

Portillo wins Ward 1 seat

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The May 3 general election has passed, and with it, the Alpine City Council now has two new members.

Richard Portillo won the election by a landslide in the only contested race for the Ward 1 seat, formerly held by Reagan Stone, with a total of 118 votes over his opponents, Austin Smith, who earned 43 votes, and Andres “Andy” Ramos, who earned five votes.

To say that the voter turnout for Ward 1 was dismal is an understatement. Only 166 voters went to the polls with a week of early voting opportunities and election day last Saturday.

The votes were unofficial until canvassed at Tuesday night’s Alpine City Council meeting.

The council will move forward with city business with the addition of Portillo in Ward 1 and Robert Rukes in Ward 3, as he ran uncontested.



INSIDE

FEATURED

See Sports 6-7

Rainfall totals at Alpine-Casparis Airport

20251.84”
May0.00”

Burn Ban ON

INDEX 14 pages

OpinionsP.4
SportsP.6-7
PuzzleP.9
ClassifiedsP.10

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

Playoff run derailed by bench clearing

BY KERRY LAIRD
Sports Editor

The Alpine varsity baseball team ended its season this past weekend as runners-up in the Bi-District Championship, capping off a standout year with its best regular-season record since the pandemic. But the Bucks’ playoff run came to a sudden and controversial end following a bench-clearing incident in Game 2 against Lamesa—a finish that has left many in the Alpine community demanding answers.

Focusing on the team’s successful run, Alpine Athletic Director Jerry Dominguez said the Bucks were just a few breaks away from an even

stronger regular season record than the 5-3 finish.

“They had a tremendous season,” said Coach Dominguez. “I was extremely proud. We only had four seniors, and those guys showed tremendous leadership and pulled those younger guys along. I always tell the kids that a good leader is not someone who dictates. A good leader is someone who can make people around them better. I’m incredibly proud of those seniors and how they were able to do that.

“It was probably one of the best seasons they’ve had since I got here—a very success-



Ryli Vasquez tosses the bat as he prepares to leave home plate for first base.

Photo by Felipe Fierro

See BASEBALL • 8

Middle schoolers hit the links



Alpine Buck middle schoolers Roman Holguin, Max Cramer, Tate Ortiz, Enrique Valenzuela, and Armando Adame take a moment to mug for the camera Tuesday afternoon, along with their Coach Marco Gomez, who had the young golfers practicing despite the breezy conditions.

Photo by Kara Gerbert

Walter curates new Big Bend museum exhibit

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The Museum of the Big Bend held a sneak peek opening reception last Wednesday for the Snapshots in Time: Life in Brewster County photo exhibit. This exhibition is created in a partnership with Crossroads: Change in Rural America, which is part of the Smithsonian traveling exhibition Museum on Main Street.

This stunning photographic display, curated by local historian Matt Walter, offers museum goers a look into what life was like in Far West Texas in the early days of the 20th century. The

historical photographs on display were pulled from the Brewster County collections as well as the Archives of the Big Bend, capturing the lives in rural West Texas that cross tradition, innovation, and ultimately change.

“This exhibit, featuring historic photos from Brewster County, was a fun one to put together. After going through the photo collections at both Brewster County and the Archives of the Big Bend, trying to narrow down the photos that would fit in the exhibit space was a challenge. Ultimately, we decided to focus the exhibit on photos depicting the hu-

man element,” said Walter.

Although only 15 photos were chosen for this particular exhibit, they sufficiently cover what rural Brewster County was like. Photos of early Alpine depict the wide-open spaces that made up the community in the early 1900s, while the depiction of a trading post in Big Bend shows early Mexican tradesmen standing with goods-laden burros. Service men stand on the lawn of the Brewster County Courthouse during a reunion, circa 1920, and the man considered the “Father of



Local historian Matt Walter introduces the new exhibit, Snapshots in Time: Life in Brewster County, at the Museum of the Big Bend.

See EXHIBIT • 8

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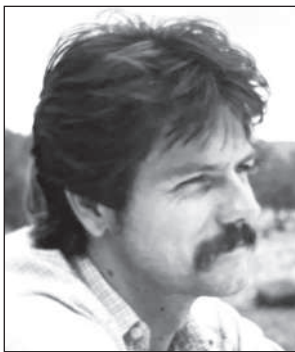
OBITUARY

Charles Allen Bell

Charles Allen Bell—visionary, eternal optimist, instigator, clown, great friend, lover, good being, all human—departed us for his next adventure on April 28, 2025; he was 69 years old.

Born on May 30, 1955, in Frankfurt, Germany to Robert H. Bell Sr. and Eveline Bell, Charlie was the product of a U.S. Army Sgt. and his Austrian war bride. He lived his early years in Germany, moving to El Paso, TX as a young boy. After an early graduation from Irvin High School, he moved to Alpine, TX in 1973 to pursue an Art Degree at Sul Ross State University. Charlie received his Masters of Education in Art from SRSU in 1982.

Throughout his career he inspired countless young artists in the Big Bend area, as well as across the state. In addition to his Alpine-based private children's art lessons, he instructed at SRSU, Alpine Christian School, residencies at the Chinati Foundation in Marfa, along with many



other places over the course of four-plus decades. He was accepted into the Texas Commission on the Arts-Artist in Education Program in 1992 where he did residencies across the state of Texas until 2002, teaching in schools that did not offer art education to their students.

He had numerous galleries throughout the years, hosting a multitude of creative, innovative one-man and group art shows. He was a masterful sign painter, with his work evident on various billboards, businesses, and murals throughout West Texas.

One of Charlie's other greatest passions was his music. He was a skilled bass and guitar player, as well as a gifted singer/songwriter. Cultivating and performing in a

plethora of bands from 1973 on, he collaborated with a variety of musicians to provide countless hours of camaraderie, entertainment, and fun for all.

In addition to his art and music, he had a brief, but all consuming, stint as a filmmaker. Alongside dozens of willing friends and participants from the area, he created the award-winning Karl Glocke mockumentary film series during the years of 2003-2006. His unique sense of humor and quick wit fueled and spearheaded the project.

Despite all of his creative endeavors, Charlie's proudest accomplishment was his family. He shared fifty beautiful years with his loving wife Susie, while being an amazing father to their children Jesse and Alyssa, as well as a fun Opa to their grandchildren, Evi Grace and Graham.

