

The Gonzales Inquirer

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Staton elected Precinct 3 Commissioner

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County Precinct 3 road crew member Roy Staton won a very close election to serve a four-year term as the next Precinct 3 commissioner, defeating

Precinct 2 road crew member Thomas “Tommy” Barnick in complete but unofficial returns in the Super Tuesday March 5 Republican primary.

Without a Democrat opponent in the November general election, Staton officially will take office on Jan. 1, 2025 and

succeed incumbent Precinct 3 Commissioner Kevin La Fleur, who did not seek re-election.

Staton received a total of 520 votes (300 early voting, 209 election day and 11 absentee), while Barnick received a total of 432 (255 early voting, 163 elec-

tion day and 14 absentee).

“I’m just glad for all the support I had and I want to thank everyone who came out to vote,” Staton said. “I appreciate everything they did and I also want

See **RESULTS**, page 15

ELECTION COVERAGE

Schoolcraft, Kuempel headed to May 28 primary runoff

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Challenger Alan Schoolcraft and incumbent Rep. John Kuempel will face off in a Tuesday, May 28, primary runoff for the Texas House District 44 seat as the top two votegetters in the March 5 Republican primary.

With two other candidates — Greg Switzer and David Freimarck — in the race, nei-

See **RUNOFF**, page 15

Matias, Mills face runoff for Precinct 1 commissioner

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The race for Gonzales County Precinct 1 Commissioner will go to a May 28 runoff between the top two finishers in the Super Tuesday March 5 Republican primary — Anton “Tony” Matias and Ryan Mills.

In complete but unofficial returns, Matias received a total of 509 votes (374 early voting, 118 election day and 17 absentee) while Mills received 499 votes (347 early voting, 137 election day and 15 absentee). The third

See **PRECINCT 1**, page 15

“... AND I WILL GO TO TEXAS!”



Above, Gonzales residents dressed in period clothing to commemorate the march of the Immortal 32 from Gonzales to The Alamo in San Antonio on Friday, March 1. The Gonzales regiment comprised the only reinforcements the Alamo defenders would get during Santa Anna’s siege. At the left, Lorrell Wright, Kayla Craven and Susan Sankey raise a glass of Texas tea to toast Texas Independence at Texas Heroes Square in Gonzales on Saturday, March 2.

PHOTOS COURTESY BARBARA CROZIER

GPD looking into incident at hospital involving hidden gun

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales police continue to investigate a Thursday, Feb. 29, incident involving a male subject with a gun at the Gonzales Memorial Hospital.

Lt. Jason Montoya of the Gonzales Police Department said that about 5:31 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 29, GPD was contacted regarding a possible disturbance involving a male subject with a gun at the hospital. GPD officers, along with Gonzales County Sheriff’s Office deputies and Department of Public Safety troopers responded to the scene.

Upon arrival and further investigation, it was determined that a Hispanic male subject, wearing a blue shirt, had placed a pistol in an opening in the wall outside of

See **INCIDENT**, page 15

Community offers outpouring of support for wildfire victims

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The Smokehouse Creek Fire continues to devastate portions of the Texas Panhandle, consuming more than 1 million acres and claiming the lives of scores of livestock and at least one first

responder.

Knowing the great need that exists for their fellow Texans, Gonzales County residents have been extremely generous in donating necessary items as well as money for those most impacted by

See **FIRE**, page 16



A second trailer of goods, including feed, water and other supplies gets filled at Fehner & Son Grain before it is sent to help those suffering from the Smokehouse Creek Fire in the Texas Panhandle, the largest wildfire in Texas history.

Gonzales remembers Alamo’s fall, Runaway Scrape with events

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Gonzales remembered the fall of the Alamo — as well as the 41 lives lost from the community in the fighting — during the annual Alamo Day observance at the Gon-

zales Memorial Museum on Wednesday, March 6.

During the 5:15 p.m. Wednesday ceremony, the Crystal Theatre Young Texian troupe performed the entirety of the

See **ALAMO**, page 15

LIVESTOCK SHOW



The Gonzales Youth Show on display at the J.B. Wells Arena Friday, March 1 where many youth showcased their rabbits, goats, steers, and lambs. More photo highlights on A12.

VANDY VAN EPPS

GISD approves Pre-K class tuition rate

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales ISD Board of Trustees met for their regularly scheduled meeting Monday, March 4 before the district heads into Spring Break Monday, March 11.

One of the main agenda items was setting the rate for pre-kindergarten tuition for the 2024-2025 school year.

“This is an annual item that we typically bring to you in April, but this year, student registration actually opens on April 1. So to facilitate a smooth transition and registration process for all of our Pre-K age families in the com-

See **GISD**, page 16

Nixon-Smiley Livestock Show begins Friday

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Nixon-Smiley Livestock Show will be held this Friday, March 8 and

Saturday, March 9 at the Nixon Smiley Livestock Show Barn and Arena on East Central in Nixon. Participants will check

in their projects beginning at 2 p.m. Friday and then judging begins with broil-

See **SHOW**, page 16



Robert Ynclan Scholarship fundraiser announced

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Sheriff Robert Ynclan Memorial Scholarship Fund is hosting its third annual fundraiser on Saturday, March 23, 2024, and tickets are on sale now.

“For \$15, area residents can enjoy a dinner plate of a pork steak, German potatoes and green beans,” says Scholarship Fund President Cynthia Ynclan.

Meals can be picked up on a drive thru arrangement from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at 1611 Seydler St., Gonzales, on that day.

Cynthia Ynclan said, “We have countless volunteers who prepare and serve the food. Also, many others have made donations which makes this effort possible such as the loan of BBQ pits for grilling and the printing of the tickets. We truly are grateful for all those who are lending a hand.”

Robert Ynclan was elected Gonzales County sheriff in 2020, but passed away at age 63 on Sept. 3, 2021, after a lengthy battle with COVID-19.

“The scholarship fund was established in 2022 to honor Robert and his sincere affection for young people, especially for those who strived to better themselves through education,” Cynthia Ynclan said. “We hope everyone turns out to help support us in this great program in

Robert’s name.”

The proceeds will be distributed this spring to college-bound Gonzales County students heading off to college in the fall. In the last two years scholarships were awarded to 10 students from Gonzales High School, Nixon-Smiley ISD, Waelder ISD and Grace Academy. Cynthia Ynclan says 1,000 tickets were sold last year, and the board hopes to sell that same number

this year.

