

Brewster County eyes growth and safety

BY KERRY LAIRD

Contributor

The Brewster County commissioners court convened for a special meeting on Tuesday, November 19, in the commissioners courtroom at the Brewster County Courthouse. With all commissioners present, Brewster County Judge Greg Henington presided over discussions and decisions on several key issues impacting the county.

The court officially approved the general election results, confirming votes cast by Brewster County residents for county, state, and national elections.

Following this procedural matter, the commissioners turned their attention to discussions that could have lasting effects on county operations and finances.

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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.



Council unites for progress

BY KERRY LAIRD

Contributor

The Alpine City Council gathered for its regular session on Tuesday, November 19, in the council chambers. Ward 2 Councilor Eva Martinez was absent, but with the presence of all other councilors and Mayor Catherine Eaves, a quorum was established, allowing the meeting to proceed.

The evening's agenda included updates, presentations, and decisions pivotal to Alpine's

progress and community development.

During the public presentations, Mayor Eaves asked for community involvement in the Alpine Historic Association's annual Christmas Stroll.

Volunteers are sought to assist with various roles, including managing luminarias, serving as home tour guides, and helping clean up.



Megan Antrim-Alpine City Manager

Ward 1 Councilor Reagan Stone took the opportunity to spotlight nonprofit organizations participating in this weekend's Art-Walk, encouraging attendees to support local nonprofit causes participating in the popular event. "Make sure you get out and support our community in that way," he said.

Naomi Hernandez,

representing the Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend (FCCBB), provided an in-depth update on the organization's efforts over the past year. The FCCBB serves Brewster, Presidio, Jeff Davis, Terrell, and Pecos counties—with only 11 staff members—offering free and confidential assistance to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and violent crime. Hernandez highlighted several key achievements from January to October

2024, including nearly 10,000 services provided to 138 clients in the Alpine office alone and over \$57,000 in financial aid distributed for essentials such as rent, utilities, and childcare.

The FCCBB has also been proactive in expanding its capabilities.

Hernandez announced the acquisition of a new facility at 402 E Gallego Avenue, which will serve as both office space and an enhanced shelter.

See COUNCIL • 8

Fightin' Bucks fall short



Senior Iden Lujan dives towards the Stanton kicker last Thursday in the bid for the Bi-District Championship. Alpine faced off against the Buffaloes in Fort Stockton, where they ultimately fell 28-49.

Photo courtesy of Noe Lujan

Fightin' Bucks finish strong: A season of grit, growth, and gratitude

BY KERRY LAIRD

Sports Editor

The Alpine Fightin' Bucks ended their season Friday night with a hard-fought 49-28 loss to the Stanton Buffaloes in the Bi-District Championship, hosted in Fort Stockton. Despite the loss, the Bucks' season was marked by notable achievements, including a share of the district championship for the first time since 2019. Friday's game showcased the team's resilience and talent.

"We came out slow and did not execute well initially," said Head Coach Andy Smith. "We were down 35-0 early in the third quarter, and our kids responded. We closed the scoring gap to 28-35, with the opportunity to tie the game in the fourth quarter."

Senior quarterback

Devon Rojo led the offensive charge with 189 passing yards, averaging an impressive 12.6 yards per attempt. Rojo's quick decision-making and athleticism kept plays alive, connecting with his favorite target, junior Dae Hardwick, for 125 yards and two touchdowns. Hardwick's night included a 41-yard touchdown reception, his longest of the game. Rojo also found seniors JP Valenzuela and Iden Lujan for significant gains of 28 and 25 yards, respectively. On the ground, senior running back Logan Smith delivered a standout performance, rushing for 200 yards, including a 52-yard dash and a 31-yard touchdown. Smith's power and speed were vital to Alpine's offensive efforts.

Despite the season's



challenges and the tough loss in the Bi-District Championship, the Fightin' Bucks demonstrated resilience and heart both on and off the field. Reflecting on the team's effort and character, Coach Smith praised his players for their determination and fighting spirit. "I am so proud of our student-athletes for living by the 'Fightin' Bucks' name," said Coach Smith. "We never gave up, and we played extremely hard."

Defensively, the Bucks fought hard to contain Stanton's high-powered offense. Senior Davian Fierro led the charge with eight solo tackles, while juniors Adam Llanez and Alec Ramos added seven tackles and a sack, respectively. Hardwick and junior Landon Bruttomesso both grabbed interceptions, adding to Alpine's defensive highlights. While the final scoreline reflected a close contest in total yards—Alpine with 373 and Stanton

with 387 — the Bucks ultimately couldn't overcome Stanton's early, unanswered scoring drives. Alpine outpassed Stanton 179 to 139 yards, with much of that production coming later in the game as the Bucks worked to close the gap offensively while the Fear-the-Deer defense came alive and held the Buffaloes at bay. "I am really proud of the boys and their effort and fight in the second half of our bi-district playoff game," said Bucks Defensive Coordinator Jerry Dominguez. The Fightin' Bucks finish their season with a 4-7 overall record and a 4-2 district record, earning the title of Tri-District Champions.

Senior quarterback Devon Rojo led the team's offense all season, surpassing 2,000

See BUCKS • 8

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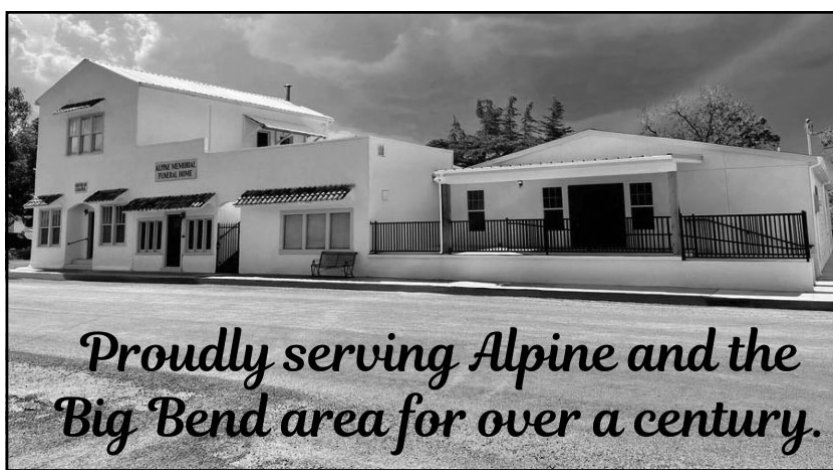
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OBITUARIES

Bob R. Spence

Bob R. Spence, born in Clyde on September 13, 1937, passed away on October 31 in Alpine.

