

Area budget talks and workshops have begun

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The City of Alpine began their first budget workshop last Thursday at 5:30 p.m. This first workshop focused on the goals of the strategic plan that has been in the works for this past year with input from the citizens of Alpine.

During the workshop, a draft copy of the goals, objectives, and actions for the infrastructure portion of the strategic plan was presented, along with information on several of the action items that have already been completed or that are currently in the process of being completed, such as the evaluation study for the wastewater treatment plant and updated cost estimates for priority recommendations.

The workshop also focused on drafting the capital improvement plan for the city.

The capital improvement plan is a five-year

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INSIDE



FEATURED

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Rainfall totals at Alpine-Casparis Airport

20232.97"
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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.



Skyway agreement updated, City Attorney resigns

BY JOH COVINGTON
Staff Writer

The City of Alpine held their regular city council meeting on Tuesday June 6, at 5:30 p.m. in the council chambers.

Before the meeting tackled the scheduled reports, Eileen Rourke was recognized for her more than seven years of service on the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Alpine.

Much of the meeting was spent with the council and Sky-

way Garden's legal representative, discussing the language and requirements outlined in the development agreement. One temporary sticking point was the road requirements, and whether Skyway Gardens is responsible for paving the Lechugilla road up to city standards, as stated in one request, which requires curbsides and drainage, or just the paved road that was previously agreed upon.

This seemed settled with the



Rod Ponton

agreement that Skyway would only be responsible for paving the road as stated in their agreement without curbs and drainage. This discussion followed the public comments made by Karen Cantrell from Ward 1, "It was supposed to be paved for the first addition, its still not paved or brought up to city use as it says. I suggest they do that first before they start the new addition."

One of the concerns dis-

cussed in the previous May 9 meeting was a possible Skyway Gardens drainage issue. This concern was addressed by Skyway's representatives in the form of adding a second pond to the plans, to not only capture the establishments' run-off, but that of water coming from the west as well.

There were six action items in the meeting. For item one, the council approved the updated

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Cowboys back for the summer



The Alpine Cowboys took on the Tucson Saguaros Monday night at Kokernot Field.

Photo by JT Maroney

Fort Davis student elected as state FFA officer

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The FFA, which stands for Future Farmers of America, is the largest student-led organization in the country. Like every organization, there must be leaders elected to represent the organization and they must perform specific duties related to their elected positions.

Fort Davis FFA member Henry Downing ran for such an elected position as a State FFA officer for the organization and was elected to the incoming group of state officers for the year 2023-2024.

In years past, officers were elected at the State FFA Convention, but due to changes within the FFA and its constitution and other legal updates,

the officers were elected at the Area level this year.

The elected officers will represent all 12 Areas of the state of Texas and be the voice for their area. The position of President and Vice President for the Texas FFA will be voted on at the state convention and determined from the 12 Area officers.

Downing commented, "Whoever is elected as president and vice president at the state convention will take an entire year off of college and travel the state by visiting schools, attending workshops, and interacting with students across the state." "I am the first person from the Big Bend Dis-



Henry Downing

trict to be elected for state office since Nathan Box from Pecos was elected in 2012-2013," added Downing.

The 12 officers will spend the year working with the Texas FFA Board of Directors assisting in making policy changes, FFA constitution amendments, and any changes deemed necessary in constitutions at their respective Area levels.

The entire officer panel will also attend meetings, workshops, and events across the state and essentially be the voice and the faces for the Texas FFA.

According to Downing's FFA advisor and instructor Maylee Chambliss, he excels in com-

municating with students at the high school level. "Henry is a very special individual. He prioritized his events around becoming a state officer," said Chambliss.

"Henry also comes from a ranching family and has a ranching background, so I believe he will bring not only great knowledge of the agricultural industry to a new generation of FFA students but also a better understanding of what the FFA stands for and is all about," Chambliss added.

As of now, Downing is unsure if he wants to run for a national officer position. "It would be such an incredible and rewarding experience to

See FFA • 6

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OBITUARIES

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Oscar Ramirez Lujan



Oscar "O" Ramirez Lujan, 48, loving husband, father, son, brother, uncle, friend, and coach passed away on Friday, June 2. He was born on May 5, 1975, in El Paso, to Zeke and Elpidia Lujan.

Oscar is survived by his wife Alana; daughters Isela Gomez, son-

and athletes he coached throughout the years. Oscar was a graduate of Alpine High School, where he excelled in football, baseball, and track & field. He attended college in New Mexico and Ranger on a baseball scholarship. He finished out his college career in his hometown, while playing one year for the Sul Ross

and athletes he coached throughout the years.

and athletes he coached throughout the years. Oscar was a graduate of Alpine High School, where he excelled in football, baseball, and track & field. He attended college in New Mexico and Ranger on a baseball scholarship. He finished out his college career in his hometown, while playing one year for the Sul Ross

State University Lobos. He later graduated from Texas A&M - Corpus Christi.

After college, he began teaching high school English while coaching football, baseball, track, and powerlifting in the Corpus Christi, Victoria and Cypress areas for nearly two decades. His primary sport and love, was football, where he

served as a defensive coordinator for many years.

Oscar loved spending time with his family and friends. He had a passion for outdoor sports including golf, fitness training, slow-pitch softball and baseball. If he wasn't on a golf course, you would find him at home spending quality time with his girls.

He was soon to be-

come a grandpa (Pop Pop) - an honor and title he was very much looking forward to. Those who knew him loved him for his BIG heart and personality. Oscar never met a stranger.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that contributions be made to the Langham Creek High School Football Program.

Gloria Martinez



Gloria Martinez was born in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico on August 21, 1951, to Simon and Lorenza. She was raised on a ranch in Ojos Calientes, Chihuahua. Gloria worked at Altuda Ranch in Alpine from 1980 to 2021. She passed away on May 26, at the age of 71 at the White Sands Healthcare in Hobbs, NM.

She is preceded in death by her husband Lorenzo Martinez. Her parents Simon Hernandez and Lorenza Rayos Hernandez. Brothers Pepe Hernandez, Julio Hernandez, Miguel Hernandez and sisters Rita Hernandez, Teresa Hernandez, and Eusto-

lia Hernandez. She is survived by her brothers Dolores Gomez and wife Cruz from Hobbs, NM, Raul Hernandez and wife Martha of Jal, NM, Guadalupe Hernandez of El Porvenir, Mexico. Sisters Rosa Rayos of Amarillo, Cuca Martinez and husband Manuel of San Ignacio, Mexico, Lidia Hernandez, and husband Ricardo of El Porvenir, Mexico, Cristina Hernandez and husband

Alejandro of Ft. Davis. Gloria is survived by many nieces and nephews who she saw as her own children.

Gloria's life passions were working at Altuda Ranch where she spent many years, and was very loved, and shared many years of friendship. Crocheting and sewing many things, making day trips to Ft. Davis before officially moving there.

Words cannot express how deeply we appreciate all the love, kindness, and support shown to us during this difficult time. We are so thankful, and it will always be remembered by the family of Gloria Martinez.

