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Truck driver killed in wreck trying to avoid car



Allen Groff

BY LEW K. COHN Inquirer Publisher

A fatal accident on Thursday, June 8 claimed the life of a tractortrailer driver who it appears may have tried to minimize the collision he had with a vehicle near the intersection of US 90 and FM 304

in Gonzales County.

According to a Texas Department of Public Safety report summary, a Nissan passenger vehicle was southbound on FM 304 at 5:55 a.m. approaching US 90 while the tractor-trailer was eastbound on US 90 and approaching the same intersection. The intersection has a stop sign for those traveling on FM 304, while traffic on US 90 does not stop.

The Nissan failed to yield the right of way at the stop sign, and pulled into the path of the semi, which tried to avoid the car but ultimately struck the right front quarter panel of the Nissan. The Nissan spun counter-clockwise and came to rest upright on the unimproved shoulder at the intersection's northeast corner.

The tractor-trailer rolled to the right and became detached and the truck-tractor came to rest up-

See WRECK, page 18



Commissioners consider uniform speed limit for county roads

BY LEW K. COHN Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County commissioners will hold a public hearing at 9 a.m. Monday, June 26, to hear comments about establishing a uniform speed limit of 35 miles per hour on most county-maintained public roads.

This comes after commissioners voted unanimously to advertise the hearing in the Gonzales Inquirer at their Monday, June 12 meeting.

The measure that would be discussed at the public hearing would also establish a speed

Cat group speaks up about problems with Gonzales' animal ordinance

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales City council met for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting Thursday, June 8 at City

Hall.

One of the big topic of discussion during the public comments section of the meeting was the Friends of Gonzales Animal Shelter and the current ordinances regarding cats,

especially strays.

Mary Anne MacLean of FOGAS spoke to the council about the current ordinances and she said it's

See ORDINANCE, page 15

GISD approves purchase of **STEMscopes** instructional materials

BY VANDY VAN EPPS Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales ISD school board met for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting Monday, June 12 at the GISD Administration building. One of the big agenda items was the purchase of STEMscopes' math and science kindergarten through eighth grade instructional material

for the 2023-2024 school year. **GISD Elementary** education director Brandi

See GISD, page 18



MAKING A SPLASH



VANDY VAN EPPS

The Lions Club of Gonzales installed shade covers at the Splashpad at Lions Park in Gonzales as summer kicks off for many children in the city.

New Beautification board sets mission statement, vision

BY LEW K. COHN Inquirer Publisher

The newly created Gonzales Beautification and Design Board met Tuesday, June 6 at City Hall and established both a mission statement and a vision

for the group that they hope will inspire civic pride.

Board members voted to adopt a mission statement of "being a welcoming community" and a five-part

Nixon council holds off on proposed park name change

BY LEW K. COHN

Inquirer Publisher

The Nixon City Council discussed on Monday, June 5, renaming a proposed veterans park to be built on land to the east of City Hall, but voted eventually to hold off on any name change until July so the proper steps can be taken.

Members of the newly created Tourism and Development Board and the council spoke about adding deceased veteran John Longoria's name to the park, which is currently being called the Freddy Aguirre Memorial Park. However, other members of the public expressed wishes during the meeting that the council give the park a generic name to honor all veterans and not just those who died in service.

See PARK, page 15

Second annual Juneteenth event returns to Gonzales

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Main Street will host its second annual Juneteenth celebration at Texas Independence Square this Saturday, June 17 from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Contests and activities begin at 4 p.m. and include a watermelon eating contest, bounce house, hula hoop contest, petting zoo and coloring page contest.

The celebration will include gospel music by Minister Everett Hughes & Anointed Company (5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m.) and international recording and performance artist Beverly Houston & Breezin' Band (6:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.).



Richard Lopez, co-proprietor of the Gonzales Food Market, receives the sign naming it the Main Street Business of the Month for June from Main Street Director Tiffany Hutchison-Padilla and members of the Main Street board.

Gonzales Food Market named Main Street Business of the Month for June

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Opened in 1959 by Lopez family patriarch "Chano Lopez", his son Pablo, and daughters Elisa and Emilia Lopez, the Gonzales Food Market continues to make some of the best BBQ in town. And now, the Gonzales Food Market is the Main Street Business of the Month.

Located at 311 St. Lawrence Street and originally opened as a town grocery store, the Gonzales Food Market has continually served Gonzales in the same location for over 64 years. Richard Lopez and his brother Ray now operate the Gonzales Food Market as third-generation proprietors of the family business The brothers both grew up and graduated from Gonzales High School. They both remember working with their grandfather and dad at a very young age. Richard retired from his corporate job in San Antonio and

came back to Gonzales to

help with the business. As

the larger grocery store

chains came to town, the

Gonzales Food Market turned their focus strictly to barbecue.

One of the unique things about the business is the large number of out-of-town customers that frequent the business. Because of the family's dedication to the business, Gonzales Food Market is famous for its sausage. It's made following the same recipe that was used since the start of the business.

Sausage is the number one seller and is made in the market on a daily basis. Richard's favorite item on the menu by far is the brisket.

"It is so versatile" says Richard Lopez. "I can eat it on a tortilla, chopped on a bun, by itself with salt and pepper, or just smothered with our barbecue sauce."

The Gonzales Food

Crystal Theatre seeks funding from Gonzales County for program

BY LEW K. COHN Inquirer Publisher

For more than 25 years, the **Gonzales Crystal Theatre Young** Program has been dedicated to providing "arts-in-education opportunities for young people from all backgrounds" while serving as a safe place for Gonzales' youth to gather and enrich their lives.

Barbara Crozier, the director for this one-of-a-kind non-profit project, asked Gonzales County commissioners on Monday, June 12, to consider providing additional funding, if possible, to the program, especially since the closure of the Gonzales County Youth Center last year.

"The Crystal Theater, which has been serving our community since the early 1980s, has had the only continually functioning youth program in the area — in all of Gonzales County," Crozier said.

Crozier said the Crystal's

program "actually grew out of the Youth Center" but they did not share funding.

"That confused a lot of people that thought we were getting funding whenever the Youth Center was being funded," Crozier said. "We were able to get funding through organizations and endowments over the years, but our program needs to be stabilized long term for our community. It is my goal that some day, a long time out from now, when I am not here to be the driving force on it, that it continues in earnest because it is such a gift to the youth of our community.

"A lot of people thought the funding that was going to the Youth Center was going to go to our work since we are now the only functioning program now."

Among the programs offered by the Crystal Young Program are the year-round Shakespeare Ninja Project, as well as the Crystal Summer Youth Workshop and the Young Texians Troupe, which performs original Texas history ballads about the founding of Gonzales, the "Lexington of Texas," including each year by invitation at The Alamo in San Antonio.

For the past dozen years, the theatre has been affiliated with Camp Shakespeare at Winedale and has given students scholarships to participate in that program, which is the only educational Shakespeare group that "is actually blessed by British Shakespeare program," Crozier said.

Commissioners agreed to consider the Crystal Theatre for funding when it comes time to discuss the proposed fiscal year 2024 budget later this year, but they also then voted to donate the proceeds from the sale of scrap metal from both Precinct 1 and Precinct 3 to the Young Program at the Crystal during Monday's meeting.



AIDING THE ELDERLY

The Gonzales County Commissioners Court approved a resolution declaring June to be Elder Abuse Awareness Month. The court is urging all citizens to work together to help reduce abuse and neglect of people who are elderly and have disabilities. Abuse against older adults and people with disabilities is grossly underreported because of social stigma, embarrassment and fear and it affects men and women of all incomes and ability levels and all cultural and ethnic backgrounds in all communities.

LEW K. COHN

County advertising Historical Commission openings

BY LEW K. COHN Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County

commissioners agreed Monday, June 12, to advertise in the Gonzales Inquirer this week for people interested in being on the county's Historical Commission.

This will be the first time the county has advertised a position available for appointment on a board or commission since the court adopted a policy in April requiring all future positions to be advertised so the public could can have the opportunity to apply. Applications can be picked up at County Judge Pat Davis' office in the Gonzales County Courthouse. Commissioners agreed upon a deadline of 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, for applications to be returned to the judge's office so they can be shared with Historical Commission Chair Glenda Gordon prior to the next court meeting on June 26, when the court will formally appoint two new commission members.

Gordon appeared before the court Monday in anticipation that they might appoint at least one of the candidates she had previously brought before commissioners.

Commissioners had tabled the appointments to the GCHC at their April 24 meeting with the understanding that their new policy regard

ing advertising appoint-

the Historical Commis-

However, as of June

had not been advertised

formally vet in the news-

paper — something that

did not happen until this

Also, the way the agenda

edition of the Inquirer.

was written did not al-

12, the open positions

ments would apply to

member application created by the county.

The court assured Gordon that once the position had formally been advertised in the Inquirer, they would be able to take action and the candidates who had already applied for the position still would be considered for the appointment. They noted that this first time would likely create some grow-

ing pains.

"It's going to be a little hard to start with but once we get this one done, it should go smoother in the future," said Precinct 2 Commissioner Donnie Brzozowski

"Right, this one is still tedious because we've already had some candidates' names, but we have to do the process," Precinct 4 Commissioner Collie Boatright

Market currently has 10 employees and often brings in the local youth to help out on busy weekends or holidays. While the business has been in the family for decades. the brothers are not against exploring opportunities to sell their share and let the next young entrepreneur take the reins.

Gonzales, Main Street to celebrate 4th of July

STAFF REPORT

Gonzales will celebrate the United States' independence with the annual Fourth of July Star-Spangled Spectacular celebration at Independence Square Tuesday, July 4, presented by Gonzales Main Street.

Gonzales - and other communities throughout all 50 states — will be celebrating 247 years of the United States declaring its independence over the

British in 1776. Last year's event had a

kid's bike parade, bounce houses, face painting, live entertainment, and food & merch vendors.

The Fourth of July celebration will close out with its annual fireworks show.

A schedule of the 2023 Fourth of July activities has not yet been released. For updates on the event, please go to Main Street's Facebook page at https:// www.facebook.com/GonzalesMainStreet.

Main Street hosting Shop and Stroll event June 22 **STAFF REPORT**

The Gonzales Main Street Board will host a fourth Thursday "Shop & Stroll" event Thursday, June 22 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The events promotes Gonzales' downtown retailers, boutiques and restaurants this summer.

Shear Designs and Boutique will host country artists Brandi Behlen and Kendra Krupala.

For more information of upcoming Main Street events, please go to https://www.gonzales. texas.gov/p/departments/main-street and its Facebook at https:// www.facebook.com/ GonzalesMainStreet.

low commissioners to take action on what was simply an update on the Historical Commission by Gordon, which included a document

sion.

explaining the expectations the Texas Historical Commission has for new appointees as well as a copy of the board

elebrations

Birthdays Roland Escobedo

Donna Damon

Martin

Laura Pesek

Janice Walleck

June 18th

Ashtyn Kardosz

Margaret Ramos

June 19th

Sherry Callaway

Sandy Hendricks

Robbie Laredo

Jace Opiela

Lizzie Pezoli

June 15th Kacey Lindemann Butler Jeff Loomis Melissa Torres Candice Witzkoske

June 16th Mimi Holt-Petrek Steve Leazer Joshua Manuel James McMains

Ronda Richter-Underwood

June 17th Brandi Behlen

Anniversaries

June 15th Robert & Elizabeth Bennett

June 18th Dean & Brandi Vinklarek

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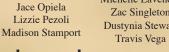
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Michelle Lavendar Zac Singleton Dustynia Stewart

June 20th

Christi Cooney

Basquez

Terry Chrismon

Pamela Hamilton

Cameron Horton

Twila Huber

Curtis Parsley

Allison Raley

June 21st

Sally Filip

Brittany Hill



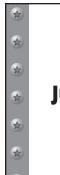
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Go	nzales	s Weather
Нот	June 15 100º/77º	Partly sunny and hot 6% chance of rain ● RealFeel 109
CLOUDY	June 16 99°/76°	Overcast and humid 15% chance of rain ● RealFeel 103
ENTILY SUNNY	June 17 98°/75°	Partly sunny and humid 25% chance of rain ● RealFeel 105
MOSTLY CLOUDY	June 18 97°/75°	Mostly cloudy and humid 25% chance of rain ● RealFeel 99
BARTLY SUNNY	June 19 97°/74°	Humid with intervals of clouds and sunshine 25% chance of rain ● RealFeel 101
EXERTLY SUNNY	June 20 96°/75°	Humid with intervals of clouds and sunshine 25% chance of rain ● RealFeel 96
PARTLY SUNNY	June 21 95°/74°	Humid with intervals of clouds and sunshine 25% chance of rain ● RealFeel 97

agreed.

Weather

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Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

June 17th-18th - J and K Productions

June 18th-24th - National Junior Santa Gertrudis Show

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GonzalesInguirer

Waelder student receives goat from **Prairie View A&M**

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

On Saturday, April 29, 2023, Waelder 4-H club member and Waelder Independent School District high school junior Hayley Delossantos received her goat from the Prairie View Goat Giveaway Committee.

The program is designed to promote goat husbandry for the 4-H program. Winners are required to provide a safe, loving home and cultivate the desire to learn about raising goats.

Hayley won Reserve Champion and Showmanship with her poultry project at the 2022 Waelder Livestock Show. She is excited to embark on a new 4-H project. Hayley plans to show her goat named Oreo at the 2023 Waelder Livestock

Show A special thank you to Savannah Harrington, the Prairie View Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agent from Gonzales County, for making this opportunity available. Thank you also to Dora Noyola, Waelder 4-H Club Leader, and Gayle Bludau, 4-H Coordinator for Gonzales County for writing letters of recommendation. Matt Miranda, Guadalupe County Agent, and Kayla Childs, 4-H Volunteer,

> sisting Hayley to receive the goat. "It is so satisfying to see Hayley with her goat Oreo," Harrington said. "Hayley has set some excellent goals with her project. I hope other 4-H members will take advantage of similar opportunities in the future."

also played a role in as-



arden

Q. Our St Augustine finally started growing aggressively but now it is turning yellow! What do you think is the problem and how can we deal



with it? A. It sounds like the problem is iron chlorosis which is quite common now. The good news is that it will eventually

Tree Trimming,

Yellowing St. Augustine should cure itself over course of the summer

cure itself as the summer progresses. The grass is temporaily growing faster than it can uptake the required iron and nitrogen. If left on its own the growth rate will decline to the point where it has adequate iron and nitrogen to support the growth rate. A better option may be to spray the grass blades with a chelated iron product or apply a product such as Iron Plus. It will even work to dissolve some iron sulfate in water and spray the foliage.

let them dry in the pod and shell them for hot dish type recipes.

