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BURN BAN IN EFFECT, NO GROUND FIRES

by order of Presidio County

Candidate filing period for March 2024 Primary Election opens this week

TRI-COUNTY — The candidate filing period for the March 5, 2024, primary election opens this week on Saturday, November 11, and runs through Monday, December 11. Several local county-level positions will be up for election in addition to state and national races.

Early voting for the March 5 Primary Election will run from February 20 to March 1, 2024. The general election will take place in November 2024. Open county positions will assume office in January 2025 and will serve four-year terms.

Seeking reelection on the state level are state Senator César Blanco, D-District 29; state Representative Eddie Morales, D-District 74; and, on the national level, U.S. Representative Tony Gonzales, R-District 23, all who represent Presidio, Brewster and Jeff Davis counties. State Senator Roland Gutierrez, D-District 19, who represents part of Brewster County, is one of several Democrats challenging Republican Ted Cruz in the U.S. Senate race.

The Big Bend Sentinel lists open county positions as well as contact information for county party chairs — who must receive March 2024 primary election candidate applications — below. Candidates must either pay a fee, which ranges depending on the position from around $375 to $1,500, or receive a certain number of signatures, 2% of the number of people who voted in the last general election, to get on the ballot.

More information on running for local office can be found on the secretary of state's website, and details on county official's duties can be found on the Texas Association of County's website.

Tri-county

Up for election across the region are district judge and district attorney, currently held by Roy Ferguson and Ori White, respectively.

Presidio County

Up for election in Presidio County are county commissioner precincts 1 and 3, currently held by Brenda Bentley and Jose Cabezuela, respectively. The county attorney position currently held by Rod Ponton is also up for election. Tax assessor-collector, currently filled by Natalia Williams, will be up for election, as will law enforcement offices of sheriff currently held by Danny Dominguez, constable Precinct 1 held by Estevan "Steve" Marquez and constable Precinct 2 currently held by Adan "Pugi" Covos Jr.

Presidio County Democratic Chair Ramon Rodriguez Aranda

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Photo by Alonzo Samaniego / Foto por Alonzo Samaniego

Blue Devils cross country celebrated an 11th place finish at the state meet last weekend. READ MORE ON PAGE 4.
El campo traviesa de los Blue Devils celebró un puesto 11 en la competencia estatal el fin de semana pasado. LEER MÁS EN LA PÁGINA 4

In the wake of major flood damage, Redford woman sues Presidio County

By SAM KARAS
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REDFORD — Last Tuesday, a lawsuit was filed in the 394th District Court alleging that a Redford woman's home and property were destroyed as a result of Presidio County's — and more specifically, Road and Bridge Supervisor Ruben Carrasco's — failure to maintain flood control infrastructure. Barbara Baskin, represented by Attorney John Sopuch, seeks at least $250,000 in monetary relief.

After a major storm on May 27, 2023, a retention pond built and owned by the county burst, sweeping Baskin's 10 acres along the river and historic adobe house with water. "Only luck and quick thinking prevented Ms. Baskin and her dog, Lucy, and two mules from being swept away and dying or sustaining severe injuries," Sopuch wrote in his complaint.

The suit claims that the retention pond — if maintained correctly — was a nearly foolproof way to shield Baskin's riverside property from flood damage. It was built by the county in 2005 to supplement old-world flood control infrastructure.

To prevent property damage in the wake of heavy monsoon rains, the retention pond — contained behind an earthen dam — drained into a spillway. Floodwater then made its way into the Rio Grande via an acequia, a historic irrigation canal dug by the original Redford land grant families a century and a half ago.

Both Presidio County and Presidio Road and Bridge Supervisor Ruben

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Bill that would create new state crime for illegal entry into Texas dies in Senate

By SAM KARAS
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AUSTIN — On Sunday, a controversial immigration bill creating a new state crime for illegal entry into Texas died in the Senate. HB 4 — which would allow state peace officers to arrest migrants for crossing illegally — was scheduled to be discussed this weekend. The proposal passed the House, but didn't make it to the Senate floor before the upper chamber called a recess until Tuesday.

At press time, HB 4 had not yet been picked back up. Governor Greg Abbott has called four special sessions so far this year, hoping to tackle unfinished business from the regular session regarding school vouchers, immigration and other hot topics.

The latest session began Tuesday afternoon, and Abbott pledged to revisit the bill. "Texas will also arrest people for illegal entry into our state from a foreign nation, and authorize the removal of anyone who illegally enters our state," his office wrote in a press release.

The bill was originally paired in a package with SB 4, a bill raising mandatory minimums for human smuggling and the operation of "stash houses" from two years to 10 years. SB 4 was successful, but its sister bill will likely have to wait for another special session for a chance to be signed into law.

HB 4 would have created a new state crime for illegal entry into Texas — a class B misdemeanor, with the potential to become a felony depending on the

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A raíz de grandes daños por inundaciones, una mujer de Redford demanda al condado de Presidio

Por SAM KARAS
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REDFORD — El martes pasado, se presentó una demanda en el Tribunal de Distrito 394 alegando que la casa y la propiedad de una mujer de Redford fueron destruidas como resultado de la falta de mantenimiento de la infraestructura de control de inundaciones por parte del condado de Presidio, y más específicamente del supervisor de carreteras y puentes, Rubén Carrasco. Barbara Baskin, representada por el abogado John Sopuch, solicita al menos $250,000 en compensación monetaria.

