

BURN BAN IN
EFFECT, NO
GROUND FIRES

by order of Presidio County

Democrats
take aim
at Texas
Supreme
Court
races after
abortion
ruling

By ROB D'AMICO
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TEXAS — Republicans have a firm grip on the highest civil court in the state — the Texas Supreme Court — with the party controlling all nine seats since 1998 and winning all three of the 2022 court races by at least 13 points. But a recent ruling by the court on reproductive rights and abortion has spurred Democrats to try and change that dynamic with the founding of a new political action committee and online campaigns meant to convince Texans that their highest court is endangering Texas women.

For the November election, six states are holding citizen-initiated ballot measures to protect abortion rights, with six states already protecting abortion rights with ballot measures in past elections. For Democrats, the ballot box is the only way to fight back on Texas' abortion ban enacted by the Texas Legislature after the U.S. Supreme Court Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization overturned Roe v. Wade.

Susan Hayes, an attorney and longtime activist on abortion rights, said that unlike many other states, Texas does not have ballot initiatives or referendums that allow for residents to gather petitions to put a new law or state constitutional amendment on a ballot or repeal an existing law. Hayes said Texas Democrats need to push more on the abortion rights issue with the state ballot options, so a PAC is a step in the right direction. "It has astounded me that the state party and big pocket donors aren't glomming on to this strategy because it's a way to put abortion on the ballot in Texas," she said.

Hayes, a former clerk for the Texas Supreme Court who has a residence in Alpine, said educating voters on these races can benefit the Democratic candidates up and down the ballot. "It's a great strategy, and it could be something that not only helps win those seats but helps [Democratic U.S. Senate candidate] Colin Allred because it drives out votes if the message gets down to the people who matter the most," she said.

Gina Ortiz Jones, a former contender for U.S. House District 23 that covers the tri-county area, said the recognition of the issue as crucial was obvious to Democrats. "We looked around and made some calls and said, 'Hey, what are we doing about this?'" Jones ended up co-founding a political action committee, Find Out PAC, that intends to address what many see as

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Bridge officials meet to welcome a new lane on the International Bridge in June 2021.

Photo by John Ferguson

Presidio commissioners support transfer of
international bridge ownership

By SAM KARAS
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PRESIDIO — At Wednesday's meeting, the Presidio County Commissioners Court voted in favor of a resolution of support for the transfer of ownership of the Presidio International Bridge from TxDOT to the county. The court also approved an agreement with the North American Development Bank that would provide \$45,000 in funding for a study on the potential risks and rewards with a \$5,000 match from the county.

The Presidio bridge is the only international bridge in Texas owned

by the state. All others are owned by the city or county they're located in.

A year and a half ago, County Judge Joe Portillo — with the help of Texas Sen. César Blanco — tried to push a bill through the Texas Legislature that would make the Presidio International Port Authority (PIPA) into a special taxing entity, but the bill never got off the ground.

Consultant Kelly Barnes of Hilco Partners, a lobbying firm, said that this time the county is taking "a completely different approach" in trying to take control of the bridge — by working with state government to approach the federal

government for an amended permit from the White House.

Barnes gave a presentation about the potential economic benefits to the area, including the creation of up to 43 jobs and up to a \$6.7 billion in "total economic output." The county could explore opening up the bridge to 24/7 commercial traffic instead of only allowing trucks to cross during business hours, which could double or triple business-related crossings.

Judge Portillo has long seen the bridge as the economic future of the county. As a case study, he pointed to the City of Laredo, which owns a bridge that sees \$1 billion of cargo cross back and forth each day —

roughly equivalent to what the Presidio International Bridge moves in 14 months.

Portillo did not necessarily want to see Presidio become as busy as Laredo but was hoping to see the city and county enjoy some of the perks other bridge-owning governments enjoy. "There's no cherry on the ice cream," he said of the cash-strapped county's financial situation. "There's not even any ice cream."

Now that a resolution in support has been signed, the county will approach state officials, who can send a letter of interest to the county

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Marfa ISD hires Fort Davis ISD for early childhood
education partnerships

By MARY CANTRELL
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TRI-COUNTY — School districts across Texas are taking notice of Fort Davis ISD's new early childhood education partnership program after it managed to raise the district's state allotment from \$70,000 to \$1.35 million last year.

The funding windfall comes from one-year renewable legal agreements with early childhood schools that dual enroll pre-kindergarten through second-grade students with FDISD in exchange for 50% of the additional state aid the district receives for those students.

The arrangements are largely

clerical in nature — involving the sharing of attendance numbers and assessment results rather than facilities and students — which has allowed FDISD to partner with schools across the state. Partner schools may continue to charge tuition fees or be religiously affiliated despite entering into these agreements with public school districts.

This year, FDISD has a total of 640 students enrolled and 20 active partnerships. Superintendent Graydon Hicks said the district is aiming to end the year with 900 to 1,000 kids enrolled, raising their allotment to an estimated \$4 million. Before the district implemented

the program they had 170 students enrolled.

Hicks said the program has been a game changer for his financially-struggling, rural district. The district's goal is to grow their fund balance, or savings account, and raise salaries for all district employees with new revenue from the partnerships, he said. "This is a huge, huge benefit," Hicks said. "This is a total transformation of our financial status."

Now, he and Deputy Superintendent Michelle Hartmann want to help other districts establish their own programs. "The more people that are doing it, the more support we can gather from

legislators or influencers in Austin," he added.

Last week the Marfa ISD School Board authorized Interim Superintendent Arturo Alferez to enter into a contract with FDISD to establish an early childhood education program at Marfa ISD. The one-year agreement, which is pending review from MISD's lawyers, involves an upfront fee and additional 10% fee of the total extra funding that's generated.

The upfront fee is \$3,000 per partnership for up to five partnerships, and increases to an hourly rate beyond that, Hicks said. He said FDISD moved to

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City of Presidio seeks to revamp zoning

By SAM KARAS
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PRESIDIO — Last week, the City of Presidio held a town hall to gather public input about the city's zoning laws, which local officials hope to update in a way that benefits home and business owners alike. A revitalized planning and zoning committee also met this week for the first time after a long hiatus, helping jumpstart the process.

Mayor John Ferguson opened the meeting by explaining that there were not any defined plans but that they were hoping the hearing and more regular meetings of the zoning committee would help identify areas of need — for

example, business owners seeking variances to operate farther from the city's main drag, where most of the commercial properties are zoned.

The city currently doesn't provide mixed zoning status, so business owners can't live on the premises. Local business owner Ariel Lara was hoping to see that kind of zoning open up, given that in neighboring Ojinaga, many small business owners live above their shops. "It's generally more economical," he said.

As a caveat, Lara hoped that the city could find a "reasonable middle ground" for businesses awarded mixed zoning status — for example, not opening a nightclub

in a residential neighborhood.

Councilmember Christian Montoya agreed. "It has to be a case-by-case basis, we don't want to open a bar next to a school," he said.

Former city employee Malynda Richardson hoped that the city would carefully consider the consequences of granting numerous variances. "What you end up with is patchwork," she explained. "If you're going to end up with patchwork, you might as well not have any zoning at all."

All agreed that they were in favor of doing all they could to grow small businesses in Presidio. "It's important to bring business to our hometown," Montoya said. "Our

town needs to grow."

Ferguson explained that the changes wouldn't happen overnight and would need to pass through the City Council in the form of an ordinance to take effect. "You don't want to be surprised by something close by making the value of your home — or the quality of your life — go down," he said.

As mayor, he hoped that Presidio residents and business owners felt empowered to reach out to the city for help and said that public input was welcome every step of the way. "I want you to feel comfortable interacting with City Hall," he said. "No one person makes all the decisions."

11 more
dead in OJ
shootings

By SAM KARAS
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OJINAGA — On Friday morning, authorities in Ojinaga found eleven bodies — two of which were decapitated — dumped outside of the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE) facility in Ojinaga. The bodies were accompanied by a note that said a similar fate awaited traitors, Attorney General César Jáuregui Moreno confirmed to the press on Saturday.

Friday's grisly discovery was the latest in a string of cartel-related violence in the area around Ojinaga. The conflict began over the weekend of September 6, when six people were murdered in an area called the "Ojinaga Triangle," which also includes the small towns of Manuel Benavides and Coyame del Sotol.

A 300-strong surge of state and federal police descended upon the border city earlier this month. Law enforcement have continued carrying out security operations on the ground and from the air. On September 12, seven men were arrested on a dirt road between Ojinaga and Manuel Benavides. Supervisory Judge Nora Espino ended up releasing three of the suspects and declining to bring the other four to trial over concerns about due process, El Diario de Juárez reported.

Gilberto Loya, secretary of public safety for the State of Chihuahua, slammed Espino's decision, arguing that a choice made "from the comfort of her office, with the air conditioning running" did not respect the realities of high-pressure police work in some of the state's most remote and extreme environments. "What worries me most is the lack of commitment to the citizens," he said, referring to the thousands of people in Ojinaga waiting for the violence to end.

Since the arrests, authorities have elaborated on earlier statements that the shootouts are the result of a "purge" within La Línea — the cartel in control of the Ojinaga Triangle for over a decade. Authorities cited statements from confidential informants alleging that the violence was sparked by a cartel member who uses the alias "El 04," who was expelled from La Línea by former boss Sergio "El Menchaca" Pizarro. (Menchaca was arrested by American authorities in Presidio not long after.)

El 04 went to work recruiting members of Los Cabrerías, sicarios, or hitmen, for a splinter group of the Sinaloa Cartel in Durango. The informants claimed that the raids earlier in September were sparked by a raid carried out by El 04; the most recent murders were retaliation against his men. "Don't get yourselves mixed up, people, because this is how everyone who follows this p — 's lead will end up," the note accompanying the bodies allegedly read.

Authorities made a less morbid discovery on Saturday, when an investigation into a series of shootings in Coyame del Sotol yielded the recovery of a stolen vehicle, lots of ammunition, and a liger.

The big cat — a cross between a male lion and a female tiger — was reported to be a little over a year old and in good health. She was liberated from her cage by federal officials and is under the care of environmental protection officers. (The El Paso Times noted that tigers and other exotic pets are favored by "drug traffickers and others" across Mexico.)

The international bridge between Ojinaga and Presidio, Texas, has remained open throughout the conflict — but the violence has had an impact beyond the realm of the narcotics. Last Friday, Federico Baeza Mares, president of the Business Coordinating Council of Chihuahua, said that sales in the border city were down 30% as folks who travel from out of town to go shopping have avoided making the trip. "There's been an impact, it can't be denied," he said.

