

County seeks solution to HOT tax collection

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

As with many communities and areas in Texas dependent on tourism, Brewster County has seen an explosion in short-term rentals, particularly in the Terlingua area. Collection of HOT taxes, which are hotel occupancy taxes, for the county has been a challenge.



Robert Alvarez

HOT taxes are due to the entity in which you are taxed. There is a misunderstanding locally about whom HOT taxes are to be paid to. The City of Alpine is its own taxing entity. They only collect the HOT taxes from hotels and short-term rentals within the city or that have been annexed into the city. Brewster County is responsible for collecting the HOT taxes for those hotels and short-term

See TAX • 8

Vacancies, HOT tax, homelessness lead county discussions

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

Brewster County Commissioners Court held its regularly scheduled meeting on Dec. 13 with the continuation of the burn ban reported by Stephanie Elmore, discussion on the homeless encampment on cemetery road, vacancies in the Brewster County Tourism department, and a request from the Elections Official for a part-time position to be added to her department.

In news regarding the homeless encampment, Road and Bridge Superintendent Frenchie Causey announced that there had been complaints about the encampment that is now currently on the bank of Alpine creek off cemetery road. "The bottom of that creek bed is trashed out, and while they have moved up onto the bank, it is still a mess and the area residents are complaining about them," said Causey. There was



Eleazar Cano

discussion about whether it was a city issue or a county issue due to the location, as some officials had mentioned to residents that it was a city issue and city officials mentioned it was a county issue. Judge Eleazar Cano stated, "Whether it is a county issue, or a city issue it affects all of us and it needs to be addressed."

In other business, Brewster County Tourism Director Robert Alvarez submitted a report

to the court but was not in attendance. Alvarez reported that his search to fill the open position in his office for an Administrative Assistant is ongoing, but that thus far he had four applicants and would like to fill the position by June 23. Alvarez's report also noted the recent board meeting held by the Tourism Council and told the court that Linda Walker was promoted to vice-president of

See COUNTY • 8

Lady Bucks dominate district opener



Alpine Lady Bucks tipped off their first district game against Presidio on Tuesday. The Lady Bucks would go on to win 47-37. They are scheduled to face Odessa Compass Academy tomorrow.

Avalanche photo by J.T. Maroney

INSIDE



FEATURED

See sports on pages 6-7.

Rainfall totals at Alpine-Casparis Airport

2022 14.21"
December 0.01"



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.



Allen: Fifty years and still going

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

Much has changed in the 50 years Dr. Ray Allen has been a veterinarian. Then again much has stayed the same.

Dr. Allen, who hails from Canadian, graduated with his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1972, from Texas A & M University. His first job as a veterinarian was at a feedlot in the panhandle. He then moved to Marfa in 1973, after the cattle market crashed in 1972 and stayed there until 1982, when he moved to Alpine and purchased the practice he currently owns and operates with his wife Terry Jean.

Walking into Alpine Veterinary Clinic, the first thing you see are photos of wildlife, pet food, and several plaques of appreciation.

These are for sponsorships for kids' sports teams and for help he has provided at the annual ranch rodeo in years past. You will also see a memory board, composed of cards and photos of animals, primarily dogs and cats, that have been lovingly cared for by Dr. Allen over the years. His patients love him.

The Avalanche spoke with Allen's daughters about what it was like growing up being the kid of a veterinarian. Mindy Wiggins replied, "It was always an adventure. You never knew what you were going to see, and you learned real early never to say you were bored because he would always find the worst jobs for you to do." His daughter Katy Allen-Matthews said,



Dr. Ray Allen and his team at Alpine Veterinary Clinic including his granddaughter Kaitlyn Wiggins seated next to him, Maria Espinoza, Elizabeth Parras, his wife Terry Jean Allen, Christy Cross and her son Jacob Cross.

"He is one of the hardest workers I know. It was always fun getting to see all the different animals when I was young, and

still today. You never know what is going to show up. Now he makes sure all his grandkids get to experience all the

wonderful memories I have."

Allen is known for

See ALLEN • 8

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OBITUARIES

Rosa Waters Garcia



It is with great sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved wife, mother and grammy, Rosa Waters Garcia, who went to be with her Lord and Savior on Dec. 2.

Praying of the Most Holy Rosary and Mass were held on Saturday, Dec. 10, at 9:30 a.m. with Mass of Christian Burial by officiant, Father Pablo Matta.

Born July 16, 1953, in Alpine to the late Jesu-sita Waters and Mack O.

Waters, she is preceded in death by grandfather Franciso Ramirez; uncles Domingo and Cornelio Ramirez; aunt Elidora Billings; and sister-in-law, Tina Losoya.

She is survived by her husband of 46 years,

Poncho Garcia; son Jason Garcia; daughter-in-law Isela Garcia; grandchildren Issa and Vincent Garcia; sister Sylvia Probasco; brothers Mack and Jack Waters; 8 nephews and 2 nieces.

Rosa was a graduate of Alpine High School and received her Master of Education in 1975 from Sul Ross. She embarked on her teaching and coaching career in Alpine before continuing to serve the communities of Presidio, Ft. Stockton

and ultimately retiring in Fabens, in 2019.

Rosa was the epitome of grace and pure kindness. Her compassion and love for teaching allowed her to make a difference in the lives of those she knew. A woman of strong faith and love, who enjoyed nothing more than spending time with her family, especially her two grandchildren, and making lasting memories.

Services were entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home, in Alpine.

Kathleen Ryan Kolas



A service to celebrate the life of Kathleen Ryan Kolas, 73, of Terlingua is pending for a later date in the Ft. Bliss National Cemetery, where she will be placed with her husband. She died on Friday, Nov. 25, in Lubbock.

Kathleen Mie Kolas was born April 22, 1949, to Harold and Mildred Smith Ryan in Nagoya,

Japan. She married Justin Augustine Kolas on June 11, 1967, in El Paso.

Kathleen is survived by her sons, Travis Kolas,

and Keith Kolas; brothers, James Ryan, and Daniel Ryan; brother and sister-in-law, Richard and Paula Kolas and sister-in-law, Laurie Ryan.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband Justin; and brothers, Harold Ryan, Jr., and Don Ryan.

Please visit www.memorialdesigners.net to share stories of Kathleen with her family.

Joseph Alexander Osborne

A memorial service in honor of Joseph Alexander Osborne will be held at First Baptist Church Alpine's fellowship hall on Thursday, Dec. 22, at 4 p.m.

Family and friends, educators and neighbors are welcome to come and show their respects.

For questions or condolences, you may call 432-249-2071.

The bells are ringing



Tripp and Brody Warren along with Eddie Leyva of Alpine ring the bells for the Salvation Army donation pot located in front of Porter's Thriftway recently.

Courtesy photo by Shelley Shackelford

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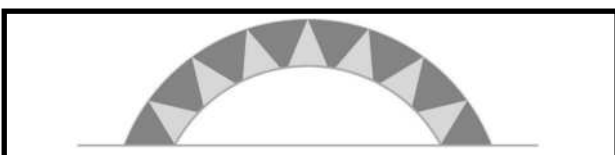
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**32nd Annual
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Downtown Terlingua Ghosttown
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2:00 pm ~ Turn-in time
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**2:30 pm ~ Start the year off with a bowl of
"GOOD LUCK" ~ \$10 donation.**

Local Music & "Hot Date" Raffle

Proceeds will benefit continuing education
scholarships for Terlingua School Graduates!



AEP awards \$120K grant



Recently Alpine Retirement Community Apartments was awarded a \$120,000 grant from AEP to help with updated HVAC expenses for its residents. Pictured are Ellie Ahumada, board member HCDC, Antonio Maldonado, Eileen Rouke, Property manager, Esmeralda Zuniga, property manager and Blake Burchard, AEP External Affairs Manager and Vero Elizondo, AEP Coordinator.

