THE BIG BEND Sentinel

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by order of Presidio County

Construction still underway for Marfa High School's new track

By MARY CANTRELL
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MARFA — Marfa High School's new track, which was originally slated to be fully completed in time for graduation ceremonies this Friday, is experiencing some slight delays.

Friday evening's high school graduation will still be held on the field and will be made accessible to students and their families, with routine processions onto the field. The delays are, in part, due to this week's rain and asphalt repairs that needed to be completed.

The installation of the polyurethane surfacing, or the track's top coat, is on schedule, and the crew is set to begin painting stripes on the six-lane track soon. The public opening date is tentatively scheduled for June 13. Marfa ISD Athletic Director Linda Ojeda said the school will post informative signage and likely hold an orientation of sorts to inform the public about the new track and accompanying rules and regulations.

For example, bikes and roller blades will not be permitted, and precautions will need to be taken to ensure the track lasts well into the future.

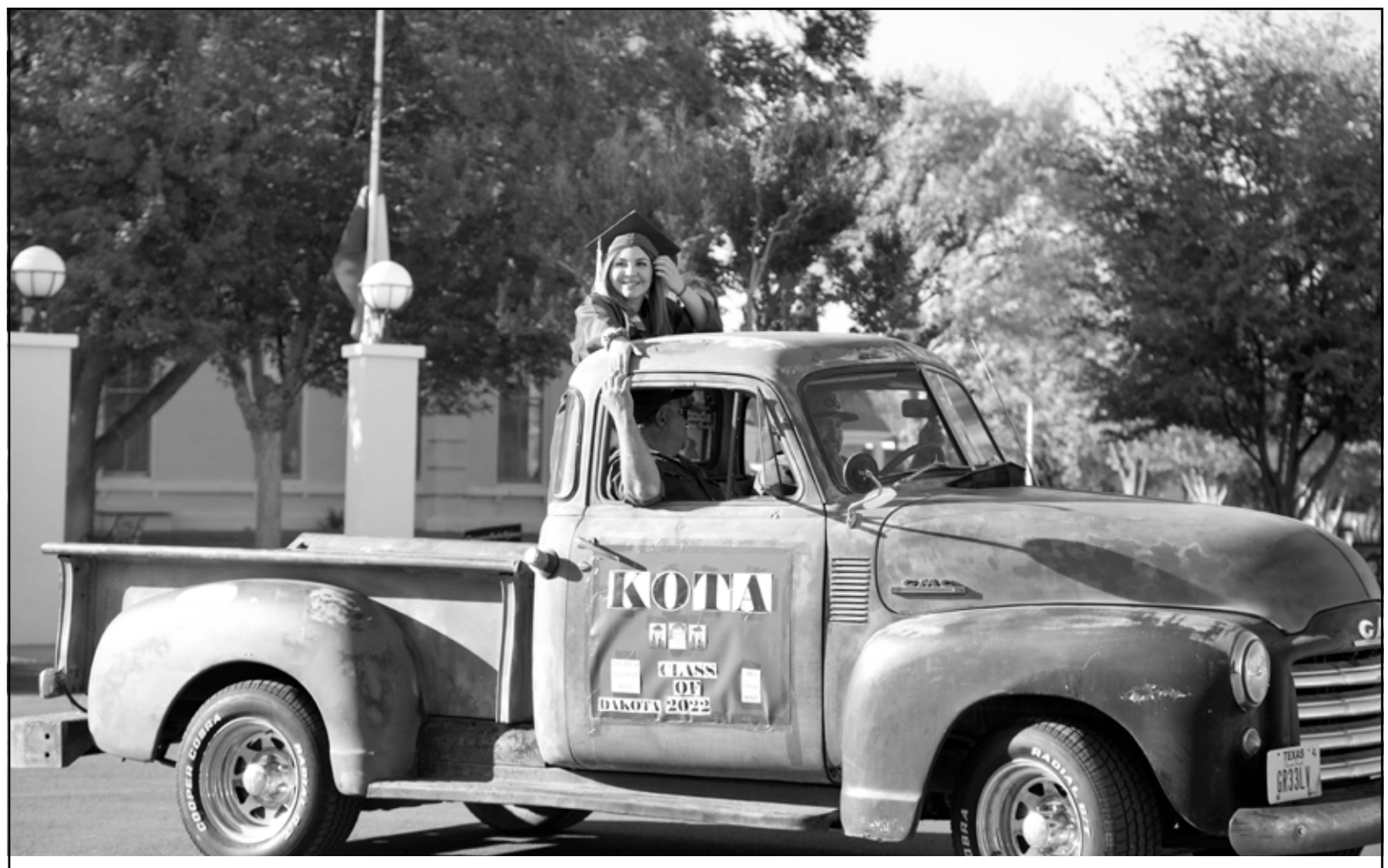
"That's going to be a big thing: protecting it," said Ojeda. "I know it's going to get a lot of great use. I think with us working together with the community, our students and everybody else we will be able to take care of it in order for everyone to use it whenever they need it."

The school board approved the construction of the brand-new track in January and work officially began on the site in March. The old track posed a safety hazard and was due for much needed upgrades, school officials said at the time. The project is costing the school board $926,000, which is being withdrawn from their reserves or "fund balance" account.

At a school board meeting earlier this year, Superintendent Oscar Aguero said even with the nearly million dollar dip into the reserves there would still be a remaining $2 million in their fund balance account, adding that in the past seven years since he has been involved with Marfa ISD the district has never utilized the fund balance account.

The track's continued maintenance will see the school board spending a recommended $5,000 to $12,000 every year or every other year for track cleaning and $245,000 every 10 to 12 years to retop.

Complete with a high jump area, pole vault runway, long jump, triple jump as well as shotput and discus rings, the new-and-improved track will allow for the school district to host regional track meets. Ojeda said they hope to start hosting small meets as soon as this coming fall, and will seek volunteers from the community to help run the athletic events.



Staff photo by Mary Cantrell

Marfa High School Senior Dakota Martinez at Wednesday's graduation parade. Students ride or drive in decorated cars and throw candy to attendees in a festive procession down Highland Avenue. The tradition started during the pandemic but was back by popular demand for its third consecutive year. SEE MORE ON PAGES 5 - 8.

Blackwell School bill passes US Senate

By SAM KARAS
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WASHINGTON, D.C. — On May 19, the U.S. Senate passed a bill establishing a National Park Service unit commemorating the Blackwell School, a former segregated school for Mexican Americans in Marfa. The bill is awaiting passage by the House of Representatives, but after a few minor tweaks, boosters believe it will be successful.

"Texas has a rich and diverse history, and it's time for this piece of our story to receive proper recognition," Senator John Cornyn, who introduced the bill alongside Alex Padilla of California, wrote in a statement. "I introduced a bipartisan bill to establish the Blackwell School as a National Historic site, making it one of the few national park sites that specifically commemorates Latino history and culture."

Blackwell School operated from 1909 to 1965 and at one point served over 600 students in multiple buildings before integrating with Marfa Public Schools, which before 1965 only educated white children. Students were prohibited from speaking Spanish.

In 1954, the same year as the landmark Supreme Court case Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, teachers at the school held a funeral for "Mr. Spanish" and instructed students to bury slips of paper with Spanish-language words written on them. Segregated education would continue in Marfa for 11 more years, allowed because it wasn't legally enforced — it was just what the community expected.

The journey to the Senate floor has been over 16 years in the making. Blackwell School Alliance — the organization currently tending the grounds of the historic site on Abbott Street — was formed in 2006 by community members who had attended the school. Three years ago, President Gretel Enck ran into then-Congressman Will Hurd in a coffee shop in Alpine.

"He was really tuned into national parks because he had so many national parks in his district," Enck explained. "Looking back, things don't normally happen that fast."

After years of hard work, Enck received a text message from a staffer at Senator John Cornyn's office announcing the good news. The only major change that will need to happen before deliberation in the House of Representatives is clearer language demarcating the boundaries of the proposed historic site.

"We don't expect that there will be any disagreement in the House because it doesn't change the bill, it just clarifies the bill," Enck explained.

Enck has been getting updates from Congressman

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As accuser speaks out, the criminal case against Basecamp Terlingua founder Jeff Leach is dismissed

By ALLEGRA HOBBS
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On Friday morning, the long-simmering criminal case against Terlingua hotelier Jeff Leach, who was indicted by a grand jury on a felony sexual assault charge over two years ago, was brought to an end — at the request of the local prosecutor, a Brewster County judge dismissed the case, voiding the possibility of an anticipated trial.

Accusations against Leach, a prominent entrepreneur in the remote border town, first began emerging in 2019 when former employee Katy Milam told authorities that Leach had held her down and attempted to forcibly kiss her, telling her he "gets what he wants." Leach responded by suing Milam, who also goes by Schwartz, for defamation — but it was there, in civil court, that more women began coming forward with similar allegations. After Milam, three more women swore in affidavits that Leach had assaulted them. One of those affidavits, from a woman alleging Leach had raped her in 2014, led to his indictment in 2020.

That woman, Shawna Graves, resisted letting the case die quietly. Two days before the dismissal, Graves submitted a statement to the court opposing the motion. "I believe this case needs to be heard, as uncomfortable as it will be for me," she wrote. "This happened to me. I did not want to bear this cross, but I also did not ask for that act of violence to occur, nor for all of the years of difficulty and darkness I experienced afterwards."

Though the statement was sealed by the court, Graves chose to share it with the press with her name attached — a dramatic reversal, as she had always asked to remain anonymous in coverage of the case throughout the preceding years. When asked why she was choosing to emerge publicly now, her emailed response was brief: "I'm coming forward now because I used to have faith in the system and now I don't."

But the case was ultimately tossed, at the request of 83rd District Attorney Ori White, who cited insufficient evidence — his office simply did not believe there was enough to sway a jury beyond a reasonable doubt, he told The Big Bend Sentinel shortly after the motion was filed. As a "complaining witness" in a criminal case — in which it is the state, not any individual, that brings charges against an alleged perpetrator — Graves only had so much say in the case that emerged from her accusation, only so much recourse in opposing its fate.

(Continued on page 3)

Title 42 upheld in Louisiana district court, preserving pandemic-era immigration policy

By SAM KARAS
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LAFAYETTE, LA — Last Friday, a federal district judge in Louisiana filed an order blocking the Biden administration's plan to lift Title 42, an immigration policy put in place in March 2020 at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Department of Justice quickly filed an appeal, sparking what could become a months-long legal battle.

District Judge Robert R. Summerhays, a Trump appointee in Lafayette, Louisiana, ruled that Title 42 must remain in place while 24 states sue the Biden administration for attempting to end the policy. The case now resides in the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Title 42 was invoked by the Trump administration to allow for "immediate expulsion" of migrants at the southern border, including asylum seekers. To prevent the spread of coronavirus, the policy put an end to the practice of holding migrants in detention centers. In the Big Bend sector, this practice has entailed a nightly drop-off of apprehended migrants at the Ojinaga bridge, as *The Big Bend Sentinel* reported last June.

"The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) invoked its authority under Title 42 due to the unprecedented public-health dangers caused by the COVID-19 pandemic," the U.S. Department of Justice wrote in an official statement accompanying their appeal on Friday. "The CDC has now determined, in its expert opinion, that continued reliance on this authority is no longer warranted in light of the current public-health circumstances."

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Title 42 was an obscure part of the U.S. Code dating back to the Public Service Health Act of 1944. Among many other projects, the law intended to modernize the government's approach to handling communicable disease — hot topics included the subsidized leper colony on the Hawaiian island of Molokai, "slum clearance," and whether the government should encourage "voluntary" family planning.

The vintage legislation came in response to epidemics of now-treatable diseases like tuberculosis and typhus. Title 42 granted the federal government the power to respond to epidemics as a state of emergency and use them as a rationale to block entry into the United States — that part of the code was never officially utilized until the Trump administration seized the opportunity.

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Marfa Activities Center Pool reopens for the summer season May 31

By MARY CANTRELL
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MARFA — The Marfa Activities Center (MAC) Pool, which has been closed to the public since May 2020, is set to reopen May 31 for the summer swimming season.

The pool will remain open until August 6. At the latest city council meeting, City Manager Mandy Roane reported that pool bathrooms were being cleaned up and repaired by the public works department and would be good to go in time for the reopening.

Admission will be $3 for adults, $1 for kids and seniors, $50 for adult passes for the summer, $25 for kids and seniors passes for the summer, and $75 for five-member family passes for the summer. The age limit for unaccompanied children remains at age 8 or older.

