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SB 4 blocked again, hours after Supreme Court ruling

By SAM KARAS
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WASHINGTON, D.C. — On Tuesday afternoon, the Supreme Court lifted the latest in a series of executive stays preventing Texas’ controversial immigration law SB 4 from taking effect. Citing procedural technicalities, Justices Amy Coney Barrett and Brett Kavanaugh penned a decision in favor of giving Texas the green light to enforce the law while the case got bumped back down to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Top Republican officials immediately took to social media to celebrate the win — but the celebration didn’t last long. As the clock neared midnight on Tuesday evening, the Fifth Circuit pushed forward, blocking the law temporarily while oral arguments proceed on whether the law should stay suspended while litigation continues.

SB 4’s journey through the courts has been a roller coaster ride. The law — which makes illegal immigration to the United States a state crime — has been the subject of litigation since it was signed into law in December. The law was originally supposed to take effect on March 5, but a lawsuit filed by the national and state chapters of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Texas Civil Rights Project spiraled into a much larger issue after the federal Department of Justice joined as a plaintiff in January.

The central issue of the suit is whether or not the state has the authority to enforce immigration law, which has been the exclusive responsibility of the federal government for over a hundred years of court precedent. Barrett and Kavanaugh’s decision did not rule on whether or not SB 4 is unconstitutional, but instead criticized the way that the Fifth Circuit handled the case.

In Tuesday’s ruling, Justice Barrett wrote that the lower court’s decision to reverse a district judge’s ruling without following the proper steps put the case in a “very unusual procedural posture.” In their dissent, Justices Jackson and Sotomayor doubled down on their colleagues’ disappointment in the Fifth Circuit, writing that the court had developed a “troubling habit” in the way they approached the use of stays in court proceedings.

Justice Elena Kagan penned her own dissenting opinion, quibbling with Barrett’s interpretation of court procedure. “A court’s unreasoned decision ... should not spell the difference between respecting and revoking long-settled immigration

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The West Texan Media Group, LLC



Photo by Hannah Gentiles for The Big Bend Sentinel
Gary Alexander, from Austin, is the leader of a caravan of vintage Volkswagens that began in Texarkana, following Highway 67 west to Presidio. He kneels to say goodbye to a fellow VW driver who is making their exit back to East Texas. The Route 67 VW Roadtrip landed at a celebration of food and music at The American Legion as it finally stopped in Presidio, Texas.

Alleged Ojinaga cartel boss ‘El Menchaca’ indicted on organized crime, smuggling charges

By SAM KARAS
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PECOS — On Monday, the Western District of Texas released a superseding indictment in the case of suspected cartel boss Sergio Menchaca Pizarro, also known as “El Menchaca.” The redacted indictment adds 11 as-yet-unnamed defendants to a case charging Menchaca and his associates with six counts of charges including drug trafficking, human smuggling and “continuing criminal enterprise.”

Menchaca, a U.S. citizen, was arrested last August after being apprehended by Border Patrol along the River Road near Fort Leaton. Homeland Security Investigations Special Agent Will Werner wrote in an affidavit that Border

Patrol performed an “immigration inspection” revealing that Menchaca had crossed the border at the river and not through an official port of entry.

A week later, Judge David Fannin approved a motion by federal prosecution to detain Menchaca without bond. Assistant United States Attorney Jaime Esparza argued that Menchaca was a flight risk that “pose[d] a danger to the community” who could potentially “attempt to obstruct justice.”

In September, Menchaca was originally indicted on three counts — two marijuana-smuggling charges and one “failure to report” charge connected with his illegal entry into the United States.

Though his arrest was covered by the press in

northern Mexico and the United States, court documents did not make an explicit connection between Menchaca and the La Linea cartel. That didn’t stop others from drawing conclusions — citing confidential informants, the *Dallas Morning News* reported that Menchaca had revealed information about the location of a mass grave connected to the disappearance of migrants believed to be kidnapped or killed in cartel crossfire in September 2021.

Monday’s superseding indictment filled in many of the blanks. Menchaca — and his unnamed co-defendants — were allegedly members of La Linea, a faction of the Juarez cartel active in the Ojinaga area.

The document outlines the general structure

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Rep. Tony Gonzales to face ‘the AK Guy’ Brandon Herrera in Republican runoff

By SAM KARAS
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U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 23 — Republican Congressman Tony Gonzales was pushed into a runoff against social media influencer and Second Amendment advocate Brandon Herrera on election day, earning 45.1% of the vote to Herrera’s 24.7%. Voters will head back to the polls in May to decide who will face Democratic nominee Santos Limon in the general election.

House District 23 — which includes the Big Bend — spans just over 800 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border from western San Antonio to the eastern fringes of El Paso. The district is massive only in terms of land acreage; it has one of the lowest population densities of any congressional

districts nationwide.

Incumbent Gonzales is generally considered a moderate Republican, to a degree that has drawn widespread criticism. After votes in favor of gun control and gay marriage, Gonzales was censured by his own party in March 2023.

Gonzales also opposed HR 29, an immigration bill brought by fellow Texas Republican Chip Roy that would have essentially suspended the asylum-seeking process at the border, calling the measure “anti-immigrant” and “unchristian.” However, Gonzales stands in favor of SB 4, a law that would allow Texas to enforce federal immigration law.

Dark horse challenger Herrera comes from a vastly different background than Gonzales, who followed a textbook college to military to Capitol

Hill pipeline. (Herrera reportedly joked that he may as well also be a veteran because “I often think about putting a gun in my mouth”; he has since denied the allegation.)

Herrera is an outspoken Second Amendment influencer with 3.2 million subscribers on YouTube, identifying as “VERY politically incorrect.” He also owns “The AK Guy, Inc.” which makes a variety of semiautomatic weapons favored by aficionados, including the mythic “AK-50.”

Before the primaries, Herrera went on tour through West Texas, stopping briefly in Fort Davis. He acknowledged that San Antonio is where he stands to win or lose the most votes — but hoped that he could get the rest of the vast

(Continued on page 2)

Opening ceremony for Lipan Apache cemetery in Presidio to be held Saturday

By SAM KARAS
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PRESIDIO — This Saturday, all are invited to a series of events marking the completion of the restoration project at the Cementerio del Barrio de los Lipanes (Lipan Apache Cemetery) in Presidio — a project decades in the making.

The People of La Junta for Preservation will be hosting an early morning prayer followed by a “run/march” through the Presidio Sandhills. The group will gather at the water tower at 7 a.m. for a moment of contemplation and will then greet the day with a run or walk through the desert.

At 10 a.m., the Big Bend Conservation Alliance will be hosting a blessing and celebration in conjunction with the People of La Junta, the Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas and MASS Design

Group. Market Street will be blocked off for the event in honor of the community’s Indigenous past and Indigenous future.

The Lipan Apache Cemetery is a remnant of a much larger cemetery that was lost to city development in the 1970s. The descendants of the interred — part of a migratory Indigenous group that came to La Junta during Spanish rule — have worked over the past few decades to protect the cemetery from further development.

In 2021, Christina Hernandez — a descendant of the Lipan Aguilar family — led the charge to return ownership of the land from the city and county of Presidio to the Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas. The Big Bend Conservation Alliance (BBCA) then began a major project to stabilize the site and install interpretive materials with the help of MASS Design Group, an Indigenous-led

firm.

BBCA has worked with Presidio ISD in the past few weeks to teach local youth about the significance of the cemetery.

The program started in February with an assembly for high school students led by Arian Velázquez-Ornelas about Presidio’s native history. She encouraged students to get curious about their own families — but also to preserve the histories of others. “I want you to think, ‘I’m going to honor these people. I may not be related to them, but I still want to tell their story.’”

The students also got creative: both high school and middle school students sat down to make invitations for friends and family to the opening celebration. PHS graduate and Sul Ross Professor Ramon Deanda made a special visit to

(Continued on page 2)

The Big Bend Sentinel partners with Presidio County Community Fund for mental health reporting series

MARFA — *The Big Bend Sentinel* is publishing a series of articles on mental and behavioral health starting with next week’s issue, which will provide an overview of the resources — or lack thereof — for those seeking help. The series is funded by a grant from the Presidio County Community Fund started by Hilary and David Beebe to help address a variety of challenges facing the tri-county area.

To highlight the series, the Presidio County Community Fund, The Sentinel and the Marfa Municipal Alliance are sponsoring an event tonight, Thursday, March 21, at 6 p.m. to benefit the Sims Foundation, a nonprofit in Austin that seeks to “destigmatize and reduce mental health and substance abuse issues” for the music community. The benefit will feature bands Primo and Beebe and the Grand Tourists as a tribute to Greg Enlow.

Next week’s article also includes a remembrance of one of the events that drove the Beebes to first concentrate on mental health — the 2019 death of Enlow, a musician whom the Beebes had come to know through David playing in bands together with him.

“Greg’s suicide happened in 2019, the same year that David and I got married, and in the aftermath of his loss, we wanted to do something to serve the area, so we established the community fund,” Hilary said.

The Beebes used their own money to kickstart the fund, which takes tax-deductible donations through the Community Foundation of Texas, and also held fundraisers to build it. “Public education seemed like a way to put these dollars to work in the community and really shed light on the issue as well as point people to the resources that they need, and so I thought this reporting series could make a real impact. I think that there are resources out there for rural Texans who are struggling and for friends and family, but nobody necessarily knows where to go.”

Hilary said the future of the fund is open right now, meaning that the Beebes will continue to explore projects that can benefit the area. “One of the things I like about this community fund is that it offers the flexibility to look at what issues we can have a significant impact on and pivot to work in those areas,” she said.

Tax-deductible contributions to the Presidio County Community Fund can be made online at www.portal.cftexas.org/The-Presidio-County-Community-Fund or by check mailed to: Communities Foundation of Texas (in the memo write Presidio Co Community Fund No. F-01410), 5500 Caruth Haven Lane, Dallas, TX 75225. Donations to the SIMS Foundation can be made at the event or online at www.simsfoundation.org/donate.



Cartel boss

(Continued from page 1)

of the cartel, explaining that other groups could move contraband through La Linea territory for a fee — constituting a “network of criminal conspirators within Mexico.” Engaging in “continuing a criminal enterprise” is a federal crime with a minimum sentence of 20 years.

The indictment alleges that Menchaca and his associates conspired to distribute and import marijuana over a period of about 15 years. The charges for each individual assume that “1000 or more kilograms” of the narcotic was involved, carrying a minimum sentence of 10 years apiece.

