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The 830 TIMES

100 years!

Members of Del Rio High School's Air Force JROTC unit TX-066 rehearse presenting the colors under the guidance of instructor and retired Master Sgt. Jesse Davila. The cadets were preparing for H-E-B's 100th anniversary ceremony Wednesday morning. From left are Cadet Jose Villegas, Cadet 1st Lt. Mariana Sanchez, Cadet 2nd Lt. Victoria Garcia and Cadet Miguel Salas Herrera. (Photo by Joel Langton)

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ADVANCED ROBOTIC SURGERY IS HERE

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H-E-B executives joined the celebration marking 100 years of Del Rio's "Little H-E-B." The store was the company's first successful expansion, helping pave the way for its growth into a Texas grocery giant. (Photo by Joel Langton)

H-E-B celebrates 100 years of serving Del Rio

BY JOEL LANGTON
THE 830 TIMES

Under overcast skies Wednesday, H-E-B celebrated 100 years of serving Del Rio with a gathering outside its store at 500 Pecan St.

The celebration honored a community that helped turn an early expansion gamble into a foundation for the company's growth. H-E-B now operates 460 stores across Texas and Mexico.

The Del Rio store be-

came the company's second successful location after its original store in Kerrville. Four earlier attempts to expand into other Central Texas and Hill Country communities had failed, said Bill Anderson, H-E-B's president of Cen-

tral Market and executive vice president of San Antonio Food and Drug.

"It's here in our story that the importance of Del Rio in our company history begins, because in 1926 he decided, let's try this one more time," Anderson said

of Howard Edward Butt. "He took his learnings and opened a store right here in Del Rio, Texas."

Anderson credited Del Rio residents with helping

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**The 830
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100 YEARS - FROM PAGE 3

the store thrive and fueling the company's expansion.

"It thrived and became a huge catalyst for the company's growth, leading to stores in the Rio Grande Valley and beyond," he said.

Some of H-E-B's top executives arrived in Del Rio Wednesday, Sept. 30 aboard the company's Challenger 300 corporate jet.

Those attending included H-E-B President Roxanne Orsak; Executive Vice President Jeffrey Butt; Anderson; Winell Herron, senior vice president of public affairs, diversity and environmental affairs; and Douglas Gonzalez, Border Region director of marketing and merchandising. Other company leaders from across the region also attended the historic celebration.

The ceremony also recognized H-E-B's continued support for the community.

Del Rio Mayor Al Arreola said after the ceremony that H-E-B supports the community throughout the year, providing holiday meals,

contributing \$10,000 toward the city's Fourth of July fireworks and assisting during emergencies.

Arreola described H-E-B as one of the community's strongest partners, often reaching out first to ask what residents need. He recalled the company's quick response during the 1998 flood, when it provided water and other supplies.

While presenting H-E-B representatives with a key to the city, Arreola also took the opportunity to lobby for a third store on Del Rio's north side.

"And the vision of this mayor is hopefully to get the third one farther down the north side," Arreola said.

Another theme running through the celebration was the role Del Rio's two stores have played in launching careers.

The scene was still quiet 30 minutes before H-E-B's celebration began, but Del Rio High School's cheerleaders, Queen City Belles,

mariachi band and ROTC representatives were already on hand, ready to help mark the occasion.

Gonzalez said he had counted former Del Rio employees in the audience who had gone on to become top store leaders elsewhere in the company.

"I lost count at eight," Gonzalez said. "So many, many leaders have had their foundation here at Del Rio Number One, and we're so appreciative of that across the border region."

The store's influence also extended beyond H-E-B's corporate ranks.

Miguel Garcia, co-owner of Del Rio-based Julio's Chips and Salsa, worked at the "Little H-E-B" during high school and credited the experience with helping prepare him for his career.

"I got my start here," Garcia said. "I have so many mentors here that helped me learn so much."



(Courtesy art)

The centennial celebration will continue throughout the week, including family festivities at both Del Rio locations Saturday.



The HEB corporation presented the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank with a \$10,000 check to support their efforts feeding the community. The check will be shared with the school's ROTC and Fine Arts programs. (Photo by Joel Langton)



Members of Ballet Folklorico Macuilxochitl joined Wednesday morning's celebration honoring 100 years of community service by Del Rio's "Little H-E-B," located at 500 Pecan St. (Photo by Joel Langton)

Del Rio native makes hometown first stop as Girl Scouts CEO

BY JOEL LANGTON
THE 830 TIMES

When Dr. Jeanette Ball began visiting the 21 counties she now oversees as CEO of Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas, she knew exactly where she wanted to go first.

Home.

Ball, a Del Rio native who became CEO earlier this month, returned to her hometown Friday Sept. 25 to meet with local Girl Scouts, parents and volunteers at Gatti's Pizza.

About 30 girls and parents attended the gathering, where Ball talked about her Del Rio roots, her path to becoming CEO and her plans to expand opportunities for girls throughout Southwest Texas.

"This is my hometown, so it's near and dear to my heart," Ball said. "Out of 21 counties that we oversee, Val Verde County was the first county that we wanted to go to."

Ball officially became CEO of Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas on Sept. 2, following a career of more than three decades in public education, including 13 years as a school superintendent.

Her career included serving as superintendent of Uvalde CISD, Judson ISD and, most recently, Southwest ISD.

But Friday afternoon, Ball spent much of her time talking directly to Del Rio's Girl Scouts.

"Girls, I wanted to come see you," Ball said. "I wanted to come see you to let you know how much I appreciate you for doing this, for being brave, being

a Girl Scout and participating in this."

Ball told the girls that becoming CEO was not something she had envisioned for herself.

"I never thought of being a CEO at all, to be quite honest," she said.

That made one of the messages she brought home particularly important: Girls should not limit what they believe they can accomplish.

"I wanted you to know that you can do and be anything you want," Ball said. "This is the beginning of doing great, great things."

Ball also shared a part of her childhood that surprised some of the girls: She was not a Girl Scout herself.

She said she did not participate in cheerleading, band, athletics or many of the other activities available to children while growing up.

That experience, she said, is one reason she wants girls today to understand the opportunities available to them.

"I want to make sure that all youth now know that they can do something, that they can participate," Ball said. "They can be leaders. They can do anything they want because I didn't have that opportunity."

