GHS is more than you expect!







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TO LIVE IS TO FLY!

Gonzales County approves preliminary plat for WT Airpark in Waelder

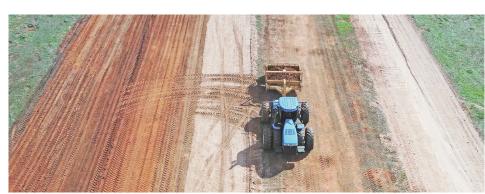
BY LEW K. COHN

Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County's first airpark development moved one step closer to becoming a reality after the Gonzales County Commissioners Court approved the preliminary plat for the WT Airpark in Waelder at their regular meeting Monday, Feb. 12.

WT Airpark is also known as The Whiskey Tango, which comes from the International Radio-Telephony Spelling Alphabet call signs for WT, which

See AIRPARK, page 18



Construction ground work is under way at the WT Airpark (Whiskey Tango), located near the intersection of I-10 and US 90 two miles east of Waelder. The airpark currently has a 4,000 foot grass runway and the first phase of construction will include 12 two-acre residential lots as well as a communal gathering area and other amenities.

GISD discusses community bond update meeting

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales ISD School board met for their regularly scheduled meeting Monday, Feb. 12 at the GISD Administration Building.

One of the items that was mentioned near the end of the meeting is the upcoming Community Bond Update meeting regarding the CTE Building which is set for Monday, Feb. 19.

"We will have an open community meeting so that we can inform the community where the monies that we have spent thus far regarding the bond are going and what our plans are

See GISD, page 17



Victor (Vic) Aguilar in his barbershop, Vic and Joe's Barbershop, for the last time Tuesday, Feb. 13. Aguilar announced his retirement from the barber business has sold his building after 59 years in Gonzales.

Local barber retires after 59 years

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

After many decades of cutting hair for the residents of Gonzales, Texas, Victor Aguilar of Vic and Joe's Barbershop announced his

retirement and the sale of his business. Aguilar, a Gonzales native, has been cutting hair for 59 years and recalls his time working at his barbershop and the people that in-

ELECTION 2024

See BARBER, page 17

Animal support groups fight for care, justice for 'Phoenix'

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Passion for Paws Memorial Animal Shelter, 4 Little Paws Rescue and other animal support groups in the Nixon area have raised more than \$3,800 to provide care for and find the culprit responsible for one of the most horrific animal abuse cases they have seen in recent

years. Patsy Vigil Scherrer, a Nixon City Council member who also is the director of Passion for

Paws, said she received a call at about 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, from Jessica Yantes

See PHOENIX, page 17

February sales tax numbers plummet

BY LEW K. COHN Inquirer Publisher

February 2024 will go down as one of the worst months for sales tax allocations in quite some time as all four Gonzales County municipalities saw double-digit percentage decreases below what they received last February, according to information released by Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar.

That can only mean that sales in Gonzales County were ho-ho-horrible for the Christmas season since February's allocation is primarily based upon taxable sales made during the month of December.

Hegar announced he sent cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1.3 billion in local sales tax allocations for February, 1.6 percent more than in

February 2023. These allocations are based on sales made in December by businesses

See TAX, page 5

Association proposes renaming street for MLK

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales City Council met for their regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, Feb. 8 at Gonzales City Hall.

Representatives from the Edwards Association made a guest appearance at meeting

See CITY, page 6

1 SECTION 18 PAGES



Edwards

YOAKUM FORUM

The Republican Women of the Yoakum Area (RWOYA) hosted a political forum for candidates from Gonzales, DeWitt, Lavaca and Goliad counties on Wednesday, Feb. 7, at the Yoakum Community Center. Two of the three candidates for Precinct 1 Commissioner — Anton "Tony" Matias and Ryan Mills — answered questions about the job they are seeking (A third, David Janota, was unable to attend). There were no candidates from the Precinct 3 Commissioner or Precinct 1 Constable race present either. County Attorney candidate Eddie Escobar and incumbent 25th District Judge Bill Old, both of whom are unopposed, asked for voters' support as well. PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN





Hadnot to challenge Tovar for Waelder mayor

BY LEW K. COHN

Inquirer Publisher

The election filing deadline for the Saturday, May

4 city council and school board elections in Gonzales County is 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16 and there are very few contested races so far

as mostly incumbents have turned in their paperwork. However, there definitely

See FILINGS, page 16

Early voting begins Tuesday in Democratic, **GOP** primaries

BY LEW K. COHN

Inquirer Publisher

Early voting for the March 5, 2024, joint Gonzales County Republican and Democratic primary begins Tuesday, Feb. 20 and continues through Friday, March 1. Places on the Republican

primary ballot which are contested in Gonzales County include Precinct 1 Commissioner, Precinct 3 Commissioner, Precinct 1 Constable, Texas House District 44 and U.S. House District 27.

On the Democratic primary ballot, contested races include Texas House District 44. There is only one local race in Gonzales County with a lone

See VOTING, page 5



John's Flowers named Gonzales Main Street Business of the Month

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales Main Street proudly recognizes John's Flowers, located at 317 Saint Andrew St., Gonzales, as the Main Street Business of the Month for February.

This esteemed honor comes just in time for Valentine's Day, highlighting the love and dedication John's Flowers brings to the community.

Since its establishment in 1968 by the visionary entrepreneur John M. Tabera, John's Flowers has been a cornerstone of the Gonzales community. Today, under the ownership of the Colchado family since 2014, John's Flowers has evolved into a one-stop destination for all vour special occasions.

Beyond exquisite floral arrangements, John's Flowers now offers comprehensive event planning and decoration services, as well as formal attire rentals. This expansion of services is a testament to the Colchado family's commitment to honoring John Tabera's legacy while embracing new opportunities for

growth. They plan to expand evening further in the near future.

In addition to John's Flowers, the Colchado family also owns and operates a dress shop in Moulton and the Lucio Colchado Construction Company. Their dedication to serving the community through multiple ventures is truly com-

Join us in celebrating John's Flowers as the Main Street Business of the Month. Visit them to discover how they can help make your special day truly unforgettable.



The Community Health Centers of South Central Texas (CHCSCT) presented a check for \$34,000 to Legacy Ranch Kids to pay for a new transportation van for the organization.

CHCSCT collaborates with Legacy Ranch Kids to help resolve transportation needs

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Exciting developments are underway as Community Health Centers of South Central Texas (CHCSCT) joins forces with Legacy Ranch Kids in Gonzales, Texas. Legacy Ranch, dedicated to providing essential support for children in foster care, has found a steadfast ally in the community.

Through a collaborative effort

bolstered by the generous backing of St. David's Foundation, CHCSCT has facilitated the acquisition of a much-needed passenger van for Legacy Ranch Kids.

The van, made possible through the unwavering support of St. David's Foundation, will serve as a vital lifeline for Legacy Ranch, addressing transportation needs for outings, visits, and appointments. This opens avenues of opportunity,

ensuring that children under the care of Legacy Ranch can access the resources and experiences essential to their growth and well-being.

This partnership underscores CHCSCT's commitment to community engagement and fostering positive change. By aligning resources and expertise, CHCSCT and Legacy Ranch Kids are driving towards a future where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

GPD investigating shots fired incident

Gonzales Inquirer.com

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Gonzales police are investigating an incident in which shots were reportedly fired Tuesday, Feb. 6, Gonzales Police Chief Gayle Autry told the Inquirer.

Police dispatchers received a call regarding loud music near the 1300 block of Ewing Street that morning. An officer responded to the area to search for the reported loud music.

While the officer was

en route, GPD received several phone calls regarding shots being fired near the 1300 block of Ewing Street and HEB. Officers searched the area and began investigating the incident.

They were able to determine the shots were fired near the 1300 block of Ewing Street and not near the grocery store. Suspects have been identified, but the investigation continues at this time, Autry said.

delebrations (1984) Birthdays February 15th

AIrene Ramos

Peggy Shuler

February 16th

Denise Jones Langston Michael Meeh Efrain Perez Jr

Walter Ray Sampleton **Emily Tisinger** Ovella Tumlinson

February 17th

Rachel Arellano Garza Stephanie Scaff

Daisy Villareal

Beverly Wegener

February 18th Jennifer Condel Almaguer

Mia Lampkin Mark Lube Fred Mitchell Elisa Molina

Dandi Opiela Mary George Perriman

February 19th

Lois Gracey Kylee Helms Jenna O'Neal

February 20th Kelly Delgado

Tim Gescheidle Patricia Heins Erika Lester

Annie Tieken February 21st

Andra Fridrich Barbara Hand Journie Matias Carolyn Person Patricia Reyna Robert Schurig

Syrenity S. Smith

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Annual Chamber awards banquet to be held Feb. 22

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Gonzales Chamber Excellence Gala & Awards Ceremony 2024 will be held Thursday, Feb. 22, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at JB Wells Expo Center, 2301 County Road 197, Gonzales. This event will feature an array of silent and live

auction items, dinner service, live music and an opportunity to socialize with others in attendance.

It will also be an opportunity to recognize the recipients of the prestigious David B. Walshak Lifetime Achievement Award and the Community Service Award.

The David B. Walshak Lifetime Achievement

Award is presented to a person who has proved worthy of distinction in the community. This Lifetime Achievement Award is appropriately named after a man who gave of himself unselfishly to his family, friends, church, and community. The Community Service Award is an annual

award given to an individual, business, or organization for meritorious service in one or more of the categories below:

- Historic Preservation
- Promotion of the Arts
- Education
- Commerce/Industry
- Youth Motivation
- Volunteer Work

While gold table have been sold out, there are a few silver tables remaining (seating 10 people) for \$550 and includes reserved seating and highlights on social media as well. Meanwhile, individual tickets are \$50 each for members, while non-member tickets are \$65 per person

For more information about the banquet, contact the Chamber at 830-672-6532, email admin@ gonzalestexas.com or log onto gonzalestexas.com.

WALSHAK LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Walshak Award was originally called the Citizen of the Year Award. Winners included:

1989 Elgin Heinemeyer

1990 Martha "Moochie" Turk 1991 Otto Gindler

1988 Calvin Baker

The name was changed to David B. Walshak Lifetime Achievement Award after 1991. Winners include:

1992 Kermit Thiele 1993 Lawrence Walshak 1994 Milton Doyle Hines 1995 Jimmy L. DuBose

1996 Pat Anders

1999 Mildred Walshak Wilson 2000 Leon Netardus

2001 Genevieve Vollentine

1997 Dr. James C. Price

1998 Roger M Dreyer

2002 Victor E. Brown Jr. 2003 Frank "Sonny" Sievers 2004 Mozelle Fullilove

2005 Robert A. Young Jr. 2006 Frank Stockton 2007 Perri Bell 2008 Carol DuBose 2009 Jane Johnson

2010 Noel "Buster" Lindemann 2011 Ken Hedrick 2012 Bill Christian 2013 Frank Benes 2014 Louis Kuntschik

2015 Paul Frenzel 2016 Darrell Mclain 2017 Dr. Kenneth Gottwald 2018 Vicki Frenzel 2019 Norma Ehrig

2020 Keith Schmidt 2021 (no award due to pandemic)

2022 Andy Rodriguez 2023 Robert B. Scheske

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Gonzales Weather



February 15 73%61°

Cloudy 15% chance of rain ● RealFeel 73



February 16 70°/46°

Periods of rain 91% chance of rain • RealFeel 67



February 17 52°/34°

Very windy; low clouds, then perhaps some sun and less humid 22% chance of rain • RealFeel 42



February 18 59°/41°

Warmer with plenty of sunshine 3% chance of rain ● RealFeel 62



February 20

70°/47°

Milder with plenty of sun 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 69



73°/54°

Sun and some clouds 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 73



A stray morning shower; otherwise, intervals of clouds and sunshine 40% chance of rain ● RealFeel 74

Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

February 17th J & K Productions February 18th **40 Plus Teams Roping** Proudly brought to you by:

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Annual Waelder 4-H Livestock Show, premium sale scheduled for Friday

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The annual Waelder 4-H Livestock Show will be held this Friday, Feb. 16, at the

L.W. Fryer Showbarn in Waelder.

Judging begins at 10 a.m. with the buyers social starting at 4:30 p.m. A raffle will be held at 5:45 p.m. and the premium sale starts at 6:15 p.m.

The event is sponsored by the Waelder Show Board on behalf of the Waelder 4-H.



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SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales Central Appraisal H. Liford reminds residential property owners who are receiving a homestead exemption are now required to

This requirement was passed by the 88th Legislature in 2023

and is codified in Section 11.42 (h-1) of the Texas Property Tax Code. A letter will be mailed out to approximately 20 percent of these property owners yearly. The letter has specific instructions that must be followed if you are to continue receiving the homestead exemptions.

A copy of this letter is available on the GCAD website:



Q. What trees get Hypoxylon and why do they catch the disease? Can you prevent it?

A. Hypoxylon infects trees that are stressed, usually from lack of water. Most trees can be infected but the ones I have seen most are red oak, post oak and cedar elms on slopes with limited soil. Trees that receive adequate water and are planted in adequate soil are least likely to develop the disease. It is not spread from tree to tree.

Q. I planted St. Augustine sod from a bargain basement firm several years ago and now it is overrun with rain lilies, garlic, and wild onion. I have tried to control the weeds with herbicide but have not had any luck. Do you have any ideas?

A. If you increase the density of the St Augustine grass by aerating it this month and adding one half inch of compost plus fertilizing with 19-05-09 slow-release fertilizer on May 1, I think the grass will get thick enough to reduce the room for the "weeds". I love the rain lilies and wild onions, so may not be the best person

WEEKLY LIVESTOCK REPORTS

to recommend a way to reduce it! My prescription will not wipe it out, but the grass will become more dominant.

Q. Tell us again what squash we can plant to thwart the efforts of the squash vine borers in our spring garden.

A. Plant Mexican squash (tatuma). It tastes like summer squash and is not usually bothered by squash vine borers. If your favorite nursery seed rack does not include tatuma seed, order it on the internet.

Q. What is that weed that has small leaves and is sticky. It grows on every bare space and around the edge of the lawn. It rakes up relatively easy, but we are looking for an herbicide that works to control it!

A. I believe you are describing bedstraw. The easiest way to control it is with a preemergent herbicide such as Gallery or Crew applied on September 1 before the winter weeds germinate. If it is growing now read the label of Weed Free Zone and see if it meets your needs.

Residential property owners must confirm they qualify to receive homestead exemption

District Chief Appraiser John confirm that they still qualify for the exemption.

www.gonzalescad.org.

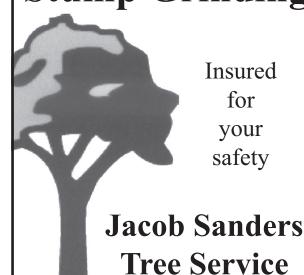
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GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET

February 10th Cattle - 1403

Compared to our last sale: Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold steady to very strong market. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold fully steady. Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 295-400; 300-400 lbs., 295-395; 400-500 lbs., 275-360; 500-600 lbs., 245-295; 600-700 lbs., 230-271; 700-800 lbs., 195-250. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 90-155

Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 285-330; 300-400 lbs., 280-317; 400-500 lbs., 241-295: 500-600 lbs., 232-251; 600-700 lbs., 185-237

Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 85-96; Cutters, 101-116; Canners, 72-82; High yielding fat cows, 97-104. Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 122-131; Light weights and medium quality bulls.105-118. Stocker Cows: \$750 to \$1,700.

