

Alpine and Presidio County secure funds for community improvements

BY KARA GERBERT
 Managing Editor

Editor's note: This is part one of a two-part series.
 The Texas Transportation Commission, in a historic approval of funding, has allocated \$345 million towards pedestrian and bicycle projects across the state for Texas communities. This funding will aid 83 Texas projects to improve access and provide safety enhancements and mobility options to schools, jobs, public transit, and local destinations. This investment in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure is more than six times as much funding compared to the last call for projects for transportation alternatives in 2021, which was only \$55 million.

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas has seen a rise in pedestrian and bicycle fatalities. In 2022 there were 830 pedestrian fatalities and 92 bicyclists. The last five years have seen an increase of almost 30% in both pedestrian and bicycle deaths.

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INSIDE



FEATURED
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Rainfall totals at Alpine-Casparis Airport

2023	12.09"
October	2.58"



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.



Alpine Emergency Services Board talks finances

This newly created board manages the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department for the city and county

BY KARA GERBERT
 Managing Editor

The Alpine Emergency Services Board held its regular meeting on Thursday, October 26 at 5:30 p.m. in the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department meeting room. Board members present were Paul Loeffler, Rusty Moore, Stephanie Elmore, Stacy Wood, Albert Lujan, and Albert Benitez. Absent was Aaron Rodriguez. Also in attendance were AVFD Chief Andrew Pierce, Assistant Chief Charles Worden,

and James Etchison. After the pledge of allegiance and invocation led by Chairman Loeffler, minutes from the previous meeting on September 7 were approved, and an update from Treasurer Stacy Wood on board finances was given. Wood told the board that they had received the \$40,000 yearly contribution from Brewster County for their portion of the oversight, management, and payroll for the AVFD. Wood also reported that she was working on a specific way to utilize Quickbooks for

the board's finances that non-profit organizations utilize. "If I am unable to get this set up quickly, I will go ahead and enter everything into the standard Quickbooks so that we can see deposits, credits, and debits for our account almost instantly," Wood said. Loeffler told the board that he would invoice the City of Alpine for their \$40,000 portion of the yearly contribution so that the account would be ready for any needs for AVFD going forward. Loeffler said, "Effective October 1, the AESB

will handle all finances, payments, costs, etc. including stipends for the AVFD." In further board news, Loeffler told the board that the pension system that was previously set up for AVFD through the City of Alpine had officially been transferred to AESB and that according to the information he had currently, there were 14 people on the plan. Following reports from the board officers, AVFD Chief Andrew Pierce shared his monthly update. Pierce gave a run-

down about recent events and training that the department was engaged in. He told the board that AVFD provided the lighting ceremony for the AISD homecoming bonfire and managed that fire throughout the evening. According to Pierce, firefighters Shelby Green and Jacob Goodman tested for their Firefighter One and Two, along with a HAZMAT class, and would be certified soon.

See BOARD • 6

Ghouls and goblins galore



First graders at Alpine Elementary School went all-out on Halloween and dressed up as their favorite superhero, princess, villain, zombie, and everything in between.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

The possibility of a united County, City, and University

BY JOH COVINGTON
 Staff Writer

Sul Ross State University has adopted a new tagline to go with its recent enrollment campaign. A pithy "Far from Ordinary" will be printed on what the college releases in hopes of continuing the increase in enrollment. Also very notable, is their offer extended to both Brewster County and the City of Alpine, which would allow them to adopt the tagline as well.

"We are continuing to invest in the marketing for our graduate programs which has shown significant return already," said the university president, Dr. Carlos Hernandez, in a statement released last week

in the Avalanche. "While we continue to embrace the traditions of the Bar-SR-Bar, we want prospective students to know who and where we are and that we are 'Far from Ordinary,'" Hernandez continued. The strategic new look and language have seemed to make a difference already, with a 102-student increase this fall semester. According to the leaders of the community, the university has welcomed the area to participate in a way, that potentially shows a united front for the first time in years. Even if the individual groups don't move forward together in this specific instance, this could mark a shift to a closer community.



Sul Ross State University

The feedback from the community representatives is still very young, the idea has only been introduced and no lengthy discussion has occurred within the

individual governing group meetings. At a recent commissioner's court meeting, County Judge Greg Henington informed the commissioners of the possibility

and said, "I'd like to see the city, county, and Sul Ross all adopt that far from ordinary slogan. . . and really be one."

See SRSU • 6

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OBITUARIES

James "Jim" Marshall Roberts, Jr.

James Marshall Roberts, Jr. "Jim", 70, of Marathon, passed away on October 26, in Marathon. Born on February 25, 1953, in Fort Stockton, to James Marshall Roberts, Sr. and Callie Marie Roberts, Jim was the beloved husband of Stephanie Edgar Roberts.

Jim was a dedicated family man and is survived by his loving wife and his sons, John Clinton Roberts "Clint" of Marathon, and William



Clayton Roberts of Midland. Jim was a cherished brother to Marsha Roberts (husband, Gordon) of Marathon, and Donna Davis (husband, Kelly) of Pecos. Jim was preceded in death by his son Donny Lee Roberts. Jim

was a proud grandfather and great-grandfather to numerous children and great-grandchildren. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Jim's educational journey began with his attendance at Marathon Elementary and subsequent graduation from Marathon High School. He further pursued his higher education at Sul Ross State University where he earned a bachelor's degree.

Following his graduation from Sul Ross, Jim

returned to Marathon where he played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Marathon Water and Sewer Company. Jim's dedication to providing essential services to the community will always be remembered. Outside of work, Jim found great joy in steer roping, often participating alongside his wife Steph, and a circle of close friends.

Jim's passing leaves a void in the hearts of all who knew him. He will be remembered for his hard work, dedication,

and love for his family. Jim's memory will forever be treasured.

A private service will be scheduled at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Friends of the Marathon

Community Center, P.O. Box 338, Marathon, Texas.

Online condolences may be left at: www.alpinememorialfuneralhome.com

Services have been entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home.

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Puro party all the time



Celebrating their eighth year on air, KALP's Tejano Sunday radio show put on a concert and dance with the Puro Party Allstarz headed by Robert Alvarez the radio show's DJ along with special guest Texas Latino.


Photo by Kara Gerbert

Williams recognized



Area rancher Jeff Williams was recently recognized as the Man of the Year in the Texas County Agricultural Agents Association - District 6. Recipients of this award are those who provide exceptional service to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension along with having a positive impact on agriculture in Texas in general. The award honors the very best supporters of the extension service in Texas. Mr. Williams was recently a key supporter of the Big Bend Beef 706 program series that took place at Sul Ross State University throughout the spring of 2023.

Courtesy photo



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Ranch Day

Judd Foundation invites everyone to Ranch Day at Casa Perez, one of Donald Judd's three ranch houses. This event is free and open to the public.

Sunday, November 5
11:00am-3:00pm
Casa Perez

11:30am-1:00pm lunch by Angel's Restaurant (first come, first served).

1:00pm 'Flora of the Chihuahuan Desert' conversation with botanists Dr. A. Mike Powell (co-founder of the Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biology and Director and Curator of the Herbarium at Sul Ross State University) and Patty Manning (co-founder of Twin Sisters Natives).

2:00pm hike with Randy Sanchez, Judd Foundation

Music by Lady Chanticleer.

Directions to Casa Perez
Travel south on Pinto Canyon Road / Ranch Road 2810. Casa Perez is located 10 miles past the end of the paved road. High clearance vehicles required.

For more information, please contact:
marfa@juddfoundation.org

This program has been made possible through the generous support of the Brown Foundation, Inc. and a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts. This project has been supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.





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Jeff Davis County looking forward to new construction, renovations

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

Back in June of this year, the Jeff Davis County Commissioners Court awarded a bid to El Paso construction firm Mayan SIP Manufacturing and Sales to construct a new fire and EMS bunkhouse. The construction which began in early September according to Jeff Davis County Judge Curtis Evans, is about halfway complete.