Charlie leaves behind to cherish his memory his wife Susan, his son Jesse (wife Kaya), his daughter Alyssa (partner Jesse Berkowitz), grandchildren Evi Grace and Graham, brothers Bob Bell (Melleta), Da-

vid Bell (Jacqueline), sister-in-laws Judy Kotzur (Tommy), Missy Mial (Bob), and Cindi Mercado, and numerous nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents Robert H. Bell Sr. and Eveline Bell, his beloved Oma, Anna Kaufmann, his mother-in-law Antoinette Schultze and brother-in-law Bill Mercado, as well as many beloved friends.

Charlie's creative genius inspired countless minds, and his light-heart provided endless enjoyment for all that had the honor of knowing him. This is evident in the outpouring of kind messages that his family has received since his passing, some of which have been shared below:

- So many fond memories of Charlie...his art, his puns and jokes, his laugh and love of music. The world will go on, but it will not be as funny, beautiful and bright.
- The world has lost one of its most creative souls.
- He always made the room a little brighter.
- The musician, film-making jokester never ceased to amuse all those

around him. His art, lessons, and laughter live on and echo through so many lives that he influenced...especially my own.

• A man that followed his heart, a man that made his own path in life, love and art, but ultimately a man who decided that his compass, his true north, was worth following...and he did this, embodied this so beautifully.

And from his family:
• Creating around the clock, the artesian well of your mind and spirit never ceased to flow out into the world, watering the seeds of multiple generations.

• You led with all your heart, you showed me all that I could be. You will forever remain in my

music, art, sense of humor, soul, and memory. You are my hero, and the inspiration for every creative part of me.

• Fifty years of making me laugh and keeping me entertained...I will really miss my soulmate, my very best friend.

Our family deeply appreciates all of the love and support from our incredible family and friends...and we are forever grateful to Dr. Nitschmann, Dr. Simmons, Julie Morales, RN, and the entire outpatient staff at BBRMC for the compassionate care that Charlie received.

A celebration of his incredible life is being planned for the near future.

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Marathon ISD recognizes Teacher of the Year

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor



Ms. Pamela Hernandez, Marathon ISD Teacher of the Year

For the second year in a row, Marathon ISD's Ms. Pamela Hernandez has been chosen by her peers as the 2024-2025 Teacher of the Year.

Ms. H, as her students refer to her, taught a self-contained kindergarten and first-grade class her first year in Marathon. This year, she taught the self-contained first and second-grade classes.

"Hernandez has 30 years of teaching experience, and Ms. H delivers instruction with ease and compassion. She knows the ins and outs of all her students and will not allow them to slip through the cracks," said Mara-

thon ISD Superintendent Dr. Ivonne Durant.

"Even as she learns a new program, she studies her lessons carefully and brings joy to her classroom no matter how difficult the lesson may be."

Durant says that she struggles with her time when observing Hernan-

dez because her observations are akin to cliffhangers in a novel.

"Her interactions with the students are different every time, and I always want to stay and see how it ends. Seeing how well students learn and respond to her many ways of getting them to work together makes for an intriguing yet warm visit," Durant stated.

Some of her peers who nominated Hernandez stated, "I nominate Pam for her quality teaching, classroom management, and complete overall dedication to teaching. Her kids always come first, and she goes above and beyond, not only for the kids but also for her

fellow teachers. She is always ready to help."

Durant says that her peers admire her intelligence and ability to work with her students. In addition, her students love her, and other teachers can't wait to get the students she has taught.

"Having a fellow teacher say they can't wait to get the students you have taught in your classroom is the highest compliment a teacher could receive from a peer," Durant added.

Hernandez's commitment to making her students feel and act important is just one reason she is Marathon ISD's Teacher of the Year for the second year in a row.

Stress relief for First Responders



First Responders end up in stressful situations all the time, so the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department makes sure they take a few minutes from time to time to engage in some less stressful situations.

Courtesy photo

City of Alpine

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE CITY OF ALPINE THAT CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD AT 5:30 P.M. ON TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025 REGARDING FINAL READINGS OF THE FOLLOWING CAPTIONED ITEMS:

ORDINANCE 2025-05-03: AN ORDINANCE CANVASSING THE RETURNS AND DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE MAY 3, 2025 GENERAL ELECTION HELD FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING CITIZENS OF ALPINE TO THE OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 1; PROVIDING FOR THE FOLLOWING: FINDINGS OF FACT; REPEALER; SEVERABILITY; EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROPER NOTICE & MEETING CLAUSES.

THE PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025, AT 5:30 P.M. IN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 803 WEST HOLLAND AVENUE TO HEAR CITIZEN VIEWS AND COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED CHANGES. COPIES OF THE PROPOSED ORDINANCES ARE AVAILABLE AT CITY HALL LOCATED AT 100 N. 13TH STREET BETWEEN 8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M. AND 1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. COPIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE BY EMAIL REQUEST TO CITY.SECRETARY@CITYOFALPINE.COM. QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT (432) 837-3301, OPTION 1.

The Nature Conservancy, TPWD, purchase Heath Canyon Ranch

The Nature Conservancy in Texas (TNC) and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) are pleased to announce the purchase of Heath Canyon Ranch, a 671-acre property located just outside Big Bend National Park.

TNC purchased the property, which will be managed by TPWD as part of the Black Gap Wildlife Management Area (WMA), for nearly \$1.2 million with funding from Horizon Foundation, WoodNext Foundation, Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation, and Meta Alice Keith Bratten Foundation.

“We are thrilled that the property is now in the hands of TPWD, and that this beautiful location along the river will continue to be available for the enjoyment of Texans and visitors alike while ensuring the protection of the habitat for wildlife to thrive,” said Suzanne Scott, State Director for The Nature Conservancy in Texas.

The acquisition of Heath Canyon Ranch is a significant step toward ongoing conservation efforts to protect vulnerable ecosystems across West Texas while also providing Texans with access to park lands for recreation.

“We are fortunate to have TNC



Heath Canyon Ranch

as a conservation partner, and through their generous support, TPWD is able to grow our public lands footprint,” said Alan Cain, TPWD Wildlife Division Director. “The Heath Canyon addition will expand outdoor recreational opportunities from river access to hiking, wildlife viewing, and public hunting. We are excited for Texans to enjoy this unique property.”

Located between Big Bend National Park, Black Gap WMA, other state-owned lands, and the nearly 10,000-acre Brushy Canyon Preserve, Heath

Canyon Ranch once created a considerable gap in a vast area of protected lands. Its purchase preserves a tract of high-quality, relatively unaltered wildlife habitat surrounded by other protected areas. This place of high ecological diversity serves as a refuge for a variety of species, including more than 250 plant species -- several of which are found nowhere else on earth.