Pairs: \$1,100 to \$1,900.

NIXON LIVESTOCK February 12h Cattle - 1041

Steers: 200-300 lbs - \$328-410 300-400 lbs - \$299-400 400-500 lbs - \$288-365 500-600 lbs - \$265-363 600-700 lbs - \$241-291 700-800 lbs - \$227-247 Heifers:

200-300 lbs - \$288-370 300-400 lbs - \$268-370 400-500 lbs - \$248-335 500-600 lbs - \$230-278 600-700 lbs - \$216-283

700-800 lbs - \$196-219

Slaughter Cows - \$69-119 Slaughter Bulls - \$98-126 Stocker Cows - \$700-1100 Pairs: 2 pair @ \$1400

HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC. Sale date: February 6th Cattle on hand: 1169 **Packer Cows:** High Dressing: \$90-115

Medium Dressing: \$78-100 Low Dressing: \$60-80 Poor/Weak Cows: \$50-65 Packer Bulls: High Dressing Bulls: \$116-128 Medium Dressing Bulls: \$102-

Low Dressing Bulls: \$95-105 Stocker Cows: Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: NONE

Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1225-1650 Good Cow & Calf Pairs: 1 Pair

\$2250 Medium Cow & Calf Pairs:

\$1225-1550 Stocker & Feeder Calves &

Yearlings: Number 1 steer & bull calves: Under 200 lbs.: \$290-430 200-300 lbs.: \$300-430 300-400 lbs.: \$310-390

400-500 lbs.: \$280-350 500-600 lbs.: \$255-310 600-700 lbs.: \$240-290 700-800 lbs.: \$215-235 Number 1 heifer calves: Under 200 lbs: \$260-420 200-300 lbs.: \$270-355 300-400 lbs.: \$280-350 400-500 lbs.: \$245-320 500-600 lbs.: \$230-285 600-700 lbs.: \$215-255

700-800 lbs: \$200-230 Replacement Heifers: 350-700 lbs.: \$240-290 The calf market continues very strong and very active. Heavier weights sold a little stronger and light weights a little easier. Overall a strong sale with price

on all calves even with last week. Packer cows and bulls sold strong on a total supply of 150 head.

SEGUIN CATTLE CO.

February 7th

Quality not as deep today. Stocker cattle steady with packer cows and bulls 2-3 better. Cattle - 753 Sheep & goats - 509 Medium & large frame #1

Steers: 200-300 lb. .65-2.70-3.75 300-400 lb. .50-2.70-3.75 400-500 lb. .50- 2.50-3.25

500-600 lb. .60-2.40-3.00 600-700 lb. .75-2.10-2.70 700-850 lb. 1.10-1.98-2.42 Medium & large frame #1 Heifers:

200-300 lb. .40-2.20-3.20 300-400 lb. .25-2.60-3.35 400-500 lb. .30-2.40-3.10 500-600 lb. .70-2.10-2.98 600-750 lb. .70-1.90-2.34 Cows:

Utility & commercial - .81-1.08-1.20

Cutters - .72-.84-.95 Canners. -.63-.72-.80 Palpated cows - 725-1500 Cow/Calf Pairs - 1500-1875 **Bulls:**

Heavy High Yielding - 1.15-1.30 Light & Low Yielding – .95-1.14 Sheep & Goats: Nannies - 55-185 Kid Goats (Fat) - 2.00-2.55 Wethers -1.50-2.40 Billies - 1.40-1.85 Dorp. Ewes - 55-165 Dorp. Lambs (Fat) - 1.80-2.40 Wooled Ewes - NONE Wooled Bucks - 1 10-1 40

Lambs - 1.00-1.70

Barb. Bucks - NONE

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET February 9, 2024 Number of head 1.718 There were 228 cows and 29

bulls. Top packer bull was again \$128/cwt while tops on packer cows was up to \$116/cwt. Prices continue to be high as demand continues to be strong. The calf market was once again very strong with last week's big jump. Demand remains incredibly strong across the board. Calves were \$6/cwt higher but on 37 less pounds of weight. Packer bulls:

All weights 94.00-128.00 Packer cows:

canners & cutters 85.00-116.00 30.00-57.00 poor & weak Palpated: 13 BRED 1200-1500 1650-1800

PAIRS: 4 Steer Calves: Under 250 lbs 301.00-407.50 305.00-385.00 250-299 lbs. 300-350 lbs. 320.00-358.00 350-400 lbs. 304.00-365.00 400-450 lbs. 293.00-336.00 450-500 lbs. 288.00-328.00 279.00-311.00 500-550 lbs. 256.00-304.00 550-600 lbs. 600-700 lbs. 248.00-290.00 235.00-244.00 700-800 lbs.

Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH) 305.00-390.00 Under 250lbs 250-300 lbs. 307.00-375.00 300-350 lbs. 301.00-380.00 350-400 lbs. 284.00-360.00 279.00-332.50 400-450 lbs. 450-500 lbs. 262.00-320.00 500-550 lbs. 266.00-302.00 550-600 lbs. 254.00-290.00 600-700 lbs

Over 700 lbs. Heifer Calves: under 200 lbs. 200-250 lbs. 250-300 lbs 300-350 lbs. 350-400 lbs. 400-450 lbs. 450-500 lbs. 500-550 lbs 550-600 lbs.

236.00-280.00 182.00-220.00 (AVG-HIGH) 300.00-400.00 294.00-375.00 263.00-375.00 275.00-362.00 262.00-326.00 255.00-330.00 249.00-282.00 234.00-279.00 223.00-269.00 600-700 lbs. 215.00-270.00 190.00-228.00 Over 700 lbs

y in



Sales every Saturday starting at 10 am

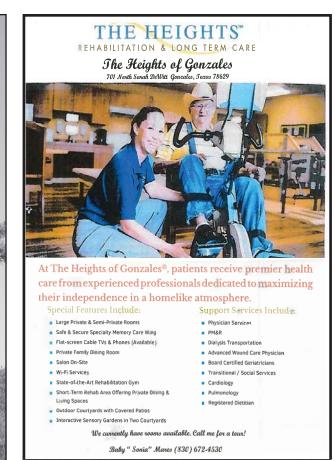
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OPINION

Letter from a Birmingham jail

n April of 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. was arrested and jailed in Birmingham, Alabama. Alone for several days in the dull "monotony of a narrow jail cell," as he described it, King penned a letter that has been described as one of the most important historical documents ever written. Considered a classic treatise on civil disobedience, it is perhaps one of the most beautifully crafted and eloquent letters ever composed. Every American should read it.

In the 1950s and 1960s, state governments were failing to uphold the rights of African Americans under the due process clause of the 14th Amendment. Even after the 1954 Supreme Court decision of Brown v. Board of Education (overturning Plessy v. Ferguson from 1896) which struck down segregation in the nation's public schools, discrimination persisted, especially in the South. At the time, Birmingham, Alabama was a hotbed for racial tension, and considered by many to be the most segregated large city in America.

King had led a campaign to desegregate a downtown shopping district. Teaching a means of agitation by nonviolent direct action, this was done with boycotts, marches, and lunch counter sit-ins. Hundreds had been arrested. On April 12, 1963 - Good Friday - King was arrested as well.

On the day of his arrest a group of white moderate clergymen wrote an open letter to King, which appeared in the Birmingham News. They urged a stop to the nonviolent protests and thought it more important to keep the peace rather than make immediate demands. They advised waiting for the courts to weigh in and public opinion to change.

King's reasoned response, his letter from Birmingham Jail, began with scribbled notes in the margin of the newspaper. In this forceful written statement against injustice, King respectfully dismantles their arguments with crisp and specific language. Bristling with energy, the letter provides a compelling defense of nonviolent demonstration and became a rallying cry for an end to discrimination.

According to King's secretary, Willie Pearl Mackey (who pieced together and typed his words along with the help of Pastor Wyatt Tee Walker), after beginning the letter on the edges of the newspaper, King continued writing on toilet paper, greasy sandwich bags, paper napkins, and other scraps of paper. The fragmented pieces of paper (carrying almost 7,000 words) were smuggled out of the jail inside his lawyer's shirt.

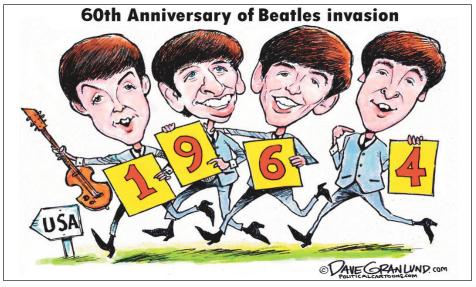
King's words are penetrating and worth considering today. He wrote - "We will have to repent in this generation not merely for the vitriolic words and actions of the bad people but for the appalling silence of the good people. We must come to see that human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and persistent work of men willing to be coworkers with God..."

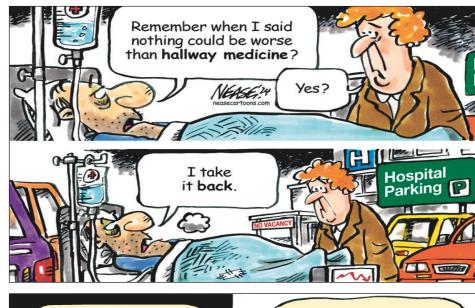
King argued that theirs was a righteous cause and noted that he had been labeled an extremist. He embraces this asking wasn't Jesus an extremist for love? Wasn't the Apostle Paul an extremist for the gospel? Wasn't Socrates an extremist for truth? All were martyred for their extremism.

With King's inspiring words, he brought the struggle for civil rights into clear and brilliant focus. He wrote - "Abused and scorned though we may be, our destiny is tied up with the destiny of America. Before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, we were here. Before the pen of Jefferson scratched across the pages of history the majestic words of the Declaration of Independence, we were here. For more than two centuries our foreparents labored here without wages; they made cotton king; and they built the homes of their masters in the midst of brutal injustice and shameful humiliation. And yet out of a bottomless vitality our people continue to thrive and develop. If the inexpressible cruelties of slavery could not stop us, the opposition we now face will surely fail. We will win our freedom because the sacred heritage of our nation and the eternal will of God are embodied in our echoing demands."

King's letter helped focus the world's attention on the plight of African Americans in the South and spurred the famous March on Washington in August of that year. It was here that King delivered his I Have a Dream speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial. His words deeply affected the nation's views on racial segregation and intolerance. Every American would benefit from pondering King's immortal words today.

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DR. DON **NEWBURY** The Idle American

A joke from the 20th century...

t's an old joke from the 1990s, pulled from the files each time the Super Bowl rolls around.

Late Congressman Charles Stenholm, a distinguished Christian statesman from Ericksdahl (near Stamford) popularized the yarn in Texas, claiming that it originated in Washington, DC. It was during more civil times, when Republicans and Democrats not only talked to each other, but shared jokes across the aisle.

That the joke has whiskers is further linked to the "good old days" because it was shared at Super Bowls featuring the Dallas Cowboys. It was back when there was little argument but that the Cowboys were "America's team." Yes indeed, it was a LONG time ago....

Here's the joke: The youth minister of a church put up signs all over town inviting youth to attend a Super Bowl party. There'd be sandwiches and cookies for all.

Hours before the party, he grew antsy, fearing they'd run out of food before they ran out of "takers."

As a precaution, he prepared a hasty sign for the sandwich table. It read: "Please take no more than two sandwiches. Remember, God is watching you."...

When he exited, a junior high kid slipped in, noticing the stark request on the sandwich table sign.

He decided to make a sign of his own for the cookie table.

It read: "Take all the cookies you want — God is watching the sandwiches.....

During the recent Christmas/New Year's bowl season, James and Jeanie Williamson and their family gathered at their daughter's home in Houston. Mary and her hubby, Justin, have a spacious home, complete with all kinds of kitchen paraphernalia, the kind Justin, an accomplished cook, deems important. During the visit, Mary and her sister-in-law, Sarah, busied themselves with small talk.

Thinking it may have been misplaced or somehow relocated by the Cornetts' five children, Mary asked, "Where is the sugar bowl?"

Pausing, Sarah answered, "I think it's in New Orleans." Justin, as well as Mary's hubby, John Williamson, and the grandchildren made great sport about the exchange, deciding that the small talk had grown even smaller....

Their laughter perhaps lessened Sarah's shade of red, but powers that be at Texas Christian and Baylor Universities should be blushing about mystifying boo-boo's concerning their basketball playing floors.

Both are obvious to fans who have witnessed home games of both Baylor and TCU. Let's take the two issues one at a time....

At TCU, the Daniel-Meyer Coliseum is state-of-the-art after a recent multi-million dollar facelift.

Overall, the re-do is magnificent. The floor pattern may be a work of art, but to the hordes of us who'd prefer to follow the game without risking sea sickness, it is lacking. Trying to follow the players and fast ball movement induces dizziness, the artwork appearing to be ocean waves shortly before storms brew. It may win a prize at the art show, but it is hard on TV viewers.

Social media is buzzing with unhappiness with TV coverage at Baylor's new \$212 million Foster Pavilion, where the Bears now play basketball. Fans say that no provisions were made for TV cameras' placement for horizontal shots. Cameras are decidedly directed downward, the effect somewhat lessened by "zooming in."

At a time in history when both Baylor and TCU are combatants in bigtime sports with big-time budgets and the big-time glitz that goes with such emphases, changing floor designs and finding new areas dedicated to TV cameras should be "slam dunks."...

Somehow, reference to colors brings to mind a tale attributed to my late Uncle John Harper, who was in law enforcement much of his life.

He often parked near a newlypainted STOP sign. The black letters shined boldly against a brilliant red background. There, he ticketed and lectured motorists failing to come to complete stops. One driver objected, maintaining that he had merely

"oozed through" the intersection. "S-T-O-P don't spell 'ooze," Uncle John countered, handing him a citation....

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, writes weekly and speaks publicly throughout Texas. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that report tax monthly; October, November and December sales by quarterly filers; and 2023 sales by businesses that

report tax annually. February 2024 sales tax allocations for all Gonzales County municipalities were a combined \$301,278.26. down \$53,567.38 below the \$354,845.64 received in February 2023. They also paled in comparison to the \$318,163.90 the municipalities received just last month, which was based on November sales. For the year, municipalities have received \$619,442.16, or \$43,351.71 less than the \$662,793.87 received at this point last year.

This came after the year had begun on a positive note with all four cities seeing increases in sales tax allocations above last year's amounts and shows what a difference a month can make when it comes to taxes.

