

**BURN BAN IN
EFFECT, NO
GROUND FIRES**

by order of Presidio County

**Early voting
runs through
April 29**

TRI-COUNTY — Early voting for the May 3 General Election runs from now until Tuesday, April 29.

The Marfa election was canceled due to only incumbents filing to keep their seats on the Marfa City Council and Marfa ISD School Board. In Alpine, the only eligible voters will be Ward 1 residents who will elect a new city council representative — the only contested race in the city election. The Alpine ISD School Board election was canceled due to no contested races. Both city council and school board elections, as well as a \$9 million school bond proposal, will take place in Presidio.

To view current voter ID requirements and check your voter eligibility, visit the Texas Secretary of State’s website. The last day to register to vote was April 3.

City of Alpine

Early voting will take place on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 22 through April 29 in the city council chambers, 803 W. Holland Avenue, Alpine, Texas, 79830. To view a sample ballot, visit the city’s website.

City council seats for Wards 1 and 3 were up for election, but only the Ward 1 race saw enough candidates file to appear on the ballot. Vying for the Ward 1 city council seat are candidates Austin Smith, Andy Ramos and Richard Portillo. Voters will be instructed to vote for none or one of the candidates.

The Ward 3 city council seat saw only one candidate file — previous building official Robert Rückes. Because he is running unopposed for the position, he was officially declared elected and the election was canceled.

Presidio joint election

Early voting for the joint city council and school board election will take place on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 22 through April 29 at the City of Presidio Activities Center, 1200 E. O’Reilly Street, Presidio, Texas. Extended voting hours will take place from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29. To view sample ballots, visit the city’s website and the school board’s website.

City of Presidio

Current Mayor John Ferguson is running unopposed but will appear on the ballot. Voters will be instructed to vote for no more than two candidates for full-term council seats. Those running for full-term council seats include Bianca Martinez-Bailon, Arian Velazquez-Ornelas, Silverio Escontrias, Abel “Billy” Hernandez and Jose “Pepe” Acosta.

For the unexpired term council seat, voters will be instructed to vote for no more than one person. Alondra Flores and Juan Saenz are running for the unexpired term.

**Presidio ISD School Board +
bond election**

Three seats are up for election for the Presidio ISD School Board. The top three vote getters for the at-large board will be elected. The

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Photo courtesy of the Borderlands Research Institute / Fotografía cortesía del Borderlands Research Institute

Aaron Ortega-Gonzalez, originally from Cuah̄tēmoc, Chihuahua, graduated from Sul Ross last year and moved to Oregon to pursue a PhD. He's one of thousands of people affected by the Trump administration's crackdown on student visas.

Aaron Ortega-González, originario de Cuah̄tēmoc, Chihuahua, se graduó de Sul Ross el año pasado y se mudó a Oregon para cursar un doctorado. Es una de las miles de personas afectadas por la represión de la administración Trump a las visas estudiantiles.

**Sul Ross graduate files suit
against Trump administration
over student visa**

By Sam Karas
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PORTLAND, Ore. — Last Thursday, Sul Ross graduate Aaron Ortega-Gonzalez filed suit against the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) after his student visa to attend Oregon State University was abruptly pulled on April 4 “without any notice or meaningful explanation,” per his complaint.

On Monday, U.S. District Judge Michael McShane ordered a 14-day temporary restraining order in Ortega-Gonzalez’s case and of another unidentified Oregon student, allowing a two-week pause on immigration proceedings while more information could be gathered.

Ortega-Gonzalez is a Ph.D. student in rangeland ecology and management at Oregon State, where his work centers around restoring rangeland after wildfires — a massive and timely problem across the West. Originally from Cuah̄tēmoc, Chihuahua, he enrolled at Sul Ross State University in a master’s program supported by the Borderlands Research Institute in 2021 and defended his thesis in May 2024.

Ortega-Gonzalez is one of more than a thousand students around the country who have had their legal right to study in the United States revoked amid a widespread crackdown against immigrants. “This termination appears to be part of [DHS’s] recent actions to chaotically upend F-1 student

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**Alpine man’s human
smuggling conviction
to be heard by
appeals court**

By Sam Karas
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NEW ORLEANS — Next Wednesday, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals will hear oral arguments in the case of James Larremore, an Alpine man who was arrested for smuggling three undocumented people in a horse trailer for pay in July 2023. He was later convicted on one count of transporting migrants, but his legal counsel insists that this was the result of an unlawful seizure by a Brewster County Sheriff’s Office deputy.

Over the past few weeks, due process in federal immigration proceedings has become a topic dissected below headlines around the world, making Larremore’s case a local microcosm for some of the most widely-debated legal issues of our time. Did the way that former BCSO Deputy Christopher Colona handle roving patrol one hot July afternoon violate Larremore’s Fourth Amendment right against illegal searches and seizures?

On the afternoon of July 9, 2023, Deputy Colona skipped lunch, opting instead to monitor traffic on Highway 385 north of Marathon. He would later testify that he planned to do so to help cover a gap made by a Border Patrol shift change that savvy smugglers might take advantage of.

Colona was parked by the side of the road when he saw an F-250 pulling

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**Graduado de Sul Ross
demanda a la
administración Trump por
visa de estudiante**

Por Sam Karas
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PORTLAND, Oregon — El jueves pasado, Aaron Ortega-González, graduado de Sul Ross, presentó una demanda contra el Departamento de Seguridad Nacional (DHS por sus siglas en inglés) después de que su visa de estudiante para asistir a la Universidad Estatal de Oregon fuera cancelada abruptamente el 4 de abril “sin previo aviso ni explicación significativa”, según su denuncia.

El lunes, el juez federal de distrito Michael McShane dictó una orden de restricción temporal de 14 días en el caso de Ortega-González y de otro estudiante de Oregon no identificado, lo que permite una pausa de dos semanas en los procedimientos de inmigración mientras se recopila más información.

Ortega-González es estudiante de doctorado en ecología y gestión de pastizales en la Universidad Estatal de Oregon, donde su trabajo se centra en la restauración de pastizales después de los incendios forestales, un problema masivo y oportuno en todo el oeste. Originario de Cuah̄tēmoc, Chihuahua,

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**La condena por tráfico de
personas de un hombre de
Alpine será escuchada en
la corte de apelaciones**

Por Sam Karas
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NUEVA ORLEÁNS — El próximo miércoles, la Corte de Apelaciones del Quinto Circuito escuchará los argumentos orales en el caso de James Larremore, un hombre de Alpine que fue arrestado por contrabandear a tres personas indocumentadas en un remolque para caballos a cambio de dinero en julio de 2023. Posteriormente fue condenado por un cargo de transporte de migrantes, pero su abogado insiste en que esto fue resultado de una incautación ilegal por parte de un agente de la Oficina del Sheriff del Condado de Brewster.

