

SPORTS

ALEXANDER VOLLEYBALL'S BETANCOURT WINS DISTRICT 30-6A MVP

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Continued funding for border urged

Webb's Cuellar among sheriffs meeting with Hinojosa

By Jose De La Rosa
STAFF WRITER

Webb County Sheriff Martin Cuellar has urged Texas Gov.-elect Gina Hinojosa to continue funding through Operation Lone Star while expanding the technology, equipment and strategies used by his department to sheriff's offices across the state.

Cuellar was among 16 Texas border sheriffs who met with Hinojosa on Thursday during a bipartisan roundtable on border security and public safety.

"I had the pleasure of meeting with Gov.-elect Gina Hinojosa and fellow border sheriffs," Cuellar said. "I am grateful for the opportunity to share our efforts here in Webb County and discuss ways to strengthen law enforcement capabilities across Texas."

Cuellar said he presented Hinojosa with a white paper outlining the technology, equipment and strategies used by the Webb County Sheriff's Office in its border security operations, including efforts focused on school safety, active shooter threats and severe weather monitoring.

"My goal is for our model to

Border continues on A2



City of Laredo

Representatives from the International Boundary and Water Commission and U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar's office meet alongside Mayor Victor D. Treviño, right, to discuss ongoing concerns regarding the Rio Grande.

Region's water infrastructure discussed at Laredo meeting

Impact of Rio Grande's buoys, flow highlighted as top concerns

By Maria Ruiz
STAFF WRITER

The city of Laredo hosted the commissioner of the International Boundary and Water Commission and agency staff, along with representatives from Congressman Henry Cuellar's office, for a meeting focused on the Rio Grande's changing conditions and their potential impact on the river's flow, water infrastructure and Laredo's drinking water supply.

One topic discussed was how small sand islands can narrow parts of the river and redirect the current. The discussion then moved to a concern Mayor Victor D. Treviño has been vocal about for much of this year: the impact of flotation infrastructure on the river's surface.

"I raised the concern that the buoys may be accelerating the

Water continues on A2

Guilty plea in case tied to killing of officer

By Jose De La Rosa
STAFF WRITER

A Laredo man has pleaded guilty to a federal firearms charge after admitting that he made a machine gun that was later used in the fatal shooting of an Alabama police officer during an attempted arrest.

Hector Alonzo, 48, admitted that he converted a stolen Glock 17 into a machine gun and supplied the weapon and marijuana to a co-defendant in the case, LaJeromeny Brown, 48, for transportation to Tennessee, according to records in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

In December 2019, Brown planned to deliver 100 pounds of marijuana to a residence in Huntsville, Ala.

As authorities attempted to arrest Brown during an undercover operation, he used the converted weapon Alonzo made to open fire and fatally shoot Huntsville Police Department agent Billy Clardy III, according to the office of Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall.

Brown, of Chattanooga, Tenn., was convicted of capital

Firearm continues on A3



Jesse Bedayn/Associated Press

Pastor and podcaster Joel Webbon speaks this month at the "Christ is King: America After Trump" conference in Irving.

Christian nationalists view GOP's defeats as opportunity to advance

By Jesse Bedayn
ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRVING — Christian nationalists once celebrated President Donald Trump's return to the White House as a victory for their movement. Now they see the Republican Party's recent election losses as an opportunity to supplant his "Make America Great Again" movement with their extremist vision.

Many gathered in Texas this month for a three-day conference where Nick Fuentes, an avowed white nationalist, was the surprise special guest. The way he sees it, the midterms effectively dethroned Trump as the party's leader.

"This is like the death of Josef Stalin," Fuentes said, his high-register voice reverberating in a dark and cavernous convention hall. "And there is nothing that will fill the void right now."

But that's exactly what Joel Webbon wants to do.

Movement continues on A7

CONTACT US

lmtonline.com | @lmtnews | @lmtnews

OPINION: opinion@LMTOnline.com | **SPORTS:** sports@LMTOnline.com | **EMAIL:** editorial@LMTOnline.com