Tickets can be requested from Memorial Scholarship Fund board members and supporters, through their Facebook page, and include:

- Cynthia Ynclan, President;
- Nora Matias, Vice President;
- Donna Spahn, Treasurer
- Regina Porras, Secretary
- Patsy Fitzsimmons, Volunteer Coordinator
- Marisa Ynclan, Volunteer
- Jacob Bird, Volunteer

VETERANS MEMORIAL CONCRETE POURED



LEW K. COHN

McKee Construction Company Inc. crews completed pouring the concrete on the new Gonzales County Veterans Memorial on Tuesday, March 5. Project chairman Larry Mercer said the next step will be putting up concrete walls for the brick placements as well as lights, flags, plumbing, a memorial wall and donors plaque. The project still needs funds of about \$75,000 to \$100,000 to finish the project. Memorial bricks can be donated by contacting Mercer at 830-263-0331.



Gonzales Noon Lions set to present Lions Bingo March 23

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Gonzales Noon Lions present Lions Bingo, Saturday, March 23, at 7 p.m. at the pavilion at J.B. Wells Park. Join your friends and neighbors in good old fun, and possibly win up to \$1,000 in the blackout bingo jackpot. Only 200 tickets will be sold, at \$40 per ticket, which will include 20 games of bingo, including the blackout game. Cash prizes will be awarded. Bingo will be played under the pavilion and not inside, so remember your chairs. Tailgate spreads are

welcome and remember your highlighter/marker to mark your bingo cards. You must be at least 18 years or older to play.

All proceeds will benefit the scholarships awarded by the Gonzales Noon Lions Club. Cash, checks and Venmo will be accepted.

For more information, or to purchase a bingo card, contact Margie Radicke (803) 857-5411, Pam Jackson at (830) 203-0999 or Garen Reese at (830) 857-3114.

Follow the Gonzales Noon Lions Facebook page for more information.

Guadalupe election admin to speak at Republican Women’s meeting

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

On Thursday, March 28, at 11:30 a.m., the Guadalupe County Republican Women will be presenting Lisa Hayes, election administrator for Guadalupe County. She will be speaking on election integrity and safety, fraud prevention and the Citizen’s Election Academy.

The luncheon/meeting will be held at the Seguin Silver Center at 510 East

Court St., Seguin, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is available by making reservations with Glenda Partain by calling or texting 830-391-3979 or silvercenter@sbcglobal.net. The program is free, but if you plan on enjoying a delicious lunch, the cost is \$15 per person.

Please join for an informative program. More information is available at <https://www.guadalupe-county-rw.com>.

Sudz Car Wash to hold third Easter Egg Hunt

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Sudz Car Wash will hold its third annual Easter Egg Hunt. Come meet the Easter Bunny and enjoy fun outdoor games, free hot dogs and snow cones. Games include egg and spoon race,

bunny hop race, pass the egg, face paintings and an egg hunt with golden eggs prizes.

The event will take place Saturday, March 30, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Victoria College Field, 424 E. Sarah DeWitt Dr., Gonzales. (Across from Sudz).

United Way of the Crossroads accepting grant applications

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

United Way of the Crossroads is now accepting grant applications from organizations providing services in Victoria, DeWitt, Goliad, and Lavaca counties and the city of Gonzales.

The applications are for the funding cycle beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

A grant applicant must be from a certified 501(c)(3) organization that provides documented social services, has been in operation for at least two years, and is in good financial standing with a recent annual audit and Form 990.

The application must specify how the requested funds would be



used to improve the lives of people within one of the three categories of youth success, financial stability, and health.

Required documentation includes data on the number of people served, budget and financial records and compliance with all legal requirements.

The grant application is available online at unitedwaycrossroads.org. A “Notice of Intent to Apply” is due by Monday, March 11. Applications will be received until 5 p.m. Wednesday, March

27 and must be complete with all required attachments in order to be accepted.

A dedicated group of independent community volunteers, known as the Community Investment Allocations Committee, will review all applications and participate in grant hearings for each applicant at the end of April/beginning of May. Those interested in making a commitment of their time to serve in this process may contact United Way of the Crossroads at (361) 208-2236 or email bethany@unitedwaycrossroads.org.

For funding year 2023-2024, \$487,550 was distributed to 17 local nonprofits.

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PILGRIM OPRY

Saturday, March 9th

Doors open at 3pm, Band starts at 4pm

Refreshments provided, Tickets \$5 at the door



The New Pilgrim Heirs Band

Featuring Winston Oneal, Nikki Vincent & Andy Smith

Pilgrim Community Center
12809 FM 1116
Pilgrim, TX



Celebrations

Birthdays

March 7th
Lindsie Bazan
Marie Combs
Bryan Darilek
David Dhuma
Margarita Solis
Anthony Sullivan

Jonathan Fullilove
Beverly Glaser
Emily Kuntschik
Deedee Lorton
Nathan Withers
Tammy Wyrick

March 8th
Jessica Barr
Roni Epperson
Matt Hillman
Ann Laster
Trish Lester
Lacey Salazar
Rick Stevens
Rayce Wurz

March 11th
Dante Cortez
Linda Fullilove
Jayd Pozzobon
Judy Schramm
Laura Tivis
Wade Zella

March 9th
Frances Ibarra
Devin Polk
Robert Weathers

March 12th
Blaine Frederick
Debbie LaFleur

March 10th
Patty Clark

March 13th
Betty Cohn
Hayden Downs
Adolfo Leal

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Gonzales Weather



March 7
76°/61°

Mostly cloudy with a couple of showers
63% chance of rain • RealFeel 76



March 8
78°/55°

Cloudy
25% chance of rain • RealFeel 77



March 9
74°/49°

A passing shower in the morning; otherwise, clouds giving way to some sun
58% chance of rain • RealFeel 74



March 10
71°/49°

Sun through clouds
0% chance of rain • RealFeel 71



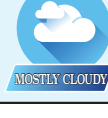
March 11
71°/49°

A passing morning shower; otherwise, considerable cloudiness
0% chance of rain • RealFeel 69



March 12
75°/56°

A passing shower in the morning; otherwise, partly sunny
55% chance of rain • RealFeel 79



March 13
79°/57°

Mostly cloudy
1% chance of rain • RealFeel 79

Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

March 8th – 10th
TYRA Benefit

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Eligible Texas taxpayers can now use free IRS Direct File

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The IRS announced today that eligible Texas taxpayers can now use IRS Direct File, a new service that provides taxpayers with the choice to electronically file their federal tax return directly with the IRS for free.

Direct File is a mobile-friendly, interview-based service that will work as well on a mobile phone as it does on a laptop, tablet or desktop computer.

People in 12 states, including Texas, are eligible to participate in the 2024 Direct File pilot and will be limited to taxpayers with certain types of income, credits and deductions – taxpayers with relatively simple returns. This new service is available until the tax filing deadline of April 15, 2024.

“Direct File is an additional option for Texans to use to file their federal tax return,” said IRS spokesperson Clay Sanford. “One of the first steps interested taxpayers should do is to check their eligibility, and there is an easy tool on IRS.gov to do that.”

