

BURN BAN IN EFFECT, NO GROUND FIRES
by order of Presidio County

At MISD, new members, resignations, and facility updates

By MARY CANTRELL
mkcantrell@bigbendsentinel.com

MARFA — The Marfa Independent School District board room was abuzz Monday night as board members, staff, and students clutching trifold poster boards shuffled into the crowded room where nearly every plastic school chair was occupied.

New board
The meeting began with a jump to new business — the cancellation of the May 7 general election. Traditionally held in conjunction with the city’s city council election, the joint election will be canceled this year due to a lack of candidates. Superintendent Oscar Aguero said they had exactly four applicants for the four open slots.

Current board members Teresa Nuñez and Ernie Villarreal will keep their positions. Katie Price-Fowlkes, who resigned from the board last month, was originally going to stay on the board until April but she and Shawn Brugette resigned effective this week in order to be replaced by two new board members. The board unanimously accepted their resignations.

Aguero said there were a few options moving forward but his recommendation was to appoint the new board members as soon as possible in order to have a full eight-person board.

Lori Flores, the city utilities clerk who previously served on the school board, and Ruben Martinez, the father of Marfa ISD eighth grader and maintenance tech crew chief with the Texas Highways Department, will be filling in for Price-Fowlkes and Brugette respectively. Martinez, Nuñez and Villarreal will be sworn in for their three-year terms in May. Flores will also be re-sworn in come May to serve the remainder of Price-Fowlkes’ term, which is up in May 2023.

Their appointment passed unanimously among the council and they were sworn in by the superintendent’s secretary, Griselda Hinojos, who delivered the oath of office. The freshly sworn-in members then took their seats at the board table to a round of applause from meeting attendees. All board members were now present.

Presentations: science fair, facilities

Next the meeting advanced to the reports from staff, with High School Principal Allison Scott honoring the students whose presentations recently advanced to the national science fair. Alexis Gonzales, Juan Avila and Aubrie Aguilar showed off their project “Germs and You” to the board. Aguilar also received fourth

(Continued on page 2)

INSIDE

NEWS P. 1 - 3
OPINIONS P. 4
COMMUNITY P. 5 - 7
CLASSIFIEDS P. 8



Photo by Mary Cantrell

David Beebe, Democratic candidate for Presidio County Commissioner Precinct 4, who beat out his opponent Frank “Buddy” Knight in the primary election on Tuesday, sits across from the Marfa Visitor Center to greet voters and passersby. Beebe was encouraging contacts in his phone to come out and vote via text and was optimistic about the race.

Here are the 2022 primary election results for Presidio County

By ALLEGRA HOBBS
allegra@bigbendsentinel.com

TRI-COUNTY — On Tuesday, Presidio County joined the rest of the state in voting in the primary election, with voters casting their ballots for a slew of candidates to represent both parties in the general election this November. With the exception of the Precinct 4 County Commissioner race, in which Garey Willbanks was unopposed in the Republican primary, there are no Republican candidates in the local races, meaning the Democratic victors will likely assume the positions come November.

County Judge: Incumbent Judge Cinderella Guevara, who recently switched to the Republican Party, and Democrat Jose Portillo Jr. were both unopposed in their respective

primaries. Guevara garnered a total of 90 votes, while Portillo received 835 votes. The two will face off in the general election this fall.

County Commissioner, Precinct 4: David Beebe, former Justice of the Peace for Precinct 1, has beat incumbent Frank “Buddy” Knight with 58.95 percent of the vote, receiving a total of 280 versus Knight’s 195. Beebe will face off against Republican Garey Willbanks, co-founder and principal at Teal System, in the general election. Willbanks earned a total of 34 votes in the Republican primary.

County Commissioner, Precinct 2: Margarito Hernandez, current Presidio Chief of Police, comes in ahead with 52.62 percent of the vote at 171 votes, with opponent Abel “Billy” Hernandez, a member of Presidio City Council, at 154 votes. Margarito Hernandez

has said he will be able to continue as Chief of Police while also serving as County Commissioner.

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1: Dina Jo Marquez, who had stepped in to finish out predecessor David Beebe’s term, has beat Marfa City Councilmember Raul Lara by only eight votes, at a final tally of 300 versus 292, meaning Marquez garnered 50.68 percent of the vote.

Justice of the Peace Precinct 2: Incumbent Juanita Urias-Bishop won with 61.58 percent of the vote at 460 votes, with opponent Brenda Pando-Covos, assistant to the county attorney, finishing with 287 votes.

County Treasurer: Democrat and incumbent Frances Garcia, who ran unopposed, received a total of 709 votes, while Republican David

(Continued on page 2)

City council hears citizen presentations, discusses property sale and future of the council in latest assembly

By MARY CANTRELL
mkcantrell@bigbendsentinel.com

MARFA — The last city council meeting of the month, held last week in Marfa City Hall’s Casner Room, was well attended by Marfa citizens, with council members hearing multiple presentations and, along with usual business, discussing the future of the governing body, which will see two council members — Buck Johnston and Yoseff Ben-Yehuda — exit office early this summer.

Present at the February 24 meeting were City Manager Mandy Roane, City Attorney Teresa Todd, council members Johnston, Ben-Yehuda and Raul Lara, with Mayor Pro Tem Irma Salgado leading the meeting in Mayor Manny Baeza’s absence. Councilmember Eddie

Pallarez was also absent.

Historic District designation for Downtown Marfa

Caitlin Murray, director of archives and programs at the Judd Foundation, discussed the designation of downtown Marfa as a nationally-recognized Central Historic District. Murray gave a summary of the project and stated news from the National Park Service should come in March or April regarding the official designation. The boundaries of the Central Marfa Historic District are Washington Street to the north, Dallas Street to the south, Dean and Russell streets to the east, and Austin and Abbott streets to the west. A draft of the proposal is available online.

In addition to the honorific status, which could allow the city to conduct historic walking

tours and other programming, the designation also opens up funds for buildings within the boundary to receive federal and state tax credits on restoration projects that honor the original structures. Historic buildings not within the boundary of the central district can still apply to be part of the national register, said Murray. The National Register of Historic Places already recognizes Marfa’s Fort D.A. Russell, Hotel Paisano and Blackwell School.

“They’ve already acknowledged a lot of key, really important sites in Marfa so this is kind of another expansion of that, just drawing attention to how important Marfa is,” said Murray.

While City Hall will not be a part of the historic district because it is a city-owned facility, Councilmember Johnston did mention she’d

(Continued on page 3)

Child endangerment case proceeds to grand jury, Fort Stockton man held without bond

By MARY CANTRELL
mkcantrell@bigbendsentinel.com

ALPINE — Hector Flores Jr. — a Fort Stockton resident currently facing child endangerment charges after he and his daughter went missing in Big Bend National Park — was denied bail at a court hearing on Friday, with the presiding judge deciding his case will proceed to a grand jury.

Flores has been detained in Brewster County Jail since February 15, the day after he and his nine-year-old daughter were found in Mexico after having gone missing in the national park 10 days prior. The two were found near Boquillas Del Carmen, a significant distance away from Flores’ vehicle that was found abandoned on Old Ore Road. Investigators found they had made the journey on foot, and the child had

gone roughly two weeks without food.

Flores’ initial preliminary court hearing last Wednesday saw Judge David Fannin of the U.S. District Court Western District of Texas presiding over the case, with criminal defense attorney Shane O’Neal representing Flores and Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Greenbaum representing the government. Special Agent Alice Downie of the FBI was brought in to testify in the case, and while additional details were revealed regarding the events leading up to the disappearance — including that Flores seemed to have planned the disappearance well in advance — the judge had not yet made a decision regarding Flores’ bond.

When Flores’ preliminary hearing reconvened on Friday, February 25, the judge ultimately ordered he would be detained without bond. Since the court met on Wednesday, Judge

Fannin said he had time to consider the situation and review evidence.

Judge Fannin recounted the series of events: Flores pulled L.F. out of school, allowed his phone to be disconnected, left Fort Stockton without notifying friends or family, abandoned his vehicle and multiple forms of identification in the national park, and avoided detection while crossing into Mexico illegally. These factors led him to determine the only way to ensure Flores would appear in further court proceedings was to detain him without bond.

He said Flores’ actions can be deemed as ill-considered, reckless, and put his 9-year-old daughter’s safety in jeopardy. The judge cited Downie’s testimony, which said Flores went to extreme lengths to avoid apprehension all the while exposing his daughter to the elements and

(Continued on page 3)

Judd Foundation, Big Bend Conservation Alliance to partner on native grassland trail for Marfa

By MARY CANTRELL
mkcantrell@bigbendsentinel.com

MARFA — Shelley Bernstein of Big Bend Conservation Alliance and Rainer Judd approached council members at last week’s regular city council meeting about a new idea to turn 30 acres of Judd Foundation-owned property south of town into a public park.

The 30-acre plot is within walking distance of town and is bordered by The Chinati Foundation to the north and to the east, said Judd. Adjacent to Ranch Road 2810, an area where residents often run and ride bikes, the section of grassland could be fit with an approximate three-mile walking and running trail in order to provide more outdoor recreation for the citizens of Marfa, said Bernstein and Judd, an area with ample natural beauty yet a dearth of ways to experience it.

“If you think about Marfa in particular, there are no natural trails. The nearest trails are in Fort Davis or Alpine,” said Bernstein. “We are ranch locked, and there is no access to these ranches.”

Bernstein and Judd reported they received an initial round of funding for the project, which they will utilize to develop a community-informed site plan. They intend to discuss the future of the recreational area with groups of elders and parents, for example, to determine the needs of residents. The plan will help determine what the site will look like, whether it will include picnic tables, restrooms, shade structures and more, said Bernstein.

“This thing can become a tourist attraction and that’s great, but what we want is to start from the community and try and understand what people need from the site,” said Bernstein.

Judd said an important constraint of the project is to maintain Marfa’s natural environment, meaning there would be no mowed grass. “No waterslides,” said Bernstein. One of the project’s goals is to restore the grasslands, they said, while offering access to informational panels about the native landscape, similar to the Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute. Restoring native grasslands is also in step with the neighboring Chinati Foundation which, according to their 2017 master plan, will prioritize land restoration and conservation.

Mayor Pro Tem Irma Salgado inquired as to whether there are currently cattle grazing on the property, to which Judd replied there hadn’t been since the 1980s. When asked by Councilmember Buck Johnston if they had approached the Dixon Water Foundation regarding public access issues they encountered, the two reported they had.

The Dixon Water Foundation closed the Mimm’s Unit trail in August 2018, after allowing public access for nearly a decade, citing the public’s disregard of rules and regulations as the reason for the closure.

“Over the past year the amount of unauthorized use of the property outside the open-access road has increased to the detriment of the land, cattle and wildlife of the ranch,” the foundation wrote in a post on their website at the time.

Council members were receptive and appreciative of the idea. Bernstein and Judd said they would be back in the fall to present the preliminary site plan for the project to the council.

MISD

(Continued from page 1)

place in a University Interscholastic League (UIL) film competition for her short film, “Heartbeat,” Scott said.