Q. On your radio show you were talking about two kinds of milkweed being available at area nurseries. One was a native milkweed and one was the tropical milkweed. You said the troni cal milkweed was better liked as an egg-laying site for Monarchs and Queens. Why wouldn't the native milkweed be better? A. There are lots of native milkweeds, most are just as favored for a egg-laying site as the tropical milkweed (A. curassavica). Unfortunately the native Butterfly Weed Milkweed (A. tuberosa) is not a favorite egg-laying site. It is easy to grow, the flowers are attractive and the nectar produced is liked by the Monarchs but the internal chemicals are not as potent as other milkweeds. Without the potent chemicals to be internalized, the Monarchs would lose their undesirable taste to predators.

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK under 200 lbs. 260.00-292.00 REPORT 200-250 lbs. June 10 250-300 lbs Cattle: 1084 300-350 lbs. Compared to our last sale: 350-400 lbs. Number 1 choice calves and 400-450 lbs. yearlings sold steady. Less 450-500 lbs quality calves and yearlings 500-550 lbs sold steady. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold steady. Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 310-315; 300-400 lbs., 300-305; 400-500 lbs., 259-290; 500-600 lbs., 225-245; 600-700 lbs, 215-220; 700-800 lbs, 185-212. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 80-115. Stocker-feeder Heifers: Medium and large from No. 1: \$55-75 150-300 lbs., 260-285; 300-400 lbs., 245-255; 400-500 lbs., 225-235; 500-600 lbs., 205-219; 600-700 lbs., 183-Utility & Cutter Bulls: \$104-198 116 Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 78-88; Cutters, 92-103; Canners, 52-77; High yielding fat cows, 88-95. Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 112-127; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 97-110. Stockers Cows: \$750 to \$1,700 Pairs: \$1,100 to \$1,900. NIXON LIVESTOCK June 12 Cattle - 1265 Steers: 200-300 lbs - \$262-320 300-400 lbs - \$234-325 400-500 lbs - \$222-295 500-600 lbs - \$212-290 600-700 lbs - \$193-251 700-800 lbs - \$182-230 Heifers: 200-300 lbs - \$220-290

300-400 lbs - \$219-290 400-500 lbs - \$207-280 500-600 lbs - \$196-257 600-700 lbs - \$182-295 700-800 lbs - \$161-192 Slaughter Cows - \$45-101 Slaughter Bulls - \$89-126 Stocker Cows - \$600-1100 Pairs: \$1225-1700 We will be closed on July 3, 2023!!!

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT June 9, 2023 Number of head 1,481

There were 162 cows and 29

210.00-252.00 550-600 lbs. 199.00-233.00 600-700 lbs. 188.00-220.00 Over 700 lbs 168.00-193.00 HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC. Sale date: June 6 Cattle on hand: 1630 Packer Cows Canner and Cutter Cows: \$76-100 Utility & Fat Cows: \$72-97 Low dressing canner cows: Poor/Weak: \$48-58 Packer Bulls: Heavyweight Bulls: \$115-127

252.00-280.00

248.00-278.00

244.00-267.00

244.00-300.00

220.00-254.00

217.00-268.00

Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$92-104 Stocker Cows: Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: NONE Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1050-1400 Good Cow & Calf Pairs: NONE Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: \$1300-1700 Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings: Number 1 steer & bull calves: Under 200 lbs.: \$240-315 200-300 lbs.: \$245-315 300-400 lbs.: \$240-320 400-500 lbs.: \$230-315 500-600 lbs.: \$210-260 600-700 lbs.: \$198-232.50 700-800 lbs.: \$180-220 Number 1 heifer calves: Under 200 lbs: \$220-295 200-300 lbs.: \$220-285 300-400 lbs.: \$215-280 400-500 lbs.: \$210-265 500-600 lbs.: \$195-255 600-700 lbs.: \$188-225

Replacement Heifers: 350-750 lbs.: \$220-290 The calf market was higher again this week. Heavier weights classes sold \$3 to \$5 higher while the lither weights sold \$6 to \$10 higher. Demand is extremely good. Packer cows & bulls sold steady to strong on approximately 200 head.

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700-800 lbs: \$170-205

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Q. Tell us again about growing Southern peas in the garden this summer.

A. Southern peas are easy to grow in the vegetable garden in the summer and they are productive and fill the space to reduce weeds such as Bermuda grass from growing in the summer vegetable garden. Obtain seeds from your favorite nursery. I like the purple hull. Black eye peas or creams best. You can harvest the bean like pods and use them like green beans or you can

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bulls. The packer market on cows and bulls remained fully steady with recent weeks levels. Demand continues very strong keeping prices high. The calf market was very steady with last week's big rise in values. Some of the heavier weights were a little lower on the top end while lighter and middle weights were trending higher. Once again it was a very strong market across the board. Packer bulls: 108.00-127.00 Packer cows: canners & cutters 85.00-101.00 poor & weak 30.00-50.00 Palpated: 26 BRED 100.00-159.00 PAIRS: 1 \$1,675 (AVG-HIGH) Steer Calves: Under 200 lbs. NONE 200-249 lbs. NONE 250-299 lbs. 299.00-300.00 300-350 lbs. 238.00-304.00 350-400 lbs. 262.00-304.00 400-450 lbs. 251.00-302.00 450-500 lbs. 239.00-285.00 500-550 lbs. 233.00-262.00 550-600 lbs. 224.00-252.00 600-700 lbs. 209.00-232.00 700-800 lbs. 197.00-206.00 Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH) Under 250lbs 274.00-312.00 250-300 lbs. 251.00-306.00 300-350 lbs. 262.00-306.00 350-400 lbs. 253.00-300.00 400-450 lbs. 239.00-310.00 450-500 lbs. 230.00-290.00 500-550 lbs. 218.00-250.00 550-600 lbs. 215.00-236.00 600-700 lbs 201.00-220.00 Over 700 lbs. 170.00-205.00 **Heifer Calves:** (AVG-HIGH)

MARKET REPORT June 7 Quality not as deep, but market steady all the way through. Packer cows & bulls steady. Cattle - 662 Sheep & goats - 877 Medium & large frame #1 Steers: 200-300 lb. .80-2.07-3.40 300-400 lb. .60-1.94-2.93 400-500 lb. .70-2.12-3.05 500-600 lb. .80-1.95-2.77 600-700 lb. .90-1.80-2.30 700-850 lb. 1.30-1.71-2.06 Medium & large frame #1 Heifers: 200-300 lb. 1.25-1.92-3.45 300-400 lb. 1.30-2.16-2.68 400-500 lb. .55-1.98-2.52 500-600 lb. .65-1.82-2.21 600-750 lb. 1.00-1.78-2.10 Cows: Utility & commercial - .80-.94-1.07 Cutters - .75-.82-.90 Canners - .60-.67-.75 Palpated cow - 725-1200 Cow/Calf Pairs - 1500-1900 Bulls: Heavy High Yielding - 1.15-1.26 Light & Low Yielding - 1.05-1.14 Sheep & Goats: Nannies - 80-280 Kid Goats (Fat) - 2.80-3.50 Wethers -2.25-3.40 Billies - 1.80-2.35 Dorp. Ewes - 30-130 Dorp. Lambs (Fat) - 1.80-2.35 Wooled Ewes - 90-120 Wooled Bucks - 1.00-1.80 Lambs - 1.70-2.30 Barb. Bucks - NONE





OPINION

GonzalesInquirer

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Gonzales Inquirer,

I am Yazmin Almendarez. I attended scholarship night on May 22, 2023 at the Gonzales Junior High Auditorium.

At the event I was awarded the Sue Grauke Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. I'm writing to you today to thank you and show my gratitude for the gracious scholarship that was awarded to me.

Thank you to the Gonzales Inquirer for being able to fund this scholarship. I am overjoyed and grateful that I was given this scholarship. Thank you, this means so much to me.

I am finally getting steps closer to achieving my goals of being able to attend and study at Texas State University in San Marcos Texas. At Texas State University I will study finance, so that I can strive to work as a financial manager when I finish college. This amazing gift and opportunities that I was granted will truly set me off to a great start in my future.

I will forever be appreciative and thankful for all the privileges I was given and the assistance that has helped me along the way. May God bless you all and everyone around you, as the way I was blessed with y'alls helpfulness for my future in college. Thank you all again and for taking the time to read this Sincerely,

Yazmin Almendarez

Editor's Note: Congratulations, Yazmin, and best wishes for all your future endeavors!

Letters to the Editor Policy

It is the policy of The Inquirer to encourage reader participation on its Opinion page. Diverse and varied opinions are welcomed. Because of space limitations, we must limit all contributors to one letter per person per month. Letters of 400 words or less will be published unless they contain language or content that the editors feel is inappropriate.

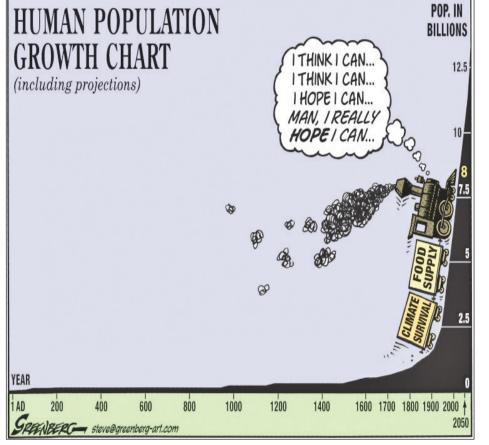
Letters must either be about Gonzales County, from a resident of Gonzales County, or in response to a story that appears in print or online in The Inquirer. Examples of content that will cause

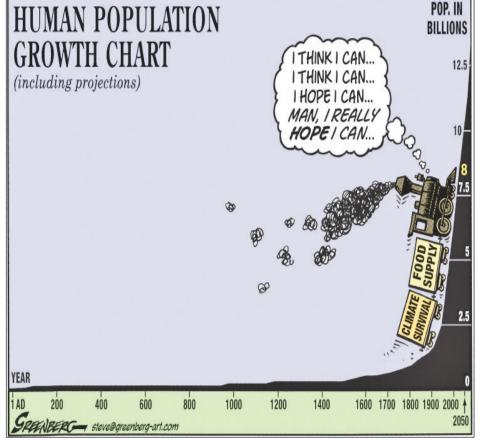
letters to be rejected include the following:

- Confusing or unclear points.
- Crude language.
- Poor taste.











DR. DON NEWBURY The Idle American

Uncle Mort: Consultant in waiting...

y aged Uncle Mort sometimes stumbles across what he calls "business opportunities," not unlike hogs stumbling over acorns every now and again.

He claims that an epiphany experienced during a recent Sam's Club visit has led to his dusting off a rarely-used business card indicating that he is a "consultant."

I'm not sure anyone should bill himself or herself until others opt to engage their services, but Mort figures that when he reveals his "can't miss" suggestions to Sam's management, he will be signed on post haste....

Upon entering Sam's Club on a recent week night, he thought about Sam Walton, founder of Walmart and perhaps the inspiration for big box Sam's Club stores that entered the retail race with a single store in 1983, 21 years after Walmart began.

He also thought of Sam's wife, Helen, who is credited with coining the slogan Walton stores continue to promote. Maybe you have seen the words splashed across their store walls: "Īt's not what you gather, but what you scatter that tells what kind of life you have lived."

Anyways, Mort marveled at the smooth-as-silk atmosphere up and down most aisles. There was one exception, and it was the food court, where down-to-earth prices attracted long lines of customers....

Maybe the gathering is unavoidable. I mean, where else can one purchase a hot dog and what amounts to a "bottomless cup" of soft drink for \$1.45.

Mort is pretty sure that the "scattering" can be minimized if Sam's researchers can come up with mustard/ mayonnaise/relish packets that can be opened without yard sheers, chisels or TNT. "Dry cleaners have got to love it," Mort joked. "It's a rare person who can eat a hog dog without staining clothes, and in some cases, shoes get the treatment because many packets are stepped on. They may be dropped, or perhaps thrown floorward by folks who simply can't get them open." Mort says his recommendations will be simple and to the point. He wants to explain that several companies have long known that contents are readily accessible because of a small slit in a corner of each packet. Can't condiment companies do the same thing? And if patrons can dress their hotdogs more quickly, wouldn't this enhance the scattering of customers to other areas of the store?...

 Disrespectful comments regarding a group's or individual's ethnicity, gender, religion, culture, sexual orientation or race.

• Other incendiary language or remarks.

 Endorsements for or complaints about individually named commercial products or services.

Poetry.

· Personal attacks.

• "Thank You" letters that go beyond general thanks to the community; attempt to serve as an advertisement for a company, individual or political party; or is submitted in lieu of a paid "Thank You" advertisement.

During periods ahead of an election, The Inquirer does not accept letters to the editor urging voters to vote for or against candidates in local elections. Endorsements should be displayed in political advertising. In light of this policy, we reserve the right to reject or edit letters for references to candidates and whether or not they should be elected. The Inquirer will accept letters expressing views on bond measures, constitutional amendments and other such issues. Letters will not be accepted once early voting has begun

The Inquirer will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information.

Only letters written exclusively to the newspaper will be published. Letters to a third party or those written to more than one newspaper are not accepted. "Wallpaper" – submissions that are in large part copied-and-pasted from another author or organization - will not be published

Letters written in response to other letter writers should address the issue at hand. Discourse should be civil and people should be referred to in a respectful manner. Letters referring to news stories should also mention the headline and date of publication.

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.

Please send Letters to the Editor: • Email: publisher@gonzalesinquirer. com

• U.S. Mail: The Inquirer, P.O. Box 616, Gonzales, Texas, 78629

• In person: The Inquirer, 622 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629 (Please bring in a digital format, if possible).

Further questions may be directed to Publisher Lew Cohn, 830-672-2861.

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CONTRIBUTING

Betty Cohn

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Referencing relish caused Mort to hearken back to one of his earlier suggestions that never got traction.

In his youth, he thought he'd come up with a sure-fire way to "make pickles cuter." Mort recommended turning pickle seeds inside out before planting. He reasoned that so doing would cause the pickles to have dimples instead of warts

'Tis the season for young entrepreneurs to begin their retail pursuits by setting up makeshift lemonade stands in their neighborhoods.

