

## SRSU Rodeo kicks off fall season

BY KARA GERBERT  
Managing Editor

The 2024-2025 Sul Ross State University Rodeo team hit the road today, kicking off their fall season at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales at the Lewis Cooper Arena. A saddle bronc and bull riding section will start things off at 5 p.m., MST, this evening. The regular rodeo performance will begin at 7 p.m. tonight and tomorrow night, with the wrap-up beginning on Saturday at 9 a.m.

Beginning next Thursday, September 26, Alpine will host the 79th Annual Sul Ross State University Rodeo at the S.A.L.E. Arena.

Performances will begin each night at 7 p.m. and continue

See RODEO • 6

## INSIDE



FEATURED

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### Rainfall totals at Alpine-Casparis Airport

2024. . . . .13.71"  
September. . . . .1.73"



### 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 ISD: Facing the challenges of decreasing enrollment

BY KARA GERBERT  
Managing Editor

*Editor's Note: This is part one of a series. See our next issue on September 26 for part two.*

Across the state, and more pointedly across our local school district, the number of students enrolled in our schools is on the decline. Looking at local district numbers, current enrollment at the high school level averages around 70 students for each class. These numbers change considerably as the grade levels drop.

The current senior class is 75-strong, but as you drop to the

freshman class, that number decreases by nine. Meanwhile, at the middle school level, their largest class, seventh grade, has 73 students, while both fifth and eighth grade are currently at 63, and sixth grade is the lowest at 52. These lower numbers mean that by the time these lower grade-level classes move into the high school, not only do the low numbers affect state funding, but they also affect where the school district lands as far as UIL classification. While Alpine ISD is currently a small 3A district, by the time these underclassmen get to high school, Alpine's enrollment will



Alpine ISD Administration Building

have dropped significantly enough to put them in a 2A district.

So, what does this mean for Alpine ISD

moving forward? As anyone familiar with public education knows, more kids in seats means more

money for the district to run on. Fewer kids

See ENROLLMENT • 6

## Life becomes art through brushstrokes



Trappings of Texas artist Alice Leese works to recreate a scene from a photograph of a recent cattle work on her family ranch. Leese, Kerri Menchaca (background), and Tim Oliver (reflection) were on the patio at the Museum of the Big Bend on Friday afternoon to exhibit their artistic process to onlookers.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

## Ordinance definitions dominate city council meeting

BY KARA GERBERT  
Managing Editor

The Alpine City Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, September 17, at 5:30 p.m. in the council chambers. All council members were present.

Before calling the meeting to order, Alpine City Mayor Catherine Eaves reminded the council and the audience that the meeting would follow the rules of decorum passed by the council.

Mayor Eaves opened the public hearings at 5:31 to hear citizens' views and comments on item A, regarding the

second and final reading of Ordinance 2024-09-05, an ordinance approving the fiscal year 2024-2025 proposed tax rate of \$0.439205 per \$100 assessed valuation for the fiscal year October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, for use and support of the Municipal Government of the City of Alpine. There were no public comments.

Eaves also asked for citizens' views and comments on item B, the first and final reading of Ordinance 2024-09-06, an ordinance amending the City of Alpine fiscal year 2023-2024 budget, providing repealing and severability clauses, a Texas Open Meetings Act Clause, and an effective date.



Megan Antrim-Alpine City Manager

No public comments were heard on this item, and Mayor Eaves closed the public hearing at 5:32 p.m.

Mayor Eaves invited Judy Perry, the local representative of the Daughters of the American Revolution, to speak

to the council about proclaiming September 17, Constitution Week. Mayor Eaves then read a proclamation declaring the week of September 17 Constitution Week.

The next item of business was announcements from City Manager Megan Antrim. Antrim informed the council about the free screening of the Netflix original "Art in America," which featured four of Alpine's local artists. The screening is to be held at the Museum of the Big Bend. Antrim also mentioned that the Alpine Police Department would have a blood drive on September 24-

25, City Hall would be closed on September 30, and reminded everyone of National Night Out on Tuesday, October 1, at the new Pueblo Nuevo Park.

During the reports and presentations portion of the agenda, City of Alpine Secretary Geoffrey Calderon presented his report detailing the number of ordinances passed and failed, the number of regular meetings and workshops, resolutions, permits, and other legislative services conducted by the council for the month of August.

See MEETING • 6

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## OBITUARIES

### Arthur David Dreyfus III

Arthur "Art" David Dreyfus III was born on October 8, 1948, in Queens, Long Island, NY, and died on August 16, in Little Rock, Arkansas, leaving behind a legacy of love and courage. He was preceded in death by his father, Arthur "Jiggs" David Dreyfus II; mother, Florence Dreyfus; sister, Joan Watson; and brother,



Michael Dreyfus.

Art was a proud Vietnam veteran, enlisting at the age of 17. Having served his country with honor, Art received the

Purple Heart, a National Defense Service Medal, and a Sharpshooter Badge while building battle camps deep in the jungle of Vietnam.

Known for his incredible wit and devilish humor, Art brought laughter and joy to everyone around him. His free-spirited attitude endeared him to family and friends alike, and he will be deeply

missed by all who had the privilege to know him.

Art is survived by his beloved wife of nearly 19 years, Christina Dreyfus, and his four children: Lori Glover, Adrienne Dreyfus, Bard Dreyfus, and Adam Dreyfus, along with their mother, Linda Chenault. Art had 11 grandchildren: Wren Keyes, Coral Keyes, Mesa Glover, Reef

Glover, Starr Quintana, Gabriela Garcia, Leif Jarrell, Bard Dreyfus Ditto Jr., Shemaja Dreyfus Ditto, and Brandon and Marley Dreyfus. They were all dear to him as were his five great-grandchildren.

He will forever be remembered for his unwavering spirit, laughter, and the love he shared. Rest in peace, Art, Dad—you will be

missed.

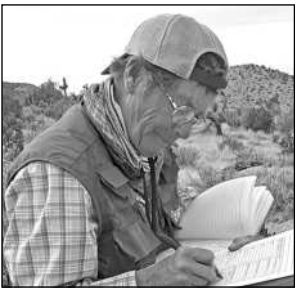
Services will be held at a National Veteran's Cemetery, with the date and location to be announced. To express your condolences or share your memories of Art go to [www.anaturalstatefuneralservice.com](http://www.anaturalstatefuneralservice.com) and search for his name in Obituaries. In lieu of flowers please donate to the Wounded Warrior Project.

### Patricia Rose Manning

Patricia Rose Manning, loved and respected by many, died on Sunday, September 8.

Patty has been described as fiercely kind, a rapt storyteller, hilarious, patient, magical, a wonderful cook, an actress, an artist, a teacher, passionate, amazing, a mentor, a friend, talented, special, an amazing listener, fair-minded, empathetic, intelligent, brave, and one of the "Moms." She will be dearly missed and never forgotten.

Patty "F" Manning was born in Dallas on February 9, 1952. Patty grew up in the idyllic Texas countryside around Richardson and Austin and outside of Stamford, Connecticut. Patty (wearing her Davy Crockett coonskin cap) spent many hours playing in the woods and creeks with her siblings and cousins. She was always curious about the critters and plants she encountered. Patty also spent time in Norway and Europe with family and friends in the mid-1970s. A multi-faceted individual, she received a BFA from Baylor University in 1975 and an MFA from North Texas State in 1982. Much of her



art was inspired by her love, fascination, and very particular attention to the natural world.

In the 1980s, Patty began her lawn business (Yardwork/Artwork) in Dallas. She was part of an active, diverse, and loving group of friends who played softball, danced, worked, made art, took road trips to the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, were active citizens who marched in Gay Pride parades and were active in the Lesbian community. She entertained all her friends with funny and sweet stories of the (mostly) elderly folks she did yardwork for.

In the early 1990s, Patty's evolution continued. She moved to Far West Texas and began studying biology in graduate school at Sul Ross State University. Under the mentorship of the remarkable biology professors at SRSU, her focus became the unique natural history

and botany of the Chihuahuan Desert. Her fascination with botany grew, and upon graduating with her M.S. in Biology in 1996, she began her 18-year career with SRSU, overseeing the greenhouses, experimental growing plots, and vineyard.

During this time, Patty began her love affair with native plant propagation. Growing plants for environmental rehabilitation and enhancement became her art. This continued upon retirement from SRSU when she and partner Cyndi Wimberly started a native plant nursery, Twin Sisters Natives. Patty spent many happy hours in the greenhouse at Twin Sisters, planting seeds that she collected or that had been given to her by many of her widespread botany friends and acquaintances. Many plants that Patty grew are underrepresented in the nursery trade. Her plants were often highly sought after. Many of her plants currently reside with the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center and the San Antonio Botanical Garden.

After retirement, she embarked on further adventures as a field botanist. Working throughout much of the

desert southwest, Patty met many interesting individuals who became dear friends. She loved the work, the landscape, the plants, the experiences, and above all, the memories she made with so many smart and funny folks.

Patty was a forever student. She had an insatiable appetite for learning more about plants and how to grow them. She had such a breadth of knowledge that one friend said, "This is a massive loss." Indeed, it is. We love you, Patty!

Patty was predeceased by her parents, William Francis Manning III and Lillie Frances Drain Manning, and her older brother, Michael Lee Manning.

Patty is survived by her partner/spouse of 30 years, Cyndi Wimberly; their son Marley Kim Boyd, Jr., wife Tiffany Flores-Boyd, granddaughters Alex Kate Flores and Addison Flores-Boyd; daughter Mary Shannon Boyd Mois; son Jonathan Matthew Boyd and wife Dana Falconberry; Patty's brother Robert Manning and husband Jason Hodges; sister-in-law Lynn Etta Manning and her children Jeffrey Manning and Molly Ruty; and numerous nieces, neph-

ews, and cousins.