Después de una gran tormenta el 27 de mayo de 2023, un estanque de retención construido y propiedad del condado estalló, barriendo con agua los 10 acres de Baskin a lo largo del río y la histórica casa de adobe. "Sólo la suerte y la rapidez de pensamiento impidieron que la señora Baskin, su perro Lucy y dos mulas fueran arrastrados y murieran o sufrieran heridas graves", escribió Sopuch en su denuncia.

La demanda afirma que el estanque de retención, si se mantenía correctamente, era una forma casi infalible de proteger la propiedad ribereña de Baskin de los daños por inundaciones. Fue construido por el condado en 2005 para complementar la infraestructura de control de inundaciones del viejo mundo.

Para evitar daños a la propiedad tras las fuertes lluvias monzónicas, el

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Muere en el Senado proyecto de ley que crearía nuevo delito estatal por entrada ilegal a Texas

Por SAM KARAS
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AUSTIN – El domingo, un controvertido proyecto de ley de inmigración que creaba un nuevo delito estatal para la entrada ilegal a Texas murió en el Senado. La HB 4, que permitiría a los agentes del orden estatal arrestar a inmigrantes por cruzar ilegalmente, estaba prevista para ser discutida este fin de semana. La propuesta fue aprobada por la Cámara, pero no llegó al pleno del Senado antes de que la cámara alta convocará un receso hasta el martes.

Al cierre de esta edición, la HB 4 aún no había sido recuperada. El gobernador Greg Abbott ha convocado cuatro sesiones especiales en lo que va del año, con la esperanza de abordar asuntos pendientes de la sesión regular relacionados con vales escolares, inmigración y otros temas candentes.

La última sesión comenzó el martes por la tarde y Abbott se comprometió a revisar el proyecto de ley. "Texas también arrestará a personas por ingresar ilegalmente a nuestro estado desde una nación extranjera y autorizará la expulsión de cualquiera que ingrese ilegalmente a nuestro estado", escribió su oficina en un comunicado de prensa.

El proyecto de ley originalmente formaba parte de un paquete con la SB

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Plazo de presentación de candidatos para marzo de 2024 Primary Las elecciones comienzan esta semana

TRES CONDADOS — El período de presentación de candidatos para las elecciones primarias del 5 de marzo de 2024 comienza esta semana el sábado 11 de noviembre y se extiende hasta el lunes 11 de diciembre. Se elegirán varios puestos locales a nivel de condado, además de los estatales y carreras nacionales.

La votación anticipada para las Elecciones Primarias del 5 de marzo se llevará a cabo del 20 de febrero al 1 de marzo de 2024. Las elecciones generales se llevarán a cabo en noviembre de 2024. Los puestos abiertos del condado asumirán sus cargos en enero de 2025 y cumplirán mandatos de cuatro años.

Buscan la reelección a nivel estatal el senador estatal César Blanco, demócrata por el Distrito 29; el representante estatal Eddie Morales, demócrata del Distrito 74; y, a nivel nacional, el representante estadounidense Tony Gonzales, republicano por el Distrito 23, todos quienes representan a los condados de Presidio, Brewster y Jeff Davis. El senador estatal Roland Gutiérrez, demócrata por el Distrito 19, que representa parte del condado de Brewster, es uno de varios demócratas que desafían al republicano Ted Cruz en la carrera por el Senado de Estados Unidos.

The Big Bend Sentinel continuación, se enumeran los puestos vacantes en el condado, así como la información de contacto de los presidentes de los partidos del condado, que deben recibir las solicitudes de candidatos para las elecciones primarias de marzo de 2024. Los candidatos deben pagar una tasa, que oscila, según el puesto, entre 375 y 1.500 dólares, o recibir un determinado número de firmas.2% del número de personas que votaron en las últimas elecciones generales, para entrar en la boleta.

Puede encontrar más información sobre cómo postularse para un cargo local en el sitio web del secretario de estado,y los detalles sobre las funciones de los funcionarios del condado se pueden encontrar en el Sitio web de la Asociación de Condados de Texas.

Tres condados

En las elecciones de toda la región están el juez de distrito y el fiscal de distrito, actualmente ocupados por Roy Ferguson y Ori White, respectivamente.

Condado de Presidio

Para elección en el condado de Presidio están los distritos electorales 1 y 3 del comisionado del condado, actualmente ocupados por Brenda Bentley y José Cabezuela, respectivamente. El puesto de fiscal del condado que actualmente ocupa Rod Ponton también está sujeto a elección.El asesor-recaudador de impuestos, actualmente ocupado por Natalia Williams, estará disponible para las elecciones, al igual que los cargos policiales del sheriff actualmente en manos de Danny Domínguez, el agente del Precinto 1 en manos de Estevan "Steve" Márquez y el agente del Precinto 2 actualmente en manos de Adán "Pugi "Covos Jr.

Puede comunicarse con el presidente demócrata del condado

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ENGLISH NEWS

Redford woman

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Carrasco are named as defendants in the suit, which alleges a pattern of "wrongful acts, omissions and/or negligence" committed by county employees using county equipment over the course of 13 years.

The complaint alleges that the trouble began in 2010, when then-County Judge Jerry Agan instructed Carrasco to repair damage to the access road to Baskin's property off of County Road 18 — and to remove sediment from the retention pond, but those projects were never completed.

The issue cropped up again in 2013, when Carrasco allegedly dumped sediment into the retention pond rather than removing it, "redirect[ing] the natural flow of water and disrupt[ing] the water protection system for Ms. Baskin's home."