Sales tax allocations for

SALES TAX ALLOCATIONS

County	City	\$ Rate	Net Payment ≑ This Period	Comparable Payment Prior \$ Year	% \$ Change	‡ Payment YTD	Prior Year \$ Payment YTD	% \$ Change
Gonzales	Gonzales	1.500%	\$254,840.06	\$298,263.46	-14.55%	\$526,172.21	\$562,705.81	-6.49%
Gonzales	Nixon	1.500%	\$33,999.24	\$40,496.22	-16.04%	\$65,189.99	\$71,683.78	-9.05%
Gonzales	Smiley	1.000%	\$2,793.60	\$4,607.31	-39.36%	\$7,522.43	\$7,061.19	6.53%
Gonzales	Waelder	1.500%	\$9,645.36	\$11,478.65	-15.97%	\$20,557.53	\$21,343.09	-3.68%

February 2024 for Gonzales, the largest city in the county which generates the lion's share of sales tax revenue, were just \$254,840.06, down 14.55 percent or \$43,423.40, from the \$298,263.46 received in February 2023. Allocations were down \$16,492.09 from the \$271,332.15 received just one month earlier in January and even below the \$264,442.35 the city had received in January 2023.

For the year, Gonzales has received \$526,172.21, down 6.49 percent or \$36,533.60 from the \$562,705.81 received at this same point last year.

Waelder received a total of \$9,645.36, down \$1,838.29 or 15.97 percent from the \$11,

478.65 received in February 2023. It was also down from the \$10,912.17 the city received in January 2024. For the year, Waelder has received \$20,557.53, down 3.68 percent or \$785.56 from the \$21,343.09 received through the first two months of 2023.

Sales tax receipts for Nixon were \$33,999.24, down 16.04 percent or \$6,496.98 from the \$40,496.22 received in February 2023. It was higher than the \$31,190.75 the city received in January 2024. For the year, the city has received \$65,189.99, $9.05 \ percent \ or \$6,493.79 \ less$ than the \$71,683.78 received through this time last year.

Finally, Smiley's sales tax

receipts were \$2,793.60, 39.36 percent or \$1,813.71 less than the \$4,607.31 received in February 2023. It is also less than the \$4,728.83 the city received in January 2024. For the year, Smiley is the only city in the black, having received \$7,522.43, or 6.53 percent more than the \$7,061.19 received through the first two months of 2023.

Three cities in Gonzales County — Gonzales, Nixon and Waelder — collect a 1.5 percent sales tax rate, while Smiley collects a 1 percent sales tax.

Gonzales County itself also receives a 0.5 percent sales and use tax and for the month of February 2024, the county received \$557,629.99, 102.62

percent or \$282,430.04 more than the \$275,199.65 received in February 2023. For the vear, the county has received \$767,683.03, 62.74 percent more than the \$471,696.83 received through this point last year.

The sent cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1.3 billion in local sales tax allocations for February, 1.6 percent more than in February 2023.

These allocations are based on sales made in December by businesses that report tax monthly; October, November and December sales by quarterly filers; and 2023 sales by businesses that report tax annually.

U.S. Navy W.A.V.E.S. veteran celebrating her 100th birthday

BY RICK BURKE, NAVY **OFFICE OF COMMUNITY** OUTREACH

Special to the Inquirer

MILLINGTON, Tenn. – Jovita Enriquez Tellez, a U.S. Navy Women Accepted for Volunteer **Emergency Service** (W.A.V.E.S.)

veteran, is celebrating a once-ina-lifetime milestone on Feb. 15: her 100th

birthday. Tellez, a native

of Luling, Texas, served in the U.S. Navy as a W.A.V.E. during WWII from 1945 to 1946. Tellez also has family ties to Seguin, Texas, where many nieces and nephews, Pete Mendez and Sylvia McPhail, reside.

She is one of the last remaining U.S. Navy W.A.V.E.S. veterans. Tellez, also known as Jo, is a first-generation American whose parents migrated from Mexico in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Tellez's decision to join the military was born out of a desire to serve her country.

"I joined the Navy because it was wartime," said Tellez. "It was WWII, so I felt I had to do something."

After her naval service, Tellez received an Honorable Discharge pin and was authorized to wear the American Campaign and Victory medals.

Tellez then returned to San Antonio and enrolled in Durham Business College with a focus on stenography.

While in college, she met her future husband, Tony A. Tellez, who had recently served in the Army Air Corps. They were married in 1949



CONTRIBUTED Luling native Jovita Tellez in

WWII and today.

since been blessed with four children, seven grandchildren and five greatgrandchil-

dren.

Tellez became a stayat-home mother during her children's younger years, helping her husband with his bookkeeping. She then worked in logistics at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio retiring from civil service. Tellez now devotes herself to her family and her church.

Upon the occasion of Tellez's 100th birthday, the Military Women Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, is recognizing her with a Living Legend Proclamation. Retired U.S. Navy Command Master Chief Octavia S. Harris, the Memorial's Texas Ambassador, will be presenting the proclamation on Feb. 25.

As a W.A.V.E.S. program participant, Tellez, and those she served with, played a role in changing history. Happy birthday to this American hero.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Democrat on the ballot.

The main location for early voting will be the Randle Rather Building, 427 St. George St., Gonzales, with satellite locations at City of Nixon Building, 302 E. Central, Nixon, and Waelder City

Early voting on Tuesday, Feb. 20 through Friday, Feb. 23 will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with special weekend extended hours on Saturday, Feb. 24, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. as well as Sunday, Feb. 25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hall, 300 Hwy 90 W, Waelder.

From Monday, Feb. 26 through Friday, March 1, early voting will be from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The last day to apply for a ballot by mail (received and not postmarked) is Friday, Feb. 23.

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

There are three candidates running for Precinct 1 commissioner in March: David Janota of Gonzales, a data collector; Anton "Tony" Matias of Gonzales, a road foreman for Precinct 1; and Ryan W. Mills of Gonzales, a natural resource consultant.

The two candidates running for Precinct 3 commissioner are Thomas "Tommy" Barnick of Harwood and Roy A. Staton of Gonzales. Both list their occupations as being in road and bridge. **Incumbent Precinct 1 County**

Constable Johnnie Hall faces a challenge from former Smiley City Marshall Scott Rhodes Sr., who ran against Hall in the 2020 GOP primary as well. The race for U.S. Congress for

House 27 has four candidates in the March GOP primary incumbent Michael Cloud of Victoria and challengers Luis Espindola, a defense contractor; Scott Mandel of Corpus Christi, a corporate CEO; and Chris Mapp of Port Arthur, who is in marine manufacturing.

For state House 44, the incumbent Rep. John Kuempel has three GOP primary challengers in federal procurement employee David Freimarck of Cibolo, former state Rep. Alan Schoolcraft; and retired U.S. Marine Greg Switzer of Seguin.

Unopposed races locally in-

clude 25th District Judge (incumbent Bill Old); 2nd 25th District Judge (incumbent Jessica Richard Crawford); County Attorney (Eduardo "Eddie" Xavier Escobar); Sheriff (incumbent Keith A. Schmidt); Tax Assessor-Collector (incumbent Crystal Cedillo); Precinct 3 Constable (incumbent Derek Johnson); Precinct 4 Constable (incumbent John J. Moreno); and County Chair (incumbent Liz Hernandez).

There are also 13 propositions on the GOP ballot representing issues of importance to the state Republican Party.

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

The U.S. House District 27 race has two candidates on the ballot: teacher Tanya Loyd and tax preparer Anthony (A.J.) Tristan.

Meanwhile, running unopposed are candidates for Sheriff (Clay Allen); State Board of Education District 3 (incumbent Marisa Perez-Diaz); Texas House District 44 (Eric Norman) and County Chair (Yolanda Messman).



Women of faith rise up and sing, discover, laugh, support one another, and share good food at BLESSED ASSURANCE: A Ladies Bible Conference on 1st John the weekend of February 23 – 24, 2024, at Thompsonville Community Church.

https://TCCBibleConference.rsvpify.com

To the women of Gonzales County and beyond ...

You're invited to come together for an engaging and fun weekend led by women and for women as we more deeply discover who Jesus is and what faith looks like by unpacking the Epistle of 1st John.

For cost information, directions, schedules, and more about the women leading us, scan or open your phone camera and focus on the QR Code below, or email sarahwnunes@gmail.com.







OUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

HISTORIC \$18 BILLION **PROPERTY TAX CUT**

John Kuempel passed the largest property tax cut in U.S. & Texas History

EARLY VOTING FEBRUARY 20-MARCH 1 ELECTION DAY

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY JOHN KUEMPEL CAMPAIGN

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and association president David Tucy to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street in

'We spoke to you about continuing those efforts of inclusion and recognition of African Americans here in the city of Gonzales that started with the renaming of the square and the installation of interpretive panels by the previous mayor and council," Tucy said.

Tucy added the purpose of the presentation is a request for the council to

"There's so many reasons that this historic action can be significant for the future of Gonzales, and we're very familiar with all the works of Dr. King, and how his works, his attitude and his philosophy helped shape this great nation. The name alone is synonymous with love, peace, equality," Tucy said.

Councilwoman Sherri Koepp said it is a wonderful idea to have a street in her

"I would be proud to be able to have that street in my district, so named, and I think that we need to put it on next

In other business, the board had another guest speaker at the meeting regarding fiber internet being provided to the city.

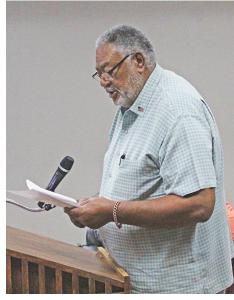
cations, spoke to the council about how his company is planning to supply a fiber-optic high-speed broadband net-

"We're building this network by ex-

Russell added that fiber is not going to replace the copper network as Frontier Communications is not allowed to take people off the copper network and give the people option to stay on the copper network or not.

"This new network is going to provide with the potential to provide even faster services in the future," Russell said.

The board approved the following

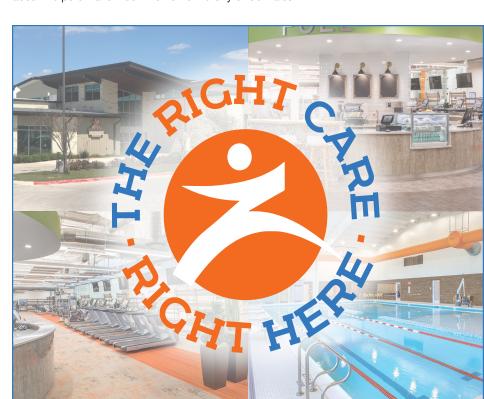


PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS Edwards Association President David Tucy speaks to the Gonzales City Council Thursday, Feb, 8 about renaming Robinson Street to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street in honor of the civil right advocate.

- approved reschedule the Thursday, May 9 meeting to Tuesday, May 14.
- · approved authorizing the city manager to enter a five-year engineering study with the Lower Colorado River Authority.
- approved the City Manager to Submit, and Accept if Awarded, an Application and Associated Documents (Updated Uniforms, Dress Code and Equipment Policy) to the Public Safety Office, through the Office of the Governor, for up to \$28,000 in Rifle Resistant Body Armor grant funds, for the purchase of 42 Rifle Resistant Body Armor Plates for the Gonzales Police Department.
- · approved Authorizing amendments to the City of Gonzales Code of Ordinances Chapter 14, Articles 14.201, 14.403 and 14.404 regarding multifamily housing in the Downtown Mixed Use
- · approved Authorizing amendments to the City of Gonzales Code of Ordinances Chapter 14, Articles 14.406 regarding nonconforming uses and structures.
- approved to extend the purchase agreement to Feb. 22 for 510 St. Paul
- approved Closing and Abandoning to the abutting property owner portions of King Street Portions of certain; the unopen portion of King Street lying in municipal boundaries and authorizing the city manager to execute the purchasing of.



Frontier Communications Vice President External Affairs David Russell speaks to the council about the potential of fiber internet to the City of Gonzales.



THE RIGHT CARE, RIGHT HERE.

Providing the right care for this community means understanding the many health and wellness needs of the people who live here. Gonzales Healthcare Systems meets those needs with THRIVE Healthplex, a world-class fitness, therapy and total-body wellness facility offering exercise programs, state-of-the-art equipment, personal trainers and an indoor pool, all in a family-centered atmosphere that includes a lounge, conference room and supervised children's area. In addition, THRIVE is home to our hospital's therapy department, making it one of the most complete life-enhancing health and wellness centers in the area, all right here, close to home.



For more about classes or membership, visit gonzaleshealthcare.com or call (830) 672-4986.



I have been married to my wife Missy, since 2015. Together we have four children and four grandchildren. Missy and I spend our spare time with our family and friends. We enjoy living the country life and can't imagine doing it anywhere else!

announcing my intent to run for re-election and continue my service to this great

I was born and raised in Gonzales and graduated from Gonzales High School in 1990. After four years of service in the US Army, I was honorably discharged in 1994 and returned home to Gonzales County. Among the first things I did was join Gonzales County EMS & Rescue, where I volunteered for many years. During that

time I went to work for Texas Department of Criminal Justice in a maximum security prison. I eventually left TDCJ and became a Paramedic, working full-time for Gonzales County EMS & Rescue.

After two years as a full-time Paramedic in Gonzales County, I hired on with Austin-Travis County EMS where there were greater opportunities to serve, grow, and advance my public safety career. During my tenure with Austin-Travis County EMS I served in many positions. For 13 of those years I held the position of Special Operations Commander. In this capacity I provided oversight for employees assigned various specialty call types, including SWAT operations with Austin Police Department and Travis County Sheriff's Office, EOD (bomb) calls, swift water rescue, hazardous materials incidents, cave rescues, high profile incidents, large scale incidents of all kinds, medical calls and more. I worked for Austin-Travis County EMS for over 21 years before retiring in 2021 to concentrate my efforts on the office of Precinct 1 Constable.

In 2003, I enrolled in the San Antonio College Police Academy and graduated December of that year. I then joined the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office and held a commission as a Reserve Deputy until 2021 when I was elected Constable for Precinct 1. I have now served 3 years as your Constable with less than one year

left in my current term. With my many years of public service and over 3451 hours of TCOLE training, I have attained the level of Master Peace Officer. With my lifetime of public service, from Corrections Officer, Paramedic, Reserve Deputy, and now Constable I am very well qualified to continue my service as your elected Constable for Precinct 1.

When I campaigned for the office of Precinct 1 Constable I made several promises to the citizens of Gonzales County. I have kept those promises and worked hard for all the citizens of this county. Those promises included revitalizing the office with modern law enforcement practices while actively patrolling Precinct 1 and other areas of the county, being accessible to the public and having an open door policy. All while serving all members of this community in a fair and consistent manner, always respecting the rule of law. Since taking office I have worked hard to make some much needed changes and make this office a fully functional law enforcement entity which provides the type of service the community should expect from a professional organization. An important part of this is building relationships with other county

government officials, city government officials, local law enforcement leaders, State law enforcement leaders, EMS & Fire department leaders and the community at large. I have done that and will continue to build those relationships. I attend all of the Commissioner Court meetings to ensure I am up to date with the overall County business so that I am better educated and prepared to answer the public's questions

I have worked with the County Judge and Commissioners to secure funding to make some of these changes while being financially responsible to the citizens of Gonzales County. Some of the things I have improved so far are upgrading the overall services provided by Precinct 1 Constable's Office. This includes being a fully functional modern law enforcement agency that provides patrol, traffic enforce-

> ment, criminal investigations, Bailiffs for court security, civil process services and all other typical law enforcement functions you would expect from any law enforcement agency. In order to effectively accomplish the addition of these new services I acquired the vehicles, equipment and training needed. Some of these items include mobile data computers (MDC) for the vehicles, vehicle mounted license plate readers, ballistic vest and shield, patrol rifles and shotguns, in car video, body cameras and much more. As part of this endeavor I also applied for and received a grant from the Friends of the NRA for the purchase of firearms and ammunition to offset the cost incurred by the County. I wrote and implemented the policies and procedures for employees of the Constable's Office to ensure we are performing a high level of service in a safe and effective manner for the public and the employees. I have joined Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission on their Regional Environmental Resource Advisory Committee. Being a part of this committee helps Gonzales County by having a county representative voice our local environmental concerns to the region and gives us the ability to utilize regional resources and apply for various grants.