Marfa ISD hires Fort Davis ISD

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offer consulting services to other districts after interested partners exceeded FDISDs capacity and other districts expressed interest in setting up their own programs. But he didn’t just want to “give away” the work they’d spent building the program, he said.

“We’ve worked very, very hard. We’ve had to spend money on attorneys to get interlocal agreements written, memorandums of understanding written, setting up attendance, accounting procedures and processes,” Hicks said. “It’s a lot.”

While Hartmann and Hicks will help locate partners for Marfa and

assist with setting up the program, Alferez will take on running the program within the district.

Hicks plans to use the extra money generated from the consulting program to help offset the additional costs of running the program in his district. While he and Hartmann are currently the main coordinators, it is likely that FDISD will hire two to three more employees to help manage its early childhood education program, he said.

Alferez said while Marfa will pursue the early childhood education program with the help of Fort Davis, specific partnerships

“*The district is aiming to end the year with 900 to 1,000 kids enrolled, raising their allotment to an estimated \$4 million*”

or agreements are not yet in place.

He said the district’s goal is to enroll an additional 150 to 200 students through the program, which will help bring them out of their deficit budget and could help alleviate the district’s hefty recapture payments. “If it wasn’t for recapture, we would have never been in a deficit budget,” Alferez said. “We have to do something in light of that to increase our finances.”

The district’s enrollment has been on continuous decline, and was 194 at the start of the school year, compared to 341 in 2019.

Alferez said Marfa ISD does not

currently plan to hire someone to manage the early childhood education partnerships in-house but may consider doing so in the future if the initiative is successful. For now, Alferez said he plans to learn from Hartmann and build off of what FDISD has already established.

“They already have the blueprint for this,” Alferez said. “The contract that we have, it’s a year contract, so if next year we feel like, ‘Oh, we’ve gotten a grasp of it. We understand the system,’ We can always go seek these out on our own.”

Alferez, echoing previous

sentiments of Hicks and Alpine Superintendent Michelle Rinehart, whose district also engages in the program, said Marfa ISD’s involvement is only necessary due to their dire financial situation. (The district adopted a \$1 million plus deficit budget for the second year in a row this school year.)

“It all has to do with funding,” Alferez said. “Being hostage to school finance at the state capitol, we have to do something on our side to secure [more funds]. We have to do something to stay open.”

Abortion ruling

(Continued from page 1)

a lack of interest in the top judicial races, particularly since Texas is seen as a model in how to outlaw abortion. “We’re the epicenter for the number one issue in the country,” she said.

The impetus for Jones to start the PAC was a May 31 Texas Supreme Court ruling that she said refused to clarify the “medical emergency” exception to Texas’ total ban on abortions — when the life of the mother is at risk. The Center for Reproductive Rights and 22 plaintiffs in the lawsuit (Zurawski v. Texas) sought to force Texas to recognize the need for medically necessary abortions because they had all suffered healthcare crises and risks in situations where Texas doctors — intimidated by penalties up to life in prison for violating state law — refused to perform abortions. The court had also ruled in December against a woman facing life-threatening complications — Kate Cox — because her doctor refused to perform an abortion in a case where the fetus was found to have a chromosomal abnormality, trisomy 18, which in almost all

cases results in miscarriage, stillbirth or only hours to days of survival after birth.

“*We see people who have never been involved in politics or getting involved for the first time, specifically on this issue*”

Much of the conflict in the Texas Supreme Court cases relied on the semantics of whether the state law’s requirement of “reasonable medical judgment” is clear enough for doctors to take the risk of performing an abortion — instead of what a lower court ruled that

should be based more on a “good faith judgment” by the doctor.

“So, I read that opinion in the Kate Cox case, and I said, ‘These folks are elected, they can be unelected,’” Jones said. Find Out then set out to oppose the three Republican incumbents running in November — justices Jimmy Blacklock, John Devine and Jane Bland (Places 2, 4 and 6 respectively). Democratic opponents are DaSean Jones, Christine Weems and Bonnie Lee Goldstein (Places 2, 4 and 6 respectively).

The real revelation, she said, came after Find Out polled Texans on the issue and found that when those polled were educated about the court’s recent decisions, the margin of support for the Democratic candidates increased to where they were only about two points behind the Republican incumbents. “Across the board, it is when you tell them what the bench has done, which is they’ve taken these decisions away from the doctors and they’ve given them to politicians, and when you tell them about the suffering that

has resulted because of that, those two things together moves the needle the most,” Jones said. After the polling, the PAC launched a digital campaign using the same messaging that increased the Democrats’ support in polling.

“We see people who have never been involved in politics or getting involved for the first time, specifically on this issue,” said Amanda Zurawski, the named plaintiff in the case against the state. “We see people who have historically always voted Republican voting Democratic specifically on this issue.”

Zurawski suffered life-threatening sepsis after doctors denied her a medically necessary abortion — because doctors detected fetal cardiac activity — after suffering a preterm prelabor rupture of membranes at 18 weeks of pregnancy. Doctors eventually intervened, but they had to reconstruct her uterus. She was in ICU for multiple days and was left with a damaged fallopian tube that impacted her fertility.

“I think a lot of people don’t know that state Supreme

Court justices are elected, not appointed,” Zurwarski said. “It’s really important for people to pay attention to these races because these are the people who are making decisions for our state that are going to affect the way that we live our daily lives.”

Marfa Democratic activist Hilary Scruggs Beebe said most Texas Democrats are focused on Vice President Kamala Harris’ presidential bid but that it’s important to look down the ballot and be aware of the impact those candidates could have on their lives. “It might take several more cycles for people to understand this issue and start associating the extremes with the Republicans,” she said.

The top of the ticket may be generating the most buzz, but Jones said she’s seeing more energy in her targeted races as well. “Now is definitely the right time to reach people and let them know that, hey, you’re fired up and that’s great, but here are these other races that you can be fired up about too.”

Jones said ensuring that

reproductive rights issues are connecting with voters has been a priority for the Democratic Party nationwide, but that her work is honing in on races that haven’t gotten the attention they’ve needed in Texas. “I think one of my biggest concerns is always apathy, but the closer we get to this election, I think we’re actually seeing the opposite,” she said.

Zurwarski said it’s clear what damage the Texas Supreme Court justices have done in their interpretation of state law, and that needs to be top of mind for Texans when looking at the Republican candidates in November. “These three [Republican incumbents] in particular have made it very clear how they stand on certain issues that are not in line with what the general Texas population believes in,” she said. “And so I think if, if people find themselves not agreeing with them on some of their decisions, they need to vote them out because until we vote them out, they will continue to make these kinds of decisions that are not in alignment with our views and morals as Texans.”

Texas officials say they’ve scrubbed the voter rolls

Here’s how to check if you’re still on them

By **MARÍA MÉNDEZ**
www.texastribune.com

Texas voters have less than a month to register for the Nov. 5 election.

But as county elections officials work to get more people registered, more than 1 million voters have been deemed ineligible. That includes people who moved out of state or are dead — and it’s a routine process.

“We do list maintenance every single day,” said Trudy Hancock, the elections administrator for Brazos County. “So you know it’s not something that’s happened just overnight and something that’s been put in place, but it is important to check your registration.”

Gov. Greg Abbott issued a press release last month touting the removal of ineligible voters, claiming some of them were possibly noncitizens. Experts quickly warned the governor’s framing could be used to undermine trust in elections. At the same time, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton has sued to stop two urban counties from sending voter registration forms to people who are eligible to vote, claiming state law doesn’t allow that kind of outreach and it would risk adding noncitizens to the voter rolls.

Election officials have found no evidence of widespread voting by people who are not citizens in U.S. elections. In 2019, Texas incorrectly flagged 95,000 naturalized citizens for removal from the voter rolls, but backed off those previous removal attempts to settle lawsuits over the matter.

Federal law prevents states from systematically removing registered voters within 90 days of a federal election, though there are some exceptions if the voter has died, been convicted of a felony or been declared mentally incapacitated. Checking your voter registration to make sure it’s active and up to date could save you trouble at the polls. You’ll want to do that before the Oct. 7 deadline to register. It could also help us report on these issues.

Here’s how to check your voter registration. The Texas Tribune, ProPublica and Votebeat want to hear from Texas voters who believe their registrations have been erroneously canceled. Let us know if you find issues with your voter registration through the form at the bottom of this story.

How do I check if I’m registered to vote?

Once you register to vote, you generally remain registered, but there are various reasons why you may want to verify your registration status, especially if you’ve had a name or address change. You can make those updates online at txapps.texas.gov/tolapp/sos/SOSACManager.

- You can check to see if teamrv-mvp.sos.texas.gov.
- You’ll need one of the following three combinations to log in:
 - Your Texas driver’s license number and date of birth.
 - Your first and last names, date of birth and county you reside in.
 - Your date of birth and Voter Unique Identifier Number, which appears on your voter registration certificate.

How are voter registration applications reviewed?

When a person submits a voter registration application, county and state officials verify the person’s eligibility using various sources, including birth and death certificates and the courts system.

Local election officials will review the application to make sure the submitted address is a residential location within the county. They share voter registration records with the state daily. The state also reviews the voter registration before it becomes effective. Registered voters are sent a registration certificate within 30 days and it becomes effective 30 days after it is submitted.

Voters receive a new certificate if they update their name or address. Otherwise, voters are sent a new certificate every two years, according to the state.

What does it mean if my voter registration is in “suspense”?

If a county voter registrar receives a nondeliverable notice after sending a voter registration certificate or receives information that there’s been an address change, a voter is placed on the state’s “suspense list” and asked to confirm their address. Sometimes this can be due to errors at the post office or when a jury summons doesn’t go to the proper address and is returned, said Trudy Hancock, the elections administrator for Brazos County.

Voters on the suspense list can still vote as normal if they update or confirm their address before the voter registration deadline or fill out a “statement of residence” when voting. But if they have moved to a different county or precinct, they may have to vote at their previous polling location or vote a limited ballot.

If a suspended voter takes no action, they are removed from the voter rolls after about four years, according to the Texas secretary of state’s office.

How do I register to vote?

You must complete and submit a paper voter registration application by Oct. 7.

You can request a postage-paid application through the mail or find one at county voter registrars’ offices and some post offices, government offices, or high schools. You can also print out the online application and mail it to the voter registrar in your county.