Taxpayers participating in the pilot can get help from IRS employees staffing the Direct File customer support function with live chat access. IRS customer service representatives can provide technical support and provide basic clarification of tax law related to the tax scope of Direct

File. Questions related to issues other than Direct File will be routed to other IRS customer support, as appropriate.

Eligibility to participate in the Direct File pilot is limited to reporting only certain types of income and claiming limited credits and adjustments. It includes:

Income reporting

- W-2 wage income
- Social Security and railroad retirement income
- Unemployment compensation
- Interest of \$1,500 or less

Credits

- Earned Income Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Credit for Other Dependents

Deductions

- Standard deduction
- Student loan interest
- Educator expenses

Direct File does not replace existing filing options like tax professionals, IRS Free File, free return preparation sites, commercial software or authorized e-file providers. Taxpayers will continue to have choices, whether they want to use a tax professional, a software product, Free File, free tax preparation services like Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) as well as a paper tax return or Direct File.

Garden Q&A

with CALVIN FINCH



Q. Is Chinese pistache invasive? Mine has a great shade tree form and is a favorite source of berries for the birds and other wildlife but my neighbor says it is notorious for producing unwanted seedlings in other locations. So far, we have not seen any unwanted seedlings in our neighborhood.

A. As far as I can see Chinese pistache is not spreading in my neighborhood but like your neighbor's report I have heard the claim that some plants have been invasive. You may want to cooperate with your neighbor and watch for unwanted seedlings. Then you will have to decide what action to take if they appear. It may be that some selections are invasive, and others are not. It is going to require some more investigation.

Q. Do Coopers hawks hunt and eat squirrels? The hawks attack white winged doves and other birds at my feeders, but they seem to ignore the squirrels. Is that the normal course of behavior for the two species?

A. I am not sure it is the same everywhere but that is how the 2 species behave in my neighborhood as well. It seemed like it was common for red-tailed hawks to occasion-

ally harvest a squirrel in past years, but the Coopers hawks sometimes threatened the squirrels, but they are usually ignored.

Q. Can we expect this rescue grass to sprout next winter to the same degree it has done this year. I mow it every week and it makes an attractive winter lawn.

A. It does a good job of repeating the growth especially if the soil was dry in the summer and then the rains arrived just in time for the rescue grass to germinate. It will be back next winter but probably not to the degree it is growing this year. If you are not as happy with the grass as some gardeners, apply a pre-emergent herbicide such as Crew or Dimension in late February.

Q. What vegetables can we plant in March?

A. Plant tomatoes, peppers, summer squash, and green beans, radishes, beets, and turnips. For tomatoes seek out the determinate Rodeo selections such as Thunderbird, Red Snapper, Rambler, Phoenix, Tycoon, Ruby Crush, BN 968, BN602 or Red Deuce. Celebrity, Tycoon, and BHN 968 are nematode resistant. Combat stem borers in your summer squash by growing Tatum instead. It tastes good and is easy to grow from seed.

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET

March 2nd
Cattle – 726
Compared to our last sale:
Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold 4.00-8.00 higher. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold fully 3.00-5.00 higher.
Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 375-405; 300-400 lbs., 365-400; 400-500 lbs., 295-380; 500-600 lbs., 275-330; 600-700 lbs., 230-290; 700-800 lbs., 198-250.
Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 90-155.
Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 325-330; 300-400 lbs., 300-355; 400-500 lbs., 275-305; 500-600 lbs., 242-285; 600-700 lbs., 225-260.
Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 88-110; Cutters, 115-127; Canners, 72-85; High yielding fat cows, 101-115.
Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 126-138; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 109-121.
Stocker Cows: \$900 to \$1,900. Pairs: \$1,400 to \$2,100.

NIXON LIVESTOCK
March 4th
Cattle – 950
Steers:
200-300 lbs - \$239-415
300-400 lbs - \$313-405
400-500 lbs - \$284-350
500-600 lbs - \$258-313
600-700 lbs - \$234-286
700-800 lbs - \$225-249
Heifers:
200-300 lbs - \$259-405
300-400 lbs - \$259-365
400-500 lbs - \$241-310
500-600 lbs - \$218-265
600-700 lbs - \$207-238
700-800 lbs - \$148-230

Slaughter Cows - \$82-117
Slaughter Bulls - \$94-135
Stocker Cows - \$650-1175
Pairs: \$1300-2150

HALLETTVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.
Sale date: February 27th
Cattle on hand: 1473
Packer Cows:
High Dressing: \$92-123
Medium Dressing: \$82-102
Low Dressing: \$65-82
Poor/Weak Cows: \$55-68
Packer Bulls:
High Dressing Bulls: \$122-142
Medium Dressing Bulls: \$108-124
Low Dressing Bulls: \$100-108
Stocker Cows:
Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: \$1500-2050
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1225-1600
Good Cow & Calf Pairs: \$1850-2350
Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: \$1300-1800
Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:
Number 1 steer & bull calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$295-450
200-300 lbs.: \$325-420
300-400 lbs.: \$315-385
400-500 lbs.: \$285-345
500-600 lbs.: \$255-315
600-700 lbs.: \$230-295
700-800 lbs.: \$200-257.50
Number 1 heifer calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$265-420
200-300 lbs.: \$280-365
300-400 lbs.: \$265-355
400-500 lbs.: \$250-335
500-600 lbs.: \$230-275
600-700 lbs.: \$215-255
700-800 lbs.: \$190-225
Replacement Heifers:
350-700 lbs.: \$250-295
The calf market was a little weaker this week. Most classes sold \$3 to \$6 lower. Some of the grazing demand has been fulfilled. Starting to see a few fleshy new

crop calves. Still a very good market. Packer cows and bulls sold \$3 to \$4 higher on a supply of 225 head.

SEGUIN CATTLE CO.
February 28th
Quality still good. Seeing fleshy cattle show market steady on all classes with packer cows and bulls steady.
Cattle – 601
Sheep & goats – 733
Medium & large frame #1 Steers:
200-300 lb. 1.40-2.75-3.85
300-400 lb. .70-3.10-4.27
400-500 lb. 1.10-2.87-3.60
500-600 lb. .88-2.66-3.17
600-700 lb. 1.10-2.11-2.65
700-850 lb. 2.04-2.10-2.18
Medium & large frame #1 Heifers:
200-300 lb. 1.00-2.35-3.20
300-400 lb. 1.60-2.72-3.15
400-500 lb. .95-2.50-3.48
500-600 lb. .88-2.38-3.13
600-750 lb. 1.00-2.07-2.46
Cows:
Utility & commercial – .70-1.06-1.23
Cutters – .83-1.01-1.11
Canners. -.72-.77-.82
Palpated cows – 800-2025
Cow/Calf Pairs – 1300-1400
Bulls:
Heavy High Yielding – 1.20-1.30
Light & Low Yielding – 1.04-1.20
Sheep & Goats:
Nannies – 55-300
Kid Goats (Fat) – 3.20-4.25
Wethers -2.20-3.00
Billies – 1.60-2.50
Dorp. Ewes – 70-190
Dorp. Lambs (Fat) – 2.00-3.20
Wooled Ewes – NONE
Wooled Bucks – 1.40-1.65
Lambs – 1.47-1.85
Barb. Bucks – 250-400