Palabras no pueden

expresar cuán profundamente apreciamos todo el amor, la bondad y el apoyo que se nos mostro durante este momento dificil. Estamos muy agradecidos y siempre sera recordado por la familia de Gloria Martinez

Visitation will be on Thursday, June 1, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Davis Mountain Funeral Hall (43430 Hwy 17 S.) in Fort Davis. Funeral will take place Friday, June 2, at 10 a.m. at Saint Joseph's Catholic Church, with burial to follow at Saint Joseph Cemetery. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at www.mmoftexas.com.

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Museum of the Big Bend receives Darge art collection

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

Robert and Bonnie McKee have generously donated their entire collection of Friedrich Ernst “Fred” Darge paintings to the Museum of the Big Bend. These paintings will become a part of the museum’s Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. McKee III Family Collection and will debut during the grand opening of the Emmett and Miriam McCoy Building June 23-24.

The McKee’s were initially more interested in early Texas and Taos/Santa Fe art that Robert’s grandfather focused on. Their daughter, Marjorie McKee Harris, while exposed and aware of Darge due to her upbringing, was not like other kids her age. When her friends were spending vacation time at the beach, her parents “dragged” she and her brother to art galleries and auctions. Thanks to what she considered a happy accident, her interest was sparked in Darge as well.

Harris worked in a shop in Fredricksburg while in college in the late 90s. While at work one day, a woman brought in two paintings that her husband had purchased and that she was asking \$50 for each of them. Although she could not afford them, Harris bought both paintings and then contacted her dad and explained what she had purchased. Robert overnighted a check to her to cover the cost of the two paintings, which her parents would later gift to her, but both remained inside the family home.

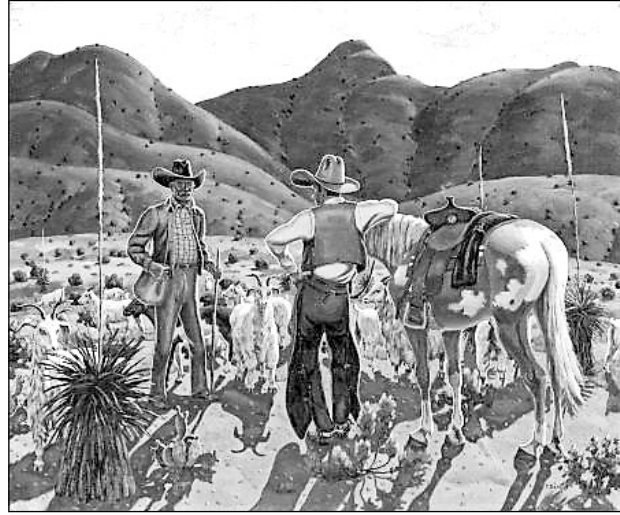
The two paintings Harris purchased in that little shop in Fredricksburg were titled “Bucking Bronc” and “Lone Rider.” The former piece depicts a rider in a corral atop a bucking horse, while the latter is a cowboy on horseback riding in the mountains of the Big Bend. The McKees’ began tracking sales of other Darge artwork while learning more about the artist in the meantime. Eventually, they would

acquire a total of 10 of Darge’s paintings.

“At first, I felt protective of my parents donating Darge’s paintings to the Museum of the Big Bend,” Harris said. Since then, she has decided that she had the opportunity to live with them and enjoy them and believes it makes sense that they have found their permanent home in Alpine.

There is very little known about Darge’s life, and the information presented about the collection is due to the many hours of research on behalf of the McKees. This research led them to publish a free online book entitled “Fred Darge Paints the Big Bend and Beyond.” It can be found at freddarge.com.

Darge was a native of Germany and arrived in the U.S. via a merchant ship that came into Port Arthur in 1923. He attended the Art Institute of Chicago and worked as a commercial artist and draftsman until he moved to San Antonio where he spent two years and held



“A Friendly Encounter”, c. 1940s, oil on canvas, 20 x 24 inches, gifted by Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. McKee III.

his first Texas exhibit at the Witte Museum.

As with many people who visit the Big Bend, the lifestyle of the west seemed to call to Darge and he began his professional career in the area after spending time on ranches and paying for his room and board with paintings.

In the summer of 1944, his paintings of the places in which he served during the war were exhibited at the Dallas Museum of Art.

portraying Native Americans, churches, wildlife, and the western way of life.

Recognition for his art had grown by 1948 and was exhibited in the Laguna Gloria Art Museum in Austin, which only added to his fame.

By the 1960s, Darge had worked as a professional artist for more than 30 years, although he never struck it rich because he spent time supplementing his income by offering art lessons to small groups and individuals. Darge spent the remainder of his life in Dallas and passed away in 1978. Thanks to the generosity of the McKees’, Darge’s work and legacy will now enrich the lives of all those who visit the museum.

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Texas Water board OKs Presidio County aid

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

Senator Cesar J. Blanco’s office announced on Tuesday that the Texas Water Development Board approved an application from Presidio County for \$4 million for planning, acquisition, design, and construction of water and wastewater system projects in Presidio County.

The approval of this

money allows for Presidio County to receive first time water and wastewater infrastructure funding to include the Fort D.A. Russel area of Marfa, the East Heights area of Marfa, the Colonia Las Pampas in southern Presidio County and Shafter.

The financial assistance consisted of \$1 million in financing and a \$3 million dollar grant

from the Economically Distressed Areas Program.

These monies, based on a 20-year maturity schedule and current interest rates could save Presidio County approximately \$135,162 over the life of the financing along with the county saving the \$3,220,000 in grant funding.

“Water is the lifeblood of our communities, but

aged sewer lines, lack of adequate drinking water and wastewater, and exposed pipes have left some residents in Presidio County no option but to boil their water or travel miles to access drinking water,” remarked Blanco. “This funding will help 246 residents in underserved areas access safe and clean water for their families,” Blanco added.

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Law Enforcement memorial ceremony



Area law enforcement gathered on the mall at Sul Ross State University last Wednesday for a memorial ceremony honoring law enforcement officers in the Big Bend area. Pictured are an officer of the Texas Department of Public Safety, an officer from the Odessa Police Department, and leading the horse, an officer with the Midland County Sheriff’s Office.

Courtesy photo

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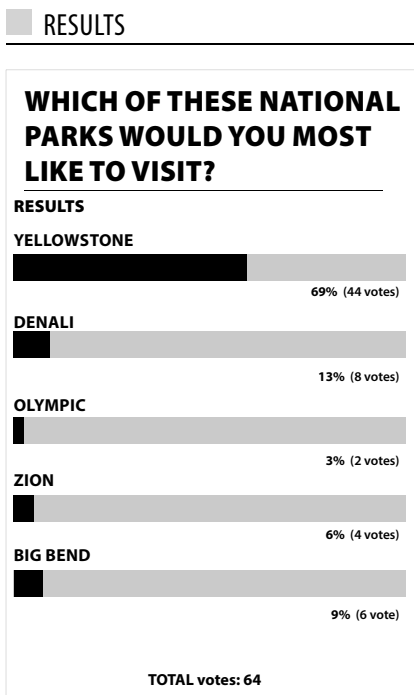
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Opinions

ONLINE POLL



THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Now the Avalanche asks:

Which of these national parks would you most like to visit?