Courtesy photo



Christmas Parade set for Dec. 16

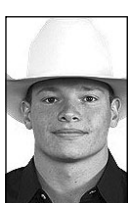
The City of Alpine is hosting this year's annual Christmas Parade on Dec. 16, with line-up at 5 p.m. at the Alpine Civic Center. The parade will begin at 5:30 p.m. and continue to the Alpine Visitors Center on third street where the grand finale will be held with a concert by the Alpine Community Band. The City of Alpine encourages all businesses, organizations, families, and anyone who wants to be in the parade to join them.

Sul Ross takes top spots at rodeo finals

Two current and one former Sul Ross cowboy arrived at the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas to show them that Sul Ross produces top notch rodeo cowboys. The three Sul Ross cowboys earned a combined total of \$532,000 at this year's National Finals Rodeo and all three finished in the top four in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association World Standings in their events.

Tristen Hutchings won the National Championship in Bull Riding at the College National Finals Rodeo in June of 2021. This marked Sul Ross' first national championship since the mid 1980's.

In December of this year, Hutchings climbed aboard Party Animal in the first round of the NFR and scored a 90.5 to win the first round, in his first appearance at the NFR. Hutchings continued to put Sul Ross on the map by riding five of his 10 bulls, covering and winning rounds one, five, six, and 10, for a total of 447 points, placing him fourth in the NFR bull riding average. His performance at this year's NFR elevated him to third in the PRCA Bull Riding World Standings. Hutchings, a senior at Sul Ross, finished his rodeo



Tristen Hutchings

season with earnings of \$379,785 for the season, with \$252,000 of that won at his first qualifying NFR.

Former Sul Ross bull rider, Australian Ky Hamilton competed in his third NFR this December. With a finish of fourth in 2020 and tenth in 2021, Hamilton capped off another outstanding season, placing in six rounds of this year's NFR with a total score of 510. Finishing third in the NFR average, he still finished his year right behind Hutchings in fourth place in the PRCA World Standings. Hamilton finished the year with

\$278,412 in earnings.

Cole Franks, a senior at Sul Ross from Clarendon and the 2022 Reserve National Champion Bareback rider in the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association earned a score on all 10 of the broncs he drew. Franks was the 2020 College National Champion All-Around and Bareback Rider while attending Clarendon College. Franks placed in eight of the 10 rounds at the NFR, finishing second in the average. He closed out his 2022 professional season in fourth place in the world standings. He finished the year with a season's earning of \$263,377.

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Alpine FFA show their skills



Members of the Alpine FFA Senior and Junior skills team competed in the Area competition held recently in Ira. Senior skills team, on the left, are Kendyl Hardaway, Reese Coleman, Tannin Ritchie, and Kaitlyn Wiggins. The Junior skills team, on the right, are Mia Lewis, Kody Hawkins, Ryanna Pineda, and Joel Munoz.

Courtesy photo

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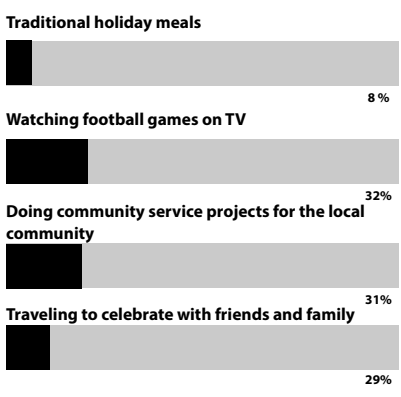
Opinions

ONLINE POLL

RESULTS

WHAT IS A HOLIDAY TRADITION THAT YOU ALWAYS ADHERE TO?

RESULTS



THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Now the Avalanche asks:

What is a holiday tradition that you always adhere to?

- Traditional holiday meals
- Watching football games on TV
- Doing community service projects for the local community
- Traveling to celebrate with friends and family

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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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.



I don't believe in stuff like that

"The problem with omens is that they never come with an illustrated pamphlet explaining what they mean."

— Dean Koontz, American author of suspense thrillers



LEON ALDRIDGE
Guest Columnist

Could it have been an omen? I'm thinking maybe more of a sign.

That one 9/16-inch box end wrench, my favorite, was nowhere to be found when I needed it Thanksgiving weekend. "See," I said aloud. To myself. "If you had put away those tools after the last time you were out here. Was it fourth of July weekend? That wrench would have been right where it belongs. In the third drawer of the bottom cabinet. The big roll-around toolbox and tools I bought from Rick Hightower in about 1984."

Never one to put stock in omens or signs, I laughed at superstitions, horoscopes, and good luck charms, too. But that began to change when Rick, Jess Fultz, and I decided to go racing one Saturday some years ago. Well, we planned to go.

I think it was about 1987, during that mid-life crisis when I bought another race car. A former national

record-holding drag racing Camaro.

The car had spent time in hibernation. As long as it had been since my earlier days of traversing quarter mile tracks at insane speeds. But we were both in shape after a few weeks of freshening up for the car and some self-inflicted pep talks for me. Reassuring myself I could still drive one. And just like that, we were returning to the scene of my earlier racing crimes, I-20 Raceway near Tyler.

"If we can get out of Center by 3:30," I told them, "We can be there when the gates open at 5 p.m. and get in some tuning and time trials before eliminations at 7 p.m."

And that's the way it would have started except for the first omen: a bad tire on the hauler truck.

"Take the race car off the hauler and we'll pull it on my trailer," I said like a genius. That done, we were off to a late start. Rolling out of Center, headed north.

The trip was going well, and conversation was lively about the anticipated evening of racing when an ominous "thump" from the rear broke up the party.

The rear-view mirror confirmed omen number two. "We just had a flat on the trailer," I announced. Stopping short of any confessions about how I'd been meaning to get a spare for that trailer.

A slow trip on the shoulder of the road got us into the tiny berg of Beckville, population 163 at that time. Salute. The proprietor at the town's only garage, a one-man operation, was still around cleaning up before closing. Maybe he was looking for his favorite 9/16-inch wrench too.

"Yep ... should have a good used tire to fit that," he drawled. His asking price would have been cheap at twice the price, and we were on the road again. To quote Willie.

Breezing into Longview, we turned west onto I-20 in the home stretch for our destination. "Time is going to be tight," I said. "We'll have about a half hour to unload and make a couple of practice passes on the track."

As dusk was descending,

omen number three appeared in the form of faulty trailer lights. Another roadside repair and one more delay. "We'll still get there before the start of racing," I whispered under my breath.

"It's the Highway 155 exit," announced our 1980s GPS counterpart, Jess with his Texaco road map. "We're getting close."

That was just before omen number four unfolded with drops of rain peppering the windshield.

"Anybody hungry," I asked.

"Can't say we didn't try," Rick added.

Signaling for a turn off the interstate in defeat, our plan was now a restaurant with a good meal in Longview. As the rain-soaked but race-ready rig rolled off the interstate highway less than five miles from the track, Rick said, "You would think with all that's happened, it just wasn't meant for us to go racing tonight."

"Nah, I don't believe in stuff like that," I scoffed as we passed under the giant green lighted highway sign. The one clearly marking the exit we had just randomly taken, "Highway 757 - Starville - Omen Road exit."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank You

Thank you to the Alpine Avalanche and all who joined us on Saturday, Dec. 3, for Historic Alpine's Second Annual Christmas Stroll, down East Sul Ross Avenue. It was a community effort between Historic Alpine, Sul Ross State University's Music Department, the City of Alpine, our East Sul Ross Street neighbors, and our local non-profits and organizations.