Pending proper staffing, the facility will be open to the public five days a week from Tuesday through Saturday and will be available to rent for private parties on Sundays.

The tentative daily schedule will be lap swim from 10 to 11 a.m., water aerobics from 11 a.m. to noon, closed for lunch from noon to 1p.m., and open swim for the remainder of open hours from 1 to 6 p.m. The city will post pool updates on their website and The Big Bend Sentinel will provide more information as it becomes available.

Sunday rentals will run $150. The city is not yet taking reservations for private pool parties, and is set to discuss a pool rental agreement and swimming waivers for minors at their next city council meeting this Thursday.

The city will soon host a special meeting and workshop, involving the public, proposed for 6 p.m. June 15 at the MAC building, to garner further feedback about the pool and the entire facility, which was recently the subject of a feasibility study. This will be the second public meeting the city has hosted to discuss the public's wishes for the pool, the last one was held in February.

The pool, which is leaking and experiencing other significant structural issues, was originally built in the 1960s. A public survey recently circulated by the city revealed that residents favored the option of an indoor pool, featuring lap lanes, a children's area, waterslide and diving board that would be open all year.

Depending on whether a renovation to the existing pool or a complete overhaul of the entire MAC facility is chosen, the project could cost anywhere from $1.04 to $4.5 million dollars, according to George Deines of aquatic design, planning and operations company Counsilman-Hunsaker, which performed the feasibility study and recently presented findings to city officials.



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Blackwell School

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Tony Gonzales, who will be shepherding the resolution through the House with fellow Texas Rep. Filemon Vela. For now, timing is up in the air. "It really is just a matter of getting back on their schedule," said Enck.

The passage of the bill isn't the only good news the Blackwell School Alliance has celebrated recently: a fundraiser over the winter for major upgrades to the historic structure raised almost $100,000. "The first step is going to be the architect's build plan, and that's slightly on hold because we're so close to being designated that we want to make sure we're doing it in partnership with the National Park Service and considering all of their requirements regarding historic preservation," said Enck.

In Enck's words, "success breeding success" has also attracted major media attention: reporters from the L.A. Times profiled the group's efforts back in February, leading to well-wishes and curiosity from people all around the country. "The more people hear about it, the more people want to cover it," she said.

The next step will be hosting a community meeting, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, July 17. At the meeting, Enck and the rest of the Blackwell School board will meet with Marfa residents to discuss all that having a new park service unit in town entails.

"One of the things that we have on our list to talk about at the July meeting is, 'What does it do to the neighborhood?'" said Enck. "Obviously, there's going to be increased traffic around where the Blackwell School is, so how do we maximize the benefits and minimize any negative impacts that that might cause?"

She expects the positives will far outweigh the negatives. "One interesting statistic is that for every dollar that the National Park Service spends in communities, there is a $4 payoff in terms of tourism resit, revenue and jobs and so forth," she explained. "So there's a real economic benefit to communities. Just putting the stamp of the National Park Service on the site is going to bring a whole new kind of heritage tourism to Marfa."

At her day job at Fort Davis National Historic Site — another local park service unit — 50,000 visitors a year flock to learn about the region's military, African American, and Indigenous history. "A lot of those people that might not be interested in art are still going to divert to Marfa because they're national park fans," she said.

For Enck and the rest of the Blackwell School Alliance, centering Mexican American history in Marfa is worth the hassle of trying to pass legislation. Legislators and observers across the country agree. "There are so many chapters of American history that have gone unseen, unheard, and unacknowledged," wrote National Parks Conservation Association Theresa Pierno in a press release.

"Despite the difficult history connected to the Blackwell School, today is a day of joy and celebration that these students' stories will soon be told by our country's greatest storytellers at the National Park Service," Pierno continued. "The students of Blackwell deserve no less. The Blackwell National Historic Site will soon shed light on an often-overlooked injustice in American history and will be an important step forward for including Latino stories at our parks."

Man arrested for terroristic threat after brandishing air gun outside the Hotel Paisano

By ALLEGRA HOBBS
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MARFA — A man was arrested Wednesday afternoon on West Texas Street after allegedly aiming an air gun at another man and threatening to kill him, according to the Marfa Police Department.

Police were called to the scene outside the Hotel Paisano at around 12:49 p.m. when the department received a call about an altercation between two men involving what appeared to be a firearm.

Two men were arguing in the street outside the hotel when one pulled out what appeared to be a pistol, pointed it at the other man and threatened to kill him, said Marfa Police Chief Steve Marquez. A witness called the police, said Marquez, at which point the department rushed to the scene, followed closely by officers with the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Presidio County Sheriff's Office.

It turned out, upon investigation, that the gun in question was an air pistol that fires BB pellets. The suspect was arrested for making a terroristic threat, a charge which can range from a class B misdemeanor to a third-degree felony depending on the circumstances. Police have not released the name of the suspect.

The witness who called the cops was David Beebe, former Justice of the Peace and current candidate for Presidio County Commissioner, Precinct 4. Beebe told the Big Bend Sentinel that he was eating lunch on his front porch when he witnessed the incident "by sound" — he heard two men speaking loudly, and at first thought they were joking around. But that first impression quickly shifted — it sounded like a fight was about to break out.

As Beebe got up and moved to where he could see the altercation, the men had started to yell at each other, he recalled — that's when things escalated. "One guy says something along the lines of, 'Don't point that f—ing gun at me, put the gun away,'" said Beebe. At that point, Beebe ran to call the Marfa police department, which was quick to arrive on the scene, he said.

Beebe said having seen the air gun, it looked like a real 9mm pistol — and pointing that at someone remains a crime, he pointed out. "People rob banks with toy guns," he said. "If you present a toy gun as a gun, it's a gun."

The suspect is being held at the Presidio County Jail, said Chief Marquez.

Marquez said he was grateful for the quick response from all involved — especially with heightened fears of gun violence — and was glad the situation was not worse. "I'm glad it was what it was," he said. "We don't want that happening in our little town."

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Republican Greg Henington and Democrat Oscar Cobos succeed in Brewster County judge runoff races, head to general election in November

By MARY CANTRELL
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BREWSTER COUNTY — Republican Greg Henington and Democrat Oscar Cobos were victorious in Tuesday's runoff election and will proceed to represent their parties as county judge candidates in the general election this coming fall.

Unofficial results were released by Brewster County election officials late Tuesday night. In the Republican race, results show Henington ahead of opponent Ryan Skelton, with Henington receiving a total of 652 votes and Skelton receiving a total of 603. In the Democratic race, results show Cobos ahead of opponent Mimi Smith, with Cobos earning a total of 368 votes and Smith earning a total of 258.

"I take this time to express my deep appreciation to everyone who voted and has supported my campaign for Brewster County judge," said Cobos. "Thank you to all the candidates who have been in this election with a desire to serve in our community."

Additionally, in the wake of the mass school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, on Tuesday, Cobos expressed support for a grieving community.

"At this time we come in spirit and prayer for the community of Uvalde, Texas — families, friends and everyone impacted by the loss of their loved ones," said Cobos.

Henington did not respond to a request for comment by press time.

The county judge is the county's top official, and presides over the commissioner's court. County judges help lead county governments, overseeing safety, public transportation, parks, hospitals, buildings, zoning, waste, water and permit regulations, taxes and more.

Current Brewster County Judge Eleazar Cano, a Democrat who has been in the role since 2015, announced he would not run for reelection in December, citing a need to spend more time with his family. Cano will continue to serve as county judge until January 2023 when newly-elected officials finally take office.

MISD board discusses Hunter Gym restoration, prospective school bond, and updates to teacher housing

By ALLEGRA HOBBS
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MARFA — At Thursday night's regular Marfa Independent School District Board of Trustees meeting, members heard updates on the Hunter Gym restoration project, discussed the prospective school bond the district is considering as a means of funding infrastructure upgrades, and approved a significant decrease in rental rates for teachers while discussing options for acquiring new housing.

Hunter Gym restoration update

Mike Green, president of nonprofit group Friends of Hunter Gym, told the board the group was eager to move forward with the restoration process for the historic adobe structure, but first a lease agreement with the school district must be finalized and signed. Green, joined by group secretary Bob Schwab, presented a marked-up rough draft of a lease agreement for the board to review.

Using the district's agreement with the Blackwell School as a model, the group is proposing a lease of $1/year for a 10-year period, at which point the lease would be re-negotiated. The group hoped to have a lease signed within the coming month.

There are some outstanding questions regarding insurance, noted Green, and how best to coordinate the group's insurance policy with that of the school — some community days that will be hosted at the gym may pose "unique liability issues," he said.

"We would like to explore some of the markups and the content with the insurance provider, so we're in sync with them, we're fully covered, so we can move forward with a safe, responsible project restoration," said Green.

The next step will be clearing out the space so the group can air it out and evaluate the conditions — the gym currently holds "some valuable content," said Green, that he hopes to give away to teachers or staffers who could use them. Superintendent Oscar Aguero said he had conducted a walk-through of the space and that everything except for desks could be removed.

The restoration, which will include remediating structural issues caused by moisture, will cost an estimated $1.5 to $2 million dollars. Once the space is restored, the group hopes to turn it into a community space.

School bond update

Aguero provided a brief update on discussions around a possible school bond, which could appear on the ballot this coming November if the district moves forward with the plan. Aguero said he had recently reviewed existing school facilities with architecture firm Claycomb Associates, Architects, which the district has hired as consultants on the bond, to get a rough idea of what the district would require from a restoration or replacement project and how that lines up with the facilities in place. Aguero said that the front half of the high school and Hunter Gym would be untouched, and also noted that boosters had implored them not to take away the concession stand.

Ultimately, a community committee made up of staff members, parents, and community members will guide the bond process and determine the district's critical infrastructure needs. It has not been decided whether those infrastructure upgrades will simply require a renovation or will bring in new buildings.

More specifics will be hammered out in an hours-long workshop with the architecture firm, which was scheduled to take place on June 6 at 5 p.m.

Teacher housing

With leases up this month, the question of rent for teachers living in district-provided housing was on the table. The board voted to reduce the rates paid by teachers by about half for the year 2022-2023, at the suggestion of Aguero, while rates for non-employees living in the district housing will remain the same.

Aguero noted that even the non-employee housing, often occupied by city and county employees, was below market rate. "If it's a non-employee, it's usually a public servant," he said. "They're providing a service for us as well."

Next, the board discussed the possibility of acquiring more housing for teachers. Aguero noted that, per the architecture firm advising them on the process, this was something that could potentially be covered by a school bond, if the district takes that route. If the bond doesn't work out, there are a few other potential options for housing — none of which include buying an existing house in Marfa, which is not feasible in the current market, said Aguero.

The district currently has several plots of land that Aguero classified as "weird-shaped" that could be attractive to land-owners on adjacent properties, he said — the district could potentially sell those plots of land to those neighboring land-owners, then use those funds to buy land elsewhere more suitable for new housing.

Aguero also noted he had started initial conversations with the housing authority, which is planning to purchase land in Marfa for the purpose of building affordable housing, he said. In those initial talks, said Aguero, the authority indicated that one-third of whatever housing they built could be designated for teachers.

Whatever route the district ends up taking, Aguero said he believes that building more teacher housing would be a draw for prospective employees.

"I do believe that would help draw some teachers in the future — saying, hey, we have this," said Aguero. "That's what a lot of the smaller districts have — they just have a little plot of land that has several houses and it's the teacher community." In fact, Aguero said he uses the current teacher housing as a recruiting tool for prospective teachers, sometimes instead of giving it to a teacher already with the district — a practice he acknowledged was not always popular, but is integral to building staff.

The topic will be an ongoing discussion raised at future meetings.