- Yellowstone
- Denali
- Olympic
- Zion
- Big Bend

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 kara.gerbert@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.



A time for action, because Alpine deserves more

Listen. Did you hear that? It is a call to action. The current city council understands the importance of community input and actively seeks your ideas and suggestions. Budget workshops, town hall meetings, and city council meetings serve as valuable platforms for engaging in open dialogue.



CATHERINE EAVES
Mayor, City of Alpine

Share your thoughts, express your concerns, and propose innovative solutions. By actively engaging in these events, you become a crucial part of the decision-making process, shaping the policies and initiatives that will define our community and move Alpine into the future.

A hallmark of effective governance is inclusivity and transparency. The city council strives to build trust and foster an environment where every

voice is heard. Budget workshops and city council meetings exemplify these principles, providing opportunities for residents to interact directly with their elected representatives.

These gatherings allow you to voice your concerns, seek clarifications, and hold officials accountable. Through active participation, we can ensure that decision-making processes are fair, transparent, and representative of Alpine's diverse community.

Our community has some tough decisions to make this budget season. Our infrastructure has been neglected for far too long. The metaphorical "can" has been kicked down the road, and now we are out of road. The question is how are we go-

ing to pay for these repairs?

Fixing and modernizing Alpine's infrastructure is not just a necessity; it is a catalyst for economic growth. Once our roads are repaired, our wastewater treatment plant is upgraded, and our freshwater systems are improved, Alpine will become an attractive destination for new businesses and entrepreneurs. A solid infrastructure serves as the backbone of any thriving community, providing the necessary foundation for economic development and job creation.

By attending budget workshops, town hall meetings, and city council meetings, you contribute to the realization of this vision, signaling to potential investors that Alpine is open for business.

To stay informed about the latest developments, community members are encouraged to utilize various communication channels. Our local paper

will provide valuable updates on upcoming events, important decisions, and opportunities for community engagement. Another excellent resource to help you stay informed is the city website. You can find everything from budgets, to audits, to financial reports, minutes, and agendas, all dating back to a decade ago.

Alpine stands at the threshold of an exciting new era. The city council invites you to be an active participant in shaping our collective future. By attending the various meetings, you can contribute your ideas, concerns, and aspirations.

Together, we can address the neglected infrastructure, attract new businesses and entrepreneurs, and pave the way for an economic boom that benefits everyone. Your voice matters, and Alpine's success depends on your active engagement. Let us seize this opportunity to build a brighter future!

And that's the story behind my photo

"A good snapshot keeps a moment that's gone from running away."

- Eudora Welty, (1909-2001) American short story writer, novelist, and photographer.

A McCormick porcelain decanter bust of Elvis Presley was priced at \$35. Framed photos of The King of Rock and Roll were modestly priced.

Perusing small-town antique shops is the way I break the monotony of travel. Can't pass them up. Plus, I often score some really neat things.

Photos are a fascination for me in shops like this. Family pictures, school pictures, historic events, and people. Snippets frozen in time; once part of someone's albums or collections. What is the story behind these pictures?

One such picture in the Taylor, Texas, shop caught my eye last weekend. A black-and-white snapshot of Elvis playing the piano with his backup group, The Jordanaires, singing behind him. Something they did for 16 years.

It caught my eye because I have a similar photo. I wondered about this one because I was fortunate to have been friends with one of the people pictured.

In about 1986, I met Gordon Stoker, leader of the Country Music Hall of Fame vocal quartet. Our paths crossed on a cruise ship. Stoker was representing Elvis Presley Enterprises and Graceland. I was enjoying a week of 50s and 60s oldies music entertainers.

Stoker was a master storyteller with an engaging personality. I was an Elvis fan with questions. Following his presentation of stories about his years with Elvis, I introduced myself to express gratitude for his insight into the life of one of the most influential singers in music history. Our conversation led to an invitation to join him and his wife, Jean, at dinner that night.

And thus began our friendship that would include other oldies music cruises plus Elvis Week events in Memphis.

Stoker's career started as a teenager in 1942 as pianist for the John Daniel Quartet. The Jordanaires quartet was formed in 1949. Stoker's story about connecting with Elvis was about a young aspiring singer who heard them at a gospel music program in Memphis in the early 50s.

"He came backstage after our show that night," said Stoker, "... told us, 'When I get a contract with a major company, I want you guys to back me up.'"

"We didn't know him. We just told him, 'OK, give us a call.'"

When Presley began recording for RCA in January 1956, he requested The Jordanaires as his backing vocalists, a job they held until 1972.

"Little did we know," Stoker laughed. "The only reason we stopped was Elvis's strenuous concert schedule made it



LEON ALDRIDGE
Guest Columnist

impossible to keep up our other studio commitments. And, we all had families, too."

The Jordanaires were heard on more hit recordings than any other vocal group. Hundreds of classic recordings with legends like Patsy Cline, Jim Reeves, Loretta Lynn, Rick Nelson, Fats Domino. Songs like Ferlin Husky's "Gone," Jim Reeves' "Four Walls," Tammy Wynette's "Stand By Your Man," Kenny Rogers' "Lucille," George Jones' "He Stopped Loving Her Today." To name a few.

According to Stoker's son Alan, a curator at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum since 1980, the quartet was on Grammy-winning recordings in six decades. Besides singing with Elvis in 1956, that history ran from Johnny Horton's 1959 number one hit, "The Battle of New Orleans" through 2007 with an album by Ray Price and Willie Nelson.

What would have perhaps been a job to some was obviously a joy to Stoker. That was apparent in visits with him reminiscing, telling stories about recording sessions with well-known performers. Anecdotes and personal insights into the personality of each one that bore no hints of boasting about the tremendous successes of the quartet. Simply fond recollections of someone who loved life and making music.

During one "Elvis Week" in

Memphis, the annual pilgrimage of the faithful to memorialize the singer's death, I singled out Elvis Presley Enterprises CEO Jack Soden after a concert. Told him how much I enjoyed getting to know Gordon Stoker on the first cruise.

Back home a few weeks later, Stoker called. "Soden said he's heard good things about the cruise and mentioned your name. Looks like we're cruising for Elvis again. You are booked, aren't you?"

On another Elvis weekend in Memphis, without tickets to a sold-out dedication at Holmes High School, Elvis's Alma Mater, I stood at the door. Hoping to get a glimpse of the event renaming the auditorium in Elvis' honor.

From the area near the stage, Stoker saw me and waved for us to come in. All I could do was shrug, "No can do - no tickets." He walked to the door and told the attendants, "He's family. Seat them with the rest of my family at the front."