En las últimas semanas, el debido proceso en los procedimientos federales de inmigración se ha convertido en un tema analizado en los titulares de todo el mundo, convirtiendo el caso de Larremore en un microcosmos local de algunos de los asuntos legales más debatidos de nuestro tiempo. ¿La forma en que el ex agente de la Oficina del Sheriff del Condado de Brewster, Christopher Colona, manejó la patrulla móvil una calurosa tarde de julio violó el derecho de Larremore, amparado por la Cuarta Enmienda, contra registros e incautaciones ilegales?

En la tarde del 9 de julio de 2023, el agente Colona se saltó el almuerzo

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**Votación
anticipada
hasta el 29
de abril**

TRI-COUNTY — La votación anticipada para las Elecciones Generales del 3 de mayo se extiende desde ahora hasta el martes 29 de abril.

Las elecciones de Marfa se cancelaron debido a que solo los titulares de escaños presentaron candidaturas para conservar sus puestos en el Ayuntamiento de Marfa y la Junta Escolar del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Marfa. En Alpine, los únicos votantes elegibles serán los residentes del Distrito 1, quienes elegirán a un nuevo representante para el ayuntamiento, la única contienda electoral disputada en las elecciones municipales. Las elecciones para la Junta Escolar del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Alpine se cancelaron debido a que no hubo contiendas disputadas. Las elecciones para el ayuntamiento y la junta escolar, así como la propuesta de un bono escolar de \$9 millones, se llevarán a cabo en Presidio.

Para consultar los requisitos actuales de identificación de votante y verificar su elegibilidad, visite el sitio web de la Secretaría de Estado de Texas. El último día para registrarse para votar fue el 3 de abril.

Ciudad de Alpine

La votación anticipada se realizará de lunes a viernes de 8:00 a. m. a 5:00 p. m. Del 22 al 29 de abril en la sala del ayuntamiento, ubicada en 803 W. Holland Avenue, Alpine, Texas, 79830. Para ver una boleta de muestra, visite el sitio web de la ciudad.

Los escaños del ayuntamiento para los Distritos 1 y 3 estaban en votación, pero solo en la contienda del Distrito 1 se presentaron suficientes candidatos para aparecer en la boleta. Austin Smith, Andy Ramos y Richard Portillo compiten por el escaño del ayuntamiento del Distrito 1. Se les indicará a los votantes que voten por ninguno o por uno de los candidatos.

Para el escaño del ayuntamiento del Distrito 3 solo se presentó un candidato: el anterior funcionario de construcción, Robert Rückes. Debido a que no tuvo oposición para el cargo, fue declarado oficialmente electo y la elección se canceló.

Elección conjunta del Presidio

La votación anticipada para la elección conjunta del ayuntamiento y la junta escolar se llevará a cabo entre semana de 8:00 a. m. a 5:00 p. m. Del 22 al 29 de abril en el Centro de Actividades de la Ciudad de Presidio, ubicado en 1200 E. O’Reilly Street, Presidio, Texas. El horario de votación extendido será de 7:00 a. m. a 7:00 p. m. el martes 29 de abril. Para ver las boletas de muestra, visite el sitio web de la ciudad y el sitio web de la junta escolar.

Ciudad de Presidio

El actual alcalde, John Ferguson, se postula sin oposición, pero aparecerá en la boleta. Se les indicará a los votantes que voten por un máximo de dos candidatos para los puestos de concejal de periodo completo. Entre los candidatos para los puestos de concejal de periodo completo se encuentran Bianca Martínez-Bailón, Arian Velázquez-Ornelas, Silverio Escontrias, Abel “Billy” Hernández y José “Pepe” Acosta.

Para el puesto de concejal de periodo restante, se les indicará a los votantes que voten por un máximo de una persona. Alondra Flores y Juan Sáenz se postulan para el periodo restante.

Junta Escolar del Distrito Escolar

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Student visa lawsuit

(Continued from page 1)

status for students across the country on a mass scale, without the provision of notice or due process to the affected students and schools,” the complaint continues.

Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, non-citizens are allowed to enroll in and attend American universities on an F-1 visa, provided that they continue to meet its educational requirements and don’t violate its terms. These visas are administered by a federal database called the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), which universities use to communicate with immigration authorities.

In a sworn statement filed on Monday, Andre Watson of Homeland Security Investigations explains that Ortega-Gonzalez’s name was run in

a criminal database and was a “verified match to an encounter with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) on December 11, 2014, at a Port of Entry.”

Watson’s statement does not provide any further information on this “encounter,” which took place six years before he even considered applying for a student visa, but Ortega-Gonzalez’s legal team insists that it’s not enough to go on. “Mr. Ortega-Gonzalez has never been charged with, let alone convicted of a crime,” they wrote in his complaint. “He is in compliance with the terms and conditions of his student visa and course of study.”

Making matters more complicated, Ortega-Gonzalez was terminated from his position as a research assistant when he was pulled from the

SEVIS database. He is not legally allowed to work outside his program — meaning that he was essentially fired from the only job he can get in the United States.

By all accounts, he was a student in good standing who contributed positively to Sul Ross. In February of last year, he was chosen for a “Student Spotlight” highlighting exciting and exemplary research. “I feel so fortunate to have landed here, because BRI has such an incredible reputation, and I know firsthand what a helpful and supportive environment this is,” he told the interviewer.

Human smuggling

(Continued from page 1)

an empty horse trailer. He knew from previous encounters that the truck belonged to Larremore, but thought it was odd that he was driving on 385 north of Marathon, instead of closer to his father’s ranch or the Big Bend parks, where he took tourists on horseback trips.

Among BSCO employees, Larremore had a bit of a rowdy reputation. In his testimony, Colona said that a South County deputy had had a run-in with him after a late night at the High Sierra turned into a shootout at Jo-Mama’s RV Park. Colona himself had encountered him asleep in his truck after last call at the Ole Crystal Bar. (The deputy also said a source accused Larremore of being involved in a smuggling operation, but didn’t provide any details about the informant.)

In dashcam footage provided by the government, Colona pulls out behind Larremore four seconds after his trailer leaves the frame, pushing up to 93 miles an hour to catch up with him. After following close for a short period of time, Larremore pulls over — even though Colona hasn’t activated his emergency lights.

Colona gets out of his cruiser and peeks in the back of the trailer. He walks up to the passenger side window of Larremore’s truck and presses against the truck while they continue to talk. A curly haired dog watches over the proceedings from the pickup bed.

Colona eventually breaks contact with the truck and turns back around toward his vehicle. Larremore appears in the frame shortly after, carefully maneuvering his way around the gooseneck to stand face to face with Colona in the ditch.

The bodycam footage, complete with audio, paints a clearer picture of how the interaction starts to go south. The clip provided to the court begins with Colona approaching the passenger window. The two men shake hands, and Larremore tells Colona he’s headed up to Odessa to sell the trailer.

