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City solicits applicants to fill council seat vacated by Carrasco

By STEPHEN PAULSEN
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PRESIDIO — In a letter to city officials last month, Samuel Carrasco, a Presidio city council member, announced he was resigning from his position.

Carrasco's term was originally scheduled to end this May, and he did not plan to seek re-election. But the coronavirus crisis delayed his departure when Presidio postponed their city election until November.

In his letter, Carrasco said it had been "a pleasure" to serve on city council and that the decision to leave was "a hard one to make" but that "other commitments have become too great" for him to continue until November.

"I am so proud of all we have accomplished in the past three years," he wrote. "I have no doubt the council will continue these successes in the future." Carrasco did not respond to a request for comment.

In announcing the letter to city council last week, Mayor John Ferguson said he had "a really good conversation with Mr. Carrasco" and that he was "very grateful for his experience" but that Carrasco was "ready to relinquish his position."

The City of Presidio City Secretary's office is requesting letters of interest for the open council member seat. Those interested in being appointed to council to fill Carrasco's vacant seat until the November 3, 2020 election can submit a letter of interest to the Secretary, Brenda Ornelas-Acuña by email to bornelas@presidiotx.us or by mail to PO Box 1899, City Hall, 507 West O'Reilly St., Presidio, Texas 79845.

Pecos County coronavirus case counts skyrocket amid outbreak at prison

By STEPHEN PAULSEN
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FORT STOCKTON — There are signs of a growing coronavirus outbreak in Pecos County, as the number of cases skyrockets at a local prison and continues to increase in the broader community.

It's the first time coronavirus cases have surged in Far West Texas outside of metro areas like El Paso and Midland-Odessa. Fort Stockton is the gateway to the Big Bend, the last stop on Interstate 10 before westbound drivers turn off for Marathon, Alpine, Presidio and Marfa.

In a news release on Tuesday, Brewster County officials took note of the rise, urging residents to limit travel to Fort Stockton "if at all possible."

"We recommend exercising caution if making trips into Fort

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Photo courtesy of Antonio Padilla

Presidio High School Principal Hevila Ramos speaks during Presidio ISD's graduation ceremony on Friday. Attendees were screened for coronavirus symptoms before entering graduation, Ramos said. The school district also gave out hand sanitizer and face coverings.

With socially-distant graduation, Presidio seniors say goodbye to high school

By STEPHEN PAULSEN
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PRESIDIO — On Friday morning, Presidio High School seniors participated in a longstanding tradition as they accepted their diplomas and graduated. But as the coronavirus pandemic upends life across the globe, some aspects of graduation this year were very different.

Families in attendance were separated by six feet of space, in accordance with guidelines from the Texas Education Agency, said Hevila Ramos, the school principal. Each student was only allowed two guests.

Attendants were screened for symptoms upon entering, and the school handed out hand sanitizer and face coverings, Ramos said. Students got to accept their diplomas in-person and pose for a portrait — though the senior circle tradition was replaced with a new version this year: portraits of seniors were displayed around Presidio, and after the ceremony, there was a drive-thru parade through the city.

"It's maybe not the most traditional graduation," Ramos acknowledged. But for some seniors, it felt great just to have an in-person graduation at all.

When Presidio High School seniors left for spring break, they had no idea that coronavirus concerns would quickly engulf the region and that they wouldn't return to in-person classes.

"That was the sad part," said Karime Baeza, the school's salutatorian.

"We were expecting to come back from spring break."

Still, Baeza was thrilled that the school was able to put on an in-person graduation — even if the ceremony was different than usual.

"We were really close to having nothing," she said. "In times like this,

(Continued on page 2)

Art gallery coming to Presidio as part of new cultural district

By BECK ANDREW SALGADO

PRESIDIO — "I come from the art world, and was born into it, so having an art gallery has been my dream since I was old enough to have them," says Adele Jancovici, lifelong artist and owner of the new art gallery Wet Dream, which is set to open sometime this fall.