Next to present to the board was Clint Alsobrook, regional manager with Texas Association of School Boards. He walked the board through an online “Educational Facility Services” dashboard which graded the district’s facilities on many levels, from ADA compliance to safety and security. The dashboard outlined priority projects, which included HVAC upgrades as well as roof repair and associated costs.

Alsobrook said many school facilities were operating with over 15-year-old equipment.

“The HVAC, plumbing — you’ve got units that are past their anticipated life. So it’s something that does need to be addressed relatively quick,” said Alsobrook.

School security, HVAC

Aguero then discussed the ongoing issue of district infrastructure upgrades — from school security to HVAC replacement.

Aguero said while they will be taking nearly a million dollars out of their fund balance account for the new track, they will likely need to tap into fund balance again for some of the major infrastructure repairs that are needed for the facilities. The elementary school is unable to open windows, he said, as he gave board members a heads up that expenses were on the horizon.

“I do believe in the next few years, [we will be] lowering our fund balance to be able to fix some things to make improvements. I just want you to know that I’m probably gonna come to you about spending money,” said Aguero.

He said the district has \$350,000 budgeted for maintenance this cycle that they should start using for such projects. It might be possible to use ESSER funds — COVID-relief grant monies — for HVAC repairs, but restrictions on how to use those funds are tricky, said Aguero.

Aguero said an estimate to upgrade locks on both campuses came out to \$200,000, and security camera upgrades were coming in around \$28,000, not including both gyms.

The option to put up fencing around both campuses came up, in order to create one entry and one exit and cut down on the numerous access points — the elementary school has a total of eight entrances and the high school a total of 15.

“So let’s say we go out and go perimeter, one entrance, one exit, we could cut down the cost on the locks,” said Board Member Rene Gonzales.

A fence, which Aguero said would cost around \$100,000 to \$150,000, would allow them time to save money for the next layer of security, he suggested. But fencing off the brand new track to resident use didn’t make sense, said Aguero. In the end, no decisions on new security were made but most voiced support for the fence concept.

Superintendent’s report

Aguero then reported three active COVID cases across both campuses and said the school would continue performing vaccination clinics and testing. The district’s website is now tracking COVID cases, but hasn’t been updated since late January, which Aguero said he would remedy.

The board then reviewed the 2020-2021 school report cards generated by the Texas Education Agency. The grade the school receives incorporates financial information, academic performance reports and accountability ratings, according to the TEA’s website. The school received a 62 percent rating for the 2020-2021 academic year. Schools were not rated in 2019-2020, but in 2018-2019 the school received an 87 percent.

The 62 percent is classified as “approaches expectations,” not “meets expectations,” the desired benchmark. Aguero said it was important to consider the numerous changes brought on by the pandemic, but the score needs to improve in the future.

“I’m not disappointed. I’m not thrilled. Because we can do better. And the staff knows we can do better,” said Aguero. “This is just kind of the benchmark of where we’re at. I think it’s a good benchmark. I think it’s a true benchmark. I think we’ll be exceeding it this year.”

J.E. Gregg Auditorium renovation

Similar to the track overhaul, a renovation of the district’s auditorium has been long discussed, said Aguero, and now was the time to act. He said auditorium upgrades would signal that the district cares about all students, not just student athletes.

“Not every kid is going to be super excited that we got a brand new track. It’s a different thing that says, hey, look, now we have this to perform in,” said Aguero.

Bianca Gonzalez, business specialist with MISD, was present at the meeting to present her findings on what an auditorium renovation would look like.

The existing auditorium is not suiting the needs of the students, she said, and one of the major upgrades to the space would be to lengthen the stage so it is the proper size for one act plays. Also on the wishlist are new seats, a new floor, lighting and sound upgrades, electrical upgrades, plus a new HVAC. The existing facility is not ADA compliant, which would also be addressed.

Many alumni in the room recalled the unchanging ‘80s sound equipment and stagnation of the performance space. Seat removal estimates were coming in at \$14,500, with the cost of new seats and installation totaling around \$65,000. Gonzalez was still working on a flooring estimate, she said.

New seats, floors, and lengthening the stage are the primary objects for the immediate future. The ideal timeline would be to start the project in the spring or summer and complete it in time for one act play season next December said Gonzalez.

There is an available \$8,700 donation for the project, but the board would like to raise additional money and will likely take \$71,000 out of fund balance for the effort. Aguero said money raised could possibly be put back into fund balance. Maybe they could offer commemorative plaques or host a fundraising event, some said, and partner with boosters and PTO.

Núñez said a nice, new auditorium would help boost students’ pride in their school. Others commented on the auditorium as a space for visitors, similar to the track. Scott said the high school’s one act play program garnered a lot of interest this year and students would only be more attracted to participating in performing arts with an upgraded facility.

“I think having that auditorium will build that enthusiasm even more,” said Scott.

Mixed news: teacher housing, resignations

The board, prompted by Villarreal, discussed rental fees for teaching living in district-provided housing. There was discussion of lowering rent for the homes, and Aguero said they would readdress the matter when leases are up in May.

In contrast to the start of the meeting, only board members and a couple of staff members remained when the board reconvened from a lengthy executive session. Board Secretary Núñez announced they would accept the resignations of teachers Melanie Harms and Amy Mackie, effective at the end of the 2022 school year, and the meeting adjourned.

THANK YOU, MARFA!

My wife and I are deeply honored by the support you've invested in my candidacy for Presidio County Commissioner, Precinct 4.

I also thank my opponent, Mr. Buddy Knight, for a forthright campaign, as well as for the considerable service he continues to perform for our County.

In the coming months, I will be working hard to win in the General Election this November so that I can serve our Community in kind.

Once again, I offer my sincerest thanks and may God bless us all.

From David Beebe

Political Advertisement Paid for by David Beebe PO Box 70 Marfa, TX 79843

Election results

(Continued from page 1)

Chavez, who also ran unopposed, received a total of 86 votes. The two will face off in the general election this fall.

County/District Clerk: Democrat incumbent Florcita Zubia ran unopposed for County/District Clerk and received a total of 842 votes.

Party Chairs: Also running unopposed was Republican County Chair Dan Dunlap, who received a total of 78 votes. Acting Democratic County Chair Nicole Schwartz did not appear on the ballot, according to the clerk’s office and a sample ballot. Schwartz said her absence on the ballot was due to her not being a registered voter in the county in time for the candidate filing period, but she will continue to act as the appointed Democratic County Chair going forward.

Statewide Races: For U.S. Representative District 23, John Lira won the Democratic primary against opponent Priscilla Golden. In Presidio

LILLIANA FIELDS
512.589.8617
LILLIANAFIELDS@GMAIL.COM

ARCHITECT

FAR WEST TEXAS BASED

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

COCHINEAL

MARFA

CASUAL FINE DINING IN FAR WEST TEXAS

107 West San Antonio Street
Marfa, Texas 79843
432.729.3300 - cochinealmarfa.com

BARGAINS OF THE MONTH®



3.50
ScotchBlue™
0.94 in. x 60 yd. Original Multi-Use Painter's Tape P 865 337 B36
1.41 in. x 60 yd. Painter's Tape, 5.50 P 865 337 B36
1.88 in. x 60 yd. Painter's Tape, 6.50 P 865 352 B18



5.49
WD-40®
12 oz. Lubricant with Smart Straw H 178 413 B12



9.99 YOUR CHOICE
20 lb. Wild Bird Food or 8 lb. Birders' Blend Bird Food L 501 272, 322



17.99
2.5 gal. BlueDEF Platinum™
Helps maintain optimal fuel economy. Saves money on costly repairs. H 104 640 1



24.99
True Temper® #12 Poly Grain Scoop
14-1/2 in. x 18 in. blade, 27-in Super D Grip handle. T 835 348 B6



28.99 SALE PRICE
-2.00 INSTANT REBATE*
FINAL PRICE 26.99
Scotts® Turf Builder® Plus Halts Crabgrass Preventer - 5,000 sq. ft. L 161 991 40
*Limit 2 per offer with True Value Rewards Card.



33.99 SALE PRICE
-4.00 INSTANT REBATE*
FINAL PRICE 29.99
Ortho® 1.33 Gal. Groundclear® or Max Control 365 Vegetation Killer L 262 074; 176 327 B4 *Limit 2 per offer with True Value Rewards Card.



69.99
Louisville® Ladder
6 ft. Aluminum Type II Step Ladder
Medium duty. Commercial grade. 225 lb. weight capacity. P 619 667 1

MORRISON TRUE VALUE
301 N 5TH ST
ALPINE, TEXAS 79830
432-837-2061
www.morrisonhardware.com

True Value
Sale ends 3/31/22

Join at TrueValueRewards.com!

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY COURT

COUNTY OF PRESIDIO

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

IN THE ESTATE OF: JUANA MONTOKA PEREZ
CAUSE: 1991

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Juana Montoya Perez, Deceased, Docket No. 1991, County Court, Presidio County, Texas. Application for Independent Administration and Letters of Administration Pursuant to Section 401.003 of the Texas Estates Code filed in the County Court of Presidio County, Texas, on the 10th day of January, 2022.

Said application may be heard and acted on by said Court at 10 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publishing this citation, at the County Courthouse in Marfa, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

All interested persons are further advised that they have the right to employ an attorney and that if they or their attorney fail to file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of ten days after the publishing of this citation, the court may enter orders with binding effects upon said persons.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Marfa, Texas, this the 1st day of February, 2022

FLORCITA ZUBIA
Clerk of the County Court,
Presidio County, Texas
By: *Carolina A. Lujan*
Deputy
Clerk's Address: P.O. Box 789
Marfa, Texas 79843

READ ONLINE AT BIGBENDSENTINEL.COM

City council

(Continued from page 1)

like to see the building painted soon. She said it has been budgeted for, and because the city is approaching its six month mark in the fiscal year, she would like to get it on the agenda and get it done. Others agreed. “It would be nice to paint it more historical like it used to be,” said Todd.

Council votes to approve sale of city property to resident in encroachment case

Next council took up old business, starting with the petition by Marfa resident Conception Campos to purchase approximately 234 square feet of East Lincoln Street on which her adobe home and front porch are encroaching. A survey was conducted which notified Campos of the 3.9 foot encroachment. Now, in order to sell her property to an interested buyer, she must purchase the area of encroachment from the city.

Since council last met, the city obtained the signatures from Campos’ neighbors that were needed to proceed with the sale. Council ultimately voted to approve the sale. Campos must now provide the city with a survey and an appraisal, and a public hearing was set for 6 p.m. on March 31 at City Hall.

While council members decided how to handle this specific sale, it was brought up by multiple parties that these incidents were likely to keep occurring and it would be good to set a precedent for the future so the new council has clearer guidelines.

“I think it's just gonna keep popping up as homes — because normally they were going from family member to family member, so we didn't know, but now that they are being sold outside the family, we're getting the surveys,” said Roane.

The whole block is off by three to four feet, Todd said. And it's not the only area with encroachments in the city, stated Councilmember Johnston. She questioned whether there was a way to understand the scale of the issue rather than just dealing with encroachments on a case-by-case basis, to which Roane said it wouldn't be feasible to get a survey of every city lot. Johnston was concerned these sales would not benefit the city financially, she said.