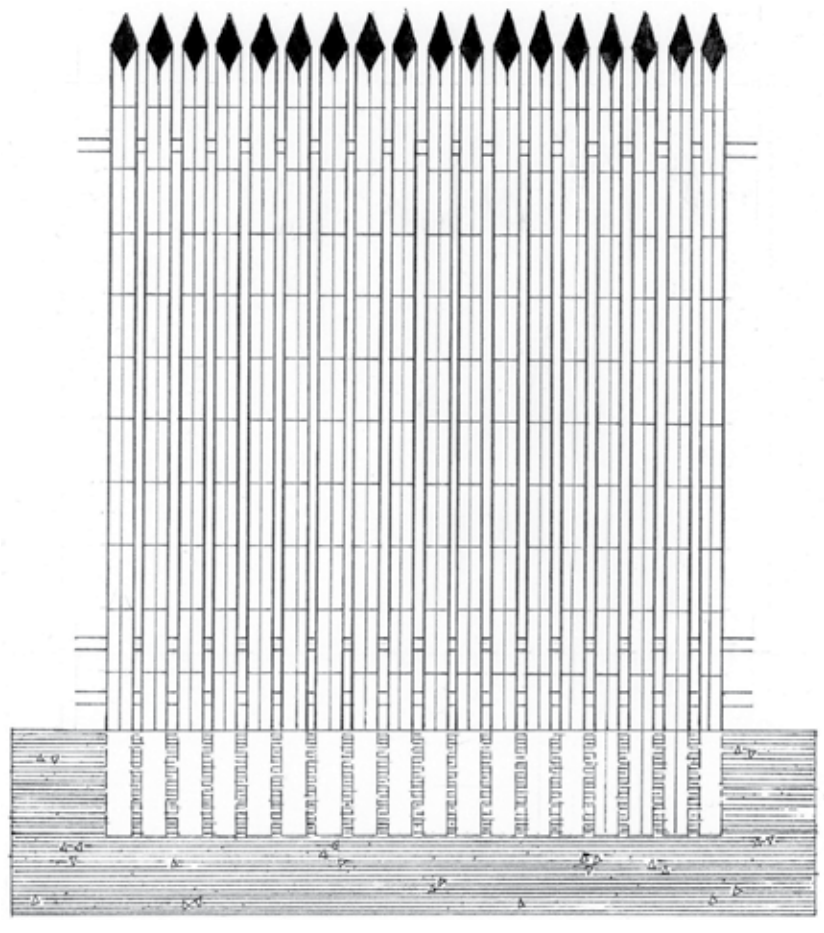
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Jeff Leach

(Continued from page 1)

In her statement, she recounts her attempts to have some degree of input in the proceedings. By her telling, she was contacted by a prosecutor with the DA's office on April 28 and notified of the motion to dismiss. She was shaken by the phone call, she says. "He said no jury would believe me," she writes. "It was a case of he said-she said; that I had no evidence that the sexual assault occurred."

She writes that she heard from a victim coordinator with the DA's office on May 11, the day before an initial hearing on the motion to dismiss was to be held, and was told she would be able to speak, though the coordinator could not say definitively where the hearing would take place. Graves retained the counsel of Alpine attorney Jodi Cole, who is representing Milam against Leach's defamation suit and is representing a former assistant prosecutor with the DA's office in a lawsuit against White.

Graves claims that she arrived in Brewster County District Court on the morning of May 12, only to be told she would not be permitted to speak, but she could file a written statement that would be sealed. Leach himself was present in the courtroom that day, she says — an unanticipated shock. (Cole also recounts these events in a separate court filing, in Milam's civil case).

Graves had quietly waited for her day in court since filing her affidavit — she had declined to speak to the press and had asked to keep her name out of news coverage. In her statement, she recalls the disappointment of being denied that day and feeling that the DA had no interest in taking on her case. She had not been contacted by White before the assistant prosecutor called her in late April, she claims. "Not only were [the DA's office] unhelpful in navigating the legal system, uninterested in talking to me about my experience and about the case, unhelpful in informing me of any options I might have from here, unsympathetic about my experience — but then when I showed up to court, they seemed to not want me to be there," she writes.

The district attorney's office did not return requests for comment on the contents of Graves' statement (Marfa Public Radio reported that the office had declined to comment for the outlet's story on the matter). In a previous conversation with the The Big Bend Sentinel, White had explained that his office was overwhelmed by cases and had to focus on those they felt would be successful. "We just felt like the jury would not believe that it was not consensual," he said of the Leach case.

On Friday, the remote hearing on the dismissal took place over Zoom, with Judge Tryon Lewis presiding in the place of Judge Roy Ferguson — who was absent to conduct legal training, Lewis explained — and Assistant 83rd District Attorney William E. Parham representing the state of Texas. Leach was present, along with his attorney, Rae Leifeste. The dismissal was swift, with fewer than 10 minutes devoted to the final discussion of a scrutinized case that had ground on for years.

But there was some discussion, however brief, regarding the statement. Judge Lewis asked Parham, then Leifeste, if they had been able to review the statement. Both said that yes, they had, though mere minutes before the hearing.

Parham began to comment on the contents of the statement: "I have some difference of opinion as to what was stated therein —" he began.

"I was not asking your opinion on anything," the judge interjected. Parham then stated that he had reviewed the statement approximately 27 minutes prior. The judge then directed the question to Leifeste: Had he had the opportunity to review the statement? To which Leifeste responded yes, "Just a few minutes ago."

The judge opined briefly, before signing off on the dismissal, on the "heavy burden" the district attorney's office bears in deciding which cases to pursue.

"In the state of Texas, under our Constitution, only the state can bring a prosecution, and in a felony the district attorney is charged with the right and the burden of deciding what of those cases in the office that have been brought forward, whether the law and the evidence supports the continued prosecution of the case," said Lewis. "It's often a heavy burden, but it is a burden, it is the prerogative under the constitution and obligation of the district attorney to make that decision, in the best interest of justice and in the circumstances of the case, and that decision is not reviewable by the court."

Judge Lewis then signed the order to dismiss the case. Afterward, Cole — still acting as Graves' attorney in her limited capacity as a complaining witness in the case — issued a statement. "People who have been assaulted sexually should have no shame or fear about speaking the truth. The times are changing, even if there is still some fear and resistance about taking prosecution seriously. We want all courageous survivors who report crime to know that many people do take these kinds of offenses seriously. The shame resides with the perpetrators, not the innocent."

For those who work closely with victims of sexual assault in the remote region, the case and its outcome are all too familiar. Gina Wilcox, program coordinator for the Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend, noted that sexual assault cases are very difficult to prosecute, in part due to a lingering stigma felt by victims, but also due to a lack of physical evidence and witnesses. "The jury has to be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt for criminal charges, and a lot of times there's just not enough to do that," she said. For that reason, prosecutors may decide the monetary cost and the stress of a trial — often a traumatic experience for victims — is not worthwhile.

Resources available for victims of such crimes in rural regions are extraordinarily limited. The crisis center — with locations in Alpine, Presidio and Terlingua — is one of two of its kind in the Big Bend region. The other, in Fort Stockton, is fairly new, noted Wilcox. "We're the primary agency to provide services for victims of sexual assault in this region," she said. "And we do the best we can, but it is challenging."

Wilcox said she had seen firsthand how dismissed cases and dropped charges impact victims' willingness to come forward. "Any of these high-profile things, even if it's just something local, they're seeing it in the news or in the newspaper that the charges are being dropped. They're like, 'Well, why should I?'" said Wilcox. "I've had numerous clients ask me that question: 'They did this and this and this with this case, with that person; I knew this person who pressed charges but nothing ever happened, so why should I?' Why should I put myself through that?' And I don't blame them for feeling that way."

Still, Wilcox said that she encourages victims of sexual violence to speak to someone — if not law enforcement, then a counselor or someone else who can provide assistance. The Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend operates a 24-hour hotline at 800-834-0654 for this very purpose. The center provides accompaniment for victims who wish to speak to law enforcement.

Even as the criminal case draws to a close, Leach's civil suit against Milam has been given new life after the Eighth Court of Appeals in El Paso reversed a lower court's dismissal of the suit. A status hearing on that case will take place at the end of the month.

Title 42

(Continued from page 1)

"The Surgeon General, in accordance with regulations approved by the President, shall have the power to prohibit, in whole or in part, the introduction of persons and property from such countries or places as he shall designate in order to avert such danger, and for such period of time as he may deem necessary for such purpose," the law cited in Summerhays'' order reads.

Rhetoric associating immigration with disease is nothing new along the U.S.-Mexico border. The Quarantine Act of 1893 followed a wave of anti-immigrant policy and an international cholera epidemic, during which President Harrison ordered all incoming ships of immigrants quarantine for 20 days. This style of pandemic response led to the development of more intense medical examinations at ports of entry in the United States.

The harshness of these examinations pushed migrants to cross at places other than official ports of entry, instead choosing to brave remote stretches of desert or river. In 1917, Carmelita Torres, a teenage girl working as a maid in the U.S., sparked the Bath Riots in El Paso. She and other migrants protested the use of poisonous chemicals to delouse people crossing the border, a dangerous process during which many female migrants reported sexual abuse.

The call to keep Title 42 in place came from 24 "plaintiff states" named in Summerhays' ruling. The list of "plaintiff states" falls reliably on party lines — of those 24, only Tennessee and Kansas currently have Democratic governors. Many of the states — including Missouri, South Dakota, and Oklahoma — have neither land nor sea borders but claim large numbers of people who entered the country illegally have moved to their states.

Governor Abbott's official statement on the attempted repeal of Title 42 does not mention communicable disease at all: "While today's court ruling rejecting President Biden's ending of Title 42 expulsions is a positive development, hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants remain at our southern border ready to flood into Texas," his office wrote.

Advocates for immigrants on the border don't think that's a coincidence. "The imposition of Title 42 was not a healthcare mandate, it was a political decision," said Fernando García, executive director of El Paso's Border Network for Human Rights. "It doesn't have anything to do with the reality of the border. It was like a Christmas gift — [Republicans] got a program that will expel immigrants without granting them due process or the right to apply for asylum."

Asylum claims have been a source of frustration and confusion on the U.S.-Mexico border even before the pandemic. For a wide range of financial and logistical reasons, refugees from all over the world try their luck at the southern border. In the past few years, people fleeing conflicts in Haiti, Afghanistan and Ukraine have made front page news trying to apply for asylum in the U.S. from Mexico.

In 2019, the Trump administration implemented the "Remain in Mexico" policy, where asylum-seekers were sent back across the border to await processing. The ACLU filed a suit that reached the Supreme Court at the end of April, alleging that the policy put already-vulnerable people in unnecessarily dangerous situations. Within the first two years of the policy, Human Rights First documented 1544 instances of violence directed at migrants expelled under the law.

The resistance to change these policies may have to do with what García calls a "staged crisis at the border." In Customs and Border Protection's April 2022 operational update, the agency explains that Title 42 has led to inflated statistics: "Since many people expelled into Mexico under Title 42 try to reenter the U.S., Title 42 has contributed to a higher-than-usual number of migrants making multiple border crossing attempts, which means that total encounters somewhat overstate the number of unique individuals arriving at the border."

The agency's own admission has not stopped Texas politicians from using those numbers to fearmonger about a "flood" of migrants headed across the Rio Grande — an investigation by Pro Publica, the *Texas Tribune*, and the Marshall Project found that the governor's office had been chronically cooking books in order to statistically back up the success of his border security initiative, Operation Lone Star.

Media sources cited in documents brought before the court estimated a "surge" of 25,000 to 60,000 migrants "waiting in Mexican shelters for Title 42 to end." Customs and Border Protection addressed these concerns in its latest operational update: "DHS has been executing a comprehensive strategy to secure our borders and rebuild our immigration system. DHS began planning last September, and we are leading the execution of a whole-of-government strategy to prepare for and manage any rise in noncitizen encounters."

Court documents did not provide a timeline for the appeals process. Customs and Border Protection in the Big Bend Sector declined a request for comment.



Una cliníca de bajo costo para operar, castrar y vacunar a los mascotas viene a Presidio el
Viernes, 3 de Junio hasta el Domingo, 5 de Junio

Abierto a todos dueños de mascota. Se ofrece con límites, asistencia financiera y transportación.

El Viernes despues de las 3 de la tarde ofrecemos solamente vacunas, (incluye la Rabia) y microchips (no sirugias este dia)

Vacunas: se paga por donación (sugerimos $15). Microchips: $10 (incluye registración por vida)

Sabado y Domingo ofrecemos sirugia para castrar o operar y todas las vacunas (incluye la Rabia), microchips agrege $10.

Si no puedes pagar, no te vamos a negar servicios. Se necesita registrar!

No se aceptan sin cita. Se acepta dinero en efectivo, tarjetas de credito, y cheque.
Recibirás la localización de la clínica y otros detalles despues de registrar.

Esta cliníca esta alojada por el Far West Texas Rescue Coalition, un esfurezo colaborativo de los rescates y refugios de su comunidad local y Animal Balance.

