#### 2025 CHAMPION SPURS









IN HONOR OF Alma Smart

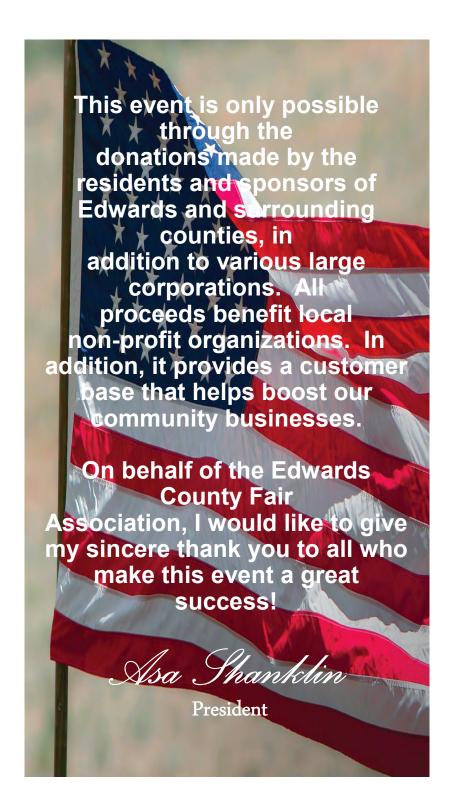


# HISTORY OF THE ROCKSPRINGS RODEO

Rodeos in Rocksprings have had an interesting and, at times, colorful history since the first one in the 1890's. Rodeos began as a result of the ranchers' love for fun combined with his working skills.

mall ropings and dances were scattered, but horse races were almost everywhere. Nearly every rancher had at least one horse he considered fast and some folks specialized in breeding racehorses. One of Rocksprings more colorful horse races took place in 1895. The race involved Pat Garrett (the New Mexico lawman who killed Billy the Kid) and John Nance Garner, a Uvalde lawyer (who later became Vice President of the U. S.) Garner stayed at the race until 5:00 that afternoon, taking bets, then hopped into his buggy in an effort to reach Uvalde by 8:00 for his own wedding.

n 1929, the rodeo had to be held on the football field. At that point, the ranchers in the Rocksprings area decided they needed a place to hold the rodeo. The Edwards County Fair Association was organized. The original directors were Tom C. Hampton, V. A. Brown, Raymond H. Earwood, Gus Young and Brown Epperson. The group purchased about nine acres from Fred Ross. Ross did not want to sell; however, Hampton and Brown convinced Ross that it was his civic duty. In 1930, an additional twenty acres was purchased from E. H. Draper. A grandstand, arena and a half-mile racetrack were built.



# EDWARDS COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION 2025 ACTIVE MEMBERS

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Asa Shanklin- President Billy Cude- Vice President Amanda Poole- Treasurer James Crockett-Secretary

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he rodeo was not held during World War II. In 1949, the land was sold to the county for one dollar and title was transferred. The same year, the rodeo resumed under the direction of the American Legion. The American Legion borrowed funds from People's State Bank and a \$50,000 bond was passed. The park building was built with part of these funds. The old grandstand, arena and racetrack were eventually torn down. The racetrack was never rebuilt, but a new grandstand was erected in 1973. The dance pavilion has been enlarged twice over the years.

or many years, a free barbeque was part of the rodeo celebration. The ranchers donated meat and Rocksprings merchants supplied other food. To this day, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and coronation of "The Old Settlers Queen" remain a part of the festivities.

