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In a departure from the norm, Brewster votes blue in statewide races

Statewide Democrats sweep 2 counties

By Rob D'Amico

TRI-COUNTY — Tuesday's election was a stunning turnaround for Democrats in Texas as every statewide office went to their party — what is widely seen as a repudiation of President Donald Trump and his policies. The last time a Democrat was elected to a statewide office was 32 years ago.

While Presidio County has traditionally been a Far West Texas outlier of sorts by solidly voting Democratic, Brewster County drifted away from solidly red to blue by voting to elect every Democratic statewide candidate. In Jeff Davis County, Republicans still came out on top in statewide races, but results were closer than in past elections.

In Brewster County, gubernatorial Democratic candidate Gina Hinojosa won 2017-1710 (54.12% to 45.88%) over Republican incumbent Gov. Greg Abbott. Those results somewhat mirror the statewide totals favoring Hinojosa 52.8% to 45.67%, but the additional points to Democrats was common across the entire Texas border. (All tallies are unofficial until local government entities canvas votes.) It's a turnaround from the 2024 presidential election when several Lower Rio Grande counties turned red.

Democratic Senate nominee James Talarico received even more support in the county, beating Republican nominee Attorney General Ken Paxton 55.82% to 44.18%.

The county's red/blue votes essentially flipped from 2022 when Abbott defeated Democratic challenger Beto O'Rourke 54.8% to 43.9%. In 2024, the county had creeped up in support for Trump by rising from 51% support in 2020 to 55.54%. Those results indicated an increasing support for Republicans, a trend that was turned on its head Tuesday.

Red Jeff Davis County, which cast 60.8% of its votes for Trump in 2024, saw a different result — statewide Republicans winning every statewide race. Abbott topped Hinojosa by 55.29% to 44.71%. But in 2022, Abbott defeated O'Rourke 63.18% to 36.82% — almost 16 more points going to the Democrat on Tuesday.

In Jeff Davis County, Paxton defeated Talarico 52.52% to 47.48% — only a 5-point margin.

For Presidio County, Hinojosa defeated Abbott 77.33% to 22.67%, and Talarico bested Paxton by 77.90% to 22.10%

In other races related to the tri-county area, state Rep. Eddie Morales bested Republican opponent 64.6% to 35.4% to keep his seat. And for the District 23 congressional race, Democrat Katy Padilla Stout handily defeated Republican Brandon Herrera 52.1% to 44% for the seat held by Tony Gonzalez, until he resigned in April this year.

While official voter turnout is not yet available, The Texas Tribune reported that it rose on average 8.2% from 2022 for border areas. While statewide turnout at 51.6% did not reach a midterm record (it was 53.01% in 2018), it has risen considerably from the 33% to 37% rates from 2002 to 2014.

You can see the complete totals for all races by county at bigbendsentinel.com/election2026. Results statewide are posted at texastribune.org.

Marfa revises 2026-2027 school calendar

Students and staff get Thanksgiving week off

By Ariele Gentiles

MARFA — Marfa ISD has applied for a professional development minutes waiver and amended the current school year calendar to reflect changes necessary to meet the 75,600 student instructional minutes required by the Texas Education Agency.

Superintendent Stephen McCanless told The Big Bend Sentinel that after some calculations, he discovered that the calendar approved last February, months before his arrival in the district, did not meet TEA minute standards. At that time, the board made the difficult decision to return to a five-day instructional week after three years of a four-day work week.

Among other changes, the previously approved calendar required students and teachers to attend early release days Monday, November 23, and Tuesday, November 24, of Thanksgiving week, with Wednesday through Friday off.

"I started working on the calendar and realized, regardless of Thanksgiving week, the minutes were short across the district," said McCanless. "Because when you create a calendar and you give half days off during the year, you have to go in and subtract those half-day minutes because they are not instructional minutes … and then looking at the true bell times start and end times, I realized elementary was almost 3,000 minutes short for the year."

McCanless also said that the two minutes between classes at the junior high and high school were not properly calculated and had to be subtracted from the overall instructional minute calendar, adding to the deficit.

A solution was found in TEA's professional development minutes waiver, offered to five-day school districts. The waiver is for staff development, not student instruction, and only applies to staff development that replaces student instruction during the school year. It can be used at the district's discretion for student early release and whole staff development days or a combination of both, which Marfa ISD implemented in the revised calendar.

"So the new calendar corrects the minimum minutes," McCanless said. "And even after doing all that, I was still able to give the whole week of Thanksgiving off, and it did not affect our minimum minutes. So it's a much more user-friendly calendar. It's better for families."

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The Big Bend Reporting Project





BRIAN FINKE

A bulldozer builds a road in Big Bend National Park, just down from Santa Elena Canyon.

SCOTUS greenlights wall construction

By Sam Karas

Efforts to stop border barrier construction in the Big Bend suffered a blow on Monday as the Supreme Court lifted a preliminary injunction that had halted wall construction since October 2. The per curiam ruling — an unsigned opinion not attributed to a specific justice — will allow construction to continue while a lawsuit brought by an environmental group winds its way through the courts. (Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson indicated that she would have denied the government's application for a stay.)

In the ruling, the court argued that the construction pause was much more harmful to the government than those suffered by the plaintiffs, which include the Friends of the Ruidosa Church, a local historical nonprofit; river guide Billy Miller; and and the Center for Biological Diversity, an environmental nonprofit, all who claim wall construction could be devastating to the local way of life: "The Government's interest … outweighs any aesthetic, recreational, and environmental harm alleged by respondents."

At the heart of the original lawsuit is a special waiver authority granted to the government by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA) of 1996 and later strengthened by the Real ID Act of 2005. The waiver authority allows the secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to waive "legal requirements" that the secretary "determines necessary to ensure expeditious construction" of barriers and roads on America's borders in areas of "high illegal entry."

The Bush administration used the waivers to facilitate the construction of around 700 miles of border fencing, lights and cameras authorized by Congress through the Secure Fence Act of 2007. Then DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff used the waiver authority five times, most extensively in April 2008, when it was used to waive environmental and cultural resource protection laws across 59 discrete project areas, including a 6.6-mile stretch of wall near the Presidio Port of Entry, which was never built. The Obama administration never issued a waiver, and the Biden administration issued two, only to later rescind one.

In a filing presented to SCOTUS, DHS, represented by Solicitor General John Sauer, argued that the Trump administration's use of the waiver authority in the Big Bend amounted to "a recent example of the secretary using a well-worn tool in his border security toolkit." The Trump administration has been an enthusiastic user of the waiver authority, using the "well-worn tool" 60 times — more frequently than the Bush administration by a factor of twelve. The list of laws grew, too, and by October 2026 it covered over a hundred unique laws that also include regulations about government contracting and state-level well permitting.

At the heart of the Friends of the Ruidosa Church lawsuit is the phrase "high illegal entry," which the IIRIRA requires to unlock the waiver authority. For as long as the government has kept data on border crossings, the Big Bend has steadily represented between 1% and 3% of all agency "apprehensions" on the U.S.-Mexico border. In terms of raw numbers, the plaintiffs argue, there are sectors on the U.S.-Canada border that see more illegal crossings. "Big Bend doesn't play in the same league as the other sectors," expert witness Adam Isacson, a defense specialist at the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), testified in a hearing on October 2.

In early filings, DHS tried to

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No big suprises in local races

By Rob D'Amico

TRI-COUNTY — Tuesday's election resulted in a new Presidio County commissioner — Susan Hays — who beat write-in candidate Ida Dominguez for the Precinct 4 seat 459-264. The seat was held by Commissioner Frank "Buddy" Knight, who was appointed by the county judge after David Beebe inadvertently resigned from the seat when he announced his run for county judge too soon last year to meet constitutional requirements. (All results are unofficial until the government entities canvas the votes.)

At his appointment, Knight said he had no intention of running in the election.

Hays, an attorney and former state agriculture commissioner candidate in 2022, was unopposed in the March Democratic primary, and she appeared to be cruising unopposed with no Republican candidate for Tuesday's election. But Ida Dominguez, wife of Sheriff Danny Dominguez, announced as a write-in candidate.

"Presidio County faces a lot of challenges, and I look forward to working with the entire Commissioners Court to improve the whole county, not just Marfa," Hays said Thursday.

In the only other contested Presidio County race, Democrat Bianca Bailon came out on top of Republican opponent Amabilia Galindo 677-305.

Other county Democratic officials reelected with no Republicans opponents included: County Judge Joe Portillo, County/District Clerk Carolina Cataño, Treasurer Florcita Zubia and Precinct 1 Justice of the Peace Dina Jo Marquez. Also elected with no Republican opposition were Precinct 2 Commissioner-elect Jesus "Junie" Herrera, and Precinct 3 Commissioner Obed Esonterias, who was appointed in March after Franky Ortiz resigned.

Brewster County

In the only two contested Brewster County elections Democrat Felipe Ferrero beat write-in candidate Micky Cox for Precinct

Continued on page 3

Shorthorns clutch district championship

Marfa athletics celebrates championships, playoff success and state-level competition

By Roxye Lara

The Marfa Lady Horns volleyball team, Shorthorns football team, and Marfa cross-country program have given the community plenty to celebrate with championship victories, playoff competition, and a trip to the state meet.

Shorthorns claim District Championship at home

Friday night, November 6, brought another reason for Marfa to celebrate as the Shorthorns defeated Dell City 76-12 to claim the District 5-1A Division II District Championship on their home field.

This accomplishment is especially meaningful, as a district championship of this kind has not been achieved by Marfa in many years.

Head Coach Felix Reyes said, "Our boys came out to play and it showed out there on the field. We've been working hard at practice and will continue to focus on our strengths and work on our weaknesses. No matter the outcome on Thursday, I am proud of this team, and I am proud to be their coach."

The Shorthorns delivered an outstanding performance in front of their home crowd and are now setting their sights on the next challenge.

The Shorthorns will take on the Rocksprings Angoras on Thursday at 6 p.m. in Balmorhea as they compete in the first round of the UIL Football Playoffs. Best of luck, Shorthorns!



BELON SOTO

Marfa Shorthorns get hyped up after a District Championship win.

Lady Horns capture Bi-District Championship

On October 29, 2026, the Marfa Lady Horns faced the Rankin Lady Devils for the Bi-District Championship and came away with a three-set sweep, winning 25-18, 25-20, and 26-24.

The opening set featured plenty of back-and-forth action, with Rankin calling its first timeout at a score of 13-up. Senior setter Dariela Munoz helped lead the offense, connecting with fellow senior Itzel Urrutia, who delivered six kills in the first set alone.

Marfa maintained control throughout the second set, thanks in part to critical defensive plays from seniors Zoey Salgado and Madison Cash. The third set proved to be the toughest, as the Lady Devils held the lead for much of the action. However, the Lady Horns refused to back down. Sophomores Adeline Marquez and Liliana Zubia came up big at the net with key blocks, while senior Giselle Torres anchored the back row. Marfa rallied to close out the set and secure the Bi-District Championship.