Para registrar llame 432-837-2532
Si prefieres una respuesta en espanol, por favor deje un mensaje con su nombre y numero de telefono.

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A low-cost spay/neuter/vaccine clinic is coming to Presidio, Friday June 3 through Sunday June 5

Open to all pet owners. Limited financial assistance and pet transportation available.

Friday after 3 pm

We will offer vaccines (including Rabies) and microchips ONLY (no surgeries)
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Saturday and Sunday

We will offer spay/neuter and vaccines (including Rabies) and microchips
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You will not be turned away if you cannot pay. No walk-ins can be included.
Pay by cash, check, credit card.

You will receive clinic location and other details after registering.

This clinic is hosted by Far West Texas Rescue Coalition, a collaborative effort of your local community rescues and shelters and Animal Balance

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Opinions

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear editor,

I've spent some time in Uvalde. For years, I would regularly make the drive down from San Antonio, sometimes on a weekly basis. I worked with a local rancher and his wife to restore and expand a house in town. My husband and I still drop in to visit with them when we have the time, passing through on our way back to Marfa. They are vibrant characters and we relish the chance to share a laugh with them over ice tea and cookies.

"Now, don't figure from both ends of your pencil!" my client would often say.

On one visit, I was flattered to learn that their house was considered so attractive, the local high schoolers were having their prom pictures taken in the front yard.

Uvalde is a small town much like ours, except for the majestic Live Oaks that grow in the middle of the roads. The courthouse defines the center of town, bedecked in lights and tinsel for Christmas and flags for the 4th of July. There's the big Stripes like ours, known for its good breakfast tacos. The First State Bank of Uvalde — one of my favorite works of architecture in all of Texas, for the record — is like a window back in time and into the imagination of former governor Dolph Briscoe, a notable local rancher and businessman.

Uvalde is bigger than Marfa, but I get the impression that everyone knows everyone, and based on my clients' stress during our construction process, people there won't hesitate to weigh in on a neighbor's business. Having resettled to Marfa from city life, I view this as a positive exchange: that of relative anonymity for a palpable connection to community (and occasionally nosy neighbors).

In a small town, our mutual familiarity can provide a safety net for those who are struggling. In Uvalde, someone slipped through that net, and now a community of 16,000 individuals has been shattered by the needless loss of innocent lives. The thought makes my heart contract. Not a single person in that town will go untouched by this senseless act of violence.

Like so many, I am angry that our state leaders have set their priorities on the rights of troubled individuals to purchase weapons of war. It now seems apparent that in Texas, we value a thriving gun industry more than the lives of our friends, our neighbors, our children. If these leaders are to be believed, the solution is to further fortify our schools, now with the added security that only more guns can provide. Last year, our legislature passed Open Carry over the objections of our law enforcement. It's madness.

I pray for change, but dread the cost that will bear out until that day comes.

By the grace of God, we are not Uvalde. This is Marfa. We're a tiny town in the middle of nowhere. Our protection will not come from Austin or Washington. We're out here on our own, and we are protected only by our own vigilance — not only for explicit acts of aggression, but for the risks posed by those among us who may be volatile. As the wife of a public servant, it has been assuring to observe that these dangers are actively monitored by our local officials and law enforcement. Their efforts often go unacknowledged.

Speaking for myself, my husband, and some of our friends, we have been working on projects that will address the lack of mental health resources in Marfa, with the hope of bolstering our community's overall health and safety. Those projects will hopefully materialize next year.

As for today, we should take Uvalde's tragedy as our own. We should come together as a community; we should grieve along with these families and give them what support we can. We should also be reminded to fortify our own safety net in the wake of this tragedy. We should check in on our neighbors and mobilize for our common good.

Our leaders will continue this theater of empty promises. Pointless tragedy will take the lives of innocent people. Sadly, our only real hope for immediate change lies in the vitality and connectedness of our community.

Let us stand with Uvalde. And may we never forget.

Hilary Scruggs Beebe
Marfa

• • •

To the Editor:

Their parents dropped those kids off at school yesterday morning. They had summer plans, if only baseball and swimming.

Their survivors will live through Memorial Day weekend, July 4, Labor Day, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, the New Year and birthdays… but life as they know it is over, replaced with the grief and anger they will carry until death.

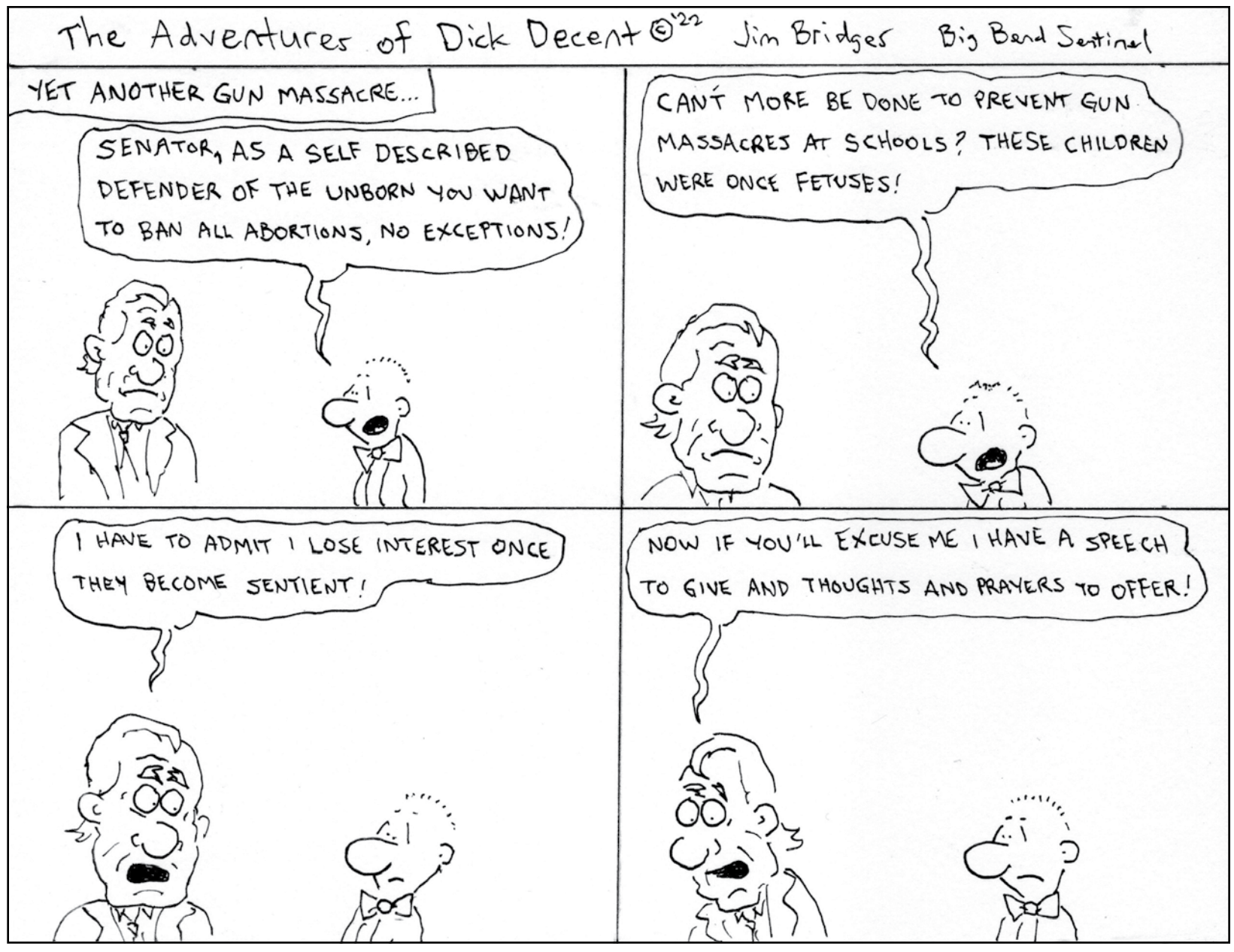
Our state is controlled by politicians who worship guns and masculinity. Thoughts and prayers. Right to life, except for those children and teachers from Uvalde. Constitutional Carry, Critical Race Theory, LGBTQ, Voter Fraud? Why can't we stop the massacre of school children? Where do Cruz, Cornyn and Abbott stand on the slaughter of children with legal guns? If only they had been unborn.

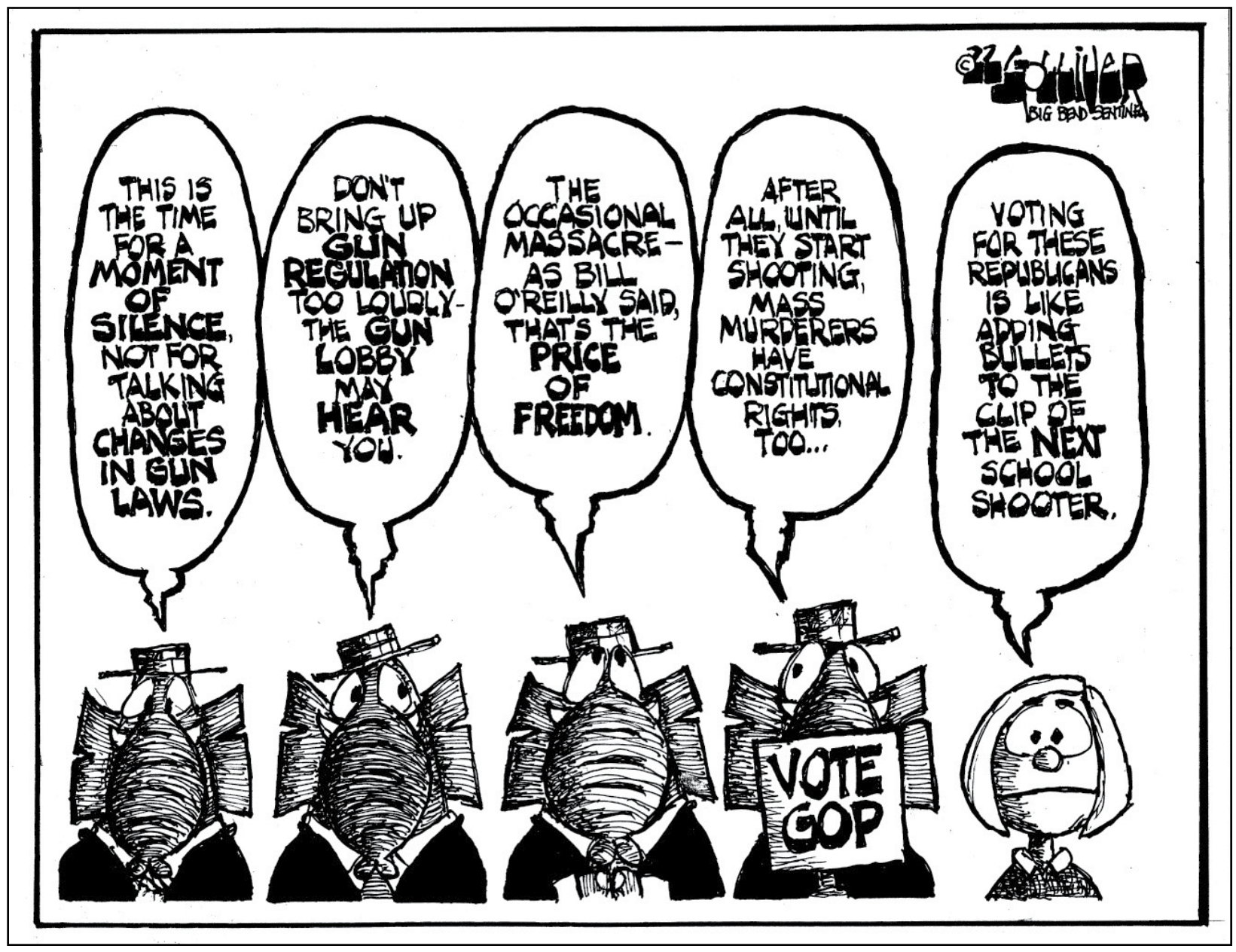
The shooter bought the two rifles he took to Robb Elementary School shortly after turning 18 this month. He used an AR-15 to kill 19 fourth graders and their teachers. Twenty-one are dead and 17 injured.

It's not about an 18 year old with an AR-15 and body armor — it's about mental health, according to our governor. How much time, effort and money did he put behind mental health legislation last summer? And how much on guns?

God Bless Texas.