Applications must be postmarked by the Oct. 7 deadline. Download your application at vrapp.sos.state.tx.us.

Additionally, you can register to vote through the Texas Department of Public Safety while renewing your driver’s license. You may be able to register to vote online if you’re also allowed to renew your license online at txapps.texas.gov/tolapp/txdl. This is the only form of online registration in the state.

What if I registered, but moved after the voter registration deadline?

You must reside in a Texas county by the voter registration deadline to vote in the upcoming election. Voters who are 65 or older, have a disability or will be absent during the entire voting period, such as members

of the military of voters living overseas, qualify for an absentee ballot.

If you are a registered voter but moved after the Oct. 7 deadline, you can vote at your previous polling location if you moved within the same county or political subdivision. Or you can vote at your new polling location, but the ballot will only include races available to voters in both your new and old political districts, such as statewide races. Limited ballots are available only during early voting at a “main early voting polling place.” Those are usually the office of the election administrator or county clerk who runs elections in your county. The main polling place should be noted in a county’s list of early voting locations.

What do I do if I run into issues with my voter registration?

If you have questions or concerns about your registration, you can find your county’s voter registration contact at www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/votregduties.shtml.

Inside polling locations, there are typically “resolution desks” where poll workers can address registration issues. If you believe you should be registered but don’t appear on the voter registration list at the polls, you can cast a provisional ballot. There’s no guarantee that a provisional ballot will ultimately be counted. The best bet to ensure you don’t have problems is verifying

your registration is active and up-to-date ahead of the Oct. 7 deadline to register to vote.

Your local voter registrar must review the provisional ballot and verify your registration within six days of the election. The registrar then passes that information to the local ballot board, which decides whether the provisional ballot is eligible to be counted under election laws, according to the Texas secretary of state’s voter education website at www.votetexas.gov.

Provisional voters must be sent a notice about whether their ballot was counted no later than 10 days after the election is certified.

You can also find more information on frequently asked questions from the secretary of state’s office at votetexas.gov.

If you need help navigating voting issues, a coalition of voting rights groups has a helpline at 866-687-8683. The Texas Secretary of State’s office has a helpline at 1-800-252-8683.

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READ MARFA

READ MARFA needs volunteers for its wonderful fall read-aloud program at Marfa Elementary, which runs from October 8 through November 15. Volunteers read for 30 minutes, once a week, to a small group of students, at a time that fits their schedule. To get involved, call Marfa Public Library at 432-729-4631 or email readmarfa@gmail.com.

READ MARFA está buscando voluntarios para su próximo programa de lectura, que durará del 9 de octubre al 17 de noviembre. Los voluntarios leen por treinta minutos, una vez a la semana, a un pequeño grupo de estudiantes en un horario que sea conveniente a su horario. Para participar, llame a Marfa Public Library al 432-729-4631 o envíe un correo electrónico a readmarfa@gmail.com.

Jeff Davis court still stuck on hiring community center contractor

By JEANINE BISHOP
For The Big Bend Sentinel

FORT DAVIS – Jeff Davis County Commissioners were once again stalled on an attempt to approve a contractor for the county’s community center renovation and fared no better on efforts to finalize the location of a proposed “clinic in a box” for county residents during Tuesday's regular meeting.

Following public comments by resident Melanie Blackman urging commissioners to slow down and be mindful of procedures and transparency on both projects, court members failed to raise a motion

on the second attempt to approve a contractor for the community center project. A lengthy discussion on the project included input from County Attorney Glen Eisen and County Treasurer Dawn Kitts.

The planned construction is to be funded by the HUD grant, along with additional grants from the Brown Foundation and the FMH Foundation totaling just over \$3 million, without the use of county tax monies. Commissioner Royce Laskoskie again voiced his concerns that the county’s procedures for obtaining contractor bids had been circumvented on this project.

Action on the agenda item to approve the location of the proposed medical clinic on the property of the fire hall near the new bunkhouse

also died after Laskoskie said, “This has never been discussed in this courtroom during commissioners court.” With no motion put forth, there was no action on the item.

The cost of the federally qualified health center, or FQHC, is estimated to be around \$6 million, a sum County Judge Curtis Evans has stated would be raised solely through grant funding.

In other business, the court approved the lone bid received for road maintenance submitted by Jarratt Dirtwork, approved the formal hiring of interim Emergency Medical Services Director Peggy Moats, and quickly tackled seven fiscal year-end budget amendments and another seven routine agenda items.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pedestrian struck and killed in Presidio

PRESIDIO — Around 9:20 on Friday morning, a pedestrian was struck and killed by a vehicle near the intersection of Highway 67 and Rosedale Avenue. Local law enforcement responded to the scene and an investigation has been handed over to the state. The deceased is Armando Roman Flores, 81, according to Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace Juanita Bishop.

Presidio Police Chief Adan Covos said he wanted locals to be aware of the situation in light of recent violence across the river in Ojinaga. He said that the incident was completely unconnected to this morning’s grisly discovery of 11 more dead in an ongoing cartel shoot-out.

According to Covos, his department quickly ruled the death an accident instead of an intentional crime. “The person in the vehicle was not really at fault because there are no crosswalks there,” he told the Big Bend Sentinel.

Area Democrats hold ‘get-out-the-vote’ events

TRI-COUNTY— Area Democrats are hosting three events to let residents meet candidates and discuss the issues in hopes it will energize them to vote on Election Day.

Brewster County

Friday, September 27, 6 p.m. at the Granada Theater, 207 E. Holland, Alpine. Food, drinks, and music.

Presidio County

Saturday, September 28, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Presidio Activity

Center, 1200 E. O’Reilly, Presidio. Food, drinks, door prizes and special guest speakers, along with music from Primo y Beebe.

Jeff Davis County

Sunday, September 29, with lunch at 12:30 p.m. at the Mountain View Café located at 501 TX 118, Fort Davis.

Friends of state park launch online auction

TRI-COUNTY — Friends of Big Bend Ranch State Park, the official 501(c)3 nonprofit partner of Big Bend Ranch State Park, is having an online auction October 1 to 17 raising funds to support and sustain the park.

Auction items include Big Bend area outfitter expeditions, lodgings in unusual locations and gift offers by local vendors and artists. Check out the auction on their website www.friendsofbigbendranch.com.

CBP Officers make huge bologna and prescription drug bust at Presidio port

PRESIDIO — U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers working at the Presidio Port of Entry seized 748 pounds of Mexican bologna on September 23, 2024. The prohibited meat was in a vehicle that arrived from Mexico. CBP officers also discovered more than 280 boxes of undeclared prescription medications while searching that same vehicle.

"We stress that it is important that travelers educate themselves on what products are allowed to be legally entered from abroad. And even if they believe an item is allowed, travelers should still declare all items they are transporting to the U.S. to avoid fines and penalties," said CBP Presidio Port Director Benito Reyes Jr. “The concern with pork products

is that they have the potential to introduce foreign animal diseases that can have devastating effects to the U.S. economy and to our agriculture industry.”

The seizure was made at 4 p.m. when a 43-year-old female U.S. citizen driving a 2023 GMC Yukon arrived from Mexico. The driver declared a cooked meal during the primary inspection. CBP agriculture specialists initiated a secondary exam during which they removed several suitcases from the vehicle. The suitcases seemed heavier than normal. The agriculture specialists opened one suitcase and found numerous rolls of Mexican bologna inside. A total of 40 rolls were found in the suitcases.

Mexican bologna is a prohibited product because

it is made from pork and has the potential for introducing foreign animal diseases to the U.S. pork industry.

CBP agriculture specialists continued their exam and located hundreds of boxes of undeclared medication hidden inside various panels of the vehicle including Tramadol, which is a schedule IV controlled substance. Other medications removed from the vehicle included Fentermina, Alprazolam, Clonazepam, Diazepam, Farmapram, Ampigran, Sulfamethoxazole and more.

The driver was issued a \$1,000 civil penalty and the bologna was seized and destroyed by CBP agriculture specialists per USDA regulations. The medication

was seized. CBP officers also seized the conveyance and more than \$7,600 in concealed currency.

Bologna smuggling has been common for years, sometimes mainly for the eventual consumption of the meat, although recent drug busts have resulted from narcotics stuffed into hamburger meat and watermelons.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Department of Homeland Security are partners in the effort to protect American agriculture against the introduction of pests and diseases at the nation's ports of entry. Undeclared prohibited agriculture items will be confiscated and can result in the issuance of a civil penalty for failure to declare.



Ballroom Marfa Supper Club presents / shed with Johnny Ortiz-Concha

This Weekend at THE CAPRI
MARFA, TEXAS

Founded by Johnny Ortiz-Concha, / shed is an ongoing meditation on where Ortiz-Concha and his partner, Maida Branch, live and are from in Northern New Mexico. Ballroom Marfa Supper Club with / shed brings together the foods of Northern New Mexico and West Texas, following the connection between these two lands through the Rio Grande. Inspired by both places, the collaboration will also unite Ortiz-Concha's practices with food and clay.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 // 2:00 - 3:30 PM FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

Screening of **CLAY**, a film produced by Maida Branch about Johnny Ortiz-Concha's ceramics practice, followed by a talk with Branch and Ortiz-Concha moderated by James Beard Foundation Award-winning journalist, Shane Mitchell

Opening reception for an installation of newly made micaceous clay vessels by Johnny Ortiz-Concha, presented by Object & Thing - a percentage of sales will be donated to Ballroom Marfa

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 // 9:00 - 10:00 AM FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

Breakfast Breads Baked by Allysa Ortiz at the Horno

Ballroom Marfa presents / an Evening with Tim Bernardes at THE CAPRI

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 // Doors at 7:00 PM Show at 8:30 PM TICKETED \$40

Concert with Tim Bernardes
A Latin Grammy-nominated singer, songwriter, musician, composer and producer, Tim Bernardes has also collaborated with Fleet Foxes, Tom Ze, David Byrne, Gal Costa, Devendra Banhart, Shintaro Sakamoto and more. Bernardes has emerged as one of Brazil's most profound musical talents of his generation, a contemporary artist with deep roots in Brazil's verdant musical heritage.

Plus a special guest appearance by the Roll-O Dairy Bar, a 1958 Coca-Cola food truck turned south jersey dairy bar, will be serving grass-fed burgers, tallow fries, milkshakes, sodas, and salads.