Ball said one of her priorities as CEO will be growing participation in Del Rio and throughout the council's 21-county service area.

She said organization officials met Friday with representatives at Sacred Heart Catholic School and



Dr. Jeanette Ball, the new CEO of the Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas, spoke to about 30 Girl Scouts and their family members. (Photo by Joel Langton)

found two people interested in becoming troop leaders, potentially opening another opportunity for Del Rio girls to participate.

Ball has her own connection to Sacred Heart, telling the gathering she attended the school as a child.

When one of the girls asked Ball what she hoped to accomplish as CEO, Ball said reaching more girls is at the top of her list.

"I want to make sure that I can impact and reach as many girls as possible, so they know that their voice matters, that they count, that they're smart and that they can do anything that they believe that they want to do," she said.

Ball also told local leaders that Friday's visit

should not be viewed as a one-time appearance.

"I don't want this to be the only time," she said. "I want y'all to know that you have access to me. You can call me. I'm here to support you and make sure our children and individuals have the support that's needed."

For Janie Adame, chair of the local Girl Scouts Community B and leader of Troop 5028, having the organization's new CEO choose Del Rio for her first community visit carried special meaning.

"Oh my gosh, it's amazing," Adame said.

Adame said she had spoken with Ball several weeks earlier and asked what local leaders could do to persuade her to visit Del

Rio.

"She was like, 'I'll be there,'" Adame recalled.

Adame said having Ball make the trip was especially meaningful because she could not remember another Girl Scouts CEO visiting the community.

"It's amazing to have her come down because we've never had anybody, any CEO, come down and visit Del Rio," Adame said. "And I'm so proud of her being a Del Rio native."

For Ball, the hometown visit allowed her to begin her new job in the same community where her own story began.

And she made clear Friday that she intends to come back.

Hill Country MHDD opens clinic in Tony Faz County Annex

BY KAREN GLEASON
THE 830 TIMES

Hill Country Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (MHDD) Centers opened a second clinic in Del Rio on Friday, Sept. 25.

Hill Country MHDD administrators and staff celebrated the event with a grand opening ceremony culminating in a ribbon cutting ceremony at the site of the new clinic, inside the Judge Antonio "Tony" Faz III County Annex complex at 315 E. Chapoy St.

County and city officials including County Court-At-Law Judge Sergio Gonzalez, Sheriff Joe Frank Martinez, County Commissioner Pct. 2 Juan Carlos Vazquez, County Commissioner Pct. 3 Fernando Garcia, Justice of the Peace Pct. 1 Jesse James Trevino, Justice of the Peace Pct. 2 J. Randel Dissler, Justice of the Peace Pct. 4 Hilda Lopez, Constable Pct. 2 Daniel Reyes and City Councilwoman Carmen Gutierrez attended the event, as well as a number of the sheriff's office staff.

At the start of the ceremony, Gonzalez was invited to give the invocation, and following the

prayer, Anthony Winn, Hill Country MHDD Centers senior director of mental health, welcomed those attending.

Winn said, "I couldn't be more thrilled to be here with you today. . . What better time to do a ribbon cutting than at the end of Suicide Prevention Month? As we open a space to create more access to individuals needing care, it truly is an honor for us to be able to move into this space, partner with all the wonderful agencies located here and partner with the county to create more access to care for this community.

"Our mission statement is a very simple one: Caring people dedicated to quality service, and we are honored to be working with a community that we believe buys into that same mission statement. We couldn't be more excited to work with you all. We couldn't be more excited to be here, with everybody who has bought into this, and we're looking forward to seeing how many lives we can positively impact alongside you all," Winn said.

Winn asked Rachel Cedillo, Hill Country MHDD clinic director in Val Verde County, to speak.



Rachel Cedillo, center, Hill Country Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (MHDD) director, cuts the ribbon signifying the grand opening of the Hill Country MHDD clinic. (Photo by Karen Gleason)

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Citizens comment on increase in solid waste rates

BY KAREN GLEASON
THE 830 TIMES

A trio of citizens commented on the city's proposal to increase solid waste rates, with each offering a slightly different perspective, during a public hearing on the rates held Tuesday, Sept. 22.

The public hearing was part of the Del Rio City Council's regular meeting.

After the meeting's opening ceremonies, Mayor Al Arreola opened the public hearing at 6:34 p.m. and recognized Del Rioan Bea Vallejo.

Vallejo showed council members a trash bag she brought to the podium with her. She said the bags contained her household trash for a week, adding all of her week's trash could fit inside two large H-E-B bags.

Vallejo then addressed her city water bill, saying, "Without wasting . . . my basic bill is \$60-something. Can you imagine if I waste one drop of water how much more it will go up? I have to limit myself to the 3,000 (gallons per month)."

Vallejo said, "There are a lot of elderly who cannot afford the fees, and a lot of elderly who probably have less trash than I do, so instead of raising the rates for the waste, I think you need to think about the elderly and give us a discount because in reality, this city has taken advantage of us because we're paying taxes, and we're getting very little in return."

Next, Arreola recognized Patrio Garza, a leader with The Border Organization, a grassroots activist group.

Garza said, "My comment is regarding the proposed rate increase for the trash and what is being published is a flat rate, so we have no idea what the previous rate was and what the percentage increase will be. Is it 5 percent? 10 percent? 50 percent?"

"As citizens, we need to know where we are and where we're go-



Del Rioan Bea Vallejo shows city council members the bag containing a week's worth of her household trash during a public hearing on a proposed increase in the city's solid waste rates for trash collection and landfill usage. Vallejo told city council members many of Del Rio's elderly residents cannot afford the increase in fees, (Photo by Karen Gleason)

ing to, and seconding Miss Bea's comments, we're being taxed left and right, with no firm return on services, so please consider holding off on the rate increase until we can get a better understanding," Garza added.

Garza also questioned the city's process in signing a new trash collection contract with Platform Waste and then raising solid waste rates.

"We should have studied beforehand what our needs were, if a rate increase was required, and then do the signing of the contract," Garza finished.

Arreola next recognized Del Rioan Rick Martinez.

Martinez said Del Rioans complained so strongly about rate increases proposed under a previous city administration that the rates

were left unchanged.

