

## Recent rains a bonus for area ranchers

BY ROXANNE HILL  
Staff Writer

The summer rainy season is in full swing, and for area ranchers can either be an overly optimistic outlook, or not enough rainfall to make a major effect, depending on many factors.

Luke Hendryx, Ag and Natural Resources Extension Agent for Brewster and Jeff Davis counties, said that in the arid climates of West Texas, livestock producers often deal with extremely dry conditions that are broken by high density monsoonal events.

"We receive most of our rainfall seasonally from July through October," he said. "Usually when we are getting rain out here, we are getting a whole lot at once. Our yearly average, most of it is right there at this time of year. It is great, and it has improved pasture conditions dramatically just over the past couple of weeks."

At Kokernot 06 Ranch, owner Kristin Cavness was also positive.

See RAIN • 6

## INSIDE



FEATURED

See Alpine High School fall sports Section B.

### Rainfall totals at Alpine-Casparis Airport

2022 . . . . . 8.66"  
September . . . . . 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.**



# AISD vies for grant-funded daycare

BY ROXANNE HILL  
Staff Writer

Alpine ISD Board of Trustees held its regularly scheduled meeting on Aug. 25, and a proposed daycare center and the 2022-2023 proposed tax rate were the main topics of discussion. Superintendent Dr. Michelle Rinehart indicated that the school district was currently applying for several grants to fund a future childcare center in Alpine.

"We have been working with a number of partners on this. It's been a community wide project," said Rinehart. "We are working with the Rio Grande Council of Governments, and Big Bend Regional Hospital has been a great partner and is interested in coming to the table as financial support."

The three grants include one through Texas

See AISD • 6



Alpine ISD Superintendent Dr. Michelle Rinehart and family.

Avalanche photo by Roxanne Hill

# Friday Night Lights return!



The Alpine Fightin' Bucks take the field in Clint on Aug. 26 to face the Clint Mountain View Lobos. The Bucks fell to the Lobos, but plan to avenge that loss against the Fort Stockton Panthers this Friday at Buck Stadium.

Photo by Noe Lujan

# International live music project premieres in Marfa

BY ROXANNE HILL  
Staff Writer

It's Marfa Lights Weekend, a time when the biggest festival comes alive to welcome a diverse, talented live music lineup, touring artists, and plenty of fanfare for both locals and tourists. This year, a unique live performance will take place on Sunday, Sept. 4, at the Marfa Visitors Center Pavilion, and will place Marfa on the map, joining the likes of Austin and Mexico City, as it brings its West Texas premiere of MXTX: A Cross-Border Exchange.

Presented by Ballroom Marfa, MXTX is a live performance, album, and open-source audio sample library crossing physical and social boundaries through collaborative exchange, and

it involves more than 40 DJ-producers and composers from both sides of the Rio Grande. Sarah Melendez, music curator at Ballroom Marfa, is excited to welcome all guests to this special international music project, which was commissioned by the non-profit contemporary arts studio thanks to the idea envisioned and brought to life by music curators.

"It was a pretty expensive thing they have been working on for the last three years that altogether brought these really incredible musicians," said Melendez. "Some are Grammy award winning musicians, really big deejays, a lot of big hitters in the music world of both Texas and Mexico. So, the project is meant to kind of bridge over the



MXTX: A Cross-Border Exchange, featuring members of the ensemble by Golden Hornet.

Courtesy photo

border of Mexico and Texas, through this musical exchange."

Some of the performers include Golden Hornet, an Austin based

non-profit led by Graham Reynolds whose mission is to commission new music, foster young and emerging composers, and pres-

ent adventurous works in non-traditional settings. One of Mexico's premier musical artists,

See MUSIC • 6

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## OBITUARIES

### Gloria "Grandma" Gallego



Gloria "Grandma" Gallego, peacefully passed away on Aug. 26, 2022, in Odessa, Texas. She was a long-time resident of Alpine, Texas. Gloria was the oldest daughter born on Dec. 18, 1930, to Jesus Portillo and Teresa Cobos. She married Joe Gallego, and they made a home in California, and eventually returned to Alpine.

Praying of the Most Holy Rosary will be held on Aug. 31, 2022, at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Alpine, with Mass of Christian

burial on Thursday, Sept. 1, 2022, at 10 a.m. with Father Pablo Matta officiating. Internment will follow at Holy Angels Cemetery in Alpine.

Gloria was a devoted sister, mother, and grandmother. Her grandchildren were her pride and joy, going above and beyond for

them. They will all miss her dearly.

Gloria worked hard, and made meaningful relationships throughout the years. She was known as Grandma. People would call her grandma around town, and she always responded happily with kindness and love.

Our mother had a humble spirit, and was always taking care of others. Thank you for all of your prayers and support during this time.

Gloria is survived by daughters Leticia Portillo (Noel Lopez) from El Monte, Calif., The-

resa Ramirez (George Ramirez) from Andrews, Texas, and Jennifer Lynn Morris (Johnny Ramirez) from Alpine; son James "Jimmy" Matthew Morris (Linda Morris) from Alpine; granddaughters Regan Seville Armendariz (Alexis Armendariz), Bo Madaline Morris, Mia Morris, and Naida Morris; grandsons Joseph Anthony Morris, George Jeffrey Ramirez, Jared Daniel Ramirez, Samuel Joseph Dutchover, Jr., James Matthew Morris, Jr., and Seth Noel Dutchover; sisters Bertha Garcia from Monahans,

Texas, Elma Schodts from Prosper, Texas, and Isabel "Chavela" Portillo from El Paso, Texas; brothers Jose Portillo (Marcella Portillo) from Monahans, Jesus "Chuy" Portillo, and Armando Portillo (Sylvia Portillo) from Monahans; and three great great grandchildren.

Gloria was preceded in death by her husband Joe Gallego; sister Julia Monclova; and brothers Luis Cobos Portillo, and David Portillo.

Honorary pallbearers

will be Sophia Dutchover, Christian Armendariz, and Andres Armendariz.

Pallbearers will be George Jeffrey Ramirez, Jared Ramirez, Sam Dutchover, Jr., Seth Noel Dutchover, James Matthew Morris, Jr., Joseph Anthony Morris, Alexis Armendariz, and Johnny Ramirez.

Online condolences may be left at [alpinememorialfuneralhome.com](http://alpinememorialfuneralhome.com).

Services were entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home.

### Margaret R. Martinez



Margaret R. Martinez, 99, of Marfa, Texas, passed away on Aug. 29, 2022, in Marfa.

Praying of the Most Holy Rosary will be held on Monday, Sept. 5, 2022, at 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Marfa, with Mass of Christian burial on Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2022, at 10 a.m. with Father Victorino Loresca officiating. Internment will

follow at Merced Cemetery in Marfa.

Margaret was born in Marfa on Nov. 15, 1922, to William and Esther Rice. She married Luis Martinez,

Jr. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by sons Ben Louis (Maria) Martinez, Oscar (Mary Lou) Martinez, Robert (Marion) Martinez, and Samuel (Michelle) Martinez; daughters Veronica (Michael) Campbell and Margie (Alonso) Mendoza; 21 grandchildren; 28 great grandchildren; and five great great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Luis Martinez, Jr., daughter

Monica M. Cantu, and son Augustin R. Martinez.

Pallbearers will be Louis A. Martinez, Benjamin Martinez, Daniel Mendoza, Christian Campbell, Marcus Nunez, and Benjamin P. Martinez.

Online condolences may be left at [alpinememorialfuneralhome.com](http://alpinememorialfuneralhome.com).

Services have been entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home in Alpine, Texas.

### Gloria A. Myers



Gloria A. Myers, 88, of Presidio, Texas, passed away on Aug. 20, 2022, in San Angelo, Texas.

Funeral services were held in Presidio, Texas. Rosary was on Aug. 27, 2022, followed by Mass at St. Teresa Catholic Church with Father Mike Alcuino officiating. Burial followed at Desert Hills Cemetery.

Gloria was born in Presidio to Alberto and Luz Spencer Armendariz on May 17, 1934. She was a graduate from Presidio High School. She married Herbert Myers in Presidio. She worked in the family business, Presidio Lumber Yard, up until her time of death. She had been in-

involved as a member and officer in the American Legion Auxiliary. She was also instrumental in the opening of the public library.

Gloria was preceded in death by her parents, husband Herbert, brothers Alberto, Jr., and Carlos Armendariz; sisters Eva Di Guilio, Julieta Rodriguez, and Luz Maria Selman; brothers-in-law Frances Di Guilio, Jose Rodriguez, and Thomas Pelton, Sr.; and sister-in-

law Martha Rohana Armendariz.

Gloria is survived by brothers Frank Armendariz and wife Quico and Luis Armendariz and wife Rebecca; sisters Olivia Hinojos and husband Ramon from Odessa, Texas, Rose Pelton from San Angelo, Laura Rohana and husband Pedro from Ojinaga, Chihuahua, Mexico; sister-in-law Imelda Armendariz; and numerous nephews and nieces.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Teresa Catholic Church in Presidio.

Online condolences may be left at [alpinememorialfuneralhome.com](http://alpinememorialfuneralhome.com).

Arrangements and services were entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home in Alpine, Texas.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

This notice only applies to a taxing unit other than a special taxing unit or municipality with a population of less than 30,000, regardless of whether it is a special taxing unit.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$ 0.466326 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$ 0.457882 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$ 0.533307 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2022 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for CITY OF ALPINE from the same properties in both the 2021 tax year and the 2022 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that CITY OF ALPINE may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that CITY OF ALPINE is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2022 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 AT 5:30 PM AT CITY OF ALPINE - COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 803 W HOLLAND, ALPINE, TX 79830.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, CITY OF ALPINE is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the City Council of CITY OF ALPINE at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

(List names of all members of the governing body below, showing how each voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase or, if one or more were absent, indicating absences.)

FOR the proposal: JUDY STOKES - WARD 1 / CHRIS RODRIGUEZ - WARD 2/ MARTIN SANDATE - WARD 4 / JERRY JOHNSON - WARD 5  
AGAINST the proposal: None  
PRESENT and not voting: None  
ABSENT: SARA TANDY - WARD 3

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](http://Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by CITY OF ALPINE last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by CITY OF ALPINE this year.