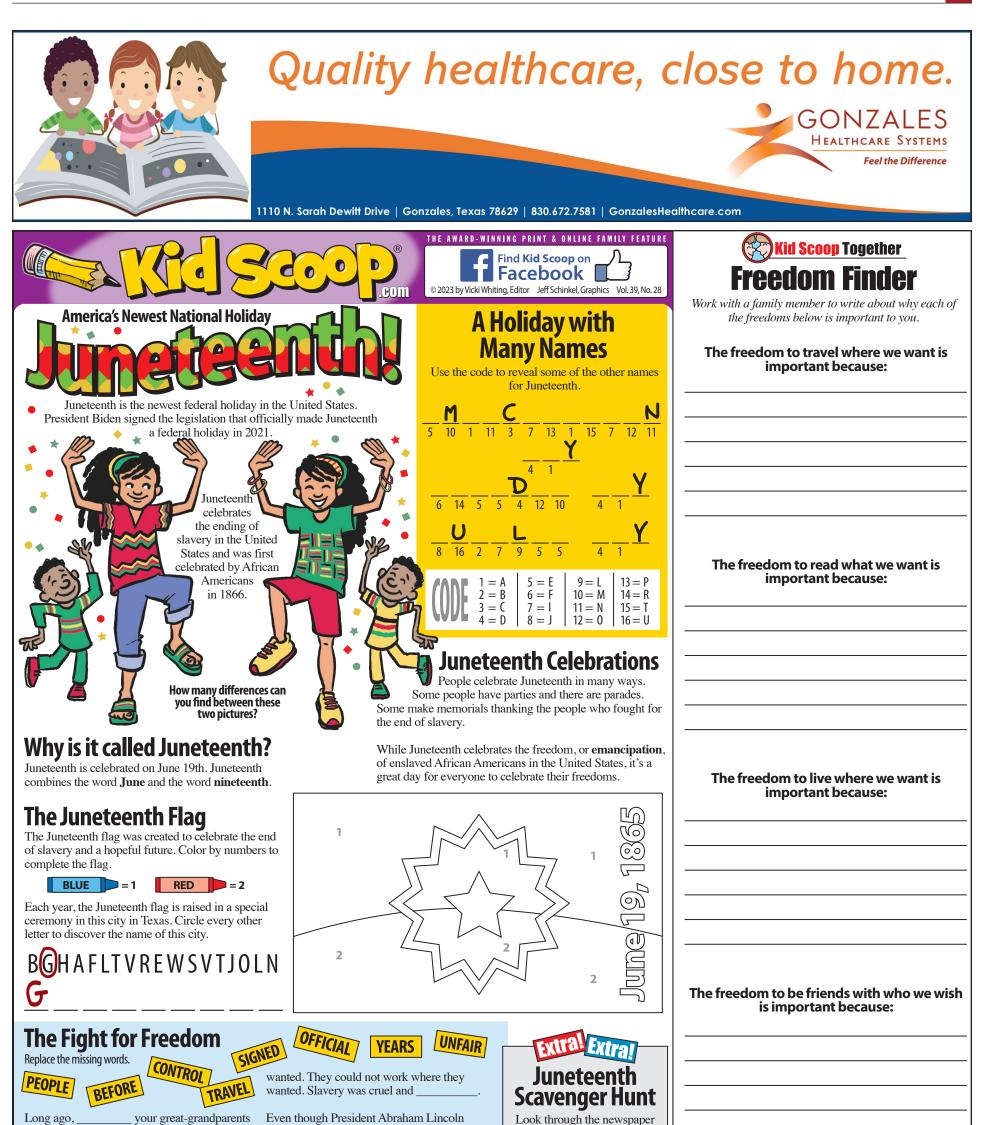
Back in the day, youngsters living across the street from each other set up competing stands, one offering lemonade for five cents a cup. Across the street, a slightly larger sign made for longer lines of patrons. It read: "All the lemonade you can drink for a nickel." When the first customer emptied his cup, he requested another. The youngster said, "That'll cost you another nickel."

The man countered, pointing to the "all-you-can-drink-for-a-nickel" sign. But the young entrepreneur was ready for him: "You are right, sir. But one cup is all you can drink for a nickel."...

Speaking of concessions, fans of the NBA no doubt are scratching their heads about the paucity of women referees in the play-offs.

During the regular season, it was not uncommon to see women officiating games. I've seen parts of virtually all play-off games and have yet to see a woman official.

I don't mean to be a whistleblower about no women whistleblowers, but I'm just saying next season may be different....



cans could legally own other people. They called the they owned slaves.

were born some Ameri

Slaves did not have freedoms that people _ where enjoy today. They could not _ they wanted. They could not live where they

the Emancipation Proclamation in 1862 freeing all slaves, it took three and a Civil War to finally make it

Juneteenth marks the day in 1865 that U.S. _ in Galveston, Texas soldiers took and the last slaves were finally freed.

and find the letters that spell Juneteenth. Cut out the letters and glue them onto a piece of paper and decorate! Post your Juneteenth picture in a window so people outside can see it. Standards Link: Use the newspaper to

The freedom to share our opinions with others is important because:



YOUR NEWS. YOUR WAY Gönzalez Inquirer

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SPORTS





Above: More than 200 Gonzales High School and Junior High School athletes attended the summer program for seventh through 12th graders. Left: The Gonzales Apaches athletes hit the weight room for the 2023 summer program.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs Linemen competed in the Linemen Challenge in San Marcos Saturday, June 10. The Mustangs punched their ticket to the state Linemen Challege at Hardin Simmons University Saturday, June 24 in Abilene. Front: left to right: Ryan Paez, Davian Ramos, Miguel Valerie, Jesus Espino, Gavino Moreno and Back: left to right Noah Jenks, Adolfo Vasquez, Gracen Martin, and Allen Espino.







Top: The Mustangs competed in several different stages for the Linemen Challenge at San Marcos Saturday, June 10. Above: Mustangs senior Miguel Valerie does agility drills as part of the Linemen Challenge in San Marcos.

Mustangs compete in Linemen challenge

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs linemen are heading to state for the Linemen Challenge.

The Mustangs competed in San Marcos for the regional linemen

Apaches begin offseason program

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches kicked off their summer program last week for their Strength and Speed Camp for the incoming seventh through 12th graders.

Almost 200 student athletes signed up for the summer program, according to Athletic Director and head football coach Joey Rivera on his Twitter.

The training focused only on strength and speed instruction and exercises as stated in the camp's description.

"Emphasis will focus on speed, strength, and agility drills for all athletes starting at 8:30 a.m. From 10:00 a.m.- 11:30 a.m. athletes will be able to participate in skills sessions with their



The Gonzales Lady Apaches future and present volleyball players listen to their coaches in the summer program at the Apache gym.

individual sports." from the sign up website.

The camp kicked off Monday, June 5 and will last to Thursday, July 20. For more information where to sign up to the summer athletic program, visit: https://t. co/3MQCsezpWi.

Bottom: Mustangs junior Ryan Paez carries bags of weights as part of the events for the Linemen Challenge at San Marcos.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

challenge.

Linemen Noah Jenks, Adolfo Vasquez, Gracen Martin, Allen Espino, Ryan Paez, Davian Ramos, Miguel Valerie, Jesus Espino and Gavino Moreno all competed in a variety of challenges.

The Mustangs will compete in the state linemen challenge in Abilene at Hardin Simmons University Saturday, June 24.



CONTRIBUTED

CONTRIBUTED

The Gonzales Apaches and Lady Apaches basketball players warm up their skills at the old high school gym for the 2023 summer program.

GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS



The winning team from the June 7 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Steve Neece, Randall Dupree, Ryan Lee, Chad Childs, Jarrid Boehm and Roy Staton.



The second-place team from the June 7 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Bill Kessler, Mike Higginbotham, Zack Reed, Ron Darilek and Ronnie DuBose.

GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY CLASS OF 2023





The Grace Christian Academy Class of 2023 graduated last month. Seniors who received their diplomas include Slone Gibson, Aimee Naylor and Belinda Seng.

PHOTOS BY IZ PHOTOGRAPHY

Tri-County Umpire's Day on tap June 17 at Shiner Brewery

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Tri-County Softball Umpires and the Tri-County Baseball Umpires will be celebrating the end of the season on Saturday, June 17 from 2 p.m. to closing at the Shiner Brewery. They would also like to invite all the softball and baseball coaches from the schools that Tri-County serves.

Basically, the brewery is open to the public and the group would love to socialize with all the fans in the Tri-County area. It's really hard to attract and keep umpires, so if anyone wants to show their gratitude, please show up and show your support. For the most part umpiring is a thankless job, so yes, an appreciative gesture may help. Come out and get to

An Invitation to Heroic Fatherhood

Men of Gonzales... It's time for a Revolution!

In 1836, William Barrett Travis wrote:

"I call on you in the name of Liberty, of patriotism & everything dear to the American character, to come to our aid, with all dispatch."

I am no great soldier, no great leader...but I am calling on you in the name of God, for you and your children, for liberty and patriotism and everything dear to you, a Texan, to come on Father's Day, with all dispatch.

I have watched the suffering of the children in our cities, towns and throughout Texas. I have stood by and done nothing. But as I was sitting in the pew last Sunday at the Episcopal church, alongside other believers in the grace of Christ, I found myself asking God to heal our world. I felt a sense of responsibility, of duty. It was placed upon my heart to invite you, the Fathers of our children, to come and worship together, as fathers, as families, on Father's Day.

Yes, I know you've heard it before... you're always welcome to church, but this is an invitation to YOU, the FATHERS of our children, to take that step that you need to make to start improving your own lives and the lives of your children.

In 1836, the men of Gonzales were called upon to fight for our freedom. I am calling upon you again, to begin a new revolution, on Father's Day.

For Father's Day, ask your children to join you and come to church, come back to church, or come to church for the first time. You're invited, come join me.

For too long, I've stood by, not knowing what to do, what to say, how to say it, but wanting to do something.

Through Kairos, a prison ministry, I've seen and listened to the stories of men who grew up without a father, who grew up without knowing about God, they needed their fathers in their lives. Your children, young and old, need you, their father, to take up the yoke of responsibility, to lead, to follow, to worship, together.

You want to be Invited? The invitation is not only open; it is being thrust upon you by your sons and daughters, by your families and friends, by your fellow fathers!

Perhaps things haven't been great between you, perhaps you haven't seen your children in a while, perhaps there is some anger and pain there, some abandonment, but there is also love in there, hidden but not forgotten. It's time to take up that yoke, and be a father to your children.

The invitation is open... Invite your children, your wife, their mother, to come with you to church on Father's Day. Start anew, through Christ; be freed of the shackles of your past, and start anew.

Will it be easy? No, it may be the very hardest request you've ever made of them, but it will be a blessing. Ask your children to leave their phones at home, and come join you at church on Father's Day. Start the Revolution!

Was I the "perfect" father? No, I was not, but you don't have to be perfect, you just need to be there. They aren't asking for perfection, they just need YOU! But we have to stick together. God's family sticks together! And we, Men of Gonzales, no matter our color or creed, our history or language, we live in this beautiful land together. We live as neighbors. As family. As God's family. Come, join me, You're invited!

Let's begin a Revolution in Gonzales, let it spread throughout the Great State of Texas, reclaiming our call to heroic fatherhood. It started here in 1836– and it can start here again.

Clip this invitation out of the paper. Post it everywhere you can; social media, the office, the store, the church...the bars, so that every father can hear the call. Spread the word throughout our beautiful land!

Come join us in celebrating heroic fatherhood on Father's Day, in church, your church, my church, it doesn't matter, just come! Bring your children for the love and meaning that is only offered by God, our heavenly Father.

If you don't have a father in your life, please come, you're invited. If you have the fortitude where your father does not, call him, and invite him to church on Father's Day. You're invited. Mothers, we need you to be strong and support your children. Invite their father to come join you and the children at church on Father's Day. You're all invited.

know these men and women. Also, anyone that may be thinking of umpiring, come and meet on Saturday, June, 17.

Tri-County has some of the best umpires in the state. As well as officials, the Tri-County Area showcases some of the best baseball and softball in the state too. Both the Tri-County Softball Chapter and the Tri-County Baseball Chapter are relatively small, only covering plus or minus of a dozen schools each year, but the quality of baseball and softball in the Tri-County area is exceptional.

Some quick research indicates that a state champion or two in baseball has been from this area over 50 percent of the time since the late 1970s. In softball, since 1997 when the UIL added the smaller classifications, the Tri-County area has had more than 30 teams at the state tournament. Over 50 percent of these teams brought home state championships. Of the 2 TAPP Schools they cover, year in and year out, they have teams at their state tournaments as well as state championships in both baseball and softball.

The quality of both baseball and softball as well as our officials are excellent in the Tri-County area, so if you want to talk softball or baseball and to have just a good ole' fashion time, then they will see you Saturday, June 17 at the Shiner Brewery starting at 2 p.m. There will be BBQ and drinks to be purchased, tours available, and live musical entertainment.

Men of Gonzales, You have been called; will you respond again? Will you again be the men of Texas that lead us to freedom, to capture heroic fatherhood?

Your children need you to be their Father. Come celebrate with them on Father's Day in the presence of our Heavenly Father.

YOU'RE ALL INVITED!

W. B. Travis continued, "I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible & die like a soldier who never forgets what is due to his own honor & that of his country."

I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible and die like a father who never forgets what is due to his own honor & that of his children.

There is no greater purpose in life than to God and your children.

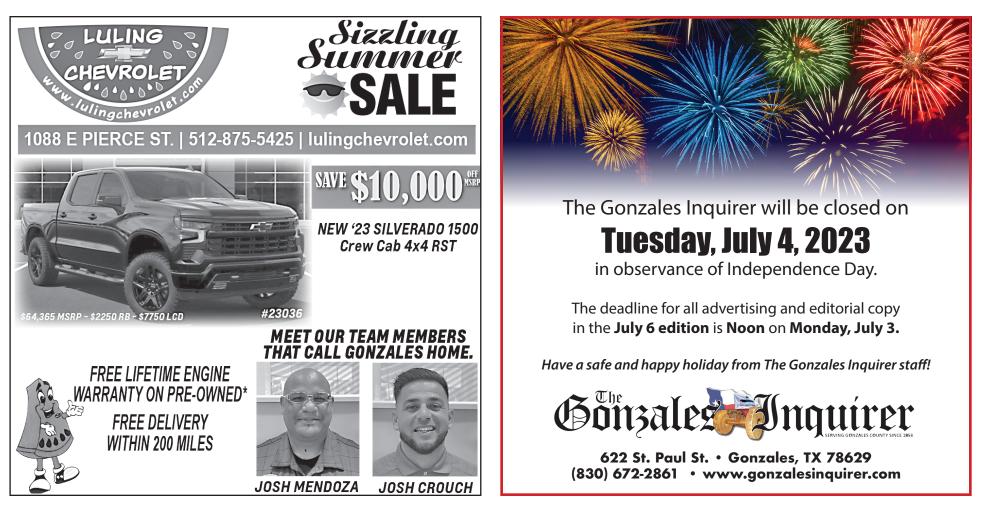
I'll see you on Sunday, the 18th of June, our Father's Day. God be with us all.