Ben-Yehuda questioned whether there could be an alternative to selling the land in order to avoid perpetuating an offset in property lines. He and Johnston were concerned about giving the impression that if a structure is built in the wrong place, the city will simply sell the land to the person in violation. Todd said an encroachment agreement might be a possible alternative, but city staff are limited and she didn't think the few encroachment agreements they currently hold were being collected on.

“The thing about the encroachment agreements is you have to have somebody stay on top of that,” said Todd.

Johnston agreed the idea to do an encroachment agreement was valid but thought it would be ill-received. There was also discussion regarding what the future owners intend to do with the property and how that might affect the sale; for example, if new owners decided to tear down the porch or entire structure, an encroachment would no longer exist.

The 234 square feet in question does not contain city utilities, noted Roane and Todd, meaning the city does not require regular access to the area, making the sale simpler.

Salgado ultimately made a motion to approve the sale, stating council can worry about setting the precedent later, but — out of concern for holding up Campos’ sale — should let this one go. Johnston advocated for not waiting.

“We're setting the precedent for moving forward — this one to do it. Because this is the one that encroaches probably the most on that block as far as structure,” said Johnston.

Ben-Yehuda said he didn't like the pressure to make a quick decision and that an interested buyer would

still be around two weeks later. He said he felt his solution to do an encroachment agreement didn't seem to garner much support but agreed this would be a good case in which to set the precedent for the whole block.

“You're presuming that everyone who comes after you will follow your precedent and not want to do their own,” said Todd, alluding to the two council members leaving office soon to make way for their replacements.

Ben-Yehuda said the matter touched on one of the primary challenges of serving on city council.

“To a certain level, we often try to make decisions, balancing the specifics of the situation and having a mindset to the future and the past to try to be fair and treat everybody the same. And that's tough,” said Ben-Yehuda.

After more back-and-forth discussions, Salgado reminded council there was already a motion made by her to approve the sale on the table which had been seconded by Councilmember Lara, to which Ben-Yehuda ultimately voted yea and Johnston voted nay.

Tourism, infrastructure: mobile app, Marfa and Presidio County Museum, Chinati sewer pipes

Director of Tourism Abby Boyd gave updates regarding a new mobile app for Marfa visitors. While it was originally thought the project might be funded by an Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant, Boyd, who is now serving on the board of the Texas Mountain Trail Historic Commission, said the organization is looking into options that would fund the project in its entirety.

Council members also discussed a request for qualifications (RFQ) for engineering services for the Marfa and Presidio County Museum. The RFQ is fairly simple and requires engineers to have past experience working in the area and with historic buildings, said Roane. At the last council meeting, it was established that the initial assessment by an engineer would serve as a roadmap for future repairs, and the city would work from a list the engineer provided to improve the structure over time. Council approved the RFQ.

Serendipitously, Chinati Foundation Director Jenny Moore was present at the meeting, and in lieu of going into executive session to discuss aging sewer pipes on Chinati property for which the city has received violations from the Texas Center on Environmental Equality, Moore spoke with City Attorney Teresa Todd and City Engineer Ramon Carrasco to schedule a meeting in order to discuss the matter soon.

City manager's report: website and water tank updates

Lastly was the city manager's report. During her report Roane said the city's new website is nearly complete and staff is currently being trained on the incoming system. The website redo will include the utilities portal. Roane said the new software should be fully up and running by this summer. Roane also reported the city's new water tank, originally slated to be completed this March, will likely not be completed until November due to delays.

Public Works Director Chuck Salgado said the project has experienced multiple challenges including equipment and chemical delays. He said he has been regularly patching the current tank, which is leaking, but it should hold up until November. Costs for the project haven't gone up yet, but may, Roane said. After council member updates in which outgoing council members promised to stay involved — Ben-Yehuda said he would remain on the Presidio County Appraisal District Board and Johnston said she had interest in the Planning and Zoning Board — the meeting concluded.

Councilmember Lara's motion to adjourn was seconded by Councilmember Johnston with a definitive, “I'll second that baby!”

City of Presidio to explore possibility of freight bypass in wake of proposed diesel transport operation

By SAM KARAS
sam@bigbendsentinel.com

PRESIDIO — Presidio City Council devoted two public agenda items to a proposed diesel transport operation at Monday night's special meeting. The operation — a collaboration between Strobel Energy and Texas Pacifico that will bring up to 150 tanker trucks of diesel fuel through Presidio each week — has generated controversy since it was initially pitched to city officials. Investors hope that the operation will mark the rebirth of rail in Presidio, bringing jobs and trade to a town hungry for opportunity.

At Monday's meeting, officials kicked off the process of looking into a potential bypass so that the diesel-filled trucks — and eventually, other kinds of freight — could be routed around the city to the Presidio Port of Entry. Councilmember Arian Velázquez-Ornelas introduced a motion to initiate the process of collaborating with TxDOT to create a highway master plan regulating commercial freight traffic through the city in hopes of eventually creating such a bypass. The master plan would include a timeline and funding sources. “Now that we have a good audit, we can actually pursue [funding] in full force,” she said.

City council last discussed the issue on January 17, when numerous Presidio residents braved a local COVID surge to hash out their concerns with local officials. “So for a year, maybe two to three years, we will be living with these trucks — hazmat going through our town past the elementary school, clogging up our traffic, eating up what few asphalt-paved roads we have and blocking entry and exit across the river,” Presidio Municipal Development District Executive Director Jeran Stephens said. “And we haven't even gotten into the dangers of this yet.”

In the weeks since that meeting, county officials have met multiple times to discuss and update the county's emergency protocols. Representatives from state Sen. César Blanco's office met virtually with concerned Presidio residents, hoping to use their connections to bring state-level agencies together to discuss the issue. An important question was raised over and over again: what power does the city of Presidio hold to regulate the transport of hazardous materials through town and across the international bridge?

Monday's meeting marked the first public presentation on the issue by City Attorney Rod Ponton, tasked with exploring the legality of limiting or prohibiting hazmat transport through the city of Presidio. “Cities have a pretty broad ability to keep hazardous materials out,” he explained. “Other border cities have put in ordinances that designate hazardous materials routes. The one thing we can't do is block hazardous materials from state highways.”

The route, as currently proposed, entails the transfer of diesel fuel from rail cars onto tanker trucks in the Presidio

Stockyards through a process known as transloading. Those trucks will then make their way onto O'Reilly Street, where they will pass the fire station, elementary school and post office before making a right-hand turn at the Y intersection. Just past Porter's, they will turn left and join U.S.-67 for the only stretch of the route on a state highway before queuing up in front of the Presidio Port of Entry.

While the city can't block fuel transport on the final leg of its journey on U.S.-67, the Presidio Port of Entry is not currently designated as a hazmat facility. “Right now, we're not there, but when the hazmat starts coming in, we as a team are going to need to start looking at how we're going to set up our port of entry as a hazmat-designated area,” Port Director Jesus Luis Chavez said at January's city council meeting.

“Presidio really should look not just at hazardous materials — we should look at the broader picture of border trade,” Ponton said. Interest in Presidio as a hub for fuel shipping has grown as Mexico struggles to meet its own demand for fuel. While the country is working toward ending oil exports and achieving fuel independence, Ponton pointed out that it currently can only produce about 20 percent of the refined oil products needed to keep the country running.

In the weeks before the meeting, Councilmember Velázquez-Ornelas spearheaded an effort looking into the feasibility of constructing a freight bypass around Presidio, so big trucks and hazmat headed for the port won't need to cut through the city. The idea has precedent: TxDOT's U.S.-67 Corridor Study, compiled in 2020 after years of public input, explored solutions to clogged traffic in front of the Presidio bridge.

The study noted that at peak crossing times, traffic headed toward the bridge could back up up to four miles, preventing entry and exit into the city of Presidio proper for residents. Other Big Bend communities — including Marfa — fought the prospect of freight bypasses, but the idea could take hold in Presidio, where vehicles often have long waits in town before they cross the bridge. In 2015, peak traffic near the port of entry was estimated at around 4,100 vehicles per day, and is expected to grow to 6,600 vehicles per day by 2045.

Cresson, Texas — the home of another Strobel Energy Group transloading operation where fuel headed to Presidio will be transferred from a pipeline onto rail cars — sought a bypass in 2018 to alleviate unpredictable railyard traffic that delayed commuters' daily trips to and from Fort Worth. The project is estimated to be completed in 2023, and will likely cost the state \$61 million dollars.

City council plans to discuss the issue again at a meeting on March 8. Given its proximity to oil producers in the Permian Basin, Presidio is an attractive destination for the international fuel trade. “If the diesel people start doing it, other people will start doing it,” Ponton explained. “More fuel will come. We need to figure this out.”

Child endangerment

(Continued from page 1)

not providing adequate food.

The court first discussed Flores' housing options should he be released on bond, with Flores' attorney O'Neal arguing for his release under the condition he find a suitable residence. Between pretrial services determining his previous address unsuitable and O'Neal presenting the option of a halfway house in Midland with an available bed mid-March, Flores' housing situation was unresolved and ill-timed, leaving a gap in housing from potential release to the halfway

house, which presented concerns for Greenbaum. Additionally, pretrial services did not confirm whether or not he could be employed back at the Fort Stockton supermarket where he previously worked.

A grand jury will decide whether to bring an indictment against Flores, at which point he will either plead guilty or go to trial.

The U.S. Attorney's office did not respond to requests for comment regarding this case. Flores' attorney O'Neal did not return a request for comment.



Sable Levy and Noelle Mandell of Houston, Texas are delighted to announce their marriage, to take place in Marfa on Saturday, March 5th, 2022. The couple met at a philosophy seminar in Chicago in 2013, where it started with a friendship and a shared love of ideas. The bride is a Montessori educator and the daughter of David and Ember Mandell of Houston, Texas; the other bride is a data analyst and the daughter of Kenneth Levy of Mountain Lakes, New Jersey, and Laurie Levy of Putnam Valley, New York. The fabulous, three-day, quasi-Jewish lesbian wedding celebration to feature poetry, stargazing, and New Orleans's Kinfolk Jazz Band. The couple is immensely grateful to their beloved family and friends for venturing far out into the Chihuahuan desert to join them on this joyous occasion. Laissez les bons temps rouler!

3.5.22

Come worship with us



First United
Methodist Church

Do not fear, for I am with you,
do not be afraid,
for I am your God;
I will strengthen you,
I will help you,
I will uphold you with my
victorious right hand.
Isaiah 41:10

Sundays 9 am
Pastor Stephen White
110 W Washington Steet
Marfa 432-729-4534

THANK YOU TO THE
GOOD PEOPLE OF
PRESIDIO COUNTY
WHO SUPPORTED ME.



FRANK “BUDDY” KNIGHT

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY FRANK KNIGHT, PO BOX 1324 MARFA, TX

Opinions

OUR WATER MATTERS

Regional groundwater news

by TREY GERFERS
tgerfers@pcuwcd.org

The Presidio County Underground Water Conservation District recently received a generous grant from the Dixon Water Foundation to expand groundwater monitoring efforts within the county. The funding will go toward the purchase and installation of equipment in two wells, including one on the C.E. Miller Ranch south of Valentine. This location is of particular interest to the district because it lies about a mile as the crow flies from the hydraulic fracturing (or “fracking”) activity that has been occurring in the northwest corner of the county for several years now. The data from this well and the well monitored by the Texas Water Development Board in nearby Antelope Valley will enhance the district’s understanding of any impacts on the West Texas Bolsons aquifers in that area. Funding from this grant will also be used to equip a monitoring well just north of Marfa on the Mimm’s Unit, which is owned and operated by the Dixon Water Foundation. The data from this well could provide insight into the aquifer recharge entering the county from rainfall in the Davis Mountains to the north. This grant, which also includes funding for various equipment updates on other wells, is one of a series of collaborative efforts in recent years between the district and the Dixon Water Foundation.