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AROUND THE BIG BEND

Thursday, Nov. 12

• Alpine: The Regular, indie folk music at The Granada Theater, 7 p.m.
• Alpine: Paint and Sip, Alcove Social, 7 p.m.
• Fort Davis: Miles of Stars, Davis Mountains State Park, 7 p.m.
• Marfa: Enduring Adobe Report, The Crowley Theater, 6 p.m.

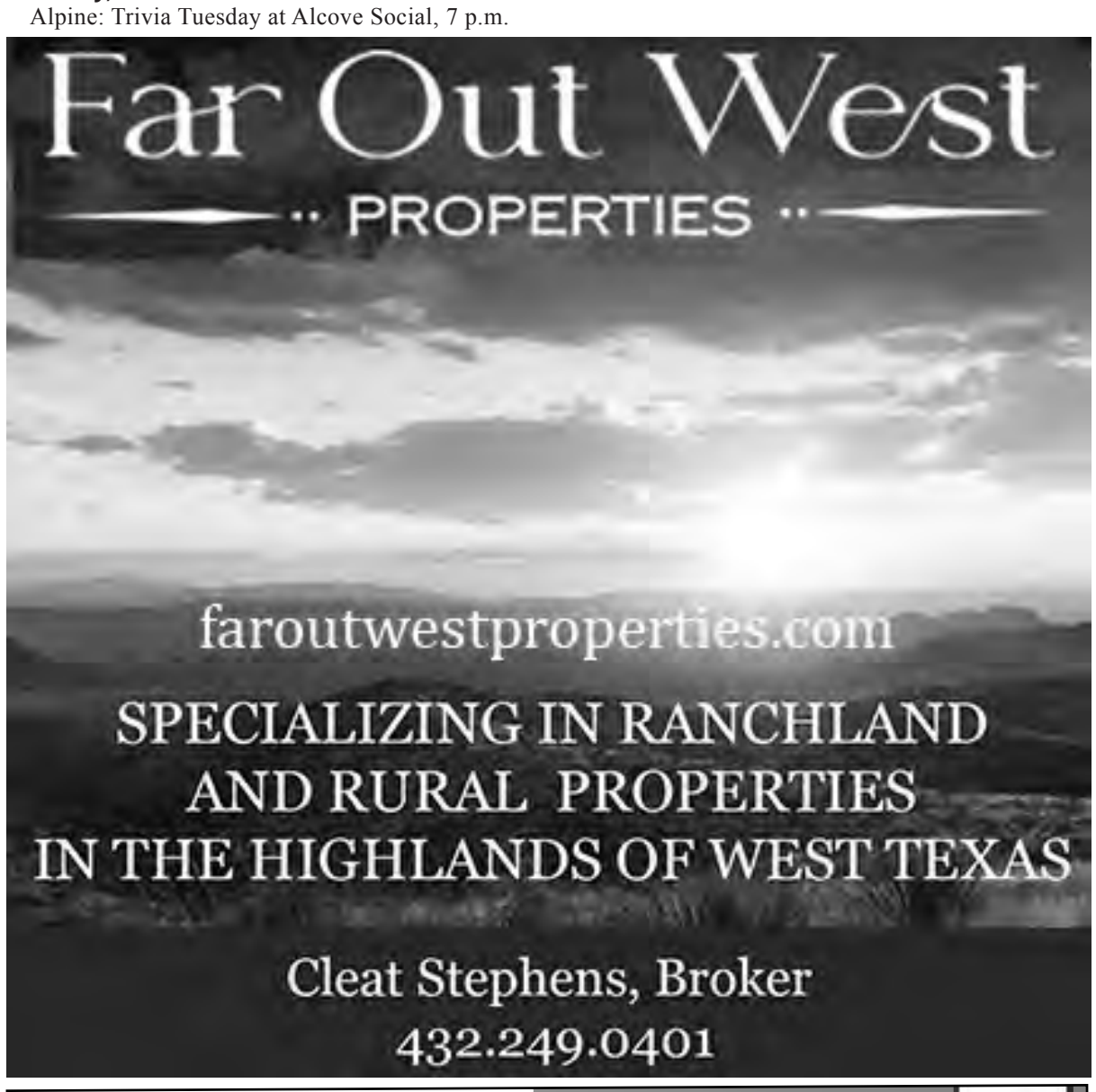
Friday, Nov. 13
• Alpine: Jeremiah Johnson, film and costume contest, The Granada Theater, doors at 6:30 p.m.
• Alpine: Live Music, Trash Pandas. Alcove Social, 6:30 p.m.
• Fort Davis: Indian Lodge Tour, Davis Mountain Park, 4 p.m.
• Terlingua: Coffee with a Ranger, Big Bend State Park, 9 a.m.

Saturday, Nov. 14
• Alpine: TJ WIcks and the Top Hands, Railroad Blues, 10:30 p.m.
• Alpine: Magic Dinner Theater with Bronson Chadwick, Granada Theater, 5:30 p.m.
• Fort Davis: Hike Among the Cottonwoods, Davis Mountains State Park, 9 a.m.
• Fort Davis: Birding for Beginners, Davis Mountains State Park, 9 a.m.
• Marfa: Barnstorm! Sandlot Baseball Weekend, Vizcaino Park

Sunday, Nov. 15
• Alpine: Open Mic Night, Alcove Social, 5 p.m.
• Marfa: Boxing at Maintenant, 9 a.m.
• Ruidosa: Ruidosa Church Community Day, Ruidosa Church 1-6 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 16
• Marfa: Marfa ISD School Board regular meeting, MISD Board Room, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 17
Alpine: Trivia Tuesday at Alcove Social, 7 p.m.





The Crowley Theater on South Austin Street in Marfa formerly was a feed store before its purchase in 1998.

MPR launches theater purchase campaign

'Next Stage' fundraising aims to make improvements, add new station revenue

MARFA — Marfa Public Radio announced the launch of Next Stage, a capital campaign to acquire and revitalize the historic Crowley Theater in Marfa for "preserving a community gathering place while expanding opportunities for live programming and strengthening independent public media in West Texas," according to a press release sent Wednesday morning.

MPR's goal is to raise $5 million and close on the purchase of the theater by the end of the year, said Randy Ham, the campaign's spokesperson. That goal amount also includes funding for theater improvements, equipment and other needs to make the site a sustainable venue, and with the intention of adding a new revenue source to the nonprofit station after the loss of federal funding in 2025.

"I've been very proud of the contributions that the theater has made to Marfa over the last 28 years," said Tim Crowley, who purchased the former feed store on South Austin Street in Marfa in 1998 and turned it into a nonprofit venue for a variety of arts and entertainment programming. "And, uh, have every reason to believe that, uh, those, uh, contributions will continue under the stewardship of Marfa Public Radio.

Crowley said that one of his goals with the sale of the building was to ensure it remained a theater for the community. "It has been the go-to venue for many of the nonprofits in town over a very long period of time," he said. "And it has resources that are unique in the town for lectures and films, all those types of things. It's important to me that it continues."

Marfa Public Radio Board President Mike Pacheco, Vice President Lorri Kershner, and Secretary/Treasurer Jeremy Steele said in a statement:

"For 20 years, Marfa Public Radio has connected the communities of Far West Texas through independent journalism, music, and storytelling. Next Stage represents an opportunity to build upon that legacy by preserving an important cultural landmark and creating a gathering place where those connections can continue to grow. We believe the Crowley Theater can become an extraordinary resource for our communities while helping ensure the long-term sustainability of Marfa Public Radio."

With a "Take Your Seat" fundraiser, supporters contributing $2,000 can get a theater seat with their name or in honor of someone else — although the campaign will accept donations of any size.

"Take Your Seat gives supporters a personal way to become part of the theater's future," Ham said. "Whether you're honoring someone special, celebrating your connection to Marfa, or simply helping preserve a place where stories are shared, your gift becomes part of something much larger."

To learn more, Take Your Seat, or make a gift, see marfapublicradio.org/nextstage.





The borderlands on view from the 1915 Ruidosa adobe church.

Embrace the border this month with Ruidosa Church events

MARFA — The Friends of the Ruidosa Church will hold two events this week highlighting and celebrating progress on the historic adobe church on the Rio Grande, then will follow up next week with an art exhibit.

The nonprofit Friends group was founded in 2018 to bring the El Corazón Sagrado de la Iglesia de Jesus — a Catholic Church built in 1915 whose claims to fame include what is perhaps the largest adobe arch in Texas — back to its original glory, making it a focal point of the small border communities and providing a foundation for telling the history and stories of the area.

On Thursday, the group will host a presentation on the completion of a Historic Structure Report, which addresses the question: "How does a church built of mud and straw remain standing for over 100 years in the Chihuahuan Desert?" The report — authored by Marfa architectural consultants MUDLAB — outlines a roadmap for restoration, along with a history of the church. The free event will be held on Thursday, November 12, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Crowley Theater in Marfa.

Organizers with the Friends group note that the report program will be a perfect primer to seeing the church in person for its annual Community Day on Saturday, November 14, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the church on Highway 170, 37 miles west of Presidio in Ruidosa. The event, which includes food, beverages and music, is free. This year also highlights the art of Aurora Castellanos — with this year's theme of Abrazo en la Frontera (Embrace at the Border).

On Thursday, November 19, Castellanos' art will be on display from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Do Right Hall in Marfa.

For more information see ruidosachurch.org.



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Stolen rentals 'vanish' once they make it to Mexico

By Steve Fisher

MEXICO CITY — Mexican cartels are stealing cars and trucks from U.S. rental agencies at an alarming rate, spiriting thousands of vehicles across the border each year to keep top capos in the latest model BMWs and Cadillacs.

Law enforcement agencies and companies charged with trying to recover stolen vehicles say that while much of the theft happens in border states, particularly Texas, cartels have stolen vehicles from as far away as New York, Chicago and Miami. But California remains the top target.

Los Angeles Police Department Sgt. Juvey Mejia, a member of the Task Force for Regional Auto Theft Prevention, said the cartels love heavy-duty pickup trucks and Jeeps.

"Anything that can drive through tough terrain to get away from border patrol so they can move dope," Mejia said.

Along with Chevy Suburbans, Ford Raptors and Toyota pickups, the vehicles of choice include Cadillac Escalades and BMW SUVs, according to people whose job is to recover them. To battle rival cartels or authorities, cartels sometimes convert the trucks into mutant-tanks, adding heavy ballistic-proof steel plating, firing ports and gun mounts.

Vehicles are rented by cartel operatives and then driven across the border. California sees significant theft, in part, because of its restrictive privacy laws on GPS tracking of rental vehicles, according to Sharky Laguana, owner of Bandago Van Rentals based in San Francisco.

Unlike other states, California requires rental agencies to wait to turn on GPS tracking until the vehicle return deadline has passed and the renter has been notified. By then, most stolen vehicles are deep into Mexican territory.

"California allows criminals to take advantage of the fact that we are not allowed to see where the vehicle is until it's too late," Laguana said. The American Rental Cars Association, a trade group, said in a statement that California laws make it harder to recover vehicles. "Members are reporting rental vehicle theft from California into Mexico, where California law uniquely restricts rental fleet operators from accessing technology to protect and recover their assets," an association said in a statement. "The result is millions of dollars in annual theft-related costs."

