

Council tackles tech policies, employee compensation, and community development

BY KERRY LAIRD
Contributor

The Alpine City Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, November 5, in the City Council Chambers. Mayor Catherine Eaves presided over a full house of council members.

The packed agenda included decisions on technology policies, managed IT services, employee compensation, special business permits, and key community announcements.

The council discussed a policy mandated by Texas Senate Bill 1893 that bans the use of TikTok on city devices and for city-related business.

In February 2023, Governor Greg Abbott unveiled a comprehensive security plan for Texas state agencies that addresses vulnerabilities associated

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INSIDE



FEATURED

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Rainfall totals at Alpine-Casparis Airport
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Burn Ban ON

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PLEASE REMEMBER TO THANK A VETERAN, A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES, OR A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER EVERY DAY.



Brewster County votes red

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

At the close of early voting on Friday, November 1, 3,168 Brewster County residents had cast their votes for the November 5 general election. The polls opened at 7 a.m. on Tuesday for those who decided to wait to cast their ballots on election day. Out of the 7,408 registered voters in the county, 4,613 ballots were cast for a total of 62.27% voter turnout.

In addition to the presidential race, the City of Alpine voters had nine propositions to decide on that changed the City Charter. Also on the ballot for Brewster County were trustee positions for Marathon ISD, the 394th Judicial District Judge, Brewster County Attorney, 83rd District Attorney, Brewster County Sheriff, County Tax Assessor-Collector, and Constable Precinct 1.

Republican candidate Donald J. Trump won the presidential vote in

Brewster County, collecting 2,537 votes (55.34%) over Harris's 1,966 votes (42.89%).

The District Judge for the 394th Judicial District is Monty Kimball, who ran unopposed and garnered 2,921 votes. The 83rd District Attorney incumbent Ori T. White also ran unopposed and collected 2,717 votes. Marisol Skelton was elected as Brewster County Attorney with 2,995 votes for 100% of the votes, while Ronny Dodson kept his



seat as Brewster County Sheriff with 3,392 votes, and incumbents for Brewster County Tax Assessor-Collector Sylvia Vega, County Commissioner Precinct 1 Jim Westermann, County Commissioner Precinct 3 Ruben Ortega, and Constable Precinct 1 Flavio "Rene" Ybarra Jr were

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57th chili cookoff in the books



Chili Heads at the Frank X. Tolbert-Wick Fowler Memorial Championship Chili Cookoff (Behind the Store) gather for a group photo to celebrate the competition's almost six decades of existence.

Courtesy photo

Championship chili: A winning 'Bowl of Red'

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

This past weekend wrapped up the 57th Annual Terlingua International Chili Cookoff, where chili cooks, known affectionately as "chili heads," descended upon Terlingua for a weekend of chili-making and bragging rights.

Chili cooks from all over the state and even the country compete throughout the year, earning points to enter the granddaddy of them all, Terlingua. Like any competition, each cook has secrets for making the best 'bowl o' red' that will earn them the title of chili champion.

This annual contest began in 1967, when a Dallas Morning News journalist turned restaurateur, Frank X. Tolbert, promoted the first cook-off between noted Texan

Wick Fowler and a New Yorker to determine who knew more about chili: a Texan or a New Yorker.

H. Allen Smith of Mt. Kisko, New York, took the challenge. The two met in Terlingua, where their contest ended in a tie. Thus began an annual challenge that continues to this day.

In 1983, the Tolbert group split from the Chili Appreciation Society International (CASI). The Tolbert Chili Group holds its annual cook-off "behind the store," while the CASI cook-off is held up the road at its campground between the Terlingua Ghostown and Lajitas.

Fifty-seven years later, both are still going strong. They host thousands of spectators along with the chili competitors and an exciting line-up of live bands. The competi-

tion is held each year on the first weekend in November. Over the years, the competition has added other competitive categories, such as team showmanship, a margarita competition, beans, brisket, and even salsa.

While competitors vie for the title of chili champion, there's another side to this annual event. While the event itself is all about food, fun, and fellowship, the proceeds go to charity.

The Tolbert cook-off donates money to the Terlingua School and the Terlingua Fire and EMS. In honor of Wick Fowler, the event co-founder, it also donates money to the ALS Association of Texas.

CASI offers educational scholarships for the local school and do-

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C.A.S.I. cookoff attendees blowing off a little steam at Crazy Flats with a cornhole tournament took a moment for a photo-op this past weekend in Terlingua..

Courtesy photo

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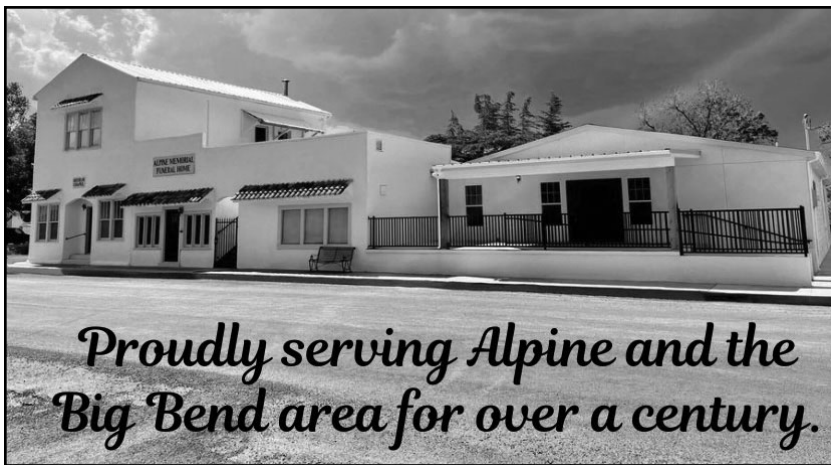
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OBITUARIES

Stuart McKenzie Palmer "Luco non uro"

Alpine lost a good one in October. Stu Palmer died peacefully on October 10.

Stu was a gentle soul – an amazing artist and musician who lived life with great zeal with no attention to income or status - as long as he could create, he was happy. He left Austin some 22 years ago when it got "too commercial" and moved to Alpine

near Big Bend with his dog Amigo - he loved it.

He was an awesome son, friend, and big brother with humor, talent, depth of knowledge, and an "all-in" approach to anything he did. He was a self-taught artist in drawing, painting, and sculpting and got a Fine Arts degree from the University of Texas in 1976. After he got a guitar for Christmas at 12, he listened endlessly to Hendrix, Cream, Beatles,

and Beach Boys and was a self-taught lead guitar player who later mastered the bass and pedal steel. He played in one of Houston's top two HS Groups, as voted by the Houston Chronicle, the Blue Mushroom - the other was rival Moving Sidewalks, who had a guitar player named Billy Gibbons. In College and after, he was a staple of Austin Blues bands, playing with Otis Luis and the Cotton Kings, Jimmy

Vaughn, and countless others at the One Nite on 5th. He was an awesome Uncle to Avalon, Chyna, and Alexa growing up and always had maximum attention for his nieces. If you knew Stu, you were lucky - a 50's and 60's kid who grew into an awesome man, big brother, and son. We don't choose our last day - go live yours today...Memento Mori!

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The camels are coming

In 1853, Secretary of War Jefferson Davis had an idea: why not bring camels to the United States to help solve the massive transportation problem presented by the huge new desert territories seized from Mexico? This was not an original idea but one that had been suggested earlier by Army Lieutenant Henry Crosman as early as 1836.

However, now, as Secretary of War, Davis was in a position to implement this idea.

Although Davis's prime motivation was to promote Southern interests in a time of Sectionalism, as War Secretary, he was progressive. He had worked to revise the curriculum of West Point to make it the premier engineering school in the country, he had pushed to reorganize the U. S. Army, adding more mounted troops to serve in the west where truly needed, and he authorized the first scientific assessment of the American West through the Pacific Railway Surveys. The camel experiment was just one of his projects.

