

*Texas
 Court of
 Criminal
 Appeals to
 hold oral
 arguments
 at Sul Ross*

BY KERRY LAIRD
 Contributor

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals will visit Sul Ross State University from September 30 through October 2, offering students and the public a rare opportunity to witness the state's highest criminal court in action.

This visit is part of the court's statewide initiative to bring oral arguments and educational programming to communities beyond Austin. It will provide a firsthand look at the judicial process and offer opportunities for engagement with judges, attorneys, and criminal justice professionals.

"When you really think

See APPEALS • 8



FEATURED

See Sports 6-7, 14

**Rainfall totals at
 Alpine-Casparis Airport**
 2024.13.74"
 September.1.76"



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.**



County discusses past due tax

BY KARA GERBERT
 Managing Editor

The Brewster County Commissioner's Court held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 24, at 9:30 a.m. in the commissioner's courtroom. Both Pct. 3 Commissioner Ruben Ortega and Pct. 4 Commissioner Mo Morrow were absent.

After the meeting was called to order, Brewster County Judge Greg Henington called for the approval of the meeting minutes from the August 27 and September 10 meetings. Both were approved with spelling and date corrections, with a motion from Pct. 2 Commissioner Sara Colando followed by a second from Pct. 1 Commissioner Jim Westermann.

Next on the agenda was

the public comment section. The only public comments came from Ward 5 City Councilman Rick Stephens. Stephens informed the court that the city had recently passed both their budget and set their tax rate. He also noted National Night Out, which was coming up on October 1 at 6 p.m. at the new Pueblo Nuevo Park on East Gallego. He also noted that the Sul Ross Rodeo would be held this week from Thursday evening through Saturday, with evening performances beginning at 7 p.m. and slack running at various other times throughout the weekend.

Finally, Stephens announced that Sul Ross



**Brewster
 County Judge
 Greg
 Henington**

would hold a fundraiser for the softball and baseball programs at the Gallego Center on November 2. The event would include a concert featuring the Josh Abbott Band, tickets for which could be purchased online.

During the announcements, Judge Henington informed the court that the county would hold a departmental pumpkin decorating contest. The pumpkins were not to be carved, just decorated on the outside. The judging would be held on Halloween day by the "Ladies of the Lawn," a group of volunteers who have been helping with the care of the courthouse lawn. The departmental winner will receive a basket of goodies.

Lora Nussbaum, Brewster County Elections Administrator, presented the court with information on the upcoming election and requested the approval of the election services contracts between Brewster County, Marathon ISD, and the City of Alpine.

Nussbaum told the court that Marathon would pay one-third of the cost for Pct. 3, one-third of the election programming and media, or Pct. 3 costs, and one-third of the costs between the three entities for election workers.

In the case of the City of Alpine, in Pcts. 1, 2, 4, and 8 new ballots had to be printed. In Pct. 1, not everyone is in the city, so the city is responsible for the extra ballot costs, plus one-third of the election workers' cost, and for the additional programming.

Judge Henington moved

to approve the contract with Marathon ISD, followed by a second from Colando. The motion passed.

For the city contract, Judge Henington made a motion, and Westermann seconded it. The motion passed. The final approval for the election's agenda item was to approve the notice of the general election, which gave times, dates, and places of early voting and where voting would take place on election day. Judge Henington made a motion, with a second from Colando, and the motion passed.

Next on the agenda was the approval of the new Interlocal Agreement between the Brewster County Sheriff's Office and the Alpine Independent School District to provide

See COUNTY • 8

Broncos proved a force for the Bucks



Freshman running back Cloud Martinez narrowly escapes a Sonora defender last Thursday evening during their contest at Buck Stadium. Despite their loss, the Bucks JV did a good job of adjusting their defensive line to keep the Broncos in check for the remainder of the game, only allowing them to score 14 points.

Photo by Felipe Fierro

Drought in the Trans-Pecos: Healthy rangelands are affected last

BY DR. SILVERIO AVILA
 Texas A&M AgriLife/BRI specialist

Drought is a prolonged absence or marked deficiency of precipitation, and as of September 2024, most of the Trans-Pecos is in either severe, extreme, or exceptional drought. Drought not only plays a big role in forage production, but also affects wildlife and the plans set beforehand from the producers.

I stand by Frank Price's (Frank & Sims Price Ranch) quote: "Healthy rangelands are not as severely affected by drought as those that are in degraded condition."

Forage production in

any given year is known to be affected by the conditions of the previous years, either by the management or rainfall. Therefore, it is up to us to determine how we are affected by the intensity of drought upon us.

Drought comes and goes. And when it occurs, it can be in two forms: chronic, reduced amount of rainfall throughout the season; and intense, extended periods of no rainfall.

Grasses are adapted to their specific regions and will respond differently to

either chronic or intense droughts. In the arid and semi-arid grasslands of the Trans-Pecos, grasses can be affected greatly by intense droughts, because they are already adapted to conditions with limited water availability.

To understand how rangelands can be affected, we need to understand our plants. For the purpose of this article, I will focus only on grasses grazed by cattle.

I want to make a point clear: Management is more important for the future

production of forage than the actual conditions of the environment (rainfall).

It is known that overutilization of more than 50% of the above-ground forage for a prolonged period, without rest, will halt or reduce root production. Grass plants are adapted to defoliation, and rest (period of no defoliation) is necessary to allow for recovery of the above-ground leaf photosynthesizing material.

Healthy roots are essential to plants for anchoring, storing, and absorbing food and nutrients, as well as absorbing moisture. Therefore, if roots are not healthy, it will limit the

plant's ability to obtain water and nutrients in the most demanding conditions such as drought.

Pointers for Grazing Management

Correct stocking rates: Stocking rate is the most important factor to consider in a livestock operation. Stocking rate is the number of animal units (1,000 lb. animal) in a specific area for a specific amount of time.

This will determine the amount of forage consumed throughout the season or a specific pasture, which gives you the ability to con-

See DROUGHT • 8

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OBITUARIES

Manuela Armendariz

Manuela Armendariz, a cherished homemaker and beloved matriarch, passed away peacefully on September 19 in Alpine at the age of 81. Born in Mexico on December 18, 1942, Manuela dedicated her life to her family, nurturing them with love and warmth throughout



her years. For 60 wonderful years, she was the lov-

ing wife of Jesus Armendariz, providing strength and support to their family as they built a life together. Manuela is survived by her devoted children, Maria Armendariz (Sal), Jesse Armendariz Jr. (Leslie), Romana Portillo (Peter), Angel Dutchover (Jerry), Olga Armendariz, and Carmen Mears (Bodie). She emanated

pride and joy through her 18 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren, who will carry her memory forward with love in their hearts.

Manuela also leaves behind her siblings, Francisca Leyva, Erasmo Zuvia, and Carmen Gomez, who will remember her spirit and the bond they shared. She is preceded in

death by her father, Jose Zuvia; her mother, Carmen Zuvia; and her daughter, Pauline Molinar. Each played a significant role in her life, and their legacy continues to resonate within the family.

Manuela's life was a testament to unconditional love and dedication. She will be profoundly missed by all

who knew her, and her memory will live on in the hearts and stories of her family.

Services for Manuela took place on Tuesday, September 24, at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, with interment at Holy Angels Cemetery in Alpine. Services were entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home.

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Fiddler's Green: The Mapmaker

His name was Gouverneur Kemble Warren, quite a moniker with which to go through life. He was born in Cold Spring, New York, across the Hudson River from West Point, where he graduated second in his class in 1850.

He was assigned to the Corps of Topographical Engineers, the elite of the U.S. Army. Warren spent his first years in the West working as a surveyor for trails and rivers but was summoned to Washington to staff the Pacific Railway Survey Office.

The Railway Survey was the first scientific exploration of the entire West, tasked with finding the best railroad route to California.

Warren started the project in 1954 and worked on it until April 1955. It was a massive undertaking.

As head of the Surveys Office, Captain Andrew Humphries (T.E.) wrote, "This laborious service has been executed by [Warren] with great intelligence, zeal, and energy."

Warren himself wrote of this enterprise, "My instructions were to carefully read every report and examine every map of survey, re-

connais- sance, and travel that could be obtained, and ascertain their values, and to embody the authentic information in the map."

When complete, his compilation map was a massive 54 inches by 54 inches and was the first scientifically rendered map of the West. A second map, the same size, presented the geographic "profiles" of the major surveys.

Also included in his report was his memoir: "A Brief Account of Each of the Exploring Expeditions Since A.D. 1800," an invaluable document.

Of Warren's map, Carl Wheat, the premier cartography historian of the West, writes, "It is a beautifully executed map and displays the genius of its author."

However, a soldier gains rank and reputation in battle, not by making maps. And here, Warren also succeeded, at least initially.