The number of rental cars stolen in the United States and taken to Mexico each year is unknown, but it is believed to be in the thousands. Businesses charged with recovering the vehicles estimate only a small percentage of them are ever found.

But statistics compiled by the California Highway Patrol give some sense of the problem. According to the CHP, since 2023, about 850 vehicles stolen in California have been recovered each year in Mexico. The numbers do not distinguish which cars are rentals or privately owned, but rental industry representatives estimate that many are rentals.

Early this year, criminal groups stole 10 new Ram pickup trucks from Oakland, Los Angeles and Las Vegas airports, according to private investigators. The trucks ended up in Jalisco state in regions controlled by the violent New Generation Jalisco Cartel.

The private investigators recovered one with help from the Mexican army. Security forces also seized a cache of .50 caliber Browning and Barret weapons. In another haul this year, thieves stole six 2026 Jeep Wranglers from Oakland and Las Vegas. Four have been recovered so far. Private investigators believe the vehicles were destined for the Sinaloa Cartel.

"For the cartel, it is the cheapest way for them to do business," said Kevin Carter, owner of Collateral Consultants, a rental car recovery company in Texas. "There's no sense in them buying a car when they could rent one for a few hundred bucks, and it's theirs forever."

Along with California, Texas and Arizona are the other top targets for Mexican criminal groups.

One tactic involves cartels hiring people in the U.S. via social media to rent a vehicle for five days, get the damage waiver, that includes covering the car if it is stolen, and then leaving the keys in the vehicle still parked in the rental parking lot. An operative arrives, picks up the car and drives it south to Mexico.

In other cases, thieves will rent the vehicle online or at a kiosk using a stolen identity, said Mejia, the LAPD officer. Since the pandemic, it's not unusual for people to wear protective masks, so the renter will wear a mask to hide their identity from the kiosk camera. "They know it won't be traced back to them," Mejia said.

The process for reporting a stolen rental vehicle varies from state to state, but it is often tedious. It can take three days after the vehicle has gone missing for a company to prepare a demand letter to the renter seeking the return of the vehicle. The notification is required before a vehicle can be reported stolen, and it can take another two days to send the letter by certified mail.

Depending on the state, a company might have to wait up to nine days to report the theft to police. More days will pass before the VIN number is registered in Mexico's stolen vehicle database. If the car or truck was rented in one state, set to return in another state and crossed into Mexico via a third, the coordination required between three state law enforcement agencies can make timely recovery of the vehicle even more complicated.

Many vehicles are never registered in the U.S. stolen car database.

Carter, from Collateral Consultants, said that of the around 1 million cases he has seen in his 15 years recovering rental vehicles in the U.S. and elsewhere, less than half made it onto the U.S. database.

Large rental agencies often don't bother recovering vehicles that disappear across the border and consider the loss a cost of doing business, Carter said.

"It's a calculated risk to most of the big companies," he said.

While insurance companies insure rental agencies against vehicle damage, they do not cover theft, according to Luguana of Bandago Van Rentals. Most agencies are self-insured, meaning the loss of a vehicle cuts into their bottom line, he said. Though sometimes the target is a single vehicle, authorities have also uncovered larger theft operations.

In 2024, the Colorado attorney general's office indicted 17 people associated with the Sinaloa cartel, accusing them of stealing 190 new Ford F150s and luxury suburbans near the Denver airport. The cartel operatives drove the stolen vehicles, valued at nearly $10 million, south to Mexico, according to court documents, and exchanged them for cocaine, fentanyl and methamphetamines.

In the Texas border city of Laredo, Deputy Police Chief Timothy Tubbs said he has seen a 50% increase in the theft of rental vehicles — about 10 a month.

"They have seen how easy it is to steal a rental car, and the process it takes to report it," Tubbs said of criminal groups. And the vehicles are supporting drug trafficking into the U.S., he said. "These stolen vehicles empower the cartels," Tubbs said. "It is another tool for them to continue their smuggling and continue their violence."

Once the vehicles are in Mexico, operatives approach corrupt Mexican officials, change out the U.S. license plates for Mexican plates and register the vehicles on Mexico's online car registry platform, according to car recovery experts. Authorities install a chip that is scanned by machines along federal highways. The chips are supposed to flag stolen cars and trucks, but since the Mexican plates are valid, the vehicles are never listed as stolen.

In the United States, stolen vehicles are far more likely to be identified, experts said, for a variety of reasons — a routine maintenance check or scan by a highway license plate camera could trigger an alert. But once it arrives in Mexico, it essentially vanishes.

"It crosses that border, it is a brand new car," Carter said.

Cartels steal more cars and trucks when turf wars break out because they require more resources, one U.S. law enforcement official said. And in recent years, cartels have increasingly splintered as leaders have been arrested.

One of the more dramatic examples is the Sinaloa Cartel, founded by the now imprisoned Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán. His sons, known as Los Chapitos, are fighting a rival faction for control of the criminal group.

The ruthless Jalisco Cartel has fought to expand its territory warring with groups from Baja California to Michoacán and Chiapas states and is fighting wars on multiple fronts as it seeks to expand its presence.

Though many stolen vehicles disappear, some are recovered. In Guerrero state last November, the Mexican army seized a Toyota TRD Pro and other vehicles loaded with high-caliber weapons and nearly half a ton of meth.

According to sources familiar with another recovery, in August a member of the New Generation Jalisco Cartel went to the border city of Mexicali to pick up a tractor-trailer with a 2026 Cadillac Escalade and a late model Ram hidden inside, apparently to evade the stolen car detection system until they could be outfitted with Mexican plates.

But private investigators hired to recover the Cadillac began tracking it. They asked not to identify their tracking methods to avoid tipping off criminals. The investigators notified the Mexican army, providing the license plate number.

Their tracking method allowed them to see the vehicle was on the move, passing through toll booths and military check points, but without setting off alarms. At one check point, National Guard soldiers opened the trailer and, finding a wall of hay bales, let it pass.

At the next check point, however, soldiers pulled back the bales to reveal the Cadillac and Ram. The driver said he was to be paid nearly $1,500 for the trip and admitted the cars were bound for drug lords.



DAVID CASTAÑEDA-MOLINA FOR PUENTE NEWS COLLABORATIVE

Vehicles like this Toyota Tundra at a car rental in El Paso are coveted by

This story was supported by a grant from the Fund for Investigative Journalism. Fisher is a special correspondent. This article is a collaboration between the Los Angeles Times and Puente News Collaborative, a bilingual nonprofit newsroom. Reporting for this article was supported with a grant by the Fund for Investigative Journalism.

BALLROOM MARFA

UPCOMING PROGRAMS
FREE with RSVP
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Rainer Judd: *I Saw the Sun*
Friday, November 27th
An intimate poetry reading of reflections on the natural world with Judd and friends.

An Evening with Jo Harvey Allen
Saturday, November 28th
A one-woman show with stories, poems, and songs, based on her play and book *Homerun*.

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Jeff Davis sticks to red, but races were closer

Continued from page 1

1 justice of the peace 1981-270, and Democratic incumbent Susana Gonzales edged out Republican Michael Johnson 129-110. Precinct 1 Republican incumbent Scott Wassermann dropped out of the race.

Reelected and unopposed county officials included: County Judge Greg Henington, Precinct 2 Commissioner Sara Allen Colando, Precinct 4 Commissioner William "Mo" Morrow, District Clerk Sarah Fellows Martinez, County Clerk Sarah Lujan, County Treasurer Julie K. Morton and Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Paul Rashott.

Also of note was the passage of a proposition creating Emergency Services District #2, which will cover sections of northern Brewster County. The vote was 2,498-533. The district will be a taxing entity to fund fire and EMS services. (District #1 currently covers southern portions of the county.)

City of Alpine

In the only contested city race by two newcomers, Rozolen Stanford defeated Isaiah Olayinka 176-106. Unopposed incumbent Mayor Catherine Eaves was reelected.

Jeff Davis County

In contested county races, Republican challenger Tommy Vick defeated incumbent Democrat Albert Miller 142-106 for Precinct 4 commissioner, and for county judge, Republican nominee Buster Mills defeated write-in candidate Sandra Chambers 617-299. The incumbent county judge, Curtis Evans, lost to Mills in the March primary. Reelected were: Precinct 2 County Commissioner Roy Hurley, County/District Clerk Jennifer Wright, County Treasurer Dawn Kitts, and Justice of the Peace Mary Ann Luedecke.

Fort Davis ISD

Elected to the Fort Davis ISD School Board were John Tyrel (Single Member District 2), Jason Dominguez (Single Member District 3). Evin Prude beat David Birt 94-56 for Single Member District 4, and for an at-large seat, Caleb Bencomo defeated Keith Maxam 292-56.



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Sul Ross cuts popular nursing program

By Libby Foster, Sul Ross
***Skyline* Copy-chief**

Editor's note: This story examines the impact of Sul Ross voluntarily suspending its Bachelor of Science nursing program in October after the Texas Board of Nursing put the program on "conditional status" because of students' low passing rates on a licensure examination. The university took the step instead of facing a possible revocation of the program's certification by the board.

ALPINE — Arianna Moritz had moved all the way from Lebanon, Ohio, to Alpine for two non-negotiable reasons: to ride on a rodeo scholarship for Coach C.J. Aragon and to earn her Bachelor of Science in nursing.

A visiting speaker at Sul Ross State University recently reassured Moritz during her Nursing Seminar that she shouldn't worry about the two-year nursing program suspension. Now her professor is sharing a contradictory message that has shattered the life she built 1,300 miles from home.

The rodeo scholarship provided the financial aid that made going to school 23 hours away possible. She had just settled in, made good friends, built a routine, became accustomed to college classes, and pictured the next four years in this small mountain town she now called home.

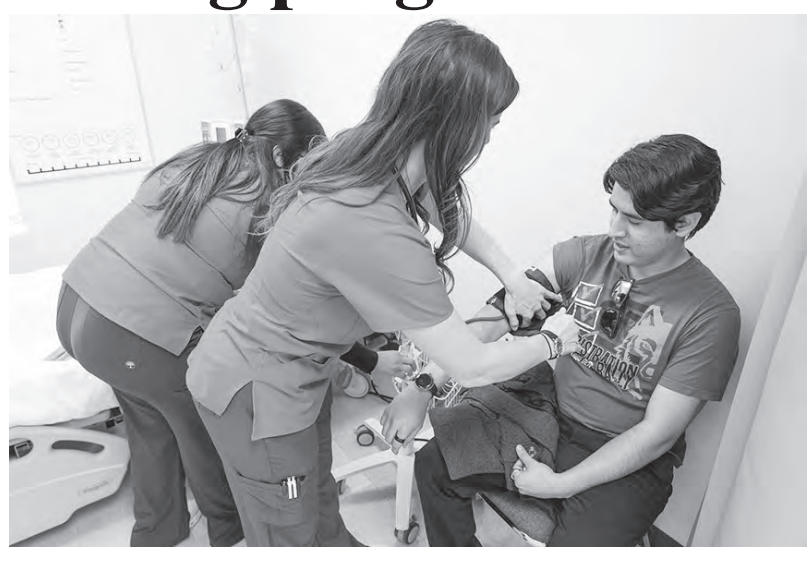
Moritz asked her nursing professor, "If the program is under its current suspension, should we as freshmen be concerned?"