The new art gallery — which will be located on O'Reilly Street and feature artists such as Anders Krisar and Paolo Canevari — is the byproduct of Presidio's new cultural district project, which is also being spearheaded by Jancovici. The project, according to Jancovici, was conceived to help exemplify the beauty that lies within Presidio and it's already existing culture.

"We are excited about making [Presidio] a beautiful place where people can enjoy restaurants and culture," said Jancovici.

The new cultural district, in addition to the art gallery, will seek to introduce new restaurants into the area, of which Jancovici says "a sushi restaurant is at the top of our list" among other possible new culinary inclusions.

"We need food in Presidio, and we need great food...we have reached out to friends that we know in Paris, New York and other places about this," said Jancovici.

Despite the timing of the COVID-19 pandemic, Jancovici said that she feels now is the perfect moment to grab an opportunity such as this, and even though others do not feel this way, she says she is undeterred.

Matt Stevens, boyfriend of Jancovici and the second mind behind the cultural district, said that he envisions the district to be a place where the existing culture in the area can be celebrated, rather than one where it is replaced or concealed.

"There is a lot of history here, and for us, respecting it is important. It's

(Continued on page 2)

Con la graduación socialmente lejana, los estudiantes de último año de Presidio se despiden de la escuela secundaria

Por STEPHEN PAULSEN
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PRESIDIO — La mañana del viernes, los estudiantes de último año de secundaria participaron en una larga tradición, aceptando sus diplomas y graduándose. Pero a medida que la pandemia de coronavirus cambia la vida en todo el mundo, algunos aspectos de la graduación este año fueron muy diferentes.

Las familias que asistieron estaban separadas por seis pies de espacio, de acuerdo con las pautas de la Agencia de Educación de Texas, dijo Hevila Ramos, directora de la escuela. A cada alumno solo se le permitían dos invitados.

Los asistentes fueron examinados para detectar síntomas al ingresar, y la escuela entregó desinfectante para manos y cobertores para la cara, dijo Ramos. Los estudiantes aceptaron sus diplomas en persona y posaron para un retrato, aunque la tradición del círculo de personas mayores fue reemplazada por una nueva versión este año: se exhibieron retratos de los estudiantes alrededor de Presidio, y después de la ceremonia, hubo un desfile de autoservicio por la ciudad.

"Quizás no sea la graduación más tradicional", reconoció Ramos. Pero para algunos estudiantes, se sintió genial tener una graduación en persona.

Cuando los estudiantes de último año de Presidio se fueron para las vacaciones de primavera, no tenían idea de que las preocupaciones por el coronavirus afectarían rápidamente a la región y que no regresarían a clases presenciales.

(continúa en la página 3)

Una galería de arte que llega a Presidio como parte del nuevo distrito cultural

Por BECK ANDREW SALGADO

PRESIDIO — "Vengo del mundo del arte y nací en él, por lo que tener una galería de arte ha sido mi sueño desde que tenía edad suficiente para tenerlos," dice Adele Jancovici, artista de toda la vida y propietaria de la nueva galería de arte Wet Dream, que abrirá este otoño.

La nueva galería de arte, que se ubicará en la calle O'Reilly y presentará a artistas como Anders Krisar y Paolo Canevari, es el subproducto del nuevo proyecto del distrito cultural de Presidio, que también está encabezado por Jancovici. El proyecto, según Jancovici, fue concebido para ayudar a ejemplificar la belleza que se encuentra dentro de Presidio y su cultura ya existente.

"Estamos entusiasmados por hacer de [Presidio] un lugar hermoso donde la gente pueda disfrutar de restaurantes y cultura", dijo Jancovici.

El nuevo distrito cultural, además de la galería de arte, buscará introducir nuevos restaurantes en el área, de los cuales Jancovici dice que "un restaurante de sushi está en la parte superior de nuestra lista" entre otras posibles nuevas inclusiones culinarias.