As the Chief of Engineers for the Army of the Potomac, Warren was the first person on either side to determine that Little Round Top on the field at Gettysburg was the key to the Union

line. Like most officers, Warren desired to lead troops. After Gettysburg, he was assigned command of the V Corps, the Army of the Potomac, on Grant's "Overland Campaign" to end the War.

At Spotsylvania, he lost Grant's trust when he was slow to execute an attack against a Confederate position he thought to be too strong.

After Petersburg on the pursuit of the Rebel forces to Appomattox, he earned the ire of the impetuous General Philip Sheridan and was relieved of duty just at the end of the War.

After the War, he reverted to the rank of Major of Engineers and spent 17 years on various surveys, eventually reaching the rank of lieutenant colonel. He also spent those years requesting a Court of Inquiry to clear his name.

He was exonerated in November 1881 but died soon after in August 1882. However, his name will live on in the maps he created and his decision at Little Round Top at Gettysburg, where his statue stands looking out over that sacred ground.

General Winfield Scott Hancock chose the ground, General George Gordon Meade chose to stand and fight, but General Warren won the battle by securing the line.

Before going further, it is important to know that Warren was unpleasant. While certainly intelligent, he was also eccentric. He was described as moody, rude, sullen, prone to temper tantrums, and critical of all those around him.

Befitting an engineer, he was methodical, which some considered slow in the heat of battle. His official biography by the historian Davis Jordan is titled "Happiness is Not My Companion."



FIDDLER'S GREEN

by Larry Francell

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the

GENERAL Election held on NOVEMBER 5, 2024

will be tested on OCTOBER 1 at 9:00 AM at VAL CLARK BEARD CONFERENCE ROOM, 203 N 7th, Alpine to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

Signature of Officer

AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automáticamente que se usará en la

Elección GENERAL que se llevará a cabo el 5 de noviembre de 2024 se probará el 1 de octubre (fecha)

a las 9:00 AM en Val Clark Beard Sala de conferencias (sitio)

203 N 7th, Alpine para determinar si el equipo contará con exactitud los votos para todos los puestos oficiales y sobre todos los proyectos de ley.

Firma del/dela Oficial

Sul Ross receives \$7.5 million grant from Department of Education

Sul Ross State University in Alpine received nearly \$7.5 million in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Education to help develop new degree programs, including a new Ph.D. in Natural Sciences. Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) notified SRSU last week that it will receive approximately \$1.5 million annually for the next five years as part of the Promoting Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans (PPOHA) grant program. PPOHA provides funding to expand postbaccalaureate education opportunities and improve the attainment of Hispanic students, expand academic offerings, and enhance program quality to help Hispanic and low-income students complete post-secondary degrees. In addition to supporting the new doctoral degree, the grant will help to develop a Master of Science in Water Science, a graduate certificate in Dual Credit Teaching, and a

graduate certificate in Professional Spanish while providing support for existing graduate programs like the new Master of Arts in Anthropology. The grant, called "Water in the Desert: Cooperation and Purpose-built Programs in Far West Texas," will implement a partnership with Texas Tech University and Texas A&M-Kingsville to assist with the creation of market-driven graduate programs and improve the student experience through better facilities, equipment, technology, and hands-on learning. The funds will also cover the cost of 11 new faculty positions, a project director, and support staff. "We are grateful to Senator Cornyn for his continued support of academic programming at Sul Ross State University," said President Carlos Hernandez. "Federal grant funding continues to reinforce our efforts, and we are pleased with the assistance of our elected representatives."

Falling numbers: Alpine ISD faces enrollment dilemma as classrooms empty, part 2

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

Editor's Note: This is part two of the enrollment series.

Student enrollment numbers are declining statewide, and our local school district is no exception. As of the end of the first six weeks of this school year, the district's total enrollment is 892 students, which is a decrease of two students from last year's end-of-year total.

Under the current administration, the six-week enrollment figures have fallen over the past two years, with totals of 960 for the 2021-2022 school year and 922 for 2022-2023. This represents a 7.1% decline in enrollment over three years at the six-week mark.

The enrollment for a single cohort at the high school in the 2023-2024 school year has dropped significantly, going from over 300 students to just 286 by the end of this year's first six weeks. This reflects an average

decrease of approximately 20 students.

The difference is even more pronounced at the middle and elementary schools. While some of the elementary numbers can be adjusted with the help of private partnerships, those numbers aren't enough to counteract the overall decrease that could see Alpine ISD drop from a 3A to a 2A district soon.

As mentioned last week, public-private partnerships, while garnering extra money from the state, do not help the bottom line when it comes to overall enrollment numbers. These partnerships concentrate only on pre-k through second-grade students.

According to Alpine ISD, the numbers added from the Alpine Montessori partnership only equaled 14 more students added to the roster.

This week, the district is working on registering students from El Paso's Casa Infantil Montessori.

After speaking to Christopher Virdell, Director

of the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) for the district, he believes they will initially add 20 to 25 students from the El Paso partnership, hopefully adding more as they grow.

While adding these students adds to the coffers, it doesn't add to the number of students in the seats ready to be taught. With fewer students at the schools, the district has no choice but to focus on employee attrition due to a lack of state funding.

While partnership numbers help calculate that additional state funding, they are insufficient to add or retain additional educators.

Both Alpine Elementary and Alpine Middle School have seen this happen on their campuses.

Alpine Middle School currently needs an assistant principal, and Alpine Elementary has also decreased the number of its teachers.

The June 27 board meeting of the Alpine ISD Board of Trustees addressed decreases and con-

solidations in staffing and programs. At this same meeting, the board passed a deficit budget, with a deficit of \$137,058.49 for the 2024-2025 school year.

The revenues for the year were budgeted at \$10,763,028.00, with expenditures of \$11,698,446.49 and salary offsets of \$798,360 from grant funding.

Due to decreases in revenue, each line item of the 2024-2025 budget was reviewed closely. In January, the board approved the renewal of Alpine ISD's superintendent, Michelle Rinehart, EdLD, with a three-year extension and a 5% increase in salary. At the June budget review, Dr. Rinehart declined the 5% increase in salary due to district financial constraints, which left \$7,726.00 not expensed for the district.

Information from TEA's website listed Dr. Rinehart's salary at \$154,520, which has stayed consistent since she took the helm in 2022, yet student num-

bers are still in decline.

In comparison, at the highest board-approved salary of \$132,520, the previous administration oversaw the enrollment of 974 students by the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

At the beginning of the last administration's tenure, in 2015-2016, the salary was listed as \$116,000, with an enrollment of 1,082 at the end of the year.

In 2016-2017, that salary dropped to \$115,000 for even more students by the end of the year, with 1,130 students enrolled at Alpine ISD.

While class sizes may continue to fluctuate, the future for Alpine ISD is uncertain as they move forward, likely into a smaller 2A district, with smaller revenues to support the education of Alpine's youth.

Dual-credit, transfer students drive enrollment up at Sul Ross

Dual-credit and transfer students are driving an enrollment surge at Sul Ross State University's Alpine campus this fall.

Total enrollment in Alpine is 1,934 compared to 1,481 in Fall 2023, an increase of over 30%, based on data that will be reported to legislators and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

This fall, there are 497 dual-credit students enrolled at the Alpine campus, up from 369 students in the spring, and 58 in the Fall of 2023, an increase

of nearly 764% since the university began engaging more public school districts—a strategy that continues to pay off.

“Dual-credit students are included in our formula funding from the State of Texas,” said President Carlos Hernandez. “That means they impact the funding we get from the State in a positive way, increasing operating budgets so we can recruit and retain residential students.”

Residential undergraduate student enrollment increased by 26 students

(2.4%) across all levels, particularly amongst juniors and seniors, suggesting that deliberate retention efforts are having an impact. Transfer students increased to 146, up from 85 last fall.

The University's residence halls are again filled to capacity. While several units are undergoing repairs and maintenance, students are temporarily tripled in some rooms.

Instructional sites in Eagle Pass, Del Rio, and Uvalde saw a small decrease this fall, down 19

students, or 3.5%.

Across all four campuses, total enrollment is 2,576, an increase of over 20%.

“While residential undergraduate enrollment growth isn't as strong as we'd hoped, we will adjust our strategies and keep our foot on the gas. We are headed in the right direction and will continue to invest in market-driven degree programming and in retention activities to engage our students,” said President Hernandez.

Struthers receives award



Kiwanis District Lt Governor Mark Crouch and Alpine Kiwanis Club President Ralph Gruebel recently presented Megan Struthers the Sophomore of the Year Award for District 22, Texas-Oklahoma Kiwanis. The scholarship is awarded through a competitive process and is redeemable upon college entrance. The purpose of the scholarship is to recognize not only an applicant's academic achievements but also their leadership qualities.

Courtesy photo

Native Plant Society to host program

The Big Bend Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas will host a program on Saturday, October 5.

