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\$1.00

City allocates funds for Outdoor Fitness Court

By SHAWN YORKS
PIONEER EDITOR

Fort Stockton is taking steps to become healthier, and at Monday night's city council meeting, an important step was made when the council adopted Resolution 23-111R, allocating funds for an Outdoor Fitness Court at Gene Cummings Park. The city applied for a grant as part of the National Fitness Campaign and accepted a \$40,000 National Grant from the National Fitness Campaign Grant Committee and State-wide Partners, and will provide a local match of \$35,000, plus additional extension of the concrete slab, as well as the \$7,500 for the installation of a Fitness Court Studio to promote and implement a free-to-the-public outdoor Fitness Court.

See **FUNDS**, page 3

RAINFALL TOTALS

2023.....1.41"
April.....0.22"



BURN BAN OFF

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**PLEASE REMEMBER TO
THANK A VETERAN,
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ARMED FORCES,
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OFFICER EVERY DAY.**



County enters into agreement with PACE

By SHAWN YORKS
PIONEER EDITOR

The Pecos County Commissioner's Court officially established the PACE Authority - Property Assessed Clean Energy - during the April 24 commission meeting, becoming one of 86 counties in Texas to establish the program. PACE, simply, is a financial tool to encourage property owners to upgrade facility infrastructure with little or no capital outlay.

PACE financing may be used to pay for permanent improvements to the property that are intended to decrease water or energy consumption or demand. Owners choose a private sector capital provider and voluntarily request that the local government place a senior lien on the property for the total cost of the project. The owner commits that they will pay the PACE assessment installments.

Eligible properties include non-profit commercial property

such as private schools, medical facilities and churches; industrial property including privately-owned agricultural property, and multi-family property with five or more dwelling units. The program is at no cost to local governments.

Once the county established the program, it entered into a Professional Services Agreement with the Texas PACE Authority.

"We were established to administer PACE programs as a public service to local govern-

ments and local communities," said Texas PACE Authority President, Charlene Heydinger. "This is at no cost to the local government; we are funded by grants and user fees paid by property owners that voluntarily use the program."

County Judge Joe Shuster asked when the county might see actual construction projects in the county that use the program.

"The fact that you have a prop-

See **PACE**, page 3

FORT STOCKTON SATISFIES NEED FOR SPEED



The Big Bend Open Road Race Parade is a favorite of youngsters in Fort Stockton as drivers and passengers throw candy for the youth during the event. Pictured is Jasmin Armendariz Diaz, right, and Evy, left. Photo by Nathan Heuer



Young racers competed in the Head Start Car Show and Parade, Friday morning at Zero Stone Park. The parade began at the Pecos County Community Action Agency Head Start on James Street, proceeded to Zero Stone Park and, after awards, went back to the Head Start building. The parade and car show helped celebrate the importance of male involvement in a child's life. Photo by Shawn Yorks



Charles Bowers and Janyth Bowers' 2001 Cobra was one of the most unique cars to compete in last weekend's Big Bend Open Road Race. The car was the only Cobra to compete in the competition. The Bowers competed in the 110-mph division. Photo by Nathan Heuer



Racing fans check out the 1989 Porsche driven by Martin Hickman and navigator Scott Montrull shortly after the pair arrived back at Rooney Park after the race, Saturday afternoon. Photo by Shawn Yorks

Rivera ends school board tenure, plans to run for county commissioner

By NATHAN HEUER
PIONEER MANAGING EDITOR

Making a positive impact in the community where he grew up is a constant priority for Fort Stockton native Andy Rivera.

His passion for bettering the lives of youth in the area led him to the Fort Stockton ISD School Board six years ago and providing scholarships for high school seniors as owner of Triple R Welding.

"I have a big passion for kids, especially the more unfortu-

nate kids since I grew up being one of those. I wanted to make an impact on them," he said. "I thought If I can make an impact and bring the trades back, not that they were gone, but solidify them a little more that would be a success for me."

Over the years, Rivera explained that his appreciation grew for educators and he rec-



ANDY RIVERA

ognized just how important they are in making an impact in the school system.

"I was really passionate about kids but my passion grew for teachers cause I see that they go unnoticed," he said. "They are the real reason you succeed or not."

Rivera's time as a school board member came to an end on April 26 after deciding not to run for a third term during the May 6 election.

"I think that there is always a lot of work to be done but I

think the major things I want to see changed I did," said Rivera, adding that he has tremendous faith in the board to keep the district moving in the right direction. "I'm real confident in the board right now to make sure everything gets done."

The six-year school board member was recognized at the district's regular board meeting with a plaque from Superintendent Dr. Gabriel Zamora and the district for his service.

See **RIVERA**, page 3

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Fade City Barbers teach cosmetology class



Fort Stockton High School's cosmetology instructor Liliana Gonzales brought barbers from Fade City South in Odessa to demonstrate clipper cuts. The barbers provided free haircuts to the high school students while teaching the cosmetology class hands-on about different types of cuts, tools, and techniques for a perfect haircut. Cosmetology students were able to participate in a questions and answers session after each demonstration. Students learned which trade school is the best to attend for a cosmetology license. They also learned about the advantages and disadvantages of being your "own" boss and how much money a licensed barber can potentially make. Fort Stockton High School Cosmetology is getting ready to take appointments for salon services within the next school year. Courtesy Photos by Collette Barragan

Honky Tonk Hissy Fit opens May 12 at FSCT

Tickets are for sale online for Fort Stockton Community Theatre's production of Honky Tonk Hissy Fit, written by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, and Jamie Wooten and directed by Alice Duerksen.

The comedy is part of the Doublewide, Texas series by the playwrights and stars veteran FSCT actors, as well as four newcomers who are making their debut on The Nelson Street Theatre stage.

Honky Tonk Hissy Fit will open Friday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m. Dinner Theatre will be on Saturday, May

13, at 7:00 p.m., and there will be a Sunday matinee at 2:00 p.m. on Mother's Day (Moms get in free!). Other performances will be May 15-17 at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are available online payable with credit card at fscmunitytheatre.org for \$16 for adults and \$11.00 for seniors (65+) and students.

At the door tickets are cash or check - \$15 for adults and \$10 for seniors (65+) and students. Doors will open thirty minutes before each performance.

Dinner theatre will be catered by RemRacRam

and will feature grilled pork chops, sides, and chocolate pie. Reservations must be made by noon on Wednesday, May 10, in order to make sure enough food is prepared.

Make plans now to enjoy laughs provided by Tracy Alexander, Kathy Montanez, Jordan Rychlik, Michelle Salazar, and Kirby Warnock along with newcomers Debra Ezell, Ricky Gonzales, Robert Pfeiffer, and Staci Schoenfeldt.

Call 432-336-3180 for more information or for assigned seating.

Kids, Kows & More hosts event



Kids, Kows & More hosted an event for 225 elementary and grade school students on April 20 at the Pecos County Coliseum. Students from Monahans ISD, Balmoreha ISD, and Fort Stockton Christian Academy were able to experience the world of agriculture up close. The event was designed to give kids a little taste of all types of agriculture in the area. Photos by Nathan Heuer



DO SOMETHING!

YOUR GUIDE TO LOCAL PLACES TO GO AND THINGS TO DO

If you have an event for our Do Something! listing, please e-mail nathan.heuer@fortstocktonpioneer.com.

APRIL 29

A vaccine clinic for cats and dogs will be held on Saturday, April 29 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Fort Stockton. Vehicles are asked to from a line from west First Street to north Nelson Street. Shots provided are rabies, DHLPP, bordello, rattlesnake, lyme's, RCCP, fel leuk. City tags will also be available. Only cash and checks will be accepted as forms of payment.

APRIL 30-MAY 6

Small Business Week begins on Sunday, April 30 and runs through Saturday, May 6. Support local business and continue to help the local economy thrive in Fort Stockton.

MAY 3

The Stifftones will play live music at the Grey Mule Wine Saloon on Wednesday, May 3 from 6-8 p.m. The Grey Mule Saloon is located at 101 E. Calaghan St. in Fort Stockton.

MAY 5

The Cinco De Mayo Festival will take place at

the Fort Stockton Convention Center on Friday, May 5 from 6 p.m. to midnight. Live music will be played by Erick y su Grupo Massore and Mariachi Santa Cruz. The event has free admission and will have food and craft vendors available.

MAY 25

The Summer Off The Patio concert series at Annie Riggs Museum begins on Thursday, May 25 with Donovan Keith playing from 7-8 p.m. The event is free to the public and presented by the Fort Stockton Historical Society.



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FUNDS

from page 1

"This is part of the process where we had received a grant and we had to request permission to utilize additional funds from the EDC (Economic Development Corporation)," said city manager Frank Rodriguez. "They've approved it, so this is a 60-day notice to the public."

The third phase of the process is to make sure that the Outdoor Fitness Court can be utilized at Gene Cummings Park.

"We've identified that area, it's by the water park," Rodriguez said. "We're on our third phase, this is the part they needed for the resolution. After the 60-day mark gets here, we can release those funds and get that project started."

The Fitness Court will have seven different stations and is designed to provide a full body workout in seven minutes.

*The city accepted a donation of a hand-sculpted Buffalo Soldier

doll worth \$2,000 from Nancy King to Historic Fort Stockton. The city also accepted a donation of a 4-piece furniture set from Teresa Pool McGrew worth \$2,000.