He enjoyed a distinguished career as a railroad conductor and brakeman for the Southern Pacific Railroad, serving the company for over 30 years. His dedication to his profession was matched by his deep involvement in his com-



munity and his passion for outdoor activities.

Bob was an active

member of Grace Christian Church, where he found great pride and fulfillment. His commitment to his faith played a significant role in his life, shaping his values and guiding his interactions with others.

In addition to his professional achievements, Bob's zest for life was reflected in his hobbies. He enjoyed team roping and once held the posi-

tion of president of the Sanderson Roping Club, where he made lasting connections and friendships within the local community.

He is preceded in death by his parents, M. L. and Ona Ray Spence, and his brothers, O. B. and Damron "Buddy" Spence. He is survived by his son, Bobby Spence, friends, and fellow community members

who will remember him for his contributions and the joy he brought into their lives.

A funeral service in honor of Bob R. Spence was held on November 16 at Grace Christian Fellowship Church, 801 E. Brown Avenue, Alpine. The service began at 10 a.m. and was followed by a concluding ceremony at 11 a.m. Interment followed at Elm

Grove Cemetery.

Bob R. Spence will be remembered for his remarkable career, his love for roping, and his unwavering faith—a true testament to a life well lived.

Services were entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home. Condolences and gifts may continue to be left at www.alpinememorialfuneralhome.com

CNA students visit Austin



AHS CNA students and their instructor, Gayla Owen are pictured here with members of the Texas Board of Nursing Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee.

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

CNA students from Alpine High School traveled to Austin last Tuesday to visit the Texas Board of Nursing Eligibility and Disciplinary Committee meeting. The students witnessed five cases, one of which included an emergency suspension case for a nurse who posed a continuing and imminent threat to herself and the public.

The students also heard a petition for reinstatement of a multi-state license and three petitions for an exemption to a previous order. These hearings are focused on nurses whose poorly made decisions offer an opportunity for them to defend their state nursing license. After the nurses have pleaded their case before the board, the board then decides as to whether they will suspend, revoke, or reinstate each individu-

al's license. These cases can include anything from drug and alcohol abuse cases, driving while intoxicated with a minor in the vehicle, as well as theft of medications from either a hospital or patients.

"This is an integral part of my Ethics lesson, which I believe serves as a moral compass for nursing practice," said Gayla Owen, Alpine ISD nurse and CNA instructor.

Owen says that this class and this visit to

Austin help provide essential guidance for her students navigating complex situations both professionally and personally.

"By emphasizing the importance of prioritizing patient well-being, respecting patient autonomy, and delivering ethical care, this lesson helps students uphold the highest professional standards in their nursing practice," Owen concluded.

Courtesy photo

Operation Christmas Child accepting donations

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

Operation Christmas Child delivers Christmas gift boxes to children worldwide. The project began in the early 1990s and has continued to grow each year, with 11.3 million boxes collected for distribution in 2023. These boxes will be distributed to over 120

countries, territories, and islands and will be the first gift many children will ever receive. Each year, Hillside Baptist Church collects Christmas boxes to be sent to needy children, along with a booklet titled "The Greatest Gift," documenting the birth of Jesus. Hillside Baptist began accepting boxes on Friday and will continue to collect them



through November 25. Boxes may be dropped off at 205 Church Road between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday be-

tween 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., on Sunday between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., and on Monday from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

For more information, contact Karen McGuire at 432-386-3071. Boxes may also be built online by visiting samaritans.purse.org/buildonline.

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ARTWALK

2024 slated for this weekend

BY KARA GERBERT

Managing Editor

This year's Artwalk event will be hosted at 20 different locations in and around downtown Alpine. In addition to 5th Street being blocked off to host art vendors and the Live Music stage, two locations across the tracks on Murphy Street will host art installations. The Alpine Visitor Center will also host events, provide restrooms, and feature all the winners from the Shooting Alpine Contest since its inception.

Other Artwalk locations include the Hospitality Booth and other art vendors at Kishmish Plaza, located at 204 E. Holland. This location will feature this year's honored artist, Michelle Billings.

An Artwalk Silent Auction, benefitting the Alpine Public Library, will be held at 202 W. Holland Ave. (formerly Javelinas).

Other locations are as follows:

- 5th Street Gallery at 118 N. 5th Street
- Alcove Social and Cafe at 211 E. Holland Ave.
- Alpine Trading Co. at 106 W. Ave E.
- Amigos Restaurant/Alpine City Place at 101 W. Ave E.
- Front Street Books, 121 E. Holland Ave.
- Batey No. 402 Mobile Art Gallery on 5th Street
- Big Bend Gallery at 121 W. Holland Ave.
- Big Bend Saddlery at 2701 US 90 (across from Dairy Queen)
- Chica's Shoppe at 105 N. 6th Street
- Javelina's 5th and Holland at 101 W. Holland Ave.
- Murphy Street Provisions at 100 W. Murphy Street
- TexPop Alpine at 103 N. 6th Street
- The Ritchey Wine Bar and Beer Garden at 102 E. Murphy Street
- Vise Coffee at 105 E. Holland Ave.

Viva Cowdog Cafe at 215 E. Holland Ave.

Wasserman's at 203 W. Holland Ave.

Whitlock Studio of Fine Art at 110B N. 6th Street

There will also be non-profit booths at Railroad Park on Holland Ave., food booths at Arbolitos Park, and portable restrooms will be available at various locations in the downtown area.