The first camels arrived at Indianola on the Texas coast in April 1856. The thirty-three animals included three Arabs and two Turks as handlers. Most of the animals were Dromedaries (one hump Arab camel), but two were Bactrian (two humps, native to Central Asia).



FIDDLER'S GREEN
by Larry Francell

In the meantime, a second expedition to the Middle East acquired another forty-four animals. All were initially based at Camp Verde some sixty miles north of San Antonio.

In 1857, James Buchanan became President, and Jefferson Davis was replaced as Secretary of War by John D. Floyd. As part of the more extensive exploration of the West, Congress authorized the creation of a road from Fort Defiance, New Mexico Territory, to the Colorado River. This road would connect already established routes from Santa Fe to Fort Defiance and from the Colorado to the Los Angeles area.

A former Navy Officer, Edward Beale, won the contract for the survey but was required by Secretary Floyd to take twenty-five camels.

The first test was not Fort Defiance to Colorado but the trip across the deserts of West Texas and New Mexico, passing through Fort Davis on July 17, 1857. On

the survey, they proved their worth, each easily carrying 600 pounds, and often showed little interest in the water the pack mules eagerly attacked. Beale told Floyd, "I believe at this time I speak for every man in our party when I say that there is not one of them who would not prefer the most indifferent of our camels to four of our best mules." The Beale Survey camels stayed in California and were eventually sold in 1864.

The camels at Camp Verde were also put to use. The camels were dispatched twice to the Big Bend country, passing through Fort Davis three times. In May 1859, Secretary Floyd instructed that the camels be used to survey a shorter route to Fort Davis. With an escort under Lt. Edward Hartz from Fort Davis, Lt. William Echols left San Antonio with twenty-four camels and twenty-four mules.

Although no new route was developed, the expedition went from Fort Stockton to Independence Creek to Fort Davis with a return to San Antonio by way of the Big Bend, passing through Fort Davis twice. The camels once again outperformed the mules.

To seek a direct route from the Pecos River to Fort Davis, in 1860, Secretary Floyd sent Lt. Echols into the field

with twenty-five camels and twenty mules across some of the driest and roughest terrain in the Trans-Pecos. Colonel Robert E. Lee, acting commander of the Department of Texas, wrote in his report to Washington that without the camel's "endurance, docility, and sagacity, the reconnaissance would have failed."

Despite the demonstrated success, the Civil War ended the "camel experiment." The Confederates captured the camels at Camp Verde, and they were eventually scattered—yet another unique event in our regional history.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS TERLINGUA COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT'S STATE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING

Terlingua CSD will hold a public meeting at 6:00PM on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, in the Big Bend High School Meeting Room located at 550 Roadrunner Circle, Terlingua, Texas. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Terlingua CSD's rating on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST Report), the State's Financial Accountability System. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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Artwalk Alpine slated for November 22-23

Artwalk Alpine, West Texas' longest-running arts festival, proudly celebrates its 31st year on November 22-23. This award-winning street festival transforms the main streets of Alpine into a vibrant showcase of artistic talent and community spirit. Join us for this beloved celebration and experience the magic of Artwalk Alpine.

We are thrilled to feature Michele Billings as our honored artist this year. Originally from Maine, Michele draws inspiration

from her outdoor adventures, crafting stunning paintings of natural landscapes and wildlife, with a special focus on ravens. A lifelong artist, Michele blends lettering and bold graphics, which has led to a successful career in painting signs, murals, and fine art. Her work beautifully captures the essence of the Big Bend region, making her the perfect ambassador for Artwalk Alpine. Michele's art can be seen online and in person at the Big Bend Gallery in

Alpine. Artwalk Alpine invites attendees from near and far to enjoy a weekend filled with artistic exploration. Attendees will have the opportunity to view a diverse array of artworks, learn about local artists, shop at local businesses, and savor delicious food and drinks while enjoying live music. The festival will feature dozens of local artists on 5th Street and Kishmish Plaza, extended hours for 19 local businesses, and performances

by nine Texas bands on the Michelob Ultra Stage- all free of charge.

As Joel B. from Austin shares, "Artwalk is a family tradition! Coming from Austin to West Texas, you get to interact with genuine people, enjoy live music, explore different art forms, indulge in great food from local vendors, and make new friends- all while enjoying the crisp, cool air of West Texas!"

Artwalk Alpine is organized by Alpine's Gallery Night, Inc., a 501(c)

(3) non-profit dedicated to promoting the arts through educational, economic, and entertainment opportunities for children, students, patrons, artists, and tourists in the Alpine and Big Bend region.

Events begin on Friday, November 22, at 10 a.m. and continue until 10:30 p.m. that evening on 5th Street and the surrounding areas of downtown Alpine. On Saturday, November 23, vendors and events begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at 10:30 p.m.

Music begins on Friday at 5 p.m. with local favorites the Doodlin Hogwallops and A Few Too Many, with the headliner SA Blue Cats at 9 p.m. On Saturday, music begins at 1 p.m. featuring local favorites Doug Morland and Friends, The Swifts, Desert Debo and her All-Star Review, NaniBird, and Sierra Turko. Headliner Ruben V. will take the stage at 9 p.m. to close the weekend. For more information, visit artwalkalpine.com.

County holds pumpkin decorating contest



The Brewster County Courthouse held a pumpkin decorating contest last week, where each department was allowed to decorate a pumpkin for bragging rights and prizes. Former Brewster County Judge Val Clark Beard was the official judge for the contest and the winner was the District Clerk's Office, with their winning pumpkin titled "The Watcher."

Courtesy photos

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Humane Society holds successful fundraiser

Alpine Humane Society, a local non-profit that has been working towards helping local pets since 1986, had its eighth annual fundraiser at the Granada Theatre on Sunday, October 27.

The event included a salsa and queso contest, with Avi Rangra and Ralph Gruebel of the Lions Club and Darin Nance of the City Council judging the queso and salsa.

We had three musical acts with Jon Dietrich of the Amazing Prickly Pear Boys of Austin, The Swifts, and Donnie Basson and Gil Shackelford closing the show and Ramblin' Ryan of Big Bend Radio announcing.

We had the largest array of quality items from artists and donors from

Alpine, Fort Davis, Marathon, Marfa, and Terlingua, and forty-nine bidders, more than we have ever had.

It was a great success for the Alpine Humane Society and will help us clear some of our veterinary bills so we can continue providing the Pet Food Pantry and resume assistance for local pets.

We are very grateful to all the donors, sponsors, and volunteers who made it happen. We plan to do it again next year.

We can always use donations of quality housewares, decor, jewelry, and sporting and camping equipment for our Thrift Store and Cattery at 706 N.5th St. or call 432-837-2532 to donate.



Contestants and bidders gathered for the Dia de los Quesos put on by the Alpine Humane Society fundraiser which raises money to pay for veterinary bills and pet food for shelter pets.

Courtesy photo

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Local arrested for family violence, other charges

According to information from the Alpine Police Department (APD), at around 7 p.m. on Saturday, October 26, officers received a report of a disturbance in the 900 block of East Gallego Avenue.

When officers arrived on the scene, they determined that an assault had taken place and that the suspect fled the residence in the victim's vehicle without their consent.

Officers obtained two arrest warrants for the suspect, Justin Vega Lara, 37, of Alpine.

Around 6:19 p.m. on

Tuesday, October 29, officers located Lara at a residence in the 1300 block of East Gallego Avenue, where he was taken into custody on the two warrants without incident.