We will be going on a field trip to Marfa to view the landscaping at two of our member resi-

dences. Jim Martinez, a renowned West Texas landscape designer will present his creations at Susan Kirt's residence and at his estate. He will describe the designs on these properties and answer questions. Come

see how landscaping is done West Texas style. Come learn with the Native Plant Society.

To sign up or get information contact Fonda at fondag@sbcglobal.net as space is limited.

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Opinions

ONLINE POLL

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Now the Avalanche asks:

How concerned are you about the upcoming presidential election?

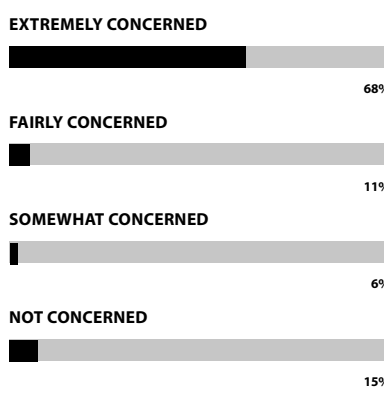
- Extremely Concerned
- Fairly Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not Concerned

Vote for this week's poll online at: www.AlpineAvalanche.com

RESULTS

HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU ABOUT THE UPCOMING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION?

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 by noon Monday for consideration.

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be corrected when such occurs in this

newspaper and is brought to the pub-

lisher's attention.



Why every family should join the Big Bend Livestock Association

As we approach the annual livestock sale on January 11, it's the perfect time to reflect on the Big Bend Livestock Show Association's (BBLSA) significant role in our community. This organization is more than just a club for those passionate about livestock; it's a cornerstone of our local culture, economy, and future. If you haven't considered joining, now is the time to become part of something meaningful, enriching, and impactful for your family and community.

barn.

Through Ag, they learn the value of hard work, dedication, teamwork, and practical skills like budgeting, record-keeping, and public speaking. These experiences are not only formative but also rewarding. Young members often speak with pride about their accomplishments, whether raising a prize-winning steer or simply learning the ropes of animal care.



J.T. MARONEY
Publisher

tion in BBLSA, especially the annual livestock sale, strengthens these bonds. The sale is not just a market event; it's a celebration of our community's hard work and dedication.

Families, buyers, and donors come together to support one another, ensuring that the tradition of livestock raising continues to thrive. By joining BBLSA, your family becomes part of this vibrant, supportive community.

ated by BBLSA, and the money raised helps fund educational programs and scholarships that further benefit our community. In essence, by supporting the BBLSA, you're investing in the future of our local economy and ensuring that it remains strong for generations to come.

Join, Donate, or Buy

In conclusion, the Big Bend Livestock Association is more than just an organization; it's a way of life that nurtures our youth, strengthens our community, and supports our local economy. By joining, donating, or buying, you are helping to preserve these values for the future. Let's come together to celebrate and support this incredible organization. For more information, please get in touch with board members Ryan Stieg, Nikki Ahrens, Micaela Ritchie, Sarah Vasquez, or J.T. Maroney or email the organization at RSVPBBLSA@gmail.com.

A Tradition of Excellence and Education

The Big Bend Livestock Show Association has a long-standing tradition of promoting excellence in livestock raising, but it also offers so much more. Through FFA and 4-H programs, workshops, and hands-on experiences, children and teens learn about animal husbandry, responsibility, and the agricultural industry, which remains vital to our nation's economy. Being involved daily in agriculture allows our children to develop life skills beyond the

Strengthening Community Bonds

Beyond the educational aspect, the BBLSA serves as a social hub where families unite by shared interests and values. In an age where digital communication often replaces face-to-face interaction, the BBLSA offers a rare opportunity to engage directly with neighbors, share knowledge, and build lasting friendships. The camaraderie and sense of community fostered by BBLSA are invaluable, offering support networks that many families find irreplaceable. Participa-

Supporting the Local Economy

The BBLSA plays a crucial role in supporting our local economy. The livestock sale on January 11 is a prime example of how the association connects producers with buyers, ensuring that local agricultural businesses remain viable. By participating in the BBLSA, either as a member, donor, or buyer, you contribute directly to the economic health of our region. Local businesses benefit from the increased activity gener-

The almanac, guaranteed good reading

"When a friend deals with a friend, let the bargain be clear and well-Penn'd so that they may continue being friends to the end."

— **Written by Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) in Poor Richard's Almanac under the alias of Richard Saunders. The publication appeared from 1732 to 1758.**

This is the first week of Fall, and I am glad.

Because of fall foliage, pumpkin spice coffee, or cooler weather, you ask. All of that, but also because the 2025 almanacs will ship soon.

An almanac will never make the New York Times Best Seller list, but they are still one of my favorite reads. Whether it's the Texas Almanac, the Farmer's Almanac, or the Cardui my grandparents swore by, almanacs are still informative and entertaining.

Indelible childhood memories of the house in Pittsburg where my father grew up include what was always behind the back door. A single shot 22 my grandfather used to dissuade Blue Jays from fleecing fruit from his prized trees, a flyswatter for insects invading the un-air-conditioned house (and unruly grandchildren), and the Cardui calendar for wisdom and advice.

Cardui calendars and almanacs were primarily to promote the elixir by the same name. It was good. I know

that because Dolly Parton and Porter Wagner hailed their virtues every Saturday afternoon on their country music television show. Between "Holdin' on to Nothing" and "Just Someone I Used to Know."

Dolly's endorsement aside, some folks might say if you've seen one almanac, you've seen them all. But that's just not true. They are all gems for weather forecasts, planting tables, zodiac secrets, recipes, astronomical tables, tides, holidays, eclipses, articles, and all sorts of aches and ailments.

One thing that makes a good almanac interesting for "city slickers and country folk alike," as Farmers Almanacs markets theirs, is that scores of advertisers and writers compete for space each year. The result is a "duke's mixture" of diverse ideas offering new and old information, all of which defies usual descriptions. Let alone any sort of conventional book review.

According to my old friend, fellow columnist, writer, musician, and folk historian Don Jacobs, who is remembered by many in Center, the standby book has saved many a columnist from "mundane" mumbo-jumbo writings.

Jacobs once said, "Faced with the prospect of having to turn out yet another Halloween column as October looms were writers dreading



LEON ALDRIDGE
Guest Columnist

the dilemma of trying to describe orange-colored wax whistles to kids who know how to program computers. "Then swooping in just as deadlines approach," Jacobs added, "the Old Farmer's Almanac manifested itself on countless shelves."

The columnist even called the almanac tantamount to the Great Pumpkin himself, "... leaving a bag of goodies that could be reviewed from early Fall clear through to Christmas and still have ideas left over." And he was right. The ads are just as interesting as the text.

For instance, who remembers the turn-of-the-century Mail Pouch Tobacco thermometers? Still need one for the barn, the house, the garage, or the man cave? Faithful reproductions are available, as are windmills, weathervanes, and Rosebud Salve ... all in the almanac.

Other vital information you're likely to find can also include pitches for learning to be a locksmith, how to read small print easily, or instructions on sending off for a mail-order government surplus directory.

If it's your health that concerns you, the almanac has that covered, too. Dealing with a hernia, hard of hearing, or just plain run down and worn out? There are products guaranteed to "perk you up, hold you together, or

cure what ails you." Things like "Rooster Pills" that, according to the ad, will have you "crowing again." Not to mention feeling active and vigorous.

The articles are interesting, too. Where else can you read about how one family of seven cut their water heating bill in half, the latest on comets, the history of the mule, or how to pick the perfect mate? Sure, there's the internet now, some say. The difference is you know you can trust the almanac.

Plus, you can trust pearls of wisdom by philosophers such as Old Nels, Reese Davis, Homer Stillson, Padric Gallagher, Gertrude Bailey, or one Miss Keller. Whose writings might cause modern philosophers to take notice?

Miss Keller wrote, "I've never met a trollop who was a good cook, or a good cook who was a trollop." She also had some choice words about tomcats and high-heeled shoes, but her all-time classic was on chickens.

"If you want to raise chickens," she offered, "you have to put up with the rooster. And if you want to raise children, you have to put up with a husband."

So, if you find best sellers to be boring, grab an almanac for guaranteed good reading.

Just ask Dolly.

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

Heard on the STREET

September 26 is National Pancake Day. What do you like on your pancakes?



Sabrina Anger: Chocolate chips, whipped cream, and syrup. Of course, butter, too. That's a given.



Ayla McRay: A cow's body's worth of butter and organic maple syrup. It makes up for the butter.



Mike Mata: Butter and syrup. I'm just a normal guy.



Johnny Rios: I wrap bacon in my pancakes and then cover them in syrup.



AJ Rutherford: Syrup, butter, and a bit of regret for how many I'm gonna eat!