This year's event is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, November 22nd and 23rd. Music begins at 5 p.m. on Friday, with the headliner SA Blue Cats taking the stage at 9 p.m. On Saturday, music starts at 1 p.m. and will conclude with Ruben V, who also takes the stage at 9 p.m. Other musical artists include local favorites the Doodlin', Hogwallops, A Few Too Many, Doug Moreland and Friends, and The Swifts, to name a few. Take advantage of a weekend of art, music, food, and fun.

Celebrities named honorary firefighters with AVFD

On November 14, the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department voted two new firefighters onto the department. Both Members became honorary firefighters in the department and accepted their roles with enthusiasm and excitement.

Country Music Singer Chris Stapleton and Hollywood Actor Josh Brolin were given plaques stating their installment to the department and a Certificate of Approval to Honorary Firefighter status. Both new firefighters received helmets, with their numbers 34 and 35.

Chris Stapleton was accepted for his patriotism and willingness to serve the community and country. His song "Fire Away," which refers to mental health awareness, has opened the eyes and helped millions dealing with strug-



The Alpine Volunteer Fire Department members recently added Chris Stapleton and Josh Brolin to the AVFD as honorary firefighters due to their contributions to first responders. From left are Jacob Goodman, Shelby Green, Blake Marler, Zack Davis, Chris Stapleton, Kiddo Campbell, Josh Brolin, Chief James Etchison, and Jeremiah Pearce.

gles in the First Responder community.

Josh Brolin was accepted into a new fire home because he had previous firefighter training through the Granite Mountain Hotshots Wildland Boot Camp. He was also a Volunteer Firefighter in Arizona. Both helped him prepare for the role in the movie

"Only the Brave."

"Only the Brave" is based on the true story of the Granite Mountain Hot Shot Crew, a group of 20 men from Prescott, Arizona, who battled the Yarnell Hill Fire in 2013. Nineteen of the men died in the fire, and Brendan McDonough was the only survivor

Alpine Ghost Tours ends Friday

The Sul Ross Theatre Program hosts its final tour of the award-winning Alpine Ghost Tours: Graveside Tales on Friday, November 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the Elm Grove Cemetery in Alpine.

Part historical walking tour and part site-specific performance piece, Alpine Ghost Tours: Graveside Tales includes stories about Alpine history and its residents buried at the Elm Grove and Holy Angels cemeteries. One featured story is of Crystal Holland, the daughter of Colonel J.R. Holland, a local rancher who built the Holland Hotel. Crystal was murdered on Holland Avenue in broad daylight by her husband in 1916. She was 30 years old and the mother of a six-year-old daughter. "Ms. Holland's story is often told in a salacious way because her husband suspected her of infidelity," says writer and director and Chair of the SRSU Department of Visual and Performing Arts Marjie Scott. "Her life was cut short because of a horrible act of violence committed by her husband, not because of anything she did. When I was researching this project, I read numerous magazine articles about the nation's most haunted hotels, and Holland was frequently on these lists. The articles treated Ms. Holland as though she brought this crime upon herself. It made



Ghost Tour participants in costume are Marion Forringer, Cameron Owens, Joel Trinidad, Justin Hinton, and Nidia Corona.

Courtesy photo

me angry, so I vowed to give her a space to tell her story."

The tour includes details of the last legal public hanging in Texas and other significant stories. In addition to the serious content, there are lighthearted moments. The tour is led by Chicago's Second City alum Bret Scott. "We don't make fun of or desecrate the memories of the people buried here at all," says Scott. "But there is room for laughter in the darkness."

The tour launched in November 2021 as a downtown walking tour and, in 2022, won the Texas Travel Award for Best Under the Radar Activity—Small Town. In November of 2023, the tour moved to the cemetery. Despite the popularity and success of the ghost tour, this Friday's performance will be the last for a while. "We may bring it back at some point," says Marjie Scott. "My col-

leagues and I have enjoyed the experience so much and met audiences from all over the nation. However, our program is focusing on other projects for the foreseeable future. We're grateful for the support of the tour over the past three years."

Tickets are \$20 and include a hot beverage and flower. To purchase tickets, visit www.bit.ly/sulross-theatre. All proceeds benefit the Sul Ross Theatre Program scholarship fund. Patrons are encouraged to dress warmly and wear comfortable, closed-toed shoes. The Sul Ross Theatre Program, Alpine Historic Association, and the City of Alpine sponsor Alpine Ghost Tours. Featuring Bret Scott, Garrison Rutledge, Justin Hinton, Jenna Reyes, Abigail Scott, Cristian Sanchez, and Carlo Acceytuno. Marjie Scott directs the tour, and Carolyn Barrientes designs the costumes.

Alpine local graduates boot camp

Alpine local Erain Garcia Guerrero graduated from the Marine Corps boot camp on November 15 in San Diego, CA. Pvt Garcia Guerrero is currently on a ten-day leave before he reports for duty at Camp Pendleton for Marine Combat Training. After completing MCT, he will report to the Marine Corps Quantico in Virginia.



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Opinions

ONLINE POLL

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

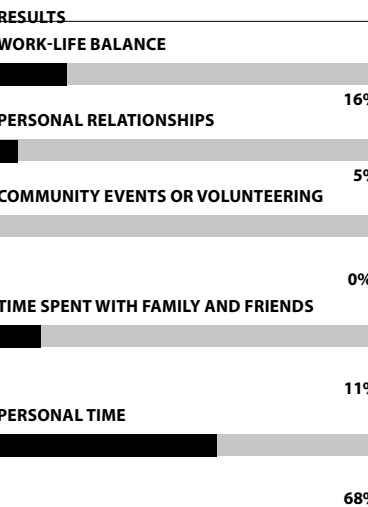
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RESULTS

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LETTERS

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Send your letters to kara.gerbert@alpineavalanche.com by noon Monday for consideration.

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



Expansion and renovations are on the horizon

As I announced in this column in January, Sul Ross State University purchased two downtown buildings—Porter's Grocery and TransPecos Bank, both located on 5th Street. As is often the case when bureaucracy is involved, it took a while to close on the properties and ultimately decide how each would be utilized.

The Texas State University System Board of Regents and the Chancellor are reviewing these projects at their quarterly meeting this week, perhaps even as you read. As we are moving into the official phase, I want to share our plans with you at long last.

