



The Gonzales Inquirer

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GONZALES COUNTY

Officials talk annex building deterioration

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

County commissioners expressed concerns at their Monday, July 10, meeting about structural issues with the Gonzales County Annex building on Sarah DeWitt Drive.

They authorized County Judge Pat Davis as well as County Building Maintenance employees Scott McNabb and Brian Kloesel to meet with three different structural engineering firms — one from Victoria and two from Austin — to get proposals for how best

to solve the problems, which include large cracks in walls and missing pieces of concrete. “Brian and I looked at the Annex Building and it’s got some pretty serious cracking in it,” McNabb told commissioners. “If you go in to the back door, where the garage used

to be ... you can walk up there remove a section of concrete, just like a brick, that hole was two inches deep. If you go into metal door into the back, on the wall, looking at the sheriff’s department, we can see daylight through the hole in the corner. It’s got a pretty good

crack on the outside and in it’s coming down in two or three spots where you can start to see daylight like the walls are coming out.”

McNabb said he has had to warn some of the employees

See ANNEX, page 14

Driver killed in single-vehicle wreck

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
The Inquirer

First responders were called to the scene of a fatal crash Sunday, July 9 on Farm-to-Market Road 794 South, about seven miles north of Gonzales, at about 9:17 p.m.

Texas Department of Public Safety Sgt. Ruben San Miguel reported the driver of a 2022 Ford Explorer, 29-year-old Rene Ramirez, “failed to negotiate a right curve.” His car went off the roadway, striking a tree on the southbound side.

Ramirez was declared deceased at the scene by Precinct 1 Justice of the Peace Deidra Voigt.

The fatal crash is still under investigation, San Miguel said.



COURTESY PHOTO
Rene Ramirez, 29, was killed in a single-vehicle accident on July 9.

ON STAGE AT THE CRYSTAL THEATRE



CONTRIBUTED/CRYSTAL THEATRE
Payton Moore, standing in back, was very young during this performance several years ago, but he will return to the Crystal stage playing Romeo’s father, Montague, in the Camp Shakespeare production of “Romeo and Juliet” at 3 p.m. Friday, July 14. Admission is free.



COURTESY PHOTO/ARTHIVE.COM

The tragic love story of Romeo and Juliet has been captured in art many ways from the 1845 Eugene Delacroix painting, “The Farewell of Romeo and Juliet” (shown above) to the Crystal Theatre stage in Gonzales this Friday, July 14, at 3 p.m. when Camp Shakespeare 2023 presents the immortal Bard’s “Romeo and Juliet.” Other performances will be at 3 p.m. Saturday, July 15, at La Grange ISD Performing Arts Center and 2 p.m. Sunday, July 16, at the Winedale Theatre barn. Admission at the Crystal Theatre is free as a gift to the community in order to share this extraordinary love story. “My bounty is as boundless as the sea, My love as deep; the more I give to thee. The more I have, for both are infinite.”

Nixon tourism board gets permission for brick fundraiser

Agenda snafu prevents action on park name change

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Due to a technical error on the July 10 agenda, the Nixon City Council tabled action to rescind the name of Freddy Aguirre Memorial Park

until next month, but not before engaging in a lively discussion about whether the park should bear any person’s name.

Council members also approved a number of directives for the newly created Tourism and Development Board, the organization which is spearheading the development of the new park — including authorizing the group to sell custom

See NIXON, page 16

Deputies seize handgun, detain illegal immigrants after pursuit



SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

An illegal immigrant has been booked into the Gonzales County Jail on a weapons charge stemming from a Saturday, July 8, traffic stop, while his passenger has been transferred to U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

At about 9 a.m. a Gonzales County deputy attempted to make a traffic stop on a black van that was traveling westbound on I-10 near the

Caldwell County line. The van eluded the stop and, due to safety concerns at the time, the deputy did not continue pursuing the van.

At approximately 8 p.m. that same night, deputies observed the same van traveling back eastbound on I-10. After a short pursuit, the vehicle was stopped.

Two subjects were taken into custody, both of whom were found to have entered

See ARRESTS, page 16

Beautification board discusses cleanup

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Beautification Board met for its second meeting Tuesday,

July 11 at the Gonzales Municipal Building.

One of the big items discussed was getting a community-driven cleanup campaign rolling.

The board members discussed how to get community involved in the campaign, and they mentioned getting clubs, the schools and churches involved.

“I think what we can all be doing is really reaching out to people, like in

Pre-trial hearing reset for 18-wheeler assailant suspect

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

A pre-trial hearing has been reset for Aug. 14 for a Gonzales man accused of stealing an 18-wheeler and trying to use it to run over a police officer and a victim whose vehicle he had hit moments earlier.

Johnny Ray Longoria Jr., 35, stands charged with two counts of attempt to commit capital murder of a peace officer or fireman, two counts of aggravated assault against a public servant,

five counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, one count of unauthorized use of a vehicle and one count of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle. He is being represented by Adrian Perez.

The charges stem from an incident which occurred Oct. 8, 2022, when GPD officers were dispatched to the Circle G Truck Stop in reference to a hit-and-run incident. Officers were advised then that a subject had run on

See PRE-TRIAL, page 14

GISD school board OKs raises for bus drivers

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

Gonzales ISD bus drivers will be getting extra money this upcoming school year.

The Gonzales ISD school board met for their regu-

See GISD, page 16



ESD1, PHI Cares renew air medical transport agreement

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales County Emergency Services District #1 has approved the renewal of their emergency air medical transportation agreement with PHI Cares. The agreement provides air medical transport benefits for all residents of Gonzales County when transported by a PHI Air Medical aircraft.

"We would like to thank the Gonzales Hospital District for their generous financial support and contribution, allowing us to provide this important, life-saving benefit for Gonzales County residents," said Eddie Callender, ESD1 executive director.

The PHI Cares membership program supports all households and residents of

Gonzales County. With the launch of this agreement, Gonzales County residents are not required to pay additional out-of-pocket expense for their emergency air medical transportation when a PHI Air Medical aircraft in the region transports them from Gonzales County or surrounding counties (including Lavaca, Fayette, Bastrop, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Wilson, Karnes, and DeWitt counties).

Residents should always call 911 first when they have a medical emergency. The 911 dispatchers will dispatch an ESD ambulance. The attending paramedics or first responders will determine if an air ambulance is needed.

If a resident is transported by a PHI Air Medical Aircraft, they

should notify the PHI Cares membership department at 1.888.I.Fly.PHI (1.888.435.9744) and provide them with the Gonzales County PHI Cares membership number #32322 and their date of transport.

Residents can obtain PHI Cares membership cards from the following locations after July 15, 2023:

WAEOLDER CITY HALL

• 300 Highway 90 West, Waelder, TX 78959

GONZALES CITY HALL

• 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, TX 78629

GONZALES COUNTY COURTHOUSE

• Office of County Judge Pat Davis

• 414 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, TX 78629

NIXON CITY HALL

• 302 E. Central Avenue, Nixon, TX 78140

SMILEY CITY HALL

• 207 US Hwy 87 W, Smiley, TX 78159

GONZALES COUNTY ESD 1

• Administrative Office
• 1724 Hickson, Gonzales, TX 78629

The PHI Cares membership program is available at more than 60 PHI Air Medical bases across the country. Gonzales County residents can upgrade their Gonzales County limited membership benefit coverage to nationwide coverage for only

\$30 per year.

To upgrade your household membership, please go to www.PHICares.com and fill out an online application using the special discount code: GONZALESUPGRADE.

Gonzales County residents may also email the PHI Cares Membership Department at membership@PHIAirMedical.com or call 1.888.435.9744 Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. CDT, to request an upgrade form. Please reference the "Gonzales County" Membership program when calling or writing them.

Residents can visit www.PHIAirMedical.com to learn more about the company and www.PHICares.com to learn more about their membership program.

City of Waelder to stop taking cash payments Aug. 1

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Beginning Aug. 1, the city of Waelder will no longer be accepting cash payments from customers for utility bills.

Instead, the methods of payments that will be accepted will be check, cashier's check, money order, debit card or credit card, city officials announced.

Payments can still be performed by phone, by mail or in person and there is also a drop box for customers at Waelder City Hall, 300 US-90 West.

To pay by phone, customers can call 830-788-7331. This method will be for credit card payments only and convenience fees apply as all credit/debit cards that do not use a PIN will be charged 2.65% of total payment with a minimum charge of \$3.

Meanwhile, debit cards with a PIN are subject to a convenience fee of 1.95% of the total payment with

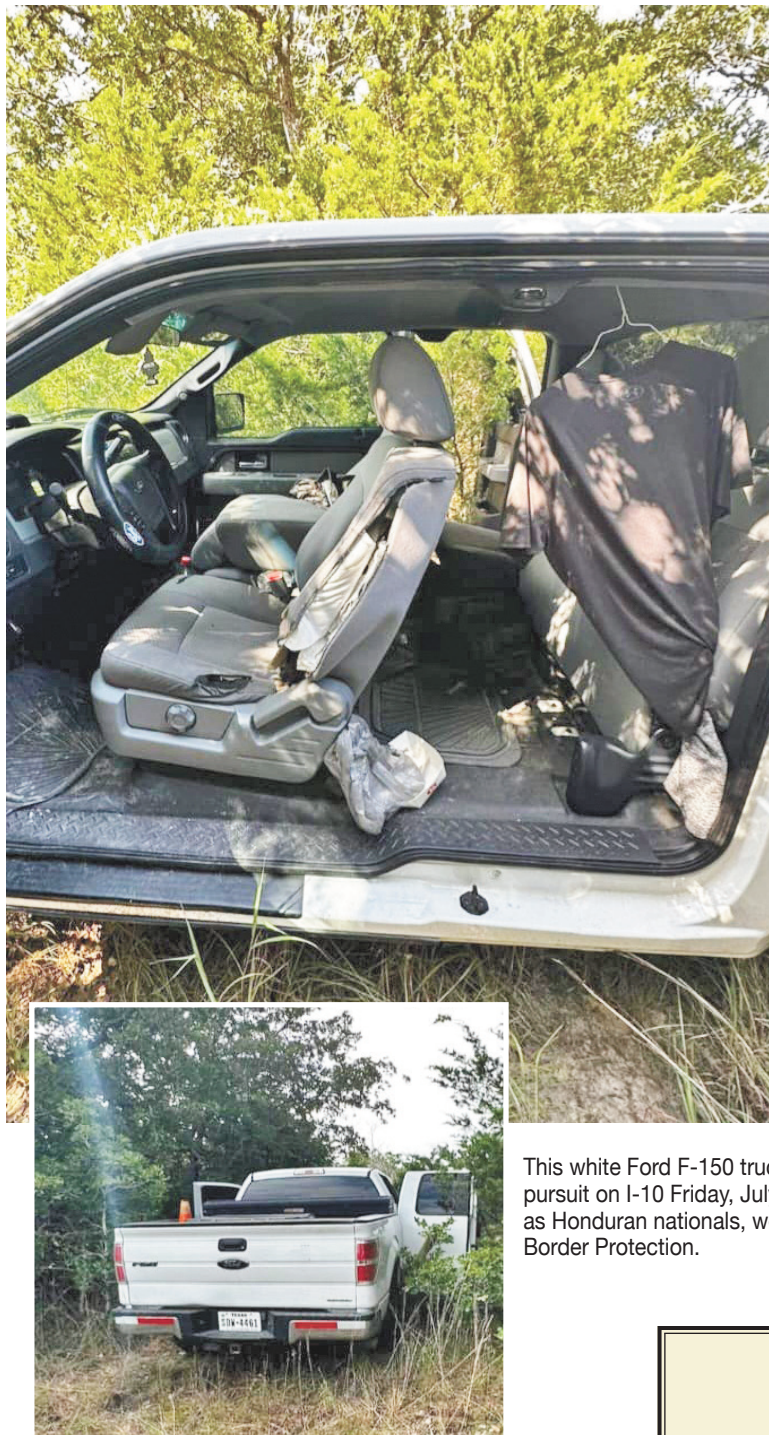
a minimum charge of \$3. Convenience fees are added by Gov-Pay, a third-party service provider for governmental payments.

• To pay by mail, send your personal check, cashier's check or money order to City of Waelder, P.O. Box 427, Waelder, TX 78959.

• You may pay your utility bill in person by personal check, cashier's check, money order, debit card or credit card at Waelder City Hall on Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Again, a convenience fee does apply for paying with debit or credit card.

• There is a drop box at the drive-through window at Waelder City Hall. Again, checks and money orders only. Payments received after 4:30 p.m. weekdays will not be posted until the following working day.

For more information, call City of Waelder at 830-788-7331.



This white Ford F-150 truck led law enforcement from five agencies on a pursuit on I-10 Friday, July 7, before being stopped. Four males, all identified as Honduran nationals, were detained and transported to U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

CONTRIBUTED

Four Honduran nationals caught in traffic stop

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Four Honduran nationals are now in custody of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection after an incident which occurred at about 10 a.m. Friday, July 7.

A Gonzales County Sheriff's deputy attempted to make a traffic stop on a white Ford F-150 that was traveling eastbound on I-10. The vehicle initially pulled over, but then took off and a short pursuit ensued.

The vehicle drove into the brush inside Fayette County and the occupants fled on foot.

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office personnel — with the assistance of the Gonzales County Precinct 3 Constable's Office, Waelder Police Department, Flatonia Police Department, and Fayette County Sheriff's Office — began a search of the area.

Four males, all of which were Honduran nationals, were located and taken into custody. Gonzales County transported the subjects and turned them over to CBP.

GCSO recovers stolen four-wheelers, arrests suspect

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

A suspect is in custody now and two stolen four-wheelers have been recovered following an investigation by the Gonzales County Sheriff's Department and the Gonzales County Precinct 3 Constable's Office.

On Thursday, July 6, deputies responded to a report about two stolen four-wheelers and a residence that had been burglarized on County Road 420 outside of Waelder.

During the follow-up investigation, information was obtained about the possible whereabouts of the stolen four wheelers. Gonzales County criminal investigators, along with the patrol division, were able to locate and recover both stolen four wheelers and place one subject in custody. That person's name was



CONTRIBUTED

Sheriff's deputies were able to recover a pair of four-wheelers stolen after residences were burglarized on County Road 420 outside Waelder last week. One person, whose name has not been released, is in custody. The incident is still under investigation at this time.

not being released at this time pending further investigation.

This is still an ongoing investigation. If you have any information regarding this incident please contact the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office at 830-672-6524.

The Gonzales County Sheriff's Office would like to thank the public and Precinct 3 Constable's Office for their assistance with this incident.

Nixon VFD to hold annual BBQ fundraiser on July 22

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Nixon Volunteer Fire Department is holding its annual barbecue fundraiser on Saturday, July 22, at the Nixon Fire Station, 209 N. Congress

Ave., from noon until they sell out of food.

For \$12 per plate, get brisket and sausage with cowboy potatoes and pinto beans.

For more information, call 830-582-2299 or email nixonfiredept@gmail.com.