"I was approached at Annie Riggs about a donation of an object that I felt was more appropriate to go to the fort," said Ross Harper, director of the Annie Riggs Museum. "So, I arranged with (King) to do that. She, in the 1980s, made hand-made dolls that won awards in different doll competitions. She started with her Buffalo Soldier doll, and she would like to follow up with Native American dolls in the future."

The doll is on display in Barracks 2 at the fort.

McGrew lives in Monahans and approached Harper about the furniture, which was bought on a dock in Sweden in 1881 and brought to Texas.

"Her great-great grandparents brought it to Texas from Sweden," Harper added.

The furniture is on display in the Officer's Quarters at the fort.

BIG BEND OPEN ROAD RACE WINNERS

Unlimited Class 1. Mark Capener, 2019 Corvette; Avg. speed 159.175 mph 150 Class 1. Matthew Doffer, 2007 Corvette; Avg. speed 150.001 mph 2. Gene Lehman/Colt Whetstone, 2019 Porsche; Avg. speed 150.005 3. Ted Zaleski, 2009 Corvette; Avg. speed 149.993 145 Class 1. Barbara Ashby/Mac Ashby, 2007 Corvette; Avg. speed 144.981 mph 2. Lanny Lowman, 2012 Corvette; Avg. speed 144.943 3. John Kerr/Kevin O'Grady, 1999 Corvette; Avg. speed 145.146 140 Class 1. Mike Hill/Julie Hill, 2015 Corvette; Avg. speed 140.000 2. Dan Rybiki/Matt Rybiki, 2014 GTR; Avg. speed 139.995 3. Bryan Farmer/Rhonda Farmer, 2005 Corvette; Avg. speed 139.946 135 Class 1. Kelli Hughes, 2011 Corvette; Avg. speed 135.003 mph 2. Blue Offutt/Deana Offutt, 2005 Mercedes; avg. speed 135.003 3. Jerry Cox, 2008 Viper; Avg. speed 135.009 130 Class 1. Tom Sorrells/Jeremy Riley, 201- ACR; Avg. speed 130.001 mph 2. Jared Helge/Ted Hughes, 2009 Corvette; Avg. speed 130.002 3. Ken Rees/Mike Rees, 2009 Corvette; Avg. speed 129.99 125 Class 1. Jeff Becker/David Clinkscales, 2020 Mustang; Avg. speed 125.002 mph 2. Joshua Bucy/Stuart Jordan, 2022 R8; Avg. speed 125.013 3. Mikie Evans/Michaela	Evans, 2012 Mustang; Avg. speed 124.974 120 Class 1. Andrew Kowalczyk, 1999 Trans Am; Avg. speed 120.000 mph 2. Malcolm Johnson, 2022 Corvette; Avg. speed 119.998 3. Linton Savage/Janet Savage, 2009 Corvette; Avg. speed 119.995 110 Class 1. Kevin Alexander/Kirk	Maisenbacher, 2013 Mercedes; Avg. speed 110.004 2. Kaylee Johnstone/Mindy Denny, 2021 Corvette; Avg. speed 110.005 3. Kurt Dieker/Christopher Dieker, 2015 Mustang; Avg. speed 109.988 105 Class 1. Robert Dietrich/Walter Stevens, 2005 CTS-V; Avg. speed 104.996 mph 2. Josh Hays/Pierce Hays,	2012 128i; Avg. speed 104.993 3. Debbie Leimbach/Dan Leimbach, 2011 Corvette; Avg. speed 105.013 100 Class 1. Lawrence Penner/David Lamb, 2008 Taurus; Avg. speed 99.992 mph 2. Neil Lahaye, 2021 Corvette; Avg. speed 100.019 3. Lee Miller/Layla Dunham, 1989 Pontiac; Avg. speed 100.026
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RIVERA

from page 1

Zamora noted his appreciation for Rivera and his steadfastness through adversity, more specifically the tumultuous period of time leading up to the November bond election. "Mr. Rivera went through a lot, and he basically walked through the fire with us and as a result a lot of positive things are happening," Zamora said. "I have nothing but positive to say about him. He's very generous and loves Fort Stockton like anyone who really cares for their hometown. Because of that I have nothing but respect for the man."

When reflecting on his time serving as a school board member, Rivera is most proud of a few accomplishments, including his collaboration with his fellow school board members to pass the bond last November, bring back Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, and helping make the schools as safe as possible for students via approving more school resource officers, ballistic film, sensors for every entry way, and the guardian plan.

"I think that the six

years we've been there, especially the last two or three, we've done things that have never been done in Fort Stockton. Bringing in Dr. Zamora was huge plus, bringing in Jeremy Hickman was a huge plus. "Getting school board of the year I don't think has ever happened in our district ever. That speaks volumes. The bond and the new upgrades of security. Knowing that our board is doing everything possible to keep our schools as safe as possible, I think that's huge for us. We got cosmetology back. The metals and the wood-working are heading the right direction," he said.

Rivera is currently planning on running for the Pecos County Commissioner seat in Precinct 1 with hopes making an impact in another sector of local government.

"Wherever I feel like I can make a difference in Fort Stockton, I'm a true fan of Fort Stockton and I feel like I can make a big difference in Precinct 1 and that's what I'm going to go after next," he said.

The seat will be up for election in November 2024 and is currently occupied by Tom Chapman, who has been commissioner of Precinct 1 since Jan. 1, 2017.

PACE

from page 1

erty owner really interested in using it means that you will see action sooner than some other local governments might," Heydinger said. "It's really up to the private sector. Once you create the program, we need to make your lenders, your contractors, and folks aware of it, people can't use a program they don't know about."

"Once a property owner learns about the program and decides they want to use it, they need to pick their lender, their contractor and decide what measures they want to use."

The first property to take advantage of the economic incentives offered by PACE will be the Springhirst Hotel in Fort Stockton. Springhirst Project Coordinator Tom Bevins approached Fort Stockton Economic Development Director Remie Ramos about the program earlier this year and believes it will

help breathe new life into the project. Bevins has a meeting in College Station on Friday to finish with the general contractor on the estimates.

"We're looking at two phases," Bevins said. "Phase one about \$5 million and Phase two about \$5.5 million. Now that we have the PACE vote, we'll finish all the discussions with the appropriate lender and then we'll know how much private capital we'll need and then put it together. I would hope we're under construction in 4-6 months, maybe less."

The Springhirst project has been in the works for a long time, but this program is a chance to finally get it off the ground. Shuster said the county would like to be kept in the loop.

"We've played with this football before, okay? But we haven't scored," Shuster said. "Now, here we go, we've got the football back in our hands again, I'd like for us to go ahead and see if we can't go and score a touchdown."



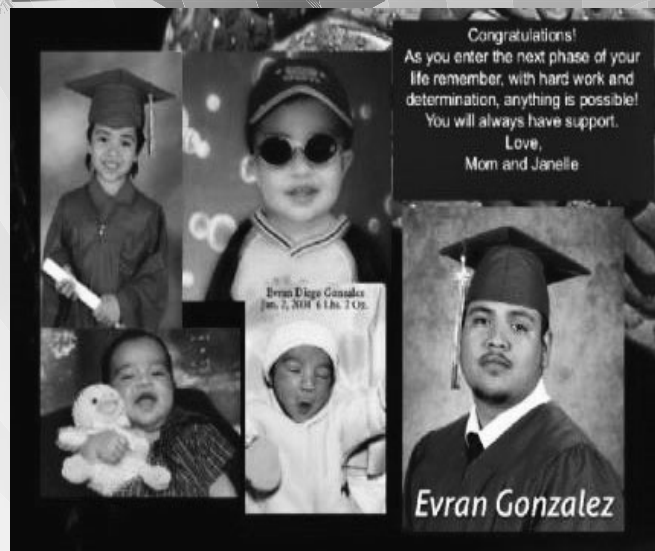
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Hospice care for cars

My car is currently in hospice. I'm trying to keep it comfortable and provide a reasonable amount of care, but I've accepted that it's probably approaching the end of its life.

With the expenses of two daughters in college and one in the prom dresses-driver's ed-manicures-cell phones-Starbucks throes of high school, we need to keep our geriatric family vehicle alive for as long as possible.

My car is paid-for, which means, of course, that it has been steadily disintegrating since the day of our final monthly installment. So my goals at this point are to keep it relatively hygienic, reasonably safe for human occupancy, and only moderately embarrassing for the neighbors.

The following are a few strategies you can use to maintain your own vehicle with compassion (and minimal expense) in its twilight years.

First, speaking of expense, prepare to pay for at least one major repair every couple of months (and continually ask your wife if the repairs exceed the cost of a new car payment). These repairs will probably not cause the check-engine light to shut off completely, but it may not burn a hole in your retina like it did before.

Just last month, my car required the replacement of two major parts - apparently in order to keep it from exploding. I'm not much of a "car person," so I didn't really understand the technician's lingo, but I could have sworn he said I needed two new flux capacitors.

Next, maintain the exterior of the vehicle by purchasing a membership at one of those automatic car washes. Here, you can remain inside the car while a depressed teenager wielding a giant toilet brush sluggishly smears some dirty water on your windshield before sending you on a cheap amusement park ride through the thrilling tunnel of suds. Will your license plate fall off? Will you suddenly remember that your driver's side window won't roll all the



GUEST COLUMNIST
By Jase Graves

way up unless you call down elaborate curses upon it? You never know what excitement awaits you, but at least you can be certain that it will start raining immediately upon your exit from the tunnel.