"Necesitamos comida en Presidio, y necesitamos buena comida ... nos hemos comunicado con amigos que conocemos en París, Nueva York y otros lugares sobre esto", dijo Jancovici.

A pesar del momento de la pandemia de COVID-19, Jancovici dijo que siente que ahora es el momento perfecto para aprovechar una oportunidad como esta, y aunque otros no se sienten así, dice que no se inmuta.

Matt Stevens, novio de Jancovici y la segunda mente detrás del distrito cultural, dijo que él imagina que el distrito sea un lugar donde se pueda celebrar la cultura existente en el área, en lugar de uno donde se

(continúa en la página 4)

POR ORDEN DEL CONDADO DE PRESIDIO ENTRA EN VIGOR UNA PROHIBICIÓN SOBRE EL USO DEL FUEGO, NO SE PUEDE HACER FUEGO SOBRE LOS TERRENOS.

La ciudad solicita aplicantes para llenar el puesto vacante de Carrasco

Por STEPHEN PAULSEN
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PRESIDIO — En una carta a los funcionarios de la ciudad el mes pasado, Samuel Carrasco, un miembro del consejo de la ciudad de Presidio, anunció que renunciaba a su cargo.

El mandato de Carrasco originalmente estaba programado para finalizar este mes de mayo, y no planeaba buscar la reelección. Pero la crisis del coronavirus retrasó su partida cuando Presidio pospuso su elección de ciudad hasta noviembre.

En su carta, Carrasco dijo que había sido "un placer" servir en el concejo municipal y que la decisión de irse fue "difícil de tomar", pero que "otros compromisos se han vuelto demasiado grandes" para que él pueda continuar hasta noviembre.

"Estoy muy orgulloso de todo lo que hemos logrado en los últimos tres años", escribió. "No tengo dudas de que el consejo continuará con estos éxitos en el futuro". Carrasco no respondió a una solicitud de comentarios.

Al anunciar la carta al ayuntamiento la semana pasada, el alcalde John Ferguson dijo que tuvo "una muy buena conversación con el Sr. Carrasco" y que estaba "muy agradecido por su experiencia", pero que Carrasco estaba "listo para renunciar a su cargo".

La oficina del secretario de la ciudad de Presidio solicita cartas de interés para el puesto de miembro del consejo abierto. Los interesados en ser nombrados al consejo para ocupar el puesto vacante de Carrasco hasta las elecciones del 3 de noviembre de 2020 pueden enviar una carta de interés a la Secretaría, Brenda Ornelas-Acuña por correo electrónico a bornelas@presidiotx.us o por correo a PO Box 1899, City Hall, 507 West O'Reilly St., Presidio, Texas 79845.

El caso de coronavirus del condado de Pecos se dispara en medio de un brote en la prisión

Por STEPHEN PAULSEN
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FORT STOCKTON — Hay signos de un brote de coronavirus en el condado de Pecos, ya que el número de casos se dispara en una prisión local y continúa aumentando en general comunidad.

Es la primera vez que los casos de coronavirus han surgido en el extremo oeste de Texas fuera de las áreas metropolitanas como El Paso y Midland-Odessa. Fort Stockton es la puerta de entrada a Big Bend, la última parada en la Interestatal 10 antes de que los conductores en dirección oeste se desvíen hacia Marathon, Alpine, Presidio y Marfa.

En un comunicado de prensa el martes, los funcionarios del condado de Brewster tomaron nota

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ENGLISH NEWS



Photos courtesy of Antonio Padilla

Scenes from Presidio High School's graduation on Friday. Some students were thrilled when administrators got a green light to hold an in-person graduation — though some traditions unfortunately fell by the wayside, including the Senior Circle, which administrators decided didn't comport with social distancing guidelines.