The grand jury also found that drug smuggling led to other types of trafficking — namely of humans and arms. “By controlling [Ojinaga], other organizations

would at times pay a fee or “piso” to La Linea in order to bring through undocumented aliens on their way to the United States,” the document explains.

La Linea also allegedly maintained “armed security forces,” also known as sicarios, “thus allowing the organization to continue its criminal activities.”

In order to carry out the leaders’ commands, the sicarios needed firearms. Possessing a firearm is illegal in Mexico, and smuggling weapons out of the United States and into Mexico is a federal crime. The indictment does not include a separate charge for firearms smuggling, but does call for “seizure and forfeiture” of these weapons.

Attorneys for both the United States and the defendants did not return requests for comment.

Republican runoff

(Continued from page 1)

District 23 on board. “I think it’s important to talk to the other communities, especially the border communities who haven’t felt heard and feel like they’re being forgotten about on a national scale,” he told *The Big Bend Sentinel* in December.

Herrera’s campaign did not respond to multiple requests for comment for this article.

Gonzales’ campaign stressed that not all of his talking points are about controversial issues, highlighting smaller wins that could make a big difference on everyday life in the Big Bend.

In Presidio County, he signed a bill into law designating Marfa’s Blackwell School as a National Historic Site and wrote a letter in support of the city’s application for \$121,5000 to hire an additional police officer. He also secured \$1 million in funding for the Presidio County Underground Water Conservation District in hopes of

providing water service to underserved areas of the county.

In Brewster County, he secured \$1 million for Sul Ross State University’s Archaeology, Anthropology and Cultural Research Center Project, as well as \$2.5 million for the university’s Midstream Cybersecurity Hub. He also helped procure funding for a new HVAC system at Marathon ISD.

In Jeff Davis County, he won \$1,346,800 for a new community center in Fort Davis, and helped officially rename the town’s post office after Sergeant Manuel Sillas Gonzales.

Gonzales has also been active in earmarking border security funding for the tri-county, including a provision in the FY 24 National Defense Authorization Act that implemented an overtime pay raise for Border Patrol agents. In FY 23, \$1,945,000 was awarded to Big Bend sector counties through Operation Stonegarden.

Lipan Apache cemetery

(Continued from page 1)

the elementary school, where students were encouraged to make art and engage with Native storytelling.

The program capped off in early March with a series of site visits by middle school students. Sixth-grader

Brianna Ramirez, who had helped make community invitations for the event, was honored to be a part of the process and was grateful to learn the story behind the cemetery. “It felt good to help their resting place be more beautiful,” she said.



Staff photo by Sam Karas

Enrique Madrid (far right) and representatives from the Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas attended a blessing ceremony at the inception of the cemetery project in 2021.

SB 4

(Continued from page 1)

law,” she wrote.

Barrett did not speak on the merits or shortcomings of SB 4, but did explain that the case was not yet over. “If a decision [from the lower court] does not issue soon, the applicants may return to this Court,” she wrote.

Sotomayor, on the other hand, did detail her fears about how the law might affect both private citizens and court precedent, writing that the law was “antithetical to the Constitution” and “invites further chaos and crisis in immigration enforcement.”

Responses to Tuesday’s ruling have been — predictably — polarized. The government of Mexico fired back almost immediately, saying that they would

“not accept, under any circumstances, repatriations from the state of Texas” — a cornerstone of the law.

Republican Representative Tony Gonzales, who represents the Big Bend region in Congress, expressed support. “SB4 will give Texas the ability to enforce against illegal immigration and do what President Biden refuses to do,” he wrote in a press release. “Today’s ruling on SB4 by the Supreme Court is an important step forward in our fight to secure the southern border, and I stand by Texas as the state moves forward to enforce this legislation.”

Tech mogul Elon Musk — who visited the border with Gonzales in September — responded to a tweet by Gov. Greg Abbott celebrating a “positive development” in the suit. “Crazy that it wasn’t a

unanimous decision, but still good,” Musk wrote.

Immigration advocacy nonprofits, meanwhile, have interpreted the court’s ruling as a call to action. Texas Impact, an interfaith organization that has been vocally opposed to Gov. Abbott’s stance on immigration, expressed “grave concern” and condemned the court system for all the legal whiplash. “The Supreme Court’s decision to allow enforcement of SB4 while it is still under appeal in a lower court will lead to additional confusion and fear regardless of the eventual lower court outcome,” wrote Executive Director Bee Moorhead.

Democrat Texas State Senator César Blanco, who represents the Big Bend in the state legislature, voiced his opposition. “The Supreme Court’s decision to

uphold Texas’ enforcement of Senate Bill 4 is deeply troubling. Senate Bill 4 does nothing to solve the humanitarian crisis at our border and instead subjects Latinos who live and pay taxes in Texas to unjust profiling.”

The ACLU of Texas continued its campaign of educating people about their rights under the law while continuing its legal battle against the state. “We won’t back down until this extreme anti-immigrant law is struck down for good,” the organization tweeted.

At press time, lawyers for the state and federal governments were headed to Austin for oral arguments; the Fifth Circuit will decide soon whether or not a measure blocking the law can stay in place while litigation continues.

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Reclaim Buffalo Rock

“The only elephants who ever came through Shafter were with the circus.” — Enrique Madrid

Sign the petition to ask TxDOT to rename this local landmark.

Cibolo, the Spanish word for buffalo, is a term that spans all possible dimensions of Presidio County's identity—“Cibolo Rock” is a place name that will honor the Indigenous peoples and the cibolo herds of La Junta.



change.org/buffalo_rock

Retomar La Roca de Búfalo

“Los únicos elefantes que han pasado por Shafter han sido los que venían con el circo.” - Enrique Madrid

Firma la petición para pedir a TxDOT que cambie el nombre de este monumento local.

Cibolo es la palabra original en Español para referirse al búfalo americano o bisonte. Este término abarca todas las dimensiones posibles de la identidad del condado de Presidio - “Roca Cibolo” es un nombre que honrará a los Pueblos Originarios y las manadas cibolo de La Junta.

Big Bend Conservation Alliance in partnership with the People of La Junta for Preservation

City of Presidio revisits short-term rental ordinance

By SAM KARAS
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PRESIDIO — At Tuesday’s meeting, Presidio City Council considered updating its short-term rental ordinance after a round of edits were suggested by Bojorquez Law Firm, the city’s legal counsel. Council members ultimately voted in favor of the changes, which included hiking up permit fees, tightening additional regulations and detailing what the city’s hotel occupancy (HOT) tax can be used for.

Short-term rentals (STRs) have become a hot button issue around the Big Bend as real estate values have skyrocketed, leading to an affordable housing crisis in Marfa and an ongoing saga over tax collection in unincorporated Terlingua. There are a number of popular STR platforms, but technically any lodging for

less than a period of 30 days can be considered an STR. Mayor John Ferguson — whose family is in the process of building and opening an AirBnB in Presidio — said that he loved the idea of the popular short-term rental platform in theory. “It’s a really neat way to spend the night while you’re out of town somewhere,” he said.

In practice, city leadership wanted to avoid the pitfalls that other communities plagued with STR-related issues — there are currently 10 AirBnB listings in Presidio, but the platform is growing. “We want to make sure we’re ahead of it even though it’s already happening out here,” said Mayor Pro Tempore Arian Velázquez-Ornelas.

The city’s latest STR ordinance was passed in 2022, updating an ordinance that had been gathering dust since 1997, when the city first passed regulations about “vacation homes.” That ordinance widened the

scope of “vacation homes” to include modern-day STR platforms like AirBnB and VRBO and detailed a permitting process owners were required to implement before their listings went live.

The original ordinance listed a \$100 one-time permitting fee and a \$100 annual renewal fee, contingent on passing a standard safety inspection. The permit also required operators to designate a local emergency contact, essentially prohibiting rentals that are administered remotely.

Bojorquez Law Firm’s proposed changes include hiking the fees to a \$500 initial permitting fee and a \$500 renewal fee. The updated ordinance would also come with additional restrictions: limiting the number of people who can stay in an STR to 12, limiting the number of vehicles that can be parked overnight and setting a minimum age for booking at 18. The ordinance

would also institute quiet hours between 10 p.m. to 9 a.m.

Velázquez-Ornelas explained that the 7% HOT tax the city was able to collect from registered STRs would go to the city’s Convention and Visitors Bureau, which uses the money to host events that “put heads in beds” — including the city’s popular outdoor festivals and music series.

The council members ultimately voted in favor of adopting the new changes. Ferguson assured the crowd that the tightened regulations weren’t an attempt to punish STR owners, but instead to bring regulations up to the same standards that the city’s hotels must follow. “We’re leveling the playing field,” he said.

Marfa School Board seeks new member, to date no applicants

The deadline to apply is this Friday, March 22

By MARY CANTRELL
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MARFA — The Marfa ISD School Board is seeking letters of interest from community members willing to serve on the board with a deadline of 4 p.m. Friday, March 22.

Letters of interest — expressing why you would like to serve — should be submitted to the board president, Teresa Nuñez, at P.O. Box T, Marfa, TX 79843. Board

members plan on interviewing interested candidates and filling the vacancy at their regular March 25 meeting held at 6 p.m.

The school board officially accepted the resignation of previous Board Member Ernie Villarreal earlier this month and moved to solicit letters of interest to fill the empty seat. Villarreal’s seat, Place 5, is not up for election until May 2025, meaning an appointed board member will serve around a one-year unexpired term before the seat is up for election.

To be eligible, school board candidates must have resided in the state of Texas for the past 12 months and resided within Marfa ISD’s district boundaries for the past six months. Other requirements include being an eligible voter, a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older, and not having been declared mentally incapacitated or convicted of a felony.

The school board is currently made up of seven members — Nuñez, Lori Flores, Stela Fuentez, Rene Gonzales, Yolanda Jurado, Ruben Martinez and Interim

Superintendent Arturo Alferez — who typically meet once a month. School board members serve three-year terms and are volunteers.

Earlier this month, the school board also voted to cancel the May General Election because only incumbents — Fuentez, Gonzales and Jurado — filed to keep their seats. This is the third year in a row that the school board election has been canceled due to too few candidates vying for the seats.