The property also includes 1.2 miles of river frontage on a stretch of the Rio Grande that flows year-round and is an important site for public access to

protected lands in the area. The ranch is the only take-out point for the popular Boquillas Canyon multi-day river trip through Big Bend National Park and one of the only river access points for the remote and scenic Lower Canyons of the Rio Grande—Texas’ only designated National Wild and Scenic River. TPWD and NPS plan to establish a long-term natural resource management plan and a system for providing sustainable, low-impact public access.

“Black Gap WMA looks forward to continuing to work with

all our neighbors and partners that helped with this purchase and can’t express enough how excited we are to acquire this property,” said Travis Smith, TPWD Black Gap WMA Biologist. “This is an amazing addition to the WMA and will not only ensure river access for future generations but also protect a very unique habitat.”

Jeff Francell, Associate Director of Land Protection for The Nature Conservancy in Texas, shared, “As a former river guide, I am extremely pleased that The Nature Conservancy, along with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and several private foundations, were able to work so quickly to secure the property, funding and long-term management of this critical natural resource and public access point to the Wild and Scenic Rio Grande River.”

TNC, TPWD, and NPS have a long history of working together to accomplish large-scale land and water protection in the Big Bend area, including the expansion of the national park. This project has helped further successful conservation work in a region that hosts one of the nation’s most important ecosystems and contains immense biological and cultural resources.

Paisano Girls’ Camp to be held in June

The Paisano Girls’ Mission Camp will be held this year, June 2-6, at the Davis Mountain Resort Baptist Church just west of Fort Davis. Due to the rising cost of food, this year’s camp will cost

\$125 per person, including counselors. The camp will have the same Bible study format, missions time, music, style show, tea party, and other favorite activities. Girls who finished second through

sixth grade are invited to be campers, and girls who finished seventh through 12th grade are invited to be junior counselors. On the list of additional activities are movies, board games, talent spotlight, and more.

For further information, please call Karen McGuire at 432-386-3071 and leave a message or contact her at kgmcguire17@yahoo.com. Some scholarships are available.

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Texas Capital Highlights

House bill proposes new standardized test

A Texas House bill would eliminate the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness test and replace it with a test comparing students’ performance to one another rather than state-set standards, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

House Bill 4 would also create benchmark tests to measure students’ academic performance throughout the year.

Superintendents from across the state testified in support of HB4 at a committee hearing last week. The bill was unanimously approved in committee and sent to the House floor.

The bill’s sponsor is state Rep. Brad Buckley, R-Salado. He said testing would require a quick turnaround to give parents and teachers faster feedback about student performance.

“I want that experience and the ability for their teachers to deliver that information

back to moms and dads so that we can get that type of support, because the teachers can’t do it alone,” Buckley said.

The existing STAAR test has become a flash-point for many school districts, prompting numerous lawsuits and complaints that the existing system over-penalizes districts with less than optimal test scores.

Antisemitism bill easily clears House

A bill overwhelmingly passed by the House would require school districts to use a common but controversial definition of antisemitism, according to The Texas Tribune. Only two legislators opposed the measure.

The legislation came in response to pro-Palestinian protests held on Texas college campuses after the Oct. 7, 2023, attack on Israel by Hamas, and that country’s subsequent – and ongoing – military response.

State Rep. Giovan-

ni Capriglione, R-Southlake, guided the bill, which has already passed the Senate, through the lower chamber. He assured his colleagues it would not lead to students being punished for constitutionally-protected speech.

“Students are not going to be punished for voicing their views on Middle East policy or debating the history of Zionism. That is well within their rights,” the Southlake Republican said.

State Rep. Christian Manuel, D-Port Arthur, was one of two who voted against the bill.

“I just think it goes too broad, and I hate to say this, I think it’s too un-American,” Manuel said.

House passes bill banning minors from social media

The House easily approved a measure that would penalize social media companies for allowing underage youth to use their platforms, The

News reported. The bill, which now goes to the Senate for consideration, would require tech companies to verify a user’s age when creating a social media account.

“Social media companies don’t care about what content they’re feeding you and your children,” sponsor Jared Patterson, R-Frisco, said. “Rather, they want you hooked on their content.”

Users would have to submit government IDs to verify ages, according to the proposal.

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NEWS RELEASE-ALPINE ISD

FORECLOSURE NOTICES

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

Alpine ISD will be listing the two (2) tracts below for Sale by bid. Alpine ISD is a Trustee of the two foreclosed tracts of land in Terlingua Ranch via sealed bid. Bids may be submitted online at www.texascg.com under ALPINE. The winning bid, once approved, will be subject to the Property Owners Association of Terlingua Ranch, Inc (POATRI). Bidding will close 25 days after the first bid is submitted. Please call 806-839-2724 for any questions on procedure.

1. NW/4 of the SW/4 of the NW/4 of Section 3, Block 217, T & St. L. Ry. Co., Brewster County, Texas, being 10.00 acres, also known as Tract 8920, Terlingua Ranch. (R16224)
2. SE/4 of the SE/4 of the SW/4 of Section 8, Block 216, T & St. L. Ry. Co., Brewster County, Texas, being 10.00 acres, also known as a portion of Tract 4819, Terlingua Ranch (R14714)

Opinions

ONLINE POLL

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Now the Avalanche asks:

What is your go-to drink to get your day started?

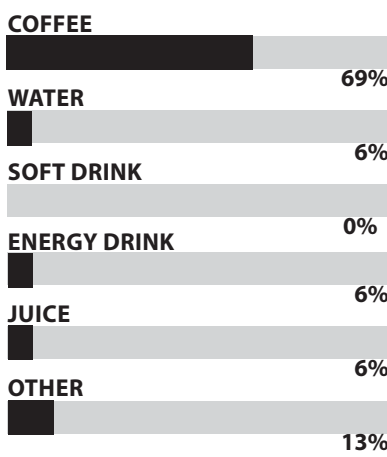
- Coffee
- Water
- Soft Drink
- Energy Drink
- Juice
- Other

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

RESULTS

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE GO-TO DRINK TO GET YOUR DAY STARTED?