Now for the interior. If you still have a teenager living at home, be sure to search all nooks and crannies of the vehicle for food debris and clothing. If you smell something funny (funnier than usual, that is), lift the edge of the floor mats to retrieve fermented Gummi Bears and McFossilized french fries. (Resist the temptation to see if they're still edible. They aren't.)

For floorboard carpet stains, I've found that Shout stain remover is effective in eliminating evidence of Panda Express takeout spills. As an added bonus, it will leave your floorboards with the pleasing aroma of freshly-laundered underwear.

And speaking of underwear, reach as far under the seats as possible to discover random articles of long-lost, soiled athletic clothing - and the occasional sports bra.

Once you've cleared the vehicle's interior of most biohazards, ask your teenager to please keep her feet off of the glove box trim, center console, passenger window, etc. In fact, ask her if she could please find a way to occupy a seat without actually touching anything.

I'm sure that when the day comes to say goodbye to my car, I'll experience some wistful sadness. After all, our three daughters grew up riding in it and forcing me to listen to bad music. Maybe I can make it run for a few more years to keep those precious memories alive in the soft glow of the check engine light.



Play it safe on National Lost Dog Awareness Day

When I was 10 my family's beloved dog Jingles ran off one summer day. My sisters and I cried our eyes out, certain she was gone forever.

Jingles was part Collie with a touch of Irish Setter and goodness knows what else. She barked like a howling coyote.

Though she never got treats from the gourmet pet aisle at the supermarket, as my 28-month-old Labrador Thurber does often, she loved her daily can of Ken-L Ration and the occasional leftover burger.

She also enjoyed a freedom that few pets ever get to know, which afforded her the freedom to run away.



GUEST COLUMNIST
By Tom Purcell

for her, which prompted her to come home.

But when Jingles ran off on that summer day long ago my father couldn't find her.

Why our dogs feel the need to run away

I know now that there are many reasons a dog may feel the need to run away.

Fear and anxiety can cause them to run. Some are scared by thunderstorms or other stressful events, such as fireworks.

But the most common reason involves boredom and a need for exercise and mental stimulation.

A dog who is left alone too long without attention - one with pent up energy - may find an escape into the woods, which is filled with exciting new smells and sounds, too great to pass up.

Pets.Webmd.com offers additional reasons why dogs run away.

In Jingles' case, my father was adamant that she never be chained. We taught her the boundaries of our yard well enough, but every so often she felt the need to set off for the woods.

Then my father had to drive our station wagon all over the place until she heard his booming voice calling

How dog owners should prepare for a lost dog

I would be beside myself if my yellow Labrador Thurber were to ever attempt to run off.

Sure, I have trained him well and he is never chained, but I keep a close eye on him in our big yard when we are playing or he is tending to his business.

Still, there are steps all of us should take to prepare for the unlikely event our beloved pets might stray from our homes this National Lost Dog Awareness Day:

ID tags are an obvious first step. Name, phone number and address can help anyone who finds your pup promptly return him to you.

I had Thurber microchipped during a routine visit to his veterinarian. This involves implanting a small chip under your dog's skin that contains contact information. Most veterinarians have the ability to read these chips.

Dog GPS collars are gaining popularity and a fence or wireless dog fence, though pricey, will give you added peace of mind.

However, if your dog were to run off, contact your animal shelter immediately. Provide recent photos and details about any medications your pet may be taking.

Do likewise on social media. Neighborhood sites, such as NextDoor.com, are very helpful in getting folks near your home to keep a look out for your pet.

Last, drive around your neighborhood calling for your pet, using a sound familiar to him or her or a standard dog whistle, which I use with Thurber if he's too focused on something that smells good in the woods bordering our yard.

We were lucky with Jingles

By the third day of Jingles' absence in 1974, a tremendous funk settled over our home.

As I lay in bed sobbing that night, I heard the faucet dripping in the kitchen, a couple squabbling a few blocks away and Johnny Carson's monologue on someone's television over the next hill.

Then I heard a far-off dog howling like a coyote!

I jumped out of bed and raced out the front door. I met Jingles in front of the Kerns' house. I was crying as I held her in my arms, the two of us rolling around under the street lamp.

Soon the rest of my family was awake and outside hugging her, overcome with incredible relief.

I never want to have such an experience with Thurber, and hope the plans and preparations I've made will prevent that from ever happening!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A deadly sin

To the Editor,

I've recently noticed a few State Flags being displayed with "Proud Democrat" printed on them. I couldn't help but wonder what was it that makes these folks so proud. Might it be an elimination of U.S. energy independence causing high gas prices? What about the selling off of U.S. Strategic Oil Supply to Chinese Communist? Could it be the uninhibited printing of money that's causing record inflation. In case these harmful energy and fiscal policies aren't the reasons for their deadly sin of pride I've searched elsewhere. 1000 babies are killed every day by Planned Parenthood while child castrations and mastectomies are performed under

pretense of sex changes. Joseph Mengele would have been proud of that. There are men who pretend to be women while acting out in degrading female stereotypes who are shown more respect than actual women. There are guys pretending to be gals in sports who often defeat and sometimes injure the smaller females. Are they proud of those depravities? Then there's the "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" agendas that are divisive, unequal, and exclusive, and let us not forget the wide-open U.S. borders. Are those reasons to be proud? Maybe I'm being too harsh. These might be folks who may sometimes use the phrase "Proud as a Rooster" not realizing roosters eliminate their offspring, have relations with their mothers,

and scratch around in their own poop all day long.

James R. Le Blanc
Fort Davis, Texas

Boycott all beer brands

Dear Editor,

I see many conservative beer drinkers are boycotting Budweiser beer because of their recent pro-LGBT advertisement.

Now, if all beer drinkers would boycott all beer brands, we would have a much safer country. Alcoholic beverages have killed more Americans than all of our wars in our history.

Hey, wanta make Bud wiser? Tell Buddy not to imbibe this beverage which contains a drug, alcohol.

George Pitts,
Fort Stockton

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FORT STOCKTON PIONEER is published every Thursday morning at 210 N. Nelson, Fort Stockton, TX 79735. Periodical postage paid at Fort Stockton, TX.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation will be corrected when such occurs in this newspaper and is brought to the publisher's attention.



LETTER POLICY

The Fort Stockton Pioneer encourages readers to participate in its Opinion page and we welcome diverse and varied opinions. Letters must be 700 words or less and must either be about Pecos County, from a resident of Pecos County, or in response to a story that appears in print or online in The Pioneer. We reserve the right to edit all letters for grammar, clarity, and language. All letters must be signed and include the writer's street address or route address telephone number, which will be used for verification purposes only. Anonymous letters will not be published. Please send Letters to the Editor by email at nathan.heuer@fortstocktonpioneer.com, or by mail at The Pioneer, P.O. Box 1528, Fort Stockton, Texas, 79735 by Friday at 5 p.m. for the Thursday edition.

Simona H. Ramirez



Our beloved mother, Simona H. Ramirez, passed away into the loving arms of her Lord and Savior on April 22, 2023.

Simona was born June 11, 1935, in Chisos, Texas, to Julian Huerta and Isabel Lopez. She married Guillermo Ramirez on July 2, 1951, in Fort Stockton, Texas, and they had six children. Simona worked at Fort Stockton Independent School District for over 30 years. She was a member of Redbud Baptist Church in Lubbock, Texas. She was always a faithful servant of God and loved serving in different ways at her church and in the community.

She was a great cook, loved to bake and was known for her biscochos and wedding cookies. She had a giving heart and always put others before herself. She loved reading the bible, was dedicated to praying for others and was a beautiful example of a God-fearing woman. She had an infectious sweet and loving spirit.

Simona is preceded in death by her husband, Guillermo Ramirez; her grandson Steven Ramirez and her sister Anita Najar.

Simona is survived by her six children: son Willie Ramirez and his wife Debi; son Steve Ramirez and wife Becky; son Lupe Ramirez; daughter Virginia Escobedo and her husband Octavio; daughter Isabel Gladney and her husband Bill, and daughter Esmeralda Kennedy and her husband Mike. She is also survived by her 10 grandchil-



dren: Abraham Escobedo, Jason Ramirez, Jessica Gonzales, Stefanie Dykhuizen, Lupe Ramirez Jr, Eric Ramirez, Ruben Hernandez, Chris Hernandez, Dylan Kennedy, and Holden Kennedy. Simona is also survived by her 13 great-grandchildren; one brother Fidel Lopez; one sister Manuela Rodriguez, and many nephews and nieces.

Funeral services will take place Friday, April 28, 2023, at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church in Fort Stockton, and will be officiated by Pastor John O'Connell of Immanuel Baptist Church. Graveside services will follow at the St. Joseph Cemetery and will be officiated by Rev. Carlos Hinojos of Redbud Baptist Church of Lubbock. Pallbearers will be Willie Ramirez, Steve Ramirez, Abraham Escobedo, Jason Ramirez, Ruben Hernandez, and Lupe Ramirez Jr.

Simona will be greatly missed, and we will forever cherish the precious memories of her in our hearts.

Arrangements are entrusted to Heritage Funeral Home of the Big Bend in Fort Stockton, Texas. If you would like to send your condolences to the family, you may do so by signing her guestbook at www.heritagefuneralhomeofthebigbend.com.

By grace you have been saved

By DAYA MARTINEZ
EL BUEN VECINO

When I was younger, I wanted to write a book about my life.