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET
March 1, 2024
Number of head 938
There were 98 cows and 15 bulls. Top packer bull was \$140/cwt,

while the top packer cows was up to \$125/cwt. Prices continue to be high as demand continues to be very strong, resulting in record highs on packer bulls and cows. The calf market was once again higher even on top of last week's big jump. Demand remains incredibly strong across the board. Calves were \$24/head higher on 10 pounds less weight.
Packer bulls:
All weights 104.00-140.00
Packer cows:
canners & cutters 85.00-125.00
pal & weak 30.00-57.00
Palpated: 7 BRED 130.00-148.00
PAIRS: 2 \$1,000 - 1,600
Steer Calves:
Under 250 lbs 338.00-405.00
250-299 lbs. 343.00-406.00
300-350 lbs. 310.00-370.00
350-400 lbs. 313.00-375.00
400-450 lbs. 307.00-342.00
450-500 lbs. 306.00-346.00
500-550 lbs. 295.00-324.00
550-600 lbs. 274.00-308.00
600-700 lbs. 258.00-308.00
700-800 lbs. 215.00-248.00
Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
Under 250lbs 322.00-405.00
250-300 lbs. 364.00-405.00
300-350 lbs. 319.00-400.00
350-400 lbs. 305.00-370.00
400-450 lbs. 387.00-334.00
450-500 lbs. 290.00-344.00
500-550 lbs. 283.00-322.00
550-600 lbs. 271.00-312.00
600-700 lbs 249.00-280.00
Over 700 lbs. 202.00-255.00
Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
under 200 lbs. 247.00-385.00
200-250 lbs. 337.00-380.00
250-300 lbs 314.00-360.00
300-350 lbs. 298.00-342.00
350-400 lbs. 275.00-334.00
400-450 lbs. 274.00-334.00
450-500 lbs. 267.00-336.00
500-550 lbs 255.00-320.00
550-600 lbs. 233.00-319.00
600-700 lbs. 231.00-262.00
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Mike Brzozowski
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And that was then ...

Dickinson was among those whose sacrifice at Alamo led to Texas' independence

BY BOB BURCHARD
Special to the Inquirer

Almaron Dickinson, Lieutenant in the Texas Army and his wife, Susannah, from Gonzales and Green DeWitt's Colony, were enjoying their life in San Antonio in the winter of 1835-1836. They, along with their Baby Daughter were living in a nice house in downtown San Antonio on the main plaza. The house has

See HISTORY, page 12

GONZALES CO. HISTORY

1731 — March 9, the beginning of civilian settlement occurred when a group of Canary Islanders was moved into the area. However, there are reports that from 1718 to 1731, forty-seven couples were married and 107 children were baptized, so the missions in and around San Antonio were already flourishing with native Bexareños.

1825 — March 24, the State Colonization Law was passed by the Federalist constituent legislature in Saltillo. Green DeWitt was granted permission to found a colony.

1836 — February 23, siege of the Alamo began
-March 1, thirty-two men from Gonzales area entered the Alamo, joining nine men from area who were already in the Alamo
-March 2, Texas Declaration of Independence signed.
-March 6, Alamo fell; all are killed
-March 11, General Sam Houston arrived in Gonzales to take command of the Army of the Republic of Texas, fewer than 400 men. Susannah Dickinson arrived in Gonzales with news of the fall of the Alamo.
-March 12-13, Run-away Scrape began in Gonzales and Sam Houston ordered the town burned.
-March 27, Goliad massacre

1850 — Population of county, 1792
Population of town, 350

1856 — March 15, John Mooney completed the bridge over San Marcos River near Gonzales. Begun in 1854, it was a covered bridge, reportedly the only one in Texas at that time. (on C.R. 465, about 1.5 miles from Gonzales.)

1883 — March 31, Bob Houston says that he and his brother and Lee Kokemot lost 3000 head of cattle from the cold this past winter, the average value of the animals being \$22 which would make their loss \$66,000. Notwithstanding it, however, Mr. Houston will drive 13,000 head this year to start in about a week.
-March 31, Captain W.E. Jones started his trail outfit this week. He has 500 head of Texas mares purchased in southwest Texas. He will drive the mares to Kansas City for shipment east. He says his drive of cattle to Baxter Springs this spring will be something over 2000.