Between visits, I often heard from him. About an upcoming TV special or the release of a new album. Once when he was seeking advice about the value of his parent's 1953 Pontiac.

That's when he sent the photo to I have.

Stoker died in 2013. "The group is over," said his son Alan Stoker in a press release. "It was a wonderful run. My father lived a great life and left us a great legacy."

And that's the story behind my photo. In case you see it one day in an antique shop. After I'm gone.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Alpine community

We, the Ramirez family would like to thank each and every one who helped and supported our mom, Ramo-

na "Moni" Ramirez on her bake sale and benefit dance to assist with her cancer treatment. We were able to raise enough money for her trip to Amarillo for her sur-

gery and treatment. From the bottom of our hearts, we are so grateful to live in a community that helps support each other. Once again, we want to thank each and every

one of our family, friends, and new friends. May God bless you all.

With all our love,
Ramona Ramirez
and Family



Heard on the STREET

What is your favorite thing about living near Big Bend National Park?



Ivy Freeland: Not only is the landscape breathtaking, it's also fascinating. Having all of that geological history at your fingertips makes it the best backyard!



Caleb Wood: The wide variety of visitors from all over the world that come through Alpine on their way to and from the Big Bend. A lot of people don't like the tourists, but I think it's interesting to see and hear their experiences and perceptions about the Big Bend area.



Emma Zent: I feel lucky to have access to scenic hiking and different landscapes right in my backyard. The beauty is unmatched in my opinion.



Christine Wood: I have said many times, coming back from a day trip to the park, how great it is to live close. We can take our time in the morning, go have an awesome day & still get back in time to bring in the cats & dog & feed them before dark.



Julia Ferjo: Getting to meet fellow hikers and travelers often! I love tourists and meeting people from all over the planet! Also, the views are GOLD!

Send your community events to editor@alpineavalanche.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June Volunteers Needed, The Museum of the Big Bend is seeking volunteers to help in the new Marilyn Ann Caldwell welcome center in the museum's gift shop. Help is needed Tues. – Sat. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Contact Rebekah Antrosio at 432-837-8145 or Rebekah.antrosio@sulross.edu

June-August Summer Reading Program, The Alpine Public Library is hosting its summer reading program for all ages along with various events. For more information visit alpinepubliclibrary.org or stop by and visit the circulation desk for more information.

June 5-9 Tech Camp, at the Marathon Community Center for Pre-K through Fifth Grade 8 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. For more informa-



tion visit www.visitmarathon.com.

June 9 Guest Artist at Catch Light Gallery, 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Guest artist Rick Resse offers up "Facing West".

June 9 ClayWorks 2023, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. a reception will be held at Gallery on the Square.

June 12 Gumslingers Story Time, 11 a.m. at the Alpine Public Library, a special story time for the reading of "The Gum Chew-

ing Rattler" by Joe Hays will be read along with crafts and treats.

June 15 Blood Drive, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. First Baptist Church of Fort Davis fellowship hall. To schedule an appointment, contact Sherill Easterling at 325-207-6427 or call 877-258-4825. Can also log onto www.donors.vitalant.org and use code 1stBC.

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 Choral 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 bbc-chorale.wixsite.com/bbcc.

Celebrate Recovery, at Big Bend Cowboy Church on Monday evenings 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. For more information contact CW at 432-386-3628 or Stacey at 432-386-2979.

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Marathon Public Library launches summer programs

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

Under the direction of Dara Cavness, director of the Marathon Public Library, the library is launching its' summer program lineup consisting of eight separate programs that offer learning opportunities for all ages.

One of the new programs being implemented this summer is coined Camp Curiosity. This program involves everything from 3-D printing to coding with robots and includes STEM-focused learning with literature connections for grades PreK through 12. There are also three different art programs being taught under the summer programs initiative.

Art Instructor Melissa Barlow is heading up the art programs to include the Children's Summer Art Camp, adult art classes, and You and Me, Intergenerational Art. Students will utilize a variety of mediums including creating with clay, weaving with yarn, and painting with watercolors.

"We are excited to not only continue our summer programs but expand upon our offerings. From the Summer Speaker Series to Infant and Toddler Time, we have a program for every age this summer," explained Cavness.

In addition to the Camp Curiosity and the summer art classes, the library is also hosting summer read-

ing programs and the Misoula Children's Theatre. More program information can be found on the library's website marathonpubliclibrary.org/summer-programs or by contacting Cavness at director@marathonpubliclibrary.org or 432-940-1654.



Led by Terri Harkey, Maya Aguilar, Diego Aguilar, Maggie Dabbs, and Ellis Adams listen attentively this past Monday, during a session of Camp Curiosity that is put on by the Marathon Public Library.

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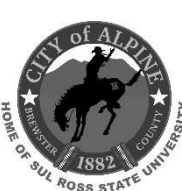
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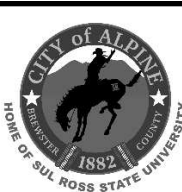


NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF ALPINE THAT CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD AT 5:30 P.M. ON JUNE 20, 2023 REGARDING THE FOLLOWING CAPTIONED ORDINANCE:

ORDINANCE 2023-05-01: AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING THE PROPOSED SKYWAY GARDENS II DEVELOPMENT THAT IS ADJACENT AND CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY TO THE CITY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS 5.000 ACRES OUT OF SECTION 102, BLOCK 9, BREWSTER COUNTY, TEXAS, BEING A PORTION OF THAT CERTAIN 10.0 ACRE TRACT DESCRIBED IN VOLUME 314, PAGE 453, OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS OF BREWSTER COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PROPERTY ID OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS 32556.

THE SECOND AND FINAL PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON **TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023, AT 5:30 P.M.** IN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 803 WEST HOLLAND AVENUE TO HEAR CITIZEN VIEWS AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED ORDINANCES. QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT (432) 837-3301, OPTION 1.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF ALPINE THAT PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING MEETING DATES AND TIMES:

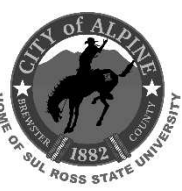
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 26, 2023, AT 5:30 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 11, 2023, AT 5:30 P.M.

THE PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- REPLAT 2023-07-01:** AN APPLICATION FOR REPLAT TO ALLOW THE APPLICANT, JOHN WAGNER C/O AMXS LAND DEVELOPMENT, LLC, TO COMBINE UNDERLYING LOTS INTO ONE TO ALLOW FOR DEVELOPMENT. THE PROPERTY IN QUESTION IS LOCATED ON HOLLAND AVE AND 15TH STREET AND LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS THE EAST PART OF LOT ONE (1), TWO (2), AND THREE (3), IN BLOCK SIX (6), THOMAS TURNEY HIGGINS ADDITION, TO THE TOWN OF ALPINE, BREWSTER COUNTY, TEXAS. THE PARCEL ID OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS R12876. THE RECORD PROPERTY OWNER IS GLENN SHORT. THE CURRENT ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS C-2 BUSINESS DISTRICT. IF THE REPLAT IS APPROVED THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION WILL REMAIN C-2 BUSINESS DISTRICT.
- SPECIAL USE PERMIT 2023-07-01:** A SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION TO ALLOW THE APPLICANT, ALPINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, TO ESTABLISH A DAYCARE CENTER. THE PROPERTY IN QUESTION IS LOCATED AT 704 W SUL ROSS AVENUE AND LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOTS 6-10, BLOCK L, GILLIS ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ALPINE. THE PARCEL ID OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS R10450. THE RECORD PROPERTY OWNER IS ALPINE ISD, IN TRUST. THE CURRENT ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS R-2 TWO FAMILY DISTRICT. IF THE REPLAT IS APPROVED THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION WILL REMAIN R-2 TWO FAMILY DISTRICT.