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

September 27 SRSU Rodeo After Party, 9:30 p.m. to 12 a.m. at the Granada. FREE to the public, featuring Caden Gillard.

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

September 28 Free movie, 3 p.m. at Alpine First Assembly of God they will be showing "The Perfect Race." This is the second movie in a series. Free popcorn and bottled water will be provided. All are invited.

October 1 National Night Out, 6 p.m. at Pueblo Nuevo Park, 1500 E. Gallego Ave. Sponsored by Alpine Police Department.

October 3 Kiwanis Spaghetti Supper, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Alpine Elementary School Cafeteria. Cost is \$10 and all money raised goes back into the community. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Alpine Visitor Center or at the door.

October 4 First Friday Song Swap, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Far West Guitars at 114 N. 6th Street.

October 4-5: 3rd Annual Big Bend Bluegrass Festival, 4:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday night and begins at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday at the Alpine Civic Center. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://bigbendbluegrass.com/big-bend-bluegrass-festival/>

October 5 SRSU Guided Hike on Hancock Hill, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. with Dr. Bryon Schroeder for Archaeology of the Big Bend. Registration is required at <https://www.sulross.edu/guided-hikes/>



October 11-14 Big Bend Octane Fest, Noon to 9 p.m. at The Stable Performance Cars 511 W. Holland.

October 11 AHS Homecoming, 7 p.m. at Buck Stadium.

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

October 12 Exploring the Life Cycle of Beef Cattle, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Museum of the Big Bend. RSVP required to attend. Visit <https://eventbrite.com/e/exploring-the-life-cycle-of-beef-cattle-tickets-989066884677?aff=oddttdtcreator>

October 12 Wild West Night, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Sunshine House. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$5 for kids. Includes raffles, games, silent auction, chuckwagon dinner, and music from Craig Carter and the Spur of the Moment Band. Proceeds benefit the Sunshine House.

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.

October 26-27 Free Movie, 3 p.m. at Alpine First Assembly of God, they will be showing the third movie in "The Perfect Race" series. Everyone is invited to attend, and free popcorn and bottled water will be provided.

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, call 432-837-8216, or visit bbccorale.wixsite.com/bbcc.

Citizenship Classes, at Alpine Public Library by appointment only, 805 W. Ave. E. 432-837-2621

ESL Tutoring, at Alpine Pub-

lic 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.

Restaurant Guide

\$6 a week gets you a spot in our restaurant guide www.alpineavalanche.com



COCINERO: Beef-Chicken-Shrimp
STARTERS: Tortilla 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



NOTICE OF PASSED ORDINANCES

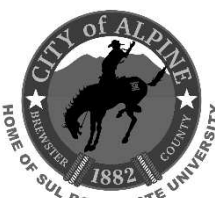
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF ALPINE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL HAS PASSED THE FOLLOWING CAPTIONED ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE 2024-09-04: AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF ALPINE, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2024 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; APPROPRIATING MONEY TO A SINKING FUND TO PAY INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL ON THE CITY'S INDEBTEDNESS; ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF ALPINE, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025.

ORDINANCE 2024-09-05: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 PROPOSED TAX RATE OF \$0.439205 PER \$100 OF 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, TEXAS.

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 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF ALPINE THAT CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD AT 5:30 P.M. ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2024 REGARDING THE FOLLOWING CAPTIONED ITEMS:

ORDINANCE 2024-09-02: APPROVE THE SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 2024-09-02, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10 – ANIMALS TO THE ALPINE CODE OF ORDINANCES; AMENDING SEC. 10-8 CITY-SPONSORED CLINICS AUTHORIZED TO UPDATE WHO CAN AUTHORIZE A CITY SPONSORED RABIES VACCINATION-REGISTRATION CLINIC; AMENDING SEC. 10-10 WILDLIFE FEEDING TO AMEND THE DEFINITION AND OBJECTIVE OF WILDLIFE FEEDING; AMENDING SEC. 10-11 - HUNTING PROVIDING CLARIFYING LANGUAGE THAT HUNTING IS PROHIBITED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF ALPINE, EXCEPT FOR THE CAPTURE AND CONTROL OF NUISANCE ANIMALS BY AN AUTHORIZED GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL; AMENDING SEC. 10-42 - PUBLIC NUISANCES DESIGNATED TO PROVIDE CLARIFYING LANGUAGE, PROVIDE ADDITIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES THAT CONSTITUTE AN ANIMAL NUISANCE, AND MAKING SECTION REFERENCES TO OTHER RELEVANT SECTIONS IN THE CHAPTER; REMOVING SEC. 10-45 - STANDING BULLS, STALLIONS OR JACKS AT STUD AND RELOCATING THE SECTION TO A MORE APPROPRIATE PORTION OF THE CODE, AND ESTABLISHING SEC. 10-95 - STANDING BULLS, STALLIONS OR JACKS AT STUD UNDER DIVISION II – PERMITS; AMENDING SEC. 10-9. - GUIDE DOGS BY UPDATING THE TITLE TO MORE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE, 10-9 SERVICE ANIMALS, TO BETTER ALIGN WITH FEDERAL AND STATE VERBIAGE AND REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UP TO A \$500 PENALTY PER OCCURRENCE FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING FOR THE FOLLOWING: FINDINGS OF FACT, ENACTMENT, REPEALER, PENALTY, SAVINGS, SEVERABILITY, PROPER NOTICE AND MEETING, AND EFFECTIVE DATE CLAUSES.

ORDINANCE 2024-09-03: APPROVE THE SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 2024-09-03, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 82 – SOLID WASTE; PROVIDING FOR UPDATED DEFINITIONS THROUGHOUT THE CHAPTER; PROVIDING CLARIFICATION THAT DISPOSING OF ASH OR OTHER BYPRODUCT OF BURNING IS CONSIDERED ILLEGAL DUMPING; PROVIDING CLARIFICATION THAT BULKY ITEMS PLACED NEXT TO COLLECTION CONTAINERS IS CONSIDERED ILLEGAL DUMPING; ESTABLISHING RESPONSIBILITIES OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SANITATION ACCOUNTS; PROVIDING CLARIFICATION THAT RATES AND FEES ARE ESTABLISHED BY THE APPROVED CONTRACT WITH THE WASTE HAULER CONTRACTOR; PROVIDING FOR UPDATED REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING DISPOSAL OF DEAD ANIMALS, DISPOSAL OF CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTES, AND BULKY WASTE DISPOSAL; PROVIDING CLARIFICATION REGARDING OFFENSES, PENALTIES, AND FINES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE CHAPTER; ESTABLISHING DIVISION 3- SCRAP TIRES THAT PROVIDES CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES FOR THE PROPER DISPOSAL AND STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION, COLLECTION, AND PROCESSING OF TIRES; PROVIDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UP TO A \$4,000 PENALTY PER OCCURRENCE FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING FOR THE FOLLOWING: FINDINGS OF FACT, ENACTMENT, REPEALER, PENALTY, SAVINGS, SEVERABILITY, PROPER NOTICE AND MEETING, AND EFFECTIVE DATE CLAUSES.

THE PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2024, AT 5:30 P.M. IN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 803 WEST HOLLAND AVENUE TO HEAR CITIZEN VIEWS AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED CHANGES. COPIES OF THE PROPOSED ORDINANCES ARE AVAILABLE AT CITY HALL LOCATED AT 100 N. 13TH STREET BETWEEN 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. AND 1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. COPIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE BY EMAIL REQUEST TO CITY.SECRETARY@CITYOFALPINE.COM. QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT (432) 837-3301, OPTION 1.

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Sports

Fightin' Bucks Defense shines early, but team stumbles against Sonora

BY KERRY LAIRD
Sports Editor

The Alpine Fightin' Bucks faced the Sonora Broncos at Bronco Stadium on Friday, September 20, in the final game of their non-district schedule. Despite a gritty defensive effort in the first half, the Bucks could not hold off Sonora's offense, falling 35-8 in a hard-fought game.

Alpine's defense started the game on a high note, forcing multiple turnovers and standing tall in two key goal-line situations.

"I am very proud of the effort and tenacity that these boys played with on Friday night against Sonora," said Alpine Defense Coach Jerry Dominguez. "It was definitely a step in the right direction. We challenged them

to be better all week in practice. We preached discipline and fundamentals, which are stance, aligning correctly, having your eyes in the right place, and flying to the football.

"They answered the challenge and had a great week of practice. That carried over into the game."

The defensive unit, led by linebackers Logan Smith and AJ Llanez, fought off the Broncos' early drives and made several critical stops to keep the game close in the first half.

Safety Iden Lujan also made his presence felt, intercepting a Sonora pass to shift momentum in favor of the Bucks.

The defense's ability to force mistakes and limit Sonora's scoring opportu-

See FIGHTIN' • 7



Bucks quarterback Devon Rojo drops back into the pocket looking for an open receiver in last Friday's game against the Sonora Broncos.