Evans told the Avalanche, "This bunkhouse construc-

tion was completely funded by non-profit or foundation funding. There was not a dime of ad valorem tax dollars spent on this build."

The purpose of this bunkhouse is for emergency responders and other emergency services personnel who come in to assist Jeff Davis County in times of need. An example would be personnel such as members of the Forest Service and others responding to large wildfires in the area as they did during the devastating Rockhouse

Fire in 2011.

While the county looks forward to this new building, they are also anticipating the renovations for the Jeff Davis County Community Center. The community center will be located in the old Fort Davis Outfitters building that was offered to the county by Kevin and Karen Bark.

Originally, a community center was planned for the old Masonic Lodge and the Scobee Adobes that were given to the county by Steve Odell and Mary Fenton. The

cost of renovating these properties, although historic was not economically feasible. "There was a lot of discussion on keeping the property that Mr. Odell and Mrs. Fenton gave to the county for the sole purpose of a community center, but the cost of renovations for these historic buildings was too expensive to meet all the requirements for a public building," said Evans.

The solution to this predicament was to approach Odell and Fenton and inform them

of the county's decision to move in a different direction for a community center. Both Odell and Fenton agreed with the county and agreed to allow the county to sell the donated Masonic Lodge and Scobee Adobes and use those funds to purchase the old Outfitters building.

"The old Outfitters building was going to cost the county \$650,000. We used the \$300,000 from the sale of the lodge and adobes with the remainder of the funds coming from the American Res-

cue Plan Act that the county received during COVID-19," Evans added.

So far Jeff Davis County has been using the old Outfitters building as is for the community center, but a master plan is currently being finalized for the renovation of the property. "Jeff Davis County is looking forward to getting underway with these renovations and we expect this building to be a huge benefit to the Jeff Davis County community," Evans concluded.

Alpine man sentenced to federal prison

According to a press release from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas, an Alpine man, Timothy Rey Korteland, 19, was sentenced to 78 months in federal prison for the possession of child sexual abuse material.

According to court documents, Korteland engaged in multiple conversations that were sexual in nature with a minor in another state via the messaging application Discord. An FBI search warrant was executed for Korteland's Discord account, revealing multiple instances of the accused claiming to have child sexual abuse material. A search war-

rant for Korteland's residence was conducted by agents from Homeland Security Investigations and the FBI. All electronics in Korteland's possession were removed along with multiple video files depicting young children engaged in activity of a sexual nature in an application on his cell phone. Korteland pleaded guilty to the possession of child pornography on March 28.

"This defendant, by his own estimate, possessed around 2,000 videos of child sexual abuse material and other illicit sexual content, and was forming an online relationship with a minor," U. S. Attorney for the Western District of Texas Jaime Esparza said. "I appreciate the collaborative efforts by our federal law enforcement

partners to prevent Korteland from causing any further harm to his victims. This federal prison sentence should serve as a warning to anyone who seeks out and possesses material of this nature, that we will be relentless in our pursuit of justice."

Special Agent in Charge John S. Morales of the FBI El Paso Field Office said, "The FBI remains steadfast in our commitment to protect children from those who seek to exploit their innocence. These types of cases serve as a reminder of the importance for parents or caregivers to be aware of who their children are talking to when they are online and playing in group gaming platforms."

Francisco B. Burrola, Special Agent in Charge of the HIS El Paso Divi-

sion added, "This sentence is a testament to the repugnant nature of child exploitation crimes which only perpetuates the trauma endured by victims. Our HIS agents make it a top priority to protect vulnerable children from victimization by working with their law enforcement partners to investigate predators involved in child sexual abuse material and ensure they are held accountable for their heinous actions."

This case was investigated by the El Paso Division and Field Offices of Homeland Security Investigations and the FBI. Assistant U.S. Attorney Amy Greenbaum prosecuted the case.

Marfa youth softball coach pleads guilty

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

On October 27, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas issued a press release stating that Patriocio Javier Serrano of Marfa pleaded guilty in federal court to possession of child pornography and transportation of child pornography, along with aiding and abetting.

Serrano had a criminal complaint filed against him in May.

According to court documents Serrano had multiple photos and videos depicting child sexual abuse material stored on his cell phone and in his phone's web browser. He

pleaded guilty last Friday to one count of the transportation of child pornography, aiding and abetting, and one count of possession of child pornography that carries no less than five years and up to 20 years in prison for the transportation charge, and up to 20 years for the possession charge.

Serrano's sentencing will be determined by a federal district court judge after consideration of the U.S. sentencing guidelines along with other statutory factors. This case is under the investigation of the FBI, Homeland Security Investigations, Texas Department of Public Safety, and the Marfa Police Department.

Experiencing some overall fun



Parents and kids galore enjoyed the Big Bend Law Enforcement Fun Fest held at the Alpine Visitor's Center on Saturday. Activities included trunk or treat, music, games, food and drinks, and free pumpkins for the kids courtesy of the Alpine Police Department and Porter's.

Photo by Joh Covington

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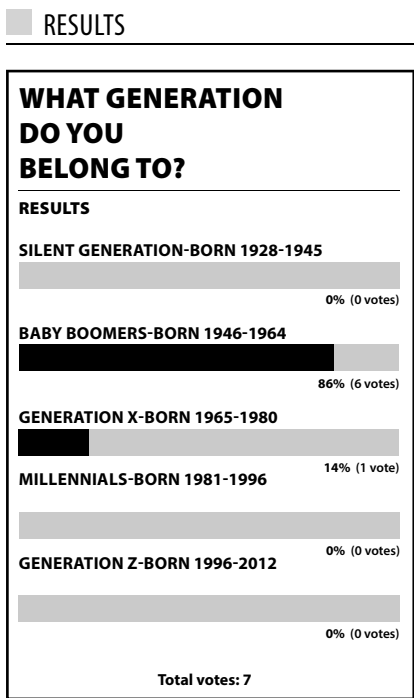
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THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Now the Avalanche asks:

What are you doing for Thanksgiving this year?

- Going home to my family.
- Staying put and celebrating with friends.
- I'm not doing anything.
- Spending it with my significant other's 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 kara.gerbert@alpineavalanche.com by noon Monday for consideration.