ALL PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD AT CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 803 WEST HOLLAND AVENUE TO HEAR CITIZEN VIEWS AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED APPLICATIONS. QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT CITY_SECRETARY@CITYOFALPINE.COM OR BY PHONE AT (432) 837-3301, OPTION 1.



PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL STREET PAVING

RFP 2023-06-05

The City of Alpine is soliciting Request for Proposals (RFP) for Street Paving Services. The complete RFP may be viewed on the city website at www.cityofalpine.com/bids.

Sealed proposals are due to the Office of the City Secretary by 4:00 p.m. on June 26, 2023. In order to be considered, the sealed proposal must address each of the requests for information in the RFP. Proposals should be clearly marked **"Request for Proposal – Street Paving."** and submitted to the address below:

City of Alpine
City Secretary
100 N. 13th St
Alpine, Texas 79830
Do Not Open – RFP Street Paving

Questions regarding this project may be directed to the Director of Public Works, Eddie Molinar, at eddie.molinar@cityofalpine.com. Any questions or concerns must be addressed in writing by the clarification deadline of 5:00 p.m. on June 20, 2023. Non-compliance with this provision may result in the rejection of the Proposal. The projected award date for this project is July 11, 2023.

Taking a breather



Oren Galindo takes a break from frolicking in the water at the Alpine city pool. Galindo, along with numerous other kids and adults, are taking advantage of the cool water during the hot afternoons.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

Clarinet Quartet competes at UIL State Solo & Ensemble

The Clarinet Quartet from the Alpine High School band participated at the UIL State Solo & Ensemble contest last week. Pictured are Megan Struthers, Allison Sanchez, AHS Band director Anna Holmes, Jaylynn Celaya, and Madison Mendoza.



Courtesy photo

BUDGETS • FROM 1

capital program submitted by the city manager at least three months prior to the final date of submission of the annual budget. It includes a summary of its contents, a list of all capital improvements along with supporting information for each, cost estimates and methods of financing for the improvements, and an estimated annual cost of operating and maintaining the facilities to be constructed or acquired. The capital improvement plan, while submitted by the city manager is a group effort amongst all city departments.

Alpine City Manager Megan Antrim said, "These budget workshops are important, especially for the community itself because it allows for community leaders, government officials, and most importantly the residents to get together and participate in the budgetary decision-making process that affects them." "It allows for open dialogue and transparency in determining the allocation of the city's financial resources," Antrim added.

The next workshop will be held on June 8 and will be a review of the annual budget poli-

cies for the City of Alpine as well as a focus on employees. This workshop is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m.

Brewster County is scheduled to begin their budget talks around the first commissioners court meeting in July. According to Brewster County Treasurer Julie Morton, "Our proposed draft is due on August 15 with the final adopted budget being voted on about three weeks later." "The tax rates will also be voted on at the time the budget is adopted," Morton added.

Along with the City of Alpine and Brews-

ter County, Jeff Davis County Judge Curtis Evans said that the budget crunching has begun over in Fort Davis as well. "We will begin budget workshops next month, and Jeff Davis County will be switching from a calendar year budget to a fiscal year budget, so we are in preparations for that happening," Evans told the Avalanche. This moves the start of their fiscal year to October 1, instead of it beginning in January as it was on a calendar year timeline.

COUNCIL • FROM 1

language and agreements for the development, to be further discussed.

Items three and four, the approval for special use permits to obtain alcohol license/permit for the Uncle's store #3690 on 5th Street and Uncle's store #6410 on E. Highway 90, these items were approved despite citizens' concern for the proximity of the elementary school to the store at the 5th Street location.

During the public comment section, Cynthia Salas Ward 2 said, "TABC actually does have a rule that alcohol cannot be served within

300 feet of a school or church. That needs to be taken into consideration as well."

While the TABC does outline such restrictions, City Secretary, Geoffrey Calderon shared that it is up to the city to provide such ordinances and that none have been approved yet.

The council also approved item six, which opens the discussion for the use of Daugherty Well 1, a well that is privately owned but used to be a part of the city's water system in a previous agreement with the owner.

After the last item on

the agenda was complete and the council began its executive session, City Attorney Rod Ponton delivered his resignation submission to each member of the council. The council exited the executive session to vote to accept the resignation.

Outsourcing for the council's legal requirements was discussed after this vote, as most of the decisions the council has scheduled for upcoming sessions require a legal representative.

The next regular meeting of the Alpine City Council is scheduled for June 20 at 5:30 p.m. in council chambers.

FFA • FROM 1

run for a national seat, and I would really like to run, but a lot depends on how this next year goes, along with college and everything," Downing remarked. Downing said he will be involved in FFA and agriculture for life.

"I will always be a huge advocate for FFA

and will encourage anyone to get involved! Agriculture is a true passion of mine and I believe in the future of agriculture," expressed Downing.

This year, the State FFA Convention will be held in Dallas, July 10-14, where Downing will find out what role he will play as a state of Texas FFA Officer, lending his voice to the future of agriculture.

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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

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(Your choice of any two items)
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LOOKING BACK

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Alpine Avalanche

June 21, 1946

Mr. and Mrs. D.F. Doolittle of San Lorenzo, Cal. Announce the betrothal of their daughter, Miss Joyce Doolittle to Otis David Coggins, Jr. of Alpine. Otis is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Otis David Coggins, Sr. of Alpine and the nuptials are scheduled to take place August 16.



PIANO LESSONS

Those interested in taking PIANO this summer, see MRS. LUCILLE EVERETT at Cap. Anglin apartment or Kathryn Stucke at High School

June 11, 1948

Persons interested in taking summer piano lessons may contact Mrs. Lucille Everett at the Cap. Anglin apartment or Kathryn Stucke at the high school.

June 22, 1945

Members of the Alpine FFA and the Sul Ross Clip and Brand Club sponsors are pictured here with honors banners won by the FFA members. The FFA members competed at the Southwestern Livestock Show in El Paso. Seated are Paul Weyerts, Don Oliver, and Joe Lane of the Alpine FFA. Standing are Jane Hendricks, and Bessie Orson of the Clip and Brand; Bryan Mills, holding a banner won by a 4-H member from Fort Stockton but sponsored by Sul Ross, Stub Davis and Frank Daugherty of the Clip and Brand; Raymond Grande, Carlsbad N.M. FFA, high point champ; and Lawrence Huddle and George Mills, the latter president, Clip and Brand; and A.J. Bierschwale, head of the animal husbandry department at Sul Ross college.



