

Alpine City Council reviews pool rules, road repairs, and alcohol sales

BY KERRY LAIRD
 Correspondent

The Alpine City Council convened Tuesday, April 1, with Mayor Catherine Eaves presiding over a compact agenda that included proclamations, city ordinance amendments, and major infrastructure discussions.

Mayor Eaves began the meeting by delivering three proclamations, calling them “very important” to the community. The first recognized National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, scheduled for April 13-19, 2025. The mayor commended the city’s 911 dispatchers for their “diligence and professionalism” in ensuring public safety.

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INSIDE



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Rainfall totals at Alpine-Casparis Airport

2025	.00"
March	.066"



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.



AHS golf takes district

BY KARA GERBERT
 Managing Editor

On Monday, the Alpine High School boys’ and girls’ golf teams completed round two of their district golf tournament and ended the day as District Champions.

In last week’s round, the boys’ team finished the day with a total score of 353. On Monday, they improved that number by two strokes, finishing the tournament with 351, for a total score of 704.

David Baca shot a 72, followed by Ace Granado with an 85, Alec Ramos with a 94, AJ Llanez with 109, and Iden Lujan shot a solid 100.

The JV team fell a bit short of the top spot on the podium to send them to the regional competition, but they finished as runners-up, falling shy of advancing by



2025 Alpine Fightin’ Buck Golf District Champions are (top row) Coach Marco Gomez, Ace Granado, Iden Lujan, David Baca, AJ Llanez, and Alec Ramos. The bottom row is Alice Saunders, Ferris Daley, Evelyn Smith, Thaddeus Prieto, Analia Adame, Camilo Celaya, Ashlee Neal, Levi Garcia, Colette Fowlkes, and Jenna Vega.

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Courtesy photo

Passing the baton



Junior Emy Hernandez takes the baton from Senior Hope Dominguez Saturday afternoon in the girls’ 4x400m relay at Buck Stadium. The Lady Buck team won the relay over teams from Presidio, Kermit, and Sanderson.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

Conservation through a lens: A Natural Resource Ranger’s story

Editor’s Note: Curtis Martin is currently a graduate student working with the Borderlands Research Institute at Sul Ross State University.

BY CURTIS MARTIN
 Borderlands Research Institute Grad Student

Have you ever wondered how you can contribute to conservation if it isn’t your area of expertise or a daily activity for you? One simple answer lies within the lens of a camera.

Photography can aid conservation by telling stories and conveying information through images that make conservation concepts more meaningful and accessible to a wide audience.

While working as a Natural Resource Ranger in Idaho, one of my daily tasks involved monitoring nests of birds of prey, in-

cluding hawks, eagles, falcons, and kestrels. During one of these monitoring sessions, I saw an animal appear from a crevice near a nest. The photo I took turned out to be the first-ever recorded sighting of a red fox on the City of Rocks National Reserve in Almo, Idaho. This discovery changed the status of the animal from “unknown” to “confirmed” on the inventory list at the reserve and could lead to a future study.

To become a nature photographer, you do not need a professional camera. Smartphones have great capabilities and can produce incredible images. However, knowing some dos and don’ts will help you become a well-informed and responsible nature photographer.

Always research the area and learn about what to do if you



Mountain Bluebird zeroes in on a grasshopper.

Photo by Curtis Martin

encounter wildlife that may be dangerous.

If photographing on private property, make sure you have permission to be there.

Don’t get too close, use bait to attract an animal, or trample/manipulate the surroundings to get the best shot, as this can alter the animal’s behavior or environment.

Don’t post the location of rare or threatened species because it could lead to poaching or illegal collecting of plants or animals.

While nature photography can be powerful, you should also understand some of the benefits and drawbacks. Being a responsible

See NATURE • 8

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OBITUARIES

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Johnny Weyerts

Johnny Weyerts, 88, of Alpine, entered into the arms of our loving Savior on March 28. Born on May 1, 1936, Johnny spent his formative years during World War II, a conflict that claimed his father's life when Johnny was just eight years old. As a young boy, Johnny developed a passion for art and, before graduating high school, learned to stamp and tool leather at a saddle shop in San Angelo.

After high school, Johnny joined the rodeo circuit as a bareback and saddle bronc rider, traveling to Wyoming, where he worked at the Grand Teton Ranch and competed in the Cody Stampede. Following a severe injury that included a punctured lung, seven broken ribs, and a damaged diaphragm, Johnny decided that rodeo was not his calling. He returned to Texas, attended Sul Ross State College, and earned



a degree in Industrial Technology. It was at Sul Ross that Johnny met and married the love of his life, Charlsie. Their nearly 65-year marriage was a testament to their unwavering commitment and devotion, inspiring all who knew them.

Johnys love for art, music, language, wildlife, and teaching was well-known to anyone who had the pleasure of knowing him. Above all, Johnny loved the Lord and cherished people. He was always ready to help those in need, often seizing opportunities to speak or sing in Spanish. Johnny enjoyed hosting the

Spanish hour on KVLV radio in the 1960s. He began his teaching career in Spanish in Sanderson while continuing his studies at Sul Ross to earn a second degree in Spanish. Johnny later taught Spanish and Industrial Arts in Alpine, El Paso, and Cody, Wyoming, where he also raised buffalo, reflecting his admiration for Native American culture.

After returning to Alpine, Johnny continued teaching in public schools while managing a ranch, painting, sculpting, and tooling leather. He loved to play classical and flamenco guitar and faithfully got up every morning to practice. He also taught himself to engrave silver, and if you knew Johnny, you knew he was a perfectionist in everything he did. By 1993, he was teaching engraving classes at the corporate office of Glendo/GRS in Emporia, Kansas. Recognizing demand and a market for those wanting to learn the craft, he founded the Wey-

erts School of Engraving. Students from all over attended his classes, and many people received his beautifully designed pieces, including guns, tooled leather belts, belt buckles, conchos, knives, etc. Johnny's work was featured in numerous publications, including The Firearms Engravers Guild Journal, Rifle Magazine, Guns and Ammo Magazine, Farmer's Friend, Shop Talk, and Tom Turpin's book, Custom Firearms Engraving. In 2021, Johnny published his book, Engraving Designs & Tips, a comprehensive collection of his designs and instructions, beautifully illustrated with photos of his exceptional work. He engraved for celebrities such as Tom Selleck, Larry Hagman, Johnny Cash, and Brad Johnson. In 2002, he was honored with the Engraver of the Year award at the Will Rogers Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Contemporary Cowboy Skills.

Johnny maintained his wonderful sense of humor until his last breath. He is survived by his beloved wife, Charlsie; his daughters and sons-in-law, Jehny and Ross Miles and Sharon and Ron Scoppa; his brother, Gene Weyerts and wife Carolyn; his sister, Sharon Hartley; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. A celebration of his life will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, April 3, at First Presbyterian Church of Alpine.

Services have been entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home. Gifts and condolences may be left at www.alpinememorialfuneralhome.com.

Scott C. Emerick

Scott C. Emerick, MD, originally from South Bend, Indiana, landed and fell in love with Alpine. He passed away Thursday, March 20, at his home in Alpine.

He leaves behind his beloved wife, Irene, and his remarkable sons Aaron Emerick (Miriam) and Seth Emerick (Bekah), his brother Arvey Stone, MD (Leslie Stone, MD), his sisters Janet Minner (Audiologist) of Asheville, North Carolina and Judy Rubinstein of Washington, DC.

Scott was a gifted, double-board-certified vascular/thoracic and general surgeon who worked with his heart and hands. He served the Alpine community at Big Bend Regional Medical Center for more than six years and Pecos County Memorial Hospital in Fort Stockton for more than eight years.

Scott's passion from the beginning of this career as a surgeon was to



provide high-quality surgical care for rural communities around the US, including Bremen Community Hospital in Bremen, Indiana, Pineville Community Hospital in Pineville, Kentucky, in the Appalachian region of Southeast Kentucky.

Scott appreciated and cared very much for the staff in Alpine as well as Fort Stockton. Not only did he greatly respect his surgical technicians, but especially his OR nurses, as well as office nurses, and office team. He cared about and wanted to know the people who assisted him in serving the community.

Scott's love of music was evident to everyone

who knew him. He was a master concertina artist (similar to accordion), and his goal was always to bring people together through music. His time as owner of The Famous Burro in Marathon was filled with playing live concertina music for karaoke for anyone who wandered into the Burro. He loved bringing local musicians into the mix to showcase their musical talents in jam sessions. His Famous Burro staff and local customers were an extension of his family.