The response she heard was vastly different from the reassurance she had received from the guest speaker only a week before. Her professor told her, "If nursing is your only passion and you will not be open to switching majors and future career paths, you need to transfer schools as soon as next semester."

The termination of the popular nursing program comes at a time when the university is wrestling with retention and financial issues that led to a recent 7% budget cut.

Navigating this situation would have been much easier if Moritz wasn't in the rodeo. She cannot just transfer anywhere as she must consider more than her major. She must find a 4-year school with a nursing program as well as a rodeo team, and she needs a scholarship again to make school affordable.

Moritz's's coaches were in the dark just as much as she was, devastated by the news of losing a team member because of an apparent lack in communication from the university. Sul Ross had known about the nursing program being cut since July. To help navigate the situation, Moritz met with another member of Sul Ross faculty to discuss her options.



SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

The widely promoted nursing program at Sul Ross is on hold.

"For something that can be so detrimental to someone's future, I don't think that should be the way it goes," Moritz said.

She is now looking for a school to transfer to next year, leaving behind her team, friends, and a town she has grown to love. Nothing is guaranteed for her future right now, and she's facing a heartbreaking, frustrating reality in such a short time.

Sul Ross Dean of Health Sciences Dean Culpepper said that there are currently "10 students in the junior cohort and 13 in the senior cohort for the nursing program." Surprisingly, he did not know the number of pre-nursing students. "I will have to look into that," he said.

The number of affected pre-nursing students is still unknown.

MOONLIGHT GEMSTONES
Paul Graybeal, Owner
Ben Toro, Associate
432-729-4526
pgagates@gmail.com
moonlightgemstones.com
P.O. Box 1220
1001 W. San Antonio St.
Marfa, Texas 79843
Mon-Sat, 10-5pm
Sunday by Appt
Lapidary • Silversmith • Custom Jewelry • Rocks • Fossils • Minerals

LIVINGSTON
INSURANCE AGENCY
IRAM MARQUEZ
903 W SAN ANTONIO-PO BOX 965-MARFA, TX 79843
OFFICE - (432) 729-4306 FAX - (432) 729-4305
Iram@MarfaInsurance.com
www.marfainsurance.com

KING
LAND & WATER
Protecting Clients. Conserving the Land.

LEGAL NOTICE

Ordinance 2026-13 of the City of Presidio, Texas establishing the water rates for inside the city and provision for out of city limits service rates; and providing for the following: findings of fact; conflicts and repeal; effective date; no vested interest; penalties and enforcement; proper notice and meeting. Should any previous ordinance confilct with the provisions of this ordinance, this ordinance will take precedence and amend original Ordinance 2022-13. For more information on this ordinance, log onto the city's website, www.presidiotx.us under City Secretary / Ordinances.

LEGAL NOTICE

Greetings Community Partner PermiaCare is seeking eligible organizations to provide treatment services to behavioral health patients in our service area as a part of PermiaCare's provider network. Interested organizations must be able to offer service arrays that comprise full levels of care as indicated in the Texas Utilization Management Guidelines & Manual. For more information, please see the Mental Health Services Request for Interested Parties form on the PermiaCare website. This form can be found in the Local Plan section under the Information tab on the website. www.permiacare.org.

PermiaCare's evaluation of the potential for provider network expansion will end on 11/16/2026. Please feel free to forward this to any other provider that you feel might be interested.

For more information or for questions, please contact Todd Luzadder at todd.luzadder@permiacare.org or by phone at 432-570-3333.

LEGAL NOTICE

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The National Park Service at Big Bend National Park has impounded unidentified trespass livestock. Between October 27, 2026 and October 29, 2026, 32 animals were found and rounded up within the boundary of Big Bend National Park. The animals were transported to the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Facility in Presidio, Texas. The livestock will be held there. The intent of this publication is to provide notice of impoundment.

Roundups within Big Bend National Park have occurred since the park's earliest days in 1944. Livestock grazing is not permitted within Big Bend National Park. Livestock trespassing in the park may be impounded. 36 CFR 2.60 provides the procedures for National Park Service livestock impoundment.

The owner may redeem the livestock by contacting the USDA Office in Presidio Texas at 432-229-3066, and/or meeting with the USDA agent at Hwy 67 S Port of Entry, Presidio, TX 79845 and inquiring as to what documentation and fees are required.

The impounded animals descriptions are attached below:
10/27/2026 4 Total
1. Gray Female Donkey, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
2. Gray Female Donkey, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
3. White Donkey (Jack), Male, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
4. Bay Mule (Female), Female, Adult, Brand Observed: No
10/28/2026 17 Total
1. Bay Stallion, Male, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
2. Appaloosa Mare, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
3. Bay Colt, Male, Juvenile, Brand Observed: No
4. Palomino Stallion, Male, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
5. Bay Mare, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
6. Paint Foal, Sex Unknown, Juvenile, Brand Observed: Yes
7. White Paint Mare, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
8. Appaloosa Mare, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: No
9. Red & White Paint Mare, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
10. Sorrel Gelding, Male, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
11. Sorrel Gelding, Male, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
12. Bay Gelding, Male, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
13. Paint Gelding, Male, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
14. Black Gelding, Male, Adult, Brand Observed: No
15. Gray Mare, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
16. Paint Mare, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
17. Gray Gelding, Male, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
GPS Coordinates for 10/27 & 10/28
29.1673, -103.02015
29.16872, -103.00578
29.16236, -102.96378
10/29/2026 11 Total
1. Bay Mare, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
2. Bay Colt, Male, Juvenile, Brand Observed: No
3. Sorrel Mare, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: No
4. Sorrel Colt, Male, Juvenile, Brand Observed: No
5. White Mare, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
6. Sorrel Mare, Female, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
7. Black Colt, Male, Juvenile, Brand Observed: No
8. Sorrel Colt, Male, Juvenile, Brand Observed: No
9. Gray Gelding, Male, Adult, Brand Observed: Yes
10. Bay Mule, Female, Brand Observed: No
11. Gray Mule, Male, Brand Observed: No
GPS Coordinates for 10/29
29.19364, -102.95839
29.18252, -102.96271

PUBLIC NOTICE

Far West Texas Water Planning Group – Region E

Pre-Planning Meeting for the Development of the 2031 Regional Water Plan

Notice is hereby given that Far West Texas Water Planning Group – Region E will hold a pre-planning meeting seeking public input and comments on issues that should be addressed or provisions that should be included in the 2031 Region E Regional Water Plan and the 2032 State Water Plan. Discussion will also be held to consider the potential process for conducting interregional coordination regarding water management strategies for the seventh cycle of regional water planning.

The Far West Texas Water Planning Group – Region E includes the following Texas Counties: Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Presidio. The Pre-Planning Public Meeting will be held at 12:00 p.m. MST on Thursday, November 5, 2026, followed by the Region E Planning Group Meeting on Thursday, November 5, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. MST, at the Rio Grande Council of Governments, 8037 Lockhead DR, Suite 100, El Paso, Texas 79925. Written comments will be accepted from October 1, 2026, through November 5, 2026, and can be mailed to Ms. Annette Gutierrez, Executive Director, Rio Grande Council of Governments, 8037 Lockhead DR, Suite 100, El Paso, Texas 79925 or emailed to annetteg@riocog.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information or to be notified of future Planning Group meetings, please contact Region E Planning Group Sponsor, Annette Gutierrez, at: 915-533-4688, annetteg@riocog.org, or Rio Grande Council of Governments: Region E Regional Water Planning Group Sponsor, 8037 Lockheed, Suite 100, El Paso, Texas, 79925. If you wish to provide written comments prior to the meeting, please email your comments to annetteg@riocog.org and include "Region E Water Planning Group Meeting" in the subject line of the email.

CLASSIFIEDS: HELP WANTED: **Utility Workers**

The City of Presidio is accepting applications for the position of two utility workers with the Public Works Department. These are two-time positions. This position works under the general supervision of the Public Works Director.A utility worker performs various work assignments in the department. Candidates must have the following minimum qualifications:Must be legal to work in the US Must be at least 18 years of age Valid Commercial Driver License with a proven good driving record Must have a high school diploma or equivalent Application and complete job description available at City Hall. Applications available online at www.presidiotx.us.

A City of Presidio employment application is required to be considered for the position.

Please submit your application to the address below:

City of Presidio City Secretary
P.O. Box 1899
Presidio, TX 79845
Physical Address: 507 W. O'Reilly St., Presidio, Texas

The City of Presidio is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. This position is open until filled.

The City of Presidio is calling out for Letters of Interest from the public for one seat to the Presidio Municipal Development District (PMDD).

Open Until Filled. Must be a registered voter of the municipality and reside at said city for at least six- months, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 22.032.

Please submit your application, PMDD questionnaire and Letter of Interest to the address below:

City of Presidio
City Secretary
P.O. Box 1899
Presidio, TX 79845
Physical Address: 507 W.O'Reilly St., Presidio, Texas
Or email: bornelas@presidiotx.us

Join the Chinati Foundation – hiring for Director of Facilities and Preservation

Responsible for the management, maintenance, and preservation of Chinati's historic buildings, property, and art installations; balance daily, hands-on facilities management with forward- looking site strategy and capital project execution.

$95,000–105,000 annually / Visit chinati.org/opportunities to apply

The Marfa Parks Board is seeking applicants for the position of Board Member

Two positions will have terms that are two years, one position will have a term of one year, and all will begin January 1, 2027. The Marfa Parks Board is a Type B community development corporation of the City of Marfa. Applicants must reside within the City of Marfa and demonstrate a commitment to community recreational development.

Applicants should submit their letter of interest with any supporting documentation to marfaparksboard@gmail.com. Applications will be accepted until Nov 18th, 2026. The Parks Board will consider this item at its upcoming meeting on November 19, 2026.

All applicants are welcome to apply. The Marfa Parks Board is an equal opportunity organization.

Job Advertisement: Marfa Parks Board Treasurer

Municipality: Marfa Parks and Recreation Development Corporation, Marfa, Texas

Classification: Part-Time

Salary Range: Competitive / Dependent on Qualifications (DOQ)

Closing Date: Open Until November 15, 2026

Position Summary:

The Board is seeking a qualified person to serve as its next Treasurer. The Treasurer is responsible for stewarding the organization's resources, and ensures records are maintained, reviews and prepares financial reports for the Board, and interacts with accountants and auditors to help keep the Board informed of financial matters.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

Understanding of financial accounting for nonprofit organizations

Knowledge of financial reports and the organization's record-keeping and accounting systems (Quickbooks)

Ability and willingness to work with the Board and auditors as necessary

Ability to attend every Board Meeting (Third Thursday of every month)

Ability to receive training from the previous Treasurer in the months of November and December.