BALLROOM

O B J E C T
& T H I N G



Opinion

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Adequately funding public education

As a retired Texas public school teacher (and mother, daughter-in-law and aunt to other school teachers), I am concerned about trends in Texas public education. In my opinion Texas legislators are starving our public education system.

Our daughter has a new job teaching kindergarten in a metroplex public school. There are 25 pupils enrolled in her class. Her colleague has 26 students. The state law says that capacity is 22 pupils at that grade level (without an exception granted by the Texas Education Agency). There should be another teacher hired to reduce the class size.

Our daughter and her coworker each have a special needs child in their classrooms who is not receiving services. My niece, a kindergarten teacher in Ohio, says she can't imagine teaching kindergarten students without a classroom aide. Nationwide, the average number of students needing special services is 13%. Texas is willing to fund special services for 9% of the school population. That other 4% is left to languish in the regular classroom, leaving the regular classroom teacher at wits end to accommodate the needs of all in his/her classroom.

Administrators are doing all they can with their hands tied by our legislators who are refusing to fund the schools with money that is in the state's coffers. Texas lawmakers have turned their backs on Texas educators who want to do everything they can for the children in their care. Is the Legislature's goal to bleed public education dry in Texas?

The Texas Constitution says public education must be funded. Considering our children are our greatest resource as a nation, we must ensure that the Legislature adequately funds public education.

L. P. Martin
Jeff Davis County Democrat

...

Sen. Blanco renews call for better healthcare access

AUSTIN — During a Texas Senate Health and Human Services Committee meeting last week, Senator César J. Blanco reaffirmed his dedication to improving access to healthcare for Texans, particularly in underserved and rural communities.

With the growing healthcare deserts across the state, Senator Blanco emphasized the need for ensuring every Texan, no matter their zip code, has the ability to receive timely, affordable and quality care. “Our healthcare system is leaving too many Texans behind — especially those living in our rural areas,” Blanco said. “In many counties, families face a stark reality: either travel long distances for care or go without. Mothers, fathers and grandparents are forced to make difficult choices between seeking the care they need or skipping treatment altogether because it’s too far, too costly, or simply unavailable.”

Blanco, a longtime advocate for healthcare access, introduced the HEAL Texans Act during the 88th Legislative Session to expand access to quality healthcare and address Texas’ healthcare workforce shortage. Blanco highlighted the urgent need to strengthen healthcare infrastructure by incentivizing primary care providers to serve in rural areas, expanding telemedicine, and supporting rural hospitals at risk of closure. He emphasized that without legislative action, the gap between urban and rural healthcare access will continue to widen, leaving more Texans without the care they deserve.

“There’s no doubt: nurse practitioners are already providing the quality care their community needs,” said Dr. David Hackethorn, internal medicine specialist and Texas Silver-Haired Legislature member. “With Texas facing a dire shortage of about 5,000 primary care providers, letting nurse practitioners use their full training and skills is a critical step toward solving Texas’ access to healthcare crisis.”

"Out of the 254 counties in Texas, 224 are experiencing shortages in primary care professionals, making it difficult for many Texans to access healthcare services," said Tom Aldred, executive director of Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute. “Allowing APRNs to practice to the top of their license is an obvious part of the solution to this problem and could also reduce healthcare costs. Multiple studies have shown APRNs are highly qualified to serve patients in this role, given their extensive education and training. More than half of the country already utilizes full practice for APRNs, and a dozen more give them considerably more authority than Texas does. It is time for Texas to follow suit and better utilize qualified APRNs to improve access to healthcare."

"APRNs provide safe, cost effective care to Texans in need," said Emily Brizzolara-Dove, policy advisor for Texas 2036. “The current regulatory structure hamstring these providers with an undue administrative and financial burden that does not provide value to patients. The HEAL Texans Act seeks to ease administrative pathways so that additional capacity can be added to the healthcare workforce in areas of Texas that desperately need it."

“This legislation is not just about policy — it’s about people,” Blanco continued. “It’s about the women and new mothers who struggle to find basic prenatal and reproductive care. It’s about the children who have to wait weeks to get the pediatric care they need because the pediatrician is only in town every so often. And it’s about the senior citizens who can’t grow old in the place they want to retire because they live in a county without a single full-time doctor. These are the faces we can’t forget. We need to show up for them.” Blanco added, “I want to thank Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and Chair Lois Kolkhorst for prioritizing access to care as an interim charge this session. Access to healthcare should never be a privilege that’s determined by your address. It’s a basic human right. We owe it to our underserved and rural communities to ensure that healthcare is within reach for every Texan.”

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JUDD

Judd Foundation is open Tuesday through Saturday and offers two distinct guided visits. Please visit our office, 104 South Highland Avenue, or website for the current schedule.

For more information and to book reservations please visit juddfoundation.org or call 432 729 4406.



OP-ED

Our IVF Story

By: Hilary Scruggs Beebe

David and I celebrated our daughter's first birthday at home in Marfa in June. The occasion marked the passing of a raucous year of new experiences, tender moments and the greatest happiness we have ever known. We regarded the milestone as a miracle because, not long ago, we did not think the joy of family was a possibility for us.

On the day we married, our combined age was 87. As individuals, we had found satisfaction in our single lives until a surprising and uncommon relationship grew between us and swept us in a wholesome new direction. David did not question our fertility. I felt doubts from when we first started trying. I was soon minutely focused on every day of my cycle, every indication of my body, tracked fastidiously on an app on my phone. Months passed and any optimism faded, as every time, our anticipation culminated in a negative test. “My only advice to you,” offered a close friend with a similar experience, “is to get ALL the information.”

When the initial tests came back, the report on me was favorable. David's sperm count was abysmal, and a surgical procedure was required to confirm our viability. Even more alarming, we learned that we were both carriers of a rare genetic disorder that could affect our baby physically and developmentally. I spent hours on Google — a random child born in the United States has a 1/50,000 chance of being born with this disorder — our child's odds were 1/4.

At first, we resisted the idea of IVF. David and I shared a concern that the stress of infertility and disappointment would damage what was otherwise a happy life. We had seen friends, so desperately wanting children, diminished with grief and frustration. We vowed to stay focused on what we did have — a loving relationship, dear family and friends, a home we adore in what we consider the greatest small town in America — as opposed to what we didn't have. We initiated fertility treatments with the understanding that if we stopped feeling good about it we would discontinue.

We started our journey in January of 2022. The egg retrieval would take place in July. I found the egg retrieval process disorienting and uncomfortable. The shots I administered to myself multiple times a day contained hormones that would basically make my body ovulate a lot of eggs at once. Approximately every other day I went to the clinic for an ultrasound and a blood test to monitor progress. The egg retrieval would coincide with a procedure on David. Waking up from the operation, I recall the nurse's face coming into focus and she was smiling and I felt hopeful. It was a relief to go home to Marfa and wait for news.

A nurse would call and give us updates. They were able to retrieve 27 eggs, which was quite good for a 42-year-old woman. Out of those 27, 19 were successfully fertilized. Out of the 19, just 7 made it five days to reach the “blastocyst” stage, at which point the embryo can be genetically tested and/or implanted. We didn't know what to think. Sometime in late August we learned that out of those 7, we had just one healthy embryo. The nurse asked me if I wanted to know the sex — it was a girl.

We were scheduled for implantation in early October. Prior to that, I would administer another round of daily shots and pop in and out of the clinic for tests and ultrasounds — this time to build up the lining in the uterus and determine the optimal time to implant the egg. Before donning the surgical gown, a nurse handed me a black and white picture of our embryo under a microscope — a blastocyst is approximately 30 cells in total and roughly the size of a single poppy seed. It was not much to look at, to be honest; a blob of genetic matter that contained the potential to make our greatest dream a reality.

I was awake during the implantation and David held my hand. The embryologist gave us encouraging words. We had a high-quality embryo — better than many couples get after multiple tries — and our chances were as good as one could hope. She also confided with an earnest expression that she was an IVF baby herself. I don't think the lump in my throat had subsided when the procedure was already complete.

Back to Marfa, where we were now in the only part of the process that was familiar — the miserable “two week wait.” What really were our odds? What could I do to increase them? What was supposed to be happening? What signs might indicate that it did/did not work? I tried to rest, ate pineapple, ran the essential oil diffuser (geranium), Googled everything constantly, and read hundreds of testimonials on Reddit, trying to maintain my zen, until I frankly couldn't take it anymore. Fifteen minutes later, I emerged from the bathroom in tears and clamoring to find David; for the one and only time in my life, the test was positive.

David and I initially planned to share our story for the benefit of those in our community who are quietly struggling with fertility. We know we are fortunate that our IVF journey was short and successful. We give credit to Dr. Gregory Neal and his team at the Fertility Center of San Antonio.

Last week, Republicans in the U.S. Senate gave us another reason to share our story when they defeated the Right to IVF Act, authored by Illinois Senator Tammy Duckworth. Like us, Senator Duckworth owes her family's very existence to IVF access. Calling her bill a political ploy, Texas Senator Ted Cruz has proposed an alternative that he calls the IVF Protection Act. Cruz's bill does not protect IVF, but rather strips states of Medicaid funding if they enact an IVF ban. If our senator's cynicism is not already obvious, it bears mentioning that the red states (like ours) that are most likely to ban IVF are the same red states that are hostile to Medicaid expansion. Ted Cruz threatens extremists in the Texas Legislature with a good time.

Our daughter is a ninth-generation Texan, born one year to the day after the U.S. Supreme Court released their decision in the Dobbs case, effectively ending Roe vs Wade. For me, that recollection illuminates the fact that, under Republican leadership in this state, my daughter holds fewer rights than her grandmother and I did.

Like the right to abortion, David and I hope the right to IVF is not one our baby girl ever has to exercise. We pray that our daughter has an easier path than we had. We pray that our daughter may discover her passions and embrace her dreams, that she may grow into a strong woman, accomplished in her own right, a leader and an asset to her community. We pray that, one day, she will find the perfect partner to share life's journey, and that if they desire, they may know the joy of family in their own time and on their own terms.

The fact is, IVF is the answer to that prayer for thousands of Texans. With that — and our daughter's rights — top of mind, when David and I go to the ballot box in a few short weeks, we will be voting against Ted Cruz and the Texas Republicans who threaten her future.