Scott enjoyed daily hikes with his three Golden Retrievers. He loved being outdoors and enjoying nature. As a master mechanic, he completely refurbished and rebuilt his dad's 1940s Ford tractor for his son Seth as a heartfelt gift. He was a mechanical encyclopedia for both of his sons as they worked on their own trucks, cars, and tractors.

Scott worked with all of his focus, energy, ex-

perience, and knowledge on each and every patient under his care during his 37 years as a surgeon.

Scott has been in the care of Alpine Memorial Funeral Home, and gifts and condolences may be left at www.alpinememorialfuneralhome.com.

Restaurant Guide

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

REATA RESTAURANT

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

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1/2 BLT Sandwich with Peppercorn Bacon

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Sarah Vasquez
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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Big Bend Regional Hospital District is requesting submissions to select a firm with demonstrated experience in providing professional architectural services for constructing a new facility in Presidio, TX to provide a multi-purpose office space for BBRHD employees, non-medical client services, classroom for educational and fitness purposes, telehealth rooms, and public use space. The facility will be located on approximately one-acre of land owned by the District. The selected firm must be licensed, have experience in buildings of a similar nature, must be able to complete work on time and within budget. Submissions are due by April 17, 2025 at 3:00 PM CST.

For full details visit BigBendHealth.org



BIG BEND HEALTH

Texas Capital Highlights

Senate bill would curb home insurance rates without approval

Lawmakers in the Texas Senate are considering a measure that would require home insurers to get approval from regulators before increasing rates more than 10%, the Houston Chronicle reported.

The bill, sponsored by state Sen. Charles Schwertner, R-Georgetown, would also create a three-member commission to oversee the Texas Department of Insurance. The veteran legislator and others have accused the agency of failing to prioritize consumers.

Homeowner insurance rates have skyrocketed in recent years, up an average 21% in 2023, double the average hikes of previous years. Insurers currently can file rate increases with the state and immediately put them in effect. TDI has not denied a single rate filing out of 22,000 submitted since 2017, according to a Hearst Newspapers analysis.

"That's a question mark I have regarding how aggressively TDI is overseeing rate changes," Schwertner said.

In a recent hearing, insurers defended their rates, blaming the state's extreme weather and saying the present system has enabled Texas to have a "highly competitive market," ac-

ording to Scot Kibbe, the vice president of state government relations at the American Property Casualty Insurance Association.

Abbott: Texas on 'cusp' of approving voucher bill

Gov. Greg Abbott continues to push his top legislative priority, a universal school choice plan that allows public dollars to be spent for private-school tuition, The Dallas Morning News reported.

"We're going to get this across the finish line," Abbott said during a Capitol news conference. "When we do, Texans will see that when it comes to education, it's not one or the other. It's not either public schools or school choice. We can do both."

The Senate version of what is popularly known as a voucher plan passed in February. House Speaker Dustin Burrows, R-Lubbock, said last week that chamber's proposal would likely be approved this week.

Critics point to a similar plan passed in Arizona, which has grown more than 10-fold since being implemented. They also point out private school options are limited in rural areas and for low-income families.

The state's Legislative Budget Board projects costs for an education

savings account program would increase from \$1 billion in 2027 to about \$4 billion in 2030, a project Abbott said was "based on nothing but fiction."

'Volatile' hurricanes expected in 2025, forecasters say

As hurricane season approaches, meteorologists with AccuWeather are predicting 2025 could bring "volatile hurricanes" similar to those seen in 2017 and 2023, the Statesman reported. "AccuWeather is forecasting near to above the historical average number of named storms, hurricanes, major hurricanes, accumulated cyclone energy and direct impacts to the United States," said AccuWeather's Alex DaSilva.

Forecasters expect 13 to 18 named storms in the Atlantic, with three to five major hurricanes reaching Category 3 strength or higher. Texas is among states facing higher-than-average risk of direct hits from hurricanes, and storms could rapidly intensify before making landfall.

The state was hit by two hurricanes last year. In June, Hurricane Beryl turned into a Category 5 storm quickly, gaining 95 mph in less than two days before striking Matagorda Island.

IV Bar holds grand opening



The IV Bar, owned and operated by Amy and Austin Stinnett held its grand opening and ribbon cutting on Friday evening. The Stinnett's (center) were joined by friends and family and the Alpine Ambassadors.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

Big Bend Conservancy working to expand national park

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The Big Bend Conservancy (BBC) has announced that the Big Bend National Park Boundary Adjustment Act has been introduced to Congress by Senator

John Cornyn (R-TX), Representative Tony Gonzales (R-TX), and Senator Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM).

With this legislation, the BBC hopes to add an additional 6,100 acres to Big Bend National Park (BBNP) along Terlingua

Creek.

BBC purchased the land with the hope that if added as part of BBNP, it would not only increase the physical presence but also preserve and maintain precious resources within the additional land.

Nick Loveland to speak at NPSOT meeting

The Big Bend Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas will hold a program at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 5, at the Fort Davis Public Library.

Nick Loveland will present an overview of the mission of the Rio Grande Joint Venture.

Rio Grande Joint Venture is a local Alpine organization that specializes in riparian and grassland habitat restoration.

After the discussion, Nick will lead the group to a local site that demonstrates their restoration techniques. Come see how this local

organization operates. Come learn with the Native Plant Society.

All are welcome, and you need not be a member to attend. To sign up or get information, contact Fonda at fondag@sbcglobal.net, as space is limited.

SKYWARN scheduled for Tuesday

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The National Weather Service out of Midland and Odessa will present a SKYWARN weather safety and preparedness

seminar on Tuesday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m. in room 130 of the Turner Range Animal Science Center. The event is free, and all ages are welcome to attend. The seminar is intended to

teach attendees about severe weather, severe weather safety, and the wild weather of West Texas. For more information or a full schedule go to: weather.gov/maf/top_skywarn.

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Opinions

ONLINE POLL

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Now the Avalanche asks:
What is your favorite springtime activity?

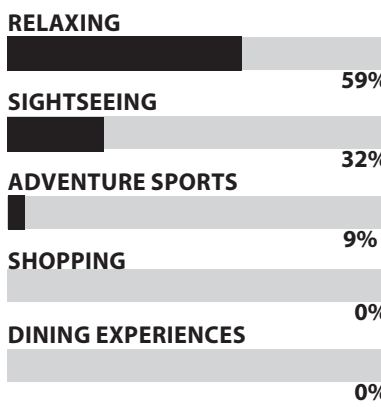
- Riding your bike
- Playing outdoor sports
- Reading
- Gardening
- Other

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

RESULTS

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SPRING BREAK ACTIVITY?

RESULTS



LETTERS

Send us your letters.

Please include your name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Only your name and city will be published.

Letters should be no more than 300 words.

Letters become the property of the Alpine Avalanche and may be edited prior to publication for spelling and grammatical errors, clarity and length. Ad hominem attacks will not be accepted. Letters that include profanity or libel will not be printed.

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

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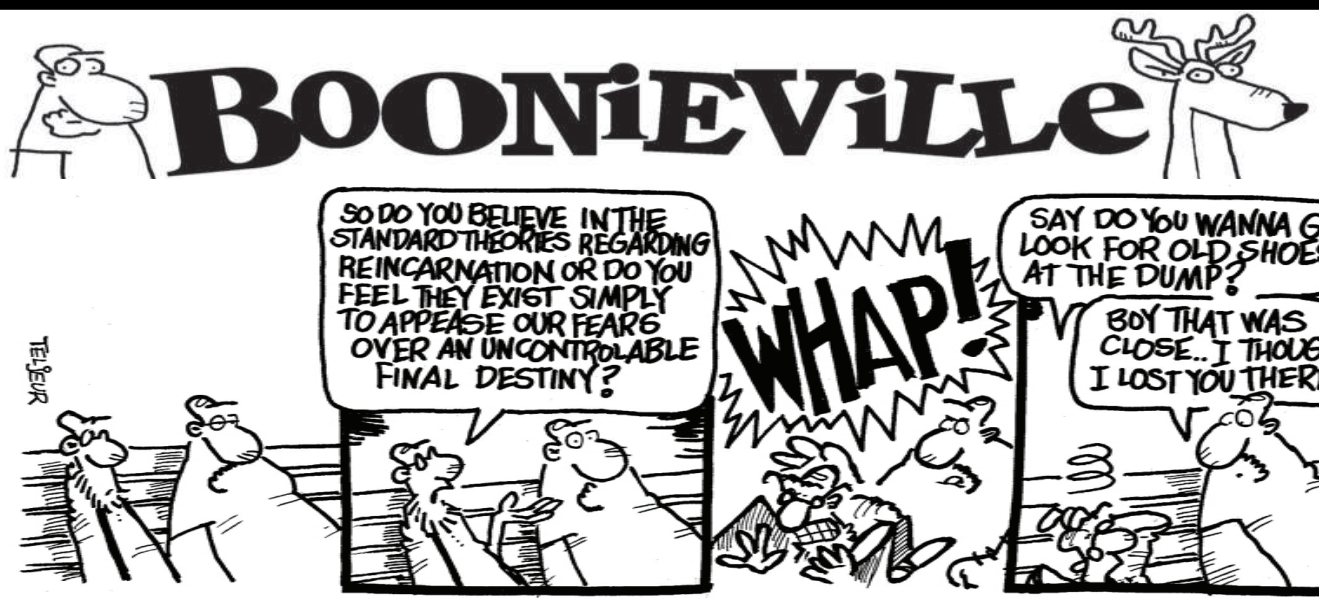
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Collaboration across the Big Bend strengthens education opportunities