Martinez said, "I remember that distinctly because I was one of the opposing voices. We know multiple times that we didn't allow you guys to raise rates when they were needed to be raised. I recall that. I do history. That's kind of what I do, and all of you know that."

He said he knows council members don't want to raise rates, but are "doing what you have to do for the city."

Martinez said, "This is something that every municipality has to do, and you guys are doing what you have to do, but we always forget, including myself, that I was one of the main oppositions that went up against a municipality in the past, and I said, 'This can't happen.'

"And when we didn't allow it to

happen, we replaced the city council, and we replaced the mayor. That seems to happen quite a bit when I speak, but that's all right. We replaced the city council, and we replaced the mayor.

"I know we have a very strong council that can get this done. I know what you guys are capable of. We have a lot of experience here. We have a lot of experience in building, we have a lot of experience in real estate in Del Rio, we have a lot of experience all the way around. I have a lot of confidence in you guys.

"You are probably the best council that can get it done, to get it done. I have a lot of hope that you guys can get all these things ac-

SEE WASTE RATES- PAGE 9

Council approves increases in solid waste/landfill rates

BY KAREN GLEASON
THE 830 TIMES

A majority of Del Rio City Council members approved an amendment to the city's fee schedule, increasing rates for services in the city's refuse/landfill fund.

The council took action on the consolidated fee schedule during its most recent regular meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 22, following a public hearing when several citizens commented on the proposed new rates. (See separate story.)

Later in the meeting, the council considered an ordinance amending the city's consolidated fee schedule by revising the schedule for solid waste rates.

After City Secretary Mari Acosta read the heading of the agenda item, Mayor Al Arreola asked if there was a motion. Councilman J.P. Sanchez made a motion to approve the ordinance as presented, and Mayor Pro-tem Randy Quiñones gave the second.

Following the motion and second, Arreola recognized Interim Finance Director Roxy Soto, who said she wished to make a comment.

Soto told the council, "In the fee schedule, the 3 cubic yard dumpster rate is omitted from the adopted fee schedule, due to the scheduled discontinuation of the service because the landfill operator does require additional time to complete the container removal, so, because the final discontinuation date remains undetermined, the existing rate will remain in effect during the temporary extension.

"What that means is that we will continue to charge (for) the 3 cubic yard dumpster until it has been replaced by Platform, and the new dumpster has been put in its place, whether it be the 2 (cubic yard), the 4, the 6, whatever the customer decides," Soto added.

Sanchez asked, "You didn't have a fee for that (3 cubic yard dumpster included in the fee schedule). Are you going to generate a fee for that?"

Soto replied, "Correct. It's not in the current fee schedule, but we will continue to charge it as it's being phased out. Once it's phased out, we will no longer charge the 3 cubic yard (dumpster)."

Sanchez said, "Yes, but what I'm saying is, all the other rates went up. Are you going to be raising that 3 cubic yard (rate)?"

"No, sir," Soto replied.

"You're going to keep it at the same (rate)?" Sanchez asked.

"Yes, sir," Soto replied.

"Until we remove 'em," Arreola said.

"Yes," Soto said.

"Well, let me get a bunch of 3s at my place," Sanchez joked.

He added, to Soto, "You see where I'm coming from? I kind of feel that you need to make an adjustment on that 3 cubic yard, accordingly, with the other (rates). You know what I'm saying? The others you're charging so much per cubic yard, so then try to figure out where the 3 is."

Soto said, "We're hoping they'll be able to get the containers within a couple of months, but we're still waiting to hear back. They still need some final figures from us,

and they're still working on some final figures on those containers. They're also waiting to hear back from the manufacturer to see what the lead time is on all containers. So we don't have a timeline yet of when they will be installed."

Councilwoman Elsa Reyes asked, "For clarification, because it was brought up in the 'Citizen Comments.' Can you again please tell the citizens the dollar amount for the solid waste fee, for residential, what it's going up to, because they have stated they are not aware. I know it's \$4 and some change, but I would like it to come from you."

Soto responded, "For inside the city limits, for residential trash, the cost is going from \$20.54 to the proposed rate of \$25.25, which is an increase of \$4.71. For outside city limits, residential trash, the current rate is \$24.65, and the proposed rate is \$30.30, and that is an increase of \$5.65. And again, these rates are monthly, once a month.

"For inside the city limits, the extra cart is \$5.72. The proposed rate will be \$7.05, which is an increase of \$1.33. For outside city limits, the extra cart, the current rate is \$6.87. The proposed rate is \$8.45, which is an increase of \$1.58. Those are the residential rates, and again, that's just once a month," Soto said.

Arreola asked if there were any other questions, and Councilwoman Carmen Gutierrez said, "The recycle bins had no increase, is that correct?"

Soto replied, "The recycling, for the extra cart, the current rate is



(Photo by Joel Langton)

\$2.50. The proposed rate will be \$3.10, so that's an increase of 60 cents per month."

Councilman LeRoy Briones said he had no questions, but wished to comment.

Briones said, "Frequency (of trash pickups) stays the same, as we're used to."

Soto said, "The frequency, the standard is once a month. However, if you are a commercial customer, and you would like to request additional pickups, you can. You can request additional pickups. And that is the charge for every additional pickup."

Briones said, "But the (trash pickups) for the residential consumer is once a week."

"Yes. Once a week, yes," Soto said.

Briones said, "So that doesn't change."

"Correct," Soto said.

Arreola asked if there were any other questions or concerns, and hearing none, called for the vote.

The council voted 6-1 to approve Sanchez's motion, with Gutierrez casting the only opposing vote.

The writer can be reached at delriomagnoliafan@gmail.com.

WASTE RATES - FROM PAGE 8

completed because you have a wide array of experience. So that's all I have to say," Martinez said.

Martinez finished by

saying he appreciated what the council is doing and said he felt confident council members are "going to take everybody here into

account."

Arreola asked if anyone else wished to speak. When no one did, Arreola gavelled the hearing closed at 6:45

p.m.

The council later in the meeting approved amending the city's consolidated fee schedule, including the

solid waste rate increases. (See separate story.)

The writer can be reached at delriomagnoliafan@gmail.com.

Judge increases bonds for Del Rio woman charged with murder to \$5.2 million

BY KAREN GLEASON
THE 830 TIMES

A state district judge has increased the bonds for one of three Del Rio women charged with murder and evidence tampering to a total of \$5.2 million.