In March 2022 I hired a part-time deputy to assist me in performing these duties. After 18 months of evaluating the deputy's performance,

workload and productivity this position was transitioned from part-time to full-time with approval from Commissioners Court. Together we have made a difference in this community. We have patrolled the city streets, county roads, and highways of Gonzales County to enforce all State and Federal laws and act as a deterrent to would be criminals. We have conducted investigations into various crimes and assisted other agencies with all aspects of law enforcement. This has resulted in numerous arrests, charges being filed for other crimes with the County Attorney's Office and we're still working hard to solve more. All of these things make this a safer community for you, your family, friends, and co-workers.

I am not done yet! I want to continue to build on the work that has been done thus far. I love Gonzales County and serving you all as Precinct 1 Constable. I am asking for your continued support and your vote in the 2024 election!

Thank you,



US Army Veteran • Gonzales County Native

honor of his legacy.

take action.

district named after Dr. King.

month's agenda for a vote," Koepp said.

David Russell, of Frontier Communiwork to the community of Gonzales.

tending fiber-optic cables to customers, homes and businesses directly from our local switching center. The fiber itself is made from ultra pure glass, and it is thin as a human hair. Then we use high intensity lasers to direct communications over the different wavelengths of light into an individual's home or business," Russell said.

broadband speeds on the low end and 500 megabits per second, and on the high end up to five gigabits per second,

agenda items:

OBITUARIES

WILLIE "BILLIE" MARIE STATON HOWELL

Willie "Billie" Marie Staton Howell was born May 14, 1922, to William David and Lula Belle Staton on her family homeland. Greenwood, in Gonzales, TX. She went home to her Lord and Savior, on February 6, 2024, at the age of 101. We know she had a glorious reunion when she was met at the pearly gates by her loving husband of over 70 years, Donald Howell.

Billie lost her father when she was just fifteen. His untimely death shaped her into a strong and solid woman who valued family and could persevere during tough times. Billie showed that same fortitude and strength for the rest of her life, and always made her family a priority.

Billie married Donald Howell on December 13. 1941. His unit in the National Guard was called to service shortly thereafter, and he entered the war. Billie held down the home front, during uncertain times, delivering their first of seven children in his absence. Billie ran



the household, juggling many tasks to make sure her family was well fed, clothed, educated, and well versed in the Bible. She was a Sunday school teacher for many years and active in the Eastside Baptist Church in Gonzales, and in later years. she attended Hochheim Baptist Church. Billie is also a published poet and song writer.

Billie was preceded in death by her husband, Donald, her sister, Zelma, her brother, Doug, her sons, Donald David and James, her grandson, Gregg, and granddaughter, Billie Jean. She is survived by her children:

Maedel, Nell (Bill), Marii (Jim), Grover (Teri), and Sally (Danny) and many grand-children, greatgrandchildren, great-great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Serving as pall bearers are Bill Hearn, Jason Howell, Jeffrey Pergrem, Shane Howell, Derek Kotrla, and Anthony O'Dell.

Honorary pall bearers are Don Hearn, Patrick O'Dell, Bobby Joe Howell, Christopher Kotrla, Bryan Pergrem, Michael Pergrem, Jason Breslow, and James Howell.

Visitation was Thursday, February 8, 2024, from 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM at Seydler Hill Funeral Home.

Services were held Friday, February 9, 2024, at 10:00 AM, at Eastside Baptist Church in Gonzales, TX, with a graveside service at Bellevue Cemetery following.

Memorial can be made to Eastside Baptist Church or www.mercyships.org

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

EULA MAE ERSKIN

Eula Mae Erskin was born March 20, 1937, to Tommy Dora and Gertrude Woods Dora in Gonzales Tx. She went home to be with the Lord February 7, 2024, at the Heights Nursing facility surrounded.by family and loved ones. She will be missed by all who knew her. She was a loving and kind person who was loved by all.

Christian woman who loved GOD, her family and her church family and friends. Eula attended Edwards High School and graduated. During high school, she played basketball, and all sports. To know her was to love her. After graduating from high school, she was employed at Lexington Lee for many years, also at the State Farm Insurance company, and Hardcastle's. Eula attended Providence Baptist Church as a child and accepted Christ as her savior and was



baptized. She was a faithful member of Providence Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one daughter Eula Marie Erskin seven brothers, Frank Dora, Marshal Dora, Tommie Dora, Charles Dora Jimmy Dora, Jimmy Dora, Clarence Dora, Thedore Dora, three sisters, Ceola Miller, Gertrude Hansford, Lou Alice Johnson.

She Leaves to cherish her memory, one daughter Bertha Erskin (Edward Hunt) four grandchildren,

La Torie Erskin of Luling Texas, Reginald Erskin of Utah, Iowa Elroy Erskin of Luling Tx. Caress Erskin of Gonzales, Tx.one great grandchild Tyshawn Erskin of Gonzales, Tx.

Nieces, Nephews Cousins And three special friends Diane Garner, Dorothy Smith, Dierlam (Trudy Dierlam).

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14: But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

Services: Saturday, February 17, 2024 Location: Providence Missionary Baptist Church, 1020 St. Andrew St, Gonzales, Texas78629

Time: 11:00 AM Services entrusted to the Harris Funeral Home.

Lela Cubit Shephard

A limb has fallen from the family tree.

He will wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more pain, no more death, nor crying; all gone Forever-Revelations 21:4

Lela Cubit Shephard went to be with the Lord on Sunday January 28, 2024, in Victoria, Tx.

Lela was born October 2, 1979, to Gussie Cubit and Wilbert Mann Cubit.

As a teenager, she accepted Christ as her guide and joined Union Lea Baptist Church.

Lela moved to Victoria Tx and spent the rest of her life with family and friends. On her journey she enjoyed family gatherings. She lived life to the fullest.

Lela was preceded in death by her grandmother

*High Performance

*Tool Boxes

*Bed Covers

*Headache Racks

Exaust Systems

*Off-Road Equipment *Hitches



Mamie lee Woodson, **Deloise Cubit Great**

Grandmother, Gussie Mae Tealer, Cousin, David l. Martinez Jr., and Javone Hodges.

Lela leaves to cherish her memory mother Gussie Cubit of Victoria Tx, husband Keith Shephard of Victoria, Tx, children, Trevor Cubit, Terrance Cubit, Aalyah

*Performance Tuning

*Bumpers

*Steps

*Grill Guards

*Tonneau Covers

Cubit. Stepchildren, Keith Shephard, Beyonce Shepard; One granddaughter Ma-Lanie Hall, four sisters, Patsy Thomas, Victoria Patricia Wallace Victoria Tx, Karessa Hodges, Victoria Tx, Dana Williams San Antonio Tx.

Brothers: Nicholas Cubit Victoria, Brian Cubit Austin, Leonard Cubit, Luling Tx.

Aunts: Cassandra White, Clara Miles, Ruth Hodges all of Austin Tx.

A host of Cousins, nieces' relatives' other friends.

Friday, February 16, 2024 Location: Union Lea Baptist Church, 931 St. Andrews Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629

Memorial Services:

Time: 11:00 AM Services entrusted to the Harris Funeral Home.

LINDA LEE MCGILL

Linda Lee McGill, age 86, passed away on January 5, 2024, in Gonzales, Texas.

Linda was born on September 4, 1937, in Pueblo, Colorado.

Linda dedicated most of her work life to serving as an administrative assistant, primarily in school systems. She retired from the Texas Department of Human Services. However, her most important careers were being a devoted mother and a minister's wife.

Linda was a pillar of strength for her family, always ensuring that her four children, who lived in three different states, remained connected and informed about each other's lives. Her family and friends knew her as the glue that held everyone together. Linda took immense pride in the accomplishments, no matter how small, of her loved ones. Once you became a part of her family, you held a special place in her heart forever. Her love knew no bounds or boundaries, and she touched the lives of many.

Linda will be deeply missed by her son Michael



and wife Diana McGill, daughter Janet Baker, son Kevin and wife Lori Mc-Gill, daughter Cara Hall, granddaughter Lalena Morse and husband Chad, grandson Jason Thoman and wife Layna, grandson Kevin Lee McGill and wife Becca, granddaughter Kiernan McGill, grandson Keaton McGill, granddaughter Keegan Hall, grandson Kalin Hall, 17 great-grandchildren, 5 great-great-grandchildren, and many others who were related in Linda's heart, if not by blood.

She was preceded in death by her parents Leroy and Leona Robinson, her beloved husband Robert McGill, her brother Gary Robinson, her grandson Richard Thoman, and her greatgrandson Devin Germuska.

Linda was a graduate of Pueblo Central High School, class of 1955.

Linda's faith played a significant role in her life. She grew up and got married in the Presbyterian church, and later attended the Methodist Church at Travis Street UMC when she moved to La Grange, Texas with her hus-

band and two youngest children. Linda followed her husband's calling to ministry, serving in various churches throughout her life, including Staples and Kingsbury, Monthalia (Cost) and Belmont and Leesville, Hunt, and finally ending in Burnet. She also avidly supported Buckingham UMC in Garland, TX, and later the FUMC in Sachse, TX, as well as the FUMC in Florence, CO. Towards the end of her life, Linda found solace in returning to the Presbyterian church, regularly attending The Presbyterian Church of Gonzales and

FUMC in Florence, CO.

In her free time, Linda volunteered with Senior Services, a non-profit assistance group in Penrose, where she drove invalids and individuals without transportation to their doctor's appointments. While in Gonzales, she dedicated her time to the Hospital Auxiliary, contributing to their gift shop at Memorial Hospital. Linda also cherished her involvement in the women's circles at her church, forming lifelong friendships. However, her greatest joy came from spending time with all the babies and children in her

extended family. A memorial service to celebrate Linda's life will be held at The Presbyterian Church of Gonzales on February 17, 2024, at 2:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made in Linda's memory to the following organizations: Nomads Mission Volunteers (www.nomadsumc. org), Methodist Children's Home (www.mch.org), and the Florence Senior Community Center (719-

remarkable woman who with her love, kindness, and unwavering devotion to her family and faith. She will be dearly missed and forever remembered.

784-6493). **Pain Management** Linda Lee McGill was a Eric Miller, MD touched the lives of many 830-272-7746 Urology

Ophthalmology Joseph Kavanagh, MD 830-379-3937

Robert Ryan, III, MD

830-379-8491

Orthopedics Trent Twitero, MD 830-625-0009

Podiatry Terri Quebedeaux, DPM, PA 830-303-0005 Charles White, DPM

Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine 512-821-2540

830-303-0005

Additional obituaries can be found on page 13



BRITNEY JONES CAKA LUTCF, FSCP, CLU

o 830-672-7518

м 830-857-6296

FARM&RANCH / ANNUITIES / MEDSUP

Agent 1731 Seydler St.

Gonzales, TX 78629

E bcaka@txfb-ins.com



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						Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	1		2
Austin MFM	5	Dr. Echols	6	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller	7	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	8	Amy Trost Dr. Miller	9
Austin MFM Dr. Malik Dr. Desai	12	Dr. Echols Dr. Quintero DeTar Oncology	13	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Twitero	14	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols Dr. Malik	15	Dr. Bui	16
Austin MFM	19	Dr. Echols	20	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller	21	Dr. Ryan Dr. Kirchner Dr. Echols	22		23
Austin MFM	26	Dr. Echols	27	Dr. Quebedeaux	28	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	29		

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Audiology Amy Trost **Hearing Specialist** 830-372-2237

Chiropractic Jeff Echols, DC 512-799-6811

Dermatology Vicente Quintero, MD 830-626-5551

Nephrology Azhar M. Malik, MD 361-576-0011 Yong Du, MD 361-576-0011

Obstetrics Alyson Kirchner, MD, OBGYN

830-379-1500 Oncology DeTar Cancer Center

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

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

CALL TODAY 830-672-2861

040

040

670 APARTMENTS FOR

670 **APARTMENTS FOR**

850 **HELP WANTED**

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AUCTIONS

Estate/Coin Auction

Sunday, Feb. 18, 10:00 AM

801 CR 488 Gonzales, TX 78629 www.IntegrityAuctions.biz

US 1/4 Eagle Gold Coins, 25 Silver Eagle

Dollars, 25 Uncirculated Morgan & 30 Peace

Silver Dollars, Silver Walking Liberty, Franklin

& Kennedy Halves, Eisenhower Dollars, Silver

Washington Quarters, Mercury & Roosevelt Silver Dimes, Pennies, Nice Oak Antique

Furniture, Pyrex Bowls, Helmets, 25 Pcs of

Framed Artwork, Sad irons, Lead Soldiers, Sterling & Costume Jewelry, Arrow Heads, Intersection Light, Saddle, Gumball Machine

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James Molnoskey Auctioneer TXL# 15091 512-557-3333

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GARAGE SALES

050 **GARAGE SALES**

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MCM & Vintage

Dealer Liquidation Saturday 2/17 & Sunday 2/18 from 9a-4p

511 N St. Joseph in Gonzales, TX 78629

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Follow: www.Facebook.com/ComeandOrganizeIt for updates and photos

A Mid Century & Vintage Lover Paradise! Licensed MCM Furniture, Chair Sets, Couches and Settees, Large Bar, Kitchen Table with/ Chairs, China Buffets Dressers, Bedroom Sets, Lighting and Lamps, Wall Art, Kitchen & Decorative Smalls, What Not Tables, Blown Glass, Chalkware, Lucite Grapes, Enid Collins Purses, Adrian Pearsall Compass Table, Noguchi Table Reproduction, Vintage Wassily Chair, Vintage Hair Drver Chairs, Ergonomic Recliner, Shelving Vintage & Modern Holiday and soooo much more!

110

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COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL Appliance Repair. Call 210-774-

9336.

190 LAWN, GARDEN

MARIO BERMEA TREE SERVICE Home-830-587-6235 or Cell 512-923-4650. SURED. Over 30 years experience. Specializing Residential, Ranch and Riverfront.

TREE TRIM-MING & Removal. Yard mainte-Servina nance. Gonzales area since 1987. Call Dennis Droupy, 830-672-2000.

210 **MISC. SERVICES**

OUT-JOEL'S DOOR SERVIC-ES. Skid Steer Dump Service. trailer & flatbed trailer for hire. Fence Cleaning, Bulldozing & Firewood for sale. Lot cleaning. Tree trimming. 832-6985.

Apartments For Elderly, Low Income

Rent based on Income Water, Sewer, and

Trash Paid

Country Village Square 1800 Waelder Rd. Gonzales, TX 78629 830.672.2877 tryvillagesquare@voatx.or www.voatx.org

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equa opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275

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sion, 401K, ESOP.