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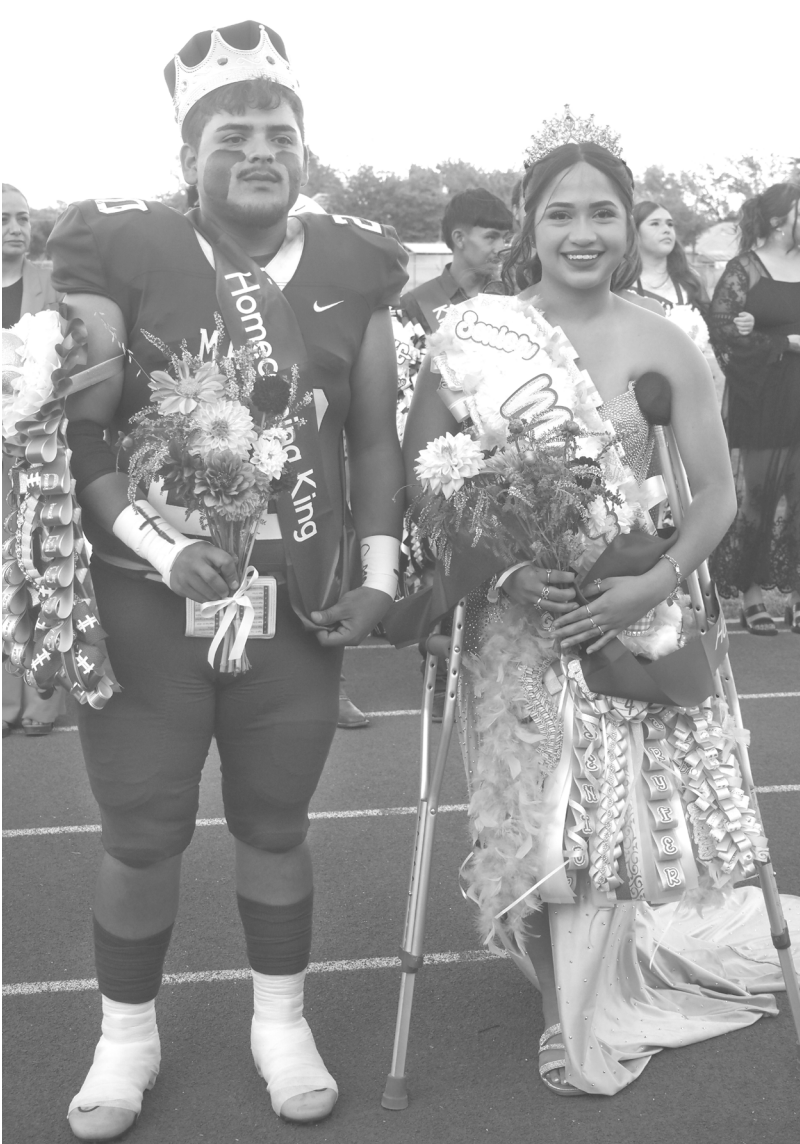
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Marfa High School 2024 homecoming court crowned



Photos by sophomores Zoey Salgado and Belen Soto-Torres

Marfa High School seniors Diego Jurado and Mayfer Martinez were crowned homecoming king and queen this past Friday before the homecoming game at Martin Field.

Marfa High School seniors Janayah Villa and Andres Solis were crowned homecoming princess and prince.

MARFA — Marfa High School seniors Diego Jurado and Mayfer Martinez were voted this year’s homecoming king and queen by the student body and were crowned last Friday before the homecoming football game against Sierra Blanca.

The Shorthorns beat the Vaqueros in a landslide victory 54-0. Jurado and Martinez were bestowed their crowns by last year’s king and queen, Luis Solis and Fernanda Rivera. Prince and princess were Andres Solis and Janayah Villa.

Jurado said being named this year’s homecoming king is a “one of a kind feeling.”

“My heart was pounding when they announced Andres as prince! And then they said my name, and it was the best feeling,” Jurado said. “Winning the game after was the cherry on top!”

Martinez agreed hearing her name announced as queen was an exciting, yet nerve-racking moment. “Being homecoming queen feels very exciting and joyful! The best part of the night was probably when they announced my name because I didn’t expect it at all,” Martinez said. “I’m injured and can’t play volleyball this season, so this is a highlight of my senior year!”

Solis said it was a tight race, and he was proud of his campaign. “It makes me feel really great to know that a bunch of people voted for me,” Solis said. “Both the king and queen votes were only separated by three. I think I ran a good campaign, a lot of people liked my comida!”

Villa credited her success to the campaign she ran alongside Kiko Rosas. “Me personally, me and Kiko, we brought good food and drinks, and I’m happy with the campaign we ran,” Villa said. “It was so close! But I got a sash and flowers and a crown, and I’m happy!”

International bridge ownership

(Continued from page 1)

in support of transferring ownership of the bridge.

The power ultimately rests with the federal government — only the White House can issue permits pertaining to the operation of international bridges. With the state’s blessing,

Presidio County can file a permit amendment to the State Department, which has 90 days to review the potential changes. The permit then gets passed on to the White House, which has 120 days from that point to make a final decision.

Barnes said that there were a lot of steps to complete before a more set-in-stone plan could be offered to local residents and officials. “This is just us doing our homework and providing information about what other ports have done,” he said.

Wildlife project will temporarily close remote sections of the national park

BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK — On October 9-10, 2024, the National Park Service (NPS) will continue with measures to protect native desert bighorn sheep at Big Bend National Park, which includes reducing the population of non-native aoudads (Barbary sheep).

The Mesa de Anguila will be closed October 9-10 while the NPS works with the Texas Parks and Wildlife to survey for bighorn sheep and remove aoudad using helicopters and staff trained in aerial shooting operations. Areas will be closed the evening before the

survey and closure areas will reopen once the surveys are completed, so please follow posted closure signs for trailheads and roads. The Rio Grande and Santa Elena Canyon Trail will remain open.

The Deadhorse Mountains and surrounding areas, including the Dagger Flat Road and Old Ore Road (see map), will also be surveyed for bighorn sheep and aoudads during this time. Areas will be closed the evening before the survey and closure areas will reopen once the surveys are completed, so please follow all posted closure signs for

trailheads, roads, and campsites.

Barbary sheep are native to the dry mountains of Northern Africa, but now thrive within the rugged landscape of West Texas. Over the last 30 years, Barbary sheep have established a foothold within the park and their population has increased significantly in recent years, with hundreds now roaming the area.

Barbary sheep occupy the same habitats as the park’s small population of native desert bighorn sheep and negatively impact the natural ecology of the park. Large

groups of aoudad can prevent desert bighorn from accessing water, threaten biodiversity, and impair park visitors’ ability to experience natural conditions and scenery.

This effort is part of Big Bend’s long-term, integrated approach to control exotic animals and protect park resources. Management of aoudad is in keeping with the Big Bend Exotic Animal Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, finalized in June 2018. For maps of closure areas, visit www.nps.gov/bibe/learn/news/aoudad-survey-24.htm.

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Music series continues



Photo by Jennifer Pittinger

La Lom members, from left, bassist Jake Faulkner, guitarist Zac Sokolow, and percussionist Nicholas Baker.

La Lom, or Los Angeles League of Musicians, took the stage on September 15 at The Capri in Marfa for a wild mix of cumbia, soul ballads and rock — paying homage to much of the ‘50s and ‘60s music from Los Angeles. The Los Angeles friends have been playing together in the L.A music scene since they were teenagers. Ballroom Marfa’s series continues on Saturday at the Capri with Tim Bernardes — with Jess Williamson and Sam Walker set for November 30. Bernardes, based in Brazil, is a Latin Grammy nominated singer, songwriter, composer and producer. Ballroom Marfa describes his music as: “Elements of choral mysticism, sparkling instrumentation and Bernardes’ haunting voice come together in a transcendent sonic experience.” Doors open at 7 p.m., show at 8:30 p.m., and \$40 tickets can be purchased at www.ballroommarfa.org.

John Klingemann chosen to lead Museum of the Big Bend

ALPINE — Sul Ross State University and the Museum of the Big Bend (MOBB) are pleased to welcome John Klingemann, Ph.D., back to Alpine as the new director and assistant vice president of advancement, and as a professor in the Department of History. A Brewster County native, Klingemann is a graduate of Alpine High School and received his bachelor’s degree in Spanish and master’s degree in history from SRSU. He worked with the Center for Big Bend Studies and as the curator of public programs and exhibits at MOBB before enrolling at the University of Arizona to pursue his doctoral degree in Latin American history, later receiving a Fulbright Fellowship for research in Mexico. He returned as a professor of Latin American history at Angelo State University in 2007 and was



John Klingemann, Ph.D.

promoted to chair of the History Department in 2014. “John has an impressive resume, as do many of those who work up here on ‘the hill,’ but it would be disingenuous if I didn’t acknowledge that his connection to Sul Ross and the Big Bend area didn’t play a factor in our choice,” said SRSU President Carlos Hernandez. “The Museum of the Big Bend is representative of West Texas and our border culture — from history to the natural sciences to art,” Hernandez said. “John knows this place and he knows the people. We are excited about where the MOBB is headed, and we’re looking forward to big things.”

For the last five years, he has served as the dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at ASU, and as the director of the Mayer Museum, a 32,000-square-foot science and culture museum that immerses visitors of all ages in the history of the Concho Valley of Texas. "I thank the good folks at Sul Ross State University for providing me the opportunity to return home and continue the legacy of the Museum of the Big Bend and the university," Klingemann said. "I look forward to working with everyone on campus and in the community to provide folks in West Texas and beyond a great experience when they visit the museum and campus. I am blessed and humbled to be back in Alpine, Brewster County and West Texas." For more information, visit museumofthebigbend.com.