Celebrations Birthdays

<p>July 13th Charlene Alvarado Kristen Cook Michael Iakopo Logan Machacek Wanda Simmons Tara Straub</p>	<p>July 16th Jaxon Lester Brenda Petru Trisha Storey</p>
<p>July 14th Wendy Allen Kristina Falany Longoria</p>	<p>July 17th Susie Bernd Sally O'Dell Diana Vargas</p>
<p>July 15th Sandra Crabb Derrick Davis Colton Filip Carli Sky Harkey Jenna Philips Lamb Jeremy T. Philips</p>	<p>July 18th Colson Boehm Bonnie Condel Bailey Connell Gloria Lent Bonnie Tiekens</p>
	<p>July 19th Angie Solis</p>

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Gonzales Weather

	July 13 102°/78°	Partly sunny, breezy and hot 9% chance of rain • RealFeel 104
	July 14 101°/76°	Sunny to partly cloudy, very warm and humid 10% chance of rain • RealFeel 103
	July 15 102°/77°	Mostly sunny, very warm and humid 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 102
	July 16 102°/77°	Sunny, very warm and humid 5% chance of rain • RealFeel 101
	July 17 100°/77°	Very warm and humid with plenty of sunshine 5% chance of rain • RealFeel 101
	July 18 99°/78°	Very warm with plenty of sunshine 5% chance of rain • RealFeel 105
	July 19 101°/75°	Mostly sunny, very warm and humid 10% chance of rain • RealFeel 105

Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

July 14th-15th – Gonzales Play Day

July 16th – South Texas Tour

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June heat stress hurts Texas agriculture

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

A June heat wave caused agricultural conditions to decline around much of the state after steady improvements over the previous month, according to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service experts.

May rains dramatically improved soil moisture conditions in many drought-stricken areas of Texas, but triple-digit temperatures and little to no rain in June were trending many areas back toward drought. Various crops around the state were showing stress from high temperatures and lack of soil moisture, and livestock gains likely experienced heat-related declines.

HEAT WAVE TAKES TOLL ON TEXAS CROPS

The heat wave was especially harsh in the southern half of the state, where some areas experienced record temperatures.

All plants and vegetation experience heat stress during extreme daytime and nighttime temperatures like Texas experienced over recent weeks. Heat and inadequate soil moisture can stress plants, damage their cell membranes and disrupt metabolic efficiency during pro-

See HEAT, page 11



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Garden
Q&A with CALVIN FINCH



On colorful shade plants, growing fruit in the backyard and feeding the birds

Q. What is the name of the grass that is not killed by Glyphosate so you can spray the weeds growing in the lawn and only kill the weeds? Is it a good product?

A. The name of the grass is Pro Vista 3350 12. It is related to Floratam so yes, it is a good product. In addition to the ability to survive a spray by Glyphosate it is drought tolerant; shorter growing so there is less mowing; and has superior disease and pest resistance. The grass is more expensive than most sods but seems to be worth it.

Q. What is a recommended plum variety for growing fruit in the backyard in our area? What about the Mexican plum?

A. Methley and Santa Rosa are the usual selections recommended for backyard peach growing in this area. They usually receive enough chill hours during the winter to support a crop. The Mexican plum is a good plant for area landscapes for attractive blooms, wildlife fruit, and wildlife cover. The fruit can be used for preserves.

Q. What are the best choices for color in the shade for this area? When would we switch to winter shade plants and what would they be?

A. Whopper begonia, semperfloren begonias, pentas, coleus, caladiums and sweet potato vine for this summer and switch to cy-

clamen and primula in the winter but not until November.

Q. When is a good time to quit feeding the birds for the year?

A. Some gardeners feed the birds all year, but I feed suet and seed from October to May. The break seems to be important to reduce rodent pressure. Sometimes hummingbirds are in place all winter, so I include the sugar water feeder most of the year. I also provide thistle seed all year except when the sunflowers are producing seed for the lesser goldfinches. One thing that is essential all year is water. One or more bird baths with a circulating pump brings the birds in for observation and is important to their well-being.

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GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET

July 8th
 Cattle – 1381

Compared to our last sale: Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold steady to 2.00-4.00 higher. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold steady to 2.00-3.00 higher. Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 300-305; 300-400 lbs., 282-295; 400-500 lbs., 257-275; 500-600 lbs., 235-245; 600-700 lbs., 215-221; 700-800 lbs., 185-212. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 95-145. Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300

lbs., 267-285; 300-400 lbs., 232-260; 400-500 lbs., 217-221; 500-600 lbs., 215-219; 600-700 lbs., 187-210.

Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 82-90; Cutters, 95-109; Canners, 52-77; High yielding fat cows, 91-100. **Packer Bulls:** Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 114-123; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 97-110. **Stocker Cows:** \$750 to \$1,700. Pairs: \$1,100 to \$1,800.

NIXON LIVESTOCK

June 26th
 Cattle – 1141
 Steers: 200-300 lbs - \$211-221-290 300-400 lbs - \$248-258-300

400-500 lbs - \$223-233-283 500-600 lbs - \$209-219-263 600-700 lbs - \$195-205-242 700-800 lbs - \$180-190-210

Heifers:

200-300 lbs - \$238-248-295 300-400 lbs - \$215-225-295 400-500 lbs - \$201-211-245 500-600 lbs - \$192-202-252 600-700 lbs - \$185-195-214 700-800 lbs - \$165-175-190 Slaughter Cows - \$46-111 Slaughter Bulls - \$86-122 Stocker Cows – \$650-1100 Pairs: \$700-1350

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET

July 7, 2023

Number of head 1,309

There were 192 cows and 22 bulls. The packer market on cows and bulls was stonger with top packer bull at \$133/cwt while top packer cow was at \$107.00.

The calf market was again strong and exceeded the levels of last week. Demand was very active across the board. Overall the average calf was \$31/head higher with 12 more pounds of average weight with a \$1/cwt higher price.

Packer bulls: 110.00-133.00
Packer cows: 91.00-107.00
 canners & cutters 30.00-50.00

Palpated: 31 BRED 106.00-143.00

PAIRS: 3 \$1,120-\$1,600

Steer Calves: AVG-HIGH

Under 200 lbs. N O N E

200-249 lbs. N O N E

250-299 lbs. 252.00-300.00

300-350 lbs. 250.00-302.00

350-400 lbs. 259.00-280.00

400-450 lbs. 242.00-288.00

450-500 lbs. 230.00-279.00

500-550 lbs. 232.00-258.00

550-600 lbs. 227.00-260.00

600-700 lbs. 210.00-238.00

700-800 lbs. 197.00-215.00

Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

Under 250lbs 257.00-304.00

250-300 lbs. 279.00-312.00

300-350 lbs. 273.00-304.00

350-400 lbs. 249.00-296.00

400-450 lbs. 240.00-286.00

450-500 lbs. 237.00-276.00

500-550 lbs. 230.00-256.00

550-600 lbs. 220.00-248.00

600-700 lb 204.00-238.00

Over 700 lbs. 180.00-207.00

Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

under 200 lbs. 255.00-302.50

200-250 lbs. 242.00-305.00

250-300 lbs. 250.00-306.00

300-350 lbs. 235.00-260.00

350-400 lbs. 231.00-253.00

400-450 lbs. 224.00-246.00

450-500 lbs. 214.00-252.00

500-550 lbs. 212.00-237.00

550-600 lbs. 209.00-230.00

600-700 lbs. 193.00-220.00

Over 700 lbs 182.00-195.00



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SJRC Texas Belong earns national recognition

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

St. Jude's Ranch for Children—Texas and its Belong division were recently recognized for the work they do in the 27 counties surrounding Bexar County — including Gonzales County.

SJRC Texas Belong was featured in Rural Health Models & Innovations, a national collection of successful rural health programs and interventions maintained by the Rural Health Information Hub.

SJRC Texas Belong provides prevention, foster care and adoption and community-based care services to offer healing and hope to children and families affected by abuse, abandonment, or neglect in the South Central and Hill Country region and Bexar County.

Through the transition into a Community-Based Care model, SJRC Texas has assessed current community resources and has been working to facilitate connecting services to individuals and families in rural communities.

Since 1983, SJRC Texas has been dedicated to providing a safe haven for children in need. Through decades of work SJRC Texas added the Community-Based Care division, Belong, after the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services awarded SJRC Texas the lead contract. In October 2021, Belong began Stage I of Community-Based Care and was able to move into full legal case management in October 2022.

"Family support services are an imperative part of the work that SJRC Texas does within the 27 rural counties we serve. We know that sometimes something as simple as connecting a family to local health care provider, providing them with basic needs assistance or providing in-home parenting support can make all the difference in a family's success. For many, by helping alleviate everyday stressors we are providing families more opportunities to be able to focus on what really matters. Our goal is to help create healthy families and in turn healthy communities," said SJRC Texas Chief Prevention Officer, Jaci Gonzales.

To read the full project summary, visit <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/project-examples/1113>.

RHHub is a national online information center on rural health issues, funded by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy. Its website includes over 18,000 resources specific to rural health. The Rural Health Models & Innovations section features hundreds of successful programs that are serving rural residents across the nation.

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.
- Disrespectful comments regarding 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.

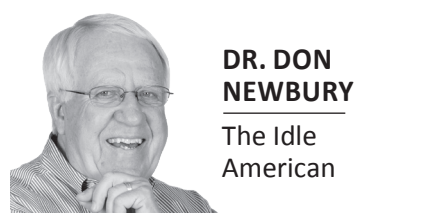
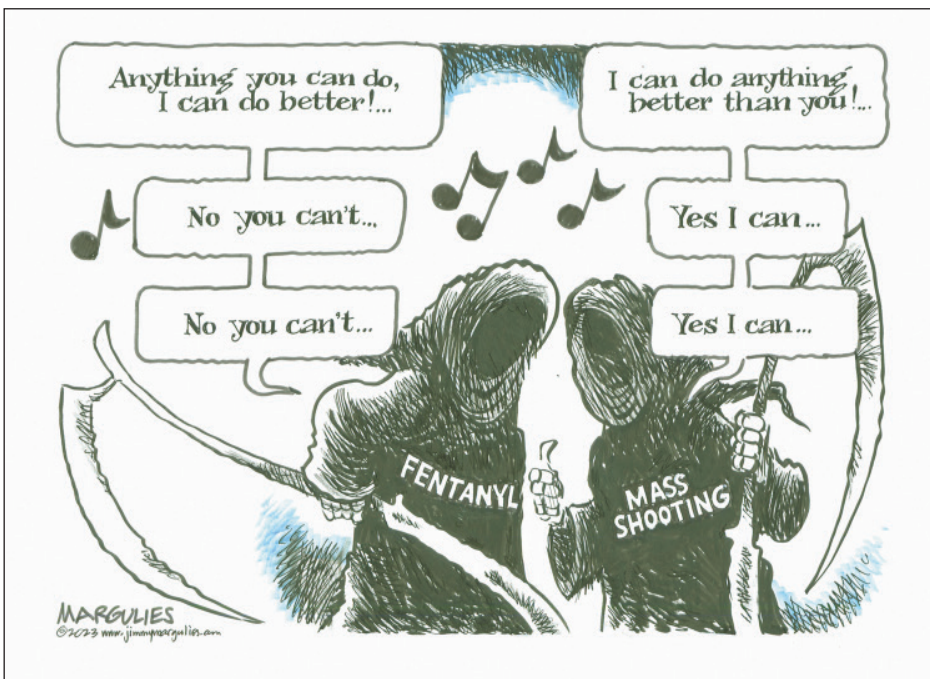
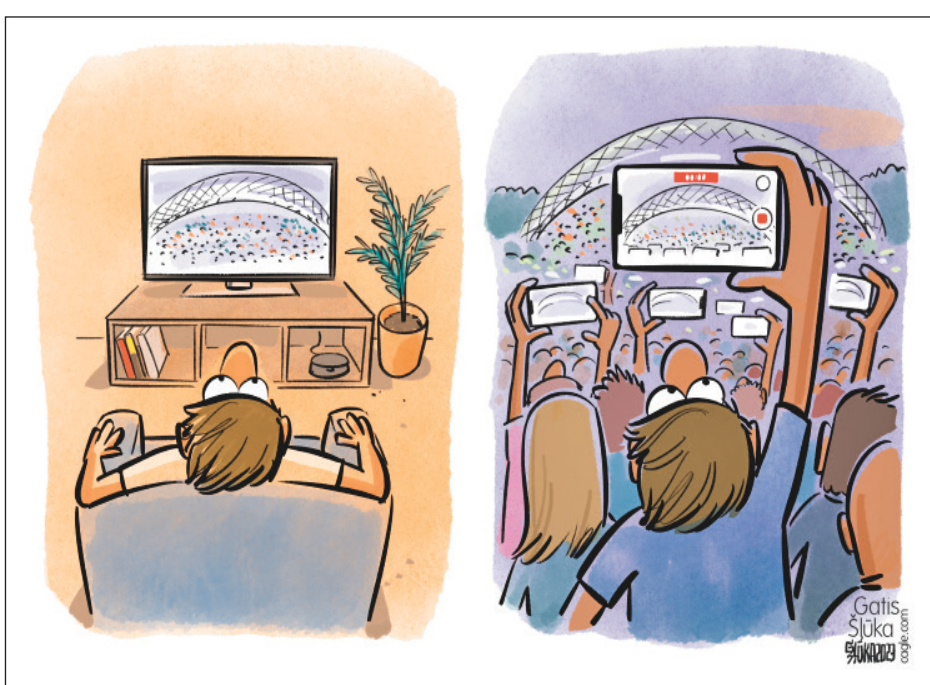
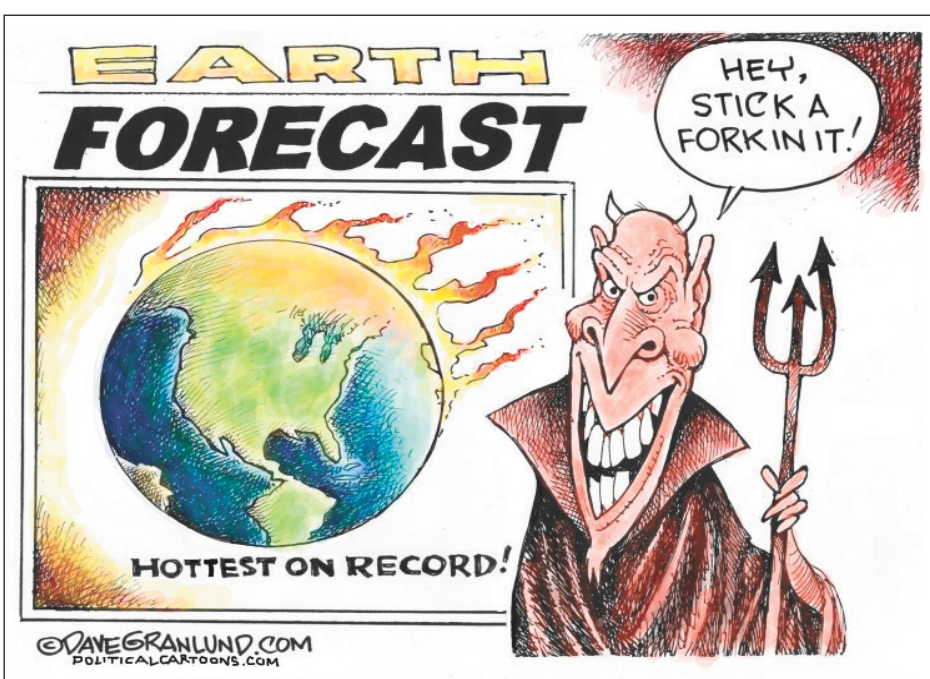
The Inquirer will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information. Letters written in response to other letter writers should address the issue at hand. Discourse should be civil and people should be referred to in a respectful manner. Letters referring to news stories should also mention the headline 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.



DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

Uncle Mort on keeping up...

The late Will Rogers claimed that all he knew, he read in the newspapers.

My aged Uncle Mort--whose routine includes puttering down the lane to the general store most days--still is an avid reader. However, he is not one claiming to read from "kivver to kivver," like his parents before him.

Most of his reading material is, well, "cold off the presses" by the time newspapers and magazines are left behind at the general store, where he gathers them up for later perusal.

Mort tires of the "gloom and doom" accounts that dominate many publications today. In fact, he has taken to clipping snippets of articles that provide helpful information and/or cause him to smile.

His filing system is way short of precise. Truth to tell, he tosses the clippings into a cigar box, and if he runs short on current ones, he turns the stack "downside up" for "rereading purposes." Sometimes he forgets he's already read them....