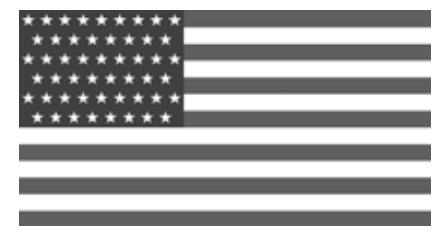
Vance Knowles
Marfa







MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE



When: Monday May 30th at 10:00 am
Where: The pavilion behind the Visitors Center

Light refreshments served afterwards.

We ask that all join to honor our present and fallen heroes.

We want to hear from YOU!

- Letters should be sent to editor@bigbendsentinel.com, and must provide the writer's full name, city of residence and an email or phone number, so that we may follow up and verify information as needed.
- Your letters may be edited for clarity and brevity. While opinions of all kinds are welcome, when it comes to claims of fact, we strive to only publish what is verifiable.
- We have limited staff capacity to fact check unsubstantiated claims, so letters that include those may be held or remain unpublished if information is not easily verifiable.
- We may reach out to ask questions and verify the identity of the sender. We do not run letters anonymously unless the sender is privately identified and has a reasonable claim to anonymity.
- We reserve the right to hold or refrain from publishing a letter for any reason and we thank you for always sharing your letters with us.

- ***The Big Bend Sentinel Editorial Staff***

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PLEASE RECYCLE THIS PAPER

Marfa High School Class of 2022



Juan Avila

Juan Avila is the son of Mary Ortiz and Juan Avila Sr. He has participated in football, basketball, cross-country, golf, track and welding. He received First Team Punter his sophomore year. He received Second Team Linebacker his junior year having only played one game. His senior year he was named Second Team Fullback and First Team Punter. He plans on going into the workforce after graduating. His hobbies are looking for wildlife and finding snakes in the wild.



Lindsey Blackman

Lindsey Blackman is the daughter of Matt and Melanie Blackman. Through her high school years Lindsey has excelled in creative endeavors, including art, yearbook, theater and choir. Her favorite memories in her senior year include learning in her welding class and assisting other students in the library. Her hobbies include many forms of art, reading, binging TV shows, gardening and learning to cook. After graduation Lindsey plans to take a year to work and to explore possibilities for creative careers. She would like to thank her parents who have always pushed her to be better and do her best, no matter what her best is. They have always supported her dreams and approved of whatever she decided to do as long as she works hard. Lindsey's favorite quote to leave for the underclassmen is: "Hoping for the best, prepared for the worst, and unsurprised by anything in between." – Maya Angelou, "I know Why the Caged Bird Sings"



Febie Brimhall

Febi Brimhall is the daughter of Chantella Brimhall. Throughout her freshman and junior years she participated in basketball, volleyball, softball and track. She has been involved in many art activities like after school art programs, film photography at Chinati Foundation, and the Texas Art Education Association's Visual Arts Scholastic Event. During Febi's senior year she participated in the local science fair and advanced to state competition. After high school Febi plans to do her basics at Sul Ross State University and then transfer to Oregon state to major in visual arts with a minor in business.



Adrian Catano

Adrian Catano is the son of Delia Nunez and Adan Catano. Throughout junior high Adrian participated in track, football, basketball, and golf. In high school, Adrian ran track and cross-country for two years and played football for four years. His senior year he was named First Team All-district Running Back, scoring 14 touchdowns. Adrian has also been a part of Young Life all four years of high school. The person Adrian is most inspired by would be his mom who has taught him to always be grateful for what you have, and to always look at the good in the bad. Upon graduation he plans on working at the county jail as a jailer until the age of 21 when he can enroll in a police academy to become a law officer. If Adrian could give advice to the underclassman it would be: Your high school years are the best years.



Odalys Chacon

Odalys Chacon is the daughter of Marisa and Rito Chacon and has been a member of the volleyball, basketball, cross-country, and softball teams. Odalys has received several awards including All-State academics in volleyball, basketball, and softball. She is a three-time regional qualifier in cross country, First team and Second team all-district in volleyball and basketball and was All-State Catcher her junior year.

Odalys was also a regional qualifier in UIL academics in copy editing and headline writing. As a sophomore Odalys was inducted into the National Honor Society and has been a part of the student council all four years. Throughout her high school career Odalys has earned a total of 33 college credits through the Early College High School Program. She received the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award this year.

The person Odalys is most inspired by is her brother Diego, for the countless amount of times he stood by her and her mother's side in times of need. But most importantly for being her personal Uber driver.

Upon graduation, Odalys plans to attend the University of Texas at San Antonio to major in science in order to obtain a degree in architecture.



Christopher Conners

Christopher Conners is the son of Gracie and John Conners. He has participated in track, football, basketball, golf and welding throughout his four years of high school and has been recognized for his athletic and academic abilities as well. He has worked at Planet Marfa, Marfa Hardware, and at the Texas Department of Transportation as a summer maintenance technician and plans to work there again this summer. Christopher has been accepted to San Angelo State University and to Austin Community College.



Laura Navarrete Fernández

Laura Navarrete Fernández is the daughter of Maria Teresa Fernandez and Jose Andres Navarrete. Laura has been involved in a variety of academic activities within the MISD educational program, including art and guitar, and she was also a member of the welding program. One of her favorite parts of these academic programs was learning the basic chords and concepts of guitar and also learning the safety and programming features of welding. Out of school, her personal hobbies include taking photos and reading romantic novels.

Upon graduation, she plans to attend Midland College and study pre-nursing DNA for two years. In addition to joining the medical field as a nurse, her lifelong interest is to one day become a doctor. The quote she would like to leave for the underclassmen is, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."



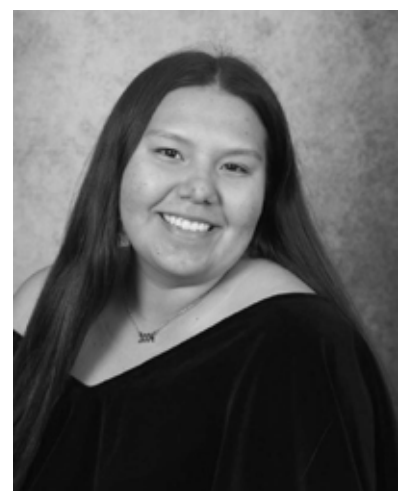
Saul Garcia

Saul is the son of John and Rosemary Garcia. While in high school he participated in band as a drummer, track, cross country and art. Upon graduating high school Saul would like to enter the workforce. He would like to either work with his dad or start a mobile car washing business. Wherever Saul goes he's sure to say hello and put a smile on your face.



Kiara Raelyn Gonazales

Kiara Raelyn Gonzales is the daughter of Theresa Benavides and Isidro Gonzales Leyva and the granddaughter of Maria Antia Benavides. She was "Bull-it" her sophomore, junior and senior years. She has been an altar server at St. Mary's Catholic Church since 2010. She also participated in band and played the clarinet her freshman and sophomore years. When she's not in school she's either helping her grandma care for her great-grandmother or working at Dairy Queen. After high school she plans on continuing working. Kiara says the most inspirational people in her life have been her grandma and older brother. If she could give any advice to underclassmen it would be to follow your dreams, your heart and always stay positive in what you do!



Jacynda Hernandez

Jacynda Hernandez is the daughter of Christina Lujan and Jon Hernandez. Throughout high school she has participated in basketball and during her sophomore year she participated in softball. She has an interest in sports management. Jacynda has worked at Dairy Queen and Planet Marfa during her high school years. After high school Jacynda plans to attend Collin County Community College in McKinney, Texas, to major in sports management and become a sports information director. The person Jacynda is inspired by the most is her mom. No matter what she goes through she is always wanting to help her kids out. She is one of the strongest women she knows. She has been there for Jacynda no matter what. She is the best mom ever and she loves her. She also wants to thank her dad for being there for her and her sister for always making her laugh and making the most out of school. She would also like to thank her grandparents for being there for her family through everything and always trying to help out. Also she wants to thank her stepdad Frank for always pushing her.

More Seniors →









Hannah Evangeline Ibarra

Hannah Evangeline Ibarra is the daughter of Magda Arali Macias Albo and Jorge Armando Ibarra Aguirre. During the course of her school career she has received recognition from Marfa Live Arts for playwriting for two years. She won awards for "Neuroticism," "Swimming in the Stars," and "Wake Up." She participated in basketball, volleyball and track in the triple jump and in the 800 meters. During her school years she has worked with an accountant, Hotel Paisano, and at the St. George Hotel's restaurant LaVenture. She will attend Texas Tech University in the fall for two years and then to CalArts, Los Angeles, California, to pursue degrees in art. She would like to one day work for the Disney Company and compete at Pixelati in Mexico City.



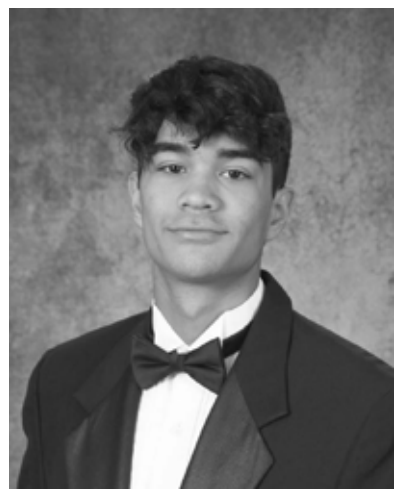
Chailyn Melendez

Chailyn Melendez is the daughter of Debbie and the late Ceasar Melendez. Through her years in high school Chailyn assisted her dad in karate, worked at Dairy Queen, and currently is learning how to play guitar with Ms. Kerzee. In her spare time she likes to hang out with her friends, family, and her dogs. Because of her love and passion for animals, Chailyn would like to attend college to become a veterinarian. She wants to thank her friends and family for pushing her to follow her dreams.



Brianna Ramos

Brianna Ramos is the daughter of Rosa and Ricardo Ramos. During her junior high years she participated in cheerleading and volleyball. She has been a member of the band program and yearbook class throughout her high school career. She was also voted class president her freshman year. Brianna has worked at Marfa Dairy Queen for two years and is still currently employed there. Upon graduation Brianna will continue to work and hopes to attend cosmetology school and one day come back and open a salon for the community. Her favorite and most inspiring person is her mom for always being there regardless of the situation and being a hard working woman. A quote she would like to leave the underclassmen with is ¨You´ll never know the meaning of something until it becomes a memory.¨

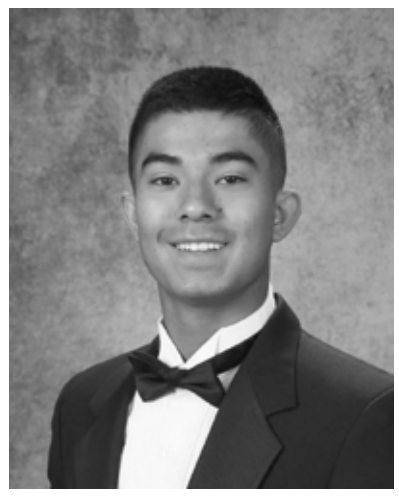


Ian Margquez

Ian Marquez is the son of Gracie and Iram Marquez. He has participated in football, basketball, track and golf throughout his high school years.

He was awarded for 1st Team Offense Tight End and 2nd Team Defensive Corner in football his senior year, and 1st Team Offense Tight End his junior year. Last year, he received the Outstanding Shorthorn Award for participating in all sports. He was crowned Homecoming King and Prom King this year.

Ian Marquez plans to go straight into the workforce.



Cristian Ontiveros

Cristian Ontiveros is the grandson of Ernest and Nellie Villarreal and the son of Teresa Nunez. He has been a member of the football, basketball and golf teams. In addition, he is a member of the National Honors Society and student council. He has received numerous awards including: All-State academics in football and basketball and received many recognitions for his ability in sports. Upon graduation, Cristian plans to attend the University of Texas in San Antonio to pursue a degree in engineering and hopes to one day make it big in the stock market. His hobbies include playing golf and video games. Cristian would like to thank his family because without them he would not be the gentleman he is today. One message he would like to leave his mom is: Mom, I hope you had a good senior year.



Angel Madrid Salazar

Angel is the son of Gilberto Madrid and Rebecca Salazar. He attended high school in Presidio for three years, before transferring to Marfa High School. Angel has focused on things outside of school including work. He was always wanting to learn as much as possible when given the opportunity. Which led him to leave Presidio to get a taste of the world. A quote he wishes to share: "Be nice, there's enough trash."