The Big Bend Rural Initiative for Success in Education (BB-RISE) is a groundbreaking partnership between Alpine ISD, Marfa ISD, and Marathon ISD, designed to expand Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities for students in the Big Bend region of Texas. This initiative aims to create an “innovation zone,” a Texas Education Agency designation that provides additional state funding to support CTE programs accessible to all three districts.

BB-RISE facilitates inter-district CTE programs, enabling students to enroll in specialized courses offered by neighboring schools while remaining in their home district. For example, in the first year of this project, Marfa and Marathon ISD high

school students can participate in Alpine ISD’s certified nursing assistant (CNA) program, and Alpine ISD and Marfa ISD students can enroll in the Business Pathway program at Marathon ISD.

A key partner in this initiative is the Education Partnership of the Permian Basin (EPPB), which serves as a regional collective impact backbone. EPPB brings educators, employers, and stakeholders together to ensure seamless transitions from education to the workforce. The BB-RISE Regional Director reports directly to the EPPB Executive Director and the three district superintendents,



JARRETT VICKERS
 Regional Director BB-RISE

emphasizing the collaborative effort to improve regional educational outcomes.

CTE programs play a crucial role in the Big Bend community by equipping students with the skills needed for high-demand, high-wage careers. By aligning educational pathways with local workforce needs, BB-RISE prepares students for the job market and contributes to the area’s economic growth. The initiative’s focus on nursing and business management reflects a strategic response to regional labor demands.

A key aspect of funding for this project is the \$500,000 Texas Regional Pathways

Network (TRPN) grant that Alpine ISD and BB-RISE were awarded. The TRPN grant is essential in advancing educational and career pathways for students across Texas, particularly by strengthening partnerships between K-12 schools, higher education institutions, and local industries. This grant helps to create seamless pathways for students to transition from education to high-demand careers by funding initiatives that align curriculum with industry needs.

BB-RISE represents a major step forward for regional education by fostering inter-district collaboration, addressing workforce needs, and equipping students with the skills necessary for success beyond high school.

How do they possibly know

“Sometimes I think we are alone in the universe, and sometimes I think we’re not. In either case, the idea is quite staggering.”

— Arthur C. Clarke, (1917 – 2008)

English science fiction writer

Mount Pleasant friend and MPHS classmate Dick Zachary noted his struggle last week to comprehend how much “six trillion times several billion” might be.

I agree. I don’t recall Mount Pleasant High equipping us with math skills to solve that equation.

Calculating the cost of a Frito pie at the Tiger Den across the street ... maybe.

Dick’s bewilderment was triggered by a newspaper article he shared with his social media post. I didn’t see a source, but a portion of what looked to be an Associated Press byline was visible. The headline reported, “Sneaking a peek at distant galaxies — Data trove from European telescope previews areas of new six-year study.”

The text read, “A European space telescope launched to explore the dark universe has released a trove of new data on distant galaxies.

“The images and other data released Wednesday by the European Space Agency’s Euclid observatory includes a preview of three cosmic areas

that the mission will study in finer detail, mapping the shapes and locations of galaxies billions of light years away. A light-year is nearly six trillion miles.”

And this is where Dick asked, “How do they possibly know? It blows my mind. At the speed of light, it would take around 20 years just for a light beam to reach a billion miles.”

I bring up my friend’s curiosity not to imply that I have an answer, far from it. I still get cross-eyed trying to figure out how the app on my phone knows where I am and where I am going, and I missed the last three turns. And that’s in just a few miles, not six trillion miles in deep space.

Trying to grasp distance in space, however, does remind me of my daughter Robin. And a conversation we shared on the back porch one night at our home in the Texas Hill Country near the Medina River. Some three decades ago.

Robin inherited my gift of gab and thirst for questions that make one wonder, which led to some wonderful and often spirited conversations. That and the fact that she excelled in high school debate, a skill she practiced with me as a teenager—moments I re-



LEON ALDRIDGE
 Guest Columnist

member as if they had happened just yesterday.

“Do you ever wonder how far the sky goes,” she quizzed me one night while gazing at the stars.

“That’s easy,” I replied. “The sky, the heavens, it never ends.”

Silence.

“What do you mean ... it never ends,” she responded.

“It never ends,” I repeated. “Space continues for infinity.”

Silence. The silence was a small victory in conversations with my children—usually short-lived but a victory nonetheless.

“No, wait,” she recovered. “That’s not possible. It has to end somewhere. Everything has to have a beginning and an end.”

“Not necessarily. Space is one of them,” I said. “It has no beginning and no end.”

Silence. “Dad, there has to be an end somewhere.”

“OK,” I proposed. “Let’s say that you are right, that trillions and trillions of miles and light years out there is a stop sign that says, ‘The end. Space ends here. Please take an alternate route to wherever you were going.’ Something has to be on the other side of that sign. There has to be something. With space and the universe, there cannot be nothing.”

More silence.

Before she could compose a response, I added, “Let me give you something else to think about. Just as the heavens have no end, time also has no end.”

“Daadddd,” she objected with frustration in her voice.

“God created the heavens and the earth,” I said. “And God has always existed. There never was a time when there was no God. He created the heaven and the earth. It’s all in the Bible.”

Longer silence this time.

“Do you want to know something else,” I asked.

“No,” she replied. “We’ve covered enough space and time for one night.”

She got up and turned toward the door. “Good night, Dad. All of this makes my brain hurt. I’m going to bed.”

So, how do they know? Maybe I can get Robin and Dick together so they can figure it out. Then they can let me know.

Goodness knows I can’t help them. I can’t even follow a GPS without missing a turn.

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 512-463-0119

Greg Henington
 Brewster County Judge
 P.O. Box 1630

Alpine, Texas 79831
 432-837-2412

Michelle Rinehart
 Alpine ISD Superintendent
 704 W. Sul Ross Ave
 Alpine, TX 79830
 432-837-7700, Ext. 4

Catherine Eaves
 Mayor
 100 N. 13th St.
 Alpine, Texas 79830
 432-837-3301

Greg Abbott

Governor
 Office of the Governor
 P.O. Box 12428
 Austin, TX 78711-2428
 800-843-5789

Dan Patrick
 Lt. Governor
 P.O. Box 12068
 Austin, TX 78711
 512-463-0001

Ken Paxton
 Attorney General
 512-463-2100

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

Upcoming Events

April 5 Authors Forum, 3 p.m. at the Jeff Davis County Library. Authors Jason Stone and Larry Francell will highlight their books in a forum moderated by Liz Rogers. Fort Davis resident Francell will discuss his book "My Summer Vacation: The Victorio Campaign Journal of Robert Grierson 1880," and Stone will introduce his Western novel, "Beauty of Days Gone By." This program is free and sponsored by Friends of the Library.

April 5 Quilt Show, 10 a.m. at the Sunshine House

April 8 SkyWarn Weather Safety and Preparedness training, 6:30 p.m. in the Range Animal Science lecture hall (Room 130). This is an annual event

for emergency responders and the amateur radio community throughout West Texas put on by the National Weather Service. This is sponsored by the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club. For more information, visit weather.gov/maf/top_skywarn.

April 12 Heirloom Preservation, 9:30 a.m. at Jeff Davis County Library. April Smith will be on hand to demonstrate how to preserve old yearbooks, family correspondences, and other antique documents and books. For more details call 432-426-3802.