He wishes he had known Eleanor Conrad, who died recently in Dallas at age 99. She and her late husband led in breaking down racial barriers.

The couple led courageous lives, waxing philosophical across the years.

One of her suggestions rings particularly true today: "Never tattoo anything that will eventually sag..."

One clipping quoted Stephen Spielberg, a famous American film maker.

He often said, "When you tell your instincts to shut up, they will, and then they won't talk to you anymore."

His quote brings to mind a similar one that is coated in mold: "Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak and remove all doubt." Another clipping suggests that President George W. Bush "radiated enough self-confidence to melt down a Geiger counter!..."

Some of the best writers are featured in Texas Monthly, perhaps the best "state" magazine in the nation.

Readers "chow down" on the issue that features assessments of each legislative session's heroes and villains.

Mort found the account of the 2023 legislature in a tattered Texas Monthly left hanging from the general store's windshield-cleaning bucket. Maybe it was "hung out to dry." Whatever, Mort loved one sentence particularly: "The archives remind us that though the Capitol has long been a playground for scoundrels, there are always faithful servants there, too!..."

While some legislators were "quartered and drawn," many received high praise, including Representative John Bryant of Dallas.

The magazine calls him a "folk hero." Said one Austin insider: "He's reintroduced the spirit of the Democrats in the seventies."

Another claims: "John Bryant is a really good John Wesleyan Methodist who believes you do all you can, for as long as you can, for as many people as you can. And that is the only thing that is really motivating him." ...

Finally, Texas Monthly swung at Governor Greg Abbott, calling him "The Elephant (Not) in the Room."

Claiming that he cut short a May 8 press conference to be interviewed by Fox & Friends, the article concluded with, "The House is a bore, the Senate a snore, but the bright lights of right-wing TV give him unconditional love."

At least this is a chance to reference "unconditional love." These words aren't linked that often anymore....

Meanwhile, my friend Beverly Germany recently celebrated her 79th birthday. Family gathered for the party.

Beverly's daughter Monica mentioned that next year, "Gigi will be 80." This elicited a comment from Luke, Beverly's four-year-old great-grandson. It gives a glimmer of hope for folks worrying about student's mastery of mathematics going south.

"And then, she'll be only 20 years from 100," chimed in Luke. Watch out, kindergartners. When he enrolls this fall, he's likely to ruin the curve for lesser minds....

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, writes weekly and continues to speak throughout Texas. Phone: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Facebook: Don Newbury.

The Gonzales Inquirer

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Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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Kid Scoop Together: Proof It!

Are you an eagle-eyed reader? Read the article below and circle the seven errors you find. Then rewrite it correctly on the lines below the article.

Rita Rebus and the Case of the Mysterious Night Lights

Mystery fan **Rita Rebus** and her best friend, **Misty Phy**, were about to head out for a night of backyard camping.

They asked Rita's little sister, **Lula**, to come along, too. But ...

At night, I see these little **lights** blinking near the bushes. I think there must be **MONSTERS** out there!

Oh, I think I know what those lights are. They won't hurt you. How about if we investigate tonight?

Wait up, Rita!

N-n-noooo WAY! Not me! I'm not going out **THERE** at night!



What is a firefly?

A firefly is an insect, but it is not a fly. It is a beetle.

Beetles have two pairs of wings. The front pair is stiff and protects the soft back wings, which are used for flying.

Standards Link: Life Science: Students know animals have structures that serve different functions in survival.

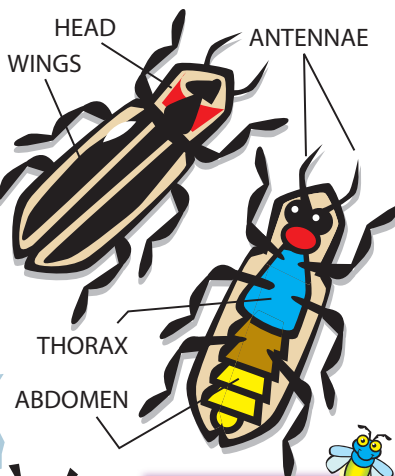
How does a firefly glow?

Fireflies need four things to glow. Three of those are chemicals it has in its body. Circle every third letter to discover the fourth thing it needs to glow.

PYOJEXTRYSAGFWYBN

How do fireflies breathe?

People use their lungs to get oxygen from the air. A firefly has small holes on its abdomen that let in oxygen.



Why do fireflies blink their lights on and off?

An adult firefly can make its light blink on and off. Each species or kind of firefly has its own blinking pattern. Males and females use their flashes to find mates from the same species.

Some species flash short, quick flashes. Others stay lit longer. Others have longer dark times between flashes.

The male flies around flashing his light. The female stays near the ground and flashes "answers" to the male's flashing messages as he flies above her.

Fireflies also use their flashing lights to scare off predators and to warn other fireflies of danger.

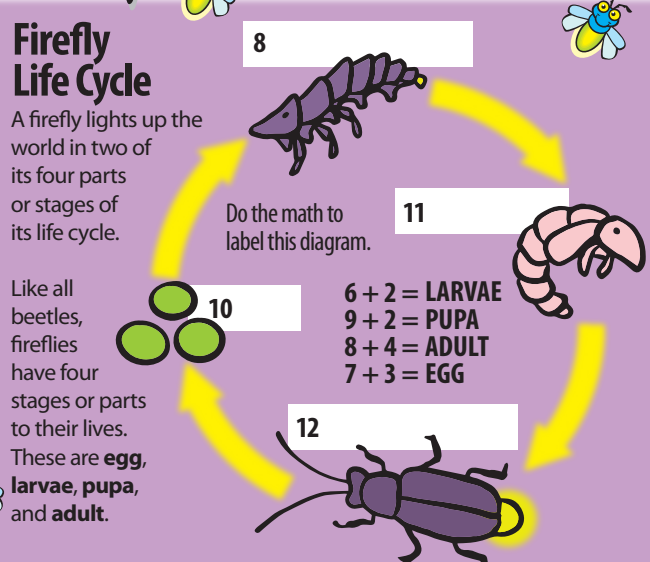
QUICK INVESTIGATION:

Use a light stick, often found with sporting goods, to demonstrate how chemicals can mix together to create light without giving off any heat.

Glow Little Glow Worm

What are glow worms? Hold this page up to a mirror to find out!

אילן עץ הלבן הוא סוג של עץ ירוק. הוא נפוץ באזורים חמים. הוא צומח במהירות ויש לו עלים חדים. הוא יכול להגיע לגובה של עד 100 רגל. הוא משמש למבנים ולדקורציה.



More Than One Spells Confusion

One firefly is spelled **f-i-r-e-f-l-y**. More than one is spelled **f-i-r-e-f-l-i-e-s**. To make firefly plural you change the **y** to **i** and add **es**.

Look through the newspaper for five nouns that end in **y**. Change each from singular to plural. Then, look for five plural nouns, and change them to singular nouns.

Standards Link: Language Arts/Grammar: Use conventions of spelling; identify plural and singular nouns.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Firefly Code

Use the code to discover another common name for fireflies.

Firefly = A I T
Firefly = B L U
Firefly = G N
Firefly = H S

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

FIREFLIES
BEETLES
GLOW
LIGHTS
FLASHES
ABDOMEN
WINGS
SCARE
INSECT
LOOK
HURT
MALE
FOUR
HOLES
HEAT

F S T H G I L O O K
F L E L A M S I E K
N S G I F E L O C W
E I W O L G F I B S
M N S T A F T O G H
O S E A S J E N U Y
D E L E H N I R I R
B C O H E W T G I H
A T H T S C A R E F

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

What a Character!

Brilliance is ...

... lighting up when you learn something new!

Write On!

Write Words Wonderfully

An alliteration is a series of words that start with the same letter. Can you come up with one or more alliterations?

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The Gonzales Inquirer

f GONZALESINQUIRER



Lunch & Learn with Master Gardeners

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

While summer is usually considered the season for a vegetable garden, the cooler temperatures of fall often have fewer weeds, pests, and diseases to challenge plants. Also, many varieties that are not happy in hot weather will be as the days cool down and even last into cold weather.

A lunch and learn program on fall vegetables is going to be offered and hosted by the Gonzales Master Gardeners on Tuesday, Aug. 1, from noon to 1 p.m.

The program presenter, Marcia Lambert, who is a Certified Texas Master Gardener, will explain which vegetables are best suited for fall gardening. The program will be held at the master gardeners' building, PACE: Plantarium

A Center for Exploration, located at 623 N. Fair Street, Gonzales.

This event is free and open to the public. The Gonzales Master Gardeners will share coffee, tea, cookies and knowledge along with a free vegetable transplant to take home, so pack a sack lunch and join them for this informative program. For more information, go to www.gonzalesmastergardeners.org.

Still time to purchase entries for 144 Envelopes FUNdraiser

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture still has some envelopes available for purchase as part of its unique "144 Envelopes" FUNdraiser.

Participants purchase the envelope amount to be entered into a drawing for raffle prizes. The amount purchased equals the amount of entries in the drawing, from one to 144. Each \$1 spent equals one drawing ticket.

The drawing will be held at 5:15



CONTRIBUTED
Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture executive director Melissa Henderson holds one of the envelopes as she explains the Chamber's 144 Envelopes FUNdraiser. The drawing will be held Thursday, July 27, during the July "Power Hour."

p.m. Thursday, July 27, during the July "Power Hour" at 321 Pop-Up Market, 319 Saint Lawrence, and winners will receive gift certificates or items from local businesses.

Among the prizes available are:

GIFT CARD VALUED AT \$100+
OxiFresh Carpet Cleaning
Saint James Bed & Breakfast

\$100 GIFT CARD
HEB
Edwards Furniture Co.

\$50 GIFT CARD
321 Pop Up
CREW Men's Store
Five-Two Apparel Company
Laurel Ridge Antiques
Mohrman's Drug Store, LLC
Person's Flower Shop
Revival Fitness
Simply Maries
Shear Designs Boutique
China Basket

\$25 GIFT CARD
Baker Boys BBQ
D&D Liquor
Diamond A BBQ
First Shot Liquor
MKD Smoke Barn
Purple Cactus

\$20 GIFT CARD
Sudz Car Wash
Texpresso

\$10 GIFT CARD
De La Garza Coffee

To purchase an envelope, stop by the Chamber office at 304 Saint Louis St.

GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS
The winning team from the July 5 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Lance Lopez, Chris Law, Ruben Lopez, Randall Dupree and Kameron Craft.



The second-place team from the July 5 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Roy Staton, Mike Turk, Jarrid Boehm, Aiden Kallal, Amelia Hahn and John Hahn.

VETERANS MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



CONTRIBUTED
Jeff Natho and Josh Gray of Gonzales National Bank, branch of First National Bank of Shiner, teamed up to play in the 11th annual Gonzales County Veterans' Memorial Golf Tournament on Tuesday, July 4. Gonzales National Bank is proud to be a sponsor of this event as it helps make veterans' lives better. Thank you, Gonzales County veterans, for all you do. A great time was had by all!

Steele

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

ERRORS

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
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Sunday, July 16, 10:00 AM
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www.voatz.org

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FIELD SITE SOLUTIONS LLC, Flatonia, TX is looking for experienced Dispatcher, Office Personnel and CDL Drivers in oil field. Experience a plus. For information call 1-361-217-5949.

THE TEXAN IS looking for a Full time Maintenance Director. Please apply in person: Texan Nursing and Rehab of Gonzales, 3428 Moulton Rd., Gonzales, Texas 78629. EOE

CAL MAINE FOODS Inc. Happy Hen location is looking for Shipping and Receiving, Palletizer. Benefits include: Vacation, Sick leave, Hosp. Ins., Dental, Vision, 401K, ESOP. Apply in person: Cal-Maine Foods Inc., 1974 CR 283 W, Harwood, Tx 78632. Monday-Friday 7-4.

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Diversicare of Luling is hiring for Full Time RN or LVN 6am-6pm, 6pm-6am Offering \$4000.00 sign on Bonus. Please visit our website www.dvcr.com <<http://www.dvcr.com>>. If you have any questions please call Jamie at 830-875-5219.



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Part-time Instructor needed for CDL Truck Driving Course to be held at the VC Gonzales Center.

In partnership with HCC
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850 HELP WANTED

850 HELP WANTED



The Division of Allied Health is hiring part-time Adjunct Instructors for the for the clinical setting of the ADN and VN Nursing Programs. Adjunct Instructors are needed at our Victoria campus as well as in the Gonzales, Cuero, and Hallettsville locations. For more information and to apply go to www.victoriacollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC.

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GARAGE SALE:

SATURDAY, July 15th, 1107 St. Vincent St., 8am-12noon. Smoker, bikes, car seats, baby stroller, clothes, shoes, toys, misc. items.

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY of Gonzales is having a rummage sale on Saturday, July 15th, from 9-3 at the St. James Parish Hall. If you would like to donate any items for this, it would be greatly appreciated. We are accepting any donations in good condition. Example: Furniture, clothes, kitchen items, home décor, baby items, etc. All proceeds will go to the church. For more information, call Kathy at 830-263-4218 or Lupe at 830-534-7915.

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Construction Advertisement and Invitation for Bids

The City of Waelder will receive bids for GLO-CDR Drainage Improvements, 2017 Hurricane Harvey-DR 4332 (GLO Contract No. 20-065-112-C309) until **10:00 AM on Friday, July 28, 2023** at City Hall, 300 Highway 90 West, Waelder, Texas. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at **10:00 AM on Friday, July 28, 2023** at City Hall, 300 Highway 90 West, Waelder, Texas.

Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows:

1. Roadside ditch grading and enlargement.
2. New culvert installation.
3. Reinforced concrete paving.
4. Asphalt street/driveway repair.

Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at BEFCO Engineering, Inc., 485 N. Jefferson, La Grange, TX 78945 (979) 968-6474.

Copies of the Bid/Contract Documents may be obtained by depositing \$100.00 with the Engineer for each set of documents obtained. The deposit will not be refunded. Electronic copies may be obtained at no charge by request at office@befcoengineering.com.

A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid. A certified check or bank draft payable to the City of Waelder or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Department of Labor Texas General Land Office and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin.

The City of Waelder reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by City of Waelder for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

All contractors/subcontractors must not be debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov).

City of Waelder
James J. Wright
City Manager
7/10/2023
Date

CLASSIFIEDS

850 HELP WANTED

TEXAN NURSING AND Rehab of Gonzales is now hiring for the following position: Full Time: C.N.A., all shifts; LVN, all shifts, full-time, with a \$1000 Sign On and Referral Bonus. Individual should be multi-task oriented, self-motivated, and must enjoy working around the elderly. Please apply in person: Texan Nursing and Rehab of Gonzales, 3428 Moulton Rd., Gonzales, Texas 78629. EOE

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VICTORIA COLLEGE
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Instructor needed to teach Certified Pharmacy Technician course at the Gonzales facility. Classes begin in August 2022. Prefer minimum of one year experience. For more information call (361) 572-6446 or email HealthCareers@VictoriaCollege.edu. An Equal-Opportunity Institution



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Est. 1925

Part-time ITV/WebEx Proctors needed to teach at Victoria College's Gonzales Center. For more information and to apply go to www.victoriacollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC. Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

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The Gonzales Inquirer

Part-time Delivery Driver

Driver needed to distribute papers to Post Offices and Vendors.

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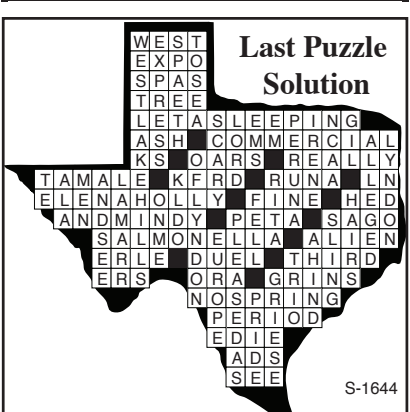
Call **830-672-2861** for more information.