Previous County Judge Cinderela Guevara also became involved, allegedly instructing Carrasco in 2018 to make repairs to the pond and to put up signs prohibiting dumping and vehicle entry into the pond or the dam — projects which were also never completed. "Over the course of many years, Carrasco simply ignored multiple direct instructions from county judges and commissioners to make repairs," Sopuch wrote.

Per court documents, Baskin felt that the county road leading to her property and retention pond were chronically neglected by the county because she was "vocally and publicly critical of Carrasco." She claimed that she had heard others complain of receiving the same treatment, referred to as "satisfacción de Ruben," or "Ruben's revenge." (Carrasco did not respond to a request for comment by press time.

In the first two weeks of May 2022, Carrasco began a project to raise the county road leading to Baskin's house using a system of stacked tires. The suit alleges that the system backfired, causing the natural drainage arroyo feeding into the acequia to back up, blowing out the already-compromised dam around the retention pond.

On the night of May 27, floodwater burst through the dam. Water and debris flowed in from both sides of the road, knocking over Baskin's gate and leaving both her field and her historic adobe home submerged in around 2 feet of water.

Sopuch visited the property in September and noted that it had not yet recovered. "Her real estate is very badly damaged," he wrote to The Big Bend Sentinel. "It was very sad to see it."

County Attorney Rod Ponton denied allegations of neglect on the county's behalf, but expressed regret that Baskin felt personally victimized by the county and its Road and Bridge department. "I don't like the county getting sued by disgruntled citizens because to me, we're here to help people, not to hurt them," he said.

Ponton said that the county and Carrasco would likely remain separate defendants in the suit, but rather than representing one or both parties himself, they would be referred to the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) risk pool.

The county found itself in a similar position in 2019, after the former director of the county's Office of Management of Budget sued both the Presidio County and its county treasurer for wrongful termination.

The plaintiff hired private counsel and both defendants were assigned representation through TAC. In the end, the $700,000 payout was covered by the county's insurance, rather than taxpayer money. "That's why we pay into TAC every year — in case the county gets sued for money," Ponton explained.

Though the county has a relatively high cushion of $2 million, Ponton received a sobering letter from TAC in response to that particular case, warning that the organization reserved the right to not make a payout if they could prove "fraud, dishonesty or bad faith" on the part of the county.

Ponton, Carrasco, County Judge Joe Portillo and commissioners David Beebe, Margarito Hernandez and Jose Cabezuela discussed the suit in executive session Wednesday morning. The court decided to take no action.

Senate

(Continued from page 1)

criminal history of the person arrested. The law specified that a peace officer must have probable cause to believe that an individual had crossed the border somewhere other than a port of entry or had presented "intentionally false or misleading representation" to gain entry.

The law would have required those convicted of the crime to be turned over to federal immigration authorities at a port of entry and returned to Mexico or their country of origin.

The bill passed the House on October 26 after Republican lawmakers shot down a number of amendments proposed by the other side of the aisle. One Democratic provision that made it to the version of the bill presented to the Senate Committee on Border Security would have prohibited peace officers from making arrests in facilities dedicated to protecting victims of sexual assault.

HB 4 drew ire from its opponents for attempting to supersede federal law, which officially enforces and prosecutes immigration-related crime. Some of Texas' top Republicans believe the challenge to federal power was worth the risk of a legal battle — including state Attorney General Ken Paxton, who has sued the Biden administration over 20 times for a perceived failure to address a "crisis" at the Texas-Mexico border.

Eddie Morales, the Big Bend's representative in the state House of Representatives, voted against the bill.

Though HB 4 failed to reach the Senate, Senator César Blanco spoke out against SB 11, an earlier failed bill that introduced the concept of making illegal entry into Texas a state crime. "The federal government already has an offense for unlawful entry," he wrote in a press release. "This bill will only overwhelm local prisons and court systems with non-violent offenders, and raise taxes on border communities while doing nothing to stem the flow of migrants looking for a better life. We can do better than this."

Some local law enforcement officials were not sold on the idea, either. Brewster County Sheriff Ronny Dodson has long been critical of layering state charges on top of federal charges, on the grounds that the extra pressure to enforce immigration law stretches his already-small department thin and fills the county jail. "I just want the federal government to do its job," he said.

Candidate filing period

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can be reached via email at rrodriguez.projecthomeleaf@gmail.com. Republican Chair Dan Dunlap can be reached via email at dandunlap69@gmail.com or by calling 432-295-1668.

Brewster County

Up for election in Brewster County are county commissioner precincts 1 and 3, currently held by Jim Westermann and Ruben Ortega, respectively. The offices of county attorney, currently held by J. Steve Houston; county tax assessor-collector, currently held by Sylvia Vega; sheriff, currently held by Ronny Dodson; and constable Precinct 1, currently held by Flavio Rene Ybarra, will also be up for election.

Brewster County Democratic Chair Mary Bell Lockhart can be reached by emailing mblockhart@gmail.com or calling 512-422-4984. Republican Chair Monica McBride can be reached by emailing moni_mc61@yahoo.com, by mail at PO Box 455, Alpine, or by calling 432-386-5245.

Jeff Davis County

Up for election in Jeff Davis County are county commissioner precincts 1 and 3, currently held by Jody Adams and John Davis, respectively. Sheriff and county tax assessor-collector offices held by Bill Kitts as well as the constable office held by Mike Wright will also be up for election. The County Attorney seat, currently held by Glen Eisen, will be up for election as well.