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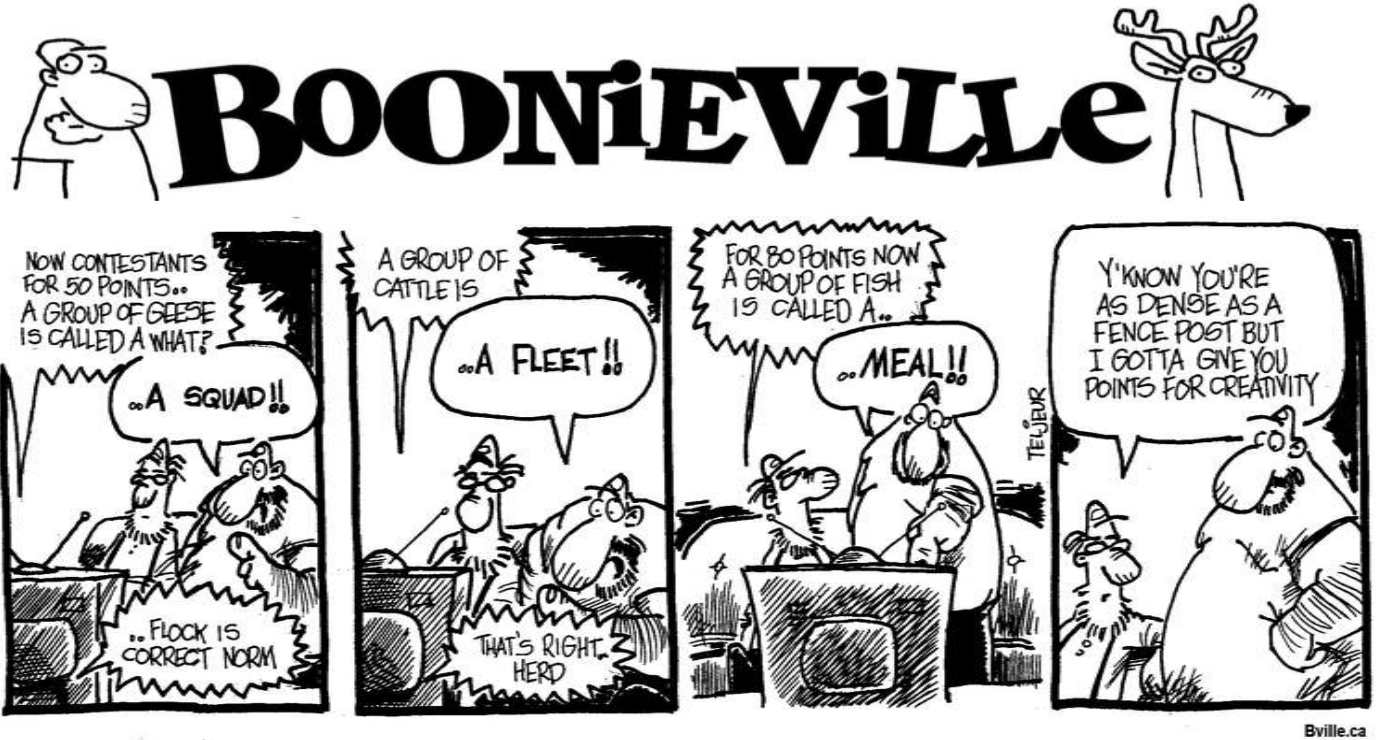
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ALPINE AVALANCHE (014 800) is published every Thursday morning at 704 E. Holland Ave., Alpine, TX 79830. Periodical postage paid at Alpine, TX.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Alpine Avalanche, P.O. Box 719, Alpine, TX 79831.

Subscription rates in Brewster, Jeff Davis and Presidio counties are \$42 per year, \$48 in-state and \$52 elsewhere.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation will be corrected when such occurs in this newspaper and is brought to the publisher's attention.



Education: Serving students

Working in education is an act of service, plain and simple. It's one of the most evident things you'll notice when you walk the halls of any Alpine ISD campus. From the daycare, all the way through Teachers, paraprofessionals, custodians, administrators, maintenance, and everybody in between all have the same resolve and purpose; to serve the students.



CHRIS VALENZUELA
AISD CFO

Working in education is not for the faint of heart; it requires long hours, lots of extra work, and tons of mental dedication. There is something to be said about the wonderful people who work at Alpine ISD, servants to the fullest.

Since beginning work here over five years ago as a full-time substitute, parapro-

fessional, teacher, coach, and now Chief Financial Officer, I am truly blessed to return to my alma mater and work with some of the brilliant minds that once taught me. Transitioning to the role of CFO has really opened my eyes

to what a wonderful group of people that make magic happen in and out of the classroom.

While I have come to notice all the great things that are happening, I would be remiss to not notice the challenges that are facing the district in the coming years. Challenges include changes in federal funding post-COVID, political gridlock holding public education in the middle, and underfunding from the state to many rural districts like Alpine.

As a district, we face chal-

lenges at the state level that are far beyond our control. That being said, we are committed to finding creative ways to combat these challenges.

Coming into this position in the middle of a legislative session has also shown me just how important it is to raise your voice to your legislators as our local finances are directly impacted by the decisions of our state government. Dr. Rinehart and I are committed to working on behalf of our district at the local, state, and federal levels to evoke change in hopes of making the school finance formulas equitable for all students, but especially the students of Alpine ISD and rural communities alike.

Currently, we are working hard to secure grant funding in as many avenues as we can to ensure that despite massive underfunding from the state Alpine remains a world-class competitive school district.

One of the biggest take-aways from my background in engineering is the ability to think outside the box and get creative to solve problems that haven't yet been addressed. The world of finance is very similar in that respect, in that we have the opportunity to find creative solutions to keep amazing things happening in our district.

Each of our students has a limited time to walk the halls of Alpine ISD and deserves to have as many opportunities as possible to become world-class citizens, thinkers, and leaders. Since graduating from AHS more than a decade ago, I have seen the district improve and grow tremendously and I truly look forward to being a part of its future. While I still have so much to learn and the challenges ahead are tough, there has never been a better time to be a Buck.

Maybe I'll bake a cake

"Oh, well, a-bless my soul, but what's wrong with me?"

I'm itchin' like a man on a fuzzy tree
My friends say I'm actin' wild as a bug
I'm in love ... I'm all shook up."

— 1956 Song lyrics by Otis Blackwell



LEON ALDRIDGE
Guest Columnist

Someday, I want to be a column writer. When I grow up.

Wouldn't it be amazing? To be like those gifted writers who create something out of nothing. Individuals who can write about anything at the drop of a hat. Any subject. Any time. Just crack my knuckles like a concert pianist and start creating magic with the keys.

Someone like songwriter Otis Blackwell who wrote hits for many of the 1950s recording artists. Songs like "All Shook Up," which he reportedly wrote after a Shalimar Studio exec opened a bottled soft drink, shook it up to make it bubble over, and challenged Blackwell to write a song using the line, "All Shook Up."

He did. In two days. The song was pitched to Elvis Presley and was his second-biggest hit after "Don't Be Cruel," also written by Blackwell.

"Are you one of those writers who can create a column about anything," a friend up in Mount Pleasant asked me

last week. While I was thinking about writers who possessed that exact ability.

"Just sit down and write something?"

"No," I said. Then I shared with him how I had been

thinking about that very thing. And how I would like to write like that. Someday.

"OK, so right now," he said. "Without thinking about it. Tell me the first thing that comes to your mind."

"Mixers," I fired back. Without thinking about it.

Silence. He looked at me. "Mixers? What kind of mixers? Where did that come from?"

"The kind my mother used in the kitchen to make cakes and other good things to eat. The kind your mother probably used, too. The kind for which I watched every move Mom made when she baked. Waiting. Hoping. That I would get to lick one of the beaters covered with cake icing. I had to be fast, though. With two sisters and mixers with only two beaters, the last one in the kitchen was the loser."

"But a column about a kitchen mixer?" My friend was a little mixed up.

"I won one," I told him. "I bought a \$20 raffle ticket for Rene Kay's quilt raffle at

the Poultry Festival a couple of weeks ago. The one she does to support her autistic son at college to learn more life skills and an occupation. Last year, she raffled just the quilt she made. This year, she added more prizes. Soft-sided coolers, a shotgun, and original oil paintings. But I won a mixer."

"A mixer," my friend said flatly. Obviously still not understanding.

"Not just any mixer," I replied. "It's one of those professional commercial over-the-top kind that costs more than all the kitchen appliances in the world put together. And it's red."

"What are you going to do with a mixer," he chuckled. "You don't even cook?"

"See," I said. "That's the funny part. I used to cook and enjoyed it. But I quit after the kids grew up and moved out. Left my cooking to the restaurants. Then just recently, I started a remodeling project on my kitchen. New appliances, new countertops, new sink, new cookware. New mop and broom. New everything before it's all done. So, I decided with a new kitchen in the works, I might as well start cooking again. What could have been a better prize than a mixer?"

"The other funny part is that Rene came by the office a few days after the drawing," I con-

tinued. "I could tell she had something on her mind. Said that she was fearful a mixer might not be such a good prize for me. That she didn't know if I even cooked since I was a single man. She was right in the middle of suggesting she might be able to arrange for an alternative prize when I interjected, 'I like my mixer.'"

"You're happy with it, then," Rene asked?

"You can't have my mixer," I laughed. "I love it."

She left with a smile.

"That was a lucky ticket," my friend said.

"Not my first one this year," I replied. "I won a big prize drawing at the chamber banquet in January. I also won some cool door prizes at the North and East Texas Press Association convention in April."

"Maybe you should write about your good luck in drawings. But a column about kitchen mixers. Is that something you could get all shook up about?"