Patty's family would like to thank Carol Sternes, Dr. Edith Simmons, Dr. Roane McLaughlin, Dr. Robert Tyler Hillman, and M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Texas Oncology Odessa, Big Bend Regional Medical Center's Radiology and Lab departments, Angel's Care Hospice, Prescription Shop Alpine, Big Bend Saddlery, and Alpine Memorial Funeral Home for their attentive, compassionate care. We also want to thank all our wonderful friends and family who helped and supported Patty during her illness.

There will be a Celebration of Patty "F" Manning's Fabulous Life potluck at the Ritchey Hotel in Alpine on October 19 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Patty Manning's name are welcome to Alpine Public Library, Big Bend Family Crisis Center, Sunshine House in Alpine, and ACLU Texas.

## Restaurant Guide

\$6 a week gets you a spot in our restaurant guide  
[www.alpineavalanche.com](http://www.alpineavalanche.com)

### REATA RESTAURANT

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

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

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

[www.alpineavalanche.com](http://www.alpineavalanche.com)

## Visit Alpine, Texas, and Odessa Arts present "The Story of Art in America"

Visit Alpine, Texas, and Odessa Arts are proud to present a special screening event series featuring episodes from Amazon Prime Video's acclaimed television program, "The Story of Art in America." This series will showcase the vibrant artistic communities of both Alpine and Odessa, highlighting local artists through captivating episodes from Season Three of the program.

"The Story of Art in America" is known for its insightful exploration of the arts as practiced throughout the nation. It highlights the lives and work of artists beyond the cultural centers of the East and West Coasts. Viewers at these events will be treated to screenings of two 30-minute episodes from Season Three, featuring interviews with talented artists from Alpine and Odessa.

The Alpine event will take place on Saturday, September 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the Cultural Events Center of the Museum of the Big Bend's new Emmett

and Miriam McCoy Building. Between the screenings, attendees can enjoy a lively panel discussion with some of the featured artists.

Alpine's episode features interviews with:

Michael Stevens, a skilled luthier (guitar builder) renowned in the industry, has created electrical instruments for many well-known musicians.

Pauline Hernandez, a multi-talented artist working in ceramics, painting, and murals.

Dot Mainz, a quilter whose work celebrates the communal tradition of fabric arts.

Ramon Deanda, a printmaker and educator at Sul Ross State University.

The series concludes with a screening event in Odessa on Friday, October 4, at 7 p.m. at the historic Ector Theatre. The event format in Odessa will mirror the Alpine event, showcasing local artistic talent and fostering a dialogue about the role of the arts in the community.

"The Story of Art in America" is a critically



From top left: Michael Stevens, Dot Mainz, Pauline Hernandez, and Ramon Deanda.

Photos courtesy of Legit Productions

acclaimed series that delves into the fascinating world of American art. The program explores the breadth and range of artistic practice in the US and shows that the arts can and do thrive in every corner of the nation. It provides a valuable contribution to recording the ever-evolving cultural landscape of the US.

This exciting event series offers a unique opportunity to celebrate West Texas's artistic heritage. Join us as we delve into Alpine and Odessa's creative spirit and discover the stories behind the art.

Contact: Chris Ruggia, Director of Tourism, City of Alpine [chris@visitalpinetx.com](mailto:chris@visitalpinetx.com) or (432) 386-5916

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- Alpine Avalanche
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- Nick Wright
- Melanie R. Pace
- Patsy Culver
- Rio Grande Council of Governments
- Sarah Marler

Karen Nakakihara in memory of George Pitkik

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## Borderlands Research Institute awards \$130,00 in scholarships

BY KARA GERBERT  
 Managing Editor

Sixteen Sul Ross State University students were selected to receive \$130,000 in scholarships from nine different sources through the Borderlands Research Institute and Borderlands Research Foundation.



Students from the Borderlands Research Institute were recently awarded scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year. This year's recipients include Hayley Shultz, Audrey Taulli, Eliana Dykehouse, Asia Cornelius, Emily Blumentritt, and Jesse Ellgren. David Tønnessen, Andres Solario Pulido, Andrew Dotray, Hailey Barton, Nicole Dickan, Ty Goodwin, Elle Sutherland, Gray Hancock, Eddie Santoya, and Jon Lomas are in the back.

"As another semester gets rolling, our students are already hard at work with their classwork and research projects, and this is welcome news for them," said Dr. Louis A. Harveson, Dan Allen Hughes, Jr., Endowed Director of BRI. "Many take out loans as they finish their studies, and they appreciate the support from the many fine organizations and donors who make these scholarships available. It is truly an investment in the future of conservation."

Asia Cornelius, Nicole Dickan, Jesse Ellgren, Andres Solario Pulido, and David Tønnessen are among the students receiving the BRI 15th Anniversary Scholarship.

Audrey Taulli received the Franklin and Virginia Law Scholarship, and Eduardo Santoya and Jon Lomas received the Linda and Curtis Neely Scholarship.

Four students, Ty Goodwin, Andrew Dotray, Au-

drey Taulli, and Emily Blumentritt received scholarships from the San Antonio Livestock Exposition. Blumentritt also received the Virginia Matthews Law Endowed Scholarship.

Andrew Dotray, Gray Hancock, and Hayley Shultz received the Wayne and JoAnn Moore Endowed Scholarship, while Hailey Barton, Eliana Dykehouse, and Ty Goodwin received the Wes and Victoria Bannister Scholarship.

Elle Sutherland, the recipient of the West Texas Safari Club International Endowed Scholarship, rounded out the scholarship recipients.

Graduate and undergraduate students enrolled in BRI research programs

experience unique opportunities to work alongside wildlife professionals and conservation partners. These students receive hands-on experience with habitat restoration projects and working with wildlife, including grassland birds, pronghorn, and mule deer.

Those who complete the graduate program receive a master's in Range and Wildlife Management from Sul Ross State University. These graduates gain employment with state and federal resource agencies, private consultants and ranches, and as educators. BRI graduates influence wildlife management decisions on over 31 million acres in Texas, some 20% of the state's acreage.

## Local pit masters turn out mouthwatering morsels of meat

Amateur pit master Andy Lewis puts some of his competition meat into the smoker at this past weekend's West Fest Cabrito Cook-Off held at the Post Park in Marathon.

Courtesy photo



## Entertaining future voters

Brewster County Judge Greg Henington took time out of his busy schedule to entertain Alpine Elementary School students as part of the Read Alpine program. Local business leaders and officials spend time reading different books each week at the AES Library.

Courtesy photo



## Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest host chuck wagon dinner and dance

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest is thrilled to announce the return of their annual chuck wagon dinner and dance on Saturday, October 5, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the picturesque Camp Mitre Peak, located at 200 Mitre Peak Camp Road, Fort Davis. This community event is open to the public. It promises an evening filled with fun, delicious food, and dancing to Hall's Last Call Band under the enchanting West Texas stars.

The Chuck Wagon is more than just a delightful night out—it is an opportunity to make a lasting impact on the lives of local Girl Scouts. Proceeds from the event will support essential Girl Scout programs and help maintain Camp Mitre Peak, ensuring it remains a cherished site for outdoor experiences and Girl Scout activities.

### Why Attend?

Support a Worthy Cause: Your participation helps provide the resources necessary for girls to embark on their journey to become "Girl Scouts who make the world a better place."

Camp Preservation: Proceeds will also go towards maintaining and preserving Camp Mitre Peak, a vital

location for Girl Scout programs and outdoor adventures.

Community Engagement: Connect with fellow community members while supporting an organization that has been building girls of courage, confidence, and character since 1912.

### Ticket Information -

\$60 per ticket. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.gsds.org](http://www.gsds.org).

### Media and Community Involvement:

We invite media outlets and community organizations to help us spread the word. Interviews with Girl Scout representatives are available upon request. We believe this event offers a compelling story for your audience, and we are eager to provide more information or arrange interviews.

### Get Involved:

To purchase tickets or learn more about the event, please visit [www.gsds.org](http://www.gsds.org). Join us at Camp Mitre Peak for an unforgettable evening and help make a difference in girls' lives across our region.

### Event Details:

Date: Saturday, October 5

Time: 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
 Location: Camp Mitre Peak, 200 Mitre Peak Camp Road, Fort Davis

### For media inquiries, please contact:

Contact: Patty Craven, CEO  
 Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest - Southern New Mexico and West Texas  
 Phone: work (915) 671-2233, cell (559) 284-3795  
 Email: [pcraven@gsds.org](mailto:pcraven@gsds.org)

### About Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest:

The Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest is committed to building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Girls develop critical life skills, leadership abilities, and a strong sense of community through various programs and activities.

Yours in Girl Scouting,  
**Diane Cass**  
 Marketing and Communication Specialist  
 Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest  
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 El Paso, TX 79924  
 915.566.9433 Ext. 2245

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will be received by Linda Molinar CEO

at the office of Preventative Care Health Services

1605 North Fort Davis Hwy Ste B, Alpine, TX 79830

until 2:00 PM, (Mountain Standard Time) Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations:

New Republic Architects, 7100 Westwind Dr Ste 150, El Paso, Texas 79912

or Bidders can request digital PDF copies by emailing Angel Ramos at

angel@nrna.com For any other inquiries, please contact him at (915) 585-7028.

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of New Republic Architects located at 7100 Westwind Dr Ste 150, El Paso, Texas 79912

upon payment of \$ 300.00 for each set.