Jeff Davis County Democratic Chair Calvin Glover can be reached by calling 432-244-1034 or emailing calvinglover01@gmail.com. Republican Chair Matthew Blackman can be reached by email at jdctxrp@gmail.com, by phone at 432-249-0283, by mail at PO Box 2115, Fort Davis, TX 79734 and in person at 502 N State Street, Unit G, Fort Davis, TX 79734.

Big Bend Democrats seek unity at fall forum on issues and advocacy

By ROB D'AMICO
for The Big Bend Sentinel

MARFA — Local Democratic activists gathered at the Capri ballroom in Marfa Saturday for a "Fall Forum on Issues and Advocacy" — featuring candidates for local, state and national posts as well as panel discussions on issues from border security to women's healthcare in rural Texas. The occasion also was intended to announce a new coalition of Democratic groups from Presidio, Brewster and Jeff Davis counties called "Big Bend Democrats."

That theme of unity in the tri-county area was emphasized by the keynote speaker, Nancy Thompson, who founded Mothers Against Greg Abbott. "I'm going to give you an idea of what can happen when you're able to rally people, and you're able to get them in line," she told the crowd of about 75 people. "Because when we work together, and we're able to get in line, you can do amazing things."

Thompson used the term "get in line" as a contrast to recent disunity and infighting in the Texas Republican party, something Democrats need to avoid if they are going to make progress at the polls. "Have you all ever tried to really, seriously organize Democrats?" she asked. "It's like herding kittens. Right?"

Thompson related how her organization grew from her standing alone at the state Capitol with a marker-drawn sign to an organization with thousands of members who send barrages of texts to state lawmakers and produce commercials critical of Abbott's policies. Coming up with the name was easy, but she didn't realize what the acronym would be. "So, I wrote down one line in blue, one line in red, and it said, 'Mothers against Greg Abbott.' And then I took a look at what I put together. I honestly had no idea that the acronym was MAGA. "It was a total accident. And I thought, okay, either this is genius, or I'm going to be in a lot of trouble."

Presidio County is one of a few rural counties in Texas that remains staunchly Democratic in an otherwise sea of Republican red, although many border counties — particularly in the lower Rio Grande Valley — remain Democratic blue. But in statewide races, Democrats haven't seen a winner since Ann Richards left office after a loss to George W. Bush in 1994.

At least two candidates in attendance Saturday for 2024 races have a steep-hill battle ahead. Thierry Tchenko is running in a crowded field of 12 other Democratic Primary contenders for the U.S. Senate against Republican Ted Cruz. Tchenko, a nonprofit executive from Houston, said he's already traveled to 60 counties to deliver his message that talk on the campaign trail isn't good enough and that Texas needs leaders in Congress who will take action by filing bills and aggressively pushing for them. "We are running to create a new way forward for the state, that's focused on serving everyday folks," he said. "Because this state is going backwards instead of forwards."

Katherine Culbert, primary candidate for Texas Railroad Commission, reminded the audience that the commission has nothing to do with railroads and instead regulates the oil and gas industry. Culbert, who is a consultant for that industry that specializes in pipeline safety and reducing environmental impacts, said more balance is needed between regulation and unbridled drilling. "We have a huge oil and gas industry, and it's not going to go away, but it would be good if there was some sort of limitation and balance to it."

Presidio County Attorney Rod Ponton, who announced his re-election campaign last week, told the crowd that although his official duties are mainly handling criminal and civil matters in the courts, he also has advocated for Presidio County getting more health services — including a grant he supported for a new rural health clinic in the city of Presidio, which will be part of the hospital district. The comments by Ponton, who wasn't on the agenda, were notable because later in the afternoon, his challenger in the March primary, Marfa attorney Blair Park, moderated a panel on "Women's Health in Texas Post-Dobbs."

Park reminded the audience that "Dobbs" was the U.S. Supreme Court case that overturned constitutional rights for an abortion in the United States, with the Texas Legislature then rapidly passing laws that effectively ban abortion in Texas and threaten reproductive and potentially life-saving healthcare for women. Joining Park were Susan Hays, attorney, former candidate for state agriculture commissioner and co-founder of Jane's Due Process; Dr. Christie Alexander, a physician living in Marfa; Lisa Kettyle, founder of the Big Bend Reproductive Health Coalition; and Randall Sarosdy, candidate for Texas Supreme Court Place 2. Park said there are "horrific situations that some doctors have been seeing in the ER where women come in having a miscarriage and [doctors can't] give care, because the care that they would be giving them is technically an abortion."

The panel outlined current Texas laws like the "bounty hunter law" that allows any citizen to sue anyone — for up to $10,000 and legal fees — who aids someone getting an abortion. Another law passed bans on abortions after six weeks of pregnancy, a point when many women would not even realize they are pregnant or are just discovering they are pregnant. Alexander said the impact of these laws has been devastating not only to pregnant women, but also to healthcare providers who fear being sued for giving medical advice or even being jailed for life for providing healthcare that could be considered an abortion. She's said she's seen the fear in her patients. "There were a couple of women who got pregnant and were afraid to even have the conversation about abortion."

Kettyle said women come for support to the Big Bend Reproductive Coalition after the new Texas laws, and they are desperate for someone to talk to about their options. As a resource and support provider on reproductive issues, her organization realized that privacy was of the utmost importance. "Often what we're hearing is, we're afraid to talk to our doctor about this," she said. "And they all had something similar, which is that they felt really alone. They didn't know anyone in the Big Bend who had had an abortion. They thought they were the only ones. They were afraid to talk to people. From the beginning, we have really cared about being really private with people's information, to be really delicate with people's information, to really respect it."