\$

July 6 Puzzle Answers

3	1	9	7	6	5	4	2	8
4	5	6	9	2	8	1	7	3
8	2	7	4	3	1	5	6	9
6	9	2	1	4	3	7	8	5
1	8	3	6	5	7	9	4	2
5	7	4	2	8	9	3	1	6
7	6	1	5	9	2	8	3	4
9	4	8	3	7	6	2	5	1
2	3	5	8	1	4	6	9	7

Last Puzzle Solution



S-1644

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES


Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jeromy Michael Belin, Deceased, were issued on June 21, 2023, in Cause No. AD23-0254, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: Julie Belin.

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: **Robert W. Bland**
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 119
GONZALES, TX 78629

Dated the 27th day of June, 2023.



Robert W. Bland
Attorney for Julie Belin
State Bar No: 24044756
P.O. Boxes 119
GONZALES, TX 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-2437
Facsimile: (830) 672-2439
E-mail: rbland@gvec.net

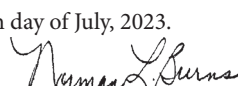
Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of NANCY C. WOOD, Deceased, were issued on June 6, 2023, in Cause No. PW23-0270, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: CECIL R. WOOD, JR.

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.

CECIL R. WOOD, JR.
c/o **Norman L. Burns**
Attorney at Law
1606 N. Sarah DeWitt Drive
Gonzales, TX 78629

Dated the 10th day of July, 2023.



NORMAN L. BURNS
Attorney for Cecil R. Wood, Jr.
State Bar No.: 03448500
1606 N. Sarah DeWitt Drive
GONZALES, TX 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-9511
Facsimile: (830) 672-7638
E-mail: nburns@munsonburns.com


Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of AUDREY A. PERKOVICH, Deceased, were issued on July 5, 2023, in Cause No. PW23-0278, pending in the County Court of GONZALES County, Texas, to: Victoria Perkovich Sanders.

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 **Representative, Estate of AUDREY A. PERKOVICH**
1060 South Joplin Wy
Aurora, Colorado 80017

Dated the 5 day of July, 2023.



Ortman Fullilove Law, PLLC
Attorney for the Independent Personal Representative of the Estate of AUDREY A. PERKOVICH, Deceased
State Bar No.: 24084171
403 Saint George Street
Gonzales, Texas 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-9535
Facsimile: (830) 672-8654
christie@ortmanfullilove.com

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Bankruptcy Sale - Bid Deadline July 18. Entitled 49± AC Multifamily Development Site, potential for 595 units with retail, 1001 FM 969, Bastrop, TX. Potential for either 426 duplex units or 214 duplex units & 380-unit apt complex. Entitlements completed & partial infrastructure in place. Hilo Real Estate Sales, 855-755-2300.

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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Need help with your retirement plan? If you have questions about your pension, 401(k) or profit sharing plan, call the South Central Pension Rights Project at 800-443-2528 to get free legal advice. Funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging, SCPRP staff provides free legal assistance to anyone with a question about their retirement plan. Call us today 800-443-2528.

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Cause No. 28,429

THE STATE OF TEXAS)

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

COUNTY OF GONZALES)

In the name and by the authority of the State of Texas Notice is hereby given as follows:

To the Unknown Owner(s) of Thomas Harold Fears, Jr. (collectively, "Condemnees")

and all other persons, including adverse claimants, owning or having or claiming any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the following described property, to-wit:

Being property situated in John E. Garwin Survey, Abs. 22, Gonzales County, Texas, in a called 577-acre tract of land recorded in Volume 135, Page 48, Clerk Records of Gonzales County, Texas.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT YOU HAVE BEEN SUED and **Ironwood Midstream Energy Partners, LLC**, as Condemnor, has sued **Condemnees**, by petition filed on December 27, 2022, in a suit styled *Ironwood Midstream Energy Partners, LLC v. Unknown Heirs of Thomas Harold Fears, Jr.*, for the acquisition of easement rights that are described in the live pleadings in this suit now pending in the 2nd 25th Judicial District Court of Gonzales County, Texas, and the cause number is 28,429. **YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY.**

Condemnor seeks easement rights on the above-described property by the power of eminent domain.

All parties to this suit, including Condemnor and Condemnees, shall take notice of all claims and pleadings now on file and which may hereafter be filed in said cause by all other parties herein.

The address of Condemnor, Ironwood Midstream Energy Partners, LLC is 15727 Anthem Parkway, Suite 510, San Antonio, Texas 78249.

Failure to respond may result in judgment by default or judgment in the absence of objections rendered for the relief demanded in the petition.

You are hereby commanded to appear at a Special Commissioners Hearing on the **25th of July, 2023**, to be held at **10:00 a.m.** in the **District Courtroom of the Gonzales County Courthouse, 414 St. Joseph Street, 2nd Floor, Gonzales, Texas 78629.**

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court in Gonzales County, Texas, this 26th day of June, A.D., 2023.



Janice Sutton, Gonzales County District Clerk

K. Alarcon
Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF SALE

STATE OF TEXAS § BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE

GONZALES COUNTY §

and issued pursuant to judgment decree(s) of the 25th District Court of Gonzales County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date, in the hereinafter numbered and styled suit(s) and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff or Constable of said County, I have on June 14th, 2023, seized, levied upon, and will, on the first Tuesday in August, 2023, the same being the 1st day of said month, inside the Gonzales County Courthouse Lobby at 414 N St Joseph St., in the City of Gonzales, Texas, between the hours of 10 o'clock a.m. and 4 o'clock p.m., beginning at approximately 10:00 a.m., on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit(s) in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Gonzales and the State of Texas, to-wit:

Cause #: 26,824 OVATION SERVICES, LLC V. REGINALD AHART AND THE KNOWN AND UNKNOWN HEIRS OF DOROTHY AHART (IN REM ONLY); Judgment Date: March 22, 2023 Tax Acct #'s: 13681-25000-00000-00000; 13681-25000-00050-00000 Order of Sale Issued: April 28, 2023

Legal Description: BEING SIX (6) ACRES OF LAND OUT OF THE NATHANIEL OSBORNE SURVEY OF 13 ½ LABORS IN GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS, AND MORE PARTICULARLY BEING OUT OF AND A PART OF THAT CERTAIN TRACT OF 150 ACRES OF LAND CONVEYED BY F.E. WOOD TO SCOTT HOPKINS BY DEED DATED MARCH 14TH, 1874, RECORDED IN VOL. "U" PAGE 368 OF THE DEED RECORDS OF GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS, AND THE PARTICULAR PART THEREOF HEREBY INTENDED TO BE CONVEYED AS DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUNDS IN WARRANTY DEED FROM SCOTT AND POLLY HOPKINS TO TOM TERRY IN VOL. 118 AT PAGE 19 & 20 AND FILED FOR RECORD ON JANUARY 21ST, 1922, LESS AND EXCEPT THAT PART TAKEN FOR ROAD PURPOSES. Commonly known as: 3639 FM 1116, Gonzales, Texas 78629

Judgment Amount: \$48,725.23 plus penalties and interest that has accrued from March 22, 2023

any volume and page references, unless otherwise indicated, being to the Deed Records, Gonzales County, Texas, to which instruments reference may be made for a more complete description of each respective tract.) or, upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion of the property described above shall be sold to satisfy said judgment(s) interest, penalties, and cost. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment(s) rendered in the above styled and numbered cause(s), together with interest, penalties, and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sales to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

NOTES: ALL SALES SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. This property may have other liens, taxes due or encumbrances, which may become the responsibility of the successful bidder.

Dated at Gonzales, Texas 6/14/2023

Sheriff Keith Schmidt,
Gonzales County, Texas

By
Deputy Drew Nidey

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS AND FINAL NOTICE AND PUBLIC EXPLANATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS

07/13/2023

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

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about July 24, 2023, the City of Gonzales (City) will submit a request to the Texas General Land Office (GLO) 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 Street Improvements (Project).

The City is proposing to add free span bridges to the following intersections in Gonzales: Johnson Street and St. Andrew Street eastward approximately 40 feet, Moore Street and St. Lawrence Street eastward approximately 400 feet, De Witt Street and St. Louis Street eastward approximately 200 feet, De Witt Street and St. Matthew Street eastward approximately 250 feet, De Witt Street and St. Michael Street eastward approximately 250 feet, and De Witt Street and St. Vincent Street eastward approximately 225 feet. These activities would benefit 7,130 people of whom 4,085 (57.29%) are of low to moderate income. \$3,778,467.00 in CDBG-MIT funds was awarded to this project; the amount of funding to come from the City is currently undetermined. The project will increase resilience to disasters 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.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at Gonzales City Hall, 820 St Joseph St Gonzales, TX 78629 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M to 4 P.M.

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/or 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 0.42 acres of the site is located within the Regulatory Floodway (Zone AE Floodway) and approximately 0.04 acres occur within the 100-floodplain (Zone AE) and approximately 0.12 acres of the Project is located within Tinsley Creek riverine wetland feature. Construction of the project is considered a functionally dependent activity. All construction activities will be limited to already disturbed ground surfaces.

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) reduction in size, 2) locations outside of the floodplain, and 3) the no action alternative. An evaluation of Alternative 1 determined that the proposed Project activities represent the minimum improvements necessary to provide adequate drainage and access to citizens in the affected area; therefore, a reduction in size is not practicable without increasing the flood hazard risk level in the Project area. Regarding Alternative 2, as all crossings are located over water features, there are no alternative locations of crossings that are located outside of the floodplain. The crossings

AVISO DE INTENCIÓN DE SOLICITAR LA LIBERACIÓN DE FONDOS Y AVISO FINAL Y EXPLICACIÓN PÚBLICA DE UNA ACTIVIDAD PROPUESTA EN UNA LLANURA ALUVIAL DE 100 AÑOS Y HUMEDALES

07/13/2023

Estos avisos satisfarán dos requisitos de procedimiento distintos pero relacionados para actividades que emprenderá la Ciudad de Gonzales.

SOLICITUD DE LIBERACIÓN DE FONDOS

En o alrededor del 24 de julio de 2023, la Ciudad de Gonzales (Ciudad) presentará una solicitud ante la Oficina General de Tierras de Texas (GLO) para la liberación de fondos del Programa de Subvención en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario - Mitigación (CDBG-MIT) bajo el Título I de la Ley de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de 1974, según enmendada, para llevar a cabo un proyecto conocido como Mejoras de las Calles de la Ciudad de Gonzales (Proyecto).

La Ciudad propone añadir puentes de luz libre a las siguientes intersecciones en Gonzales: Johnson Street y St. Andrew Street hacia el este, aproximadamente 40 pies, Moore Street y St. Lawrence Street hacia el este, aproximadamente 400 pies, De Witt Street y St. Louis Street hacia el este, aproximadamente 200 pies, De Witt Street y St. Matthew Street hacia el este, aproximadamente 250 pies, De Witt Street y St. Michael Street hacia el este, aproximadamente 250 pies, y De Witt Street y St. Vincent Street hacia el este aproximadamente 225 pies. Estas actividades beneficiarían a 7,130 personas, de las cuales 4,085 (57.29%) tienen ingresos bajos o moderados. Se concedieron \$3,778,467.00 en fondos de CDBG-MIT a este proyecto; la cantidad de financiación que aportará la Ciudad es actualmente indeterminada. El proyecto aumentará la resiliencia ante las catástrofes y reducirá o eliminará el riesgo a largo plazo de pérdida de vidas, lesiones, daños y pérdida de bienes, y sufrimiento y penurias, al disminuir el impacto de futuras catástrofes.

Las actividades propuestas están categóricamente excluidas de los requisitos de la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental (NEPA) en virtud de la normativa 24 CFR Parte 58 del HUD. Un Registro de Revisión Ambiental (ERR) que documenta las determinaciones ambientales para este proyecto se encuentra archivado en la Alcaldía de Gonzales, en 820 St Joseph St Gonzales, TX 78629 y puede ser examinado o copiado los días hábiles de 8 A.M a 4 P.M.

AVISO FINAL Y REVISIÓN PÚBLICA DE UNA ACTIVIDAD PROPUESTA EN UNA LLANURA ALUVIAL DE 100 AÑOS Y HUMEDALES

Por la presente se notifica que la Ciudad ha llevado a cabo una evaluación conforme a lo exigido por la Orden Ejecutiva 11988 y/o 11990, de acuerdo con la normativa del HUD en 24 CFR 55.20 Subparte C Procedimientos para la toma de decisiones sobre la gestión de llanuras aluviales y la protección de humedales, para determinar el posible efecto que su actividad en la llanura aluvial y el humedal tendrá en el entorno humano.

Una revisión del Mapa de Tasas de Seguros Contra Inundaciones de la FEMA, Panel Comunitario 48177C0240D, vigente el 22/01/2020, muestra que 0.42 acres del sitio están ubicados dentro de la vía de inundación reglamentaria (vía de inundación de la Zona AE) y aproximadamente 0.04 acres están dentro de la llanura aluvial de 100 años (Zona AE) y aproximadamente 0.12 acres del Proyecto están ubicados dentro de la característica de humedal ribereño de Tinsley Creek. La construcción del proyecto se considera una actividad funcionalmente dependiente. Todas las actividades de construcción se limitarán a las superficies del suelo ya alteradas.

La Ciudad ha considerado las siguientes alternativas y medidas paliativas a adoptar para minimizar los impactos adversos y restaurar y preservar los valores naturales y beneficiosos: 1) reducción del tamaño, 2) ubicaciones fuera de la llanura aluvial y 3) la alternativa de no actuar. Una evaluación de la Alternativa 1 determinó que las actividades del Proyecto propuestas representan las mejoras mínimas necesarias para proporcionar un drenaje y un acceso adecuados a los ciudadanos de la zona afectada; por lo tanto, no es factible una reducción del tamaño sin aumentar el nivel de riesgo de inundación en la zona del Proyecto. En cuanto a la Alternativa 2, dado que todos los cruces se sitúan sobre elementos acuáticos, no hay ubicaciones alternativas de los cruces que se sitúan fuera de la llanura aluvial. Los cruces seleccionados se determinaron para proporcionar el máximo beneficio a los residentes que viven en la zona del Proyecto. Además, los pasos de agua se consideran funcionalmente dependientes y están permitidos dentro de la llanura aluvial. La Alternativa 3 de no actuar no permitiría la mejora

selected were determined to provide the maximum benefit to residents living in the Project area. Further, water crossings are considered functionally dependent and are allowable within the floodplain. The no action Alternative 3 would not allow the street improvements, resulting in increased evacuation and flood risk during future storm events. The no action alternative would leave residents and businesses in Gonzales with potential unsafe conditions and damage to their properties. This alternative fails to meet the purpose and need of the Program, to alleviate the incidence of flooding to homes, businesses, and roadways in a portion of the city that is prone to frequent and recurrent flooding.

Construction of the Project is the preferred alternative because it is not anticipated to aggravate current hazards to floodplains or disrupt floodplain or wetland 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, restricting vehicle and material staging within floodplain and wetland areas, as well as protecting floodplains and adjacent 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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR 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 July 21, 2023, will be considered by the City prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City certifies to the GLO 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. GLO's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City to use Program funds for the project.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

GLO 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; (b) the City 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 GLO; 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 Heather Lagrone, Texas General Land Office, PO Box 12873, Austin, TX 78711-2873, or by email at env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov. Potential objectors should contact GLO to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Tim Crow, City Manager, City of Gonzales

de las calles, lo que aumentaría el riesgo de evacuación y de inundación durante futuras tormentas. La alternativa de no actuar dejaría a los residentes y negocios de Gonzales en posibles condiciones de inseguridad y daños a sus propiedades. Esta alternativa no cumple el propósito y la necesidad del Programa, de aliviar la incidencia de inundaciones en viviendas, negocios y carreteras en una parte de la ciudad propensa a inundaciones frecuentes y recurrentes.