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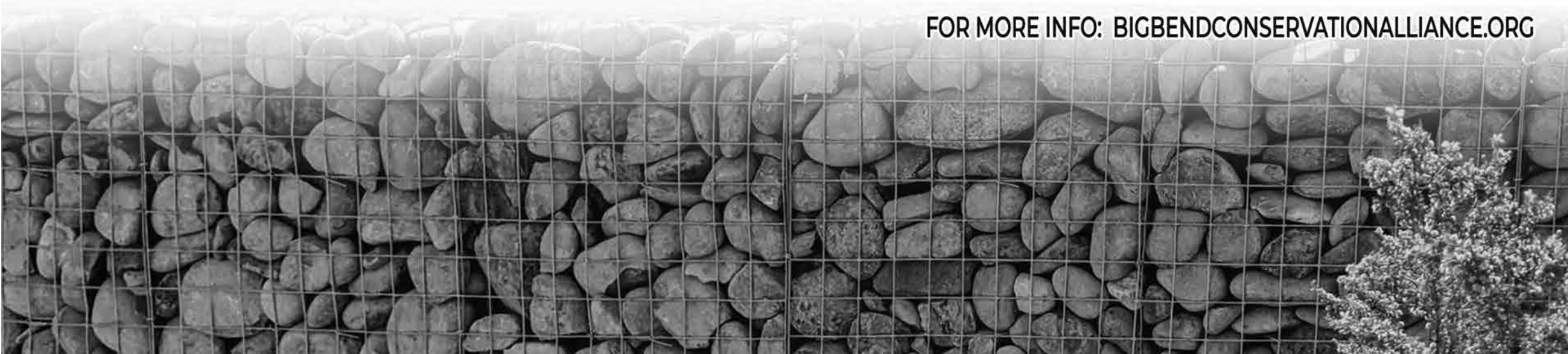
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Marfa Museum and thrift store find a way forward following financial difficulties

By MARY CANTRELL
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MARFA — The Marfa and Presidio County Museum Thrift Store is steadily improving following a period of financial strain, according to museum board members. While the primary function of the thrift store is to generate revenue for the local history museum, it has recently struggled to make enough to cover its own expenses.

“The museum was supporting the thrift store instead of the other way around,” said Board Member Martha Stafford. “But the past two months, we have actually made a profit. That was with cutting labor costs and being really judicious about turning the heat on.”

Board members recently decided to operate the thrift store on an all-volunteer basis as a cost-saving measure, Stafford said. Now, the only expenses that remain are rent — \$475 — and utilities for their space in the Marfa Activities Center.

Board President Mary Williams said the thrift store only made a profit one month out of the entire year last year, prompting museum leadership to consider its permanent closure.

“A couple meetings ago, we were even thinking of closing the thrift store or reducing hours on the museum,” Williams said. “But we thought, we can’t do that. These are permanent fixtures in our town, and they help people.”

“The visitors who come to the museum love it. They love learning about all the movies that were made here, the ranching, and they have lots of questions, so we gotta keep it going,” she added.

The museum held a successful bake sale last week, making around \$1,200 off of community-donated baked goods, museum merchandise and thrift store clothing. Williams said that from the Marfa National Bank — which purchased \$100 worth of goods for a board meeting — to local restaurants to out-of-town spring breakers, it was refreshing to see so many people come out in support of the hometown museum.

“We had a great bake sale,” Williams said. “The community came out. So many restaurants donated baked goods to us.”

Stafford said the museum is currently seeking thrift store volunteers, especially those willing to sort through donated items. Volunteers skew older, she explained, and have a difficult time lifting heavy boxes. She encouraged the community to abide by the thrift store’s open hours — Wednesday through Friday 2 to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. — for donation drop-offs. “We love their donations. However, we need them to donate when we’re open,” Stafford said.

Board members are discussing the possibility of keeping the thrift store open later one night a week so those who hold 9-to-5 jobs have time to donate, she said. They recently reorganized to make it easier for customers to browse and find what they need, she said.

The Marfa Museum is currently open seven days a week, from 1 to 5 p.m., and is operated by paid staff.

The City of Marfa — which owns the Marfa and Presidio County Museum — budgeted \$100,000 in historic preservation this year to remedy longstanding issues with the adobe structure and for upkeep of the USO building. Engineers visited the museum in 2023 and determined repairs to an eastern wall that had previously suffered from water damage were holding up.



Staff photo by Mary Cantrell

The Marfa and Presidio County Museum and accompanying thrift store are bouncing back after a period of financial uncertainty. The museum is now open seven days a week for visitors.

“Finding out that the exterior wall that had the water damage is not moving anymore after it was shored up a few years ago — that was good news to hear,” said City Councilmember Mark Morrison.

Now the main issue that needs to be addressed is the floor in the room with the previously deteriorating wall, which has been closed off to visitors for years due to safety concerns. Morrison, a contractor, took on the museum repair project for the city after no other entities answered

repeated requests for proposals, he said.

Morrison said like many projects in the area, progress has been delayed due to a shortage of skilled labor, and he is currently seeking someone to perform the floor work for a reasonable price. The work will involve tearing up the existing flooring to make way for new flooring as well as putting a concrete beam in and putting new joists on it. Cosmetic cracks in the walls will also be repaired and repainted.



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To the voters who placed their trust in me, thank you for believing in the vision for a better tomorrow. Your support is the driving force behind our movement, and I am humbled by your confidence in my ability to lead.

I also want to express my appreciation to the campaign staff and advisors for their strategic guidance, creativity, and hard work. Your expertise and dedication have been invaluable every step of the way.

To our families and loved ones who stood by me throughout this journey, offering encouragement and understanding - couldn’t have done it without you. Your love and support sustained me through the highs and lows of the campaign trail.

And finally, to my opponent and her supporters, thank you for engaging in the democratic process with passion and civility. Though we may have had our differences, we share a common goal of building a better future for our community and our county.

As we transition into the next phase, we carry with us the lessons learned, the friendships forged, and the spirit of hope and optimism that fueled our campaign. Together, we will continue to work tirelessly to create positive change and build a brighter tomorrow for all.

**With gratitude and determination,
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7 to 10 PM THE GRAND TOURISTS
LAUNCHING THE RURAL MENTAL HEALTH
SERIES IN THE BIG BEND SENTINEL

Opinion

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Christian America

The historian Kevin M. Kruse wrote *One Nation Under God* in 2015. Recently, I ran across a term new to me: “Christian America.” It was coined in the 1930s when businessmen enlisted religious activists in their fight against FDR’s New Deal.

Big corporations paid conservative clergy “to attack the New Deal as a program of ‘pagan statism’ that perverted the central principle of Christianity: the sanctity and salvation of the individual.” They were able to get Dwight D. Eisenhower elected president in 1952. But President Eisenhower started a religious movement, and religion moved in with the government. The phrase “Under God” was added to the Pledge of Allegiance and “In God We Trust” became our official motto.

Historically, we are a nation forged from the experiences of immigrants fleeing religious persecution. Immigrants were coming from countries with a state-sanctioned religion. They simply wanted to worship according to their own beliefs since they were persecuted for it in their mother countries. So, it's not surprising that as the Founding Fathers fashioned the rules for our nation, they separated church from state. That has worked in our favor throughout the course of our history. So, it defies reason to learn that there is a movement afoot to recreate our nation as a "Christian America" and ignore the rights of other religions.

L. P. Martin
Fort Davis

• • •

On 19 March 2024, without fanfare, Gary Oliver showed a movie in the Marfa Public Library theater for the 3000th time. He began sharing Oscar-winning movies, shows from the Telluride Film Festival, foreign films, noir and popular films back in 2004. He continues to research reviews and invite hundreds (who add their name and e-mail to the library list) as he assists with the acquisition of DVDs to the library's collection. Cheers to Gary! Long may you run (show films)!

To get on the e-mail list contact the Marfa Public Library.

Annette Mendoza
Marfa

• • •

“Petition to rename Elephant Rock sparks controversy”

I read the above article in the 3/14/24 of the BBS!

I simply don't understand what the issue is. There is absolutely no connection with an elephant and Presidio County.

What the issue deals with is a rock.

Why not just name it "The Rock."

Nuff said!

Richard Stone
Austin

We want to hear from YOU!

- Letters to the editor 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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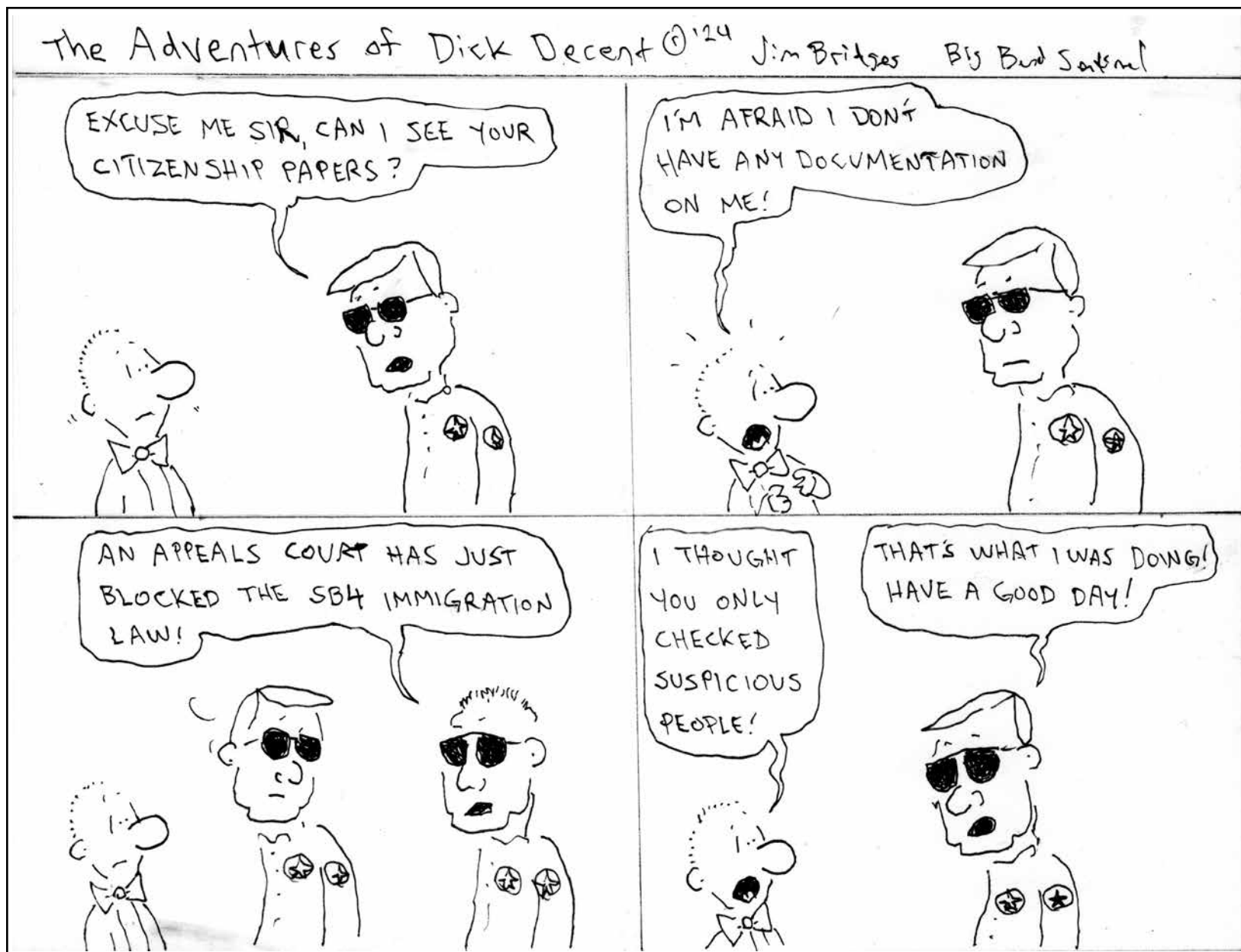