Photo courtesy of Noe Lujan

Lady Bucks push through tough pre-district schedule, look forward to district opener

BY TRISTIAN BARRAGAN
Contributor

The Alpine Lady Bucks Volleyball teams are wrapping up their pre-district schedule, having faced formidable opponents over the last two weeks. While the Varsity squad is navigating through a challenging stretch, Head Coach Adrian Smith remains optimistic about the team's potential heading into district competition.

In the latest matchups, the Lady Bucks Varsity team traveled to Denver City for a dual match against Denver City and Wink on September 17. Though the results didn't fall in their favor, there were flashes of the team's capability. Against Denver City, the Lady Bucks battled but fell short in three sets with scores of 21-25, 14-25, and 15-25. Against Wink, they showed resil-

See LADY BUCKS • 7



Neveah Carrasco connects with the ball during the Lady Bucks' recent match-up against Denver City.

Courtesy photo

JV Fightin' Bucks fall to Sonora 14-0 in hard-fought contest

BY KERRY LAIRD
Sports Editor

The JV Fightin' Bucks faced a tough challenge on Thursday, September 19, at Buck Stadium, taking on a determined Sonora Broncos team.

The Bucks battled hard but ultimately fell short, losing 14-0 after a valiant defensive effort in the second half.

Sonora wasted no time asserting themselves on the scoreboard, capitalizing on early opportunities to build a quick 14-0 lead.

The Broncos executed their game plan efficiently, scoring twice in the first quarter before the Fightin' Bucks defense settled in.

Despite the early deficit, Alpine's defense adjusted quickly. It refused to allow further scoring for the rest of the game, showing resilience and determination.

Linebacker Emerson Walker led the defensive



Despite the loss, the Bucks held the Broncos to just 14 points, effectively adjusting their defense and keeping them out of the endzone for the remainder of the game.

Photo by Felipe Fierro

charge for Alpine, consistently making key stops and keeping the Broncos' offense in check after the first two scores.

Walker's leadership at the linebacker position was crucial in slowing Sonora's attack and preventing further damage on the scoreboard.

In the secondary, cornerback Christian Flores provided a bright spot for the Bucks' defense, intercepting a pass and giving

Alpine a much-needed spark.

Flores' timely play was a momentum-shifting moment, but unfortunately, the Fightin' Bucks could not capitalize on the turnover.

Offensively, the JV Fightin' Bucks had several chances to put points on the board but couldn't find the breakthrough they needed.

See JV • 7

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FIGHTIN' FROM 6

nities early on showed the team's potential, keeping the Bucks within striking distance.

"They played hard, forced three turnovers, and had several stops in which Sonora was inside our 10-yard line. The boys also had a great stop on a four and inches play," exclaimed Dominguez. "The boys definitely made Sonora earn every yard that they got."

The Broncos managed to break through in the sec-

ond quarter, putting points on the board and taking a 21-0 lead into halftime.

Alpine's offense struggled to find its rhythm in the first half, as the Sonora defense applied pressure and limited the Bucks' ability to move the ball effectively.

Senior quarterback Devon Rojo did his best to lead the offense, connecting with wide receiver Dae Hardwick on multiple occasions.

Hardwick, who has been a consistent playmaker all season, added 10 receptions to his total, bringing

him to 40 catches through just four games.

In the third quarter, the Fightin' Bucks finally found the end zone. Rojo took matters into his own hands, scrambling 12 yards down the sideline for a touchdown that cut the Broncos' lead to 21-8.

Following the score, the Bucks' sideline erupted with energy, and the team attempted an onside kick to regain possession, but the Broncos recovered and quickly regained control of the game.

Despite Alpine's best efforts, Sonora's offense

proved too much to handle in the second half. The Broncos tacked on two more touchdowns to extend their lead to 35-8, sealing the game as the Bucks ran out of time for a comeback.

Rojo finished the game with 37 rushing yards and the lone touchdown for Alpine while also throwing for 115 yards on 14 of 24 attempts.

Hardwick was once again Rojo's top target, hauling in 87 receiving yards, continuing his impressive season as the Bucks' key offensive

weapon.

While the loss was a tough way to end their non-district schedule, Alpine's first-half defense showed promise, and the team will look to build on those positives as they prepare for district play.

"We needed to get back to playing Alpine Buck defense, which has helped earn one District Championship and five Bi-District Championships since 2019," Dominguez said, emphasizing the power of the Fear-the-Deer defense.

The Fightin' Bucks are set to face Anthony in their

district opener tomorrow night at Jackson Field, home of the Sul Ross State Lobos, where they hope to bounce back and start their district campaign on a high note.

Kickoff is at 7 p.m. The game will live stream at alpinefightinbucks.com.

Prior to the game, middle school students, grades five through eight, will run through the tunnel before the game. Middle school students, who will get free admission to the game, should report to Coach Wilson on the field at 6:40 p.m.

JV FROM 6

Quarterback Ezra Lujan orchestrated the offense with poise, mixing in a combination of accurate passes and well-timed scrambles.

Lujan's mobility was on display, as he managed to gain yardage with his legs while also making some impressive throws downfield.

However, the Sonora defense stood firm, preventing Alpine from reaching the end zone.

Running backs Conner

Ramirez and Cloud Martinez added toughness and grit to the Bucks' ground game, each making several strong runs throughout the contest.

Ramirez, known for his physicality, broke through defenders for tough yardage. At the same time, Martinez showed quickness and agility as he found openings in the defense.

Despite their best efforts, the offense was unable to sustain drives that would result in points, as Sonora's defense managed to contain the

Bucks' offensive push.

Though the game ended without a score for Alpine, the Bucks' effort on both sides of the ball provided glimpses of potential.

The defense's ability to recover after a difficult start and keep Sonora scoreless for the remainder of the game demonstrated their resilience and growth.

While the offense couldn't find the end zone, the team's ability to move the ball and create scoring opportunities will be a key area of focus as

it looks to improve.

With their defense showing signs of strength and their offense continuing to develop, the team is hopeful for a rebound in their upcoming games.

The JV Fightin' Bucks will regroup as they prepare for their home matchup against Andrews. They aim to build on their positive performance and come back stronger. Kickoff is at 4 p.m., and the game will be live-streamed at alpinefightinbucks.com.

LADY BUCKS FROM 6

ience, taking one set 25-18 but ultimately dropping the match in four sets (12-25, 25-18, 22-25, 20-25). Despite the losses, the team displayed energy and teamwork, providing glimpses of the fight they plan to bring to district play.

The junior varsity team showed strong efforts in their matchups against both Denver City and Wink. Against Denver City, the JV team pulled off a thrilling win in two sets, 25-22 and 25-23. In their battle against Wink, they took the first set 25-19 but lost the next two sets 16-25 and 16-25 in a hard-fought match. Their season record stands at 8-13, and they continue to build momentum heading into district.

While showing their dedication, the freshman team fell short in their

contest with Denver City, losing in two sets, 13-25 and 15-25. However, the team has shown significant growth and determination, gaining valuable experience to take into district play.


On September 21, the Lady Bucks closed out their pre-district schedule with a match at Odessa Compass Academy. The varsity team won the first set 25-19 and put up a strong fight in the second set, narrowly losing 23-25. Though Compass ultimately took the match in four sets (25-19, 23-25, 14-25, 27-29), the Lady Bucks showed improvement in their cohesiveness and competitive edge. The JV/Freshman combo team fell to Compass Academy in two sets, 9-25 and 20-25. However, like their varsity counterparts, they demonstrated growth throughout the match.

Despite the current losing streak, Coach Smith believes the Lady Bucks have gained valuable experience against highly competitive teams, which will help them enter district play with confidence and poise. "We've been tested, and these matches have pushed our team to elevate our game," Smith said. "I'm proud of how our girls have continued to fight and work together."

The Lady Bucks' overall records may reflect their challenges – with the freshman team at 5-15, JV at 8-13, and varsity at 13-18 – but their determination remains high. With district competition right around the corner, they're looking forward to turning the page and showcasing their growth.

The Lady Bucks opened district play on September 24 with a road match against Kermit by add-


ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



SARAH NATERA
SENIOR CHEERLEADER

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Rio Grande Council of Governments Appoints New Board Members



President
The Honorable Iliana Holguin
El Paso County,
Commissioner, Precinct 3



1st Vice President
The Honorable Curtis Evans
County Judge, Jeff Davis County



2nd Vice President & Small Communities inside of El Paso County Director
The Honorable David Cantu
Alderman, City of San Elizario



Small Communities outside of El Paso County Director
The Honorable Summer Webb
Town of Valentine




Small Communities out El Paso County Director
The Honorable Manny
City of Marfa

The Rio Grande Council of Governments is a voluntary association of local governments formed under Texas law. In January of 1967, local elected officials in El Paso County joined together to form the El Paso Council of Governments. This organization was initiated to further intergovernmental cooperation and coordination in the planning, development and delivery of governmental services within El Paso County, Texas.