In other news, Alpine native Ari Stallard became the new general manager of the Presidio County Underground Water Conservation District on March 1. Stallard completed the bulk of her studies in geology at UT Austin before transferring to Sul Ross because there were “better research opportunities along the Rio Grande.” After graduating from Sul Ross with a B.S. degree in geology/GIS, she worked for several years as a hydrology and GIS consultant for the World Wildlife Fund and as a fluid performance engineer for Halliburton. Stallard also runs a textile design and import business that takes her to Oaxaca, Mexico, from time to time.

When asked what drew her to the position of general manager of a groundwater district, Stallard replied that she was “looking to do something positive” in the region, while also finding “something in my field.” She expressed that it was “really good coming home” and that she looked forward to “educating the community in groundwater” and helping them to understand that the “resource is finite.” Fortunately, the Big Bend region has not experienced the level of intensive development currently stressing the aquifers in other parts of the state. Stallard is excited to use this moment in time to “get the community involved in protecting their own future” before it’s too late. We can all look forward to her excitement and energy as we confront the many challenges ahead.

The Brewster County Groundwater Conservation District also recently hired attorney Caroline Luna as its new general manager following Summer Webb’s amicable departure after many years of service in that role. Luna grew up in Pearsall, Texas. She got her undergraduate degree from Texas Tech University, where she met her husband, Ryan Luna, and then went on to study law at St. Mary’s University in San Antonio. She and her husband now live in Alpine with their three children.

Luna is also interested in the educational aspects of her job. When asked what drew her to the position, Luna stated that it “sounded like something that really lined up” with what she finds important: “to make the world the best world you can.” Although she is currently “in the drinking-from-the-fire-hose phase” of training, she is a “big believer in lifelong learning.” In her words, “I want for my investment of time to ensure equitable access to water and protect the resource for the future” by encouraging everyone “to become better stewards of the world the Lord gave us.” I think I speak for most readers of this column by affirming her commitment with a hearty, “Amen!”

Both women will figure prominently in upcoming efforts to create a common data management platform for the region with a new WaterSMART grant from the Bureau of Reclamation. Stay tuned for future issues of “Our Water Matters,” where we will continue to update you on all the water news that’s fit to print.

Trey Gerfers is a San Antonio native and serves as board chairman of the Presidio County Underground Water Conservation District. He earns his living as a translator of technical documents from German to English for the German and Swiss pharmaceutical and medical-science industries. Trey has lived in Marfa since 2013.

GEO NOTES

The Oldest Rocks in West Texas

By DENIS E FOLEY
Geologist

The oldest outcropping formations in West Texas are of Precambrian age. They are located in the Franklin Mountains in El Paso and in the Carrizo Mountains/Millican Hills west of Van Horn. The most accessible open space lands are outcrops within Franklin Mountain State Park on the north side of El Paso and along the Trans Mountain Highway.

The Precambrian of the geologic time scale begins with the formation of our planet 4.5-4.7 billion years ago and ends at the beginning of the Cambrian Period 540-542 million years ago. It comprises 85-90 percent of Earth’s history and is subdivided into the Hadean, Archean and Proterozoic Eons. There are fossils of simple lifeforms like algae in Precambrian-aged rocks. Much of the rock record of the Precambrian has been recycled by the plate tectonics of our active planet into younger-aged rocks by metamorphosis, volcanism and erosion.

Precambrian rocks of the Franklin Mountains include carbonates with well preserved algal stromatolites and rhyolites of the Castner (1.3 billion years); basalts of the Mundy; rhyolites and sandstones of the Lanoria; and conglomerates and rhyolite ash-flow tuffs of the Thunderbird Group (1.1 billion years).

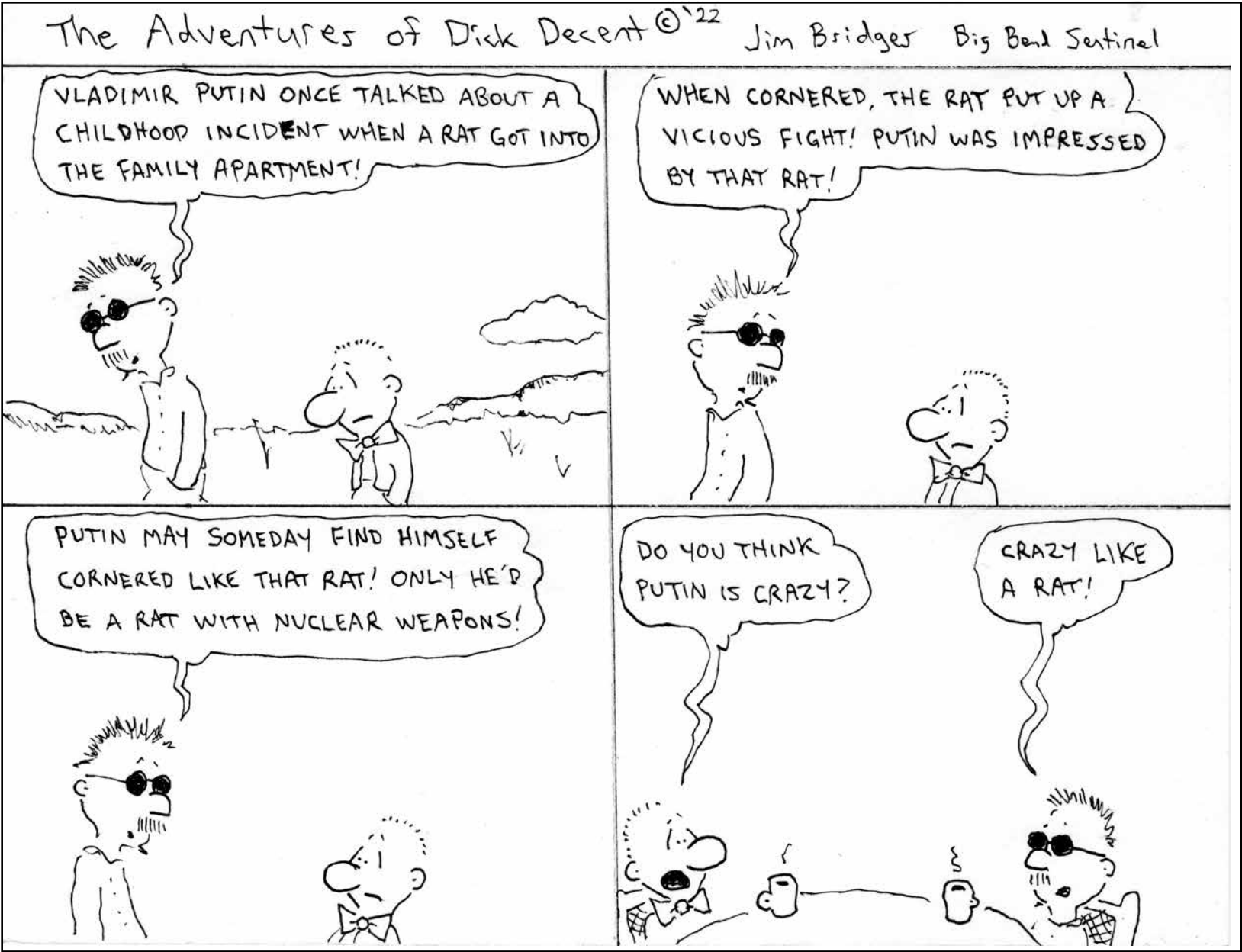
The Carrizo Mountains are the steeply tilted beds that lie 5-12 miles west of Van Horn along I-10. Diorite and basalts comprise the Precambrian Park Hill. Quartzites, rhyolites and sandstones make up the Hackett Peak (1.4-1.3 billion years). Carbonates and phyllite of the Cat Draw lie at the top of the Carrizo Mountain Group.

To the north and west of the Carrizo Mountains across the east-west trending Streeruwitz Thrust fault are the Millican Hills, composed of the Allamoore and Hazel formations. These Precambrian-aged rocks have been mined for decades for tale and other mineral products.

About 10 miles west of the Precambrian outcrops of the Millican Hills occurred an important place and moment in the social and economic history of our country. The Texas and Pacific Railway met the Southern Pacific Railway on December 15, 1881, near Sierra Blanca, Texas.

This was 140 years ago, and it connected the Pacific Ocean at Los Angeles to the U.S. heartland. Two years later, the Southern Pacific line that turns southeast at the Precambrian outcrops linked the Pacific to the Gulf of Mexico at New Orleans, Louisiana, when rails met near Langtry, Texas (January 12,1883). These rail lines brought American settlement, ranching, mining and economic development to the southern border of the U.S. And 30 years later they moved U.S. military forces along the border during the nearby, and sometimes border crossing, unrest of the Mexican Civil War (1910-25).

Source: Texas Through Time, Bureau of Economic Geology 2016, Ewing, T.E. and Christensen, H.



TEXAS ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

More oversight for Texas oil and gas, methane hook-up bans, and more

By RICHARD MARK GLOVER

Future greenhouse gas emissions

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission last week voted to apply more stringent reviews of future greenhouse gas emissions on gas projects. These new obstacles could slow the Texas flow of oil and gas infrastructure. FERC Chairman Richard Glick said, “If we continue to turn a blind eye to climate change and greenhouse gas emissions, we are only going to add more legal uncertainty. My hope is this policy statement provides developers, consumers, landowners and residents of impacted communities with a more legally durable path forward.” According to the Houston Chronicle, Joe Manchin called the decision “reckless” and added that it “puts the security of our nation at risk.” In its decision, FERC did not set restrictions on how much greenhouse gas a natural gas project could produce. Several natural gas projects in Texas could see added drama in their march toward certification. Last year a court of appeals found that FERC failed to take into account greenhouse gas emissions in approving the Texas LNG pipeline and loading terminal in Brownsville. The court, however, allowed it to continue construction.

Don’t mess with Texas

Austin, Berkeley and New York City received affirming support from the federal government in terms of prohibiting methane hook-ups for new construction. The U.S. Department of Energy last week told an appeals court that federal law does not preempt local governments from passing bans to protect its citizenry. New York City is the largest city to have a methane hook-up ban in place. In the case of Berkeley, a restaurant association sued the city council, claiming a federal statute prohibited such bans. Now Berkeley is free to carry out and enforce their ordinance as California state law has shown no interest in the case. But the 2021 Austin mandate to ban methane hook-ups was crushed by a state law, a few weeks

after the city ordinance passed, banning such bans. The plastic bag ban passed by 13 Texas municipalities, including Laredo and Fort Stockton, was vacated by the Texas Supreme Court in 2014. Ninety-eight percent of all plastic in America is made from fossil fuel. The question then remains, in light of climate change awareness or lack of, when will smart municipal rules override a state government that is hell-bent on mining and burning as much fossil fuels as possible?