Pondering his point for a minute, I admitted I wasn't sure whether that would work or not.

"I don't know," I said slowly. "You could be right. Maybe I'll just go home, bake a cake, and think about it."

—Contact Leon Aldridge at leonaldridge@gmail.com. Other Aldridge columns are archived at leonaldridge.com

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Heard on the STREET

Our Avalanche reporter asked, "What is a TV or movie quote that you use all the time?"



Andrew Mitchell: "Just when I thought I was out... they pull me back in," - Silvio Dante quoting Michael Corleone.



Brad Butler: "Negative, Ghost Rider. The pattern is full," - Top Gun.



Caleb Wood: "You gotta pump those numbers up. Those are rookie numbers," - Wolf of Wall Street.



Isla Zent: "Oh biscuits!" - Bluey.



Will Butler: "I'll take a sixer of Old Milwaukee, or Lonestar. Nothing snooty," - True Detective, season one.

Send your community events to kara.gerbert@alpineavalanche.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 3 First Friday Song Swap**, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Far West Guitars 114 N. 6th Street.
- Nov. 4 Fall Festival**, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Alpine. There will be free food, games, a petting zoo, sack races, face painting, and more.
- Nov. 11 Big Bend National Park**, Free Entry for Veteran's Day.
- Nov. 11 David R. Delaney Memorial 5k**, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Kokernot Field.
- Nov. 11 Fort Davis National Historic Site**, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free Entry



- Nov. 29 - Jan. 1 Fort Davis National Historic Site**, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Frontier Christmas, with Christmas décor on display through historic structures.
- Dec. 9-11 Marfa Holiday Bazaar**, with hot cocoa, snacks, a holiday lights parade, singing from the Marfa Children's Choir, and tree lighting on Friday. Vendors, music, and more on Saturday beginning at 10 a.m., and on Sunday, starting at

10 a.m. more shopping, music, and a pet parade at 3 p.m.

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.
- Amigo Run Club at Alpine**

- City Place**, 5: 30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 101 W. Ave E. Weekly running club to walk/run 1-3 miles. Meet at the Amigo garage and finish at Amigo. Call 432-837-4012 for more information.
- Big Bend Amateur Radio Club meeting**, 7 p.m., second Tuesday each month, Frontier Masonic Lodge #766, 2300 Highway 118 North.
- 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 bbcchorale.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.
- Citizenship Classes**, at Alpine Public Library by appointment only, 805 W. Ave. E. 432-837-2621
- ESL Tutoring**, at Alpine Public Library, 805 W. Ave. E. Call 432-837-2621 to make an appointment.
- GED tutoring**, at Alpine Public Library, 805 W. Ave. E. Call 432-837-2621 to make an appointment.
- Kiwanis Club of Alpine**, noon, Wednesdays at the Sul Ross University Center, room 210
- Late Night Game Night**, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. every Thursday night at Amigo, 101 W. Ave E. See more at alpineavalanche.com.

PET OF THE WEEK

Alpine Humane Society Pet of the Week is Whiskey. Whiskey is a four-year-old Shepherd mix who loves to sit with people as much as he loves playing in the yard. This boy is happy to load up in a truck with no problem if you want to go on a cruise because he likes to feel the wind in his fur.

Whiskey is vigilant about letting the ground squirrels know who's in charge, and no pesky critter is getting into his yard on his watch. He invites you to visit him today at the Alpine Animal Services Shelter if a

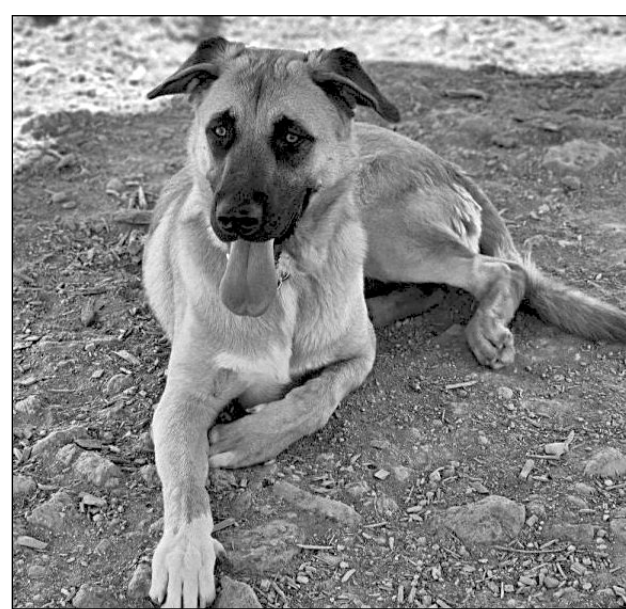
squirrel-monitoring riding buddy is who you are looking for.

Thanks to all who turned out this chilly past Sunday evening to support our Dia de los Quesos event. Watch for a special upcoming sale of items not sold during the silent auction, just in time for holiday shopping.

Pet promotions are courtesy of the 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 is at 600 N. 5th Street. The AHS Helpline is 432-837-2532. To view adoptable pets, visit PetFinder.com or www.alpinehumane-society.org, and check us out on Facebook and Instagram.



Alpine Elementary's Barbie bonanza



Barbie seems to be a common theme for Halloween this year as teachers and staff from Alpine Elementary dressed up as everything from astronaut Barbie to president.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

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The website has links, phone numbers, and addresses for programs, hotlines, and organizations throughout the tri-county area with up-to-date information on area health and social services.

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CITY OF ALPINE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF ALPINE THAT A CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON **NOVEMBER 21, 2023, AT 5:30 P.M.** IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM:

SPECIAL USE PERMIT 2023-11-05: A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING THE APPLICANT, LOWE'S MARKET #178, TO OBTAIN A WINE-ONLY PACKAGE STORE PERMIT (Q) FROM THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION TO OPERATE A GROCERY STORE WITH ALCOHOL SALES. THE PROPERTY IN QUESTION IS LOCATED AT 104 N. 2ND STREET. THE RECORD PROPERTY OWNER IS PORTER & COMPANY, LTD. THE PROPERTY ID OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS 11792.

THE CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON **TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M.** AT CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 803 WEST HOLLAND AVENUE TO HEAR CITIZEN VIEWS AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED APPLICATION.

COPIES OF THE APPLICATION ARE AVAILABLE AT CITY HALL, 100. N 13TH STREET, BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:00 A.M. AND 12:00 P.M. AND 1:00 P.M. AND 5:00 P.M. MONDAY TO FRIDAY. QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT CITY.SECRETARY@CITYOFALPINE.COM OR AT (432) 837-3301, OPTION 1.

CITY OF ALPINE

NOTICE OF PASSED ORDINANCES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF ALPINE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL HAS PASSED THE FOLLOWING CAPTIONED ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE 2022-02-01: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALPINE, TEXAS AMENDING CHAPTER 10 - ANIMALS; AMENDING ARTICLE I - IN GENERAL; AMENDING ARTICLE II - KEEPING ANIMALS; PROVIDING FOR UPDATED REGULATIONS REGARDING THE RESTRAINT AND IMPOUNDMENT OF ANIMALS; PROVIDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UP TO A \$500 PENALTY PER OCCURRENCE FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE.

ORDINANCE 2022-03-01: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALPINE, TEXAS AMENDING CHAPTER 90 - TAXATION, ARTICLE IV - COIN-OPERATED ESTABLISHMENTS TO THE ALPINE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING REPEALING AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSES; PROVIDING A TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UP TO A \$500 PENALTY PER OCCURRENCE FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE.

COPIES OF THE ORDINANCES ARE AVAILABLE AT CITY HALL, 100 N. 13TH STREET, DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS BETWEEN 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. AND 1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. COPIES MAY ALSO BE OBTAINED BY EMAILING CITY.SECRETARY@CITYOFALPINE.COM. QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT 432-837-3301, OPTION 1.