Before Colona breaks to go take a look at the back of the truck, he tells Larremore to “hang on a sec” — a phrase that would tangle court proceedings down the line.

While the two are face-to-face in the ditch, Colona asks Larremore if he has the key to the trailer, which is apparently locked. “Is there anything in there that’s not supposed to be?”

Larremore explains that his girlfriend — he hesitates in remembering her name — has the key, and also volunteers that his name isn’t on the trailer; he just bought it and hadn’t yet switched over the paperwork. There’s a good saddle and some camping supplies in there, but nothing else. “I’m not doing anything funky,” he insists.

At this point, Colona starts to pressure Larremore into figuring out a way to get the key. “Shoot me straight right now,” he says. “I know more than I’m probably leading onto.”

“You think there’s dope in there?” Larremore asks.

“I’d rather we do this like gentlemen — I know you’re not a bad guy,” the deputy insists.

“I guess get your bolt cutters,” Larremore says — but quickly backpedals. “What if I don’t allow you to look in there?”

Colona says that if Larremore won’t consent to a search, he’ll have to call for a K9 backup. If the K9 alerts on the trailer, then a search will be compelled.

Larremore continues to hesitate. “I have my rights,” he says. “I’ve been jacked with before by some different police officers — not you.”



James Larremore (left) is questioned by Deputy Christopher Colona during a patrol on Highway 385. Larremore's arrest twenty minutes later resulted in a human smuggling conviction that will be heard in appeals court this Wednesday.

The deputy says he doesn’t understand why the situation has to escalate — why not figure out a way to get the door open so everyone can be on their way?

“Maybe I got a big sack of dildos back there I don’t want you to see,” Larremore says.

The two men talk in circles a while longer, with Larremore explaining the circuitous route he took from Alpine to Terlingua Ranch “through the country” and back up to Marathon. It’s clear Colona’s not buying it. “If I was running dope, that’s exactly the route I would take,” he says.

Nearly 17 and a half minutes into the stop, Colona reveals that he saw an open container of alcohol in the cab, which would give him probable cause to search the truck without permission.

This appears to be Larremore’s breaking point. “I’ve got three cousins in there,” he admits.

“The uniform changed everything”

The 20-minute bodycam clip ends with Larremore in handcuffs, leaning up against the side of Colona’s cruiser. The discovery of the migrants concealed inside the trailer wasn’t caught on camera, but a report filed later that afternoon by Border Patrol Agent Joseph Beasley logs three men who “freely admitted to being present in the United States without any documents” who were detained and inspected as a result of Larremore’s confession.

Larremore’s legal counsel, Shane O’Neal of Alpine, has argued throughout the case that the discovery of the three people in the trailer was the result of an illegal stop. O’Neal insists that his client’s detention began much earlier in the stop — about 40 seconds in, when the deputy asks his client to “hang on a sec.”

Both O’Neal’s and the government’s filings refer to the U.S. Supreme Court’s 1968 *Terry v. Ohio* ruling. In the original *Terry* case, a Cleveland

police officer conducted a stop and frisk on three men he believed were behaving suspiciously and discovered a gun. Two of the men were convicted of carrying a concealed weapon, but their case was later appealed on the grounds that the way that the officer had found the concealed weapon was via an illegal stop.

Terry cemented the concept of “reasonable suspicion” into the complex calculus that determines whether interactions between civilians and peace officers are admissible in court. “Reasonable suspicion” under *Terry* is a step below “probable cause,” or the criteria required for an arrest — if the officer has an educated hunch that something is wrong, courts have typically ruled that it’s okay for them to briefly detain a suspect to gather more information.

The border adds another layer of complexity. In 1975, the Supreme Court added more detail to what constitutes “reasonable suspicion” in *United States v. Brignoni-Ponce*, a case in which racial profiling led an officer to search a truck full of undocumented people. Some of the factors law enforcement can use to justify reasonable suspicion include proximity to the border, the area’s typical traffic patterns and reports about recent smuggling or other unlawful activities.

In Larremore’s case, the government argues that the hitches in his story led naturally to a *Terry* stop. “By the time the consensual encounter had converted into a *Terry* detention, multiple facts supported finding that reasonable suspicion existed for the detention,” they write.

O’Neal argues that Colona’s behavior from the moment he pulled out to follow Larremore taints the investigation to the degree that any of the self-incriminating things the suspect reveals throughout the exchange ought to be tossed. He characterizes Colona’s pursuit of Larremore as “unsafe,” pushing 20 miles over the speed limit to hover within a few feet of the back of the trailer.

When Larremore pulled over — presumably to let Colona pass — the deputy never lit up his emergency lights. If Colona hadn’t been wearing a uniform and driving a marked cruiser, the situation would have turned out differently — if anyone else tailgated Larremore until he pulled over, then got out of their vehicle to approach his truck, that would be a “clear prelude to a fight.”

Instead, O’Neal wrote, “The uniform changed everything.”

O’Neal also took issue with Colona’s body language, leaning on and even into the truck while he’s speaking with Larremore. “Neither the government nor the district court seriously attempts to explain why a reasonable person would think they could drive off while an officer holds onto their truck, sticks his head in the window, and questions them,” he wrote. “Every action that Deputy Colona took after approaching Larremore’s vehicle confirmed, to a reasonable person in Larramore’s position, that he was not free to leave.”

This is the question that will be considered next Wednesday morning before Chief Judge Jennifer Walker Elrod, Judge Kurt D. Engelhardt and Judge Greg Gerard Guidry. If the appeals court rules in Larremore’s favor, it’s unlikely to make much of a dent in his 37-month sentence — he is scheduled to be released in October — but it could have a big impact on the courts’ evolving understanding of how civilians and cops interact on the border.

Early voting

(Continued from page 1)

candidates include incumbents Iris S. Galindo and Tino Martinez as well as four new candidates: Josefina Burrola, Maria Loyola Montoya, Jose A. Padilla and Jeremy Velasquez. Voters will be instructed to choose up to three candidates.

Voters will also choose whether they are for or against a \$9,900,000 bond proposal for “school facilities, and the purchase of new school buses, and the levy of taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds.” The bond will result in a property tax increase.

Wife’s passing inspires Alpine man to rescue unwanted horses

Funding, volunteers needed for foundation

**By James McCommons
For The Big Bend Sentinel**

MARATHON — After Mike Balog’s wife, Anita, died in November 2022, he was understandably distraught. They had been married 28 years, and it was like his whole world stopped, and he didn’t know what to do next. “I would pray, ‘Lord, just take me home. I’m ready.’ But after a time, it was clear that wasn’t happening,” recalled Balog.

He began walking, setting off on long treks around Alpine and scaling the Hancock Hill trails next to Sul Ross State University. One Saturday at the farmer’s market, he ran into Jamie Boyd, an associate professor of animal science, who told him of a study she was overseeing at Sul Ross on rehabilitating malnourished horses.