Sincerely,

Ross Tieken, 58 years old, a Gonzales County Resident

A God-loving Father, friend, husband, Texan.

VISIT US ONLINE AT GONZALESINQUIRER.COM



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HOW TO PLACE AN AD

You can place ads online at www.gonzalesinquirer.com

or call

(830) 672-2861

and/or email ads@gonzalesinquirer.com All rates are net cash with order until credit is approved. We accept Mastercard, VISA, American Express and Discover or payment can be made in person with cash or check.

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

The deadline to place an ad in the paper is Tuesday by Noon.

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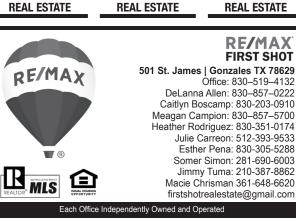
The Gonzales Inquirer is responsible for the first incorrect insertion of an ad only. Call (830) 672-2861 to notify of a needed correction.

CALL TODAY 830-672-2861



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ORDINANCE NO. 0-2011-10-17 CITY OF NIXON, TEXAS

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AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING ORDINANACE OF THE CITY OF NIXON, TEXAS, PROHIBITING THRU-TRUCK COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING Α SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00) FOR EACH **OFFENSE:** PROVIDING SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; Α PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Commissioners Court of Gonzales County Texas, acting pursuant to §§ 251.152 and 545.351 of the Texas Transportation Code, conducting a public hearing to receive comment regarding the establishment of a uniform speed limit of 35 miles per hour on all county maintained public roads, and a 20 miles per hour speed limit on all county maintained roads traversing urban districts, as defined by § 541.102 of the Texas Transportation Code. The hearing will be at the County of Gonzales Courthouse, 414 St. Joseph St, Commissioners Courtroom, Gonzales, TX. 78629 on June 26, 2023 at 9:00 A.M.

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Delores Zella, Deceased, were issued on May 31, 2023, in Cause No. PW23-0267, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: Connie Schlinke Smart.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Raymond H. Reese

Raymond H. Reese Attorney for Connie Schlinke Smart

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BUSINESS	BUSINESS	BUSINE

Attention Private Non-Profit Schools

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You may be eligible to participate in services through Federal Programs. Please contact your local school district regarding participation in the planning and receipt of services through Federal Programs. We would like to hear from you no later than July 14, 2023.

For more information, please contact: Jeff VanAuken, Nixon-Smiley CISD Superintendent of Schools, at 830.582.1536, extension 102.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Melissa Jean McMillan Jones (also known as Melissa Jean Jones), Deceased, were issued on June 8, 2023, in Cause No. PW23-0264, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: Sarah Robertson (known in Will as Sarah Melissa McMillan).

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: M. Elizabeth Raxter Attorney at Law 705 State Park Rd. Lockhart, Texas 78644

DATED the 8th day of June, 2023

/s/ M. Elizabeth Raxter M. Elizabeth Raxter Attorney for Sarah Robertson (known in Will as Sarah Melissa McMillan) State Bar No.: 24050084 705 State Park Rd. Lockhart, Texas 78644 Telephone: (512) 398-6996 Facsimile: (512) 668-4501 E-mail: eraxter@tx-elderlaw.com



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Gonzales County Historic Commission has positions on their board available and Gonzales County is currently taking applications to fill them. If you are interested in serving on this board please pickup or print an application from the Gonzales County Website on the County Commissioners page. The application form can also be picked up at the County Judges Office, 414 St. Joseph St, Gonzales, TX 78629 and must be returned to their office by email or in person before June 21, 2023 by 5:00 P.M.

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Elsworth P. Bird, Deceased, were issued on April 17, 2023, in Cause No. PW23-0260, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: Debra P. Springs and Bruce Patteson.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Debra P. Springs and Bruce Patteson 1460 Highway 87 South Nixon, Texas 78141

DATED the _____ day of _____, 2023

+ lac

Hunter H. Hewell Attorney for the Independent Co-Executors State Bar No.: 24120890 536 E. Court Seguin, TX 78155 Telephone: (830) 386-3805 Facsimile: (866) 465-6451 E-mail: Hhewell@mgmspllc.com

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NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNFICANT IMPACT, NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS, AND FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLA-NATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS

06/08/2023

These notices shall satisfy three separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Gonzales.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about June 26, 2023, the Texas General Land Office (GLO) will authorize the City of Gonzales (City) to submit a request to HUD for the release of Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Program funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as City of Gonzales Flood and Drainage Improvements (Project).

The City is proposing to replace storm sewer culverts, replace a low water crossing, and excavate and grade an existing channel to increase resilience to future flooding events and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters. Construction shall take place within and adjacent to a portion of Tinsley Creek approximately 200 feet north of the intersection of Johnson Street and St. Andrew Street and approximately 100 feet north of the intersection of Johnson Street and St. Andrew Street. These activities would benefit 7,130 people of whom 4,085 (57.29%) are of low to moderate income. \$403,365.40 of the project will be funded through the CDBG-MIT Program under HUD Grant Number B-18-DP-48-0002; the amount of funding to come from the City of Gonzales is currently undetermined.

FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS

This is to give notice that the City has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands, to determine the potential affect that its activity in the floodplain and wetland will have on the human environment.

A review of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map, Community Panel 48177C0240D, effective on 01/22/2020, shows 0.89 acres of the site is located within the Regulatory Floodway (Zone AE Floodway), less than 0.01 acres occur within the 100-floodplain (Zone AE), and approximately 0.13 acres of the Project is located within the Tinsley Creek riverine wetland feature. Construction of the project is considered a functionally dependent activity.

The City has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values: 1) different box culvert size and elevation, 2) locations outside of the floodplain, and 3) the no action alternative. An evaluation of Alternative 1 determined that setting the culverts at a higher elevation in order to minimize excavation within the floodplain and wetland was not practicable because of rising flood elevation concerns. The chosen culvert size and elevation will be needed to improve flood water conveyance and reduce risk to area residents. Regarding Alternative 2, as all Tinsley Creek culverts and low water crossing are located in the floodway, there are no alternative project locations outside of the floodplain. The project site selected was determined to provide the maximum benefit to residents living in the Project area. The no action Alternative 3 would prevent the project area culverts and low water crossing from being replaced, leaving area residents at greater risk for flood damage to their homes and businesses should another disaster. The no action alternative therefore fails to address the need for improved resilience against floods.

Construction of the Project was the preferred alternative because it is not anticipated to aggravate current hazards to floodplains or permanently disrupt floodplain or wetland

AVISO DE CONCLUSIÓN DE IMPACTO NO SIGNIFICATIVO, AVISO DE INTENCIÓN DE SOLICITAR ENTREGA DE FONDOS Y AVISO FINAL Y EXPLICACIÓN PÚBLICA DE UNA ACTIVIDAD PROPUESTA EN UNA LLANURA ALUVIAL

values. Based on the environmental review, the project as proposed, with the adapted best management practices, would not pose any significant hazards or adverse conditions for people, habitat, or the community at this location. The City will require adherence to Federal, State, and Local regulations and permitting practices. These include, but are not limited to, restriction of vehicle and material staging in floodplain and wetland areas and protecting floodplains and wetland features through silt fencing and appropriate management of construction waste and debris.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information about floodplains and wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains or wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

TThe City has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National environment. Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Gonzales City Hall, 820 St Joseph St., Gonzales, TX 78629. The record is available for review and may be examined or copied weekdays 9 A.M to 5 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Gonzales or HUD Disaster Recovery and Special Issues Division. Comments may be submitted to Mr. Tim Crow, Gonzales City Manager, via 820 St Joseph St., Gonzales, TX 78629 or by email to tcrow@gonzales.texas.gov. All comments received by June 23, 2023, will be considered by the City of Gonzales prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Gonzales certifies to HUD that Tim Crow in his capacity as City Manager consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Gonzales to use Program funds for the project.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Gonzales; (b) the City of Gonzales has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD Disaster Recovery and Special Issues Division, 451 7th Street SW, Room 7272, Washington, DC 20410 or email DisasterRecovery@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Tim Crow, City Manager, City of Gonzales

riesgos actuales para las llanuras aluviales o que altere de forma permanente los valores de la llanura aluvial o del humedal. En función de la revisión ambiental, el proyecto en su versión propuesta, con las prácticas óptimas de gestión adaptadas, no plantearía ningún riesgo significativo o condiciones adversas para las personas, el hábitat o la comunidad en esta ubicación. La Ciudad requerirá acatamiento de las normativas y prácticas de habilitación federales, estatales y locales. Estas incluyen, a título enunciativo pero no limitativo, la restricción de la colocación de vehículos y materiales en las zonas de llanura aluvial y humedal, y la protección de las llanuras aluviales y humedales mediante la colocación de cercas contra cieno y la gestión adecuada de los desperdicios y escombros de la construcción.

CENTENARIA Y HUMEDALES

06/08/2023

Estos avisos satisfarán tres requisitos de procedimiento separados pero vinculados para las actividades que emprenderá la Ciudad de Gonzales.

SOLICITUD DE ENTREGA DE FONDOS

El 26 de junio de 2023 o alrededor de esa fecha, la Oficina General de Tierras de Texas (GLO) autorizará a la Ciudad de Gonzales (Ciudad) a presentar una solicitud al HUD para la entrega de fondos del Programa de Subvención en Bloque para Desarrollo Comunitario - Mitigación (CDBG-MIT) en virtud del Título I de la Ley de Vivienda y Desarrollo de la Comunidad de 1974 y sus enmiendas, para emprender un proyecto conocido como Mejoras del Drenaje y para Inundaciones de la Ciudad de Gonzales (Proyecto).

La Ciudad propone reemplazar alcantarillas de drenaje pluvial, reemplazar vados y excavar y aplanar un canal existente para aumentar la resiliencia ante futuros casos de inundaciones y reducir o eliminar el riesgo de pérdida de vida a largo plazo, las lesiones, los daños y las pérdidas materiales y el sufrimiento y las adversidades, mediante la atenuación del impacto de futuras catástrofes. La construcción se producirá dentro de una parte del Arroyo Tinsley y adyacente a ella, de aproximadamente 200 pies al norte del cruce de las calles Johnson Street y St. Andrew Street y aproximadamente 100 pies al norte del cruce de las calles Johnson Street y St. Andrew Street. Estas actividades beneficiarían a 7,130 personas, de las cuales 4,085 (57.29%) tienen ingresos bajos a moderados. Se financiarán \$403,365.40 del proyecto a través del Programa de CDBG-MIT con el Número de Subvención del HUD B-18-DP-48-0002; la cantidad de fondos que provendrán de la Ciudad de Gonzales actualmente está sin determinar.

AVISO FINAL Y REVISIÓN PÚBLICA DE UNA ACTIVIDAD PROPUESTA EN UNA LLANURA ALUVIAL CENTENARIA Y HUMEDALES

Por el presente, se notifica que la Ciudad ha realizado una evaluación según lo requerido por la Orden Ejecutiva 11988 y 11990, en conformidad con las normativas del HUD de la Subparte C: Procedimientos para tomar decisiones sobre gestión de llanuras aluviales y protección de humedales del 24 CFR 55.20, para determinar el efecto potencial que su actividad en la llanura aluvial y el humedal tendrá sobre el ambiente humano.

Una revisión del Mapa de Tasas del Seguro contra Inundaciones de FEMA, Panel Comunitario 48177C0240D, vigente desde el 22 de enero de 2020, muestra que 0.89 acres del predio se ubican dentro del Aliviadero Controlado (Aliviadero Zona AE), menos de 0.01 acres están dentro de la llanura aluvial centenaria (Zona AE) y aproximadamente 0.13 acres del Proyecto se ubican dentro del humedal ribereño del Arroyo Tinsley. La construcción del proyecto se considera una actividad dependiente en términos funcionales.

La Ciudad ha analizado la implementación de las siguientes alternativas y medidas de mitigación para minimizar los efectos perjudiciales y para recuperar y preservar los valores naturales y beneficiosos: 1) alcantarillas de diferentes tamaños y elevaciones, 2) ubicaciones fuera de la llanura aluvial y 3) la alternativa de no actuar. Con la evaluación de la alternativa 1 se determinó que colocar las alcantarillas a una mayor elevación para minimizar la excavación dentro de la llanura aluvial y el humedal no era viable debido a los problemas de elevación de la inundación. El tamaño y la elevación de la alcantarilla elegidos serán necesarios para mejorar la conducción del agua de las inundaciones y reducir el riesgo a los residentes de la zona. Respecto de la alternativa 2, dado que todas las alcantarillas y vados del Arroyo Tinsley se ubican en el aliviadero, no hay ubicaciones alternativas para el proyecto fuera de la llanura aluvial. Se determinó que el predio del proyecto seleccionado proveerá el máximo beneficio a los residentes que viven en la zona del Proyecto. La alternativa 3 relativa a no actuar evitaría el reemplazo de las alcantarillas y vados de la zona del proyecto, lo que ocasionaría que los residentes de la zona corrieran un mayor riesgo de daños por inundación en sus casas y comercios, si hubiera otra catástrofe. Por consiguiente, la alternativa de no actuar no aborda la necesidad de mejorar la resistencia contra las inundaciones.

El presente aviso tiene tres objetivos principales. En primer lugar, las personas que pueden verse afectadas por las actividades en llanuras aluviales y humedales y aquellas interesadas en la protección del medio ambiente natural deberían recibir una oportunidad para expresar sus inquietudes y proveer información sobre estas zonas. En segundo lugar, un programa adecuado de aviso público puede ser una herramienta educativa para el público. La diseminación de información sobre llanuras aluviales y humedales puede facilitar y mejorar las campañas federales para reducir los riesgos asociados con la ocupación y la modificación de estas zonas particulares. En tercer lugar, como una cuestión de imparcialidad, cuando el gobierno federal decide que participará en medidas que se llevan a cabo en llanuras aluviales o humedales, debe informar a quienes podrían correr riesgos más grandes o continuos.

CONCLUSIÓN DE IMPACTO NO SIGNIFICATIVO

La Ciudad determinó que el proyecto no tendrá un impacto significativo en el ambiente humano. Por consiguiente, no se requiere la Declaración de Impacto Ambiental en virtud de la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental de 1969 (NEPA). El Expediente de Revisión Ambiental (ERR), archivado en Gonzales City Hall, 820 St Joseph St., Gonzales, TX 78629, contiene información adicional del proyecto. El expediente está disponible para consultas, y es posible examinarlo u obtener copias los días laborables entre las 9 a.m. y las 5 p.m.