Lara was served with a warrant for Continuous Family Violence, a third-degree felony, and Unauthorized use of a Motor Vehicle, which is a State Jail Felony. According to APD, additional charges are pending. All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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Opinions

ONLINE POLL

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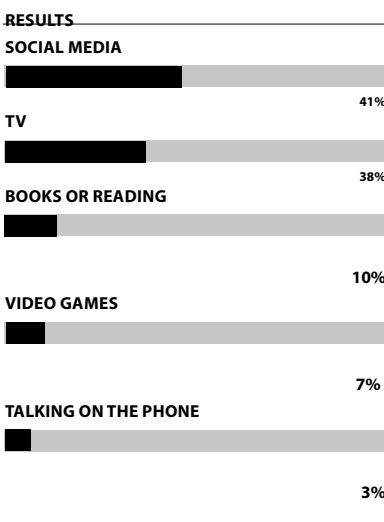
Now the Avalanche asks:
Which of the following is the most important in your daily life?

- Work-Life Balance
- Personal Relationships
- Community Events or Volunteering
- Time with Friends and Family
- Personal Time

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

RESULTS

WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST TIME WASTER?



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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BOONIEVILLE



November is National Diabetes Month: Take action for a healthier future

November marks National Diabetes Month, a time to raise awareness, support loved ones, and empower those living with diabetes to manage their health. Diabetes is a chronic condition that occurs when blood glucose (blood sugar) levels are too high, which, if left unmanaged, can lead to severe complications like heart disease, stroke, kidney damage, nerve damage, and vision loss.

This month, let's take steps toward understanding the risks and management options available to us or those close to us. "By knowing more about diabetes, we can protect our health and the health of others," says Dr. David Sanchez, Family Medicine Physician and Chief of Staff at Big Bend Regional Medical Center. "Awareness is key to early intervention, which can reduce the risk of complications and make a real difference for those living with diabetes."

Understanding the Different Types of Diabetes

Type 1 Diabetes

Type 1 diabetes is often diagnosed in children and young adults but can develop at any age. People with type 1 diabetes produce little or

no insulin, meaning they need daily insulin to survive. While the exact cause is unknown, scientists believe genetics and certain viruses may trigger the condition.

Managing type 1 diabetes can be challenging, but with the help of a support system and a care team, people can live healthy lives. Treatment includes insulin therapy, physical activity, and a balanced eating plan.

Type 2 Diabetes

Type 2 diabetes occurs when the body doesn't use insulin effectively—a condition known as insulin resistance. This type of diabetes is more common in people over 35, though it's increasingly seen in younger individuals. Many people with type 2 diabetes manage their blood sugar levels through lifestyle adjustments like balanced eating and regular exercise. Still, medications or insulin may also be required.

Gestational Diabetes

Gestational diabetes, which occurs during pregnancy, affects up to 9% of pregnancies in the U.S. each year. Though it usually resolves

after delivery, gestational diabetes requires diligent management during pregnancy to avoid health complications for both mother and child.

"Diabetes during pregnancy is common and can be well managed with the right care plan," explained Dr. David Sanchez. "It's about being proactive and working closely with your healthcare provider to take the steps needed for a healthy pregnancy and baby."

The Importance of Early Detection

Early detection and treatment are essential in reducing the risk of complications. The A1C test measures average blood glucose levels over the past two to three months and is a vital tool. A result of 5.7 to 6.4% indicates prediabetes, while a level of 6.5% or higher signals diabetes.

Creating a Healthier Lifestyle

Healthy Eating

A balanced diet is a cornerstone of diabetes management. Your healthcare provider can guide you in

making choices that align with your health goals and provide easy meal ideas.

Building Healthy Habits

Taking small steps toward a healthier lifestyle can help prevent diabetes or manage its symptoms. Start with small changes like meal planning, incorporating movement into your daily routine, and getting enough sleep to help improve blood sugar and reduce cortisol levels.

Stay Connected with Your Health Care Team

Managing diabetes can feel overwhelming, but you don't have to do it alone. Your care team may include a primary care provider, endocrinologist, dietitian, or diabetes educator who can provide support and guidance.

To schedule an exam or discuss health concerns with Dr. David Sanchez, contact Big Bend Regional Health Center at 432-837-0430. You can also make an appointment at bigbendanytime.com.

Source: American Diabetes Association



DR. DAVID SANCHEZ
Chief of Staff-BBRMC

Friends we haven't yet met

There are no strangers here, Only friends you haven't yet met.

— William Butler Yeats (1865 – 1939)
Irish poet

Friends come from everywhere. Some we know for a short time, some for a lifetime, and a few take a little longer to meet.

I used to ride motorcycles. I used to fly airplanes. Both have taken me to many places where I've met many friends.

Like the time about 1978, I left Mount Pleasant, heading south on a motorcycle. Harlingen in the Texas Rio Grande Valley was the destination for an air show. The annual October airshow was staged by the Texas war plane preservation group known today as the Commemorative Air Force. Their trademark was and still is a realistic reenactment of the 1941 Japanese attack on the U.S. Naval fleet at Pearl Harbor. They were flying authentic 1940s vintage combat aircraft.

The trip would be remembered down the road, both in terms of time and distance.

At the Harlingen airport, I dismounted my bike and walked toward the entrance gate, camera bag over my shoulder. While reaching for money, I saw a portable building off to one side bearing a sign simply saying, 'Press.'

So, I pulled out my Texas Press Association card. As my grandmother always told me, "It doesn't hurt to ask;

all they can say is no." In this case, the young lady at the desk said yes. "What publication are you representing?"

"The newspaper in Naples, Texas ... The Monitor," I reported. I then waited for questions.

"Here's your credentials." She shoved a lanyard across the table and added, "There's a golf cart outside. Someone will take you to the media bleachers." I was disappointed she didn't ask, "Where's Naples, Texas?"

The cart stopped at a grandstand on the flight line, center stage for the show. The driver instructed, "Take any seat not marked VIP." From where I stood at the moment, it all looked like VIP to me.

Spotting an empty seat just aft of VIP, I settled in. A black 1941 Lincoln convertible pulled up. "Ladies and gentlemen ..." blared across the speakers. "Featured announcer and celebrity guest, Tennessee Ernie Ford."

Ford, a popular singer and television host known in the country and western, pop, and gospel musical genres from the 1940s through the 1970s, served as a navigator and bombardier in World War II, leading to his involvement with the CAF from 1976 to 1988. He was promptly seated in the VIP section, right smack dab in front of me.

I would attend CAF air shows in the years to come,



LEON ALDRIDGE
Guest Columnist

but that first time was memorable for several reasons: sitting near Tennessee Ernie Ford, and Meeting Greg "Pappy" Boyington, the World War II fighter pilot Ace portrayed by Robert Conrad in the 1970s TV show Baa Baa Black Sheep, which was about Boyington's wartime service.

And learning the perks of a press card.

I also remembered the Pearl Harbor dramatization: fighters, bombers, pyrotechnics, smoke, sirens blaring, and that pause in the middle of it all, clearing a Southwest Airlines commercial flight for landing.

Some 30 years later, I was at the Oshkosh EAA Air Venture air show in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, watching the CAF reenactment again and working an outdoor trade show at the largest airshow of its kind in the world. Every July, aircraft take-offs and landings total 21 to 23 thousand in 11 days—this time with Portacool colleague Jim Altom.

A guy stops and greets Jim as a longtime friend. Jim turns to me and says, "Leon, meet Randy Henderson ... best pilot you'll ever know."

We became acquainted as airplanes buzzed overhead. I learned that Henderson was a championship aerobatic pilot who has flown airshows worldwide and is a captain for Southwest Air-

lines.

I related that first CAF event down in Harlingen, where the show paused for a Southwest flight to land. "I couldn't help but think," I laughed, "what an experience it must have been for passengers looking out the window and seeing WWII "war birds" and a full-scale battle underway.

"You were there, too," Randy smiled. I was a rookie pilot on that Southwest Flight. I remember that day."

Sometime after that meeting, Randy performed his Texas T-Card flying skills at a Center airshow on a Spring Saturday afternoon. We laughed again and talked about Jim Altom.

Randy is retired from Southwest now but still dazzles spectators with airshow performances. I haven't talked to him since Jim Altom passed away three years ago. Maybe I'll catch him at a show. Soon.