Kyandra Renee Faz, 22, was brought to the Val Verde County Judicial Center on Monday Sept. 28 for a 9 a.m. bond reduction hearing before 83rd Judicial District Judge Robert E. Cadena. Faz was seeking a reduction of the \$5 million bond set after she was charged with murder.

Cadena declined to reduce that bond and set a \$200,000 bond on a charge of tampering with evidence. Faz was recently indicted on both charges.

Faz is one of three

women charged with murder in the June 25 stabbing death of Caroline Peña, 32, also of Del Rio. Peña was attacked after she allegedly confronted Faz outside Faz's home on East 10th Street that afternoon. Peña was taken to the emergency room at Val Verde Regional Medical Center, then transferred to a hospital in San Antonio, where she died later that day.

Faz, dressed in orange scrubs and orange Crocs, with her wrists handcuffed and her ankles shackled, was escorted into a second-floor courtroom by sheriff's office deputies. She was seated at a table in the front of the courtroom, and a deputy remained standing beside her throughout the hearing.

Cadena entered min-

utes later and called Faz's case. Seeing no one seated with her, he asked where her attorney was.

"He was advised this (hearing) was canceled on Friday," Faz responded.

According to documents on file in her case, Faz is represented by attorney Thomas J. Lane of the San Antonio law firm Hunter, Lane & Jampala.

District Attorney Suzanne West and her assistants and investigators represented the state at the hearing.

Cadena said he would proceed with Faz's arraignment because she had been indicted. He asked her to stand at the podium in front of the bench, swore her in and had someone hand her a copy of the indictment. After Faz

confirmed her name was spelled correctly, Cadena read the indictment to her.

The indictment contains two counts: murder, a first-degree felony, and tampering with evidence, also a felony.

Cadena said he would enter pleas of not guilty on Faz's behalf and advised her not to speak to anyone about the case without her attorney present.

Cadena also said he would submit a report prepared by the probation department under seal as confidential. He said "we would have gotten into" the report if Faz's attorney had been present.

Cadena told Faz he would leave the \$5 million murder bond in place and set a \$200,000 bond on the tampering charge, bringing

her total bonds to \$5.2 million.

"Good luck to you," Cadena told Faz before closing the hearing. The proceeding took less than 10 minutes.

Before the hearing, Faz occasionally glanced over her shoulder into the gallery, but no one attended on her behalf.

Several of Peña's relatives, including her grandmother and sister, sat on one side of the gallery alongside Debbie Garcia, the victim assistance coordinator with the district attorney's office.

Deputies escorted Faz out of the courtroom as soon as the hearing ended.

The writer can be reached at delriomagnoliafan@gmail.com.

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20, 21, 22, 23 & 24	Del Rio Civic Center	1915 Veteran's Blvd.
30, 31 & 33	Northside Baptist Church	1100 Amistad Blvd.
40 & 41	St. Joseph Church	510 Wernett St.
32, 42 & 43	Comstock Community Center	68 Langtry St. Comstock, Texas

Monday, October 19, 2026 – Friday, October 23, 2026
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Saturday, October 24, 2026
7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Sunday, October 25, 2026
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Monday, October 26, 2026 – Friday, October 30, 2026
7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

- ❑ First day to apply for a ballot by mail: **January 1, 2026**
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¿Qué pasa?

830 Entertainment

Draculina Fest returns to Whitehead

Lead singer of Kalavera de Azucar performs at Draculina Fest from October 2025. Rock, punk and heavy metal bands will be attending Draculina Fest 2026 at the Whitehead Memorial Museum, 1308 S. Main St., on Friday, Oct. 2, and Saturday, Oct. 3. (Photo by Louis Zylka)

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Free shuttles will connect five Del Rio art galleries Friday, Oct. 2, as the city and the Del Rio Chamber of Commerce bring back transportation for the First Friday Art Walk. (Photo by Peter Ojeda).

Free shuttles for Del Rio's First Friday Art Walk

BY LOUIS ZYLKA
THE 830 TIMES

The City of Del Rio and the Del Rio Chamber of Commerce will be partnering to offer free public transportation to all local art galleries on Friday, Oct. 2.

Lupita De La Paz, executive director for the Casa de la Cultura, talked with The 830 Times about the upcoming collaboration between the art galleries, the city and the chamber. De la Paz said free shuttle rides

were offered more than 10 years ago during First Friday Art Walks, and she and the galleries wanted to bring them back to allow people to appreciate visual-art shows downtown.

"First Friday Art Walks were extremely popular (back then). It was an entire movement where people would come out and enjoy the art. At some point, they kind of died down a little bit. So this is our way of revamping them and letting people know of all the different galleries and the

artists here. It's a way to work with the chamber to create an art district and let people know about what is going on in south Del Rio," De La Paz said.

The locations the shuttles will be stopping at include Lee-Bunch Studio at 100 W. Greenwood St., the Firehouse Gallery at 120 E. Garfield St., Marcos Mares Studio & Gallery at 205 E. Ogden St., Falcon Art Gallery at 301 E. Garfield St. and the Casa de la Cultura at 302 Cantu St.

The shuttles, which

are the same transportation buses used by the city, will be rotating at each gallery. De La Paz said people can park outside the PNC bank, 535 S. Main St., or in the Casa de la Cultura parking lot, where they can board the shuttles, allowing them to avoid using gas and spending time to find parking spaces at multiple locations.

De La Paz said people are not allowed to bring alcoholic drinks or food inside the shuttles. She also said using the shuttles will

not only help persons visiting the galleries for the first time but also will allow them to become familiar with how easy and accessible city transportation is to use.

"I actually rode the bus recently, and I went through all the stops. They actually do 23 stops around town, and it is actually a really cool way to transport and be able to go all around town," De La Paz said.

Local museum to transform into concert stage

"Good vibes all night long" the two-day music festival, returns to the Whitehead Memorial Museum on Friday, October 2nd. (Photo by Louis Zylka)

BY LOUIS ZYLKA
THE 830 TIMES

Rock, punk and heavy-metal bands will be raising the roof and performing at the Whitehead Memorial Museum, 1308 S. Main St., on Friday, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 3, at 4 p.m.