I did not want to name anyone, so I thought about changing the names of my characters. But after a long consideration, I thought if people knew me then it would not take long to figure out who I was referring to.

So, that thought stayed in the back of my mind. By that time, I had watched a movie where there was a rapping contest. They would go against each

other and say things about each other. Then it came to the last two and one just lays it out and talks about himself, so the other guy has nothing else to say.

That's what I did! It took a lot but at that time I was tired of people murmuring. So, I laid out and told my story, that became part of my testimony.

I was a lush, a lost soul; I had friends in low places, "where the whiskey drowns, and the beer chased my blues away."

But my God got a hold of me in the depths of my darkness and pulled me out.

Ephesians says, "But[c] God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus (2:4-6)," I am his redeemed, a child of the most high. Now I have friends in high places, The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Hallelujah! I am a new creation, the old has passed, behold, the new has come (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Pecos County Toastmasters seeks new members

Pecos County Toastmasters is seeking new members.

The mission of Toastmasters Club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has an opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

Houston McKenzie, a founding member of Pecos County Toastmasters, says Toastmasters has helped members attain their

dreams. McKenzie explained that members who stay in Toastmasters gain confidence as well as communication and leadership skills.

Personal growth is what Toastmasters is all about, he says. Being able to speak well in public gives one power to help make the world a better place.

Santa Acosta, County Tax Assessor, agrees.

"Toastmasters opened my mind and helped develop my personality, along with the confi-

dence to run for County Tax Collector," she said

Longtime member Oscar Gonales added, "Toastmasters helped me improve my leadership and organizational skills. Giving presentations has helped me to think and answer clearly."

Toastmasters meets at the Fort Stockton Library on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at noon. Lunch is furnished. For more information call Houston McKenzie at 432-553-6670 or Karan Heffelfinger at 570-778-8911.

Thank you for the lessons, laughs and lifelong memories

By NATHAN HEUER
PIONEER MANAGING EDITOR

To all my Fort Stockton friends and colleagues, as my next chapter in my career begins next week, I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to all of you and the community of Fort Stockton for embracing me the last two years and eight months.

I have made friendships that will last a lifetime and have been

positively impacted by so many people here in Fort Stockton.

When I arrived here in August 2020, I didn't know a single soul and was in a place that I previously didn't know existed.

That quickly changed and I was embraced by many and treated with respect.

Being a managing editor here taught me many lessons and provided a tremendous foundation for growth in my career.

I want to thank Brandi and Scott with Fenice Community Media for taking a chance on me and providing me an opportunity to become the editor here. I also want to thank JT Maroney for keeping me through the ownership change in 2021 and providing me a platform to grow as a professional.

To Donna, we had a heck of a

See MEMORIES, page 6

CHURCH SERVICE DIRECTORY

<p>FNB FORT STOCKTON <i>Family of Banks</i></p>		<p>"We're not just your bankers, we're your partners"</p> <p>1000 W Dickinson Blvd, Fort Stockton, TX 79735 • (432) 336-8541 NMLS#410651</p> <p>Member FDIC</p>			
<p>THUNDERBIRD LOAN</p> <p>808 W. Dickinson Blvd., Ste. B Fort Stockton, TX</p>	<p>CASH & SIGNATURE LOANS!</p> <p>Se Habla Español</p> <p>432.299.1050 Fax: 432.299.1052</p>	<p>Apostolic Tabernacle 5th & Sycamore St., 432-290-0154 S Children's 9:15 a.m. S.B.S. 10:45 a.m. S.W.S. 6 p.m., W.N.S. 7 pm; W.B.S. 7 p.m.</p>	<p>First Presbyterian 2nd & Oklahoma, 432-336-3346 S.S. 9:45; W.S. 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.</p> <p>First United Methodist 5th & Rio, 432-336-9777 S.S. 9:30 a.m.; W.S. 11 a.m.</p> <p>Fort Stockton Pentecostals Rev. Jesse Franco 432-352-4226</p> <p>Gracepoint Church 108 W. 10th St., 432-336-8553 Fort Stockton, TX 79735</p> <p>Iglesia de Cristo 4015 N. Orient Adoracion 11 a.m. • Predicacion 6 p.m.</p> <p>Iglesia de Cristo 2100 W. 16th S.S. 9:45; W.S. 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.</p> <p>Iglesia de Jesu Cristo El Dios Verdadero 46th Lane, 432-336-7481 Domingo 10 a.m.; Servicio 5 p.m.</p> <p>Immanuel Baptist 701 N. St. Gall, 432-336-6743 S.S. 9:45 a.m. W.S. 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.</p> <p>Imperial Assembly of God 703 W. FM 11 Imperial S.S. 9:45 a.m. W.S. 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.</p> <p>Jehovah's Witnesses 12th & Texas, 432-336-5649 Sunday 10 a.m.</p> <p>Mission Blessing 1007 N.W. Rio, 432-336-6200 S.S. 10 a.m.; W.S. 7 p.m.</p> <p>Nelson Street Church of Christ 401 B N. Nelson St., Fort Stockton, TX Services: Sunday 10 a.m. 432-299-2257</p> <p>Northside Baptist 1600 N. Gillis St. S.S. 10:00 a.m.; W.S. 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish 403 S. Main St. Office Phone: 432-336-5027 Saturday 5:30pm (English) St. Joseph Sunday 8:00am (Spanish) St. Joseph 10:00am (English) St. Agnes Confession: Saturday 4:30pm - 5:20pm St. Joseph St. Joseph • 403 S. Main St, St. Agnes • 4094 N Hwy 18</p> <p>Pecos County Country Church Hwy 285, N. of I-10, • 432-290-0361 Pastor Gary Dunn W.S. 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>St. James Parish Confession on Sunday 12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>St. Stephen's Episcopal Spring Drive/East 2nd, • 432-336-3180 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, 5:00 p.m. - Eucharistic Service 5:00 PM Eucharist - every Sunday- 10:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer</p> <p>Templo Bautista "El Buen Pastor" 409 W. Division, • 432-336-8940 S.S. 11 a.m.; W.S. 11 a.m.</p> <p>Torre Fuerte Church 216 N Main St. • Fort Stockton, TX 432-290-7523 Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m. Sunday Service 6:00 p.m. Pastor Isai Rodriguez</p> <p>Triunfo de La Fe 606 N. Colpitts Miercoles & Viernes 7 p.m. Domingo E.D. 10 a.m. Servicio 4 p.m.</p>	<p>City Bank</p> <p>809 W. Dickson Blvd • 432-336-7134 Member FDIC ©2020 City Bank</p> <p>Stockton Ford Inc.</p> <p>2300 W. Dickinson Blvd. • 336-3351</p> <p>Southwest Vet Clinic Melissa Miller, DVM</p> <p>3010 W. Dickinson Fort Stockton, TX 79735 Office: 432-336-7048</p> <p>THIS SPACE AVAILABLE Call the Pioneer for details 432-336-2281</p> <p>LOWE'S SUPERMARKET</p> <p>Animal Medical Clinic Dr. Ted D. Fish Large & Small Animal Medicine & Surgery Boarding Available • Science Diet Pet Food</p> <p>432-336-2208 550 N. Ellyson Blvd. Fort Stockton</p>
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REPORTER WANTED

The **Fort Stockton Pioneer**, an award-winning community newspaper since 1908, is looking to hire a full-time local general reporter to cover a wide variety of news in our community. We are an award-winning weekly community newspaper located in Fort Stockton, Texas.

We publish weekly with also online and social media components. We aim high and expect reporters to establish relationships in their coverage areas to best monitor the pulse of the community.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

Covering city and county governmental meetings and feature stories and a reporter to cover sports if needed. Must have story-telling abilities and a constant awareness of what people are sharing and talking about on social media. It will require a demonstrated commitment to constantly adapting to the ever-evolving ways in which readers seek out and interact with journalism. This reporter will break news, hold government agencies accountable, and will explain to readers how local government is helping or hurting them. This reporter will tell the story of how local and state politics weave into what's happening in their community.

QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDE:

Strong writing, verbal and reporting skills, and excellent news judgment. Commitment to accurate, ethical journalism. Fluency in AP Style writing. The ability to engage with readers and develop sources on social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Ability to meet deadlines. Ability to collaborate on new projects and work in a fast-paced environment. Moving assistance is available for the right candidate.

If you want to have fun, make money and be part of our growing community, send us your resume and let's start making a difference in our community.

**Please email: jt4nnr@gmail.com
432-336-2281**

THE FORT STOCKTON PIONEER



INMATE ARRESTS REPORT

It is important to note that an arrest should not be considered as evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

APRIL 18

Ashley M. Yates-Contreras, of El Paso, Texas at 9 p.m., officers with the Department of Public Safety apprehended Yates-Contreras and charged her with possession of marijuana less than two ounces and possession of a controlled substance penalty group two less than one gram. Yates-Contreras received a \$500 PR bond for possession of marijuana charge and a \$3,000 bond for possession of a controlled substance charged. She posted bond and was released on April 19.

APRIL 20

Isac Rojas Jr., of Victoria, Texas at 12:14 a.m., officers with the Department of Public Safety apprehended Rojas and charged him with driving while intoxicated third or more offenses. Rojas received a \$3,000 bond

and was released the same day.