300 Boys Attend Camp At Paisano

SPEAKERS FOR MAIN SESSION BEGINNING JULY 25TH ARE ANNOUNCED

Approximately 300 boys of this area were enrolled at the Royal Ambassadors' camp at Paisano Baptist encampment last week, according to Dr. Frank C. Dutton, local Baptist pastor. The camp closed last Friday. The girls' camp opened Monday of this week, to run through today, with an estimated attendance of over 300. Principal speakers for the main encampment, which will be held July 26 to Aug. 1, will be Dr. R. G. Lee, outstanding pastor of Memphis, Tenn., who was recently elected president of the Southern Baptist convention, at the evening services, and Dr. E. S. James, pastor of the First Baptist church, Vernon, morning hour speaker. Dr. James was here last year while this is Dr. Lee's first visit to Paisano. A record attendance is expected at this year's session.

June 25, 1948

Around 300 local boys attended the Royal Ambassadors' camp held at Paisano Baptist encampment recently. The camp was a week-long and will be immediately followed by the girls' camp according to local Baptist pastor Dr. Frank C. Dutton. The main session that is held annually at Paisano will be held July 26-Aug. 1. The speakers for main session will be Dr. R.G. Lee, a pastor from Memphis, Tenn. who was recently elected as president of the Southern Baptist convention and Dr. E. S. James, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Vernon. Dutton expects a record attendance at this year's session.

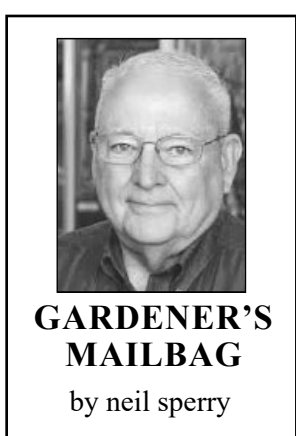
A myriad of reasons can cause rose leaves to turn colors

Dear Neil: Why do rose leaves turn yellow and brown?

Looking at the one or two leaves in your photo it appears that droplets of water or some other sprays have been on the leaves when the sun was shining brightly. That would account for the tiny brown "freckles."

The most common rose disease is called black spot, and it causes yellowing with large dark brown blotches in the centers of the yellowed leaves. I don't see those classic symptoms in your photo, but I'd suspect it's involved. It could also be nutritional. The plant may need nitrogen. Many times, we forget to give our flowering plants enough nitrogen, thinking instead that phosphorus is more important since it stimulates blooming. But we overlook the fact that phosphorus accumulates in our soils to the point of being excessive.

Finally, I can't discuss rose problems currently without at least mentioning rose rosette virus. I see no evidence of RRV from these two leaves,



GARDENER'S MAILBAG
by neil sperry

but one would need a larger sampling. That fatal virus causes very distorted growth: strong "bull" canes, flower buds that don't open properly, canes that have incredible numbers of thorns, and plants that become weak and lethargic. If you see any symptoms that sound like those do a bit of Web searching for photos. Plants infected with the virus must be destroyed, so you want to be sure to identify it accurately.

Dear Neil: I have summer squash in two large pots. They are producing fruit prodigiously. I have two

more in the ground that are doing nothing but making more vines. Both get ample sun. Any idea what might be wrong?

I assume the plantings are the same age, therefore the plants are at the same stages of maturity. Are they the same variety? And you say that they are "making more vine." Summer squash are most commonly clumping plants that don't really vine along the ground. That makes me wonder. And finally, the big ques-

tion for me is always the statement that "both get ample sun." It only takes a slight difference in the amount of sunlight that one plant receives to make a big difference in the amount of fruit it will be able to produce. That's the most common cause of problems that I see in this sort of situation.

Dear Neil: I've had my gardenia growing in a pot for eight years. It has flourished during that time, until last winter, when the extreme freeze hurt it badly even though it was protected in my greenhouse. It's now spindly. It's blooming, but not very heavily. It needs to be cut back. When should I do it, and by how much?

Trim it as needed to reshape it so that you can foster new growth to help it fill in. Do so

as soon as this round of flowering finishes so that the new growth can toughen up before next winter. I can't tell you how much to prune it without seeing it, but it wouldn't surprise me if you needed to prune it by half or two-thirds.

Dear Neil: Each year we have had prostrate sand mat pop up in our landscape. We pull it faithfully, but it keeps coming back. Do you have any solution for how we can get rid of it once and for all?

In a heartbeat I would spot-treat it with a glyphosate-only herbicide applied with a 1-gallon sprayer so that I could direct the spray down into the center of each plant. It will make short work of eliminating the plant I call spurge without contaminating the soil in any way.

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

- 1 consumes a meal
- 5 TXism: "bright as ___ penny"
- 6 possible transport to George Bush International Airport
- 7 TXism: "if he bought a cemetery, people would ___ dying"
- 8 casa constructors
- 17 TX "Turtle Lady" Loetscher
- 18 below
- 21 Texas-sized multinational conglomerate dog name
- 22 TX Ginger Rogers 1939 film: "Fifth ___ Girl"
- 24 TXism: "he's still got some ___ in his jeans"
- 29 grain storage
- 30 TXism: "two peas in ___" (alike)
- 31 physician deg.
- 32 Carl Sandberg said "Texas ___ swagger"
- 34 Texas Comanche chief: "___ Beard"
- 35 TX Foreman fought for this championship at 44 (abbr.)
- 36 TXism: "tough ___ boot"
- 37 drunkards
- 38 Gomer ___ is a San Antonio street in Williamson County on highway 79

- 40 TXism: "all bought and paid for"
- 41 "___ concolor" (cougar)
- 42 TXism: "thin ___"
- 44 empty the bathtub
- 45 Sandra of film "Houston, We've Got a Problem"
- 46 TXism: "costs an ___" (expensive)
- 48 TX-born Steve Martin 1991 film (2 wds.)

- ### DOWN
- 1 TXism: "___ hog" (rich)
 - 2 big Dallas hotel: Hilton ___
 - 3 lake in Texas and Oklahoma
 - 4 steal
 - 9 TXism: "___ a fence before you buy cattle" (plan)
 - 10 immediately fix a computer mistake
 - 11 marryin' words
 - 12 TX Joan Crawford: Lucille ___Sueur
 - 13 big curtains
 - 14 Sam Houston was once an ___ for the Cherokee
 - 15 TX film critic, Rex ___ Benito, TX
 - 16 TX-born Gene Autry sang "___ Tumblweeds"
 - 20 TXism: "changes his mind as often as ___ his socks"
 - 22 TXism: "he couldn't ___ an egg under a sitting hen" (dumb)
 - 24 "yes" in Mexico
 - 25 TXism: "dot the i's and cross the ___"
 - 26 actress Gardner in 1952 "Lone Star"

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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Sports

Cowboys falter vs. Roswell, sweep Austin at home

BY ETHAN EIBE
Contributor

The Alpine Cowboys began their 2023 season with a series loss on the road to the Roswell Invaders May 31-June 2. Alpine started Syracuse, New York, native Dom Spinoso on the mound for opening day. Spinoso tossed 3.2 innings, walking five and striking out eight batters.