Draculina Fest, which debuted three years ago, is a two-day event in October featuring underground music from bands both local and from out of town. While the bands rock out, guests can also enjoy food, merchandise and a haunted house in celebration of the upcoming Halloween festivities.

Krystal Torres, creator of Draculina Fest, spoke with The 830 Times about her music festival. Torres mentioned there will make it 10 bands performing at the festival this year, which she said will be the biggest Draculina Fest her team has put together.

"I'm just so thankful to my husband and my team for helping put this together, Torres said. "We have been working on it since last Draculina Fest, and we are grateful to our sponsors that have helped us out

and the community that has turned out for the event. We had a good turnout last year, and we are hoping for an even bigger one this year."

Many groups will be attending the festival, including bands traveling from San Antonio, Eagle Pass, Uvalde and San Angelo. Torres said the majority of local bands will perform on Friday while the out-of-town bands will be playing on Saturday. The music lineup will begin on Friday at 7 p.m. and on Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

The Friday lineup includes Ana Louise, Anakin, PoseidonsKiss, The Code 88s and While They Bled. The Saturday lineup includes Cosmic Rush, Anakin, Thrawn, The Code 88s, Ground Xero, Crimson Rose, Heatwave, Grupo Frackaso and While They Bled.

Twenty vendors will also be setting up on the Whitehead Museum grounds, with the majority of them selling food and refreshments and others selling band merchandise and handmade accessories. Torres said there will also be a backdrop for people to take photos, either with friends or their favorite bands.



Movie Review: HEART OF THE BEAST

BY LOUIS ZYLKA
THE 830 TIMES

Director David Ayer has a polarizing resume of films under his belt. While he has made exciting flicks such as "End of Watch" and "Fury," Ayer has also been known for disappointing blockbusters such as "Suicide Squad" and "Bright." The filmmaker has now partnered with his previous collaborator, actor Brad Pitt, to bring an intense and emotional tale about a man surviving the wilderness with his trusty canine companion.

"Heart of the Beast" focuses on James Belmont (Brad Pitt), a retired special forces officer, who takes a trip via seaplane to the Alaskan wilderness with his retired combat German shepherd named Odin (played by a dog named Uber). On the way home, the duo survives a plane crash and are then stranded in the middle of nowhere. Thus, our two protagonists are thrown into a race for survival as Belmont and Odin have to embark on a journey back to civilization while combating the forces of nature



Odin (Uber the dog) and James Belmont (Brad Pitt) rest in the Alaskan wilderness in the survival thriller, "Heart of the Beast," directed by David Ayer. (Courtesy Photo)

such as the weather and wild predators.

The 2026 thriller is a very simple film without any use of twists or turns to intrigue the audience and only focuses on the outcome of the two main characters. While it may not be the most exciting and intense adventure of the year, the film is carried

by the emotion delivered by its two leads. As much as Pitt does a competent job as a retired soldier, the strongest performance in this movie, and even the entire year, is Uber the dog, who conveys so much emotion without the need to say a single word.

The film boasts beautiful cinematography and engaging music scores to

help carry its emotional side towards the finish line. Unfortunately, its CGI bears and wolves do not look convincing, and the film can slow down for some viewers. While it may not be the most memorable in its genre, "Heart of the Beast" will still pull on your heart strings, whether you are a dog lover or not.

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1



FIRST FRIDAY ARTWALK

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2ND

ENJOY ART EXHIBITS FROM YOUR LOCAL ART GALLERIES INCLUDING THE FALCON ART GALLERY, LEE-BUNCH STUDIO GALLERY, AND DEL RIO COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS AT THE FIREHOUSE ALONG WITH SEVERAL OTHERS ON FRIDAY, OCT. 2.

DRACULINA FEST

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

JAM OUT TO ROCK, PUNK AND HEAVY METAL MUSIC AT THE WHITHEAD MEMORIAL MUSEUM, 1308 S. MAIN ST., ON FRIDAY, OCT. 2, AT 7 P.M. AND SATURDAY, OCT. 3. AT 4 P.M.



2

3

ENGLISH PAPER PIECING WORKSHOP

ENGLISH PAPER PIECING WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

LEARN TRADITIONAL HAND-SEWING AND PATCHWORK QUILTING TECHNIQUES AT THE VAL VERDE COUNTY LIBRARY, 300 SPRING ST., ON SATURDAY, OCT. 3, FROM 1 P.M. TO 4 P.M.

GUERNOS GHUECOS BULLRIDING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

WATCH TUFF ENUFF BULLRIDING CHALLENGES AT THE VAL VERDE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, 2006 N. MAIN ST., ON SATURDAY, OCT. 3, AT 7 P.M.



4

5



PUMPKIN PATCH AT METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH

SHOP FOR PUMPKINS AT THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 100 SPRING ST., OPENING ON SUNDAY, OCT. 4, AT 12 P.M. TO 7 P.M.



The Upstagers
Production of

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www.upstagers.org

Directed by
Rob Wade



Book by Linda Thorsen Bond,
William Repicci and Charles Busch
Orchestrations and Vocal Arrangements by Bob McDowell
Special Material by Dick Gallagher

OCT 9, 10, 16 & 17

7:30 PM @ CIVIC CENTER RED OAK BALLROOM

ADULTS: \$20
STUDENTS: \$15
(KINDER -
HIGH SCHOOL)

TICKET OUTLETS: (CASH / CHECK ONLY)
PAULINO'S SERVICE CENTER 4220 Hwy 90 West
DIAMOND'S SALON 709 E. Gibbs St.
DEL RIO FEED & SUPPLY 111 E. Gibbs St.
MESQUITE CREEK OUTFITTERS 800 S. Main St.
TICKETS AT THE DOOR: (CASH/CHECK/CREDIT CARD)

830 Entertainment: *Events at a glance!*

FIRST FRIDAY ARTWALK

FIREHOUSE

Del Rio Council For the Arts at the Firehouse, 120 E. Garfield St., will showcase art from local artist Jose Gaitan in the "Brown and Proud" exhibit on Friday, Oct. 2, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

LEE-BUNCH

Del Rio resident Linda Rust will be showcasing her art at Lee-Bunch Studio Gallery, 100 W. Greenwood St., on Friday, Oct. 2, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

CASA DE LA CULTURA

The Casa de la Cultura, 302 Cantu St., will have its Camara en Mano mixed-media exhibition with photography and short films from Acuna-based artist Esteban Gonzalez.