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OUR WATER MATTERS

Springs: A window into our aquifers

By TREY GERFERS
tgerfers@pcuwcd.org

In a presentation at the Water in the Desert Conference at Sul Ross State University, Dr. Kevin Urbanczyk of the Rio Grande Research Center explained that the health of our springs, which are dependent on recharge from rainwater, is complicated in our region because this recharge has “to get to the right geology to enter the aquifer.” Groundwater pumping is another reason that many of the springs in the Big Bend region no longer flow. A further concern is a local decrease in precipitation as the result of climate instability. Urbanczyk cautioned that we need to “shift to conservation as we see change in precipitation.”

The importance of spring systems cannot be overstated. Urbanczyk described one spring system in the Lower Canyons of the Big Bend that contributes more water to the Rio Grande each year than the entire Conchos River. The Conchos flows out of Chihuahua and replenishes the so-called "Forgotten Reach," a segment of the Rio Grande between Fort Quitman and Presidio that is notoriously starved of flow due to overallocation upstream. Urbanczyk emphasized that springs are particularly significant because they provide "windows into the aquifer." In other words, spring health reflects aquifer health.

Most springs are generally understood to be either artesian springs (where water issues from the rock under natural pressure underground until it reaches a land surface) or gravity springs (where water is pulled down through the ground under the force of gravity until it reaches a confining layer it can't penetrate, which forces the water to flow horizontally along this layer until it reaches an opening and comes out as a spring). Springs can also be considered perennial (in other words, flowing continuously throughout the year) or intermittent (where water from rainfall or snowpack supplies sufficient water to enable the spring to flow at disparate times throughout the year).

A recently published study titled “Revisiting Gunnar Brune’s ‘Major and

Historic Springs of Texas’ with an Analysis on the Fractal Character of Springflow” by Dr. Robert Mace and Nohemi Galaviz takes a broad look at the current health of the state’s springs based on historical data. Brune’s 1975 report identified 281 major and historic springs in Texas, while his self-published 1981 book titled “The Springs of Texas: Volume 1” included some 2,900 springs. Both works, which classify springs as flowing, intermittent, dry, or inundated, remain the broadest available surveys of springs in Texas. Mace and Galaviz confine their analysis to sites that appear both in Brune’s report and his book, for a total of 179 springs.

In their study, Mace and Galaviz provide a fascinating description of their resourceful methods to locate and verify the flow status of each spring using USGS topographic sheets, Google Maps and Google Earth Pro, the Groundwater Data Viewer of the Texas Water Development Board, the Texas Springs Facebook Group, and conventional site visits. Their analysis seeks to corroborate Brune's numbers with the numbers in their own database, compare recent assessments of flow status with Brune's 1975 report, and compare the flow status of springs between the report and the book. They found that a "total of 52 springs changed their flow status from the 1975 report to today: 35 went from flowing to dry, 1 went from intermittent to flowing, 10 went from flowing to intermittent, 4 went from flowing to inundated, 1 went from dry to flowing, and 1 went from dry to intermittent." They go on to summarize their findings as follows: "By the time Brune published his book in 1981, 11 to 14 percent of the major and historical springs he investigated had gone dry. More recently, based on the present study, 23 to 30 percent of the springs have now gone dry ... over the past 50 or so years."

The widely shared assumption that major springs will always flow has been dramatically challenged in recent years. Examples of disappearing springs range from Instagram favorite Jacob's Well outside Austin to the obscure, majestic waters of Las Moras Springs near Brackettville. Like Urbanczyk, Mace and Galaviz warn that "springs serve as sentinels for aquifer health" and provide "an important indicator of sustainable production." As groundwater pumping continues to increase and precipitation patterns change, Urbanczyk urges a "change in mindset" to preserve these features before it's too late.

To view the complete study by Mace and Galaviz, including their fractal analysis of springflow, visit www.meadowscenter.txst.edu/research/environmental-flows/revisiting-major-historical-springs.html. Their database and report are also available to the scientific community as an updatable research tool.

Trey Gerfers is a San Antonio native and serves as general manager of the Presidio County Underground Water Conservation District. He has lived in Marfa since 2013.

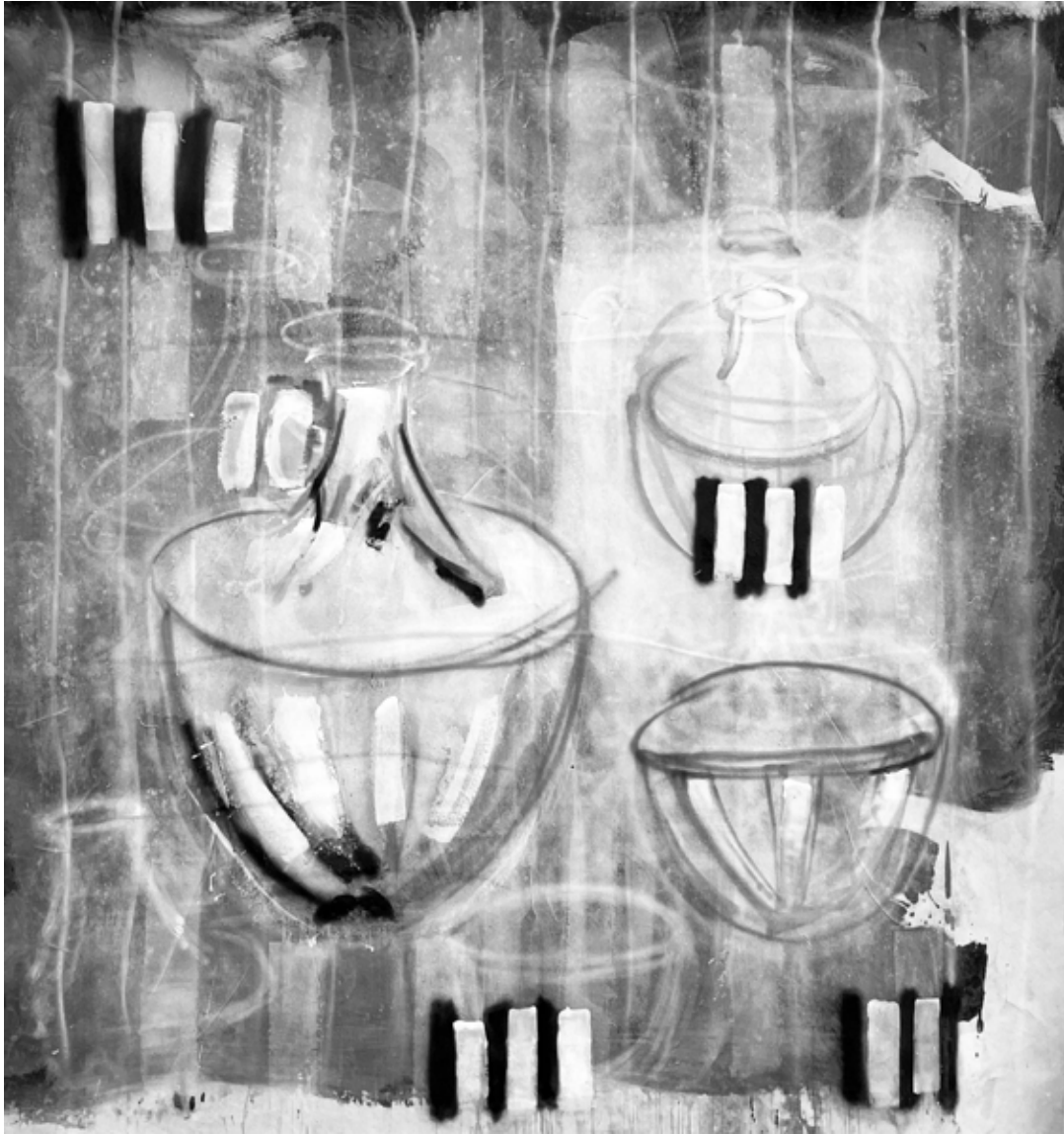
MAINTENANT opens ‘EXFORME’ Saturday

MARFA — MAINTENANT is proud to present *EXFORME*, an exhibition of paintings made by French artist Philippe Tourriol in Marfa during his summer 2023 residency with the experimental studio and research program Fieldwork: Marfa.

Part of the founding narrative of modern painting was made of “a history of pots,” and Tourriol may certainly have been aware of this. One thinks of the distorted pots and compote dishes in Cézanne’s still life but also of the legion of pots, carafes and absinthe glasses deconstructed and reconstructed by Picasso in search of a pure space for visual experimentation. Philippe Tourriol may well have been thinking about this history of the pot at the dawn of modern painting when he produced his new paintings. Indeed, the pot in Tourriol’s paintings seems to be the initiator of a reverie, or perhaps the memory, of a founding motif of painting, and beyond that, the thought of an ancient and universal archetypal form, with feminine connotations, referring to the origins of the material manufacture of objects, and maybe also to the foundations of the art of the sedentary society. As prehistoric and ethnographic research shows, this original pot may embody a reproductive and protective form containing fertile water, oils, seeds, medicines, and the alcohol used in libations. But it can just as easily be seen as a mournful and funereal object, containing the effects or ashes of the dead.

Looking at Philippe Tourriol’s pots painted on loose canvases and seeking to perceive their “resonance,” the pot also seems to appear as a sonorous object. In one of his large dark canvases, the painter evokes the pots by their outlines, and it looks like they might clash, overlap, sound like resonators, creating a kind of optical polyphony.