	2021	2022	Change
<b>Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)</b>	2021 adopted tax rate \$0.508345	2022 proposed tax rate \$0.466326	(Increase/Decrease) of (nominal difference between tax rate for preceding year and proposed tax rate for current year) per \$100, or (percentage difference between tax rate for preceding year and proposed tax rate for current year)% INCREASE - 2%
<b>Average homestead taxable value</b>	2021 average taxable value of residence homestead \$130,825	2022 average taxable value of residence homestead \$144,780	(Increase/Decrease) of (percentage difference between average taxable value of residence homestead for preceding year and current year)% INCREASE - 10.6%
<b>Tax on average homestead</b>	2021 amount of taxes on average taxable value of residence homestead \$665.04	2022 amount of taxes on average taxable value of residence homestead \$675.15	(Increase/Decrease) of (nominal difference between amount of taxes imposed on the average taxable value of a residence homestead in the preceding year and the amount of taxes proposed on the average taxable value of a residence homestead in the current year), or (percentage difference between taxes imposed for preceding year and taxes proposed for current year)% INCREASE - 1.5%
<b>Total tax levy on all properties</b>	2021 levy \$1,992,873.82	(2022 proposed rate x current total value)/100 \$2,038,391.37	(Increase/Decrease) of (nominal difference between preceding year levy and proposed levy for current year), or (percentage difference between preceding year levy and proposed levy for current year)% INCREASE - 2%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact Tax Collector, Sylvia Vega, Brewster County Tax Assessor/Collector at 432-837-2214 or [taxassessorcollector@brewstercotad.org](mailto:taxassessorcollector@brewstercotad.org), or visit [www.brewstercountytx.com](http://www.brewstercountytx.com) for more information.



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF ALPINE THAT CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD AT 5:30 P.M. ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 REGARDING:

**ORDINANCE 2022-08-03:** THE SECOND AND FINAL READING OF AN ORDINANCE LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES FOR USE AND SUPPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF ALPINE, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023; PROVIDING FOR APPORTIONING EACH LEVY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES; AND PROVIDING WHEN TAXES SHALL BECOME DUE AND WHEN THE SAME SHALL BECOME DELINQUENT IF NOT PAID

**ORDINANCE 2022-08-04:** THE SECOND AND FINAL READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 94 - TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES; AMENDING ARTICLE I - IN GENERAL; AMENDING SECTION 94-35 - POLICE ESCORT FEE TO THE ALPINE CODE OF ORDINANCES; REPEALING ORDINANCE 2019-03-01; ABOLISHING THE REQUIREMENTS OF A FEE FOR REQUESTED POLICE ESCORT SERVICES FOR MANUFACTURED HOMES.

THE CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 AT 5:30 P.M.** AT CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 803 WEST HOLLAND AVENUE TO HEAR CITIZEN VIEWS AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED ORDINANCES.

COPIES OF THE ORDINANCES ARE AVAILABLE AT CITY HALL, 100 N. 13<sup>TH</sup> ST, DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS BETWEEN 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. AND 1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. COPIES MAY ALSO BE OBTAINED BY EMAILING [CITY.SECRETARY@CI.ALPINE.TX.US](mailto:CITY.SECRETARY@CI.ALPINE.TX.US). QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT 432-837-3301, OPTION 1.

# Maintaining healthy rangeland watersheds

## Recent rains green the highlands

BY LUKE HENDRYX

Extension Agent, Brewster and Jeff Davis Counties

Those in Far West Texas perhaps understand better than anywhere just how important rangeland management is to successful livestock production, hunting, and recreational endeavors. Rainfall tends to be the limiting factor when considering overall range health, and one of the key factors to consider when making management decisions is rangeland watershed management.

Proper management of these rangeland watersheds contributes to overall range health in a variety of ways such as reducing erosion, limiting runoff, aquifer recharge, surface water retention, etc.

There are a number of factors that impact the health and functionality of watersheds such as soil type, density of ground cover from plants, soil moisture, rainfall density, and slope of land. While all these factors play an important role, managing ground cover density is one of the most controllable factors from a management standpoint. In the arid climates of West Texas, extremely dry conditions are broken by high density monsoonal rain events. If rangeland has been overgrazed for an extended period of time, ground cover forages will be depleted, and that leads to increased erosion of valuable topsoil by wind and rainfall runoff.

The loss of topsoil then leads to increased

soil temperatures, water evaporation, and seedling mortality rates. This desertification of rangeland leads to the overall degradation of grazing lands, which makes recovery a much longer and more difficult process.

Streams, lake beds, and aquifers all suffer from unhealthy watersheds as well. The topsoil that is removed from rangelands becomes sediment buildup in surface tanks, creek beds, and wet weather lake beds, which in turn causes them to be less effective for water retention. Aquifer levels also suffer from degraded watersheds due to increased runoff, less saturation, and diminished retention levels.

Key management practices such as erosion



control techniques and appropriate livestock grazing practices will help landowners to maintain rangeland watershed health, and help provide better wildlife habitat and grazing conditions for producers.

## Painting at the Fiesta



Kids show off their newly painted faces at the Alpine Avalanche face painting booth at the recent Fiesta 1888 celebration in Alpine.

Avalanche photo by J.T. Maroney

## Seeing more stars



Laura Gold of West Texas Friends of the Night Sky is excited to share information promoting dark skies awareness as she pauses for a photo next to her starry poster at Alpine Public Library's See More Stars! event held on Aug 12. The event was presented by McDonald Observatory, Big Bend Conservation Alliance, Marathon Dark Sky Park, and the Alpine Night Sky Team.

Avalanche photo by Roxanne Hill

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## Playing for the Indians



The Fort Davis Indians volleyball team pauses for a photo at the Coach Pancho Martinez Tournament in Marfa on Aug. 5.

Avalanche photo by J.T. Maroney



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# Opinions

## ONLINE POLL

**RESULTS**

**ARE YOU AFRAID OF YOUR BANK ACCOUNT AND CREDIT CARD INFORMATION BEING STOLEN ONLINE?**

**RESULTS**

Yes, and I take steps to keep my info safe. **77% (71 votes)**

Yes, but there's not much you can do about it. **8% (7 votes)**

No, incidents are isolated. **9% (8 votes)**

No, I keep my money under my mattress, and I don't use credit cards. **7% (6 votes)**

Total votes: 92

**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION**

Now the Avalanche asks:

Are you active on social media sites?

- Yes, I have accounts with several social media sites, and I check them throughout the day.
- Yes, but I limit myself to one or two social media sites that I check when I have time.
- Yes, but I check them only occasionally.
- No, I have no interest in social media.

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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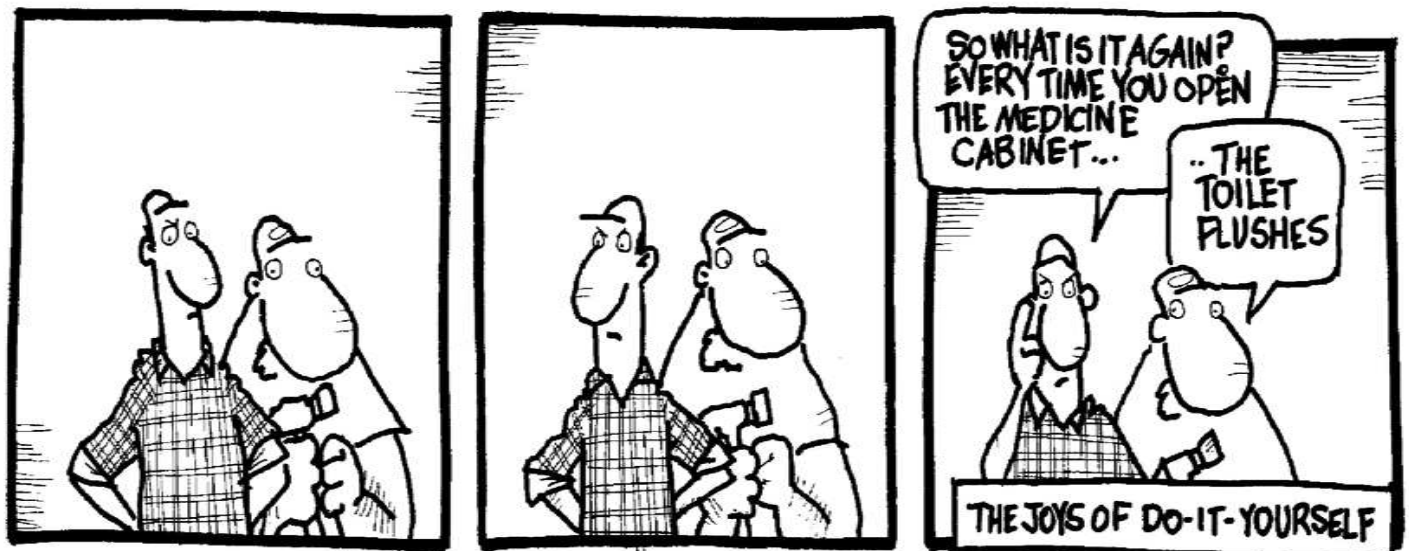
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ALPINE AVALANCHE (014 800) is published every Thursday morning at 704 East Holland Ave., Alpine, TX 79830. Periodical postage paid at Alpine, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Alpine Avalanche, P.O. Box 719, Alpine, TX 79831. Subscription rates 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.

# BOONIEVILLE



## Financial challenges ahead for Alpine ISD

One of the hallmarks of effective leadership is being able to jointly attend to the present and the future. While we celebrate a strong, energizing start to the 2022-23 school year here in Alpine ISD, we are also looking ahead to future challenges.



**MICHELLE RINEHART**  
Superintendent,  
Alpine ISD

AISD uses its \$11.4M annual budget to provide education, extracurriculars, meals, transportation, and learning supports to roughly 1,000 kids in our community. It is important that Alpine residents are aware of financial challenges that lie ahead for the district. To be clear, these are challenges and not yet crises. We can address these challenges by working together as a community.