Dakota Martinez

Dakota Martinez is the daughter of Norma Martinez and Juan Martinez. Dakota has been the class secretary through her four years in high school. She has participated in welding for two years, in band for three years also attending the trip to Disneyland and earned a spot in varsity band. Dakota´s senior year became busy as she was a Shorthorns cheerleader while juggling dual credit classes, opening her own business, and finding her way into adulthood. Not only was her senior year full of surprises but it was also a rewarding experience that came along with responsibility. Her plans after graduation include attending Odessa College to pursue a career in cosmetology while coming home every weekend to run her business. She couldn't have made it this far without the help of her family as well as the person who will always continue to inspire, protect, and support her from up above. A quote she leaves for underclassmen is ¨People will only tell you what they want you to hear.¨



Justice Ortiz

Justice Ortiz is the son of Anna Catano and Jose Ortiz, brother to Junior and Loni Catano, and Melony Mediano. He has been a member of the football team, golf team and band throughout his high school career. He was also in welding his sophomore and senior years of high school. Justice participated in YoungLife all 4 years of high school. His senior year, he received an award for second team all-district safety. His biggest accomplishments for the year were receiving his letterman and breaking someone's ankle at the Sierra Blanca football game. The person that inspires Justice the most is his brother, Junior. He inspires him to be a good man and to be a hard worker.



Lais Meredith Salcido

Lais Meredith Salcido is the daughter of Maria Cristina Gutierrez and the granddaughter of Rosa Maria and Arturo Alonso Gutierrez. She was in band her freshman and sophomore years. When Lais is not in school she enjoys hanging out with her friends and family. After high school Lais would like to work at the courthouse or at Hotel Paisano. The people that have inspired Lais the most have been her sister and her mom. If Lais can give any advice to the underclassmen it would be to never give up on your dreams.

Congratulations Graduates

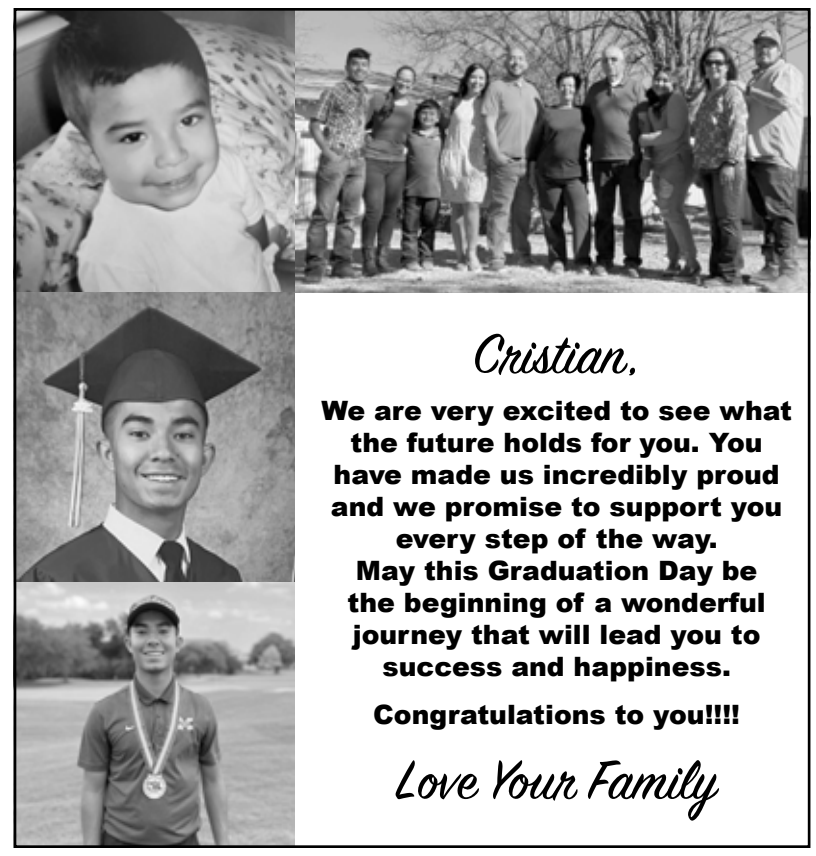
Judd Foundation congratulates
the Marfa High School Class of 2022
and wishes you great success!

JUDD

2022

CONGRATS GRADS!

FROM
FOWLKES CATTLE COMPANY



Cristian,

We are very excited to see what the future holds for you. You have made us incredibly proud and we promise to support you every step of the way.
May this Graduation Day be the beginning of a wonderful journey that will lead you to success and happiness.

Congratulations to you!!!!

Love Your Family

To the Marfa High School Class of 2022

CONGRATULATIONS



From the officers, directors & staff at the Marfa National Bank

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Brianna Sanchez

Brianna Sanchez is the daughter of Elizabeth Brito and Ricardo Sanchez and has been a member of the volleyball and basketball teams throughout her high school career. She has received volleyball Blocker of the Year her sophomore, junior, and senior years. She also received defensive MVP her junior year and her senior year and First Team All-District and All-State academic team for basketball. Brianna has also participated in the school's yearbook staff for three years. Brianna is undecided on a major but plans to attend college in El Paso. Her favorite and most inspiring people in her life are her parents because they have always supported her and they have always been there for her.



Evelyn Sanchez

Evelyn Sanchez is the daughter of Carmen Bravo and Arturo Sanchez. During her junior high years she participated in track. Evelyn has been the class treasurer since sophomore year. She participated in band her sophomore year. Her senior year she was inducted into the National Honor Society and is NHS secretary. This year, she is also a member of the yearbook staff and welding program. Evelyn has been employed at Hotel Paisano for a year. Upon graduation Evelyn plans to keep working and pursue a career in cosmetology. Evelyn's most favorite and inspiring people are her family because they have taught her many things, but the most important is to remain strong and positive through difficult times. She wants to thank them for all the sacrifices they have made for her and for shaping her into the person she is today. A quote she would like to leave the underclassmen is ¨Enjoy your free time while you can, but when you're getting behind then put everything else on hold to get ahead.¨



Jose Sandoval

Jose Sandoval is the son of Kristina Sanchez, brother to Vicente and Yasmine Guevara, uncle to Savian Enriquez. He is the grandson of Ester Sanchez, former Marfa Public librarian, and the late Hector Manuel Sanchez who was a C.V.A.E teacher at the Marfa High School from 1980-1997. Jose has been a member of the football and golf team throughout his high school career. He has also been in welding all four years of high school. He has worked at St. George, Marfa Meats, and Porters to pay for his truck that he has been restoring for the past two years. Jose plans on taking a year off after graduation to work before attending a technical school. Jose's greatest inspiration has been his Uncle Hector Miguel Sanchez, MHS Class of 1999, who opened his own auto body shop at the age of 17.



Uriel Torres

Uriel is the son of Cesar and Yadira Torres. He has participated in football, cross-country, track, band, and golf throughout his junior high and high school years. His freshman year he received awards from Marfa Live Arts Playwriting. He has worked many jobs throughout his high school career, including St. George, Porters, Marfa Meats twice, and with the Workforce. In his free time he likes to spend time with his friends. His biggest inspiration in life is his brother for showing him that you can accomplish anything in life, no matter what obstacles are in your way. He would also like to thank his parents for always being supportive in what he does and showing him to always have a positive attitude. After graduating he plans on working all summer, until August where he plans to attend Western Technical College in El Paso. After college he plans to move and work in San Antonio or Austin, so he can be closer to his brother and enjoy the big city life. His advice to the underclassmen is to enjoy your high school years, they go by a little too fast.



Fernanda Udave

Fernanda Udave is the daughter of Sandra Vega-Ruiz and Oman Flavio Udave.

Feranada has been involved in many school activities including art, welding and guitar. She has learned about creating paintings and working with Chinati Foundation, learning basic chords and songs, safety in a welding area and how to work with metals. Her other hobbies include drawing and painting, reading novels worth crying for and watching nature documentaries. Fernanda plans to attend Midland College and study biology.



Soraya Vallez

Soraya Vallez is the daughter of Melly Payan. Her plans after high school are to move to Lubbock to pursue a career in radiology. Her family, including her aunt, her mother, and her grandparents who helped raise her, are her favorite and most inspiring, influential people.



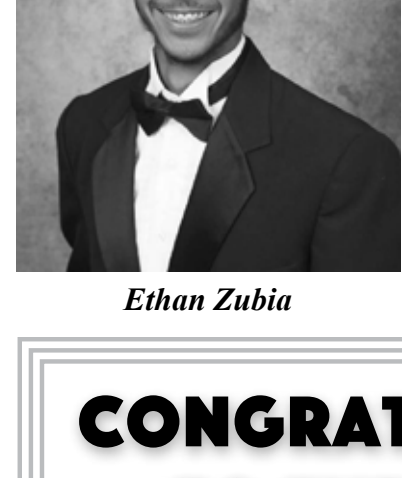
Angel Vega

Angel Vega's guardians are Micheal Vega and Maria Vega, his older siblings. During his time in high school he was employed at various jobs in Marfa including construction, plumbing and Dairy Queen. Several of his interests include mechanical work and learning the various aspects of construction. One of Angel's favorite hobbies include working on his truck and other family vehicles and hanging out with friends in his spare time. His main goal after graduation includes enrolling at a technical or career college in order to specialize in diesel mechanics and his plan is to begin working in this specific field in Odessa, Texas, within the next few years.



Jesus Vega

Jesus Vega is the son of Margarita Vega-Ruiz and Rene Omar Chavira. Throughout high school he has been a part of many things such as band, track and National Honor Society. Jesus was employed in landscaping and other little jobs like it. After high school, Jesus plans on joining the workforce for two years, and then possibly attend college. Jesus is inspired by his dad, Rene, and brother Michael for their wisdom, and for giving him life advice all the time.



Ethan Zubia

Ethan is the son of Enresto and Floricita Zubia. He played football for two years, basketball all four years, golf all four years, track all four years, and cross-country for two years. He was All District 1st team for two years in basketball and was All District Utility Back for his junior football season. Throughout his high school career Ethan was a four-year Young Life member. Ethan worked at Porter's as a stocker, and he worked for Far West Texas Cattle Company for the summer. Ethan plans to attend ACC in Austin to become an EMT and a firefighter.

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Staff photos by Mary Cantrell

Ian Marquez and Soraya Vallez (top photo) and Saul Garcia (bottom photo) wave from decorated cars at Wednesday's graduation parade down Highland Avenue. Photo by Mary Cantrell. "It's good for the morale of our students and gives people an opportunity to see them one more time," said Athletic Director Linda Ojeda. "It's great to celebrate them."

Hetzler | Marfa

Albert Oehlen
SCULPTURES AND WORKS ON PAPER

May 26 – October 30, 2022, closed in August
Thursday – Sunday, 11am – 7pm
and by appointment
Hetzler Marfa, 1976 Antelope Hills Road, Marfa TX
maxhetzler.com

Community

Hetzler Marfa, a new exhibition space and artist residency, opens doors to public for the first time this Thursday

By MARY CANTRELL
mkcantrell@bigbendsentinel.com



Albert Oehlen, Sculptures and Works on Paper, Hetzler Marfa, 2022, © Albert Oehlen / VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2022, Photo: def image



Staff photo by Mary Cantrell

Inflection Point, a sculpture by Darren Almond, welcomes visitors to the Hetzler Marfa property, a newly-built exhibition space and artist residency, which opens to the public this week in Marfa and features an installation by artist Albert Oehlen.

MARFA — Hetzler Marfa, a newly-built exhibition space and artist residency on Antelope Hills Road, will open this Thursday as the first American outpost of gallerist Max Hetzler's arts spaces, the other three of which are located in London, Berlin and Paris.

The inaugural show will feature an exhibition of new sculptures and six works in ink, graphite and collage on paper by German painter Albert Oehlen. The artist has been exhibiting regularly at Galerie Max Hetzler since 1981, but has not worked in the medium of sculpture since the '80s.

Oehlen's sculptures, which are placed both on pedestals and on the floor, are made of wood, metal, plaster, papier-mâché and fabric. The works "have the look of hybrid creatures — somewhere between bodies and trees," Hetzler Marfa wrote in a press release.