COMENTARIOS DEL PÚBLICO

Cualquier persona, grupo o agencia puede enviar comentarios escritos sobre el ERR a la Ciudad de Gonzales o a la División de Asuntos Especiales y Recuperación por desastre del HUD. Los comentarios pueden dirigirse al Sr. Tim Crow, Administrador de la Ciudad de Gonzales, a través de 820 St Joseph St., Gonzales, TX 78629 o escribiendo un correo electrónico a tcrow@gonzales.texas.gov. La Ciudad de Gonzales tendrá en cuenta todos los comentarios recibidos antes del 23 de junio de 2023 antes de autorizar la presentación de una solicitud de entrega de fondos. Los comentarios deberían especificar el Aviso al que hacen referencia.

CERTIFICACIÓN AMBIENTAL

La Ciudad de Gonzales certifica al HUD que Tim Crow en carácter de Administrador de la Ciudad está de acuerdo en aceptar la jurisdicción de los Tribunales Federales si se presentare una acción para exigir responsabilidades vinculadas con el proceso de revisión ambiental y que dichas responsabilidades han sido satisfechas. La aprobación del HUD de la certificación satisface sus responsabilidades bajo la NEPA y leyes y autoridades vinculadas y le permite a la Ciudad de Gonzales usar fondos del Programa para el proyecto.

OBJECIONES A LA ENTREGA DE FONDOS

El HUD aceptará objeciones a su entrega de fondos y la certificación de la Ciudad por un periodo de quince días siguientes a la fecha de presentación prevista o su recibo real de la solicitud (lo que ocurra más tarde), únicamente si existiere uno de los siguientes motivos: (a) la certificación no estaba firmada por el Funcionario de Certificación de la Ciudad de Gonzales; (b) la Ciudad de Gonzales omitió un paso o no tomó una decisión o no llegó a la conclusión requerida por las normativas del HUD en la parte 58 del 24 CFR; (c) el subvencionado u otros participantes en el proceso de desarrollo han comprometido fondos, incurrido en gastos o emprendido actividades no autorizados por la Parte 58 del 24 CFR antes de la aprobación de una entrega de fondos del HUD; o (d) otra agencia federal que actúa en virtud de la Parte 1504 del 40 CFR ha presentado una conclusión escrita de que el proyecto es insatisfactorio desde el punto de vista de la calidad ambiental. Las objeciones deben ser preparadas y presentadas en conformidad con los procedimientos requeridos (Sec. 58.76 de la Parte 58 del 24 CFR) y deberán remitirse a la División de Asuntos Especiales y Recuperación por desastres del HUD a 451 7th Street SW, Sala 7272, Washington, DC 20410 o por correo electrónico a DisasterRecovery@hud.gov. Objetantes potenciales deberían comunicarse con el HUD para verificar el último día real del periodo de objeción.

La construcción del Proyecto fue la alternativa preferida porque no se prevé que agrave los

Tim Crow, Administrador de la Ciudad de la Ciudad de Gonzales

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FREEDOM

We Praise the God of this nation. Father God You saved this place and here it sits between two oceans like a jewel, like a diamond that's been thrown across a world of coals. We are so grateful! The people of this country are not trying to get out but the people all over the world are trying their best to get in here in the United States because they know it is a special place. Father God we praise You and thank You for saving it for us. We worship You and we Praise You in the Name of Jesus!

There are two prayers that God gave to the apostle Paul to pen for us. He prayed these prayers. I found myself playing these prayers and the more I prayed these prayers, revelation and knowledge came. You begin to see spiritually what God wants us to grasp with our heart and then to act on it in faith.

In Eph 1:16-23 Paul is inspired with excitement to tell us that God the Father raised Jesus from the dead and sat



Him at the right hand of the Father. This is the position where all authority is in Christ Jesus. God gave all power and authority to Jesus and Jesus gave the power to the Church. Study the verse of Ephesians 1:17, 18, - 23. Read it over and over until you grasp the wisdom and knowledge that God wants you to see. In verse 22 and 23, and Eph 2:6 we see that when God elevated His Son far above all principality and power and might and dominion and every name that is named not only in this world but also in the world to come. He has put all things under His feet and gave Him to be the head over all things to the Church, which is His body, the fullness of Him that fills us all and all. Chapter 2:6

tells us when God raised up Jesus He raised us up together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. In other words when He raised up Christ Jesus, He raised up the Church (which is the Body of Christ) at the same time. Notice in verse 22, He put everything under His feet. The feet are in the body. Jesus gave all this authority to the Church which is His body, the fullness of Him.

So Church we are to do the work of the ministry here on the earth through faith. Faith is the key ingredient and it is carried out with words. We take His written Word and put it in our mouth and that is what we confess and believe.

What our nation and the world is going through right now we are to take the Word of God and stand on the promises of the word and call those things that be not as though they were. Abraham had a covenant with God and we have a covenant with God. Abraham wanted to see God's Glory. In Romans 4:17-25, "He



staggered not at the promise of God but was strong in faith giving glory to God and being fully persuaded that what He promised, He was able to perform. Are you fully persuaded? We must speak the Word and thank Him and spend time praising Him for the victory.

We must let The Word do the work!!!



Guilty until proven innocent

Hello again, hope all is well. I woke up early this morning with a few thoughts of what to write about going through my head, then decided to look through my small treasure chest of wisdom (debatable?) for some inspirational nuggets, and lo and behold, it was empty. Sorry about that...wrong chest, it was the one with the answers to why people act the way we do. Then it dawned on me; successful treasure hunters could truly be considered ... "Pro-Found"!

So, why do we act the way we do? Well, it could be for any number, or combinations of reasons. It could be because A) as a fallen creation we are constantly fighting against the powers, authorities and rulers of darkness in this world (Eph 6:12), B) we've been incorrectly misinformed and programmed by human authorities seeking their own power and profit, C) that as we've been so busy patting ourselves on the back for our overwhelming intelligence, we've failed to notice that we still have the unending ability to be as dumb as a pot of rocks, or D) all of the above. Public notice: no rocks were intentionally insulted or made to feel less worthy during the delivery of this message.

Please don't take the whole dumb as a pot of rocks thing personally, you're not alone. Kinda thought you were getting out of it, didn't you? But don't fret about it, even the most brilliant minds ever conceived share in this inherent abil-



ity. As for me, my intelligence resume reads like any good medical prescription label, one or two bullet points on the positive side, followed by half a page of weird side effects. The American Medical Association has finally determined that this large, hideous growth on my shoulders is actually my head, and there's apparently no cure currently available. Yep, trying to roll through life with square wheels is tough business!

As many of you may (or may not) know, I'm a recovered alcoholic of thirty two years, and have thanked God profusely everyday for bringing me out of a nightmare I couldn't seem to wake myself up from. During my early years of sobriety attending AA meetings, something I learned that has always stuck with me and applies to life in general (I believe), is that anyone can recover if they have the ability (some apparently do not) to be "Rigorously Honest" with themselves and aren't afraid to do so. Taking ongoing "personal inventory" is essential, not only for recovery from the many forms of addiction, but also in following Christ, and becoming all

that we were created to be for others, as well as ourselves. While being brutally honest with yourself isn't easy, it pays big dividends.

For those of us trying our darndest to become the best versions of ourselves, while being a constant uphill battle, and often resulting in slow, painful and less than optimal results, is still worth the effort. No human has ever achieved perfection by his or her own efforts. When shooting at a target we aim for, and hope to hit, the bullseye. To God the bullseye represents Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, the one who died for us, allowing those who believe in (and follow) to achieve eternal life with God. For everyone else, the bullseye generally represents themselves, hence the term "self centered". Hebrews 4:13 reminds us that "Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account." By accepting Christ we have, in effect, retained the only attorney in the universe who can plead and win our case before the gavel swings...something to really think about. Don't wait until the last minute, put Jesus on the payroll today, you'll be mighty glad you did when court's called into session!

God bless, love you guys, Eric.

Jehovah's Witness convention returns to San Antonio

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

After a three-year pandemic pause, one of the largest convention organizations in the world has once again chosen San Antonio to host its global threeday event, the 2023 "Exercise Patience"! Convention.

Prior to 2019, summers in San Antonio were marked by Jehovah's Witnesses filling hotels and restaurants as they attended their annual conventions in San Antonio. In 2020, the pandemic interrupted that tradition in San Antonio when the Witnesses canceled their in-person events throughout the world and held their convention programs as virtual events in more than 500 languages. Beginning May 19, 2023, the Witnesses have been bringing that tradition back to San Antonio, now at the San Antonio Assembly Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses.

"Millions of us attended the conventions virtually during the height of the pandemic. We knew it was for our protection, and we

See CONVENTION, page 15

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Christ the King Church 1262 U.S. Highway 77 South

Between Harwood & Waelder off old Hwy. 90

Two Rivers Bible Church 1600 Sarah DeWitt Dr., Suite 210, Gonzales

INTER-DENOMINATIONAL Faith Family Church 1812 Cartwheel Dr., Gonzales

Living Waters Fellowship 306 St. Paul, Gonzales

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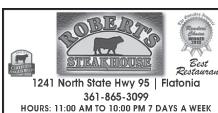
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OBITUARIES

Jill Don Barnett, age 62 of Gonzales, TX, found eternal rest in the arms of her Lord and Savior on June 6, 2023, after a strenuous battle with Alzheimer's Dementia.

Jill was born on August 16, 1960, to Don and Sharon Colley in Nixon, Texas. After graduating from Pleasanton High School in 1978, she went on to study Education and Home Economics at Southwest Texas State University. in San Marcos, where she obtained her bachelor's degree in interior design. She spent most of her years raising her daughters and living out her dream of being a stay-at-home mom. She would later return to college in 2004 for her teaching certification to teach at Gonzales High School. After 13 years in education, she retired from teaching in 2017. She loved her students dearly; each and every one held a special place in her heart.

Iill met the love of her life, Morgan Barnett, after being set up on a blind date by their parents in April of 1983 and, as the saying goes, "The rest is history." Morgan and Jill were married on December 17, 1983, and were blessed with two daughters, Brittany and Emily.

Jill was many things to many people. She was a loving wife, mother, mother-in-law, friend, daughter, aunt, cousin, niece, sister, and teacher. However, it was the title of grandmother. or "Elsa". that she adored most of all. She cherished her 6 grandchildren more than anything in this world and always made sure they were cuddled and kissed every moment she had them in her arms. Jill also had a fondness for odd critters, whether it was her



JILL DON BARNETT

Iguana named Tawanda, her Emperor scorpions she got for a special Egyptian VBS, or her famous Madagascar hissing cockroaches that once escaped and terrorized downtown Wrightsboro. She loved all animals and turned many strays into pets. Jill lovingly called her home the "Barnett Barnyard" because of all the animals she took in over the years. More than her love for anything worldly was Jill's love for the Lord. She served Him faithfully and was instrumental in bringing both of her daughters to know Christ by teaching the Word of God in the family home. Jill, alongside Morgan, served as a Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church in Gonzales for many years. She also went to great lengths to make the most extravagant Vacation Bible School adventures for the children of FBC during the summers. She gave her heart to Jesus as a young girl and walked closely with Him her entire adult life. Jesus Christ was not only her Lord and Savior, but he was also her friend.

Jill is survived by her husband of 39 years, Morgan Barnett of Gonzales, TX, daughters, Brittany Salazar (Kevin) of Goliad, TX, and Emily Connor (Eric) of Gonzales, TX, six grandchildren, Kennedy

Salazar, Mason Connor, Evelyn Connor, Kase Salazar, Morgan Connor, and Baker Salazar; parents, Don and Sharon Colley of Pleasanton, TX; sisters Jan Pendley of Pleasanton and Judy Blowers (Dusty) of San Antonio, TX; father and mother-in-law, Jack and Peggy Barnett of Wrightsboro, TX; Brothers-in-law Mike Barnett (Dusty) of Brock, TX, Mark Barnett of Austin, TX, and David Barnett (Julie) of San Marcos, TX, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and other family and friends whom she loved dearly.

Jill is preceded in death by her grandparents, Bill and Esther Trant of Nixon, TX, and George and Estelle Colley of Smiley, TX.

Services will be held on Saturday, June 10, 2023, at First Baptist Church in Gonzales, TX, with visitation beginning at 1:00 P.M. and funeral services beginning at 2:00 P.M. Burial will follow at the Wrightsboro Cemetery in Wrightsboro, TX.

Pallbearers: Kevin Salazar, Eric Connor, Trant Stark, Jon Barnett, Preston Thigpen, Ryan Barnett, and Bridger Colley.

Honorary Pallbearers: Friends, faculty, and staff members of Gonzales ISD who worked with Jill during her time with the school district.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Nesbit Living & Recovery Center in Seguin as well as Heart to Heart Hospice for their compassion and love extended to Jill.

Donations can be made to the Wrightsboro Cemetery Association.

All services are under the care and direction of Seydler - Hill Funeral Home.

CORNELIA "CONNIE" FAY BROWN KRIDLER

Cornelia "Connie" Fay Brown Kridler, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend, passed away on June 10, 2023, at the age of 86. She was born on December 6, 1936, in Corpus Christi, Texas, to Thomas Clement and Fay Ellen Kaler Brown. Connie was a dedicated, hard working lady who touched the lives of many with her kind-hearted nature and unwavering love for her family and friends. She will forever be remembered for her warm smile, gentle spirit and genuine care she showed for everyone she encountered. Throughout her life, Connie was a dedicated wife and partner to her husband of 42 years, Randle Eugene "Poochy" Kridler. Together, they built a strong and welcoming home filled with love and laughter. Connie's devotion to her family was unmatched, and her unwavering support and guidance were always present. She leaves behind a family who adored her, including her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Connie graduated from Incarnate Word Academy in 1954. After completing her undergraduate education at the University of Texas and then graduate degree from Southwest Texas State University, she embarked on a career as a dedicated Elementary PE teacher, where she taught students in Gonzales ISD for 30 years. She retired in 1994 after 35 total years of teaching, with a career spanning the Flour Bluff, Shiner and Gonzales Independent School Districts. Connie's commitment to education and her ability to inspire those around

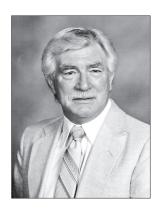


her earned her the admiration and respect of both her colleagues and students. Over the years, Connie was actively involved in various organizations. She was a dedicated member of Saint James Catholic Church and served as an officer in the Catholic Daughters of America. She was also a member of Beta Sigma Phi, the Retired Teachers of America, Eastern Star and Earth Angels Quilting Group. After her retirement, she spent as much time as she could with her grandchildren, teaching them to sew, make bread, play solitaire and work on crossword puzzles. Connie's warm and welcoming smile made her an instant friend to all who crossed her path. She had a deep love for her family, cherishing every moment spent with her children, grandchildren and greatgrandchildren. She leaves behind a legacy of love, kindness and the importance of family bonds. Connie is survived by her three children, Mary Ellen Erwin and husband, Scott; Gene Kridler and wife, Jackie; Joseph Kridler and wife, Lawren; her grandchildren, Kaler Shultz, Hannah Erwin, Maren Erwin and Warner Erwin Jr.; Gena Bennett, Amelia Kloesel and Trey Kridler; Dylan Gomez,

Brandan Gomez and Ryan Kridler; her greatgrandchildren, Heidi Kridler, Adalynn Kloesel, Kensley Long and Olivia Bennett: and her dear sister, Mary Frances Kingsbury; her nephews, Thomas Kingsbury, Tony Kingsbury and Arthur Kingsbury. Preceding her in death were her husband, Poochy Kridler, her parents, her infant brother, Francis, her brotherin-law, Rod Kingsbury and her nephew, Charles Kingsbury. Visitation will be held at Seydler Hill Funeral Home on Thursday, June 15, from 5-7 p.m. with Rosary following. A funeral mass will be held at Saint James Catholic Church on Friday, June 16, at 10 a.m. Interment will follow at Hermann Sons Cemetery, and a luncheon will be held at the First United Methodist Church fellowship hall. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to Saint James Catholic Daughters. Pallbearers include Trey Kridler, Warner Erwin Jr., Maren Erwin, Dylan Gomez, Brandan Gomez and Ryan Kridler. Honorary pallbearers are Thomas Kingsbury, Tony Kingsbury, Arthur Kingsbury, Kaler Shultz, Hannah Erwin, Gena Bennett and Amelia Kloesel. Although our hearts are heavy with grief, we find solace in the knowledge that our beloved Nana is now reunited with her loved ones who went before her. Her spirit will continue to inspire us, and her memory will forever live on in our hearts. May her soul find eternal peace. Services are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.