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BOARD • FROM 1

Pierce also told the board, "I am working with my captains and my lieutenant in putting together a program that mimics the State Firemen and Fire Marshalls Association training calendar." At this point in the meeting, Loeffler told Pierce and the board that if they paid their dues to the SFFMA for the department as well as for the individuals on November 1 or after, the department

would get 14 months instead of the regular 12 out of the membership for this year, because the association would not bill again if they paid in the fourth financial quarter.

Pierce also told the board about the department participating in local events as part of their community service, including attending the Kiwanis dinner, the Stable first responder apprecia-

tion day, and the Zuzu Verk Memorial Walk in conjunction with the Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend. Finally, Pierce mentioned that he had applied for an all-expenses paid grant through Fire Connect and the Texas Forest Service for fire school, that the department had two new members join for October, and that with the centennial anniversary of the AVFD in mind, they were plan-

ning an end of the year awards ceremony and were actively seeking sponsors.

In conclusion, Loeffler told the board that Emergency Management Coordinator Stephanie Elmore had set up the purchase order system so that any supplies or equipment needed could be purchased along with a list of local businesses where these purchase orders would be able to

be used. Loeffler reiterated that there should only be a select few persons able to utilize a purchase order and be sold goods and or services by each business on the list, in order to maintain records of purchases easily. He also told the board that he had set up an agreement with Cobos Lube Center to perform basic maintenance such as oil and filter changes on all the vehicles, and a short

discussion on maintenance records ensued. Having no other business to discuss, Loeffler called for a motion to adjourn. The next regular meeting for the AESB is set for December 5 at 5:30 p.m. No meeting was scheduled for November due to scheduling conflicts and the Thanksgiving holiday.

SRSU • FROM 1

However, this adoption could come with a \$50,000 price tag for the city and the county individually, and while Henington has expressed initial favor for the idea, Alpine may consider a separate rebranding.

According to Betse Esparza, the Director of University Communications, this price was offered by the university for the licensed use of the tagline and while the campaign is not contingent upon the city or

county's decision, they are always happy to partner with them. They also "discussed the possibility of including their tourism branding in our campaign materials while they would promote SRSU in theirs," Esparza said.

During the last city council meeting Alpine Mayor, Catherine Eaves, shared that they met with the university and learned more about what Sul Ross has been implementing with the

work that the marketing firm has done. According to Eaves, they may consider negotiation or even creating a tagline independently, which while separate could be a complement to Sul Ross' new tagline, such as "Where Extraordinary Begins." "We want to promote Alpine and attract employees," Eaves said.

The city could consider using HOT funds to pursue this due to the fact the college supplies quite a bit of the ho-

tel numbers with their events like homecoming and graduation. And if the funds were used and specifically geared toward hotel occupancy, the funds could be applied.

Each group has things to consider further before any agreement is made but from the statements that each group has made in favor of cooperation and partnership, it seems that changes are on the horizon for all.

TXDOT • FROM 1

Texas Transportation Commissioner Alvin New said, "People who walk and bike make up about one out of every five deaths on Texas roadways. These projects will help the state move closer toward their goal of zero deaths by giving Texans a place to walk and bike that is separate from vehicle traffic."

Closer to home there are projects for Presidio County and the City of Alpine. These projects were selected after a

competitive call for projects that came out from cities and counties across the state.

The Presidio County project is slated to construct ADA-accessible sidewalks along FM1112 from Highland Street to Dean Street, a 12-foot-wide bicycle/pedestrian bridge over Alamito Creek, and a shared-use path. This project will also add ADA ramps, curbs, signage, and pavement markings. They were awarded \$1,334,320

for the preliminary engineering and construction of the project.

The City of Alpine was awarded \$191,360 to evaluate traffic data, non-motorized locations, connectivity challenges, roadway conditions, and other factors to develop recommendations for short-term and long-term improvements to the bicycle and pedestrian network. This evaluation, entitled the Alpine Mobility Plan, will afford the citizens of Alpine input as well as engagement op-

portunities.

Alpine City Manager Megan Antrim said, "We are grateful for the opportunity TxDOT has provided the city. We look forward to addressing the growing need for safety, mobility, and connectivity within our city." Two key players in soliciting this grant money for the City of Alpine were grant writer Marci Tuck and Ward 3 Councilor Darin Nance. There is no word yet as to when these projects will begin.

Indians win bi-district



The Fort Davis Indians defeated Sierra Blanca in bi-district play to clinch the bi-district title and move on to area competition.

Courtesy photo

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Feeder Cattle: Steady to \$5.00 higher
Packer Cows and Bulls: \$3.00 to \$5.00 higher

300# - 400# Steers	292.00 to 311.00
300# - 400# Heifers	251.00 to 258.00
400# - 500# Steers	261.00 to 292.00
400# - 500# Heifers	235.00 to 251.00
500# - 600# Steers	234.00 to 261.00
500# - 600# Heifers	219.00 to 235.00
600# - 700# Steers	207.50 to 234.00
600# - 700# Heifers	213.00 to 219.00
700# - 800# Steers	217.00 to 227.00
700# - 800# Heifers	197.00 to 213.00
Packer Cows	94.00 to 104.00
Canner & Cutter Cows	80.00 to 90.00
Packer Bulls	108.00 to 122.00
Feeder Bulls	85.00 to 95.00
Cow / Calf Pairs - Top Half	1400.00 to 1750.00
Bred Cows - Top Half	1300.00 to 1650.00

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LOOKING BACK

SERVING THE BIG BEND AND DAVIS MOUNTAINS COUNTRY

Alpine Avalanche

October 13, 1950

The Westminster choir will be treating the local area to their talent on November 10 thanks to the support of the Marfa Lions Club.

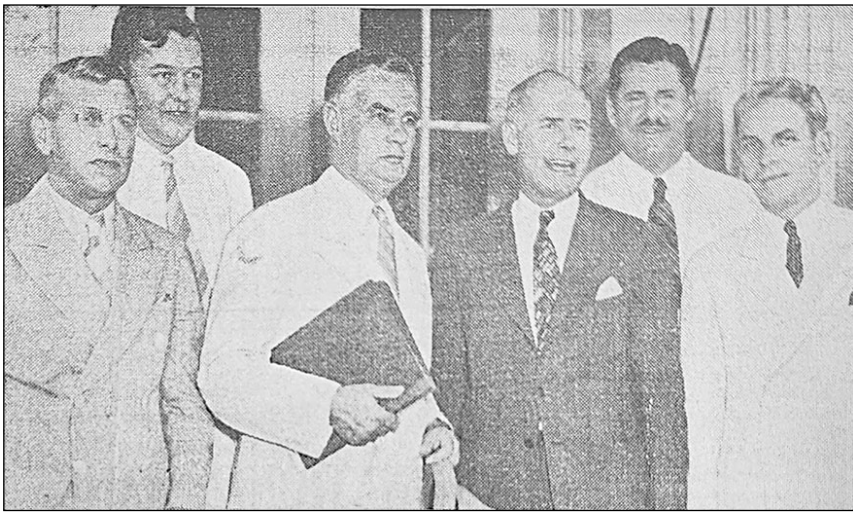


October 15, 1948

An active member of the FFA and many school sports, Otis French Jr. received the Eagle rank in scouting at the Merit Badge show in EL Paso. He started scouting in 1944 and has attended many camps in his 16 years and is a senior at the Alpine High School.

October 21, 1938

The President hosted the members of the new Civil Aeronautic Authority at the White House for a quick visit. They are considered the new leader in government aviation and called on the President to pay their respects.



October 10, 1947

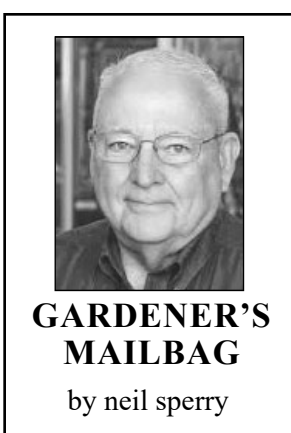
Ned Fritz, the chairman of the youth welfare committee, shows Boy Scouts how to tie a knot. The boy scout troop is seen here at the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas, as every member is a patient at the hospital. Every scout takes their scouting seriously despite their illness.