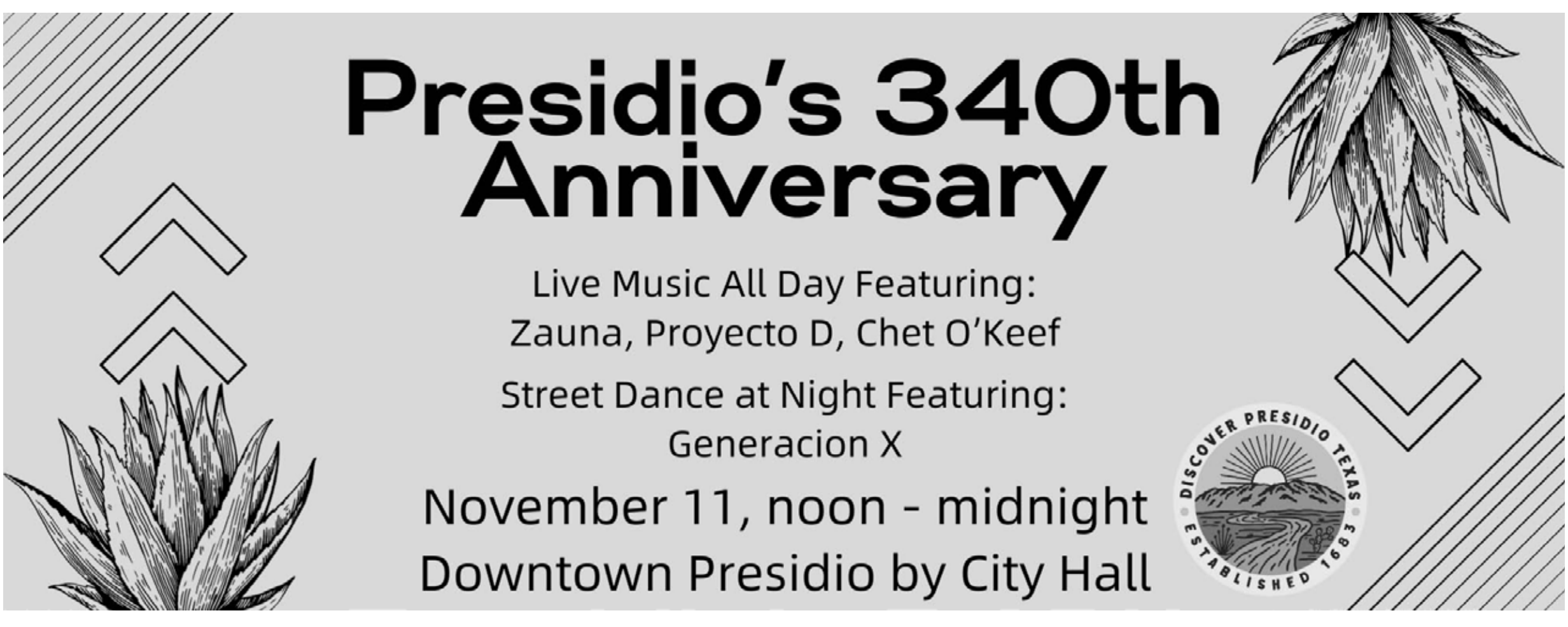
In a panel entitled, "Democrats on the Border," speakers talked through recent legislation for "border security." Panelists included Hays, Brewster County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sara Colando, Presidio County Chief Deputy Joel Nunez, and Presidio County Judge Joe Portillo. The group gave particular focus on the controversial legislation proposed in the recent Texas special legislative session allowing peace officers and state officials to jail and/or deport people suspected of being in the country illegally — something until now reserved under law for federal officers like Border Patrol agents. House and Senate versions of that bill failed to pass as the special session ended Tuesday, as did a bill funding $1.5 billion in border wall construction. The failures were primarily because of contentious relations between House and Senate Republicans, but Abbott immediately started a fourth special session Wednesday to address border issues and private-school vouchers, which also failed to pass.

Hays said Democrats need to be more proactive in their messaging about border issues. "As Democrats, I think oftentimes we get labeled as folks that want open borders and nothing else," she said. "Whatever our campaign is, we have to talk about it so that you can value migrants while also having safe borders."

The legislation allowing arrests and/or deportation was not only likely to violate individuals' rights, but it would also be devastating to county budgets, several panelists noted. Nunez said Presidio County's small jail with 112 beds — usually about half full — is not equipped for a large influx of inmates. "If we start enforcing federal laws, immigration laws, that jail will not be able to hold the number of people that we will arrest. So, it's not realistic for us to be able to do that part of the job."

Barbara Curry, a Fort Davis resident in attendance, said the information from all panelists was "both informative and scary," while also encouraging. "We realize we're not alone, that there are more like-minded people. Listening to them, I said, 'Hey, I need to start getting involved.'"

Alpine resident Cynthia McAlister agreed that the forum was "both highly enlightening and terrifying." "There are a lot of strong minded and strong voiced people out there smart about the issues. And I'm interested in what more I can do to make Texas work better for Texans."



NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL

Mujer de Redford

(Continuación de la página 1)

estanque de retención, contenido detrás de una presa de tierra, desembocaba en un aliviadero. Luego, el agua de la inundación llegó al Río Grande a través de una acequia, un histórico canal de irrigación excavado por las familias originales de concesión de tierras de Redford hace un siglo y medio.

Tanto el condado de Presidio como el supervisor de carreteras y puentes de Presidio, Rubén Carrasco, son acusados en la demanda, que alega un patrón de "actos ilícitos, omisiones y/o negligencia" cometidos por empleados del condado que utilizaron equipos del condado en el transcurso de 13 años.

La denuncia alega que el problema comenzó en 2010, cuando el entonces juez del condado Jerry Agan ordenó a Carrasco que reparara los daños al camino de acceso a la propiedad de Baskin fuera de Carretera del condado 18 — y para eliminar los sedimentos del estanque de retención, pero esos proyectos nunca se completaron.

El problema volvió a surgir en 2013, cuando Carrasco supuestamente arrojó sedimentos en el estanque de retención en lugar de retirarlos, "redireccionando el flujo natural de agua e interrumpiendo el sistema de protección del agua para la casa de la Sra. Baskin".

La jueza anterior del condado, Cenicienta Guevara, también se involucró y supuestamente ordenó a Carrasco en 2018 que hiciera reparaciones en el estanque y colocará carteles que prohibieran el vertido y la entrada de vehículos al estanque o a la presa, proyectos que tampoco se completaron nunca. "A lo largo de muchos años, Carrasco simplemente ignoró múltiples instrucciones directas de los jueces y comisionados del condado para hacer reparaciones", escribió Sopuch.

Según documentos judiciales,Encestar consideró que la carretera del condado que conduce a su propiedad y al estanque de retención estaban crónicamente descuidadas por el condado porque ella era "crítica vocal y públicamente con Carrasco". Afirmó que había oído a otras personas quejarse de haber recibido el mismo trato, denominado"satisfacción de Ruben," or "Ruben 's revenge." (Carrasco no respondió a una solicitud de comentarios al cierre de esta edición.

En las dos primeras semanas de mayo de 2022, Carrasco inició un proyecto para elevar la carretera comarcal que conduce a la casa de Baskin mediante un sistema de neumáticos apilados. La demanda alega que el sistema fracasó, causando que el arroyo de drenaje natural que alimenta la acequia retrocediera, destruyendo la presa ya comprometida alrededor del estanque de retención.

La noche del 27 de mayo, el agua de la inundación atravesó la presa. El agua y los escombros fluyeron desde ambos lados de la carretera, derribaron la puerta de Baskin y dejaron tanto su campo como su histórica casa de adobe sumergidos en alrededor de 2 pies de agua.

Sopuch visitó la propiedad en septiembre y observó que aún no se había recuperado. "Sus bienes inmuebles están muy dañados", escribió El Centinela de Big Bend. "Fue muy triste verlo".

El fiscal del condado, Rod Ponton, negó las acusaciones de negligencia por parte del condado, pero lamentó que Baskin se sintiera personalmente víctima del condado y su departamento de Carreteras y Puentes. "No me gusta que ciudadanos descontentos demanden al condado porque, para mí, estamos aquí para ayudar a la gente, no para hacerles daño", dijo.

Ponton dijo que el condado y Carrasco probablemente seguirán siendo acusados separados en la demanda, pero en lugar de representar a una o ambas partes, serían remitidos al grupo de riesgo de la Asociación de Condados de Texas (TAC).

El condado se encontró en una posición similar en 2019, después de que el exdirector de la Oficina de Gestión de Presupuesto del condado demandará tanto al condado de Presidio como a su tesorero del condado por despido injustificado.

El demandante contrató un abogado privado y a ambos demandados se les asignó representación a través de TAC. Al final,el El pago de $700,000 fue cubierto por el seguro del condado., en lugar de dinero de los contribuyentes."Es por eso que pagamos al TAC todos los años, en caso de que demandan al condado por dinero", explicó Ponton.

Aunque el condado tiene un colchón relativamente alto de $2 millones, Ponton recibió una carta aleccionadora de TAC en respuesta a ese caso en particular, advirtiendo que la organización se reservaba el derecho de no realizar un pago si podían demostrar "fraude, deshonestidad o mala fe". por parte del condado.

Ponton, Carrasco, el juez del condado Joe Portillo y los comisionados David Beebe, Margarito Hernández y José Cabezuela discutieron la demanda en una sesión ejecutiva el miércoles por la mañana. El tribunal decidió no tomar ninguna medida.

El Senado

(Continuación de la página 1)

4, un proyecto de ley que elevaba los mínimos obligatorios para el tráfico de personas y la operación de "escondites" de dos años a 10 años. La SB 4 tuvo éxito, pero su proyecto de ley hermano probablemente tendrá que esperar a otra sesión especial para tener la oportunidad de convertirse en ley.

HB 4 habría creado un nuevo delito estatal por entrada ilegal a Texas — un delito menor de clase B, con potencial de convertirse en un delito grave dependiendo de los antecedentes penales de la persona arrestada. La ley especificaba que un agente del orden público debía tener causa probable para creer que un individuo había cruzado la frontera en algún lugar que no fuera un puerto de entrada o había presentado "declaraciones intencionalmente falsas o engañosas" para poder ingresar.

La ley habría exigido que los condenados por el delito fueran entregados a las autoridades federales de inmigración en un puerto de entrada y devueltos a México o a su país de origen.