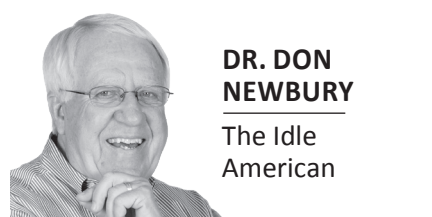
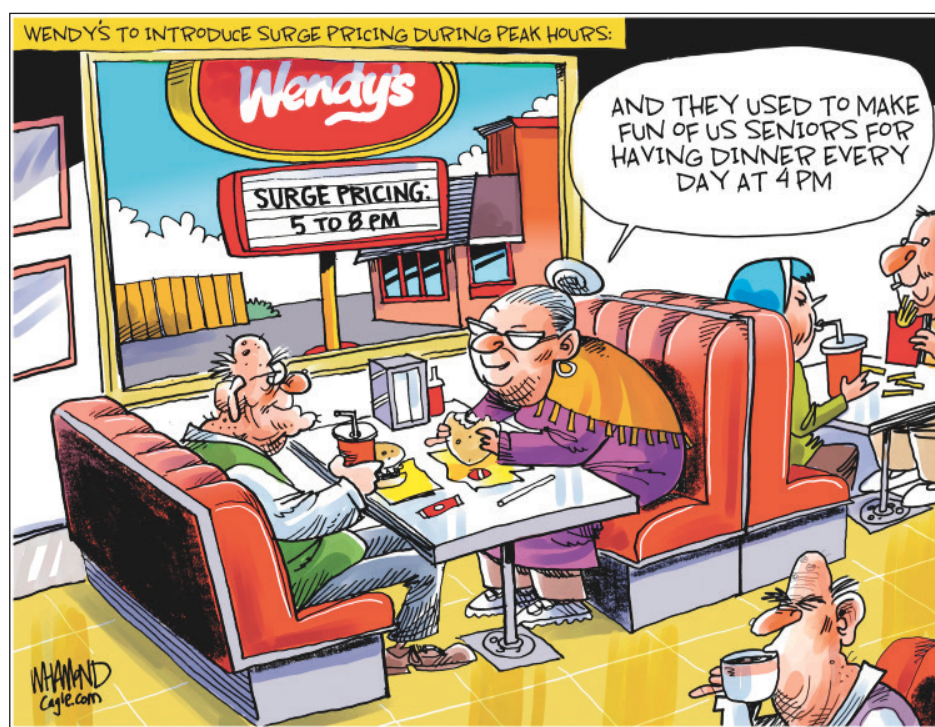
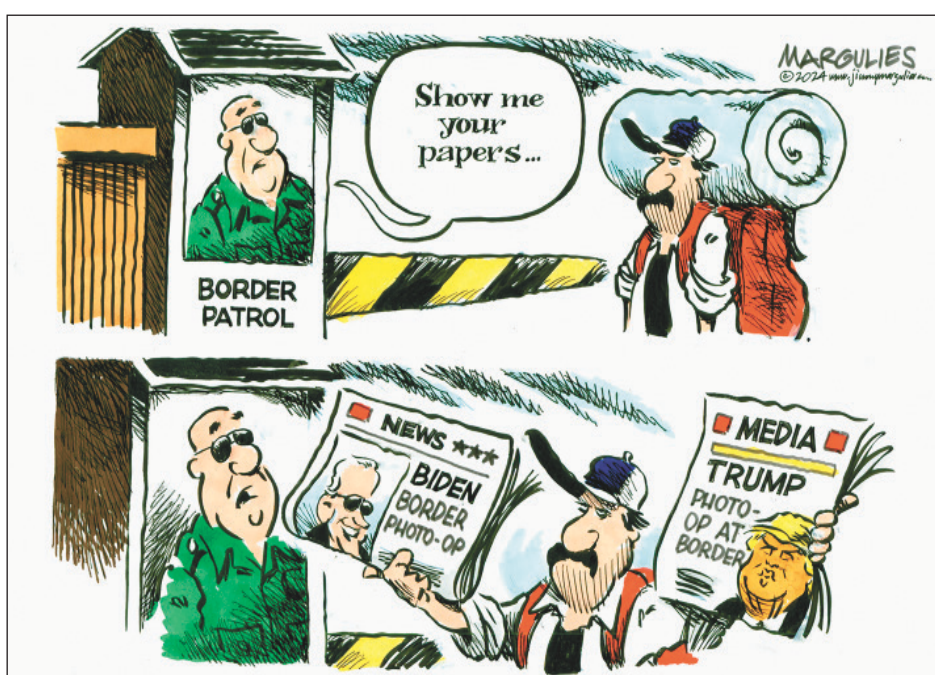
1886 — March 5, Cavett and Sons sold business to Edward Lewis and J.H. Boothe.

1890 — Population of county, 18,088
Population of town, 4,297

1896 — fourth courthouse completed 414 St. Joseph Street (Block 25) – architect, J. Riely Gordon (An artesian well capable of producing 8000 gallons of water in three hours provided water for the courthouse)

190 — Brick cotton mill, B.N. Peck's three story building, and Kleine's eight buildings all under construction
-J.P. Randle and R.S. Dilworth soon to begin construction on six buildings, running north of the Randle-Rather Building on St. Paul Street to the corner of that block, where the G.N. Dilworth home stood.
-Coke Dilworth began construction on six buildings on the east side of St. Joseph Street

1924 — "Buffalo Crossing" monument placed near the Guadalupe River on western edge of city (In 2006 it was found after having been neglected and on the ground for many years and re-installed on Market Square.



DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

Devil's Workshop?

Every now and again, someone comes up with suggestions for addition to the list of what to do when there's nothing to do.

As often as not, such "yawn fodder" winds up to fill holes--gaping or otherwise--just before newspapers go to press.

I have another thought concerning an item that should be forever deleted from the list--the mistitled annual "All-Star" basketball game foisted on us by the National Basketball Association and its TV cohorts. Any other suggestion on the "what-to-do-list" is superior to this debacle which is no better than watching paint dry....

The "event" held a few nights ago featured true all-stars, but they might as well have been playing "H-O-R-S-E." In the Eastern All-Stars' "win" over the West, the score was 211-186. Obviously any semblance of defense was checked at the door.

Should the wretched excuse for a "game" continue, it should be more accurately named. How about a feel-good scrimmage featuring the Washington Generals vs. the Washington Generals? (With apologies to the Harlem Globetrotters who invariably rack up "wins" over the Generals.)

If all-stars of the major professional sports ever have a get-together, the NBA elite should be banned. Let them have their own party at a comedy club....

As youth, we were specialists in wasting time, but we could blame it on the young. With much of my childhood in the 1950s, I recall two great time-wasters.

When soft-serve ice cream came to our town, one of our leading restaurants sold the cones at a "walk-up window." (This was several years before drive-in food joints appeared.) It was fun to watch the server's artistry in turning out cones with curls on top.) Our parents usually sprung for nickel cones which we licked slowly, wishing for the much bigger 10-cent cones....

But, wait! There was more. The restaurant also had an electric bug-zapper that produced sizzling sounds when bugs met their electronic end. Sometimes we counted how many "zaps" we heard between cone-licks. Talk about minutiae....

That's not all, either. Acceptable television reception was late getting to our town, what with the nearest station about 75 miles away. Before there were many TV sets in homes, they were often displayed in a downtown shop window. On many summer evenings, my dad would drive us slowly past the store, all of us hoping there'd be discernible TV pictures emerging from the snowy screen. When there was, we'd stop, pressing noses against the window to get as close to the TV as possible.

I suppose, then, that licking ice cream cones while hearing bugs get zapped and watching snowy TV pictures in a show window might be akin to time wasted while watching the NBA circus. But remember, we were kids....

My ancient Uncle Mort claims he gave up on the game decades ago. He's not surprised that it continues its slide into meaninglessness. But, he admits to finding humor in circumventing the conventional, which is only a skosh different than purposely wasting time.

Specifically, he enlivens routine visits to doctors' offices by "poking fun" when he fills out the same papers completed during his previous visits. Office attendants "see him coming," knowing they'll have to ask him to return to their desk to correct his fake answers.

In the "answer blank" about contact in case of an emergency, he writes "call ambulance." And on the "age blank," he answers "digital"....

A patriot to the core, he also enlivens "shopping humdrum" by checking labels of merchandise, always delighted when he finds "made in America" tags. Too often, he whines, "made in Taiwan" or "made in China" dominate.

He stopped abruptly recently, noticing bold print on a box encasing a TV set. It read, "Built in antenna."

"Now that's a place I've never heard of," he told the sales guy, "Where is Antenna?" Mort was satisfied with the answer that Antenna is a small community a few miles from Athens....