This past May, Texans passed two property tax propositions at the polls. One of these propositions increased the homestead exemption from \$25,000 to \$40,000. While this increased exemption benefited local property owners, it also

resulted in a \$225,000 annual loss in funds to the district. Additionally, AISD lost \$625,000 in funding last year due to discrepancies between our local county appraisal district property values and the state comptroller's values for the cumulative property within AISD's boundaries. For years, AISD and the Brewster County CAD have failed the state's property values study because our local CAD values do not fall within 5% of the state comptroller's values. For example, in 2021 state comptroller values were \$770 million, while the local CAD's values were only \$670 million.

This, again, is a benefit to

individual taxpayers, as it means that our properties are assessed at less-than-market values, which decreases the property taxes we individually pay. However, there is a collective cost to this mismatch, to the tune of a \$625,000 cut in annual funding to the district. This is because the state of Texas uses the comptroller's values to determine how much funding schools should receive locally. When we don't receive this amount (since our local property values are only 76% of the state's values), the state does not make up this funding shortfall.

What can we do to address this underfunding? AISD continues to work with our CAD to bring our property value appraisals in line with market and state values. Additionally, we can all advocate for school funding reform at the state level so districts are not penalized with funding shortfalls due to value mismatches.

Additional financial challenges lie ahead for the district. In two years, the state will discontinue the Formula Transition Grant, which currently provides Alpine ISD with \$950,000 in annual funding. Implemented during an overhaul of the state funding formula in 2019, the FTG was designed to make sure districts did not receive less funding under the new plan. There is potential for significant fiscal crisis in AISD when this temporary funding is discontinued in 2024-2025.

The good news? The district has a healthy fund balance (savings account) of \$9.5 million due to the financial stewardship of its school board and administration. However, it will take all of us working together to make sure that our district remains adequately funded for years to come so that we can continue to provide exceptional learning experiences for our children.

## Memories real enough to smell the creosote

"God gave us memory so that we might have roses in December." - J.M. Barrie (1860-1937), Scottish author and dramatist, best remembered as the creator of Peter Pan.



**LEON ALDRIDGE**  
Guest Columnist

While I'm hoping my life's calendar is closer to the October or early November pages, matching memories with memorabilia best describes how I've spent fleeting flurries of what little spare time I have had lately.

That exercise of tending roses in the memory garden is a resoundingly rewarding exercise. Fuzzy recollections focused by albums and boxes of photos, newspaper clippings, and notes stored for decades.

One such exercise last weekend connected today with a time from more than 60 years ago via my grandfather and his life spent working for the railroads. He is probably the reason why railroad tracks still allure me. Even today, I will stop to gaze at the distant vanishing point where the two rails converge, fantasizing about where the steel ribbons go. I even smile when smelling the peculiar odor of creosoted cross ties.

Creosote is the black tar-looking stuff used to pre-

serve wooden cross ties. In the hot summertime, it's a black, messy residue, impossible to remove from shoes or clothing. Its pungent odor is not quickly forgotten, especially for the grandson of a railroad man.

My father's father, born in 1888, began a lifelong career with his first full-time job working for the railroad at the age of 13. He retired in 1954, and his life's journey ended in 1967.

Even in retirement, my grandfather was still a railroad man. He delighted in taking me to the depot to watch the telegraph operator where the rat-a-tat rhythm of Morse code hammered out on a used Prince Albert tobacco can was indelibly imprinted on my mind.

A special treat was the rare ride on the rails sitting atop a motorcar, a small open-air vehicle designed for short trips on the tracks by railroad workers. I used to think it was something he did to entertain me, but I remember

the smile on his face, too.

My grandparents lived across the street from the railroad, just a few blocks from the depot. Of course, we'll never know, but I suspect now that buying a house in sight of passing trains might not have been a coincidence. For as long as he could sit on the front porch in his rocking chair, my grandfather checked the on-time status of each one glancing at his pocket watch as they rolled by.

They moved into the house in the northeast Texas community Halloween night of 1930 shortly after my father's 70th birthday. My grandmother lived in the same house when she died in October of 1993, almost 63 years later to the day, and 26 years after my grandfather's death.

The smell of creosote still stirs memories of S.V. Aldridge, the tall, broad-shouldered railroad man, and him looking at his pocket watch to keep track of the time and the trains.

I inherited the watch when he died. I used it briefly as my timepiece, just for the memories, before retiring it to a display case for safe-keeping. Unfortunately, the glass in the display was bro-

ken some years ago, and his watch was retired again, this time to a jewelry box.

A couple of years ago, daughter Robin gifted me with a piece of her artwork, a painting of three generations of Aldridge men - my grandfather, my father, and me. Lacking a spot in my house for the large canvas representing four generations when considering the artist, I temporarily placed it in my home office where it sat on the floor leaning against the wall for viewing.

With a recent redo of my house, I now have wall space to exhibit Robin's artwork properly. With it, the watch has been brought out of retirement once more, and will be mounted in a new display with photos of my grandfather.

The two will hang together, one of my December roses that bloomed when tangible pieces of history came together for a meeting with memories - memories real enough that I'm pretty sure the smell of creosote will linger when I pass by and glance at them.

Contact Leon Aldridge at [leonaldridge@gmail.com](mailto:leonaldridge@gmail.com).

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Fall of the U.S. empire?

Some say the U.S. Constitution was written to curtail the evils of human nature. Thomas Jefferson said it was good for about 200 years and John Adams said it was written for a moral and religious people. Huey P. Long warned Fascism

would come in the name of anti-fascism, and Ronald Reagan said when fascism came it would call itself liberalism.

In 2022 America it's easy to find evidence of what all four prominent men were concerned about. Therefore, we can compare the Roman Em-

pire to the current U.S. When the Roman Empire fell, it suffered from harmful immigration, was threatened by Eastern powers, and its military was weak. Ancient Romans also struggled with economic problems, political instability, government corruption, and

reckless immorality.

As has been said, what we learn from history is that we don't learn from history, and those who don't learn from history may be doomed to repeat it.

James R. Le Blanc  
Fort Davis



# Heard on the STREET

What are your plans for Labor Day weekend?



**Johnny Carpenter, Alpine:** Hopefully, I can help the Lions Club at the Gun Show. Hopefully it will rain and be cool and pretty for everyone.



**Sondra Ketchum-Failla, Alpine:** Working. We are working all weekend at the restaurant. We will be serving the locals and the tourists through the weekend at West Texas Italian Delicacies.



**Manny Granado, Alpine:** One of our family traditions has been to attend The Marfa Lights Festival activities every year. Love the fair food and live music — can't miss it!



**Carlos Garcia, Alpine:** I'm going to attend the Lions Club Knife and Gun Show. I might find interesting stuff there.



**Skie Vega, Alpine:** Not right now. If I have plans, it's a last-minute plan, but I'll probably also go to a barbecue with family.

Send your community events to editor@alpineavalanche.com.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPT. 2-3

**Rummage Sale,** Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church Patio, 406 S. 6th St., St. Vincent de Paul fundraiser Fri, Sept 2- 9 am- 3pm, and Sat, Sept 3, from 9 am-noon.

SEPT. 3  
**Brewster-Jeff Davis 4-H**



**Kickoff,** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Jeff Davis County Courthouse lawn.

Games, refreshments, and fun. Call 432-837-6207.

SEPT. 6

**Friends of the Library Meeting,** noon at Alpine Public Library, 805 W. Ave. E, in the AEP Foundation multi-purpose room. Discuss ways Friends can help the library by maintaining a strong membership engaged in volunteer recruitment, fundraising, and outreach. Everyone is welcomed.

## Border Patrol 9/11 memorial coming up in Alpine

Big Bend Sector will host its annual 9/11 event on Sunday, Sept. 11, at the Alpine Border Patrol Station to remember the lives that were lost, and the heroic acts that were taken on the fateful day in 2001.

In 2011 the agents of the Alpine Station retrieved a piece of the World Trade Center's Twin Towers, which has been commemorated as a national artifact, and displayed it



for the public to view. The 9/11 ceremony will include the Border Patrol's Honor Guard and the playing of taps and bag pipes.

## PET OF THE WEEK

Alpine Humane Society Pet of the Week is Thunder. This sweet girl came into the shelter not long ago, and as soon as she did, she showed pure kitten behavior. She cries when she is not getting enough attention, and is full of play and curiosity.

The Humane Society is a nonprofit organization that supports the city shelter and the animal care officers. Adoption promotion and transportation services to relocate adoptable pets to states with more demand are two major projects of the organization. The society pays for all pet food and



much of the veterinary care for the shelter pets, and also provides financial assistance for spay, neuter, and other veterinary services for the community. The two organizations work together to support area pets and their owners.

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. For information about shelter pet adoptions, cremation services, or lost/found pets, call the shelter at 432-837-9030.

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. The Pet Pantry recently moved to 600 North Fifth Street. The Humane Society helpline is 432-837-2532. To view adoptable pets, visit PetFinder.com or alpinehumanesociety.org.

## Restaurant Guide

\$15 a week gets you a spot in our restaurant guide  
www.alpineavalanche.com

### ESPRESSO... Y POCO MAS

Located in Terlingua Ghosttown next to La Posada Milagro Guesthouse 432-371-3044  
www.laposadamilagro.net  
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Menu items (some items change daily):  
Breakfast burritos, breakfast english muffins, eggs benedict, quiche, breakfast pastries, organic fair trade coffee, espresso, cappuccino /latte /mocha, fresh squeezed juices, smoothies, homemade soups, ham / turkey / chicken breast sandwiches, Reuben sandwiches, meatloaf sandwiches, curry chicken sandwiches, rotisserie chicken & picnic lunches, fruit pies, cobblers, brownies, tres leches cake.

