupied with taxpayer protests.

"There have been a lot of recommendations to increase our



Megan Antrim

taxes, not just from the council but from the public as well," said Antrim.

She added that the council recommended increasing fees for animal control, permits, the municipal pool, the Civic Center, and other city services. Some fee increases mentioned included a \$2 increase for residents' water meters that would possibly allow hiring an additional salaried city employee at \$67,000 annually.

Gas Utility Director Randy Guzman recommended a \$1.50 increase for continued maintenance, which would bring in an additional \$32,000 to the city.

Staffing was another concern for Antrim's proposed budget, with employee salaries including a 3% cost of living increase and other possible pay raises. She indicated she would be working on what the proposed tax rate will look like.

See COUNCIL • 6

Rodeo Exes back in town



Team roping at the S.A.L.E. arena in Alpine was just one of the many activities lined up for the Sul Ross State University annual exes weekend. Other rodeo events, a social, a golf tournament, and much more drew the alumni to town.

Avalanche photo by Gail Diane Yovanovich

INSIDE



FEATURED

See sports on pages 8-9.

Rainfall totals at Alpine-Casparis Airport

20223.75"
July0.82"



Burn Ban ON

INDEX 16 pages

Opinions P.4

Sports P.8-9

ClassifiedsP.14-16

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



Viva Big Bend returns for its 11th season

BY SHAWNA GRAVES
Contributing Writer

Viva Big Bend returns for its 11th season July 27-31 with live music in Alpine, Marathon, Marfa, Fort Davis, and Terlingua. More than 60 shows are scheduled, showcasing musicians featured from past years.

"Every Viva brings variety to the area," said Viva Big Bend founder and organizer Stewart Ramser.

The round-up of emerging and established artists brings an array of talent spanning five days, with many bands playing in the area for the first time.

This year's festival will see increased shows at venues, with some bands playing two shows to give attendees a chance to see them.

"There's so much happening simultaneously, there's no way you can catch it all," Ramser said.

Cibolo Creek will host three evenings of music. One of those acts features first time



Bands will perform at more than 60 show at this year's Viva Big Bend.

Courtesy photo

Viva Big Bender but longtime established country music artist Jack Ingram. Ingram's musical career includes a 2006 number one hit, "Wherever You Are," along with his more recent

studio album, "Marfa Tapes," a collaboration with Miranda Lambert and Jon Randall released in 2021.

This year features an entire lineup dedicated to El Paso mu-

sic with five bands from El Chucotown playing Friday night at Railroad Blues in Alpine. The lineup showcases styles ranging

See VIVA • 6

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OBITUARIES

See OBITUARIES • 3

Dennis Earl "DE" Bryant



Dennis Earl Bryant left his earthly home on July 10, 2022, to be reunited in heaven with his beloved daughter April. He leaves behind a devoted family - his wife Trish; his daughter and son-in-law Cristy and David Schuler; his dear grandsons Jack and Jett Philpott; his brother Pete and wife Rose and their children Gary, Petey, Jennifer, and Mandy; his brother-in-law Bain Ward and wife Jackie; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Dennis was born on Feb. 11, 1948, in San Angelo, Texas, to LaVerne and Earl Bryant. He graduated from Alpine High School in 1967 where he was a proud member of the Fightin' Bucks football team. His athletic prowess led him to obtain a football scholarship at the University of New Mexico. He left UNM to serve in the U.S. Army in Vietnam from June 1970 to August 1971 where he rose to the rank of an E6 sergeant.

When he returned to the U.S., he graduated from

Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas. All the while, still in love with his high school sweetheart, he then married the love of his life, Trish in 1972. This July 22, 2022, would have been their 50th wedding anniversary.

Dennis Bryant leaves behind a legacy of patriotism, teamwork, and honor that impacted the lives of countless young men. He absolutely loved coaching football, and he loved turning young boys into men. He strongly believed in developing the character of his athletes, and that football, albeit hard work, should also be fun.

He began his coaching career in Marfa, Texas, and culminated in Midland, Texas, at Midland Lee High School. His coaching career led him and his family throughout the West

Texas towns of Odessa, Monahans, Abilene, Kermit, Alpine, and Garden City. Through the years he coached basketball, track, golf, and most influentially, football. Perhaps his most exciting moments were being on the Midland Lee Rebels staff that won three consecutive Texas High School state championships.

He was well-respected not only by his players, but also by other coaches in the world of Texas High School football. He was selected by his peers to serve on the Texas High School Board of Directors and the All-Star selection committee, and coached in a North-South All-Star game.

The outside accolades of his life pale in comparison to his love and devotion to his family. DE was an original "girl dad." He raised his daughters to be athletic, fierce, and self-assured warriors. He attended their games, meets, and practices, and instilled in them a love of God and country as well as fairness.

DE and Trish moved to Georgetown in 2008 to be

closer to their daughters Cristy and April and of course, grandsons, Jack and Jett. Coach Bryant was a terrific dad, and an even better Papa. He was a regular spectator at Jack and Jett's games, as well as working on pass plays in the back yard. His pride in his grandchildren was evident, and his influence on them unmeasured. His grandsons strove every day to earn his respect and meet his expectations.

Dennis Bryant loved life and loved people. He enjoyed every day to its fullest, whether it be playing golf or eating a meal. He never met a stranger, and could put anyone at ease. Even when dealing with his own health issues in recent years, he couldn't help but brag to anyone who would listen about his grandsons' accomplishments. He was especially proud on two counts for this coming year, the first being that Jett would be playing Liberty Hill High School football, and the other being Jack's appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy.

However, he was con-

cerned about missing any of the boy's upcoming events since it was getting more difficult to climb those bleachers. Rest easy Coach, you now have a front row seat to watch all that they will accomplish. We love you,

and miss you terribly.

A Celebration of Life was held on July 19, 2022, in the Chapel of Ramsey Funeral Home in Georgetown, Texas. A reception followed the service in the Reception Hall of Ramsey Funeral Home.

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Lucia V. Valenzuela



At the age of 82, Lucia Valenzuela passed away peacefully with her loved ones by her side on Dec. 2, 2021, two days before her 83rd birthday.

Lucia, known to everyone as Lucy, was born Dec. 4, 1938, in Terlingua, Texas, to Jorge and Jesusita Valenzuela. She graduated from Alpine High School, and soon after she was married 68 years to the love of her life, Robert L. Valenzuela.

Lucy retired from First National Bank in Alpine, Texas, after working there for 25 years. Later in life, she moved to Gilbert, Ariz., to be closer to family.

Lucy is survived by

her husband, Robert Valenzuela, and their daughters Luana Ward, Lisa Rubio and spouse Samuel Rubio, and Lorraine Valenzuela. She is also survived by her eight grandchildren and their families.

Lucy was a beautiful person inside and out. You would always see her with a smile on her face,

and she was friendly to everyone, whether she knew them or not. Lucy was devoted to her Catholic faith, always praying for loved ones and friends. She considered herself incredibly blessed by the frequent opportunities to surround herself with family, and getting to treasure the time she spent alongside her beloved husband.

Lucy is, and always will be, missed and loved by family. She has taken a piece of her husband's and daughters' hearts with her.

Family and friends are invited to attend her celebration of life.