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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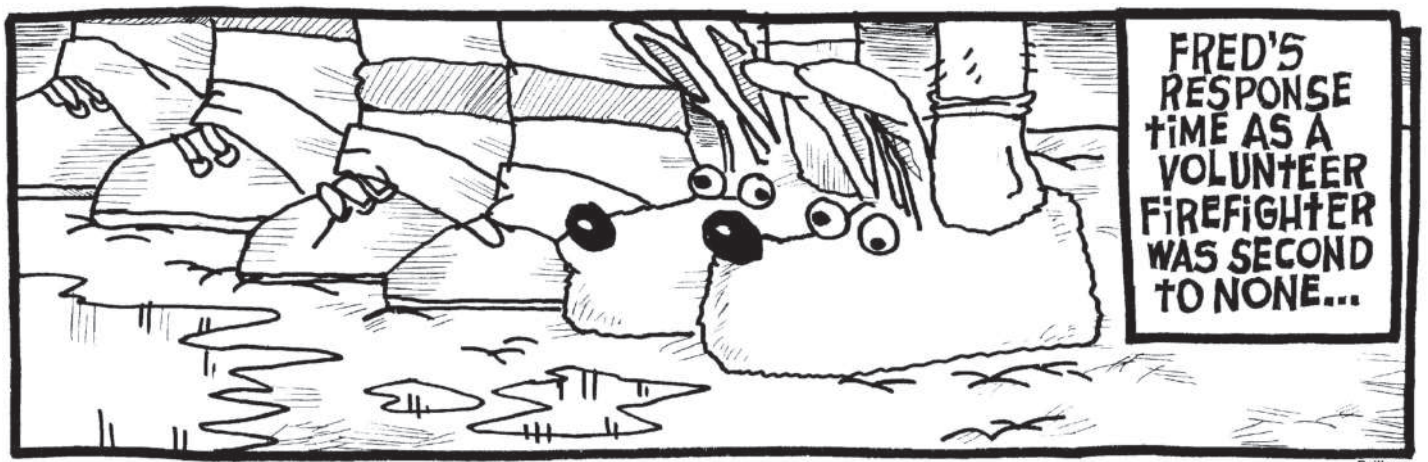
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My Aching Heart

Imagine it is 2 a.m. and that annoying chest pain you had earlier in the evening has not gone away. In fact, it has gotten much worse. To the point where you are asking yourself, "Is this a heart attack?" Someone you love dials 911 and requests assistance from the Emergency Management Service (EMS). Now, if you are like me, you would want the following to show up: four Paramedics, three Ambulances, two Helicopters, and a Cardiologist. More importantly, I (or you) would want someone highly skilled to take the pain away, transport you to the closest medical facility,

and do it with care, kindness, and professionalism.

Of course, this EMS scenario is far from realistic (not the chest pain part), but when we are sick or injured, do you care about the cost and logistics of your medical wish list? As your County Judge (and paramedic), I often think about how we can deliver high-quality care at a reasonable cost. EMS agencies across the country are struggling with this issue, and we are not immune to that



GREG HENINGTON
Brewster County Judge

challenge in Brewster County. Most EMS services in this country are either government-run or involve taxpayer subsidies to operate. And there's the rub. With rising labor costs, increasing capital costs (new ambulances today run about \$300,000+), and falling reimbursement rates, EMS operations are constantly in search of funds. Where does that come from? In the end, your pocketbook and mine. And that can be as painful as your chest discomfort.

Now, I'm not suggesting we reduce EMS services. In fact, I would encourage us to spend the right money to maintain a highly skilled, professional medical crew with good, modern equipment. But paying for it is a challenge. As a community, I would ask you to give some thought as to what you want your EMS to look like and drop me a line at county.judge@co.brewster.tx.us. I welcome your comments and ideas.

And the next time you see your EMS crew at the grocery store or around town, tell 'em thanks. They do a fabulous job of taking care of us when we are having a bad day.

One chance to make a first impression

"Things Money Can't Buy: Time. Happiness. Integrity. Love. Manners. Respect. Trust. Class. Common sense. Dignity." — Roy T. Bennett, inspirational author

"You don't have to get up," someone told me during an introduction and handshake meeting last week.

"Are you kidding?" I said as I rose to my feet. "That's the way my daddy trained me. I don't know any other way."

Good manners, once commonly taught in every home, appear to be exiting society through the same door of laziness as kindness and respect.

"It's not as much of a thing as it used to be," one lazy and unkind individual tried to argue.

"Granted, I haven't heard manners discussed much at the boomers' morning coffee gathering lately either." I countered. "But it still matters."

And it does matter. We get one chance to make a first impression. Usually, before we ever speak a word.

"You always dress that way for work," I recall a member of management asking a new guy on the job.

"Yeah," the newbie stuttered, "And you always address your supervisors and elders with,

"Yeah? Where's your manners?"

Before the young man could dig himself any deeper, the manager offered advice that I've never forgotten.

"If you want customers and colleagues to perceive you as a

professional, you have to dress and act like a professional. No one gives you respect for free; you earn it by how you present yourself and treat others."

Manners were important to my parents and grandparents. For that, I am deeply grateful.

Learning manners requires no textbook and very little intelligence. Just treat others like you would like to be treated.

"Manners make the man," Mom used to say. "Real men are considerate of others, especially ladies." My father made sure I understood that one well. Entering Perry's 5¢ and 10¢ store in Mount Pleasant one day, where he was the manager, he quickly stepped up to hold the door for the lady behind us. "Please pardon my rude son," he said. "I've tried to teach him some manners, but he seems to have forgotten that today."

A big one with my grandmother was "a gentleman always removes his hat when en-



LEON ALDRIDGE
Guest Columnist

tering a building."

"Take that cap off," Granny informed me the first time. "It's rude to wear a hat inside. And don't ever sit down to eat with a cap or hat on your head."

The second time, she wasn't as subtle. She snatched the cap off my head, handed it to me, and asked, "What did I tell you about taking off that cap indoors? Don't let me see you do that again. People will think you were raised in a barn."

My grandmother also clearly illustrated "Please" and "Thank you." One afternoon, she bought a strawberry ice cream cone at Lockett's Drug Store soda fountain in Pittsburg and handed it to me. But she abruptly took it back before I could enjoy the first bite.

"Thank you," she said to the young man who had just scooped up the delectable delight. She then took a bite of it and said, "You must not have wanted it, you didn't thank anyone."

After a most humble "thank you" to both her and the soda fountain attendant, she returned the ice cream cone, minus one bite, the price for missing my manners.

"What do you say when speaking to someone?" I remember Mom instructing me to speak to others, especially elders.

"Yes," I responded. "Yes ... what?"

I soon learned that "Yes, ma'am," was expected as the next words out of my mouth if I was addressing a lady. "Yes, sir," if speaking to a man.

"Manners are not important just because I say so," Dad told me many times. "They are a measure of how you respect people. If you show others respect, they will respect you."

Someone asked me about a fellow employee in the workplace not long ago, "Why doesn't she respect me when I ask her for something?"

Recalling the words of the supervisor, I always remembered, and my father's words, I said, "Could be the way you ask. No one gives you respect for free; you earn it only by giving it."