Graduation

(continued from page 1)

it's really nice to have something to look forward to. It was a little light in our community."
"It was pretty unique," she added. "No other class has witnessed a graduation that involves being six feet apart." She was sad she couldn't invite more family members but was trying to stay optimistic and see "the positive things in something really tragic." On that note, she added that graduation had allowed her to see "faces I hadn't seen in quite a long time."
"It was nice seeing my classmates," she said.

"I hadn't seen them all together in one place since March."
Angelica Aguilar, a teacher at Presidio ISD and the senior sponsor this year, said holding an in-person graduation presented its own challenges. "We didn't have a chance to practice," she said.
But she said she wanted to make sure that seniors got a good celebration, so long as they worked within TEA guidelines. "We gave the students a chance to voice their opinions," she said. And the students were clear: they wanted a graduation ceremony and a parade. A group of parents organized the parade, while the school figured out the rest, she said.

Aguilar acknowledged it was "a tough moment for most of the students."
"They wanted the whole family to be there," she said. "Graduation in Presidio is a big thing. Parents and grandparents from all over the place come to graduation."
But much like the rest of the school, Aguilar was just glad teachers and administrators had figured out a way to celebrate the students — even if the celebration was socially distant.
"I'm happy we were able to do something for the students," she said. "It wasn't the perfect time, but at least we were able to do something for them."

Pecos County

(continued from page 1)

Stockton or other areas within Pecos County," the news release stated. "We recommend minimizing travel to the area."
As recently as last Thursday, Pecos had just 28 cases, but after the state reported dozens of new cases at local prisons all at once, the number more than tripled over the ensuing days. At press time on Wednesday, 102 cases were reported on the state's map.
The county has reported no deaths or hospitalizations from the virus as recently as Monday, according to Pecos County Judge Joe Shuster.
A majority of the cases have come from just one facility in Fort Stockton: the Texas Department of Criminal Justice N5 unit, which at press time has at least 87 coronavirus cases, including active cases in at least 68 inmates and six employees. Twelve employees and one inmate at the facility have recovered.

The city's James Lynaugh Unit also has three confirmed cases, two active and one recovered, both involving employees. In a town of around 8,000 people, those two facilities can house more than 2,000 prisoners.
Most at risk for infection are other prisoners in those units. But as employees clock in and out, there are also signs the contagion is spreading beyond the walls.
Of Pecos's 28 cases on Thursday, at least 13 — over a third — involved local residents who were employees at the units, according to reporting by *The Fort Stockton Pioneer*. And even those numbers likely hide the true extent of the prison's outbreak, with some employees commuting to work at the facility, meaning confirmed cases may be counted in other counties.
The cases were found as a result of expanding testing at Texas prisons, especially for people who don't have symptoms. In a news release from early May, the agency said it was "deploying significant testing" aimed at finding asymptomatic patients in the prison system.
"The agency continues to be agile in its response to the pandemic," the news release added. At press time, around 66,500 Texas prisoners had been tested, according to TDCJ.

What's less clear, though, is how long it took state officials to report those rises to Pecos County. When state coronavirus figures for the county shot up on Friday, county officials "pretty well figured out it had to be TDCJ," Shuster said in a phone interview on Monday.
TDCJ had deployed a team to local prisons to test inmates, Shuster said, but it wasn't until Monday that he learned for sure the cases were tied to prisons.
"TDCJ does not share those figures with us so that we can stay on top of it," Shuster said. "They didn't call and tell me. They're pretty tight-lipped."
In interviews on Tuesday, TDCJ officials acknowledged they weren't sharing inmate infection stats from prison facilities with local officials in those counties. Instead, TDCJ operates like its own local health authority and reports figures directly to the state, said Jeremy Desel, director of communications for the agency.
The Texas Department of State Health Services did not respond to a request for comment seeking more information on how long it took state health officials to report those figures to counties. But Desel said the turnaround took long enough that, by the time county officials learned