The Porter's building will become a performing arts center for the theatre and music programs, complete with stages, offices, classrooms, and rehearsal space. The Francois Fine Arts Building will become an academic center with additional classroom space

for appropriate programs, as needed.

While construction is expected to begin in about 90 days, completion is estimated in Spring 2026.

The bank building will be designated for the new College of Health Sciences, which will include the Nursing and Kinesiology programs. We intend to begin offering many of these courses at the new building this spring. We are working on furnishings, technology, signage, and other resources to prepare it for students.

We are also undertaking some additional construction, including renovating Fletcher Hall to accommodate additional residential students and the map collection room at the Museum of the Big Bend. Minor repairs will also take place at Kokernot Lodge.

A large portion of these



DR. CARLOS HERNANDEZ
President Sul Ross State University

projects are funded by state-appropriated capital construction assistance revenue bonds and operations funds earmarked for capital projects. Much of the work at MOBB is funded by a grant from

the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Fletcher Hall, a dormitory at the south end of the campus, is being renovated to add approximately 150 beds for residential students.

As our enrollment trends upward, we need additional space so that students have the best experience possible. Construction is expected to begin in December, with completion estimated for mid-summer.

The Museum of the Big Bend will undergo renovations in its first-floor gallery to properly house the Yana & Marty Davis Map Collec-

tion in the new Texas Map Research Center.

Additional repairs and refurbishments will be made to the interior and exterior of the old museum building beginning in December, and these are expected to be completed by mid-summer.

I invite you to visit our Facebook and Instagram pages by searching @sulrossstate to see some of the architectural renderings for these projects. Please remember that construction projects are dynamic and that change orders are common.

As I've written before, every project we undertake must converge with our priorities for increased enrollment and retention.

Enjoy Artwalk this weekend, and please support our students in their gallery at the Kishmish Plaza.

Go, Lobos!

What I've seen survive to live again

"Sooner or later, everything old is new again."

— **Stephen King, American author known for horror novels.**

When I was much younger, I often marveled at the things my grandparents must have seen in their lifetime.

Having reached that "grandparent" stage, I find myself drawing similar conclusions about my own life: how much has changed and what I've seen survive to live another day.

Dad's father was born in 1888. We gathered at Rose Hill Cemetery in Pittsburg to celebrate his life during my second year of college—a time when the whole world was still new to me.

My grandfather went to work at 13. Child labor was common then. Ten percent of girls between the ages of 10 and 15, and 20% of boys had jobs to help support the family.

The internal combustion engine was gaining popularity, and mass production of powered buggies called "automobiles" was catching on. But only the wealthy could afford one.

Connecticut became the first state to pass a speed limit that year, limiting motor vehicles to 12 mph in cities and 15 mph on country roads.

My grandmother lived until October 1993. Two years

before her birth, the Wright Brothers flew one of the first airplanes at Kittyhawk in 1903. She lived to watch man's first walk on the moon on her black-and-white television. She was never convinced it really happened, though. Truthfully, she was never sure television was real, either.

My grandmother flew in an airplane once during her life. She went with me after I earned a pilot's license in 1974. She spent most of the 30-minute flight around northeast Texas to see her house in Pittsburg, singing "Nearer My God to Thee."

She went to be with God in 1993 without ever flying in an airplane again — with or without me.

A couple of weeks ago, my grandmother, that flight, and life since then crossed my mind, along with my 1970 Chevrolet pickup, in which I drove her to the airport. I loved that truck. It was my first air-conditioned vehicle. It was equipped with an AM/FM radio, tape player, and CB radio—all at a time when a pickup was still a utilitarian vehicle.

My grandmother never owned a radio as a teenager. When she married my grandfather, electricity was still years away from most rural homes. And cars then had little more than headlights, horns, and a hand



LEON ALDRIDGE
Guest Columnist

crank for a starter.

Radios appeared in cars in the late 1930s and evolved into sophisticated sound systems over the decades. Forerunners, basic AM, and FM radios still survive today despite some electric car makers having dropped AM, claiming electromagnetic interference affects the performance of EVs. Congress is threatening legislation requiring manufacturers to keep AM radios.

But, despite rumors of its demise, the last bastion of vehicular radio devices in my pickup that day in 1974 when Granny went up into the wild blue yonder with me has surprisingly made a comeback.

Citizens Band Radio (CB) originated in the U.S. around 1945 and was sold primarily to farmers and the U.S. Coast Guard.

I was introduced to CB radio in the early 1960s as a Mount Pleasant's "Emergency Service" Explorer Scout Post 206 member. When an FCC-regulated call sign, a license and "professional radio etiquette" were required. They provided communication as we aided first responders with wrecks and fires. Howard Townsend was the Post Advisor, monitoring our radio sets and conversations to ensure regulations were strictly followed.

But the peak of the CB

craze in the 1970s saw regulation go out the window. CBs became part of the culture depicted in films such as "Smokey and the Bandit" and "Convoy," TV shows, and music. Their use in trucker blockades to protest 55-m.p.h. speed limits and keeping tabs on radar speed enforcement became a thing of legend.

As a result, the FCC threw in the towel on licensing in 1983.

CB radio became its own worst enemy. Frequencies were overloaded, rendering communication difficult. Business users switching to other frequencies and the introduction of mobile phones saw CB's popularity wither. Everywhere, except among over-the-road truckers, touring motorcycle riders, and classic and antique car clubs traveling to shows and events in caravans.

As a cyclist and classic car enthusiast, I knew CB radio never really disappeared. And from what I have read recently, CB is living again while "radio" still evolves.

It's the 1970s, all over again.

"Breaker, breaker one-nine. Does anybody have eyeballs on that CB I used years ago? Negatory? Well, CBs are back again, good buddy!"

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

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

Upcoming events

November 23 Jeff Smith: The Art of Stained Glass, 1 p.m. at the Jeff Davis County Library. Presentation is sponsored by the Friends of the Library and is free of charge.