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

The Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Inquirer, 622 St. Paul, Gonzales, TX 78629 is a periodical postage paid at Gonzales, Texas and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: For change of address, notify The Gonzales Inquirer, P.O. Box 616, Gonzales, TX 78629-0616

Mail Subscription Rates

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Affiliations:
National Newspaper Association
South Texas Press Association
Texas Gulf Coast Press Association

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The Gonzales Inquirer is published every Thursday by Guadalupe Valley Publishing Co. USPS 221-740 • ISSN 1059-7158 • 622 St. Paul St., P.O. Box 616 • Gonzales, TX 78629

CELEBRATING TEXAS INDEPENDENCE



...AND REMEMBERING THE ALAMO

Gonzales participated in several events to celebrate Texas Independence recently, including the March of the Immortal 32 to the Alamo on Friday, March 1, to commemorate the arrival of reinforcements from Gonzales to the Alamo during the Siege, as well as a Toast to Texas on Texas Independence Day on Saturday, March 2, when participants raised a glass of Texas sweet tea and toasted the Lone Star State on its 188th birthday.

PHOTOS COURTESY BARBARA CROZIER AND BY JUSTIN JIMENEZ



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John is originally from Gonzales, TX, he is a member of the United Methodist Church of Gonzales, the Texas Wildlife Association and is Vice President of Gonzales County Wildlife Management Association. In his down time, John enjoys spending time on the family ranch. John resides in Gonzales, TX.

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ERRORS

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

CALL TODAY
830-672-2861

040 AUCTIONS

040 AUCTIONS

040 AUCTIONS

SCHULENBURG LIVESTOCK AUCTION, INC.

SELL-OUT & REPLACEMENT SALE

Saturday, March 9, 2024
@ 12:00 Noon

COWS

(Cows will be aged & palpated)

HERD SELL-OUT

- 50 Brangus Cows bred to horned Hereford Bulls – some w/calves
- 15 – Hereford Cows bred to Rocking Chair Hereford Bull
- 60 – Brangus, Ultra black & Angus Cows 4-7 years old (6-8 months bred) some w/calves
- 45 – Crossbred Cows 3-6 years old (6-7 months bred to Charolais Bulls)
- 12 – Red Brangus/Beefmaster cross Cows 5-7 years old (6-8 months bred to Black Brangus Bull)

HEIFERS

- 5 – Brangus 1st calf Pairs
- 3 – Santa Gertrudis Heifers (3-5 months bred) to Woodstone Irish Angus Bull
- 5 – Brangus Heifers (6-8 months bred)
- 6 – Brahman Heifers (600-700 lbs.)
- 5 – Brahman Heifers (500 lbs) Subject to Registration
- 8 Crossbred Heifers (6-8 months bred)

BULLS

(Fertility & Trich tested or Guaranteed to test)

HERD SELL-OUT

- 2 – Horned Hereford Bulls 6 years old
- 1 – Rocking Chair Hereford Bull 4 years old
- 1 – Registered Charolais Bull
- 2 – Registered Angus Bulls 2 years old
- 2 – Brangus Bulls 2 years old

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To inquire call (210) 241-6392 (Armour)
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SEEKING AN EXPERIENCED legal secretary or litigation paralegal to work from home - part or full time - set your own hours M-F. Pay negotiable. Computer skills, solid internet connection and litigation experience required. Respond to robert@robertcollins-law.com.

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

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.

CAL - MAINE FOODS INC. is hiring for Plant Palletizers & Cleanup positions. Benefits include: Vacation, Sick Leave, Hosp. Ins., Dental, Vision, 401K, ESOP. Apply in person. Cal-Maine Foods Inc. 1680 CR 431 Waelder, TX 78959. Mon-Fri 7-4. 830-540-4205 or 830-540-4684.

850 HELP WANTED

VICTORIA COLLEGE
Est. 1925
Part-time ITV/WebEx Proctors needed to teach at Victoria College's Gonzales Center. For more information and to apply go to www.victoriacollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC. Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

Part-Time Help Wanted!
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Looking for someone to join our team!
Provide excellent customer service, greet, and assist customers.
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Some nights and rotation on weekends.
- Operating a point-of-sale system, provide general housekeeping.
- Capability to lift cases of liquor and stock shelves.
Applications can be picked up and returned at 102 W Wallace.

W.B. FARM AND RANCH SUPPLY
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Forklift experience required. Must be dependable. Benefits Package & Overtime available.
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2031 Water St., Gonzales, TX
No phone calls

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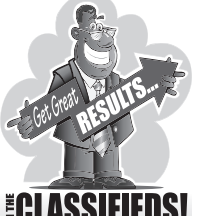
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countryvillagesquare@voatx.org
www.voatx.org

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Gonzales County Election's Office is now accepting applications for the full time position of:
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Gonzales County Election's Office is requesting applications for the position of Deputy Elections Clerk. High School Graduation is required. This position requires the clerk to work well under pressure in a high-volume multi-task office. Must work closely with others and maintain confidentiality in the performance of duties. The candidate must have general office skills, phone etiquette, data entry skills, knowledge of basic mathematical principal and the ability to deal with the public. Election experience is preferred. There will also be lifting of election machines over 50lbs and election boxes over 40lbs. During the election cycles extended hours and weekend hours will be required for various aspects of this position.

The Election Office is required to be completely neutral to any and all elections/candidates.

Applications may be obtained at the Gonzales County Election's Office located at 427 St. George, Suite 306, Gonzales, Texas, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:45 P.M. or on the web at <https://www.co.gonzales.tx.us> Only complete applications will be considered. Applications must be received by April 5, 2024. A drug and alcohol test and physical will be required. Gonzales County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age and handicap status in employment or the provision of services.

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February 29 Puzzle Answers

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

Last Puzzle Solution

ACAT, BATH, BELLA, ELLA, ANT, HALTOM, OTTO, DESPERATE, LOATHES, XEROX, CANISEE, HOST, PASSIT, PLANTA, ESKIMOS, LR, BYGONES, BE, GOT, SSA, SOLD, MEA, HOSANNAS, TEE, ANANTS, NEAT, NR, KNEE, DAP, ACREDIT, KTDR, THE, JIAN, ENS.

S-1678

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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° 34' 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.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

CLERK OF THE COURT
Janice Sutton
414 St. Joseph Street #300
Gonzales, TX 78629

PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY
Judi C. Wells
Skelton Slusher Barnhill Watkins Wells PLLC
302 North University Drive
Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

THE STATE OF TEXAS

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the Clerk who issued this Citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days after the date of issuance of this Citation and Petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

TO: EDWARD ALBERT HOHMANN AND HIS HEIRS, KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, IF SAID PERSON IS DECEASED, Defendants in the cause herein described.