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# Opinions

## ONLINE POLL

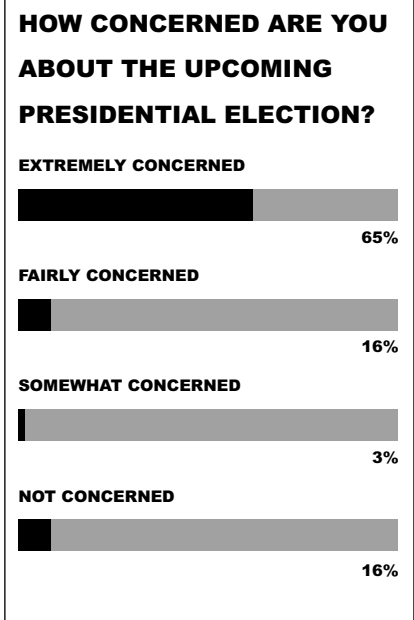
### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Now the Avalanche asks:  
**How concerned are you about the upcoming presidential election?**

- Extremely Concerned
- Fairly Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Concerned

Vote for this week's poll online at:  
[www.AlpineAvalanche.com](http://www.AlpineAvalanche.com)

### RESULTS



## 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](mailto:kara.gerbert@alpineavalanche.com) by noon Monday for consideration.

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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.



## Welcoming home one of our own

Let me be the first to say it: Welcome home, John Klingemann.

Sul Ross State University and the Museum of the Big Bend are pleased to welcome Dr. Klingemann back to Alpine as our new Director and Assistant Vice President of Advancement and as a professor in the Department of History. A Brewster County native, Dr. Klingemann graduated from Alpine High School and received his bachelor's degree in Spanish and master's in history from SRSU.

He worked with the Center for Big Bend Studies and as the Curator of Public Programs and Exhibits at MOBB before enrolling at the University of Arizona to pursue his doctoral degree in Latin American History. He later received a Fulbright Fellowship for research in Mexico.

He returned as a pro-

fessor of Latin American History at Angelo State University in 2007 and was promoted to Chair of the History Department in 2014.

For the last five years, he has served as the Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at ASU and as the Director of the Mayer Museum, a 32,000-square-foot science and culture museum that immerses visitors of all ages in the history of the Concho Valley of Texas.

John has an impressive resume, as do many of those who work up here on "the hill," but it would be disingenuous if I didn't acknowledge that his connection to Sul Ross and the Big Bend area didn't play a factor in our choice.

The Museum of the Big



**DR. CARLOS HERNANDEZ**  
 President Sul Ross State University

Bend represents West Texas and our border culture—from history to the natural sciences to art. John knows this place and the people. His knowledge of our history and experience managing a first-rate museum and in higher education make him a great fit for the job. We are excited about where the MOBB is headed and look forward to big things.

"I thank the good folks at Sul Ross State University for providing me the opportunity to return home and continue the legacy of the Museum of the Big Bend and the university," he said. "I look forward to working with everyone on campus and in the community to provide folks in West Texas and beyond a great experience when they visit the museum and

campus. I am blessed and humbled to be back in Alpine, Brewster County, and West Texas."

Of course, it's not just John's relationship with our desert oasis that brings him to the right place at the right time. He has the experience to cultivate degree programs, enrollment, and alumni relationships, advance fundraising, develop exhibits, and, if necessary, provide construction oversight.

Museums are not meant to be static. They're meant to be relevant. We think John's background provides an inspired foundation that will breathe new life into the MOBB, and we look forward to what he'll bring to the table. We have exciting times ahead, from one end of campus to the other.

Who says you can't come home again?

## Writing about inspiring lives, well lived

*"To do what you wanna do, to leave a mark - in a way that you think is important and lasting - that's a life well-lived."*

— Laurene Powell Jobs

Accumulating clippings, notes, earmarked books, unmarked photos, and mysteriously scribbled-on pieces of paper. It's what writers do. We often consider ourselves to be quasi-historians. Known to keep an immense library of outwardly appearing random reference material because we might need it someday.

And sometimes, it's simply because it's about an inspiring, well-lived life that we feel worthy of documenting.

While performing the once-a-year, whether it's needed or not, organization of outwardly appearing random reference material last week, I matched up a picture, an obituary, and one of my old columns. The photo was taken in 2017. Albert Thompson, Charles Hutchins, Jim Chionsini, and me at the 60th Anniversary of A&A Machine and Fabrication in LaMarque. The photo hung on my office wall until I left there recently. The obituary will be HED: one year old on the 17th of next month. Both related to a friend about whom I wrote in the mid-90s while at the Boerne newspaper down in the Texas Hill Country.

"An old friend popped up in the news this week

and stirred up lots of memories," the column starts. "While listening to NPR radio early Friday morning at the office, I heard the name Charles Hutchins.

I met Charles in the early 1980s. A mutual friend and newspaper associate, Jim Chionsini, introduced us. Charles worked for A&A, which Jim's father cofounded. In the years that followed our meeting, he became a faithful reader of my columns. Sending notes, comments, or additional info.

The radio interview focused on the Commemorative Air Force's (CAF) life-like reenactment of the December 7, 1941, Japanese air attack on Pearl Harbor. Hutchins and the CAF, of which Hutchins was a member, were scheduled at a festival preceding the Kentucky Derby horse racing classic to perform their reenactment known as TORA! TORA! TORA!

"The pounding of horses hooves running at full power at Churchill Downs creates excitement," I wrote, "but equally exciting is the pounding horsepower of WW II era aircraft engines at full power if you're addicted to that sort of thing. Which I am.

"Charles Hutchins is as nice a man as you'd ever want to meet," my column continued. "He's quiet, polite, and best resembles a corporate execu-



**LEON ALDRIDGE**  
 Guest Columnist

ive. In fact, when he's not piloting vintage airplanes for fun, racing them at more than 200 miles-per-hour just above the desert floor, he's working as vice president and general manager of A&A Machine Shop."

I smiled, then reread the 2023 obituary. Charles Leo Hutchins passed away on October 17, 2023, in League City at 86. He was a 1955 graduate of Texas City High School. He worked for Union Carbide as a machinist apprentice before he was invited to work with Manuel Chionsini and Fred Heinemann, who, in 1957, started A&A Machine Shop. He worked there for 62 years, first as a machinist, retiring in 2022 as a managing partner.

The obit noted that Hutchins possessed a quality that is too often lacking in business today. He was interested in his employees, frequently visiting and talking to each one, shaking their hands, and showing an interest in their lives.

Outside business, "Papa Charles" was active in activities with his sons and served as a lay preacher at a church in Texas City. He was involved in the Celebrate Recovery program because he cared about those addicted to alcohol or drugs. Hutchins learned to fly

in 1959 in a Piper J-3 Cub. He joined the CAF TORA! TORA! Airshow Demonstration Team in 1975, flying his first airshow in October 1976. He became TORA! Lead in 1987, serving for 23 years.

His honors in aviation were many. Winner of the Reno National Championship Air Races AT-6 Gold National Championship in 1995. Co-founder of the Wings Over Houston (WOH) Airshow at Ellington Field. Awarded the Lloyd P. Nolen Lifetime Achievement in Aviation presented by WOH Airshow, the Marvin L. "Lefty" Gardner Flight Excellence Award, and the CAF's Lloyd P. Nolen Achievement Award. In 2006, he was awarded the Sword of Excellence presented by the International Council of Airshows (CAS), for which he was chairman, the highest honor in the airshow industry. He was inducted into the CAF Hall of Fame in 2013.

I smiled again. Then I carefully placed the photo, the column, and the obituary in a file, labeling it "Charles Hutchins - inspiration for a life well lived."

Because it's what writers do, and they write about people who have inspired them and, no doubt, many others

— Contact Leon Aldridge at [leonaldridge@gmail.com](mailto:leonaldridge@gmail.com). Other Aldridge columns are archived at [leonaldridge.com](http://leonaldridge.com)

## CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

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 The White House  
 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
 Washington, DC 20500  
 202-456-1111

Tony Gonzales  
 United States House  
 of Representatives  
 Washington, DC 20515  
 202-225-4511

John Cornyn  
 United States Senate  
 517 Hart Senate Office Building  
 Washington, D.C. 20510-4305  
 202-224-2934

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



# Heard on the STREET

*If you could eliminate one thing in Alpine, what would it be?*



**Nancy Burton:**  
I would eliminate parking on the street. There are so many blind spots. When big trucks are parked, you can't see around them.



**Steve Sarko:**  
Eliminate the goatheads!



**Debra Brown Guerrero:**  
The Karens on Facebook who try to police people and pets.



**Julie Nguyen:**  
Get rid of the people who race through town. It's too dangerous.



**Abby Hamm:**  
No more bugs!

## PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Kate!

Kate is a former Alpine Animal Services alum who was originally adopted in 2020. In mid-July, she was found running loose in the Alpine city limits. The original owner was contacted but never bothered to reclaim her.

Kate loves people and some other dogs. Her favorite play companions are two very large male dogs. She is a rough and rowdy tomboy and can get overly excited when there is a gate between her and the other dogs. We recommend that if she were adopted into a household with another dog, it would match her high energy. It is fun to watch her wrestle and tumble with her playmates.

Kate does well on a leash; she keeps her kennel clean and waits to be let out. She will do great with a steady routine. She loves her treats and will be a quick study with treat training. This intelligent, high-energy dog will benefit from someone dedicated to providing daily exercise, interaction, and engagement. She will only thrive if placed in a backyard with attention and interaction.

Come meet this sweet girl today at the Alpine Animal Services Shelter, 2900 Old Marathon Hwy.