Minimum Qualifications

Education: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

Experience: Experience preferred but not required. How to Apply Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest to:

Michael Camacho, Marfa Parks Board President Email: michael.camachito@gmail.com. Mailing Address: Marfa Parks Board, PO Box 386 Marfa, Texas, 79843

The Marfa Parks and Recreation Development Corporation is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

Letters Testamentary in the Estate of Mary V. Fenton, Deceased, were issued September 8, 2026, in Cause No. 26-122-CCPR-00008, pending in the County Court, Jeff Davis County, Texas, to Neil F. Keesee. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law to representative's attorney at: Putman Law Firm, PC, 1612 Summit Ave., Ste. 403, Ft Worth, TX 76102

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Richard Neill Draheim, Deceased, were issued on October 9, 2026, in Cause No. 26-122-CCPR-00013, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Jeff Davis County, Texas, to: Barbara Draheim Dvorak. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Carlos Botto, Attorney at Law
8951 Collin McKinney Parkway, Ste. 201
McKinney, Texas 75070
SIGNED on October 22, 2026.
/s/ Carlos Botto
Carlos Botto
Attorney for Barbara Draheim Dvorak State Bar No.: 24146457
8951 Collin McKinney Parkway, Ste. 201
McKinney, Texas 75070
Telephone: (214) 572-2109 Email: carlos@ruaislaw.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Patricia Stewart Draheim, Deceased, were issued on October 9, 2026, in Cause No. 26-122-CCPR-00012, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Jeff Davis County, Texas, to: Barbara Draheim Dvorak. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Carlos Botto
Attorney at Law
8951 Collin McKinney Parkway, Ste. 201, McKinney, Texas 75070
SIGNED on October 22, 2026.
/s/ Carlos Botto
Carlos Botto, Attorney for Barbara Draheim Dvorak State Bar No.: 24146457
8951 Collin McKinney Parkway, Ste. 201
McKinney, Texas 75070
Telephone: (214) 572-2109
Email: carlos@ruaislaw.com

Mandatory Language for Monitoring/Reporting Violation
Failure to Submit a Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR)
MONITORING, ROUTINE (DBP), MAJOR/CHLORINE

The SHAFTER MlNE water system PWS ID 1890018 has violated the monitoring/reporting requirements set by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Title 30, Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC), Section 290, Subchapter F. Public water systems are required to properly disinfect water before distribution, maintain acceptable disinfection residuals within the distribution system, monitor the disinfectant residual at various locations throughout the distribution system, and report the results of that monitoring to the TCEQ on a quarterly basis.

Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water is safe from

microbial contamination.

This/these violation(s) occurred in the monitoring period(s): O4/01/2026 - 06/30/2026

We are taking the following actions to address this issue:

The Shafter Mine has retained a licensed water operator and is currently working on system upgrades to begin resuming operation of the disinfectant system.

Please share this information with all people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact: Benjamin Beardwood, 310-228-0586. Posted /Delivered on: November 12, 2026.

SUDUKO

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

11/12

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

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

SOLUTION:

11/12

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

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DRAWING OF THE WEEK

Alexis Villela
12 grade, Marfa ISD,
black and white acrylic

CROSSWORD

Edited by David Steinberg November 12, 2026

ACROSS
1 Minded a Maine Coon
7 Amend or emend
11 Vietnamese noodle soup
14 Be excessive with
15 Number of reindeer in Santa's team (including Rudolph)
16 Hat, slangily
17 Declining from age
18 Straighten out?
20 Lasso from Kansas City
21 Skating legend Midori
23 Aquarium structures
24 Spirits?
27 CPR pros
30 Cheer (for)
31 Head of TLC?
33 "Odds ___ ..."
34 Emotionally distant
36 Empire ruled by Montezuma
38 A mistaken test result ... or a theme hint
42 Harding whose biopic stars Margot Robbie
43 Potato chip, to a Brit
44 Director Aster
45 Sampler
48 What a veep may get promoted to
52 Tractor-trailer
54 Oust?
56 Love so much
58 Web browser hidden in "court order"
59 Subj. for Bill Nye
60 Away from?
63 "Keep it up!"
65 Slimy stuff
66 To be, to a Quebecois
67 One might be repurposed as a dustcloth
68 Angry utterance
69 Campus bigwig
70 Composition of Mexico and Australia

DOWN
1 Person sharing top billing
2 Oat-based skin care brand
3 Have the habit
4 ___ Lanka
5 "You're gonna need a bigger boat" in "Jaws," famously
6 Facing off
7 Key that scrolls all the way down
8 Got a little lighter, maybe
9 To be safe
10 "Common" shore bird
11 Dated living room fixture
12 Word before "Majesty"
13 Lyrical tribute
19 Squeak (out)
22 Nickel___ (early theater)
25 Country with the most UNESCO World Heritage Sites
26 Compromises, as a computer network
28 Olive or coconut, but not kiwi or banana
29 Short time, for short
32 Tattletales
35 Future J.D.'s exam
37 Little lighter, maybe
38 Golfer's warning
39 Expert in art movements?
40 ___ blue heron
41 Norway's BOO and Alaska's EEK, for two
42 Ph.D. students, often
46 Price for a promo
47 One after Romeo?
49 "___ for the biscuit!"
50 Concert crowd chant
51 Periods spent working
53 Bachelor's final words
55 Oktoberfest toast
57 Was behind, in a way
60 Sheepskin boot brand
61 "Neither snow ___ rain ..."
62 Hibernation home
64 When doubled, a dance

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

10/29

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www.upuzzles.com

11/12

Nonstarters *by Jake Beinart*

1	2	3	4	5	6	■	7	8	9	10	■	11	12	13
14						■	15				■	16		
17						■	18				19			
20			■	21		22	■	23					■	■
24			25				26			■	27		28	29
30				■	31					32	■	33		
■	■	■	34	35				■	■	36	37			
■	38	39						40	41					■
42					■	■	43					■	■	■
44			■	45	46	47				■	48	49	50	51
52			53	■	54					55				
■	■	56		57			■	58			■	59		
60	61						62	■	63		64			
65			■	66				■	67					
68			■	69				■	70					

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY COURT

COUNTY OF PRESIDIO

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

IN THE ESTATE OF: MARCEL DE VAAL
CAUSE: 2086

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MARCEL DE VAAL, Deceased, Docket No. 2086, County Court, Presidio County, Texas **APPLICATION FOR THE DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP AND APPLICATION FOR INTESTATE INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION**, filed in the County Court of Presidio County, Texas. on the 4th day of NOVEMBER, 2026.

Said application may be heard and acted on by said Court at 10 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publishing this citation, at the County Courthouse in Marfa. Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

All interested persons are further advised that they have the right to employ an attorney and that if they or their attorney fail to file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of ten days after the publishing of this citation, the court may enter orders with binding effects upon said persons.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Marfa, Texas, this 4TH day of NOVEMBER, 2026

Carolina A. Catano
Clerk of the County Court,
Presidio County, Texas
By: Melissa DeRonde
Deputy
Clerk's Address: P.O. Box 789
Marfa, Texas 79843

Abrazo en la Frontera

RUIDOSA CHURCH COMMUNITY DAY



Enduring Adobe: Findings from the Ruidosa Church Historic Structure Report
Thursday, November 12
Crowley Theater | Marfa, TX | 6 - 9PM

Annual Community Day
Saturday, November 14
Ruidosa Church | Ruidosa, TX | 1 - 6PM

Abrazo en la Frontera Showcase
Thursday, November 19
Do Right Hall | Marfa, TX | 7 - 9PM

Visit www.ruidosachurch.org for event details

Support our efforts to provide sustainable local news. Donate today!



Support your community newspaper by listening to a love song for the Big Bend

The West Texas Exiles and Jimmie Dale Gilmore, inspired by the community in the Big Bend and its efforts fighting border barriers, wrote a magical song--"Big Bend, Take Me In."

When you download it now at Bandcamp, all proceeds go to supporting the new nonprofit at The Big Bend Sentinel to support local journalism in the region we love.

They will continue to forward the proceeds up until the release of the song to streaming in late November. Download it now westtexas-exiles.bandcamp.com.



Joseph Rockwell "Rocky" Barnette

A memorial for Joseph Rockwell "Rocky" Barnette will be held in Marfa, Texas, in April. Details will be shared closer to that time.

Rocky was born on June 15, 1979, in Asheville, North Carolina, to Pamela Barnette. He died on October 19, 2026, at the age of 47. Rocky was truly one of a kind. He had a big personality, a warm heart, and a sense of humor all his own. He never met a stranger and had a way of making people feel welcome wherever he went. His humor was wonderfully creative, often unexpected, and always his own. He especially loved lifting people's spirits with his quick wit and spontaneous, off-the-cuff comedy. Making others laugh was simply part of who he was.

Rocky spent his early childhood at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, with his mother and stepfather, then returned to North Carolina. At North Henderson High School, his artistic ability began to flourish. His teacher and mentor Mr. Ed Lewis encouraged him to develop his talents, and Rocky went on to win national art competitions while still in high school. That creative drive found another outlet in cooking. Rocky earned an associate degree in Culinary Arts from Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College and built a career in food that spanned more than 25 years. He worked across the country and around the world, led award-winning kitchens, owned and operated restaurants, and co-wrote the cookbook Cooking in Marfa.

Among his remarkable experiences, he cooked at the White House and joined a team of chefs preparing meals for Queen Elizabeth and Julia Child. He received several standing ovations over the last few months from guests in the dining room at his place of work, Dunton Hot Springs.

For all he accomplished, Rocky remained humble and down-to-earth. He loved good company, telling stories, reading endless amounts of books,discovering new music, listening to records, playing guitar, and making people laugh. And after all those years in fine dining, he still loved coming home to his mother's country-fried steak and potato salad.

Rocky loved the mountains and the natural world. Over the last four years, he hiked the Appalachian Trail, the Arizona Trail, and the Colorado Trail. He dreamed of one day climbing the Eiger in Switzerland. In September, he completed the Via Ferrata in Telluride, which he called "the scariest, healthiest, and best day of my life."

Rocky was also devoted to animals. He regularly said that he liked dogs more than people, and dogs were his best friends. He was always happy to care for friends' pets, and Red, Tiny, and Kiki brought him enormous joy.

Rocky was a beloved son, father, brother, uncle, companion, and friend. He is survived by his son, Robert Heim; his mother, Pamela Cook; his stepfather, Rick Youngblood; his brothers, Hezekiah Childers and Matthew Morrison; his sister, Paige Morrison; Simone Rubi; his uncle, Tim Parker; his niece, Percy Childers; Henry Wotowicz; and many loving cousins, aunts, uncles and friends.



He was preceded in death by his father, Joseph R. Morrison; his grandmother, Mary Colleen Barnette; his grandfather, F.G. Barnette; his step-grandparents, Jerry and Joan Youngblood; and his great-grandparents, Lee and Evelyn Barnette.

Forty-seven years was far too short. Those who loved Rocky will remember his laughter, his stories, his love for the mountains, and the way he could make an ordinary moment memorable. He will be deeply missed and always remembered.

Faron Pausa

In Loving Memory of Faron Prausa

Faron Prausa passed away peacefully in his sleep on October 18, 2026. His passing was unexpected and has left a tremendous sadness in the hearts of those who loved him.

Faron and his wife, Cheryl, first met in the late 1980s after she returned from Oklahoma City. She worked for him for a short time, and during that time the two began dating off and on. What began as a chance meeting grew into a lasting love. In June 1995, they were married and began a life together that spanned more than 30 years.