The true magic was seeing friends and neighbors of all ages come together for a

community-based event. Our streets were lined with luminarias made by Cub Scout Pack 141 and Alpine High School's National Honor Society. Adam Llanez's welding class at Alpine School contributed by making beautiful decorations out of rebar, and they delivered decorations loaned to us by Lucy's Christmas Cottage. Cookies and warm drinks were served along the Stroll by Alpine Community Projects, The Vajdos family, Historic Alpine, Chisos Brewing, and Skeleton's Runway. Santa's helpers from Mor-

risson's True Value Family of Stores, including Rudolph and the Grinch, stopped by the city's old schoolhouse and gave out Christmas swag to the children donated by Historic Alpine.

Thanks to Michael Castelli, Historic Alpine Volunteers, Alpine Public Library, The Alpine Kiwanis Club, Pastor Stephen White with the Methodist Church, Galaxy Projects, and Bread Garden Bakery for extra help decorating, and Printco for your continued support. Thank you to Dr. Andrew

Alegria for organizing Alpine High School Band, Ft. Stockton Choirs, and Chuck Wilson for organizing a brass ensemble. Thanks to the City of Alpine and Heather Yadon along with Sul Ross, the Alpine Fire Department, Chief Losoya and the Alpine Police Department and Sul Ross Police Department for making sure everyone strolled safely and made sure Santa arrived at Lawrence Hall for the Tree Lighting.

Abbey Branch
Alpine

Water billing should be elementary

It's common knowledge that City of Alpine has problems reading water meters and with the subsequent and often inaccurate bills. I reference your article, City discusses water billing issues, Alpine Avalanche, Nov. 17 this year. My complaint about the water portion of the monthly utility bill is not uncommon. The estimated amount used is many times the actual monthly usage. Last billing period I was

billed 9,000 gallons, but used, according to daily meter readings, 1,200 gallons. The Oct. billing was similarly wrong.

City employees admit the problem after some assertive inquiry on my part. Their explanation is that water department is understaffed and unable to read meters each month. Therefore, they use estimates from past readings to calculate the new bill. That is an efficient solution given past readings are accurate. In my case, three new meters in the past two years, the

estimated averages from the past are wrong because the replaced meters were read inaccurately. My bill requires readings each month to establish an accurate new bill and usage history. This glitch in their system ought to be easily understood. It is not noted by them that new meters require monthly readings.

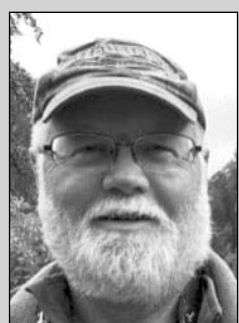
One solution to this problem is for residents to read and report their own usage each month, thereby, saving city labor and providing accurate information for billing. Trust is essential to this sys-

tem but let's be realistic, most residents are trustworthy and are willing to pay for water actually used. If a bill is inordinately and repeatedly low, a staff employee could verify readings. No resident would be required to read a meter if they preferred not to read. Reading meters and billing is not difficult. Practice will yield accuracy and billing math is elementary. I urge your readers to assist in solving this ongoing annoying problem in our community.

Robert Schmitt
Alpine

Heard on the STREET

What is your favorite food at Christmas?



Bill Sain: Monkey Bread and Sausage. We have Christmas breakfast as well as dinner.



Josh Rinehart: Buttermilk pie. I don't care who makes it.



Heath Young: Fudge. My mom makes the best fudge there is.



Sherri Toler: Spiral ham. It's the best.

Author book signing



Front Street Books hosted author Jason Stone last Thursday evening for a Q and A session and book signing for his new historical fiction work, "The Beauty of Days Gone By."

Avalanche photo by Kara Gerbert

Send your community events to editor@alpineavalanche.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 15 AHS Holiday Concert, 7 p.m. in the Alpine High School gym.

Dec. 15 - 16 Children's Christmas Store, 1:30 - 5 p.m. at Hillside Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.

Dec. 16 Christmas Parade, 5 p.m. line up at Alpine Civic Center. Parade begins at 5:30 p.m. and will end at the Alpine Visitor's Center on third street with a finale by the Alpine Community Band.

Dec. 19-21 Live Nativity at Kokernot Lodge, 7 p.m. sponsored and produced by Michael's



Mountain Ministry.

Dec. 22 Operation Blue Santa, Last day to drop off gifts at the Alpine Police Department for this year's Operation Blue Santa program.

Dec. 23 Cowboy Christmas Ball, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Granada Theater featuring the music of Doug Moreland.

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 bbcc-chorale.wixsite.com/bbcc.

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Sunshine House Angel Tree



Noreen Geehan and Petra Tucker place memory ornaments on the Angel Tree, set up in the dining room of the Sunshine House.

Avalanche photo by Kara Gerbert

PET OF THE WEEK

Alpine Humane Society Pet of the Week is Ruby. Don't let her looks fool you, she may look tough, but she is the gentlest and quietest girl we have available for adoption here at the Shelter. Pitties may get a bad rap, but Ruby is here to tell you it's all nonsense!. She needs a comfy couch and a good old-fashioned snuggle session ASAP.

Ruby came in as a stray with another dog, a Dachshund mix, so we know she would be fine in a home with another dog of any size. While it is hard to tell if a dog is potty trained in the shelter, Ruby is one to keep her kennel clean. If you are looking for a friend



to binge-watch your favorite show with or someone to motivate you to take that walk around the block in the evening, Ruby may be the girl you have been looking for!

Pet promotions are courtesy of Alpine Humane Society. Alpine Animal Services handles pet adoptions at the city shelter, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

and 2 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday at 2900 E. 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 N. 5th Street in Alpine, open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The Pet Pantry recently moved to 600 N. 5th Street. The AHS Helpline is 432-837-2532. To view adoptable pets, visit PetFinder.com or www.alpinehumanesociety.org, and check us out on Facebook and Instagram.

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Sports

Fightin' Buck Schedule

Basketball
Lady Bucks
Dec. 16: Alpine vs Compass JV @ 5 p.m., Varsity @ 6:30 p.m.
Dec. 20: Crane vs Alpine JV @ 5 p.m., Varsity @ 6:30 p.m.
Bucks
Dec. 15-17: Alpine @ Fort Stockton Tournament TBA
Dec. 20: Crane vs Alpine JV Purple @ 5 p.m., JV Gold @ 6:30 p.m., Varsity @ 8:00 p.m.

Alpine Middle School
Lady Bucks
Jan. 5: Stanton vs Alpine Bucks
Jan. 5: Alpine vs Stanton

Bucks down Fort Hancock, ready for tournament

BY SHAWN YORKS
Contributor

Alpine High School boys' basketball coach Aaron Hardwick is impressed with his team's resiliency. The Bucks' 3-2 record heading into Tuesday's game at 4A Midland Greenwood with a an 11-2 record is a bit deceiving, with their losses coming to strong 4A's Andrews who's 5-5 and San Elizario who's 8-2. And take away a disastrous first quarter at San Elizario on Friday night and the Bucks win. Alpine was down 19-6 after the first quarter.

"We came out cold," Hardwick said. "We battled back, which was so cool to see in a hostile environment – and it was hostile – in every aspect it was hostile, but we did well there."

Alpine wasn't hitting shots early on and was not defending well.

"You just can't start off like that on the road," Hardwick said. "But I think the kids are really responding and I think they're starting to get it."

The Bucks hit 38 % at San Elizario, with Evren Martinez scoring 15 points, Jace Canaba 16 points before fouling out in the third quarter and Daedrick Hardwick 15. Logan Smith came off the bench in the third quarter, scoring four points but had a huge block that created a



Devon Rojo and Logan Smith battle for the ball in a recent game against Andrews at home.

spark for the Bucks, and Guillermo Busey had three off the bench, as well.