Bad actor?

Dallas-based Exxon Mobil has flared 15.1 billion cubic feet of gas as of July 2021 in the offshore Liza oil fields of Guyana, according to the Guyanese government. The agreement to allow Exxon to produce oil in Guyana, signed in 2016, explicitly stated, according to Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis, that Exxon would not flare or vent gas but re-inject gas back into the well. At the time this technology was considered ground-breaking – unfortunately, it did not happen. Guyana has fined Exxon 4.5 million dollars for flaring — a pittance — but now a Guyana court is considering whether to shut the project down in light of Exxon’s gross failure to perform under the terms of the contract. In light of the no-flare agreement, the flaring fines are now simply a cost of doing business — a cost much more affordable for Exxon than fixing the problem — and IEFFA is asking: What did the corporation know about the ability of the project and its relevant technology to achieve zero flaring when they signed the contract and agreed to the zero flaring provisions?

Blame it on Mexico

El Paso is the new sister listed by the EPA with seven other Texas cities for non-compliance with the Clean Air Act. Non-compliance requires cities to clean up their air and often truncates plans for new industrial projects. Three months after the federal government announced the non-compliance rating, the pro-business, pro-fossil fuel Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, appealed it, citing pollution from Mexico as the real problem. Attorney David Baake, who represents Familias Unidas del Chamizal, a coalition that sued the EPA to enforce the Clean Air Act in 2018, suggested that the air problem in El Paso was not necessarily Mexico-induced. He told Noticias Telemundo, “We have seen a trend toward worsening ozone quality in the last five, six years after a period of pretty steady improvement.” He said the “explosion of oil and gas production” in the Permian Basin was mostly to blame for El Paso’s worsening air quality. Noticias Telemundo also wrote that according to a report from the Clean Air Task Force, the League of United Latin American Citizens, and the National Hispanic Medical Association, 1.81 million Latinos in the U.S. live within half a mile of an oil and gas facility. About 1.7 million Latinos live in counties that face a cancer risk above the EPA’s level of concern from toxins emitted by oil and gas facilities.

Community

Marfa Live Arts’ music video for ode to Village Farms workers debuts today

MARFA — Marfa Live Arts’ first music video — a collaboration with Ojinaga singer-songwriter Ramón Vega Navarro — has completed production and is available for viewing beginning today on Marfa Live Arts’ Facebook and Instagram pages. Navarro’s song, “Doble Nacionalidad,” is an ode to Mexican workers that cross the border daily to earn a better wage for themselves and their families. He was moved to write the song after witnessing Village Farms workers coming to and from Ojinaga on a daily basis.

The filming of the video, director Tina Rivera said, was met with positivity and a spirit of graciousness from Village Farms. “When I first began reaching out to Village Farms and their employees with details about the production, the project was immediately well embraced and everyone was quick to offer assistance,” Rivera said. “Getting these initial reactions was the moment I realized that this project was beyond just another music video.”

For Village Farms’ Darin Gemmel, vice president of Human Resources Administration and Compliance Texas Operations, the tribute to the workers is a reason for pride for the company. "This is very exciting, and we are so proud of our employees," he said. "To hear that there was a song made about [our employees'] hard work is just great to hear. We have been in the area for over 25 years offering employment and this song certainly rings true to many of our folks that do this type of travel and work each day to provide for their families." Other Village Farms employees weighed in on the video, with Packhouse Supervisor Ely Gutierrez saying, “This song touches my heart,” and Mary Baca stating, “This is a great and powerful song.”

For Rivera, the daughter of immigrants from the Philippines, the song also hit close to home. “My parents were first-generation American immigrants. I spent a lot of time in my youth packing giant boxes to send back to the Philippines and bringing as much as the airlines would allow when we visited,” she explained. “There are so many sentiments in the lyrics that are



Photo by Tina Rivera

Village Farms workers participate in Marfa Live Arts’ music video shoot of Ramón Vega Navarro’s song “Doble Nacionalidad,” which is a tribute to the work they do in Marfa and to their daily commute from Mexico. Starblast telescope.

very relatable in terms of the pride my parents carried being able to provide for our extended family back home, but also what it means to have dual citizenship.”

The video, which was shot in Marfa and the surrounding area, features Village Farms workers and is available to watch at www.facebook.com/marfalivearts and on Instagram at [@marfalivearts](https://www.instagram.com/marfalivearts). It will also be distributed to television and radio stations throughout the region. For more information on upcoming Marfa Live Arts programs and events, please visit www.marfalivearts.org.



TUESDAY EVENINGS at the Modern

SPRING 2022 • Selected Tuesdays, 6 pm

This popular series of lectures and presentations by artists, architects, historians, and critics is free and open to the public. Lectures begin at 6 pm in the Modern’s auditorium. Seating is at 5:30 pm. A live-stream broadcast of the lecture will be available at www.themodern.org/lectures.

March 1 – Artist Jill Magid , in conjunction with <i>FOCUS: Jill Magid</i> , discusses her ongoing cross-disciplinary project <i>Tender</i> , which explores the complex relationships between currency and human value.	April 5 – Artists Tamara Johnson and Trey Burns present their individual studio practices and the origins of their Sweet Pass Sculpture Park project in “Working Landscape.”
March 8 – Artist Vincent Valdez presents works and ideas pertaining to his series <i>Made Men</i> , which recently entered the Modern’s permanent collection and hangs in its current installation.	April 12 – TBA
March 22 – TBA	April 19 – Author and sociologist Jeff Ferrell , who has made a practice of scrounging for half a century, collecting storied images and objects discarded by others, presents “Last Picture: Trash, Photography, Dislocation” in conjunction with the release of his new book <i>Last Picture</i> , published by Atopia Projects.
March 29 – Artist Jamal Cyrus , in conjunction with <i>FOCUS: Jamal Cyrus</i> , presents the trajectory of his research-driven practice that investigates ignored, forgotten, and fragmented accounts of Black American culture.	

MODERN ART MUSEUM OF FORT WORTH
3200 Darnell Street • Fort Worth, Texas 76107 • 817.738.9215

[f](#) [ig](#) [t](#) Follow the Modern www.themodern.org



Photo courtesy of Alex Acosta

Siria “Sid” Acosta enjoying the patio at her old stomping grounds, the Lost Horse.

Acosta family raising money for medical and funeral expenses

By SAM KARAS
sam@bigbendsentinel.com

MARFA — Siria Acosta — also known as “Sid Vicious,” “the woman who brought MTV to Marfa,” “the unofficial mayor of Marfa,” and, to disgraced former Presidio County Sheriff Rick Thompson, “the Marfa outlaw” — passed away from complications due to COVID on February 19. Her sons are now spearheading an effort via GoFundMe to pay for her medical expenses and for a celebration of life they hope to throw in Marfa later this month.

“She was definitely a bright star,” her son, Alex, remembered. “Growing up with her was just a riot and a blast. As a kid I was never really embarrassed of her — you know, most kids are like ‘Ugh, mom, calm down.’ I was always happy to hear her screaming from the stands, no matter what sport I was playing. We really had more of a friend relationship.”

Acosta, a single mother who gave birth to her first son her freshman year of high school, was always there to support her sons in whatever they did — as well as everyone else’s children. “She had a whole bunch of people she called her adopted kids, and growing up, my cousins would flock to her,” Alex remembered. “She was definitely one in a million.”

Marfa native Arthur Ruiz wasn’t a blood relative, but felt a true bond. “My grandparents from Marfa died when I was young. Sid was like that grandmother that I needed, that I always wanted. She was a great example of how you don’t have to grow old.”

When Ruiz and Acosta were neighbors in Marfa, she would often ask him to help retrieve the keys she frequently left locked in her truck. “It was a little S10 Chevy,” he recalled. “She had a secret way of lowering one of the windows. But her arms were too short, so she would always come in and grab me and say, ‘Mijo, can you go and unlock the door?’”

Before Ruiz moved to Los Angeles to pursue an acting career, Acosta would bring him thrifted items she thought he might need for the next chapter of his life — a Louisville Slugger, among other things. “I feel like Sid especially had some kind of love for people who were alone. Not only people who were from Marfa or had a connection to Marfa, but Sid would be really cool to people who just showed up — wandering spirits, you know. It was like she could tell that they needed some kind of mama love.”

Alex has a lifetime of cherished memories of his mother, but a more recent episode stood out to him: the night of Sid’s 58th birthday party, during which she bashed open an eyebrow and lost a tooth at a punk show thrown in her honor by a cousin. “The next morning was just hilarious,” he remembered. “I could hear her moaning for Gatorade like a battle cry or something. I was like, ‘Are you sure you’re my mom?’”

Acosta spent her whole life living “the Marfa hustle”: working odd jobs, organizing yard sales, and taking care of everyone on the side. “Living in Marfa, she really didn’t have a nine to five job. That’s part of the beauty of Marfa, is being able to live as you please. But in the same regard, that really hurt her because she was unable to qualify for Social Security or Medicaid.”

Her two sons, both now with families of their own, are struggling to figure out how to pay her final bills. To make up for her last days stuck in a hospital bed, her family wants to throw her the final party she always wanted: to be cremated and have her ashes taken to the Lost Horse and Planet Marfa, two places she always felt at home. “She loved her community so much,” Alex remembered. “She never wanted anybody to take care of her, but I want to at least make sure she can buy everybody a shot or a round.”

Those wishing to donate can visit the GoFundMe at <https://gofund.me/1a0eb1eb>.

THE
SENTINEL

• NEWSPAPER • COFFEE •
• COCKTAILS •

**OPEN EVERY DAY
7:30 AM**

**209 W EL PASO ST
MARFA, TX 79843**

**BREAKFAST FROM
7:30 AM - 3 PM**

**LUNCH FROM
11 AM - 3 PM**

8037 Lockheed Ste. 100
El Paso, TX 79925
915-533-0998
Toll Free 1-800-333-7082
www.riocog.org

The Rio Grande Area Agency on Aging announces
the closure of its satellite office in Marfa, TX
effective February 2022

The main office located in El Paso, TX remains open and
committed to serving older adults and family caregivers
who reside in our service region

The Area Agency on Aging serves as a resource that
promotes older adult independence and assists family
caregivers in their tasks of caring for their loved ones

If you need assistance, we encourage you to contact
us now at

915-533-0998 or Toll Free at 1-800-333-7082

The Rio Grande Area Agency on Aging is a division of the Rio Grande Council of Governments and serves persons 60 years of age and older and their families that reside in El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Jeff Davis, Brewster and Presidio Counties. It is funded by the Older Americans Act through the Texas Health and Human Services Commission

SUBSCRIBE AT BIGBENDSENTINEL.COM

WTG Fuels, Inc.
Your Full Service Propane,
Gasoline & Diesel Distributor for
Brewster, Jeff Davis &
Presidio Counties of West Texas

ALPINE OFFICE:
2411 East Highway 90
ph: 432-837-2518

MARATHON OFFICE:
Highway 385 South
ph: 432-386-4422

Marfa ISD breaks ground on new track

By MARY CANTRELL
mkcantrell@bigbendsentinel.com

MARFA — Marfa High School is getting a brand new, six lane track to the tune of \$926,000, with school board members and staff breaking ground on the project this week.