In 1971, the counties of Hudspeth, Culberson, Jeff Davis, Presidio and Brewster were included in the organization to form a truly "Regional" body, and the organization was renamed West Texas Council of Governments. In 1987, by vote of the membership, Doña Ana County, New Mexico and the local governments within were included as full members and the name of the organization was changed to the Rio Grande Council of Governments.




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9/27: 4-8PM

9/28: 4-8PM

COUNTY • FROM 1

school resource officers. “This is the same agreement as in the past, with the only exception being that the school district will pay for fuel going forward, where we paid for it in the past. This was due to our SROs going to out-of-town athletic games with the students,” said Judge Henington.

The motion passed with a motion from Colando and a second from Judge Henington.

The court also approved the Resolution Authorizing County Grant Program Year 2025 for the Sunshine House. This grant program helps to support and fund the Home Bound Meal Program by the Texas Department of Agriculture. After a short presentation from Executive Direc-

tor Kerie van Zeyst and Fr. Michael Wallens, the board president, the court approved the resolution with a motion from Judge Henington and a second from Colando.

The approval for purchasing a new 2024 Suburban for the Tourism Council after the county sent out RFPs was next on the agenda. With a motion from Judge Henington and a second from Colando, the court approved the purchase of \$59,741 for the new suburban to come out of the tourism budget.

In a lengthy discussion, Judge Henington asked the court for suggestions on how to move forward with Interlocal Agreements for tax collections by Brewster County.

“If you look at the column on the left, this is the amount that should be paid,

and the column on the right is the amount that has been paid,” Judge Henington said, referring to a spreadsheet given to commissioners. The Judge told the court that there was a formula used to determine a percentage of pro rata taxes to be collected from the different entities such as the school district, the hospital district, the city, and Brewster County. These entities were required to pay their pro rata share of the total tax levy, of which in 2023 was \$17.4 million. The percentage of the entity’s share per their contract is applied to the tax assessor’s total budget for the collection cost. Judge Henington pointed out the significant discrepancies in the amounts that were being paid and the amount owed. After some discussion, noting that since budgets had

already been adopted, the court would not be sending everyone a hefty bill. However, a meeting with all the taxing entities would be held to discuss what would be done moving forward. There was no motion on this agenda item; it was only information.

Finally, the Judge informed the court that the State Fair of Texas begins this Thursday in Dallas and that he plans to go up Thursday evening and work the Visit Big Bend (Brewster County Tourism) booth in the Texas Agriculture Pavillion on Friday. “This is a great event and gives us a chance to talk about our area of the state and what we have to offer regarding tourism. We pass out brochures and talk to thousands of people each year. This is really a good deal for the county,” con-

cluded Judge Henington. The meeting was adjourned after three different contracts for digital media for the tourism department and two special meeting dates for commissioners

in Study Butte and two in Marathon were approved.

The next regular meeting of the Brewster County Commissioners Court is scheduled for Tuesday, October 8, at 9:30 a.m.

DROUGHT • FROM 1

trol the remaining forage in your pastures for future re-growth and recovery.

Control grazing distribution: Distribution of grazing is vital to avoid selectivity by cattle in areas with preferred vegetation. Continuous grazing systems may have a disadvantage because cattle may prefer more productive areas and reside for longer periods of time.

However, distribution of cattle grazing by alternating water sources and mineral supplementation through the pastures may provide a solution to over-grazing in specific areas.

Rotational grazing systems may provide an alternative to continuous grazing by using fences (or in some cases virtual fencing). Rotational grazing provides rest to forages and allows recovery of grass plants for future production.

However, the latter system involves more time on the ground and resources to conduct.

Setting checkpoints or trigger dates: Trigger dates are specific days in the calendar year where you analyze the current conditions of the pasture and rainfall and make hard-set decisions to either partially or, in some cases, completely destock.

Setting objectives in a livestock operation is important, and following strict guidelines will help you meet your goals and objectives.

Selecting cattle breeds: Cattle have experienced a long process of evolution and domestication. Certain cattle breeds are adapted to specific climates, regions, or topography that will impact the environment in a specific way.

The use of historical or heritage breeds such as Criollo—compared to Continental, British, or Mediterranean breeds—can be a solution to the harsh, drier environment and terrain of the Trans-Pecos.

Cattle grazing is a tool for rangeland and wildlife habitat management, and choosing a cattle breed is

like picking the right tool for the job.

The primary tools for grazing management consist of the proper selection of the type of animal, number of animals, distribution of grazing, and the season of use.

Therefore, selecting the correct type of animal will affect distribution of grazing and dictate the number of animals that can sustainably use the landscape.

In the Trans-Pecos, we have relatively lower forage production than east and south Texas. Terrain is challenging, and surface water and shade for cattle is limited. These are some of the challenges for a livestock operation in Far West Texas.

However, selecting breeds that are adapted to these environments, such as heritage breeds, will bring far more benefits than selecting breeds purposely for specific carcass traits, such as conventional types.

Heritage cattle, such as Criollo, have undergone minimal artificial selection and are adapted to specific locales. Conventional

cattle, such as European, British, Continental, or Mediterranean, are breeds with greater artificial selection and have been disseminated for global beef production.

Heritage or adapted cattle types in deserts and xeric shrublands exhibit more favorable grazing behaviors than conventional British breeds.

Heritage cattle travel greater distances and show a more uniform spatial distribution, improved heat tolerance, and the ability to move farther from water sources. As a result, they graze a diverse range of forage resources and utilize more rugged terrain.

All these adaptive traits will benefit the rancher, rangeland, and improve the health of the herd. Just as the wise rancher knows the land and plans for the well-being of his herd, selecting the right breed is an act of foresight, ensuring the operation can survive and flourish through the harshest seasons.

APPEALS • FROM 1

about the impact it can have on the young people—not just our students of Sul Ross State University, but of the high school in Alpine...and the adjacent communities—being put in close proximity to the justices can be a life-changing opportunity for these young people,” said Ben Telesca, Sul Ross State Vice President of Student Affairs. “To actually see it happening, it’s going to be a pretty phenomenal thing.”

The Court will hold oral arguments on October 1, and the session will be open to the public. While photography and video will not be permitted, the proceedings will be live-streamed on the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals’ YouTube channel.

Following the arguments, a Q&A session with the Justices will allow attendees to engage directly with the Court members, consisting of a presiding judge and eight other judges, all elected to six-year terms.

This session is expected to draw significant interest from students, legal professionals, and local residents eager to learn more about the role of the Court in Texas’ legal system.

In addition to the oral arguments, the visit will feature several educational panels and discussions aimed at the public and criminal justice professionals.

On September 30, a professional panel will include Judge Diane Navarrete of the El Paso Criminal District Court, Fort Bend Dis-

trict Attorney Brian Middleton, and Judge Audrey Moorehead of the Dallas County Court at Law.

This panel will be followed by a presentation on understanding Texas’ judicial branch, featuring 106th Judicial District Attorney Philip Mack Furlow and 49th District Attorney Isidro Alaniz.

For students interested in careers in criminal justice, representatives from offices across the state will be available throughout the day to discuss various career paths.

There will also be a “Deep Dive” session into the cases set for oral argument, providing legal insights from Assistant State Prosecuting Attorney Emily Johnson-Liu and Chief Public Defender James McDermott of the Far West Texas Regional Public Defender’s Office.

On October 2, the event will conclude with a presentation by a delegation of Mongolian judges, who will discuss their experiences in building a democratic judicial system.

This international component adds a unique dimension to the Court’s visit, highlighting the importance of global perspectives in understanding the rule of law. The presentation will take place in the Marshall Auditorium and is open to the public.

Sul Ross was selected to host this significant event as part of the Court’s efforts to engage with communities across Texas.

According to Presiding Judge Sharon Keller, the initiative to hold arguments outside of Austin has been a key focus of the Court for over two decades.

The goal is to make the judicial process more accessible to the public while also providing educational opportunities for law students and the broader community.

Past visits have included stops at law schools, appellate courts, and even high schools.

This event marks an important moment for the Alpine community, offering local residents a chance to witness the inner workings of the state’s highest criminal court.

It also serves as a unique educational opportunity for Sul Ross students, many of whom are studying criminal justice or related fields.

For those unable to attend in person, the livestream provides a convenient way to observe the oral arguments and partici-

pate in this historic event.

With its combination of public access, educational panels, and international collaboration, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals’ visit to Sul Ross State promises to be a dynamic and enriching experience for all who attend.

“We have had great people from this community make wonderful impacts all over the world,” said Telesca. “That’s one of the things we want to ensure we are providing, which is an opportunity for folks to create opportunities for themselves to impact others and their families.