The Rosary will commence on July 23, 2022,

at 9:30 a.m. in Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, 406 South Sixth Street in Alpine, followed by the Catholic Mass at 10 a.m.

the ALPINE



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- Susie Gonzales

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Bear activity closes trail at national park

Effective immediately, the Window Trail in the Chisos Basin in Big Bend National Park is closed to public use until further notice.

This emergency closure is due to significantly increased bear activity in the narrow trail corridor, and the safety of both the bears and the public is paramount. Both the upper and lower Window Trail trailheads are closed, and signs have been posted.

Park Superintendent Bob Krumenaker said,

“National Park biologists are monitoring the bear activity, and we will open the trail as soon as the bear activity in this area declines to normal levels. Our goal is to protect both the bears and park visitors. It’s their home - we’re the guests.”

The Mexican black bears in Big Bend National Park are a success story. When the park was established in 1944, bear sightings were very rare and infrequent. In the mid 1980s visitors began reporting more and more

bear sightings in the Chisos Mountains. Over the years through migrations from Mexico, the bears have re-established themselves in the park, with a stable population without human intervention, which is also a rare event.

In the interest of protecting natural resources, as well as for safety reasons, park visitors are asked to adhere to the Window Trail closure. Entering this closed area would be a violation of federal regulations.



Partnership program benefits West Texas landowners

The Borderlands Research Institute and the Texas Agricultural Land Trust are joining forces with the USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service to implement landscape-scale conservation initiatives across the Trans-Pecos in West Texas. The effort is fueled by a \$3.5 million commitment from the NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program, which will help fund innovative conservation approaches on private lands, including habitat restoration efforts, conservation easements, and ecosystem services.

“This will be a game-changer for conservation efforts in West Texas,” said Dr. Louis Harveson, who is the Dan Allen Hughes, Jr., BRI Endowed Director and professor of Wildlife Management at

Sul Ross State University. “Through this collaboration with the Texas Agricultural Land Trust and by partnering with private landowners, we’ll be able to implement a variety of conservation initiatives to address some of the most critical natural resource priorities in the Trans-Pecos, including grassland and riparian habitat restoration and enhancement.”

BRI is a vital hub for natural resource research and management in the Trans-Pecos region, and is the lead organization for this effort. TALT will provide the expertise for all conservation easement agreements, as well as evaluation of ecosystem services and assessing ecosystem services compensation options.

A conservation easement is a voluntary legal

agreement that allows landowners to retain title and management of their property, while forever protecting the land from development. Ecosystem services markets are among the most innovative voluntary frameworks to advance conservation. With more than 95% of land in Texas privately held, private landowners are instrumental to successful conservation efforts.

NRCS’s Regional Conservation Partnership Program funding provides opportunities for conservation partners to collaborate one-on-one with farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners throughout the nation to implement systems that conserve water and soil resources, improve the health of wildlife habitats

and increase climate resilience. To date, RCPP has leveraged partner contributions of more than \$1 for every \$1 invested by USDA, resulting in nearly \$3 billion collectively invested in conservation on the nation’s private lands.

Landowners will soon be able to apply for funds for a variety of conservation projects across the Trans-Pecos. Evaluating the effectiveness of funded projects is a key element of this program. BRI will actively monitor the results, synthesize the results, and deliver associated recommendations to area producers and conservation partners to maximize impact. Applications will be available online later this year on the BRI website, bri.sulross.edu.

The Alpine of Cowboys are Back!

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COWBOYS RETURN JULY 25- JULY 31! COME OUT AND JOIN US.

OBITUARIES

FROM 2

Timothy James Brown

Timothy James Brown passed away on July 5, 2022, of natural causes.

He was preceded in death by his mother and father. He has a brother and two sisters still living in Montana.

He was a maintenance man at McDonald Observatory in Fort Davis, Texas, before his passing. He also worked at Napa auto shop and Quarter Circle

Hotel in Alpine, Texas, previously.

Tim was born in Lewistown, Mont., on June 14, 1964. He was a Desert Storm Veteran as he was a sergeant in the U.S. Army.

He held various jobs after his tour. He was a top notch locksmith on underground mines, a ranch hand, a parts delivery person, and a maintenance man for more than

one business. He took pride in his work ethic, and there was nothing he could not fix or repair.

He will truly be missed by his family, friends, and loved ones. We love and miss you, Tim...love, your family and friends.

Online condolences may be left at alpinememorialfuneralhome.com.

Services have been entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home.

VIVA BLOCK PARTY

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JULY 27-31

Multiple Bands All Weekend- Anothy Ray Wright will be playing from 12p-2p on Friday (July 29th) and Blan Scott will be playing from 12p-2p on Saturday (July 30th). These events are free and open to the public. Free Beer and Refreshments



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OPTIONS TO ATTEND VBB: Festival wristband (good for all shows), pay cover charge at the door of each venue and/or check out the free, open-to-the-public shows.

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*You will need to show your government-issued identification when redeeming your wristband. The town listed on that ID needs to be within Brewster, Jeff Davis or Presidio Counties. A Sul Ross State University ID or local law enforcement ID will also be accepted. This ticket is non-refundable, but is transferable - that person will only be able to redeem it if they have one of the IDs mentioned above. Offer expires July 25, or while supplies last.

Opinions

ONLINE POLL

RESULTS

IN LIGHT OF THE UVALDE TRAGEDY AND SEVERAL OTHER RECENT MASS SHOOTINGS, WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT STAND ON GUN CONTROL?

RESULTS

The Second Amendment still stands-I Have the right to bear arms. Period.

53% (126 votes)
Automatic and semi-automatic weapons should definitely be banned, stricter laws and background checks are needed, and red flag laws should be universally in effect and enforced.

41% (98 votes)
Complete gun control is the only solution-the government should confiscate all weapons from private ownership.

Total votes: 238 6% (14 votes)

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Now the Avalanche asks:

- Will today's high motor fuel prices keep you from traveling this summer?
 - Absolutely! With the outrageous price of gasoline and diesel fuel, I plan to stay close to home this summer.
 - I will likely do a lot less traveling this summer, but I still plan to take a driving vacation.
 - Not at all. It is what it is, and it won't stop me from traveling.

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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ALPINE AVALANCHE (014 800) is published every Thursday morning at 704 East Holland Ave., 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.



Time to reflect on COVID-19

Thursday, March 12, 2020, at 3:56 p.m., I received the following text message from my daughter, Elena.

"Well, the rest of my season is canceled as of right now so y'all might be seeing/hearing stuff, but please don't try calling me or texting me about it because for one, I'm upset, and for two, I have no answers. Just a heads up."

Elena was in her senior year at University of Anchorage in Alaska on a track scholarship, and was working towards Nationals.

Friday at 11:38 p.m., I sent Elena the following text.

"I know you are still upset about how all this went down but something to consider - you are an exceptional athlete, and an even more exceptional young lady. You are in the top 3% of the population, in general. In Alpine, .00002%. I know this



ELEAZAR CANO
Brewster County Judge

still are. Adversity, obstacles, and set-backs that are beyond our control is what I'm about. It's what you are about, but you are 22. I'm 54. What are you going to do with this opportunity? Make yourself proud! That's all that matters. Love you! Dad"

One may ask, what does this have to do with coronavirus, 9-11, and this thing called El Cucuy? Fast forward to this morning, Sunday, March 15, 2020. I attended church. Father Beto presided. His opening re-

marks were, "Pray for those affected by the coronavirus, but especially all those being affected by the fear virus."