FALCON ART GALLERY

Enjoy local art and win a raffle prize at the Falcon Art Gallery, 301 E. Garfield St., on Friday, Oct. 2, from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

MARCOS MARES ART GALLERY & STUDIO

Local Del Rio artist Marcos Mares will have his gallery open at 205 E. Ogden St. and showcase his latest work during his "Love in Times of Chaos" exhibit on Friday, Oct. 2, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

LA BOHEMIA

Take part in free Mexican paper flower workshops at La Bohemia, 107 Pierce St., on Friday, Oct. 2. La Bohemia will have hour-long workshop sessions at 6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

THIS WEEKS EVENTS

DRACULINA FEST

OCT. 2 & 3 - Local and out-of-town bands will unite to play underground rock and heavy metal at the Whitehead Memorial Museum, 1308

S. Main St., on Friday, Oct. 2, and Saturday, Oct. 3. The event starts on Friday at 7 p.m. and on Saturday at 4 p.m.

ENGLISH PAPER PIECING WORKSHOP

OCT. 3 - Learn traditional hand-sewing and patchwork quilting techniques at the Val Verde County Library, 300 Spring St., on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

GIN HOUSE TURNS ONE

OCT. 3 - The Gin House Jazz Club, 900 Lecan St., will celebrate its one year anniversary with a "Great Gatsby" garden party on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.

GUERNOS GHUECOS

OCT. 3 - Witness Tuff Enuff Bull Riding Challenges at the Val Verde County Fairgrounds, 2006 N. Main St., on Saturday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m. General admission is \$15, and admission for children is \$5.

MARCOS MARES ART STUDIO & GALLERY ART CLASSES

OCT. 3 - Children are invited to learn techniques using pencil, water colors and more at Marcos Mares Art Studio & Gallery, 205 E. Ogden St., on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$40 for an individual class and \$140 for an entire month.

17TH ANNUAL PUMPKIN PATCH

OCT. 4 THROUGH OCT. 31 - The First United Methodist Church, 100 Spring St., is bringing back its annual pumpkin patch starting on Sunday, Oct. 4, from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. The pumpkin patch will be open Monday through Friday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m., and it will last till Saturday, Oct. 31.

MUSIC, DANCING AND JAMAICA FUN

OCT. 4 - Enjoy entertainment and celebrate 120 years of faith at Our Lady of Guadalupe

Catholic Church, 509 W. Garza St., from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. DJ kick off music at 11 a.m., Ballet Folklorico dance group performs at 1:30 p.m., Erik Esquivel and Los Rebeldes perform at 4 p.m. and La Quimica performs at 5 p.m.

QUEENS VOLLEYBALL GAME

OCT. 6 - The Del Rio High School volleyball teams will play against Laredo LBJ at Del Rio High School, 100 Memorial Dr, on Tuesday, Oct. 6. JV and Freshman teams will play at 5:30 p.m., and varsity will play at 7 p.m.

YOGA CLASSES AT THE FIREHOUSE

OCT. 6 & OCT. 8 - Del Rio Council for the Arts at the Firehouse, 120 E. Garfield St., will have beginner-friendly yoga classes on Tuesday, Oct. 6, and Thursday, Oct. 8, at 6 p.m. Tuition for a single-day class is \$10.

LET'S TALK SKETCHBOOK

OCT. 7 - Participate in a workshop to learn how to create a sketchbook from Maya Ayres at the Del Rio Council for the Arts at the Firehouse, 120 E. Garfield St., on Wednesday, Oct. 7, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Register on the Firehouse's official website.

POUR TOUR

ONGONG - Visit local bars and collect stamps to receive an exclusive 2026 Pour Tour T-Shirt by supporting businesses in Del Rio's downtown area and on Veterans Boulevard. The participating Pour Tour stops include Doc Holiday's, Gorzugis at the Herald, White Horse Lounge, Mesquite Creek Outfitters, SoJo Cellars, Shane's Whiskey & Bourbon House and The Gin House.

MESQUITE CREEK

OCT. 3 - The annual Men & Women's Stein Hoist contest will take place at Mesquite Creek Outfitters, 800 S. Main St., on Saturday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m.

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OCT 9, 10, 16 & 17

7:30 PM @ CIVIC CENTER RED OAK BALLROOM

ADULTS: \$20
STUDENTS: \$15
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THE PHONE AND PROVIDE A PHOTO OF THEIR TICKET
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• 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER TO WIN A RIFLE OR SHOTGUN, OR
• 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER TO WIN A HANDGUN FROM A LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER.**

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PUBLIC NOTICE - INVITATION TO RFP

San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District

Public RFP No.: 27-28

Description: General Maintenance, Repair, and Operations Services

Opening Date and Time: Tuesday, October 27, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

Bid submissions will be accepted electronically by accessing the Bonfire portal at: <https://sfdr-cisd.bonfirehub.com> until date and time as specified above for each proposal.

Interested Bidders can contact Bonfire at Support@GoBonfire.com for technical questions related to the Bonfire portal or visit Bonfire's help forum at <https://vendorssupport.gobonfire.com/hc/en-us>. Bid submissions shall be prepared in the file formats listed under 'Requested Information' for this opportunity in Bonfire.

LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit (P) by PMA LLC dba Sip and Smoke Liquor to be located at 1800 Veterans Blvd, suite E, Del Rio, Val Verde County, Texas, 78840. Paras Mani Arora, Manager.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

INVITATION TO BID

The Housing Authority of the City of Del Rio, Texas is accepting bids for the labor for Concrete work for parking, sidewalks, and fence footing of a multifamily housing development. Bidders may obtain the bid specification requesting it via email to drhousing@gmail.com. The deadline for submission of bids is October 23, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. More detailed information will be provided with the specification. For any other questions you may contact Isidro Valdez Fernandez, Chief Executive Officer to the email mentioned above. The Del Rio Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive informalities, negotiate with qualified contractors, and award the work in the best interest of the agency. Equal Opportunity Employer and Contracting Agency.