Finally, Tourriol’s paintings are echoing the work of art historian Meyer Shapiro who established a parallel between the sedentarization of human groups in the Neolithic period, the agriculture, the parceling out of the land, the invention of a new form of painting and the invention of pottery. According to Shapiro the painting of this time is based on the visual and textural occupation of a specific rectangle background, abstract and mobile, cut out of bark, skin or canvas. It is this closed, active, and dynamic field of the canvas rectangle that will host



Courtesy of MAINTENANT

“4 Vases,” acrylic and oil on canvas, 2023.

the “imaging substance,” i.e. the lines, contours, stains and outpourings of paint. In this way, the loose canvases of Tourriol, where archaic pots emerge and “speak,” affirming their materiality, in other words they are a fundamental matrix, where all the gestures, signs and imaginings of the painting to come can emerge.

The show, which is open every Saturday from 6-8 p.m. and runs from March 23 through April 20, will also be an opportunity to see and experience new works by Natalie Melendez, Diana Simard, Matt Scobey, Randy Sanchez and T.J. Tambellini.

AROUND THE BIG BEND

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Thu
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Hike with a Homeless Dog

10:00am - 11:00am at Davis Mountains State Park in Fort Davis
Help a homeless dog have a great time on the trail! Join our pack at the Interpretive Center and give a rescue dog from Grand Companions of Fort Davis a fun morning on the trail. Maybe you'll find your new forever friend! More info at <https://tpwd.texas.gov/calendar/davis-mountains/hike-with-a-homeless-dog/2024-01-18>

“A Massive Bag of Dreams”

Open daily through 3/26 from 12:00pm - 4:00pm at Do Right Hall, 110 W Dallas Street in Marfa
An exhibition of recent work on paper by Valerie Arber.

Thursday Night Social Ride

6:00pm - 8:00pm starting at the Alpine's Visitor Center in Alpine
Join a FREE community bicycle ride! You ride at your own risk. The ride ends with a social gathering bar stop if you want to hang out post ride. Bicycle rentals are available for purchase. Please coordinate rentals by noon on the day of the event by contacting <https://stateofmindtexas.com/activities-and-adventure>.

A Benefit for the SIMS Foundation

6:00pm at The Sentinel in Marfa
Presented by the Marfa Municipal Alliance. Performance by Primo & Beebe at 6pm followed by The Grand Tourists at 7pm. Launching the Rural Mental Health Series in The Big Bend Sentinel.

Sat
Mar
23

Birding for Beginners

9:00am - 10:30am at Davis Mountains State Park in Fort Davis
Come learn some basic skills for birding, then put them to use at our bird blind. More info at <https://tpwd.texas.gov/calendar/davis-mountains/birding-walk-1>

Cementerio Del Barrio de Los Lipanes Blessing Ceremony and Celebration

10:00am at the corner of Market and Barton in Presidio
Celebrate the completion of the Protection Project. Free event open to all! More info at bigbendconservationalliance.com

Sat
Mar
23
(contd.)

Jeff Davis County Democratic Primary Convention Pot Luck Social

5:00pm at 109 N Buckeye Street in Fort Davis
Items of business: Election of State Delegates to TX Democratic Convention; Submission of and voting on resolutions, platform planks and party rule changes. Pot luck supper and fun get together for all!

EXFORME Exhibition

Saturdays from 6:00pm - 8:00pm (and by appointment) through 4/20 at MAINTENANT, 1900 Rabbits Road in Marfa
An exhibition of paintings by French artist Philippe Tourriol made in Marfa, TX during his summer 2023 residency with the experimental studio and research program Fieldwork: Marfa. Info + Access Map @MaintenantMarfa on IG & www.MaintenantMarfa.com

Free Zumba Classes

Monday & Wednesday at 6:30pm at Marfa Public Library

Free Meditation Classes

Tuesday & Thursday at 6:00pm at Marfa Public Library

Storytime

Wednesday at 11:00am at Marfa Public Library

AA (online & sometimes in-person)

Saturday at 12:00pm at <https://tinyurl.com/y686nnw2> & sometimes in-person at Marfa Public Library

AA (in-person)

Monday & Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Alpine Farmers Market

Saturday at 9:00am on historic Murphy Street in Alpine

Free Boxing Practice (+ occasional Jiu Jitsu & Aikido)

Sunday at 10:00am at MAINTENANT in Marfa - www.maintenantmarfa.com/boxingmarfa

Note: Schedules are subject to change. Please call or visit business websites to confirm that event is happening.

Have an upcoming or weekly event?

Please submit a two sentence maximum description of your weekly event including who, what, when, and where by Tuesday at 10 am to ads@bigbendsentinel.com

TASTES GOOD IN TEXAS

Bork’s burgers at the Ghost of Food Shark

By SAM DWYER

“Do you want to drink beers and drive a 1969 Pontiac around the dirt track?”

“Of course.”

Myself, David Branch, and Adam Bork — former owner of the recently closed Casita Bar and current operator of the “Ghost of Food Shark” — crowded onto the bench seat of the rotten old car, shoulder to shoulder. Bork floored it and we took off in a cloud of dust, sluicing at medium but adequate speed around the corners of the alluvial desert plain in Lobo, Texas, where he’s parked his trailer and innumerable fleet of variously disintegrated vehicles.

Flying over the compacted erosion path of a proto-arroyo, the car bottomed out, and I cackled as I spilled beer all over myself and companions. Bork slowed and looked up with care: “Don’t hold the bottle to your teeth. They’ll chip.”

The culinary worlds created by Mr. Bork are fluid. Casita Bar was a speakeasy first located in a shack behind the restaurant Cochineal. The Food Shark was a school bus turned food truck. Then in 2018, Bork and Chris Ramming combined forces to open Food Shark Land at Casita Bar in a mid-century house on the west side of town. This venue served a lot of Modelos and imaginatively topped tater tots until 2023, when it sadly passed on into the restaurant hereafter.

What is the Ghost of Food Shark? It’s definitely not a new restaurant, and so far as I can tell it isn’t Bork’s desert hideout, either. It seems more so to be the spirit animating him through this period of his life — colored with a touch of regret and sadness, but also creative, free and energetic. The Ghost is with him at the compound in Lobo, and it follows him into Marfa when he periodically rolls into town and opens the former Casita Bar as a kind of salon.

The Ghost is a productive spirit. Bork has produced and shown a series of forced perspective art videos of miniature people standing to attention while the Food Shark bus explodes in a cloud of fireworks. Long neglected cars are being fiddled with. Walls of antique mid-century modern pod televisions are being assembled next to favored yuccas. He wears what look to be swim trunks with sandals and is very dusty. The longest amount of time he says he has spent without visitors is 14 days.

There is also food. After our vehicular excursion, Bork offers to make hamburgers. “I don’t have a lot, but there’s enough for two, I think.” He fills a grill with mesquite charcoal, and, wearing plastic shopping bags on his hands, mixes leftover grilled vegetables into ground beef patties. He apologizes for not having ketchup, just mustard and Tony’s Creole Seasoning. We assure him this is fine, and work our way through our, and then his, beers while the burgers cook. After a longer than expected time, Bork gets frustrated and piles a number of small kindling sticks onto the coals. Flames erupt, and dinner is finished in shorter order.

“I’m sorry, they’re not the same size. Sam, you get the small one.”

I’m not sure he realized he was talking to The Big Bend Sentinel’s new food columnist, but I can excuse the slight as he and Branch have known each other for longer.

I am really hungry. The sesame-topped bun is perfectly toasted, and the burger is crisply charred on the outside; well done, but still desirably moist, possibly due to the vegetables that have steeped their wetness and flavor inside of it. The Tony’s seasoning is salty, and the quantity of mustard I apply is excessive. The experience is delicious.

After dinner, Bork leads us on an exploration of the property, walking through creosote, stopping at his favorite nooks and crannies. We walk through a field of scrubland and .22 rifle targets that is also inexplicably strewn with lemons; I don’t know if they were real or fake, and I don’t know why I didn’t ask any questions. It begins to get dark, and he takes us to his stage, a pipe wagon that his neighbor gave him, upon which Bork has placed a tableau of table lamps and speakers. I don’t take any pictures because he has put up signs that say “No pictures!!” but the sight is beautiful. Sitting with his back to Chispa Mountain, he plays lap guitar. Branch and I lean against a truck that seems like it probably works, and listen.

Ghost of Food Shark Burgers:

This is a recipe for a hamburger. You could obviously do it differently if you wanted, but this is the way Adam Bork did it. Personally I might add a serrano pepper into the veg mix.

Ingredients:

1 medium sized onion, medium dice
1 red bell pepper, medium dice
1 tablespoon oil
1 pound of ground beef
salt & pepper
sesame kosher buns
yellow mustard
Tony’s Creole Seasoning

• Heat the oil on medium low and sauté the diced onion and red bell pepper with salt and pepper until soft but not browned.

• Let the vegetables cool a bit, then combine with the ground beef and mix together with your hands. Lacking gloves or access to running water, Bork does this by covering his hands with two shopping bags. Salt and pepper the resultant burger patties.

• Cook the burgers at a low temperature until you get annoyed, and then add a bunch of sticks onto the fire and quickly achieve a state of char. Toast the buns concurrently with this final step.

• Apply condiments heavily.

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NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE REQUEST

AEP Texas Inc. (AEP Texas) publishes this notice that on February 29, 2024, AEP Texas filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) its Petition and Statement of Intent to Change Rates (the Petition), a copy of which is kept at AEP Texas’ office at 400 W. 15th Street, Suite 1500, Austin, Texas, 78701. The Petition has been assigned Docket No. 56165. This notice is being published in accordance with 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 22.51(a)(1).

AEP Texas’ Petition is based on the system-wide financial results for a 12-month test year ending on September 30, 2023, adjusted for known and measurable changes. Related to its distribution cost of service, the Company requests a rate increase of approximately \$100.4 million over its adjusted test year revenues. This net change is a 13.1% increase over net present distribution revenues. When expected annualized Transmission Cost Recovery Factor revenues are included in the comparison to present revenues, the net increase to distribution cost-of-service is 8.4%. Related to its transmission cost of service, the Company requests a rate increase of \$63.1 million above its adjusted test year revenues, an increase of 9.29%.

In addition to new rates, AEP Texas requests a prudence determination on all capital investment made to its system for the period from January 1, 2019, through September 30, 2023.