Joe Edward Matejcek

Joe Edward Matejcek, 82, of Gonzales passed away peacefully surrounded by family at his home Monday, June12, 2023. He was



er. Although it was love at first sight, Mary Lou's father wouldn't allow her to go on a date with him because she was only sixteen. They wrote letters to each other every week and he would come visit her in Gonzales until she was old enough to date. They were married November 19, 1961 at Zion Lutheran Church in Moulton, Texas. They moved to Houston and rented a small duplex in the Heights (not the Heights as we know it Today), but they were happy and living on love. He started working in construction part time when he was in high school and continued that trade in Houston, Yet, Ioe was a simple man and loved the country. So in 1975, he moved his family to Gonzales to be closer to family

and get out of the city. Joe started raising broiler chickens for Holly Farms (which was later sold to Tyson). He has one of the longest running farms in the county that has remained under the same name. Last week he sold his 191st run. Joe has raised over 20 million birds in those 48 years with little or no outside help, as he'd rather do it himself because that is just the type of man he was. Joe still continued his construction work while he was raising chickens. He loved working with wood and cabinet making became his specialty. Joe lived an example of love and faith and made sure his children went to church. He was a member of the First Lutheran Church, serving on the

Church Council, and teaching Sunday School in past years. He was also a member of the Property Board when the Church

fishing and teaching them how to tie a new knot. He taught them many life lessons. Later in life, his face lit up anytime he was with

born April 14, 1941 in Lexington, TX. He was the son of Joseph Matejcek and Antonia (Plasek) Matejcek. Growing up, most of his friends and family referred to him as "Joe-Man". He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church in Lexington. He grew up during hard times and started working at a very young age. There was always plenty of work to do on the farm like feeding the animals or picking cotton with his older sisters. Although it was hard work, there was a little fun mixed in, as many stories have been shared about fishing in the creek, finding honey combs, and catching a rab-

bit in the cotton patch. Joe attended school in Lexington and Giddings where he excelled at speaking competitions and track and field events. He was a member of the graduating class of Giddings High School in 1959.

Joe met the love of his life, Mary Lou Selzer, on June 13, 1959 when they were in a wedding togethbuilt the Fellowship Hall.

Joe loved his family more than anything. Family vacations were usually spent going to see more family, going to the beach, or fishing (even though he didn't get to fish much when the whole family went because he spent most of his time untangling lines). He was a quiet, patient man and he was always there to encourage his children and grandchildren. He loved spending time with his grandchildren, whether it was helping them build something in his workshop, driving through the pasture to feed cows, teaching them about the birds that came to the bird feeder, or going

his great-grandchildren.

In his spare time, he enjoyed playing his guitar and fiddle, gardening, reading, fishing and a little hunting. He enjoyed watching the wildlife more than hunting it and taught his children and grandchildren to appreciate and love nature. He and Mary would enjoy trips to the casino when they got a chance to make the trip.

Joe is survived by his devoted wife, Mary Lou, and loving family, daughter Tammy Hillman (Wayne) of Gonzales, son Joseph Matejcek (Geralyn) of Rockport, grandchildren Elizabeth Mikesh (Blake), Maggie Matejcek, Matthew Hillman (Kaily), and Mason Matejcek, great-grandchildren Emelia Mary Mikesh, Matthew Jake Hillman, and Hallie Shay Hillman, sister Julia Spitzenberger of Lexington, brothers Robert Matejcek (Terry) of Giddings and Billy Matejcek (Emma) of Giddings. He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters Alice Lynch and Betty Pampell.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, June 20, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. until service time at 10:00 a.m. at the First Lutheran Church of Gonzales. Interment will follow at the Denton Creek Cemetery. Pallbearers include: Matthew Hillman, Mason Matejcek, Blake Mikesh, Leslie Spitzenberger, Ronald Lynch, James Pampell, John Matejcek and Bradley Matejcek. Memorials may be made in memory of Joe to the First Lutheran Church, Denton Creek Cemetery or The Dementia Society. The family would like to thank all his caregivers and the Care Team for their care and support.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home, Gonzales.

Gonzales Healthcare SystemsJUNE2023								
Mon	Тие	Wed	Thu 1 Dr Ryan Dr Echols	Fri				
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5	6	7	8	9
Austin MFM	Dr Echols	Dr Quebedeaux	Dr Ryan	Dr Miller
		Dr Miller	Dr Echols	Amy Trost
12	13	14	15	16
Austin MFM	Dr Echols	Dr Quebedeaux	Dr Ryan	Dr Bui
Dr Malik	Dr Quintero	Dr. Twitero	Dr Malik	
Dr Desai			Dr Echols	
19	20	21	22	23
				25
Austin MFM	Dr Echols	Dr Quebedeaux Dr Miller	Dr Ryan Dr Kirchner	
		DI MIMEI	21 111 011101	
			Dr Echols	
26	27	28	29	30
Austin MFM	Dr Echols	Dr Quebedeaux		
LOCATED AT THRIVE	:	1		
Orthopedics	Surgery		Cardiology	Dermato
Gloria Box, M.D. (830) 672 - 8497	Kathleen Koern (830) 672 – 849		William Craig, M.I (830) 672 – 3845	Dr. Desai (713) 864-

Specialty Physician Outpatient Clinic

<u>Urology</u>

Robert Ryan, III, M.D.

Joseph Kavanagh, M.D.

(830) 379-8491

Ophthalmology

(830) 379-3937

Orthopedics Trent Twitero, M.D.

Podiatry

D.P.M., P.A

(830) 303-0005

(830) 303-0005

(512) 821-2540

Medicine

(830) 625-0009

Terri Quebedeaux,

Charles White, D.P.M

Austin Maternal Fetal

<u>Audiology</u> Amy Trost, Hearing Specialist (830) 372-2237

Chiropractic Jeff Echols, DC (512)799-6811

Dermatology Vicente Quintero, M.D. (830) 626-5551 Dr Desai (713) 864-2659

Nephrology Azhar M. Malik, M.D. (361)-576-0011 George Osuchukwu, MD (361)576-0011 Yong Du, MD (361)576-0011

Alyson Kirchner, M.D.-OBGYN (830) 379 - 1500

Pain Management Eric Miller, M.D. (830) 272-7746



Feel the Difference

OBITUARY



PHILLIP JOSEPH 'P.J.' BOROWITZ

It is with deep sadness that we have to announce the passing of Phillip Joseph "P.J." Borowitz on June 3, 2023 when he lost his battle with cancer. He is survived by his parents, Phillip and Joann Borowitz, his sister Tracey Borowitz Twardowski, and his son Dylan. As well as his extended family in Texas and Illinois.

He was born at St. Mary's Hospital in East St. Louis, Illinois, February 24, 1965 to Phillip and JoAnn Borowitz. As a young child, the family moved to Texas, where he attended Dulles High School and went on to take law courses at Alvin Community College. While he did not pursue law, he did work his whole life doing things he found he enjoyed more like home restorations and machining.

He was a man of few words but had many talents and hobbies. He spent most of his free time playing guitar and writing music for his band Sinister Cain. He spent countless hours over the course of 25 years prefecting his musical craft and performing. They played all over Texas, and he loved every minute of it.

He also enjoyed creating art, fishing with friends and family, and spending time in nature, but most of all, he fiercely loved his family. He often kept to himself but was an honorable man and will be missed by all who had the privilege of truly knowing him.

Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated 10 a.m. Monday June 19, 2023 at St. James Catholic Church with Reverend Jason Martini officiating. Visitation will precede the Mass from 9 a.m. until 10

SHINER CATHOLIC SCHOOL HONOR ROLL - FOURTH QUARTER

(High Honors-All grades 94 and above; Honors-All grades 85 and above)

ST PAUL HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL Q4

<u>Seniors</u>

High Honors: Joshua Bonorden, Elliott Peters, Ashlyn Pesek, Jacob Seibert, Jacob Twyford, Joseph Twyford, Jacob Wachsmuth, Matthew Wagner

Honors: Trent Brown, Fisher Davis, Alexa Escobar, Paris Flach, Dario Hernandez, Carson McNabb, Julia Machacek, Anna Reeves,Cole Robinson, Brayden Slaughter, Cortney Tuch, Jackson Ulcak

Juniors

High Honors: Tate Anders, Julia Barecky, Nate Boedeker, Brooke Cerny, Faith Machart Honors: Zane Barta, Joseph

Davis, Thomas Klozik, Maurin Knesek, Gracie Machart, Stefany Pokluda, Emi Stamport, Nathan Timmons, Tori Walker

Sophomores

High Honors: Gus Collins, Kennedy Dodson, Jessica Fikac, Erica Hunke, Dallyn Pesek

Honors: Gage Anders, Holden Jacobs, Emerson Linn, Cody Malinovsky, Emily Moeller, Avery Peters, Joseph Peters, Ezekiel Rodriguez, Hunter Zella

Freshmen

High Honors: Jenna Stock, Presley Tuch

Honors: Annslie Callais, Kristin Cerny, Nora Koch, Sally Machacek, Riley Mozisek, Hailey Radicke, Reese Seibert, Audrey Thibodeaux

ST LUDMILA ELEMENTARY HONOR ROLL Q4

Eighth Grade

High Honors: Gabe Darilek, Jack Ehrig, Clara Kinney, Sloane Kocian, Gabriela Rivas, Eden Rodriguez, Tatum Walker

Honors: Faith Brown, Carter Chilek, Michael DeSarro, Frances Filip, Jack Leonard, Addison Matias, Skylar Mozisek

Seventh Grade

High Honors: Rebecca Brown, Reese Chilek

Honors: August Dodson, Baylyne Evans, Robert Garrett, Ahren Hattenbach, Emery Kennedy, Lana Lucas, Emma Marshall, Levi Morkovsky, Lexie Ulcak

Sixth Grade

High Honors: Ashlin DeSarro, Reese Patek, Hayden Rother Honors: Eli Barton, Deuce Blaschke, Barbara Jane Davis, McKinley Jacobs, Ian Kennedy, Grayson Kisamore, Levi Leonard, Emori Rodriguez, Presley Rother

Fifth Grade

High Honors: Jude Boedeker,

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office 06/04/23 - 06/10/23

06/05/23 Andreason, Guy Daniel 11/1985, Alvin: Commitment/ Sentence - Criminal Mischief <\$2.500 LS/Gam Animal Fence, Commitment/Sentence - Take Certain Wildlife Resources w/o Consent, Released - Weekender Ibarra, Sarah Marie, 01/1988, Alamo: Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Released on \$1,000 Bond; Tamper/ Fabricate Physical Evidence w/Intent to Impair, Released on \$5,000 Bond

06/06/23

• Harper, Tiffany Ann, 08/1980, Sealy: Local Warrant – Criminal Mischief >\$750 <\$2,500, Released on \$1,000 Bond; Local Warrant – Criminal Mischief >\$500 <\$1,500, Released on \$1,000 Bond

• Avalos, Ramiro Eric, 08/1982, Rosenberg: Fort Bend County Warrant – Possession Controlled Substance PG 3 <28G, Released on \$2,000 Bond

06/07/23

• Rathnow, Andrew Michael, 12/2000, Montgomery: Possession Controlled Substance PG 2 <1G, Released on 43,500 Bond; Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Released on \$500 Bond

06/09/23

Ainsworth, Tristan Lee, 06/1996, Round Rock: Local Warrant – Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Released on \$1,500 Bond
Dovalis, Nicholas Alexander, 07/1992, San Antonio: Commitment/ Sentence – Intoxication Assault w/Vehicle SBI, Released – Weekender

• Arroyo-Humphreys Jr., Mario Michael, 03/2000, Nixon: Commitment/Sentence – Unauthorized Use of Vehicle, Released – Weekender

• Bivins, Don Wesley, 03/1989, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Criminal Mischief >\$2,500 <\$30K, Released – Weekender

06/10/23

• Barillet, Tyler James, 11/2005, Nixon: Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Released on \$500 Bond

• Rodriguez Ramirez, David Anthony, 05/2002, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Assault causes Bodily Injury Family Member, Released on \$15,000 Bond

Total Arrest, Court Commitments, other agency arrest and processing's:

GCSO	11 ^ĭ
DPS	00
GPD	05
WPD	01
NPD	01
GISD	00
SMO	00
Constable 1	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	18

Evangeline Chilek Honors: Arley Applegate, Briana Hernandez, Hannah Machacek, Jacey Picha, Elijah Rodriguez, Emma Sanchez, Gabe Werner

Fourth Grade

High Honors: Ryan Bays, Reese Blaschke, Anna Boedeker, Matthew DeSarro, Paul Filip, Cash Kennedy, Gracyn Kennedy, Lexi Lamson, Harper Patek, Ace Radicke, Kolton Wilgus

Honors: Luke Barton, Wren Chilek, Lynzee Garza, Jake Good, Alaina Luedke, Chandler Siegel, Tenley Wagner

Third Grade

High Honors: Bowen Davis, Jesslyn Garrett, Brooke Hermann, Ricardo Gonzales Moncada

Honors: Elena Basquez, Wyatt Decker, Alexis Dodson, Fallon Foxell, Kase Kocian, Hudsyn Parker, Caleb Werner

VC announces spring Dean's List

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College has recognized the outstanding academic performance of 124 students by naming them to the Spring 2023 Dean's List.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn at least a 3.5 grade point average over a minimum of 12 academic credit hours within the semester and must not have any unsatisfactory grades in any classes.