April 18-20 34th Annual Gem and Mineral Show

April 21-22 Water Well Informed Screening, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. water samples may be dropped off on April 21 at the Brewster County AgriLife Extension Office: 2101 FM 1703, Brewster Groundwater Conserva-



tion District: 201 W. Ave E, or the Presidio County Underground Water Conservation District: 2nd Floor Courthouse. A results and interpreting meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 22 at 8 a.m. at the Judge Val Clark Beard Office Complex at 207 N. 7th Street in Alpine. Sample containers should be picked up before April 21 from

any of the above locations, and each sample costs \$15. For more information contact Joel Pigg at 979-321-5946 or email j-pigg@tamu.edu.

April 25-26 Spirits of the West April 26 Alpine Dark Skies Celebration

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 bbcchorale.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, 10 a.m., first Saturday of each month at 605 E. Ave F. All members are welcome.

ALPINE AVALANCHE
Heard on the STREET

What would it take for you to own an electric car?



Dana Foster:
I own an electric car, and it's faster than your gas car.



Eric Holloway:
If I could charge it as fast as I can fill up my gas tank, I'd be all in.



Maggie Joseph:
More charging stations, especially out here. I don't want to plan my life around a battery.



Jed Simpson:
Shoot, you wouldn't catch me in one of those things. I'd rather drive a Fred Flintstone car.



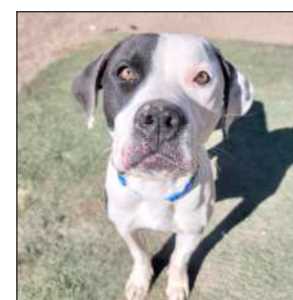
Juan Pantera:
If it could tow my trailer and not leave me stranded in the middle of nowhere I'd think about it.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Porky came into the shelter in late January this year, a week after his companion Sweetie. They were both an urgent rescue as they had porcupine quills embedded in their faces that were beginning to become infected. You can see some pink spots on his muzzle from the scars of where the quills were. Porky was scared and skittish when he was first captured, but within a day, he was ready to make new friends after having veterinary treatment and a couple of good meals. He has done well with children and is very gentle with them.



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. It will soon be time for kitten fosters; we provide supplies and support, so come in and sign up to be a foster at the Thrift Store. Look for us in April at Spirits of the West!

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.

Porky is very motivated by treats; he is willing to please and learn new things. He walks well on a leash and keeps his kennel clean. A little time invested with him will yield a lifelong companion and hiking buddy. Meet Porky today at the Alpine Animal Services Shelter, 2900 Old Marathon Hwy.

Make this year about helping our community. Contact Alpine Animal Services to volunteer 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.

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION FOR MUNICIPALITIES
AVISO DE ELECCIÓN GENERAL PARA MUNICIPIOS

To the registered voters of the County of Brewster, Texas:
(A los votantes registrados del Condado de Brewster, Texas)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., 5/3/2025 for voting in a general election to elect: City Council Member Ward 1.

(Notifíquese por la presente, que los sitios de votación citados abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 3/5/2025 para votar en la elección general para elegir: Miembro del consejo del distrito 1.

On Election Day, voters must vote in the precinct where registered to vote, unless the countywide polling place program is being used in the election.
(El Día de Elección, los votantes deberán votar en el precinto donde están inscritos para votar, a menos que el programa de sitios de votación del condado se está utilizando en la elección.)

Location of Election Day Polling Places Include Name of Building and Address (Sitios de votación el Día de Elección, Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)	Precinct Number(s) (Número de precinto)
City Council Chambers 803 W. Holland Avenue Alpine, Texas 79830	Ward 1

During early voting, a voter may vote at any of the locations listed below:
(Durante Votación Adelantada, los votantes podrán votar en cualquiera de los sitios de votación nombradas abajo.)

Location of Main Early Voting Polling Place Include Name of Building and Address (Sitio principal de votación adelantada Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)	Days and Hours of Operation Días y Horas Hábiles
City Council Chambers 803 W. Holland Avenue Alpine, Texas 79830	Weekdays: April 22, 2025 - April 29, 2025 (Entre Semana: 22 de abril del 2025 - 29 de abril del 2025) 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Locations for Branch Early Voting Polling Places Include Name of Building and Address (Sitios sucursal de votación adelantada Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)	Days and Hours of Operation Días y Horas Hábiles
NONE (Ninguno)	NONE (Ninguno)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán enviarse a:)

Geoffrey R. Calderon, City Secretary
Name of Early Voting Clerk
(Nombre del Secretario/a de la Votación Adelantada)

100 N. 13th Street
Address (Dirección)

Alpine 79830
City (Ciudad) Zip Code (Código Postal)

432-837-3301
Telephone Number (Número de teléfono)

city.secretary@cityofalpine.com
Email Address (Dirección de Correo Electrónico)

www.cityofalpine.com/elections
Early Voting Clerk's Website (Sitio web del Secretario/a de Votación Adelantada)

Applications for Ballots by Mail (ABBMs) must be received no later than the close of business on: (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán recibirse no más tardar de las horas de negocio el:)
4/22/2025. (date/fecha)

Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) must be received no later than the close of business on:
(La Tarjeta Federal Postal de Solicitud deberán recibirse no más tardar de las horas de negocio el:)
4/22/2025. (date/fecha)

Issued this 1st day of APRIL, 2025.
(day) (month) (year)

(Emitada este día 1 de ABRIL del 2025.)
(día) (mes) (año)

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Sports

Coach Virdell hits 100 wins

Lady Bucks keep the pedal to the metal in district

BY KERRY LAIRD
Sports Editor

The Alpine Lady Bucks are in full swing, racking up dominant district wins and showing no signs of slowing down. Over the past two games, they have outscored their opponents 28-1, keeping their bats hot, their defense sharp, and their pitching nearly untouchable.

With a commanding 13-1 road win over Kermit on Friday and a 15-0 shut-out of Anthony at home on Monday, the Lady Bucks extended their district record to a flawless 5-0.

Friday's matchup against Kermit started as a defensive battle, with both teams keeping the scoreboard blank through the first inning. At the top of the second, sophomore Taryn Hardin sparked Alpine's offense with a single-line drive to center.

The Kermit pitcher struggled with control, and Hardin wasted no time swiping second base to put herself in scoring position. Junior Emily Sweat struck



Coach Chris Virdell hit his 100th win as the head coach for the Alpine Lady Bucks softball team in their defeat over Kermit on Friday. Virdell is pictured here giving instructions to his freshman slugger, Kacy Hawkins.

Photo by Felipe Fierro

out swinging but forced a wild pitch that got away from the catcher, allowing Hardin to race home and put Alpine on the board.

Kermit responded in the bottom of the second with a run of their own, tying the game at 1-1. Both teams kept their defenses locked in through the third, but in the top of the fourth,

the Lady Bucks broke the deadlock.

Sweat reached first on an error, and junior Kody Hawkins followed with a single, putting runners at first and second. A wild pitch let both advance, setting up junior Trinity Vega to cash in with a groundout RBI, scoring Sweat and moving Hawkins to third.

Sophomore Alyna Gutierrez stepped up next, sending a shot to center field to bring Hawkins home, giving Alpine a 3-1 lead.

That could have been enough to seal the deal, as Kermit never found another way to score off Hardin or the airtight Alpine de-

See SOFTBALL • 7

Fightin' Bucks successful at home relays

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

Alpine held its annual Fightin' Buck Relays this past Saturday at Buck Stadium, and many Runnin' Bucks earned hardware in both the JV and varsity contests.

In the boys' 100m dash, Thaddeus Prieto earned a second-place finish for the JV boys with a time of 12.25 seconds. Likewise, for the varsity, JP Valenzuela earned a second-place finish with a time of 11.47 seconds, followed by fourth place for Jack Juett and 10th place for Ferris Daley.

In the JV boys' 200m, Tae Hardwick placed first, followed by Dominic Rodriguez in second. Kelton Tarrant placed sixth for the varsity, followed by Daley in ninth and Juett in 10th.

The JV boys also took the first two spots on the podium in the 400m, with Harlo Vargas placing first and Landon Velasco in second. For the varsity, Clegg Fowlkes placed second, followed by Everett Edwards in fourth and Tarrant in sixth.

See RELAYS • 7



Freshman Jianna Martinez and Rose DeGuia are neck and neck as they clear their final hurdles on Saturday afternoon at Buck Stadium.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

AMS tennis shines in Fabens

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The Alpine Middle School tennis team traveled to Fabens this past weekend to compete in the Fabens Tennis Invitational. Both the boy's and girl's teams did well.