I don't ride motorcycles anymore, and I don't fly airplanes anymore, either. But I do still believe that God sends people into our lives, turning strangers into friends. Some we meet right away, and some we come close to but have to wait a while for the meeting.

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

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

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 Chorale 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

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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.

VFW Post 7207, 7 p.m., first Wednesday of each month at 605 E. Ave F. All members are welcome.

ALPINE AVALANCHE
Heard on the STREET
What's your favorite cold-weather treat?



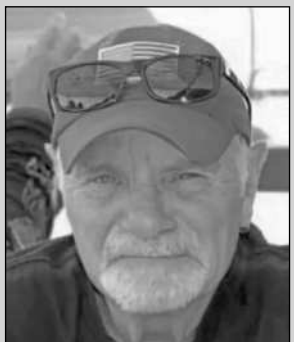
Thalia Haddox: My favorite thing to do when it's cold is get under a blanket and binge Netflix. That's a treat for me.



Javier Martinez: I like ice cream. Even though it's cold, it tastes good.



Lisa Ramirez: My Aunt's Tamales de Puerco.



Mike Roberts: Hey, there's nothing better than Irish Whiskey on a cold day.



Isadora Whitaker: Chili in the wintertime is the best.

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www.alpineavalanche.com
REATA RESTAURANT
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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 Resta'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 Peppered Bacon

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PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Draco!
He came into the shelter in mid-August after being surrendered due to a neglect case. He and his seven siblings were from outside the city limits of Alpine.

This puppy does great with other dogs in the playgroup. He is a little scared of cats, so he may do okay in a home with cats by practicing avoidance. Draco was a bit shy at first meeting but is practicing leash walking and improving his skills.

He has beautiful red brindle markings on a white background. He looks like he may have some herding breed in his heritage. This would make him loyal, intelligent, and willing to learn. He is an easy-going kid who would be very adaptable to a new household and his new

owner. Draco has been neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped and is ready. Meet Draco at the Alpine Animal Services Shelter, 2900 Old Marathon Hwy.

Alpine Animal Services can always use community participation. 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.

Ensure your pets are spayed and neutered and have their city license; don't contribute to the overpopulation of pets at the shelter and dogs running loose daily.

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. Stay tuned for our upcoming bake sale in December, and order from our See's Candy online store for your holiday goodies. AHS receives 20% of all candy sales. https://www.yumraising.com/secure/alpinehs_alpine_humane_society_candy_store29/Mar-Veg4310/

Pet promotions are courtesy of the Alpine Humane Society. Alpine Animal Services handles pet adoptions at the city shelter, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week at

2900 E. Old Marathon Highway. For information about shelter pet adoptions, cremation services, or lost/found pets, call the shelter at 432-837-9030. If you find a stray or injured pet, contact the Alpine Police Department at 432-837-3486 to dispatch an Animal Control Officer.

Solicitation to bid for The Texas State University Systems Field Research Facility
General Contractor: Benchmark Houston Builders, L.P.
Phone Number: 713-921-2500
Email address: tsusbids@benchmarkhouston.com
Project: The Texas State University Systems Field Research Facility
Project: # 728-23-00085
Project Location: Bare Bones Rd. Terlingua, TX 79852
Project Description: Project consist of three new ground up buildings inclusive of site work, site paving, and site utilities.

- Building #1, - 7,600 SF +/- Structural Steel Main Building - Inclusive of Laboratory, Classroom, Living, Dining, Kitchen and Bunkrooms spaces.
- Building #2, - 1,500 SF +/- Structural Steel Guest Cabins - (4) Four combined quest cabins inclusive of bedrooms and restroom facilities.
- Building #3 - 1,750 SF +/- Pre- Engineered Metal Building Workshop.

For more project information and to request participation in this bidding process, please send an email to tsusbids@benchmarkhouston.com. Please make sure to include your company name, company contact, phone number, and email address.

Virtual bid conference will be held on November 6, 2024 at 10:00AM (CST)
All proposals are due on or before November 15, 2024 at 10:00 AM (CST).

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS ALPINE ISD'S STATE COMPENSATORY EDUCATION FUNDS FOR 2024-2025

Alpine ISD will hold a public meeting at 5:30 P.M. on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, in the Alpine ISD Administration Building, Board Room, located at 704 W. Sul Ross Avenue, Alpine, Texas.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Alpine ISD's State Compensatory Education Use of Funds for 2024-2025.



COUNCIL • FROM 1

with the use of TikTok and similar software on both personal and state-issued devices.

In response to the Governor's directive, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Department of Information Resources created a model plan to help state agencies manage devices used for conducting official state business.

The 88th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 1893 earlier this year prohibiting the use of certain social media applications and services on governmental entity devices.

According to a press release issued by the Governor's office in 2023, the goal is to safeguard sensitive information and critical infrastructure from potential threats.

The model plan established key objectives, including banning and blocking the download or use of TikTok and other prohibited technologies on any state-issued device specified in the statewide plan, including cell phones, laptops, tablets, desktop computers, and any internet-capable devices, with strict enforcement by each agency's IT department.

The plan also prohibits employees and contractors from conducting state business on personal devices equipped with prohibited technology.

Governmental entities, as outlined in Government Code Chapter 620, must establish their own policy on covered applications by November 20, 2024.

Policies on prohibited technologies, mandated by Governor Greg Ab-

bott's 2022 directive to state agencies, must continue to be enforced. The city council addressed the directive Tuesday night.

Ward 1 Councilor Reagan Stone voiced concerns about the resolution's blanket approach, suggesting an amendment to allow entities like the Alpine Tourism Council to use TikTok for marketing purposes.

Counselor Stone motioned to remove "City-related business" from the resolution's language, stating that entities like Alpine Tourism can use TikTok to create marketing campaigns to reach a broader audience, hoping to preserve the city's ability to engage with the public creatively.

Despite his points, the other council members were unmoved. Ward 5 Councilor Rick Stephens motioned to approve the resolution without changes, with Ward 2 Councilor Eva Martinez seconding. The resolution passed 4-1, with Stone casting the only dissenting vote.

A major discussion centered on the proposal to use EDLINK18, a Region 18 ESC Technology Consortium, as the City of Alpine's managed service provider (MSP).

EDLINK18 is a technology consortium comprising Region 18 ESC, local education agencies (LEAs), and government agencies within Region 18.

It offers a range of technology services, including internet access, network monitoring and support, cybersecurity, and more, to LEAs and local government organizations across the region. Region 18

ESC serves as the fiscal agent for EDLINK18.

Casey Ritchie, Chief Technology Officer for Region 18 ESC, gave an in-depth presentation on the advantages of outsourcing IT services.

He emphasized that a managed service provider would handle tasks like software updates, network security, and general maintenance while keeping the city informed and in control.

City Manager Megan Antrim backed the proposal, highlighting the city's struggles in managing IT infrastructure. She cited problems like paying for operating system licenses for former employees and the challenge of choosing the right software packages.

"We're falling behind," Antrim admitted, emphasizing the need for expert support, especially with the anticipated implementation of AI.

She stressed that a centralized MSP would streamline operations and track inventory, ensuring efficiency and security.

Antrim emphasized the city's urgent need for enhanced computer management and cybersecurity measures, underscoring the risks posed by the lack of oversight.

Addressing the city council, she highlighted the vulnerabilities within the current system and the critical need for a managed service provider to improve network security.

"I can look up anything on my computer," she said. "I can look up pornography, how to build a bomb—I can look up anything."

She said having

someone purchase the subscription for the city rather than individually will also help. She added that an MSP will help keep track of inventory to "help assess where we're at and the direction we want to go with our IT."

Ward 3 Councilor Nance supported the idea, stating that an MSP would help "manage the gaps," adding, "Mandates, like the TikTok ban, will only increase."