### REATA RESTAURANT

**COCINERO:** Beef • Chicken • Shrimp  
**STARTERS:** Tortilla Soup Bowl • Jalapeno and Cilantro Soup • Bacon Wrapped Shrimp with Onion Jam and Pico de Gallo • Bacon Wrapped Asparagus • Tumbleweed Onion Rings with Spicy Serrano Ketchup • Alpine Black Bean & Chicken Nachos

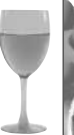
CF Burger with Aged Cheddar Cheese on a Kaiser Roll • Fried Chile Relleno stuffed with Cream Cheese, Corn and Peppers • Carne Asada with Reata's Cheese Enchiladas • Chicken Caesar Wrap with Hand Cut Fries • Tenderloin Tacos with Sundried Tomato Cream Sauce • Grilled Chicken Breast topped with Mango Chutney

### SADDLE PACK COMBINATION:

(Your choice of any two items)  
Cup of Tortilla Soup • Cup of Jalapeno and Cilantro Soup  
Cup of Daily Soup • 1/2 Reata Club or Steak Sandwich  
1/2 BLT Sandwich with Peppercorn Bacon



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LIVE MUSIC THIS WEEKEND!

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON BREWSTER CAD BUDGET

The Brewster CAD will hold a public hearing on a proposed budget for the 2023 fiscal year.

The public hearing will be held on **September 14th @ 11:00 A.M.**, at Commissioner Court Room located at 201 W Ave E Alpine , Tx. A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

A Summary of the Appraisal District budget follows:

The total amount of the proposed budget is \$647,729.

The total amount of increase from the current year's budget is \$47413.

The number of employees compensated under the proposed budget will be 7.

The number of employees compensated under the current budget is 6.

The Appraisal District is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the Appraisal District.

If approved by the appraisal district board of directors at the public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities and towns served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the office of each of those governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at 107 W Ave E Alpine, TX.

**The phone number of the Brewster CAD is 432-837-2558.**

**The address is 107 W Ave E Alpine, TX**

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

- Are you a visitor to the church who's not Catholic but feels drawn to the Faith?
- Are you a baptized Catholic who's never received Communion or Confirmation?
- Are you a Catholic who just wants to know more about the Faith?

If you answered "YES" to any of these questions you should consider participating in the RCIA Process.

On **September 6, 2022**, classes for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults a journey of faith – a journey toward a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ begin. Please call the Office of Our Lady of Peace Church for more information **432-837-3304**.

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**ROSWELL LIVESTOCK AUCTION SALES, INC.**

**SALE DATE: MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2022**

931 head of cattle sold on a steady to higher 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 LAST WEEK:**  
**Stocker Calves:** Steady to \$6.00 higher  
**Feeder Cattle:** Steady to \$4.00 higher  
**Packer Cows and Bulls:** Steady

300# - 400# Steers .....	232.00 to 235.00
300# - 400# Heifers .....	190.50 to 196.00
400# - 500# Steers .....	206.00 to 232.00
400# - 500# Heifers .....	182.00 to 190.50
500# - 600# Steers .....	186.00 to 206.00
500# - 600# Heifers .....	161.00 to 182.00
600# - 700# Steers .....	167.00 to 186.00
600# - 700# Heifers .....	153.00 to 161.00
700# - 800# Steers .....	156.00 to 167.00
700# - 800# Heifers .....	148.00 to 153.00
Packer Cows.....	85.00 to 93.00
Canner & Cutter Cows.....	70.00 to 78.00
Packer Bulls .....	100.00 to 107.00
Feeder Bulls .....	76.00 to 85.00
Cow / Calf Pairs – Top Half.....	1100.00 to 1525.00
Bred Cows – Top Half .....	900.00 to 1110.00

**AISD • FROM 1**

Workforce Solutions Borderplex, and would include around \$300,000 that would be used as a startup. The other one would include a grant for a childcare expansion initiative, valued at up to \$130,000. There would also be a possible partnership matching grant with the hospital, and Texas Workforce Commission would match the grant at 100%.

“We are applying for those grants because daycare historically is not a profitable enterprise,” admitted Rinehart. “This kind of initiative will run a deficit almost from the beginning, so we would need the funding and or business partnerships so the district does not absorb that deficit.”

Rinehart said she expects to hear back by late September from public workforce development board Texas Workforce Solutions Borderplex.

“Our area is considered a daycare desert as we do not have many operating centers or licensees, and perhaps there is more down the road with business partnerships,” said Rinehart.

Discounted rates would be available to school district employees for daycare center use, and Rinehart said the district lost several employees this summer because of lack of daycare facilities.

Next, Chief Financial Officer Clay Braden announced the proposed 2022-2023 tax rates during a public hearing. The 2022 no new revenue tax rate was set by Braden at \$1.133 per \$100 valuation due to an increase in property values. Braden proposed that for this year the total tax rate be set at \$1.1361, which will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year’s tax rate.

**“O**ur area is considered a daycare desert as we do not have many operating centers or licensees, and perhaps there is more down the road with business partnerships.”

— AISD Superintendent  
Dr. Michelle Rinehart

The tax rate will effectively be raised by 0.27361%, and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$3.10. Board then unanimously approved the proposed rate as presented.

Finally, Rinehart announced that the high school construction project was not yet finalized. Imperial Construction said demolition of the

old high school would be done this week, and the current timeline to wrap up the entire project would be sometime around November, which would include a completed courtyard, walkway, fencing, and all the punch list items.

Rinehart applauded the collective Alpine ISD team effort, praising teachers, staff, and principals, along with construction partners, adding, “There are still things we are working on behind the scenes - concerns about floors, a lot of punch list things, etc., but the high-level overview is that we are open. We are excited about where it’s at, and teachers are doing a great job.”

The next regularly scheduled board of trustees meeting is set for Wednesday, Sept. 21, at 5:30 p.m. in the administration building board room.

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**MUSIC • FROM 1**

Felipe Perez Santiago, is also considered one of the most active and recognized composers of Mexico’s musical scene who has achieved international recognitions in the U.S., Latin America, and Europe.

“The project has been a long time coming,” said Melendez. “It was initiated by the production of a sound library, so all these curators invited 40 musicians, deejay composers, and classical musicians from both sides of the border to create and submit sounds to this library. From there, they asked 12 different composers

to create songs and compile an album, and this performance is the live premiere of that album. It features some diverse musicians who have only played this album once before, and that was in Austin, and so they are coming out here to play it again.”

Some include DJ Vanessa Burden, who also goes by Beats of Burden, and local deejay and Marfa regular DJ Calle of Las Reinas de la Noche, along with Ruben Albarrán, a renowned vocalist from Mexico City and the lead singer of the legendary Latin al-

ternative rock band Cafe Tacvba.

“I am looking forward to it,” said Melendez. “Just the musicians involved and their commitment to the project is incredible. Everyone is in for a real treat because it is such high caliber musicians that are coming through, and it’s a free show. We have free drinks and a food popup. It’s very expansive, it has a lot of different flavors, different points of views, and I think people will be in for a real treat.”

Ballroom Marfa is located at 108 East San Antonio Street/Highway

90 West. For more information contact Melendez at [press@ballroommarfa.org](mailto:press@ballroommarfa.org) or 432-729-3600.

**RAIN • FROM 1**

“The fact that we’ve been in a drought for many years and had to sell all of our cattle in 2021, getting this much needed rain is huge for us because it grows grass,” Cavness pointed out. “We have windmills and dirt tanks. The rain helps replenish the aquifers and fill the dirt tanks. The desert comes alive, even after weeks’ worth of rain, and it looks like the garden of Eden out here.”

She continued, “It will help for future growth, especially for the spring. We are running yearlings right now, and our program is working out really well. In some areas, the grass is still patchy, but starting to grow and will grow right underneath the steers’ feet, as long as we get a little more sunshine and some rain.”

Cavness said labor costs and expenses on a ranch are huge, and the o6 Ranch is cutting back as much as it can to survive.

“Because of the reoccurring droughts and cattle prices, it has been a very good business

move to run Mexican yearlings right now,” she said. “We are just going to stick with this for a while and see how it goes. Since the yearlings only stay out for about six months, this cuts back on labor costs along with numerous other expenses, and this also allows the ranch to recover as well.” Rode Mills, rangeland management specialist with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Alpine, said that with the recent rains, there is a chance for recovery for a lot of area ranches. He admitted that it will take a long time for rainwater to reach many of the aquifers, but expects the water level drops to rise in the next couple of months.

Carla Spencer, county executive director for the USDA Farm Service Agency that includes Brewster, Jeff Davis, and Presidio counties, opted for an earnest outlook.

“We are in our third year of drought, and are still in an extreme drought situation,” said Spencer. “A week’s worth of rain does not solve three years’ worth of drought. We must keep in mind that a lot of these ranchers have entirely liquidated or downsized their herds so drastically that they are in a dire situation for staying in business. If you have liquidated your herd, rain does not help you make money. These guys are trying to feed and clothe the world, and it’s really hard.”

**Dan Platt, Jr.**

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**Big Bend Regional Hospital District  
Medical Enhancement Grants**

BBRHD is now accepting grant proposals for the FY2023 Medical Enhancement Grant program, the deadline to apply for funding will be on October 14, 2022. Brewster and Presidio County entities that provide healthcare or other related services, consistent with the mission and objectives of the District, to residents of Brewster or Presidio Counties are eligible to apply. The grant application package and additional information are available at [www.bbrhd.com](http://www.bbrhd.com) or call 432-837-7051.

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## LOOKING BACK

Alpine Avalanche

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**April 23, 1948**  
Pictured here is the Alpine FFA judging team and its coach. This team won first place in the livestock judging division in competition with teams from 19 schools in Area II in a contest sponsored by the Clip and Brand club of Sul Ross college. From left to right are Jim Spann, Billy Mills, Joe Smith, and E.L. Tiner, FFA advisor.



**May 14, 1954**  
Shown left, third from left, is Mrs. L.C. Brite of Marfa who was elected president of the West Texas Historical and Scientific Society at a recent meeting held at Sul Ross college here. Others shown are V.J. Smith, head of the Big Bend Museum at the college; Miss Anna D. Linn, WTHSS secretary-treasurer; and Glenn Burgess, Alpine, retiring president of WTHSS who was chosen vice president in charge of programs.

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**April 30, 1948**



**September 11, 1953**  
Pvt. Ruben Ortega, 22, the first Alpine prisoner of war released in Operation Big Switch, was scheduled to land in San Francisco yesterday and will soon be on his way home. He was reported missing in action in Korea last May, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Crespin Ortega of Alpine, had not heard from him from that time up to the date of his release.