Seventh-grade girls singles earned a first and third-place finish, with Zoe Munoz earning the gold and Caisyn Hinojos the bronze. The seventh-grade boys' singles took the top spots on the podium for the Bucks, with



Leah Struthers earned another first-place medal in the 8th-grade girls' singles.

Courtesy photo

Roman Holguin placing first and Rhyder Vasquez placing second. In the

seventh-grade boys' doubles, the team of Ty Ritchie and Brody Warren placed first, while Reuben Prieto and Chris Cordova took home the second-place win.

In eighth grade, Leah Struthers earned gold in girls' singles. For the eighth-grade boys, Abram Portillo placed third in singles, while Matthew Reagan and Matthias Prieto placed first in boys' doubles, and Barry Young and Colt Billings placed third.

AHS tennis earns hardware at Sul Ross

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The Alpine High School JV tennis team participated in the Jean Everett Memorial Tennis Invitational hosted by Fort Davis High School on the Sul Ross campus on Friday.

In the girl's singles division, Kelston Behan placed second, while Madalyn Carter earned consolation. In the girl's doubles, the team of Abby Bruttomesso and Sophie Janis took the top spot while Emmory Mercado and Kealie Reagan took second for Alpine. Consolation went to the team of Roxell Adams and Taryn Klockman.

In the mixed doubles, Alpine brought home a second and third-place finish. The team of John Paul Prieto and Bella Sanchez earned second-place commendations while the team of Jack Juett and Elizabeth Marta took home third.

The varsity team played the following day, Saturday, March 29 but did not medal.

"Although our varsity

didn't bring home any medals, they showed tremendous improvement in key skills across the board. Our doubles teams were communicating well on the

court and improving their net play, and the singles players showed quicker footwork and court coverage overall," said Head Coach Lauren Martinez.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

ABBY BRUTTOMESSO
SOPHIE JANIS

Abby Bruttomesso and Sophie Janis
Girls Doubles
1st Place at last weeks meet.

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SOFTBALL • FROM 7

fense. But the Lady Bucks weren't finished, and they did what they do best — put double digits on the scoreboard.

In the top of the fifth, Alpine erupted for 10 runs to put the game out of reach. Sweat singled for an RBI, Gutierrez added another, and sophomore Zariah Galvan delivered the biggest hit of the inning — a rocket to right field for a two-run triple.

Senior Jaycee Portillo kept the rally rolling with a groundout RBI, and Hardin helped her own cause

with an RBI single. By the time the dust settled, Alpine had a commanding 13-1 lead, and Kermit had no answers.

Hardin earned the win in the circle, allowing just three hits and one unearned run in five innings while striking out two and walking two. The Lady Bucks piled up 11 hits, with Hardin and Gutierrez each collecting two.

Hawkins, Galvan, and Gutierrez each drove in a pair of runs, and Alpine was aggressive on the basepaths, swiping five bases. A double play helped the defense stay crisp as Alpine closed

out their fifth straight district victory.

Back home on Monday night, Alpine looked to keep the momentum rolling against Anthony in a rematch of their 23-0 win on the road earlier in the season. This time, the Lady Bucks cruised to a 15-0 win in three innings, making it another night to remember — especially for Head Coach Christopher Virdell, who officially celebrated his 100th career victory with the Kermit win.

Alpine wasted no time setting the tone, putting up four runs in the first inning. Hardin delivered

early with a two-run double, followed by a tag-up run from Hawkins and a steal of home to make it 4-0. Vega then grounded out, bringing in another run to give Alpine a 5-0 lead after one.

The second inning saw another offensive explosion, with the Lady Bucks putting up 10 runs to slam the door shut on Anthony. Hawkins crushed a triple to score two, Sweat brought in another on a groundout, and a defensive error plated two more.

Gutierrez and Galvan both singled in runs, while Portillo drew a bases-loaded walk for an RBI.

By the time a passed ball let another run cross, the scoreboard read 15-0, and the Lady Wildcats had no chance to claw their way back.

Hardin continued her dominance in the circle, tossing a three-inning shutout while allowing just one hit, striking out three, and issuing no walks.

Alpine collected nine hits, with Galvan leading the way with a perfect two-for-two night at the plate. Hardin, Sweat, Galvan, and Hawkins each drove in two runs. The Lady Bucks stayed patient at the plate, drawing five

walks, with Portillo leading the way with three.

Their speed on the bases was relentless, swiping 10 bags on the night, with Hardin, Galvan, Portillo, and Rikki Vega each stealing multiple. Another double play added to the team's strong defensive showing.

Monday's win marked Alpine's sixth straight victory, keeping them undefeated in district play. With just a few games left on the district slate, the Lady Bucks look poised to continue their dominance. Up next is a road trip to Presidio, where they'll look to repeat their 19-4 victory from earlier in the season.

RELAYS • FROM 7

JV runner Velasco took the top spot in the boys' 800m, with Matthew Pitts earning a fourth-place finish. For the varsity runners, JP Prieto earned a second-place finish in the boys' 800m, with Edwards coming in fifth.

In the longer races, senior Hatfield Cason earned a first-place spot in the varsity boys' 1600m and the 3200m. Zane Perkins placed fourth in the varsity boys' 3200m.

Alpine earned second and fifth place in the boys' JV 110m hurdles with Alan Navarette and Raul Renteria. John Mendoza and Izaak Fierro placed second and fourth in the varsity 110m hurdles. In the boys' 300m hurdles, JV runners Renteria and Navarette placed second and third, respectively. At the same time, on the varsity team, Cason and Mendoza took the top two spots, followed by Fierro in fourth.

Alpine dominated the boys' high jump, with Dae Hardwick placing first and Tarrant in second. Alpine also placed third in the pole vault, with Juett clearing 9'0".

The JV boys earned second, third, and fourth-place finishes in the long jump, led by Thaddeus Prieto, followed by Tae Hardwick and Dominic Rodriguez. The varsity earned second and third by jumps from Ethan Flores at 18'7" and Logan Smith at 18'2". In the triple jump, Alpine's JV boys earned first and second with jumps from Tae Hardwick and Rodriguez. Alpine's varsity also earned first place in the



In a game of seconds, Alpine's Hatfield Cason and John Mendoza took the top two spots in the varsity boys' 300m hurdles on Saturday. Cason took first with a time of 43.09 followed by Mendoza at 43.41.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

triple jump, with a leap of 38'2" from Kelton Tarrant. Daley finished fifth for Alpine.

In other field events, Cain Vidal placed first for the JV boys in the discus.

Like the boys', the Lady Bucks earned top spots in many events.

JV runners Sophie Janis and Trinity Vega took the top two spots in the 100m race, while Danica Mulholland took first for the varsity, followed by Kylie Maroney in third and Gyllian Morrissey in fourth. In the 200m JV race, Andynne Ramirez placed third, while Emmory Mercado came in fifth.

Varsity 200m runners took all three spots atop the podium, with Mulholland coming in first, Collette Fowlkes in second, and Morrissey in third.

The girls' 400m JV runners Ramirez and Vega placed second and third, respectively, while the varsity runners Emy Hernandez and Fowlkes placed first and second.

Ramirez won the JV 800m race, followed by Alyssa Ramos in second place. Varsity runner Alice Saunders placed third

in the 800m. In the longer races, Hope Dominguez took the top spot in the girls' 1600m with a time of 6:03.44, 10.45 seconds ahead of the second-place finisher. Alpine's Saunders placed third. Alpine's Molly Garrett placed sixth in the girls' 3200m.

All three top spots in the JV 100m hurdles were once again Alpine. Rose DeGuia earned first, followed by Amerbly Tarrant in second and J-anna Martinez in third. Alpine's Naida Morris placed second in the varsity 100m hurdle race.

In the 300m hurdles, Tarrant placed first, followed by DeGuia and Martinez in second and third. Morris also placed second for the varsity in the 300m hurdles, followed by Taryn Hardin in fourth.

The only relay team for the JV girls was the 4x100m relay, with Alpine placing first. The varsity team placed third in the 4x100m relay, first in the 4x200m relay, and first in the 4x400m relay.

Finally, Roxell Adams placed second in the JV shot put with a throw of

24'10", and Vega earned a third-place finish with 22'5". On the varsity team, Ailea Fierro placed third with a throw of 30'4", and Makenzee Deleon earned a seventh-place finish. The JV discus throwers Vega and Aila Carpenter took first and second place, respectively, followed by Adams in fifth. Fierro earned third place for the varsity team, with Deleon rounding out the event with an eighth-place finish.

The Runnin' Bucks top off their regular season today with the district meet here in Alpine, with field events beginning at 10 a.m.