AEP Texas’ Petition requests Commission approval to continue its offering of facilities rental services, as described in tariff schedules 6.1.2.3.6, 6.1.3.3.6, and 6.1.4.3.6, and a good-cause exception to the Commission’s rule requiring AEP Texas to obtain the Commission’s approval to provide these services every three years. If approved, the requested good-cause exception will allow the Company to extend the effective date of its existing tariff schedules through the effective date of the tariffs approved in its next comprehensive rate case.

Finally, AEP Texas requests recovery of its reasonable rate-case expenses associated with this proceeding and certain prior rate proceedings, including those expenses paid to reimburse municipalities for their participation.

If approved, the increased rates will be charged to AEP Texas’ direct customers, all retail electric providers (REPs) in AEP Texas’ service area, as well as the retail electric customers of those REPs. The extent to which the REPs pass along to their customers the increased retail rates is a function of the competitive market. In addition, AEP Texas’ petition affects customers taking service under the Company’s wholesale transmission rates.

AEP Texas has requested its proposed rate change become effective 35 days after the filing its Petition.

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings, in Docket No. 56165, *Application of AEP Texas Inc. for Authority to Change Rates*, should notify the Commission as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline will be imposed. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136. The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is 45 days after the date the Petition was filed with the Commission.

AVISO DE MODIFICACIÓN DE TARIFA

AEP Texas Inc. (AEP Texas) publica este aviso de que el 29 de febrero de 2024, AEP Texas presentó ante la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas (Comisión) su Petición y Declaración de Intención de Cambiar las Tarifas (la Petición), una copia de la cual se encuentra en la oficina de AEP Texas en 400 W. 15th Street, Suite 1500, Austin, Texas, 78701. A la Petición se le ha asignado el Número de Expediente 56165. Este aviso se publica de conformidad con 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 22.51(a)(1).

La Petición de AEP Texas se basa en los resultados financieros de todo el sistema para un año de prueba de 12 meses que finaliza el 30 de septiembre de 2023, ajustados por cambios conocidos y medibles. En relación con su coste de servicio de distribución, la Compañía solicita un aumento de tarifas de aproximadamente \$100.4 millones de dólares sobre sus ingresos ajustados del año de prueba. Este cambio neto supone un incremento del 13.1% sobre los ingresos netos actuales de distribución. Si se incluyen los ingresos anualizados previstos del Factor de Recuperación de Costes de Transmisión en la comparación con los ingresos actuales, el aumento neto del coste del servicio de distribución es del 8,4%. En relación con el coste del servicio de transporte, la Compañía solicita una subida de tarifas de 63,1 millones de dólares por encima de los ingresos ajustados del año de referencia, lo que supone un incremento del 9,29%.

Además de las nuevas tarifas, AEP Texas solicita una determinación de prudencia sobre toda la inversión de capital realizada en su sistema para el período comprendido entre el 1 de enero de 2019 y el 30 de septiembre de 2023.

La Petición de AEP Texas solicita la aprobación de la Comisión para continuar con su oferta de servicios de alquiler de instalaciones, tal y como se describe en los programas de tarifas 6.1.2.3.6, 6.1.3.3.6 y 6.1.4.3.6, y una excepción de causa justificada a la norma de la Comisión que exige a AEP Texas obtener la aprobación de la Comisión para prestar estos servicios cada tres años. Si se aprueba, la excepción de causa justificada solicitada permitirá a la Compañía ampliar la fecha de entrada en vigor de sus programas de tarifas existentes hasta la fecha de entrada en vigor de las tarifas aprobadas en su próximo caso tarifario global.

Por último, AEP Texas solicita la recuperación de sus gastos razonables relacionados con este procedimiento y algunos procedimientos tarifarios anteriores, incluidos los gastos pagados para reembolsar a los municipios por su participación.

Si se aprueban, las tarifas incrementadas se cobrarán a los clientes directos de AEP Texas, a todos los proveedores minoristas de electricidad (REP) en el área de servicio de AEP Texas, así como a los clientes minoristas de electricidad de esos REP. La medida en que los REP repercutan a sus clientes el aumento de las tarifas minoristas depende del mercado competitivo. Además, la petición de AEP Texas afecta a los clientes que contratan el servicio según las tarifas de transmisión al por mayor de la empresa.

AEP Texas ha solicitado que el cambio de tarifa propuesta entre en vigor 35 días después de la presentación de su Petición.

Las personas que deseen intervenir o hacer comentarios sobre este procedimiento, en el expediente N° 56165, *Aplicación de AEP Texas Inc. de Autoridad para Cambiar las Tarifas*, deben notificarlo a la Comisión lo antes posible, ya que se impondrá un plazo de intervención. Las solicitudes de intervención o de información adicional deben enviarse por correo a Public Utility Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. También puede obtenerse más información llamando a la Comisión al (512) 936-7120 o al (888) 782-8477. Las personas con discapacidad auditiva o del habla que dispongan de teléfonos de texto (TTY) pueden ponerse en contacto con la Comisión en el número (512) 936-7136. El plazo para intervenir en el procedimiento es de 45 días a partir de la fecha de presentación de la petición a la Comisión.

DISPATCHES FROM MISD JOURNALISM CLASS

Who is MISD’s biggest rival?

By SAMANTHA

In sports and in life, a little competition can make things interesting and, hopefully, increases everyone’s performances.

Lots of people would consider Marfa’s biggest rival to be Fort Davis. Maybe once upon a time I’d have agreed, but recently I don’t think they are anymore. This rivalry with Fort Davis has fallen over the years, or, more accurately, ebbs and swells depending on when our teams are more evenly matched. Recently, they haven’t been as good, and Marfa has dominated. Two years ago, that was not the case, but that’s a lifetime in high school.

Luis Solis agrees with me, saying, “It definitely used to be Fort Davis, but then they lost all their seniors, and we started winning. Competitively, I’d say our biggest rival now would have to be Van Horn. Although Sierra Blanca has to be the most heated games we’ve been playing from football to basketball and many more.”

Diego Jurado, after thinking about it, said, “I would say Sierra Blanca is Marfa’s biggest rival. They’re the most heated games and the players don’t like us. Like, I have personal experience with Frijol, aka Beans. One time I was blocking him, and he said some foul things to me and I pushed him and they gave me a flag for a personal foul but it was his fault, he started it.”

In this reporter’s opinion, the most fun games to go to are against Van Horn and Sierra Blanca. The rivalry games are the best games. All the fighting and yelling makes them 10 times better. For example, going to a Del City game is not as fun as attending one of these other games.

I think what makes Van Horn games so good is that we are equally matched, basically, talent-wise. But, additionally, Van Horn is the other school that I can say is easily as respectful as our players are on the court, track, field, etc. They’re very disciplined, and it also makes a huge difference that they’re all our friends. Sierra Blanca are also our friends but they, for some reason, always are trying to fight on the court. The two rivalries have very different feels, like Van Horn’s is a healthy competition with some mutual respect, and SB’s rivalry is a little more down and dirty. You can feel the difference as an audience member and a player watching this.

Science fair

By ISAIAH and MESSIAH

At the science fair that took place three weeks ago, 13 students placed first and second place and will be moving on to compete for state in College Station, Texas.

We first asked Mrs. Donaldson, who is a science teacher and science fair sponsor, about her opinions on this year’s competition. She said, “My thoughts on going to the science fair this year! This is the largest group of kids I’ve ever taken. It was definitely a challenge trying to put everything together, on time. And we compete against different schools, like homeschool and private schools, etc. They have a lot more resources than we do over here. We have a science lab which is a hit or miss, but luckily Mrs. Gomez will order anything we need or want. But we compete against those homeschool kids who have a lot more resources, and they have parents who are doctors, or parents who have access to laboratory equipment which we just don’t have! So their parents teach them, they have that one-on-one time with them, they spend all this time on their science fair projects, and y’all have all these other classes to do and extra-curriculars like powerlifting and basketball so, yeah, it’s all about the experience.”

The next thing we proceeded to ask was what she thought of the majority of her kids placing pretty high and being able to move onto state. “I thought for sure that we would get that golden ticket to ISIP, but I’m so proud, and we are going to do well when we make it to College Station where we will be competing against hundreds of people in the categories.”

The next person we asked was JoAngel Davila. The first thing we asked him was how was his experience competing at science fair against other people. He said, “Maybe other than competing against one group in my category, it wasn’t really that bad, it was quite nerve-racking just to think that you could say something wrong to the judge when they are asking questions. Another bad thing was I was stuttering like a LOT.” Next we asked JoAngel what place he got in his category. He responded, “I got second place.” Then, we asked, “What is your favorite memory of the trip?” He said, “I liked taking pictures of Darren and going to Cinergy.” The last thing we asked him was his thoughts on making it to state are, and he said, “Honestly I feel like it’s going to be a lot more stressful since it’s going to take a whole lot longer to get judged now that there’s more categories and people there to go against.”

The next person we decided to interview about the science fair was Piper Donaldson. The first question we started off with was, “How was the competition?” She responded back with, “I was only the person in my category, but there was an off chance that I wouldn’t make it to state. But, the fact is that they gave me the gold medal for first place and let me move onto state, which was pretty neat.” Then we decided to ask, “What is your favorite memory of the trip?” Piper said, “Cinergy! And I won that Hello

Kitty cup and also got my big FAT Garfield from Best Buy.”

Next we decided to interview Diego Jurado. The first thing we asked him was what his thoughts on going to compete at the science fair was. He said, “At first I didn’t really want to and was kind of hesitant, but I’m glad that I did since I got first place! It was a cool experience.” The next thing we asked him was what his favorite part out of the whole trip was. “Probably the bowling cause I smoked everybody that was in our lane so that was pretty fun.” The last thing we asked him was how he feels now that he has advanced onto state and has to compete against others again. “I just can’t wait to go and say that I went to state to compete at the science fair.”

On March 22-24 the students who advanced will be heading to College Station Texas and competing for a spot at ISIP in Los Angeles, California.

What’s going on in art class

By FLAVIO and ITZEL

Ms. Powers’ art class is teaming up with the Chinati Foundation for the spring art class, which so far, is actually a computer class! All art classes were given the task of making a project using Photoshop. We are able to do a lot of things for this project. The Chinati Education team brought in six new computers with Adobe Photoshop and showed us colleges from art history and work by Cindy Sherman.

Several classmates photoshopped themselves with their celebrity crushes, some photoshopped themselves with food, some added muscles to their own pictures, and many more things! We will be working on this for the next month, although other elements will be added like screen printing onto posters and tote bags. Hopefully, like last year, there will be a commercial component so that we can sell our work and use the proceeds to do something really fun like going to Cinergy in Odessa or going to El Paso.