PUBLIC NOTICE

AMENDED AFFIDAVIT OF OWNERSHIP BY ADVERSE POSSESSION

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day appeared Rosa Nava, a/k/a Rosa Maria Nava (hereinafter referred to as "Rosa Nava"), to me well known, and who, after having been by me first duly sworn, upon oath stated:

"I, Rosa Nava, residing at 1102 W. Chapoy St., Del Rio, Texas 78840, claims to be the fee simple owner by adverse possession of the real property described as Lot Six (6), Block "C", of Escondido Estates, near the City of Del Rio, Texas, according to the map or plat recorded in Volume 4, Page 5, of the Map Records of Val Verde County, Texas, commonly known as 125 Vista Largo Dr., Del Rio, Texas 78840, hereinafter referred to as "the property".

I claim title to the property by virtue of the following:

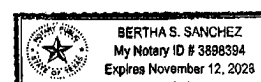
1. I, Rosa Nava first entered the property on October 6, 2000, in peaceable and adverse possession from that date until the present time, peaceable and adverse possession has thus continued for more that (25) twenty-five years, and I, Rosa Nava now own full title under Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code Sections 16.028.
2. The property was purchased by Maria Antonia G. Chavez, my mother from Maria R. Flores through a Warranty Deed dated October 6, 2020, conveying only a life estate to Maria Antonia G. Chavez, which Deed is recorded under document number 0183595 of the Official Public Records of Val Verde County, Texas. Maria R. Flores died on March 3, 2012 in Del Rio, Val Verde County, Texas (14 years as of February 2026).
3. On May 12, 2003, Maria Antonia G. Chavez, conveyed her interest on the property to me, through a Warranty Deed, recorded under document number 0200369 of the Official Public Records of Val Verde County, Texas, (22 years as of February 2026).
4. From October 6, 2000 to the present I have paid all real property taxes to the County of Val Verde, and the San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District, for a total period of 25 years. See Payment Information on Account # 35417 attached hereto.

I have had actual continuous, complete possession, dominion, control, used and enjoyed of "the property" for the past 25 years, under color of title. Also, I have paid all real property taxes from 2000 to the present. In addition, no other person or governmental entity has ever claimed any interest on "the property". My ownership of the property has been open and notorious to the community.

"I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct".

Rosa Maria Nava
Rosa Nava, a/k/a Rosa Maria Nava

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO by Rosa Nava, a/k/a Rosa Maria Nava on this 22 day of Sept, 2026, to certify which witness my hand and seal of office.



Bertha S. Sanchez
Notary Public, State of Texas



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A LOOK AHEAD: DEL RIO RAMS AND QUEENS ARE READY!

RAMS FOOTBALL

THE RAMS HAVE AN OPEN WEEK BEFORE HOSTING UNITED SOUTH FRIDAY, OCT. 9, AT 7:30 P.M.

QUEENS VOLLEYBALL

THE QUEENS VISIT SAN ANTONIO SOUTHWEST FRIDAY, OCT. 2, AT 7 P.M., THEN HOST LAREDO LBJ TUESDAY, OCT. 6, AT 7 P.M.

CROSS COUNTRY

THE RAMS AND QUEENS COMPETE AT THE SA LEGACY INVITATIONAL SATURDAY, OCT. 3, IN SAN ANTONIO.

TENNIS

DEL RIO FACES SAN ANTONIO O'CONNOR IN A PLAYOFF MATCH MONDAY, OCT. 5, IN SAN ANTONIO.

SWIM TEAM

WILL COMPETE OCT. 2 IN SCHERTZ FOR A SCUC SPRINT MEET.

RAMS FOOTBALL: Del Rio fell to Laredo LBJ 34-0 Saturday, dropping to 0-2 in district play.

QUEENS VOLLEYBALL: Del Rio lost in three sets to United Saturday and Eagle Pass Tuesday, finishing the first half of district play at 1-6.

CROSS COUNTRY: The Rams finished ninth and the Queens 15th at Saturday's Seguin Matador Invitational. Ray Torres led the boys, placing 14th in 16:24.2 while Celeste Garcia led the girls, finishing 53rd in 21:08.7.

SWIMMING: Del Rio finished second at its season-opening tri-meet against Laredo LBJ and United South, winning six events, including both boys relays.



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Del Rio beats Eagle Pass to earn playoff berth

BY JOEL LANGTON
THE 830 TIMES

The Del Rio High School tennis team is headed to the playoffs.

Few victories are sweeter for a Del Rio team than beating rival Eagle Pass — especially when that win secures a postseason berth.

Del Rio defeated Eagle Pass 10-5 Tuesday to earn a Monday playoff match-up against San Antonio O'Connor in San Antonio.

"I definitely want to say how proud I am of these kids," Del Rio girls tennis coach Josh Bowman said. "They battled hard all season through injuries and adversity and never gave up. They fully earned this playoff spot."

The Queens led the way against Eagle Pass, winning all four completed girls singles matches and sweeping all three girls doubles matches.

Samantha Favela defeated Alejandra Ramirez, 6-1, 6-2, while Loretta Saucedo defeated Sofia Riojas, 6-3, 6-0. Ana Perez picked up a 6-4, 6-4 victory over Alissa Marroquin, and Xitlali Pereida defeated Melissa Castaneda, 6-3, 6-1.

In girls doubles, Saucedo and Favela defeated Ramirez and Riojas, 6-2, 7-6 (8-6). Perez and Pereida battled past Andrea Ramirez-Gomez and Castaneda, 6-3, 3-6, 10-2.

Elisa Cardenas and Miranda Cienega completed the girls doubles sweep with a 6-2, 6-3 victory over

Analeah Montemayor and Natalia Morales.

The Rams added three victories on the boys side.

Jayden Morin defeated Kevin Sanchez, 6-3, 6-0, while John Vasquez held off Nicholas Oropeza, 7-5, 6-4.

Vasquez and Morin teamed for one of the closest matches of the day in boys doubles. After dropping the opening set to Sanchez and Daniel Morales, 6-2, the Del Rio duo answered with a 6-2 victory in the second set and captured the deciding tiebreaker, 10-7.