Faron was born in Oconto, Wisconsin, where he lived until the age of 20 before moving to Texas, which became his home.

He was a hardworking and dedicated businessman who owned and operated his own construction and contracting company for more than 40 years. His reputation for hard work and experience extended throughout the three surrounding communities, where people knew him and regularly called upon him for his contracting services.

Family was always important to Faron. He stayed especially close to his mother, Rita, in Wisconsin, calling her at least three times a day. Their daily conversations were such a familiar part of his routine that if he missed a call, his mother would call Cheryl to make sure everything was alright.

In his spare time, Faron enjoyed spending time at Planet Marfa, where he visited with many friends. A small memorial was held there in his honor, where many friends and members of the community gathered to remember him.

Faron is survived by his wife, Cheryl Donaldson Prausa, his two sons, Rase LaChappell of Wisconsin and Travis Prausa of Dallas, Texas, and Travis' wife, Linda; his mother, Rita Prausa; his sister, Lisa Prausa Smith, and her husband, Mark; his brother, Scott Prausa; and several nieces and nephews.



He was preceded in death by his father, Rollie Prausa; his aunt, Ruth Zimmerman; his uncle, Oscar Wolfgram; and a few cousins.

Faron will be deeply missed by his loving wife, family, friends, and all those whose lives he touched. His memory will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

Brenda Kay Laney Ross

Brenda Kay Laney Ross, of Arlington, Texas, was born on August 22, 1942, in Fort Worth, Texas, to Burl and Buris Laney. She passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by her family.

Brenda attended Arlington High School, graduating early in 1959 as a member of the Class of 1960. She followed Martin to UT Austin, where they continued their relationship after beginning to date in the summer of 1957.

Martin and Brenda were married in July 1961. Martin was called to active duty in the Army in October 1961, and they moved to Fort Polk, Louisiana, and then to Fort Rucker, Alabama, before returning to Arlington in 1963, where they lived until 1977.

In 1977, Martin and Brenda moved to Alpine, Texas, where Brenda completed her Bachelor of Arts degree at Sul Ross State University.

She then taught at Alpine High School for 15 years, retiring in 2002.

Martin and Brenda enjoyed the cool weather and majestic mountains of Cloudcroft, New Mexico, where they owned a second home for 31 years.

Upon returning to Arlington in 2010, they enjoyed several international trips and spending time with longtime friends and family. Brenda was happiest being around her family, especially after returning to Arlington.

Brenda was a life member of the Arlington Museum of Art, a past president of the Arlington Civic League, a charter member of the Arlington Junior Women's Club, a sponsor of the Alpine High School Anchor Club, and a member of the Alpine Pilot Club.

Brenda is survived by her husband, Martin Paul Ross; her children, Russ Ross and Deirdre "Dee Dee" Ross; her grandchildren, Hunter Betzel, Elissa Luttrell, Gage Ross, Mason Ross, Kennedy Ross, and Bridger Ross; and her great-granddaughter, Eisley Luttrell.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Burl and Buris Laney, and her son, Hunter Ross.



The family would like to express their special thanks to AmeriCARE Fort Worth for providing exceptional caregivers on a daily basis for Brenda over the last two and a half years. Mary Alice, Dannia, and Nikki hold a special place in our hearts. Heart to Heart Hospice also provided top-notch care to Brenda over the last few months of her life.

Lawsuit continues, but construction can proceed during court case



BRIAN FINKE

A Border Patrol agent scans the landscape in Big Bend National Park.

Continued from page 1

shoot down arguments against the Big Bend's designation as an "area of high illegal entry," pointing to statistics that include Fiscal Year 2023, the agency's year on record. All of the waivers that apply to the Big Bend Sector cite the same data: "Between fiscal year 2021 and July 2025, the United States Border Patrol apprehended over 88,595 illegal aliens attempting to enter the United States between border crossings in the Big Bend Sector. In that same time period, Border Patrol seized over 86,851 pounds of marijuana, over 863 pounds of cocaine, over 12 pounds of heroin, over 1,084 pounds of methamphetamine, and over 94 pounds of fentanyl."

Judge Kathleen Cardone approved a preliminary injunction at the October 2 hearing, later releasing a memorandum opinion that explained her reasoning in more detail. She agreed with the plaintiffs that the waiver authority was designed to apply to discrete areas of high law enforcement activity and not broad swathes of the border. "If the Big Bend Sector is an area of high illegal entry, so is every other sector, and the waiver authority would apply to the entire U.S.-Mexico border," she wrote. "If that were the case, Congress could have simply authorized construction 'to deter illegal crossings.' Instead, it authorized construction 'to deter illegal crossings in areas of high illegal entry.'"

After the preliminary injunction was issued, legal counsel for DHS shifted strategy, arguing that the Big Bend Sector could become a "vulnerable and desirable" area for cartels to operate as segments of wall go up in neighboring sectors.

"Leaving a 300-plus-mile gap in border defenses would act as a dangerous magnet for cartels and other bad actors to exploit as other routes close off," Solicitor General Sauer wrote in his emergency application to SCOTUS.

To make that argument, DHS cites a number of criminal cases covered previously by *The Big Bend Sentinel*, including the case of Sergio Menchaca Pizarro, a local cartel boss sentenced to life in prison in 2025 after he crossed the river east of Presidio city limits two years prior and was swiftly arrested by law enforcement.

In another case from the spring of this year, a Mexican national stole a truck in Presidio and was later killed by law enforcement.

Government filings also include the confusing cases of three men who were apprehended on the same morning in June and charged with carrying firearms, which is illegal for people who have entered the United States without permission. Two of the men will be sentenced in Pecos next week; another is headed for trial in December, with a pending motion to suppress evidence that alleges Border Patrol agents did not offer proper Miranda warnings when assessing the scene.

Fighting the border wall waivers in court is virtually impossible by design — the first draft of the Real ID Act prohibited any judicial review at all, and was later amended to allow cases "alleging a violation of the Constitution of the United States." Cardone's preliminary injunction rests on an interpretation of the "major questions doctrine" — which holds that individual government agencies do not have the power to make decisions of "vast economic and political significance" without input from the other branches of government — as a constitutional claim, which Cardone acknowledges is controversial, but argues that DHS's reluctance to engage on the issue is "unhelpfully reductive" in teasing out a broader statutory debate. "While acknowledging that the law is unsettled, the Court rules that the major questions doctrine is a constitutional clear statement rule grounded in separation of powers," she explained.

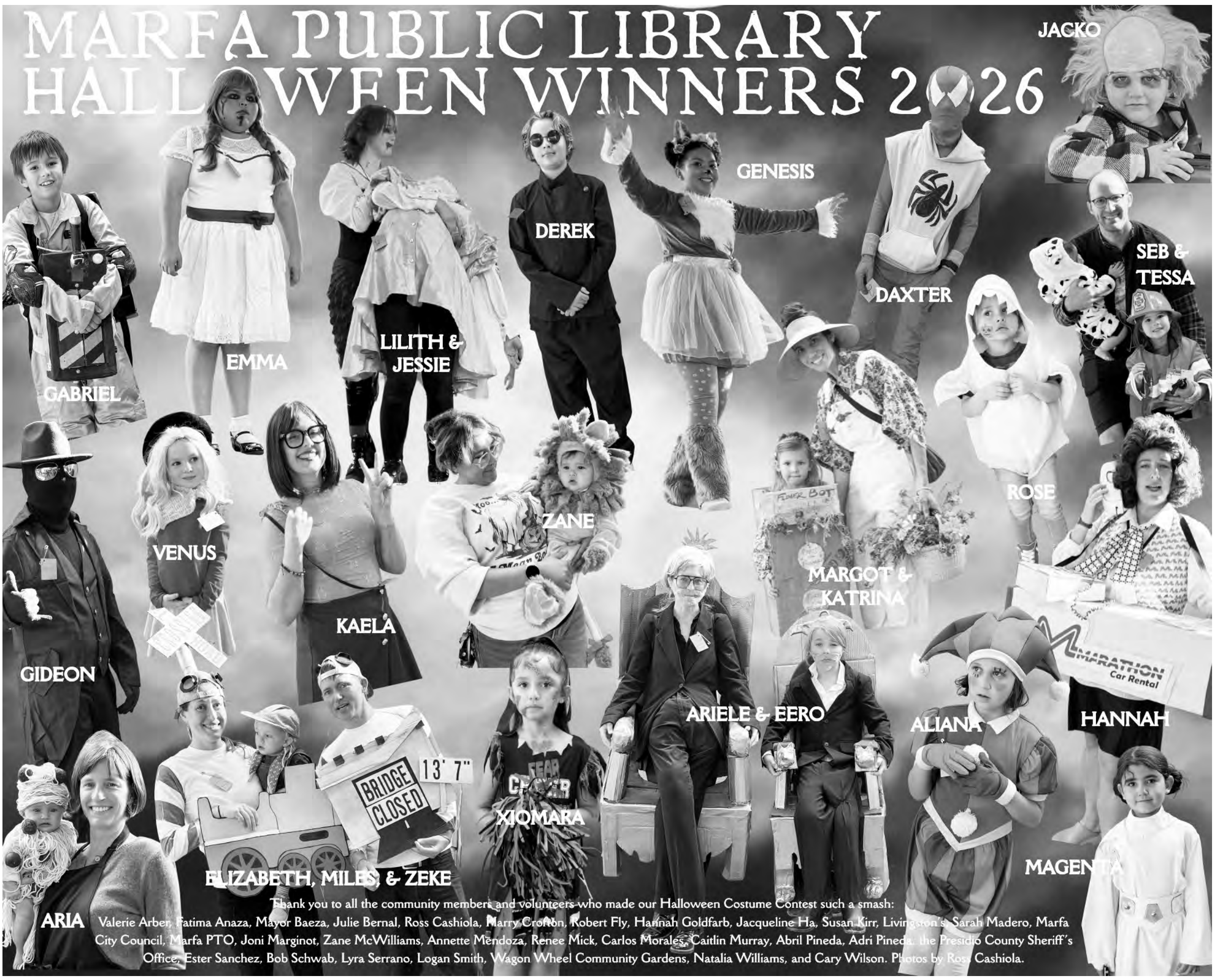
The issue will now return to Cardone's court while she weighs the other issues presented by the case, which includes four other constitutional issues, including the Fifth Amendment right to due process. In its first filing to SCOTUS, DHS asked the court to consider their application as a petition for certiorari — in other words, asking for the court to rule on the full case. The court didn't grant their request, but did invite DHS to file a separate petition, with the caveat that the stay green-lighting construction would be lifted if they formally petitioned for certiorari and were denied.

There are also three other ongoing lawsuits surrounding the Big Bend wall that could decide the fate of the project. A lawsuit brought by river outfitter Angell Expeditions is still pending, as is another brought by Conserve Big Bend, the nonprofit behind No Big Bend Wall. The Center for Biological Diversity is also fighting a FOIA lawsuit regarding the government's plans for the wall in the Big Bend sector, which recently revealed that the agency was planning for a nearly 70-mile stretch of "secondary wall," doubling the potential path of destruction.