Students named to VC's Spring 2023 Dean's List, grouped by their hometowns, are:

• Cuero: Trace Reed and Priscilla Watson

• Gonzales: Travis Decker • Hallettsville: Pyree Harper, Quade Henneke, Bowen Higgins, Korbin Koehne, Hunter Laqua and Bailey Schindler

• Nixon: Oscar Galicia Alfredo Valerio

• Nordheim: Ryan Schuenemann

• Yoakum: Riggin Baker, Evan Brown, Austin Points, Cameron Rice and Dru Zinke

VC offering 'Express Enrollment Day' event on June 22

ENFORCEMENT WE

a.m. at the church.

Friends may sign the guestbook and leave condolences by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home 906 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, TX

U I

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College will offer recent high school and GED graduates an opportunity to "become a VC Pirate in one day" at the 2023 Express Enrollment Day on Thursday,

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June 22 from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Student Services Building on VC's Main Campus.

Students can discuss their educational plans with an advisor, apply for admissions and financial aid, enroll in classes, make payments, and purchase books and supplies. Students can also take the Texas Success Initiative Assessment by registering at VictoriaCollege. edu/TSI.

Advisors will be available to offer information on education and training opportunities at Victoria College; degree, certificate and transfer pathways; job-training courses; and adult education.

For more information, call (361) 573-3291 or chat live at VictoriaCollege.edu. This event is free and open to the public.



QUILTERS DONATE LAP QUILTS



CONTRIBUTED

Shiner Heritage Quilters Guild has donated ten lap quilts to the residents of Paradigm at Stevens in Yoakum. Pictured from left on the back row are Guild members Rose Mary Havlik, Janet Zbranksy, Theresa Belicek, Susanne Sestak and Director Arnold Arcaina, RN DON. Front row are residents Lillie Vecera, Olive Patterson, Rosemary Nash and Dixie Olson.

CONVENTION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

enjoyed viewing the programs at home with our families. However, something vital was missing," said Sean Butler, spokesman for Jehovah's Witnesses. "Being part of a large group at conventions has always been our custom, so we are excited to be together again for this convention. It's going to be quite the experience!"

Some 6,000 conventions will be held worldwide as part of the 2023 "Exercise Patience"! Convention series. In the United States alone, more than 700 conventions will be held in 144 host cities. From Friday through Sunday, six convention sessions will explore the quality of patience, highlighting its modern-day relevance through Scriptural examples. A live baptism will be performed following the Saturday morning session and a prerecorded drama will be featured in two parts during the Saturday and Sunday afternoon sessions.

"Patience is a necessary quality that

all Christians seek to cultivate, but it's difficult to practice patience in the challenging circumstances we encounter every day," said Butler. "The spiritual education we will receive during the three-day conventions will help us to practice patience more in our family, work, and leisure activities."

Jehovah's Witnesses have been holding public conventions in stadiums, arenas, convention centers, and theaters around the world for more than 100 years. After resuming smaller in-person meetings and their public ministry during 2022, the summer of 2023 marks the first time they will gather at much larger regional events around the world since the lifting of pandemic restrictions.

The convention is open to the public and no collection is taken. For more information on the program or to find other convention locations and dates, please go to jw.org and navigate to the "About Us" tab.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS PROPOSED TAX RATE

The WAELDER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM, June 27, 2023 in the Waelder ISD Cafeteria, 109 N Ave C. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

ORDINANCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

been causing problems.

"What the ordinance says is that any stray dog or cat — any dog or cat not wearing a collar with the rabies tag — is subject to being picked up [by animal control]," MacLean said.

She added that free roaming community cats and personal cats are being picked by animal control and being taken to the shelter.

"We fixed in this community about 500 cats and 1,500 dogs at no cost to the city. So there's a good chance when you picked up a cat in the city that you're getting one that's already fixed," MacLean said.

The problem with this is that it allows a cat that is not neutered or spayed to move into the fixed cat's spot in the community, which means the possibility of offspring and even more cats to deal with at once.

MacLean added this 19-year-old ordinance has been a problem that can be changed by the city council.

"If you look at the state law that came out last legislative session in 2021, it is far less restrictive than our ordinances. We've gone way beyond; it doesn't speak to free roaming cats at all. It doesn't speak to cats having any kind of necklace, jewelry, anything," MacLean said.

In article 2.100 of the city ordinances regarding animals at large and restraint:

• 2.101: Animal-at-Large: Any animal not under the restraint (as defined in this section) of a person capable of con-

PARK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Since the council already approved naming it the Freddy Aguirre Memorial Park during a previous meeting, any action to rename the proposed park would require the council first to rescind the name and then take action to vote on a new one, City Attorney Eddie Escobedo said.

"If there was a prior action taken by counsel to name it, that prior action has to be rescinded prior to naming it something else," Escobedo advised. "I'm just looking at the agenda and trying to do everything right. The rescinding of the prior naming of the park by council action is not on the agenda. So I'm not entirely sure that you know, legally, we can rename it until it is rescinded and we cannot do it based on this agenda."

Lance Cpl. Freddy Aguirre, whose brother Pablo is on the Tourism and Development Board, was enlisted in the U.S. Marines for less than one year before he and most of his platoon were killed trolling the animal on or off the premises of the owner.

• 2.103: Restraint; Nuisances; Animal Bites: (a) All dogs, cats, and other animals shall be kept under restraint and not allowed to run at large, stray.

Other members of the community also spoke up in support of FOGAS and requesting the city look into creating ordinances that protect community cats.

In other council business, the council approved to name Sherri Koepp as mayor pro-tem for the city, and approved to authorize the Gonzales Noon Lions Club to construct a sunshade at the Splashpad and repair/replace existing playscapes on City property located at the Lions Park between St. Lawrence Street and St Louis Street and approving the City's Financial Contribution to the project.

The council approved the following agenda items:

• approved Authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) for the Sale or Purchase of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs).

• approved Changes to theJob Descriptions for the following: JB Wells Park, Parks, Street and Solid Waste Departments Equipment Operator I Positions and Building Official Position.

• approved Appointing Crystal Cedillo, Gonzales County Tax Assessor-Collector, as the Individual to Calculate and Prepare the 2023 No-New Revenue and Voter-Approval Tax Rates for the City of Gonzales.

Longoria was a member of the Nixon High School Class of 2003.

A member of the audience, Rancho-Nixon Historical Association President Donald Hoffman, asked that the council consider a generic name instead.

"Could I ask that we leave memorial off the name because that designates only those that died and there's many of us that served and we'd like to get recognition too?" Hoffman asked.

Council member Patsy Vigil Scherrer said she had heard from several citizens about the proposed park name and also believed a generic name was in order.

"My motion is to have it be just Nixon Veterans Park with no names on it, because we will have arguments in the future about that and it's going to be coming back and forth to us and there's just too many complaints and arguments on it," Scherrer said.

Councilmember Justin La Fleur asked Pablo Aguirre if he was okay with

The school district has elected to adopt a tax rate before receiving the certified appraisal roll from the chief appraiser(s) of the appraisal district(s) and before adopting abudget. In accordance with Texas Tax Code, Section 26.05(g), the chief appraiser(s) of the appraisal district(s) in which the school district participates has (have) certified to the assessor for the school district an estimate of the taxable value of property in the school district as provided by the Texas Tax Code, Section 26.01(e). In accordance with the Texas Education Code, Section 44.004(j), following adoption of the tax rate, the school district will publish notice and hold another public meeting before the school district adopts a budget.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	9	\$0.7781/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)							
School Debt Servic Approved by Loca		\$0.0743/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)							
r.	Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value								
	(as calculate	ed under Sectio	n 26.04, T	Tax Code)					
Preceding Tax Year Current Tax Year*									
Total appraised value** of all property \$822,124,169 \$1,199,308,548									
Total appraised value*		* \$9,97	9,900	\$4	,978,490				
Total taxable value***			,098,614	\$4	61,612,523				
Total taxable value***	* of new property**	* \$9,43	34,820	\$4	,978,490				
*All values identified a **Appraised value is ti *** "New property" is **** "Taxable value"	he amount shown on defined by Section 2	the appraisal roll and 26.012(17), Tax Code	d defined by e.						
		Bonded Indebt	edness						
	otal amount of outstar	nding and unpaid bor	nded indebted	dness* \$2,445,00	0				
*Outstanding principal			:41. T	-4 V	4				
	nparison of Pı	-	with La						
	Maintenance	Interest & <u>Sinking Fund*</u>	Total	Local Revenu Per Student	e State Revenue Per Student				
Last Year's Rate	\$0.8546	\$0.0743	<u>101a1</u> \$0.9289	\$10,662	<u>Fer Student</u> \$4,178				
Rate to Maintain San Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenu & Pay Debt Service	2	\$0.0688	\$0.8964	\$11,304	\$3,561				
Proposed Rate	\$0.7781	\$0.0743	\$0.8524	\$11,063	\$3,865				
* The Interest & Sinkin				. ,	. ,				
	ax rate necessary to pa								
Comparison of	f Proposed Le	vy with Last `	Year's L	evy on Avera	age Residence				
			<u>Last Y</u>	ear	<u>This Year</u>				
Average Market Value	e of Residences		\$104,913		\$114,009				
Average Taxable Valu	e of Residences		\$56,420		\$65,998				
Last Year's Rate Versi	us Proposed Rate per	\$100	\$0.9289		\$0.8524				
Taxes Due on Average Residence			\$524.09		\$562.57				
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes \$38.48					\$38.48				
Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.									
Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$0.8524. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$0.8524.									
		Fund Balan	ces						

Fund Balances The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) \$4,315,305 Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) \$192,102

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

in a 1977 helicopter accident while on maneuvers in the Philippines.

PARK DESIGN

Presenting a preliminary design for the proposed park, Tourism and Development Board Chairman Travis Hansen said it would face US 87 and include a rock wall sign with the words "Nixon Memorial Park," behind which would stand three large stones bearing the names of every veteran from Nixon, Smiley, Leesville or Belmont who served in the military — some 750 names in all, according to Mayor Dorothy Riojas.

There would also be a circular area with flagpoles and an inlay of the state of Texas behind the wall while, further down in the park, would be an area set up with a stage for live music as well as seating and restroom facilities. Those upgrades would be built in later phases as funding becomes available, Hansen said.

"With the council's permission, we'd like to work on this thing in phases, obviously, because we don't have just a whole bunch of money to throw at this thing," Hansen said. "I think what we're looking at trying to accomplish primarily in our Phase One would be the Nixon Memorial Park signs that you see there, and that would be the wall that you'll have the names inscribed and then that area with the state of Texas and the flags. I know there's a deadline of Veterans Day that we want to try to put something on there, but we can't make everything in that park happen with the timeframe as well as the financing."

Riojas said the city has already contracted for the three stones bearing the names and is working with a contractor to have the ready in time for Veterans Day at the new park. The city previously set aside \$250,000 to pay for creation of the new park.

Council members directed the board to work with Mando Cisneros and have him help advise them regarding any possible structures since Cisneros performs that time of work on a regular basis and would be an asset in making sure best practices are followed.

NAME CHANGE

Members of the Tourism and Development Board suggested adding the name of U. S. Marine Corps Cpl. John Matthew Longoria, who died at age 21 while serving in New Ubaydi, Iraq. changing the name since his family had originally been working to get Freddy's service recognized.

"I'm a citizen of Nixon, and I'll go with what everybody wants," Pablo Aguirre said. "I don't want our name to be dragged through the mud, like I've seen on Facebook. That happens way too much here and

it just needs to be much more positive where everyone's pulling together. Our family will do whatever you guys want, but I do not want my name or my brother's name dragged through the mud."

Tourism Board Vice Chairman Briana Dominguez said she never knew Freddy Aguirre, but did know John Longoria, a classmate, very well. However, as she pointed out, "heaven forbid this happens, but who's to say somebody in the next class doesn't die in combat, so then we will have to revisit that? So I agree, the name Nixon Veterans Park covers across the board."

Hansen suggested the park could have a separate exhibit dedicated to all 16 people from Nixon who died in service to their country.

"We don't need to name the park after someone solely or two people and then have a bunch of fighting and bickering over 'Well, how come my cousin didn't get named?" Hansen said. "Like Mr. Aguirre said, it'll save his family's name, because everybody knows, in this town, as soon as it's named, it'll all be Mr. Aguirre's fault and it'll be taken out on him and I definitely don't want that for him."

Not everyone was satisfied with how the city was handling the veterans' park situation. Natividad Ruiz, a member of the American Legion and Army veteran, voiced his displeasure with the council that his group had no input into the park's design or naming.

"We asked to be a part of this at the American Legion and you created a new committee to take charge of this, but you never asked the veterans," Ruiz said. "No one that I know that are veterans agrees with this. And if that's going to be the case, I'm going to go online and form a petition to get it overturned because this should be a Nixon Veterans Memorial Park and not specifically for someone who was in service.

"We just asked to be a part of it and that doesn't even happen. It's not specific to just one event or just one item."

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM





Left: Summer Youth Program campers of the week are, front row from left, Mylen Vera, Karter Garrett, Khloe Ann Granados, Zane, Kevin Barrientos and Hudson Hernandez. Back row are camp instructors Alexandra Torres, Mallory Clack, Samantha Villa, Skylar Cantu, Mayor Steve Sucher, Sergio Almaguer, Michael Fay, and not in the top photo is camp supervisor Veronica Powell and camp instructor Le Roy Humphrey. Above: Everyone that participated in this week's camp. CONTRIBUTED

WCJC announces Free College initiative

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Wharton County Junior College recently announced a Free College initiative offering full tuition and fees scholarships to qualified students majoring in certain healthcare programs at the college.

Students must be registered in a minimum of six semester credit hours and enrolled in the Licensed Vocational Nursing, Health Information Technology, Emergency Medical Services or Human Services programs at WCJC. The purpose is to encourage persistence

and completion of certificates and degrees leading to employment in high-need allied health occupations.

Students do not have to complete a scholarship application but must meet the following criteria:

• Reside in one of the following areas: Aransas County, Bee County, Calhoun County, Colorado County, Dewitt County, Goliad County, Gonzales County, Jackson County, Lavaca County, Matagorda County, Refugio County, Victoria County, Waller County, Wharton County and the Needville Independent School District.