Odd-looking tree not recommended for landscaping

Dear Neil: I was on a nature hike in North Texas a week ago and came across this pretty, but really odd-looking little tree. What is it, and would it ever work in a home landscape?

It has several names. Botanically it's *Zanthoxylum clava-herculis*. Most of us call it Hercules club, but I've also heard it referred to as "tingle-tongue" and "toothache tree" because of the reaction it has with our mouths when chewed. Its leaves, as you saw, are lustrous and attractive, but because of the spines, it probably won't make anyone's top list of best small trees for landscaping. However, it's certainly a conversation starter. And "conservation starter." The birds love its fruit.

Dear Neil: Have you encountered nurseries selling lacebark elms as cedar elms? The two are distinctly different. I've seen this happening twice in recent weeks. When I point it out, they just shrug their shoulders and move on. What can be done to protect consumers? Aren't cedar elms



GARDENER'S MAILBAG
by neil sperry

the superior trees?

We all need to learn the subtle differences between the two species. Yes, I agree that cedar elms are better landscaping investments. They're not bothered by cotton root rot, the fatal soil-borne fungus, whereas lacebark elms are. And the same with Dutch elm disease, should it become a major threat across Texas. Lacebarks have trouble holding their plumb habit, often developing severe leans out of vertical.

As far as identifying the two, lacebark elms (*Ulmus parvifolia*) have more slen-

der leaves, and if the trees are large enough to be displaying bark, they have the unusual coloring of the trunks that give the plant its name. Cedar elms have "twiggy" growth and more oval leaves that are distinctly more hirsute on their top surfaces. Their trunks have none of the lacy patterns as the bark exfoliates. You asked if I have observed this mix-up, and I have not. I deal with veteran nursery people who are very critical of the merchandise they buy. It sounds like someone either bought without actually visiting the wholesale nursery to pick and choose, or they didn't know the difference themselves.

Dear Neil: My tree has these brown spots on its leaves. Even the green leaves have spots. What is happening? What should I do?

This might have been a fungal leaf spot from a month

or two ago, but frankly, it is of no concern. As you can tell, all these leaves are dropping now for the winter. The only thing you might do would be to pick them up and put them into the compost pile to get them away from this plant. There is absolutely no reason to spray anything this late in the season. They might serve as a source of inoculation for next year, but on a scale of threats to your tree, they barely move the needle off "Zero."

Dear Neil: I'm seeing



yellow and brown areas in my St. Augustine. It has looked good all summer and so far, this fall, but now the discoloration. I applied insecticide for chinchbugs and seem to have avoided them. What might this be?

I'm going to guess, due to recent moisture and temperatures dropping, that it's brown patch (now also being called "large patch"). It's a fall disease. It appears once temperatures drop into the 50s and 60s. Blades will

turn yellow, then brown just a few days later. They will pull loose easily from the runners, and you'll be able to see the active decay at the bases of the blades. Azoxystrobin fungicide will control brown patch. Water only in the early morning, so the grass won't stay wet overnight.

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 TX Janis died of a heroin over _____
- 5 Quanah's code is 254
- 6 it can be removed with brush or roller
- 7 gazillions
- 8 this MacGraw starred with TX Kris Kristofferson in 1978 film "Convoy"
- 9 TXism: "you're dancing _____ field" (in danger)
- 16 _____ an email
- 18 TXism: "_____ couldn't stir 'em with a stick"
- 21 hosp. trauma area
- 22 "_____ of" (kinda)
- 23 first commissioned rank of TX Chester W. Nimitz (abbr.)
- 24 to be sure
- 30 in Hardin County on U.S. 69, 96 & 287
- 34 TXism: "old _____ dirt"
- 35 TXism: "he's a man _____ the river with" (reliable)
- 36 Texas "horny _____"
- 37 red, swollen limbs caused by fights
- 39 TXism: "you got the tail _____" (backwards)
- 43 this gymnast Comaneci now lives in Oklahoma
- 44 "it's _____ fire way to do it"
- 45 TX Clint Black's "_____ Tell Ourselves"

DOWN

- 1 "Big D"
- 2 the Altamira _____ is seen in the Valley
- 3 Nacogdoches newspaper: "The Daily _____"
- 4 TXism: "_____ high on the hog" (rich)
- 9 TX Kenny sang "All I Ever Need _____ You"
- 10 "Cadillac Ranch" has 10 cars buried this way (2 wds.)
- 11 TX Vikki Carr album: "Cosas del _____"
- 12 in McLennan County on highway 164
- 13 TX Henley co-wrote "New Kid _____"
- 14 Yankees city (abbr.)
- 15 TXism: "red _____" (liquor)
- 17 TXism: "if I had my _____" (choice)
- 19 TXism: "dancing like a bobber _____"
- 20 WWII aircraft carrier: "_____ Jacinto"
- 24 TX George Strait hit: "I've Come to Expect _____ from You"
- 25 TX Vikki Carr album: "Cosas del _____"
- 26 mild expression of anger

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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Sports

The Lady Bucks are bi-district champs

STAFF REPORT
Alpine Avalanche

The 2023 UIL Texas volleyball state championship race is underway, and the Alpine Lady Bucks have entered the foray by winning the bi-district competition against Merkel.

Last week the Alpine team won the district championship with their game against Presidio. The Lady Bucks won each set of the game, ending with a score of 3-0 with 25-9 in set one, 25-26 in two, and 25-13 in set three.

Head volleyball coach Adrian Smith said, "Winning the District Championship for the entire Lady

Buck Volleyball Program is an amazing goal achievement for which we are all extremely proud."

The Bucks hit hard in their attacks in this game, with a total of 38. Senior Adayna Garcia accomplished 12 kills alone, followed by eight from junior Hope Dominguez, seven from senior Peyton Kinkade and Novah Carrasco, and four from senior Hannah Juett.

The team also had several serving aces with junior Jaycee Portillo, and seniors Mia Morris and Paula Vargas working together for five aces throughout the game.

See LADY BUCKS • 9



The Lady Bucks Volleyball team was named district champs last week after their game against Presidio. This week, they also won bi-district in their game with Merkel.

Courtesy photo

Sports Schedule

FIGHTIN' BUCKS FOOTBALL
NOV. 2 Crane @ Alpine
JV 6 p.m.
NOV. 3 Alpine vs Crane
Varsity 7:30 p.m.

LADY BUCKS VOLLEYBALL
TBA

LADYBUCKS BASKETBALL
NOV. 7 Pecos @ Alpine
JV 4:30 p.m.
Varsity 6 p.m.
NOV. 9 AND 11 Fort Stockton JV
Tourney TBA
NOV. 11 Monahans @ Alpine
JV 11 a.m.
Varsity 12:30 p.m.

ALPINE CROSS COUNTRY
NOV. 3 State Championship
@ Round Rock
Old Settlers Park

*District Game
**Bi-District

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2023 Sul Ross Lady Lobos Basketball

Courtesy photo

Lady Lobos basketball prepares for final year in the ASC

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The Sul Ross Lady Lobos basketball team, like all of the other athletic teams at Sul Ross, is facing their final season of Division Three play in the American Southwest Conference. This season the Lady Lobos have eight returning players from last season who helped to set the women's basketball program with

their best winning record during Sul Ross' NCAA era.

The Lady Lobos are led by head coach E.J. Lee Smith, and Smith told the Avalanche that this season's team has three new transfers and five freshmen that she and her coaching staff have brought to the team.

"We have several challenging teams to play against during this final year in the ASC.

We're looking forward to playing UT-Dallas, who we beat for the first time in program history last season, and also lost to them in the conference tournament by four points. East Texas Baptist, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, and of course the nationally ranked Hardin-Simmons University will be chal-

See LADY LOBOS • 9

Sul Ross Rodeo brings home the bling



Wyatt Fields, a Sul Ross State University rodeo team member, recently won the United Professional Rodeo Association's 2023 steer wrestling championship.