True enough, money can't buy respect or manners. But if it could, some people these days would need a sizable "GoFundMe" account.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank You

The funeral service for Beth Ann Collins was held on April 23rd. The professional and

compassionate staff of the Alpine Memorial Funeral Home worked seamlessly with the clergy and staff of Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church to pro-

vide a beautiful ceremony. This was followed by a delightful lunch served by parish volunteers. I wish to give my heartfelt thanks to all. It was a true

Celebration of Life for my late, beloved Beth Ann.

Christopher Collins
Alpine, Texas

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202-456-1111

Tony Gonzales
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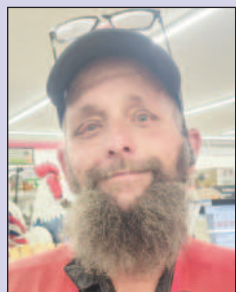
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United States Senate
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185 Dirksen Senate Office Building
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Heard on the STREET

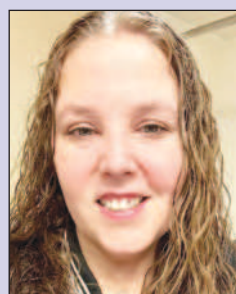
Mother's Day is this Sunday, so tell me something special about your mom.



Mike Kidd: She was the best mom you could ask for. She was a nurse for years. Unfortunately, we lost her in 2021.



Stu Redding: My mom makes the best spaghetti and meatballs you'll ever put in your mouth!



Emily Vaughn: She gave me birth. That's the nicest thing I can say about her.



Norma Jones: My mother was a wonderful person. She was always there for us kids, and she always had a hug ready to go.



Josephine Pacheco: I've got two moms, and they're the best! I've got a great mom and great stepmom!

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 10, 17, 24, 31 Birding on the Wild Side, 9-10:30 a.m. at Davis Mountains State Park. Meet at the front office with binoculars, water, a hat, and sunscreen.

May 13 Home School Program, 10 a.m. to noon at Davis Mountains State Park. Free outdoor education program for grades 1-5. Register online at the park website on the event tab listing.

May 14, 28 Bird Discovery Walk, 9-10:30 a.m. at Davis Mountains State Park. Meet at the Interpretive Center and bring binoculars.

May 17 Dutch Oven Demo, 2-3:30 p.m. at Davis Mountains State Park. Meet at the Interpretive Center to learn about bygone cooking techniques and sample homemade cherry cobbler. First come, first served.

May 21 Master Naturalist Hike, 9-10:30 a.m. at Davis Mountains State Park. Meet at the CCC Rock Lookout for this



mile-and-a-half moderate hike to learn about the park, its geology, ecology, and history.

May 21 Dark Sky Tour, 9-10 p.m. at Davis Mountains State Park. Meet at the CCC Rock Lookout (far end of Skyline Drive), and bring a chair and red-lamp flashlight. Dog friendly.

May 24 Alpine Cowboys Home Run 5k and 10k, 9 a.m. start for 10k and 9:15 a.m. start for 5k. This will be followed by an Alpine Cowboys inner squad game at 11:30 a.m.

May 31 Snakes of the Park,

2-3 p.m. at Davis Mountains State Park. Meet at the Interpretive Center to find out what snakes call the area home.

July 7-8 SRSU STEAM Camp, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for students entering grades 5th-8th. Tuition is free, and the camp will be in the Espino Conference rooms A and B in the University Center at Sul Ross. Snack and lunch will be provided. Campers will explore geology, biology, theatre, music, movement, and careers.

July 14 Science of Stem Literacy Conference, 9 a.m. at Sul Ross State University. Educators may register at <https://sites.google.com/view/science-of-stem-literacy/home>.

July 22 Peak Performance Youth Camp, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Museum of the Big Bend on the Sul Ross campus. Admission is free, and the camp is for 4th-8th graders. Interested participants may register at <https://sites.google.com/view/middleschool-camp/home>.

July 23 H2O and You Summer Camp, for 4th-8th grades only, at the Museum of the Big Bend on the Sul Ross Campus. Inter-

ested participants may register at <https://sites.google.com/view/h2oandyou/home>.

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 Alpine Food Bank, 933 East Gallego Street. Meeting room faces east.

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.

Big Bend Amateur Radio Club meeting, 7 p.m., second Tuesday each month, Frontier Masonic Lodge #766, 2300 Highway 118 North.

Big Bend Community Choral rehearsals on Monday evenings at 6 p.m. in the Sul Ross Fine Arts Building, Room 200. All are welcome, but first contact An-

drew 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.

First Friday Song Swap, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Far West Guitars, 114 N. 6th Street, the first Friday of each month.

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., second Saturday of each month at 605 E. Ave F. All members are welcome.

Shorthorn wins medal in art competition



Marfa's Francisco Rosas traveled to the State Visual Art Scholastic Event (VASE) competition in San Marcos, April 25-26, where he received a medal for his artwork titled *Electric Dandelions*. The competition is hosted by the Texas Art Education Association and recognizes exemplary high school student artwork.

AISD nurse presents to incoming freshman



Alpine ISD nurse Gayla Owen gave a presentation to next year's incoming freshmen about her CTE nursing program that allows students to become a certified nursing assistant by the time they graduate high school.

Courtesy photo

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

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

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

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Cupcake!
 She was found as a stray in mid-April within the city limits of Alpine. She has done very well interacting with other dogs of all sizes. She is a little shy when meeting new people, but she warms up quickly and wants to be by your side. Cupcake does well on a leash and does not pull; she is curious about her environment and keeps her kennel clean.

Cupcake is a Heeler and Australian Shepherd mix, both highly intelligent breeds. We would expect her to be intuitive about commands, have high energy, have strong herding instincts, and be very in tune with her owners. This dog needs regular activity and a job! She is not the kind of dog that you can leave in a backyard and expect to be satisfied with life. She will need plenty of physical and mental exercise.

Cupcake is spayed, microchipped, and vaccinated. Come see her at Alpine Animal Services Shelter, 2900 Old Marathon Hwy.

Stay tuned for a Canine Ice Cream Social next month.

Work on your fitness goals and help the 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.

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.

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.

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Sports

AMS tennis takes District by storm



AMS Tennis District Champions, 8th-grade team



AMS Tennis District Champions, 7th-grade team

BY KARA GERBERT
Managing Editor

The Alpine Middle School tennis team held its District tournament on Saturday at the courts on the Sul Ross campus. The 7th- and 8th-grade teams earned the District 4- 3A title against Kermit.

The seventh-grade boys' doubles team of Ty Ritchie and Brody Warren clutched the number one spot, while the David De La O and Davis Edwards team earned second for AMS.