You and each of you are hereby commanded to appear and answer before the Gonzales County Judicial District Court in the Gonzales County Courthouse in Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, on or before 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance hereof, being at or before 10:00 a.m. on Monday, the 1st day of April, 2024, then and there to answer the Petition of Baytex Energy USA, Inc., in Cause No. 28,722, styled *Baytex Energy USA, Inc. vs. Edward Albert Hohmann and/or His Heirs, Known or Unknown*, wherein BAYTEX ENERGY USA, INC. is Plaintiff, and the said EDWARD ALBERT HOHMANN AND/OR HIS HEIRS, KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, IF SAID PERSON IS DECEASED, are Defendants in the cause herein described. The Petition, filed on the 20th day of December, 2023, discloses that the nature of said suit is as follows:

This suit is brought to have a receiver appointed under the provisions of Section 64.091 of the TEXAS CIVIL PRACTICE AND REMEDIES CODE for undivided mineral interests owned by the Defendants in the following described lands in Gonzales County, Texas, to-wit:

Being 8.00 acres of land, more or less, located in the Turner Barnes Survey, A-112, Gonzales County, Texas and being the same land described in the Deed from S.B. Moore and W.J. Moore to Aug. Krauze, dated April 27, 1895, recorded in Volume Z-2, Page 295, of the Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas.

and to execute Oil, Gas and Mineral Leases thereof to the Plaintiff, and take such other action deemed necessary under the provisions of said statute.

If this Citation is not served within ninety (90) days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT on this the 16th day of February 2024, at Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas.

Janice Sutton

JANICE SUTTON,
Clerk of the District Court of
Gonzales County, Texas

By: *K. Alarcon*, Deputy

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Kross Kountry Band enjoys resurgence with release of 'Poor Ol' Willie'

BY BOBBY HORECKA
Special to the Inquirer

One Shiner's blasts from the past is seeing something of resurgence locally with the release of their latest single that songwriter Waldo Boehm of Shiner dubbed "Poor Ol' Willie."

Loaded with catchy melodies and lyrics that are bound to leave you smiling, they are some of the latest tunes out by the Kross Kountry Band. Known for their eclectic fusion of country and rock music, the band built a devoted following across South Texas as early as the mid-1970s.

As will often happen, though, life got in the way. There were kids to raise, mouths to feed, businesses to run. It was fun while it lasted, but... In fact, by 1984, most in the band agreed it was about time for them to hang it up. A few tried to keep her going, but it was just never quite the same.

A big part of it, Boehm shared, came with a change in times, really.

"There was a time when every weekend, people would head to a dance someplace," he said. "But around the time that Kross Kountry went its different ways, people just stopped going. They started doing other things instead. Same's true today still. Oh, you might go to a dance at a wedding or some event

someplace, but it's still nowhere near how it used to be."

Boehm says he still remembers fondly their trips to and from different places, and all the great conversations they'd get into on those rides.

"We'd talk about everything under the sun," he said. "Politics, religion, you name it—things that get people a bit riled up over nowadays. But we never did, just had some great talks, is all. And we stayed close ever since."

They even had the occasional get-togethers when they'd break out their instruments once again, like in 2015, when they played a reunion gig and close to 1,000 people showed up to see them play.

Still, just because you may stop playing together as regularly, doesn't mean that the rest of it—the songwriting, the melodies you think up, the lyric writing—simply shuts down. Sure, you may not get together like you used to quite as much, but the rest of it still happens, like it or otherwise.

Which is how Boehm came up with "Poor Ol' Willie," which takes a rather snarky view of—well, most anyone you know, to be quite honest—provided they don't have 20 pump jacks bobbing up and down in their Back 40.

And even if they do, the song will still likely strike a chord with most anyone



CONTRIBUTED

The guys act out one of the scenes of the video, where Nick Shimek goes for his cash only to find none. Pictured from left are Howard Gloor, Brian Beran, Shimek, Bobby Kallus and Waldo Boehm.

who has ever looked to the goings-on at places, like our nation's capital, Austin, or some similarly clad political preponderance, and had to turn away, shaking his or her head, wondering, "What on earth were they on when they thought that up?"

With the basic melody and lyrics pretty much worked out, Boehm got on the phone to see if he couldn't get a few of his handmates back together again, just to see what his new piece might sound

like.

Lo and behold if they didn't all turn out, and before you knew it, they were making sweet music together once again. They even added their own signature licks to the mix, giving it that good ol' Kross Kountry feel.

Of course, much has changed in the music world since last they got together. Eight-tracks were just beginning to dis-

See **BAND**, page 12

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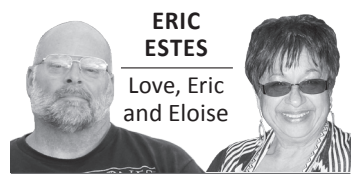
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Fight for Survival

Well here we are again, with yet another week of our lives, that for many of us, has flown by so quick we're not sure if it actually happened, or it was just our imagination. It seems that this happens way too often throughout our journey here, as we easily get caught up in the day to day, somewhat mundane ritual of just handling the responsibilities of life, and before we know it, feel like we've been catapulted through some kind of weird time portal. Yep, it seems like just yesterday I was sixteen, had hair, great teeth, muscles, and an abundance of witty charm (the way I prefer to remember it), and seventeen seconds later, woosh, fifty years have gone by...hair's gone, a few false teeth, fighting to retain what muscle I still have left, and as for the witty charm, I'll leave that up to you.

Fortunately, God has blessed us with many great things along our journey, making the fight for earthly survival worth the effort, at least most of the time. Other times we have to just quit complaining, suck it up, and force ourselves to carry on, cause if we're still here, apparently our creator isn't finished with us yet and we still have things to do. This is one reason I decided to do this "Fit for '24" series, 'cause if we still have things to do, we'll have to be healthy enough to



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

get them done. Being mindful of what we put in our mouths and getting a little exercise along the way, while not always our go-to for a good time, can have a huge impact on, not only how we perform physically, but how we feel mentally and emotionally as well. Just because I've managed to watch what I eat and exercise intermittently over the years, doesn't mean it was the easiest thing to do. They call your mouth a "pie hole" and not a "salad hole" for a reason, but too many pies in the hole can give you a big wobbly butt that resembles a deformed cinnamon roll, just waiting for life to take a bite out of it, if you know what I mean!

I left off last week with my purchase of the Marcy Diamond Elite Smith Machine, purchased at Academy sports (also available from Amazon) in San Antonio ten years ago. I figured that for the approximate cost of a four year gym membership, I'd have it for life, saving tons of money, as well as the time and inconvenience of travel.

It does take up some space, but is well suited to a garage or spare bedroom, and pays huge dividends. For those unfamiliar with smith machines, it's basically a 7' by 7' square cage that has a barbell that glides up and down on rails, with hooks attached that can hold it at many different heights in slots in the frame. This particular model also has one low and two high cable pulleys with plenty of bars, handles, ropes etc., for many exercise options. It also comes with a very adjustable bench, complete with leg curl / extension attachment, as well as an adjustable arm support for preacher curls. A very functional pec-deck is also included. It has three (per side) weight plate storage posts, making it very convenient to organize for easy accessibility. If you are someone who is very tall or strong, you may want a heavier duty model, as the weight limit is 300 lbs. on barbell, 200 lbs. on cable system, and 100 lbs. on leg attachment. Although I did have to make a calf block (allowing your heels to drop below parallel for calf raises) out of spare lumber, I literally have no complaints about this model and would very highly recommend this unit. More next week, so stay tuned...