“We need to ensure that we have people who are advocating for our interest, as a community, at the state level, and at the national level.”

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SENIOR Spotlight

ALLISON SANCHEZ

In what activities did you participate in high school?
I participated in basketball for two years, volleyball and softball for three years, and I've participated in band for the last four years. I've also participated in FFA for four years and the National Honor Society for two years.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach, and why?
My favorite teacher/coach is Coach Cason. She always supports me and is a great person to be around. I'm glad

I had her as a teacher and a coach. She makes me laugh, she's kind, caring, outgoing, and a great person.

What was your favorite moment in the last four years?
My favorite moment in the last four years was when my solo and ensemble quartet made it to state. We enjoyed our time in Austin.

What are your plans after high school?
After high school, I plan to go into the Air Force.

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The Entity of Brewster County plans to apply for the upcoming 2025-2026 Texas Community Development Block Grant Fund Program of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). These services are being solicited to assist Brewster County in its application and administration of the TxCDBG CD contract, if awarded, to support eligible activities associated with the program in the Entity of Brewster County. Accordingly, Brewster County is seeking to contract with a qualified Professional Administrator or Service Provider (individual/firm) to prepare the application and/or administer the awarded contract. Please electronically submit your proposal in .pdf format via email to County.Judge@co.brewster.tx.us Proposals must be received by Brewster County no later than 3:00 p.m. on Monday, October 14th, 2024 to be considered. Brewster County reserves the right to negotiate with all individuals or firms that submit proposals, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards. Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to submit proposals. Brewster County is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Servicios de traducción están disponibles por petición.

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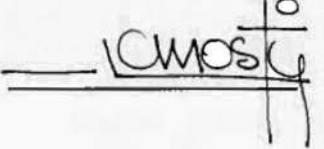
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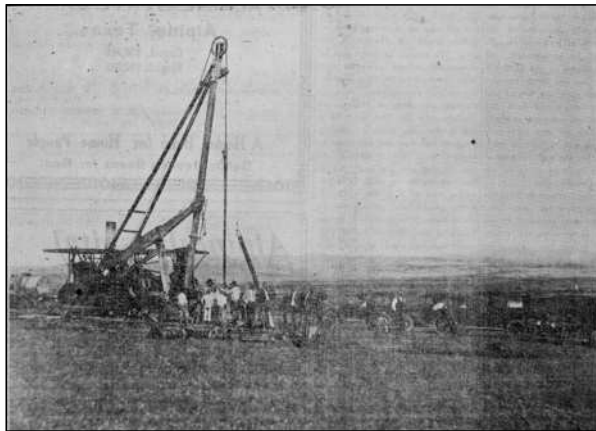
LOOKING BACK
Alpine Avalanche

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September 5, 1918
Wilman E. Adams has been made the Executive Secretary of the Army Y.M.C.A., Southern Department by the National War Work Council. Chief Adams is in charge of the entire Southern Department, which consists of Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Arizona.

September 6, 1917
Drilling continues on the Sul Ross Normal College deep well. Water is expected to be reached at around 70 feet.



September 28, 1916
Seager Wheeler, of Rosthern, Canada, was awarded first prize recently for the world's best bushel of wheat at the International Soil-Products Expo. Wheeler has held the title for two years running.



September 9, 1915
Starting tonight, Evangelist Rev. J.W. Holsapple of Sherman will hold a revival at the Christian Church. Special attention will be given to the music program.



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

Broadleaf weedkiller will eliminate dove weed

Dear Neil, for the first time, My St. Augustine appears to have dove weed in it. What can I use, and when should I use it?

Confirmation on the ID. Dove weed isn't a lot of fun to eliminate, but the fact that you have found it early should help. It's an annual, so it's going to die when winter arrives. Still, try to get rid of as much as you can yet this fall. Spray with a broadleafed weedkiller containing 2,4-D where it is growing actively. If you have an area where it has taken over all of a bare space, apply a glyphosate-only herbicide to the foliage. Avoid the combination products that contain other weedkillers since they can penetrate the soil and give residual effects that you do not want. By far, your best means of dealing with it will be to keep your turfgrass healthy and vigorous so that it will crowd out the dove weed. If you apply a pre-emergent product, remember that dove weed

GARDENER'S MAILBAG
by neil sperry

doesn't germinate until late spring. So, you'll want to time your pre-emergent treatment for mid-to-late April. If you are willing to translate information from another state, here is a very good write-up on this weed from the University of Florida. <https://nwdistrict.ifas.ufl.edu/hort/2021/07/22/how-to-control-doveweed-the-late-summer-lawn-menace/>

Dear Neil, we have two large crape myrtles next to our community pool. The February 2021 cold spell damaged them. They're alive, but

they only have random clumps of leaves on some branches and no longer provide good shade. Do we need to replace them, or can they be salvaged?

Something drastic needs to be done. I see three options:

1. If this were a home landscape where only one family was involved, the plants could be cut to the ground, and the new shoots you see coming up from the base could be encouraged to make new trees. However, enough time has passed, and they don't look very strong; plus, your neighbors probably wouldn't be willing to wait the required two or three additional years for that to play out, so I will set that option aside. For the record, however, notice how strongly the new shoots have grown on the crape myrtle down the hill. One of the plants came through unscathed and is blooming beautifully. The one to the right has sprouts that are waist-high or taller. Those

could easily have been trained to be new trunks.

2. You could have them taken out and replaced. They are in a vulnerable setting because of the raised planting location. That's probably why the cold hurt them so badly when the ones down the hill survived and are thriving. Try to choose a variety that is known to be ultra winter-hardy. Most of the Lagerstroemia indica hybrids, in my experience, have proven such hardiness.

3. To rattle the cage significantly, you might switch to some other type of plant entirely. As much as I love crape myrtles, they don't have the best manners besides swimming pools. Their flowers are dropping and blowing into the water constantly. You might be better served with Little Gem southern magnolias or tree-form Nellie R. Stevens hollies. Both are evergreen, and each has large leaves that are easily caught by skimmers.



- ACROSS**
- 1 duck found in Texas
 - 5 Texas singer B.J.'s birthplace: ____, OK
 - 6 SMU & NFL great RB, Dickerson
 - 7 Livingston's county
 - 8 TXism: "fits like ugly on an ____"
 - 9 TX Trini Lopez's "If I Had ____"
 - 16 Ryan O' ____ was in "Wild Rovers" with TX Joe Don Baker near El Paso, oldest U.S. Catholic parish: ____ Sur
 - 21 dir. to Edna from Gonzales (abbr.) in 1967, TX A.J. Foyt won at Le ____
 - 23 TXism for "your"
 - 24 Cowboy 1993 Super Bowl ring has star-diamond ____
 - 30 TXism: "plain ____ on ____ your face"
 - 34 Vega h.s. class
 - 35 Mexican husk food
 - 36 TXism: "trying to ____ against the stream" (difficult)
 - 37 amino ____
 - 39 mother of singer in 5-across (2 wds.)
 - 43 ____ Code
 - 44 Texas silent film star, Ramon
 - 45 slang for Texas-created soft drink
 - 46 TXism: "I ____ that like an armadillo needs an Interstate"

- 47 TXism: "woodshed ____" (spanking)
 - 49 TXism: "plain as the ____ mule"
 - 52 in the Valley: Santa ____ National Wildlife Refuge
 - 53 uncanny perception
 - 54 said to waitress with the tea pitcher: "____ off"
 - 55 TXism: "he's wound tighter than an ____ clock" (tense)
- DOWN**
- 1 TXism: "a flash in ____" (briefly)
 - 2 small but important
 - 3 TXism: "____ snake on a hot road"
 - 4 TXism: "____ stock and barrel"
 - 9 TXism: "fat ____ a boardinghouse cat"
 - 10 TXism: "ugly as ____ sin"

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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11 TXism: "packed like sardines in ____"

12 not stereo

13 historic home in Independence: ____ Houston House

14 TXism: "let '____ rip"

15 TXism: "Merle Haggard's nickname"

16 TXism: "prayer ending"

17 Carthage's county

18 number on a football team, on the field

19 Cabeza ____ first described the Texas bison

20 ____ Jo, TX

21 TXism: "got ____ left feet" (bad dancer)

22 TXism: "pay ____ no never mind"

23 election issue

24 TX Ginger played this Gangle in 1939

25 gallery piece

26 western: "____ Grit"

27 East TX windshield: ____ with bugs

28 Texas-based "Giant"

29 ____ and reels

30 therapeutic resort

31 ____ water, TX

32 TXism: "____ the hoof" (hog)

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Keeping it cheesy: grilled cheese two ways

It's time to grab your favorite bread and cheese and hit the kitchen.

If you were to take a poll, I imagine that very few people would tell you they dislike a grilled cheese sandwich. I mean, what's not to love?