about cases in prisons, those cases were "generally speaking already past quarantine times" and "not active cases anymore."
The Big Bend Sentinel has previously covered state reporting issues around coronavirus testing and statistics. Last week, for example, we reported that state health officials took days to add positive coronavirus cases in Presidio and Hudspeth counties to their state tracking system.
Those issues appear to also be at play here. But rather than just slowing reporting times for new cases, this particular problem could ultimately artificially inflate case counts in an area, Desel said.
"If [local officials] are taking info about our facilities and adding it to the county's, then they're double-counting those cases," he said.
Pecos County Judge Shuster told *The Fort Stockton Pioneer* he was hopeful that TDCJ and local county numbers were not being conflated. After all, he noted, prisoners aren't out in public, where they might seek additional testing. But employees are, and it's easy to imagine scenarios where a prison employee could get tested at work, only to be separately tested by local health workers or the National Guard.
Further complicating matters, at least seven N5 employees who tested positive were later determined to be El Paso County residents. Without more transparency from DSHS — especially when it comes to reporting delays — it's hard to say how county officials could avoid this problem altogether.
The surging case-counts at the N5 Unit are just the latest in a rash of infections at Texas prisons, where experts have long warned that close quarters and inadequate hygiene procedures could serve as incubators for the disease.
At press time on Wednesday, around 6,600 Texas prisoners have been confirmed to have the virus, and 44 of the state's 106 prison units, including both N5 and Lynaugh, are under precautionary medical lockdown. At least 70 prisoners across the state have died.

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Governor Abbott rejects bringing US troops to Texas

By STEPHEN PAULSEN
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TEXAS — In response to ongoing protests over police brutality, President Donald Trump has said he wants to dispatch U.S. military forces to "dominate" protesters.
Although state governors routinely deploy the National Guard in response to unrest or natural disasters, it's much rarer for the president to deploy actual national troops.
"If a city or state refuses to take the actions necessary to defend the life and property of their residents," he said at a news conference on Monday. "I will deploy the United States military and quickly solve the problem for them."

Governor Greg Abbott turned down the offer in a news conference with Dallas and Fort Worth leaders on Tuesday — a rare rebuke to the president at a time when the two men have lately been aligned on the issue of "reopening" the economy.
"We will not be asking the United States military to come into the state of Texas," he said. "We know that Texans can take care of Texans." He added the state has "tremendous police forces."
It remains to be seen what will happen if Trump forces the issue, as his own statement suggested he might. But given that the two men are typically political allies, such a move seems unlikely — at least for now.
The purpose of the news conference was to address ongoing protests and growing civil unrest over the death of George Floyd, a black man from Houston who was killed in Minneapolis late last month after a police officer knelt on his neck for around nine minutes.

Minneapolis Police were responding to a "forgery in progress," and in video of the incident, Floyd can be heard telling officers he can't breathe. The incident was the latest death of an unarmed black person at the hands of police, galvanizing protests across the country.
During his new conference, Greg Abbott said Floyd's killing was a "horrific act of police brutality" and said "we must ensure that it never happens here in Texas." Austin police on Sunday critically injured a 20-year-old black protester.
Governor Greg Abbott has taken a number of measures during the recent protests, including deploying National Guard troops and Department of Public Safety officers and announcing federal prosecutions for people who "come to Texas from out of state to engage in looting," according to a news release on Monday.
At the news conference, Abbott stressed that "violence and vandalism is never the answer" and did not belong "anywhere in the state of Texas." He also claimed that "Texas is recognized as a national leader in criminal justice reform."
Abbott again blamed some of the unrest on outside agitators, without pointing to any incidents, claiming, "Some of the violence we're seeing is not being done by people that reside in Dallas or even in Texas."
Of the 185 arrested by Dallas Police Department during the protests, 172 were local, according to arrest records provided by Mayor Eric Johnson's office, as reported by the *Texas Tribune*. Elsewhere in the state, two of the 53 protesters arrested by Austin Police were from out of state, according to information released by the department.