• Be enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours in an eligible program through the term census date.

• Have a 2023-2024 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file with WCJC.

Students majoring in the approved programs are encouraged to check their WCJC accounts within two weeks after registering for the term. Contact the WCJC Financial Aid department at finaid@ wcjc.edu for more information or click on the following link: https:// www.wcjc.edu/FREECOLLEGE.

Gonzales Memorial **Hospital Auxiliary** holds meetings

BY ELIZABETH A BRELSFORD BENNETT Special to the Inquirer

The Gonzales Memorial Hospital Auxiliary met at 2 p.m. on April 25, 2023, at Thrive with nine members attending. President Neubauer called the meeting to order.

First Vice President, Sylvia Mercer was in charge of the program. Sandra Villa, representing the Gonzales Public Library, spoke on the offerings one might find at the library.

Minutes were read and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was given. Second Vice President, Irene Oakes reported 102 hours worked for the month.

Scholarship Chair Betty Fink gave her report. The nominating Committee reported the people for officers 2023-2024. They are: President Betty Neubauer, 1st Vice Pres., Sylvia Mercer, 2nd Vice President, Irene Oakes, Secretary Jo Ann Hajovsky, Treasurer, Dyna DuBose, Reporter, Elizabeth Bennett and Parliamentarian, Barbara Koricanek. Thanks to those who serve.

A reminder was made of the upcoming gala on Friday evening, the 28th, at GG's at 7:00 p.m. A motion to adjourn was made by Barbara Koricanek, seconded by Irene Oakes.

The next meeting is May 30, 2023.

Door prizes were won by Dyna DuBose, Irene Oakes and Betty Fink.

A shout out of thanks to those who work the Gift Shop. Time well spent to support Memorial Hospital.

The Auxiliary of Gonzales Memorial Hospital met May 30th, 2023 at Thrive with 10 members present. President Neubauer called the meeting to order. First Vice Pres. was in charge of the program, Linda Kuenzler from the VFW Ladies Auxiliary, District V, on the beginning of the Red Poppy and explained how these came into being in April 1915. They are made by Vets in VA Hospitals. She then gave a reading of "Flanders Field". Linda also told the story behind "TAPS" which began in 1862, during the Civil War. It was a very interesting program.

The Minutes were read and approved. Financial Report was given.

Second vice President, Irene Oakes, reported 128 volunteer hours worked for the month. Linda McGill and Jo Ann Hajovsky received 100 hour bars. Congrats to them.

Scholarship Chair Betty Fink reported on the Investment Account.

The next meeting is June 27, 2023, which is the Installation of new officers at 11:30 at Thrive. Delicious turkey and dressing will be enjoyed by all.

Motion to adjourn was made by Barbara Koricanek, seconded by Irene Oakes.

Door prizes were won by Betty Neubauer, Sylvia Mercar and Linda Kuenzler.

Please consider becoming a Hospital Volunteer.

ROADS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

limit of 20 miles per hour that we will be dealing

actually legit. This would handle all of them.'

body."

on roads which traverse "urban districts." However, there are very few roads within Gonzales County which meet that definition.

An urban district, per section 541.102 of the **Texas Transportation** code, is territory "adjacent to and including a highway if the territory is not in a municipality and is improved with structures that are used for business, industry, or dwelling houses and located at intervals of less than 100 feet for a distance of at least onequarter mile on either side of the highway."

"The only thing I can think of (as urban) just off the top of my head is the Kelley Loop (outside Gonzales)," County Judge Pat Davis said. "That way you can get it done through the Transportation Code, but on any other kind of road you can't go below 30 miles per hour unless you have a TxDOT traffic survey."

"We really don't have anything that pertains to this," Precinct 3 Commissioner Kevin La Fleur said.

"The majority of roads

with would be (set at) 35, Davis said. "You can go as low as 30 without needing a traffic survey so 35 would be well within what you can do."

"Going 35 is still pretty fast on a gravel road," Precinct 2 Commissioner Donnie Brzozowski said. "It really is."

Carly Russell, the secretary for Road and Bridge precincts 1, 2 and 3, said approval was not needed necessarily to advertise the public hearing, but "I think it was good because people are going to hear about it and they can know that it's coming up and then when you have a hearing they will have more knowledge of it."

Davis said the county needs to take action because there is a lack of uniformity that can lead not only to confusion, but would allow people to go faster than what is safe on the roadways.

"Without a 35 mile per hour sign out there, state law says the speed limit (on a county road) is 60," Davis said. "But once this is passed, it can actually be enforced. There are some that you have passed already that are

Commissioners asked Davis if they established a speed limit of 35, would it be possible to lower it to 30 after the public hearing. The court would have to adopt the speed limit advertised at that time or reject it, but could come back at a later date with specific changes, Davis said.

"If you put it across the board at 35, you can still come back at another commissioners court for a specific road and say, 'I want to lower that to 30." Davis said.

"If we put it at 30, people would be complaining it's too slow, so if we give them 35, that's plenty of speed," Brzozowski said. "If they are going over 35, they are going to run over some-

"We can do 35 unless you have some places where they have curves that are bad and then we can come back and lower it later." Davis said.

Russell said Allison Bass & Associates, the law firm which advises most of the state's 254 counties, has told her that changes can be made afterwards for specific roads and the court "could always come back and do as many specific roads as you want."

In other action, commissioners voted to allow fireworks sales for the Fourth of July holiday without restricting any specific fireworks at this time. Members of the court expressed hope that people will exercise caution so as to avoid causing any grass fires.

See a need. nii a need



MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO THE **GVEC** Annual Meeting

Friday, June 23, 2023

Gonzales High School Special Events Center

1801 N. Sarah Dewitt Drive | Gonzales, TX 78629

Registration: 5:30 p.m. **Business Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**

DIRECTOR ELECTIONS AND ENTERTAINMENT

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AND DOOR PRIZES AWARDED

TACLB00116382E | TECL32802



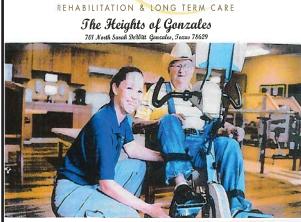
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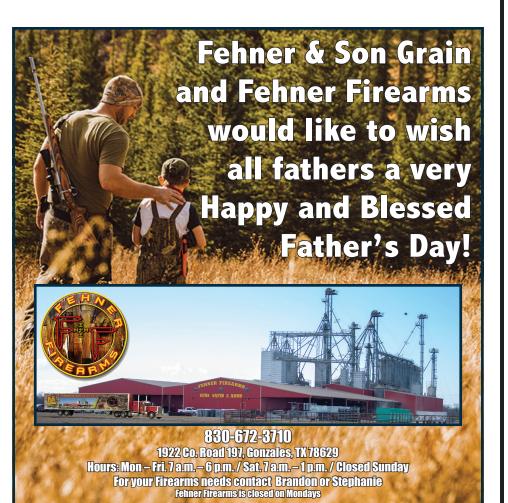




Teams from the 60th annual



The Texas Water Safari is not so much boat versus boat, but each boat versus the course. That's why the race not only attracts novices, but brings back veterans each year. This year's field included people who had finished the race an astonishing 43 times in the past 59 years. That one contestant, John Bugge, finished a 44th time this year with teammate Joe Mann and was 25th overall!





Ihank You Donors!

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TX Preceptor Gamma Chapter Beta Sigma The China Basket Catholic Daughters of America GHS Class of 2023 Prom Scott Miller Kathleen Borrer Gonzales Healthcare Systems Disciple Oaks Camp and Retreat J Bar B Foods Tyson Foods Gonzales Leo Club Gonzales Pilot Club Scott Dierlam – State Farm Baker Boys Belinda Walker Jorge Vazquez Acapulco Restaurant Meatheads **GISD** Transportation Gonzales ISD HEB Whataburger Security Storage BYK

With your generous donations we provided a safe, drug free, all-night party for 133 seniors and their guests.

Texas Water Safari rested and refueled with food, water and ice during some downtime at the checkpoint at the Gonzales Dam on Sunday, June 11. Those paddling canoes and kayaks had to portage just before the dam and put back in below it. Team captains and support crews met them at each checkpoint. The event is not known as the "world's toughest canoe race" for nothing. Of the original 161 teams to put in the water in San Marcos, just 93 finished the race in the allotted 100 hours, with the final two teams to cross being 9700 and 1968, both novice crews from the same family, the VandeHeis, who are pictured here. PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN

EVENT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The event will close out with a Lighted Sling Shot and Motorbike Parade at 9 p.m. going from the Edwards Center to Independence Square. Applications for the parade can be obtained by contacting the Edwards Association at GeneSt99@aol.com or by calling 830-857-3764. Awards will be given for first, second and third place decorated parade entries after the parade.

There will also be food trucks, merchandise vendors, contests and much more fun.

Juneteenth celebrates the end of slavery in Texas; on June 19, 1865, Union Army General Gordon Granger and 2,000 federal arrived in Galveston, Texas to inform the enslaved black and African Americans of the region that the Emancipation Proclamation had freed them.

The proclamation as read states:

"The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor. The freedmen are advised to remain quietly at their present homes and work for wages. They are informed that they will not be allowed to collect at military posts and that they will not be supported in idleness either there or elsewhere.

Granger and his troops rode on horseback through the island announcing the news in several historic and visitable locations from Ashton Villa, Reedy AME Chapel and the Osterman Building in Galveston.

For more history of Juneteeth, please go to https://www.galvestonhistory.org/news/

GISD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Bell spoke to the board about the material.

"These resources provide teachers with scripted engaging lessons that are set up in the 'five E' model supporting students as they engage in the curriculum, explore the concepts of learning, elaborate and explain their thinking and evaluate their understanding of the content." Bell said.

Principals, curriculum and instruction, instructional coaches and teachers met together in two long meetings to "vertically align our district with this resource to support the rigorous math and science standards that our students are tackling every year." Bell said.

This comes when the district is struggling in math and science, and Bell said the program is very scripted for the teachers to use.

"They provide students, starting at the concrete level, looking at pictorial level and then finally to the abstract level. It teaches them what manipulative to use and it gives them the proper resources and it gives them something tangible in their hands," Bell said.

With Gonzales dealing with the statewide teacher shortage, Bell said with the new program, it allows new teachers to "soar to success" with steady lesson plans.

"One of the hardest things for a new teacher — and they created so much turnover -is they're having to pull from everywhere. And it's hard, it's hard to plan the lesson. And this gives them a lesson to where they can be successful with their students and be prepared," Bell said.

The program will align the district with academic vocabulary and with the standards of what is being taught, Bell added.

"So when our students move from grade level to grade level, they have

the same pattern that they're going to see in one math class versus the other," Bell said.

School board member Ashley Molina asked Bell what was the success rate of the program, and Bell responded that the district had use the program "in pieces" at North Avenue and later in the second semester at the GPA campus, and the teacher fell in love with the program.

"This was not a request that came from administration; it was a request that actually came from our teachers. They wanted a continuation of the program; they wanted it in full development, because we could only afford that piece of it online, so they were having to print so much in the lesson. And they were having to print a lot of the student resources that came out of it," Bell said.

The board approved to purchase the instructional material unanimous, 7-0.

In other business, the board approved the following agenda items:

 approved the FFA traveling to the National Convention in Indianapolis November 1-4, 2023.

• approved the Interlocal Agreement between The University of Texas at Austin and Gonzales Independent School District for the 2023-2024 OnRamps Program.

 approved the TASB Board Policy Update 121, affecting GISD local policies.

· approved to Enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Leon Alcala, PLLC for Chapter 313 Agreement Reporting and Maintenance of Existing Value Limitation Agreements under Chapter 313 of the Property Tax Code.

 approved a Purchase and Budget Amendment for Playground Equipment for Gonzales Elementary.

vision that promotes Gonzales as a place to "come and see it, come and shop it, come and stay it, come and live it and come and love it."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

BEAUTIFICATION

New economic development director Susan Sankey and Main Street Director Tiffany Hutchison-Padilla helped guide the group.

"What I'm hearing is that we want to make our town welcoming to the community," Hutchison-Padilla said.

"You want it to be nice for those of us that live here, people who live here and people who visit," board member Dee Senglemann replied.

"You want it to look nice, so that people who live here can enjoy it, so it's welcoming to the people who live here and welcoming to people who visit so they want to come back, and maybe even live here too," Sankey added.

Inquirer Publisher Lew Cohn suggested the fivepoint vision for the group, using the historic motto of "Come and Take It" to create marketing for the community that would be eye-catching.

"These are all the kind of things that you're all looking for," Cohn said. "You're wanting people to come here and to see the town, spend money in the town, perhaps stay, perhaps choose to move here. And then while they're here, do what they can to love it by

making it a better place to live."

Board members discussed the possibility of promoting a "Yard of the Month" for Gonzales as well as looking into signage and murals that would be more welcoming to traffic on Water Street and perhaps convince people to turn off onto US 183 Business (Saint Joseph Street).

Senglemann, who is also with the Spade and Trowel Club, suggested that club could perhaps sponsor and run the "Yard of the Month" program to help shoulder the load and allow the Beautification Board and city staff to concentrate on other pressing matters.

The board also discussed the current Jim Price Cleanup, which is held on the Saturday closest to April 22 every year. In the past, it was more communitydriven, but has become a city function in recent years, and board members expressed a desire to see it become more of a way to get people working together in a grass-roots fashion, rather than just using the event as a way to dump trash once a year.

Suggestions included having a cookout in conjunction with the cleanup and having businesses take part in promotions along with the cleanup, in addition to having groups engage in beautification efforts within their own neighborhoods.



juneteenth-and-generalorder-no-3.

WRECK CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

right on the unimproved shoulder on the north side of US 90, while the trailer came to rest in the middle of US 90 on its right side.

The driver of the rig, who was later identified as Allen Groff, 67, of Seguin, was declared dead at the scene while three passengers in the Nissan were transported by ground and air ambulance to Seton Hays Hospital.

US 90 remained closed at the intersection with FM 304 with traffic to I-10 as necessary until the scene was eventually cleared at about 2:30 p.m.

Family members of Allen Groff remembered him fondly in his obituary.

"Allen was a truck driver for over 40 years and logged over 5 million miles," the obit said. "He had a heart of gold and put others before himself. Allen worked hard and long hours but never forgot his family. He was a loving and supportive husband and father who was happiest while spending time with his family. He also enjoyed riding his Indian motorcycle. Allen will be greatly missed by all who knew him."





MUSIC - FOOD - VENDORS

CONTESTS & ACTIVITES BEGIN AT 4:00PM

-WATERMELON EATING CONTEST BOUNCE HOUSE HULA HOOP CONTEST PETTING ZOO 🔶 COLORING PAGE CONTEST





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