Balog was intrigued. Years earlier when living on a ranch near Pecos, Mike and Anita had adopted Lakota, a skinny and malnourished horse. Anita had just been hospitalized and diagnosed with a heart condition and COPD.

“There was a lot of love between her and the horse,” Balog said. “Lakota would meet Anita at the gate after work and chase her up to the house. They were good for one another, and together they both got well. After that, rescue horses became dear to our hearts.”

Balog volunteered to help with the Sul Ross study, working with the students to exercise and feed the animals and clean the stalls. It was good therapy, Boyd said. “He had experience with horses and the work gave him a mental break. And he was formulating what he wanted to do when the study came to an end.”

In May 2023, Balog started the “Anita Balog Memorial Angel Horse Foundation,” a nonprofit sanctuary to “rescue horses to rescue people.” Boyd became secretary of the foundation’s board. He purchased a 14-acre farm on State Highway 118 south of Alpine that currently houses five horses, three from the Sul Ross study.

Balog, who had a career in law enforcement as a

community service officer, hopes the organization will not only save and “rehome” unwanted horses, but employ those animals in therapy to give solace to people experiencing grief, disability, anxiety, trauma and other conditions. Equine therapy, a form of psychotherapy, encourages patients to interact with horses under the supervision of a mental health professional and/or a horse trainer. It often complements other forms of mental health therapy.

Over the last several months, Balog has been clearing rocks and grading the pasture with plans to build up to 30 stalls as funding and horses become available. He also wants to erect a riding arena where the animals can exercise and therapy can take place.

“My main mission is to show people that these horses still have value and can contribute as someone’s pet or as a therapy animal,” he said.

According to the Center for Equine Health at the University of California-Davis, there has been a surge in the number of nonprofits created to rescue horses. The need is great. An estimated 100,000 horses annually are categorized as unwanted and some 68,000 are sent off to slaughter in Mexico and Canada where their meat is exported for human consumption, pet food, or feed for zoo animals. There are no equine slaughterhouses in the U.S.

Owning a horse is expensive, and half of the 2 million horse owners in the U.S. earn less than \$50,000 annually. Many have to sell their animals, some cut back on care and others abandon the horses entirely — the problem grows worse during tough economic times, according to the UC-Davis center.

Neglect of a horse also may stem from the troubled lives of their owners experiencing domestic abuse, drug abuse and alcoholism. Malnourished horses, indicated by protruding hip bones and ribs, matted hair, and untreated injuries, typically are investigated by animal control departments, humane societies or other legal authorities. The horses may not be fed regularly or there’s not enough forage in the pasture. Sometimes the horse

is bullied by more dominant herd mates and kept from food. Dental issues, infection, infestation, disease, and simply the infirmities of old age may contribute to their poor condition.

The increasing number of neglected and malnourished horses is a challenge for the equine industry, particularly because of the increasing cost of veterinary care and feed, Boyd explained. UC-Davis undertook the last significant study 20 years ago of refeeding malnourished horses using alfalfa, a legume. But in West Texas, alfalfa is expensive, about \$300 to \$400 a bale. The Sul Ross study investigated whether Bermuda hay, a less-expensive warm-season grass costing about \$170 a round bale, could be substituted along with grain in a refeeding program. The school purchased 10 emaciated horses at auction. Where the horses came from, how they ended up in poor condition, or how often they had been sold was impossible to determine. All were destined for Mexico and slaughter. Horse trading is a business with a slim profit margin and some traders do not treat their animals well, Boyd said.

For research purposes, the horses were weighed, exercised, blood monitored and their muscle mass measured. The results of the study were published in the Journal of Animal Science and presented at conferences, where it was well received, Boyd said. Feeding and rehabilitating a starving, neglected horse is a complicated and expensive endeavor. Horses in poor shape usually require veterinary services, vaccinations, hoof care, dental work, and blood tests.

“It costs a small fortune to do this. We spent thousands on these horses,” she said.

The school put the rehabilitated horses up for auction. Balog purchased Layla, perhaps the most damaged of all, and later got two more of the study horses from a donor. He has since obtained two others, including a horse found on a ranch near Marathon with wounds on its chest and legs caused by barbed wire. The animal was severely malnourished. Another horse had been in an accident but

never treated by a veterinarian. All exhibited some type of abuse or neglect by humans, such as being beaten.

“I don’t know why people take their frustrations out on a horse,” Balog said. “Sometimes it’s behavioral issues because the horse isn’t doing what they want. They beat the animal, but then end up with more behavior problems. It’s sad, just sad.”

Rescue operations typically require support from local communities in terms of supplies, volunteer time, and monetary donations for equipment: halters, lead ropes, brushes, buckets and, of course, feed. Balog, 73, admits that it’s been a struggle to raise funds and do the day-to-day chores of caring for five horses. He has gotten some aid from Sul Ross students and other volunteers who come out to the farm, but says he can always use more help. And more money. He has a social media presence on Facebook and Instagram where he has more than 5,000 followers and seeks donations through PayPal and Venmo. Some businesses have supplied support, including feed companies that offer discounts.

His big hope is to have someone take over the daily care of the horses and allow him to concentrate on grant writing, publicity and fund raising. He’s also looking to partner with a mental health professional trained in equine therapy.

“This is a big undertaking. It’s a lot bigger than me,” said Balog, who was ill over the past winter with respiratory issues, exacerbated by the dust storms. There were days when he said it was hard to get out of bed.

For inspiration, he thinks about Anita and their years together when they both won awards for community service.

“My wife lived to give,” he said. “She had a gift of knowing when somebody was in trouble, and she would do whatever it took to help.”

Anyone wishing to volunteer or make a donation should go to www.abmangelhorse.org or call 432-448-3313.

Demanda por visa de estudiante

(*Continuación de la página 1*)

se matriculó en la Universidad Estatal Sul Ross en un programa de maestría apoyado por el Borderlands Research Institute en 2021 y defendió su tesis en mayo de 2024.

Ortega-González es uno de los más de mil estudiantes de todo el país a quienes se les ha revocado el derecho a estudiar en Estados Unidos en medio de una represión generalizada contra los inmigrantes. "Esta cancelación parece formar parte de las recientes acciones [del DHS] para anular caóticamente el estatus de estudiante F-1 para estudiantes de todo el país a gran escala, sin notificar ni garantizar el debido proceso a los estudiantes y las escuelas afectadas", continúa la denuncia.

Bajo la Ley de Inmigración y Nacionalidad, los extranjeros pueden matricularse y asistir a universidades estadounidenses con una visa F-1, siempre que cumplan con sus requisitos educativos y no infrinjan sus términos. Estas visas son administradas por una base de datos federal llamada Siste-

Tráfico de personas

(*Continuación de la página 1*)

y optó por monitorear el tráfico en la Carretera 385 al norte de Marathon. Más tarde, testificaría que planeaba hacerlo para cubrir un hueco dejado por un cambio de turno de la Patrulla Fronteriza, del que podrían aprovecharse contrabandistas astutos.