The show will be on view from May 26 until October 30 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday through Sunday, and by appointment. Hetzler Marfa will close for the entire month of August. The remote arts compound is located at 1976 Antelope Hills Road, off the beaten path with expansive views of the Davis Mountains. A sculpture by Darren Almond titled Inflection Point, the grounds' first permanent installation, welcomes visitors to the property.

The space has been under construction for years and was delayed due to building and travel complications related to the COVID-19 pandemic, said Liz Serlenga, director of Hetzler Marfa.

In addition to the art viewing space, which will host one exhibition a year, the site will also act as an artist residency, hosting one artist at a time. The exact format and frequency of the exhibitions and artists in residence is subject to change as the new space takes shape, said Serlenga.

"It's an inspiring place for artists to work and live. We want to give that opportunity to our gallery artists and make it easy for them to come to Marfa, be inspired by the landscape and by the history of the town," said Serlenga.

Adjacent to the white, chapel-like exhibition space, a home complete with a bedroom, kitchen, bathroom and artist's studio is available on the property for visiting artists to live and work. Serlenga said she hopes Hetzler Marfa will welcome their first artist-in-residence very soon. Other than the artist residency, additional programming has not yet been announced.

"We're very excited to be opening. We're really thrilled to have [Oehlen's] show there and we are looking forward to welcoming people and to seeing what happens with the spaces as the programming continues," said Serlenga.

Hetzler primarily represents internationally-recognized, well-established artists, including Ai Wei Wei, Jeff Koons, Richard Prince and Bridget Riley, as well as artists with Marfa connections, including Jeff Elrod and Christopher Wool. However, a handful of younger and emerging artists have relationships with the gallery too. As Marfa has come to be known as an international arts destination, Hetzler was drawn to establish a permanent space in the town through existing relationships with area artists, said Serlenga.

"Marfa has a little bit of a mystique to it, it's a little magical and it's a special place, and I think that wasn't lost on [Hetzler]," said Serlenga. "He wanted to have a place here to give other artists that work within the gallery the opportunity to come and show and work here."

For more information or to contact Hetzler Marfa, email marfa@maxhetzler.com or call 432-729-7272



Photo by Josh Huskin

Primo y Beebe at a recording session in San Antonio for their new album, 'Bad Hombres.'

Primo y Beebe to host community dance celebrating new album release, 'Bad Hombres'

By BIG BEND SENTINEL

MARFA — Primo y Beebe, a musical group made up of Primo Carrasco and David Beebe, will host a free, all-ages concert from 6 to 9 p.m. this Friday at Rojo's at the Capri to commemorate the release of their second album, Bad Hombres.

So named for the burger and brisket restaurant which closed its doors in May 2020, the 18-track album features Carrasco on vocals and guitar and Beebe on vocals and bass. Beebe sings in the "segundo" high harmony with Carrasco on many tracks. A bilingual duet, "Return to Me," kicks off the record. "El Raton," aka Julio Torres, is featured on four tracks in the album but will play accordion with the duo for their entire set on Friday night.

The album was primarily recorded at Marfa Recording Company and also at Velasquez Music in San Antonio. Primo y Beebe's first album, self-titled and released in 2020, featured Texas and Mexican border music covers. The duo played together for many years before releasing their debut album.

Bad Hombres will be available to stream for free on Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon Music, Youtube, IHeart Music and several other platforms. CDs, featuring photographs of the defunct Bad Hombres restaurant by Douglas Friedman, will be for sale for $10 each. Old Hombres shirts and hoodies will also be available.

Visit www.hombresmarfa.com to purchase a CD online.

Presidio County to host Memorial Day Service

PRESIDIO — Presidio County will be hosting a Memorial Day Service this Monday at 10 a.m. at the pavilion behind the Visitors Center. Presidio County is honored to have a Marfa native, DPS Trooper and U.S. Army veteran Amber Serrano, as the guest speaker for the Memorial Day Service. Roll Call of Presidio County's fallen will be read by MISD Superintendent and veteran Oscar Aguero and County Judge Cinderela Guevara. Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

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Interview with Kieran Fitzgerald, writer and director of 'The Ballad of Esequiel Hernandez'

By SAM KARAS
sam@bigbendsentinel.com

HOLLYWOOD, CA — In 2007, 10 years after the killing of 18-year-old Esequiel Hernandez in Redford by U.S. Marine Corporal Clemente Bañuelos, screenwriter and producer Kieren Fitzgerald wrote and directed The Ballad of Esequiel Hernandez. The documentary explores the tragic events in Redford from parallel viewpoints: interviews with the Hernandez family and Presidio County locals, and the three Marines who accompanied Bañuelos on their patrol of Polvo Crossing. The Big Bend Sentinel caught up with Fitzgerald 15 years after the release of his film.

BBS: I'm curious to know how you encountered the story of Esequiel and decided to make the film.

KF: It actually happened through a friend of the family, Tommy Lee Jones, who narrates the movie. Tommy used to have a ranch in West Texas out by Van Horn. He was well aware of what happened with Esequiel in 1997. My brother and I received a copy of the congressional investigation and it read like a thriller — beyond all of the incredibly important political themes and the tragedy of what happened to Esequiel and his family.

We also felt that, if we pushed hard enough, we'd be able to get a hold of some of the raw evidence from that intense period of time before he was killed, including the Border Patrol. communications, which we eventually ended up procuring and including in the film. It took many, many years to achieve.

In the end, for all of the failings of the United States government, it is a blessing to have the Freedom of Information Act. Not every country in the world has that. It's a small ray of hope. If you push hard enough and long enough, you can get access to most things.

There is also footage labeled in the doc that was taken a day or two after by the Army of what the choreography on the ground looked like, according to them. We used that as well, in an effort to to put the viewer in the moment as much as possible and to understand how all of these huge political forces and terrible misunderstandings came to a head in a couple of minutes in the minds of very young Marines.

I think the oldest was 21. They were really young. I think in that way, it really watches like a parable, because all the ills of our policies are evident in their moment-to-moment decision-making.



Staff photo by Sam Karas

The grave of Esequiel Hernández, Jr. at the cemetery in Redford, just down the road from where he was killed by US Marines in 1997.

BBS: For those who haven't seen the film, can you summarize some of the unusual aspects of the investigation and prosecution of this case?

KF: It was the first time that an American soldier in the course of active duty had killed an American on American soil. In the United States, the last time anything remotely like that happened was at Kent State in 1970 — very different circumstances. And that was by the National Guard, which plays by different rules. It's technically never supposed to happen, because of the Posse Comitatus law which prohibits our military from active service within our borders for very good reasons.

This case was unique because the FBI, and the Texas Rangers were up against the Marine Corps. Those agencies that never been really very strongly pitted against each other in this way. Ultimately, the Justice Department made it go away by citing something called the "supremacy clause," which is really like a get-out-of-jail-free card.

The government threw a lot of money at the situation. They hired the biggest, most expensive defense attorney at the time, this guy Jack Zimmerman — a very colorful character in the movie. He was David Koresh's attorney.

BBS: I'm interested in the pro-military culture that gets mentioned in the film and is used by a lot of outside observers to defend Bañuelos' actions. Is that way of looking at the military still prevalent today?

KF: I would make a distinction between the defense of the military made by policy makers and people who are not actually in the military. Our feeling was these guys made mistakes, but they were victims in their own way of very f — ed up policies.

It's probably been one of the worst periods of American history for the military. I just happened to work with a lot of ex-military on a script in Hollywood. It's been devastating what's happened after the Iraq and Afghanistan wars — the military has the highest rates of suicide they've ever seen. So I'm always very reticent to sort of point the finger at military culture.

That's the other side of the coin in West Texas — everyone's in law enforcement. Border Patrol is one of the biggest employers out there. There's a lot of misunderstanding about the border culture. I think that's part of why this story hits so close to home out there, because there was pain on both sides.

BBS: Do you think that something like this could happen again today?

We're shooting each other at higher numbers every day. The military just keeps pouring money into the militarization of law enforcement — bigger and bigger toys, stuff that cops don't need. I would like to think the Black Lives Matter movement put the brakes on that, but I fear it did not. We'll continue to have cops that look more and more like soldiers going forward, and potentially soldiers being used as cops.

That was what we saw on January 6. Watching January 6 was sort of stunning, because suddenly newscasters were talking about the Posse Comitatus Act again.

You can't create a police force that looks like, works like, and is equipped like military. It bodes very badly when a culture and a civilization start doing that. That's exactly why we made this movie.

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DRAWING OF THE WEEK



Dimetrey Stewart
Cut Paper Self Portrait
11th grade

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.

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

5/10

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution from last week's puzzle:

SOLUTION:

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

5/4

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Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg May 23, 2022

ACROSS
1 Wolf's call
5 One may consider a Gen Xer old
11 Served a meal to
14 "Double Stuf" cookie
15 City near Santa Ana
16 Chimpanzee, e.g.
17 Sugary treat in a colorful stripe (In this answer, anagram letters 4-8)
19 Not trans
20 "Not nice!!"
21 It precedes Virgo
22 Light kiss
23 Finale
24 Uncle, in Uruguay
26 Shed tears
28 Switches to a different approach (... letters 5-8)
33 City where the African-futurist novel "Lagoon" takes place
36 Ewe's call
37 Basic skateboarding trick
38 Age after Bronze
39 Mo. for most of Ramadan in 2022
40 Prefix meaning "all"
41 Mazda sports car
43 Collection
44 Strong odors
45 Account of assets and liabilities (... letters 6-11)
48 White stuff in an orange
49 First letters
50 Spot for a snuggly cat
53 It may be a waxing crescent
55 "The One I Love" band
58 Musical interval
60 Photo ___ (publicity events)
61 Halt at a red, e.g. (... letters 4-11)
63 Encountered
64 Acela train operator
65 Going ___ (fighting)
66 Offs' opposites
67 Plagues with troubles
68 Ctrl+Y action

DOWN
1 A pony is a small one
2 Belted constellation
3 Site with a Symptom Checker
4 Ear-piercing site
5 Late-alphabet flower
6 Tolkien monster
7 Shaped like 0
8 "Dibs!"
9 Provides with funds
10 She kissed Kylo Ren
11 Reacts to a hilarious screwup
12 Large-scale
13 Workstation
18 Formal promises
22 Leave with tires squealing
25 Safe at first, maybe?
27 ___ death (loss of self-identity)
28 Have within
29 Stares in shock
30 "C'est Si Bon" singer Kitt
31 Winter Olympics venue for Michelle Kwan or Nathan Chen
32 Uno + dos + tres
33 Arm or leg
34 Opera highlight
35 Moving these can make success elusive
42 Insect within "mantis"
44 City Muslims face during salat
46 Safari alternative
47 Kindle downloads
50 Foamy espresso drink
51 Shun
52 ___-Bismol
53 Tibetan dumpling
54 Unlocked
56 CPR pros
57 ___ mortal
59 Russian royal, once
61 Trucker's location
62 Bit of ink

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

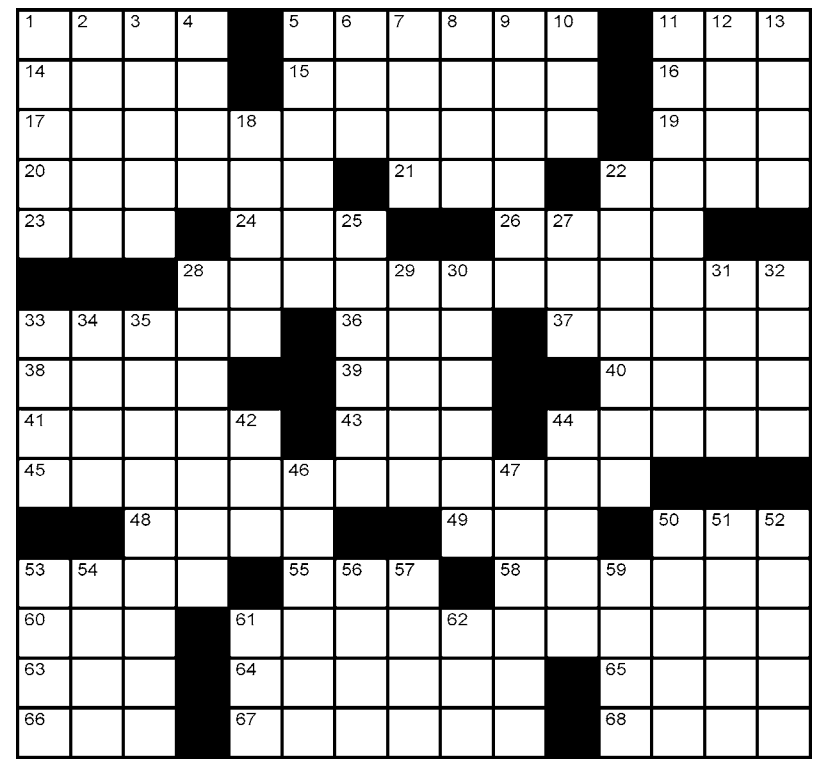
C	A	S	E	■	A	B	O	U	T	■	T	I	L	T
A	V	I	V	■	S	A	B	R	E	■	A	D	A	M
M	I	L	E	■	I	W	I	S	H	■	K	I	W	I
■	D	E	N	T	A	L	S	U	R	G	E	O	N	■
■	■	N	S	A	■	■	■	■	L	A	R	A	M	S
A	U	T	O	M	E	C	H	A	N	I	C	■	■	■
R	T	E	■	P	L	E	A	■	■	P	A	P	A	S
C	A	R	B	■	F	O	I	L	S	■	B	A	L	E
S	H	A	R	D	■	■	T	O	O	L	■	R	O	E
■	■	■	O	I	L	R	I	G	W	O	R	K	E	R
■	P	A	W	N	E	E	■	■	■	T	A	P	■	■
■	I	K	N	O	W	T	H	E	D	R	I	L	L	■
G	L	I	B	■	D	I	A	N	A	■	S	A	I	L
I	O	T	A	■	E	R	R	O	R	■	I	C	E	E
S	T	A	G	■	R	E	E	S	E	■	N	E	S	T

5/22

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5/23

Breakfast Scramble *by Kate Chin Park*



☺ MARFA SCHOOL LUNCH MENU ☺

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MARFA SHORTHORNS SPORTS CALENDAR

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL SHORTHORN ATHLETES ON A GREAT YEAR!!