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431 Waelder, TX

1680 CR

Mon-Fri

830-540-

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Benefits

&

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Palletizers

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tions.

78959.

PARKWOOD APARTMENTS 114 West 10th

Nixon, TX 78140
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & PHONE: 830-582-1343

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Rental Assistance For Qualified Families of very-low, low, and moderate income applicants

LAUNDRY ROOM

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE UNITS

850

HELP WANTED HELP WANTED

MAINE CAL **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-

GENERAL FARM LABOR. Benefits include: Vacation, Sick leave, Hosp. Ins., Dental, Vision, 401K, ESOP. Apply in person: Cal-Maine Foods Inc., 1680 CR 431, Waelder, TX 78959. Monday-Friday 7-4.

Friday 7-4.

4205 or 830-540-4684 Follow us on Facebook for easy access to The Gonzales

Inquirer!

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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.

W.B. FARM AND RANCH SUPPLY

Is now hiring for **Yard Hand**

Forklift experience required. Must be dependable. Benefits Package & Overtime available.

Apply in Person 2031 Water St., Gonzales, TX

No phone calls



Victoria College is recruiting for full-time, twelve-month, non-tenure track instructors to teach Commercial Truck Driving for the Workforce & Continuing Education Department. Classes will begin in January 2024. Position may include the role of Program Coordinator. Class size is limited to four students per tractor.

Starting earned monthly salary for the

For more information and to complete an online application, please go to www.VictoriaCollege.edu and click on lobs@VC. EEOE

twelve-month position is \$4,944.89.

VICTORIA COLLEGE

The Division of Allied Health hiring part-time Adjunct Instructors for the for the clinical setting of the ADN and VN Nursing Programs. 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 click on Jobs@VC.

Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

950 **PUBLIC NOTICES**

950 **PUBLIC NOTICES**

Request for Proposals

The Golden Crescent Workforce Development Board (GCWDB) is seeking office space to house its Gonzales Workforce Center. The leased space needs to be between 1,500 - 2,000 square feet, have ample parking, and meet ADA requirements. Proposals will be accepted until 10:00 AM, February 20, 2024. For more information, call (361)576-5872 or visit our website at wwwgcworkforce.org.

GCWDB Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

PUBLIC NOTICE

The undersigned give(s) notice application with Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and a Late Hours Certificate for Pollos Asados "El Guero" LLC, to be located at 105 E. Central Ave., Nixon, Gonzales County, Texas 78140. Pollos Asados Guero" LLC, Heron Hernandez Jr., Member applicant(s).

PUBLIC NOTICE

It has been PROPOSED TO BUILD A

300-FOOT LATTICE SELF-SUPPORT

COMMUNICATIONS TOWER

Anticipated lighting application is medium

intensity dual red/white strobes. The site

location is approx. 3 miles North of the

intersection of TX HWY 80 & 97, Nixon,

TX., Gonzales County, TX; Latitude: 29°

22' 25.5." N, Longitude: 97° 344' 59.8" W.

The Federal Communications

Commission (FCC) Antenna Structure

Registration (ASR, Form 854) FILING

NUMBER IS A1274160. Interested

persons may review the application for

this project at www.fcc.gov/asr/

applications by entering ASR filing

number A1274160 and may raise

environmental concerns about the project

by filing a Request for Environmental

Review with the Federal Communications

Commission. Requests for Environmental

Review must be filed within 30 days of

the date that notice of the project is

published on the FCC's website. The

FCC strongly encourages interested

parties to file Requests for Environmental

Review online at www.fcc.gov/asr/

environmentalrequest . Paper requests

can be submitted to: FCC Requests for

Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon

Williams, 445 12th Street SW,

Washington, DC 20554.

calling 830-672-9551.

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Executor for the Estate of JACK HARTWELL BARNETT, Deceased, were issued on February 5, 2024, in Cause No. PW24-0309, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: JAMES MORGAN BARNETT, Independent Executor of the Estate of JACK HARTWELL

Notice to Creditors

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.

JAMES MORGAN BARNETT, Independent Executor, Estate of JACK HARTWELL BARNETT, Deceased c/o CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE 403 St. George Gonzales, Texas 78629

Dated the 8 day of February, 2024.

CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE Ortman Fullilove Law, PLLC Attorney for: JAMES MORGAN BARNETT Independent Executor, Estate of JACK HARTWELL BARNETT, Deceased State Bar No.: 24084171

Gonzales, Texas 78629 Telephone: (830) 672-9535 Facsimile: (830) 672-8654

403 St. George

Gonzales Inquirer.com



830-672-2861



& Continuing Education Department is hiring for the following part-time positions:

Electrical Instructor Welding Instructor

For more information go to

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position of City Clerk/Municipal Court Clerk.

Requirements:

- High School diploma or equivalent
- Two years of general office experience
- · General computer/internet skills Detail oriented
- · Enjoy working with the public · Accounts payable and Court Clerk experience is a plus.

Benefits: Medical, Dental, Retirement. Salary will be based on

Applications may be picked up from and delivered to: Waelder City Hall, 300 Hwy. 90 West, Waelder, TX 78959 Mailing Address: City of Waelder, P. O. Box 427, Waelder,

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. EOE

950 **PUBLIC NOTICES**

950 **PUBLIC NOTICES**

950 **PUBLIC NOTICES**

Notice of Request for Proposals

The Gonzales Independent School District is accepting sealed proposals for a Kitchen Serving Lines Turnkey Replacement Project at Gonzales Elementary School. Submissions should be addressed to Gonzales ISD, Attn: Chief Financial Officer, 1615 St. Louis Street, Gonzales, TX 78629, and will be received at that address until 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 5, 2024. Specifications may be obtained on the district's website www.gonzalesisd.net/Page/171 or by

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950 **PUBLIC NOTICES**

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950 **PUBLIC NOTICES**

An application has been made for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer's On-Premise Permit for 7-Eleven Beverage Company Inc., Texas Corporation, d/b/a Stripes #41180H, located at 114 US Highway 90A E., Gonzales, Gonzales County,

Said application made to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code.

7-Eleven Beverage Company Inc. - Officers: Brian Smith - VP David Seltzer - VP/Treasurer **Douglas Rosencrans - Director Keith Jones - President/Secretary** Kyle Johnson- VP Lillian Kirstein - Director Randy Quinn - Director Rory King - VP Timothy Hall - VP

Notice of Availability of **Electronic Communications**

Gonzales County - Chief appraisers of county appraisal districts, appraisal districts, and appraisal review boards may communicate electronically through email or other methods with property owners or their designated representatives. Electronic communication for the purpose of delivering notices, applications and other documents is authorized only if the Chief Appraiser and property owner or designated representative agree under that law to communication in an electronic format.

At this time, the Gonzales Central Appraisal District has opted not to use electronic communication for the purpose of receiving or delivering any notice, application, or other documents required or permitted by the Property Tax Code. This shall serve as notification that the Gonzales Central Appraisal District shall rely on any method of delivery authorized by the Property Tax Code except for delivery by electronic data storage device. For more information, please contact us at:

GONZALES CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT P O BOX 867 / 301 ST. JOSEPH STREET, SUITE A, GONZALES, TEXAS 78629

830-672-2879

NOTICE of Proposals Being Accepted for Land Sale

The Gonzales ISD is accepting proposals for a piece of land for sale. Submissions should be addressed to Gonzales ISD, Attn: Chief Financial Officer, 1615 St. Louis Street, Gonzales, TX 78629, and will be received at that address until 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 19, 2024. Details about the property may be obtained on the district's website www.gonzalesisd.net/Page/171 or by calling 830-672-9551.

Notice of Established Procedure for the Calculation of Value of **Inventory**

To all persons owning or controlling as agents of otherwise any inventory subject to appraisal by the Gonzales Central Appraisal District.

I, John Liford, Chief Appraiser for Gonzales Central Appraisal District pursuant to Section 23.12, Chapter 23, Texas Property Tax Code, give notice on behalf of Gonzales Central Appraisal District and publish the established procedure for the calculation of the value of inventory on January 1, 2024. The value of inventory held for sale, lease, or rental, will be assigned by rendition, observation by appraisers, and comparison of like properties, pertinent record of the business and any other reasonable approaches necessary to accurately reflect the market value of taxable inventory as required by statutes and Constitution of the State of Texas.

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Executor for the Estate of PEGGY SUE PILAND BARNETT, Deceased, were issued on February 5, 2024, in Cause No. PW24-0310, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: JAMES MORGAN BARNETT, Independent Executor of the Estate of PEGGY SUE PILAND BARNETT.

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.

JAMES MORGAN BARNETT, Independent Executor, Estate of PEGGY SUE PILAND BARNETT, Deceased c/o CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE 403 St. George Gonzales, Texas 78629

Dated the 8 day of February, 2024.

CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE

Ortman Fullilove Law, PLLC Attorney for: JAMES MORGAN BARNETT Independent Executor, Estate of PEGGY SUE PILAND BARNETT, Deceased

State Bar No.: 24084171 403 St. George Gonzales, Texas 78629 Telephone: (830) 672-9535 Facsimile: (830) 672-8654

CALL TODAY ADVERTISE SUBSCRIBE! 830-672-2861

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Gonzales, Texas, is requesting public comment in regard to the submission of application to the Texas General Land Office (GLO) for Community Development Block Grant - Regional Mitigation Program (CDBG-MIT) funds for infrastructure improvements providing for flood mitigation. The application and proposed non-housing infrastructure project will allow the City to utilize grant funding to mitigate the impact of future flooding events:

1. Local Infrastructure Program Funding as Allocated by the Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission (GCPRC): \$2,999,400 with \$1,499,700 to benefit low-to-moderate income areas

The City will request public comments for fifteen (15) days from Thursday, February 22, 2024 through Friday, March 8, 2024. The application will be available for review at Gonzales City Hall located at 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629 or on the website at: https://www.gonzales.texas.gov/. The public is encouraged to submit comments that will assist the City in defining and evaluating the proposed projects that will mitigate the devastating effects of natural disasters as well ensure the projects are in line with environmental regulations, affirmatively further fair housing activities, and, if applicable, minimizing displacement of persons by project activities. The proposed activities are not expected to result in the displacement of persons.

Allowable activities under this grant include but are not limited to: natural and green infrastructure, public facilities, housing, buyouts or acquisition, activities designed to relocate families outside of floodplains, and public service activities.

Upon the expiration of this comment period the City will review and address any public comments in the proposed application. The grant application will be submitted to City Council for a Public Hearing on March 14, 2024 at 6pm at City Hall located at 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629. Please email your views and comments to citysecretary@gonzales.texas.gov, or mail your comments to:

City of Gonzales c/o City Secretary P.O. Box 54/ Gonzales, Texas 78629-0547







AVISO PÚBLICO

La Ciudad de Gonzales, Texas, solicita los comentarios del público respecto de la presentación de una solicitud ante la Oficina de Tierras Públicas de Texas (GLO) para los fondos de la Subvención en Bloque para Desarrollo Comunitario - Mitigación (CDBG-MIT) para mejoras de infraestructura en preparación para la mitigación de inundaciones. La solicitud y el proyecto de infraestructura no residencial propuesto permitirán que la Ciudad utilice el financiamiento de la subvención para mitigar el impacto de inundaciones futuras:

1. Financiamiento del Programa de Infraestructura Local asignado por la Comisión de Planificación Regional Golden Crescent (GCPRC): \$2,999,400 con \$1,499,700 para el beneficio de zonas de la Ciudad con ingresos bajos a moderados.

La Ciudad solicitará los comentarios del público durante quince (15) días desde el jueves 22 de febrero de 2024 hasta el viernes 8 de marzo de 2024. La solicitud estará disponible para su revisión en el Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Gonzales, sito en 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629 o en el sitio web: https://www.gonzales.texas.gov/. Se anima al público a que presente comentarios que ayuden a la Ciudad a definir y evaluar los proyectos propuestos que mitigarán los efectos devastadores de los desastres naturales y que garantizarán que los proyectos se adecuen a las reglamentaciones medioambientales, promuevan afirmativamente las actividades de vivienda justa y, si corresponde, minimicen el desplazamiento de personas por las actividades del proyecto. No se espera que las actividades propuestas den lugar al desplazamiento de personas.

Las actividades permitidas en el marco de esta subvención incluyen, entre otras: infraestructuras naturales y verdes, instalaciones públicas, viviendas, compras o adquisiciones, actividades destinadas a reubicar a las familias fuera de las llanuras aluviales y actividades de servicios públicos.

Tras la finalización de este periodo de comentarios, la Ciudad revisará y abordará cualquier comentario público en la solicitud propuesta. La solicitud de la subvención se presentará ante el Consejo Municipal para una audiencia pública el 14 de marzo de 2024, a las 6 p.m., en el Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Gonzales, sito en 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629. Envíe sus opiniones y comentarios a citysecretary@gonzales.texas.gov o por correo postal a:

City of Gonzales c/o City Secretary P.O. Box 547 Gonzales, Texas 78629-0547







CITY OF GONZALES PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RFP 2024-1 **NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

The City of Gonzales is requesting competitive sealed proposals to solicit statements of qualifications, technical approach, and pricing from interested firms capable of providing field data collection of water service line material on approximately 3,300 water meters throughout the city. The water service line material for both City and customer sides of the meters will be identified by visual inspection, scratch test, and magnet test then categorized into one of the four following categories: 1. Lead 2. Galvanized 3. Non-Lead 4. Lead Status Unknown. Data collection is in response to and will be compliant with the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) issued by the USEPA on January 15, 2021.

The full requirements of the Request for Proposal can be located on the City $of \quad Gonza \bar{l} es \quad website \quad https://www.gonzales.texas.gov/p/government/bidrfp$ or by contacting Kristina Vega, Administrative Services Director, by email at citysecretary@gonzales.texas.gov.

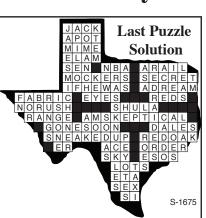
Questions concerning the Request for Proposal, discrepancies or omissions in the solicitation document or other clarifications of such matters should be submitted in writing by Friday, February 16, 2024 at 2:00 PM to: Kristina Vega, Administrative Services Director, by email at citysecretary@gonzales.texas.gov. Only written or emailed communication will be acknowledged.

A PDF VERSION OF THE PROPOSAL SHALL BE EMAILED TO KRISTINA VEGA AT CITYSECRETARY@GONZALES.TEXAS.GOV BY: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024 AT 2:00 PM. BE CERTAIN TO REQUEST AND OBTAIN CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT OF THIS EMAILED SUBMISSION. QUALIFICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THAT TIME WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

The city expects to select the proposal that provides goods or services at the best value for the City. The City of Gonzales reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any and all formalities and technicalities, and to accept any bid which it deems advantageous to the City of Gonzales. Each bidder agrees to waive any claim it has or may have against the City of Gonzales and their respective agents and/or employees arising out of or in connection with the administration, evaluation, or recommendation of any bid.

The contractor and all subcontractors for this project will be required to pay not less than the prevailing wage rates for the area of the project and to be in compliance with Executive Order 11246, as amended, entitled "Equal Employment Opportunity" and as supplemented in the Department of Labor Regulation (41 CFR Part 60).