Eagle Pass picked up boys singles victories over Edson Martinez and Alejandro Horky. In boys doubles, Oscar Perez and Jose Lopez defeated Martinez



Senior Jayden Morin warms up before his match where he defeated his opponent 6-2, 6-2 but Del Rio still fell to Laredo's United 10-9. (Photo by Joel Langton)

and Horky, while Fernando Alvarado and Franco Guadarrama defeated Ethan Sanchez and Fabian Jurado.

Eagle Pass also won the mixed doubles match, with Oropeza and Alyssa Romero defeating Luis De Luna

and Karyme Valencia, 6-3, 6-4.

Del Rio will look to extend its season when it faces O'Connor Monday in San Antonio.

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Del Rio shut out by Laredo LBJ, heads into open week at 1-4

BY JOEL LANGTON
THE 830 TIMES

Del Rio and Laredo LBJ went toe-to-toe in the first half of a rare Saturday night game in Laredo, but the Wolves pulled away after halftime to hand the Rams a 34-0 District 30-6A loss.

Both teams drove deep into each other's territory before half-time, but only LBJ found the end zone, taking a 7-0 lead into the break.

The second half was a different story.

A Del Rio fumble on the first play of the third quarter gave the Wolves an opening, and LBJ returned it for a touchdown to extend its lead to 14-0.

The Wolves' offense added two

more touchdowns in the third quarter to make it 27-0, then scored once more in the fourth to complete the shutout.

The loss dropped Del Rio to 1-4 overall and 0-2 in district play.

According to statistics posted on MaxPreps, the Rams finished with 275 yards of total offense, rushing for 179 yards and passing for 96.

Quarterback Jesse Mojica completed 12 of 21 passes for 96 yards with one interception.

Raul De Luna led Del Rio's rushing attack with 59 yards on 11 carries. Santiago Ortiz followed with 57 yards on 10 carries, while Nathen Mojica added 36 yards on five carries and Ethan Dobbins gained 25 yards on two carries.

Ortiz also led the Rams' receiv-

ers with six catches for 59 yards. Dobbins had two receptions for 21 yards, Nate Martinez caught two passes for 12 yards and Nathen Mojica added one catch for 6 yards.

Defensively, Jose Garcia led Del Rio with 10 tackles, including one for loss. Dominik Simmons added seven tackles, including

one for loss.

Del Rio has an open week before returning home to face Laredo United South at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9. The Panthers enter their open week at 1-4 after defeating Southwest Legacy 25-22.

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District 30-6A football standings — Oct. 1

Team	District	Overall
Laredo Alexander	2-0	3-2
Laredo LBJ	2-0	4-1
Laredo United	2-0	2-2-1
Laredo United South	1-1	1-4
San Antonio Southwest	1-1	1-3
Del Rio	0-2	1-4
Eagle Pass	0-2	1-4
San Antonio Southwest Legacy	0-2	2-2



The Del Rio Rams football team takes the field. (Courtesy photo, Del Rio Rams Football Booster Club)

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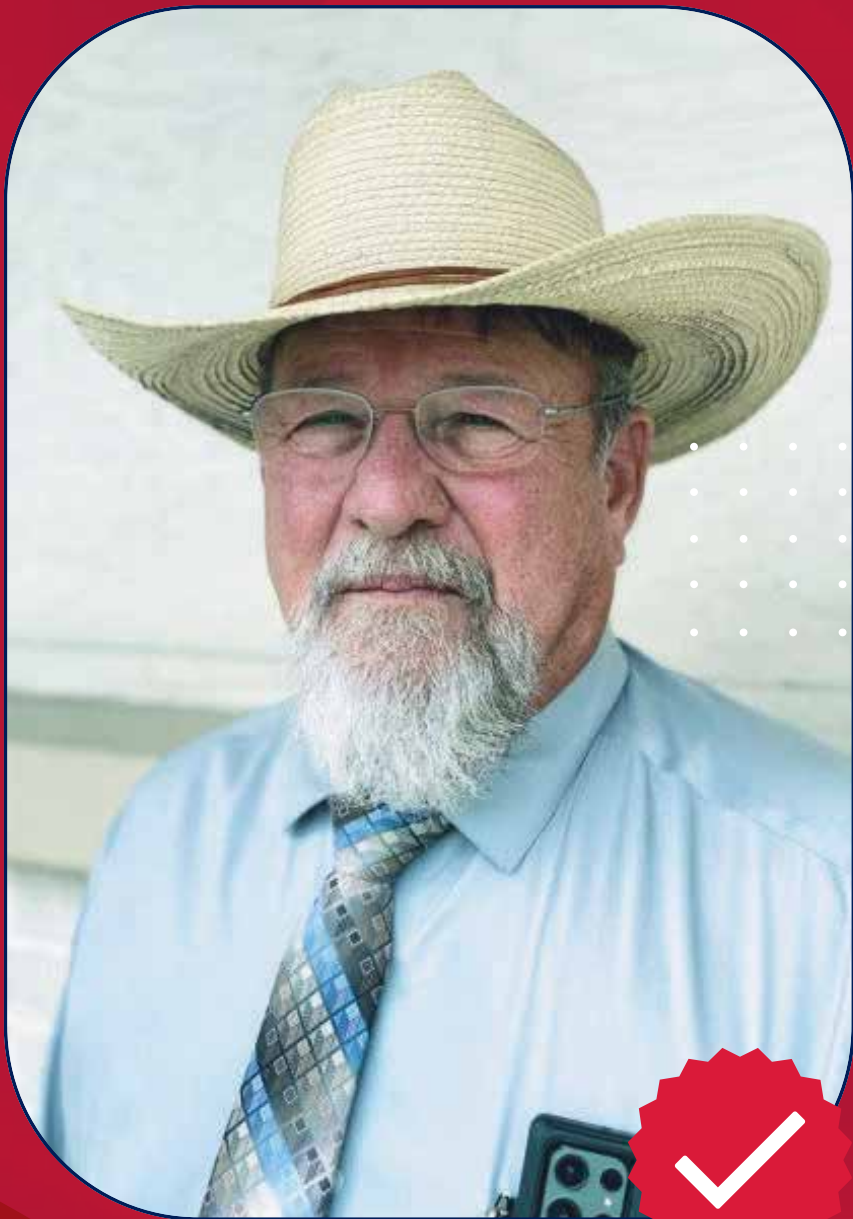
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