# Planting native milkweed for butterflies

Dear Neil: Thanks for the information on trimming tropical milkweed plants by early September. I know that the wild native milkweed is preferable to the tropical type for monarchs, but where can I buy the plants or seeds?

You may be able to collect seeds from plants in native stands near you. You can also search for sources online. I found several. The National Wildlife Federation has sources listed, for example.

Dear Neil: What is causing my geraniums to die back?

Since you sent your question to me in late August and in Texas, my answer is going to be heat and dry weather. Geraniums do best where daytime temperatures rarely hit 90 degrees, and

**GARDENER'S MAILBAG**  
by neil sperry

evenings are down in the 60s. They are not well suited to Texas in summer. Unfortunately, they need full or nearly full sun, so growing them in pots and moving them into shade doesn't help.

Dear Neil: How can I prepare my Gold Star esperanza for the winter? Even in mild winters it still freezes to the ground, then comes back the next spring.

How can I keep the top from dying back?

How Gold Star Esperanza reacts to a Texas winter depends on where we're trying to grow it and how cold it gets there. It's a Zone 9 plant, which means its top growth is cold hardy only in normal winters in South Texas. You can expect it to freeze to the ground in Central Texas, the Hill Country and North Central Texas, and it would be treated as a tender perennial or annual in colder parts of the state. If you're trying to overwinter it where it typically would die to the ground, you're either going to have to cover it, or heat it, or both during any hard freezes. Some people prefer to grow them in large patio pots and shuttle them into and out of the protection of greenhouses or sunrooms.

Dear Neil: The front of our house faces west. We have hollies that have been there for 32 years. All of a sudden, the ones on the south side have areas that have turned brown and look dead. The plants on the north side look normal and healthy. We have kept them watered and we have applied fertilizer with iron. What could the problem be?

I admit to being a holly fanatic, and have dozens of them around our landscape. I have had some of this random dieback in my dwarf Chinese and Carissa hollies this summer, and I'm sure it was due to the extreme heat and moisture stress. I have found no evidence of any insect or disease issues. Like you, I have watered faithfully, but the plants just haven't been able to take the water

up uniformly to meet the plants' needs. Trim out the dead wood, and apply an all-nitrogen lawn fertilizer. Water well, and watch for new growth to fill in this fall and next spring.

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



Native milkweed

- ACROSS**
- Quitman is the seat of this county
  - Jackson County seat
  - this Bud starred in TX-based 1970 film "Brewster McCloud"
  - "Hill Country State Natural \_\_\_\_"
  - votin' mo.
  - TX-based restaurant "\_\_\_\_ Fridays"
  - "Patton" star, George C.
  - cost of education at a Texas university
  - this Olajuwon was a Houston Rockets star center
  - TXism: "looks good enough to give \_\_\_\_" (suit & tie)
  - household task
  - smug smile (2 wds.)
  - triangles of railroad track
  - Mineral Wells High School mascot
  - "painful \_\_\_\_ with gout"
  - first name of "Yellow Rose of Texas"
  - TXism: "silent as \_\_\_\_"
  - to pay his taxes, TX Willie released "\_\_\_\_": Who'll Buy My Memories?"
  - TX westernmost city residents (2 wds.)
  - "tall Texas \_\_\_\_"
  - Spanish explorer: Diego \_\_\_\_
  - transported to school

- cult leader, Koresh, who died near Waco (init.)
- "in a minute"
- "do \_\_\_\_ others . . ."
- TXism: "he's \_\_\_\_ playing with a full deck" (slow)
- "El camino \_\_\_\_ de los Tejas" (now Texas 21)
- faucet problem
- Mavericks, Spurs, or Rockets supporter
- state fair mo.
- TX singer Orbison (init.)
- TX Perot book: "United We Stand: How \_\_\_\_ Our Country"
- locker room, e.g.?
- "hands-\_\_\_\_" (assessment of a tool as it is used by the evaluator)
- the "D" of TX
- Perot's old EDS
- TXism: "it's high \_\_\_\_ we did it"
- TXism: "what's good for the \_\_\_\_ the gander"
- "Fanthorp \_\_\_\_ State Historical Site"
- TX Nat Stuckey's \_\_\_\_ Wakes Me Every Morning"

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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<b>28.99</b> Rubbermaid® 32-Gal. Trash Can W 133 894 PB	<b>9.99</b> WD-40® 14.4 oz. EZ-Reach® Multi-Use Lubricant 212926	<b>16.99</b> Prestone® 1 gal. Yellow Antifreeze/Coolant H 303 507 PB
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# Sports

## Fightin' Buck Schedule

**FOOTBALL**  
Sep. 2: Fort Stockton @ Alpine. Varsity 7:30 p.m.  
Sep. 2: Fort Stockton @ Fort Stockton JV 5 p.m.

**VOLLEYBALL**  
Sep. 3: TLCA @ Alpine Varsity 11 a.m.  
Sep. 6: Compass Academy @ Compass Academy JV 5 p.m./V 6:15 p.m.

**CROSS COUNTRY**  
Sep. 3: Crane Invitational @ Crane Gold Course. TBA

## Local teams compete in the high country



The Alpine JV volleyball team.

Courtesy photo

BY J.T. MARONEY  
Publisher

Non-district rivals met last week to take on some local play in Fort Davis. The Indians, who are 8-15, hosted the Alpine Lady Bucks on Aug. 23. The Lady Bucks stand at 10-7. Historically good competitors, both teams were ready for a fight on the court.

Alpine led during set one while the Indians found their rhythm, and sets two and three would push Alpine harder than they expected.

Head Coach Autumn Kilpatrick said, "The small errors are what is killing us. We have a good team that works hard, but the little errors like lack of communication resulting in dropped balls is a momentum killer. We need to work on forcing errors instead of giving points based on our way."

During set two, Alpine made multiple costly errors that played to the Indians. Alpine went through more rotation changes, and the pulling of the libero position.

Said Kilpatrick, "We did not use a libero because I want the girls to focus more on team unity than what position they get to play on the court. It also allowed us to play a second setter for part of the game while giving us another back row girl as well.

Kayden Gray, team captain for the Indians said, "If we sit around and play small teams, it is not challenging, and does not make us better. Playing larger schools gets you better prepared."

About the Alpine game, Indians Head Coach Kelly Boultinghouse noted, "We work

See VOLLEYBALL • 9

## Bucks drop season opener



BY MESINDA LLANEZ  
Sports Correspondent

The Alpine Fightin' Bucks traveled to Clint Friday night for their first game of the season against the Clint Mountain View Lobos, and the Bucks struggled against the Lobos defense throughout the game.

The Lobos scored their first touchdown of the ballgame with 4:43 minutes left in the first quarter, then again in the first two minutes of the first two quarters. However, the extra point was no good. Senior quarterback Tray Ervin connected with senior inside receiver, Aiden Garcia scoring the Buck first touchdown of the season. Senior Jarred Roggow, the lefty kicker, scored the extra

point making it 13-7.

Meanwhile, there was flag on the play for roughing the kicker against the Lobos that ended with a 15-yard penalty, placing the Lobos at the 45 yard line. The Lobos scored again with 5:03 seconds left in the first half, 20-7. Ervin, who was on defense, suffered an injury, and did not return to the game.

Sophomore quarterback Devon Rojo stepped in for the Fightin' Bucks. Rojo, who is no stranger to the quarterback position, attempted to get the Bucks back on the board before the end of the first half. Rojo said he was ready to step in, and it had been a dream of his

See FOOTBALL • 9

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# Meet the Alpine Bucks!



Alpine Fightin' Buck athletes, band and cheerleaders took to the field at Buck Stadium on Aug. 24 to a crowd of appreciative fans during the Meet the Bucks event.

Avalanche photo by J.T. Maroney

## JV Bucks win opener at home

The JV Fightin' Bucks won their season opener at Buck Stadium with a wild 30-28 victory over the Clint Mountain View Lobos.

Freshman Dae Hardwick led the Bucks with two touchdowns in the first half, hile freshman

A.J. Llanez and sophomore Ferris Daley each had a touchdown in the second half. The Bucks defense battled the last two minutes of the game to keep the Lobos from scoring as the Alpine fans cheered them on from the stands.

## Sul Ross hold rodeo triathlon



Sul Ross State University held its first annual Rodeo Triathlon last week consisting of two barrel runs, two goat runs, and two breakaway runs. After six total runs Kathi Norell was the open champion, and Hallie Wood was the youth champion.

Courtesy photo

## VOLLEYBALL • FROM 8

hard on ball control and consistency so that we can compete at a higher level. We have played lots of bigger schools this preseason to make us stronger. Going up against larger schools, we must remind ourselves not to get discouraged, and focus on the positive things that are happening with our team. Those things do not always show up on a score board."

Alpine junior Paula Vargas had 18 perfect sets, and 17 assists to help lead the Bucks. Junior Adayna Garcia had 12 attacks and nine kills. Junior Sierra Ruckman tallied 14 serves during the three-set match.

The junior varsity also played the same day. Al-

pine was able to defeat the Indians in two sets, 25-13 and 25-12.

"The ladies started each set slow, but they dominated the middle matches," said Coach Keith Virdell. "We had some days off and it showed, but I was pleased with their energy, movement, and communication. These young ladies play hard, never quit, and play unselfishly. We have work to do on skills and footwork, but overall, we are immensely proud of their progress so far. Great to see as a coach or a fan."

The JV Lady Bucks also traveled to Fort Stockton where they competed against varsity teams from McCamey, Balmorhea, and others, and captured the consol-

ation championship in the silver bracket. They were the only JV team competing in the varsity tournament.

The Lady Bucks have some time off before facing San Angelo TLCA. Kilpatrick plans

to practice hard with this time off.

"We need to work on pushing for leads with teams instead of settling for a win. We have the potential to blow people away if we stop relaxing on the court," said Kilpatrick.

## FOOTBALL • FROM 8

to play quarterback for the Fightin' Bucks.