Midland man found dead near Fort Leaton

PRESIDIO — The body of 51-year-old Jesus Valenzuela Amaro was discovered by the Presidio County Sheriff's Office along the Rio Grande near Fort Leaton on Saturday, May 30 after a brief search by officers. The deputies on the scene were able to identify Amaro because of identification on his person.
Sheriff Danny Dominguez said officers on Saturday had been alerted by family that Amaro was missing and had not been heard from since Friday, May 29. Dominguez said the family "called my deputy in Presidio. They were looking for him and that's when they found him. It was a bad thing."
According to Justice of the Peace Juanita Bishop, the family had contacted an officer Saturday morning, because they hadn't heard from Amaro and had mentioned he was trying to get back into the United States. Amaro's family told officers that Amaro had been deported last month, due to his resident alien permit expiring. He likely died attempting to re-enter the country illegally, they said.
As previously reported in *The Big Bend Sentinel*, grueling heat is a major cause of death for undocumented immigrants passing through the Big Bend region. For the next ten days, Presidio temperatures are forecasted to hit highs of 105 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.
Amaro had a history of heart problems and hypertension, the sheriff's office said in a social media post. The department speculated that his health conditions, along with high temperatures, may have contributed to his death.
Deputies found no evidence of foul play, but Justice of the Peace Bishop ordered an autopsy, "Because I don't know the cause of death, it could be heat stroke, it could be heart attack," she said. The sheriff's office and Texas Rangers are continuing to investigate the death.

Gallery

(continued from page 1)

a beautiful thing to see what the culture has been and how we can help bring it back to life," said Stevens.
Stevens expressed excitement for the project and characterized Presidio as a "flower that is ready to bloom." Other additions to the city that Stevens hopes to include as part of the project include making a hike and bike trail as well as preserving and revamping existing adobe structures in town. He also brought up the fact that a lot of towns in West Texas have a thriving tourist economy, which is something he feels Presidio is lacking.
"I think the tourist economy has a lot of potential, I mean, [Presidio] sits right next to a state park, and of course it has the border," said Stevens.
Despite speaking on the importance of materializing a tourist economy, Stevens made it clear that he and Jancovici are interested in this project as something that can help the people who live in Presidio.
On the city's side of things,

Stevens and Jancovici said that Brad Newton, Presidio Municipal Development District executive director, and Joe Portillo, city administrator, were very receptive to the idea, saying that they were told by the city that a project like theirs was something they had been waiting for and thought could be a great addition.
After initially talking to the city about the possibility of creating a cultural district in March, Jancovici said that a presentation highlighting the plans for the area was then shown to Portillo, and from then the plan was put into action. In regards to the art gallery itself, the city used its Paint Presidio grant to help Jancovici and Stevens paint the structure on O'Reilly Street.
Additionally, in recent weeks the city of Presidio officially endorsed the association for the cultural district which has meant that Jancovici and Stevens can now go forward with their vision to make Presidio "beautiful" through exemplifying the culture and history that is already there.

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Overnight reservations resume for summer trips to Texas state parks

AUSTIN — Starting last week, visitors are able to make camping reservations at parks with arrival dates between June 1 and Sept. 7. This gradual reopening of overnight reservations will be limited to varying degrees at individual parks to align with safe business practices currently followed in Texas.

“No one is more pleased than us to welcome more outdoor enthusiasts back into state parks as part of the continued reopening of Texas,” said Carter Smith, executive director of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. “Our careful and deliberate approach to phasing in the reopening has served our visitors, volunteers, and staff well as we have continued our emphasis on the safety of everyone in the parks. Even in this limited capacity, we are glad that we can get more Texans and their families safely back on the trails and in the campsites to enjoy all the many unique spaces and places that make Texas State Parks so special.”

All guests, including annual pass holders, need to pre-purchase day passes and overnight reservations in advance through the Texas State Parks Reservation System. Reservations can be made online at www.texasstateparks.org or by calling 512-389-8900. Callers should expect longer than normal wait times when trying to make reservations. Visitors are encouraged to use the online system to help reduce the volume of calls to the customer service center.