That statement hit home. I immediately thought of Elena.

As most of you may know, I am a therapist at heart. In my prior life, most exchanges can be compartmentalized but a few stand out. One case in particular I have shared many times. I refer to it as the "El Cucuy" story. El Cucuy can best be described as the Mexican version of the boogey man.

In summary, El Cucuy is fear of the unknown. Fear is a very powerful motivator. Fear of the unknown, such as terrorism, disease, illness, lack of information, or too much information being exchanged by way of social media, constant news feeds, etc., can petrify the entire world. Or it can instill hope,

love, and meaning.

In March 2020, my heart sank when I received the text message from Elena.

On Friday night, as I responded, I felt a sense of purpose. Question - as an inhabitant of this rugged, remote desert in Far West Texas, were you motivated by fear, or did you trust your elected officials and others in positions of leadership in your community to provide direction and guidance during times of uncertainty and confusion? The only way to combat the coronavirus was by preventing the fear virus from spreading. That day, I was not asking for your vote at the polls but rather your vote of confidence.

Elena placed first this year at her Regional track meet in San Francisco, and made it to Nationals. Thank God for COVID!

Standing up for compassionate use

As Texas Agriculture Commissioner, I am responsible for licensing more than 850 entities that currently grow, handle, sample, or process hemp in Texas.

Hemp and marijuana are two different names for the flowering plant known as cannabis. The legal difference between the two is the concentration of tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC. THC is what gives the high feeling people associate with cannabis. By law, marijuana has a concentration of THC that is 0.3% or higher. Hemp has a concentration of THC that is 0.3% or lower by dry weight.

It is our overall state policy on cannabis that I will focus on today as I share my thoughts with my fellow Texans. In a free society, government should only make something illegal for a powerful reason or set of facts. The freedom of the people to make their own choices and decisions is a fundamental principle of a



SID MILLER
Texas Agriculture Commissioner

of the 1920s, complete with gangs, corruption, and widespread violence against the lives and liberties of American citizens.

As I look back, I believe that cannabis prohibition came from a place of fear, not from medical science or the analysis of social harm. Sadly, the roots of this came from a history of racism, classism, and a large central government with an authoritarian desire to control others. It is as anti-American in its origins as could be imaginable.

Today, in the 21st century, this must end. We must start with a new chapter and a

new attitude about the use of cannabis, especially when it comes to its potential medicinal benefits.

As of today, 39 states, including politically conservative states such as Oklahoma, Utah, and Florida, have legalized cannabis for compassionate use - also known as medical marijuana.

Beyond that, 18 states, including conservative Western states like Arizona, Montana, and Alaska, have legalized commercial cannabis sales to all adults.

While I am not sure Texas is ready to go that far, I have seen firsthand the value of cannabis as medicine to so many Texans.

Those states that have gone before Texas are providing real world data and research about what they are doing right, and what can be improved. But the roots for good Texas policy on cannabis have already been planted.

I worked diligently to bring hemp farming to Tex-

as, and supported the development of products such as hemp oil for medical use. These products are making a difference in the lives of many where other medicines have failed.

When four out of five Texans support compassionate use, we need to have state law and state policy reflect that desire. I will urge our state legislature and our governor to make that a top priority in the upcoming legislative session.

It is time for all of us, including the governor, members of the Texas Legislature, and others to come together and set aside our political differences to have an honest conversation about cannabis - where we have been, where we are going and what role government should properly play.

We owe it to our fellow Texans, especially those who are suffering, to lead or just get out of the way if we cannot formulate effective cannabis policy for Texas.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A big thank you!

On behalf of the Big Bend Area Law Enforcement Officers Association and the Brewster County Sheriff's Office, I would like to extend our gratitude for your kindness and generosity with

donations that helped make our July 13 meeting such a huge success.

Thank you to McCoy's - Robert Murphy, Outwest Feed and Supply, Ranch House Too, Celebration Liquor, High Desert Hunt-

ing, TransPecos Bank, West Texas National Bank, Alpine Small Animal Practice and Large Animal Services - Dr. Mary Dodson, Tractor Supply, WTG Fuels, Century 21 of Fort Stockton - Jennifer Gonzales, Bella

Terrazas, Porter's, and Alice Williams.

A special thank you to Angel Torres, as always for his hard work and service.

Ronny Dodson
Brewster County Sheriff

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Washington, D.C. 20510-4305
202-224-2934

Ted Cruz
United States Senate
185 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4306
202-224-5922



Heard on the STREET

Do you have any pets, and what do you like best about them?



Robert Flanders, Alpine: I have a dog-she's a mix. Marilyn McGee brought her from the Cayman Islands. She is a rescue from a shelter there. Even though she is at least nine, she loves to play. First thing when I get home, she wants to play with her squeaky toy. We walk her east of town. She likes to chase lizards.



Andrew Boorse, Alpine: Being greeted when I come home. I have a German shepherd.



Julie Edwards, Alpine: My favorite pets that I have are Alaskan Malamute dogs. I like their loyalty and intelligence. I just love them too much! When it starts getting cooler, I like to bring one out, and have him hang out.



Donnie Bason, Alpine: Their love they give back. I have eight cats and two dogs. My cats are like my kids - they are my family. I love my cats. I was raised with cats, not dogs, but since I've been in Alpine, I have a dog. If you love cats, they love you back.



Rosemary Ketring, Alpine: I have a dog, a pit bull. His name is Lewis. He lives in my house, and shares space with me. He is a rescue, and it's been fun learning the relationship, learning through adopting something that's already four years old.

Send your community events to editor@alpineavalanche.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 21
Alpine Ambassadors Meeting, 6-7:30 p.m., at the BBT conference room. Sponsored by BBT.

JULY 30
Viva Veterans of the Big Bend, 7-11 p.m., sponsored by the Legion Riders at American Legion Post 79, 306 W. Sul Ross Ave. in Alpine. Free music and dancing, open to the public. Proceeds from concession sales will benefit area student scholarships.



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 BBT conference room, 5th St. and Brown St.
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, 4 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 bbccchorale.wixsite.com/bbcc.

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Alpine's 14U West Texas Flying Squirrels baseball players AJ Llanez, Josh Solis, Alec Ramos, and 12U player Brody Mesker pause for a photo in late June during a skills competition held in Richardson. The West Texas Flying Squirrels, a select West Texas boys baseball team, went to Dallas-Fort Worth for the USSSA World Series held June 25-30.

Photo by Elizabeth Mesker

Wiggins receives award



Alpine High School student Kaitlyn Wiggins received her Lone Star Degree last week at the FFA state convention in Fort Worth. The honor is the highest degree that the Texas FFA awards. It recognizes students who have developed an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program throughout their participation in FFA.

Courtesy photo

PET OF THE WEEK

Alpine Humane Society Pet of the Week is Raudy, a one-year-old mixed breed pup with a great smile. Mixed breed dogs, affectionately known as mutts, make great pets! Why?

Mutts may be healthier and live longer. Mutts are generally thought to be healthier than purebreds, with a lower probability of genetic defects due to genetic mixing, making their average lifespan theoretically greater than purebred pets.

Mutts may have more moderate personalities. Since they can claim multiple ancestral ties, they are less likely to fall into any extremes, be it extremely aggressive or extremely shy.