La construcción del Proyecto es la alternativa preferida porque no se prevé que acentúe los peligros actuales para las llanuras aluviales ni que altere los valores de las llanuras aluviales o los humedales. En base a la revisión ambiental, el proyecto propuesto, con las mejores prácticas de gestión adaptadas, no plantearía ningún peligro significativo ni condiciones adversas para las personas, el hábitat o la comunidad en este lugar. La ciudad exigirá el cumplimiento de las normativas federales, estatales y locales y de las prácticas de concesión de permisos. Estas medidas incluyen, entre otras, la restricción del estacionamiento de vehículos y materiales en las llanuras aluviales y las zonas de humedales, así como la protección de las llanuras aluviales y los humedales adyacentes mediante el vallado y la gestión adecuada de los residuos y escombros de la construcción.

Este aviso tiene tres objetivos principales. En primer lugar, las personas que puedan verse afectadas por actividades en llanuras aluviales y humedales y las que tengan interés en la protección del entorno natural deben tener la oportunidad de expresar sus preocupaciones y aportar información sobre estas zonas. En segundo lugar, un programa adecuado de notificación pública puede ser una importante herramienta educativa para el público. La difusión de información sobre llanuras aluviales y humedales puede facilitar y potenciar los esfuerzos federales para reducir los riesgos asociados a la ocupación y modificación de estas zonas especiales. En tercer lugar, en aras de la equidad, cuando el Gobierno federal decida participar en actuaciones que tengan lugar en llanuras aluviales o humedales, debe informar a quienes puedan correr un riesgo mayor o continuado.

COMENTARIOS DEL PÚBLICO

Cualquier persona, grupo u organismo puede presentar comentarios por escrito sobre el ERR al Sr. Tim Crow, Administrador de la Ciudad de Gonzales, a través de 820 St Joseph St., Gonzales, TX 78629, o por correo electrónico a tcrow@gonzales.texas.gov. Todos los comentarios recibidos hasta el 21 de julio de 2023 serán considerados por la Ciudad antes de autorizar la presentación de una solicitud de liberación de fondos. Los comentarios deben especificar a qué Aviso se refieren.

CERTIFICACIÓN MEDIOAMBIENTAL

La Ciudad certifica a la GLO que Tim Crow, en su calidad de Administrador de la Ciudad, consiente en aceptar la jurisdicción de los Tribunales Federales si se presenta una acción para hacer cumplir las responsabilidades en relación con el proceso de revisión ambiental y que estas responsabilidades han sido satisfechas. La aprobación de la certificación por parte de la GLO satisface sus responsabilidades bajo la NEPA y las leyes y autoridades relacionadas y permite a la Ciudad utilizar fondos del Programa para el proyecto.

OBJECIONES A LA LIBERACIÓN DE FONDOS

La GLO aceptará objeciones a su liberación de fondos y a la certificación de la Ciudad durante un período de quince días posteriores a la fecha de presentación anticipada o a su recepción real de la solicitud (lo que ocurra más tarde) sólo si se basan en uno de los siguientes fundamentos: (a) la certificación no fue ejecutada por el Oficial Certificador de la Ciudad; (b) la Ciudad omitió un paso o no ha tomado una decisión o hallazgo requerido por las regulaciones de HUD en 24 CFR parte 58; (c) el receptor de la subvención u otros participantes en el proceso de desarrollo han comprometido fondos, incurrido en costos o emprendido actividades no autorizadas por 24 CFR parte 58 antes de la aprobación de una liberación de fondos por GLO; o (d) otra agencia federal actuando de conformidad con 40 CFR parte 1504 ha presentado un hallazgo escrito de que el proyecto es insatisfactorio desde el punto de vista de la calidad ambiental. Las objeciones deberán prepararse y presentarse de conformidad con los procedimientos exigidos (24 CFR Parte 58, Sec. 58.76) y deben ser dirigidos a Heather Lagrone, Texas General Land Office, PO Box 12873, Austin, TX 78711-2873, o por correo electrónico a env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov. Los posibles objetos deben ponerse en contacto con la GLO para verificar el último día real del plazo de objeción.

Tim Crow, Administrador de la Ciudad, Ciudad de Gonzales

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

07/13/2023

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 July 31, 2023, the City of Gonzales (City) will submit a request to the Texas General Land Office (GLO) 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 that will come from the City 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 is considered a functionally dependent activity, and the 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 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

The City has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National 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 8 A.M to 4 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR 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 July 28, 2023, will be considered by the City prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City certifies to the GLO 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. GLO's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City to use Program funds for the project.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

GLO 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; (b) the City 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 GLO; 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 Heather Lagrone, Texas General Land Office, PO Box 12873, Austin, TX 78711-2873, or by email at env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov. Potential objectors should contact GLO to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Tim Crow, City Manager, City of Gonzales

DECLARACIÓN DE HALLAZGO DE IMPACTO NO SIGNIFICATIVO, AVISO DE INTENCIÓN DE SOLICITAR LA LIBERACIÓN DE FONDOS Y AVISO FINAL Y EXPLICACIÓN PÚBLICA DE UNA ACTIVIDAD PROPUESTA EN UNA LLANURA ALUVIAL DE 100 AÑOS Y HUMEDALES

07/13/2023

Estos avisos satisfarán tres requisitos de procedimiento distintos pero relacionados para actividades que emprenderá la Ciudad de Gonzales.

SOLICITUD DE LIBERACIÓN DE FONDOS

En o alrededor del 31 de julio de 2023, la Ciudad de Gonzales (Ciudad) presentará una solicitud ante la Oficina General de Tierras de Texas (GLO) para la liberación de fondos del Programa de Subvención en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario - Mitigación (CDBG-MIT) bajo el Título I de la Ley de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de 1974, según enmendada, para llevar a cabo un proyecto conocido como Mejoras de Inundaciones y Drenaje de la Ciudad de Gonzales (Proyecto).

La ciudad propone sustituir las alcantarillas de aguas pluviales, reemplazar un cruce de agua bajo y excavar y nivelar un canal existente para aumentar la resistencia ante futuras inundaciones y reducir o eliminar el riesgo a largo plazo de pérdida de vidas, lesiones, daños y pérdida de bienes, así como sufrimientos y penurias, al disminuir el impacto de futuros desastres. La construcción tendrá lugar dentro y adyacente a una porción de Tinsley Creek aproximadamente 200 pies al norte de la intersección de Johnson Street y St. Andrew Street y aproximadamente 100 pies al norte de la intersección de Johnson Street y St. Andrew Street. Estas actividades beneficiarán a 7,130 personas, de las cuales 4,085 (57.29%) tienen ingresos bajos o moderados. \$403,365.40 del proyecto se financiarán a través del Programa CDBG-MIT bajo la subvención del HUD número B-18-DP-48-0002; el importe de la financiación que aportará la Ciudad es actualmente indeterminado.

AVISO FINAL Y REVISIÓN PÚBLICA DE UNA ACTIVIDAD PROPUESTA EN UNA LLANURA ALUVIAL DE 100 AÑOS Y HUMEDALES

Por la presente se notifica que la Ciudad ha llevado a cabo una evaluación, tal y como exigen los Decretos 11988 y 11990, de conformidad con la normativa del HUD en 24 CFR 55.20 Subparte C Procedimientos para la toma de decisiones sobre la gestión de llanuras aluviales y la protección de humedales, para determinar el posible efecto que su actividad en la llanura aluvial y el humedal tendrá en el entorno humano.

Una revisión del Mapa de Tasas de Seguros Contra Inundaciones de la FEMA, Panel Comunitario 48177C0240D, vigente el 22/01/2020, muestra que 0.89 acres del sitio están ubicados dentro de la vía de inundación reglamentaria (vía de inundación de la Zona AE), menos de 0.01 acres están dentro de la llanura aluvial de 100 años (Zona AE) y aproximadamente 0.13 acres del Proyecto están ubicados dentro de la característica de humedal ribereño de Tinsley Creek. La construcción del proyecto se considera una actividad funcionalmente dependiente.

La Ciudad ha considerado las siguientes alternativas y medidas paliativas a adoptar para minimizar los impactos adversos y restaurar y preservar los valores naturales y beneficiosos: 1) diferentes tamaños y elevaciones de las alcantarillas, 2) ubicaciones fuera de la llanura aluvial y 3) la alternativa de no actuar. Una evaluación de la Alternativa 1 determinó que la colocación de las alcantarillas a una mayor altura para minimizar la excavación en la llanura aluvial y el humedal no es 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 para los residentes de la zona. En cuanto a la Alternativa 2, dado que todas las alcantarillas del arroyo Tinsley Creek y el paso de aguas bajas están situados en la zona inundable, no existen ubicaciones alternativas del proyecto fuera de la llanura aluvial. El proyecto se considera una actividad funcionalmente dependiente, y el emplazamiento seleccionado se determinó para proporcionar el máximo beneficio a los residentes que viven en la zona del Proyecto. La Alternativa 3 de no actuar impediría la sustitución de las alcantarillas de la zona del proyecto y del paso bajo el agua, dejando a los residentes de la zona en mayor riesgo de sufrir daños por inundaciones en sus hogares y negocios en caso de producirse otra catástrofe. Por lo tanto, la alternativa de no actuar no aborda la necesidad de mejorar la resistencia frente a las inundaciones.

La construcción del Proyecto fue la alternativa preferida porque no se prevé que agrave los peligros actuales para las llanuras aluviales ni que altere permanentemente los valores de las llanuras aluviales o los humedales. En base a la revisión ambiental, el proyecto propuesto, con las mejores prácticas de gestión adaptadas, no plantearía ningún peligro significativo ni condiciones adversas para las personas, el hábitat o la comunidad en este lugar. La ciudad exigirá el cumplimiento de las normativas federales, estatales y locales y de las prácticas de concesión de permisos. Estas medidas incluyen, entre otras, la restricción del estacionamiento de vehículos y materiales en llanuras aluviales y humedales y la protección de las llanuras aluviales y los humedales mediante vallados y una gestión adecuada de los residuos y escombros de la construcción.

Este aviso tiene tres objetivos principales. En primer lugar, las personas que puedan verse afectadas por actividades en llanuras aluviales y humedales y las que tengan interés en la protección del entorno natural deben tener la oportunidad de expresar sus preocupaciones y aportar información sobre estas zonas. En segundo lugar, un programa adecuado de notificación pública puede ser una importante herramienta educativa para el público. La difusión de información sobre llanuras aluviales y humedales puede facilitar y potenciar los esfuerzos federales para reducir los riesgos asociados a la ocupación y modificación de estas zonas especiales. En tercer lugar, en aras de la equidad, cuando el Gobierno federal decida participar en actuaciones que tengan lugar en llanuras aluviales o humedales, debe informar a quienes puedan correr un riesgo mayor o continuado.

HALLAZGO DE IMPACTO NO SIGNIFICATIVO

La Ciudad ha determinado que el proyecto no tendrá un impacto significativo en el entorno humano. Por lo tanto, no es necesaria una Declaración de Impacto Ambiental bajo la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental de 1969 (NEPA). Se puede encontrar información adicional sobre el proyecto en el Registro de Revisión Ambiental (ERR) archivado en el Ayuntamiento de Gonzales, 820 St Joseph St., Gonzales, TX 78629. El expediente está disponible para su consulta y puede ser examinado o copiado los días laborables de 8 de la mañana a 4 de la tarde.

COMENTARIOS DEL PÚBLICO

Cualquier persona, grupo u organismo puede presentar comentarios por escrito sobre el ERR al Sr. Tim Crow, Administrador de la Ciudad de Gonzales, a través de 820 St Joseph St., Gonzales, TX 78629, o por correo electrónico a tcrow@gonzales.texas.gov. Todos los comentarios recibidos hasta el 28 de julio de 2023 serán considerados por la Ciudad antes de autorizar la presentación de una solicitud de liberación de fondos. Los comentarios deben especificar a qué Aviso se refieren.

CERTIFICACIÓN MEDIOAMBIENTAL

La Ciudad certifica a la GLO que Tim Crow, en su calidad de Administrador de la Ciudad, consiente en aceptar la jurisdicción de los Tribunales Federales si se presenta una acción para hacer cumplir las responsabilidades en relación con el proceso de revisión ambiental y que estas responsabilidades han sido satisfechas. La aprobación de la certificación por parte de la GLO satisface sus responsabilidades bajo la NEPA y las leyes y autoridades relacionadas y permite a la Ciudad utilizar fondos del Programa para el proyecto.

OBJECIONES A LA LIBERACIÓN DE FONDOS

La GLO aceptará objeciones a su liberación de fondos y a la certificación de la Ciudad durante un período de quince días posteriores a la fecha de presentación anticipada o a su recepción real de la solicitud (lo que ocurra más tarde) sólo si se basan en uno de los siguientes fundamentos: (a) la certificación no fue ejecutada por el Oficial Certificador de la Ciudad; (b) la Ciudad omitió un paso o no ha tomado una decisión o hallazgo requerido por las regulaciones de HUD en 24 CFR parte 58; (c) el receptor de la subvención u otros participantes en el proceso de desarrollo han comprometido fondos, incurrido en costos o emprendido actividades no autorizadas por 24 CFR parte 58 antes de la aprobación de una liberación de fondos por GLO; o (d) otra agencia federal actuando de conformidad con 40 CFR parte 1504 ha presentado un hallazgo escrito de que el proyecto es insatisfactorio desde el punto de vista de la calidad ambiental. Las objeciones deberán prepararse y presentarse de conformidad con los procedimientos exigidos (24 CFR Parte 58, Sec. 58.76) y deben ser dirigidos a Heather Lagrone, Texas General Land Office, PO Box 12873, Austin, TX 78711-2873, o por correo electrónico a env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov. Los posibles objetores deben ponerse en contacto con la GLO para verificar el último día real del plazo de objeción.

Tim Crow, Administrador de la Ciudad, Ciudad de Gonzales

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HEAT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

cesses like photosynthesis and respiration, said Lee Tarpley, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension plant physiologist, Beaumont.

But the combination of high daytime and nighttime temperatures can also economically damage commodity crops, especially during sensitive growth periods like pollination and flowering.

Tarpley said the heat wave was rough on late-planted rice along the Coastal Bend. Yield potentials were high following good spring rains, but the heat arrived at a sensitive development stage for some fields – pollination. High temperatures can also negatively impact the viability of pollen, which can influence how the ultimate crop sets and fills out.

Similar setbacks are occurring in cotton fields that were setting bolls during the heat wave. Stressed cotton plants were aborting bolls in an attempt to hang on as heat indexes near 120 degrees put plants in survival mode, said Josh McGinty, AgriLife Extension agronomist, Corpus Christi.

Cotton crops were having difficulty withstanding the heat over the previous three weeks without adequate moisture, he said. Boll losses were especially bad in dryland fields where soil moisture levels have continued to decline. But even irrigation has not been enough as nighttime lows rarely dropped below 80

degrees.

McGinty said high nighttime temperatures were not allowing cotton plants to shed the heat, which was causing plants to increase respiration. Increased respiration takes resources away from developing bolls.

“Small bolls are the first that the plant will sacrifice when energy reserves are depleted, but if the trend continues, larger bolls will be shed,” he said. “That shedding is evident with small bolls littering the ground in cotton fields.”