Colona estaba estacionado a un lado de la carretera cuando vio una F-250 tirando de un remolque vacío para caballos. Sabía por encuentros anteriores que la camioneta pertenecía a Larremore, pero le pareció extraño que condujera por la Carretera 385 al norte de Marathon, en lugar de acercarse al rancho de su padre o a los parques de Big Bend, donde llevaba a turistas a pasear a caballo.

Entre los empleados de BSCO, Larramore tenía fama de ser un poco pendenciero. En su testimonio, Colona declaró que un agente del Condado Sur tuvo un altercado con él después de que una noche en High Sierra se convirtiera en un tiroteo en el parque de casas rodantes Jo-Mama. El propio Colona lo encontró dormido en su camioneta después de su última llamada al Ole Crystal Bar. (El agente también dijo que una fuente acusó a Larremore de estar involucrado en una operación de contrabando, pero no proporcionó detalles sobre el informante).

En las imágenes de la cámara del tablero proporcionadas por el gobierno, Colona se aleja detrás de Larremore cuatro segundos después de que su remolque desapareciera del cuadro, acelerando hasta 150 kilómetros por hora para alcanzarlo. Tras seguirlo de cerca por un corto tiempo, Larremore se detiene, aunque Colona no ha activado las luces de emergencia.

Colona sale de su patrulla y mira hacia la parte trasera del remolque. Se acerca a la ventana del lado del pasajero de la camioneta de Larremore y se pega a ella mientras continúan hablando. Un perro de pelo rizado observa la situación desde la parte trasera de la camioneta.

Colona finalmente rompe el contacto con la camioneta y regresa a su vehículo. Larremore aparece en el plano poco después, maniobrando con cuidado alrededor del cuello de cisne para encontrarse cara a cara con Colona en la zanja.

La grabación de la cámara corporal, con audio incluido, ofrece una imagen más clara de cómo la interacción empieza a desmoronarse. El clip entregado al tribunal comienza con Colona acercándose a la ventanilla del copiloto. Los dos hombres se dan la mano y Larremore le dice a Colona que se dirige a Odessa a vender el remolque.

Antes de que Colona se detenga para echar un vistazo a la parte trasera del camión, le dice a Larremore que espere un segundo, una frase que complicaría el proceso judicial más adelante.

Mientras ambos están cara a cara en la zanja, Colona le pregunta a Larremore si tiene la llave del remolque, que aparentemente está cerrado. "¿Hay algo ahí que no debería estar?".

Larremore explica que su novia —duda al recordar su nombre— tiene la llave, y también se ofrece a decir que su nombre no está en el remolque; Acababa de comprarlo y aún no había entregado la documentación. Hay una buena silla de montar y algunos suministros de camping, pero nada más. "No estoy haciendo nada raro", insiste.

En ese momento, Colona empieza a presionar a Larremore para que

ma de Información de Estudiantes y Visitantes de Intercambio (SEVIS), que las universidades utilizan para comunicarse con las autoridades migratorias. En una declaración jurada presentada el lunes, Andre Watson, de Investigaciones de Seguridad Nacional, explica que el nombre de Ortega-González se ingresó en una base de datos criminal y se verificó que coincidía con un encuentro con la Oficina de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza (CBP) de Estados Unidos el 11 de diciembre de 2014 en un puerto de entrada.

La declaración de Watson no proporciona más información sobre este encuentro, que tuvo lugar seis años antes de que siquiera considerara solicitar una visa de estudiante, pero el equipo legal de Ortega-González insiste en que no es suficiente para seguir adelante. "El Sr. Ortega-González nunca ha sido acusado, ni mucho menos condenado, por un delito", escribieron en su denuncia. "Cumple con los términos y condiciones de su visa de estudiante

busque la manera de conseguir la llave. "Dime la verdad ahora mismo", dice. "Sé más de lo que probablemente estoy insinuando".

"¿Crees que hay droga ahí dentro?", pregunta Larremore.

"Prefiero que lo hagamos como caballeros; sé que no eres mala persona", insiste el agente.

"Supongo que deberías traer tus cizallas", dice Larremore, pero se retracta rápidamente. "¿Y si no te dejo mirar ahí dentro?".

Colona dice que si Larremore no consiente en un registro, tendrá que pedir refuerzos caninos. Si el perro alerta sobre el remolque, se procederá a un registro. Larremore sigue dudando. "Tengo mis derechos", dice. "Me han atacado antes otros policías, no tú".

El agente dice que no entiende por qué la situación tiene que escalar. ¿Por qué no encontrar la manera de abrir la puerta para que todos puedan irse?

"Quizás tengo un saco grande de consoladores ahí atrás que no quiero que veas", dice Larremore.

Los dos hombres siguen hablando en círculos un rato más, mientras Larremore explica la ruta tortuosa que tomó desde Alpine hasta el Rancho Terlingua "a través del campo" y de vuelta a Marathon. Está claro que Colona no se lo cree. "Si traficara con drogas, esa es exactamente la ruta que tomaría", dice.

Casi 17 minutos y medio después de la parada, Colona revela que vio un contenedor abierto de alcohol en la cabina, lo que le daría causa probable para registrar la camioneta sin permiso.

Este parece ser el punto de quiebre de Larremore. "Tengo tres primos ahí dentro", admite.

"El uniforme lo cambió todo"

El video de 20 minutos de la cámara corporal termina con Larremore esposado, apoyado contra el lateral de la patrulla de Colona. El descubrimiento de los migrantes ocultos dentro del remolque no fue grabado en cámara, pero un informe presentado esa misma tarde por el agente de la Patrulla Fronteriza Joseph Beasley registra a tres hombres que "admitieron libremente estar presentes en Estados Unidos sin documentos" y que fueron detenidos e inspeccionados como resultado de la confesión de Larremore.

El asesor legal de Larremore, Shane O'Neal, de Alpine, ha argumentado a lo largo del caso que el descubrimiento de las tres personas en el remolque fue resultado de una detención ilegal. O'Neal insiste en que la detención de su cliente comenzó mucho antes de la detención, unos 40 segundos después, cuando el agente le pidió que esperara un momento.

Tanto los documentos de O'Neal como los del gobierno hacen referencia al fallo de la Corte Suprema de Estados Unidos de 1968 en el caso *Terry contra Ohio*. En el caso original de *Terry*, un agente de policía de Cleveland detuvo y registró a tres hombres que creía que se comportaban de forma sospechosa y descubrió un arma. Dos de los hombres fueron condenados por portar un arma oculta, pero su caso fue posteriormente apelado alegando que el agente había encontrado el arma oculta mediante una detención ilegal.