Courtesy photo

Sul Ross finishes strong at Texas Tech

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The Sul Ross State University Rodeo Team wrapped up its fall season at Texas Tech in Lubbock this past weekend. Colten Leech would shine in the steer wrestling event and take home the first-place spot with a time of 4.4 seconds in the short-go to win the average. Not to be outdone, Chisum Allen also earned a win in the tie-down roping with a 9.4-second run in the long-go followed

up by a 9.6-second run in the short-go. Cole Hollen would add to the team's success with a second-place finish in the bareback riding with a 78-point ride in the short-go and Tanner Skene placed ninth in the bull riding.

Several of these cowboys would end up placing in rodeos earlier in the season.

The second week of September saw the SR guys and gals travel to

See RODEO • 11

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Last home game concludes with heated end

The Fightin' Buck's Thursday game against Tornillo came to a sudden end last week when in the first quarter, team members from both sides had to be pulled out of a fight and off the field.

Head football coach and athletic director Andy Smith said after the game, "It was an unfortunate incident, something that we are addressing internally with discipline."

After the Buck's last score, made by Moses Riggins from a 45-yard pass from Devon Rojo, and a kick from Walter Urbanczyk, Alpine was up 43-0 over Tornillo. With about 16 seconds left in the first quarter, Alpine was on defense, had just scored, and kicked off to Tornillo. Tornillo made a first down play and had some defenders shoot through the backfield.

One of the Alpine athletes picked up one of the opposing team's players during the play and dropped him after the whistle had blown. It was flagged as a personal foul, and it occurred after the whistle and would have resulted in a 15-yard penalty.

When the Alpine player turned and started to walk away, the running back who had been dropped and two other players from Tornillo came forward to shove and tackle him, and the situation continued to escalate for a few minutes with two other Alpine players who also ran onto the field.

According to Smith none of the players were badly injured. "Our coaches did



The Alpine Fightin' Bucks run onto the field during a recent game on senior night.

Photo by Virginia Acosta.

a great job of trying to face our kids and hold them back, but a couple made it through. And those two were really just trying to help, they weren't fighting themselves," said Smith.

At the top of the game Tornillo had shown up with 13 players, that number was down to nine due to one player quitting mid-game, one injury, and two ejections.

After the first-quarter incident, the game officials had to decide what their options were. "We had five players ejected as well, they had two," said Smith.

They had to consider the forfeit option even though they had already started the game, which would have resulted in Alpine getting "maximum points" according to Smith. This means that the score would have been approximately 15-0. However, because Alpine had 43 points on the board, and many of those points

were made by players and seniors who had just made their first touchdown, they didn't want to remove that record from the books.

"We mutually agreed to put time on the clock and let the rest of the first quarter run off and then let the last three quarters run off, and then the game was over," Smith said.

According to Smith, they addressed it with the team and talked about it with them. There will be extra running and for the five players who were ejected, they will be sitting out for the first half of the next game per UIL rules.

Anyone who wasn't in play and stepped onto the field while the fight was escalating was unfortunately automatically ejected.

"It's something that we'll work through moving forward," Smith said.

During the game, Patrick Contreras made a six-yard touchdown and Walt

Urbanczyk received a pass from Daedrick Hardwick for a two-point conversion, gaining the first eight points for the Bucks.

Hardwick then received a 60-yard pass from Iden Lujan for a touchdown bumping them up to 14 points.

Robert Vasquez made a seven-yard touchdown followed by another Hardwick pass to Urbanczyk for the two-point conversion, making the score 22-0.

Then, Logan Smith completed a 12-yard touchdown after an interception return and Smith's run for a two-point conversion, the score was 36-0.

The final point was the 45-yard pass from Rojo to Riggins for a touchdown with a kick from Urbanczyk, resulting in the final score of 43-0.

Next up for the Fightin' Bucks, they will be facing Crane in a big district away game that's an opportunity to be co-district champions

LADY LOBOS • FROM 8

lenging and tough opponents also. These teams are all bringing back a large majority of their main players from last season," Smith said.

The Avalanche also spoke to three of the Lady Lobos seasoned players about what they expect from this season as well as how they approach the game along with their academics. Senior Marley Rokas, this season's team captain, as well as an All-Conference First Team Selection from last year, said, "In order to be successful both on and off the court you have to give 100% effort. You can't do the bare minimum and expect to have a winning season, and if you give the bare minimum in academics, then that attitude will transfer over to the court, and it won't work." Senior Camryn Medina also replied, "You have to find a balance between both your academics and the sport where you can not only focus on your academics when it's time for that but also to find your focus on the court."

Several of last season's players are ex-

pected to impact the team again this year. Smith sees her sophomore Victoria Aguayo continuing to improve after great performances last season. She also expects great things from graduate student Kayley Diaz on offense as well as Emily Bunger.

"The ASC Freshman of the Year, Melody Martinez was a huge part of our success last year, but she is currently recovering from ACL surgery, so I hope she can get back into the mix. Our transfers and freshmen are all doing a great job and working hard, and I believe we will have a good, solid team once we all gel together," Smith replied.

Caitlyn Conley from Coahoma played for the Lady Lobos during her freshman and sophomore years and then left. She's back this season and is ready to show how she's improved out on the court. "I want to show not only how much I've grown and improved to the coaches and the fans, but to myself and our competitors," Conley said.

While Smith believes UT-Dallas to be one of their biggest challengers, Rokas, Medina,

and Conley believe that the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor will be the team to beat. "Our coach two years ago is now at UMHB, along with a couple of our former team-mates, so we want to go out and show them not only how much we've improved and grown, but that we have what it takes to defeat them. This team, in our minds, is our biggest challenge this season," they all agreed.

All three of these ladies, once they came to Sul Ross, stayed and played for the same reason. "The people here, the friendships, and the team itself have become my family. I see these ladies more than I see my own family, and our friendship, loyalty, and teamwork are what makes us all successful and made us choose Sul Ross," Conley said. "I felt instantly at home here at Sul Ross, and I felt that God called me to Alpine and to this school," Medina added.

Besides expecting great things on the court, Smith also expects her ladies to give back to the community. "Some of our players read to the Montessori students and will

also read to students at Alpine Elementary. These players are part of a sisterhood and I want them to understand how special these years are because of that," Smith added. Smith says that overall, she wants her players to be kind, hard-working people who finish their degrees and continue to improve on the court.

The Lady Lobos hit the court in their first game on November 10, on the road against Whitworth University followed by Whitman College on November 11 in Walla Walla, Washington. Their first home game is scheduled for 1 p.m. against Western New Mexico University at the Gallego Center on November 15.

LADY BUCKS • FROM 8

the team with five total solo blocks as Vargas did with 33 total assists. The team had 68 digs with every player succeeding in at least one. Portillo led with 22, followed by 13 from Dominguez and 11 from Morris and Carrasco. Portillo had 17 receptions for this game in the three sets she played and Dominguez and Carrasco each had nine. The rest of the 43 receptions were from Morris.

Next, the Alpine team will be competing in the area competition later this week, going up against Denver City who won their bi-district game against Tornillo 3-0. "Preparing for Post-Season play has been the driving force for our program goals. We are excited about our victory in the first-round appearance and look forward to the opportunities to continue to attain our goals for the playoffs as a program," Smith said.

If Alpine prevails in the area competition, they will move on to regional qualifiers, scheduled for November 6-7.

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STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF BREWSTER 394TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

CITATION BY PUBLICATION CAUSE NO. CVB21633

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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 27th DAY OF September, 2023, AND FIRST AMENDED 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. of the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days, after the date of service of this citation stated this 27th day of September, 2023, 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 2nd day of March, 2022, in cause number CVB21633 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.