Jesus Alonzo Gaytan, of Fort Stockton at 11 a.m., officers with the Fort Stockton Police Department apprehended Gaytan and charged him with driving while license invalid. Gaytan received a \$1,500 bond and is still in jail.

Amber Marie Simmons, of Coyanosa at 3:13 p.m., officers with the Fort Stockton Police Department apprehended Simmons and charged her with two counts of possession of a controlled substance penalty group less than one gram and possession of a controlled substance penalty group one more than or equal to one gram less than four grams. Simmons received bonds totaling \$9,500 and is still in jail.

Julio Rigoberto Estrada, of Garland at 8:30 p.m., officers with the Department of Public Safety apprehended Estrada and charged him with possession of marijuana less than two ounces. Estrada received a \$500 PR bond and was released the same day.

APRIL 21

Shane Ramirez Velasquez, of Fort Stockton at 8:30 p.m., officers with the Fort Stockton Police Department apprehended Velasquez on warrants for no driver's license, driving while license invalid, and speeding 10% above posted limit. Velasquez paid fines for his three traffic tickets and was released the same day.

Tramesha Dyona Carter, of San Tan Valley, Arizona at 10 p.m., officers with the Department of Public Safety apprehended Carter and charged her with possession of marijuana less than two ounces. Carter received a \$500 PR bond and was released the same day.

APRIL 23

Elizabeth Zenaida De La Rosa, of Fort Stockton at 9:30 p.m., officers with the Fort Stockton Police Department apprehended De La Rosa and charged her with criminal mischief more than or equal to \$750 less than \$2,500. De La Rosa received a \$2,500 bond and is still in jail.

PUBLIC SENTENCINGS

• Adan Ulysses Alvarez, DOB 1/17/1983, offense date 2/29/2020 (CR-23930, Terroristic Threat) Defendant pleaded guilty. Time served one hundred thirty-six (136) days in the county jail.

• Jeremiah Fields Bane, DOB 12/17/1980, offense date 1/20/2020 (CR-23893, Wrong, Fictitious, Altered, Obscured License Plate) Defendant Pleased Guilty. Time served fifty-three (53) days in the county jail.

• Orlando Rodriguez Blanco, DOB 1/28/1982, offense date 4/30/2022 (CR-24860, Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family Violence) Defendant Pleased Guilty and sentenced to one hundred eighty (180) days in the county jail, suspended for six (6) months on

Community Supervision; \$500.00 General Fine; \$100.00 Mandatory Fines; \$0.00 Restitution; \$270.00 Court Costs; \$157.00 Reimbursement Fees; Fifty (50) hours of community service; \$60.00 monthly Community Supervision Fee; Participate in and successfully complete an Anger Management Class and pay for same; Special Conditions: None.

• Orlando Rodriguez Blanco, DOB 1/28/1982, offense date 9/12/2022 (CR-25227, Driving While License Invalid) Defendant Pleased Guilty. Time served one (1) day in the County Jail.

• Orlando Rodriguez Blanco, DOB 1/28/1982, offense date 7/29/2022 (CR-25228, Possession or Delivery of Drug

Paraphernalia) Defendant Pleased Guilty and sentenced to three hundred sixty five (365) days in the county jail, suspended for eighteen (18) months on community supervision; 41,500 General Fine; \$0.00 Mandatory Fines; \$0.00 Restitution; \$270.00 Court Costs; \$82.00 Reimbursement fee; zero (0) hours of community service; \$60.00 monthly Community Supervision fee; Additionally, Cause No. Unindicted Felony now pending in the 83rd District Court of Pecos County, Texas shall be combined with this case under TPC Section 12.45 for the purposes of punishment and further prosecution thereof is hereby barred and dismissed.

See **SENTENCINGS**, page 14

MEMORIES

from page 5

run together and formed a great team during some times that were far from ideal. The business and advertising side of the company will continue to flourish with you as general manager.

On the editorial side,

the paper will be in great hands with Shawn Yorks, who has over 30 years of experience in the media and paper industry. I will always look back fondly on the time that we worked together (we just may have formed the best sports editorial duo in the paper's history).

To my friends, the hardest part in starting a new chapter in a different

place is leaving the connections we have made behind. I will stay in touch with many of you and always appreciate the time we had together here.

My last paper I will contribute to will be April 27 as I have been blessed with a tremendous opportunity to be a Sports Information Director at Amarillo College.



JOIN OUR TEAM!

PermiaCare has openings for Mental Health Crisis Workers in our Fort Stockton office. The MH Crisis Worker provides crisis response services to individuals in mental health crisis in response to calls from Law Enforcement, Emergency Rooms, and the PermianCare Crisis Hotline. This position works a 5 days on, 5 days off schedule, including nights and holidays. A Bachelors Degree is required. Salary begins at \$44,020 with a possibility of a \$3000 stipend for living in the area, as well as a \$2000 sign on bonus.

PermiaCare provides a quality work environment for all current and potential employees. We recognize the importance of having employees who enjoy where they work and whose main goal is to care for the people we serve. If you are interested in working in a fast-paced, high-energy environment improving the lives of people in your community by providing exceptional service in behavioral healthcare and developmental disabilities, apply today to join our team. Our goal at PermianCare is to promote an environment of quality customer service in which staff work with pride, integrity, and commitment, and are valued for their individual worth and contribution.


Full time benefits include: 401(a) retirement plan, employer paid health insurance through BCBS with the ability to purchase health insurance for dependents, life insurance, generous Paid Time Off (PTO), optional vision, dental, Colonial and AFLAC plans, long term disability, educational assistance program, service award program, and step increase program.

PermiaCare is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of color, race, gender, national origin, religion, age, disability, or any other protected class.

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LOOKING BACK

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Fort Stockton Pioneer



April 2009: WE'LL MISS YOU - Dr. Jimmy Wofford and his wife Kay sit in the dentist chair with a few of their friends, Rob and Cindy Dunagan, Glenda and Dwayne Bonham, Arna McCorkle and Shirley Weddle. Dr. Wofford announced his retirement from dentistry. He and Kay helped countless patients in Fort Stockton and the surrounding areas for many years.



April 2009: GREETING WITH A SMILE - Alamo Elementary Principal Lorenzo Flores greets teachers and students most morning with a smile. Pictured is Ms. Rosie Dominguez, Mr. Flores, Haden Jackson, Ms. Sonya Castro and Kolbie James Carrillo.



April 2009: PERIOD PROMENADE - All those who participated in the Period Promenade pose for a group shot on the steps of the Annie Riggs Memorial Museum.



April 2009: NATIONAL DARE DAY - Maribel Perkins of the Fort Stockton Police Department gets ready to give a balloon to Joshua Colon, 6, Saturday morning at Walmart during activities to mark National DARE Day, which was Wednesday. Colon is in Kindergarten at Apache Elementary School.



April 2009: DRUG SEARCH - Carlos Ramirez of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Border Patrol, and Erica, a drug-sniffing dog in training, attempt to find a drug sample in a search of several containers during a demonstration April 8 at Fort Stockton Intermediate School. The demonstration helped mark National DARE Day.



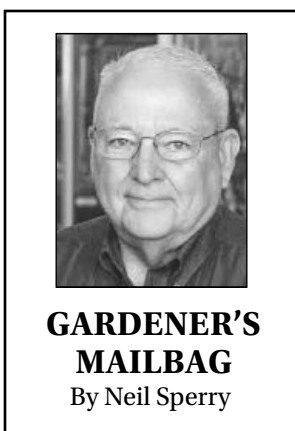
April 2009: REGIONAL TENNIS - Fort Stockton Senior Joe Daniel Granado hits a return during practice at Fort Stockton High School. Granado will play in the Region 1-3A boys' singles tournament in Lubbock.

Photos are from the Fort Stockton Pioneer archives at the Pioneer's office located at 210 N. Nelson St.

Some perennials will deteriorate quickly after blooming

Dear Neil: Do you have a couple of favorite, gray-leaved perennial plants? I have the perfect spot. They would need to stay 12 to 24 inches tall. I really don't care if they bloom.

My two personal favorites are lambs' ear and Powis Castle artemisia. They've both done very well for me, although I do replace them and start over occasionally. Lambs ear may melt out in extreme summer conditions, but given a little afternoon shade, it's terrific. You definitely want to remove its flower buds before they start to open.



GARDENER'S MAILBAG
By Neil Sperry

The plants go downhill quickly when they're allowed to come into bloom. With Powis Castle, trim it occasionally to keep it well shaped and

compact. These are both very nice plants.

Dear Neil: After the winter two years ago killed my yaupon holly, this plant came up from its roots. It is about eight feet tall and six feet wide. The small, white flowers smell somewhat like a lilac. Can you help me identify it, please.

You have an Amur River privet that has come up from seed. Most gardeners' first inclination is to like this plant, but after a few years, they realize that no introduced shrub in Texas rivals its invasive behavior. Those white flowers will give rise to small, purple

fruit that birds treasure, and soon plant all over the neighborhood. They soon overtake entire woodlands crowding out native undergrowth in the process. This plant should never be encouraged and should always be removed.

For what it is worth, I really doubt that your yaupon holly froze two years ago. I guess it's possible, but among all of the other plants in Texas that did freeze, I don't recall seeing or hearing of any other yaupons that were healthy and vigorous at the time of the freeze having died.

Dear Neil: We recently built a new house in East

Texas, and we were able to save five of the dogwood trees, the largest being 4-5 inches in diameter. The larger trees are producing new growth and limbs from the trunk and from the bottoms of the trees. I don't mind letting those shoots grow, but are they in the best interest of the five trees?