El proyecto de ley fue aprobado por la Cámara el 26 de octubre después de que los legisladores republicanos rechazaron una serie de enmiendas propuestas por el otro lado del pasillo. Una disposición demócrata que llegó a la versión del proyecto de ley presentada al Comité Senatorial de Seguridad Fronteriza habría prohibido a los agentes del orden realizar arrestos en instalaciones dedicadas a proteger a las víctimas de agresión sexual.

La HB 4 provocó la ira de sus oponentes por intentar reemplazar la ley federal, que oficialmente hace cumplir y procesar los delitos relacionados con la inmigración. Algunos de los principales republicanos de Texas creen que el desafío al poder federal valió el riesgo de una batalla legal, incluido el fiscal general del estado, Ken Paxton, quien ha demandado a la administración Biden más de 20 veces por lo que percibe como un fracaso en abordar una "crisis" en el estado de Texas. -Frontera de México.

Eddie Morales, representante de Big Bend en la Cámara de Representantes del estado, votó en contra del proyecto de ley.

Aunque la HB 4 no logró llegar al Senado, el Senador César Blanco se pronunció en contra de la SB 11, un proyecto de ley fallido anterior que introdujo el concepto de convertir la entrada ilegal a Texas en un delito estatal. "El gobierno federal ya tiene un delito por ingreso ilegal", escribió en un comunicado de prensa. "Este proyecto de ley sólo abrumara las cárceles y los sistemas judiciales locales con delincuentes no violentos y aumentará los impuestos a las comunidades fronterizas sin hacer nada para detener el flujo de inmigrantes que buscan una vida mejor. Podemos hacerlo mejor que esto."

Algunas autoridades locales y funcionarios no estaban convencidos de la idea, cualquiera. El sheriff del condado de Brewster, Ronny Dodson, ha criticado durante mucho tiempo la idea de acumular cargos estatales además de los federales, con el argumento de que la presión adicional para hacer cumplir la ley de inmigración estira su ya pequeño departamento y llena la cárcel del condado. "Sólo quiero que el gobierno federal haga su trabajo", dijo.

Plazo de presentación de candidatos

(Continuación de la página 1)

de Presidio, Ramón Rodríguez Aranda, por correo electrónico a rrodriguez.projecthomeleaf@gmail.com. Puede comunicarse con el presidente republicano Dan Dunlap por correo electrónico endandunlap69@gmail.com o llamando al 432-295-1668.

Condado de Brewster

Para elección en el condado de Brewster están los distritos electorales 1 y 3 del comisionado del condado, actualmente ocupados por Jim Westermann y Rubén Ortega, respectivamente. Los cargos de fiscal del condado, que actualmente ocupa J. Steve Houston; tasador-recaudador de impuestos del condado, actualmente en manos de Sylvia Vega; sheriff, actualmente retenido por Ronny Dodson; y el policía del Precinto 1, actualmente en manos de Flavio René Ybarra, también estarán en elección.

Puede comunicarse con la presidenta demócrata del condado de Brewster, Mary Bell Lockhart, enviando un correo electrónicomblockhart@gmail.com o llamando al 512-422-4984. Puede comunicarse con la presidenta republicana Monica McBride enviando un correo electrónicomoni_mc61@yahoo.com, por correo al PO Box 455, Alpine, o llamando al 432-386-5245.

Condado de Jeff Davis

Para elección en el condado de Jeff Davis están los distritos electorales 1 y 3 del comisionado del condado, actualmente ocupados por Jody Adams y John Davis, respectivamente. Oficinas de sheriff y tasador-recaudador de impuestos del condado que ocupa Bill Kitts, así como la oficina de alguacil sostenido por mike Wright también será candidato a las elecciones.El puesto de fiscal del condado, que actualmente ocupa Glen Eisen, también estará sujeto a elección.

Puede comunicarse con el presidente demócrata del condado de Jeff Davis, Calvin Glover, llamando al 432-244-1034 o enviando un correo electrónico.calvinglover01@gmail.com. Puede comunicarse con el presidente republicano Matthew Blackman por correo electrónico a jdctxrp@gmail.com, por teléfono al 432-249-0283, por correo a PO Box 2115, Fort Davis, TX 79734 y en persona en 502 N State Street, Unit G, Fort Davis, Texas 79734.





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Presidio to celebrate its 340th anniversary with art, poetry and street fair

By SAM KARAS
sam@bigbendsentinel.com

PRESIDIO — This weekend, Presidio will celebrate its 340th anniversary with a series of events celebrating the area's long and storied past. The event will kick off on Thursday evening with an art opening and will culminate on Saturday night with a community fiesta and dance along the town's main drag.

1683 — the date featured on welcome signs leading into town — isn't the date that the city was incorporated. Instead, it marks the year that Jumano leader Juan Sabeata traveled to El Paso to petition the Spanish to build missions in the area. The Spanish maintained a presence in the area over the next century, eventually leading to the construction of a presidio, or garrison — after which the modern-day town is named.

On Thursday, November 9, the Bean Café (506 O'Reilly Street) will host a tribute to artist Laurie Holman and to the Ferguson family. Holman — who has inspired numerous young Presidians over the years — is known for her paintings celebrating local landscapes and people. The Fergusons will be recognized for their contribution to the music scene in Ojinaga and Presidio.

The celebration kicks off at 6 p.m. and will feature local art by Jorge Avena, Yosdy Valdivia, Andrei Renteria, Alouy Martinez, Anthony Carrasco and Ramon Deanda. There will also be a music recital by former Presidio High School students, Mariachi Santa Cruz and the Resonators.