Inaugural Spirits of the West Wine and Beef Festival to highlight region's cattle ranchers, vintners, distillers

By BIG BEND SENTINEL

ALPINE — The first-ever Spirits of the West Wine and Beef Festival, which celebrates the area's unique culinary offerings, will be held this weekend, May 27 through May 29, in downtown Alpine on 6th Street between Holland and Avenue E.

The new event seeks to honor the Big Bend region's long-time tradition of cattle ranching by offering tastings and educational events from local beef production companies. Local wineries, distilleries and other makers from the area have joined the event to offer thoughtful pairings.

The festival consists of a variety of events, from a VIP night and a sommelier class to a beef workshop hosted by Marfa Meats, and 5k fun run. Tickets range from $25 to $75. A two-day general admission wristband to attend the street festival, which will feature booths by local artists as well as various tastings and live music, is $25. Hours will be 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The weekend's musical guests include Charles Maxwell, Mariachi Santa Cruz, Swifts, and Doug Moreland & Friends, among others.

Participating local companies include Chateau Wright, Marfa Spirit Co., Chisos Brewing, Alpine Wine, Brick Vault Brewery & Barbecue, and Slate Theory Winery, among others. Imagined by the nonprofit Artwalk, which hosts an annual event each fall that celebrates the area's artists and makers and promotes Alpine tourism, Spirits of the West's proceeds will support Alpine and Big Bend regional art education scholarships and community art projects.

For more information, visit artwalkalpine.com/spirits-of-the-west, email info@spiritsohewest.com or call 432-294-1071

'Return to Giant' documentary to be screened at the Hotel Paisano June 6

By ALLEGRA HOBBS
allegra@bigbendsentinel.com

MARFA — The documentary *Return to Giant* will make its return to the Hotel Paisano on June 6, allowing viewers to watch the film about the making of the classic Western at the very location where its stars dined — on the anniversary of the day filming first kicked off back in 1955.

"We purposely chose June 6," said Kirby Warnock, director of Return to *Giant*. "We got a copy of the original Warner Brothers production report, and June 6 is the original day they began."

Last year, the documentary's 25th anniversary was celebrated at the historic hotel with a screening. The film showcases behind-the-scenes tales from Marfans who were present during that summer in 1955, who recall the now-famous art mecca as a sleepy cattle town suddenly the site of Hollywood glamor.

The Hotel Paisano famously played host to *Giant* stars Rock Hudson, Elizabeth Taylor and James Dean during filming — the documentary recounts how the stars would gather in the hotel's ballroom after dinner to hear actor and country musician Monty Hale play cowboy songs.

"We'll be in the same spot James Dean, Rock Hudson and Liz Taylor all had dinner that night," said Warnock. "There's a lot of historical significance about this — you'll be in the same spot they all were having dinner."

The screening at the Paisano offers an exclusive opportunity to view the original version of the documentary, which premiered at South by Southwest and was aired on PBS in 1996.



Photo courtesy of Warner Brothers Home Entertainment

Hollywood celebrities James Dean, Monte Hale and Bob Hinkle singing cowboy songs in the Hotel Paisano ballroom during the filming of 'Giant' in 1955. 'Return to Giant,' a documentary that captured first hand stories of the film being made, will celebrate its 25th anniversary next week with a special Marfa screening.

Warnock hopes to have several locals who were in Marfa during the filming of *Giant* at the screening on June 6. And for younger Marfans, it provides an opportunity to see the town in a different light. "I think all the newcomers of Marfa will get a kick out of seeing what the downtown used to look like," he said.

The screening will take place on June 6 at 7 p.m. Tickets are $20 per person and can be purchased at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/return-to-giant-special-screening-featuring-marcus-winslow-tickets-310152754237

OBITUARY



Dunagan

Dan Bihl Dunagan, age 73, departed to heaven May 17, 2022. Dan was born August 31, 1948, in Monahans, Texas, to Robert L. Dunagan and Elizabeth Dan Bihl Dunagan. In high school, Dan loved playing guitar with his rock band, driving his '55 Chevy, and playing football. Always a Lobo, Dan played football for the Monahans Lobos in high school and then, upon entering college, he became a Sul Ross Lobo. Dan graduated from Sul Ross State University with a business degree in 1974. During that time, Dan married the love of his life, Patricia Ann Card. Dan went on to manage and own The Coca-Cola Bottling Company in Alpine, Texas. He loved being a pilot and flying his Coca-Cola airplane even down to Mexico City! However, his heart was always dedicated to helping students succeed as he had been helped by his two football coaches in high school: Coach Boone Jackson, father of the late Randy Jackson, and Coach Ewell Kelly.

Dan left the corporate business world in 1987 and entered into the kingdom business of serving and loving students. Dan served at Sul Ross Baptist Student Ministry for 25 years and led many student teams to China. Worship was a large part of Dan's life. He wrote songs, recorded several records, and could always be found leading worship somewhere. Dan became an ordained minister and counselor. He served as an interim pastor for several years, as needed, and as a full-time pastor at Marathon Baptist Church for five years. In 2008, Dan returned to his love of athletics combined with his love for students and served as the Fellowship of Christian Athletes' huddle coach at Sul Ross State University. He led several FCA teams to Alaska to conduct FCA sports camps for youth. Dan covered thousands of miles as an athletic teams' bus driver. Dan served as offensive coach in 2012 and served as the football chaplain for several years. He led countless students to an eternal relationship with Jesus throughout his years of ministry.

In March of 2022, Dan was inducted into the Sul Ross Athletic Hall of Honors. It was truly touching to see all of the current students gather around him and thank him for all that he had poured into their lives. At the end of Dan's acceptance speech he said, "Someday you will hear that I have died, but don't believe a word of it. I will be more alive in the presence of my creator than ever before."

Dan is survived by his wife Pat Dunagan; sons Dan Dunagan Jr. and Brian Dunagan; daughter Joy Shirley; grandchildren Trey Dunagan, Taylor Dunagan, Mackenzie Dunagan, Jacob Shirley and Isaac Shirley.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, May 21, 2022, at First Baptist Church in Alpine and burial followed at Elm Grove Cemetery.

Services were entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home in Alpine, Texas.

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

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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.

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Classifieds & public notices

JOBS

HELP WANTED

Construction help wanted for projects in the Tri-County area.
Please call Jimmy Counts at 325-340-0175

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HELPING WOMEN FROM YOUR COMMUNITY GET FREE BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING?

Please reach out to us to apply for the CHW – Community Healthcare Worker position.

As the CHW, you would be:

• Going out to the community to recruit participants

• Enroll participants who are eligible and provide simple health education

• Make sure that all paperwork is completed by the participant

Please call Sarah at 432-837-4812 for more information.

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

PCHS is seeking a full-time Chief Financial Officer to oversee the financial responsibility of a federally qualified community health center.

Requirements: Minimum 2 – 5 years of healthcare high-level accounting experience, preferable in a FQHC based setting working in a financial management capacity; knowledge of grant management, accounting and fiscal systems, prepare and present monthly financial budgeting reports, monthly profit and loss by division, fund raising and strategic planning is required; Bachelors' degree in Accounting, Health Care Administration or related field. Masters' degree highly desirable.

Please call Sarah at 432-837-4812 for more information.

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

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JOB OPPORTUNITY
FRONTIER DEVELOPMENT INC.

Finished Blade Operator wanted.

Must pass background check.

Competitive wages.

Call 830-494-7000 and leave a message.

Big Bend Community Action Committee, Inc.

P O Box 265/1412 W. Berlin, Marfa, TX 79843
Phone: 432-729-1992 ext. 102 / Fax: 432-729-3435
TRAX TRANSPORTATION

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

BBCAC is accepting applications for a transportation driver position. Applicant must have a valid Texas driver's license and have at least 5 years of driving experience. Applicant must pass a drug/alcohol test; and a background criminal history check before being hired.

Requirements for this position include: transporting and waiting for clients; MN DHS Background Study; DOT Medical Exam; MN DOT New Driver Training; working with individuals from infants to elderly; be knowledgeable in both English and Spanish; and be willing to work with disabled individuals. We are looking for applicants who are interested in working long term, for our agency.

Starting pay is $15.00 per hour.

Applications may be picked up at Big Bend Community Action offices, from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM and 1:00 PM-4:00 PM; Monday-Friday.

BBCAC is an equal opportunity employer.

PREVENTATIVE CARE HEALTH SERVICES JOB OPPORTUNITIES

•PROGRAM COORDINATOR•
Collaborate with team to ensure program process and outcomes.

•HUMAN RESOURCE REP•
(Bachelors required)

•INSURANCE IN NETWORK CREDENTIALING REP•

•MEDICAL FRONT DESK SUPERVISOR•

•DENTAL FRONT DESK SUPERVISOR•

•CQI COORDINATOR•
Training will be provided.
Oversees the quality improvement program for the organization.
Prior clinical experience in health care setting is preferred:
RN, LVN, or other professional health care employment.

ALSO LOOKING FOR A DENTIST, MEDICAL DOCTOR, FNP, AND DENTAL HYGIENIST

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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.

The City of Marfa is accepting RFPs for a water and wastewater rate study.

Details can be found at https://cityofmarfa.com/publicworks/page/rfp-water-wastewater-rate-study.

The deadline for submission is Friday, June 10, 2022.

The RGCOG will be hosting the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program to discuss setting regional priorities for the region.

The meeting will be held at the Brewster County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom 201 W Ave E, Alpine, Texas 79838, on **June 1, 2022, at 9:30 am**.

The meeting will also be offered virtually. Go to http://www.riocog.org/current-meetings, for login.

PUBLIC ART SCULPTURE

I'm a stone mason and sculptor looking for a place to install an interactive public sculpture.

I'm trying to create a space that will be enjoyed by the community and visitors.

The sculpture is called "Fitting In."

It will be the fourth in a series that will be installed around the country.

For more info go to https://www.hectorsantos.com/fitting-in-series (802) 484-9990

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(202) 224-2934 (D.C. office)

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

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF BETSY L. BROWN, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary in the Estate of Betsy L. Brown, Deceased, were granted to Roy B. Ferguson on April 29, 2022, in the matter of the Estate of Betsy L. Brown, in the Probate Court of Presidio County, Texas and bearing Cause No. 1994. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present same in care of the attorney for the Estate:

Mounce, Green, Myers, Safi, Paxson & Galatzan, P.C.
Ryan Little
100 N. Stanton, Suite 1000
El Paso, Texas 79901
Telephone: (915) 532-2000
Facsimile: (915) 541-1597

All persons having claims against the Estate, which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

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Marfa National Bank will be closed Monday, May 30 in observance of

Memorial Day

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