The cost for EDLINK18's services is \$38,450 annually, though additional expenses for software subscriptions and other related items are expected.

Antrim also reported on efforts to establish clear administrative directives and standard operating procedures for each department.

"It's important that each department has them, so if there's a turnover, someone can come in and say, 'Okay, this is our day-to-day,'" said Antrim. "We're working hard on cleaning up the internal procedures."

Attention then turned to employee compensation, with a presentation by Kelli Bracci from Evergreen Solutions.

Speaking via video conference, Bracci shared findings from a study highlighting employees' concerns about their take-home pay, given Alpine's rising cost of living.

While staff praised the benefits, Bracci noted the lack of an established pay grade, which she said is not unusual for communities in the area.

The study recommends a \$15 minimum wage for city employ-

ees and the creation of a structured pay scale.

"I think this is exactly the right thing to do," said Councilor Stephens. "We have plenty of money to pay our employees fairly."

Councilor Stone added, "I'm glad to see we're going to be paying people closer to a fairer wage."

He continued by saying that the city should start with the lowest-paid departments to ensure they are the first in line. Those departments include Building Services and Alpine Police Department.

The final report will include a roadmap for implementing these recommendations sustainably. According to city-provided materials, "This study represents a thorough effort to align the city's compensation practices with market standards while addressing the needs of current and future employees."

"The upcoming steps will finalize the comprehensive adjustments necessary for sustainable compensation management."

The council unanimously approved a special use permit for VIVA Cow Dog & Café. This new business will offer a grab-and-go breakfast inside the former Poletown Pizza Café and lunch from the iconic Cow Dog food truck.

The establishment, located at 215 E. Holland Avenue, will also feature Hoot N Annie's Mercantile, which will showcase local art and offer grab-and-go after-hours snacks.

Brews & Hues will provide onsite beer and wine sales. Councilor Stone moved to approve the permit, with

Councilor Stephens seconding.

The council also unanimously approved the construction of a bike lane on Avenue B, from North Harrison Street to North Hancock Drive, leading into Sul Ross State University.

Councilor Nance explained that the lane could be adjusted based on road width and suggested using cones and paint to delineate the space.

Councilor Stone proposed looking at models from cities like Austin, which use green striping to improve safety at intersections. Councilor Nance agreed, emphasizing that cyclists' safety should be a priority.

In announcements, Mayor Eaves shared details of the fourth annual Historic Alpine Christmas Stroll weekend, scheduled for December 5-7.

The highlight will be the stroll on Saturday, December 7, beginning at East Sul Ross Avenue and concluding at the Brewster County Courthouse.

In a separate announcement, Antrim invited the public to a community hiring event at the Alpine Civic Center this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Available positions include utility workers, police officers, telecommunications staff, and more. Walk-in interviews will be conducted on the spot.

The next regular Alpine City Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 19, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

BREWSTER • FROM 1

all re-elected to their positions.

Vega had 2,914 votes, Westermann collected 936, Ortega collected 636, and Ybarra collected 2,343 votes.

All nine City of Alpine propositions on the ballot passed, with just over 2,000 total votes cast for each.

Four places were up for grabs on the Marathon ISD Board of Trustees.

In place 2, Andy Lewis collected the most votes, with 105 or 41.18%, followed by Phillip Moelering, who had 83 votes, and Steve Griffis, who had 67 votes.

Place four saw LeAndra Ramirez collect the most votes over Judy Galindo Briones, with 156 (62.90%) to 92 (37.10%).

For place six, Timothy Roberts defeated Gonzalo Hernandez with 149 votes, 57.98%, versus Hernandez's 108 votes, 42.02%.

Place seven on the Board of Trustees, Craig

Carter collected the majority of the votes, with 189 (71.05%) over his opponent, Arlene Griffis, who collected 77 votes (28.95%).

Brewster County voters cast their ballots for other state races including the U.S. Senate race, where incumbent Ted Cruz defeated challenger Colin Allred with 53.19% of the vote (2,415) to Allred's 43.94% (1,995). U.S. Representative, District 23 Tony Gonzales kept his seat against challenger S. Limon, collecting 2,576 votes to Limon's 1,787.

Christi Craddick won the vote for Railroad Commissioner in Brewster County, while Robert Garza won the State Representative, District 74 seat. Garza edged incumbent Eddie Morales in Brewster County totals, 2,336 to 2,002 votes; overall state numbers, however, showed Morales ahead with 94.31% of votes tallied.

All election results are unofficial until canvassed and certified.

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LOOKING BACK
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SERVING THE BIG BEND AND DAVIS MOUNTAINS COUNTRY



Mr. Eugene T. Lies, special representative of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, will give a public lecture tonight at the High School Auditorium at 7:30. Mr. Lies, who is en route to attend the State Teachers Association meeting at Dallas, is stopping off at Alpine as the guest of Sul Ross College.

The subject on which Mr. Lies will speak will be of interest to all citizens who are concerned with the promotion of better health and recreational facilities in the community. There will be no charge for the lecture.

November 19, 1925

November 1, 1923



HORACE W. MORELOCK
President Sul Ross State Teachers College, Alpine, Texas.

The lines which follow make no attempt to introduce President Horace W. Morelock to the citizens of Alpine and West Texas, for, while his term of office has reached only a few months, his friends in this community are already counted by scores. The fact that President Morelock is a live wire and a real organizer is reflected in the activities to advertise the school properly abroad and to make many desirable improvements at home. Among the latter are the new well and swimming pool; new tennis courts and athletic field; and other additions to the school plant, both within and without the building.



Back to Kitchen Polite Duty.

Legion's announcement to unemployed ex-service men. They responded in platoons and squads, doughboys, gobs and gynesies, each reciting his record with the broom and mop. The housewives made a rush for them. The plan is being adopted in several cities nearby with entire satisfaction to the employers and employed.

November 17, 1921

November 7, 1918



Gas masks are indispensable articles near the front. This Y. M. C. A. canteen manager has been forced to don his "muzzle," but he is still holding his position behind the counter. He was later wounded while on duty. Y. M. C. A. men at the front not only see that the boys are furnished refreshments, but they often help in the care of the wounded. Several Red Triang workers have been wounded by shell and gas, while a number have lost their lives in this service. The sign just over the "Y" man's shoulder reads: "Our Slogan—Best for the Man in the Mud."

Photos from the Alpine Avalanche Archives at Archives of the Big Bend, Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library and Portal of Texas.

Mushrooms are not harmful to lawn grass

Dear Neil, I've never had mushrooms show up like this on my lawn. Is there anything I need to be worried about?

No. They're living off decaying organic matter. They're usually gone within a week or two. They may reappear another year but do no harm to the grass.

Dear Neil, one of my five oak trees has this problem, and I'm wondering what to do. I hope it's not a disease that could spread to my other trees. Thanks for any advice you can give me.

I would begin by calling for the help of a certified arborist. That's a skilled and licensed tree service specialist who is a member of the International Society of Arboriculture. They will be able to examine the tree closely and determine whether this is a Hypoxylon canker or some other fungus within the wood of the trunk. I will tell you that the signs are ominous because the bark is separating down the main trunk and up

GARDENER'S MAILBAG
by neil sperry

both forks/branches. This darker internal wood is probably moist from decay. As totally involved as it is, there is a very good chance that this tree cannot be saved. However, it would be much better to let the professional arborist examine the tree in person, take samples for culturing (perhaps at the Texas A&M Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab in College Station), and develop the best plan for you. Often, trees with decaying wood in their trunks are beginning to lose strength. They can come tumbling down without warning. I would contact the certified arborist immediately.

I'm sorry for the nature of my reply.

Dear Neil, what weed-killer do I use to control this weed? When do I apply it? Do I use a pre-emergent type or a spray?