Mutts' uniqueness is something to celebrate. Even some dog shows and competitions are officially allowing mixed-breed dogs to participate.

When you adopt a mutt, you help reduce pet overpopulation. Mutts are still at a disadvantage - three-fourths of the millions of pets in shelters are mutts. But you, and pet parents like you, can help.

Concerned about not knowing enough about a mixed breed dog's health or genetic background? DNA tests for dogs reveal some of the breeds in your dog's makeup, providing clues about health and behavior.

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. Monday 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.

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Packer Cows and Bulls: \$8.00 to \$12.00 lower

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300# - 400# Heifers	179.00 to 184.00
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500# - 600# Steers	162.00 to 191.00
500# - 600# Heifers	161.00 to 169.00
600# - 700# Steers	158.50 to 162.00
600# - 700# Heifers	135.00 to 161.00
700# - 800# Steers	154.00 to 158.50
700# - 800# Heifers	Not well tested
Packer Cows	70.00 to 75.00
Canner & Cutter Cows	60.00 to 67.00
Packer Bulls	83.00 to 88.50
Feeder Bulls	74.00 to 78.00
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Signing the beam at the museum



Museum of the Big Bend at Sul Ross State University hosted a group to “Sign the Beam” on July 13. The topping out event celebrated a milestone in the construction of the museum’s new wing - the beam’s placement at the building’s highest structural point. Those in attendance were invited to sign their names, and add well wishes for success and for safety of the crew.

Courtesy photo

COUNCIL • FROM 1

City Attorney Rod Ponton voiced his displeasure at the Texas Legislature limiting cities’ ability to raise taxes from around 10-15% at once, and recommended a gradual increase annually.

“Unless you increase it a little bit every year, you are never going to get up to a level where you are really providing the revenue you need for the services the citizens demand,” he said.

In other business, Antrim discussed correspondence the city received from state Senator Cesar Blanco (D-29) and state Repre-

sentative Eddie Morales (D-74) regarding city priorities and challenges in preparation for the upcoming Texas legislative session which begins in January 2023. Antrim said state legislation was causing challenges for the city and affecting funding, such as for weather emergencies. She was concerned with preparation for those types of emergencies, and admitted the city was not fully prepared to deal with that again, referring to the winter storm in February 2021.

Building Permit Technician Jessi-

ca Boorse announced that there was a new building official who began duties on July 18, but the unnamed individual was shrouded in mystery as Boorse and city officials failed to disclose the person’s name.

Finally, the council unanimously approved the renewal of Director of Tourism Chris Ruggia’s contract for the fiscal year 2022 to include a 5% salary increase.

The next regularly scheduled city council meeting is set for Tuesday, Aug. 2, at 5:30 p.m. in the city council chambers and via Zoom videoconferencing.

VIVA • FROM 1

from acoustic to high-intensity cumbia. The Pie Sisters will start the set with their light-hearted harmonizing folk and R&B sibling act.

Headliners Frontera Bugalú, a high-energy blend of accordion inspired cumbia, will bring dance friendly border vibes back as a Viva fan favorite. Blues/indie act Feline Fox, self-described alternative hip-hop artist Stan Z, and folk singer and songwriter Emily Davis will round out the evening.

Tomar and the FCs, a soul band from Austin and another Viva fan favorite, are headlining the Railroad Blues on Saturday night.

Lots of family-friendly events are scheduled throughout the week, including a kid show featuring Austin-based artist Mr. Will at the Alpine Visitor Center Pavilion Saturday morning at 11. This year, the Alpine o6 Cowboys baseball team collaborated with Viva to bring a concert to Kokernot Field after

their game with the Weimar Hormigas. The band is San Antonio’s Mitch Webb and the Swindles, a rockin’ conjunto group often compared to the Sir Douglas Quintet, and featuring legendary Texas musicians Joe Reyes and Dave Wasson on guitar, Ed Gough on drums, Odie on bass and Michael Guerra on accordion.

The weekend ends with multiple options for Sunday shows, including Doug Moreland at Chateau Wright Winery

and Vineyard in Fort Davis, and a brunch show at French Co. Grocer in Marathon featuring Butch Hancock.

Purchase tickets and see the whole lineup at VivaBigBend.com. Tickets at the discounted price of \$50 are available for locals at Porters until July 26.

PRINCIPAL • FROM 1

at Sul Ross State University.

Vickers has been working feverishly around the clock in preparation for the transition to the new high school, leading up to the first day of classes on Aug. 23. Though construction delays have plagued the district over the past year, Vickers is determined to ensure a smooth transition, including collaboration with AISD Superintendent Dr. Michelle Rinehart.

“It’s a very fluid situation,” said Vickers about the ongoing construction issues. “It can change weekly, it can change daily, it can change hourly. Dr. Rinehart has been absolutely amazing to work with and coordinate with. Hopefully, there are fewer moving parts after the first of the year than there were last year, when there was construc-

tion going on, and we were in the old building.”

Regarding priorities Vickers hopes to focus on in the upcoming school year, safety of students and staff will be paramount and one of his key goals, along with full-fledged support of all the teachers and students during the transition to the new high school building.

“Every member of our staff and our faculty is there for our students,” said Vickers. “It has been very easy to work with the math department, the English department, the front office, and teachers in other campuses to do what’s best for the students.”

Vickers is grateful for the AISD Board of Trustees and Rinehart for placing their trust in him, and he wants to ensure the community that he will step up to get the job

done every day he shows up to work, giving 110% of what he has.

This year the district will have an opportunity to start off with a clean slate, and Vickers is enthusiastically looking forward to being a part of a district that embodies innovation, student achievement, and establishing strong bonds and a sense of community pride.

“I can’t tell you how amazing the students are,” Vickers exclaimed. “I have been all over the state of Texas, and I have told people that the students in Alpine are something different. There is something amazing you don’t see everywhere else you go, and I think that’s a tribute to them, it is a tribute to their parents, and it is a tribute to their community.”

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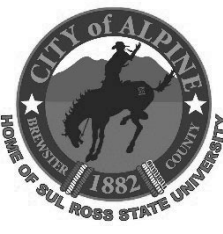
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF ALPINE THAT A CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD AT 5:30 P.M. ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022 REGARDING THE **FIRST READING OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 PROPOSED BUDGET.**

THE CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON **TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, AT 5:30 P.M.** IN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 803 WEST HOLLAND AVENUE TO HEAR CITIZEN VIEWS AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED BUDGET.

A COPY OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET IS AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY BY EMAILING CITY_SECRETARY@CI.ALPINE.TX.US OR BY REQUESTING A COPY IN PERSON AT CITY HALL MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. AND 1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO (432) 837-3301, OPTION 1.



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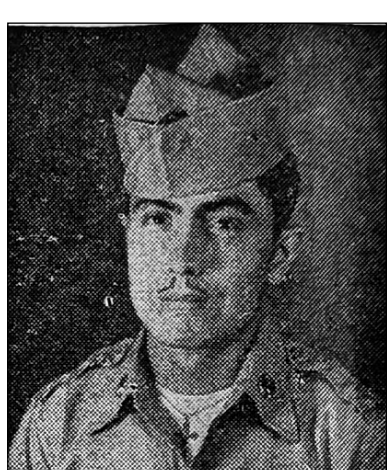
March 21, 1941



May 14, 1954
Capt. And Mrs. C.D. Wood, residents of the Big Bend for nearly half a century, observed their 50th wedding anniversary at their home here last Friday. The couple was married May 8, 1904, in the English colony of Hong Kong, China. They met when Capt. Wood was stationed overseas with the U.S. Army and Mrs. Wood was teaching in the Philippines.