Dreams are made of crusty, buttery bread with melted cheese in the middle. At least they are in my world.

So, when I came across a couple of grilled cheese mash-ups in a recent email, I knew I had to share them with my fellow foodies.



Southwestern Grilled Cheese

Photo by Kara Gerbert



HEAD OVER MEALS

by kara gerbert

The vibrant colors of the additional ingredients really stood out in these two versions of this American standard.

The warm reds and vibrant greens brought a regular old sandwich to life.

To top it all off, they fall into my favorite food category, Southwest and Mexican cuisine.

How can you go wrong with that?

The answer is you can't.

The intense flavors of

garlic and red onions mixed with herbaceous cilantro and chimichurri, along with the tanginess of melty cheese, are my idea of lunchtime heaven. Or even dinner time if that is when a sandwich such as this works for you.

So, while adding these extras may not tempt your fussy toddler, who swears up and down that they hate everything but a grilled cheese sandwich, there's a great chance that adding these ingredients will tempt you away from the now boring old standard option.



Mexican Grilled Cheese

Courtesy photo

SOUTHWESTERN GRILLED CHEESE INGREDIENTS

- Two tablespoons of fresh lime juice
- One teaspoon honey (can sub hot honey if you choose)
- Three tablespoons olive oil
- kosher salt to taste
- black pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- One small red onion thinly sliced
- One tablespoon adobo sauce
- Two teaspoons of brown sugar
- Eight thick slices of country bread or Texas toast
- 8 ounces extra-sharp white cheddar cheese coarsely grated

DIRECTIONS

- Add the lime juice, honey, one tablespoon of olive oil, salt, and pepper in a medium bowl and whisk to combine.
- Add the cilantro and red onion to the lime and honey mixture and let it sit, tossing occasionally until ready to use.
- Add the adobo sauce and the brown sugar in a small bowl and whisk to combine.
- Brush one side of each slice of bread with the remaining olive oil. Butter can be substituted if you prefer.
- With the oil/butter side facing out, use the slices of bread to make sandwiches using the adobo mixture, the pickled red onion mixture, and the cheese.
- Heat a non-stick skillet over medium to low heat.
- Add the sandwiches to the skillet in batches and cover.
- Cook, flipping once, until the bread is golden brown, and the cheese has melted, about 3-4 minutes per side.
- Transfer the cooked sandwiches to a plate and cover with foil to keep warm.
- Repeat until all sandwiches are cooked, and then serve.

MEXICAN GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH INGREDIENTS

- Two tablespoons of olive oil
- 1/2 large red onion sliced
- One teaspoon of minced garlic
- Three bell peppers, colors of your choice
- One medium zucchini, thinly sliced or ribboned with a peeler
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- One teaspoon of kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon fresh ground black pepper
- Eight slices of hearty wheat bread or bread of choice
- Unsalted butter to taste
- 1/4 cup chimichurri, store-bought or homemade
- Eight slices of mozzarella cheese

DIRECTIONS

- Add olive oil to a large skillet over medium-high heat.
- Add the onions and garlic and cook until fragrant, about one minute.
- Add bell peppers, zucchini, salt, pepper, and cumin, and cook until the veggies are soft. About 10 minutes.
- Remove the skillet from the heat.
- Smear one side of each slice of bread with butter.
- Add one of the bread slices buttered side down on a flat griddle pan or skillet.
- Then, on top of the bread slice, add one tablespoon of chimichurri, two slices of mozzarella, and 3/4 cup of vegetables.
- Top with another slice of bread, butter side up.
- Heat the griddle pan or skillet and cook until both sides are golden brown, and the cheese is melted, around two to four minutes.
- Repeat these steps with the remaining ingredients and serve warm.

Devotional Page

Wanderings in the wilderness: Trusting God's guidance through life's detours

BY REV. WYATT BOUTWELL

Holy Anglican Church, Alpine

We have been studying the book of Exodus during Sunday School over the past few months. A few weeks back, we had just completed the section about the 10th and final plague—the death of the firstborn.

The angel of death passed over the homes of the faithful that applied blood to the doorframe of the exterior door. Pharaoh commanded them to leave, and Israel did just that.

In the next chapter, Exodus 13, we read: "When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was nearby. For God said, 'Lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt.' But God led the people around through the wilderness toward the Red Sea."

Moses tells us that there was a more direct route to the Promised Land—in terms of physical distance. The Israelites could have gone up the coast and entered Canaan, but we read that God did not lead them that way with the pillar of the cloud.

God, the Omniscient, knew that Israel was not prepared for the conflict that would come with their meeting the Philistines. They would change their minds and return to Egypt because they did not truly know Yahweh.

God directed them toward the Red Sea, through the wilderness, so that He might bring salvation to Israel by

completely destroying their oppressors—the Egyptians. The route through the wilderness was the most direct route for Israel to know God through His provision and the revelation of the Law.

What seemed to the Israelites as a needless detour was an essential part of serving the Lord. We know Israel failed in the wilderness—they disbelieved God's good-will toward them.

Truly, they saw the land's goodness through the mission of the 12 spies. Israel saw the extraordinary produce, evidenced by the huge cluster of grapes the spies brought back.

Still, they could only see the adversity that faced them, not the God who had delivered and sustained them in the wilderness.

Sometimes, the leading of God appears to be contrary to conventional wisdom, but the Lord can be trusted.

The same God who led Israel through the wilderness, who directed them with the pillar of cloud and fire, who gave the Law on Sinai, is also the same Lord who has given us the Holy Scriptures and the Holy Spirit to guide us on our journey to the heavenly Canaan promised to those who love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us trust Him when the route of Christian obedience seems winding and our journey seems long.

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Acts 2: Verses 17-21
verse 17, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, said God, I will pour out of my spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams;"
verse 21, "And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved"

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Alpine middle school teams leave Sonora with a win-loss in gritty grid-iron battles

BY KERRY LAIRD
Sports Editor

The Alpine Fightin' Bucks middle school football teams had mixed outcomes in their games against the Sonora Broncos on Thursday, September 19, in Sonora. The 7th-grade team continued their dominant season with a hard-fought victory, while the 8th-grade squad struggled against a strong Sonora team.

The 7th-grade Bucks extended their undefeated season with a gritty 22-12 win against the Broncos. The Bucks' offense took control early and maintained momentum throughout the game, keeping the Broncos' defense on its heels.

Jett Ryan set the pace for Alpine with a well-executed touchdown run, putting the Bucks on the board. Cesar Pompa add-

ed another score in the second half, demonstrating the team's offensive versatility.

The defense also made a crucial contribution, as Jeffrey Castillo returned a turnover for a touchdown, securing Alpine's win.

Time of possession played a significant role in the victory, with the Bucks methodically marching down the field and keeping Sonora's offense off the field.

Despite two touchdowns from the Broncos, Alpine's balanced attack and effective clock management allowed them to hold off a late push from their opponents.

The win keeps the Bucks perfect on the season.

The Alpine 8th-grade Fightin' Bucks faced a tough outing against Sonora, falling 42-0. While the scoreline was

one-sided, the Bucks displayed resilience and effort throughout the game.

Key performances came from Zane DeLeon, John Ritchie, and Matthias Prieto, all of whom showed determination against a well-prepared Broncos squad.

Despite Alpine's best efforts, Sonora's strong execution on both sides of the ball proved too much to overcome.

Though the game ended in a loss, the Fightin' Bucks demonstrated heart and grit, competing hard until the final whistle. The team will look to regroup and build on these efforts this week.

Both middle school teams travel to Fort Stockton today to take on the Panthers. The 8th-graders start at 6:15 p.m., and kickoff for the undefeated 7th-grade Bucks is at 5 p.m.

Freshman cross-country runner helps lead Bucks

Freshman Zane Perkins led the Runnin' Bucks with a time of 19:43, placing 11th overall. His time helped the boys' team finish in second place at their meet in Marfa last week. Perkins was quoted as saying, "It felt great. The course was a winding course, and there weren't any really difficult parts. It was mainly the heat that was making it hard." Perkins also gave a nod of encouragement to the Alpine Christian School which had a strong showing at the meet.

Courtesy photo



SRSU's Haumea wins the average at ENMU

Sul Ross steer wrestler Cameron Haumea took home the ENMU championship in steer wrestling last weekend, throwing two steers in 9.5 seconds to win the average. Not to be outdone by the competition, Sul Ross also had two others place in the top 10. Zane Cline won second in the average with a two-head total of 10.0 seconds, while Garrett Curry placed sixth in the average.

Courtesy photo



Fightin' Buck and Lady Buck Sports Schedule

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Oct. 1 Alpine vs Tornillo* F/JV @ 5 p.m. V @ 6 p.m.

FIGHTIN' BUCK FOOTBALL

Sept. 27 Andrews vs Alpine V @ 5 p.m.

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