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AHS sends 21 students to Regional UIL competition



This group of students competed in Kermit last week in the 3A District UIL meet, with 21 of them advancing to regional competition. The students competed in Accounting, Social Studies, Calculator App, Mathematics, Copy Editing, Literary Criticism, Spelling, Current Issues, Headline Writing, Science, and Number Sense.

COUNCIL • FROM 1

The second proclamation recognized National Animal Care and Control Appreciation Week, also taking place April 13-19.

The third proclamation declared April 21-28 as International Dark Sky Week, with Alpine's new dark-sky ordinance set to take effect this summer.

Among the discussion items on the agenda was a proposed ordinance to amend rules for the municipal swimming pool. The proposed updates clarify and expand pool rules, including prohibiting BBQ pits and electric grills, increasing the minimum age for unsupervised children from six to thirteen, and expanding tobacco restrictions to include vaping and dipping. The ordinance also introduces fines of up to \$500 per violation.

"I looked through this, and changes needed to

be made," said Mayor Eaves, noting the need for the increase in the minimum age for unsupervised children.

The council also reviewed a proposal to purchase an asphalt zipper, a road repair equipment, through the Government Capital Equipment Purchasing Program. During a city council workshop, the Public Works Department identified the need for an upgraded model in October 2024.

The cost of the recommended model is \$331,560, with financing options of either \$78,782 annually over five years or \$123,941 annually over three years. The first payment would not be due for one year.

Alpine City Manager Megan Antrim explained that acquiring the asphalt zipper would allow Alpine to handle street repairs in-house rather than relying on third-party contractors, which

is both costly and time-consuming.

"It's going to help rebuild the city roads," she said, estimating that repaving one block would take approximately an hour and a half with the new equipment, a big reduction compared to the current time.

The council then moved on to action items, beginning with the first reading of an ordinance that amends regulations regarding the sale of alcohol within the city. The revised ordinance establishes zoning districts where alcohol sales are permitted, introduces a requirement for special use permits for C-2 properties directly abutting residential districts, and allows for fines of up to \$500 per violation.

On March 18, the city council discussed amending the ordinance after the city attorney recommended that alcohol sales in residential

districts be regulated through zoning ordinances rather than outright prohibited.

After some discussion, Councilor Stephens proposed an amendment allowing temporary permits for alcohol sales at festivals and similar events, which was unanimously approved. With the amendment and a typographical error correction, the ordinance passed its first reading unanimously.

The council also approved the first reading of authorizing the vacation, abandonment, and sale of unimproved portions of Saltillo Avenue, Monterey Avenue, Tuluco Avenue, and Morilos Avenue in the Colima Addition, which runs along North 16th Street.

The original appraisal for the properties, including Avenue C, was \$30,000. After removing Avenue C from the valuation, the recalculated

market value stood at \$27,587.20. The funds from the sale will be deposited in the city's general fund for street improvements. The first

reading passed unanimously.

The Alpine City Council will hold its next regular meeting at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 15.

NATURE • FROM 1

photographer will help ensure that your actions have a positive impact.

Photographs help document new data/information about a species and can even lead to the discovery of a new species or a known species in a new area.

Photographs tell a story. They allow people to see plants, animals, or environments others might not ever have access to such as a desert super bloom or a snow leopard.

They capture a moment in time and may inspire people to understand the importance of conservation.

Posting locations of especially rare or threatened species can lead to an increase of people that the area can't handle and could result in damage to the environment.

Sometimes, photographs can have the opposite effect from what a photographer intended. Photos can evoke strong negative emotions as well as posi-

tive ones.

One platform that can make much more of an impact is iNaturalist. This citizen science platform consists of a community of biologists, conservationists, and people all over the world who enjoy nature. You can learn about new species and participate in various projects that can be species-specific. The observations you share help improve everyone's understanding of the natural environment.

If you are too focused

on getting the perfect photograph, the moment may be less meaningful. Sometimes the best photographs happen by accident. Don't stress over not photographing what you want the first time; sometimes the opportunity passes quickly, or it might take several images to get the shot you want. Remember, you are outside in nature and the importance is to have fun. Every photograph tells a story and has the potential to make a difference in conservation.

AHS • FROM 1

28 strokes.

Leading the boys' second team was Ferris Daley who shot a 99, followed by Camilo Celaya with 101, Levi Garcia with 103, and Thaddeus Prieto with 122.

For the third year running, David Baca earned the District Champion title, with Ace Granado hot on his heels in second place by staying consistent on both days of the tournament.

For the JV team, Levi Garcia and Camilo Celaya did well enough to qualify for the regional tournament individually, earning medals at the district level.

For the girls' team, Colette Fowlkes led the team and earned a first-place individual medal, shooting 181 combined for the two-day tournament. Evelyn Smith finished the tournament in second place, with a combined total of 199,

and Jenna Vega placed third with 209. Ashlee Neal shot 218, Analia Adame shot 232, and Alice Saunders shot 216, which earned her a medal and advanced her to the regional competition.

"Our team goal at the beginning of the season was winning a District Championship, and the boys and girls did it. I'm very proud of every single one of them. Hopefully, after winning the district title, this will give them more confidence to keep playing smart," said Head Coach Marco Gomez

The boys' team will travel to Abilene on April 16-17 for the Regional Tournament to be held at the Diamondback Golf Course. The girls' team will travel to Baird on April 14-15 and compete at the Regional Tournament at the Shady Oaks Golf Course.

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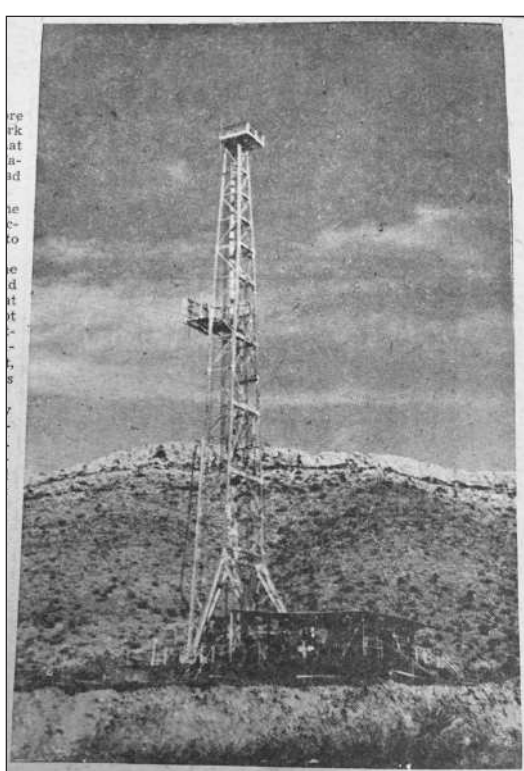
April 28, 1957

April 28, 1957

April 5, 1957



ON TOP — Workers for the Home System TV Antenna are shown on top of Twin Peaks Mountain with the 300-foot transmitter which will retransmit KORA-TV Channel 1 program on UHF Channel 17. From left: F. M. Gonzalez, M. de la Rosa, Cruz N. Espinoza, Federico Hernandez and M. Y. Alvarez. At right is Ken Higgins, Big Bend student and president of Home System TV. (Photo by ...)



TURNER TEST — Durham Drilling Co. is deepening the Fred Turner Jr. No. 1 G. S. Combs wildcat to 10,000 feet. The stratigraphic test, 16 miles south of Marathon, was drilled originally to 4370 feet. Mr. Turner, Midland oil man, said the test is being drilled for information.

4500 Fans See Exhibition At Kokernot Field

Over 4500 chilled fans from over the Southwest watched the Baltimore Orioles clobber the Chicago Cubs 18-5 at Kokernot Field here Thursday afternoon.

A strong north wind whipped the model baseball park as the two major league clubs put on an unexciting exhibition game.

The Orioles sewed up the contest in the 3rd inning with 6 runs. They added 2 in the 4th, 1 in the 6th, 4 each in the 7th and 8th and a final marker in the 9th.

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

April 5, 1957

Gets First NAIA Tourney



BU LADDER — The Big Bend State ...

Bright light allows crotons to develop vivid color

Dear Neil, I bought several crotons to decorate for Halloween last year. Obviously, I had them indoors over the winter, but they have faded to mostly green now. What did I do wrong, and how can I get the brilliant reds and oranges back?

Like many other variegated plants, crotons need bright light to develop their most intense leaf colors. Household lighting is far too dark to meet those needs. Gradually reintroduce them to the morning sun with afternoon shade, and you'll see their new growth take on the brilliant shades you had last fall.