Not all the news about the arid conditions was bad. Larry Stein, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension horticulturist, Uvalde, said cantaloupe and watermelon fields in the Winter Garden and Central Texas were producing high-quality, super-sweet fruit. Irrigated vines were thriving, and brix counts were rising under the dry, hot conditions. Brix is the measurement of sugar in fruit.

But overall, Stein said conditions are declining, even for irrigated crops. Heat is not the problem though, it’s the lack of moisture.

“Vegetation is starting to burn up,” he said. “If you can maintain sufficient moisture for plants then they can cool with transpiration from the leaves, but the problem I see with the heat is stress and the other problems like spider mites and aphids, and everything takes its toll.”

HEAT IMPACTING LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

The heat wave took a toll on more than just crops. Jason Cleere, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist, Bryan-College Station, said cattle performance in high temperatures typically declines. Higher nighttime temperatures make it a challenge to get their core body temperature down. Their grazing may also reduce as they try to avoid activity in the sun.

Cleere said Texas heat shows the importance of choosing cattle adapted to more tropical conditions like breeds with Brahman influence.

Forage production for hay, silage and grazing was very good over the last month, Cleere said. Producers were having problems with delays due to rain and excess moisture prior to the heat wave, but the arid conditions were sapping soil moisture levels quickly.

Cleere said it is critical that cattle have adequate shade and fresh water during hot conditions. A cow can drink 20-40 gallons of water per day, depending on the moisture in the grass they are consuming. Cattle should have enough shade to spread out and cool down.

“A small shade structure where they can all barely fit under might be worse than no shade if they’re piled up,” he said.

WCJC hosts One-Stop Apply & Register events

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Wharton County Junior College will host six summer registration events to help students get ready for the Fall 2023 semester. The “One-Stop Apply & Register” events will be held at both the Richmond and Wharton campuses on the following dates:

- Saturday, July 22, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Richmond campus lobby
- Wednesday, Aug. 2, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. – Wharton campus library
- Saturday, Aug. 5, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Wharton campus library
- Wednesday, Aug. 9, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. – Richmond campus lobby
- Wednesday, Aug. 16, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. – Wharton campus library
- Wednesday, Aug. 23, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. – Richmond campus lobby

During the events, students will receive assistance with advising, applying for classes, financial aid, registration, TSI testing, how to log into student email accounts and much more. WCJC’s Dean of Enrollment Management and Registrar Jerry Martinez said last year’s events were well attended, with 85 students attending the Richmond event and 111 students participat-



CONTRIBUTED

Wharton County Junior College’s Dean of Enrollment Management and Registrar Jerry Martinez is hoping for plenty of participation in this year’s One-Stop Apply & Register events, scheduled in July and August at the Wharton and Richmond campuses.

ing in the Wharton event. “We’re hoping to build off the success of last year’s events,” Martinez said. “These events are open to all prospective, current and former students. If you are interested in WCJC but unsure of where to begin, stop by these one-stop events and we will get you started. It’s never too late to invest in yourself.”

No pre-registration is required. Spanish-speaking staff will be available. Students should bring a picture ID and immunization records, specifically their bacterial meningitis shot records. For additional information, contact registrar@wcjc.edu or call 979-532-6303.

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Happy July

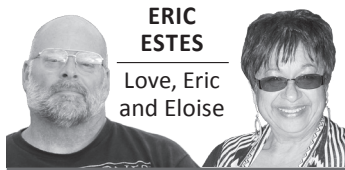
Howdy y'all. Now that summer's in full swing, I hope you're not only enjoying it, but sopping it up like a plump biscuit. Unfortunately, it'll go by too fast, the kiddos will be back in school, and we won't have the opportunity to spend as much quality time with them. Of course that depends on the kids, as some overtaxed parents can't wait for school to start again. As we're now smack dab (a term you don't hear too often anymore) in the middle of July, I wanted to wish you a happy one.

Our most celebrated day this month is of course the fourth, our national Independence Day, filled to the brim with fun events for family and friends like BBQs and fireworks, not to mention special sales on most things we may need, or simply want, to make our journey more fun. After some research, I found that Texas leads the nation in BBQ. With over 2,500 BBQ locations statewide, California came in a paltry second with just over 1,100 locations. While Oklahoma has the most locations per capita and may be considered the biggest lovers of BBQ, they fail to understand that the art of barbecuing is more than a hobby to most Texans, it's actually considered a state sport, with most being cooked and consumed at home. From past experience I can assure you, that if you get between a hardcore Texan and his /

her BBQ, you may not make it out alive!

PAK Quality Foods in San Angelo estimates that ten to fifteen years ago they were shipping about 5,000 lbs of meat every two weeks, while today they're shipping up to 300,000 lbs weekly. It seems that while brisket, ribs and sausage are still the frontrunners, chicken and turkey aren't far behind. Barbecuing is definitely a steadily growing trend, with seven out of ten US adults owning grills or roasters, and producing worldwide revenues in excess of seven billion USD. Not only is meat being thrown on the grill, but many fruits and vegetables as well. Genesis 9:3 reminds us that "Everything that lives and moves about will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything." So, when in doubt, don't be a snob...Kabob!

I thought you may enjoy a few fun / weird facts about July, so here we go. The name July actually stems from the Roman dictator Julius Caesar, who developed the precursor to the Gregorian calendar we use today. Many peculiar days recognized in July are; (7-1) Joke Day, just kidding, or am I?, (7-2) I also tried "Stayin Alive" on Disco Day. (7-3) Air Conditioning Appreciation Day,



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

celebrated everyday in Texas, (7-4) besides our independence, it's also sidewalk egg frying day. (7-8) Ice Cream Sundae day, I really enjoy banana splits, not only the sundaes, but the 1960's Saturday morning kids show as well. (7-11) Slurpee day, celebrated ironically on Seven-Eleven? (7-12) Etch-a sketch day, very hi-tech at the time. (7-16) World Snake Day, now we just call them politicians. (7-19) Stick out your tongue day. (7-22) National Cowboy Day, yippee-ki-yay. (7-25) Merry-go-Round day, a great way to purge the previously mentioned BBQ and ice cream sundaes. (7-27) Chicken finger day, ever see a chicken hitch hiking... nope, cause they ain't got no fingers. And last, but not least, July thirtieth is National Share a Hug Day, and who doesn't need one, but use your discretion and get permission first of course.

I love weird stuff and figured God made me this way for a reason. It's kinda like that odd puzzle piece that doesn't really fit, but still helps complete the picture when jammed into place. Yep, just happy to be in there somewhere! So, until next time, y'all have a great week, and don't forget that I'm doing this cause I... Love you guys, Eric.



VC's Museum of the Coastal Bend celebrates new artifact

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College's Museum of the Coastal Bend will celebrate a new addition to its exhibits on Saturday, July 15 from 1-3 p.m. A one-of-a-kind artifact made of mammoth tusk found in Texas will be on display.

Community members are invited to view the artifact, participate in hands-on activities and discover lifeways of Paleo-Indians who lived in Texas. Participants will also have the chance to throw spears and discover different types of stone tools. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, visit MuseumOfTheCoastalBend.org or call (361) 582-2511.

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First Assembly of God 509 E. 3rd St., Nixon	Stratton Primitive Baptist FM 1447, 9 miles east of Cuero	FULL GOSPEL Camp Valley Full Gospel Hwy 80, 7 mi. north of Nixon
BAPTIST Clark Baptist Church FM 794, Gonzales	St. James Baptist Church Hwy 80, north of Belmont.	Full Gospel Church 1426 Fisher, Gonzales
Country Baptist Church Highway 87, Smiley	St. Paul Baptist Church SE 2nd Street, Waelder	JEWISH Adat Haderech, a Messianic shul HashemYeshua1@yahoo.com
Eastside Baptist Church Seydler Street, Gonzales	Shiner Baptist Church	LUTHERAN First Evangelical Lutheran 1206 St. Joseph, Gonzales
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Elm Grove Baptist Church 4337 FM 1115 Waelder, TX, 78959	Union Valley Baptist Church FM 1681, NW of Nixon	Thompsonville Community Church CR 423, Thompsonville Between Harwood & Waelder off old Hwy. 90
First Baptist Church 422 St. Paul, Gonzales	CATHOLIC St. James Catholic Church 417 N. College, Gonzales	Two Rivers Bible Church 1600 Sarah DeWitt Dr., Suite 210, Gonzales
First Baptist Church 403 N. Texas, Nixon	Sacred Heart Catholic Church St. John St., Gonzales	INTER-DENOMINATIONAL Faith Family Church 1812 Cartwheel Dr., Gonzales
First Baptist Church Highway 108 N., Smiley	St. Joseph Catholic Church 207 S. Washington, Nixon	Living Waters Fellowship 306 St. Paul, Gonzales
First Baptist Church 406 N. Avenue E, Waelder	St. Patrick Catholic Church Waelder	PENTECOSTAL Faith Temple Hwy. 80 (N. Nixon Ave.), Nixon
Greater Palestine Baptist Church S. of 90A (sign on Hwy 80)	St. Phillip Catholic Church Highway 87, Smiley	Holy Temple of Jesus Christ No. 2 1515 Dallas, Gonzales
Greater Rising Star Baptist Church	CHRISTIAN First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 712 Crockett, Luling	Iglesia Pentecostes Filadelfia 893 S. Magnolia Ave., Luling
Harwood Baptist Church North of Post Office, Harwood	CHURCHES OF CHRIST Church of Christ 1323 Seydler St., Gonzales	Temple Bethel Pentecostal 1104 S. Paul, Gonzales
Iglesia Bautista Macedonia 201 S. Congress, Nixon	Church of Christ (Iglesia de Cristo) 201 E. Second St. Nixon	Life Changing Church of Gonzales 3.3 miles north on Hwy 183, right on CR 235, then right on CR 236
Iglesia Bautista Memorial Highway 97, Waelder	Church of Christ E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon	PRESBYTERIAN Pilgrim Presbyterian Church CR 210 off FM 1116
Leesville Baptist Church E. of Highway 80 on CR 121	Church of Christ, Belmont	Presbyterian Church of Gonzales 414 St. Louis, Gonzales Cheapside Presbyterian Church, Cuero
Memorial Heights Baptist Church 1330 N. College, Gonzales	CHURCHES OF GOD Community Church of God 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales	Christ the King Church 1262 U.S. Highway 77 South Hallettsville
Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church 100 Capes, Gonzales	Gonzales Memorial Church of God in Christ 1113 Hastings, Gonzales	NON-DENOMINATIONAL Agape Ministries 512 St. James, Gonzales Bread of Life Ministries 613 St. Joseph, Gonzales
Oak Valley Baptist Church Highway 97, Bebe	New Beginnings 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales	Smiley United Methodist 1 blk. S. of Hwy. 87, Smiley
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OBITUARY

FREDERICK TEALER

He will wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more pain, no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; all that had gone Forever.

Revelation 21:4

Frederick (Big Boy) Tealer went to be with the lord on Friday, June 30, 2023, in Austin Texas. He was born in Gonzales County to Lillie Mae Tealer and John A White. As a teenager, he accepted Christ as his guide and joined Union Lea Baptist where he spent many years. He attended Gonzales High School.

Frederick moved to Austin Tx and spent the rest of his life serving the lord and his family, especially his mother and sisters. On his journey, he also enjoyed family and friends gathering. He loved music and cars. He lived his life to the fullest and without any complaints. On June 30, 2023, his journey home was completed.

Frederick was preceded in death by his maternal grandmother, Gussie Mae Tealer, maternal grandfather Oscar Tealer, Father John A White. Two brothers Mark Tealer, and Melvin (Butch) Tealer, along with many Aunts, Uncles, and Cousins.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his loving mother Lillie Mae Tealer 3 sisters, Katherine Tealer (Daryle), Jennifer Tealer of Austin Tx, Vella Hasting of Gonzales Tx, five brothers Michael Tealer of Austin Tx, Paula White, Albert White, Jame White, Shelton White of Gonzales Tx, Two Uncles Marvin Tealer of Austin Tx, Bobby (Salty) White of Gonzales Tx special friend Sheryl (Nee-c) Sanders of Gonzales Tx 3 nieces, Amanda Tealer, Nyiesha Tealer, Jer' Meika Davis, 3 special cousins, Lawyer Lott Jr., LaWanda Tealer, Raquel Johnson and 5 nephews Tyrone Tealer, Marquel Tealer, Jaylin Tealer and Jamal Tealer, Rodric Hunt 2 great nephews, Karter and Lawan Maxwell 1 niece Imani Lampkin. A host of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, relatives, and friends.

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office

06/18/23 – 06/24/23

06/20/23

- Beene, J'celyn Dale, 3/2002, Nixon: Commitment/Sentence – Habit/Shltr/Supfund/ Infstr, Remains in Custody
- Ramos, Jonathon Refugio, 12/2001, Gonzales: Commitment/ Sentence – Poss Marij <2 oz, Remains in Custody

06/21/23

- Elick, James Bryan, 12/1987, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Assault Causes

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office

06/25/23 – 07/1/23

06/27/23

- Bautista-Vasquez, Jairo Daniel, 12/2005, Unk: Warrantless/On-View – Traffic Offense, Released – Order to Appear

06/28/23

- Morris, Natalie, 01/1978, Adkins: Warrantless/On-View – Public Intoxication, Released – Order to Appear
- Metcalf, Christopher, 04/1978, La Vaemia: Warrantless/On-View – Driving while intoxicated, Released - \$2,500 Bond
- Balderas, Katelynn Dolores, 02/2002, Gonzales: Local Warrant –

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office

07/02/23 – 07/08/23

07/02/23

- Amos, Tristian Marcale, 03/2003, Dale: Warrantless/On-View – Poss Marij <2oz, Released – \$500 Bond; Warrantless/On – View – Poss CS PG 1/1-B>=4G <200G, Released - \$2,5000 Bond

07/03/23

- Vasquez, Joel Mosqueda, 07/1996,

bodily injury family member, Requires \$2,500 Bond, Remains in Custody

06/22/23

- Rayo-Gadea, Istelman, 02/1983, Austin: Warrantless/ On-view – Driving while intoxicated, Other Agency hold – Immigration Detainer, Requires \$3,500 Bond, Remains in Custody
- Hernandez, Matthew Kyle 11/1989, Mico: Warrantless/On-View – Obstruct Highway Passageway, Requires \$1,000 Bond, Remains in Custody

06/23/23

Publish/threat to publish intimate visual matr, Released - \$10,000 Bond

06/29/23

- Andreason, Guy, 11/1985, Alvin: Local Warrant – Criminal Mischief >\$2,500 LS/ Game Anim fence, Released – Weekender; Local Warrant – Take certain wildlife resources w/o consent, Released - Weekender
- Price, Tammie Renee, 12/1968, Luling: Other Agency Hold – Theft Prop>=\$20<\$500 by check, Released - \$5,000 Bond
- Oleary, Jacob Thomas, 11/2004, Gonzales: Warrantless/ On-View – Unl carrying weapon, Released - \$5,000 Bond;

Nixon: Other Agency Hold – Driving while intoxicated, Released – \$250 Cash Bond; Other Agency Hold – Immigration Detainer, Released - Picked up by ICE

07/04/23

- Jones, Christopher Lerod, 02/1982, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Poss Marij <2oz, Released - \$1,500 Cash Bond; Warrantless/On View – Poss Marij<2oz, Released - \$500 PR Bond

07/05/23

- Bamijoko, Demilade A, 01/1996, Houston: Warrantless/On-View – Poss Marij <2oz, Released - \$500 PR Bond
- Igbokwe,

- Hunt, Joshua Lemont, 06/1989, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Assault Family/ Household Member w/ Prev Conv, Requires \$50,000 Bond; Local Warrant – Assault Family/ Household Member w/ Prev Conv, Requires \$50,000 Bond; Remains in Custody
- Nohrer, Tucker Christian, 01/1999, Cuero: Local Warrant – Burglary Habitation intend other felony, Requires \$50,000 Bond, Remains in Custody
- Lowe, Roger Allen, 07/1962, Kenedy: Local Warrant – Stalking, Requires \$50,000 Bond, Remains in Custody