They may very well be. Normally when we see that kind of new growth coming from a place other than at the growing tips of branches, it's because the tree has been put under stress. I would suggest sit-

ting tight until you can see if the top growth continues to grow normally - probably another month or two. If it dies back, some of these new shoots may need to become new trunks or branches. It's not the end of the world if that happens, as the trees have large root systems that are capable of pushing strong new growth into the shoots.

Have a question you'd like Neil to consider? E-mail him at mailbag@sperrygardens.com. Neil regrets that he cannot reply to questions individually.

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TEXAS CROSSWORD
 by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

1 Gulf waves

5 TXism: "put ___ shut up"

6 TXism: "Lord willing and the creek don't ___"

7 actor Begley in film "Lone Star" (1952)

8 actor Vigoda

9 TXism: "thing-___" (gadget)

15 film "___ for Texas"

16 TXism: "plain ___ on your face"

19 birth state of Texas outlaw Sam Bass

21 TXism: "cream ___ to the top"

22 car dealer objective: "close ___"

27 east Texas reptile, for short

28 TXism: "as welcome as ___ a picnic"

29 what many Texans fought against in early 1940s

30 TXism: "goes together like a ___ candy store"

32 this Teddy trained "Rough Riders" in San Antonio (init.)

33 you can pull these out of Lake Fork (2 wds.)

36 TXism: "larrupin' ___" (tasty)

37 Texas' flag, 1861-1865 (abbr.)

38 TXism: "from womb ___" (lifetime)

39 in Van Zandt County on U.S. 80

41 Billy Graham for 50 years (3 wds.)

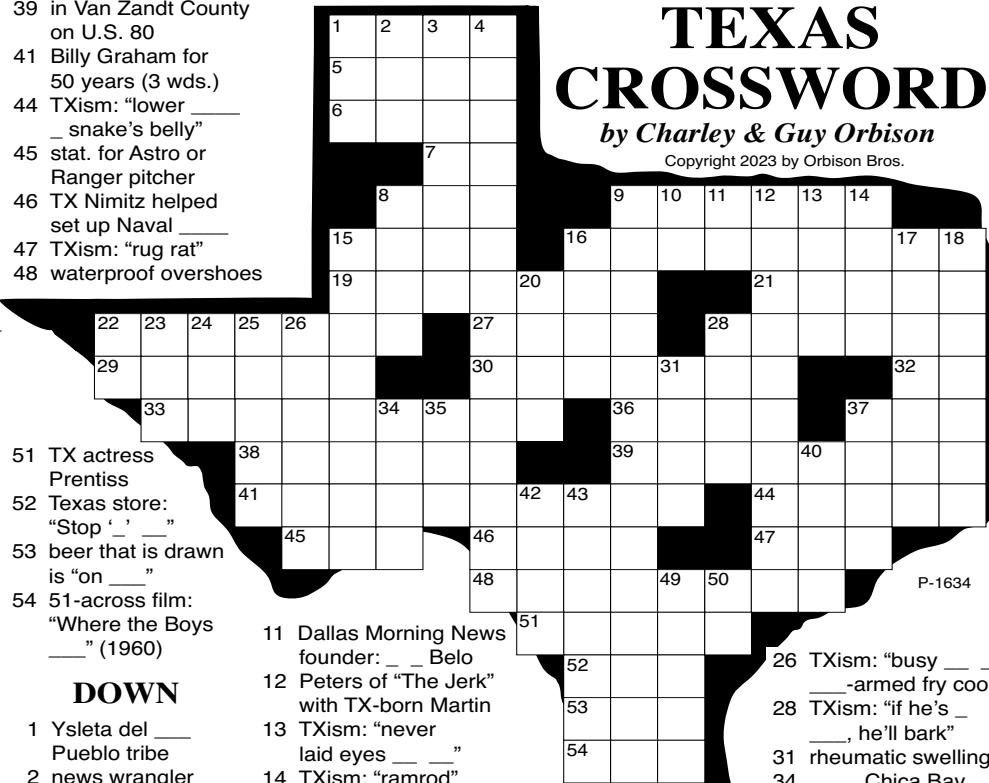
44 TXism: "lower ___ snake's belly"

45 stat. for Astro or Ranger pitcher

46 TX Nimitz helped set up Naval ___

47 TXism: "rug rat"

48 waterproof overshoes



DOWN

1 Ysleta del ___ Pueblo tribe

2 news wrangler (abbr.)

3 in Falls County on U.S. 77

4 seat of Gillespie County

8 TXism: "busy as ___-armed paper hanger"

9 TXism: "mean ___"

10 ___ Vernon, TX

11 Dallas Morning News founder: ___ Belo

12 Peters of "The Jerk" with TX-born Martin

13 TXism: "never laid eyes ___"

14 TXism: "ramrod"

15 TX Joan Crawford, e.g. (2 wds.)

16 head gesture of agreement (2 wds.)

17 football fans try to get ___ the 50-yard line

18 Erik of "Honeyboy" with TX Fairchild

20 Greek team of ex-Mav Roy Tarpley

22 birth state of Sam Rayburn (abbr.)

23 TXism: "keep it under your ___"

24 "easy" in some business names

25 it takes ___ a team to play official volleyball

26 TXism: "busy ___-armed fry cook"

28 TXism: "if he's ___, he'll bark"

31 rheumatic swelling

34 ___ Chica Bay

35 former parent co. of American Airlines

37 winter garment

40 TX Helmond show: "___ the Boss?"

42 "Dallas" was a prime time ___ opera

43 in Cass County on U.S. 59

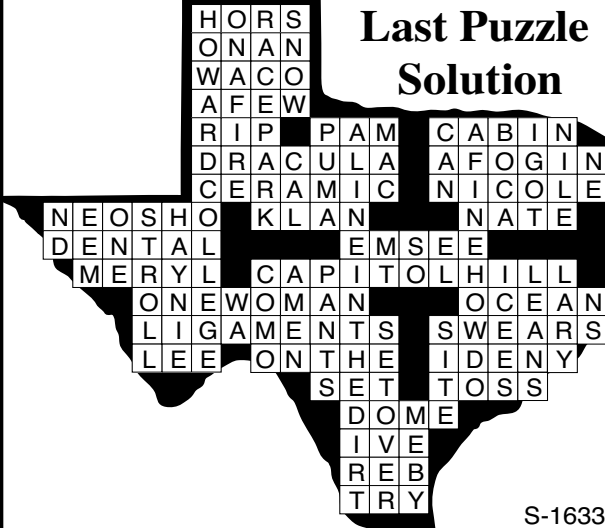
49 ski incline

50 laugh word



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SPORTS

Panthers upset Eagles on the road, lose season finale

By NATHAN HEUER
PIONEER MANAGING EDITOR

Fort Stockton leadoff hitter Adrian Hernandez and freshman Gerry Diaz led the Panthers to a 10-2 victory on April 21 at Pecos, tallying three hits apiece in their second-to-last regular season contest.

The Panthers plated seven runs in the final inning to secure their third district win and snap their four-game losing skid.

Diaz's RBI triple highlighted the Panthers of offensive success in the seventh frame.

Hernandez led off the seventh with a single and Jacob Pacheco was

walked in the following at bat. Diaz then brought home both with one swing of the bat.

Corbin Luna was hit by a pitch following Diaz's triple and Daren Ureste was then walked.

Xzavier Dominguez brought home Luna via a double and Julian Leyva concluded the Panthers'



Fort Stockton senior Adrian Hernandez steals third base during the first inning of Tuesday's game at home against Pecos. Photo by Nathan Heuer

FINAL 4A DISTRICT 3 BASEBALL STANDINGS

- Andrews 8-2
- Greenwood 6-4 (2nd Seed)
- Pecos 6-4 (3rd Seed)
- Seminole 5-5
- Ft Stockton 3-7
- Monahans 2-8

Dominguez and Leyva tallied two hits apiece in the middle of the order.

Fort Stockton entered the game eliminated from playoff contention and maintained their fifth place district standing with the victory.

The Eagles loss shifted Pecos into a three-way tie for second place as Seminole and Greenwood also have 5-4 district records following last Friday's action.

On April 25, Fort Stockton lost their season finale 13-11 to the Eagles to end the season with a 3-7 district record, finishing in fifth place.

Fort Stockton finishes the season with an 18-9-1 record.

offensive production in the inning with a single.

Diaz claimed his fourth win of the season on the mound in his sixth start. The freshman struck out six batters, walked four, and allowed eight hits in 5 2/3 innings.

Felipe Sotelo provided relief for the final out of

the sixth inning, forcing a groundout against the lone batter he faced.

Alfredo Molina struck out one batter and allowed one hit in the final inning.

Fort Stockton outthit Pecos 12-9 as four Panther batters recorded double-digit hit totals.

Hodges, 800 relay win area titles

Six Panthers punched their ticket to the regional track meet and Fort Stockton finished in third place as a team on April 20 at the 4A District 3-4 Area Track & Field Championships at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

Zane Hodges added another individual area title to his resume after claiming gold in the 110 hurdles a season ago.

The senior won the 300-meter hurdles in a time of 37.86 seconds. Hodges also qualified for next week's regional meet in the 110 hurdles, triple jump, and as a part of the 1,600 relay team.

Hodges placed third in both the 110 hurdles (15.17) and the triple jump (44-8).