Chinati people have been really helping us and are doing a great job teaching us how to use Photoshop, a skill that can be useful in the future!

We interviewed Belen Soto, who is not in art class, but is in journalism and has been learning Photoshop from her friends who are in art. Our first question was if she likes Photoshop. “Yes, I enjoy it very much. It is a fun activity to do.” I asked her what she was doing on Photoshop. “I have done many things. The most recent thing is Zoey climbing a rainbow trying to get a pot of gold with the words ‘Got this feelin’ in my body.’ I mostly did it for fun, but I think it came out really funny and a way to describe Zoey.”

Zoey Salgado, another student who is not in art class but is doing Photoshopping, has recently become a little obsessed with it. When I asked her about what she was working on right now, she replied by showing me a photo of Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson and several people from Marfa ISD climbing on him. It was very ... interesting to see.

As for me (Flavio), I have been working on a project that basically has cats on the moon. There are a lot of cats, a variety from the internet, and then I added Samantha and Mochi (my cat). However many you’re imagining is an understatement of how many I added. I’m planning on adding more people and more cats.

Madison and I (Itzel Urrutia) are currently working on a project where basketball player for the Philadelphia 76ers Kelly Oubre Jr. is carrying both of us in his hands and is lifting us up on both because he is very strong! And we’ve got a big celebrity crush on him.

The Marfa students are really enjoying this project — during Ms. Powers’ second round conference you can find a lot of freshmen using all the new computers to manipulate imagery into weird and wonderful creations, or at least weird ones. The 45 minutes of fifth period aren’t enough for them! Many are hoping for positive results from their Photoshopping projects, and are using them to make cards and posters for fellow students. Chinati’s people also seem to be happy about our projects and seem to have positive feedback and are helping us every step of the way!

These are some of the latest installments from Marfa ISD's journalism class - more to come.

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.

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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Solution from last week's puzzle:

SOLUTION:

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



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MAR	Thu, Mar 21	Fri, Mar 22	Mon, Mar 25	Tue, Mar 26	Wed, Mar 27
BREAKFAST	STRUDEL,CHEESE CUBES	SHORTHORN SUCCESS DAY	SAUSAGE KOLACHE, YOGURT	CHEESE OMELET, TOAST	FRENCH TOAST, SAUSAGE
LUNCH	HOT SANDWICH, BEANS, CARROTS, FRUIT, SHERBET	SHORTHORN SUCCESS DAY	X TREME BURRITO, CORN, CUCUMBERS, APPLE SAUCE, DESSERT	CHICKEN NUGGETS, MAC AND CHEESE, CARROTS, CUCUMBERS, FRUIT	MOZZARELLA STICKS, MARINARA SAUCE, TOMATO CUP, SALAD, FRUIT

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MARFA SHORTHORNS
SPORTS CALENDAR

THU, MAR 21: HS Track Meet in Rankin, 10:00am
FRI, MAR 22: HS Softball vs McCamey in McCamey, 5:00pm
MON, MAR 25: HS Girls & Boys Golf in Van Horn
WED, MAR 27: JH Track - TBD

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Hereford milk for thirsty kids!

Friday, June 13, 1947
Volume 22, Number 14

Milk from a Highland Hereford! Ridiculous, most people would say. But that will be a proven fact Saturday morning at 11 o’clock.

A Highland Hereford will be sold at auction in front of the Quality Hardware and Furniture, and the money received will be used to buy a milch cow that will be used in a European country where dairy animals are nearly non-existent as a result of the ravages of war.

The project is sponsored by the Suzannah Wesley Circle of the Methodist Church which will forward the money to the right source for the buying of a cow for shipment overseas. The Brethren Service Committee has been engaged in the shipping of dairy cows to Europe for some time and the Marfans’ activity will assist in the work.

J.D. Buntun has given the Hereford that will be sold, and Hayes Mitchell will auction the animal.

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Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg March 5, 2024

ACROSS

1 Weekend comedy show, familiarly

49 Sicilian volcano

51 Being authentic (... letters 6-13)

57 “Exit full screen” key

59 Smiley ____

60 Colt’s mother

61 Takes a different form, or a hint to this puzzle’s scrambled

13 Uncle, in Mexico

14 Jeered from the bleachers

15 Princess’s crown

16 Kitchen pest

17 Large type of a small crustacean (In this answer, unscramble letters 2-8)

19 Greek salad cheese

21 Lyft competitor

22 Reuben bread

23 Major headline material (... letters 3-10)

28 Raggedy Ann, e.g.

29 New Age icon Chopra

32 Little rascal

35 “Voilà!”

37 St. Louis skyline feature

38 Unwelcome one (... letters 5-11)

44 Lawyer

45 Soothing succulent

46 Some nonprofit supporters

70 Musical set in 1960s Baltimore

DOWN

2 Employees

3 Joe Montana, from ‘79-’92

4 State-run game of chance

5 Payment promise

6 Oscar recognition, informally

7 Fix, as code

8 Photoshop producer

9 Madam’s counterpart in 1960s Baltimore

11 West Point’s military branch

12 Stare with an open mouth

15 One-fifth of 15

18 Transmit

20 Bait ____ switch

24 Yellow Brick Road dog

25 Scheme

26 Alan of “Marriage Story”

27 Tucker (out)

30 Beginning of a play

31 Genghis ____

32 Apple tablet

33 Office note

34 Practical joke that victims pick up?

36 Actress

39 ____ gin fizz

40 Name hidden in “whole grain”

41 Formal denial

42 Man with manners

47 Direct (to)

48 Health resorts

50 Pitcher’s prized limb

52 Defunct

53 Apple messaging app

53 Whinny

54 Wipe out, in slang

55 Smoothie

56 Last but not

57 Annual sports award

58 Heel, but not an ankle

62 Friend

63 Part of TGIF: Abbr.

64 Jack’s value in blackjack

65 “What did I tell you?”

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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Doctored Figures by Drew Schmenner

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Sports updates from Marfa ISD athletic director

By LINDA OJEDA

MARFA — Marfa ISD spring sports are in full swing with track, softball and golf competing in various tournaments and games these last few weeks. The

Lady Horns softball squad defeated Fort Hancock via mercy rule last Friday and now look ahead to their next matchup with McCamey next week. The track team will head to Rankin Thursday with the field events and 3200m run beginning at 2 p.m.



Photo courtesy of Marfa ISD Athletics

The Lady Horns softball team will compete against McCamey next week.



Photos courtesy of Marfa ISD Athletics

Left to Right: Andres Solis tracks down a competitor in recent action in Alpine. Dustin Martinez competes in the 3200 meter run. Maryfer Martinez attempts her final jump in the long jump at the Alpine track meet.

OBITUARIES



Harris

Alice Jones Harris was born July 19, 1934, in El Paso, Texas, to Mr. and Mrs. George and Lillian Jones. Alice lived on the Double Circle Ranch in Eagle Creek, Arizona, where her father George Jones was a rancher and ran large numbers of cattle there until 1936. Due to financial and governmental issues, George then moved 22,000 head of cattle to a ranch close to Chihuahua, Mexico.

Alice and her sister Sargie, while living in Mexico, became fluent in Spanish. The sisters were enrolled in Loretto, a boarding school in El Paso. It was there that Alice embraced her affection for soft teddy bears. The nuns of the school reached out to Lillian and told her that Alice was very homesick, and she needed to be picked up. Alice went home for a weekend and returned to school with a teddy bear in her arms. Her love for the little fuzzy friends became a great comfort to her and that lasted throughout her life as she held one through her last months in bed. She affectionately named him "Beau Bear," and he literally never left her side.

The Jones family moved back to Marfa, Texas, in 1940 to continue to live and run cattle on the Billingsley Ranch and ultimately settled on the Kelly Ranch. While attending school in Marfa, Alice was the only student to ride a donkey to school. His name was "Long Ears," and that was just another unique fact that caused Alice to stand out in a crowd. Alice's parents decided to send the girls off to school again, this time in Dallas, Texas. Sargie and Alice attended Hockaday, a school at which Alice participated in several sports, including field hockey (her favorite), field ball, diving, theater and choir. She excelled and was the captain of her field hockey team. Lillian, an entrepreneur of her time, in order to pay for the cost of Hockaday, opened a cantina on the Jeff Davis County line (Presidio County was a dry county.)

Alice was introduced to Bryant Harris at the age of 17 by a friend who later became Sargie's husband. They went their separate ways to attend college, with Alice attending the University of Arizona, and

Bryant attending Texas Tech University.

They reconnected and went on their first date in August of 1958, on a ranch in New Mexico near Magdalena. They stopped while driving back to the ranch house, and as God began uniting their hearts, they beheld a beautiful meteor shower. Bryant said, "The stars fell like rain." This began their journey together that lasted 87 years on this earth but continues today through the incredible legacy left by Alice.

They were married on November 28, 1958, at the Billingsley Ranch located 18 miles from Marfa, Texas. Alice and Bryant lived in Lubbock, Texas, for a short time, then Montana for vehicle maintenance school for Bryant's Air Force training. They then moved to Petaluma, California, for 22 months before returning to the land Alice loved, ultimately staying, and ranching on the Kelly Ranch at the foot of Mt. Livermore in the Davis Mountains.

One of Alice's favorite verses was Psalm 121, "I lift up my eyes to the mountains — where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth."

She loved her life as a rancher's daughter, riding bareback, and as a rancher's wife and mother of her children surrounded by the beauty of God's creation.

Alice had six children, five who lived with her and Bryant for 17 years on the Kelly Ranch. Sarah, her last child, came early and went to be with her Maker after only three days. Michele, Holly, Amy, Ruthy and Andrew experienced so many amazing adventures with their resourceful, loving, talented mom who always put her family before herself every single day.

Alice's love for theater continued through multiple outlets. She directed and had roles in several melodramas in the community, famous for her role as Mustache Agnus. She was an incredible seamstress; thus her talents were used in making elaborate costumes for Halloween, one-act plays and skits to be performed at Bloy's Camp Meeting. She had a way of making everything better, funnier, and just plain fun, bringing light and laughter to the souls of those around her.

4H speeches and poetry were important to her; she loved to see her children learn to overcome fear by being involved in speaking or acting events. She drove her children all over the state of Texas for stock shows (even pulling big trailers), UIL events, and LOTS of tennis tournaments. She had a love of tennis herself and as her kids got older, with her natural athleticism, she quickly became a good tennis

player.