"You hate to lose, but when you lose the way we did – fighting, going down swinging – it was pretty much down to the wire," Hardwick said. "I was thrilled, I was excited, you hate

to lose but for them to understand and go against the caliber of opponent and play them like that at home, that was pretty cool to see."

The Bucks took down 2A Fort Hancock 67-59 coming off the Andrews loss.

"Fort Hancock, they're a

team, a team that's scrappy, you can't start off slow against them, they won't let you," Hardwick said.

The Bucks hit a "dead point" in the third quarter against the Mustangs but overcame that in

See BUCKS • 7

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Lady Bucks rise and fall on the court

In last week's play, the Lady Bucks took on the Lady Mustangs from Ft. Hancock on their home court, while the JV Lady Bucks battled the Lady Vaqueros from Sierra Blanca.

From tip off to the final buzzer, Coach Kilpatrick's JV squad never looked back. The JV dominated the Vaqueros throughout the entire game and won big. They came through, conquering the Vaqueros 53-26.

The Lady Buck Varsity team played a close first half and headed into halftime with a six-point lead. The Lady Mustangs, with a strong showing from their lead player in the second half, took an eight-point lead in the third quarter. The Lady Bucks fought back but were unable to close the gap, falling to the Lady Mustangs 51-39. "We had a great game plan and we executed it very well. We knew we

had to contain the Lady Mustangs No. 30 as much as we could, and we did so for most of the game. We were able to hold one of the best ball players in the area to four points in the first half," said Coach Virdell.

Lady Buck Hope Dominguez had the duty of defending the Lady Mustangs' No. 30 and did an excellent job covering her. The Lady Mustangs hit some key shots in the third quarter that pushed them into the lead. "We pushed the ball in transition well and the girls ran the offense very well. We are still struggling with hitting the open shots consistently, but we are creating those shots. The girls have worked hard on correcting the little things we had trouble with at the start of the season and I can see great progress," Virdell added. "Nobody

See BASKETBALL • 7



Lady Bucks Hope Dominguez covers and defends against a Lady Mustang from Fort Hancock in Alpine.



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We invite you and your family to come visit Santa in our lobby on December 20th from 4:00-6:00pm. We will be serving Hot Cocoa and handing out a Santa goodie bag!

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Sul Ross football players named to ASC All-Conference

Eight Sul Ross Lobos players were named to the American Southwest Conference All-Conference team. Two of the Lobos, Ronin Williams and Ajani Batts earned first-team honors on offense and defense respectively.

Offensive lineman Ajani Batts led the Lobo offense this past season with 4,034 yards and was fourth overall in yards during conference play. Likewise, defensive lineman Ronin Williams led the conference with 130 total tackles and 79 solo tackles on the season. Williams also broke the school record for career tackles, with 279 and leads all the NCA Division III in total tackles.

Third team honors for offensive positions were earned by wide receivers Eddie Sinegal and Austin Ogunmakin. Ogunmakin was fifth in conference play with 729 receiving yards, and he caught 45 passes while scoring seven touchdowns. Sinegal played in all 10 games and caught 34 passes for a total of 469 yards and two touchdowns.

Defensive position honors for third team included lineman Dayln Dunbar and Jade Rios. Dunbar was ranked third in the conference with seven and half sacks and finished with a total of 38 sacks during the season. He also had 11.5 tackles for loss and one interception as

well as one fumble recovery. Rios ranked sixth in conference play with a total of 94 tackles, five of which were recorded for a loss, two sacks and one forced fumble.

Honorable mention positions for the All-Conference team were wide receiver Vincente Luevano. Luevano finished fourth in the conference with 774 receiving yards. He broke the single-season school record for touchdown receptions, and he had 12 touchdowns to lead the conference.

The Outstanding Sportsman Team of the Year honor went to tight end Isaiah Villarreal. Villarreal caught three passes for 23 yards in nine games.

Vegas Tuffest Jr. World Champion



Avery and Tanner Williams recently competed in the Vegas Tuffest Jr. World Championship. Avery competed in the 12 and under Goat Tying and Tanner in the 10 and under Breakaway Roping. Parents are Holly and Ty Williams of Alpine.

Courtesy photo

Belcher competes at Junior NFR



Recently, Britton Belcher, grandson of Dr. Ray and Terry Jean Allen, competed in the Junior NFR in Las Vegas held this past week. Also pictured is his sister Raylee Belcher.

BUCKS • FROM 6

the fourth quarter with 28 points to end the game strong.

"It was a big victory for us," Hardwick said. "I know they're a small school, but those guys are tough, resilient, so that was a really good win for us."

Jace Canaba had a double-double with 23 points and 10 rebounds, freshman Daedrick Hardwick had a season-high 18 points and five steals, Evren Martinez had six rebounds, four steals and four assists, senior Jordan Rodriguez also had a double-double with 13 points and 10 rebounds in his first game back.

"If we didn't have him, we wouldn't have won," Hardwick said. "He picked up the slack."

Alpine will travel to Fort Stockton for a tournament Thursday-Saturday, where the Bucks will be tested against more 4A and larger competition before opening their district schedule at home Dec. 19 against Crane.

Middle School Lady Bucks take on Compass Academy



Alpine Middle School's Lady Bucks take on Compass Academy in Odessa.

Courtesy photo

BASKETBALL • FROM 6

likes to lose but we are getting better every game and district is where it matters. I love the fight and effort these girls bring every time they step on the court, they have a no quit attitude, and it will pay off," remarked Virdell.

In Tuesday's game against the Lady Mustangs, Alexis Rodriguez led the scoring charge with 14 points and Novah Carrasco followed with nine points for the game. Ali Maroney led the assists with seven, while Novah Carras-

co pulled in 12 rebounds. Jasmine DeLeon added another four rebounds and Elyse Ramos grabbed three steals.

Starting Thursday off last weekend the Varsity Lady Bucks competed in the Andrews Tournament, it was a grueling schedule with three days of little rest. The ladies played against Amarillo Caprock -5A, Abernathy -3A top ranked school, Midland High -6A, and Snyder- 4A. "The girls were warriors; I think that is the best way to explain it." Said Virdell.

They competed with every team, playing with fight and hustle. The Lady Bucks were unable to come home with a victory but brought something impressive, high respect from all. Every opposing coach Alpine played, said that the Alpine girls outplayed theirs and wished their team would play as hard as our girls.

As the girls move into district play, they face stiff competition from Presidio, Compass Academy, Crane, Stanton, Tornillo, and Kermit.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



JORDAN RODRIGUEZ

Verse Ft. Hancock, Jordan registered a double double with 13 points 5/5 fg and 10 rebounds. If we don't have Jordan, we don't win this game, plain and simple.

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TAX • FROM 1

rentals in Marathon and the rest of the county, including Big Bend National Park, Study Butte, Terlingua, and Lajitas and areas in between.

Director of Tourism for Brewster County, Robert Alvarez said, “We have had issues collecting from these short-term rental properties since I became director. We estimate there are around 500 short-term rental properties in total, but we’re only actually collecting on a little over half that number. This is causing those who are following the rules and paying regularly to become upset, because those who aren’t paying

are getting away with not paying their share but are still reaping the benefits of the tourism dollar.”

Being a government entity, Brewster County must send out a Request for Proposal or RFP if the vendors they are seeking to do business with have a cost above \$50,000. For full government transparency, the tourism board and county commissioners deemed it fitting to send out an RFP for vendors that could aid in collection of HOT taxes, specifically those delinquent and non-paying short-term rental owners. Alvarez stated, “We certainly do not see the cost of hiring a vendor to help

us to be above \$50,000 or even that much. From the information I have gathered it is more likely it would come in under \$40,000 if that. In a sense, it would be like paying another employee to do the leg work cost-wise, but by hiring a professional vendor, they will have the expertise we have been challenged to find locally.