Alpine Animal Services is overloaded with dogs and cats right now. Please consider volunteering to walk dogs, play with puppies in the yard, or interact with the cats. Thirty minutes of your day can make a huge difference to the



shelter and the animals.

Call 432-837-2532 to donate, foster, or volunteer for the Alpine Humane Society. Support the Alpine Humane Society Thrift Store and Cattery with donated furnishings, décor, and household goods.

Meet the AHS crew for Yappy Hour at Alcové Social (the old Saddle Club) on Tuesday, September 24, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. We receive a percentage of the proceeds.

Pet promotions are courtesy of the Alpine Humane Society. Alpine Animal Services handles pet adoptions at the city shelter, 2900 E. Old Marathon Highway, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week. For information about shelter pet adoptions, cremation services, or lost/found pets, call the shelter at 432-837-9030. If you find a stray or injured pet, contact the Alpine Police Department at 432-837-3486 to dispatch an Animal Control Officer.

Send your community events to [kara.gerbert@alpineavalanche.com](mailto:kara.gerbert@alpineavalanche.com)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 25 Davis Mountains State Park**, 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Dark Sky Tour at CCC Rock Lookout (end of Skyline Drive). Bring a chair and a red lamp flashlight.

**September 26-28 SRSU Rodeo**, 7 p.m. at the S.A.L.E. Arena.

**September 28 National Public Lands Day**, FREE entry to Big Bend National Park.

**October 11-12 Alpine High Class of 1970s Reunion**, Registration closes October 1, for information and registration see the Alpine High Facebook page.

**October 24-26 Circus-Themed Haunted House**, 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. The Terlingua Ghost Town Crisis Center is holding its annual haunted house. It includes trick-or-treating and



carnival games. Suggested donation is \$10.

### ONGOING EVENTS

**Alcoholics Anonymous**, 502 E. Lockhart Ave. Schedules are available on the 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 Sul Ross Fine Arts Building**, Room 200. All are welcome, but first contact Andrew Alegria at [Andrew.alegria@sulross.edu](mailto:Andrew.alegria@sulross.edu), call 432-837-8216, or visit [bbccorale.wixsite.com/bbcc](http://bbccorale.wixsite.com/bbcc).

**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.

**Exercise Classes**, at Sunshine House, 402 E. Holland Ave. Tuesdays-yoga and balance, Thursdays-strength and conditioning. 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Free to all. Contact Cindy at 512-423-2409 for more details.

**GED tutoring**, at Alpine Public Library, 805 W. Ave. E. Call 432-837-2621 to make an appointment.

**Hike with Homeless Dogs**, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. every Thursday at the Davis Mountains State Park Interpretive Center in collaboration with Grand Companions. For more information contact Charlie Ewing at 432-246-3337 x 301.

**Kiwanis Club of Alpine**, noon to 1 p.m., first and third Wednesdays at the American Legion.

**Late Night Game Night**, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. every Thursday night at Amigo, 101 W. Ave E.



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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

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

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$ .066091	per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$ 063041	per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$ 068133	per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2024 (current tax year) tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Big Bend Regional Hospital District (name of taxing unit) from the same properties in both the 2023 (preceding tax year) tax year and the 2024 (current tax year) tax year.

The voter-approval tax rate is the highest tax rate that Big Bend Regional Hospital District (name of taxing unit) may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Big Bend Regional Hospital District (name of taxing unit) is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2024 (current tax year) tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 25, 2024 (date and time) at Presidio Municipal Development District 608 O'Reilly Street, Presidio, TX 79845 (meeting place).

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, Big Bend Regional Hospital District (name of taxing unit) is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Board of Directors (name of governing body) of Big Bend Regional Hospital District (name of taxing unit) at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

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

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

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

FOR the proposal: \_\_\_\_\_  
 AGAINST the proposal: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PRESENT and not voting: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

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

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Big Bend Regional Hospital District (name of taxing unit) last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Big Bend Regional Hospital District (name of taxing unit) this year.

	2023	2024	Change
<b>Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)</b>	.066091	.066091	There is no change in the tax rate.
<b>Average homestead taxable value</b>	\$100,000	\$158,358	Increase of 58.358%
<b>Tax on average homestead</b>	\$66.10	\$104.66	Increase of \$38.56, or 58.34%
<b>Total tax levy on all properties</b>	\$1,472,795.80	\$1,585,158.20	Increase of \$112,362.40 or 7.63%

**ENROLLMENT • FROM 1**

mean less money in an already financially challenged district.

While the district always considers the slight variations in numbers, students moving in and out of the district, previous classes have held greater numbers, leaving a significant difference in overall enrollment in the last several years.

Pre-COVID, Alpine ISD boasted enrollment of over 1,000 students. While enrollment stayed steady at 974 in school years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, it declined in the following years.

From 2022-2023, overall student numbers dropped by 20 or 2.05%. Last year, that number dropped again by another 36 students and 3.77%. This year, the current total enrolled at Alpine ISD is 875, exhibiting a marked decrease of 43 more students and 4.86% from the previous year.

One area school, Fort

Davis, has also seen a decline in enrollment, forcing them to seek public-private partnerships to help boost numbers and state-allocated funding. Other schools in the area around the same size as Fort Davis are not seeing a decline in enrollment, although their class sizes seem to vary from year to year.

“Our numbers just keep decreasing, and it has been that way since Covid,” remarked Graydon Hicks, superintendent of Fort Davis ISD.

Dr. Ivonne Durant, superintendent for Marathon ISD, said, “We have not really seen a decline in our overall enrollment. However, our class sizes vary from year to year.”

Likewise, Reagan Reed, superintendent of Terlingua CSD, said, “Our overall enrollment has not fluctuated that much, but we do tend to see a lot of ‘coming and going’ with students coming back and forth into the district from Mexico

throughout the year.”

Although Alpine ISD’s numbers are significantly larger than those of the smaller Fort Davis ISD, both suffer from the same issue: lack of state funding.

While Fort Davis jumped on the private-public partnership bandwagon early last year, Alpine ISD is behind the 8-ball on this funding avenue.

Partnerships between public and private schools allow students from private schools to be enrolled in public schools while maintaining their enrollment in private schools. This allows each partner to benefit financially. One might view this as a gray area in terms of actual enrollment, though it benefits both the public school districts and private schools in funding projects, salaries, or curricula. The idea is that the private school students add to the enrollment numbers of the public school district, which indicates to

the state that Alpine has a greater number of students enrolled than are actually in the classroom. Still, those increased numbers mean more money the state sends to the district.

The drawback for the public schools in these types of partnerships is that they are limited by grade level. Private school attendees may be enrolled in these schools for various reasons, but a significant factor is state assessment testing, otherwise known as the STAAR test.

This factor limits the dual enrollment of private school students into the public school rosters to the lower primary grade levels, those consisting of pre-k through second grade. Another limiting factor for public schools is the number of students these partnerships add to their overall numbers.

“While we can benefit from the dollars these partnerships grant us, the number of students at these private

schools is relatively small. The only way to increase this benefit to us monetarily and enrollment-wise is entering into multiple partnerships,” stated Alpine ISD Superintendent Dr. Michelle Rinehart.

The state funding granted to Alpine ISD for the increase in enrollment due to such partnerships must be split between Alpine and the private school it contracts with.

So, while collaborating with a small private school, such as the one with a small daycare in Mason, may only net \$3,500 for Alpine, that is money the district did not have previously. Alpine ISD has also entered into two other public-private partnerships with Alpine Montessori and Casa Infantil Montessori in El Paso. This El Paso partnership will garner the district \$30,497 in funding, with the possibility of even more if Casa Infantil expands the size of its establishment along with its enrollment numbers.

Alpine ISD has entered into these three public-private partnerships to increase funding, which seems to be the district’s goal. Other than blaming the pandemic, no one can point out why numbers keep declining.

“Some parents opted to keep their kids home and home-school them after the pandemic, but I don’t think that is the main reason behind lower enrollment numbers. I believe it to be a series of reasons. Besides the pandemic, I think people have fewer babies, leading to economic reasons. It isn’t cheap to raise kids these days. Maybe some young adults just opted out of having children altogether. I can’t pinpoint one particular reason why our numbers have dropped, but they have, and it is something we need to plan for going forward,” Rinehart proclaimed.

**MEETING • FROM 1**

The next two items under reports and presentations were reports from Alpine Volunteer Fire Department Chief James Etchison and Antrim’s revenue and expense report.

Etchison gave a brief report on all of the training, upgrades, and inspections currently underway within the AVFD. Antrim updated the council on how spending was going in comparison to the budgeted allowance and explained that while some areas were cutting it close, overall, the city was on track and that property tax collections were almost complete.

In other business, a lengthy discussion on both items of discussion that included Item A- Legal procedure guidelines for issuing easements for the City of Alpine and Item B- Discuss updating Article I Basic Ordinance, General Zoning Regulations, Section 18-Definitions: Home Occupancy.

Item A involved the denial at the last council meeting of the sale of an easement on the corner of Brown and 16th Street. After some discussion, the house in question was concluded to have been added to at some point. Antrim told the council that easements were allowable but that citizens requesting this would go through a process that in-

cluded applications and approvals. “Buyers of properties inside the city limits need to be very cognizant of the deeds, titles, and surveys and ensure that everything is how it should be,” noted Antrim. She also mentioned that the city was working on locating easements throughout the city to make any situations like this one more straightforward.