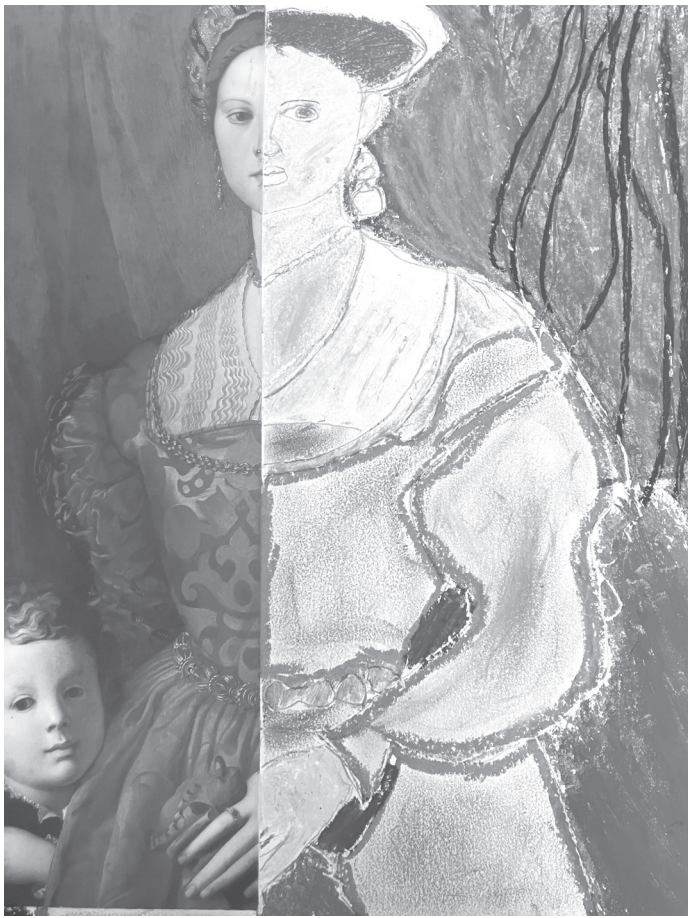
Dual credit, transfer students boost enrollment at Sul Ross State University

ALPINE — Dual credit and transfer students are driving an enrollment surge at Sul Ross State University’s Alpine campus this fall. Total enrollment in Alpine is 1,934 compared to 1,481 in Fall 2023, an increase of over 30%, based on data that will be reported to legislators and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. This fall, there are 497 dual credit students enrolled at the Alpine campus, up from 369 students in the spring, and 58 in Fall 2023, an increase of nearly 764% since the university began engaging more public school districts — a strategy

that continues to pay-off. “Dual credit students are included in our formula funding from the State of Texas,” said President Carlos Hernandez. “That means they impact the funding we get from the State in a positive way, increasing operating budgets so we can recruit and retain residential students.” Residential undergraduate student enrollment increased by 26 students (2.4%) across all levels, particularly amongst juniors and seniors, suggesting that deliberate retention efforts are having an impact. Transfer students increased to 146, up from 85 last fall. The university’s residence

halls are again filled to capacity. While several units are undergoing repairs and maintenance, students are temporarily tripled in some rooms. Instructional sites in Eagle Pass, Del Rio and Uvalde saw a small decrease this fall, down 19 students or 3.5%. Across all four campuses, total enrollment is 2,576, an increase of over 20%. Hernandez said, “We are headed in the right direction and will continue to invest in market-driven degree programming and in retention activities to engage our students.” For more information about SRSU, visit sulross.edu.

DRAWING OF THE WEEK



Aubrey Cenicerros
6th Grade - Oil Pastel & Collage

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.

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution from last week's puzzle:

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

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg October 7, 2024

ACROSS

- 1 Deep cut
5 Big butte
9 Pretend to be
14 Big show
15 Beasts of burden
16 Mine passage
17 "Cool!"
18 Pirate Lafitte
19 Like many breath fresheners
20 "Heavy" music played at the opening ceremonies of biennial games?
23 Lend a hand
24 Broadcast time
28 Church roof features where loudspeakers blast hymns to an overflow crowd?
31 Spam sender
34 "By yesterday!"
35 They may shade streets
36 It shows the way
38 Bird-to-be
40 Parkinson's drug
41 Animal with a mane
42 Name that sounds like a car
44 Dog such as a Pekingese

- 45 Reality show where tribes must perform Aretha Franklin music?
50 Fats Domino's real first name
51 Cooks over boiling water
55 Hip-hop producer's words after a successful recording?
58 Out of gas (1979 film)
61 Corn Belt state
62 Make reference to
63 Blood line?
64 41-Across sound
65 Henri's head
66 Canon's competitor in copiers
67 Midwestern ice cream brand
68 Go down a snowy hill

DOWN

- 1 Salami selection
2 Skating jumps
3 Fixes, as a female pet
4 It may pick up a scandalous comment
5 Cuban cocktails
6 Biz bigwig
7 Stitched line
8 Temper, as titanium
9 Capital of Eritrea

- 10 Crib successor
11 Sunbather's goal
12 Astern
13 Hog's home
21 "Don't give me that guff!"
22 Comedian
25 Apportion
26 Orchestra's pace
27 English exam finale, often
29 "Norma ____"
30 HS course for a future poli-sci major
31 Model airplane material
32 Betelgeuse's constellation
33 Rainbow, cutthroat or speckled fish
37 Being borrowed by
39 VW Golf model
40 Plunders
43 Emmy winners, often
46 Levy on liquor or Luckies
47 Sch. near Minnesota's western border
48 Stop working
49 Flinches or frowns
52 Animated mermaid
53 Photo finish
54 Floor it
56 Top part of a certain sweatshirt
57 "Shoo!"
58 Jazz instrument, briefly
59 "The Fall of the House of Usher" writer
60 Make a mistake

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

P	R	E		R	U	S	E			O	D	D	I	T	Y
L	E	N		O	N	T	V			R	O	O	K	I	E
A	D	D		A	C	A	I			C	O	G	E		N
N	E	U	T	R	A	L	C	R	A	Z	Y				
E	Y	R	E		P	E	T	E		Y	E	E	T	S	
T	E	E	N				E	T	A		A	M	I	E	
				D	R	I	V	E	A		N	D	R	I	D
					O	N	E		I	T	O		T	E	N
P	A	R	K	E	N	G	I	N	E	E	R				
E	D	I	E		S	G	T					E	G	G	S
S	A	T	Y	R		I	S	A	Y		P	O	R	T	
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Music to My Ears by Paul Coulter

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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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THIS
NEWSPAPER

MARFA SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

MAY	Thu, Sept 26	Fri, Sept 27	Mon, Sept 30	Tue, Oct 1	Wed, Oct 2
BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST PARFAIT, JUICE, FRUIT, MILK	FRENCH TOAST, SAUSAGE, JUICE, FRUIT, MILK	NO SCHOOL	BURRITO, HASH BROWN, JUICE, FRUIT, MILK	BREAKFAST COMBO, JUICE, FRUIT, MILK
LUNCH	PIZZA CHOICE, TOMATO CUP, GARDEN SALAD, PEARS	X-TREME BURRITO, WHITE CHEESE, CORN, CUCUMBERS	NO SCHOOL	BREADED DRUMSTICK, BISCUIT, SALAD, POTATOES, FRUIT	FRITO PIE, BEANS, TOMATOES, CHILLED PINEAPPLE, DESSERT

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MARFA SHORTHORNS
SPORTS CALENDAR

27th: HS Football in Sanderson: 7:30pm - 8:30pm
28th: JH/HS Cross Country Meet in Alpine
29th: JH/HS Cross Country Meet in Alpine

Shorthorns mop up Sierra Blanca on homecoming



Photos by sophomores Zoey Salgado and Belen Soto-Torres

The Marfa Shorthorns bested the Sierra Blanca Vaqueros at the homecoming football game this past Friday 54-0. Derick Campos and Austin McGary helped lead the team to victory.



HOMECOMING 2024

MARFA — The Shorthorns put on a show of all in attendance to Friday night's homecoming game at Martin Field.
Marfa made light work of Sierra Blanca by achieving a double-digit victory in the middle school game and blanking the Vaqueros varsity team by mercy rule, 54-0.
Maverick Milligan continues to lead the Shorthorns in scoring and is

currently one of Marfa's leaders in yards gained per play, along with Derick Campos. The Horns now hit the road to Sanderson Friday to take on the Eagles.
Marfa's volleyball team defeated Iraan Saturday three sets to none and are off this weekend with a bye.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

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July 22, 1982

Bridge go-ahead signed

Gov. Bill Clements announced Wednesday that an agreement had been signed clearing the way for construction of the international bridge between Presidio and Ojinaga, Mexico.

Mutual commitments between the two nations as to the exact location of the bridge were finalized at a meeting on July 15 attended by U.S. and Mexico officials, according to a news release from the governor's office.

They named as architect Arturo Garcia Alvarez, secretary of Public Works in Mexico City. He and Joe M. Battle, district engineer for the Texas Highway Department in El Paso, will be coordinators for the project. The two men will meet in January to determine the availability of construction funds. The highway department has allocated funds for the project, and Mexico has agreed to provide necessary funds, but specific contributions await budget approval which will come after Mexico's new presidential administration is sworn in in December. A contract will be awarded for the project after both nations funding allocations are set. Construction is expected to begin in early 1963. Jim Richardson, deputy director of the Governor's Office of Regional Development, participated in the July 15 meeting.

Chance meeting with paraplegic climbers highlights family outing

A Marfa family, on their way to deposit two children in summer camp in New Mexico this weekend, became inspired by more than scenery on the way. Stopping on Saturday at a lone cafe at Pine Springs, N.M., near Carlsbad, they found themselves befriended by the three paraplegics who had scaled Texas' tallest peak the night before.

"The kids were afraid to go in because they thought it was a bar," Rose Zubiute recalled. She and husband Ray Zubiute, children Rebecca, Raymond and Raquel, and cousin Yvonne Zubiute were on their way to Camp Tall Pines in Mayhill, N.M., where Raquel and Yvonne are spending two weeks. Renea, the Zubiutes' other daughter, was staying with relatives in Fort Davis. As they passed Pine Springs, Ray spotted a man descending from a van in a wheelchair, according to Mrs. Zubiute. She asked her husband to return to the site on the hunch that the man might be acquainted with the Guadalupe Peak climbers. "It turned out to be them!"

The three men — Donnic Rogers, 26, and Joe Moss, 32, both of Dallas, and Dave Kiley, 29, of Los Angeles — had been airlifted from the mountaintop early Saturday morning after reaching the 8,751-foot summit Friday evening. They and three other paraplegics in wheelchairs had attempted the climb "for the chairs," a nickname for handicapped persons in wheelchairs. They refused assistance to demonstrate the extent to which people can overcome their handicaps. Three of the climbers were forced to turn back due to muscle spasms, sores and blisters, and, in one case, a kidney infection; but the remaining three pushed on, often dragging themselves along on the ground and pulling their wheelchairs behind them. They reached their goal in five days.