“The cost of paying the vendor chosen will not come out of HOT funds directly, as that is against the law. The tourism board pays Brewster County 7% of collected HOT taxes, to take care of our books. Part of our 7% payment to the coun-

ty will pay for the vendor to collect the information on these short-term rentals, so the payment to the vendor will come directly from the county, and not as a separate payment from the tourism budget. Each vendor has specific things that they specialize in and while we’ve asked for many different items in the RFP, we believe we will only find a vendor that can provide us with a portion of our asks. This is more than we have now, so we will choose the vendor with the best price that is able to best meet what we’re looking for in these tax collections,” remarked Alvarez. Alvarez stated, “While

each vendor is different, the hope is that the chosen vendor will cross reference sales tax sales for discrepancies of total taxes paid, and single out those owners who are not paying or are not paying enough. As I understand it, the vendor will begin by sending out a letter to the short-term rental, welcoming them as a short-term rental in the county, along with the forms to fill out for the HOT taxes. If there is no response within 30 days or whatever is agreed upon with the vendor, they send out a reminder letter. If a third letter is necessary, it will come directly from the ven-

tor’s legal representation informing them that the next step will result in the vendor filing with the county attorney for prosecution of unpaid and or back HOT taxes and fees. Our sincere hope is that with the help of professionals we can finally collect the funds owed to the county. We also want to make payments easier for the short-term rental owners by setting up an online portal for taxes to be paid on the county website. We hope this will help in collecting from those who are delinquent or are non-payers at this point and our goal is to begin with a vendor in January.”

ALLEN • FROM 1

giving back to the local community. One of the many things he does to give back is volunteering his time to the local livestock show. All four of his daughters grew up showing livestock. The girls primarily showed lambs, but there were a few steers and a heifer to enter the show ring too. He didn’t limit his expertise and generosity to his kids’ animals either. He passed it on to all the other kids and their animals as well. If one of the kids show animals was sick and needed medication or was hurt and needed help, Allen has always come to the rescue free of charge. It is a practice he still holds today and finds very rewarding. Helping local kids with their livestock projects isn’t the only satisfying aspect of being a veterinarian. Allen remarked, “The

human-animal bond, when I help out the animal, what that does to the bond between the owner and their animal -it gives me immense satisfaction to witness that.”

“A lot has changed in the past fifty years in veterinary medicine,” Allen told the Avalanche. “The one thing that has changed the most is technology. We no longer have to hand develop our x-rays; they are all digital now.” Although technology is the biggest change as far as advancements to the field, the one thing Allen sees that stands out after all this time is the change in the ranching environment. “We’ve gone from ranchers to absentee landowners, to sportsmen, to the amount of land that’s out of production and the reduction of the cows on the land. There are not enough

cows in West Texas to shake a stick at these days. Twenty years ago, it was common to palpate at least 500 head of cattle a day. That is no longer the case.”

With cattle numbers down and ranching not what it used to be, the shift in Allen’s patients has changed as well. Horses and cattle made up about 80% of his patients when he first began practicing veterinary medicine. These days Allen’s patients are 80-90% all small animal, with the remainder being the few horses and cattle he sees on occasion. “When we started out, it was veterinary medicine 24 hours a day. That was our passion. People now still want to practice their veterinary medicine, but they want other things that are important to them that we neglected,” Allen said.

After fifty years of practicing veterinary medicine, Allen shows no signs of slowing down. That’s to say, unless mother nature has different plans, or from Allen’s viewpoint, “I see myself doing this, being a veterinarian, until the first day I wake up and don’t want to. The first morning I wake up and don’t want to get out of bed and go to work is the day I come down here and lock the doors.”

After so many years in practice, and witnessing all the changes, Allen’s respect and love of animals and their welfare is what keeps him going. The animals are what drives him to get up every morning and tend to their needs every day, in a demanding but satisfying profession that has served the Big Bend community for the last 50 years.

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COUNTY • FROM 1

the board but that there are three vacancies on the board that need to be filled currently. Alvarez’s report mentioned that the final HOT tax totals for the year were in and that they exceeded \$1.8 million, a new record. Judge Cano remarked, “When Robert was hired on by the council and by the county, he was tasked with the job of doubling the then HOT tax income. I believe he has far exceeded that and has done an excellent job.”

Finally, Brewster County Elections Administrator Lora Nussbaum spoke with the auditor’s office and the treasurer’s office who then brought to the court the request for a permanent part-time position to add to the Elections Administration Department. Discussion on the item ensued and Judge Cano queried whether a position could be added in the middle of a fiscal year, since the budget had already been approved. Treasurer Julie Morton responded, “The commissioners court must establish a new position and it must be funded out of the fund balance to pay the position.” County Auditor Patty Roach added, “There would have to be a budget amendment if adding a position to the Elections Department was approved by the court.”

Nussbaum addressed the Commissioner’s stating, “I have been doing everything myself thus far, and I have no issues with continuing to do so, but if for some reason I was sick or something and was out during an election or something then everything would just


“The commissioners court must establish a new position and it must be funded out of the fund balance to pay the position.”

— Treasurer Julie Morton

grind to a halt. At least if I had someone part-time, they would know what to do and how to continue in my absence. As it stands, I am a one person show.” All the commissioner’s, along with Judge Cano and Roach agreed that every other department

has more than one person to help if needed and that this was a valid request. The call for a motion was made by Judge Cano, with Pct. 3 Commissioner Ruben Ortega making the motion which was seconded by Pct. 2 Commissioner Sara Colando. The motion to create a permanent part-time position for the Elections Administration Department passed unanimously. The next regularly scheduled commissioner’s court meeting is set for Tuesday, Dec. 27 at 9:30 a.m. in the commissioner’s courtroom and via Facebook Live.

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Packer Bulls	88.00 to 96.00
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Cow / Calf Pairs - Top Half	1250.00 to 1500.00
Bred Cows - Top Half	1100.00 to 1400.00

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Terlingua Common School District is accepting proposals to enclose and seal a current 30' x 30' roofed shaded area with r-panel metal. The project also includes the install of three 4' x 7' roll up doors and one standard locking metal door. Proposals should include price, estimated completion time, and three references.

Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope, with the outside of the envelope clearly marked “Sealed Proposal – Weight Room”. Proposals will be submitted to:

Reagan Reed
 Superintendent
 Terlingua Common School District
 PO Box 256
 Terlingua, TX 79852

Received proposals will be opened Wednesday, December 21, at 4:00 PM, at the administrative office of Terlingua CSD, located at 550 Roadrunner Circle, Terlingua, TX 79852.

For questions or to view the job site, contact Reagan Reed by email at rreed@terlinguacsd.com or by phone at 432-371-2807.

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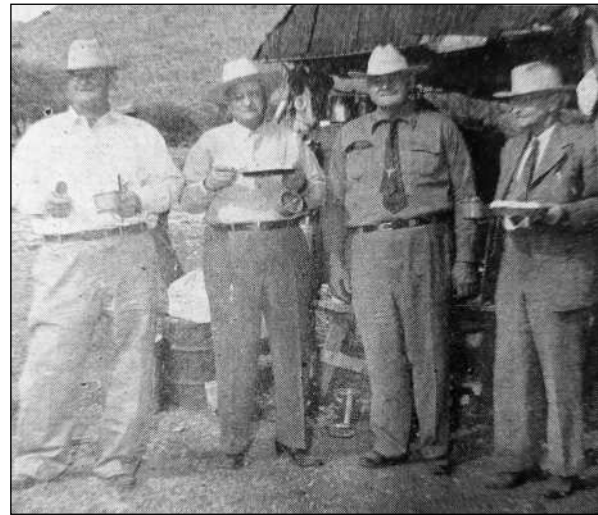
LOOKING BACK

Alpine Avalanche

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Dec. 20, 1946

Children in the Methodist Home look forward to having Santa visit them on Christmas morning. Shown here is one of the girls at the home on her way to bed in anticipation of what Santa may bring her.