November 23 SRSU Guided hike on Hancock Hill, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sign-up is required at <https://www.sulross.edu/guided-hikes/>

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 Auxil-



ary meeting, 4 p.m., third Monday each month, Legion Hall, 306 W. Sul Ross Ave.

Amigo Run Club at Al-

pine 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 bbchorale.wixsite.com/bbcc.

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

ESL Tutoring, at Alpine Public Library, 805 W. Ave. E. Call 432-837-2621 to make an appointment.

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.

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Chase Chapman: Walking with noise-canceling headphones on.



Connie Ybarra: Enjoying the evening with family and friends.



Romeo James: Sirius radio is the best. It has every channel you can think of.



Veleta Pacheco: Live music and dancing.

Blue Santa toy drive underway



Lina, a young girl from Alpine recently contributed to the Alpine Police Department's annual Blue Santa Toy Drive. APD collects toys from the community each year and distributes them to needy children for Christmas.

Photo courtesy of Alpine Police Department

Free community Thanksgiving dinner

The Chinati Foundation is hosting, and St. Paul's Episcopal Church is organizing a free community-wide Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday, November 28. Dinner will be served from noon until 2:30 p.m. at the Chinati Arena, 701 Katherine St. Everyone is invited.

Earlier in the day, Father Mike Wallens will offer a Celebration of Thanksgiving at St. Paul's Episcopal

Church, the stone church behind the Marfa Courthouse. The service will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Please come and share a meal of Thanksgiving with friends, neighbors, and visitors. You are welcome to bring a side dish, dessert, or donation for the Marfa Food Pantry, or just bring yourself. For more information, call or text 432-386-2433.

Everyone is welcome!



Restaurant Guide

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

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

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

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PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Snoopy!

Snoopy came into the shelter in late September after getting into a scuffle with another dog in the home. His family decided to surrender him and keep the other dog.

Snoopy is very selective about the dogs he interacts with and does need supervision. We suggest no small dogs or cats in the home; a single-dog household is preferred.

He is very friendly with every person he meets. He is great on a leash with minimal pulling; just about anyone can walk him. He loves treats and toys, so he is motivated to learn all the tricks and obedience commands you want to teach him. He is a big puppy and wants to be your one and only. This guy would make a great walking, running, and hiking companion and would love to lay close by while you watch TV or read a book.

Snoopy is neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped, ready to join your household. Meet Snoopy 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.

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. See us at Artwalk this weekend and at our upcoming bake sale on Saturday, December 7, at the Farmers Market. You can also order holiday goodies from our See's Candy online store. AHS receives 20% of all candy sales. There are about two weeks left to order candy.

https://www.yumraising.com/secure/alpine_humane_society_candy_store29/MarVeg4310/

Pet promotions are courtesy of the Alpine Humane Society.



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.



In what activities did you participate in high school?
I participated in cheerleading, NHS, student council, and Ag.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach, and why?
My favorite coach is Linda Morris because she pushes me and is super supportive and kind.

What was your favorite moment in the last four years?
My favorite moment was getting to cheer at every Friday night football game.

What are your plans after high school?
My plans after high school are to go to college at Texas Tech and study nursing.

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Sports

Morrissey makes her mark: Lady Bucks dominate Balmorhea in season opener

BY KERRY LAIRD
Sports Editor

The Alpine Lady Bucks varsity basketball team tipped off their 2024-25 season in impressive fashion on Friday night, earning a hard-fought 39-23 victory over the Balmorhea Bears in their nonconference home opener.

“It was a good performance for our first game,” said Head Coach Taryn Johnson, marking her first game as Alpine’s coach with a win.

Freshman phenom Gyl-

lian Morrissey stole the spotlight with an all-around stellar performance, racking up 17 points, eight rebounds, and seven steals.

Morrissey’s speed and tenacity on the boards proved too much for the Bears to handle, setting the tone for a successful night on the court.

Sophomore Colette Fowlkes was another key contributor for the Lady Bucks, dominating defensively with 10 rebounds and five blocks.

Her presence in the paint thwarted Balmorhea’s scor-

ing opportunities and gave Alpine a much-needed edge during pivotal moments in the game.

While Morrissey and Fowlkes delivered standout performances, the win was truly a team effort.

Each player stepped up when it mattered most, whether by creating a defensive stop, grabbing a crucial rebound, or sinking timely baskets.

The game remained tightly contested for much of the evening, with Balmorhea keeping the score within 10 points.

First-game jitters and a flurry of fouls resulted in a low-scoring first half, with Alpine holding a slim 15-9 lead at the break.

The intensity increased in the third period as both teams battled fiercely for control. Heated play in the paint and on the floor energized the crowd.

In the fourth quarter, the Lady Bucks found their rhythm offensively, capitalizing on key stops and timely steals to pull away from the Bears.

Their late surge sealed the victory, giving the home

fans plenty to cheer about as the Lady Bucks look ahead to the rest of the season.

“[The game] helped spotlight the things we need to focus on more and gave a lot of the girls some confidence going into the season,” said Coach Johnson. “We are going to use it to continue to build and prepare for our next set of games.”

Building on this momentum, the Lady Bucks are facing a busy week two of the season. They faced Fort Hancock on Tuesday and are gearing up for a

road game tomorrow night against the Fort Stockton Panthers, with tipoff at 5 p.m.

The team hopes to continue winning, feeding off the confidence gained from their strong start. With Morrissey emerging as a standout and the team showing early signs of chemistry under Coach Johnson, the Lady Bucks appear poised for an exciting season.

Fans are encouraged to come out and support the team as they look to make waves in district play.

SRSU’s Mims scores 19 points in exhibition game

BY PETER DINDINGER
Contributor

TaMaiya Mims scored 19 points to lead the Lobo women’s basketball team in an exhibition match against the Texas State Bobcats on Monday night at Strahan Arena. Cheyenne Bonilla tied up the game with a layup before Texas State went on a 9-0 run to lead 11-2 in the first quarter.

Melody Martinez ended the run with a jumper in the paint with nearly five minutes to go. Martinez went on to score the next four points as she hit a 3-pointer at the 2:48 mark.