Terry consolidó el concepto de "sospecha razonable" en el complejo cál-

El fallecimiento de su esposa inspira a un hombre alpino

Rescatar caballos abandonados. Se necesitan fondos y voluntarios para la fundación.
tuales Iris S. Galindo y Tino Martínez, así como a cuatro nuevos candidatos: Josefina Burrola, María Loyola Montoya, José A. Padilla y Jeremy Velásquez. Se les pedirá a los votantes que elijan hasta tres candidatos.

Los votantes también decidirán si están a favor o en contra de la pro-

y su programa de estudios".

Para complicar aún más las cosas, Ortega-González fue despedido de su puesto como asistente de investigación al ser eliminado de la base de datos SEVIS. No tiene permiso legal para trabajar fuera de su programa, lo que significa que prácticamente lo despidieron del único trabajo que puede conseguir en Estados Unidos.

Según todos los informes, era un estudiante con buen rendimiento académico que contribuyó positivamente a Sul Ross. En febrero del año pasado, fue seleccionado para un "Estudiante Destacado", que destacaba su investigación emocionante y ejemplar. "Me siento muy afortunado de haber llegado aquí, porque el BRI tiene una reputación increíble y sé de primera mano lo útil y solidario que es este entorno", dijo al entrevistador.

La frontera añade otra capa de complejidad. En 1975, la Corte Suprema añadió más detalles a lo que constituye una "sospecha razonable" en *Estados Unidos contra Brignoni-Ponce*, un caso en el que la discriminación racial llevó a un agente a registrar un camión lleno de personas indocumentadas. Algunos de los factores que las fuerzas del orden pueden utilizar para justificar una sospecha razonable incluyen la proximidad a la frontera, los patrones de tráfico típicos de la zona y los informes sobre contrabando reciente u otras actividades ilegales.

En el caso de Larremore, el gobierno argumenta que los contratiempos en su relato llevaron naturalmente a una detención por parte de *Terry*.

"Para cuando el encuentro consensual se convirtió en una detención por parte de *Terry*, múltiples hechos respaldaron la conclusión de que existía una sospecha razonable para la detención", escriben.

O'Neal argumenta que el comportamiento de Colona desde el momento en que se desvió para seguir a Larremore empaña la investigación hasta el punto de que cualquier elemento autoincriminatorio que el sospechoso revele durante el intercambio debería ser desestimado. Califica la persecución de Colona a Larremore como "insegura", ya que superó el límite de velocidad 32 kilómetros para mantenerse a pocos metros de la parte trasera del remolque.

Cuando Larremore se detuvo, presumiblemente para dejar pasar a Colona, el agente nunca encendió las luces de emergencia. Si Colona no hubiera llevado uniforme y conducido una patrulla, la situación habría sido diferente: si alguien más hubiera seguido de cerca a Larremore hasta que se detuviera y luego se hubiera bajado del vehículo para acercarse a su camioneta, eso habría sido un "claro preludio de una pelea".

En cambio, O'Neal escribió: "El uniforme lo cambió todo".

O'Neal también cuestionó el lenguaje corporal de Colona, quien se inclinó sobre la camioneta e incluso se metió dentro de ella mientras hablaba con Larremore. "Ni el gobierno ni el tribunal de distrito intentan explicar seriamente por qué una persona razonable pensaría que puede irse mientras un agente sujeta su camioneta, asoma la cabeza por la ventanilla y la interroga", escribió. "Cada acción que realizó el agente Colona después de acercarse al vehículo de Larremore confirmó, para una persona razonable en su posición, que no era libre de irse".

Esta es la cuestión que se debatirá el próximo miércoles por la mañana ante la jueza principal Jennifer Walker Elrod, Kurt D. Engelhardt y Greg Gerard Guidry. Si el tribunal de apelaciones falla a favor de Larremore, es poco probable que esto haga mella en su sentencia de 37 meses (está previsto que sea liberado en octubre), pero podría tener un gran impacto en la evolución de la comprensión de los tribunales sobre cómo interactúan los civiles y los policías en la frontera.

Votación anticipada

(*Continuación de la página 1*)

Independiente de Presidio + elección de bonos

Tres puestos están en juego para la Junta Escolar del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Presidio. Se elegirán los tres candidatos con mayor número de votos para la junta general. Los candidatos incluyen a los ac-

El fallecimiento de su esposa inspira a un hombre alpino

a rescatar caballos abandonados.

Se necesitan fondos y voluntarios para la fundación.

Por James McCommons
Para The Big Bend Sentinel

MARATHON — Tras el fallecimiento de Anita, la esposa de Mike Balog, en noviembre de 2022, él se sintió

comprensiblemente angustiado. Llevaban 28 años casados, y fue como si todo su mundo se detuviera, sin saber qué hacer. "Rezaba: 'Señor, llévame a casa. Estoy listo'. Pero después de un tiempo, quedó claro que eso no iba a suceder", recordó Balog.

Empezó a caminar, realizando largas caminatas por Alpine y escalando los senderos de Hancock Hill, junto a la Universidad Estatal de Sul Ross. Un sábado, en el mercado agrícola, se encontró con Jamie Boyd, profesora asociada de zootecnia, quien le habló de un estudio que supervisaba en Sul Ross sobre la rehabilitación de caballos desnutridos.

Balog estaba intrigado. Años antes, cuando vivían en un rancho cerca de Pecos, Mike y Anita habían adoptado a Lakota, un caballo flaco y desnutrido. Anita acababa de ser hospitalizada y le habían diagnosticado una afección cardíaca y EPOC.

"Había mucho cariño entre ella y el caballo", dijo Balog. "Los lakota recibían a Anita en la puerta después del trabajo y la seguían hasta la casa. Se llevaban bien el uno con el otro, y juntos se recuperaron. Después de eso, los caballos rescatados se convirtieron en algo muy querido para nosotros".

Balog se ofreció como voluntario para ayudar en el estudio de Sul Ross, trabajando con los estudiantes para ejercitar y alimentar a los animales y limpiar los establos. Fue una buena terapia, dijo Boyd. "Tenía experiencia con caballos y el trabajo le dio un respiro mental. Y estaba decidiendo qué quería hacer cuando el estudio terminara".

En mayo de 2023, Balog fundó la "Fundación del Caballo Ángel en Memoria de Anita Balog", un santuario sin fines de lucro para "rescatar caballos para rescatar personas". Boyd se convirtió en secretario de la junta directiva de la fundación. Compró una granja de 14 acres en la carretera estatal 118 al sur de Alpine, que actualmente alberga cinco caballos, tres de ellos del estudio de Sul Ross. Balog, quien trabajó en las fuerzas del orden como agente de servicio comunitario, espera que la organización no solo rescate y reubique caballos no deseados, sino que también los emplee en terapia para brindar consuelo a personas que experimentan duelo, discapacidad, ansiedad, trauma y otras afecciones. La equinoterapia, una forma de psicoterapia, anima a los

pacientes a interactuar con caballos bajo la supervisión de un profesional de la salud mental o un entrenador de caballos. A menudo complementa otras formas de terapia de salud mental.