Dear Neil, the wind has caused a crack in a 4-inch branch on a hackberry tree that extends over our driveway. Can a limb like that be bound or screwed back together?

Without a photo I'm not coming near that question. The risks of damage to property and injury to

GARDENER'S MAILBAG
by neil sperry



Crotons. would need to be 12 or 15 ft. out from the crack. But it is very unlikely that an arborist would do that with a hackberry.

Dear Neil, we have two large dogs and three active boys, so our yard takes a real beating. Would Zoysia or Bermuda be a better choice? The St. Augustine just isn't holding up to it all.

Bermudas are the turf-grasses of choice when it comes to sports fields in Texas. They (the various varieties) have runners both above ground (called "stolons") and below ground ("rhizomes"). Your St. Augustine wore out because it only had

stolons. There were no backup runners to repopulate the area when they were beaten down. Zoysias are slow-growing, and that rules them out for this purpose.

The only thing out of your question that still concerns me is why you had St. Augustine in the first place. It's our most shade-tolerant lawngrass. If that's in any way why you had it, you may have trouble getting Bermuda established. The various types of Bermuda all need seven or eight hours of direct sunlight daily to survive and thrive. I won't go into all the other considerations that may become necessary if shade is involved since we haven't established shade as a problem, but I just didn't want you to plant a lot of new sod and then find out that you don't have enough sunlight for it to do well.

Dear Neil, Will I have more trouble with slugs if I put compost around my annual and perenni-

al flowers? It seems like that attracts them.

Slugs, snails, and pillbugs like to hang out in warm, moist settings. Mulch and fallen tree leaves are ideal. However, the organic mulches also perform several valuable functions in conserving moisture, moderating temperature changes, and reducing weed populations. The easiest way to compromise so you can realize the benefits of the mulches while minimizing the damage the pests do your plants is to dust the ground around the plants

with Sevin or apply a slug/snail bait. Some people have good success sinking pie tins filled with beer. The pests are attracted to the liquids by the smell of fermentation. They fall in and drown. Their season is comparatively short, so even if you have to repeat the treatments a couple of times, it's a battle worth fighting.

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

- ACROSS**
- time off between high school and college: ___ year
 - TXism: "___ as a squirrel up a tree"
 - home of the "Fighting Hornets"
 - TX Austin Amelio show: "___ the Walking Dead"
 - TXism: "___ Katy bar the door" (trouble)
 - pecan pie ___ mode
 - TXism: "just ___ on" (apply)
 - moral
 - TXism: "fast ___ ___ up a rafter"
 - free time
 - TX Farrah's first husband, Lee
 - in football, ___ is next to the center
 - TX Brooks who is a CB for the Cincinnati Bengals
 - TXism: "___ it so bad I could spit"
 - emailer's or meat lover's dream? (2 wds.)
 - moola or dinero
 - instrument for TX Van Cliburn
 - mate-eater: black
 - TX Willie was ___ ___ not paying taxes in 1990
 - songwriter Paul ___ is married to TX Edie Brickell
 - guests at a hostel

- beer mugs
- poetic "before"
- co.'s stock ownership plan for employees
- scary as ___ fuse
- "Santa ___ National Wildlife Refuge"
- guys' restroom
- great center fielder, TX Speaker
- this "Judge" played for the Cowboys in 2021
- TXism: "safe ___ ___ in a haystack"
- Burnet newspaper: Citizens' ___
- TXism: "___ the pan" (unrepeated success)
- jury member
- TXism: "bellered like ___ bull"
- former event in the Webb County seat: "___ Days"
- "Steak and ___" was founded in Texas

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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Last Puzzle Solution

S-1734

A sandwich evolved: a meatless option that is overly satisfying



HEAD OVER MEALS

by kara gerbert



Grilled Cheese with Corn and Calabrian Chile

Courtesy photo

A good sandwich is hard to beat, but a great one is almost impossible to obtain. Or is it?

Sandwiches are usually considered simple fare. They are quick, easy, and require no real cooking. They are also almost always portable, which is why they make great picnic food.

While their simplicity is one of their most endearing qualities, a great sandwich is elevated with novel ingredients paired in unlikely combinations.

Cheese is one component that can change the texture, flavor profile, and look of a sandwich. There are an estimated 2,000 different types of cheese made worldwide, so imagine what this single ingredient can do to that simple sandwich to make it outstanding. The possibilities are endless, but using cheeses familiar to everyone when paired with specific ingredients can make a great sandwich with-

out getting too exotic or breaking the bank. Because, let's face it, cheese isn't an inexpensive component of any dish.

The type of bread used in a sandwich is equally important as the cheese type, if not more so. The type of sandwich being

made could ultimately determine the type of bread being used.

For instance, grilled cheese sandwiches can be made with almost any bread and are incredibly delicious when made with tart sourdough. Sandwiches heavy on

vegetables pair well with multi-grain or whole-wheat bread. However, they, too, can be made with all types of bread or whatever is available.

The sky is the limit for the vegetable component. It can go on a sandwich if it can be sliced, diced, or chopped.

Regardless of how one

makes that sandwich, know that with the right combination of choice ingredients, it can evolve from good to great in a few simple steps.

GRILLED CHEESE WITH CORN AND CALABRIAN CHILE

Ingredients

- 1 cup of fresh corn kernels
- 3 ounces of Farmhouse Cheddar, shredded (about 3/4 cup)
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 ounce of shredded provolone cheese (about 1/4 cup)
- 1/4 cup of finely chopped shallot
- 1/4 cup of finely chopped scallions
- 1 medium-sized jar of Calabrian chiles, stemmed and finely chopped (about two teaspoons)
- 1 teaspoon of kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon of finely chopped garlic
- 6 tablespoons of unsalted butter, softened
- 12 (1/3-inch thick) slices of sourdough bread

Directions

Heat a large cast iron skillet over medium-high heat until smoking. Add corn kernels and cook, stirring occasionally, until tender and charred in spots, about three minutes. Transfer the corn to a large bowl and let it cool for 10 minutes. Wipe out the skillet and set aside.

Add cheddar, mayo, provolone, shallot, scallions, chile, salt, and garlic to the corn and stir to combine.

Spread butter on one side of each bread slice. Place six slices, butter side down, on a piece of parchment paper and top evenly with cheese mixture, about 1/3 cup each. Spread evenly and top with remaining bread slices, butter side up.

Heat the skillet over medium heat. Working in batches, cook sandwiches until golden brown and toasted, 3-4 minutes per side. Serve immediately.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the City of Alpine - Ward 1 Election held on May 3, 2025 will be tested on April 7th at 10:00 AM at Brewster County Elections (date) (time) (location)

Office - 203 N 7th, Alpine to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

Lora Dussbaum
Signature of Officer

AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automáticamente que se usará en la Elección Ciudad de Alpine - Distrito 1 que se llevará a cabo el 3 de Mayo de 2025 se probará el 7 de Abril (fecha) a las 10:00 AM en Oficina de Elecciones del Condado de (hora) (sitio)

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

Lora Dussbaum
Firma del/dela Oficial

www.alpineavalanche.com

Avalanche Classifieds

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

in question. It shall not be responsible for any consequential damages suffered by any party.

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 for anyone whose balance on previous ads is not current.

PAYMENT - All Classified Ads must be paid in advance.

EMAIL - Send your Classified Ads to the Alpine Avalanche by email at shelleymaroney@alpineavalanche.com.

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Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and a Mixed Beverage Late Hours Permit by Holland Four Yucca, LLC dba Holland Hotel / The Century located at 209 W. Holland Ave., Alpine, Brewster County, Texas. Manager, Collin Bibb.

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OBITUARIES • FROM 2

Beth Ann Collins

Beth Ann Collins, lovingly known by her husband as “Cutestuff,” graced this world with her presence from January 11, 1942, until her departure on March 17, 2025. Born in Madison, Wisconsin, Beth lived a life filled with purpose, dedication, and love. After completing her education at Rhineland High School in 1958 and Milwaukee Secretarial College, Beth embarked on a professional journey that showcased her exceptional skills and deep commitment to service.



Beth’s career began in 1960 when she took on the role of executive secretary to the State Senate Majority Leader. Her talents continued to shine as she joined Woolrick and Anderson Insurance Company in 1972. In 1979, she found a calling that resonated deeply with her values, working with Catholic Charities, where her compassion and hard work earned her the title of Employee of the Year for Catholic Charities Housing Development. Beth’s commitment to making a difference extended beyond her professional life; she notably served on the Sunshine House Board in Alpine from 2015 to 2018.