Rayah Ramos and Harper Holland's doubles team earned second place for the girls, and Sienna Barton and Victoria Mucharras took third. The girls earned first and third place in seventh-grade singles, with Zoe Munoz taking the gold and Caisyn Hinojos taking the bronze. Roman Holguin won first place for the boys, and Rhyder Vasquez took second.

The eighth graders also dominated the Yellow Jackets, with three first-place finishes, two sec-

ond-place finishes, and a lone third-place win.

The girls clutched first and third place on top of the podium in the doubles category, with the teams of Haily Adams and Shannon Tamale taking the gold and Isela Carrasco and Isabel Villanueva taking the bronze.

Just as the seventh-grade boys' doubles teams did, the eighth graders powered over Kermit, earning Alpine the top two spots on the podium. Matthias Prieto and Matthew Reagan's

doubles team earned the gold, while Barry Young and Zane Billings earned the silver for the Bucks.

The Bucks also dominated the court in the singles competition, with seventh grader Zoe Munoz clinching the first-place spot while Caisyn Hinojos took third. Roman Holguin earned the gold for the seventh-grade boys, and Rhyder Vasquez earned the silver.

Wrapping up middle school tennis for the tournament was Leah Struthers, who clinched

the first-place spot in girls singles for eighth grade, and the boys' Abram Portillo earned second.

Head Coach Lauren Martinez said, "They had an amazing season full of growth in all areas of the game. This group is very dedicated and thoroughly enjoys tennis, which shows in their performance this season. They have had medalists at each tournament we have attended and are always working on improving for the next tournament. I'm proud

of their hard work and glad to be part of their successes. I can't wait to watch them grow in their skills as they move up through high school. I can't take all the credit; Coach Ramos has been a great help at practices and meets all season, and Mr. Nathan Struthers makes time to be at each practice and tournament, ready to help and give excellent expertise. It's been a collective effort, and I'm thankful for all of the support we've received."

Paisano places third at Regionals



Big Bend High School senior Brooke Jenks placed third in Abilene recently in the Regional track and field competition.

Courtesy photo

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

ACE GRANADO, SOPHOMORE

Ace Granado, Sophomore at Alpine High School, made a hole in one last Sunday on number 17 at Alpine Country Club. Ace is also a member of the Golf Team.

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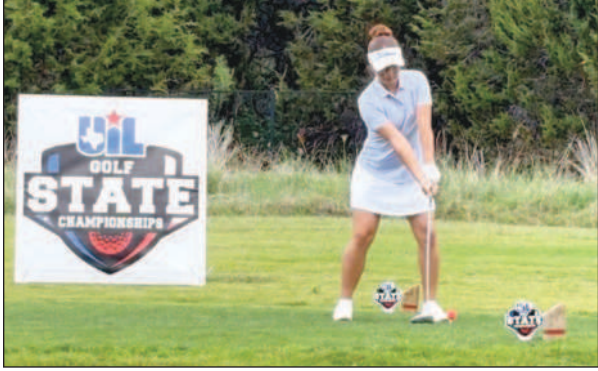
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Shorthorn senior competes at State



Maryfer Martinez of Marfa High School qualified and played at the State golf tournament recently, placing 34th out of 72 golfers. Martinez is a senior this year.

Courtesy photo

Project Graduation fundraises with golf



Golf enthusiasts hit the links on Saturday at Alpine's golf course as part of a fundraiser for Alpine High School's Project Graduation. From left, Alvin Teichroeb, Denver Loewen, Mike Elmer, Ace Granado, J.T. Maroney, and Adrian Lujan.

Courtesy photo

Golfer makes it in one



AHS golfer Ace Granado completed every golfer's dream on Sunday with a hole-in-one on the #17 hole at the Alpine Golf Course. Granado is one of Alpine High School's top varsity golfers.

Courtesy photo



Clownin' around

Seventh graders Brody Warren and Ty Ritchie do a bit of clownin' around after winning the District boys' double tournament.

Photo by Micaela Ritchie

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May God Bless you.

George and Irma Campbell



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EXHIBIT • FROM 1



David Kowal, former art history lecturer and local photographer, takes in the remarkable photographs curated for the new museum exhibit.

Big Bend National Park,” E. E. Townsend sits sentinel on a plateau high above the Rio Grande in what would become the national park on June 12, 1944.

Several of these historic images are part of the Travis Roberts collection, which is housed in the Val Clark Beard Office Complex. Roberts, who passed away in 2021, was chairman of the Brewster County Historical Commission for many years and was one of the foremost experts on the county’s rich history.

“We are so thankful for the many photos that Marathon historian Travis Roberts donated to Brewster County, and for all the photos that the Archives of the Big Bend, on the Sul Ross campus, has digitized from their extensive collections.

Visitors to the exhibit should come away with a nice ‘snapshot’ of life in Brewster County during the first half of the 20th century, and especially how Alpine has changed from then to now,” added Walter.

Thanks to the hard work of people like Walter, Wendy Little, director of Texas Mountain Trail, and Abbey Branch, director of Historic Alpine, this unique exhibit is available to everyone.

“We wanted to capture the spirit of rural life here: the people, the place, and the everyday moments that tell a bigger story. These images reflect both where we’ve been and where we’re going. Our hope is that visitors see something familiar, something surprising, maybe both. Whether you grew up in a town like this or are just

passing through, we invite visitors to pause and reflect on what makes rural places matter,” Little commented.

“I’ve spent hours in the archives looking at historic photos of Brewster County. It has always been one of my favorite pastimes. At the opening, seeing locals crowd around the images, point-

ing out familiar landmarks, faces, and sharing stories, brought it all to life,” said Branch.

The main Crossroads exhibition is currently at the Los Portales Museum in San Elizario, offering a powerful and thought-provoking look at where we’ve been, where we are now, and the future of rural America.

BASEBALL • FROM 1

ful season. I’m proud of them as an overall program.”

Last week, the Bucks nearly forced a district title showdown with Anthony but fell short after a late-inning rally by Kermit. The Yellow Jackets scored three runs in the top of the seventh to take a one-run lead, dropping Alpine to second place in the district. Regardless, the Bucks advanced to face Lamesa in a three-game Bi-District Championship series in Pecos.

The final score of Game 1 on Friday, May 2, doesn’t fully reflect the competitive spirit Alpine brought to the field.

David Valenzuela kept Lamesa scoreless until the third inning, allowing only one run through five innings. However, Lamesa’s pitcher kept Alpine’s offense in check, limiting the Bucks to just two hits. Lamesa added a run in the sixth and three more in the seventh to secure a 5-0 win.