September 4, 1953

Two more Alpine prisoners of war have been released the past week, bringing the number of freed Alpine POWs to three. The last two released were Cpl. Alfonso Natera, Jr., 23, and Cpl. Francisco C. Durant, Jr., 24. Natera had been a prisoner since July 5, 1950.



February 9, 1951
Jim Harkey, a junior in Alpine High School, has a lamb of which he is justly proud. Reason is that little lamb now outweighs Jim - a sturdy 150 lbs. Ray Willoughby provided the lamb for the AHS FFA department last Sept. 12, the lamb weighing 73 lbs. at that time.

Go for trumpet creeper instead of roses

Dear Neil: Two or three years ago we planted three small Amethyst Falls wisterias at the base of our pergola thinking they would bring cooling shade in the summer. They survived the cold of February 2021 and kept on growing, but when they reached the top of the pergola the plants began dying. What would have caused it, and what can we do to save the plants? If we must replant, should we use Lady Banksiae roses?

Amethyst Falls is a selection of American wisteria, so it's not exactly the same as the much more common Chinese wisteria you see across Texas. Whether that could be any part of the issue or not, I can't answer. Because of rose rosette virus and the fact that we still don't have

GARDENER'S MAILBAG
by neil sperry

a reliable way of dealing with it, I'd probably suggest Madame Galen trumpet creeper as a better replacement.

Dear Neil: I have a white mallow planted next to a red mallow. One of the flowers on the white plant was half and half. Is this a new plant, or did it just pick up the color from the darker bush?

Actually, neither. Since it's growing on the white bush, it's still part of the white bush.

And if it had "picked up" a change in color from the red plant (via pollination), that would have happened in the next generation as new plants germinated and grew from seed. This is a chance mutation known as a chimera where distinctly different plant tissues grow side by side. There probably is a small section of the stem on which this flower grew that has this mutation. It's possible that you could propagate from that exact section and get more of these two-toned flowers if anyone ever wanted them, but I doubt it

would be easy.
Dear Neil: What is wrong with my Nellie R. Stevens holly? The plant beside it has some diseased leaves. I tried insecticide and fertilizer.

I've been growing Nellie R. Stevens hollies in Texas for more

than 50 years. I can guarantee you that this is not insect- or disease-related. These plants got too dry. Other than a very rare scale outbreak, Nellie R. Stevens hollies are almost pest-proof. But they give almost no warning as they are getting too dry. They do not wilt, and they barely change colors, shifting from a bright, handsome

green to a dull, olive drab. We water them and expect them to perk up again, but too often they end up turning completely brown. I wish I had better news.

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



Amethyst Falls wisteria

- ACROSS**
- TXism: "take a ___ at it" (try)
 - TXism: "dry ___" (bad oil well)
 - TX or IA town
 - Paris, TX FM
 - TXism: "table graze"
 - low mil. rank (abbr.)
 - TX Eric Nadel radio feature: "___ from Baseball's Past"
 - Alamo's Travis drew ___ the dirt
 - international bldg. at Houston airport is named after this U.S. Rep. Mickey
 - this "Deke" was an original astronaut
 - TXism: "___ 'til something better comes along"
 - TXism: "he's ___ as greased lightning"
 - actress Patricia of TX-based "Hud"
 - they're "upon you" in Texas
 - this Gary had last hit (a homer) in old Arlington Stadium
 - this Lovett was 1st president of TX Rice University
 - fancy word for "dry"
 - Great Storm sent ___ tidal waves over Galveston (1900)
 - sources of Lyme Disease (2 wds.)

- TX Patrick Swayze 1989 film: "Next ___"
- before Jewel Osco ads, consumers knew Jim Meskimen as this (2 wds.)
- chicken-fried steak, e.g.
- Sam Houston State mascot "Bear"
- luminous radiation
- TXism: "___ snake can still bite" (be cautious)
- TXism: "out to pasture" (abbr.)
- Angelo
- motorcycle
- this Tinkle wrote Alamo book "13 Days to Glory"
- "one" in Mexico
- TX Ted Cruz's work time zone (abbr.)
- former country music net.
- this Muhammad beat TX Foreman "Easy Rider" actor (2 wds.)
- meaning of Indian word "tejas"
- TX Storm of TV's "My Little Margie"
- TXism: "tie up the loose ___"
- TX poet Naomi Shihab
- "let's ___ it!"
- Ken Paxton's title
- jazz instrument
- TXism: "got two left ___" (clumsy)

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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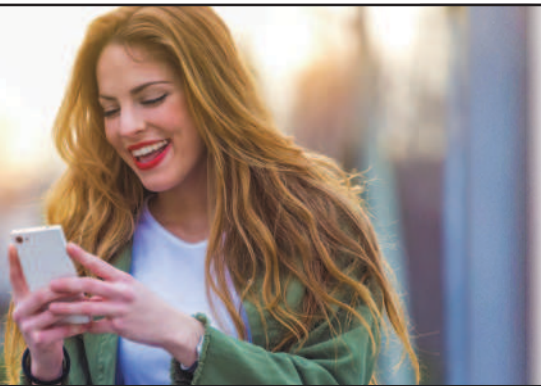
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Sports

Cowboys take series from Santa Fe

BY ETHAN EIBE
Staff Writer

The Alpine o6 Cowboys continued their march to the Pecos League playoffs by winning three of four at Kokernot Field against the Santa Fe Fuego, followed by splitting two games at Fort Marcy Ballpark in New Mexico.

It is always a slugfest between these two teams, and this year's series was no different.

Alpine scored early and often in a 14-6 win on July 11. Cowboys veterans James Prockish and Bryce Donovan both homered in the victory, providing plenty of cushion for left-hander Ridge Walker, who earned his first win of the season.

The Cowboys used a four-run fifth inning and a five-run eighth to defeat the Fuego the following day 10-7. Donovan homered for the third game in a row, and combined with Andrew Capone, Mark Traylor, and Josh Laurie to record 11 of the 13 Alpine hits.

A Wednesday doubleheader was rained out, and played the following day, July 14. After losing the lead late in game one, the Cowboys came back and won, a recurring theme this season it seems. With the bases loaded, nobody out, and the game tied at six, Traylor was hit by a pitch to force home the winning run, securing a 7-6 victory.

The Cowboys dropped the Kokernot finale in game two, falling 10-8. Cowboys starter Ryan Greco was knocked around by the Fuego bats in a seven-run third inning. Despite the Cowboys' comeback attempts, they could never get over the hump.

The series then shifted to Fort Marcy Ballpark in Santa Fe, N.M., for the final two games. The Fuego bats were just that — en Fuego — in the first matchup. Fort Marcy, notorious for its short fences and 7,200-foot altitude, saw nine combined home runs leave the field of play on July 15. Although Alpine hit five bombs to the Fuego's four, the Fuego made theirs count. Santa Fe outfielder Parker DePasquale teed off three times throughout the night, and recorded nine runs batted in. Prockish, Capone, Traylor, Buzz



Alpine o6 Cowboy Calvin Graves looks for a pitch against the Santa Fe Fuego.