Beyond her career, Beth was a woman of diverse passions. She cherished her time outdoors, finding joy in horses, deer, and birds. Gardening was a beloved hobby,

where she cultivated beauty and tranquility, while her love for golf and tennis reflected her spirited nature and zest for life. Notably, she received certification from the National Wildlife Federation as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat, a testament to her love for the environment.

Though Beth has departed, her vibrant spirit continues to resonate in the hearts of those who knew and loved her. She is survived by her devoted husband, Christopher Collins, who shared many years of love and companionship with her. She joins her beloved mother, Janet Cnare Rominsky; father, Melvin Rominsky; and her sisters, Jaqueline and Ruth, in eternal peace.

Beth’s remarkable journey, filled with achievements and an unwavering dedication to others, serves as an inspi-

ration to all. Her memory will be cherished by those she touched and will continue to shine brightly in the lives they enriched.

Services for Beth will take place on Wednesday, April 23, at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Alpine, beginning with visitation at 9 a.m., a silent vigil beginning at 9:30 a.m., and a funeral Mass beginning at 10 a.m. Interment will follow at Holy Angels Cemetery in Alpine.

Donations in Beth’s memory may be made to Catholic Charities, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Alpine Public Library, the Alzheimer’s Association, the Arthritis Foundation, or Marfa Public Radio.

Services are entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home, and gifts and condolences may be left at www.alpinememorialfuneralhome.com.

ETHAN FLORES

In what activities did you participate in high school?
I participated in Football this year and have continued to participate in football and track throughout my high school career.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach, and why?
My favorite coach was Coach Strauder, because he was a good coach to me and all the other students, plus he had a lot of experience and good tips, teaching

moments for us athletes.

What was your favorite moment in the last four years?
My favorite moment in the last four years was to be able to play under the Friday Night Lights at Buck Stadium.

What are your plans after high school?
What I plan on doing after high school is joining the United States Marine Corps and becoming a Crew Chief.

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Devotional Page

Where is Jesus?

BY REV. NANCY MAE ANTRIMY

Guest columnist

If Jesus walked into Alpine today and started preaching here, would we recognize him? Would we accept the message he preached? If he came up to us as we worked in our garden and said, “Come follow me,” would we get up and go as the disciples did so long ago? Or would our expectations of who Jesus was supposed to be cause us to reject him?

Many of us have known Jesus since we were little. But who is this Jesus that we know? Close your eyes and picture the Jesus you’ve known since childhood. Do we see the baby in the manger? Is he white and dressed in a fair linen robe like some pictures betray him? Is he surrounded by children who sit at his feet as he tells them stories of God? Do you see him as a shepherd caring for his flock? Is he gentle, meek, and mild? Or do you see Jesus from the foot of the cross? Beaten, bloody, and broken. Not a picture we usually see as children. But one we encounter as adults. Or is our picture of Jesus a resurrected Jesus on Easter Sunday? Paul reminds us in his letter to the Corinthians: “When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. (1 Corinthians 13:11) Who do you see?”

If Jesus were here today, what would we see? Where would we find him? We would see him at the border comforting the refugee, the immigrant, for he too had fled to another country, Egypt, escaping Herod’s orders to kill all the Jewish male babies two years old and younger. He would be out on the streets comforting the homeless because, as he told us, Jesus himself was homeless. “Foxes have holes, and the birds have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” (Matthew 8:20). He would be with the LGBT community, reminding them that they are children of God and that God loves them.

If we are to follow Jesus, then we must be where he is; we must be advocates for all God’s people as he was and is. It isn’t easy to follow Jesus. There are times it will have us going into places and with people we are uncomfortable with. It will have us confronting our own fears and prejudices. Being a Christian isn’t easy. Jesus ever tells us that it is. Following Jesus requires changes in accustomed ways of thinking about the world and about home. It requires a readiness for transformation and a new Spirit that embraces the exile and the outcast, both the saint and the sinner, as cherished members of the family of God. Do you see Jesus? Would you recognize him today?

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CALVARY APOSTOLIC
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FIRST HISPANIC ASSEMBLY OF GOD
South 11th & Avenue I
Pastor Andrew Posadas

BAHA’I
BAHA’I FAITH
1202 N. 5th St., 432-538-7002

FIRST BAPTIST
4th & Sul Ross, 837-2487
Pastor Coleman Reidling

HILLSIDE BAPTIST
East Hwy. 90, 837-5205
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LUTHERAN
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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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Ephesians 4: 31-32

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OBITUARIES • FROM 2

Jim David Bowen



Jim David Bowen died March 17 in Alpine from the flu. Jim was 78 and a half years old. He was born in Fort Davis on September 4, 1946, and raised by Goldie and Larry A. Martin, in Houston. After attending Deady Junior High and Milby High School in the Houston area, he decided to join the military.

He joined the U.S. Navy at age 17 and spent six years in active service, with multiple deployments to Vietnam. He

was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Vietnamese Honor Medal (2nd Class), Navy Unit Commendation (2nd Award), Vietnam Service Medal (w/1 Gold Star),

Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation (with Gallantry Cross), and the Good Conduct Medal.

After finishing his military duties, Jim enrolled in law enforcement school and pursued a career in law enforcement. He was proud to be counted as a former sheriff of Nassau Bay, Texas, a former deputy sheriff of Midland, and later worked several security jobs in Midland. He retired to Alpine, where his family has lived for

many generations.

Jim greatly enjoyed the interaction with his step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren. He tried to teach them baseball and found he no longer could actually play baseball, which caused great entertainment. He loved playing the lottery and lemon meringue pie. Jim would make Santa Claus come alive for the children each Christmas in Ojinaga, Mexico.

Jim is preceded in death by his parents, Goldie and Larry A. Martin of Alpine, and his sister, Reba

S. Gill of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Jim's loving wife, Alejandra Bowen, will have his memory to live on in her heart. Jim is also survived by his sister, Laura, and R. G. Decker of Alpine. Jim was close to many of his step-children including Magaly Rayos, Daniella Stone, Cindy Rayos, Jessica Rayos, and Jim Rayos; all of Ojinaga, Mexico. Nieces and nephews of Jim include Leann Sanchez with Frank Reimer of Seminole; Susan and Albert Reyna of San Antonio; Bill Palmer of

Albuquerque, New Mexico; Julie Elliott-Cramer of Alpine, Jennifer and Brandon Shelton of Alpine, John and Nikki Decker of Boerne; and Jacob and Candie Decker of Boerne.

Services for Jim were held at Alpine Memorial Funeral Home in Alpine on March 24, in the Alpine Memorial Funeral Home Chapel. The visitation began at 2 p.m. and concluded with military honors at 4 p.m.

Any donations should be to your favorite Veterans organization.

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Six cadets, five from the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department and one from the Fort Davis Volunteer Fire Department, recently completed their Fire Fighter 1 certification and were presented with certificates at their weekly AVFD business meeting. In back: John-Clayton "Kiddo" Campbell (AVFD), Robert Ruckes (AVFD), Larry Rodriguez (AVFD). In front: Alex Montemayor (AVFD), Peter McCormick (FDVFD), and Jonas Ball (AVFD). Blake Marler from AVFD also completed his Fire Fighter 1 certification

Photo courtesy of AVFD

Bounding for a win



Caisyn Hinojos pushes herself as far as she can during the girls' long jump event last Wednesday at Alpine's Middle School District track meet.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

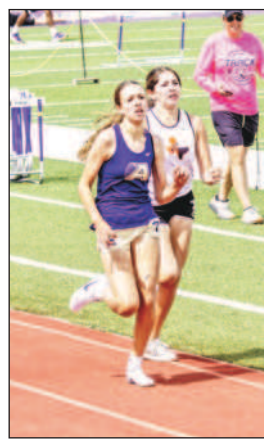
Lady Buck exudes dynamic power



Alpine Middle Schooler Maxine Pitts explodes over the crossbar during the girl's pole vault at last Wednesday's district track meet at Buck Stadium. Pitts competed against competitors from Presidio, Kermit, and her fellow Lady Bucks.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

Push it



Alpine's Alice Saunders turns on the afterburners in the girl's 1600m race this past Saturday at Buck Stadium.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

Another win for AHS



AHS Senior track star Hatfield Cason won the boys' 1600m race this past Saturday, blowing past his competitors from the start and keeping the lead throughout the competition.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

Smiles all around



Ty Ritchie and Brody Warren are all smiles as they took home gold medals from this past weekend's middle school Fabens Invitational tennis tournament.

Courtesy photo



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