Fort Stockton's 800 relay team (Eduardo Hernandez, Aryan Hernandez, Isaiah Garcia, Marco Garcia) won the event via a season-best



The Panthers' 800 relay team stand atop the podium at West Texas A&M University in Canyon following their victory on April 20. Back row, left to right: Aryan Hernandez, Isaiah Garcia. Front row: Marco Garcia, Eduardo Hernandez. Courtesy Photo

time (1:28.19). The same group will compete in the 400 relay at regionals after they finished in third

place with a season-best time of 42.78.

The Panthers' district champion 1,600 relay team (Aryan Hernandez, Marco Garcia, Christian Soto, Hodges) took third place with a time of 3:22.44. The time was .96 seconds slower than their season-best time at districts.

Isaiah Garcia and Eduardo Hernandez join Hodges as individual regional qualifiers. Isaiah clocked a 11.35 100-meter dash time and placed third with the mark.

Eduardo finished in the last regional-qualifying spot in the 200-meter dash, placing fourth in a time of 22.79.

Aryan Hernandez took fifth in both the triple jump (42-10) and long jump (20-10).

Cruz Rojas placed fifth in the discus with a personal-best throw of 136 feet 11 inches and took sixth in the shot put (45-8 1/2).

Fort Stockton finished the competition with 83 team points, trailing Canyon, and Canyon Randall.

Panther qualifiers will compete at the 4A Region 1 meet in Lubbock, April 28-29, at Plains Capital Park/Lowrey Field.



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ATHLETE of the WEEK



**ZANE HODGES
FORT STOCKTON TRACK**

Hodges became a two-time area track & field champion on Thursday at the Panthers' 4A area track meet in Canyon. The senior took first in the 300 hurdles and qualified for regionals in three additional events including the 110 hurdles, triple jump, and 1,600 relay.

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SPORTS

Thursday, April 27, 2023

The Fort Stockton Pioneer | 9

Jackson advances to regional track meet

Junior Ali Jackson became a three-time regional qualifier on Thursday at the Prowlers' area track meet in Canyon.

Jackson placed fourth in both the 400-meter dash and the 200. The upperclassman clocked the second sub-minute 400 time of her career and personal-record 59.56 seconds en route to her area qualification.

Jackson's 26.64 second 200 meter time was also a personal record, topping her previous best mark by .10 seconds.

In 2022, Jackson qualified for regionals in the 200, 400, and 800. In 2021 as freshman, Jackson qualified for regionals in the 400 and 800.

Freshman Summer Hinojos placed sixth in the 3,200-meter run in a time of 13.44 and took seventh in the mile, finishing the race in 6:07 - a personal-record time.

Adriana Aguilar ended



Ali Jackson completes the 800-meter run in first place at the West of the Pecos Relays on March 3. Photo by Nathan Heuer

the 100-meter dash in seventh place with a time of 13.43.

The Prowler 1,600 relay team (Lizeth Robles, Rosa Hernandez, Priscilla Trevino, Jackson) placed

seventh (4:15). The time matched the Prowlers' district mark from a week prior.

Up next for Jackson is the 4A Region 1 track meet in Lubbock, April 28-29.



The Fort Stockton Middle School Golf team placed well in Pecos. Courtesy photos

Golf: Fort Stockton teams place 2nd in Pecos

STAFF REPORT

Fort Stockton Middle School played host to its own golf tournament over the weekend - in Pecos - with the Panther and Prowler golfers having a strong showing.

The Panthers "A" Team finished the tournament in second place. Brady Barragan placed fifth individually with an 89 and Cody Young placed eighth with a 90.

The Prowlers "A" Team finished strong, coming home with second place finish, led by Evelyn Baiza, who shot a 111 to place sixth individually, while Erika



Salgado came in eighth place with a 114. The Prowlers improved their team total by 46 strokes from the previous week.

"Both the Panthers and Prowlers are noticing their hard work is

paying off and they are eager to keep fighting to finish the season strong," said coach Enissa Sanchez.

Fort Stockton will next compete in Monahans April 29.



The Fort Stockton Middle School tennis team. Courtesy photo

FS Middle School competes in district meet

The Fort Stockton Middle School Panthers traveled to Monahans for their final meet of the season April 22, for the District meet.

"Everybody came out and played their very best yet," said head coach Anette Posada. "We had some short outcomes but over all the kids had fun and gave their heart out on the court."

"We are ready and excited for our next season already. Great job to ev-

eryone who participated this season."

Final results are as follows:

SEVENTH GRADE

- Italy Rodriguez: fourth place in Girls singles
- Justin Aguilar: fourth place in Boys singles
- Joiah Barrera and Jaecent Reyes: third place in Boys Doubles
- Andrew Morales: second place in Boys Singles
- Roger Cortez and Jor-

dan Caballero: first place in Boys Doubles

EIGHTH GRADE

- Alondra Encinas and Ethan Lopez: fourth place in Mixed Doubles
- Aubrey Ramirez and Aric Palacios: third place in Mixed Doubles
- Valeria Marquez: third place in Girls Singles
- Jayden Rodriguez and Alex Montoya: second place in Boys Doubles

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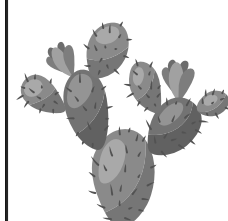
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Big Bend Open Road Race Champions and Awards



Mike Davis, middle, won the Most Unique Award for the Big Bend Open Road Race with his 2020 Ferrari. Davis is pictured with Miss Fort Stockton Ysabella Sanchez, left, and Junior Miss Fort Stockton Ariana Alexandra Ramirez, right. Courtesy Photos



Tony Jacobs won the People's Choice Award with his 1969 Mustang.



Frank Clark was awarded the Hardluck Award with his 2014 SLC.



Lawrence Penner and David Lamb won the 100 mph division in the Big Bend Open Road Race, which took place on April 22.



Robert Dietrich and Walter Stevens were champions of the 105 mph division.



Kevin Alexander and Kirk Masenbacher won the 110 mph division.



Doug Masters, of Hutto, Texas, was the champion of the 115 mph division. Masters won his second consecutive BBORR title with the victory. Masters won the 100 mph class in 2022.



Andrew Kowalczyk won the 120 mph division.



Jeff Becker and David Clinkscales were champions of the 125 division.



Tom Sorrells and Jeremy Riley took home the 130 mph division crown. Riley, who resides in Odessa, won his second consecutive title in as many years after winning the 120 mph title in 2022 as a driver.



Kelli Hughes won the 135 mph division.



Mike and Julie Hill won the 140 mph classification.



Barbara and Mac Ashby won the 145 mph division. The Ashby's defended their title in the 145 mph this past Saturday after winning the classification in 2022. The Ashby's are from Snyder, Texas.



Matt Doffer took home first-place honors in the 150 mph division.



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- Must be 18 years of age or older with a good driving record
- Valid Driver's License
- Your own vehicle with insurance
- Earn \$10 hourly wage plus, tips, and mileage. Great drivers can earn \$20-\$25 per hour with a great attitude and hustle
- Must pass criminal background check and satisfactory motor vehicle check.

Full time & Part-time positions available with flexible hours

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HELP WANTED



Big Bend Concrete Co.

We are looking for **certified CDL drivers** with experience. Someone who is willing to drive overnight and well as someone during the day.

We offer competitive pay and we have 3 locations, Alpine, Pecos and Fort Stockton.

Please contact us at
432-837-7179
for more information

HELP WANTED



AVAILABLE POSITIONS



2 Technology Service Associates (Fort Stockton & Alpine)



Are you looking for a career as a Service Technician who wants to provide Big Bend Telephone's exceptional customer service all while living and working in the Fort Stockton or Alpine area. Then BBT is the place for you to grow and develop with the ever-changing communications industry and is committed to providing stellar customer service and first-rate technology. The entire Big Bend team plays a role in developing strategies to increase the sales and usage of our products, services and equipment while reinforcing our brand. The ideal candidate will be technically inclined, have a strong desire to succeed and capable of delivering world-class customer service. The job entails networking comprehension, installation and troubleshooting of fixed wireless, fiber to the home, Wi-Fi services, IP Phones, and other customer premise services as well as repair and troubleshooting. Position requirements are minimum High School Diploma or GED equivalent with 2 years of experience in a related field. Applicants must possess a valid driver license, have a good driving record and be insurable under the company's insurance policy. There is a \$1,000 signing bonus for new hires (terms and conditions apply) and long-term career potential for the right motivated person.

For more information we invite you to visit <https://www.bigbend.com/about-us/employment/>

Email resume to: HR@bigbend.com
OR Mail a current resume to
BBT, Attn: HR
808 N. 5th St., Alpine, TX 79830
Please no phone calls.
EOE Employer
Veterans are encouraged to apply
**Terms and Conditions apply.*
BBT participates in E-Verify and promotes a Drug-Free Workplace.