Photo by Ethan Eibe

Shirley, and Manny Garcia went deep for Alpine, but it was not enough in an 18-10 rain-shortened loss.

For the first inning in the season finale the following day, it seemed the bad vibes had followed the Cowboys with Buzz Shirley on the mound. The southpaw allowed eight runs in the first inning on three Fuego home runs.

Manager Sean Persky must have unplugged the Cowboys and plugged them back in again because the bats finally woke up the following inning. A six-run outburst followed by three runs in the fourth and even more in the later innings allowed the Cowboys to finish the series on a happy note, winning 18-12.

Infielders Sam Dreistadt and Garcia recorded four and five hits, respectively. Traylor set yet another Cowboys record in the game, recording his 31st career double, passing Casanova Donaldson, Ely Gallego, and Lance My-

ers for first on the list. Traylor now holds the all-time Cowboys records in hits, runs batted in, home runs, triples, and now, doubles.

Alpine will now head north to Garden City, Kan., for their long-awaited rematch with the Garden City Wind, who swept Alpine in four games to open the season in southwest Kansas. The Cowboys currently sit 2.5 games back of the Wind for first place, so this five-game road series will likely decide who is the top team in the Mountain Division when the playoffs arrive in early August.

The regular season wraps up with seven straight home games against the Austin Weirdos and Weimar Hormigas from July 25-31. All games start at 7 p.m.

Cowboys Schedule

July 21-24 Garden City
Wind @ Garden City 6:35 p.m.
July 25-28 Austin
Weirdos @ Alpine 7 p.m.

o6 Cowboys hold Little League camp

BY ETHAN EIBE
Staff Writer

The o6 Cowboys reaffirmed their commitment to growing the game of baseball Monday morning by holding the organization's annual Little League baseball camp. Forty-five children ages 6-12 bounded onto Kokernot Field with bats and gloves in hand, ready to learn from the Cowboys players.

Team Manager Sean Persky welcomed the little ones, and split them into two groups based on age, with half of the kids heading to the batting cages and half remaining on the field for defense practice.

All-Star outfielder Mark Traylor and several Cowboys players led hitting drills in the cages, working with the youngsters on soft toss and hitting off the tee. Players rotated through five stations, and received personalized instruction from the Cowboys.

First baseman/Pitcher Buzz Shirley helped out Austin Smith-King of Midland with his batting stance.

"I really like being able to learn from the Cow-



Cowboys outfielder Andrew Capone throws a soft toss to Thomas Freeman of Pensacola, Fla., in the batting cages at Kokernot Field in Alpine.

Photo by Ethan Eibe

boys," Smith-King said. "It's so much fun being around the players."

Cowboys veterans Trey Silmon, James Prockish, Calvin Graves, and others gave the young players a crash course in defensive fundamentals. The other half of the camp started off with a round of catch before fielding ground balls practice at second base, and fly balls in the outfield.

Alpine outfielder Andrew Capone relished the opportunity to coach the young ballplayers.

"It means a lot to do this because I love to give back to the community.

It's awesome to see all of the kids and their parents come out here and support this team," Capone said. "It's always great when a kid remembers you from a game and you sign a ball for them, and now we get to give them pointers here at the camp. Even a simple conversation can mean so much to them."

The morning fun wrapped up with a frantic water balloon battle, where the kids wasted no time soaking each other and the Cowboys players. All the kids enjoyed a hot dog, chips, and a drink following the camp.

A strong finish in Dallas



Competitive boys baseball team West Texas Flying Squirrels 14U had a successful finish at the U.S. Specialty Sports Association Dallas Fort Worth World Series, placing third place for the 14U Division. The team, coached by Tyler Esparza, boasts elite players from Alpine, Crane, McCamey, Denver City, and Midland. Alpine's Alec Ramos, AJ Llanez, and Josh Solis form part of the team.

Courtesy photo

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Leading the band



Fightin' Buck band drum majors for the 2022 season are Head Drum Major Zoe Arredondo, Assistant Drum Major Alyssa Nunez, and Assistant Drum Major Jobre Evans.

Courtesy photo

Legends tee off at Alpine Country Club



Visiting golfers from Midland Jason Martinez, Gage Morrow, and Lance Luera, and Briar Holt of Kyle pause for a photo at the Alpine Country Club 2022 West Texas Legends Golf Tournament held July 8-10. The tournament honored long-time Alpine Country Club member and supporter Jeff Haynes.

Avalanche photo by Roxanne Hill

Alpine students recognized by ASC

A total of 99 student-athletes at Sul Ross State University have been recognized as Academic All-Conference by the American Southwest Conference for the 2021-2022 school year.

Students were recognized in every conference athletic event in which Sul Ross participates.

"I am incredibly proud of the academic performance of our student-athletes," said Athletic Director Amanda Workman. "Finding balance between athletics and academics is especially challenging, and many of our student-athletes do it so well."

To be eligible for Academic All-Conference honors, student-athletes must have been in attendance and completed at least one academic year at their institution. They must also have a 3.0 cumulative grade point average after the spring semester.

Alpine students recognized were Annika Canaba in softball and volleyball, and Camryn Hardin in softball.

Canaba was also named the Distinguished Scholar-Athlete of the Year for 2021-22 for volleyball by the ASC for the second year in a row, and earned the ASC Most Valuable Player, All-Conference First Team and AVCA All-Region Honorable Mention honors.



Sul Ross State University athlete Annika Canaba received student-athlete awards for the 2021-2022 school year.

Courtesy photo



Valeria excelled at the Comanche Relays this past year, running a 12.82, placing 2nd in Girls Division 1, 100 meter dash.

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Mediterranean mac and cheese

What comes to mind when you think about mac and cheese? Is it that quick and easy box of mac and cheese that you keep in stock because your kids are fussy eaters, or you are a broke college student? Is it that golden topped cheesy goodness you get when your cheese sauce is roux based and not some powdered, chemical substance? Or is it even that super creamy mac and cheese you used to be able to get at many restaurants? No matter what your idea of mac and cheese is, the folks at GOLO have produced a different take on an old time favorite.



heavy role in Mediterranean food, along with feta cheese. Feta cheese is where it's at. That salty tang it incorporates into a dish makes you almost feel as if you were sitting by the sea. Combine this Greek brined cheese with anything, and it makes it better, but adding it to pasta and vegetables is one step closer to foodie nirvana. And while this mac and cheese dish does not call for it, I personally might roast my onions, tomatoes, and garlic before adding it into the completed ingredient combination before baking. Hopefully, your family are not super picky eaters, and are up to trying something a little different as I am. This new take on an old favorite is just the place to start.