Durante los últimos meses, Balog ha estado despejando piedras y nivelando el pasto con planes de construir hasta 30 establos a medida que se disponga de fondos y caballos. También quiere construir un picadero donde los animales puedan ejercitarse y recibir terapia.

"Mi principal misión es mostrar a la gente que estos caballos aún tienen valor y pueden contribuir como mascota o como animal de terapia", dijo.

Según el Centro de Salud Equina de la Universidad de California-Davis, ha aumentado el número de organizaciones sin fines de lucro creadas para rescatar caballos. La necesidad es enorme. Se estima que 100,000 caballos al año son catalogados como no deseados y unos 68,000 son enviados al matadero en México y Canadá, donde su carne se exporta para consumo humano, alimento para mascotas o pienso para animales de zoológico. No existen mataderos equinos en Estados Unidos.

Tener un caballo es caro, y la mitad de los 2 millones de propietarios de caballos en Estados Unidos ganan menos de \$50,000 al año. Muchos tienen que vender sus animales, algunos reducen sus cuidados y otros los abandonan por completo; el problema se agrava en épocas económicas difíciles, según el centro UC-Davis.

El descuido de un caballo también puede deberse a las dificultades económicas de sus dueños, que sufren violencia doméstica, drogadicción y alcoholismo. Los caballos desnutridos, que se manifiestan por huesos y costillas prominentes, pelo enmarañado y lesiones sin tratar, suelen ser investigados por departamentos de control animal, sociedades humanitarias u otras autoridades legales. Es posible que los caballos no sean alimentados con regularidad o que no haya suficiente forraje en el pasto. A veces, el caballo es intimidado por

(*Continúa en la página 4*)

‘Snapshots in Time: Life in Brewster County’ opens at the Museum of the Big Bend

From Historic Alpine

ALPINE — Archival area photographs are the subject of a new exhibition, Snapshots in Time: Life in Brewster County, opening from 5 to 7 p.m. April 30 at the Museum of the Big Bend.

The evening will feature light hors d’oeuvres, a cash bar, live music and presentations. The historical photo to exhibit was created in partnership with Crossroads: Change in Rural America, part of the Smithsonian’s Museum on Main Street traveling exhibition series. Curated by local historian Matt Walter, the exhib-

it showcases photographs from the Brewster County Collections and Archives of the Big Bend. It captures everyday moments, landscapes, and community events that reflect the rich cultural and historical heritage of Far West Texas. Brought to you by The Museum of the Big Bend,

Historic Alpine, Texas Mountain Trail, Brewster County, Visit Alpine Texas, and the Texas Historical Commission, in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum on Main Street traveling exhibition series.

Boquillas crossing heading to summer hours

From the National Park Service

BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK — The Boquillas Port of Entry within Big Bend National Park, providing access to the town of Boquillas, Coahuila, Mexico, as well as the Mexican Protected Areas of Maderas del Carmen and Ocampo, will change to the summer schedule beginning Monday, May 5. The crossing will be open four days a week, Fridays through Mondays

Summer hours of operation:

Pedestrians will be able to access the port between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. OPEN: Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday

CLOSED: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
During the transition week from winter to summer schedule, the crossing will be:
OPEN: Wednesday, April 30 through Monday, May 5
CLOSED: May 6 through May 8 (Tuesday through Thursday).

At the Boquillas Port of Entry, visitors will be able to cross into Mexico by foot (during low water) or by rowboat ferry (for a fee) during business hours only. This port of entry does not accommodate vehicle crossings or commercial importation of products. There is NO other legal access to Mexico within or through Big Bend National Park.

Proper documentation is required to cross. U.S. and Canadian citizens can cross with a valid passport. For complete information on other accepted travel documents, contact U.S. Customs and Border Protection at Presidio at 432-229-3349. The Boquillas Port of Entry is operated cooperatively by the National Park Service and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. The facility is staffed by National Park Rangers who can assist travelers with information about visiting the area. For more information about experiencing the village of Boquillas, please visit: <https://www.nps.gov/bibe/planyourvisit/visiting-boquillas.htm>

Texas legislative bills signal new money headed to schools, but educators say it’s not enough

By Kimberly Reeves
For The Big Bend Sentinel

AUSTIN — The Texas House has passed its version of new money for Texas schools last week — an additional \$7.7 billion — but it still remains unclear just how much money Texas schools will see. Texas has a bicameral government that typically doesn’t act in tandem until the final days of a legislative session. The current session will end June 2. The Texas House has stand-alone bills for both school finance and private school vouchers — which they term as “school choice” — which both passed last week. The Texas Senate passed separate bills for teacher pay and vouchers early in the session. The final version of vouchers and public school spending this session could be reconciled and substituted within those bills, or it could be agreed upon during final budget negotiations.

Rep. Brad Buckley, R-Salado, spearheaded both the school finance and voucher bills as chair of the House Public Education Committee. Both bills passed on April 16. Buckley called the school finance bill, House Bill 2, “the largest investment of funding for our public schools in the history of the state” and responsive to the concerns raised by House members. “Members, we heard hours and hours of testimony, and we had several great discussions on the provisions of this bill,” Buckley said, opening the debate of HB

2. “I want to thank members on the floor right now that have come to me with issues involving very specific things that are happening in your school districts.” Almost half of the new money in HB 2 must be set aside for salary increases, according to the bill. The House bill also provides a bump in funding for special education and an increase in the allotment that helps rural and mid-sized school districts that lack budget economies of scale. The increase in that rural allotment is especially important to Big Bend school districts. “Even though it can help, I feel like we’re just so far behind after so many years of not getting new funding,” said Marfa ISD Superintendent Arturo Alferez. “One year is not going to be enough.” Alpine Independent School District Superintendent Michelle Rinehart, who has looked at specific increases to her district’s funding proposed in the House bill, said HB 2 does provide some short-term relief, even if it doesn’t provide long-term fixes to continuing inequities in the school finance system. “We are grateful for any and every infusion of funding into Texas public education, even if the total increase doesn’t yet make Texas public schools fully funded,” Rinehart said this week. “Every funding increase helps counteract the years of decreased buying power we have weathered over the last decade.” The Texas Legislature tied school finance and school choice in a single bill during the legislative ses-