Since the stay was issued yesterday afternoon, a number of advocacy groups have expressed disappointment in the court's ruling. "While we respect the Court's decision, it means that the unaccountable destruction of Big Bend National Park's borderlands is likely to resume at any moment, with DHS unlikely to even tell us what their plan is before the bulldozers run amok," former Superintendent Bob Krumenaker, an expert witness in the Friends case, wrote in a press release.

"Americans care deeply about this extraordinary national park and they won't stand by quietly if its irreplaceable landscapes are butchered and paved over," said Laiken Jordahl, a public lands advocate for the organization.

"The damage done to Big Bend will be felt for future generations of Texans and Americans, and this administration will bear responsibility for the natural heritage we lose," he said.



Opinion

Doing better by Texas



By State Senator César J. Blanco

Over the years, I've spent a lot of time around veterans. I know what it means to put on the uniform. I served over six years in the Navy, including during the Gulf War, and like many veterans, I learned that service does not necessarily end when you take the uniform off. Recently, I was reminded that for many veterans, the hardest part can begin after they leave.

In August, I brought together veterans and people who work with veterans every day here in El Paso for a roundtable about where Texas can do better serving veterans. I wanted to hear where the system is working, where it is falling short and, most importantly, where veterans are getting stuck.

The answer I heard most clearly was during the transition out of the military.

Service members can have up to 18 months to prepare for civilian life. But 18 months can go by quickly when you're trying to figure out where you'll live, how to find a job, how your military experience translates to a civilian career and what happens to your healthcare and benefits especially if you are deployed.

Despite that preparation, it's important to ask, "Do we do enough to help someone before they leave the military, or do we expect them to figure it out once they're already on their own?"

Texas has good programs and people doing good work to care for veterans. But a program does not provide much help if a veteran doesn't know it exists, doesn't know whether they qualify, or can't figure out who to call.

Transportation is one of those concerns that was brought up during the roundtable. So did the shortage of mental health providers, particularly in rural communities where the nearest provider may be hours away. We heard about the stigma that can keep veterans from asking for help, and the equally serious problem of whether someone will be there when they finally do.

We also heard from women veterans about needs that are too often overlooked, including access to reproductive healthcare, childcare and safe housing for women experiencing homelessness with their children.

All of these are practical barriers that can determine whether someone gets back on their feet.

We talked about veterans who become involved with the criminal justice system too. A veteran does not stop being a veteran because they are arrested or incarcerated. We need to do a better job identifying veterans in the justice system and connecting them with rehabilitation, mental health services, legal assistance and veterans courts where appropriate.

And we need to start preparing for the needs of an aging veteran population. Texas will have more Gulf War-era veterans entering older age, which means thinking now about veterans homes, long-term care and protecting elderly veterans from financial exploitation.

El Paso has people who care deeply about this community and spend every day helping veterans navigate these challenges. The problem is that veterans can still fall into the spaces between programs.

A veteran who can't get to an appointment may go without care. Someone who can't find mental health treatment may have trouble keeping a job. Losing that job can put housing at risk. And once housing is lost, every other problem becomes harder to solve.

That's why I don't think the answer is simply to create another program or pass another bill every time we find a gap. The answer is found in better coordination, ensuring veterans know what resources already exist and particularly in rural Texas, finding a way to bring services closer to the people who need them.

As we prepare for the 90th Legislative Session, I'm taking what I heard in that room with me. We'll look at the ideas raised, from improving the transition out of military service to expanding access to care, supporting women veterans and their families, strengthening reentry services and preparing for an aging veteran population.

The people who work with veterans every day know where the system breaks down and we have a responsibility to listen to them.

I've spent over six years wearing the uniform. I know what it means to serve. Saying "thank you for your service" is easy. But making sure there is a clear path forward when that service ends is harder. That is the part we need to get right.



JENNIFER PITTINGER

Marfa High School National Honor Society Students sponsored a Veterans Day lunch Wednesday to honor those who served. The Presidio County Sheriff's Office provided the food for the program.

SBA promotes 'A New way to serve' for veterans

By Annie Spilman
SBA Regional Administrator – South Central

Before there was a business plan, there was a promise to serve.

For a veteran preparing to open a shop or a military spouse turning an idea into a livelihood, entrepreneurship can become another way to put that promise into practice. The setting changes, but the purpose remains close to home: taking care of people and building something that matters.

That is what National Veterans Small Business Week invites us to celebrate — and support. Because a heartfelt "thank you" is a good beginning. Helping someone take their next step is even better.

Turning an idea into a business means getting down to practical details. How will you reach customers? What will it cost to open your doors? Where do you turn when you have a good plan but need help moving it forward?

Those questions deserve clear answers, not a maze of unfamiliar terms and another phone number to call.

The U.S. Small Business Administration's observance recognizes entrepreneurs who are veterans, service members, National Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses. It also connects them with resources to help build their businesses.

Through Boots to Business, aspiring entrepreneurs can explore business ownership. Veterans Business Outreach Centers can help with business plans, marketing strategies, and connections to government contracting opportunities. SBA and its partners also host events that bring military-connected entrepreneurs together with available support.

That help matters because a business is never just a business to the person building it. It is the early morning spent working through the numbers. The hope of making that first hire. The determination to keep the doors open, take care of employees, and give customers a reason to come back.

The SBA Office of Advocacy's 2025 state profiles, using 2022 Census business data, report 18,784 veteran-majority-owned businesses in Arkansas, 27,531 in Louisiana, 10,482 in New Mexico, 25,091 in Oklahoma, and 175,458 in Texas. That adds up to more than 257,000 businesses across the South Central region.

But supporting these entrepreneurs is not the government's job alone. There is room for every one of us to help.

If you run an established business, share what you have learned. Make an introduction. Help an aspiring owner understand what it takes to compete for your business.

If you are a customer, give a veteran-owned business an opportunity to earn your trust. When the service is good, tell a neighbor. A recommendation costs nothing, but it can mean a great deal to someone working to build a customer base.

This is not about asking for special treatment. It is about making sure appreciation becomes something useful: a connection, an opportunity, a fair chance to succeed.

To our military-connected entrepreneurs: You do not need every answer before taking the next step. Visit SBA's National Veterans Small Business Week webpage and connect with the resources available to you.

And to our neighbors: Make the purchase. Share the recommendations. Open the door. Let's thank those who have served by showing up for what they are building next.

Join Our Journey: Stay informed on all the latest news and updates by following us:

- X/Twitter: @SBASouthCentral
- LinkedIn: @SBASouthCentral

The failed politics of liberalism

Time will tell, but Texas will become just another failed blue state. High crime, prices will still be high or higher. My deceased wife was from Cuba. She and her family could give everybody a lesson in the failed policies of liberalism and socialism.

They could not understand why so many people are willing to throw away their liberty and freedoms for the bread crumbs and empty store shelves of leftist promises and socialism. Vaya con Dios.

Blair Clifford
Yuma, Arizona

Our Big Bend water is not for the cloud

In the Big Bend, water has always been counted carefully. Ranchers know the depth of every well. Towns plan around aquifers that refill slowly, if at all. That is why the arrival of artificial intelligence data centers in our region should worry anyone who loves this desert, and why we need clear rules before any deal is signed.

The proposals are no longer distant. Last year, the energy company Open Origin explored an 80,000-acre data center campus southeast of Marfa, on the MacGuire and Antelope Springs ranches. Reports at the time said it could pump up to 800 acre-feet of groundwater a year, more than the entire city of Marfa uses today. Residents also raised concerns about housing, roads and the dark skies that define this place. Local officials now say communication with that developer has lapsed. But the idea has not gone away.

In June, two investors asked the Presidio Municipal Development District about building a data center complex in the city's industrial zone. And on September 30, Pacifico Energy, the company building a gas-fired power plant and data center campus for Amazon in Pecos County, met with Brewster County officials about a similar project on a ranch northeast of Alpine. County Judge Greg Henington said the county would be extremely sensitive to water use. He is right to be.

These facilities run thousands of servers that produce enormous heat. Many cool them by evaporating water, which never returns to the aquifer. Others switch to air cooling, which uses more electricity, often from new gas plants. Either way, the desert pays a price. And the promises that come with these projects deserve scrutiny. When the Marfa proposal surfaced, local officials heard talk of 900 to 1,100 jobs. In other places, including Querétaro, Mexico, communities have watched similar promises shrink once construction ended.

I understand the temptation. Our counties have tight budgets, and a large investment looks like a lifeline. But water is not a budget line. Once an aquifer is drawn down, no tax revenue can refill it.

The state has finally noticed. In August, Gov. Greg Abbott froze new data center connections to the power grid. In September, he ordered the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to stop issuing permits until audits of energy and water use are complete. Those are welcome steps, but they rest on executive directives, not law. The next governor could undo them with a signature.

The weakness is clearest on water. Texas requires large users to answer an annual water-use survey, yet only about 28 percent of data centers responded. The penalty for ignoring it is a maximum fine of $500, nothing for companies worth billions. If the state cannot even count how much water these facilities use, small counties like ours cannot be expected to protect themselves alone.

We are not alone in our concern. A University of Texas/Texas Politics Project poll released in August found that 57 percent of Texas voters oppose building a data center in their community. From the Hill Country to the Trans-Pecos, people are asking the same question: who decides how much of our water goes to the cloud?

Before any data center project moves forward in Presidio, Brewster or Jeff Davis counties, residents should insist on five things:

Full disclosure up front. The water source, the expected daily and annual volume, and the cooling technology, made public before any land deal or tax agreement.

A cumulative study. One project may look manageable; three or four drawing on the same aquifers may not. Local groundwater authorities should evaluate them together.

No incentives without water limits. Any tax abatement should come with binding caps on water use and real penalties for breaking them.

Low-water cooling as the standard. Closed-loop systems or treated wastewater, never fresh groundwater for evaporation.

Laws, not just directives. Our legislators should turn the governor's pause into permanent rules, with fines that companies actually feel.

The Big Bend has resisted becoming a sacrifice zone before. Its beauty, its silence and its night skies exist because generations chose to protect them. Our water deserves the same care. Technology can be built in many places. An aquifer in the Chihuahuan Desert cannot be replaced.

Christina Diaz
Boerne

Cristina Díaz is a Colombian writer and researcher, a lawyer and a doctoral candidate in law specializing in water justice.

Data center will harm Brewster

To the citizens of Brewster County:

I join many concerned residents in opposing the proposed data center and power plant planned for North Brewster County.

This project would be located on more than 14,000 acres of beautiful desert landscape and would forever alter the region's iconic skyline, rugged mountains, and breathtaking views. The natural beauty of Brewster County is one of its greatest treasures, attracting visitors from across Texas and beyond. Once lost, these views and landscapes can never be restored.

The impact extends far beyond aesthetics. The proposed project would place additional demands on our already limited water resources, pollute the air through industrial emissions, and contribute to increasing light pollution that will diminish our world-renowned dark skies. These resources are vital not only to current residents but also to future generations.

We have a responsibility to preserve the unique character and environmental integrity of Brewster County. Short-term economic gains should not come at the expense of the natural beauty, clean air, dark skies, and precious water resources that make this area so special.