Item B was a big issue of discussion for council due to the vague descriptions and definitions currently listed in the ordinance. Discussions about what type of businesses could run out of homes and when the amount of space the business took up overshadowed the definition of home occupancy. Currently, tradesmen, such as plumbers and electricians, may have inventory at their homes, but they are not actively involved in retail sales, which needs to be clarified. Building and Code Inspector Robert Ruckes weighed in on the current definitions and what he would like to see clarified, especially for local tradesmen, so that they aren’t punished for having some inventory at their homes. Antrim and Ruckes will first work on defining home occupancy and home businesses. “First, I want the definitions to be clear before we add to them. After those are established, we

can build on amending the ordinance so that everything is clear and that those who currently operate within legal guidelines aren’t punished by any changes going forward,” Antrim stated.

Next on the agenda was the approval of seven action items, including amendments to Ordinance 2024-09-02 Chapter 10 Animals to the Alpine Code of Ordinances and clarifying language, as well as the approval of the first reading of Ordinance 2024-09-03 amending Chapter 82 Solid Waste led to a detailed discussion of what could and could not be put into dumpsters, what was considered bulk waste and construction waste, and the resulting fines for dumping illegally. Both items also passed unanimously.

Action item C was the approval of the second and final reading of Ordinance 2024-09-05 approving the FY 2024-2025 proposed tax rate of \$0.439205 per \$100 assessed valuation for the FY October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, for use and support of the Municipal Government of Alpine. After a comment by Ward 1 Councilor Stone regarding excess money being put towards local artists on this action item, he was reminded by Ward 5 City Councilman Rick Stephens and also by

Mayor Eaves that this was not a budget item but was the approval of a tax rate and his comments were not relevant to the item at hand. The council then voted to approve this action item unanimously.

The council also approved Action Items D through F, which included budget amendments for FY 2023-2024, approval of facilities fees recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board, and approval of the election services contract with Brewster County.

Action Item G resulted in an amendment to the original item. Ward 3 Councilor Nance made a motion to recommend Jack Ladd, the incumbent for the Director of the Region 4 Texas Municipal League, to the Alpine City ballot. The amendment received a second from Ward 4 Councilor Lucy Escovedo and was approved unanimously. After briefly discussing Ladd and his competition, Balmorhea Mayor John L. Davis, Mayor Eaves called for a vote on the original action item to approve the Alpine City Ballot for the Texas Municipal League Region 4 Director Election. The item passed unanimously.

The council then moved into executive session at 8:16 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Alpine City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, October 1, at 5:30 p.m.

**RODEO • FROM 1**

through the 28th.

According to Sul Ross Rodeo Coach C.J. Aragon, there are a few talented contestants to watch.

Bulldoggers Cameron Haumea and Zane Cline enjoyed successful summers, so both cowboys should be primed for the coming fall rodeo run.

The defending Southwest Region tie-down roper, Kallen Johnson, will compete for Sul Ross this season as he began graduate studies here this fall.

Rodeo fans should keep an eye out for Oregon cowboy Garrett Blackwell. This bareback rider finished ninth in the region last year and has been competing all summer.

Once again, Sul Ross welcomes our Canadian neighbors to the team. Canadian bull rider Tanner Skene has

been riding well at the professional level this summer and looks to carry the momentum through to college arenas this fall.

Canadian cowgirls Kasha Borsy and Falya Thomson, both from Alberta, bring a lot to the table for the women’s team. Borsy, a freshman, is a highly touted recruit and should contribute to several events. Thomson is a junior college transfer who finished fifth in the nation in the break-away roping at this past June’s CNFR. Her experience and winning attitude will add depth to the women’s team.

“Out of all the competitors, these members of this year’s team could see themselves at the College National Finals if they can stay healthy and keep competing at the level they’re currently maintaining,” Aragon stated.

## SENIOR Spotlight



### PIPER WASH

**In what activities did you participate in high school?**  
I played golf during my freshman and sophomore years. I was also on student council my sophomore year and NHS my junior and senior years.

**Who was your favorite teacher/coach, and why?**  
My favorite teacher would have to be Ms. Owen. She has been such a great mentor and a bright light to be around all four years of high school. She has taught me many great life lessons and is one of the wisest people I know. I would also have to say, Mrs. Parson. She taught me everything I needed to know about the real world and how to go about my life confidently.

**What was your favorite moment in the last four years?**  
My favorite moment has to be when the stadium lights went out at a football game last year, and we all used our phones as the lights. Everybody was going crazy, and it was just a really fun game overall.

**What are your plans after high school?**  
After high school, I plan to enlist in the United States Navy and attend school to pursue my dream of becoming a nurse.

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**LOOKING BACK**  
Alpine Avalanche

SERVING THE BIG BEND  
AND DAVIS MOUNTAINS COUNTRY

September 4, 1919

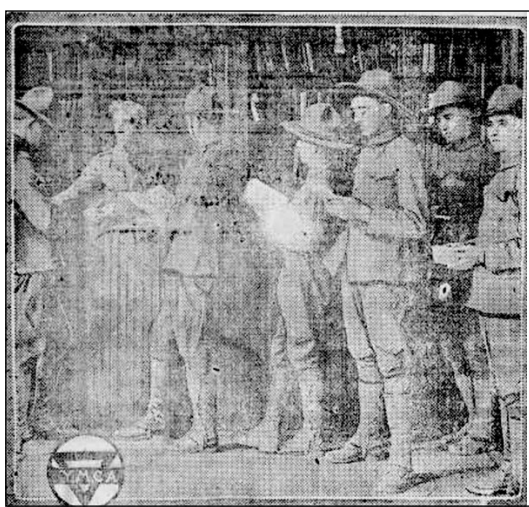
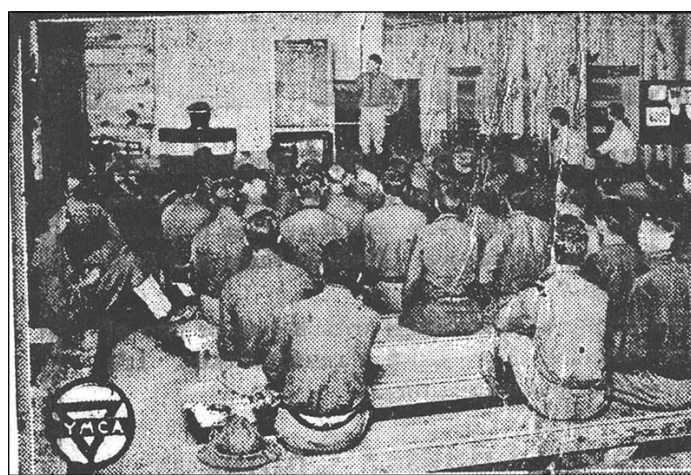
Illustrations such as this are common in George Barr McCutcheon's ongoing saga Green Fancy, published weekly in this newspaper. McCutcheon adds four to five chapters each week for our reader's entertainment.



September 26, 1918  
After a recent visit to Texas, Col. Clarence Ousley, Assistant Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, left the state's farmers with the message that production and conservation, the acts of creating and saving, are the most effective means that Texans have for helping the government to win the war against Germany.

September 26, 1918

American soldiers find educational classes at the Army Y.M.C.A. huts helpful in continuing the education that they left behind when they entered the service.



September 12, 1918

A collaboration between the American Library Association and the Army Y.M.C.A. to encourage good reading among soldiers, they have developed a library in Y.M.C.A. buildings across the country. Books, on average, are passed out twice a month, and soldiers are making the books a standard part of their equipment.

Photos courtesy of the Archives of the Big Bend at the Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library and the Portal of Texas.

**Seiridium canker causes the loss of cypress trees statewide**

Dear Neil, I am attaching photos of some Leyland cypress trees we have had for two years. Last year, some limbs died. A nurseryman told us it was due to the high temperatures, so we replaced two of them. This year, the same thing has happened. Do you have any suggestions?

My answer will break your heart. Leyland cypress trees across Texas, the South and East, have been dying due to a disease known as Seiridium canker for the past 25 years. It usually attacks trees a bit older than yours, but that's unimportant to my answer—the symptoms are the same. When examining infected trees, you often see black ooze seeping down their trunks. One would think that a fungal infection would be easily controlled, but there is none for this disease. It has killed, I would guess, as many as 60-75% of the Leyland cypresses in

**GARDENER'S MAILBAG**  
by neil sperry

Texas landscapes. Italian cypresses started showing the same issues about 15 years ago, and more recently, I have even seen Arizona cypresses dying from a variation of it. You would be better served by planting the Texas native eastern redcedar (Juniperus virginiana). It has become a common plant in commercial landscapes because of its durability to our climate and resistance to problems.

Dear Neil, why are squirrels half-eating so many green pecans from our very large

tree? They make a big mess when they drop the remains all over our deck.

I can add that they also make a big mess on our concrete paver driveway. We live in a pecan forest, and this premature "harvest" begins by late August. The squirrels have run out of food in nature, and the pecans tempt them so much that they can't wait. I've been dealing with them for more than 40 years and learned long ago that there isn't much I can do except blow the fallen pecans off to the sides so they don't get crushed into the porous pavers.

Dear Neil, we have a very large cypress tree on our property. About five feet up, a hackberry tree grows out of a fork in the tree. Will it eventually harm the cypress? What is the best way to remove it?

Let's put it this way:

It won't do anything positive to help the cypress. It must be forming some kind of wedge within the wood of the cypress. If it were mine, I would cut it as flush as I could with the place where it emerges from the cypress. I would carefully drill into the stump of the hackberry and use an eyedropper to put a broad-leaved weedkiller into the hole at full strength. Just be careful not to drill through the hackberry and into the wood of the cypress. You won't need a very large hole—just the size of a pencil and a half-inch deep. I worry about how much debris must be in the crotch of the cypress so that it can hold moisture and nutrients enough to support the hackberry over a long, dry summer. You might want to have a certified arborist look at this before you do anything.