Game 2, played Saturday, saw Lamesa jump to an early lead, scoring two runs in the first inning, one in the second, and three in the third. Alpine finally answered in the fourth when Iden Lujan drove in the team’s first run.

With two outs in the top of the fifth and runners on second and third, the Bucks appeared poised for a comeback. Lujan hit a ball to left field, driving in Devon Rojo from third.

Then, the game took an unexpected and troubling turn.

Lamesa pitcher Michael Moreno, a junior, appeared to be running to third base to back up the throw from the outfield. Alpine’s Leon Mucharraz, who had been on second, tagged up and advanced to third. Instead of positioning himself behind the base, Moreno kept running toward Alpine Head Coach Adam Llanez and as-

saulted him, shoving him to the ground.

Coach Llanez’s son, A.J. Llanez, charged from the dugout and shoved Moreno in defense of his father. What followed was a bench-clearing confrontation.

Pecos-Barstow-Toyah Superintendent Brent Jaco, whose district hosted the game, said campus police quickly intervened to separate the teams and restore order on the field.

After police, coaches, and staff calmed the situation, the umpires were left to decide how to proceed. At that point, Alpine still had seven outs remaining in the game and had just begun building offensive momentum that could have led to a Game 3.

Instead of ejecting the players directly involved and continuing the game, the umpires, after contacting the UIL, decided to call the game, awarding Lamesa the win and the Bi-District Championship.

“[The campus police] then ensured an orderly departure of all the fans, which made life easier for everyone,” said Jaco, adding that the presence of PBTISD police helped ensure safety for all involved.

The decision stunned Alpine fans, who were left with unanswered questions: Why was Lamesa awarded the win despite initiating the altercation? Why wasn’t Alpine allowed to finish the game and try to complete the comeback? Will Moreno, who instigated the incident, be permitted to pitch in the next round?

UIL Assistant Athletic Director A.J. Martinez did not respond to requests for comment, and both Lamesa and Alpine school districts offered little more than “no comment” on possible suspensions as the UIL continues to review the incident.

“We sincerely regret

how this situation ended our successful baseball season,” said Alpine ISD Superintendent Michelle Rinehart. “This was clearly an unfortunate event and does not represent the high standards for discipline and sportsmanship we hold our student-athletes to. We have reported the incident to the UIL and implemented internal processes to address this incident and mitigate similar potential events in the future.”

Both districts declined to confirm whether any players would be suspended.

“The UIL has yet to rule as to which student-athletes from Lamesa officially will face suspensions in the next round, but Lamesa will be advancing,” said Lamesa Athletic Director Efrain Ramos. “Unfortunately, the series ended the way it did, but it was the judgment of the umpires to rule a ‘no contest’ in Game 2, followed by ejections for Game 3, in turn leading to the series not being able to be played out.

“Regardless of our opinion, we support their decision to uphold good sportsmanship in high school athletics. We have moved on to our next opponent.”

When asked if any Alpine players or staff were disciplined, Rinehart responded, “In accordance with federal and state law, we do not comment on matters involving staff or student discipline.”

According to the UIL website, the entity does not prohibit Texas public schools from discussing student-athlete suspensions with the media. However, many schools cite the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)—a federal law protecting the privacy of student education records—to avoid releasing personally identifiable information without parental consent.

Because sports sus-

pensions are part of a student’s education record, FERPA generally prevents disclosure, even though UIL rules do not prohibit schools from doing so. As a result, districts often default to citing “student privacy” when asked about disciplinary outcomes.

Lamesa ISD Superintendent David Ritchey also expressed remorse.

“This is an isolated incident that does not represent what Lamesa ISD stands for,” Ritchey said. “We will cooperate with UIL while also addressing it internally. We will ensure that nothing of this caliber takes place again. We will move forward with the expectation that those who put on the black and gold for Lamesa ISD represent our teams, schools, and community the right way.”

While privacy laws like FERPA restrict schools from disclosing specific disciplinary actions, Alpine ISD emphasized its student-athletes’ broader development and values.

“Our players and coaches work tirelessly to improve themselves on and off the field,” said Rinehart. “Any time they put on an Alpine Bucks jersey, they know they are representing more than themselves, more than their families—they are representing our entire community.

“Our kids are second-to-none—and they are just that, kids. I am proud of their hard work in everything they do, from excelling in the classroom to improving on the field to learning lessons from tough situations, as they grow into young men and women.”

Coach Llanez did not respond to requests for a response on the incident or the team’s season.

SENIOR Spotlight

LOGAN SMITH

In what activities did you participate in high school?
I competed in football, track, and basketball.

Who was your favorite teacher/coach and why?
My favorite was Coach Dominguez for his hard-working mentality and good sense of humor.

What was your

favorite moment in the last four years?
My favorite memory was junior year when we went to football practice in our own jerseys.

What are your plans after high school?
To go to college and get a degree somewhere in the medical field, and earn my doctorate.

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DEADLINES - All ads are due in the office by 12:00 (noon) on Tuesday.

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CANCELLATIONS - All ads may be cancelled for the next publication until 12:00 (noon) on the Monday before publication.

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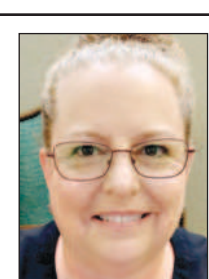
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The Great Gatsby: Celebrate a century-old literary icon

It's been 100 years since F. Scott Fitzgerald penned and published *The Great Gatsby*. This iconic novel portrays the American Dream of wealth and the social decay of the Roaring 20s, and what better way to pay homage to Fitzgerald's work or that time in history than to re-create some of the eats and drinks of the time.

The U.S. set its sights on economic prosperity in the 20s, focusing on consumerism and all-around cultural debauchery, with the popularity of jazz music and the uprising of bootlegging and speakeasies due to prohibition. This social change, among others, brought forth the creation of drinks such as the Old Fashioned, the Mint Julep, scotch and soda, and the Tom Collins. Gin Rickeys and Sidecars were all the rage as well.



HEAD OVER MEALS

by kara gerbert

Rockefeller hit the stage along with Dirty Martini Shrimp Cocktails.

This time of excess also included simpler fare, such as salmon croquettes, classic deviled eggs, pigs in a blanket, and curried-egg tea sandwiches. And of course, no celebration of that time would be complete without dessert, such as a chocolate-raspberry icebox cake.

New favorites also entered the scene with the likes of Caesar salads, pineapple upside-down



Chocolate Raspberry Icebox Cake

Courtesy photo

cake, and finger foods such as cucumber sandwiches. All the favorites of the time were passed down through the generations for us to enjoy.