On Friday, November 10, the PMDD office (Arrowhead Plaza) on O'Reilly Street will host a book reading at 7 p.m. by poet Margo Tamez, a Lipan Apache poet whose work engages Indigenous thought, colonial violence and the poetics of the "unwriteable, unsayable and unthinkable." Tamez will also lead a discussion on Indigenous life in Presidio and the Texas borderlands.

On Saturday, November 11, the celebration will cap off in a festive mood by blocking off the town's main drag for a "Celebration Dance Night" from 12 p.m. to midnight. The dance will feature performances by Presidio favorites Chet O'Keefe, Generacion X, Proyecto D and Zauna.

Presidio celebrará su 340 aniversario con arte, poesía y feria callejera

Por SAM KARAS
sam@bigbendsentinel.com

PRESIDIO — Este fin de semana, Presidio celebrará su 340 aniversario con una serie de eventos que celebran el largo e histórico pasado del área. El evento comenzará el jueves por la noche con una inauguración artística y culminará el sábado por la noche con una fiesta comunitaria y baile a lo largo de la calle principal de la ciudad.

1683, la fecha que aparece en los carteles de bienvenida que conducen a la ciudad, no es la fecha en que se incorporó la ciudad. En cambio, marca el año en que el líder de Jumano, Juan Sabeata, viajó a El Paso para solicitar a los españoles que construyeran misiones en el área. Los españoles mantuvieron una presencia en la zona durante el siglo siguiente, lo que finalmente llevó a la construcción de un presidio, o guarnición, que da nombre a la ciudad actual.

El jueves 9 de noviembre, el Bean Café (506 O'Reilly Street) ofrecerá un homenaje a la artista Laurie Holman y a la familia Ferguson. Holman, que ha inspirado a numerosos jóvenes presidiarios a lo largo de los años, es conocida por sus pinturas que celebran los paisajes y las personas locales. Los Ferguson serán reconocidos por su contribución a la escena musical en Ojinaga y Presidio.

La celebración comienza a las 6 p.m. y contará con arte local de Jorge Avena, Yosdy Valdivia, Andrei Rentería, Alouy Martínez, Anthony Carrasco y Ramón Deanda. También habrá un recital de música de ex alumnos de Presidio High School, el Mariachi Santa Cruz y los Resonators.

El viernes 10 de noviembre, la oficina del PMDD (Arrowhead Plaza) en O'Reilly Street organizará una lectura de libros a las 7 p.m. por la poeta Margo Tamez, una poeta lipan apache cuyo trabajo aborda el pensamiento indígena, la violencia colonial y la poética de lo "no escrito, indecible e impensable". Tamez también dirigirá una discusión sobre la vida indígena en Presidio y las zonas fronterizas de Texas.

El sábado 11 de noviembre, la celebración culminará con un ambiente festivo bloqueando la calle principal de la ciudad para una "Noche de baile de celebración" de 12 p.m. a medianoche. El baile contará con actuaciones de los favoritos de Presidio, Chet O'Keefe, Generación X, Proyecto D y Zauna.

Presidio cross-country finishes 11th at state meet

PRESIDIO - Last weekend, the Blue Devils cross-country team celebrated another successful year. On Friday, they competed at the state UIL meet and celebrated an 11th place finish. Individual results below:

1 - Eduardo Flores (senior); overall place 28
2 - Sebastian Franco (junior); overall place 53
3 - Jesus Sanchez (junior); overall place 60
4 - Jose Bustamante (freshman); overall place 66
5 - Aidan Smaniego (freshman); overall place 94
6 - Jose Dominguez (junior); overall place 96
7 - Bruce Levario (junior); overall place 108

Presidio cross-country termina 11° en la competencia estatal

PRESIDIÓ - El fin de semana pasado, el equipo de cross-country de los Blue Devils celebró otro año exitoso. El viernes, compitieron en la competencia estatal de la UIL y celebraron un puesto 11. Resultados individuales a continuación:

1 - Eduardo Flores (mayor); lugar general 28
2 - Sebastián Franco (junior); lugar general 53
3 - Jesús Sánchez (junior); lugar general 60
4 - José Bustamante (estudiante de primer año); lugar general 66
5 - Aidan Smaniego (estudiante de primer año); lugar general 94
6 - José Domínguez (junior); lugar general 96
7 - Bruce Levario (junior); lugar general 108

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THU, NOV 9: PHS BK-BALL GIRLS JV @ FT. STOCKTON TOURNEY

SAT, NOV 11: PHS BK-BALL VARSITY VS MONAHANS @ PRESIDIO

SAT, NOV 11: PHS BK-BALL BOYS JV BLUE & JB BLACK @ VALENTINE'S TOURNEY

MON, NOV 13: LRFMS BK-BALL BOYS VS ALPINE @ PRESIDIO

MON, NOV 13: LRFMS BK-BALL GIRLS @ ALPINE

TUE, NOV 14: PHS BK-BALL GIRLS (ALL) @ MARFA

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Year 2006, Make- Jepp, Model- Liberty, License Plate- EAW020A, State- Chihuahua, Color-Red, VIN # 1J4GL48K46W289757. This unit was impounded on 11-04-23 total amount owed for Unit #2 as of 11-04-23 is $150.00. Storage accruing daily at $20.00 + 8.25% pre day. This unit was picked up in Presidio County pre order of the Presidio Police Department, storage fees accruing daily.

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