February 8 Puzzle Answers



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

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900 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

900 **BUSINESS**

900 BUSINESS

900 **BUSINESS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Gonzales, Texas, is requesting public comment in regard to the submission of application to the Texas General Land Office (GLO) for Community Development Block Grant - Resilient Communities Program (TXGLO-RCP) grant funds the development and implementation of building codes, zoning ordinances, comprehensive plans, and other resilience-building initiatives. The updated City of Gonzales Comprehensive Plan will enable the City to create a more resilient community by mitigating the impact of future flooding events.

1. Resilient Communities Program (RCP) Comprehensive Plan grant funding in the amount of \$172,000 to provide low-to-moderate income area benefit

The City will request public comments for fifteen (15) days from Thursday, February 22, 2024 through Friday, March 8, 2024. The application will be available for review at Gonzales City Hall located at 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629 or on the website at: https://www.gonzales.texas.gov/. The public is encouraged to submit comments that will assist the City in with areas to be defined in the updated Comprehensive Plan. The elements of the plan will be in line with environmental regulations and affirmatively further fair housing activities. The proposed activities will not result in the displacement of persons.

Allowable activities under this grant include but are not limited to: the development and implementation of building codes, zoning ordinances, comprehensive plans, and other resilience-building initiatives.

Upon the expiration of this comment period the City will review and address any public comments in the proposed application. The grant application will be submitted to City Council for a Public Hearing on March 14, 2024 at 6pm at City Hall located at 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629. Please email your views and comments to citysecretary@gonzales.texas.gov, or mail your comments to:

City of Gonzales c/o City Secretary P.O. Box 547 Gonzales, Texas 78629-0547







AVISO PÚBLICO

La Ciudad de Gonzales, Texas, solicita los comentarios del público respecto de la presentación de una solicitud ante la Oficina Tierras Públicas de Texas (GLO) para los fondos de la Subvención en Bloque para Desarrollo Comunitario - la subvención del Programa de Comunidades Resilientes (TXGLO-RCP) financia el desarrollo y la implementación de códigos de construcción, ordenanzas de zonificación, planes integrales y otras iniciativas de construcción resiliente. El Plan integral actualizado de la Ciudad de Gonzales permitirá que la Ciudad cree una comunidad más resiliente mediante la mitigación del impacto de inundaciones futuras.

1. El Plan integral del Programa de Comunidades Resilientes (RCP) otorga fondos en la cantidad de \$172,000 para proveer beneficios a zonas con ingresos de bajos a moderados.

La Ciudad solicitará los comentarios del público durante quince (15) días desde el jueves 22 de febrero de 2024 hasta el viernes 8 de marzo de 2024. La solicitud estará disponible para su revisión en el Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Gonzales, sito en 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629 o en el sitio web: https://www.gonzales.texas.gov/. Se anima al público a que presente comentarios que ayuden a la Ciudad con las zonas que se definirán en el Plan integral actualizado. Los elementos del plan cumplirán con las reglamentaciones medioambientales y promoverán afirmativamente actividades de vivienda justa. Las actividades propuestas no darán lugar al desplazamiento de personas.

Las actividades permitidas bajo esta subvención incluyen, entre otras: el desarrollo y la implementación de códigos de construcción, ordenanzas de zonificación, planes integrales y otras iniciativas de

Tras la finalización de este periodo de comentarios, la Ciudad revisará y abordará cualquier comentario público en la solicitud propuesta. La solicitud de la subvención se presentará ante el Consejo Municipal para una audiencia pública el 14 de marzo de 2024, a las 6 p.m., en el Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Gonzales, sito en 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629. Envíe sus opiniones y comentarios a citysecretary@gonzales.texas.gov o por correo postal a:

City of Gonzales c/o City Secretary P.O. Box 547 Gonzales, Texas 78629-0547







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Updated property tax information now available

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

New and updated property tax information has just been compiled by Gonzales Central Appraisal District and is available now to assist taxpayers. This property tax information is current and covers a wide range of topics, such as taxpayer remedies, exemptions and appraisals and has information for select groups, such as disabled veterans and persons age 65 or

'Whether you are a homeowner, business owner, disabled veteran or a taxpayer, it's important you know your rights concerning the property tax laws." said John Liford, chief appraiser of the Gonzales Central Appraisal District.

"You can contact us about any property tax issues with full confidence that we will provide you the most complete, accurate and up-to-date available information to assist you."

This includes information about the following programs.

• Property Tax Exemptions for Disabled Veterans: The law provides partial exemptions for any property owned by veterans or surviving spouses and surviving children of deceased disabled veterans. Another partial exemption is for homesteads donated to disabled veterans by charitable organizations at no cost or not more than 50 percent of the good faith estimate of the homestead's market value to disabled veterans and their surviving spouses. The

exemption amount is determined according to percentage of service-connected disability. The law also provides a 100 percent homestead exemption for 100 percent disabled veterans and their surviving spouses and surviving spouses of U.S. armed service members killed or fatally injured in the line of duty. The deadline for applying is April 30th.

• Property Tax Exemptions: Non-profit organizations that meet statutory requirements may seek property tax exemptions and must apply to their local appraisal district by a specific date. Child-care facilities; medical or biomedical property; businesses that receive tax abatements granted by taxing units; ship inventory out of Texas that may be eligible for the freeport exemption: store certain goods in transit in warehouses that are moved within 175 days; construct, install or acquire pollution control property; own and operate energy storage systems; convert landfill-generated gas; or store offshore drilling equipment while not in use may also be eligible for statutory exemptions. The deadline for applying is April 30.

 Rendering Taxable Property: If a business owns tangible personal property that is used to produce income, the business must file a rendition with its local appraisal district by a specified date. Personal property includes inventory and equipment used by a business.

Owners do not have to render exempt property such as church property or an agriculture producer's equipment used for farming. The deadline for rendering is April 15. A penalty may be imposed for a late-filed rendition. A written request must be filed with the chief appraiser on or before April 15 to request an extension.

 Appraisal Notices: Normally, taxpayers receive a notice of appraised value from the appropriate local appraisal district. The city, county, school districts and other local taxing units will use the appraisal district's value to set property taxes for the coming year.

• Taxpayer Assistance Pamphlet: This Comptroller publication explains in detail the functions of a taxpayer liaison officer, how to protest a property appraisal, what issues the county appraisal review board (ARB) can consider and what to expect during a protest hearing. The publication also discusses the option to request limited binding arbitration to compel the ARB or chief appraiser to comply with a procedural requirement and the options of taking a taxpayer's case to district court, the State Office of Administrative Hearings or regular binding arbitration if the taxpayer is dissatisfied with the outcome of the ARB hearing.

 Homestead Exemptions: A homestead is generally defined as the home and land used as the owner's principal residence on Jan. 1 of the tax year. A person who acquires property after Jan. 1 may receive the residence homestead exemption for the applicable portion of that tax year immediately on qualification for the exemption if the preceding owner did not receive the same exemption for that tax year. A homestead exemption reduces the home's appraised value and, as a result, lowers property taxes. Applications are submitted to the appropriate local appraisal district.

Property owners who use land for timber land production, agricultural purposes or wildlife management can be granted property tax relief on their land. They may apply to their local appraisal district for an agricultural special appraisal which may result in a lower appraisal of the land based on production, versus market value. The deadline for applying is April 30th. A penalty for a late-filed application may be imposed.

Productivity Appraisal:

 Residence Homestead Tax Deferral: Texas homeowners may postpone paying the currently delinquent property taxes due on the appreciating value of their homes by filing a tax deferral affidavit at their local appraisal district. This tax relief allows homeowners to pay the property taxes on 105 percent of the preceding year's appraised value of their homestead, plus the taxes on any new improvements to the homestead. The deferral postpones the remaining taxes, with interest accruing at 8 percent per year but does

not cancel them.

• Property Tax Deferral for Persons Age 65 or Older and Disabled Homeowners: Texans who are age 65 or older or disabled, as defined by law, or who qualify for a disabled veteran exemption may postpone paying current and delinquent property taxes on their homes by signing a tax deferral affidavit. Once the affidavit is on file, taxes are deferred, but not cancelled, as long as the owner continues to own and live in the home. Interest continues to accrue at 5 percent per year on the unpaid taxes. You may obtain a deferral affidavit at the appraisal

• Protesting Property Appraisal Values: Property owners who disagree with the appraisal district's appraisal of their property for local taxes or for any other action that adversely affects them may protest their property value to their county's ARB.

• Informal Meetings: Property owners can request an informal meeting with appraisal district staff to try and resolve their disputes prior to attending ARB hearings.

For more information about these programs, contact Gonzales Central Appraisal District at P.O.Box 867, 301 St. Joseph Street, Suite A, Gonzales, Texas 78629 -Telephone (830)672-2879. Information is also available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/ property-tax.

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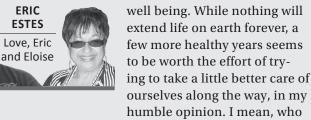
Back on track

Howdy folks. Another day, and another chance to enjoy life the best we're able. I love to start my day by watching the sunrise and the different colors it cast against the clouds, listening to the birds chirping, and the

sweet smell of fresh air as the fog rises into the heavens. But most importantly, thanking God for another opportunity to submerse myself in the gift of life he's so graciously blessed me with. Understanding that our journey here is only temporary should make us appreciate it that much more, continually reminding ourselves that, it is in fact a gift, and should never be taken for granted, as we never know what tomorrow may bring.

It seems that much of the country, especially those in the entertainment industry and country music fans in particular, are mourning the loss of one of their favorite artists, Toby Keith. After a two year battle with stomach cancer, sadly, his body just couldn't fight any longer and he passed away at the age of 62 on Monday, February 5th. A native Oklahoman, he lived most of his life in the city of Moore, from junior high until his passing. Dreaming of being a song writer since childhood, he'd sold over 40 million albums, had 20 number one hits, expanded into the restaurant business (amongst others), and was reportedly worth over \$400 million when he died. He also started the Toby Keith Foundation to help children who are battling cancer in 2006, and later opened the OK Kids Korral, a place where the children and their families could stay (cost free) during treatment. My condolences to his family, friends and fans.

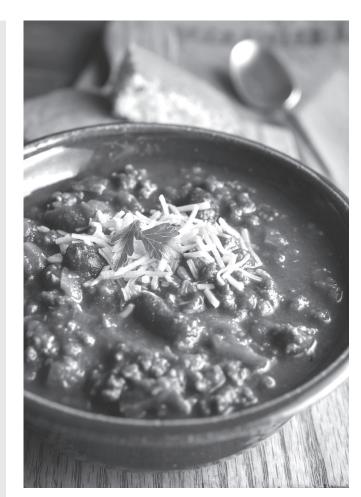
Accepting that our time here is only temporary (a very hard pill to swallow for most), it seems that those who hold it in such high regard would be willing to invest a little more time and energy in their overall health and



in their right mind would want to suffer any more than necessary if they didn't have to...just sayin'. Toby's departure is yet another example that with the best care that money can buy, science, medicine, and technology, can't (and will never) make us physically immortal, no matter how much we want it to. It's simply not God's plan for us. I fully accept (not like) the fact that at some point the grim reaper will be coming for me, but I'm not willing to load his gun for him, and neither should any of us.

Seeing as how most of us will be here for a significant amount of time, what we do today, this week, month, or year, is simply a piece of the puzzle, slowly constructing the whole picture. Kinda glad I lost the box to my puzzle, as this picture is getting kinda wonky, but hey...do what you can. Being, feeling, and looking healthier doesn't have to be torturous, but will require (somewhat) consistent effort over the long haul if results are to be expected. After coming off of a short hiatus for the holidays, I'm now back on track (diet and exercise) towards keeping myself as healthy as possible during my golden years, as now it's more important than ever. As Toby sang in the movie The Mule, starring Clint Eastwood: Many moons I have lived / My bodies weathered and worn / ask yourself how would you be / if you didn't know the day you were born / When he rides up on his horse / and you feel that cold bitter wind / Look out your window and smile / "Don't let the Old Man in."

Until next time, love you guys, Eric.



Thompsonville Ladies Club chili supper

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Thompsonville Ladies Club Annual Chili Supper and Auction will be held Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024 at the Thompsonville Community Center, 2774 County Road 423. Free Chili supper at 5 p.m. and Auction at 6 p.m. We do accept donations. All proceeds will be used for scholarships to area youth.

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OBITUARY

MICHAEL LOUIS FOUGERAT

Michael Louis Fougerat, 67, was called to his heavenly home on January 23, 2024. He was born January 27, 1956 in Waco, Texas to the late Gerald Fougerat, Sr. and

Annie (Mica) Fougerat. The family moved back to Gonzales where he enjoyed a very active childhood with his three siblings and numerous cousins on the family farm. Michael learned about hard work early on as many days were spent in the fields preparing and harvesting crops; but not all was work, he learned to play hard too. One of his favorite hobbies, aside from collecting and shooting guns, was fishing. He was an avid fisherman and had "the touch", always catching the biggest and the most. Michael's love of the outdoors also led him to join the Boy Scouts where he thrived in his element and made lifelong friends. Michael graduated from Gonzales

High School in 1975. Shortly after graduation, he began his career at Gonzales County Water Supply Corp. He was a dedicated, hardworking, and loyal person by nature and that was certainly shown throughout his 40+ years there. Michael knew where every water pipe and valve were throughout the entire county and worked tirelessly to ensure problems were fixed fast and residents weren't without water. He worked all hours of the day and night and selflessly took call on most holidays so that his coworkers could spend

time with their families. Known as "Uncle Mikey" to his adoring nieces and nephews, he lived a life of generosity and service to others. Every Sunday after family lunch he would load up his nieces and nephews and take them to town for a treat. Everyone looked forward to this from one week to the next, sharing a treasured bond with this special

uncle. His life of service extended far beyond family. Michael was a Boy Scout leader, a Fourth Degree Knight in



the Knights of Columbus, and a member of the Elks Lodge. He was the first to volunteer at fundraisers or lend a helping hand to anyone in need. He never wanted recognition or asked for anything in return and always greeted everyone with a handshake and a smile. His kind heart and goodness brought so much joy to all those that knew and loved him.

Michael is survived by his loving family, brothers Gerald Fougerat, Jr. (Debbie) and Kenneth Fougerat (Karen), and his sister Denise Windwehen (Jimmy), nieces and nephews, Angie Fougerat, Matthew Fougerat (Patty), Brooke Stamport (Shawn), Lance Fougerat, Anna Kloesel (Jason), Kelsey Bouler (Tyson) and Kendall Fougerat, numerous great nieces and nephews and cousins. He is preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Julian and Mary Fougerat, his maternal grandparents, Frank and Louise Mica and his parents Gerald, Sr., and Annie Fougerat.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 7 pm Wednesday, February 7, 2024 with prayers of the Holy Rosary following at 7 pm in Seydler-Hill Funeral Home. A graveside service will be held at 11 am Thursday, February 8, 2024 in the Gonzales Catholic Cemetery with Deacon John Klapuch officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters, or Boy Scouts of America. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com. Services are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.