The climbers are members of Paraplegics On Independent Nature Trails, or POINT. Their feat was part of a fundraising effort for the West Texas Rehabilitation Center of Abilene. At Pine Springs, "They were just overjoyed, they were talking — everyone was talking at once," Mrs. Zubiute beamed. "They were so nice, they made the kids feel right at home; and they answered all the kids' questions." Two of the men also gave autographs to each child. "It says: To Rebecca — a lovely, pretty girl!" said the shy recipient of one autograph by Moss. Asked if she could have climbed Guadalupe Peak, the sturdy-legged youngster said resolutely, "Uh-uh. It was three (sic) days, no way ... it would be a miracle if I did it."

The Zubiutes didn't get to meet the third climber, Kiley, because he was on the telephone during their visit. But later, after the Zubiutes had journeyed on to Carlsbad. Raymond and his dad re- located the trio — again by chance — at the Carlsbad civic center. Father and son went there to see a gun show and found their recent acquaintances in a news conference. They were just in time for President Reagan's congratulatory telephone call from Camp David, M.D. The public address system went out as Reagan spoke, so those present weren't able to hear the president's words. But that didn't matter to the Zubiutes. "The president didn't shake their hands," Mrs. Zubiute smiled. "We did."

THE BIG BEND Sentinel

Marfa Shorthorns
The Big Bend Sentinel
The Big Bend Sentinel
The Big Bend Sentinel

School board tables transfer request
The Big Bend Sentinel
The Big Bend Sentinel
The Big Bend Sentinel

Grant permit negotiations continue
The Big Bend Sentinel
The Big Bend Sentinel
The Big Bend Sentinel

la fundación
the CHINATI
foundation

Chinati is an art foundation created by Donald Judd and opened to the public in 1986.

Chinati is open Wednesday through Sunday. Office hours and guided tour times are seasonal. For details and reservations, please come to the Visitor Center (1 Cavalry Row) or go to chinati.org/visit.

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Alferez continued, "So now with Mondays, it gives them [the parents] more flexibility to actually have those

The next person we decided to interview is Mrs. Hartnett, who is the English teacher here at Marfa ISD. The first question we decided to ask was, "How do you think that's going to impact the school positively or negatively?" She

Mrs. Donaldson paused for thought and continued, “Another thing is that now that we have those Mondays off, I don’t know if that’s going to affect parents, since last year a lot of parents adjusted their schedules with having the kids home on Friday. And, now their kids will be home on Mondays, so now parents have to rework their schedules.” Then, Mrs. Donaldson explained that two years ago, the administration “sent out the poll to everyone in the school about the four-day week.” She said, of the change

The final person we decided to ask was sophomore Mateo Meza, about which day off he preferred. He disagreed with Tenessa, saying, "Well, to be honest, I prefer Fridays off, it just feels more natural. It just feels right. And I don't think it will affect me too much, I think it'll be the same as last year, nothing too crazy compared to last year." So, in conclusion, everyone has an opinion on the new calendar, the new school year, and the new rules.

* If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 3 of 4) PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

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OBITUARIES



Armendariz

Manuela Armendariz, a cherished homemaker and beloved matriarch, passed away peacefully on September 19, 2024, in Alpine, Texas, at the age of 81. Born in Mexico on December 18, 1942, Manuela dedicated her life to her family, nurturing them with love and warmth throughout her years. For 60 wonderful years she was the loving wife of Jesus Armendariz, providing strength and support to their family as they built a life together. Manuela is survived by her devoted children, Maria Armendariz (Sal), Jesse Armendariz Jr. (Leslie), Romana Portillo (Peter), Angel Dutchover

(Jerry), Olga Armendariz and Carmen Mears (Bodie). She emanated pride and joy through her 18 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren, all of whom will carry her memory forward with love in their hearts. Manuela also leaves behind her siblings, Francisca Leyva, Erasmo Zuvia and Carmen Gomez, who will remember her spirit and the bond they shared. She is preceded in death by her father, Jose Zuvia; her mother, Carmen Zuvia; and her daughter, Pauline Molinar. Each of them played a significant role in her life, and their legacy continues to resonate within the family. Manuela’s life was a testament to unconditional love and dedication. She will be profoundly missed by all who knew her, and her memory will live on in the hearts and stories of her family. Services for Manuela took place on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church with interment at Holy Angels Cemetery in Alpine, Texas. Services were entrusted to Alpine Memorial Funeral Home, also in Alpine, Texas.



Sharp

Daniel Wade Sharp: June 21, 1974 – September 15, 2024 It is with great sadness that the family and friends of Dan Sharp announce his passing on Sunday, September 15, 2024. Dan was born on June 21, 1974, to Dennis and Patricia Ann (Redmon) Sharp in Corvallis, Oregon. Growing up in the Pacific Northwest, Dan showed early brilliance and talent with gifts as diverse as they were strong. A powerful multi-sport athlete and academically gifted young man, Dan graduated from West Albany High School in 1992. Dan attended The University of Texas at Austin, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering with a minor in economics in 1997. After graduating from The University of Texas School of Law in 2001, Dan began a 23-year-long career as an intellectual property lawyer, serving clients around the world. From working as a talented patent litigator, to serving as associate

vice president of research and the director of the Office of Technology Commercialization at his beloved alma mater, The University of Texas, and most recently, as senior corporate intellectual property counsel to Rimini Street, a global leader in technology support systems, Dan’s work had far-reaching and lasting impact. He is a former federal law clerk, serving the Hon. T. John Ward (Ret.) in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. In April of 2011, at his law school’s class reunion, Dan reconnected with a classmate, Maura Brady, a labor and employment lawyer. The two immediately fell deeply in love, marrying in Maura’s hometown of Covington, Louisiana, on April 21, 2012. They made their home together in Hong Kong and Austin before eventually moving to Fort Davis, Texas. Dan loved Maura with all his heart, as he would say, and was loved by her the same. Never one to sit idle or shy from a challenge, in 2018 Dan and Maura founded Sharp Family Vineyards in the Texas Davis Mountains AVA, reestablishing the historic Blue Mountain Vineyard and growing cabernet sauvignon at 5,600’ elevation in rocky, volcanic soil. Over the years, Dan and Maura have contributed greatly to the wine industry both philanthropically and as grape growers. They put their hearts and souls into the Davis Mountains building Sharp Family Vineyards. With regular updates on social media about life on the ranch, Dan

put the same passion into the vineyard as he did so many other things. His inquisitive style and thirst for knowledge matched his thirst for good wine, good food, and sharing with good friends. Conservation was top of mind for Dan — the Sharps always planned to plant only a small fraction of their land and leave the rest for the native wildlife. They have partnered with Borderlands Research Institute to study the Montezuma quail on their property, and have worked with a Sul Ross University range management student in the vineyard. In recent years, Dan and Maura were returning regularly to and preparing to live part time in the beautiful Hill Country area of Texas, where they began their married life. Dan was a member of Escondido Golf and Lake Club in Horseshoe Bay, Texas, and looked forward to many rounds of golf and days in the bass boat there to come. Dan made a powerful contribution and impact wherever he lived. Dan and Maura supported numerous charitable efforts and were active both in the Austin and West Texas communities in ways both simple and grand. Dan was a man of a thousand hobbies. And he was no dilettante. Dan went deep on topics he loved. Whether it was bass fishing, calf roping, competition cycling, golf, hunting, guitar, barbeque, or billiards, he pursued his passions with considerable energy and infectious enthusiasm. Dan is remembered as a devoted, loving, generous, open-hearted man

whose loyalty to those he loved never wavered. Strong-willed, tenacious, intellectually curious, and steadfast, Dan was a true original. Predeceased by his mother Pat Sharp, Dan is survived by his beloved wife Maura Brady Sharp; his father Dennis Sharp; his sister Dee Sharp Heinz and husband Brian Heinz of Salem, Oregon; niece and nephew Emma and Spencer Heinz; father- and mother-in-law William and Angela Brady of Covington, Louisiana; brother-in-law Kelly Brady and wife Janet Chaney Brady of Humble, Texas; nieces Mckinley, Evyn, and Kate Brady, seven godchildren, and countless friends and extended family who miss him with deep and never-ending love. Dan is also survived by his constant companions, his beloved spaniels Waylon and Emmylou. A celebration of Dan’s life will be held at 10:30 a.m. on October 5, 2024, at Hyde Park Baptist Church Chapel, 3901 Speedway, Austin, Texas 78751. Visitation will immediately precede the service beginning at 9:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider a contribution in Dan’s memory to the Children’s Advocacy Center of Central Texas (cacct.com), ABC House/The Children’s Advocacy Center serving Benton & Linn Counties and based in Albany, Oregon (abchouse.org), or Grand Companions in Fort Davis, Texas (grandcompanions.org). Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at Mobile Mortician of Texas’ web site: www.mmofexas.com

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PLEASE EMAIL:
EDITOR@BIGBENDSENTINEL.COM

AROUND THE BIG BEND

Thu
Sept
26

Sul Ross Rodeo
7:00pm - 10:00pm at SRSU S.A.L.E. Arena
Sul Ross State University hosts the 79th annual Sul Ross N.I.R.A. Southwest Region Rodeo. The rodeo is September 26th- 28th with slack events running throughout the day and nightly performances at 7pm!

Evie Dorsey
7:00pm - 9:00pm at The Ritchey
Come watch Evie Dorsey play from 7-9pm at The Ritchey, no cover!

Fri
Sept
27

Ross Bullock
7:00pm - 9:00pm at The Ritchey
Enjoy music from Ross Bullock Friday at The Ritchey!

Fightin’ Bucks Football
7:00pm - 10:30pm at Bucks Stadium
Head to Bucks Stadium to see Alpine take on Anthony on Friday September 27th, 7PM.

Sat
Sept
28

Desert Debo & Her Allstar Review
7:00pm - 9:00pm at The Ritchey
Enjoy music from Desert Debo & Her Allstar Review Saturday at The Ritchey!

Sul Ross Rodeo
7:00pm - 10:00pm at SRSU S.A.L.E. Arena
Sul Ross State University hosts the 79th annual Sul Ross N.I.R.A. Southwest Region Rodeo.

**Ballroom Marfa Presents:
Tim Bernardes**
8:00pm - 10:00pm at The Capri
Ballroom Marfa presents Tim Bernardes live at The Capri, Marfa on September 28th at 8pm.

Sun
Sept
29

Jordan Dean
7:00pm - 9:00pm at The Ritchey
Come watch Jordan Dean play from 7-9pm at The Ritchey, no cover!