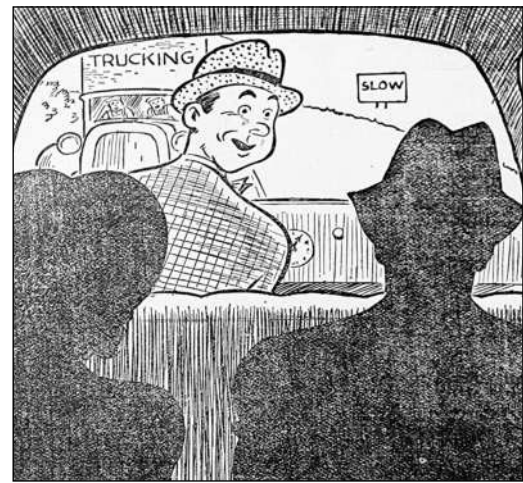
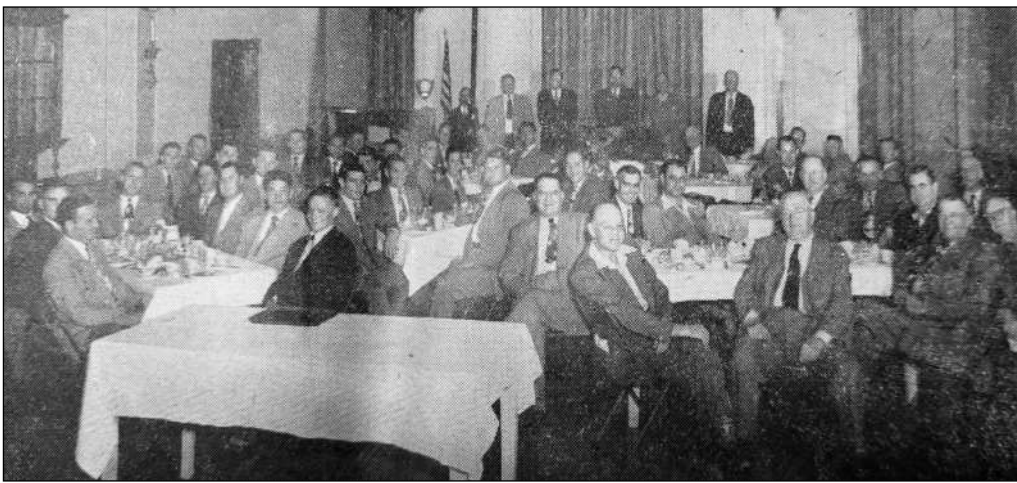


Dec. 22, 1950

Cap Yates recently held a stag party and BBQ on his ranch in the Glass Mountains. He and his fellow attendees are all members of the Old Cowboys of West Texas. Pictured are Cap Yates, John Lane, Mack H. Yates, and 'Uncle Bob' Hewitt from San Angelo.

Dec. 22, 1950

Members of the Sul Ross Lobos and some of their boosters dine on chicken, ham, and all the fixings courtesy of the Holland Hotel.



Dec. 2, 1938

The Traveler's Safety Service urges drivers to pay attention when on the road, as witnessed in this cartoon about keeping your eyes open.

Trimming dead leaves can lessen the likelihood of fire

Dear Neil: I have a pot of devil's ivy that was given to me at a company party. It has now produced runners that are longer than the table it's sitting on. Can I clip them and root them to get a new pot?

Yes, easily. Take lengths of stems with three to four leaves each. It helps if they have growing tips at their ends, but that's not a requirement. There are a couple of good ways to get them started. You can either plant them directly into shallow six-inch pots, five or six cuttings per pot, or you can put them into a glass of water for six to eight weeks. Put it in a bright spot out of direct sunlight on a countertop indoors. They will soon develop roots, at which point you can pot them up into that same six-inch pot, multiple plants per pot. Use a loose, highly organic planting soil.

Dear Neil: I have a



GARDENER'S MAILBAG

by neil sperry

large bed of purple fountaingrass. Should I cut it back to the ground now that it has turned brown? In fact, will it come back next spring?

Purple fountaingrass is an annual in all but the warmest parts of South Texas. That's not a huge issue for most of us, because it allows us to vary our plantings from one season to the next. If it's in a protected spot where you think it might come back, trimming the browned leaves off now, as I'd recommend for al-

most all perennial types of ornamental grasses, and it will lessen the likelihood of a fire starting in the dead foliage. Call me paranoid, but I've always worried about the dried grass blades whenever dry spells hit during the winter.

Dear Neil: I've been given a potted amaryllis as a gift. It's blooming beautifully, but I can't see it growing in that pot in that box for very long. What do I do with it? Can I set it into the garden?

Those are tropical bulbs that typically bloom following dry spells in their native homes. But, because they are tropical, they can't handle much cold. Successes growing them outdoors in Texas really tie specifically to the lowest

temperatures they encounter. They'll usually freeze and die in the northern half of Texas, unless they're protected during extreme cold. In South Texas, they're more dependable. However, many people have even better luck just leaving them in seven- or eight-inch pots. Even though your plant will finish blooming soon after the holidays, you'll want to allow the foliage to grow through the spring and summer. Then, to simulate dry spells in your plant's native home, lay the pot on its side for six or seven

weeks in late summer and early fall. The leaves will shrivel and dry. You have to force your nurturing nature to let that proceed. Then in early October take the plant out of its pot and replant it, perhaps back into the very same pot, into fresh potting soil. Put the pot back in the upright position and water it deeply. Keep the plant moist and bright all fall, and most years it will bloom again soon after Thanksgiving. And, just

for the record, this plant shouldn't be confused with "hardy amaryllis," the heirloom Texas bulb that's more commonly called St. Joseph lily. That handsome perennial grows outdoors in most of the state, blooming bright cherry-red in mid-spring each year.

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



- ACROSS**
- Garden City is seat of Glass _____ County
 - archaic "soon"
 - softest mineral found in Texas
 - TXism: "got _____ in the oven" (pregnant)
 - British mother
 - org. for academic psychology
 - TXism: "skinny as _____"
 - "trees" in Spanish
 - military NCO
 - Stamford's "Texas Cowboy _____"
 - TXism: "tight enough to pick a _____" (good fence)
 - Texas tennis teams can raise funds with a "_____ -thon"
 - ooze
 - catch one's breath
 - Queen Elizabeth II had _____ of 70 years
 - audience reaction at a comedy club
 - TXism: "got _____ under his saddle" (irritable)
 - "The Big Tree" at Goose Island is the _____
 - state (live oak)
 - TXism: "numerous as ants on _____"
 - rub out
 - TXism: "about _____ Red River mud" (confusing)

- TX-born Ann Doran 1955 film: "Rebel Without _____"
- dir. from Buna to Orange
- prefix meaning "large"
- TXism: "down to _____ and bones" (thin)
- TXism: "shin _____" (party)
- TX "Cactus Jack" said the vice-presidency "_____ worth a bucket of warm spit"
- TX Garrison who won 1988 Olympic medals in tennis
- TXism: "_____ New York second" (quick)
- where many Texans fought, for short
- lamb's mom
- Ruff Rider Regatta, e.g. (2 wds.)
- TXism: "loud as boot floors _____"
- seat of Colorado County
- Corp Christi FM
- falsehood (2 wds.)
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- Texas "fire _____"

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Miah Pierce



In what activities did you participate in high school?
During my four years in high school, I played basketball from my freshman through sophomore year. I was a technician for the band during my junior year. I have also been a part of the year-book staff all four years.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach, and why?
Many teachers have taught me everything to get me through my high school years but one who will always be someone I can look up to is Ms.Owens, our school nurse and teacher of CNA. I have had a very hard two years having to lose loved ones and she has been there for me though all of it. I will always be grateful to have her.