Alpine third baseman James Prockish drove in two runs with a double in the third inning to give the

Sports Schedule

06 ALPINE COWBOYS BASEBALL

- June 9 @ Austin Weirdos, 6:30 p.m.
- June 10 @ Austin Weirdos, 6:30 p.m.
- June 11 @ Austin Weirdos, 6:30 p.m.
- June 12 vs Garden City Wind, 7 p.m.
- June 13 vs Garden City Wind, 7 p.m.
- June 14 vs Garden City Wind, 7 p.m.

Cowboys a lead that they weren't able to hang on to. Invaders center fielder Seth Schroeder was Roswell's catalyst; he recorded three doubles and two runs batted in. Roswell's pitching combination of Edgar Martinez and Jonathan Fleckenstein held back the Cowboys to win the season opener 7-5.

The following day's scheduled game was postponed due to inclement weather, which pitted the Cowboys against the Invaders in a series-deciding doubleheader last Friday.

Both games were seven innings long. Roswell was victorious in the first game thanks to third baseman Dillan Smith's four-RBI effort and starting pitcher Humberto Vela's complete-game shutout. Cowboys starting pitcher Brendan May impressed in his debut, despite receiving no run support.

Alpine came back to life in the nightcap and defeated the Invaders 2-0

to escape Roswell with a win. Rookie left-hander Cameron Mulvihill fired five shutout innings in his professional debut. Prockish provided the fireworks with his first home run of the season, which proved to be the difference.

The Cowboys opened the home slate of ballgames by welcoming the Austin Weirdos to town Saturday and Sunday. Alpine outscored Austin 25-1 across the weekend, winning 10-1 in Saturday's home opener at Kokernot Field and routing the Weirdos 15-0 Sunday.



Cowboys second baseman Alex Canty slides into home plate during the Cowboys' 10-1 win over the Austin Weirdos at Kokernot Field Saturday, June 3.

Photo by Julie Meyers

See COWBOYS • 9

Alpine's 7 on 7 hope to repeat trip to State

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The Alpine 7 on 7 football is looking to make their ninth trip to the State Tournament since 2007. The program began in 2005 under Athletic Director and Head Football coach Kirk Martin.

This year, the coaches for the team are Derek Rojo and Daniel Rojo, Sr. with manager Felipe Fierro. Fierro began his involvement in 2007 and believes the success of this program helps motivate the players involved.

"We carry a 20-man roster, but we always have more players competing in the weekly robins," Fierro said. "Playing in this summer league really helps these players prepare for fall ball. They're able to stay active and have a smoother transition to full contact football when August rolls around," Fierro added.

To qualify for state there are three pool games, with the top two in each pool advancing to the semi-finals. The top two from the semi-finals automatically qualify for the State Tournament.

The league is self-funded, so they hold fundraisers and get help from the community from organizations like the American Legion, who assists them



The Alpine 7 on 7 squad took on teams in Wink last Friday for qualification in the state tournament.

Photo by Felipe Fierro

with their burger sale fundraiser. They also receive monetary support from businesses such as Alpine Auto Rental and Big Bend Concrete.

The team played in Wink this past Friday where they dropped game one to Sudan 6-28 but were able to rally back and defeat Van Horn with a score of 26-0. Game three did not go the way Alpine wanted, as they would fall to Iraan 13-21.

"Since the boys dropped two of the three games, this eliminated them from qualifying for the state tournament for the qualifier at Wink, but we are looking to be able to try again in Abilene on Saturday," said manager Felipe Fierro.

Fierro said that the boys improved with each game they played last week in Wink, especially since

some of them had very little to no experience with playing the 7 on 7 format until this year. "The boys will be fine. They are improving constantly and picking the rhythm of the game up," Fierro added.

The Alpine 7 on 7 team started weekly round robin play on June 6, with a game every Tuesday going forward until June 27. The State Tournament will be held in College Station on June 22-23.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

AARON MILLER

Aaron Miller finished his Junior XC season with a career PR placing 15th at the district meet.

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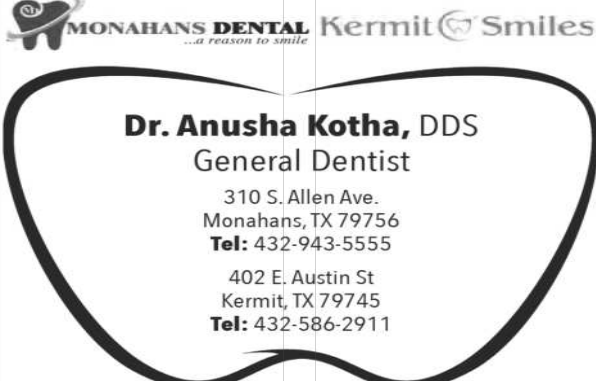


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Leave room for a summertime classic

No southern table in the summertime would be complete without dessert. And I can't think of any dessert that complements that table better than classic banana pudding.

Over the years I have witnessed something akin to madness when a dish of banana pudding was placed on the table. It almost resembles a zombie apocalypse as to how ex-



cited everyone becomes over this simple yet seemingly satisfying dessert.

Now, many of you may know that there are "gangs" of women out there who all swear that their grandmother or their mothers made the best banana pudding that ever graced a table. And for them, that may be true.

If I were to search long and hard enough, I would



My grandmother had a quick and fast recipe for her banana pudding, which differs immensely from many of the recipes I have read. Her recipe consisted of only five ingredients. Well, unless you count the milk used for the instant pudding mix.

My mother's recipe on the other hand was a bit more complex. She made her vanilla pudding from scratch. Depending upon one's schedule, my grandmother's recipe could trump my mother's if time is short. If not, then the longer version is easy enough. Regardless of which recipe is used, this summer favorite always consists of vanilla pudding, vanilla wafers, and sliced bananas. And that is all you really need to know to add a dish of creamy banana pudding to your summertime table.

Banana Pudding (two ways)

Grandmother's Recipe

Ingredients:
1 large box of instant vanilla pudding made with 2 cups of whole milk.
1 can of Eagle Brand sweetened condensed milk.

12 ounces of extra creamy Cool Whip
1-2 sliced bananas
1 box vanilla wafers

Directions:

Mix all ingredients then layer with wafers and bananas.

Mom's Recipe

Ingredients:
¾ cup of sugar
1 cup whole milk
1 egg well beaten.
2 tablespoons flour

Directions:

Mix flour and sugar together and stir well, then add egg, milk, and salt. Cook in a medium size pan until thick, stirring constantly, or the pudding will stick and scorch.