sion two years ago. Those bills failed, so that funding rolled into the state’s general revenue. This session’s bills are roughly the same amount as last session’s proposals. Democrats in the House did vote in favor of the school finance bill, but many noted during the debate that the proposed increase in funding has not kept up with inflation. Buckley declined to directly answer whether total spending in HB 2 would match 2019 funding levels, if adjusted for inflation. Instead, Buckley insisted the House had made a significant commitment to return schools to the resources they need. “I’m going to take that as a no until I get a yes,” countered Rep. James Talarico, D-Austin, at the back microphone, drawing cheers from the gallery of public education supporters. Alferez said the Marfa ISD School Board will hear a presentation from Raise Your Hand Texas — a public education advocacy organization — for an update on the legislation and possible impacts to the district at its Monday board meeting. Until final numbers are decided it will be hard for Marfa to see exactly how the district will benefit in terms of salaries and any effect it has on recapture payments to the state, he said. Alpine’s budget shortfalls go beyond inflation. The school district, which serves just under 1,000 students within an 1,800-square mile area, receives only 85 cents of every dollar promised by the school finance system, Rinehart said. That’s because of a combina-

tion of factors: discrepancies in appraised local property values, a slow decline in district enrollment and the district’s ongoing responsibility to cover a long-time local homestead exemption. The House school finance bill provides some short-term relief on those issues but no permanent fix. Looking at the early numbers, Rinehart said the new funding in HB 2 is roughly equivalent to funding shortfalls in the budget, allowing the district to draw even with what it should be getting from the state. Alpine is one of about 100 school districts that currently uses the state’s minimum salary schedule. She calculates the pool for salary increases in the new funding formula, which would have to cover all professional staff, would be about \$90,000. Sometimes it’s hard to reconcile the vast resources the state puts into public education with local school district complaints that the funding is not enough, Rinehart conceded. A tax bill may be higher, but it doesn’t mean all that money is going into local school district coffers. “As property taxes go up — and particularly school property taxes — it doesn’t mean school funding is actually increasing for our schools,” Rinehart said. “Instead, the state is divesting itself of its responsibility to fund schools and allowing more of the responsibility of education to fall on the backs of local property owners. That’s why they’re hearing that schools have less and less.”

Rescate de caballos

(Continuación de la página 3)

sus compañeros de manada más dominantes y se le impide comer. Problemas dentales, infecciones, infestaciones, enfermedades y, simplemente, las dolencias propias de la vejez pueden contribuir a su mal estado. El creciente número de caballos abandonados y desnutridos representa un desafío para la industria equina, en particular debido al aumento en el costo de la atención veterinaria y la alimentación, explicó Boyd. La Universidad

de California-Davis realizó el último estudio significativo hace 20 años sobre la realimentación de caballos desnutridos con alfalfa, una leguminosa. Sin embargo, en el oeste de Texas, la alfalfa es cara, entre 300 y 400 dólares por paca. El estudio de Sul Ross investigó si el heno Bermuda, una hierba de estación cálida más económica que cuesta alrededor de 170 dólares por paca redonda, podría sustituirse junto con el grano en un programa de reali-

mentación. La escuela compró 10 caballos demacrados en una subasta. Fue imposible determinar de dónde provenían los caballos, cómo terminaron en mal estado o con qué frecuencia se habían vendido. Todos estaban destinados a México y al matadero. El comercio de caballos es un negocio con un margen de beneficio reducido y algunos comerciantes no tratan bien a sus animales, afirmó Boyd.

El cruce de Boquillas se prepara para el horario de verano

Del Servicio de Parques Nacionales

PARQUE NACIONAL BIG BEND — El puerto de entrada de Boquillas, dentro del Parque Nacional Big Bend, que brinda acceso al pueblo de Boquillas, Coahuila, México, así como a las Áreas Protegidas Mexicanas de Maderas del Carmen y Ocampo, cambiará a horario de verano a partir del lunes 5 de mayo. El cruce estará abierto cuatro días a la semana, de viernes a lunes.

Horario de verano:

Los peatones podrán acceder al puerto entre las 9:00 a. m. y las 4:00 p. m. ABIERTO: Viernes, sábado, domingo y lunes

CERRADO: Martes, miércoles y jueves

Durante la semana de transición del horario de invierno al de verano, el cruce estará:
ABIERTO: Del miércoles 30 de abril al lunes 5 de mayo
CERRADO: Del 6 al 8 de mayo (de martes a jueves).

En el Puerto de Entrada de Boquillas, los visitantes podrán cruzar a México a pie (durante la bajamar) o en ferry (con costo) únicamente durante el horario comercial. Este puerto de entrada no admite el cruce de vehículos ni la importación comercial de productos. No existe ningún otro acceso legal a México dentro o a través del Parque Nacional Big Bend.

Se requiere la documentación pertinente para cruzar. Los ciudadanos estadounidenses y canadienses pueden cruzar con un pasaporte válido. Para obtener información completa sobre otros documentos de viaje aceptados, comuníquese con la Oficina de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza de EE. UU. en Presidio al 432-229-3349. El Puerto de Entrada de Boquillas es operado en conjunto por el Servicio de Parques Nacionales y la Oficina de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza de EE. UU. El personal de las instalaciones es de guardabosques del Parque Nacional, quienes pueden brindar información a los viajeros sobre cómo visitar la zona. Para obtener más información sobre cómo visitar el pueblo de Boquillas, visite: <https://www.nps.gov/bibe/planyourvisit/visiting-boquillas.htm>

“Instantáneas en el Tiempo: La Vida en el Condado de Brewster” se inaugura en el Museo de Big Bend

De Historic Alpine

ALPINE — Fotografías de archivo del área son el tema de una nueva exposición, “Instantáneas en el Tiempo: La Vida en el Condado de Brewster”, que se inaugura de 17:00 a 19:00 h el 30 de abril en el Museo de Big Bend. La velada contará con aperitivos ligeros, barra libre, música en vivo y presentaciones. La exposición de fotografía histórica se creó en colaboración con Crossroads: Change in Rural America, parte de la serie de exposiciones itinerantes del Museo en Main Street del Smithsonian. Curada por el historiador local Matt Walter, la exposición presenta fotografías de las Colecciones y Archivos del Condado de Brewster de Big Bend. Captura momentos cotidianos, paisajes y eventos comunitarios que reflejan el rico patrimonio cultural e histórico del Lejano Oeste de Texas. Presentado por el Museo de Big Bend, Historic Alpine, Texas Mountain Trail, Brewster County, Visit Alpine Texas y la Comisión Histórica de Texas, en asociación con la serie de exposiciones itinerantes del Museo en Main Street del Instituto Smithsonian.

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TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The City of Presidio is giving notice of the city’s intent to submit a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program grant application for a Rural Economic Development Fund grant request of \$1,000,000.00 for downtown revitalization/economic development improvements in the City of Presidio. The application will be available for review at City Hall during regular business hours beginning Monday, April 21, 2025. Para obtener una copia en espanol, comuniquese con Pablo Rodriguez al 432-229-3517.

House For Sale: \$89,000

3 bedroom 2 bath
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