What was your favorite moment the last four years?
My favorite moment through my last four years would be painting the A with my senior class. At this moment I was able to come out of my bubble and be more outgoing with my classmates.

What are your plans after high school?
I'm not too sure on what I want to do career wise just yet, so much has happened, and I haven't had time to sit down and think about that. What I do know is I will be moving to San Antonio with my mom's side of the family and start from there.

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Devotional Page

Jesus Returns Soon

BY SCOTT HUCKABY
Big Bend Bible Fellowship

It has been almost 2,000 years since Jesus walked the earth so why should anyone think He will return any time soon? Well, Jesus gave us signs of His return in the Olivet Discourse, Matt 24, Luke 21. Among these signs is the parable of the fig tree, a symbol of Israel per Hosea 9:10 and Joel 2:21-25. Jesus told us the generation who sees Israel showing signs of life will be the one who sees Him return.

Israel began showing signs of life when the Jews started returning to the land God gave them. The prophecy of this return is one of the most repeated ones in scripture. Examples: Jer 16:14-15, Isaiah 11:10-12, Ezek 37. Beginning in A.D. 70, the people of Israel were scattered among the nations of the world not being re-established as a nation again until May 14, 1948. Despite the Diaspora, the Jews have kept their ethnic distinctiveness fulfilling Malachi 3:6. The Jews not being assimilated into local cultures for multiple centuries is unprecedented for any people in history.

Another amazing fulfillment of prophecy was the restoration of the Hebrew language per Zephaniah 3:9. Hebrew was essentially a dead language even back in Jesus' day when Aramaic and Greek were the languages of Israel. Hebrew as a spoken language was all but lost, only biblical scholars could read it. Today,

the Hebrew language binds Israel together despite their coming from different nations. The average Israeli on the street can now read original biblical scrolls without translation. No other dead language has ever been resurrected for everyday use like Hebrew.

Another amazing prophecy Israel has fulfilled is Zechariah 12:5. The reference here to "the governors of Judah" reveals the end-times government of Israel will differ from ancient times. End-times Israel will be ruled by a democracy rather than a monarchy. This same verse also indicates the leaders of Israel during this time will be secular because they refer to the Lord as "their God" rather than "our God."

Zechariah 12:6 goes on to speak to end-time Israel's military prowess. Israeli forces have won against superior forces in 1948, 1956, 1967, 1973, and 1981. Today the IDF is the most powerful in the region and they also have nuclear weapons. God has protected Israel from its inception and has enabled them to build a military capability that has brought them security and stability.

There are many other signs we are living in the season of Messiah's return just considering geopolitics, society, and technology. Expecting Jesus to return soon helps us get through these disturbing, yet extraordinary times. "Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near", Luke 21:28.

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2 Construction Technicians
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For more information we invite you to visit https://www.bigbend.com/about-us/employment/

Email resume to: HR@bigbend.com
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SADDLE PACK COMBINATION: (Your choice of any two items)
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VISIT BIG BEND

Visit Big Bend is currently accepting applications for a full-time Administrative Assistant. This position will require 40 hours per week in the BCTC office located in Alpine, TX and may include occasional weekend and holiday work and travel in the Brewster County area.

Visit Big Bend is funded by the Brewster County Hotel/Motel Occupancy tax and operates under the administrative direction of the Brewster County Judge and Brewster County Commissioner's Court. This Administrative Assistant position would be an employee of Brewster County and would need to understand and abide by the Brewster County Employee Handbook.

Visit Big Bend is seeking a qualified Administrative Assistant to perform duties under the direction of the Executive Director of the Brewster County Tourism Council. These duties include but are not limited to: answering phones, filing (both digital and paper), maintaining email distribution lists, general AP/AR, invoicing and other duties as assigned. Skills required include: familiarity with QuickBooks, good computer skills, ability to type 45 WPM minimum, good people skills, proficiency in Microsoft Office 365 software, good phone skills, office organization, familiarity with Zoom/Teams as well as various social media channels and be a flexible team player. A Tourism/DMO industry background is preferred and a good knowledge of the various areas and attractions in Brewster County is required. This position will begin in January 2023 with a salary range between \$30,000-\$36,000 depending on experience as well as a full Brewster County insurance and benefit package.

Send a resume with 3 references to: Robert Alvarez, Executive Director BCTC, PO Box 479, Alpine, TX 79831. Resumes can also be emailed to: Robert@visitbigbend.com. For a full job description call 432-837-3915 between 8a-5p M-F. Resumes will be accepted through December 31, 2022.

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION - DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP

The State of Texas
To all persons interested in the

Estate of Richard Lewis Ladd, Deceased,
Cause No. PR03106,
in County Court, Brewster County, Texas

Charles M. Huey, Jr. filed an application to Determine Heirship in this estate on the 16th day of November, 2022, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of RICHARD LEWIS LADD, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

This Application may be acted on by this Court at any call in the docket on or after 10:00 A.M., on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation on the 28th day of November, 2022. All persons interested in this case are cited to appear before said Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to this Application should they desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any objection, intervention, or response in writing with the County Clerk of Brewster County, Texas on or before the above-noted date and time.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court at office in Alpine, Texas, on the 18th day of November, 2022.

Brewster County, Texas (SEAL)

Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk
201 W. Ave E
Alpine, Texas 79830
By /s/ Sarah Vasquez

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BREWSTER

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
CAUSE NO. CVB22005

To: ARTHUR A. BECKMAN, EFFA LOU BENNETT, FRANK J. BROSCHE, LOUISE BRUEGGMANN, SOPHIE BRUEGGMANN, WALTER BRUEGGMANN, HENRY A. CALLOWAY, FRANK CASPER AND WIFE, R. M. CHAMBERS, WILLIAM CLANTON, O. C. CLAYTON, HARRY D. COFIELD, COLUMBIA INVESTMENT COMPANY, ALICE M. COOPER, WILLIAM COOPER, GLENN C. CRAIG, E. S. DAVIS, DONNA DIETZEN, PAUL R. DIETZEN, D. A. FOLEY, ROSA FOLEY, ARTHUR W. GARRETT, M. E. HILL, PEARL D. HINER, FREDERICK T. HOLLIDAY, H.B. HORTON, WALTER A. JONES, HOMER E. MARLEY, CLARISSA T. MIDKIFF, EMERY L. MIDKIFF, B. C. MILHOAN, L. MILHOAN, SAMUEL D. MILLER, SIDNEY S. MILLER, RALPH S. NORWOOD, DOROTHY L. PHILLIPS, CLARENCE PLATT, HARRY T. PRITCHARD, ORAN A. PROVINCE, ELIZABETH RINEHART, BEUFORD W. SHOOK, LEONE H. SHOOK, JOHN O. SPAHR, KATHERINE STEPHENSON, T. STEPHENSON, ROBERT H. TAFT, ZONA A. TAFT, TEXAS BIG BEND LAND COMPANY, GROVER H. TODD, J. WARD A. WELLER, AND W. R. WRIGHT, and ANY AND ALL KNOWN OR UNKNOWN OWNERS OR CLAIMANTS OF ANY INTEREST, RIGHT, OR TITLE IN: Twenty-nine (29) tracts comprised of approximately 569.57 acres located in the E/2 and W/2 of Survey 5, Block G-11, JH Miller Survey, and thirteen (13) tracts comprised of approximately 475.70 acres, located in Survey 9, Block 247, T St&L Survey, Brewster County, Texas

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER WITH THE CLERK WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION BY 10:00 A.M. ON THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF FORTY-TWO (42) DAYS AFTER YOU WERE SERVED THIS CITATION STATED THIS 5TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2022, AND PETITION, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU.