Something that may be news is that these

finger-type foods, such as deviled eggs, pigs in a blanket, and cucumber sandwiches, were served in the lower-end speakeasies of the day to help absorb the illegal alcohol being con-

CHOCOLATE RASPBERRY ICEBOX CAKE

INGREDIENTS
 Cooking spray
 2 pints vanilla ice cream, softened
 1-pint raspberry sorbet, softened
 1 (9-ounce) package chocolate wafer cookies, crushed (about 2 1/2 cups)
 1 cup heavy cream
 3 tablespoons powdered sugar
 1 package of fresh raspberries

DIRECTIONS
 Lightly coat a 9x5-inch loaf pan with cooking spray. Line with parchment paper, making sure all sides are fully covered and leaving a 2-inch overhang on all sides.
 Fold softened ice cream and sorbet together in a large bowl until sorbet is just streaked through ice cream, but not quite swirled, two to three folds.
 Sprinkle 1/2 cup crushed cookies into the bottom of the prepared loaf pan. Spread 1 1/2 cups of ice cream mixture over crushed cookies.
 Scatter 1/2 cup fresh raspberries over top, gently pressing into ice cream mixture. Repeat layers three times, ending with the remaining 1/2 cup of crushed cookies.
 Wrap the loaf pan tightly with plastic wrap and freeze until the cake is firm, at least four hours and up to 24 hours.
 Remove the ice cream cake from the freezer; unwrap and let stand at room temperature for five minutes. Meanwhile, whisk together cream and powdered sugar in a medium bowl until stiff peaks form, about two minutes.
 Lift the ice cream cake out of the loaf pan using the parchment paper overhang as handles and invert onto a large plate or platter.
 Dollop whipped cream over the top of the cake and garnish with additional fresh raspberries.
 Slice and serve.

sumed. This helped to keep unwanted attention from law enforcers to a minimum. Higher-end establishments would usually offer sit-down meals with the more extravagant food and drink options, but no matter

the tax bracket, everyone had a great time imbibing in rich food and illegal booze for a decade before the 1930s brought the Great Depression and with it a change in the landscape of America.

Devotional Page

Remembering Pope Francis

BY REV. KATIE HUDAK

Rev. Katie Hudak

It was a shock to wake up on the morning of April 21, 2025, to the news that Pope Francis had died from a stroke. It should have come as no surprise, considering the pontiff's illness and the amount of his activity during Holy Week and Easter Sunday. He mentioned how grateful he was to return to St. Peter's Square, where thousands of believers gathered near the Vatican, during Holy Week.

Whatever our thoughts may be about the expression of Christianity in the Roman Catholic tradition, one thing is certain. Despite all of his limitations, Francis pushed and pulled to bring a huge monolithic institution into the twenty-first century through authenticity, humbleness, and faith in God. He did this by following what Jesus lived and died for. He did this by knowing that the resurrection of Jesus urged him toward peace, justice, compassion, understanding, joy, and love. He did this by washing the feet of Muslims and by living with the people, that is, those someones without power and influence. He did not live in the papal quarters, but among those someones.

Francis spent time surrounded by the trappings of great power but never forgot his

humble beginnings, his love of fútbol (soccer), and the thousands who disappeared during a dark time in his native country of Argentina. He opened his heart to the poor, the marginalized, the immigrant, those terrorized by the horrors of war, whether it was actual war, like for those living in Gaza, or a culture war against a certain group of people, such as the LGBTQ+ community. Francis would call a different Palestinian living in Gaza each day as a sign of his desire for peace and justice for all. He tried to elevate the position of women in the Catholic Church, though falling short.

Perhaps he can best be summed up in his final Easter address: "Sisters and brothers, especially those of you experiencing pain and sorrow, your silent cry has been heard, and your tears have been counted; not one of them has been lost! In the passion and death of Jesus, God has taken upon himself all the evil in this world and, in his infinite mercy, has defeated it. He has uprooted the diabolical pride that poisons the human heart and wrecks violence and corruption on every side. The Lamb of God is victorious! That is why, today, we can joyfully cry out: 'Christ, my hope, has risen.' Even if it seems like we try our hardest to destroy that hope in our human frailness." RIP Francis, good and faithful servant.

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Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!
 - Isaiah 5: 20 & 21

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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
 "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice; and be kind one to another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

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Spanish Club visits San Antonio

The Fort Davis Spanish Club traveled to San Antonio to take part in the Fiesta and Cinco de Mayo celebrations.

Courtesy photo



Takin' a breather

Alpine Middle School tennis players Caisyn Hinojos, Harper Holland, and Rayah Ramos get some rest after competing against Kermit in the junior high District tennis tournament held on Saturday at Sul Ross.

Courtesy photo

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God Bless America

Teachers vs students



Alpine High School tennis players faced off against their coaches and teachers recently in the annual Teachers vs Students tennis match held each spring.

Courtesy photo

Sixth graders compete at solo and ensemble contest



The AMS sixth-grade band recently performed at the Greenwood solo and ensemble contest and festival and received a rating of 1-outstanding for their concert performance. Fifty-six students also received a first Superior Rating for their solo performances.

Courtesy photo

Alpine FFA elects new officers



Alpine FFA held its annual banquet last Tuesday evening, at which it elected new officers for the 2025-2026 school year. The new officers include Collette Sharron, reporter; Carolyn Newman, sentinel; Colette Fowlkes, treasurer; Evelyn Smith, president; Kaysen Hardaway, secretary; and Sophie Janis, vice president.

Photo by J. T. Maroney

Good eats



Our Lady of Guadalupe held an enchilada plate fundraiser this past Sunday. The parish hall at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church was decorated for Cinco de Mayo, and numerous parishioners, as well as other Alpine locals, partook in the delicious food.

Courtesy photo

BRI announces Conservationist of the Year



J. Luther King, Jr. was recently honored as the 2025 West Texas Conservationist of the Year. Luther and his family have amassed more than 100,000 acres in six Texas counties that they manage to help sustain healthy wildlife populations.

Photo courtesy of BRI

Congratulations

TO OUR 2025 GRADUATING NURSING STUDENTS!



Wishing you the brightest of futures, in healthcare and in life.

Jenna Spencer, Jacob Salinas, Rachel Atuegwu, Salma Chavez, Joel Montes, Brylee Sweeten and Sara Ramos

BBRMC Leadership:

Chris Lacey, *Chairman, Board of Trustees*

Mike Cole, *HR Director*

Rob Nelson, *CEO*

Regina Terrazas, *Director Physician Practices/Marketing*

Dr. Minerva Gonzales, *Director, Nursing Program*



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