2025 Slick Rock Challenge
Trophy Spurs
In honor of

Mrs. Alma Smart

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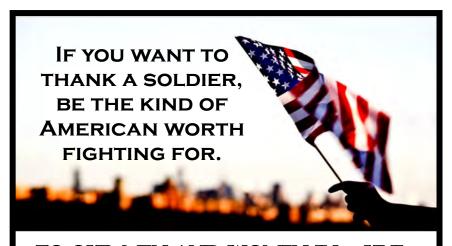
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#### DANCE UNDER THE STARS

Friday: Chase the Night Saturday: South Texas Homies





#### DANCE UNDER THE STARS

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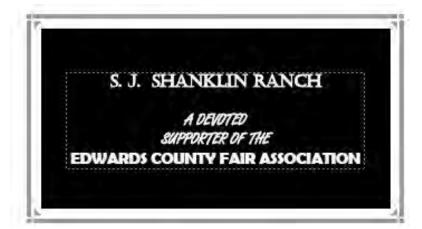
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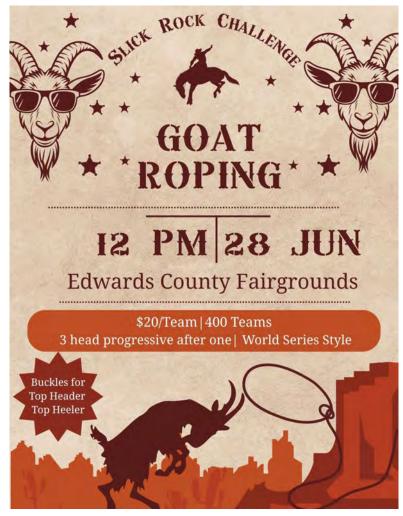


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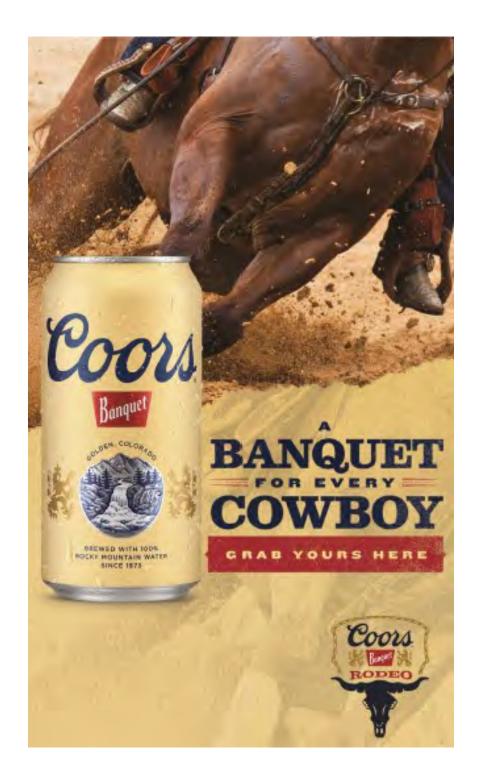
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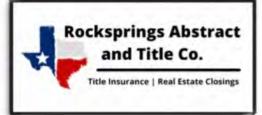
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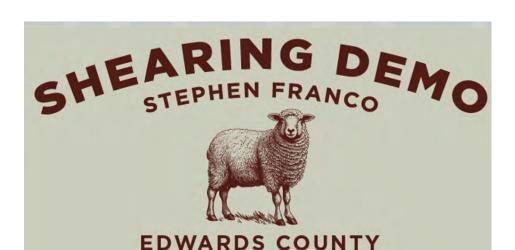




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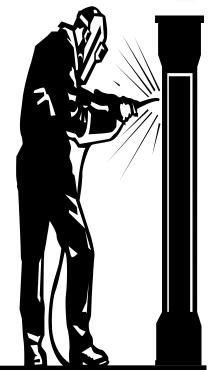


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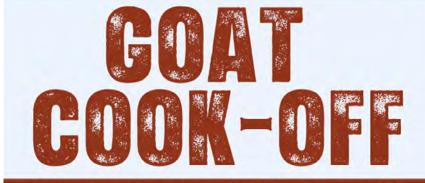
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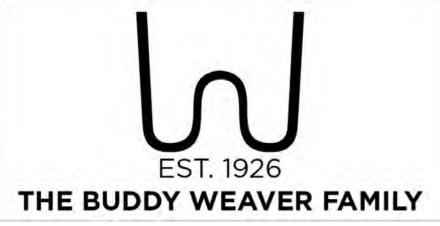




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