With less than two minutes before the half, the Lobos scored to lead by 20. In the third quarter, the Bucks pressured and tipped the Lobos pass, which fell into the hands of sophomore Davian Fierro in Lobos territory. The Bucks were later able to score a touchdown as Rojo tossed the ball to sophomore Moses Riggins for their final touchdown of the game.

The Bucks attempted a two-point conversion, but it was broken up by the Lobos, making the score 27-13.

As the Bucks struggled to keep the Lobos out of the end zone, Clint scored two more touchdowns in the final quarter for a final score of 40-13.

Rojo said that at one point in the ballgame,

there were up to six sophomores on the field for the Alpine Fightin' Bucks.

"It was a tough loss for our football team," said Head Coach John Fellows. "We had a lot of young players step up after we had some keys players go down with injuries. We had our chances to make the game close, and just could not capitalize on those opportunities. Our district schedule is set up to be a tough one."

Garcia led the Bucks offensively with 90 total yards. On defense, the leading tackler was senior Jordan Rodriguez with six, followed by junior Reese Ahrens with five.


The Buck will host the Fort Stockton Panthers on Friday, Sept. 2, at Buck stadium at 7:30 p.m.

### ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



JOHN MENDOZA

Alpine Cross Country newcomer, John competes like an experienced runner and shows great potential for the season.



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Thursday, September 15

- Evening Preview Party

Friday, September 16

- Daytime artist demos
- Evening Opening Reception and Sale

Saturday, September 17

- Ranch Hand Breakfast
- Daytime artist demos
- Evening Ranch Roundup Party



Deep Water, 16" x 20", acrylic, June Dudley



MUSEUM OF THE BIG BEND





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# Roadrunner symbolizes the Southwest region

Celebrated in song, story, and caricature (think “Wile E. Coyote”), and with monuments dedicated to its image (who could forget Fort Stockton’s Paisano Pete), the Greater Roadrunner stands as an abiding - albeit quirky - symbol of the desert Southwest.

This large, long-tailed, shaggy-looking bird with its stout, heavy bill is common and conspicuous in the Big Bend year-round. Its officially mapped range extends from northwestern Louisiana and western Arkansas through Oklahoma and Texas, and west through about the southern half of California. But the bird is most often seen from West Texas through southern Arizona, and south into Mexico.

Although most abundant in scrub desert and mesquite groves, it occupies most any arid, open area with scattered brush, and can even be found in pine-oak woodlands and near cultivated fields. The bird is commonly spotted along roadsides perched on fence posts and rocks from where it sunbathes and hunts.

The Greater Roadrunner belongs to the widespread, diverse Cuculidae, or cuckoo, family. Found on every continent except Antarctica, this family contains about 142 species, of which six members occur regularly in the continental U.S.

True to their name, roadrunners prefer to run rather than fly, and I’ve frequently encountered the birds making a mad dash across Highway 118 just as my Blazer



## BIRDS-EYE VIEW

by gail d. yovanovich

approaches. They seem to wait patiently by the roadside, then play chicken with oncoming vehicles, unfortunately with mixed results.

Its song is a slow, descending series of low-pitched coos, but the bird’s hollow, wooden-sounding bill rattling is more frequently heard and recognized.

Prior to breeding, the male roadrunner performs a courtship dance in which it parades with its head held high, and with wings and tail dropped. It then bows, alternately lifting and dropping its wings while spreading its tail.

Building their stick nests in shrubs and cactus, pairs are monogamous and may mate for life. The female lays four to six yellowish-white eggs that are incubated mostly by the male.

Animals of all types comprise the bulk of the bird’s diet, although it also feeds on the fruits of prickly pear and cholla. From scorpions, to lizards and snakes, to small birds, the roadrunner spends much of its time foraging among rocks and cactus in search of prey.

According to Stephen A. Laymon in “The Sib-

ley Guide to Bird Life & Behavior,” the roadrunner is among only a few animals known to attack rattlesnakes. His account says that pairs of roadrunners sometimes hunt rattlesnakes cooperatively – one bird distracts the snake while the other sneaks up and pecks its head. They then kill the snake by bashing its head against a rock.

I’ve watched roadrunners raid Cactus Wren nests, and carry off colored lizards, but to me, one of the bird’s primary virtues is its affinity for the supremely repulsive centipede. You’ve seen them. Six to eight inches long; blue and yellow and red and purple with about a million legs moving in every direction. I just hate them, particularly when they crawl out of the bathroom sink



Greater Roadrunner.

Illustration by Gail Diane Yovanovich

drain while you’re brushing your teeth – but that’s another story.


Anyway, one sunny afternoon while sitting on my patio, a resident roadrunner appeared from behind a pile of rocks, and dashed to the

prickly pear not four feet from where I sat. In one smooth motion, it plucked a centipede – the eight-inch variety – from among the thorns, whipped the errant Chilopoda against the hard-packed sand, then tipped



its head back and swallowed the critter.

That’s one great bird – and one fewer centipede in the sink.

Questions or comments? Email me at editor@alpineavalanche.com.



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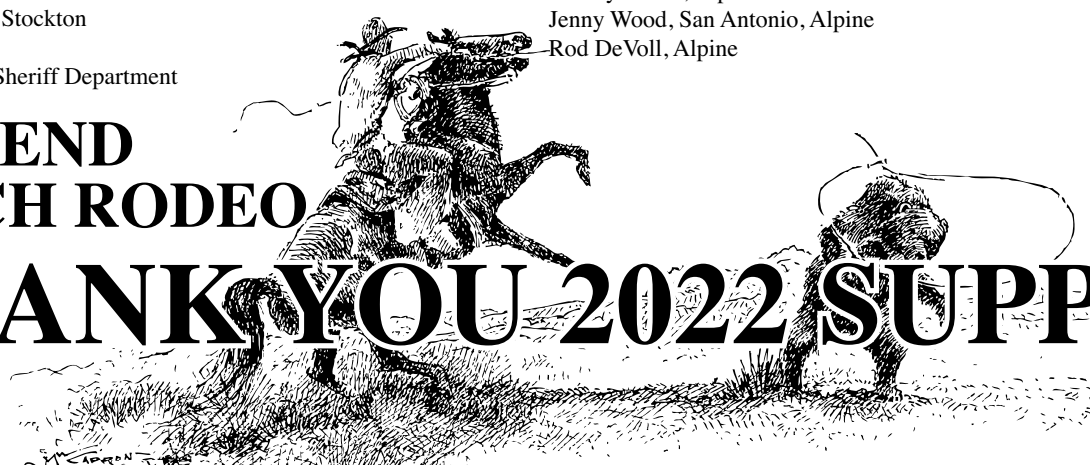
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- Kelsey Wogan

Please consult with legal counsel before using this form.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS PROPOSED TAX RATE

The San Vicente Independent School District will hold a public meeting at (name of school district)

5:30 P.M. Thursday, September 15, 2022 in the Meeting Room of San Vicente (time, date, year)

ISD located at 195 Escuela Vista Drive Big Bend National Park, Texas 79834 (name of room, building, physical location) (city, state)

**The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited. The school district has elected to adopt a tax rate before receiving the certified appraisal roll from the chief appraiser(s) of the appraisal district(s) and before adopting a budget. In accordance with Tax Code Section 26.05(g), the chief appraiser(s) of the appraisal district(s) in which the school district participates has (have) certified to the assessor for the school district an estimate of the taxable value of property in the school district as provided by Tax Code Section 26.01(e). In accordance with Education Code Section 44.004(j), following adoption of the tax rate, the school district will publish notice and hold another public meeting before the school district adopts a budget.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax School Debt Service Tax \$ .9388/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)  
 Approved by Local Voters \$ \_\_\_\_\_/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

### Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value

(As calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year*
Total appraised value** of all property	\$ <u>17,297,179</u>	\$ <u>17,855,346</u>
Total appraised value** of new property***	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Total taxable value**** of all property	\$ <u>9,355,811</u>	\$ <u>9,875,314</u>
Total taxable value**** of new property***	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>

\* All values identified are based on estimate(s) of taxable value received pursuant to Tax Code Section 26.01(e).  
 \*\* Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).  
 \*\*\* New property is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).  
 \*\*\*\* Taxable value is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

### Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness\* \$ 0

\* Outstanding principal.

### Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ .9634/\$100	\$ 0.0000/\$100*	\$ .9634/\$100	\$ 1.236/\$100	\$ 9.686/\$100
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ .94324/\$100	\$ 0.0000/\$100*	\$ .94324/\$100	\$ 1.242/\$100	\$ 9.680/\$100
Proposed Rate	\$ .9388/\$100	\$ 0.0000/\$100*	\$ .9388/\$100	\$ 1.199/\$100	\$ 9.717/\$100

\* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

### Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$266,023	\$266,123
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$241,023	\$226,123
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ .9634	\$ .9388
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$2,322	\$2,123
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$(199)

**Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.**

**Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is** .9388/\$100.

(the school district voter-approval rate determined under Section 26.08, Tax Code)

This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of .9388/\$100.

(the school district voter-approval rate)

### Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) \$1,542,620  
 Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) \$0

Visit [Texas.gov/Property Taxes](http://Texas.gov/Property Taxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

For additional copies, visit: [comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax](http://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax)

## Food pantry offered at Sul Ross

Sul Ross State University has partnered with West Texas Food Bank to combat food insecurity for college students.

West Texas Food Bank is the largest non-profit, non-governmental hunger relief organization in the Permian Basin, and collects, purchases, and distributes food for individuals in West Texas who are

experiencing hunger and food insecurity.

The Lobo Pantry is an on-campus source for Sul Ross students who are currently eligible to visit the pantry once a month. Founded in 2020 through COVID-19 grant funding, it continues to be funded by grants and donations.

The Lobo Pantry, lo-

cated in Ferguson Hall, is open Monday through Friday by appointment, and will begin weekly distribution days on Thursdays from 4-6 p.m. starting Sept. 1.

To support the Lobo Pantry through a monetary or food donation, contact [lobopantry@sulross.edu](mailto:lobopantry@sulross.edu) or 432-837-8596.

## USDA announces McNair grants

U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona last week announced \$51.7 million in 189 new grant awards to institutions of higher education across the U.S. as part of the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program. The program provides grants to universities and colleges for projects designed to provide disadvantaged college students effective preparation for doctoral studies.