Sunday Slow Stretch w/ Bailey
4:00pm - 5:00pm at La Sala Studio
Please reserve your spot online.

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Mon
Sept
30

Industry Night
7:00pm - 11:00pm at Alcove Social
*\$1.25 off beer + wine
\$1 liquor + cocktails*

Kodenkan Jujitsu
7:15pm - 9:15pm at La Sala Studio
Come practice Kodenkan Jujitsu, more commonly known as Danzan Ryu Jujitsu. Adults Only. Contact Merrill “Britt” Pauls at 432-294-0162 for more information.

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Ongoing
Weekly
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Free Zumba Classes
Monday & Wednesday at 7:00pm at Marfa Public Library

Free Meditation Classes
Tuesday & Thursday at 6:00pm at Marfa Public Library

AA (online & sometimes in-person)
Saturday at 12:00pm at <https://tinyurl.com/y686nnw2> and 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 - 12:00pm at Alpine Visitor Center

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

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Classifieds & public notices

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION AND POSTING OF NOTICE OF ESTRAY

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF PRESIDIO

CASE # 24-085

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Sheriff Danny C. Dominguez, who after being by me duly sworn deposes and says:

After the herein described estrays were impounded, I made a diligent search of the register of recorded brands in the county where said estray was found. The search did not reveal the owner of said estray.

I did then advertise the impoundment of said estray in the BIG BEND SENTINEL NEWSPAPER. I also posted a copy of the **Notice of Estray** and the **Notice of Impoundment of Estray**, on the public notice board of the courthouse of the county in which the estray was found.

Notice is hereby given that, if the ownership of said estray is not determined by the 5th of October 2024, said estrays will be sold at public auction/sheriff's sale at 10 a.m. at the Presidio County pens at Vizcaino Park in Marfa, TX 79843.

Said Estrays are described as the following:

1 horse, breed - quarter horse, color - bay, sex - male stallion, age 3 years, brand/marks/ identifying characteristics - crescent on head, no brand

WITNESS my hand, this the 24th day of September, 2024

SHERIFF DANNY C. DOMINGUEZ

PRESIDIO COUNTY, TEXAS

SWORN to and subscribed before me by Sheriff Danny Dominguez this the 24th day of September, 2024.

SHANNA ELMORE

My Notary ID # 12973217

Expires March 3, 2026

Shanna Elmore

Notary Public

Presidio County, Texas

My commission expires: 03/03/2026

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RD Instruction 1942-A
(Guide 19) (Attachment 1)

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

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Owner:

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Address

South Addition to Presidio County Medical Clinic

Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of (briefly describe nature, scope, and major elements of the work) South addition to Presidio County Medical Clinic located at 1501 North Erma Ave, Presidio, TX 79845. The scope of work, without any force or effect, involves a 3,167 sq. ft. addition to an existing building. This includes new exam rooms, a nurse station, a laboratory, providers' offices, restrooms, and the expansion of the existing pharmacy.

will be received by Linda Molinar CEO

at the office of Preventative Care Health Services

1605 North Fort Davis Hwy Ste B, Alpine, TX 79830

until 2:00 PM, (Mountain Standard Time) Friday, December 6th, 2024

, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations:

New Republic Architects, 7100 Westwind Dr Ste 150, El Paso, Texas 79912

or Bidders can request digital PDF copies by emailing Angel Ramos at

angel@nraia.com. For any other inquiries, please contact him at (915) 585-7028.

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of

New Republic Architects located at 7100 Westwind Dr Ste 150, El Paso, Texas 79912

upon payment of \$300.00 for each set.

(1-15-79) SPECIAL PN

RD Instruction 1942-A

(Guide 19) (Attachment 1) (Page 2)

Any BIDDER, upon returning the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS promptly and in good condition, will be refunded the payment, and any non-bidder upon so returning the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be refunded \$ 150.00.

09/12/24

DATE

CMOS

Public Notice

The Presidio County Appraisal District is seeking proposals for Financial Auditor for year ending December 2024. Any and all proposals to be submitted to the Presidio CAD office at 107 E. Texas, PO Box 879, Marfa, Texas, (432)729-3431, email cramirez@presidiocad.org. All proposals must be received by October 15, 2024. The Board of Directors of the Presidio CAD reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal.

09/12,09/19,09/26,10/03

SEEKING APPRAISAL REVIEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Presidio County Appraisal District is in search of new Appraisal Review Board members for the 2025-2026 Appraisal year. The Appraisal Review Board is a citizen board that meets periodically to hear property owner protest that cannot be resolved administratively. If you would like to keep busy during the summer months of June-July and part of August and get paid \$150 per day then this might just be for you.

Qualifications follow:

1) You must currently reside in Presidio County and must have resided in Presidio County for at least the last two years.

2) You cannot be a current employee, officer or member of the Board of Directors of Presidio County Appraisal District.

3) You cannot be a current member of the governing body, an officer or an employee of a taxing unit in Presidio County. This includes part-time employment.

4) You cannot be a current employee of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

5) Experience in law, property appraisal, or real estate preferred but not required.

PLEASE CONTACT THE PRESIDIO COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT, 107 EAST TEXAS ST. MARFA, TEXAS 79843 (432)729-3431 OR EMAIL cramirez@presidiocad.org for an application and more information.

THANK YOU,

Cynthia Ramirez
Chief Appraiser, RPA

Public Service Announcement:
Fair Housing, It's the Law

To promote fair housing practices, The City of Marfa encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights under the National Fair Housing Law. Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market. For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the Texas Workforce Commission at (888) 452-4778 or (512) 463-2642 TTY: 512-371-7473.

Policy of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability

The City of Marfa does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or employment in, its federally assisted programs or activities. The Mayor has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR Part 8).

Citizen Participation & Grievance Procedures Notice

The City of Marfa has adopted complaint and grievance procedures regarding its Texas Community Development Block Grant Programs (TxCDBG). Citizens may obtain a copy of these written procedures at 113 S Highland St, Marfa TX 79843 during regular business hours. Citizens may also request the procedures be mailed to them by calling the Mayor, Civil Rights Officer at (432) 729-4315. These procedures outline the steps for a citizen to follow if s/ he wishes to file a complaint or grievance about TxCDBG activities. A person who has a complaint or grievance about any services or activities with respect to the TxCDBG project, may during regular business hours submit such complaint or grievance, in writing to the City Manager, at P.O. Box 787, Marfa TX 79843 or may call (432) 729-4315. The City of Marfa will make every effort to respond fully to such complaints within fifteen (15) working days where practicable.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

The City of Marfa does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.

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.

Aviso Publico: La Equidad en la Vivienda, Es La Ley

Para promover prácticas de vivienda justa, La Ciudad de City of Marfa anima a los posibles propietarios de vivienda e inquilinos a que conozcan sus derechos conforme a la Ley Nacional De Vivienda Justa. El Título VIII de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1968, según enmendada, prohíbe la discriminación contra cualquier persona por motivos de raza, color, religión, sexo, discapacidad, estado familiar u origen nacional en la venta o renta de unidades en el mercado de la vivienda. Para obtener más información sobre vivienda justa o para informar sobre una posible discriminación de vivienda equitativa, llame a la Comisión Laboral de Texas al (888) 452-4778 o (512) 463-2642 TTY: 512-371-7473.

Poliza de No Discriminar a Base de Estado de Discapacidad

La Ciudad de City of Marfa no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad en la admisión, el acceso o el empleo en sus programas o actividades con asistencia federal. El Mayor ha sido designado para coordinar el cumplimiento de los requisitos de no discriminación contenidos en los reglamentos del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD) que implementan la Sección 504 (24 CFR Part 8).

Participación Ciudadana y Procedimientos de Quejas Aviso

La Ciudad de City of Marfa ha adoptado procedimientos de quejas y reclamos relacionados con sus programas de Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG). Los ciudadanos pueden obtener una copia de estos procedimientos escritos en 113 S Highland St, City of Marfa, TX 79843 durante el horario comercial habitual. Los ciudadanos también pueden solicitar que se les envíen los procedimientos por correo llamando al Mayor, Oficial de Derechos Civiles, en (432) 729-4315. Estos procedimientos describen los pasos que debe seguir un ciudadano si desea presentar una queja o reclamo sobre las actividades de TxCDBG. Una persona que tenga una queja o reclamo sobre cualquier servicio o actividad relacionada con un proyecto del programa TxCDBG puede presentar dicha queja o reclamo durante el horario comercial habitual, o por escrito a City Manager, a P.O. Box 787, City of Marfa, TX 79843, o puede llamar a (432) 729-4315. La Ciudad de City of Marfa hará todo lo posible para responder con plenitud a las quejas dentro de los quince (15) días hábiles cuando sea posible.

Declaración de Igualdad de Oportunidades de Empleo

La Ciudad de City of Marfa no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, religión, sexo, orientación sexual, identidad de género u origen nacional.

10 Lots for sale in Presidio, TX. Each 125 ft. x 40 ft

Sell 10 together or 5 and 5, Block 37 Kelly addition #1, Lots 1-5, & Lots 20-24. \$97,500 all. Text Bob Adams 512 203 7584

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Need man for yard and to fix gate also heavy lifting in home.
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Jean-Paul Sartre
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September 21st

Davis Mountains Nut Company needs general help and a management trainee.

Starting at \$12.00 per hour and going to \$40,000 annually.
Apply in person!

HUDSPETH COUNTY JOB POSTING

Hudspeth County Solid Waste Manager Job
Status: Full-Time
Pay Range: TBD

Hudspeth County is seeking qualified applicants to serve as the Hudspeth County Solid Waste Manager. Responsibilities include overseeing all Solid Waste Management operations, including supervising staff, setting long-range goals, and ensuring landfills are operated and maintained according to plans and regulations. Applicant must be willing to submit to a criminal background history check and sign a confidentiality agreement.

Additional Information:

The complete job description and application can be found online at www.co.hudspeth.tx.us under "Job Openings" or at the County Judge's Office at 109 Millican, Sierra Blanca, TX.

304 S. Gonzales 3 BR / 1 1/2 Baths 1432 SqFt - Newly Remodeled Call to inquire 432-249-02934

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS PAPER

GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

PRESIDIO COUNTY

Judge Jose Portillo: (432) 729-4452

CITY OF MARFA

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BREWSTER COUNTY

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Alpine Mayor Catherine Eaves:
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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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