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the petition of plaintiffs at or before 10 o'clock a.m. the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days, after the date of service of this citation stated this 5th day of December, 2022, before the Honorable Roy B. Ferguson, 394th Judicial District Court of Brewster County, Texas at the courthouse in the city of Alpine, Texas.

Said petition was filed in said court, on the 10th day of January 2022, in cause number CVB22005 on the docket of said court and styled:

RICHARD G. ANDERSON, AS TRUSTEE OF THE ADOBE WALL RANCH TRUST; RICHARD G. ANDERSON AS TRUSTEE OF THE RICHARD G. ANDERSON TRUST; VLB INTERESTS, LTD.; EBS INTERESTS, LTD.; WRB INTERESTS, LTD.; and BFH RANCHING, LTD.

VS.

MICHAEL BANAYAN; ARTHUR A. BECKMAN, EFFA LOU BENNETT; S. E. BOUKNIGHT; FRANK J. BROSCHE; LOUISE BRUEGGMANN; SOPHIE BRUEGGMANN; WALTER BRUEGGMANN; HENRY A. CALLOWAY; FRANK CASPER AND WIFE; R. M. CHAMBERS; WILLIAM CLANTON; O. C. CLAYTON; HARRY D. COFIELD; COLUMBIA INVESTMENT COMPANY; ALICE M. COOPER; WILLIAM COOPER; GLENN C. CRAIG; E. S. DAVIS; DONNA DIETZEN; PAUL R. DIETZEN; D.A. FOLEY; ROSA FOLEY; ARTHUR W. GARRETT; M. E. HILL; PEARL D. HINER; FREDERICK T. HOLLIDAY; H. B. HORTON; WALTER A. JONES; ADELE W. KETTER; HOMER E. MARLEY; CLARISSA T. MIDKIFF; EMERY L. MIDKIFF; B. C. MILHOAN; L. L. MILHOAN; SAMUEL D. MILLER; SIDNEY S. MILLER; RALPH S. NORWOOD; DOROTHY L. PHILLIPS; CLARENCE PLATT; HARRY T. PRITCHARD; ORAN A. PROVINCE; ELIZABETH RINEHART; BEUFORD W. SHOOK; LEONE H. SHOOK; JOHN O. SPAHR; KATHERINE STEPHENSON; T. J. STEPHENSON; ROBERT H. TAFT; ZONA A. TAFT; TEXAS BIG BEND LAND COMPANY; GROVER H. TODD; H. J. WARD; C. A. WELLER; and W.R. WRIGHT.

The nature of this cause is to wit: **CLAIMS FOR ADVERSE POSSESSION AND QUITE TITLE OF THE REAL PROPERTY MORE FULLY AND PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS THE FOLLOWING: Twenty-nine (29) tracts comprised of approximately 569.57 acres, located in the E/2 and W/2 of Survey 5, Block G-11, JH Miller Survey and thirteen (13) tracts comprised of approximately 475.70 acres, located in Survey 9, Block 247, T St&L Survey, AND FOR A DECLARATION OF A FEE SIMPLE TITLE IN PLAINTIFFS AS IS MORE FULLY SHOWN BY PLAINTIFFS' PETITION ON FILE IN THIS SUIT.**

The officer executing this citation shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court at Alpine, Brewster County, Texas this the 5TH day of DECEMBER, 2022

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFFS: SARAH SIBLEY KLEIN
121 N 6th Street
Alpine, Texas 79830

Sara Fellows Martinez, District Clerk
203 N. 7th Street
Alpine, Texas 79830

By: *Breanna Pichel*






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Holiday this year like the French

Charcuterie boards: A great way to ring in this festive season

The holidays are all about food, whether it be the traditional holiday meals or all the little yummy appetizers you have before the meal or at parties. If you're looking for a way to please your holiday guests with foods that would be nice and elegant but not stuffy, then this appetizer tray is for you. Enter from stage left, the charcuterie board. Charcuterie is a term for a French form of cooking devoted to prepared meats, such as ham, pepperoni, sausage, bacon, salami, and the like. These appetizer



trays have become increasingly popular over the last several years and can have

any number of different options.

Ham, salami, and pepperoni are the most common meats found on a charcuterie board. In addition to the meats, they are accompanied by a variety of different cracker or bread options, a variety of cheeses, fruit and or vegetable spreads, as well as olives and fresh fruit. The charcuterie tray I assembled recently consisted of all the above and I even added a little Texas to it with the addition of pickled okra.

Always one to wonder if

my culinary creations are appreciated by folks other than myself, when the tray came back it was obvious that these snacks were appreciated by what little was left. And this is the beauty of charcuterie. They have been termed the "adult lunchable" and are appreciated as such. There is also no limit to what you can use on your board, only your imagination can stop you. A charcuterie board is so versatile that they can be used and catered to your tastes or for the event you may be creating it for. This allows

for the use of more exotic cheeses and meats than one might normally consume.

The sky is the limit when it comes to charcuterie. Nothing is taboo because who says you must follow tradition? Make a dessert board, or a breakfast board,

or a candy board loaded down with gummy worms and bubble gum. Whatever your vision, this is an effortless way to serve a variety of foods with little effort and almost no cooking, depending on what foods you are displaying.

Charcuterie Board

Ingredients:

Soft, pre-sliced meats such as prosciutto or pepperoni.

Harder meats that require cutting such as salami or soppressata.

Hard cheeses such as sharp cheddar or Manchego.

Spreadable cheeses or a dip like chevre or hummus.

Add in crackers, jam, bread, pickles, or fruit. Grapes or figs work really well, and bacon jam is a good option as is apricot. Olives and pickled okra work well also.

Utilize small bowls or plates to serve your jams or pickles in.

Directions:

When assembling your charcuterie board, you first want the display to be set up on an eye-catching surface. Wooden or marble boards work well.

Display your soft cheeses along with your soft, pre-sliced meats.

Display your harder cheeses with your harder meats.

Weave in your crackers, jams, fruits, and other options such as pickles.

Use decorative spreaders for your jams, soft spreadable cheeses, and other items requiring utensils.

Once your charcuterie board is designed to your satisfaction, serve and enjoy.



Photo by Kara Gerbert

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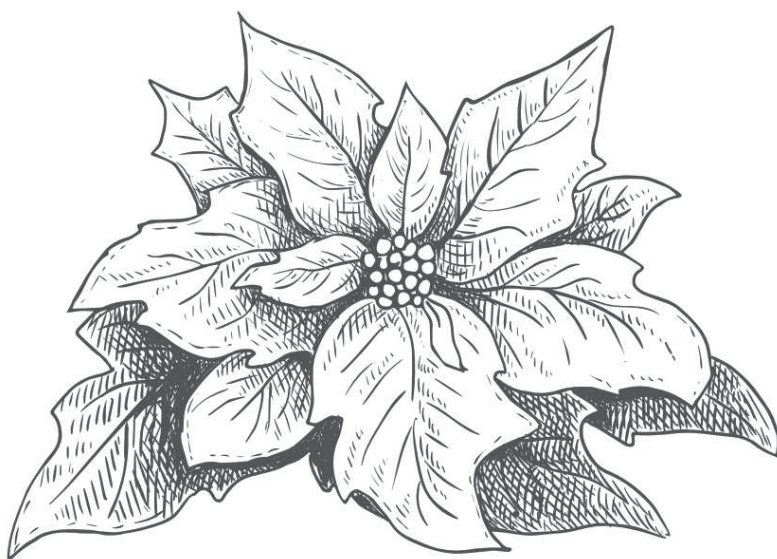
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CHRISTMAS

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