**ACROSS**

- 1 Texas grid inventory: \_\_\_ watts
- 5 TXism: "I'm all \_\_\_" (attentive)
- 6 9/11 perpetrators \_\_\_ terrorists
- 7 TXism: "\_\_\_ hill for a stepper"
- 8 in the past
- 9 prohibit
- 15 TX Hunter's "Since \_\_\_ You Baby"
- 16 appropriate TX Dan Blocker tree farm?
- 19 TXism: "couldn't find hide \_\_\_ of it"
- 21 spinning toy: whir \_\_\_
- 22 TXism: "can't \_\_\_ old dog new tricks"
- 27 TXism: "hen fruit"
- 28 Castrolville is "The Little \_\_\_ of Texas"
- 29 TXism: "eatin' hay is \_\_\_ good for" (poor horse)
- 30 in Henderson County on U.S.175
- 32 TX George Foreman victory (abbr.)
- 33 easily ignited
- 36 TX Willie's "On the \_\_\_ Again"
- 37 TXism: "\_\_\_ over but the shouting"
- 38 Texas prisoners
- 39 voided a marriage
- 41 vision or graph beginning
- 42 Juan de \_\_\_ named El Paso

**DOWN**

- 1 TXism: "gave \_\_\_ song and dance"
- 2 TXism: "bend your \_\_\_" (talk)
- 3 U.S. Rep. Kay from Fort Worth
- 4 TXism: "loud \_\_\_ bare floor"
- 8 Texas woman's "\_\_\_ Carter Museum"
- 9 TXism: "\_\_\_ of the box" (beginning)
- 10 TXism: "cash \_\_\_ the barrel head"
- 11 TX Tarzan Ely (init.)
- 12 TXism: "my stomach is \_\_\_ a knot" (nervous)

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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P-1707

- 13 Texas perennial
- 14 "with a nicknack pattywack, give the \_\_\_ bone"
- 15 TXism: "big fish \_\_\_ pond" (important person)
- 16 TXism: "when \_\_\_ fly" (never)
- 17 weed whackers
- 18 of long standing (hyphenated word)
- 20 chills & fever
- 22 "\_\_\_-dah!" (fanfare)
- 23 Santa's helper
- 24 TX Collin Raye's "\_\_\_ Can Be"
- 25 Mass music?
- 26 TXism: "\_\_\_ and hawed" (stalled)
- 28 TXism: "packed like sardines in \_\_\_"
- 31 TXism: "busier than \_\_\_-armed fry cook in a truck stop"
- 34 TXism: "\_\_\_ some gravel" (fell)
- 35 TXism: "let bygones \_\_\_ bygones"
- 37 Texas moonwalker, Bean
- 40 TXism: "\_\_\_ a hand" (help)
- 43 \_\_\_ Braunfels, TX
- 44 TX "Big Bopper's" Chantilly Lace had "\_\_\_ in her walk"
- 50 "Texas" is an outdoor \_\_\_ in Palo Duro Canyon
- 51 money dispenser (abbr.)

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# Sports

## Alpine Bucks overpowered as Wink runs wild in 60-7 loss

BY KERRY LAIRD  
Sports Editor

The Alpine Fightin' Bucks faced a fierce fight on Friday the 13th, falling 60-7 to the Wink Wildcats at home. This brings the Bucks to 0-3 for the season. Wink avenged their narrow defeat last year when the Bucks edged them 19-18. This time around, the Wildcats were relentless from the start.

For Alpine, quarterback Devon Rojo owned the highlight reel, fighting valiantly against the relentless Wink defense. Rojo completed 17 of his 30 passes for 180 yards and scored the Bucks' only touchdown with a powerful rushing effort.

His favorite target, wide receiver Dae Hardwick, had a standout

night with 12 receptions for 127 yards, showing his ability to create separation and move the chains.

Dae averaged over 160 reception yards per game through the first two games, so fans can expect him to put up big numbers throughout the season with Rojo's accuracy and quick arm.

The Bucks managed a brief spark in the second quarter when they recovered an onside kick, but they couldn't capitalize, turning the ball over on downs.

Defensively, Alpine had trouble containing Wink's run game, especially standout Kemyd Faciane, who racked up a career-high 349 rushing yards and six touch-

See BUCKS • 9



The Fightin' Bucks struggled against a strong Wink running game last Friday night in their loss to the Wildcats.

Photo by Felipe Fierro

## Lady Bucks face tough competition, eye District success

BY TRISTIAN BARRAGAN  
Contributor

The Alpine Bucks Lady Volleyball Team, led by Head Coach Adrian Smith, faced a rigorous schedule over the past couple of weeks, playing both home and away matches against strong opponents. Despite the challenges, the Lady Bucks displayed resilience and determination, pushing forward toward their individual, team, and program

goals. On September 3, the Lady Bucks hosted Odessa High. While the games ended in defeats, the players showed competitive spirit. The freshman team fell 20-25 and 9-25, while the JV team claimed the first set 25-19 but then dropped the following two sets 9-25 and 15-25. The varsity squad put up a fight but ultimately lost 20-25, 16-25, and 17-25. Their overall records now stand at freshman 5-5, JV

6-5, and varsity 12-11. The Lady Bucks then traveled to Fort Stockton for a dual match against Odessa Permian and Fort Stockton on September 6. In the face of adversity, the team made several strategic adjustments. The freshman team lost to Fort Stockton (11-25, 10-25) and Odessa Permian (12-25, 9-25). The JV team battled hard but was edged out by Fort Stockton (25-27, 23-25) and fell to Odessa Permian (11-25,

5-25). The varsity team faced strong opponents, losing to Fort Stockton (14-25, 6-25, 20-25) and Odessa Permian (12-25, 15-25, 23-25). The players remained focused on gaining experience to guide them through district and postseason competition.

The team's next challenge came against Andrews on September 10. The freshman fell short (4-25, 13-25), while JV took one set but lost overall (8-25, 26-24, 15-25).

Varsity pushed through a close contest but ultimately lost in three sets (18-25, 16-25, 26-28). Despite the setbacks, individual efforts shone through, including Jaycee Portillo, who recently held the number one spot for digs in the state and nation.

On September 13, the Lady Bucks returned home for a varsity-only match against Monahans. The Bucks fought hard, winning the first set 25-23, but Monahans claimed the following three sets (23-

See LADY BUCKS • 9

## Lobo women's soccer 2-1 on the season

BY KARA GERBERT  
Managing Editor

So far, the Sul Ross women's soccer team is keeping up with their counterparts on the pitch. They dropped their first game to New Mexico Highlands and then regained their

mojo to take down their next two competitors, improving to a 2-1 record.

Like the men, the ladies started their season on the road and won't hit their home field until September 28.

After losing 0-1 to the Cowgirls in Las Ve-

gas, New Mexico, on September 5, the Lobos met the Texas Lutheran Bulldogs in Eagle Pass on September 8, winning 3-1.

Their next stop was Plainview, defeating Wayland Baptist 4-0 with a second-half surge.

After a scoreless first half against the Pioneers on Wednesday, September 11, Lobos Mia Serrano and Sarayi Serrano put the ladies on the scoreboard seconds apart in the second half.

Mia scored the first point in the 73rd minute of the game, and Sarayi scored 51 seconds later.

Mia would add another goal about five minutes later, bringing the score 3-0 in favor of the Lobos.

Sarayi's final goal came off an assist by Sienna Ramirez in the 80th minute, leaving the Pioneers stranded for their third loss of the season.

Next, the Lobos travel to Alamosa, Colorado, for a 2 p.m. match against Adams State this Saturday, September 21.

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**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**

**MACKENZIE SANCHEZ - JUNIOR ATHLETIC TRAINER**

Mackenzie has been an athletic trainer for 3 years. She commits her time and energy in helping all of the sports programs at Alpine ISD. She is a dedicated athletic trainer and an extremely hard worker.

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### Fightin' Buck and Lady Buck Sports Schedule

**LADY BUCK VOLLEYBALL**

Sept. 20 Alpine vs Compass Academy (F/JV combined)

Sept. 24 Alpine vs Kermit\*

**Sept. 28 OPEN**

Oct. 1 Alpine vs Tornillo\*

**FIGHTIN' BUCK FOOTBALL**

Sept. 19 Sonora vs Alpine

Sept. 20 Alpine vs Sonora

Sept. 27 Andrews vs Alpine

Sept. 27 Anthony vs Alpine\*

Oct. 3 Crane vs Alpine

Oct. 4 Alpine vs Crane\*

**CROSS COUNTRY**

Sept. 28 Big Bend Mountain Ramble

Oct. 3 Odessa Invitational

Oct. 7 District Championship (HS/MS)

\*Denotes District Games

@ 5 p.m.  
V @ 6 p.m.  
F/JV @ 5 p.m.  
V @ 6 p.m.  
TBA  
F/JV @ 5 p.m.  
V @ 6 p.m.

V @ 6 p.m.  
V @ 7 p.m.  
V @ 5 p.m.  
V @ 7 p.m.  
JV @ 6 p.m.  
V @ 7 p.m.

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TBA

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## Alpine Fightin' Bucks 7th- grade team shines in shutout victory, 8th- grade shows grit in tough loss

BY KERRY LAIRD  
Sports Editor

The Alpine Fightin' Bucks 7th-grade football team put on a clinic Thursday night, September 12, dominating the Fort Stockton Panthers in a thrilling 22-0 shutout. From the first whistle, the Bucks controlled the game, showcasing an impressive mix of offensive firepower and defensive tenacity.