Trailing by 20 with 8:16 in the second quarter, the Lobos put together a 7-0 run that was sparked by a jumper by Mims in the paint.



TaMaiya Mims.

Courtesy photo

Mims later followed up with a three-pointer while Victoria Aguayo grabbed a steal and finished with a layup on the fast break to cut the deficit to 13.

The Bobcats went on a 6-0 run until Bonilla hit a three as she scored the next five points. Sul Ross State went on a 5-0 run of its own, highlighted by three from Caitlyn Corley. The

Lobos went on to score 23 points in the third quarter, nearly matching the Bobcats. The Lobos fell 65-99.

Mims scored 10 points in the third frame, while Sophiya Bustillos made a three-pointer at the 6:06 mark. Mims also had four steals, two assists, and three rebounds.

Bonilla finished with 13 points, four rebounds, and three steals, while Aguayo tallied 13 points and four steals. Martinez added nine points, while Bustillos had seven.

The Lobos shot 12 from 18 from the free-throw line, with 13 steals and 21 rebounds, also making seven 3-pointers.

The Lobos resume regular action by hosting Western New Mexico at 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 23.

JV Lady Bucks take fourth-place

The Alpine High School JV Lady Bucks basketball team traveled to Del Rio last Saturday to compete in tournament play. The girls placed fourth in the contest, and Marisol Jimenez made the all-tournament team.

Courtesy photo



Fightin’ Buck and Lady Buck Sports Schedule

FIGHTIN’ BUCK BASKETBALL

Nov. 22 Fabens vs Alpine
9th Gold @ 4 p.m.
JV @ 5 p.m.
Varsity @ 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 3 Alpine vs Van Horn

JV @ 5 p.m.
Varsity @ 8 p.m.

LADY BUCK BASKETBALL

Nov. 22 Alpine vs Fort Stockton
Varsity @ 5 p.m.
JV @ 5 p.m.

Dec. 3 Alpine vs Van Horn
Varsity @ 6:30 p.m.

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Sul Ross drops final game to UTPB

BY PETER DINDINGER
Contributor

The Sul Ross State football program wrapped up its first season at the Division II level. On Saturday afternoon, the Lobos suffered a 75-7 loss to the UT Permian Basin Falcons at Jackson Field.

Just before the start of the contest, senior Maximiliano Alvarado, Mark Benard, Quincy Blair, Tucker Bridwell, Dayln Dunbar, Alec Garcia, Xavier Garcia, Elijah Gomez, Andrew Henderson, Alex Holguin, Vicente Luevano, Jacob Morales, Humberto Moreno, Austin Ogunmakin, and C.J. Parks were all recognized.

On the first play of UT Permian Basin's opening drive, the offense did not waste any time as it scored on a 77-yard touchdown pass from Isaac Mooring to Deon Cook. After the successful two-point conversion by Gunnar Abseck, the Falcons were on top 8-0.

Using an eight-play drive after the Lobos punted away, the Falcons extended their lead to 14-0 as Kory Harris scored on a one-yard run with 10:11 on the clock.

Mooring threw two



The Lobos work to tackle one of UT Permian Basin's players during their final conference game on Saturday.

Photo courtesy of Sul Ross Sports

touchdown passes on the next two drives as he connected with Jeremiah Cooley for a four and 11-yard pass to make the score 28-0 with 39 seconds to go in the opening quarter.

Early in the second quarter, Mooring found Cook for a nine-yard touchdown, and then on the next drive, Harris found the end zone on an 11-yard run to extend the lead to 48-0 at half-time. UT Permian Basin scored twice in the third

quarter on a 28-yard run by Harris and a 25-yard fumble recovery by Ashton Hamby.

The Lobos ended the shutout with 4:02 in the third quarter as Gunnar Hammond scored on a four-yard run as he stretched out over the endzone to cap off an 11-play drive. UT Permian Basin found the endzone twice more in the fourth quarter on a 53-yard run by Harris and a seven-yard run by Christian Kapua.

The Falcons had 711 total yards of offense, with 393 in passing and 318 rushing yards. Mooring tossed five touchdowns as he finished 26 for 28 with 353 passing yards. Harris rushed for 201 yards on 26 carries including four touchdowns. Cook had six receptions for 148 yards and two touchdowns.

For Sul Ross, Bridwell completed eight of 21 passes for 123 yards, and Ham-

mond finished six for eight with 38 yards passing to go along with five carries for 25 yards. Kyle Callicoate led the ground game with nine carries for 25 yards, while Blair led the defense with 16 total tackles, 12 solo tackles, and one tackle for loss. Tamirr Bullock had 11 total tackles, and Evian

Thompson finished with 10 tackles and one pass breakup.

The 75 points scored in this contest were the most by any Lone Star Conference team this season in a single game. Sul Ross ended the season 3-8 with a 2-7 LSC record for their first year.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



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BREWSTER • FROM 1

One of the meeting's significant topics was a resolution supporting Texas House Bill 1109, which aims to extend motor fuel tax exemptions to counties. Judge Henington highlighted the potential benefits of this legislation, which is currently limited to entities like volunteer fire departments and nonprofit ambulance services.

The measure could save Brewster County

approximately \$15,000 annually by including counties, alleviating the tax burden on residents.

This financial relief would free up resources for other vital projects and align with the county's efforts to improve operational efficiency.

The commissioners unanimously supported the resolution, signaling their commitment to advocating for legislative changes that benefit rural communities like Brewster County.

The commissioners also approved the purchase of a new camera system for the Brewster County Jail. The \$8,887 system, provided by Aprutex Corporation, will be funded through the Stonegarden Grant, a federal program that supports local law enforcement agencies. The new equipment will not only upgrade the existing system for higher-quality imaging but also enable the installation of cameras inside jail cells to en-

hance safety for both inmates and guards. Judge Henington noted that Aprutex's familiarity with the current system would ensure a seamless integration of the new technology.

A key focus of the meeting was the selection of a grant administrator for the Colonia Fund Grant, a program under the Texas Community Development Block Grant initiative.

Judge Henington described this item as "the big one," emphasizing

its importance for the county's long-term development goals.