1 teaspoon vanilla
Dash of salt
2 or more sliced bananas
Vanilla wafer cookies

Add vanilla and cook for about a minute more and stir well.

Cool, and then layer with sliced bananas and vanilla wafers.

Refrigerate until cold and then serve.

Homemade Banana Pudding.

Imagine there would be contests to see whose banana pudding reigned supreme. While I didn't go to those lengths, I did peruse a few recipes, and most of them had some twist that made them different which gave claim to being the secret to it being the best recipe out there.

I would certainly never be the best judge of whose pudding is better

than the other's because as much as I love bananas, banana pudding does not fall within my top 10 of desserts. For that matter it doesn't fall within my top 50, but as weird as it may sound, I do like it better than strawberries. And that strangeness for most of my readers I'm sure is another head scratching thought.

But back to banana pudding.

Courtesy photo

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AVAILABLE POSITIONS



Administrative Assistant

BBT, the best place in Alpine for a career, is looking for an Administrative Assistant. This role will be in support of management and will have various administrative duties. This role requires handling confidential information, so understanding discretion and the ethics involved are a must. Candidates must have good verbal and written communication skills, be proficient in Microsoft Office products, be a good problem solver, and have excellent organizational skills. BBT offers excellent benefits and a \$1,000.00 signing bonus upon completion of a successful 6-months of employment... terms and conditions apply.



Engineering Support Specialist

Do you dream of maps and roads and the best way to get there? Then this Engineering Support Specialist opportunity at Big Bend Telephone may be the perfect job for you. In this position, you will be collaborating with the GIS Administrator and Engineers on projects and mapping areas of West Texas. Candidates must have two (2) years of work experience using Microsoft Office with a special emphasis in Excel and Word. There is a signing bonus for new hires (terms and conditions apply) and long-term career potential for the right motivated candidate. BBT participates in E-Verify and promotes a Drug-Free Workplace. We are an EOE Employer and we encourage veterans to apply



Experienced Accounting Assistant

BBT is seeking a full-time experienced Accounting Assistant. The ideal candidate must be well organized, able to multi-task, work under deadlines, have excellent communication and analytical skills, General Ledger and Excel knowledge, as well as a minimum of 3 years of experience in Accounting. Applicants must possess a valid driver's license, have a good driving record and be insurable under the company's insurance policy. Applicant may be required to work overtime or on weekends and holidays as needed and may be required to attend out-of-town training and/or meetings requiring travel by car, bus, plane or other means of transportation and overnight stays. Hiring Bonus, Competitive Compensation and Benefits Package included. This company participates in E-Verify



Technology Service Associate (Fort Stockton)

Are you looking for a career as a Service Technician who wants to provide Big Bend Telephone's exceptional customer service while working in the Fort Stockton. Then BBT is the place for you to grow and develop with the ever-changing communications industry and is committed to providing stellar customer service and first-rate technology. The entire Big Bend team plays a role in developing strategies to increase the sales and usage of our products, services and equipment while reinforcing our brand. The ideal candidate will be technically inclined, have a strong desire to succeed and capable of delivering world-class customer service. The job entails networking comprehension, installation and troubleshooting of fixed wireless, fiber to the home, Wi-Fi services, IP Phones, and other customer premise services as well as repair and troubleshooting. Position requirements are minimum High School Diploma or GED equivalent with 2 years of experience in a related field. Applicants must possess a valid driver license, have a good driving record and be insurable under the company's insurance policy. There is a \$1,000 signing bonus for new hires (terms and conditions apply) and long-term career potential for the right motivated person.



Customer Operations & Sales Representative

If you're looking for a great place to work, then BBT may be the place for you. BBT is looking for a candidate with excellent communication skills and a desire to assist BBT customers with internet, customized voice solutions, and support. BBT Customer Operations & Sales Representatives not only support our existing customers, but also can recruit new customers which adds earned commissions to a salary that is already very competitive. BBT offers excellent benefits including health insurance and 401(k) with a generous company match. The successful candidate will be eligible for a \$1,000.00 bonus after a successful 6 months of employment.



Marketing and PR Coordinator

This is a great opportunity for a marketing driven individual with a successful track record who loves promoting products and services to existing and prospective customers. Along with a high achievement mentality and strong work ethic, there is also the expectation to collaborate with managers and vendors on developing strategies and promotions for a growing telecommunications company. This is a unique opportunity to make a big impact in a fast paced technical industry and be a BBT rockstar. This position has a great deal of visibility to management and the industry. Compensation is competitive, depending on experience. Company benefits include Medical, Dental, Life, STD, LTD and a 401K with a very generous Company match. There is also one-time \$1,000 bonus after 6 months of service*. *Terms and Conditions apply

For more information we invite you to visit <https://www.bigbend.com/about-us/employment/>

Email resume to: HR@bigbend.com OR Mail a current resume to BBT, Attn: HR 808 N. 5th St. Alpine, TX 79830 Please no phone calls. EOE Employer Veterans are encouraged to apply *Terms and Conditions apply.

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

Now Hiring

- **MEDICAL DOCTOR**
- **FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER**
- **NURSE- CNA OR NA**
- **FULL TIME- NURSE SUPERVISOR**
- **DENTIST**
Must be licensed in the State of Texas, Alpine Location
- **PART TIME - DENTAL HYGIENIST,**
Alpine Location
- **DENTAL HYGIENIST- FULL TIME**
- **PROGRAM COORDINATOR -**
Collaborate with team to ensure program process and outcomes.
- **STAFF ACCOUNTANT (Bachelors required)**
Alpine Location
- **PART TIME - HOUSEKEEPER,**
Alpine Location
- **PART TIME - MAINTENANCE WORKER,**
PCHS locations
- **HOUSEKEEPER- PART TIME**
- **FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST- Alpine**

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



PREVENTATIVE CARE HEALTH SERVICES

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

ARE YOU ADVERTISING?

Your business is open.
Your lights are on.
INVITE PEOPLE IN.

to advertise, call us at **432.837.3334**

Alpine Avalanche



TRANSPECOS BANKS

Texas Banking at its Best

TransPecos Banks would like to applaud our area seniors on a job well done!

Congratulations!

We wish you all the best for what's to come. This year, TransPecos Banks gave away a total of \$28,000 in scholarships awards to the Class of '23! Many area students submitted applications for the

TransPecos Banks Fifth Annual Future Leaders Scholarship contest.

We are proud to announce the following area students who received a scholarship for their entry:

Zane Billings

ALPINE

Alissa Ferguson

FORT DAVIS

Irene Granado

FORT DAVIS

Jordan Miller

VALENTINE

Omar Villa

ALPINE

Isaiah Briones

MARATHON

Ramon Aranda

PRESIDIO

Emily Hernandez

MARFA

Zenia Flores

KERMIT

Jennifer Cala

PECOS

Aubri Reyes

PECOS

Clarissa Martinez

BUENA VISTA

Mackenzie Burkett

MONAHANS