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(361)649-6168
Email resume to
kbetz@alpinememorialfuneralhome.com

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Bob Sadler
432-940-1554
b.sadler@yahoo.com




615 S. Quail Run
\$128,000
3 BED/2 BATH




1610 Westwind - REDUCED
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2 BED / 2.5 BATH




3105 W. 9th
FOR LEASE
\$4,000 Month




701 W. Division
\$135,000
3 BED/ 2 BATH




1004/1006 N. Alamo
\$143,500
2 BED/1 BATH DUPLEX




908 N. Orient
\$197,500
FOR LEASE/FOR SALE




208 W. Hornbeck
\$170,000
4 BED/2 BATH




1306 N. Missouri - REDUCED
\$215,000
4 BED/3 BATH



1851 W. Gonzalez Loop
\$255,000
3 BED/1 BATH



1601 N. Gillis
\$239,000
3 BED/2 BATH



600 N. Urias
\$297,500
FOR LEASE/FOR SALE

SENTENCINGS

from page 6

• Joemar Hernandez Cabello, DOB 9/6/1997, offense date 12/14/2019 (CR-23946, Wrong,

Fictitious, Altered, or Obscured Insignia) Defendant Pleaded Guilty. Time Served eight (8) days in the County Jail.
 • Joemar Hernandez Cabello, DOB 9/6/1997, offense date 2/13/2021

(CR-24547, Evading Arrest or Detention) Defendant Pleaded Guilty. Time served eight (8) days in the County Jail.
 • Joemar Hernandez Cabello, DOB 9/6/1997, offense date 2/13/2021 (CR-24548, Duty on Striking Fixture/Highway Landscape greater than or equal to \$200) Defendant Pleaded

Guilty. Time served eight (8) days in the County Jail.
 • Joel Venegas Calderon Jr., DOB 6/4/2003, offense date 3/29/2022 (CR-24972, Possession of Marijuana less than 2 Ounces) Defendant has entered into a 6-month pretrial intervention program with a \$500 fee.
 • Joel Venegas Calderon Jr., DOB 6/4/2003, offense

date 3/29/2022 (CR-24971, Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon) Defendant has entered into a 6-month pretrial intervention program with a \$500 fee.
 • Arthur Karl Davis Jr., DOB 10/27/1992, offense date 5/2/2019 (CR-23428, Possession of Marijuana less than 2 ounces) Defendant has entered into

a 6-month pretrial intervention program with a \$500 fee.
 • Brandon Scott Durgin, DOB 8/4/1988, offense date 7/2/2022 (CR-24960, Possession of Marijuana less than 2 ounces) Defendant has entered into a 6-month pretrial intervention program with a \$500 fee.



Security Storage

Storage Buildings:
 • 5x10 - \$30 • 10x10 - \$40
 • 10x20 - \$60 • 10x25 - \$70

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 8-5 M-F
 Cash, Check, Money Orders & Credit Cards accepted

2022 Gooseneck MFG 28' X 6'8", triple axel livestock trailer




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*Some restrictions apply

PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Public Sale:

Property to satisfy landlords lien. Sale to be held at A-1 Mini Storage 2607 W. 8th St., Fort Stockton, Tx. 79735 On May 5, 2023, at 10 a.m. Cleanup deposit required. The seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold for cash to the best bidder. Property includes the contents of the spaces for the following tenants.

Jacinda Lopez- misc. items
 Benito Jimenez- misc. items
 Aracely Graves- misc. items

APRIL 27, 2023

LEGAL NOTICE TO OWNERS:

KIA SPORTAGE V#KNDJE723167181325 \$1404
00 NISSAN FRONTIER V#1N6ED27T7YC376 \$1198

Owner may show ownership to reclaim vehicle and pay towing, recovery, & storage fees. Storage will accrue daily & cannot be computed until vehicle is claimed.

Barbee Wrecker Service Inc.
 489 E 48th Lane, Ft Stockton, TX 79735
 (432) 336-5082
 TDLR # 0648634VSF
www.tdlr.texas.gov

REQUEST FOR SEALED PROPOSALS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Fort Stockton is requesting sealed proposals for:

Audio System at the City of Fort Stockton Convention Center

Sealed proposals must be mailed to the **City of Fort Stockton, P.O. Box 1000 or 121 W. Second Street, Fort Stockton, Texas, 79735.** The deadline for receiving sealed proposals is **10:00 a.m., Thursday, May 25, 2023**, in the Office of the City Secretary; at which time they will be opened publicly and read aloud.

To obtain a packet, please contact City Secretary Marina Cantu @ (432) 336-8525, Fort Stockton City Hall, P.O. Box 1000 or 121 W. 2nd Street, Fort Stockton, Texas 79735.

Sealed proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope & marked:

“Audio System at the City of Fort Stockton Convention Center”

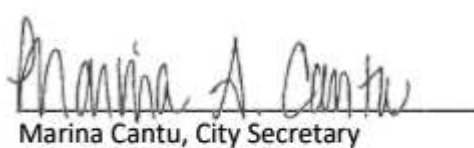
In furthering our goal to continue to provide community events to the citizens of the City of Fort Stockton, the City is seeking to receive sealed proposals for the Audio System at the City’s Convention Center.

Therefore, it is in the best interest of the City of Fort Stockton to obtain the best system that provides **all the necessary audio for the City’s Convention Center.**

The City Council reserves the right to accept the statement which, in its judgment is from the most responsible firm; to reject any or all statements; and to waive irregularities or informalities in any statement submitted.

The City of Fort Stockton is an Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity Employer.

By order of the City Council at a Regular Meeting held on the 10th day of April 2023.



Marina Cantu, City Secretary

LEGAL NOTICE


The Fort Stockton Independent School District is accepting proposals for the Fort Stockton ISD House Roof and Window Project. Please contact Ember Renteria by phone at (432) 336-4000, ext. 2, or by email at ember.renteria@fsisd.net for proposal specifications. Proposals will be accepted until 12:00 pm, Tuesday, May 3, 2023. Proposals may be mailed or emailed to Ember Renteria at Fort Stockton ISD, 101 W Division, Fort Stockton, Texas 79735, and marked **“FSISD House Roof & Window Project.”** The Fort Stockton ISD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals received, and to waive any technicalities or formalities based on Texas Education Code 44.031.

Mail to:	Email to:
Ember Renteria	Ember Renteria
Fort Stockton ISD	ember.renteria@fsisd.net
FSISD House Roof & Window Project	or Subject: FSISD House Roof & Window Project
101 W Division St	
Fort Stockton, TX 79735	

PUBLISHER’S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise “any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention or discrimination.” Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



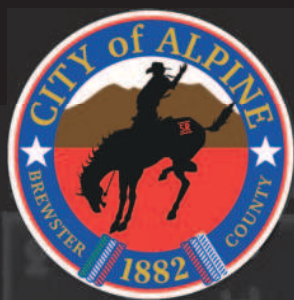
CALL FOR ALL OF YOUR ADVERTISING NEEDS! 432-336-2281

28TH ANNUAL

ALPINE, TEXAS



Cinco de Mayo



Grand Mercado at 105 E. Historic Murphy Street

KALP TEJANO SUNDAYS



FRIDAY, MAY 5

5-7 Enchilada Plate Dinner
at Alpine Elementary Cafeteria
Johnny Milan Y Grupo Alegre

Stakitas

FT. STOCKTON, TX C.C.

SATURDAY, MAY 6

Parade - 12 Noon - Downtown Holland Ave.
Line up at Civic Center Parking Lot @ 11:15 am.



Grand Marshall - Jaiden Portillo -
Miss West Texas Latina



• Grand Mercado at 105 E. Historic Murphy Street

11 am - Vendors Open



1-4 pm - Car Show - Hosted by Stakitas Car Club
All Categories Welcome!

1 pm - Nueva Generacion Grupo Folklorico
Terlingua School



2 pm - Marfa ISD Folklorico Dancers

3 pm - La Mariachi Cuellar

3-5 pm - Loteria Bingo

5 pm - Meet & Greet Jaiden Portillo
Miss West Texas Latina 2023



5:30 - 7:30 pm - Puro Party All Starz

7:30 pm - Mystic Gitanas

8-10 pm - JR Gomez - Cojunto Bandits

Bring Lawn Chairs • All Are Welcome • Lots of Food, Crafts & Games!
For More Information, contact Mary Ann Lujan @ 432-294-2370



Buddy & Boy

Albert & Amanda Lujan



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Big Bend Open Road Race festivities



Michael Frazier and Carol Barnes arrive back at Rooney Park on Saturday after completing their run in Car 99, a 1999 Corvette. They completed the course with an average speed of 105.046 mph. Photo by Shawn Yorks



The Big Bend Open Road Race route began at Rooney Park and ensued north on Main Street before ending west on Dickinson Boulevard.



The Big Bend Open Road Race provided area youngsters opportunities to secure an array of items given out by BBORR participants.



The Annual Pecos County Community Action Agency Head Start Car Show and Parade brought dozens of local children to Zero Stone Park Saturday morning to help celebrate male involvement in a child's life. Photo by Shawn Yorks



Nick Langcamp and Mike Leighton ride in their 2015 GT3 during the Big Bend Open Road Race Parade on Main Street on April 21.



The Annual Pecos County Community Action Agency Head Start Car Show and Parade brought dozens of local children to Zero Stone Park Saturday morning to help celebrate male involvement in a child's life. Photo by Shawn Yorks

Alpine Cowboys

Home Run 5k & 10k

Saturday, May 27th at 9:00 AM
Kokernot Field, Alpine, TX

Details online: Pay online or at field

Discounted entry & guaranteed shirt size ENDS APRIL 30th!

Early packet pick up or pay:
 Friday, May 26th - 4-6 PM at Kokernot Field
 Race day packet pick up or pay:
 Saturday, May 27th - 8 AM at Kokernot Field

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Happy TRAVELS.

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