After scoring proposals from two firms—GrantWorks and Langford Community Management Services—the commissioners selected GrantWorks to manage the grant.

The Colonia Fund Grant targets counties within 150 miles of the Texas-Mexico border, providing funding for essential improvements such as water and wastewater infra-

structure and housing rehabilitation for low-to moderate-income households.

The commissioners focused on fiscal responsibility and community development throughout the meeting, balancing immediate needs with long-term planning.

The Brewster County Commissioners Court will hold its next regular meeting on Tuesday, November 26, at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom.

BUCKS • FROM 1

passing yards with his precise throws and ability to extend plays. Senior running back Logan Smith was a force on the ground, rushing for over 1,000 yards with a combination of power and speed that kept defenses on edge. Junior wide receiver Dae Hardwick capped off a record-breaking season, setting school marks for single-season receptions with 89 and receiving yards with 1,161. Hardwick also found the end zone 10 times, cementing his place as one of Alpine's all-time greats.

These individual accomplishments, combined with the team's grit and determination, made this season memorable for Fightin' Buck football. With Hardwick and other key players like Adam Llanez and Landon Bruttomesso returning next year, Alpine fans can look forward to an exciting 2025 season.

The Fightin' Bucks defense became a force to be reckoned with as the season unfolded, showcasing their knack for turning the tide in critical moments. Their ability to disrupt opponents' offenses not only energized the team but also provided momentum-shifting opportunities that kept Alpine competitive throughout



Alpine struggled against a Buffaloes offense last week during the bi-district contest in Fort Stockton.

Photo courtesy of Noe Lujan

the season.

"The one thing that stood out as the season progressed was the ability of our defense to create turnovers and make game-changing plays, especially in the Crane and Odessa Compass games the first time around," said Coach Dominguez. "We ended up forcing 25 total turnovers on the season. The defense was extremely coachable and worked to improve weekly in practice. Because of that, I saw steady improvement throughout the season."

As the Fightin' Bucks closed out their season, the importance of the senior class's contributions became even

more evident. Their hard work, leadership, and perseverance were instrumental in the team's success, including their share of the district championship. This group of seniors exemplified resilience and determination, paving the way for the program's future growth and success.

Coach Smith shared his appreciation for the seniors and their role in shaping the program's culture and achievements. "I want to thank our senior student-athletes for all of their hard work and dedication the past four years in our program," he said. "They have set the foundation for future

Fightin' Bucks to Follow."

Looking ahead to next season, the Bucks are preparing to lean on a young but promising core of players, including Hardwick, who gained valuable experience this year. Returning defensive standouts include inside linebacker A.J. Llanez, who led the team with 80 tackles and five tackles for loss (TFL), and David Baca, who tallied 76 tackles, three TFLs, and a sack. These foundation players will be integral to building a solid defense as the Bucks develop the next generation of athletes.

"There are a lot of kids returning who

played some and have worked and learned the ins and outs of the defense behind our strong senior class this past year," said Coach Dominguez. "It will be exciting to continue to develop them moving forward!"

Coach Smith thanked the dedicated coaching staff who worked tirelessly on and off the field. Their commitment to the program was a cornerstone of the team's success, providing guidance and preparation that shaped the Fightin' Bucks into a competitive football team.

"Huge thank you to our coaching staff," said Coach Smith, who

also serves as the Alpine ISD Athletic Director. "They spend numerous hours away from their family during football season helping prepare our team for each contest. They work seven days a week and spend more time with our student-athletes than their own family. We appreciate each of them and their hard work."

Alpine's dedicated fan base now looks forward to cheering on their team as they build on this year's successes and aim for even greater heights in the 2025 season.

COUNCIL • FROM 1

The organization anticipates relocating by Spring 2025, which will allow for increased capacity and improved client support. Additionally, Hernandez expressed gratitude for the 8,000 volunteer hours contributed to the FCCBB's mission. During her presentation, Hernandez highlighted the collaborative efforts between her organization and local law enforcement, emphasizing the vital role played by the Alpine Police Department.

Following her remarks, Alpine Police Chief Darrell Lasoya added a favorable remark, illustrating the department's dedication to community service. "We are the only police department in Texas who answers calls after hours for a crisis center," he said.

The FCCBB's Little Free Food Pantry plays

a crucial role in addressing food insecurity within Alpine and its surrounding communities.

The pantry operates as a free resource, providing essential food items to those in need, including older adults who face heightened challenges.

Despite a decline in pantry usage during the warmer months—likely due to extreme heat—the organization noted an uptick in requests for food baskets, highlighting the ongoing necessity of this service.

"Anybody can come in and get a food basket," said Hernandez. "You don't have to be a client."

Next on the agenda Alpine Public Library Director Don Wetterauer addressed the council, detailing the library's ongoing programs and recent expansion. Wetterauer invited the public to an open house on December

11, from 4 to 6 p.m., to showcase new spaces, including a dedicated teen area. He noted significant growth in adult education programs, supported by Texas Workforce Commission grants, and an increase in summer reading program attendance by 12% compared to 2023. The library continues to innovate, offering classes ranging from yoga and CPR to legal document preparation, ensuring its role as a cornerstone of community enrichment.

Emergent Air Chief of Operations Walter Kuykendahl provided an update on emergency medical services in Alpine. Safety improvements, including the addition of Powerlift systems to ambulances, are underway. Retrofits cost approximately \$60,000 per vehicle. Kuykendahl also explained that the procurement of new ambulances has been delayed due to ongoing supply-chain

disruptions stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, affecting axle availability.

City Manager Antrim delivered a comprehensive report on the city's review of its nearly 2,000 ordinances. The goal is to modernize outdated regulations, some dating back almost a century.

Utility ordinances were a focal point of the discussion, with Antrim emphasizing customer service improvements as a priority.

Updates to other ordinances, such as those governing parks and public pools, are also underway. "We're not done," said the city manager. "There's always room for improvement. This gives you a toes-in-the-sand feel of all our ordinances."

Several significant measures were unanimously approved during the meeting, including the canvassed results of the November 5 elec-

tions.

