

AREA

IDENTIFYING WITH HIS ROOTS

Lipan Apache descendant educates Kiwanis Club on tribe's history and traditions.

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NATION

TAKING A LOOK AT SPEEDING

States rethink long-held practice of setting speed limits based on speeds drivers travel.

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SPORTS

TEAMS DISPLAY STRENGTHS

Hebronville wins; Alexander finishes strong in tournaments.

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U.S. President Donald Trump, second right, shakes hands with Russian President Vladimir Putin after their joint news conference on Aug. 15, 2025, at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

Trump runs into difficulty of Putin diplomacy

By Jill Colvin and Emma Burrows
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — President Donald Trump walked into a summit with Russia's Vladimir Putin pressing for a ceasefire deal and threatening "severe consequences" and tough new sanctions if the Kremlin leader failed to agree to halt the fighting in

Ukraine. Instead, Trump was the one who stood down, dropping his demand for a ceasefire in favor of pursuing a full peace accord — a position that aligns with Putin's. After calls with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and European leaders, Trump wrote as he flew home from Friday's meeting in Alaska that it had been "determined by all that the best way to end the horrific war between Russia and Ukraine is to go directly to a Peace Agreement, which would end the war, and not a mere Ceasefire Agreement, which often times do not hold up."

It was a dramatic reversal that laid bare the challenges of dealing with Putin, a cunning adversary, as *Trump continues on A3*

TAMIU, Mexican Consulate in Laredo to fund \$27K in IME Becas scholarships

By Malena Charur
STAFF WRITER

Texas A&M International University and the Consulate General of Mexico in Laredo renewed their partnership Friday by signing a memorandum of understanding at the Sue and Radcliffe Killam Colonnade. The agreement reaffirms their commitment to supporting the 12th annual Institute of Mexicans Abroad Becas Program, which provides educational opportunities for students from both sides of the Rio Grande. The scholarship funds

will support 14 university students who will receive awards in fall 2025. Funds were collected for the IME Becas Program with contributions from GEMCO, Ermilo Richer of Ermilo Richer Agencia Aduanal and the Mexican Cultural Institute. TAMIU will match the contributions for a total of \$27,000. TAMIU Interim President Juan J. Castillo said they gathered to renew their commitment to a program that reflects international unity. "Established in 2013, the IME Becas Program has *Funds continues on A5*



Malena Charur/Laredo Morning Times

Pictured from left are Ermilo Richer, of Ermilo Richer Agencia Aduanal; Juan J. Castillo, TAMIU interim president; Juan Carlos Mendoza Sánchez, Consul General of Mexico in Laredo; and Miguel Conchas, president of the Instituto Cultural Mexicano de Laredo, during the signing of an MOU to renew the IME Becas Program between the Consulate General of Mexico in Laredo and Texas A&M International University on Friday, August 15, 2025, at the Sue and Radcliffe Killam Colonnade.

Affidavit: Ex-Sheriff's employee promised visas for cash

By Cesar G. Rodriguez
STAFF WRITER

A former Webb County Sheriff's Office civilian employee wore a uniform and said he had a "police car" while defrauding a family out of thousands of dollars in an immigration scheme, court documents allege. An arrest affidavit further states that the complainants wanted to sue Lorenzo Reyna Jr., 72. However, Reyna told them they could not sue him because they were in the country illegally. Reyna was served with warrants on Aug. 12 charging him with impersonating a public servant, a third degree felony, and theft of property, a state jail felony. The case unfolded on Aug. 9, when a male complainant and his wife met with a Sheriff's Office captain regarding a fraud report he had made against an employee of the Sheriff's Office. *Visas continues on A3*

U.S. Rep. Cuellar co-sponsors \$5M bill to fund school ag programs

By Jose De La Rosa
STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar has joined a bipartisan push to launch federal grants for agriculture education programs in secondary schools, citing the need to prepare the next generation of South Texas farmers, ranchers and agribusiness professionals. The proposed bill — called the Growing Opportunities in Agriculture Act, or GO Ag Act — was introduced earlier this month as H.R. 4945 and sent to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce for consideration. Cuellar, a Laredo Democrat, is one of four original sponsors, joining Democratic Rep. Jimmy Pa- *Bill continues on A3*



Jose De La Rosa/Laredo Morning Times

U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar speaks during a National Health Center Week event Aug. 7, 2025, at Gateway Community Health Center's main facility on Pappas Street in Laredo.

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