- Roberts, Bryan Lee, 05/1977, San Marcos: Other Agency Hold – Unl Poss Firearm by felon, Remains in Custody
- Arrellano, Jarrette Andrew, 01/2000, Gonzales: Commitment/ Sentence – Poss CS PG 1<1G, Released - Weekender
- Dovalis, Nicholas Alexander, 07/1992, San Antonio: Commitment/ Sentence – Intoxication Assault w/vehicle SBI, Released - Weekender
- Cannan, Emiliano Wiley, 01/1979, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Poss CS PG 1/1-B<1G, Remains in Custody

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

GCSO	12
DPS	04
GPD	05
WPD	03
NPD	03
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	27

Warrantless/On-View – Poss Marij <2oz, Released - \$1,000 Bond

06/30/2023

- Huff, Zachery Taylor, 09/1996, Seguin: Local Warrant – Assault Causes bodily inj, Requires \$1,500 Bond, Remains in Custody
- Dovalis, Nicholas Alexander, 07/1992, San Antonio: Warrantless/ On-View – Intoxication assault w/vehicle SBI, Released – Weekender
- Arroyo-Humphreys, Mario Michael, Jr, 03/2000, Nixon: Commitment/Sentence – Unauth use of vehicle, Released – Weekender
- Bivins, Don Wesley, 03/1989, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Criminal Mischief

>=\$2,500<\$30k, Released – Weekender

07/1/23

- Wiggins, Jermaine Paul, 03/1994, San Antonio: Warrantless/ On-View – Poss Marij <2oz, Released - \$500 Bond
- Jacobs, Ronald Matthews-King, 02/1996, San Antonio: Warrantless/ On-View – Poss Marij <2oz, Requires \$500 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Proh substance in correctional facility-attempt, Requires \$5,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Fail to stop and render aid (damage under \$200), Requires \$500 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Evading Arrest Det w/veh, Requires \$15,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold –

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

GCSO	13
DPS	00
GPD	05
WPD	02
NPD	01
GISD	00
SMO	00
Constable 1	01
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	22

03/1987, Yoakum: Local Warrant – Poss CS PG 1<1G, Released - Bench Warrant; Local Warrant – Poss Marij <2oz, Released - \$1,500 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Detainer, Released – Bench Warrant

- Carrillo, Daniel Jr, 01/1991, Waelder: Warrantless/On-View – Theft Prop >=\$2,500 <\$30K, Requires \$12,000 Bond; Warrantless/ On-View – Unl Carry Weapon w/Felony Conv., Requires \$15,000 Bond; Warrantless/On-View – Poss CS PG 1/1- B>= 200G<400G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Warrantless /On-View – Poss Marij <2oz, Requires \$500; Warrantless/On-View – Unl Poss Metal or body armor by felon, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

Gonzales: Commitment/ Sentences – Poss CS PG 1/1-B<1G, Released – Weekender

- Arrellano, Jarrette Andrew, 01/2000, Gonzales: Commitment/ Sentence – Poss CS PG 1<1G, Released – Weekender
- Arroyo-Humphreys, Mario Michael Jr, 03/2000, Nixon: Commitment/Sentence – Unauth of Vehicle, Released – Weekender
- Bivins, Don Wesley, 03/1989, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Criminal Mischief >=\$2,500<\$30k, Released – Weekender
- Ramirez, Randy Manuel, 02/1990, Waelder: Local Warrant – Agg Assault w/deadly weapon, Requires \$25,000 Bond; Commitment/Sentence – Agg kidnapping w/deadly weapon, Commitment/ Sentence – Agg kidnapping w/deadly weapon, Commitment/Sentence – Agg assault w/deadly weapon; Remains in Custody
- Perez, Laura Ann, 02/1988, Nixon: Commitment/Sentence – Man Del CS PG 1<1G, Commitment/Sentence – Poss CS PG 1>=\$G <200G, Remains in Custody

07/08/23

- Bradford, Marlon Joseph, 09/1988, San Antonio: Warrantless/ Sentence – Terr threat imp pub service/pub fear sbi/influ GV, Released - \$10,000 Bond
- Gonzales, Julio Cesar, 05/1978, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Evading arrest/det using veh, Released - \$10,000 Bond

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

GCSO	19
DPS	01
GPD	07
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	29

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17 Austin MFM	18 Dr Echols	19 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Miller	20 Dr Ryan Dr Malik Dr Echols	21
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PRE-TRIAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

foot in an unknown direction.

It was while GPD Sgt. Cesar Martinez was on scene, speaking to the hit-and-run victim, that he observed an 18-wheeler traveling at a high rate of speed, neither slowing down nor making any effort to avoid striking the complainant or Sgt. Martinez.

The 18-wheeler then struck the victim's vehicle as Sgt. Martinez and the victim managed to move frantically out of the way and avoid serious injury. The collision pushed the victim's vehicle into a pasture on the opposite of the road as the 18-wheeler crossed US 183 traveling northbound with other officers in pursuit with lights and sirens blazing on their patrol cruisers.

The 18-wheeler began traveling on the opposite lane of traffic, striking several vehicles and entered Saint Joseph Street before coming to a stop, when a Hispanic male, later identified as Longoria, exited the 18-wheeler and ran into the 400 block of Village Drive.

Sgt. Martinez caught Longoria on foot and detained him, placing him under arrest and transporting him to the Gonzales County Jail. It turned out that Longoria had been the individual who reportedly had hit the victim's car the first time and he had allegedly stolen the 18-wheeler and used it to hit the victim's car the second time.

OTHER NOTABLE CASES RESET

- August Allen Eacho Jr., sexual abuse of a child, continuous, victim under 14; sexual assault of a child; indecency with a child by sexual contact; attempt to commit aggravated sexual assault of a child — reset to Aug. 31.
- Roger Lynn Flores, sexual abuse of a child, continuous, victim under 14; indecency with a child by sexual contact; failure to comply with a sex offender's duty to register for life annually — cases reset to Sept. 13, Nov. 28 and Dec. 4.
- Errick Dshaun King, smuggling of persons five counts — reset to Aug. 14 and Adrian Perez appointed defense counsel.
- Terrance Smith, failure to comply with a sex offender's duty to register for life annually — reset for Aug. 14.
- Joshua Matthew Tristan, aggravated assault date/family/house member with weapon; continuous violence against family; assault family/house member impeding breath or circulation; stalking — reset for Aug. 31.
- Chrystal Gayle VanZandt, sexual abuse of a child continuous, victim under 14, two counts; sexual performance of a child produce/direct/promote — reset for Aug. 31.

Fortunately, neither Martinez nor the victim suffered any injuries in the incident.

Also reset for Aug. 14 are two pending cases for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon against Bruce Evan Nicoletti Jr., 35, of Shiner, stemming from his involvement in a shooting incident that took place at Walmart in Gonzales on Veterans' Day last year. The incident stemmed from what police said was an ongoing feud.

Lt. Jason Montoya of the Gonzales Police Department said at about 7:11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 11, GPD officers responded to Walmart regarding a call about shots

fired. Upon arrival, officers made contact with a male complainant who said another man whose identity he knew pulled a firearm and pointed it at him, stating, "I am going to kill you."

The complainant advised police he drew his weapon and fired at the subject, but at that time, it was not known whether anyone had been struck by a bullet.

GPD then received a call about a driver going the wrong way on Sarah DeWitt Drive. Officers were able to locate the described vehicle at Gonzales Healthcare Systems (Gonzales Memorial Hospital), where a male

subject, later identified as Nicoletti, was found in the emergency room after suffering a gunshot wound. He was transported by ambulance to San Antonio Medical Center for treatment but did not have life-threatening injuries. No other injuries were reported. After surveillance video appeared to support the complainant and witnesses' statements, Nicoletti was arrested two days later in Shiner.

The investigation was being jointly worked by the Gonzales Police Department and the Texas Department of Public Safety Texas Rangers and two firearms were seized as part of the investigation — one from the complainant and one from Nicoletti.

Also, the man accused of striking Gonzales Police Officer Marisol Sanchez with his vehicle had his hearing reset to Aug. 31.

Pavel Antonio Ramirez is charged with aggravated assault on a public servant and intoxication assault with a vehicle causing serious bodily injury.

Sanchez was assisting the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office with traffic diversion after a collision between two 18-wheelers on I-10 by mile marker 655 near Waelder on June 14, 2021, when she was hit by a car authorities say was driven by Ramirez. Sanchez was airlifted to Ascension Seton Hays Hospital in Kyle but has since recovered and come back to work for GPD.

2ND 25TH DISTRICT COURT SENTENCINGS

The following sentences were handed down by 2nd 25th District Court Judge Jessica Crawford during a July 5 hearing:

- Becky Estell Hyatt, attempt to commit robbery, three years deferred adjudication, \$500 fine, attorneys fees and court costs.
- Kurtis Ray Kochell, manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance less than 1 gram, five years deferred adjudication, \$2,000 fine, attorney fees and court costs. One charge was dismissed as well.
- Nathan Ross Riewe, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, 10 years TDCJ-Institutional Division.
- Jose Almazar Rios, sexual assault of a child, deferred adjudication, \$2,000 fine, attorney fees and court costs.
- Taishawn Emery-Lavell Tyler, possession of a controlled substance 1 gram to 4 grams, three years deferred adjudication, \$250 fine and court costs.

Bond revocations for failure to appear:

- Christiana Erin Cannan, evading arrest or detention with a vehicle, new bond set at \$75,000.
- Joseph Isaac Chacon, possession of a controlled substance from 4 grams to 400 grams, new bond set at \$100,000.
- Amanda Diamond Gonzales, criminal mischief imp/int public service less than \$30,000, new bond set at \$75,000.
- Mark Dewayne Grant, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, new bond set at \$75,000.
- Geronimo Selio Jr., possession of a controlled substance 1 gram to 4 grams, new bond set at \$75,000.

ANNEX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to pull up their vehicles in the sallyport because "a lot of that concrete, around the tilt walls, looks like it's folding, like it's popping off."

"On the inside of that wall, there's a chunk of concrete. Laying in there, that probably weighs 20 pounds," McNabb added. "We measured one of those spots where it popped up and it's about three inches deep. And today, if you look at the corner of the wall, by the DPS office, that wall has got a crack in it. If you go to the other side, to the Ag Extension office, they also have that one's pretty bad, too.

"We don't want anything to start really falling out of there. There's lots of places on the inside in that back room, where that concrete is falling off, you can see the rebar and the cabling and stuff. It's pretty rusty.

"If that chunk of concrete that was in the back had fallen out of the wall and

hit somebody, it would have hurt them pretty bad," McNabb said.

Davis said he and McNabb were asking for permission from the court to have the structural engineering firms examine the building and "maybe give us an estimate on what they think needs to be done."

"We then can bring it back to the court and we can go from there, but I think we probably need to move on this pretty quick," Davis said.

Davis said he has done some research on how tilt walls get fixed and "they come in there with some type of epoxy, where they go into the wall and they shoot it in there and it adheres to it and seals it."

Precinct 2 Commissioner Donnie Brzozowski noted the Annex Building "was built in either 1982 or 1983 and you would think the concrete would have lasted a lot longer than it did."

Commissioners then voted unanimously to allow Davis, McNabb and Kloesel to meet with the firms and bring back proposals.

In other action, the court approved the records archive plan for the County Clerk's office and the continuation of the \$10 Record Archives Fee after holding a public hearing.

County Clerk Lona Ackman said the fee is used to fund the preservation and digitization of the county's records. It comes from a filing fee that is charged when new records are filed with her office and is not a tax assessed to the county's taxpayers.

"In order for the county clerk's office to collect this fee, I must, every year, present to the commissioners court, every year, the Records Archive Plan, which hasn't changed much since we're still working on the same thing as these plans take several years to complete,"

Ackman said. "The fund allows me to preserve and restore the records that are maintained in my office."

She said that by the end of this fiscal year, the county will have imaged and indexed records dating back to 1950 for her office.

"Next year, we will be working on going from 1950 back to 1911," Ackman said. "You can only use this fee to preserve and restore your records. The state had recognized that the Records Management fee we charge was not enough to preserve all the records maintained in the County Clerk's office, so they created this fee to help implement the process of restoring and digitizing your records."

If a natural disaster were to occur, any records which have been digitized can still be accessed without worrying they may have been lost forever, Ackman said.



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ACROSS

1 TX golfer Nelson book: "___ _ Played the Game"

5 longtime U.S. representative Teague

6 TX-born Robin Wright's husband actor, Sean

7 TXism: "too lazy ___ swat flies"

8 Congress voted to admit Texas as a state in this mo.

9 TXism: "give me some ___ room"

14 TXism: "a sight for ___ eyes"

15 he coached for the Longhorns, Oilers, & Cowboys (2 wds.)

19 what TX "Spanky" wrote on the flying red horse atop Dallas' Magnolia Bldg. (2 wds.)

21 a legal right

22 Brady hosted the ___ the Cactus Shoot"

27 TXism: "mobile mouse ___" (cat)

28 country ballad: "___ on My Mind"

29 a dazed state

30 takes gas with a hose

32 ___-con (now free)

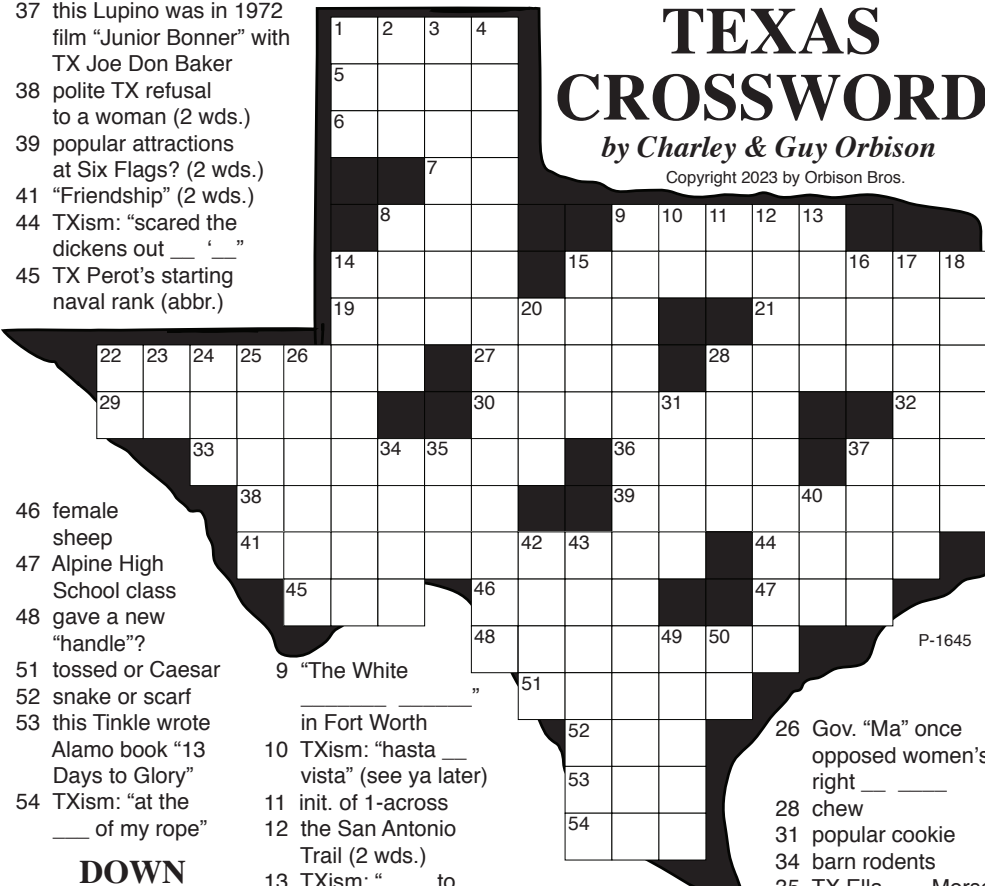
33 TXism: "about as clear as Red ___" (confusing)

36 TXism: "fast as ___ up a rafter"

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1645

37 this Lupino was in 1972 film "Junior Bonner" with TX Joe Don Baker

38 polite TX refusal to a woman (2 wds.)