Your sample is roadside aster, and many people are asking about it now. You'll see it showing up where you've had the hardest time getting water and fertilizer to your lawn this growing season. The remedy long-term is to take the best possible care of your turf. This weed disappears when turfgrass is kept vigorous. You could apply a Gallery pre-emergent product in mid-March and again in mid-June, or you could apply a 2,4-D broad-leaved weedkiller spray as you begin to see its wispy little stems.

Dear Neil, I have four bougainvillea hanging baskets that I would like to keep over the winter for next spring and summer. I do not have a greenhouse. What conditions would they re-

quire to do well? I have a screened porch and could cover them when needed. Should I cut them back?

Winter always brings on some tough decisions. In this case, bougainvilleas begin to shut down and drop leaves when they are kept cool (below 45) and in less than bright sunlight. A greenhouse, as you suggested, would be great. The second choice would be beneath a large skylight or against a south-facing bay window. If the screened porch is enclosed in any way so that it can be heated, that might work, but just covering bougainvilleas won't be adequate in most parts of Texas. If trimming them back means you could get them into a brighter, warmer spot, you could do so.

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



TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- home of the Dr. Pepper Museum
- TXism: "mean ___ old range cow"
- TX Don Henley co-wrote "Life in the Fast ___"
- religious FM in McCook, TX
- TXism: "if a hog ___ wings he'd be an eagle"
- George H.W.'s ___ Avenger was shot down in WWII
- 1st pres. of Rice: Edgar ___ Lovett
- TXism: "___ ___ been a snake it would have bit you"
- Texas rancher Chuck Norris film: "___ Silence"
- TXism: "___ ___ caged cougar"
- C&W singer, Conway
- TX Roy Orbison hit: "In ___"
- former Cowboy linerman, Newton
- TXism: "bid ___"
- naval construction worker
- TXism: "a ___ ___ bones" (skinny)
- ___ phone
- San Antonio's "Tower of ___"
- TXism: "opossum on the ___" (armadillo)
- TXism: "in the ___ ___ luxury"
- TXism: "went ___ ___ once too often"
- they can be illegal
- TXism: "got an overdose of ___" (sad)
- "Ground Zero, Texas" was a 1993 game
- hot peppers: jala ___
- Cowboy Micah Parsons position (abbr.)
- in Concho County on U.S. 83 & 87 possesses fed. govt.'s broadcasting "Voice" (abbr.)
- to be human
- wide blue yonder
- State Fair mo.
- Texas-based Pillowtex made ___ - ___ pillows
- actress Adams of "Racquet" with TX Lynda Day George
- Nocona Boot slogan: "___ Rodeo!"
- TXism: "___ of breathing room"
- assn. for Texas care providers (abbr.)
- "Hello Walls" singer Faron (init.)
- former Cowboy, "Prime Time" (init.)
- concerning
- apiece
- Confederate general Robert ___
- starred with TX Martin in "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels"
- Santa Anna ruse at San Jacinto (2 wds.)
- TX Hyer film: "___ ___ of Katie Elder"
- TX Kenny Rogers' "___ Believes in Me"
- Sinatra in film "Four for Texas" (init.)
- med. testing (2 wds.)
- imitates
- TXism: "___ a soul" (no one)

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Sports

Seniors tackle last course on a high note

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

Alpine High School seniors Hatfield Cason and Hope Dominguez tackled their last cross-country course this past Saturday in Round Rock — the two qualified for the State Cross-Country Championship after placing well during the regional competition in Lubbock.

Dominguez took the starting line Saturday morning at Old Settlers Park at 9:30, competing against 152 runners across the state. She would complete the race in 54th place, with a career personal record finish of 12:39.

“The race on Saturday felt so surreal. Just knowing that this was going to be my last high school race ever really got to me,” said Dominguez.

She said that being able to improve on her time was the icing on the cake for her this season.

“Once the race was over, I had so many different emotions, both sadness and joy at the same time. I couldn’t have asked for a better cross-country season, and I am so blessed to have had the best team and be coached by Coach Cason to end my season,” Dominguez added.



State Cross-Country runners Hatfield Cason and Hope Dominguez competed in Round Rock this past Saturday for their final cross-country race of the year. They closed out their senior year in 17th and 54th place in the state, respectively.

Courtesy photo

Runnin’ Buck head coach Cory Cason commented on Dominguez’s performance at the state meet. “Hope finished her high school cross-country career with a personal record ... which is diffi-

cult to do. The regional meet is typically seen as the most high-pressure meet of the season, and it’s easy to relax after you have qualified for state. She came back with an excellent performance in

Round Rock, beating her PR by 2 seconds,” said Coach Cason

Hatfield also made strides in his last cross-country course of his high school career. Placing 17th out of 149 runners, he improved his placement from last year, coming in 13 spots higher, and ended this championship appearance 31 seconds faster than last year’s.

“Each year, Hatfield has improved his placement and time at the state meet. The 3A boys division has some extraordinary distance runners, and the competition is pretty serious. Hatfield was able to crack the top 20 this year, a great accomplishment earned through training and patience,” Coach Cason added

“The state meet is one of my favorite events of the year. The excitement around the sport of cross-country running is always on display, with hundreds of the best runners in the state competing and drawing their most ardent supporters. While there is great accomplishment and sometimes extreme disappointment, the meet, overall, is a celebratory event highlighting the dedication cross country requires and the difficulty of the sport.”

Crane outpaces Alpine in a hard-fought match

BY KERRY LAIRD
Sports Editor

The Alpine Fightin’ Bucks faced off against the Crane Golden Cranes on Friday night, November 1, in a thrilling district matchup at Jackson Field. Despite a strong start, Alpine fell to Crane with a final score of 29-16.

Alpine struck first, with standout running back Logan Smith powering into the end zone on a 4-yard rush to put the Bucks on the board early.

Smith, who rushed for 80 yards on the night, set the tone for the game and led the team’s offensive efforts.

The Bucks seemed poised for a strong performance. Still, Crane quickly found their rhythm, taking control in the second quarter and scoring three unanswered touchdowns.

As the first half wound down, Alpine’s offense managed to break through the Golden Cranes’ defense one last time before halftime.

Freshman kicker Alex Adams showed his composure under pressure, drilling a 35-yard field goal to narrow Crane’s lead to 21-10. It was a pivotal moment that kept Alpine within striking distance, giving the team hope heading into the second half.

The third quarter was a gritty, defensive battle. Both Alpine and Crane dug in, refusing to give ground and holding each other scoreless.

The Bucks’ defense stepped up significantly, applying pressure and forcing crucial stops. At the same time, Alpine’s offense struggled to break free from Crane’s tough coverage. It was a hard-hitting quarter

that showcased both teams’ hearts and resilience.

In the fourth quarter, Alpine’s offense began to click once more. Quarterback Devon Rojo, who threw for 151 yards, orchestrated a methodical drive down the field, connecting with receiver Dae Hardwick, who tallied 56 yards receiving, and Iden Lujan, who contributed 36 yards in key receptions, as well as stalwart running back Smith.

Smith capped off the drive with a bulldozer rush into the end zone, bringing Alpine within striking range of a comeback.

However, Crane responded with a critical late-game touchdown and executed a successful two-point conversion, putting the game out of reach for the Bucks.

Despite Alpine’s strong defensive stand in the second half, Crane’s final score sealed the game at 29-16.

Although disappointed with the loss, Alpine remains in first place in the district standings.

With the district championship on the line, the Bucks are gearing up for a high-stakes showdown against Odessa Compass on Thursday, November 7. The game will take place at Wink High School’s Wildcat Field, with a kickoff at 7:30 p.m.

Alpine will need to bring their best performance, as Odessa Compass is known for its scrappy and aggressive style of play.

The Bucks are determined to bounce back and put on a show for their fans. They aim to secure the district title and set the tone for a successful postseason run.

Lady Bucks beat Coahoma, become Bi-District Champs



The Alpine Lady Bucks clinched the bi-district title on Monday, defeating the Lady Bulldogs of Coahoma in an intense five-set match.