Sul Ross State University received \$261,888 in grant funds.

"When we look at U.S. students studying to become our future physicians, professors, scientists and other crucial professionals requiring graduate degrees, many demographic groups are underrepresented, including first-generation college students and those from low-income families," said Nasser Paydar, assistant secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education. "McNair grants fund projects at universities and colleges that help underrepresented students to access doctoral programs."

The announcement delivers on Cardona's priorities to expand equitable access to education and make higher education more inclusive and affordable. Through McNair grant funding, projects at institutions of higher education provide students opportunities for research or other scholarly activities, such as summer internships and seminars. McNair-funded initiatives also prepare students for doctoral study through tutoring, academic counseling, and assistance with securing admission to and financial assistance for enrollment in gradu-

ate programs.

McNair projects may also provide services designed to improve financial and economic literacy of students, mentoring programs, and exposure to cultural events and academic programs not usually available to disadvantaged students.

The McNair program is one of seven federal programs targeted to serve and assist low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to postbaccalaureate programs.

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# Beef cattle supplementation webinar



Texas A&M AgriLife with Dr. Rick Machen and Dr. Bruce Carpenter will offer a free webinar to discuss supplemental and

winter feeding of beef cattle in West Texas. This Zoom meeting is available to the public at no charge.

Join the Zoom

meeting at bit.ly/Beef-Feeds. Call in the day of the meeting to 346-248-7799. Meeting ID is 985 8836 1792, and passcode is 965435.

## 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.



2609 West Highway 90 in Alpine, Texas

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT Alec Adame

In what activities did you participate in high school?

I participated in baseball my junior year, and even though I had surgery on my knee, I learned a lot and made some great friends.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach, and why?

Mrs. Robie Golden is 100% my favorite teacher even though she is also my grandmother. She has helped me in all sorts of ways, and continues to be my biggest fan.

What was your favorite moment the last four years?

My favorite moment was the first day of my sophomore year when I



Alec Adame

moved to Alpine High School. I have made great friends, and have had really wonderful experiences. The students and the staff are the best!

What are your plans after high school?

My plans for after high school are to continue my education, and to continue working toward an electrician's license on the way.

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## Devotional Page Love one another as I have loved you

BY REV. STEPHEN WHITE

First United Methodist Church

*My commandment is this—to love one another just as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this—that one lays down his life for his friends. You are my friend if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves because the slave does not understand what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because I have revealed to you everything I heard from my Father. —John 15:12-15*

The world is full of troubles. The troubles are different, perhaps, than other times in history, but it remains full of them. There are those who struggle to pay for food and shelter, and those who struggle to pay for Netflix. There are those who have lost loved ones to disease, and those who are forced to quarantine. Some are killed fighting for freedom and the freedom to worship God through Jesus Christ, and some wish to blot out the stories of the oppressed because those stories bring too much pain. Some struggle with what to believe in a world so broken and cruel, and some who struggle with those who do not believe as they do.

Yet standing in the midst of it all is Jesus. On the hills and in the valleys, in the cities and the villages, in all the corners of the world, we can turn and find him. The Jesus of John's gospel who issues but one commandment: To love one another. And how are we to love? "As I have loved you." And he is even willing to lay down his life to show the bounds of his love. The love he calls for is unconditional, un-

ending, and immediate. It is unbounded.

His disciples, those he calls friends, wonder at his words and he responds:

Are you discussing among yourselves what I meant when I said, "A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me"? Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. When a woman is in labor, she has pain because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. —John 16:19b-21

And those words echo through the halls of history and fall upon our eager ears, fill our aching hearts, give meaning to our troubles. The good news passing from twelve, to thousands, to billions of saints living and dead and yet to come, joy from the very Savior that we can know. The very one who prayed to God his Father:

*"I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me." —John 17:20-23*

Amen.

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Send updates to: editor@alpineavalanche.com

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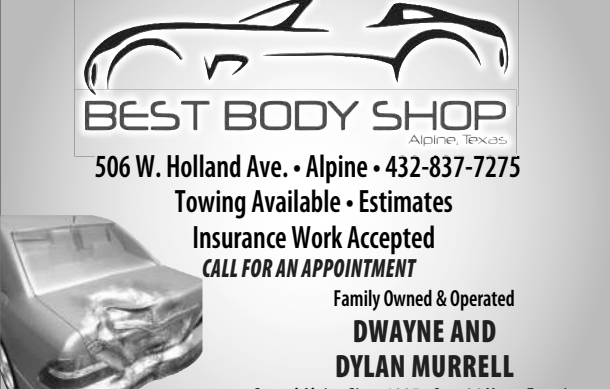


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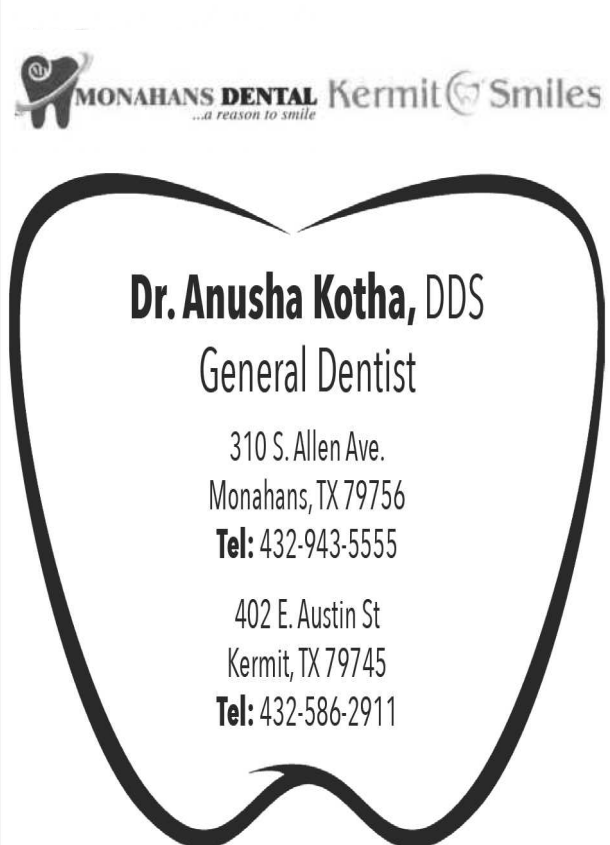
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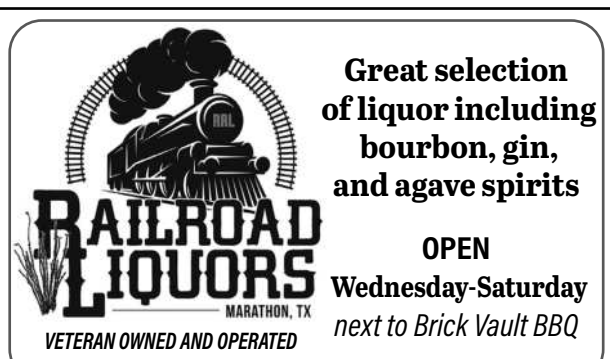
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EOE.

**CAUSE NO: PR03095**

ESTATE OF WILLIAM J. MARTIN, DECEASED. § IN THE COUNTY COURT OF BREWSTER COUNTY, TEXAS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

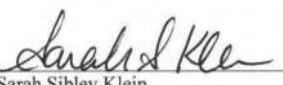
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the **Estate of William J. Martin** were issued on June 29, 2022, in Cause No. PR03095, pending in the County Court of Brewster County, Texas, to Amanda Elizabeth Lucas, formerly Amanda Elizabeth Martin.

Claims may be presented in care of the representative's attorney to the following address:

Sarah Sibley Klein  
 SIBLEY ANDERSON LEWIS  
 121 N 6TH  
 P.O. Box 1685  
 Alpine, Texas 79831

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

Dated: June 29, 2022



Sarah Sibley Klein  
 Attorney for the Representative



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Interested candidates can call **(432)729-3071 Ext. 607** for more information. Resumes should be emailed to [ebaeza@villagefarms.com](mailto:ebaeza@villagefarms.com) or faxed to **(432)375-6241**, 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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# Foil packet meals to save time and clean up



Chicken Ole Foil Supper

If you were ever in Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts, or if you have ever been camping, chances are you have at one time eaten a foil packet meal of some kind.

Most of the time it was something as simple as some hamburger meat, some potatoes, and probably some carrots and onions that were placed in aluminum foil and cooked on the grill or over a campfire. Seasoned simply with salt and pepper, you had yourself a no muss, no fuss meal. While this combination of ingredients is good, there are others that can be even better.

Vegetables are a common item in foil packet meals. For one thing they cook quickly, and it is easy to have a wide variety of different veggies without a pile of pots and pans to wash afterwards. Potatoes are always a foil favorite, as well as corn and a variety of peppers. Cabbage and onions are also an excellent choice, as well as green beans or mushrooms. But what about protein? It is possible to prepare your protein as a separate dish, but why not make it easy



**HEAD OVER MEALS**  
by kara gerbert

on yourself for clean-up and portion control as well?

If you must feed a larger group of people, this cooking style can make serving your meal just as easy as buffet style, or if you happen to be feeding only one or two people, clean up and lack of leftovers are positives in my book.

While most recipes say to grill foil packets or cook over coals, I have also cooked them in the oven. All you do differently is assemble as you normally do, place the foil packets on a sheet pan, and cook at around 350 degrees. This may not be something you want to do during the summer months to avoid heating up your house, but it is an option.