Additional obituaries can be found on page 7

QUILTERS GEAR UP FOR "SPRING INTO QUILTING" SHOW



RaeNell Janik is pictured with the quilt bag she made for the king-sized 2024 donation quilt, "Lillebet's Garden," that will be given away at the Shriner Heritage Quilters' "Spring into Quilting" show scheduled for March 8-9. She explained how she designed the bag using scraps from the quilt at the Feb. 6 Shiner Heritage Quilters meeting. The quilt show was the main topic of the meeting. Members showed items they had sewn for the guild boutique and quilts they had made for the show. Plans for set-up were discussed. There will be eight show vendors including Alvin Sewing & Vacuum, Cowtags, Fiskur Leather, Leo 9 Textiles, Making Memories Quilt Shop, Material Girls Fabrics, My Fabric Friends and Seams Like Home. Several vendors will also give demonstrations at the show. The Tuesday, March 5 meeting will be held at the Shiner Methodist Activity Center. For more information, go to www.shinerheritagequilters.org.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office 02/04/24 - 02/10/24

02/04/24

 Mata, Maria Mercedes, 09/1996, Waelder: Local Warrant -Criminal Trespass, Released -\$10,000 Bond

02/07/24

• Chavez, Crescencia Del Carmen, 11/1979: Commitment/ Sentence - Assault Family/ Household Member W/Prev Conv; Commitment/Sentence - Assault Fam/House Mem Impede Breath/ Circulat; Remains In Custody

• Hernandez Ruiz, Isabel Marie 05/1985, Gonzales: Commitment/ Sentence - Theft Prop >=\$2,500 <\$30k, Released - Weekender

• Riojas, Coty John, 06/1987, Nixon: Warrantless/On-View -Criminal Mischief >=\$100 <\$750, Released - Weekender

• Wagner, Kaleb Trey, 04/1997, San Antonio: Local Warrant -Harassment Of Public Servant, Other Agency Hold - Detainer, Released Transfer To Bexar Co

02/10/24

 Novosad, Garrett Quentin, 12/1986, Shiner: Local Warrant -Man Del Cs Pg 1 >=1g<4g, Released \$75,000 Bond

Total Arrest, Court Commitments, Other Agency Arrest And

00

22

Processing's: **GCSO** 06 DPS 04 **GPD** 10 **WPD** 00 NPD 02 **GISD** 00 **SMO** 00 Constable 1 00 Constable 3 00 Constable 4 00 **DWCSO** 00 DEA 00 **TPW** 00 **GCAI** 00 00 Rangers

Other

Total

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TEXAS

CROSSWORD

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33

46

by Charley & Guy Orbison

43

48 TXism: "a legend in **ACROSS**

1 Fort Worth theater: Manana

5 TXism: "got knocked or two" 6 XIT Ranch covered

counties 7 Anthony: "Leap Capital of the World" 8 month of Texas

Poetry Day (abbr.)

opposite (2 wds.) TXism: "never sign anything by the

9 Halloween "treat"

glow of a liaht' TXism: "could talk of a ditch"

Texas "Pretty Paper" singer, Orbison (init.) TX George Jones'

"The Race George H.W. illness on 1992 Tokyo trip TXism:

wet hen" (angry) 30 old series: "Texas

Davy's state (abbr.) 35 TXism: "restless as church"

36 Alpine, TX is named for these mountains TX comedian/actor, Foxx

hotel: "a cross bea flophouse"

43 TXism: "scared the dickens out

45 ex-Mav. Alex (init.)

46 greenish-blue color

Texas boomtown

"The Lone

his own mind" (big _ TXism: "How _ _ doing? 51 state park located in Gonzales County 54 precedes Soto or Leon 55 TX Jim Reeves tune: _ I Losing You?" 56 yankee description of Texans? 57 TXism: "wobbles like calf 25 26

60 "rise

and

coon's

TXism: "in a 48 62 high tech city: Colinas 63 road curve **DOWN** Palo Duro 2 TXism: "just down the road 3 Cruz & Cornvn 4 Texas sun sometimes?

9 Ozona High class 10 Cannonsnap Creek was misnamed for this in 1837 (2 wds.)

11 prickly heat 12 TXism: ' sheared like a spring lamb" (swindled) 13 Texas bluebonnet:

14 ex-Cowboy LB

Norton (init.)

16 Texas pitching 18 TXism: "pick _ the litter'

28

19 TX Cindy Garner book: "The Jokebook About Men" 20 TX Tommy who won ten Tony Awards " Ferguson: first

female governor 25 also known as (abbr.) 32 TXism: "woke 26 TXism: "shin (big event) 28 Texas forage crop

29 TXism: "he's all

show ___ go"

49 58 legend (2 wds.) 62 63

45

31 Texas-based "Steak and _ bear" (in trouble)

TXism: "fast as a rat up a 38 1952 western:

"The Texan

Calamity Jane"

40 Texas singer, Gilley (init) 41 that is (abbr.) 42 female church leader

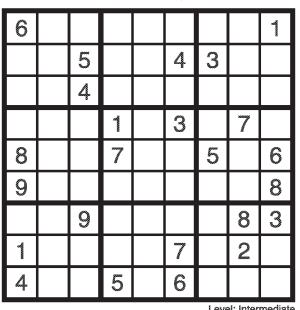
Yo __ Digo Creek 50 Texas or Iowa town 52 Texas traditional knowledge

P-1676

53 TX Jules Bledsoe's "Old _ River' SeaWorld San

Antonio has this in its "Orca Encounter" 59 TXism: "got a heart __ Texas" as

(kind)



Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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.

Here's How It Works:

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.

14 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024 • GONZALESINQUIRER.COM

Lady Apaches fall to Boerne in bi-district

SPORTS

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches basketball season came to an end Tuesday, Feb. 13 in Boerne against the Lady Greyhounds.

The Lady Apaches fell to Boerne, 81-13, in the bi-district round of the 4A UIL Girls Basketball playoffs and capped off their season with a 12-20 record and third place 7-5 record in District 28-4A.

This game, the Lady Apaches had to say goodbye to three seniors Lilnika James, Haley Cantu and Kimberly Dolezal.

Cantu, who is one of the starting five, was proud to be part of a playoff team to close out her senior year, she said.

"I am very proud and just glad to be able to do it with these group of people," Cantu

Cantu's teammate junior Bella Aguero has been her teammate the last couple of seasons and said it has been an honor to play with her.

"She brings a lot of energy to the team, although she's quiet. We had our ups and downs. But, none of this would have been possible without Haley,"



Above: Senior Haley Cantu (4) and junior Bella Aguero (2) together for their final game with each other in the bi-district match against Boerne. Right: Lady Apaches sophomore power forward Isabella Ikard (15) and Boerne senior power forward Averi Aaron (25) jump in air for the tip off of the bi-district playoff Tuesday, Feb. 13. PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Aguero said.

Overall, Aguero was proud to be part of the team and battling through adversity throughout.

"I'm very proud of this team overcoming the adversity we've had to overcome and overcome being a young team and only having three

seniors and three juniors. We just had to find a way and I think this year, we found a way, no matter what it was, we overcame every obstacle we had," Aguero said.

The Lady Apaches will be a young team entering the 2024-2025 season and Aguero knows her and several leaders will be ready for next year.

"It's vital to our team. I've been playing for a while now. All four years on varsity. So, just sharing my experience with the younger girls and you know, helping them grow." Aguero

Gonzales will remain in District 28-4A for the realignment and will face Cuero, La Vernia, San Antonio Kennedy and San Antonio Memorial; San Antonio Fox Tech bumped up to 5A classification and YWLA dropped to 3A classification.





Apaches FC forces tie against Fox Tech

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches FC hosted the Fox Tech Buffaloes for the district match at Apache Field Friday, Feb. 9.

Last season, the Apaches and Buffaloes split the season series; Fox Tech knocked the Apaches out of the playoff race in their second meeting last

The Apaches returned the favor from last year's game with a 4-4 tie and denied a win for the Buffaloes.

Gonzales and Fox Tech exchanged goals in a shootout and the Apaches' Brandon Duenez scored the game-tying goal in the final minute of the match and recorded a hat trick with three total goals in the contest.

"Points at the end of the season is all that matters. You want to get three points, but you'll take a point. We missed out of playoffs by one point last year, so every point counts," Apaches head soccer coach



Gonzales' Enrique Reyna (7) defends near the net against the Fox Tech Buffaloes Friday, Feb. 9 at Apache Field.

Shea Siep said.

History is repeating itself as Fox Tech and Gonzales will be two teams destined to battle for playoff spots.

"Our district you can't play off, Everyone in this district can beat you and you can't come out slow," Siep said.

The Apaches will have a stretch of tough matches against La Vernia and San Antonio Memorial and Siep and his team know the challenges they'll face moving forward.

'We're not going to let anyone let up and we're not going to underestimate anyone," Siep

The Apache traveled to La Vernia Tuesday, Feb. 13 and will host the San Antonio Minutemen Tuesday, Feb. 20 at Apache Field.

The Memorial game kickoffs off at 6:30 p.m.

Apaches fall to Fox Tech in season finale

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches basketball season came to an end Tuesday, Feb. 13 in a 66-45 loss to the Fox Tech

The Apaches kicked off the game strong with an 18-9 lead over the Buffaloes, but Fox Tech quickly took command of the next three

Gonzales capped off its 2023-2024 season with a 7-24 record and a sixth place 4-8 district record in District 28-4A.

The Apaches will remain in the same district for the district realignment for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 seasons.

Gonzales will still have Cuero, La Vernia, San Antonio JFK and San Antonio Memorial in its district, but will have new faces in San Antonio Harmony Science; the YMLA Lions dropped to 3A and San Antonio Fox Tech moves up to 5A.

The Apaches will return under second year head coach Steven Pinchback for the 2024-25 season.

Apaches fall to YMLA

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches traveled to San Antonio Friday, Feb. 9 to square off with the YMLA Lions for their final road game of their basketball season.

The Apaches fell to the Lions, 61-46, and were handed the season sweep by YMLA.

Gonzales drops to 4-7 in district and in sixth place

behind Fox Tech (5-6) and Cuero (5-6); a play-in tournament can happen if the Apaches, Gobblers, and Buffaloes end the season with the same record.

The Apaches hosted Fox Tech for their final home game of the season Tuesday, Feb. 13.

Gonzales' current record for the 2023-2024 season is 7-23 with a 4-7 district record

Apaches FC falls to La Vernia at home

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches FC hosted the La Vernia Bears Tuesday, Feb. 13 at Apache Field.

The Apaches fell to the Bears, 5-2, dropping to 1-2-1 in district play.

Gonzales will have a bye Friday, Feb. 16 and will travel to San Antonio for a district

match against the defending district champion Memorial Minutemen Tuesday, Feb. 20.

The Apache will kick off the second half of district play on the road against the San Antonio JFK Rocket Tuesday, Feb. 27 and will host the Yoakum Bulldogs at home Friday, March 1.

The JFK and Yoakum games kick off at 7 p.m.

La Vernia shuts out Lady Apaches FC as Gonzales hits the road

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Lady Apaches FC were on the road in La Vernia Tuesday, Feb. 13 for a district match against the Lady Bears.

La Vernia handed the Lady Apaches a 6-0 loss and dropped them to 0-2-1

for the season in district play. The Lady Apaches will be back on the road for a district match against the YWLA Lady Cardinals Saturday, Feb. 17 and will then return home Monday, Feb. 19 for a district match against the San Antonio Memorial

Minutewomen.

Saturday's YWLA game kicks off at 11:30 a.m. and Monday's game against Memorial is set to kick off at 6:30 p.m.

Hallettsville scoots past Nixon-Smiley in bi-district round





Lady Mustangs end 2023-24 season after fourth place district finish, playoff berth

BY LEW K. COHN

Inquirer Publisher

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs saw their 2023-24 basketball season end with a 78-25 hidistrict loss to the Hallettsville Lady Brahmas at Goodie Gym in Seguin on Tuesday, Feb. 13.

Hallettsville came into the game ranked No. 7 in the state in Class 3A and the Lady Brahmas played up to that level from the opening tip. Nixon-Smiley tried to keep up with their opponents, but lacked the height or outside shooting prowess of Hallettsville, which hit six three-pointers in the first half and eight in the game nearly as many points beyond the arc as Nixon-Smiley scored all game.

The Lady Brahmas jumped out to a 19-3 lead and would increase it to 30-5 by the time the buzzer went off at the end of the first period. In the second period, Hallettsville outscored the Lady Mustangs, 20-9, to take a 50-14 lead at intermission.

Nixon-Smiley came out of the locker room still looking to be a thorn in Hallettsville's side as they pluckily held the Lady Brahmas to just 12 points in the third period while scoring eight of their own to make it 62-22 with one final stanza left to play.

In the final period, Hallettsville outscored the Lady Mustangs, 16-3, to claim the bidistrict championship and a trip to the area round. Nixon-Smiley closes out its season with a 9-26 overall record and a fourth-place finish in District

Five Hallettsville players scored in double figures, led by Kasey Harper with 19 points, while Macy Herring had 15 points and Adalyn Pohl had 14 points. Layten Kolacny contributed 12 points and Addison Matula poured in 11.

For the Lady Mustangs, Kendall Amaya and Brook Crisp led the team in scoring with six points each, while Janaelyn White, who fouled out of the game, had four points, as did Ashly Garcia. Others scoring were Kaylie Morin with two points and Julianna Kendrick with one.

Lady Apaches softball wins season opener

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Lady Apaches softball team is back on the diamond as they hosted the Three Rivers Lady Bulldogs in the season opener Tuesday, Feb. 13.

The Lady Apaches beat Three Rivers, 11-0, in the season opener.

Senior outfielder Kelly Breitschopf and junior infielder Peyton Springfield each recorded a home run in the win over the Lady Bulldogs.

Lady Apaches freshman pitcher Dixie Lea Lester recorded a no-hitter and struck out 15 Three Rivers batters in the win.

scored 11 runs over the Lady Bulldogs. Breitschopf led the team with four RBIs in the win over Three Rivers.

Gonzales recorded eight hits and

The Lady Apaches will head out on the road for their first tournament of the season in Columbus Thursday, Feb. 15 through Saturday, Feb. 17; and will take on Columbus, Ganado, Bellville, East Bernard and Dulles in the tournament.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Mustangs sweep series from Luling

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs played their final home game against the Luling Eagles Friday, Feb. 9.

The Mustangs beat the Eagles, 50-37, to close out their last home game and completed the season sweep of Luling.

The last home game celebrated senior night for three Mustangs: Luke Moses, Carl White, and Kade Dixon.

The three seniors capped off their final home game as part of the Mustangs basketball program with a victory. Nixon-Smiley traveled to San Antonio

Tuesday, Feb. 13 for the regular season finale against the Randolph Ro-Hawks.

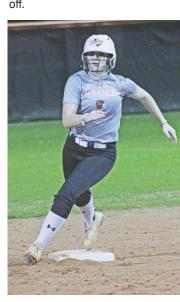
The Mustangs currently sit at 13-16 of the season and are 2-7 in district play.