Courtesy photo

BY TRISTIAN BARRAGAN
Contributor

The Alpine Lady Bucks volleyball team emerged victorious as Bi-District Champions, securing a

hard-fought 3-2 win over Coahoma in their play-off match at Wink High School on November 4. With a spirited performance, the Lady Bucks demonstrated resilience

and skill, battling through five sets to clinch the Bi-District title.

Coming off a solid regular season with a 21-18 overall record, the Lady Bucks entered the play-

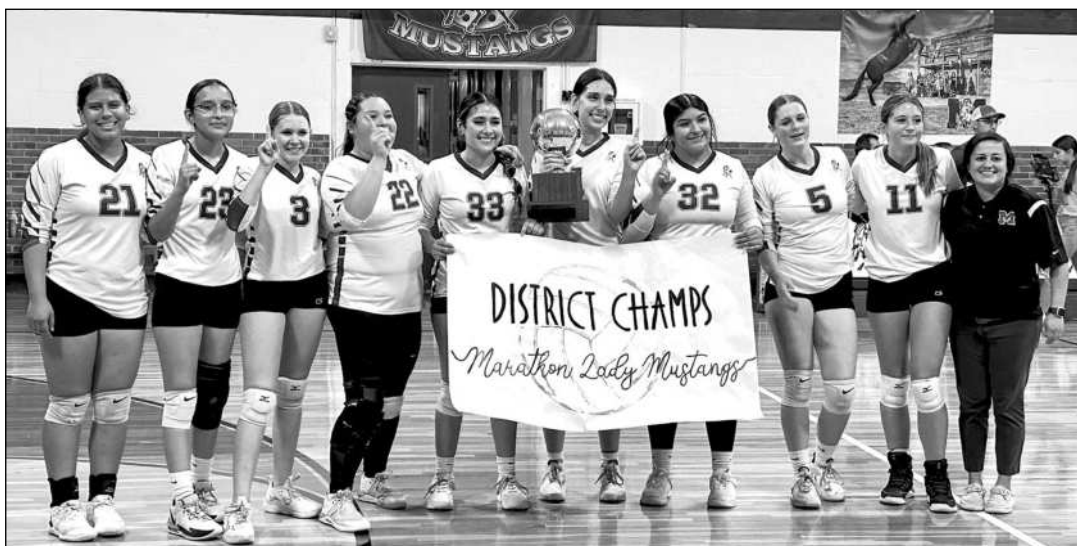
offs with momentum from their November 1 win against Buena Vista. They dominated in straight sets,

See VOLLEYBALL • 9

Lady Mustangs volleyball takes district title

The Marathon Lady Mustangs took home the district volleyball title last week after defeating the Rankin Red Devils.

Photo courtesy of Marathon ISD



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

JAYCEE PORTILLO
VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

Reached 900 digs in the season and currently is in 2nd place in the nation.

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SRSU holds fundraiser for athletic programs



The Sul Ross State University Lobo Baseball and Softball teams held a fundraiser this past Saturday night at the Gallego Center to raise money for the two athletic programs. Country music headliner the Josh Abbott Band, played to a large crowd of supporters that participated in a silent and live auction, auctioning off several firearms, a golfing excursion, and a hunting excursion. Other items up for bid were vintage photographs of Kokernot Field, sports paraphernalia, gift baskets, and autographed guitars. The evening started with a catered meal and the opening act featuring KC and the 27s.

Photos by Kara Gerbert

VOLLEYBALL • FROM 8

winning 25-18, 25-22, and 25-13, showcasing strong teamwork and setting a confident tone for the playoff showdown.

The bi-district playoff against Coahoma tested the Lady Bucks' endurance and determination. Coahoma took

the first set 25-22, but the Lady Bucks rallied back, winning the following two sets 25-20 and 25-22. Coahoma answered with a 27-25 victory in the fourth, pushing the match to an intense fifth set. In a nail-biting finish, the Lady Bucks

prevailed, taking the final set 15-10 and securing their bi-district champion title.

Reflecting on their season, Head Coach Adrian Smith praised the Lady Bucks' dedication and growth, noting how their perseverance and

teamwork have been key to their success. Now boasting a 22-18 record, the Lady Bucks advance to the area playoff, where they await the winner of the Childress vs. Friona match scheduled for November 5.

Once available, details on the

upcoming area playoff match will be released, including the date, time, and location. The Lady Bucks are determined to carry their momentum forward as they continue their journey toward the UIL Texas Volleyball State Championships.

Mustangs tackle State XC



Kaden Whetten and Marco Briones placed 20th and 76th, respectively, at this past Saturday's State Cross-Country Championship in Round Rock. These two Marathon runners competed against 147 other competitors. With their hard work and the help of their coach, Jacob Garcia, Whetten and Briones are going places fast.

Courtesy photo

BBT

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FULL ARTICLE HERE

BBT IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE RECEIPT OF OVER \$5.38 MILLION IN GRANTS TO EXPAND FIBER OPTIC INFRASTRUCTURE TO RURAL COMMUNITIES IN WEST TEXAS.

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BBT Secures Significant Grant Awards to Expand Fiber Optic Infrastructure Across Rural West Texas

BBT is proud to announce a series of grant awards aimed at enhancing high-speed internet connectivity across several rural communities in West Texas. These awards, totaling over \$5.38 million, will allow BBT to expand its fiber optic infrastructure to underserved areas, providing scalable internet speeds of 1 gig/gig with an accessible low-cost option of 100/20 Mbps. This crucial investment will ensure that more residents and businesses in these regions gain access to the reliable, high-speed internet they deserve.

Project Summaries:

Fort Davis Project

Grant Amount: \$2,004,599
Locations Served: 220

Details: The Fort Davis project will extend fiber optic infrastructure to 220 locations, offering high-speed internet with scalable speeds of 1 gig/gig. A universally available low-cost option of 100/20 Mbps will be provided to ensure all residents and businesses have access to affordable internet.

Limpia Crossing Project

Grant Amount: \$1,721,733
Locations Served: 123

Details: This project will serve 123 locations in Limpia Crossing, building out fiber infrastructure that provides speeds of 1 gig/gig, with a low-cost 100/20 Mbps option available to residents and businesses alike.

Iraan Project

Grant Amount: \$315,981
Locations Served: 99

Details: Iraan will see fiber optic infrastructure brought to 99 locations, providing scalable internet speeds of 1 gig/gig, along with a low-cost alternative of 100/20 Mbps for those seeking more affordable options.

Marathon Project

Grant Amount: \$235,743
Locations Served: 34

Details: Marathon will benefit from fiber optic expansion to 34 locations, with high-speed internet of 1 gig/gig and a 100/20 Mbps low-cost option to ensure connectivity for all community members.

Alpine Project

Grant Amount: \$1,108,389
Locations Served: 37

Details: The Alpine project will expand fiber infrastructure to 37 locations, offering reliable internet with 1 gig/gig speeds, as well as a 100/20 Mbps low-cost option for universal access.

SENIOR Spotlight

MAISELA MIRANDA

In what activities did you participate in high school?
I have participated in volleyball, basketball, and cheer, as a softball manager, Student Council, Athletic Leadership, NHS, and also as a Co-director for OLP Bible Camp.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach, and why?
My favorite Coach is Coach Morris because growing up with her as a coach has taught me to do my best to be positive in every situation. She has also shown me over the last few years that it's always important to help

others even if you are tired or stressed. She does so much throughout the school year, it is inspiring.

What was your favorite moment in the last four years?
My favorite high school memory is the bus rides back home with my teammates. Everyone is so invested in each other's stories and the laughs are the best part.

What are your plans after high school?
After high school, I plan on attending college to be a teacher/coach and maybe go into cosmetology later in life.