Mediterranean mac and cheese is still mac and cheese, but overall healthier than traditional mac and cheese. I know what you're thinking, it can't possibly be that good if it is not loaded with all the greasy calories of cheeses, butter, and heavy

cream. Says who? If you like anything about Greek food, this is right up your alley. Mediterranean food is heavily influenced by fresh vegetables, and while this recipe adds in pasta, it is whole wheat pasta. In fact, if one wanted to take it one step further, they make pasta from cauliflower and other vegetables as healthy alternatives to traditional pasta. Olives, spinach, and tomatoes also play a

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Mediterranean Mac and Cheese

<p>Ingredients: 1 cup whole wheat elbow or rotini pasta, uncooked 2 tablespoons butter ¼ cup red onion, chopped 1-½ cloves garlic, minced 2 tablespoons Whole Wheat flour 1 cup whole milk 1 cup fresh mozzarella cheese, shredded</p>	<p>or grated 2 ounces feta cheese, crumbled ¼ teaspoon dried oregano ¼ teaspoon dried thyme Sea salt and pepper 1 cup grape tomatoes, quartered 8 Kalamata olives, pitted and chopped 2 cups fresh spinach, chopped</p>	<p>Directions: Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Spray an 8"x8" baking dish with organic cooking spray. In a large pot, bring water to a boil and cook the pasta until just under al dente. In a separate pot, melt the butter over medium heat. Add the red onions, and sauté for 2-3 minutes. Add the garlic and cook for another minute. Sprinkle the flour over the top of the onions and garlic. Mix and cook for another 2 minutes. Incorporate the milk and cook</p>	<p>until boiling. Take the pot off the heat and add the mozzarella cheese and about 1/3 of the feta cheese. Incorporate until most of the cheese is melted. Add the oregano, thyme, salt, pepper, tomatoes, olives, spinach, and cooked pasta. Stir to combine. Pour everything into the greased baking dish, and sprinkle the remaining feta cheese on top. Bake for 20-25 minutes. The top will be golden brown when finished.</p>
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Big Bend Sector third quarter rescues

Big Bend Sector Border Patrol agents were involved in multiple rescues throughout the months of April, May, and June. Agents throughout Big Bend Sector rescued 150 individuals in distress this past quarter, raising the total number of rescues to more than 380 for the fiscal year. Twenty-seven of those were

attributed to rescue beacons strategically placed throughout the Big Bend Sector area of responsibility. "The preservation of human life is of the utmost importance to the agents throughout the U.S. Border Patrol," said Big Bend Sector Chief Patrol Agent Sean L. McGoffin. "Here at Big Bend Sector, we are proud of the men and women who engage in life saving measures on a daily basis regardless of the circumstances."



Big Bend Sector Border Patrol agents rescued 150 individuals in distress this past quarter. Courtesy photo

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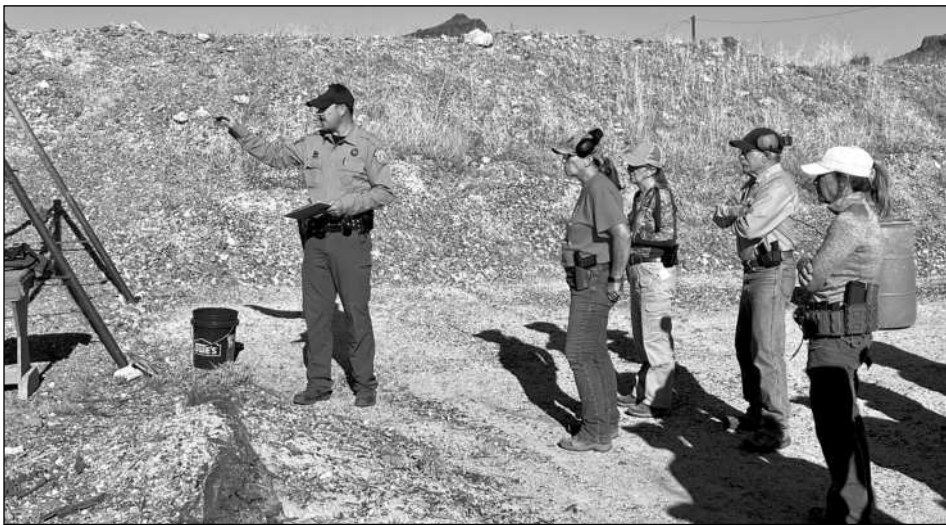
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Shooting match at the range



A Texas Parks and Wildlife Department three-gun match drew around 20 participants on July 16 at the Big Bend Sportsman Club range in Alpine. In the photo Game Warden Eric Wilmarth explains one of the three courses to Elaine Wilmarth, Jennifer Rozen, Joel Nelson, and Sylvia Nelson.

Avalanche photo by Gail Diane Yovanovich

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Reno Hopkins

What activities were you involved in during your senior year?

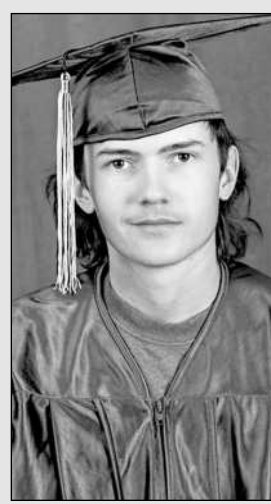
I was involved in athletics.

Who was your most influential teacher or coach through high school?

Mr. Fox because he has done a lot for me the past years and this year especially with my job.

What was your favorite moment the last four years?

My favorite moment the past four years was when I got my job at



Reno Hopkins
Out West.

What are your plans after high school?

I plan to go into welding.

Batter up for a bake sale



Rhyder Vasquez, 10, and mom Sarah Vasquez of Alpine are excited to welcome customers to their baseball themed bake sale on July 16 in front of Porter's. The bake sale was held to raise funds for Ryli Vasquez, 12, as he will be participating in the USSSA World Series in San Diego, Calif., from July 25-31. Ryli is the only player from Alpine in an El Paso-based travel elite baseball team, and will be attending seventh grade at Alpine Middle School this fall. The bake sale successfully raised \$900 which will go towards Ryli's travel expenses to San Diego.

Avalanche photo by Roxanne Hill

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Devotional Page Active hope

BY SUSAN CELAYA

One morning as I was walking along Fifth Street, a guy in a truck honked, put his hand out the window, and made an obscene gesture. Whether directed toward me or not, that incident saddened me.

A small, ugly action which I should have ignored instead grew in my mind to a symbol of all the meanness in our world - bullying, vengeful and vile political speech, hate crimes, shootings, and on and on. My heart breaks at the harm and hurt we human beings hurl at each other. How does our faith guide us to respond to such sad and disheartening circumstances?

As we read the scriptures, we're reminded that the grim situations on earth are nothing new. The world of the ancient Israelites was fraught with corrupt kings, infighting, bloody battles, and eventually subjugation and exile for the people of God.

The prophets described dismal situations, "For, look, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the peoples." (Isaiah 60:2)

The outlook was as bleak for God's people then as it may seem for us today.

But the dark words from Isaiah are followed by words of hope, "The Lord will arise on you, and his glory shall be seen on you."

Words of hope echo through the prophets, and the message of hope is amplified by the resurrection of Christ.

This Devotional and Directory are sponsored by these businesses who encourage us to attend worship services.

In 1 Peter 1:3 is our foundation for approaching our lives with Christian hope. "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

We have hope because the resurrection promises us better things to come.

But that hope isn't simply idle optimism. Christian hope is an active, energized, living hope. We regularly pray for God's kingdom to come and God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. Real hope leads us to participate with God now in bringing the kingdom to fruition. We demonstrate hope by boldly doing good with the confidence that God's realm of peace and justice and freedom and love is coming on earth.

A city bus driver in Denver described riders who were rude, hateful, and dismissive in their interactions with her, a dark-skinned woman.

Every morning she prayed, "Please, let me be patient. Let me be generous and kind."

Responding to difficult situations with kind-hearted goodness is one way to embody hope. When confronted with unkindness, react with the opposite. When overwhelmed with the evil in the world, do good and support causes that show love toward those in need.