39 popular attractions at Six Flags? (2 wds.)

41 "Friendship" (2 wds.)

44 TXism: "scared the dickens out ___"

45 TX Perot's starting naval rank (abbr.)

46 female sheep

47 Alpine High School class wrote on the flying red horse atop Dallas' Magnolia Bldg. (2 wds.)

48 gave a new "handle"?

51 tossed or Caesar snake or scarf

53 this Tinkle wrote Alamo book "13 Days to Glory"

54 TXism: "at the ___ of my rope"

9 "The White ___ in Fort Worth

10 TXism: "hasta ___ vista" (see ya later)

11 init. of 1-across

12 the San Antonio Trail (2 wds.)

13 TXism: "___ to a frazzle" (tired)

14 with "long," Houston dock worker

15 TXism: "do I have to draw you ___?"

16 counterterrorism "war" abb.

17 the hens won't lay 'cause the dog "___ ' ___ up"

18 historic area: "Coahuila ___" (or "Tejas")

20 west Texas climate

22 Sinatra in "Four for Texas" (init.)

23 TX actor Rip (init.)

24 Austin: "War is ___ only resource"

25 whirls around

26 Gov. "Ma" once opposed women's right ___

28 chew

31 popular cookie

34 barn rodents

35 TX Ella ___ Morse's "Cow-Cow Boogie"

37 TXism: "neon light ___" (inspiration)

40 TXism: "___ hog had wings he'd be an eagle"

42 is in debt

43 defensible

49 "___ Pa Kettle"

50 actor Asner

SUDOKU

			3	2				5
								4
3		4	1					6
2				3	8			6
				1	8			
	1				9			
		6				9	2	
	8		2					
		9			7			8

Level: Intermediate

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Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test.

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers found in next week's Classifieds.



Victoria College is accepting registrations for its "Core Curriculum: Introductory Craft Skills" course to be held three times during the fall in Victoria and Gonzales.

CONTRIBUTED

VC offering Introductory Craft Skills class in Victoria, Gonzales

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College will offer the six-week Core Curriculum: Introductory Craft Skills course three times during the fall in Victoria and Gonzales.

The class is mandatory for anyone wanting to register for an industrial trades job-training class at Victoria College. The cost for the course is \$365 and includes all course materials. Financial aid and scholarships are available.

The course will be offered at both locations on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 10 p.m. on the following dates.

- Aug. 1-Sept. 7 (registration deadline is July 24 at noon)
- Sept. 19-Oct. 26 (registration deadline is Sept. 11 at noon)
- Oct. 31-Dec. 14 (registration deadline is Oct. 23 at noon; class will not be held Nov. 21-23 during VC's Fall Break)

In Victoria, the class will be held in Room 223 of the Industrial Training Center at VC's Emerging Technology Complex located at 7403 Lone Tree

Road in Victoria.

In Gonzales, the class will be held in Room 201 of the Continuing Education Building at VC's Gonzales Center located at 424 E. Sarah DeWitt Drive.

The Introductory Craft Skills course is common for all NCCER training and is required for NCCER Certification for all Level 1 courses including carpentry, electrical; heating, ventilation and air conditioning; millwright; plumbing; power line worker; scaffolding; and welding. No prior experience is necessary.

The course provides an introduction to basic safety, construction math, hand tools, power tools, blueprints, basic rigging, communication skills and basic employability skills. Following successful completion of the class, NCCER certification and a certificate of completion will be awarded.

For more information on the course and upcoming industrial trades job-training courses, visit VictoriaCollege.edu/WCE, contact Victoria College's Workforce & Continuing Education Department at (361) 582-2528 or email WCE@VictoriaCollege.edu.



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GONZALES APACHES VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 11	TBA	vs Beeville	Apache Field	Scrimmage-Peaunt Butter Bowl
Aug 17	TBA	vs Poteet	Apache Field	Scrimmage- Laundry Bowl
Aug 25	7:00 PM	@ Cedar Creek	Bastrop Memorial Stadium	
Sep 1	7:00 PM	vs La Vernia	Apache Field	Youth Appreciation Night
Sep 8	7:00 PM	@ Marion	Marion High School	
Sep 15	7:00 PM	@ Pleasanton	Pleasanton High School	
Sep 22	7:00 PM	vs Yoakum	Apache Field	First Responder Night
Oct 6	7:30 PM	vs Caldwell	Apache Field	Homecoming
Oct 13	7:30 PM	vs Cuero	Apache Field	Cancer Awareness
Oct 20	7:30 PM	@ Smithville	Smithville High School	
Oct 27	7:30 PM	vs La Grange	Apache Field	Senior Night
Nov 3	7:30 PM	@ Giddings		



NIXON-SMILEY MUSTANGS VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
8/10	Thursday	SHINER ST. PAUL (SCRIMMAGE)	NIXON	6:00pm
8/17	Thursday	KENEDY (SCRIMMAGE)	KENEDY	6:00 pm
8/25	Friday	SA CHRISTIAN (Parents Night)	NIXON	7:30 pm
9/1	Friday	THREE RIVERS	THREE RIVERS	7:30 pm
9/8	Friday	FLATONIA	FLATONIA	7:30 pm
9/15	Friday	WALLIS BRAZOS	NIXON	7:30 pm
9/22	Friday	*COMFORT	NIXON	7:30 pm
9/29	Friday	*KARNES CITY	KARNES CITY	7:30 pm
10/6	Friday	*DILLEY (Homecoming)	NIXON	7:30 pm
10/13	Friday	*POTH	POTH	7:30 pm
10/20	Friday	*SA WEST CAMPUS (Senior Night)	NIXON	7:30 pm
10/27	Friday	OPEN		
11/3	Friday	*NATALIA	NATALIA	7:30 pm

JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

8/10	Thursday	SHINER ST. PAUL (SCRIMMAGE)	NIXON	5:00pm
8/17	Thursday	KENEDY (SCRIMMAGE)	KENEDY	5:00 pm
8/24	Thursday	SA CHRISTIAN	SA CHRISTIAN	5:00 pm
8/31	Thursday	THREE RIVERS	NIXON	5:00 pm
9/7	Thursday	FLATONIA	NIXON	5:00 pm
9/14	Thursday	WALLIS BRAZOS	WALLIS BRAZOS	5:30 pm
9/21	Thursday	*COMFORT	COMFORT	5:30 pm
9/28	Thursday	*KARNES CITY	NIXON	5:30 pm
10/5	Thursday	*DILLEY	DILLEY	5:30 pm
10/12	Thursday	*POTH	NIXON	5:30 pm
10/19	Thursday	*SA WEST CAMPUS	SA WC	5:30 pm
10/26	Thursday	OPEN		
11/2	Thursday	*NATALIA	NIXON	5:30 pm

MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

9/7	Thursday	FLATONIA	FLATONIA	5:00 / 6:15
9/14	Thursday	HALLETSVILLE	NIXON	5:00 / 6:15
9/21	Thursday	*COMFORT	NIXON	5:00 / 6:15
9/28	Thursday	*KARNES CITY	KARNES CITY	5:00 / 6:15
10/5	Thursday	*DILLEY	NIXON	5:00 / 6:15
10/12	Thursday	*POTH	POTH	5:00 / 6:15
10/19	Thursday	OPEN		
10/26	Thursday	NAVARRO	NAVARRO	5:00 / 6:15
11/2	Thursday	*NATALIA	NATALIA	5:00 / 6:15

Superintendent: Jeff VanAunken
Athletic Director: Carlton McKinney
Head Football Coach: Troy Moses
7/11/23

Principal: Maria Jimenez
Band Director: Steven Lozano

CLEANUP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

different neighborhoods," board member Dee Dee Sengelmann said.

Sengelmann suggested that the board get a list of people that can be block captains that can motivate a block or two of their neighborhood so they can get community feeling going.

Another suggestion brought up by board member Connie Dolezal was forming a "generic letter" that can be sent out to the clubs and organizations informing them about the community clean up.

The goal for the board is to make Gonzales a welcoming community, not just to residents but

"We want to bring back the community pride and we have a vision to be a well rounded community."

—Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla

to visitors as well.

"We want to to bring back the community pride and we have a vision to be a well rounded community," Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla said.

The board approved unanimously forming a

subcommittee to draft a letter to the community and put together a plan to propose to the committee in the Tuesday, Aug. 1 meeting for the community driven cleanup campaign.

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

--approved creating a signage branding and design subcommittee to include, but not limited to, the following organizations/entities: Main Street, Chamber of Commerce, Gonzales Economic Development, Convention & Visitor's Bureau, City of Gonzales and the Gonzales County Historic Commission.

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NIXON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bricks to residents and businesses as a fundraiser.

The council also agreed to establish a separate bank account for the Tourism and Development Board and directed City Manager Harold Rice to work with the group on possibly applying for a grant of up to \$50,000 from the Lower Colorado River Authority for the park.

PARK NAME

Previously, the council had voted to name the proposed park for Lance Cpl. Freddy Aguirre, whose brother Pablo is on the Tourism and Development Board. Freddy Aguirre was enlisted in the U.S. Marines for less than one year before he and most of his platoon were killed in a 1977 helicopter accident while on maneuvers in the Philippines.

Later, there was a groundswell of support to also honor U. S. Marine Corps Cpl. John Matthew Longoria — who died at age 21 while serving in New Ubaydi, Iraq — by naming the park after him as well. Longoria was a member of the Nixon High School Class of 2003.

At last month's meeting, however, members of the American Legion, including Natividad Ruiz and Donald Hoffman, as well as City Council members Patsy Scherrer, Ellie Dominguez and Melissa Pompa, expressed their opinion the park should be given a generic name to honor all veterans who served — not just two who paid the ultimate sacrifice. However, the park could not be renamed unless the previous name was rescinded.

Monday's agenda item was posted to rescind "the naming of the Aguirre Veterans Memorial Wall" — something which does not exist — instead of the Freddy Aguirre Memorial Park. Council member Maggie Gaytan and Justin La Fleur made a motion not to rescind the name, and it failed by a 3-2 margin with Scherrer, Dominguez and Pompa voting

against it.

That's when Briana Dominguez, vice chair of the Tourism and Development Board, pointed out the agenda was not worded correctly — to which City Attorney Eddie Escobedo agreed and advised the council they could not take any action Monday night on the matter.

"The name is incorrect on the agenda. You can't vote on something that's incorrect," Briana Dominguez said. "This is saying two different things."

Mayor Dorothy Riojas noted that the Veterans Wall is supposed to be a "Wall of Honor" for all veterans who served in the area and is a separate thing from the park, where it will reside.

Noting they could not take action on the name Monday night, the council voted to table the matter until August.

In a heartfelt moment, Gaytan explained why she wanted to name the park after Aguirre and Longoria and why it meant so much to her.

"We already have the Mahan Patteson American Legion Post, which is already named for two different people. We have a library that is named for one person (Aphne Patillo) and we have a park that is already named for one person (Gladys Finch)," Gaytan said.

"Freddy Aguirre and John Longoria gave up the ultimate sacrifice. And nobody knew John Longoria at all. I brought him here to be with the Villanueva family. He didn't choose Nixon. We chose it for him and then he chose to stay here. He chose the Villanuevas to be his forever family and Nixon to be his forever town. So that's why he needs to be added along with Freddy's name."

Gaytan then scolded Ruiz for comments he made last month about forming a petition to have the name overturned if it wasn't changed to a more generic one to honor all veterans.

Ruiz told Gaytan "I feel for you, I really do," but said there are protocols that should be followed when naming something

after a veteran.

"We in the American Legion have traditions that we uphold that civilians have no idea what that's about," Ruiz said. "Other people that served, they lose their lives all the time, but that doesn't necessarily mean that something's named after them. A lot of people that I talked to said to include everybody and call it the Nixon Veterans Park."

HITTING THE BRICKS

The council did give the board permission to sell two types of bricks for a walkway at the park that residents could purchase to honor and remember loved ones or to promote local businesses. A 4x8 brick will sell for \$50, while an 8x8 brick will sell for \$100. Inscriptions on the bricks are included in the cost unless a business wishes to add a logo, which would be an extra \$25.

Board chair Travis Hansen said the more bricks that could be ordered at one time, the more likely the brick plant would put a rush on production when an order is turned in. He also spoke about the possibility that there could be phases to the walkways based on future consultations with any design professionals who could better advise what would be the best course of action.

La Fleur advised Hansen that LCRA has a community grant program which just started accepting applications this month. It will grant up to \$50,000 to worthwhile projects that are community based. He advised Hansen to consider applying for the grant and asked the council to direct Rice to provide any assistance possible to help in that.

Also, the board discussed, at City Secretary Tanya Torres' recommendation, creating a separate account for the Tourism board to account for any money they raised so it can be kept separated from other city funds for transparency. That was something the council all agreed to as well.



Two illegal immigrants were apprehended after a traffic stop Saturday, July 8, with the driver found to have a 9mm Parabellum Beretta Nano pistol in his possession. The driver was booked into the Gonzales County Jail on a weapons charge, while the passenger was transferred to U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

ARRESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



into the United States illegally. A handgun, a 9mm Parabellum Beretta Nano pistol, was recovered from the vehicle.

The driver, who was identified as Josue Ediel Vanega-Centeno, was booked into the Gonzales County Jail on unlawful carrying of a weapon. The passenger was transferred to CBP.

GISD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

larly scheduled meeting Thursday, July 7, and they approved unanimously, 7-0, to increase the rate of pay for GISD bus drivers by \$3 for the 2023-24 school year.

New GISD bus drivers would go from \$17.15 to \$20.15, while experienced drivers' medium and maximum pay will be determined through Human Resources, said Gene Kridler, GISD director of operations.

In other board business, GISD Chief Financial Officer Amanda Smith went over the dual credit program tuition with the board.

Smith said, if approved, the district would once again pay the higher ed tuition costs in full for the students who are enrolled in the program.

"Right now, we have two different offerings that they have available to them. One is the dual credit program course there at Victoria College, and then there is also college credit and it's through Onramps with the University of Texas," Smith said.

The board approved the dual credit program tuition unanimously, 7-0.

The board later went through non-action items in reports. One of the big report items was "the

bond and capacity and tax rate analysis."

John Robuck, of BOK Financial Securities Inc., talked about numbers for the potential bond election in November.

"The purpose of tonight is to go through those numbers and the tax rate impact and to answer any questions you may have. We've run several different scenarios. Some have a worst-case scenario, while some are more actual," Robuck said.

Robuck went over three different scenarios for the school board: The first excludes estimated 313 agreement values; the second includes 313 agreement values; and the third includes 313 agreement values and excludes approximately \$750 million in oil, gas, and mineral values.

Each of the scenarios has the same three different bond options from \$50 million, \$75 million and \$100 million, but each scenario has different tax rate increases for each bond.

GISD Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda said this is "great information to have" so the district can work the next few weeks to finalize the scope of work that the district can do.

"We now have a good

grasp on what it's going to cost our community if we choose one of these three options. It's good information," Avellaneda said.

The meeting concluded with Director of Special Programs Erin Lindermann-LaBuhn giving the report for the federal grants/funding plans for fiscal year 2024.



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