Existing social-distancing standards and public health recommendations remain in effect including the recommendation to wear face coverings and bring one’s own supply of hand sanitizer. State parks will also continue the requirement of a six-foot distance from individuals outside of their party, including the prohibition of the gathering of groups larger than five that are not part of the same family or household.

Visitors planning on coming to a state park are encouraged to bring all necessary provisions, such as hand sanitizer and face masks. Guests should also ensure they have enough water and weather appropriate clothing before heading out. Find tips and recommendations for what to bring on a trail to stay safe in the Texas sun on the heat safety page on TPWD website.

Texas State Parks will continue to operate at a limited capacity. Operational changes still in effect at parks include the suspension of all transactions at parks, equipment rentals and in-person interpretive programs. All headquarters, visitor centers and nature centers will also remain closed for now.

The continuation of overnight reservations and other facets of park operations will be subject to change and is dependent on current data, staffing levels and public health recommendations. Park visitors should check the TPWD website and Texas State Parks Alert Map regularly for the latest information.

PUBLIC NOTICES

City of Presidio City Secretary Office is requesting a Call of Letters of Interest, for an open City of Presidio Council Member seat, to be filled until November 3rd, 2020. Please submit Letter of Interest to the Secretary of the City of Presidio, Brenda Ornelas-Acuna, PO Box 1899, City Hall, 507 West O’Reilly St., Presidio, Texas 79845 or email it to bornelas@presidiotx.us.

Homeowners Jose and Salvador Carrasco; On 2/10/2020 you were sent a certified letter where you were advised to contact the City of Presidio Code Enforcement Division in reference to your property located at Anderson Largent Addition, Block 5, Lots 5, 6, 7, 8. On 5/11/2020 you were sent a second notice to contact, once again the City of Presidio Code Enforcement Division as soon as possible, and no response was received from your part. This will be the last contact attempt by the City of Presidio Code Enforcement Division. This is the final notice before condemnation action to demolish the structure located at Anderson Largent Addition, Block 5, Lots 5, 6, 7, 8. is presented to the Presidio City Council for action. Code Enforcement Officer, Jesus M. Valles, 501 East O’Reilly St., PO Box 1899, Presidio, Texas 79845
City of Presidio City Secretary Office is requesting a Call of Letters of Interest, for an open City of Presidio Council Member seat, to be filled until November 3rd, 2020. Please submit Letter of Interest to the Secretary of the City of Presidio, Brenda Ornelas-Acuna, PO Box 1899, City Hall, 507 West O’Reilly St., Presidio, Texas 79845 or email it to bornelas@presidiotx.us.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Terlingua CSD

Terlingua CSD is soliciting bids for the New Classrooms Project. For bidding information please contact John Fitzgerald, AIA, 432-362-6565/johnf@jsarch.com or documents may be downloaded from JSA Architects, Inc. website at www.jsarch.com. Bids are to be submitted to Terlingua CSD, located at 550 Roadrunner Circle Terlingua, Texas, before **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2020**, in the Superintendent’s Office. Terlingua CSD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age and disability in employment or the provision of services.

A pre-bid meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Bidders will meet at Terlingua CSD, Big Bend Library, 550 Roadrunner Circle, Terlingua, Texas. All bidders are encouraged to attend.

A Bid Bond in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) will be required for all bids. The successful bidder will be required to enter into a general contract with Terlingua CSD. Payment and Performance Bonds in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price will be required by Owner upon contract execution.

Faxed bids from bidders will not be accepted.