Loving, all-powerful, all-knowing God, sustain us with your hope. Energize us with that hope so that we can radiate your goodness in the world. Amen.

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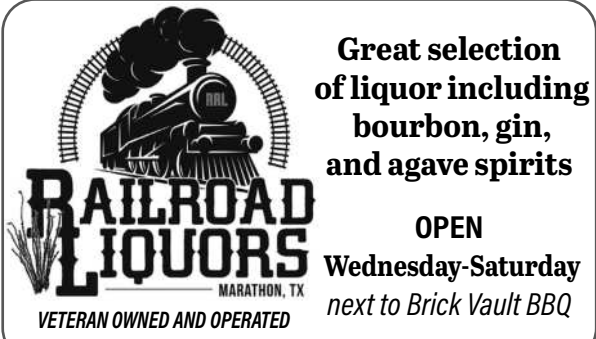
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☆☆☆☆☆☆



THE CITY OF ALPINE IS HIRING!

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

LEGAL NOTICE


Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit and Local Distributor's Permit (type P and LP) by Cruzdale, LLC dba Shot Time Liquors, to be located at 101 Medic Ln, Terlingua TX, Brewster County, Texas. Owners of said corporation are: Jolea Cruzan, Kristen Ausan, and Ian Ragsdale.

Bucks Sport Fan?


The Avalanche is currently looking for a sports editor.

Cover weekly Bucks sporting events. Get paid per story.

Call JT Maroney or email. publisher@alpineavalanche.com



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DO NOT WAIT until your septic system shows signs of failure to have your septic tank pumped out!

Waiting can mean complete clogging and an expensive septic system repair bill. Periodic septic tank pumping is far less costly than septic tank repair or replacing the entire septic tank system.

We recommend septic system cleaning every 2-5 years.

Remember: Maintenance is much cheaper than replacement!




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Tire Disposal

Legally dispose of scrap tires!

(TCEQ Permitted facility).
Fees: \$8/semi tire and \$6/auto, pickup, and trailer tires when delivered to West Odessa, TX.
No super singles, agriculture or machinery tires.
Add \$4/tire extra for pick-up service in Ft. Stockton. & \$6/tire extra for pick-up service in Marathon & Alpine.
(50 tire minimum for pick-up service)
Open daily during daylight hours. Cash, cards, checks okay.

Call 432-614-1865 for more information.

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HELP WANTED
FORT DAVIS STATE BANK
ALPINE

FORT DAVIS STATE BANK is accepting applications for a **Full-Time Teller position** in Alpine. Requirements for this position are flexible hours, basic office and computer skills, experienced 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) 837-1888. Fort Davis State Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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TWIN PEAKS
is hiring a Fulltime assistant manager trainee starting at \$12.50 an hour.

After completing a minimum of 90 days training and successfully meeting a series of benchmarks, a promotion to Assistant Manager and a raise to \$15.50 will be given.

Please apply in person.



TWIN PEAKS LIQUORS

2609 West Highway 90 in Alpine, Texas

Court Clerk
Administrative Assistant

Brewster County Justice of the Peace is currently seeking qualified applicants for the position of Court Clerk/Administrative Assistant for the Justice of the Peace office. Position is open until filled.

Application and job description can be printed from the Brewster County Texas website under employment or be picked up at the Justice of the Peace office at 201 W Ave E. Please submit application and resume in person or call 432-837-6214.




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
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Member FDIC.

TransPecos Banks,
P. O. Box 9600, Alpine, Texas
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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
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Text "mcdworkforme" to 36453
Mcdonalds.com/careers
900 E. Avenue E Alpine Texas

Are you interested in helping women from your community get free breast and cervical cancer screening?

Please reach out to us to apply for the CHW – Community Healthcare Worker position. As the CHW, you would be:

- Going out to the community to recruit participants
- Enroll participants who are eligible and provide simple health education
- Make sure that all paperwork is completed by the participant



PREVENTATIVE CARE HEALTH SERVICES

1605 N. Ft. Davis Hwy.
432-837-4812
pchsmedclinic.org



Village farms
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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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

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

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

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- **FULL TIME- NURSE SUPERVISOR**
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Must be licensed in the State of Texas, Alpine Location
- **PART TIME - DENTAL HYGIENIST,**
Alpine Location
- **PROGRAM COORDINATOR -**
Collaborate with team to ensure program process and outcomes.
- **HUMAN RESOURCE REP.**
(Bachelors required)
- **INSURANCE IN NETWORK CREDENTIALING REP.**
- **STAFF ACCOUNTANT**
Alpine Location

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Please call us before arrival
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PREVENTATIVE CARE HEALTH SERVICES

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

Illegals caught near Study Butte



On July 15 Brewster County deputies received a call of four individuals walking along Highway 118 north of Study Butte. Upon conducting a welfare check on the individuals, it was determined they entered the U.S. illegally from Mexico. They were referred to U.S. Border Patrol agents for processing.

Courtesy photo

Illegals apprehended

On July 12 Brewster County deputies, along with K9 Latek and U.S. Border Patrol agents, responded to a call from a concerned citizen south of Marathon reporting a group of suspicious persons who approached his residence. Upon arrival the suspects attempted to flee, but were soon apprehended. The seven suspects, illegal aliens from Mexico, were referred to Border Patrol agents for processing.

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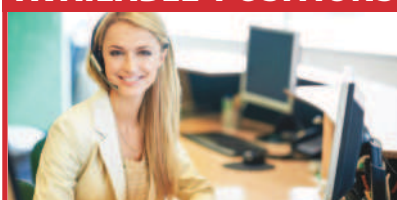
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Alpine Avalanche



AVAILABLE POSITIONS



Experienced Accounting Assistant

This is a great opportunity to work with the best in the Big Bend. We are seeking an experienced full-time Accounting Assistant. The ideal candidate will be well organized, able to multi-task, work under deadlines, possess excellent communication and analytical skills. This position will have an accounts payable focus, but other regular accounting duties will also apply. The ideal applicant will have General Ledger experience as well as the following qualifications:

- Have at least two years of accounting experience.
- Possess High school diploma or equivalent required.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite or related software.

Applicants must possess a valid driver's license and a good driving. Applicant may be required to work overtime or on weekends and holidays.

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For other excellent career opportunities with BBT, please visit our website at www.bigbend.com or www.indeed.com for a complete listing of positions.

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OR Mail a current resume to

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Alpine, TX 79830

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EOE Employer

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*Terms and Conditions apply.
BBT participates in E-Verify and promotes a Drug-Free Workplace.

Making Alpine beautiful



City of Alpine and Keep Alpine Beautiful Environmental Services Coordinator Adelina Beall and dedicated volunteers pause for a photo during a summer community clean-up on July 18. Volunteers pitched in, and collected 75 pounds of trash while perusing 1.53 acres and 0.21 miles of city streets and TxDOT roads.

Courtesy photo

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A note from Congressman Tony Gonzales...

It is a privilege to represent you in Congress.

If you run into issues with a federal agency, my staff and I are able to help. Here are a few things we are able to assist with.

- Passport Assistance
- Navigating Social Security benefits
- IRS claims
- Assistance applying for federal grants
- VA issues

I'm here to serve you.
Please contact us at
210-806-9920 or online
at Gonzales.House.Gov.