WILLMAR LAND, LLC; LUCY CORRAL; S.F.L.T. & T.C. INC.; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF L.D. ALLEN; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF J.R. NELSON; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF H.P. INGRAM; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF F.E. GROOVER; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF EMIL KOLLER; and UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CORNELIUS J. THOMAS

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: NW/4 of Section 11, Block 248, Abstract No. 1178, Texas & St. Louis Railroad Company Survey, containing 159.19 acres, more or less, Brewster County, Texas, AND FOR A DECLARATION OF A FEE SIMPLE TITLE IN PLAINTIFFS AS IS MORE FULLY SHOWN BY PLAINTIFFS' FIRST AMENDED 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 29th day of September, 2023.

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS:
CASSIE GRESHAM
BRAUN & GRESHAM
14101 HIGHWAY 290W, SUITE 1100
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SARAH SIBLEY KLEIN
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RODEO • FROM 8

Portales to compete at the Eastern New Mexico University Rodeo. Garrett Blackwell would place fourth with a 70-point ride in the bareback riding and Allen placed seventh in the tie-down roping. In the steer wrestling, Cameron Haumea placed seventh to finish out the standings for Sul Ross.

September 21-23 would have the Bar-SR-Bar cowboys and cowgirls competing on their home turf. Hollen would take sixth place at home in the bareback riding with a short-go score of 77. Carsen Norris, the lone female who placed, would bring in a seventh-place finish in the break-away roping with a 2-second run in the long go followed by a 12.1 in the short go and Leech would place seventh in the steer wrestling.

The first weekend in October would see the team headed to Vernon College, where Blackwell would once again bring in a fourth-place finish in the bareback riding followed by Cole Hollen with a seventh-place finish. Haumea would be back on the board with a 10th-place finish in the steer wrestling, and Brandon Lansford would place fifth in saddle bronc followed by a fourth-place finish by Skeene in the bull riding. Allen would also place at the Frank Phillips College rodeo the weekend of October 12-14 where he came in fourth overall in the tie-down roping, and Michael Gavin would place eighth in the bull riding. The team will kick off their spring rodeo season February 24-26 at Odessa College.



Senior Spotlight

DIONICA FRISTOE


In what activities did you participate in high school?
I participated in softball.

What was your favorite moment the last four years?
Being able to keep friendships from elementary school and graduate with them.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach, and why?
Mr. Miranda because he always pushed me to do my best in the class and on the field. He always made sure I was doing well. He constantly had jokes and knew how to put a smile on everyone's faces.

What are you plans after high school?
After high school, I plan to go to cosmetology school.

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Devotional Page

When you don't know what to do

BY ANDREW POSADAS
Fuente de Vida

Whether we are going through the loss of a loved one, the joy of welcoming a newborn, or the confusion we feel when faced with injustice, we all have moments in our lives when we have no idea where to go. There are those moments that completely stump us and leave us like a deer in headlights, frozen in place.

This can be an especially frustrating time if you are anything like me, and like always to have a plan. When the things we can never plan for confront us, what do we do? I think it's important to consider some things we shouldn't do prior to what we can do.

First, we must not fall into "denial" or makeup answers that don't address the issue at hand. An example we can see in the scriptures is when Israel is facing captivity in the book of Jeremiah. This captivity is a direct consequence of their disobedience. God had explicitly warned them of this and now the time had come. But Jeremiah 23 tells us many false prophets were telling the Israelites that this would certainly not happen. These prophets were making up answers for what they were going through, instead of asking God what needed to be said and done at this time.

Secondly, we must not act out of frustration. We see an example of this with the apostle Peter. Peter had a very strong character and was

very zealous. We see this zeal in full display in Matthew 16 when he promises to Jesus that he will not allow him to be killed. Jesus' strong response was the famous "Get behind me Satan," but the reasoning behind this is sometimes not equally as emphasized. Jesus says, "You do not have in mind the concerns of God." Peter was being reactive, not taking into consideration what God's will was in this moment.

What we must do in these moments is slow down and take our time to pray and think. These moments are a perfect opportunity to dedicate special time and attention to hearing from God. After Jesus ascended in Acts 1, the apostles were instructed to wait. I am sure this was so frustrating to them, knowing the glorious news that Jesus had resurrected. But it was of the utmost importance that they waited to be filled with power from the Holy Spirit.

We must also remember we are not going through this alone and learn to lean on one another. Galatians 6 instructs us to bear one another's burdens. We must encourage one another, remembering we are not alone in this. Lastly, the best thing we can do is look to what God has spoken to us in the past and His word concerning this. Many times, the answer is right in front of us. As the apostles looked up to heaven in Acts 1, the angel reminded them of what they had already heard.

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Tomato bisque with a kick



butter and flour to create a roux that not only thickens the soup and makes it smooth and velvety but can turn an everyday uninspired dish into something extraordinary. The one thing you do want to do when making a roux is when you add in a stock or other liquid it should be hot. This allows for a smooth incorporation of ingredients.

This soup has been around since the 1800s and while to-

mato soup in general originated in the Andalucia region of Spain, the bisque aspect is French. The word bisque refers to soup made from broth that is strained from crustaceans such as shrimp, lobster, or crab. The French would use the shells and crush them into a paste that was made to thicken the soup. Americans take the easy way out and use butter and flour instead.

The difference between your



standard tomato soup and tomato bisque is the addition of heavy cream. But you don't want to overdo it with the heavy cream, or it will detract from the taste and feel of the soup. Another thing you should use when making this soup is fresh herbs. Dried will work just fine if that is all that you have, but fresh basil just makes things better.

If you have the time and desire, you can also blanch, peel,

and crush your tomatoes, but I take the easy way out and buy them in a can. I do use roasted garlic instead of raw or granulated, and of course, I roast my own. It is also better to use a stock instead of a broth because a stock will infuse more flavor into the soup.

Whichever recipe you choose, and however you choose to make it, this soup is sure to be a family favorite.

Now that the days have cooled off its soup season. And unlike George Costanza from Seinfeld, I don't have to shift into soup mode. I am always in soup mode.

One of the most satisfying soups I've had the pleasure of making as well as eating is a spicy tomato bisque. If you were to scour the internet there are numerous twists and turns to making this soup. Some add a bit of this and a bit of that, but they all have the most basic ingredients of celery, onions, tomatoes, garlic, sugar, salt, pepper, vegetable or chicken stock, and heavy cream. Most recipes also add

Spicy Tomato Bisque Soup

- Ingredients:**
- 1 cup small, diced celery
 - 1 cup small, diced onions
 - ¼ lb. (1 stick) unsalted butter
 - ½ cup all-purpose flour
 - 4 cloves roasted garlic
 - 4 cups chicken stock
 - 1 tablespoon of sugar
 - 2 teaspoons of kosher salt
 - ½ teaspoon black pepper
 - ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper
 - 1 cup heavy cream
 - 2 tablespoons fresh basil, chopped and a few whole for garnish if desired
 - ¼ cup grated parmesan cheese (optional)

- Directions:**
- Melt butter in a 4-quart saucepan. Add celery and onions.
 - Cook the celery and onions until almost translucent.
 - Add the flour to make the roux.
 - Cook for 5-7 minutes over low heat until the flour begins to smell like bread. Don't let it get dark or burn.
 - In a separate saucepan, heat the stock until just simmering.
 - Add the stock to the roux, and whisk to combine, mixing well.
 - Add the tomatoes and the rest of the seasonings and simmer for 15-20 minutes.
 - After the soup has been cooked, use an immersion blender to puree the soup. You can also transfer to a blender or food processor. Just be careful, it will be hot.
 - After the soup is blended you can strain it to remove the bits of celery, onion, and tomato or you can leave it with a bit of texture. This is up to your desired tastes.
 - If you've removed the soup to a food processor or blender, return it to the pot, add the heavy cream, and mix well.
 - If it is too thick, you can add a bit more stock, a little milk, or just plain water to thin it.
 - Taste the soup and re-season, if necessary, then allow the soup to simmer some more for about 15-20 minutes.
 - Garnish with fresh basil leaves and parmesan if desired. Serve, and enjoy.



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