Difficult decisions were made, and in 1977, the family then moved to Brownwood, Texas. There they began a new adventure with the Ike Groce family. Ike was the high school tennis coach there. After Amy's state finalist appearance in the UIL state tournament, the family then moved to Kerrville, ultimately ending up in San Antonio, Texas.

Alice became affectionately known as "Mil" which stands for mother-in-law, courtesy of Rick Perry (son-in-law married to her daughter Holly.) Mil and Pa-Paw (Bryant) lived and loved their home in San Antonio for 44 years. Mil had such a way of making anyone feel like family, and in fact adopted so many along the way, even having some live with them for periods of time. One of Mil's favorite sayings was, "I love you anyway." She adopted many kids as their "mom" and touched them with her steady, unconditional, penetrating, and accepting way of loving as only she could do. Bryant often has said that she taught us all how to love.

Mil's last year, and especially the last eight months were filled with some very difficult and hard times. Her legacy of strength, faith, unflinching love and perseverance that she had sown into the lives of her husband, children and grandchildren provided opportunities for them to give back to her. Andrew and Bryant lived this journey every single day, laying their lives down, taking on the multifaceted needs that come with home care. God provided help from outside the family as well, for which they were very thankful. As the family struggled to walk the journey (and as she almost exclusively reverted to speaking fluent Spanish), the most amazing miracles began to happen in the hearts of all who were privileged to care for her, her immense love that knew no boundaries, her ability to see the good, and her own struggle with letting go of all those she loved so deeply forever impacted them and the generations to come.

Mil and Pa-Paw have 19 grandchildren and 37 great-grandchildren. The family is so thankful for every day Mil lived on this earth, and she will live on through her family, and as Proverbs 31 states: "Her children and her husband rise up and call her blessed — because of her, family was everything."

A graveside service to honor Alice's life and legacy was held at Marfa City Cemetery in Marfa on March 14, 2024.

Online condolences may be left at: www.alpinememorialfuneralhome.com Services have been entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home in Alpine, Texas.

...



Leos

Alex "Binky" Leos, 59, beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother passed away on March 13, 2024, peacefully in his home. Born on September 10, 1964, to Alejandro and Lola Leos, Alex leaves behind a legacy of love and community service and leadership.

Raised in Marfa, Texas, Alex graduated from Marfa High, where he met his high school sweetheart and lifelong love, Minerva. After graduating from Sul Ross State University in 1987, Alex and Minerva married on June 30, 1990, and raised their family in their hometown.

During his 38-year career in law enforcement, Alex served as

an assistant port director for the United States government where he retired in 2021 and later worked for Big Bend Security. Beyond his professional accomplishments, Alex dedicated himself to his beloved Marfa community and volunteered as a youth softball coach and served on the Marfa parks board where he spearheaded numerous parks improvement projects in support of Marfa's youth sports programs. As a respected and revered community leader, Alex also served as a member of the Marfa Athletic Booster Club for over a decade, where he helped support and recognize the numerous academic and athletic accomplishments of the Marfa Shorthorns.

To know Alex was to love him, and Alex's true pride and joy was his family, specifically his children and grandchildren. The title of "grandpa" was the title he wore with the most pride. He cherished every moment spent with his grandbabies, whether watching Camila play softball or Sebastian sink free throws, his love for them knew no bounds. His greatest spoils were saved for his two youngest grandchildren, Mallory and Olivia,

whom he gifted often with hugs, kisses, and toys.

He will be fondly remembered as a caring leader and devoted family man who was a friend to all and stranger to none. Alex is survived by his cherished wife, Minerva Leos; his children Lora Leos Loya (Alpine, Texas), Myra Leos Ontiveroz (San Angelo, Texas), Brandon Leos (San Angelo, Texas); sons-in-law JC Loya (Alpine, Texas), Andrew Ontiveroz (San Angelo, Texas); his four grandchildren; brother Eddie Leos (El Paso, Texas); and sister Grace Bennett (El Paso, Texas).

Services will be held on March 21, 2024, at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Visitation will take place at 9 a.m., followed by the praying of The Most Holy Rosary at 9:30 a.m. The funeral Mass begins at 10 a.m.

Pallbearers will be Adrian Perales, Charlie Wright, Steve Mesa, Andrew Ontiveroz, JC Loya, Larry Serrano, Frank Martinez and Lando Cabezuela.

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

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

DRAWING OF THE WEEK



Dariela Munoz
9th Grade
Etching

Come worship with us



First United Methodist Church

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

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Classifieds & public notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

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



DESTRUCTION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS

In accordance with applicable state and federal regulations, the 588 Educational Cooperative does hereby notify you of its intent to destroy student special education records. All special education records, prior to **July 1, 2017**, will be destroyed. The 588 Educational Cooperative will destroy special education records for the following school districts:

- Alpine Independent School District
- Balmorhea Independent School District
- Culberson County-Allamore Independent School District
- Fort Davis Independent School District
- Marathon Independent School District
- Marfa Independent School District
- Presidio Independent School District
- Terlingua Common School District
- Terrell County Independent School District
- San Vicente Independent School District
- Sierra Blanca Independent School District
- Valentine Independent School District

If you would like to be provided with a copy of the records to be destroyed, please contact the 588 Educational Cooperative by telephone at 432-837-3315, by fax at 432-837-3573, or via mail at 704 W. Sul Ross Ave, Alpine, Texas, 79830.

Records will be destroyed within 90 days of the date of this notice.



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Notice:

Dr. Mark Dwinell's last day of seeing patients at Preventative Care Health Services (dba) Presidio County Health Services, Inc. is April 17, 2024

His patients may:

- Remain as a patient at PCHS and be referred to another practicing provider at this clinic. Make an appointment with Dr. Patrick Daly, Dr. Emily Sliz, Tyler Zher, PA William Mason-FNP and Jose Soto-FNP today.
- Obtain your medical records from this office.
- Request a medical records transfer release to another health care provider.

Aviso:

El último día de el Dr. Mark Dwinell's de ver a los pacientes en Preventative Care Health Services (dba) Presidio County Health Services, Inc. es 17 de abril de 2024

Sus pacientes pueden:

- Permanecer como paciente en PCHS y ser cita con otro proveedor practicante en esta clínica. Haga una cita con el Dr. Patrick Daly, la Dr. Emily Sliz , Tyler Zher, PA William Mason-FNP y Jose Soto-FNP hoy.
- Obtenga sus registros médicos de esta oficina.
- Solicitar una liberación de transferencia de registros médicos a otro proveedor de atención médica.

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Responsibilities include loading and unloading, forklift operation, preparation of shipping documents, verify deliveries, maintain warehouse and other general duties.

Requirements: Must be willing to work flexible hours including evenings, weekends and holidays, ability to work independently, verbal, and written communication skills, working knowledge of computers and forklift experience preferred. Must be able to pass a pre-employment drug screen.

Interested candidates should call (432)729-3071 Ext. 607 or fax resume to (432)375-6241.

Applications are also available at Village Farms Security Stations 3 Miles N. Hwy 17 Marfa, TX or 3 Miles S. Hwy 17 FT. Davis, TX.

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C Speed, LLC has an immediate opening at the CBP Marfa Aerostat Site.

Duties: Perform operation and maintenance of enclosed mooring system and winch vehicles, site power generators, standard motor vehicles, special man lift vehicles, and forklifts. Direct and perform corrective and preventive activities on the aerostat pressure and control subsystems, power subsystems, mechanical and hydraulic subsystems, aerostat hardware and rigging, tether subsystem, and aerostat envelope.

Minimum Qualifications.
Education: High school graduate.
Experience: 5 years' Diesel – Hydraulic mechanical maintenance experience.

Please contact: Cristian Montoya (432) 385-4474 or cristian.montoya@us.qinetiq.com

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Share Your Thoughts About REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH NEEDS in the Big Bend Area

REGIONAL SURVEY

Big Bend Reproductive Coalition wants to know your opinion about reproductive health needs in the Big Bend Region. Participation in this anonymous digital survey will help to inform the services that we provide to our communities. Your voice matters, and your experience matters to us.

Use the QR Code to right or follow the link below to access the BBRC Community Needs Assessment Survey:

bit.ly/BBRC-Survey



COALICIÓN REPRODUCTIVA DEL BIG BEND REPRODUCTIVE COALITION **bigbendrc.org**
@bbreproductivecoalition

PREVENTATIVE CARE HEALTH SERVICES JOB OPPORTUNITIES

NURSING STAFF (MA, CNA) FULL TIME

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.

Residential Appraiser at Brewster County Appraisal District

Brewster County Appraisal District is accepting applications for the following positions:

- **Appraiser-RPA**

Please see Employment opportunities – Brewster County Appraisal District (brewstercotad.org) for additional information.

Responsibilities include office and field work associated with the appraisal of Real/Business Personal Property. Applicants must have a high school education or equivalent and have TDLR certification or be willing to complete requirements to obtain such certification.

Applicants must also possess good computer and people skills; have reliable transportation, and a valid Texas Driver License. Appraisal experience preferred.

Salary is contingent upon experience and qualifications. Applications and/or resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.

Qualifications: any real estate background or tax appraisal background, and mortgage industry as well. Experience in any related field may be substituted. Hours are Mon-Fri 8:30AM -5:00PM, Holiday pay with benefits. Salary depending on experience.

Send information to:
Raymond E. Herrera
Brewster County Appraisal District
107 W. Ave E. #2
Alpine, TX 79830
(432) 837-2558

IN SEARCH OF

Hello, I'm looking for **flat slabs/pieces of old of concrete** for an upcoming project. **2"-6" thick without rebar and wire mesh.** I will haul what I can away!

Thank you!

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stonewallzzz@comcast.net

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GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

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CITY OF MARFA Manny Baeza, City of Marfa Mayor mayor@cityofmarfa.com (432) 295-0048 Raúl Lara, Mayor Pro Tem councilmemberlara@cityofmarfa.com Mark Cash councilmembercash@cityofmarfa.com Eddie Pallarez councilmemberpallarez@cityofmarfa.com Mark Morrison councilmembermorrison@cityofmarfa.com Travis Acreman councilmembeacreman@cityofmarfa.com	BREWSTER COUNTY Judge Greg Henington: (432) 837-2412 Alpine Mayor Catherine Eaves: City Hall: (432) 837-3301 Email: mayor.eaves@ci.alpine.tx.us
JEFF DAVIS COUNTY Judge Curtis Evans: (432) 426-3968	
FEDERAL: U.S. Sen. John Cornyn: (202) 224-2934 (D.C. office) U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz: (202) 224-5922 (D.C. office)	



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