The board of trustees approved the track in late January and Hellas, the company overseeing construction, began bulldozing the area a little over a month later on March 2. The school board was hoping to have the new track complete in time for high school graduation, but as with most construction projects, there have already been some slight hiccups, said Athletic Director Linda Ojeda at this week’s school board meeting.

She said a miscommunication regarding drainage will add two to three weeks to the construction timeline. The track will be asphalt during graduation and not have the final polyurethane surface, she said. While incomplete, the area will still be a visual improvement compared to the old beat up track, she said. And Hellas promised to clean up the site for the ceremony.

“There’s not going to be trucks, there’s not mounds of dirt, there’s nothing that’s going to be obstructing the ceremony and your ability to walk on the field,” Ojeda said.

While a disappointment, said Board Secretary Teresa Nuñez, whose son will be graduating this year, it’s important not to rush the process.

“I know we were trying to do it for graduation, but we’re spending a lot of money. We need to get it done right,” said Nuñez.

There will be no public access to the track during construction, and the school will hold athletics practices elsewhere. While construction is taking place, the junior high student drop-off and pick-up will be in front of the high school.



Photo courtesy of Marfa ISD

Construction began on the Marfa High School track this week, with board members and district staff gathering for a groundbreaking ceremony. From left, Athletic Director Linda Ojeda, board members Lori Flores, Ernie Villarreal, Teresa Nuñez, Superintendent Oscar Aguero, board members Rene Gonzales, Christa Marquez and a representative from Hellas construction.

☺ MARFA SCHOOL LUNCH MENU ☺

MAR	Thu, Mar 3	Fri, Mar 4	Mon, Mar 7	Tue, Mar 8	Wed, Mar 9
BREAKFAST	CHICKEN SAUSAGE- N-BISCUIT	BREAKFAST BREAD, YOGURT	SAUSAGE BISCUIT	MINI PANCAKES, YOGURT	SAUSAGE KOLACHE, CHEESE STICK
LUNCH Menu courtesy of  Celebrating 70+ years of serving our customers. 432-729-4375 www.myporters.net	ASIAN BOWL, EGG ROLL, BROCCOLI, CORN, MANDARIN ORANGES	CHEESEBURGER MACARONI, ROLL, BABY CARROTS, SAVORY GREEN BEANS, FRESH APPLE SLICES, COOKIE	COUNTRY FRIED STEAK, GRAVY, BAKED FRIES, OKRA, ROLL, STRAWBERRY CUP	CRISPY CHICKEN SANDWICH, BABY CARROTS, SALSA, BAKED FRIES, SNOWBALL SALAD	CHICKEN ALFREDO, GARLIC BREAD KNOTS,GARDEN SALAD, SAVORY GREEN BEANS, PEACHES

CELEBRATION LIQUOR MARFA

Mon - Thu 11:30 am - 9 pm
Fri - Sat 10 am - 9 pm
432-837-7479 • Marfa

Mon - Sat 10 am - 9 pm
432-729-4682 • Alpine

**RAUL LARA
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER**

Cell# 432-249-1189
councilmemberlara@cityofmarfa.com

Post Office Box 787
432-729-4315 / fax 432-729-3158

**CONVENIENCE WEST
BBQ**

Friday • Saturday
www.conveniencewest.com
Order in advance online
1411 W San Antonio/Hwy 90

PRESCRIPTION SHOP MARFA

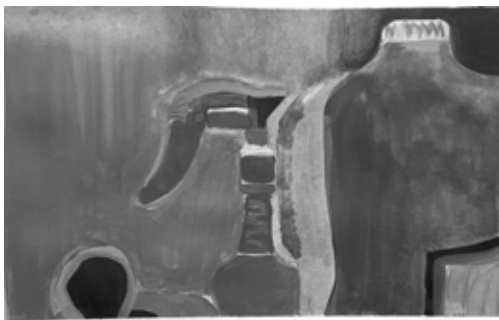
A full-service pharmacy. Now
accepting many insurance plans
for service while you wait.
105 East Oak Street,
next to Marfa Country Clinic
432.729.4244
rxshopmarfa@gmail.com

**YOUR AD HERE!
ONLY \$10 / WEEK**
Contact
ads@bigbendsentinel.com

**MARFA SHORTHORNS
SPORTS CALENDAR**

THU, MAR 3: Softball Tournament in Marfa, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
THU, MAR 3: JH Track in Van Horn, 4:00 pm
FRI, MAR 4: Regional Girls Powerlifting in Shamrock, TX, 1:00 pm
FRI, MAR 4: HS Track in Van Horn, 12:30 pm
SAT, MAR 5: Softball Tournament in Marfa, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
TUE, MAR 8: Boys Golf Tournament at Winkler County
TUE, MAR 8: V Softball vs Kermit in Kermit. 7:00 pm

DRAWING OF THE WEEK



Ava Flores
Acrylic
8th grade

WEST TEXAS PEST MANAGEMENT



CALL:
432-940-4075

FRONTIER SERVICES HEATING & COOLING

New install, mini splits. We service all brands!
Free estimate, Call 432-386-7422 TACLB17870E

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg February 14, 2022

ACROSS

1 Carne ____
6 Final washer cycle
10 Start of a texter's digression
13 Like a bedroom at night, typically
14 California/ Nevada lake
15 Step below the MLB
16 Days in the studio for Cardi B?
18 Zippo
19 Lhasa ____
20 Sentry's order
21 Several steps below the MLB?
23 Drink in a stein
25 View from a beachfront house
27 Human or emu
30 Spots to dance to Celia Cruz?
34 On the condition that
36 Baby food
37 Largest fencing sword
38 ____ Paulo
39 Nuclear treaty topic
42 Airport stat hidden in "ticket agent"
43 Savvy about
45 Word after "comedy" or "class"
46 "Anything you want!"
48 Place to pick up Motley Crue's latest?

51 Black Friday attractions
52 Put on paper
53 "Didn't expect to see you!"
55 Group of nobodies
57 Terribly serious
59 "____ Croft: Tomb Raider"
63 What TikTok can run on
64 Spot for Kacey Musgraves to pluck some chords?
67 "As if!"
68 Unwieldy ships
69 Studio stand
70 It helps a driver get around
71 Infamous day in "Julius Caesar"
72 Essay's language

14 Russian autocrats of old
17 With 54-Down, common pronoun pair
22 "The Sheep-Pig" pig
24 Slice and splice, as film
26 Channel covering Washington
27 ____ buddies
28 Foolish
29 Thriller elements
31 Is ____ (probably will)
32 Lace again
33 The best ones are often near the front
35 Banquet
40 Project manager's creation
41 Crosby, Stills, ____ & Young

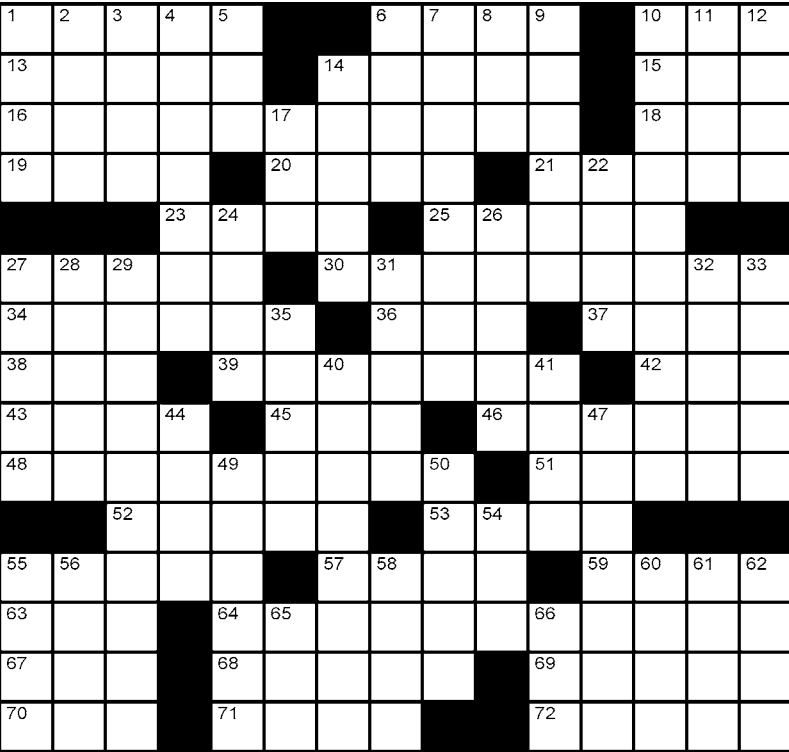
44 Shell movers
47 Train robbers' target in a Western
49 Chinese fruit: Var.
50 Places to unload ships
54 See 17-Down
55 Liveliness
56 Area in downtown Chicago, with "the"
58 Tattoo artists' supplies
60 In addition
61 Regrets
62 Sufficiently skilled
65 Arabian instrument that's a twosome backward
66 Casual affirmative

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

OCTETS BABY LOB
SHINER ARIA AHA
HANGDOG LOOK TPS
ERE ADDS AILS
AMSCRAY CLINE
OUR CHAIRMAN
SUBMARINEBASE
ISIS DAD USED
CHOCOLATEKISS
YOUOWEME ONE
EXULT RANSOMS
ARCS POPE NOH
MAI DATINGSCENE
OCTISIT PIRATE
SKY PSST STOLEN

2/13 © 2022 Andrews McMeel Universal
www.upuzzles.com

Musical Adaptation by Eric Houglund



EMAIL
ADS@BIGBENDSENTINEL.COM
FOR ADVERTISING RATES



MOONLIGHT GEMSTONES

Paul Graybeal, Owner
Ben Toro, Associate
432-729-4526
pgagates@gmail.com
moonlightgemstones.com

P.O. Box 1220
1001 W. San Antonio St.
Marfa, Texas 79843
Mon-Sat, 10-5pm
Sunday by Appt

Lapidary • Silversmith • Custom Jewelry • Rocks • Fossils • Minerals

**GSA Property CASH SALE AUCTION –
Auction started Monday, February 14, 2022!**

304 North Bagley Avenue Presidio, Texas 79845 is 1,150 +/- gross square feet. The home is on approximately .23 acres (10,018 sq. ft.) and is improved with one (1) story, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, & a 2 car carport.

Participate in the auction by visiting website:
<https://realestatesales.gov/gsauctions/aucitsrh/?sl=FTWOR722015001>

Step 1: Register on the GSA Auctions website with a username and password
Step 2: Fill out the Registration Form in the Invitation for Bid listed under Additional Documents on the auction page
Step 3: Submit required \$10,000 deposit via credit card or Certified Cashiers Check and email or fax Registration Form
Step 4: Start bidding on the GSA website once your Registration is processed

Questions about the auction...
contact Dorothy Adidas, GSA Realty Specialist
Phone: (817) 223-9358 OR Email dorothy.adidas@gsa.gov

**Sudoku &
Crossword puzzles:**

**UNIVERSAL
Sudoku Puzzle**

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

4	7	1	8	5	9			
8	2			6			5	4
				1	4	9		8
6		7					1	
	3		9	7	5		6	
	5				4		7	
3		8	5	2				
2	1			9			8	5
			1	3	8	2	4	6

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution from last week's puzzle:

SOLUTION:

6	4	1	5	7	3	9	2	8
3	8	5	6	9	2	7	4	1
7	2	9	8	1	4	5	3	6
8	9	6	3	4	7	1	5	2
4	1	3	9	2	5	8	6	7
2	5	7	1	6	8	3	9	4
9	7	2	4	5	1	6	8	3
5	3	4	7	8	6	2	1	9
1	6	8	2	3	9	4	7	5

COMMUNITIE
MARFA

SPRING GOODS
IN STORE NOW

NEW DENIM
MEN'S SHIRTS
BANDANAS

STETSON STRAW
ARRIVES SOON!