Construction Advertisement and Invitation for Bids

The City of Presidio will receive bids for furnishing all labor, materials, and equipment and performing all work required for the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Contract No. 7218381 - New Ground Storage Water Tank until 4:00 P.M., C.S.T. on Friday, June 26, 2020 at the City Hall 507 W. O’ Reilly Street, Presidio, Texas 79845 (P.O. Box 1899, Presidio, Texas, 79845) after which the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows:

1. Base Bid – A 200,000 gallon Welded Steel Ground Storage Tank (foundation by others)
2. Alternate A – A 500,000 gallon Welded Steel Ground Storage Tank (foundation by others)
3. Alternate B – A 100,000 gallon Welded Steel Ground Storage Tank (foundation by others)

Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at the City Hall 507 W. O’Reilly Street, Presidio, TX, 79845, or may be purchased for \$150.00 for each set from Kleinman Consultants, 314 W. O’Reilly Street, Presidio, Texas 79845, (432) 664-9057 (telephone). No refunds will be made. Digital copies of the Contract Documents and plans may be requested at no charge by email at ramon@kleinmanconsultants.com.

A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid. A certified check or bank draft payable to the City of Presidio or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin.

City of Presidio reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by City of Presidio for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder’s qualifications prior to the contract award.

City of Presidio does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, national, origin, familiar status or disability. City of Presidio is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer & encourages participation by Section 3 residents and businesses.

Funding for this project is covered under Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968. All eligible bidders must comply with Section 3 requirements in regard to meeting or exceeding the required objectives for both hiring and subcontracting. In accordance with these objectives, Contractors are required to direct their newly created employment and/or subcontracting opportunities to Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns.

City of Presidio Jose Portillo, City Administrator 6 / 2 / 2020

All contractors/subcontractors that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.

Galería de arte

(continúa de la página 1)

reemplazado u ocultado.

“Aquí hay mucha historia, y para nosotros, respetarla es importante. Es hermoso ver cuál ha sido la cultura y cómo podemos ayudar a que vuelva a la vida”, dijo Stevens.

Stevens expresó su entusiasmo por el proyecto y caracterizó a Presidio como una “flor lista para florecer”. Otras adiciones a la ciudad que Stevens espera incluir como parte del proyecto incluyen hacer una caminata y un sendero para bicicletas, así como preservar y renovar las estructuras de adobe existentes en la ciudad. También mencionó el hecho de que muchas ciudades en el oeste de Texas tienen una economía turística próspera, algo que él siente que le falta a Presidio.

“Creo que la economía turística tiene mucho potencial, quiero decir, [Presidio] se encuentra justo al lado de un parque estatal y, por supuesto, tiene la frontera”, dijo Stevens.

A pesar de hablar sobre la importancia de materializar una economía turística, Stevens dejó en claro que él y Jancovici están interesados en este proyecto como algo que puede ayudar a las personas que viven en Presidio.

Del lado de la ciudad, Stevens y Jancovici dijeron que Brad Newton, director ejecutivo del Distrito de Desarrollo Municipal de Presidio, y Joe Portillo, administrador de la ciudad, fueron muy receptivos a la idea, diciendo que la ciudad les dijo que un proyecto como el suyo era algo que habían estado esperando y pensaron que podría ser una gran adición.

Después de hablar inicialmente con la ciudad sobre la posibilidad de crear un distrito cultural en marzo, Jancovici dijo que una presentación que destacaba los planes para el área se le mostró a Portillo, y desde entonces el plan se puso en acción. En lo que respecta a la galería de arte en sí, la ciudad utilizó su subvención Paint Presidio para ayudar a Jancovici y Stevens a pintar la estructura en la calle O’Reilly.

Además, en las últimas semanas, la ciudad de Presidio respaldó oficialmente la asociación para el distrito cultural, lo que ha significado que Jancovici y Stevens ahora puedan avanzar con su visión de hacer que Presidio sea “hermoso” a través del ejemplo de la cultura y la historia que ya existe.

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For sale to highest bidder 2001 Freightliner Truck and 2008 XLST Load King Trailer.

Items will be sold as is no warranties expressed or implied. Bids will be accepted through June 10th and can be seen at the Marfa National Bank’s back lot. Preference will be given to bids for both items. The bank has the right to refuse any and all bids.

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