I respectfully urge community members and local leaders to oppose this development and protect the land, resources, and quality of life that define Brewster County.

Respectfully,
Marsha Stapel
Alpine

THE BIG BEND Sentinel

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ROXYE LARA

Lady Horns celebrate after they sweep their opponents for a Bi-District Championship win.
Marfa junior Alyssa Harden at the UIL State Cross-Country meet in Round Rock on Saturday, taking 36th out of 147.



Continued from page 1

Leading the Lady Horns offensively was Itzel Urrutia with 13 kills. Other standout performances included Madison Cash with two aces; Dariela Munoz with two kills and perfect setting; Zoey Salgado with four kills, seven digs, and five assists; Giselle Torres with three digs, three assists, and no missed serves; Adeline Marquez with three kills and three blocks; and Liliana Zubia with two kills and four blocks.

The Lady Horns traveled to Stanton on November 3 to face the Aspermont Lady Hornets for the Area Championship. Unfortunately, the Lady Horns' playoff run came to an end with a three-set loss, 16-25, 18-25, and 22-25. The team battled hard and left everything on the court, finishing an impressive season as Bi-District Champions. Congratulations, Lady Horns, on a season to be proud of!

Alyssa Harden represents Marfa at state cross-country

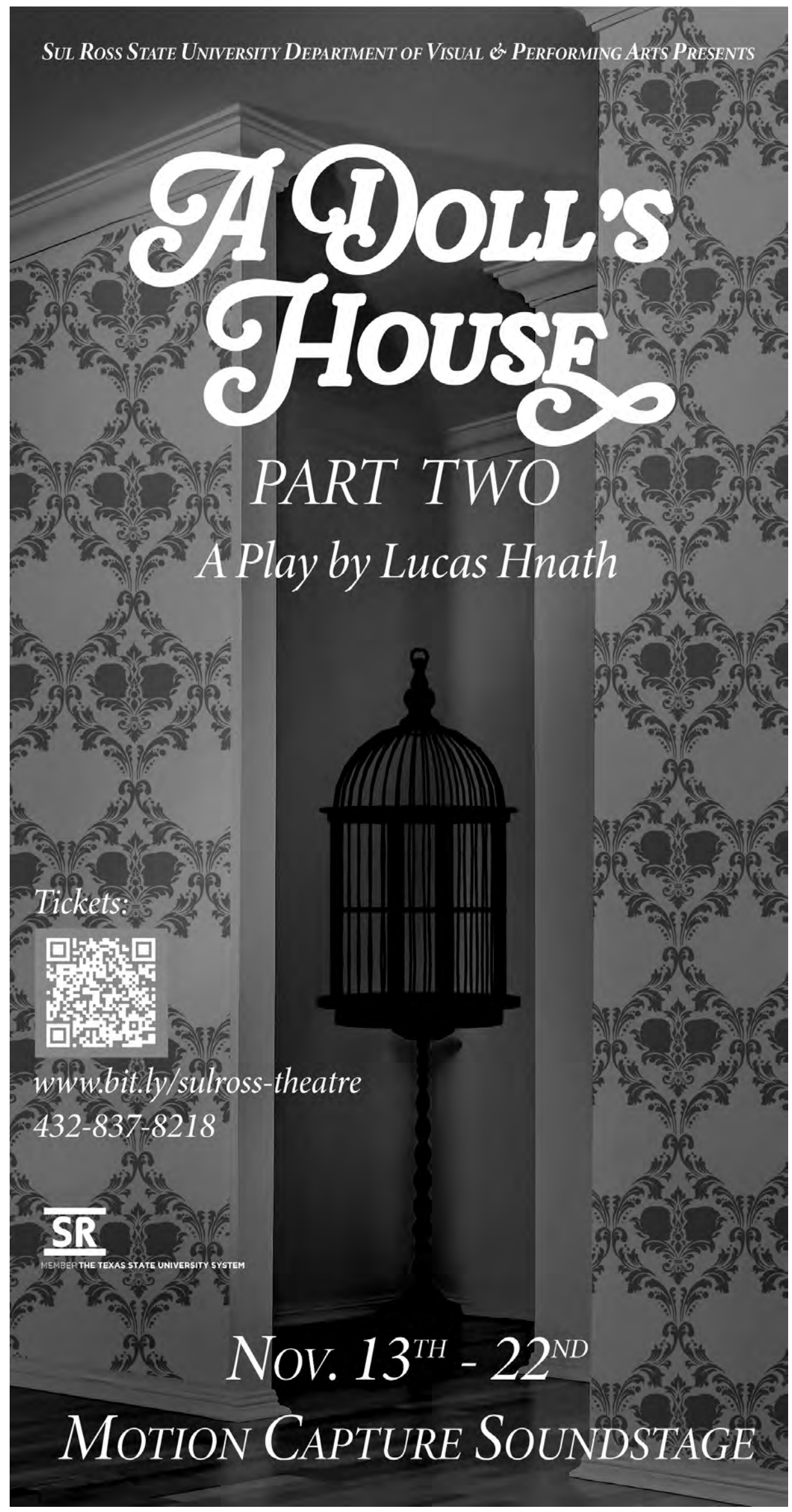
Saturday morning, November 7, junior Alyssa Harden represented Marfa at the UIL State Cross-Country Meet in Round Rock, Texas.

Competing against 147 runners representing 1A schools across the state, Harden finished an impressive 36th overall. Earning a spot at the state meet is an accomplishment in itself, and Alyssa is already looking forward to returning her senior year with hopes of finishing even stronger. Congratulations, Alyssa, on representing Marfa with pride!

From championship titles and playoff runs to state-level competition, Marfa ISD continues to showcase the dedication, determination, and hard work of its student-athletes.

These accomplishments are a reflection of the athletes, coaches, families, and community members who support them every step of the way.

Marfa ISD is churning out champions, and we couldn't be prouder. Go Horns!



Public awareness information on Natural Gas

The City of Marfa operates a natural gas distribution system. The gas pipes are located underground in the City's streets and alleys.

Natural Gas Safety Tips
Service Natural Gas appliances periodically
Don't use a gas range to heat a room
Keep liter and flammables away from gas hot water heaters
Prevent carbon monoxide poisoning by proper appliance
installation, maintenance and use
Teach your family to recognize the smell of natural gas

You can recognize a gas leak by:
- Dead or dying vegetation
- Unusual changes to soil
- Dry, blowing dirt
- Bubbling water
- Corrosion or physical damage
- Insect swarms or dead flies
- Smell of odorized gas
- Hissing sound

Natural Gas Hazards
- Natural Gas is flammable and can ignite when it comes into contact with an ignition source.
- In confined spaces, exposure can cause dizziness, asphyxiation and may be toxic, if inhaled at high concentrations
- Natural gas may contain H2S
- May cause asphyxiation, burns, bodily injury, fatality, and property damage

Natural Gas Facts
- Natural Gas is a clean, economical, and efficient fuel
- Natura gas is very safe when used and handled properly
- Natural gas is non-toxic and non-poisonous
- Natural gas has excellent safety record

If you suspect a gas leak:
- Leave the area immediately
- Do not operate electrical appliances
- Do not operate electrical switches
- Call the gas department for help on a phone away from a leak
- Eliminate ignition sources and secure leak area
- Do not operate motor vehicles near leak area and provide traffic control as needed

REPORT GAS LEAKS BY CALLING (432)729-1998, (432) 295-3050 OR 911

REMEMBER: STOP BEFORE YOU DIG!
Law requires you to call 811 48 hours before any excavation project begins so gas and other
lines can be located in advance.
- Call 811 before excavation begins
- Wait required time (48 hours)
- Respects the marks and city's underground gas lines marked in yellow
- Dig with care

The leading causes of pipeline incidents is third party digging without proper notification to 811. The City of Marfa Gas Department is committed to the safety of our community as well as the safety of the environment.

Priorities in the event of emergencies
- Protection of life
- Protection of property

This would include the following programs: Damage Prevention and Emergency Response

For additional information call or write to:

City of Marfa Gas Department
113 S Highland Ave
Po Box 787
Marfa, Texas 79843
432-729-1998

Información de concienciación pública sobre el gas natural La ciudad de Marfa opera un sistema de distribución de gas natural

Las tuberías de gas se encuentran bajo tierra en las calles y callejones de la ciudad.

Consejos de seguridad para el gas natural
- Dar servicio a los aparatos de gas natural periódicamente
- No use una estufa de gas para calentar una habitación
- Mantenga los litros y los productos inflamables alejados de
- los calentadores de agua a gas
- Evite el envenenamiento por monóxido de carbono mediante
- la instalación, el mantenimiento y el uso adecuados de los
- electrodomésticos.

Enseñe a su familia a reconocer el olor del gas natural
- Puede reconocer una fuga de gas por:
- Vegetación muerta o moribunda
- Cambios inusuales en el suelo
- Suciedad seca y soplada
- Agua burbujeante
- Corrosión o daños físicos
- Enjambres de insectos o moscas muertas
- Olor a gas odorizado
- Sonido de silbido

Peligros del gas natural
- El gas natural es inflamable y puede encenderse cuando entra en contacto
- con una fuente de ignición. En espacios confinados, la exposición puede causar mareos, asfixia y puede
- ser tóxica si se inhala en altas concentraciones
- El gas natural puede contener H2S

Puede causar asfixia, quemaduras, lesiones corporales, muerte y daños a la propiedad
- Datos sobre el gas natural
- El gas natural es un combustible limpio, económico y eficiente
- El gas Natura es muy seguro cuando se usa y se maneja correctamente
- El gas natural no es tóxico ni venenoso
- El gas natural tiene un excelente historial de seguridad

Si sospecha de una fuga de gas:
- Abandone el área inmediatamente
- No opere aparatos eléctricos
- No opere interruptores eléctricos
- Llame al departamento de gas para pedir ayuda a un teléfono de distancia de una fuga
- Elimine las fuentes de ignición y asegure el área de fuga
- No opere vehículos motorizados cerca del área de fugas y proporcione control de
- tráfico según sea necesario

REPORTE FUGAS DE GAS LLAMANDO AL (432)729-1998, (432) 295-3050 O 911

RECUERDA: ¡DETENTE ANTES DE CAVAR!
La ley requiere que llame al 811 48 horas antes de cualquier Se inicia el proyecto de excavación para que el gas y otros Las líneas se pueden localizar con anticipación.
- Llame al 811 antes de que comience la excavación
- Tiempo de espera requerido (48 horas)
- Respeta las marcas y las líneas de gas subterráneas de la ciudad marcadas en
- amarillo
- Cava con cuidado

Las principales causas de incidentes en las tuberías son de terceros excavando sin la debida notificación al 811. El Departamento de Gas de la Ciudad de Marfa está comprometido
a la seguridad de nuestra comunidad, así como a la seguridad del medio ambiente.

Prioridades en caso de emergencia
Protección de la vida
Protección de la propiedad

Esto incluiría los siguientes programas: Prevención de daños y respuesta a emergencias

Para información adicional llame o escriba a:
:
Departamento de Gas de la Ciudad de Marfa
113 S Avenida de las Tierras Altas
Apartado de correos 787
Marfa, Texas 79843
432-729-1998