10% discount for locals, always!
122 N. Highland, Marfa
Open every day 11am-5pm

**OUR MEAT HAS A DATE
WITH YOUR PLATE**

**BEEF • PORK • LAMB • GOAT
& WILD GAME PROCESSING**

MARFA MEATS

Open 1-5 Monday through Saturday

marfameats.com | 18268 US Hwy 90 Marfa, TX, 79843

Big Buddha Bakery, Cactus Liquors to host fundraiser event Sunday for Lipan Apache cemetery

By SAM KARAS
sam@bigbendsentinel.com

PRESIDIO — Big Buddha Bakery and Marfa’s Cactus Liquors are teaming up this weekend to raise money for the Lipan Apache cemetery in Presidio. The Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas, with help from the Big Bend Conservation Alliance, is hoping to raise \$120,000 toward the construction of a fence that will protect the centuries-old historic site for generations to come.

So far, local entities like the Presidio Municipal Development District and the Presidio Convention and Visitors Bureau have made a big impact, but the two businesses are hoping that the event will get locals and smaller donors engaged. “This is something that anyone in the community can get behind,” said Big Buddha Bakery’s Patrick Manian. “We’re raising money for a group of people that everyone respects here, but a lot of us

State park friends group holds auction to improve frontcountry access, visitor experience

By SAM KARAS
sam@bigbendsentinel.com

BIG BEND RANCH STATE PARK — The Friends of Big Bend Ranch State Park organization is hosting an auction through the month of March in hopes of kickstarting a number of projects to improve visitor experience at the park. The Friends, formerly known as the Compadres del Rancho Grande, are “still the Park’s one and only nonprofit,” per their website. “We consider Big Bend Ranch State Park the jewel of the Texas state park system,” said Rick Keith, president of the Friends. “It’s the most remote, most diverse and largest by far.”

The friends group fills in gaps that can’t be addressed with state funding. “We support the park in ways the state can’t,” explained Vice President Joni Buck. “The friends group can buy things that the state can’t buy, and we can gift them to the park. Apart from that, we do things like trail maintenance, advocating within the community and helping to educate visitors on how to safely enjoy the park.”

A major focus for the Friends’ work is improving frontcountry access for Big Bend Ranch State Park visitors. BBRSP is primarily known for its

RioCOG now offering free Covid tests

MARFA — The Rio Grande Council of Governments office in Marfa is now administering rapid COVID antigen tests at no cost.

The tests will be available at the RioCOG offices 9-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 9-11 a.m. on Fridays.

Persons first must register with the Texas Department of Emergency Management to obtain a QR code at <https://register.txrapidtest.org/> and bring the code with them on their cell phone or a paper printout. RioCOG staffers can also assist with registration.

Masks must be worn at all times, and tests will be administered in your vehicle.

RioCOG offices are located at 105 North Mesa Street on the south side of the Marfa Activity Center (MAC) building, next to the Marfa & Presidio County Museum Thrift Store. Persons should park in the parking lot on the south side of the swimming pool and honk upon arrival.

For more information, residents can call Alek Argueta at 832-474-0473.

Free medical clinics coming to Presidio, Terlingua, Sanderson

By SAM KARAS
sam@bigbendsentinel.com

TRI-COUNTY — A series of free medical clinics provided by students at the University of North Texas Health Science Center are returning for their fifth tour of the Big Bend this month. The clinics are free and don’t require an appointment, insurance or identification to receive care. This round, care will be available in Sanderson, Presidio and Terlingua.

Services offered include sports and work physicals, muscle and joint therapy, ultrasound imaging, diabetes testing, blood pressure checks, medication reviews, wellness exams, and general and pediatric care. “We see anyone who comes in,” said Annette Smith, research assistant director at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. “We are adamant about not taking documentation or identification — we want people to come.”

Smith takes 24 to 30 students out on the road regularly to help address healthcare gaps in the remote Big Bend region. The program was born out of one student’s interest in serving underserved Latino populations on the border, and the community spirit is what keeps them coming back from the Dallas-Fort Worth area. “Frankly, we love Presidio,” she said, citing its great food and family-oriented culture.

Much of the care needed can be provided on-site, but patients needing referrals or immediate assistance will be referred to Dr. Ray or Dr. Billings in Marfa or Alpine, depending on need. While much of the screening will be conducted by students, a doctor who can prescribe medications will be at the clinic as well. “Our students are just always so humbled that people from these communities give so much,” Smith said.

The Terlingua clinic will be held Monday, March 14 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Big Bend Baptist Church in Study Butte. The Sanderson clinic will be held the next day, Tuesday, March 15, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at St. James Hall on 3rd Street. The group will conclude their tour with a visit to the Presidio Activities Center on Thursday, March 17, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Home
Auto
Commercial



LIVINGSTON
INSURANCE AGENCY

Serving
West
Texas

Dan Platt, Jr.

903 West San Antonio Street • Marfa
432.729.4306 • dan@marfainsurance.com www.marfainsurance.com

didn’t know how to honor them. Now there’s an opportunity.”

Cactus Liquors will make the trek down to Presidio on Sunday afternoon with donations from L&F Distributors and Glazer’s Beer and Beverage. They’ll have water, seltzer and beer available. “It’s nice to be able to represent Marfa,” said Hannah Gentiles, who is helping Cactus Liquors coordinate the event. “We fully support everything the tribe is doing to restore and protect the area.”

The event will be held at Big Buddha Bakery on Sunday afternoon from 2 to 5 p.m. Manian and Diana Wassef will be cooking up burgers and pizza for the crowd. Terlingua’s Chet O’Keefe plans to provide music for the afternoon. Manian and Wassef hope it will be a positive, family-friendly event that raises awareness of the important historical preservation work underway in Presidio. “It’s one of the many ways we can show respect to what was here before us,” Wassef said. “Both to the people who lived here and to the people who still live here.”

backcountry offerings, but not everyone has the time, vehicle or outdoor skills needed to make the most of all the park has to offer. With tourism to the region on the rise in the wake of the pandemic, providing more user-friendly opportunities for tourists to enjoy the park will hopefully provide a safer and more satisfactory experience for all visitors.

The group hopes to funnel a portion of the money raised into redeveloping the Desert Garden exhibit at the Barton Warnock Visitors Center in Lajitas. “It’s languished for a long time,” Keith said. The Friends hope to reinvigorate the exhibit to bring the plants of the backcountry to the park’s busiest visitors center. “The goal is to bring the interior of the park to a place where everybody who can’t get to the interior can enjoy it, including people who need ADA accessibility,” Buck explained.

Donations to the auction include a number of guided river and backcountry tours, stays at local resorts and AirBnBs and an ATV. Offerings can be found online at: <https://www.32auctions.com/FriendsofBBRSP>. Bids can be placed throughout the month of March. Park enthusiasts hoping to become an official friend of the park can find more information online at friendsofbigbendbranch.com.

Marfa history lives at the Blackwell School



Museum open every Saturday
12:00 to 4:00 pm

preserving a
nationally significant
historically segregated
Mexican American schoolhouse

from the stop light, two blocks
west and three blocks south
Marfa, Texas
theblackwellschool.org

MARFA REALTY

Thinking of selling your home? Now is the best time - buyers are waiting!

123 N. Highland Ave
432-729-3962
www.marfarealty.com

Kathleen Walstrom, Broker/Owner **Melissa Bent**, Sales Agent
Marsha Everett, Ft. Davis Sales **Christa Marquez**, Sales Agent

MARFA VISTA

Specializing in Marfa real estate

MARY FARLEY **LIZ SERLENGA**
Broker/Sales marfavistarealty.com Sales
917.495.8823 508.272.5699

la fundación the CHINATI foundation

OBITUARY



Wallis

Myrtle Ann Wallis (née Greenough) was born June 22, 1938, in Billings, Montana, the daughter of Frank and Doris Corwin Greenough. Her father was the cow boss on the Antler Ranch and she began school in Wyola, Montana. In 1945, the family moved to Wyoming, where she attended the S.A. School a couple miles from their home ranch. Three kids attended: Myrt, her brother Gary, and a neighbor. The teacher boarded at their home. She then attended school in the Recluse area. She was very smart and skipped the fourth grade. In 1951, she started high school in Gillette, where she boarded during the week. She attended the University of Wyoming in 1955 and lived in a sorority house, Alpha Copa Delta. She loved drama and was an actress in several plays in college. She met Earl Richard Wallis and they were married February 9, 1957. Their first home was on the ranch on Bitter Creek north of Recluse, Wyoming. In the late 1970s, with four children in school, they moved to Gillette for a year and then moved south of town to the old Harrod place. Town did not suit them. They bought more land on Bitter Creek and built a log home from scratch. In 2014, they came to Texas for the winter. They returned to Wyoming but moved permanently to Alpine, Texas, in 2015 and purchased a home in

Sunny Glenn. Myrt did many things and was talented and successful in all of them. She and her sister Kathy at one time owned and operated a clothing store in Prescott, Arizona, The Prescott Queen. She was a realtor and stockbroker as well as a rancher. She loved livestock and the outdoors. She has floated the Grand Canyon in a raft and been to Kentucky, where she pet the racehorse Secretariat, and saw Mount Denali in Alaska. She was a master gardener, a published poet and an artist. She had the most beautiful blue eyes.

Praying of the Most Holy Rosary will be held on Friday, March 4, at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church at 9:30 a.m. with Mass of Christian burial to follow with Father Pablo Matta and interment to follow at Elm Grove Cemetery in Alpine, Texas.

She is survived by her husband, Earl Wallis (Dick); her son and daughter-in-law, Lew Wallis and Christina of Manassas, Virginia; her daughter and son-in-law, Dorisann Shipp and Jeff of Alpine; her sister, Kathryn Voiles (Claude) of Recluse, Wyoming; brothers Gary Greenough (Joan) of Sierra Vista, Arizona, Pat Greenough of Sheridan, Wyoming, Doug Greenough (Linen) of Sheridan, Wyoming, Mike Greenough (Linda) of Buffalo, Wyoming; twelve grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews, cousins and friends.

She is preceded in death by her grandparents and parents; a niece, Glo Greenough; brother Jesse Greenough; son-in-law Rod McQueary; daughter Sue Ellen Wallis-McQueary; and son Franklin Marshall Wallis.

Online condolences may be left at: www.alpinememorialfuneralhome.com

Services have been entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home in Alpine, Texas.