Quarterback Jeffrey Castillo was leading the charge for Alpine, who was practically untouchable with two dazzling touchdown runs. Castillo's speed and vision left Fort Stockton defenders grasping at air as he weaved his way through the field, lighting up the scoreboard not once but twice.

Running back Ethan Esparza added to the Bucks' offensive onslaught, bulldozing his way into the end zone and powering through Panther defenders for another Alpine touchdown.

But the Bucks weren't just a force on offense. They were a brick wall on defense, allowing only three first downs the entire game. The defensive line dominated the trenches, while the secondary locked down Fort Stockton's receivers, leaving the Panthers searching for answers.

The relentless defensive pressure kept the Panthers pinned back,

unable to gain any momentum. It was a complete team performance, with the home crowd cheering from start to finish.

Meanwhile, the Alpine 8th grade team faced a tougher challenge in their road game against the Wink Wildcats. The Wildcats came out swinging, scoring 28 points before halftime as the Bucks struggled to find footing. Despite the early deficit, the Bucks refused to back down, showing their resilience in the second half.

The defense, led by Colt Billings with a key forced fumble and Zane DeLeon with a clutch recovery, locked down the Wildcats, shutting them out in the second half. Unfortunately, Alpine's offense couldn't capitalize on the defensive stops, missing a few key opportunities to get back into the game.

In the end, the Bucks fell 28-0, but their effort and determination in the second half left plenty of room for optimism as they moved forward.

With these games now behind them, both teams look ahead to their next challenge when they travel to Sonora today. The 7th graders kick off at 5 p.m., with the 8th grade set to follow at 6:15 p.m. One thing's for sure—these Fightin' Bucks will be ready to bring their A-game!

### BUCKS • FROM 8

downs.

One area the Bucks will focus on is their running game, which has struggled to gain traction. Everyone knows Logan Smith is a beast on the ball when he runs, putting up nearly 1,600 yards last season.

The offensive line will need to step up to create more opportunities for him to succeed. Alpine has also struggled to sustain drives in the second half of games, something the coaching staff is working to correct.

According to Dave Campbell's Texas Football, the Bucks are still at the top of the district rankings heading into the final non-district game. However, the loss drops the Bucks two spots to 68 in the Texas Division 3A-2 rankings.

Unfortunately, the junior varsity game was canceled as Wink didn't have enough players. That left all eyes on the varsity showdown, and despite the tough outcome, the Bucks remain

hopeful as they press forward into the heart of their season.

The team looks to turn the tide tomorrow as it prepares to tame the Sonora Broncos at Bronco Stadium. The varsity game kicks off at 7 p.m. on September 20, with the JV squad set to take the field today at 6 p.m.

Sonora, ranked 32nd in Texas 2A-1, is coming off its first victory of the season, which brought its record to 1-2. The Broncos bested the Bucks 45-18 last season, with running back Edgar Deluna rushing for 218 yards and four touchdowns. Fortunately, Deluna won't be suiting up this time for Sonora, giving Alpine a potential edge heading into the game.

With both teams looking to gain traction early in the season, Friday's contest promises to be pivotal for the Bucks, who aim to reverse their fortunes and head into their first district game against Anthony.

### LADY BUCKS • FROM 8

25, 14-25, 18-25). Meanwhile, the freshman and JV teams participated in the Midland Greenwood Tournament, gaining valuable experience and confidence ahead of district play. The freshman team faced tough competition, finishing fourth in their pool. The JV squad placed third in their pool and later competed in the Silver Bracket, achieving a solid win against Colorado City

(25-11, 25-16) before falling to Big Spring (20-24, 14-25).

With an overall record now standing at freshman 5-13, JV 8-12, and varsity 12-15, the Lady Bucks are working towards a consistent offensive and defensive performance. They aim to capitalize on their experiences as they move into district competition. The Lady Bucks fell to Denver City on the road and will next face the Wink Wildcats.

## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



### NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR WATER QUALITY LAND APPLICATION PERMIT FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER RENEWAL PERMIT NO. WQ0010974001

**APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION.** Marathon Water Supply & Sewer Service Corporation, P.O. Box 322, Marathon, Texas 79842, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of TCEQ Permit No. WQ0010974001 which authorizes the disposal of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 200,000 gallons per day via surface irrigation of 40 acres of non-public access land. This permit will not authorize a discharge of pollutants into water in the state. TCEQ received this application on March 5, 2024.

The wastewater treatment facility and disposal site are located approximately 1.5 miles southwest of the intersection of US Highway 90 and US Highway 385, in Brewster County, Texas 79842. The wastewater treatment facility and disposal site are located in the drainage basin of Rio Grande Above Amistad Reservoir in Segment No. 2306 of the River Basin. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and is not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application. <https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-103.26193,30.195882&level=18>

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at Marathon Public Library, 106 Northeast 3rd Street, Marathon, Texas.

**PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application.** The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING.** After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

**TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period; and the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.**

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period. TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION.** The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

**MAILING LIST.** If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

**All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality,**

**P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment) within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.**

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE.** For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid). Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

**AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION.** Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment), or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Any personal information you submit to the TCEQ will become part of the agency's record; this includes email addresses. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep). Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Marathon Water Supply & Sewer Service Corporation at the address stated above or by calling Ms. Sarah Fernandez, Jacob Martin, at 325-695-1070.

Issuance Date: September 11, 2024

# Avalanche Classifieds

**ERRORS** - Please check your ad the first day of publication. We are only responsible for the first incorrect insertion of any ad. Publisher's liability for damages resulting from errors in any advertising that it has agreed to publish shall be limited to the amount actually received by the publisher in consideration for its agreement to publish the advertisement

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**ACCEPTANCE** - The publisher wants to do everything that is possible within the confines of good taste and legal constraints to help you advertise your product or service to the best advantage. We reserve the right to edit or reject any copy or insertion that does not meet our standards of acceptance. The Alpine Avalanche does not run ads for anyone whose balance on previous ads is not current.  
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 § SITTING IN PROBATE  
 OF § OF  
 §  
 JAMES MICHAEL SMITH, Deceased § BREWSTER COUNTY, TEXAS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JAMES MICHAEL SMITH, Deceased, were issued on August 21, 2024, in Docket No. PR-03177 pending in the County Court Sitting in Probate of Brewster County, Texas, to:

RICHARD SMITH  
 C/O Robert E. Steele  
 P.O. Box 1765  
 Alpine, TX 79831

All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. All persons having claims should address them in care of the representative at the address stated above

DATED the \_\_\_\_\_ day of September 2024

/s/ Robert E. Steele  
 Robert E. Steele  
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 Attorney for the Executor

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**CITATION BY PUBLICATION - DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP**

The State of Texas  
 To all persons interest in the Estate of WILLIAM DALE MARTIN, Deceased  
 Cause No. PR03129,  
 In County Court, Brewster County, Texas

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above-numbered and entitled estate filed an application to Determine Heirship in this estate on the 4th day of September 2024, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of WILLIAM DALE MARTIN, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

This Application may be acted on by this Court at any call in the docket on or after 10:00 A.M., on the first Monday next after the expiration often days from date of publication of this citation on the 23rd day of September 2024. All persons interested in this case are cited to appear before said Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to this Application should they desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any objection, intervention, or response in writing with the County Clerk of Brewster County, Texas on or before the above-noted date and time.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Alpine, Texas, on the 10th day of September 2024



Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk  
 Brewster County, Texas  
 201 W. Ave E  
 Alpine, Texas 79830  
 By Renee Wylie, Deputy

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION - DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP**

The State of Texas  
 To all persons interest in the Estate of WILLIAM DALE MARTIN, Deceased  
 Cause No. PR03129,  
 in County Court, Brewster County, Texas

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# Sweet and spicy jalapeno peach chicken

Who doesn't like a little bit of heat with their sweet? If you're looking to mix these two tastebud teasers into your menu, look no further than this jalapeno peach chicken.

While it is common to mix certain fruits with savory proteins, adding jalapenos and peaches to chicken is probably not the first place your mind takes you. Likely, it follows more along the lines of mangoes and shrimp or something similar.



**Jalapeno Peach Chicken**  
Courtesy photo



## HEAD OVER MEALS

by kara gerbert

However, this chicken heat and sweet mash-up bring together just-right seasoned thighs pan-fried and then smothered in a peach glaze with jalapeno peppers and fresh peaches. It has so much flavor and a definite kick to each bite that you'll surely make it a mainstay in your culinary repertoire.

While peaches are a summer-time fruit, and fresh is always best, you can always use canned peaches if you want to

make this dish in the fall or winter. It may taste slightly different, and the texture of the peaches would change, but it will still be satisfying. There's always the option of canning your peaches during the summer instead of relying on the store-bought canned variety. This way, you will have the option of this delightful dish all year through.

This perfect blend of sweet and spicy is irresistibly delicious and will have you coming back for seconds, time and time again. It's as incredibly simple as it is sinful. So, if you're looking for a new way to tantalize your tastebuds, hit that produce aisle before those fresh peaches become scarce and whip up a meal the whole family will love.

## JALAPENO PEACH CHICKEN

### INGREDIENTS

#### Peaches

- 2 yellow peaches, pitted, sliced
- Peach Glaze
- 1/2 cup (160 g) peach preserves
- One tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon apple cider vinegar
- One teaspoon of Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon red pepper flakes

#### Chicken

- 2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken thighs
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon chili powder
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium jalapeno pepper, thinly sliced

### INSTRUCTIONS

#### Peach Glaze

To a medium bowl, add the glaze ingredients. Mix until incorporated. Set aside.