LADY APACHES ALUMNI PLAY BALL



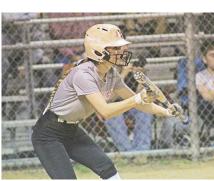
PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

The Gonzales Lady Apaches and the Lady Apaches Alumni team. The Lady Apaches hosted their annual Alumni game where past and present softball players in the team's history square





Above: The Gonzales Lady Apaches Alumni team celebrates a home run against the Lady Apaches Softball team Friday, Feb. 9. Left: Lady Apaches junior Peyton Springfield runs the bases for an inside the field home run against the Alumni team Friday, Feb. 9.





Above left: Lady Apaches senior Dakota Schmidt (15) at bat for the Lady Apaches in the annual alumni game at the Lady Apaches Softball field. Above right: Lady Apaches alumni Haley Bairrington and freshman Alaina Valle (25) on first base in the annual alumni game Friday, Feb. 9.

Randolph bumps Mustangs from playoff race

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs fell to the Randolph Ro-Hawks, 55-51, on the

road in San Antonio Tuesday, Feb. 13. With loss, the Mustangs were eliminated from postseason contention and finished with a fifth place 2-8

district record and 13-16 overall for

their 2023-24 basketball season.

The Mustangs next season will play in the same district in District 26-3A, but several district foes moved into a new district in 3A; Great Hearts Monte Vista, Great Hearts Northern Oaks, Randolph, Marion and Cole were

moved to District 27. The Mustangs and Luling remain in District 26, but with additions of Goliad,

Karnes City, Poth, and rival Stockdale.

Nixon-Smiley Powerlifting competes in Karnes City

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs and Lady Mustangs powerlifting teams traveled to Karnes City Saturday, Feb. 10 for a powerlifting meet.

MUSTANGS

The Mustangs took home third place at the meet with 25 total points and eight lifters finishing in the top five in their respective weight classes.

Omar Morales, Adolfo Vasquez, and Cesar Vasquez took home second place in their weight classes.

The Mustangs will travel to Victoria Saturday, Feb. 17 for the Clash of the Titans meet at Victoria East High School.

LADY MUSTANGS

The Lady Mustangs finished fourth in the Karnes City meet with five lifters finishing in the top three in their respective weight classes.

Ashley Garcia took home first place in the 165 weight class with 825 totals pounds and Jaylee Bustos finished third in the same weight class with 720 pounds.

The Lady Mustangs will compete in their final powerlifting in Victoria for their last qualifier meet before the regional meet Thursday, Feb. 29 in Edinburg, Texas.

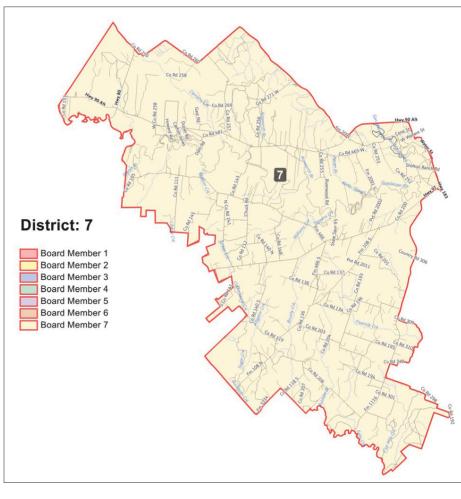
--MUSTANGS-Third place: 25 points

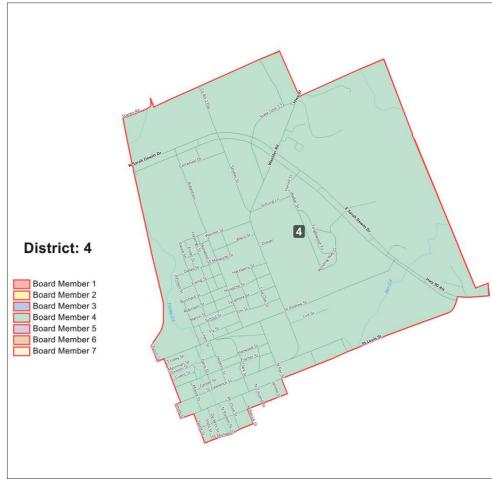
114 weight class: C. Vasquez: second place: 895 total lbs. 123 weight class: Andrew Meza: third place: 850 total lbs. 123 weight class: Eduardo Betancourt: fourth place: 840 total lbs.

123 weight class: Khali Jantes: fifth place: 820 total lbs. 148 weight class: Eric Rodriguez: fifth place: 975 total lbs. 165 weight class: A. Vasquez: second place: 1265 total lbs. 165 weight class: Miguel Valerio: third place: 1135 total lbs. 165 weight class: Jose Olvera: 745 total lbs. 198 weight class: O. Morales: second place: 1335 total lbs. 198 weight class: Adan Zavala: sixrh place: 1080 total lbs. 220 weight class: Jesus Espino: 550 total lbs 220 weight class: 515 total lbs.

--LADY MUSTANGS--Fourth place: 24 points

105 weight class: Olivia Jackson: fourth place: 440 total lbs. 123 weight class: Kaylie Morin: second place: 690 total lbs. 132 weight class: Kendra Savoie: 12th place: 495 total lbs. 132 weight class: Gabriela Limon: 235 total lbs 148 weight class: Zulema Rodriguez: third place: 750 total lbs. 148 weight class: Janice White: 435 total lbs. 165 weight class: A. Garcia: first place: 825 total lbs. 165 weight class: J. Bustos: third place: 720 total lbs. 165 weight class: Frida Casas: fifth place: 705 total lbs. 181 weight class: Gabriela Villalobos: third place: 770 total lbs.





CONTRIBUTED/GISD

Above are the district maps for Gonzales ISD Districts 7 and 4, which will elect new board members in the upcoming May 4 election.

FILINGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

will be a race for mayor in Waelder as incumbent Roy R. Tovar will face a re-election challenger from Waelder City Council member Curtis Hadnot Ir.

Tovar is currently under indictment in Gonzales County for third-degree felony deadly conduct for discharging a firearm last July.

There are two at-large seats available on the Waelder City Council as well — one currently held by Peggy Blackmon and a seat held vacant since the death of Sam Ramirez. However, there have been no filings for those positions so far. Candidates must file for office at Waelder City Hall, 300 Hwy 90 West, Waelder.

GONZALES CITY

Seats available on the

Gonzales City Council include District 1 (Joseph "Poochy" Kridler) and District 2 (Sherri Tumlinson Koepp). So far, Kridler and Koepp are the only candidates who have filed to run. Candidates must file for office at Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph St., Gonzales.

NIXON CITY

Seats available on the Nixon City Council include the mayor (Dorothy Riojas) and two atlarge seats (Maggie Gaytan and Ellie Dominguez). According to City Secretary Tanya Torres, a candidate has filed for council, but the city is currently reviewing whether the person meets necessary residency requirements. No one else has filed so far. Candidates must file for office at Nixon City Hall, 302 E. Central Ave., Nixon.

SMILEY CITY

Seats available on the Smiley City Council include mayor (Lisa Benavidez) and two atlarge seats (Ellis Villasana and Melva Robinson Childres). The Inquirer was not able to get information on filings before press time. Candidates must file for office at Smiley City Hall, 207 Steele St., Smiley.

GONZALES ISD

Seats available include District 4 (Josie Smith-Wright) and District 7 (Sandra Gorden). So far, the incumbents are the only candidates who have filed to run. Candidates must file for office at Gonzales ISD Administration, 1615 St Louis St., Gonzales.

NIXON-SMILEY CISD

Seats available include

Place 2 (Bud Box) and Place 3 (Richard Lott). So far, the incumbents are the only candidates who have filed to run. Candidates must file for office at Nixon-Smiley CISD Administration, 800 N. Rancho Road, Nixon.

WAELDER ISD

Seats available are three at-large seats (JoAnn Ibarra, Adolph Gonzales and Jamie Castro). Ibarra and Gonzales have filed for re-election, while Donna Brown has also filed to run. Candidates must file for office at Waelder ISD Administration, 201 US Hwy 90 W, Waelder.

The last day to register to vote in the May 6 election is Thursday, April 4. Early voting begins Monday, April 22 and continues through Tuesday, April 30.

In order to run for office, according to Texas Election Code Section 141.01, an individual must be a citizen of the United States; 18 years of age or older on the first day of the term to be filled at election; have not been determined mentally incompetent by a final judgment of a court; have not been finally convicted of a felony from which the person has not been pardoned or otherwise released from the disabilities; have resided continuously in the state for 12 months and in the territory as applicable for six months immediately preceding the deadline for filing an application for a place on

the ballot.
Candidates also must satisfy any other eligibility requirements prescribed by law for a particular office.





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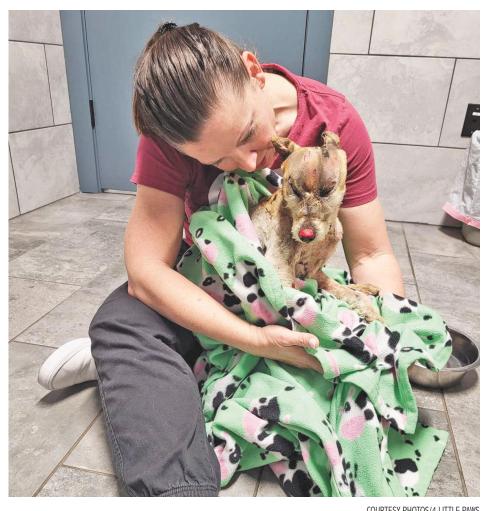
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Animal supporters from Passion for Paws and 4 Little Paws have compassionately been helping 'Phoenix,' a dog that was found seriously injured on Power Plant Road (10th Street) in Nixon on Feb. 7. The dog appeared to have been deliberately doused with an accelerant and burned. More than \$,3800 has been raised so far to care for the pup and as a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of whoever did this to her.

PHOENIX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

about a dog that was found on Power Plant Road (10th Street) near her residence.

"It was in horrible conditon and it looked like it had been set on fire," Scherrer said. "They asked to bring the dog to Passion for Paws so we could call out for emergency help for her. On receiving the dog, the smell of burnt flesh and fur was all over her."

Those who have examined the dog say it appeared she was doused with a flammable accelerant and deliberately set on fire and suffered other injuries from trying to escape from the blaze. Scherrer said an emer-

gency call out was placed on social media threads and within a matter of minutes, she was able to connect with an emergency medical foster from 4 Little Paws out of San Antonio.

The dog, which had been renamed Phoenix

out of the hopes she would rise from the ashes of her mistreatment, was taken to Callaghan Road Animal Hospital and spent her first day on pain medication and an IV. She has had to undergo several expensive treatments and procedures, though she did begin to show signs of eating and drinking well enough to be released to her foster's home. So far, the cost for care has grown to an estimate of between \$8,000 to \$13,000, depending on what further things

must be done to help her recover.

"She will undergo many exams and treatments, but in all, this little girl is a fighter," Scherrer said.

4 Little Paws has established a fund to cover the cost of Phoenix's care and has raised nearly \$2,300, while Passion for Paws has set up a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the cruelty endured by Phoenix with the total having reached more than \$1,500.

The Nixon Police Department is currently in charge of the investigation, with possible animal cruelty charges, a thirddegree felony, pending against whoever is determined to have committed the heinous act.

For more information about how to help or how to donate, check out the Facebook pages of Passion for Paws and 4 Little

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and just let them have a look at all the bond paperwork that has been completed thus far," GISD Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda said.

The purpose of the meeting is for the community to ask questions about where "every single dollar" that was approved is going, Avellaneda added.

GISD approved the following agenda items:

• approved the order and notice of election for GISD School Board for Districts 4 and 7.

- approved not adopting a policy that would authorize a chaplain to be employed and/or be allowed to volunteer to perform the duties of school counselor at this time.
- approved the purchase the E-Rate Category One and Category Two propose bid and budget amend-
- approved the interlocal agreement with Education Service Center Region 20, Texas 20 Cooperative
- approved 2024-2025 GISD School Calendar





Victor Aguilar and his wife Gloria Aguilar at the side entrance of Vic and Joe's Barbershop Tuesday, Feb. 13. Vic and Joe's Barbershop located on 832 Water Street in Gonzales, Texas.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spired him.

"My uncle and grandfather always cut my hair as a child, and it sparked the idea that I could do it myself and make a living from it," Aguliar said.

During his early years of barber school, he remembers what he learned in school and applied it to a 59-year career.

"The most memorable things to me are when I went to school and learned the skill, it has always stuck with me. I appreciate the time I have got to spend doing what I love and the customers I have worked with," Aguilar said.

In all those years of service to the community, Aguilar has encountered many beloved customers throughout his career.

"I enjoy the friends I have made throughout my career and the doors it has opened for me. Also it is good to know that I have done something great for my community, which is what I wanted from the beginning," Aguliar said.

The top thing he enioved about his career was providing for his family for so long and

the lifelong friends he has made over time, he added.

Aguilar sold his business this year and is looking forward to the next person who uses the building located on 832

Water St. "It is the end of my working era. I hope someone else finds good use for the building and i am ready to enjoy time with my lovely wife Gloria Aguilar," Aguilar said.

Aguilar will have a celebration of his retirement at Sacred Heart Hall Church Monday, Feb. 19.



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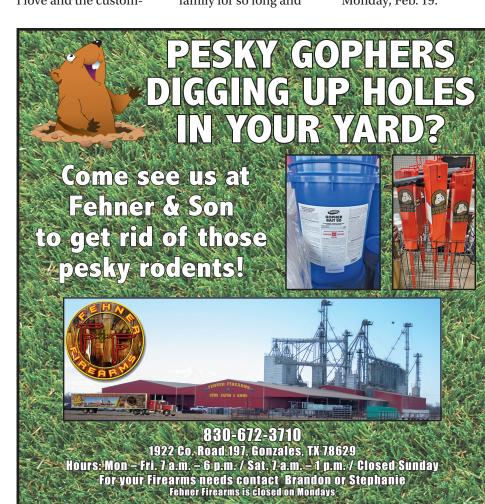
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airpark

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

also stands for Waelder, Texas, and is located two miles east of Waelder at the intersection of US 90 and I-10, with access to the property from County Road 15 and Farm-to-Market Road 1618.

"WT Airpark was dreamed up by three landowners (all pilots) here in Waelder, Texas, who wanted a runway in their backyards," said airpark manager and developer Brittany Oligney. "We're excited to be able

Academy with a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering, has

experience with military and general civilian aviation and first got her private pilot certificate and instrument rating while in high school. She has a great deal of varied flight experience including military pilot training, and co-founded a military-to-airlines transition company after leaving the Air Force.

The concept for WT Airpark was born during a visit with Oligney's family, who owns a tree farm



less was effusive in his praise of the project when it was presented to commissioners on Monday.

"They've been working on it a long time.," Harless said. "They did a hydrology study and we've got a very detailed water plan, and a letter of acceptance from our underground water district. And we talked a little bit about fire suppression side, because they are going to have some fuel there we've asked, they've going to grow.

(AJ Bednar Building)



CONTRIBUTED/WT AIRPARK

An artist's rendering of what the entrance to the WT Airpark (Whiskey Tango) will look like when construction is complete. The 200-acre complex will be gated and include front signage. Roads in the airpark will serve as taxiways for airplanes in addition to roads for the subdivision. The project received preliminary plat approval on Monday, Feb. 12.