As the council reviewed the successful results of the recent elections, Mayor Eaves expressed gratitude for the community's support of the city's propositions. "I want to thank the public for voting these in overwhelmingly," she said. "We appreciate all the voters."

The council also authorized adopting Deckard Technologies' Rentalscape software to manage short-term rental compliance and tax collection. This \$16,500 annual investment is expected to save the city money by streamlining administrative processes and addressing the estimated 50 short-term rentals (STR) currently operating noncompliantly. Alpine plans to pay for the new software by utilizing budgeted funds already earmarked for this purpose.

In a move to bolster city operations, the council approved the

recommendation to hire Victoria Sanchez as the new director of finance. While her salary is yet to be finalized, Sanchez's 30 years of experience in school district finance were lauded as a significant asset. If hired, Sanchez would begin duties in January.

Employee compensation was another highlight of the evening. The council adopted a hybrid compensation plan that will increase the city's starting wages from \$13.50 to \$15 per hour and provide raises based on longevity. These adjustments, effective in December paychecks, will ensure no employee faces a pay cut, with approximately half of the city's workforce benefiting from the changes.

The Alpine City Council will hold its next regular meeting on Tuesday, December 3, in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

Avalanche Classifieds

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To those indebted to or holding claims against the Estate of **DOROTHY H. SMITH**, deceased:

DAWN I. BURGESS, having been duly appointed Independent Executor of the Estate of **DOROTHY H. SMITH**, deceased, late of Alpine, Brewster County, Texas, by the Judge of the County Court of Brewster County, Texas, on November 12, 2024, hereby notify all persons indebted to said estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said estate to present them to said Independent Executor within the time prescribed by law, at the following address:

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Enhance your pumpkin pie with maple

Pumpkin pie is a traditional sight on most holiday tables. Pumpkin brings that perfect fall taste and flavor that almost everyone enjoys. Still, it is not the only flavor familiar on the autumn front.

Other warm, cozy flavors, such as maple, are reminiscent of the fall and holiday season.

When most of us think



Maple Pumpkin Pie.



HEAD OVER MEALS

by kara gerbert

of maple syrup, pancakes come to mind. That rich, golden, warm syrup drizzled over the breakfast favorite is hard to beat. So, just think about how well it would pair with pumpkin pie. It is the sweet upgrade none of us knew we needed. To add to the flavor profile, whipping up homemade whipped cream with a dash of it brings this recipe full circle.

Therefore, add a little maple to your pumpkin pie if you want to display the traditional but hit your family and friends with a surprise flavor attack. See if it doesn't have folks clamoring for more and begging for the recipe.

Courtesy photo

MAPLE PUMPKIN PIE

INGREDIENTS

- Dough for a single-crust pie
- Two large eggs
- One (15-ounce) can of pumpkin
- One cup of evaporated milk
- Three-quarters of a cup of sugar
- Half a cup of real maple syrup
- One teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- One-quarter teaspoon of salt

Maple Whipped Cream

- One cup of heavy whipping cream
- Two tablespoons of confectioner's sugar
- One tablespoon of real maple syrup
- One-quarter teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- Chopped pecans, optional

DIRECTIONS

- Preheat oven to 425.
- Roll the dough to a 1/8-inch-thick circle on a lightly floured surface.
- Transfer the dough to a 9-in. pie plate and

trim the crust to half an inch beyond the rim of the plate; flute the edge and refrigerate while preparing the filling.

Combine the next seven ingredients in a large bowl and beat until smooth.

Pour into crust and bake for 15 minutes.

Reduce the oven heat to 350 and bake for 45 to 50 minutes longer, or until the crust is golden brown and the top of the pie is set.

If necessary, cover the edges of the crust with foil during the last 15 minutes of baking to prevent over-browning.

Cool the pie on a wire rack for one hour. Refrigerate overnight or until set.

In a small bowl, beat the heavy cream, confectioner's sugar, maple syrup, and pumpkin pie spice until stiff peaks form.

Pipe or dollop onto pie and sprinkle with pecans if desired.

Serve and enjoy.

Devotional Page

Soteriology

BY SCOTT HUCKABY

Big Bend Bible Fellowship

Is Christianity just one of the world's many religions competing for the hearts and minds of people? Or is it sufficiently unique to merit more than just a cursory look?

Christianity is unique because it is based on the most amazing event in human history: Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead. But people who consider this too incredible to believe could easily dismiss all the testimony about it as a myth. What is harder to dismiss is an honest look at soteriology, the study of the various religious doctrines of salvation.

Biblical soteriology reveals that eternal salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Jesus Christ alone (Ephesians 2:8-9). The Lord Jesus paid our sin debt when He died on the cross, and all who believe that have eternal life (John 3:16). No other religion bases salvation on faith alone. Besides biblical Christianity, all other religions teach that people can earn God's favor for salvation by doing good works. Indeed, salvation-by-works has been used by religious leaders to control and oppress people throughout human history.

Jesus said, "Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). God breathes life into our spirit when we believe in Jesus. God blesses all who recognize their need for the Savior Jesus Christ with eternal life.

The problem with salvation-by-works is that you never know how good is good enough. Only born-again followers of Jesus Christ have eternal security. We know for sure we are going to heaven when we die and don't have to wonder if our performance has been up to God's standard, which is humanly impossible absolute perfection (Matthew 5:48). Once saved, always saved is a biblical truth. If there is nothing we can do to earn eternal salvation, there is nothing we can do to lose it. If you are born-again, you can't be un-born again.

People get the wrong impression that Christianity is works-based like other religions because Christians are known for their good works. But Christians do good works not to earn salvation but to glorify the Lord who saved us. We do good work out of gratitude for what Jesus did for us. Jesus promised us rewards in eternity for being faithful to His Word and acting in obedience to Him.

Besides the resurrection of Christ and soteriology, there are many other finer points of uniqueness in Christianity. All told the differences are so significant that biblical Christianity is better described as a relationship with the Savior than a religion.

If you've never trusted in Jesus Christ as your Savior, today is a great time to begin doing so (2 Corinthians 6:2).

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"If my people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." ~ 2 Chronicles 7:14

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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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