#### Chicken

- Pat chicken dry.
- Combine salt, black pepper, and chili powder in

a small bowl.

Apply the seasoning mixture to the chicken. Add oil to a large nonstick skillet over medium heat. Once hot, add chicken thighs. (Depending on the skillet size, you may have to work in batches.) Cook the chicken for five minutes. Then, flip the chicken, reduce heat to medium-low, and cook for another five minutes or until the chicken reaches an internal temperature of 165°F. Remove from heat. Transfer the chicken to a plate—tent to keep warm.

In the same skillet, raise the heat back to medium and add the jalapeno peppers. Cook for three minutes. Then, add the peaches to the jalapenos. Cook for an additional three minutes or until the peaches have softened.

Pour the peach glaze into the skillet with the peaches and jalapenos. Stir to ensure that every jalapeno and peach is evenly coated in the glaze.

Add the chicken back to the skillet. Spoon the glaze over the top of the chicken and cook for 1-2 minutes or until it is hot again.

Serve warm.

Remove from heat, season with additional fish sauce to taste.

Transfer to a platter, garnish with fried shallots and more chili crisp.

Squeeze a lime over the entire dish and serve immediately with the additional lime wedges.

## Devotional Page Family

BY SUSAN CELAYA

Recently, I learned that the fourth Monday of this month is designated National Family Day. So, it is an excellent time to reflect on what it means to be a family. We probably first think of the people who shared or did share a home with us. Then we might think of a church family, people we worship with regularly. We also remember that we are also sisters and brothers of believers who gather at other places in our town. Family can be defined as people who share a common ancestor. Thus, as children of God, we are part of the universal divine family of the faithful.

The New Testament epistles provide guidance for the emerging church, a family of believers, and are helpful to us today. What are the traits needed for a church to thrive? Paul gives us good instructions. First, to the Galatians (6:2), he writes, "Carry one another's burdens." Our churches are meant to be places where all are loved, supported, and comforted in difficult times. We can turn to our church when we need help.

The early church, like all families, was never free of conflict. Paul's letter to the Colossians, who were arguing about doctrine, is appropriate teaching for all groups of people, just as it was for the early Christians. He wrote, "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness,

humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all this put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony" (Col. 3:12-14). Here, we have clear guidance on how to treat others with respect and love, no matter our differences.

We may not always agree with other church members or with other people of faith, but the ties of family love bind us together. That love, if it is genuine, will radiate God's love out into the community. "By this, everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another" (John 13:35). We are called to express the love of Christ to our Christian siblings, even when they are not exactly like us. The holy inclusive church is God's group, exhorted to demonstrate love among themselves and to show Christlike love to the world. The church is an assembly of acceptance, love, comfort, and support for all. And the world is watching.

As we observe National Family Day next week, let us reflect on the qualities that characterize a healthy family and a fruitful church. Lord, help us comfort and support one another in our trials. May we be respectful and kind to each other even in disagreements. Most importantly, let us clearly reflect God's great love into the world.

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# Lobos edge Pioneers in overtime

BY PETER DINDINGER  
Contributor

Although it wasn't the prettiest of victories, the Sul Ross State football team found a way to win its first game of the season.

The contest featured a pick-six, a 55-yard field goal, and a record-breaking 80-yard punt return for a touchdown.

Ultimately, it took one overtime period for the Lobos to claw their way back to a 52-51 victory over the Wayland Baptist Pioneers on Saturday afternoon at Jackson Field.

The Lobos got on the board at 11:35 in the first quarter as Andrew Martinez connected with Vicente Luevano for a 33-yard touchdown.

As Wayland Baptist punted away on fourth and three, Luevano made the score 14-0 with an 80-yard touchdown return with 10:19 on the clock.

The Pioneers stalled on their next drive, which allowed the Lobos to get three points on a 36-yard field goal by Carlos Arreola.

Wayland Baptist erased the shutout with two seconds to go in the first quarter when Davian Guajardo threw an 18-yard touchdown pass to Dequan Green.

Martinez threw his second touchdown pass of the game with 12 minutes in the second quarter as he hooked up

with Yamil Oaxaca for a 21-yard score.

Later, with 8:58 to go in the opening half, Martinez tossed a 19-yard touchdown pass to C.J. Parks to give the Lobos a commanding 31-7 lead.

The Pioneers scored on their next two possessions.

With 4:19 on the clock, Guajardo connected with Marques Hall for a 29-yard touchdown strike while Damon Ford ran into the endzone from two yards out to cut the deficit to 10 points.

The Lobo defense then got in on the scoring action as Brendon Martin returned an interception for a 32-yard touchdown with 10:28 in the third quarter.

Wayland Baptist answered back with a 33-yard touchdown run by Keomodre Horace.

Using a six-play, 67-yard drive, Kendrick Jefferson scored from one yard out to put the Lobos ahead by 18 points with 5:37 in the third quarter.

Wayland Baptist kicker Leo Marini got his team three points on its next drive as he made a 55-yard field goal.

The Pioneers scored on their next two possessions to tie the game with 2:04 to go in the contest.

Sul Ross State was forced to punt away on fourth and six as Wayland Baptist took over with 36 seconds to go in

regulation.

The Pioneers settled for overtime as they knelt to run out the clock.

Wayland Baptist got the ball to start overtime. On four plays and 25 yards, the Pioneers found the endzone on a one-yard run by Horace.

Sul Ross freshman Brayden Durocher blocked the extra-point attempt, giving the Lobos an opportunity to win the game.

After two incomplete passes and a short five-yard reception by Jefferson, the Lobos were down to their last opportunity from the 20-yard line on fourth and five.

Martinez stepped up and threw a 20-yard strike to Oaxaca in the back of the endzone, tying the score to 51-51.

Arreola then came in and made a chip shot to seal the victory at 52-51.

"These guys got the first dub of the year, and it was a hard-fought battle," commented Coach Barry Derickson on the win. "Great job to Wayland Baptist for fighting as hard as they did. Very proud of our guys. They were able to battle through and finish a tough win. Not every win is going to be pretty. Our guys are probably more ticked off than I am, which is great to see because they're not happy with the result."

Derickson praised the team's overall performance, emphasizing the



Kendrick Jefferson pulls away from a Wayland Baptist defender during the Lobos defeat of the Pioneers last Saturday

Photo by Brylee Sweeten

crucial role of both the quarterback and the receivers.

"Drew had a heck of a game throwing the ball," he said. "I can't speak enough about our receivers. It's one of the cool parts about learning in football is that you have to allow the quarterback to play the course more than once. He saw the defense; he learned it, and he was off and running."

Looking ahead, the team's determination

and motivation are clear.

"I think our guys are pretty determined. I think they'll be extremely motivated to play very well against Western Oregon. They want their first D-II win, and that's what we're aiming for."

Following the game, Lobos quarterback Andrew Martinez offered his candid assessment of the team's performance. Despite the challenges, he expressed a strong sense of resolve and pride in his teammates.

"No one on the team is satisfied," said Martinez. "I think we all know what the score could have been and should have been. We didn't execute to the best of our abilities, and I'm looking forward to getting to practice and fixing it. I'm proud of our guys. I'm proud of the fight."

The Lobos take on Western Oregon at 1 p.m., CST, on Saturday, September 21, at Jackson Field.

## Lobo men win 2, drop one on the road

BY KARA GERBERT  
Managing Editor

The Sul Ross men's soccer team hits the pitch up a game so far this season, carrying a 2-1 record into their next matchup against the University of St. Thomas for their home opener today.

The Lobos won their first competition against the University of the Southwest on September 7, beating

the Mustangs 3-0.

This past weekend, they traveled to Laredo to take on Montana State Billings and South Dakota Mines at the Texas A&M International University Classic, which was held at Dustdevil Field.

Although they could not keep the momentum going with their 0-3 loss to Montana State on Thursday, the Lobos chiseled away at the South Dakota Mines

Hardrockers with a 3-1 victory on Saturday.

Sul Ross trailed 1-0 in the first half of the matchup against the Hardrockers, but they refused to go down without a fight.

Scoring three goals in the second half, Brit Lewis Coates tied the game with a penalty kick in the 51st minute of the game.

Just nine minutes later, Tatsuya Cossey put Sul Ross in the

lead with a goal at the 60-minute mark.

Just for some added breathing room, Carlos Gonzalez would follow up the two Lobo points with an insurance shot at the 87-minute mark, securing the win for Sul Ross against the Hardrockers 3-1.

The Lobos take the pitch at 1 p.m. this afternoon at the Sul Ross soccer field next to Jackson Field.



Lobo midfielder Lewis Coates works to control the ball and keep it from his opponent this past weekend in Laredo during the Texas A&M International University Classic.

Photo by Karla Caballero

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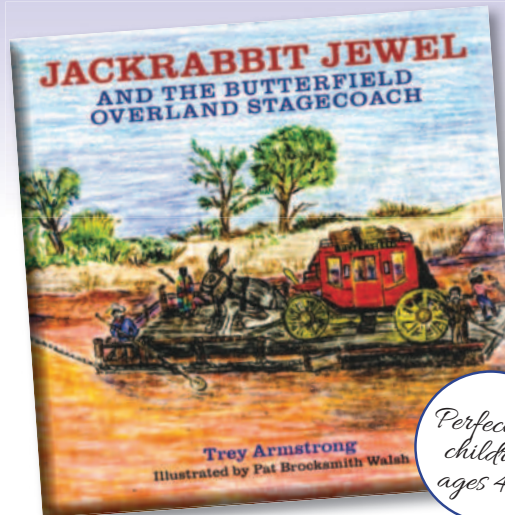
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