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DEADLINES - All ads are due in the office by 12:00 (noon) on Tuesday.
HOURS - You may place your ad in person at 704 E. Holland, Alpine, TX 79830 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 432-837-3334.
CANCELLATIONS - All ads may be cancelled for the next publication until 12:00 (noon) on the

Monday before publication.
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

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District application may be picked up at 704 W. Sul Ross Avenue or may be accessed on-line at www.alpine.esc18.net under District/Employment. Return completed application to:

Chayo Gonzales, Maintenance Dept.
 Alpine ISD
 704 W. Sul Ross
 Alpine, Texas 79830

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For More Information visit www.cityofalpine.com/employment

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP AND FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION

The State of Texas
 To all persons interest in the Estate of **PAUL VICTOR LOEFFLER, Deceased**
 Cause No. **PR03187,**
 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 and for Independent Administration in this estate on the 24th day of October 2024, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of Paul Victor Loeffler, 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 11th day of November, 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 29th day of October, 2024

Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk
 Brewster County, Texas
 201 W. Ave E
 Alpine, Texas 79830

By Renee Wylie, Deputy



NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the **Estate of John Lawrence Carter, Deceased,** were issued on October 29, 2024, under Docket No. PR03181, pending in the County Court of Brewster County, Texas, to Anne Burton Carter.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:

Representative,
 Estate of John Lawrence Carter,
 Deceased
 c/o Elizabeth J. Lewis, Attorney at Law
 LAW OFFICE OF ELIZABETH J. LEWIS, PLLC
 P.O. Box 101
 Marathon, Texas 79842

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.

DATED October 30, 2024

Anne Burton Carter

By: Elizabeth J. Lewis
 Elizabeth J. Lewis,
 Attorney for Representative

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP AND FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION

The State of Texas
 To all persons interest in the Estate of **RICHARD CHARLES KELLY, Deceased**
 Cause No. **PR03188,**
 in County Court, Brewster County, Texas

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above-numbered and entitled estate filed an application for Appointment as Independent Administrator, for Letters of Administration, and for Determination of Heirship in this estate on the 24th day of October 2024, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of Richard Charles Kelly, 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 11th day of November, 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.

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Sarah Vasquez, County Clerk
 Brewster County, Texas
 201 W. Ave E
 Alpine, Texas 79830

By Renee Wylie, Deputy



Smith awarded Texas Player of the Week



AHS senior Logan Smith was presented with the Built Ford Tough Texas Player of the Week plaque for his week seven performance against Odessa Compass in the Class 3A football competition. Smith is pictured here with Kyle Card from Stockton Ford, who presented the plaque.

Courtesy photo

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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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Devotional Page

Recalling our calling

BY PASTOR LANA COVINGTON

First Christian Church-Alpine

It is now two days after Election 2024. We may not yet know the name of our new United States president and the other governmental leaders who have been elected. The campaigns have been brutal and have resulted in thoughts and actions that we may have never experienced before. We are living in troubling times. We are less tolerant of people who have different opinions. There is anger towards groups of people: members of opposing political parties, immigrants, refugees, law enforcement, ethnic groups, etc. We bully those whom we consider to be weaker. We have even seen churches split along political lines. The teachings of Jesus have something to say about this kind of world, just as it had something to say about the world of the first century: this is not the way of Jesus.

Today's church has the same commandment from Jesus that the disciples had: to be His witnesses. With the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, this Helper promised and sent by Jesus, believers are called to see all persons as worthy and valuable, as ones for whom Christ died and who are welcome at His Table.

To help the church carry out its commission, the Holy Spirit produces fruit, which includes "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit." (Galatians 5:22 – 25).

May we also live by the same Spirit who came to the disciples on the Day of Pentecost and remember during these last days of Pentecost that He is with us as our helper, teacher, and reminder of God's plan of salvation through Jesus Christ, a plan for which the world hungers and a world to whom we are to bear witness.

The writer of Ephesians 4:31 – 32 wrote these words to the Christian community. Still, they can be applied as well to non-Christians, those of other faiths and religions, and those with no religion, "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." May it be so among us in the Name of Jesus. Amen

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Isaiah 40: 13-15

WEST TEXAS ROUNDUP


ABSTRACT AND TITLE



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CHILI • FROM 1

nates money to numerous other charities, such as the Texas Special Olympics, childhood cancer organizations, Sight for Kids, the Autism Foundation, Hero Hunt, Inc., Warrior Retreat, and the American Legion Riders, to name a few.

In addition to donating to these organizations, this annual event brings thousands of dollars in sales revenue to Brews-

ter County and its communities, making the first weekend in November one of the most lucrative tourism opportunities for the region all year.

For the Tolbert's and CASI, this isn't just about chili; it's about tradition. It's about honoring that original competition and the men who started it, along with creating the best state dish of Texas in the world: chili.

County officials attend chili cookoff



Brewster County officials Sheriff Ronny Dodson and Judge Greg Henington posed for a photograph with cookoff attendee Ashley Grover (center) this past weekend at the 57th Annual C.A.S.I. Terlingua International Chili Championship.

Photo courtesy of Ashley Grover

RENE CHAPA'S CHAMPION CHILI

Rene Chapa is the CASI 2023 Chili Champion

INGREDIENTS NEEDED;

2 pounds of H-E-B 80/20 ground hamburger meat.

- 1 can of chicken broth
- 1 can of beef broth
- 1 small can of El Pato tomato sauce
- 1 small can of Hunts tomato sauce
- 1 Tbs. tomato paste
- 8 ounces of water

And the spices below

DUMP #1

- 1 Tbs. San Antonio original chili powder (Mild Bills)
- 1 Tbs. Champion chili powder. (Mild Bills)
- 1 Tbs. Stockyard chili powder. (Mild Bills)
- 1 Tbs. Fiesta Onion Granules
- 1 Tbs. Fiesta Garlic Granules
- 1 Tbs Beef Bouillon Granules
- 1/2 Tbs. Chicken Bouillon Granules
- 1/2 Tbs. Cumin (Mild Bills)
- 1/4 tsp. White Pepper
- 1/2 tsp. Salt

DUMP #2

- 1 Tbs. San Antonio Original (Mild Bills)
- 1 Tbs. 38 Special Chili Powder (Mild Bills)
- 1 Tbs. Cowtown Chili powder (Mild Bills)
- 1/2 Tbs. Cumin (Mild Bills)
- 1/2 tsp. Hot Stuff (Mild Bills)
- 1 Packet Goya tomato seasoning

INSTRUCTIONS;

Roll meat into six even balls and brown.

Remove the balls from the pot and put them into a container like a Ziploc bag to keep them moist. Then, remove the grease from the pot.

ADD ALL OF YOUR LIQUID:

Chicken broth, beef broth, tomato sauces, water, and tomato paste.

Cover the pot and bring it to a boil, then add your first dump

of spices and the meatballs back to the pot.

Let it boil covered on medium heat for 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Let it rest for about 30 minutes to an hour before turning it back on at medium heat. Once it comes to a boil, uncover the pot and add the second dump. Using a meat smasher, smash the meatballs. Do this until you get to the size and consistency you want.

Let it cook down, stirring gently ever so often, until you get the thick, hardy gravy you're looking for. If you feel you need more liquid, add extra chicken stock.

Always stir gently to prevent your chili from getting too mushy. Lift the chili from the bottom of the pot to ensure it doesn't stick.



Championship chili is the name of the game for cooks at this year's 57th annual Terlingua International Chili Cookoff held behind the store. The Frank X. Tolbert-Wick Fowler Memorial contest is where it all began.

Courtesy photo

Eleven years of Halloween fun



The ladies of Talley-Reed Insurance Agency take Halloween very seriously. Owner Stephenie Mora touts it as her favorite holiday and has been dressing up and documenting the yearly event for more than a decade. From left is Rena Gonzales, Mora, her dog Cassie, and Suzie Gonzales, who dressed up this year as characters from the movie Jaws.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

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