Alpine Memorial FUNERAL HOME

CREMATIONS - PRENEED PLANS

Obituaries presented in partnership with Alpine Memorial Funeral Home
209 West Sul Ross Ave | Alpine, TX 79830
alpinememorialfuneralhome.com | 432-837-2222

Bringing together buyers and sellers of ranches and unique properties throughout Texas

**KING**
LAND & WATER

Protecting Clients. Conserving the Land.
— Offices in Fort Davis and Austin
432-426-2024 www.KingLandWater.com
info@KingLandWater.com

FINE SPIRITS
BEER & WINE
NATIVE TREES & PLANTS
LOCAL PRODUCE & WARES

**CACTUS LIQUORS**

405 S Highland (432)729-7070
cactusliquors@gmail.com

The Chinati Foundation is a contemporary art museum created by the artist Donald Judd.

**Open to the public
Thursday – Saturday**

**Guided Tours of the work of Donald Judd
Outdoor Self-guided Walking Tours**

Reservations are required and space is limited.
Tickets are timed.

Experience the connection between art, architecture, and the land unique to Chinati. The hour-long guided tour covers Judd’s art and architecture, including the Artillery Sheds. The walking tour path follows along Judd’s 15 untitled works in concrete, covers 1.6 miles, takes approximately 1½ hours to complete, and is best enjoyed wearing sturdy shoes.

Chinati follows COVID-19 precautions.
Masks and social distancing are required.

**Visit chinati.org for more information
and to book reservations.**

Classifieds & public notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Marfa Parks and Recreation Board meets every third Thursday of the month at 6:00pm in the Casner Room at City Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Now Accepting HOT Grant Applications

The City of Marfa is accepting HOT grant applications for events occurring April 1 - September 30, 2022.

Applications are due by 5 pm on March 14, 2022.

Visit www.cityofmarfa.org/hot-tax for more information and to download an application.

Questions can be sent to hotgrants@cityofmarfa.com.

OFFICE CLOSED

THE PRESIDIO COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON **FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2022 & FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022** DUE TO FIELDWORK

PLEASE EMAIL INFO@PRESIDIOCAD.ORG OR LEAVE A MESSAGE (432)729-3431

WE WILL OPEN ON THE FOLLOWING MONDAY AT 8:00 A.M.

THANK YOU
PRESIDIO CAD

FOR SALE

GARAGE SALE

March 3rd, 4th, 5th • Thursday, Friday, & Saturday
10:00am till 4:00pm
702 West Lockhart Avenue, Alpine, Texas

CHIP COLE & ASSOCIATES
RANCH BROKERS

PAISANO PASS RANCH

This pretty little mountain ranch contains 106± acres and is located about 14 miles east of Marfa and 10 miles west of Alpine on Hwy 90. All mountains and canyons with elevation to 5180'. Scenic rock outcroppings with mountain oak and juniper. Improvements include a solar-powered two story barndominium, equipment shed, and horse stalls. Game include elk, mule deer, and aoudad sheep.

\$1,200,000

chipcoleranchbroker.com
(325) 655-3555
San Angelo, Texas

 **Alexandra Rau, LCSW**
Therapy for individuals and couples

www.alexandrarau.com
917.213.7449
alexandra@alexandrarau.com
Highland Avenue, Marfa

METHOD

BUILDING CO.
MARFA. TEXAS

COVERAGE TO LIVE THE LIFE YOU WANT

- Landlord/Vacant/Vacation home insurance
- Life insurance
- Business insurance

 **DONA WARD BLEVINS**

Your Local Agent
2100 W HWY 90, STE B
ALPINE, TX 79830
DBLEVINS@FARMERSAGENT.COM
<https://agents.farmers.com/dblevins>

Call 432.837.2225 today!
Smart choices last a lifetime.

 **FARMERS INSURANCE**

Restrictions apply. Discounts may vary. Not available in all states. See your agent for details. Insurance is underwritten by Farmers Insurance Exchange and other affiliated insurance companies. Visit farmers.com for a complete listing of companies. Not all insurers are authorized to provide insurance in all states. Coverage is not available in all states. Life Insurance issued by Farmers New World Life Insurance Company, 3120 139th Ave. SE, Ste. 300, Bellevue, WA 98005.

JOBS

JOB OPENINGS

Marfa Hardware Co • 313 E San Antonio St.
Marfa TX 79843 • 432-729-3161

ASSISTANT MANAGER / TRAINEE (FULL TIME)
Duties:

- Greet and assist customers with purchases
- General customer service and problem resolution
- Assist Manager in overseeing all store activities

Will Train:
Pay commensurate with experience

CASHIER (FULL OR PART TIME)
Duties:

- Greet and assist customers with purchases
- General customer service and problem resolution
- Operate cash register / Check out Customers

Will Train:
Hours Flexible - Part Time or Full Time
Pay commensurate with experience

ALPINE WINE IS HIRING!

Alpine Wine is an exciting new wine bar and restaurant in downtown Alpine, and we'll be opening our doors in just a few weeks. We'll offer wine tastings and wine by the glass and bottle, charcuterie and cheese boards, and more.

 **Alpine Wine**

- Wine knowledge isn't as necessary as a willingness to learn, a great attitude, and a friendly disposition.
- Fulltime benefits include PTO, 401K, vision and dental, TABC and Food Handler Certification reimbursement, and more.
- Excellent pay for all positions. Need Wine Stewards, Servers, Dishwashers, Bussers, Hosts, Runners. Starting soon.

Call us to schedule an interview – (432) 837-4028 – or send us your information through our website at alpinewine.com/jobs.

ALPINE WINE IS HIRING COOKS

We're serving more than wine – we're serving food too! We're looking for creative and passionate Cooks to run our kitchen. Our food offerings will consist of Charcuterie and Cheese Boards as well as other specialty items made from scratch with recipes created in-house.

Degrees and certifications are not required. What we do require are:

- Background developing menu ideas and sourcing farm-to-table and fresh food items
- Desire and experience working independently within a cold-food kitchen
- Experience with ordering, stocking, and receiving product, organizing storage areas, maintaining costs, etc.
- Flexible schedule

We have both parttime and fulltime positions available, and all our fulltime employees are eligible for PTO, insurance, 401K, and more. We also offer very competitive pay for all positions.

Call us to schedule an interview – (432) 837-4028 – or send us your information through our website at alpinewine.com/jobs.

MNB
THE MARFA NATIONAL BANK

24 Hour ATM Loans **Personal Banking Business Banking**

301 S. Highland Ave. - Marfa
432-729-4344 or 877-729-4344 **www.marfanb.com**

Member FDIC

FindARANCH
OUT WEST

SUPERIOR
Land Network

Specializing in Texas Ranch and Rural Properties

Cleat L. Stephens, Broker

FindARanchOutWest.com

 **FRONT STREET BOOKS**

We carry the best selection of regional Big Bend area books, New Releases, Best Sellers and Area Book Club selections

www.frontstreetbooks.com

432-837-3360 -- staff@fsbooks.com
9:30 - 5:30 M-F
10-3 Sat, closed Sun

Find us on Facebook & Instagram

JOB OPENING

The Presidio County Appraisal District is seeking a full-time Office Clerk for our Marfa office.

Bi-lingual preferred. Must be able to work M-F, 8:00 am- 5:00 pm. High School/GED required.

Please submit applications/resume to the Presidio CAD Office, P O Box 879, Marfa, Texas 79843 or by email cramirez@presidiocad.org.

All applications must be submitted by March 7, 2022. The Presidio CAD is an equal opportunity employer.

JOB OPENING

Action Heating and Cooling is looking for full time employee.

Experience in HVAC a Plus. Candidate will have ability to become fully Licensed as HVAC contractor. Action does HVAC and in house construction projects. Person must be able to float between the two. Construction experience helpful.

Pay based upon experience. Call 432-386-0275.

CAREGIVER NEEDED

Caregiver needed to assist sweet, elderly gentleman, Friday mornings through Sunday evenings, in South Double Diamond, Alpine.

Must be compassionate, dependable, Covid-safe, and have a reliable vehicle.

Email snookhelen@gmail.com or call 432-364-2324 (landline).

JOB OPENING

Alpine Montessori School is now accepting applications for lead teacher in our Primary classroom, which serves ages 3-6, for the 2022-23 school year.

Montessori certification preferred but we will assist in formal training for the right candidate.

Please send resumé and cover letter to admin@alpinemontessori.org or call 432.837.2173 for more information.

LOOKING FOR A DENTIST, MEDICAL DOCTOR, FNP, AND DENTAL HYGIENIST
FOR FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES OF ALPINE

Applications may be picked up at 1605 N. FT. Davis Hwy Alpine, TX 79830 or call (432) 837-4555.

Please call first before arrival.

Family Health Service of Alpine • 1605 N. FT. Davis Hwy

Plumbco
RESIDENTIAL PLUMBING SERVICE
RESPONSIBLE MASTER PLUMBER • M-39797

Jonathan D. Portillo
Owner / Operator

432-837-9764 Office

GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

PRESIDIO COUNTY
Judge Cinderela Guevara:
(432) 729-4452

CITY OF MARFA
Manny Baeza, City of Marfa Mayor
mayor@cityofmarfa.com
(432) 295-0048
Irma Salgado, Mayor Pro Tem
councilmembersalgado@cityofmarfa.com
Buck Johnston
councilmemberjohnston@cityofmarfa.com
Raúl Lara
councilmemberlara@cityofmarfa.com
Eddie Pallarez
councilmemberpallarez@cityofmarfa.com
Yoseff Ben-Yehuda
councilmemberbenyehuda@cityofmarfa.com

BREWSTER COUNTY
Judge Eleazar Cano:
(432) 837-6200 x 124
Alpine Mayor Andy Ramos:
City Hall: (432) 837-3301
Email: mayor.amos@ci.alpine.tx.us

JEFF DAVIS COUNTY
Judge Curtis Evans: (432) 426-3968

FEDERAL:
U.S. Sen. John Cornyn:
(202) 224-2934 (D.C. office)
U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz:
(202) 224-5922 (D.C. office)

THE BIG BEND Sentinel

Maisie Crow
Max Kabat
Allegra Hobbs
Sam Karas
Mary Cantrell
Ariele Gentiles
Becca Foster
Georgia Peterson
Mary Etherington
Maria Salgado
Tomas Salgado
Francisco Florevillar
Maria Gerardo

Editor-in-Chief
Publisher
Managing Editor
Reporter
Reporter
Copy Editor
Designer / Advertising
Designer / Advertising
Office Manager
Distribution
Distribution
Distribution
Distribution

Office: 209 1/2 W. El Paso St., Marfa, Texas
Mail: Drawer P, Marfa, TX 79843
Telephone: 432.729.4342
Contact: editor@bigbendsentinel.com
Advertising Inquiries: ads@bigbendsentinel.com
www.bigbendsentinel.com

The Big Bend Sentinel (ISSN 1076-1004 USPS 055-800) is published weekly, on Thursdays, 50 times a year by West Texan Media Group LLC, Drawer P, Marfa, TX 79843. Annual subscription rates are \$50 in Presidio, Brewster & Jeff Davis counties, and \$60 elsewhere in Texas and the United States. Special rates apply abroad. Periodicals class postage paid at Marfa, Texas 79843.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Drawer P, Marfa, TX 79843.