Besides easy clean-up and serving, these

## Chicken Ole Foil Supper

- INGREDIENTS:**
- 1 can (15 ounce) black beans, rinsed and drained
  - 2 cups fresh or frozen corn (about 10 ounces), thawed
  - 1 cup salsa
  - 4 boneless, skinless, chicken breast halves (4 ounces each)
  - ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
  - ¼ teaspoon black pepper
  - 1/8 teaspoon salt
  - 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
  - 2 green onions, chopped

- DIRECTIONS:**
- Mix beans, corn, salsa. Divide among four 18"x12" pieces of heavy-duty aluminum foil, and top with chicken.
- Mix seasonings, and sprinkle over chicken. Fold foil over chicken, sealing tightly.
- Grill packets, covered, over medium heat until a thermometer inserted into chicken reaches 165 degrees, or about 15-20 minutes.
- Open foil carefully to allow steam to escape. Sprinkle with cheese and green onions, and serve.

foil packet meals are not limited to a single protein. It is possible to cook seafood as well as beef, chicken, and pork. It all depends on your preference or what you may have planned, or even what is in your cupboard or freezer. I also encourage using herbs and spices beyond just salt and pepper. Fresh dill, thyme, rosemary, and sage can make many of these meals

taste as if you prepared them in the traditional methods. That is not to say that salt and pepper are slouches by any means, but foil packet meals can be prepared as simple or as gourmet as the recipe allows.

And when mealtime rolls around and you are not sure what to prepare, think on a foil packet meal that everyone can enjoy, especially you, the cook.

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## Celebrating a grand opening in Alpine



Maribel Ramirez of Alpine welcomed new customers, family, and Alpine Ambassadors during the grand opening and ribbon cutting of her new boutique, Chica's Shoppe on Aug. 20. The boutique carries women's and girls' clothing and accessories, and is located at 105 North Sixth Street in Alpine. Joining Maribel are Nayeli Urias, Alejandro Urias, Marcela Ramirez, Taylor Ramirez, Bernie Ramirez, Sam Ramirez, Mandy Ramirez, Adalynn Ramirez, and Aiden Ramirez

*Courtesy photo*

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# FALL SPORTS 2022



## Fellows leads seasoned group into 2022 season

BY NATHAN HEUER  
Pioneer Editor

Competing for a district title each year isn't a mere hope for the Alpine football program - it's expected year in and year out.

Since John Fellows took over head coaching duties eight years ago, the Bucks have qualified for the playoffs each season, and won a district title in 2019.

"Our number one goal every year is to win a district championship. That's what we concentrate on, work on, and aspire to achieve," Fellows said.

Alpine advanced to the second round of the playoffs in

3A-2 the last three seasons, and they look to do so again with a cohesive group of coaches and athletes.

Fellows explained that the togetherness of his squad will be a key element to their success during the 2022 campaign.

"One of our strengths right now is team chemistry. I don't think it's a particular unit or a particular player," he said. "These guys seem to get along very well, have common goals, and are unselfish."

In his seven years at the helm, Fellows has had five different quarterbacks start.

Make it a sixth quarterback this season as the Bucks will look to Tray Ervin and Devon

Rojo to take over signal caller duties for the first time at the varsity level.

Through two scrimmages and a rugged training camp, Fellows feels confident the duo will find a way to get the job done after losing star quarterback Jayden Canaba to graduation.

Surrounding talent and experience outside of the quarterback position will ease the burden of a new player under center.

Mateo Miranda will lead a seasoned group in the trenches after an all-district campaign in 2021 on both the offensive and defensive lines.

At running back, Jordan Rodriguez will lead a potentially

potent ground game that will also feature a heavy dose of Ervin, who was an All-State linebacker. Rodriguez was second on the team in tackles a season ago.

Davian Fierro will add to the Bucks' defensive prowess as the sophomore enters the season coming off a Newcomer of the Year award in 2021. Fierro tallied the sixth-highest tackles total with 47 on the team last season.

Fierro's classmate, Junior Cunningham, is another budding standout that earned second team all-district honors a season ago.

Fellows said his team's returning experience and talent has him feeling confident

about his group heading into the season.

"The cupboard is not bare by any means. We got a lot more returning starters with playing time this year than we did last year," he said. "We've had a good month of practice and preparation."

Alpine will open the season Aug. 26 against Mountain View, and will play in a district that will be without Anthony.

Following the UIL realignment this past March, Anthony shifted down to 2A, and as a result, the Bucks' district will now only feature four teams - Crane, Compass Academy, and Tornillo, plus Alpine.

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Alpine High Varsity



Alpine High Seniors



Alpine High Junior Varsity



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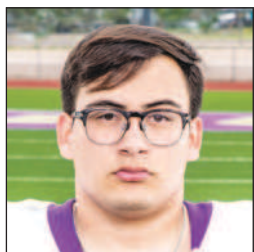
Alpine High Varsity



Reese Ahrens



Zane Billings



Patrick Contreras



JR Cunningham



Tray Ervin



Davian Fierro



Aiden Garcia



EJ Hernandez



Alan Hernandez



Adrian Lujan



Iden Lujan



Joaquin Martinez



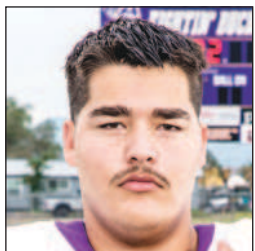
Mateo Miranda



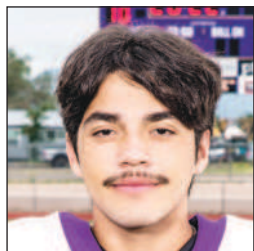
Eddie Morrison



Clancey Newman



Jeremiah Pearce



Zorian Reyes



Moses Riggins



Jordan Rodriguez



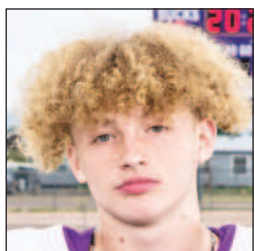
Jared Roggow



Devon Rojo



Ian Schwierjohn



Logan Smith



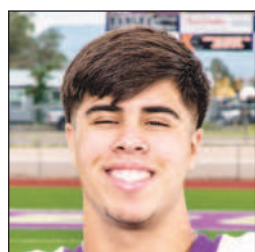
Ethan Sweat



Robert Vasquez



Andrew Velasquez



Oscar Velasquez



Elijah Villanueva



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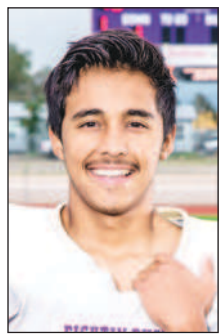
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Alpine High Junior Varsity



Enrique Acosta



David Baca



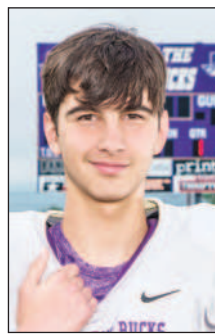
Miguel Batres



Landon Bruttomesso



Christopher Craver



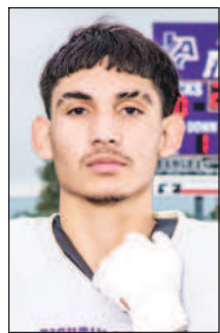
Ferris Daley



Seth Dutchover



Izaak Fierro



Ethan Flores



Erain Guerrero



Ezicio Guillen



Daedrick Hardwick



Alejandro Hernandez



Dane Jeffress



Lee Leland



AJ Llenez



Sean Michael Mendoza



Austin Milligan



Maverick Milligan



Leon Mucharraz



John Paul Prieto



Solanus Prieto



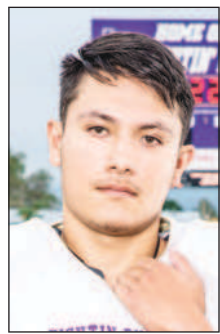
Auden Ramirez



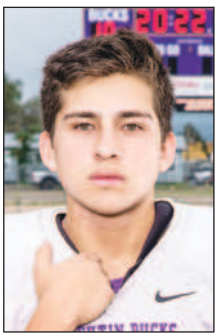
Alec Ramos



Xadrian Reyes



Andrew Rivera



Alan Sera



Kelton Tarrant



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# VOLLEYBALL

## Alpine High Varsity



Novah Carrasco



Kiara Castillo



Neftali Contreras



Hope Dominguez



Adayna Garcia



Hannah Juett



Ali Maroney



Masiela Miranda



Mia Morris



Jaycee Portillo



Sierra Ruckman



Paula Vargas



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Alpine High Junior Varsity Purple Team



Alpine High Junior Varsity Gold



Roxell Adams



Amanda Ahrens



Ayvah Arauza



Nevaeh Carrasco



Karolina Castillo



Kody Hawkins



Peyton Kinkade



Naida Morris



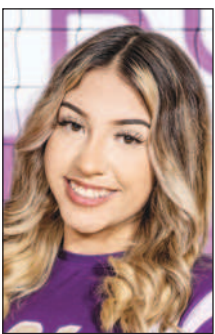
Sarah Natera



Elyse Ramos



Vianney Santos



Elena Valenzuela



Rikki Vega



Alpine High Junior Varsity Purple



Sye Behan



Jaylynn Celaya



Kendall Emerson



Sarah Evan



Geraldine Hinojosa



Andrea Johnson



Zevri Llanez



Aubri Maltos



Brittany Maltos



Izabel Ortiz



Ryanna Pineda



Allison Sanchez



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Alpine Veterinary Clinic advertisement featuring a deer logo, a football, and a volleyball. Text includes: 2201 W. Hwy. 90 | Alpine, TX. Cross Street: Near the intersection of West Highway 90 & Lemon Street. 432-837-3888. Ray Allen, DVM. Go Fightin' Bucks & Lady Bucks We're Proud of You!



Sarah Wilbourn



Toni Ybarra



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Cason Hatfield



Alyssa Duenz



Adrian Garcia



John Mendoza



Aaron Miller



Danica Mulholland



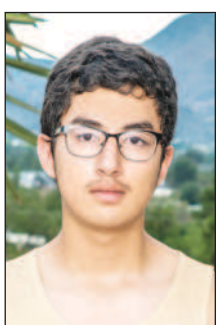
Alan Navarrete



Clegg Price-Fowlkes



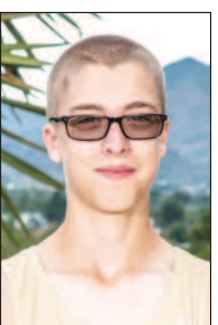
Alexa Renteria



Raul Renteria



Vanessa Rice



Martin Sablatura



Megan Struthers



Landon Velasco




## Wind River PHOTOGRAPHY

*Teresa Huckaby*  
Photographer

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