Until next time, love you guys, Eric.

Loss of a Spouse

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

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Abiding Word Lutheran Church, who currently hosts the regular 13-week GriefShare program, will be offering the Loss of a Spouse program on Saturday, March 23 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Abiding Word is located at 1020 St. Louis St., Gonzales. Light refreshments will be served, and the seminar is free and open to the public.

For more information or to register for the Loss of a Spouse program, call 830-857-3855. For information on the regular 13-week GriefShare program, go to www.griefshare.org/findagroup.

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Lady Apaches FC extends win streak to six

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches FC are postseason bound after their 4-0 shutout win over the Fox Tech Lady Buffaloes Tuesday, March 5.

Lady Apaches junior striker Bella Aguero earned a hat trick plus one, scoring all four goals in the win over Fox Tech.

"It feels really good to have my teammates just trust me to do what I do best and score goals, you know, relieve the pressure off of them," Aguero said.

The Lady Apache extended their win streak to six in a row and secured a playoff spot in District 27-4A, but head soccer coach Shantael Trimm is keeping her team focused on one game at a time.

"I think, just like I said last game, it is so important to keep our head down and stay focused on the game and not

necessarily be looking too far ahead as far as like playoffs go or anything right now. We need to remain focused and not let anything distract us right now," Trimm said.

Three games remain for the Lady Apaches against La Vernia, YWLA and San Antonio Memorial and Gonzales' main goal is to focus on those three teams and to secure second place in the district.

"Last year, we won our first ever bi-district championship in the history of Gonzales girls soccer anyways and that was with us finishing in that third place spot. So I think it'd be amazing and I think the girls are really working hard to try and better that every year, they are striving to be better every year," Trimm said.

The Lady Apaches will host the La Vernia Lady Bears Friday, March 8 at Apache Field.

The La Vernia game kicks off at 6:45 p.m.



VANDY VAN EPPS
Dakota Navejar (9) battles a Fox Tech player for possession of the soccer ball in a district match at Apache Field Tuesday, March 5.



VANDY VAN EPPS
The Gonzales Apaches FC break out of the huddle before their district match against the Yoakum Bulldogs Friday, March 1.

Apaches FC shuts out Yoakum, 5-0

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches FC completed a season series sweep of the Yoakum Bulldogs with a convincing 5-0 shutout win Friday, March 1.

The Apaches put together a fine offensive performance by Enrique Reyna and Brandon Duenez, who scored two goals each in the win over Yoakum; and Alan Orduna capped off the scoring with the final goal with 18 minutes left in the

game.

Gonzales' defense shut down its opponents for the second game in a row, thanks to outstanding defensive performances by goalies Andres Govea and Miguel Moreno. Head soccer coach Shea Seip said his team has been playing their hearts out, especially the back line.

The Apaches faced a familiar foe Tuesday, March 5; Gonzales tied against the Fox Tech Buffaloes in their first meeting this year. Seip said he and his team

are looking forward for the second meeting and battling for possible playoff seeding.

"We're gonna go in there with our heads high and we're gonna fight, we're gonna fight, we're gonna fight some more and we're gonna get our win," Seip said prior to that game.

The Apaches will travel to La Vernia for their final road game of the season Friday, March 8, and will conclude the regular season at home against San Antonio Memorial Tuesday, March 12.

Lady Apaches FC sweeps Yoakum, wins fifth in row

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches FC won their fifth game in a row with a 2-1 win over the Yoakum Bulldogs Friday, March 1.

The Lady Apaches swept the season series from the Lady Bulldogs and inched closer to the second seed in District 27-4A.

Gonzales kicked off the match with goals from Bella Aguero in the first half and Chelsie Garcia in the second half.

"It feels really good. We're making a statement right now that you can't leave us out," Aguero said.

Garcia recorded a goal with a head shot in the second half and was surprised it went into the net.

"I was kind of surprised when it went in. I wasn't really thinking much of there. You know, just learning, just doing what we learned from practice," Garcia said.

The Lady Apaches defense held off Yoakum in the final 18 minutes despite the score being 2-1; goalie Serenity Perez held off multiple shots and earned multiple saves in the win.

"Our defense is great. I wouldn't know what to do without my defense. I mean, we've been working hard all season as well as my strikers and everybody else in the field. I mean, it feels good to have a good defense, a good team in general," Perez said.

Kassandra Mendez said she loves that her team's defense always comes up clutch in any game situation.

Gonzales sits in second place with a 5-2-1 record with three games left in the season and Lady Apaches head soccer coach Shantael



VANDY VAN EPPS
Abigail Reyna (13) and a Yoakum player chase the ball down the sideline in the district match Friday, March 1.

Trimm knows her team can't be too confident.

"We have, of course, have us in second. The third, fourth and even the fifth place team are also tightly together, so we have to maintain focus in order to secure that spot. So that's what we're gonna they're gonna do right now," Trimm said.

The Lady Apaches hosted Fox Tech at Apache Field Tuesday, March 5, and Trimm hopes her team does what they need to do.

"I think if the girls go out and keep playing like they've been playing, I think that will be okay. I just think that we just can't go in overconfident, which you know, some teams tend to do," Trimm said. "Even the best teams tend to go in overconfident sometimes. So we've got to really focus and put our heads down and do the work we know we need to do."

The Lady Apaches host the La Vernia Lady Bears Friday, March 8 and will host the YWLA Lady Cardinals Monday, March 11 for their final home game of the season.

La Vernia game kicks off at 6:45 p.m. and the YWLA game kicks off at 11:45 a.m.

Fox Tech squeaks by Apaches FC, 3-2

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches FC traveled to Alamo Stadium in San Antonio for a huge district match against the Fox Tech Buffaloes Monday, March 4.

The last time these two faced off, the Apaches forced a game-tying goal and prevented the win for Fox Tech.

The match had a lot on the line with the Apaches entering with a 3-3-1 record and Fox Tech with a 2-4-1 record in District 27-4A.

The Apaches and the Buffaloes experienced a serious case of deja vu, with the match going back



VANDY VAN EPPS
Apaches Sergio Almaguer (2) throws the ball back into play in the district match against the Fox Tech Buffaloes at Alamo Stadium in San Antonio Monday, March 4.

See **SOCCER**, page 11

Apaches lose tough games at Karnes City baseball tournament

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches baseball team went back on the road Thursday, Feb. 29 for a tournament in Karnes City.

The Apaches kicked off the tournament rough, losing a walk-off game against the Refugio Bobcats, 3-2, and to the Stockdale Brahmas, 5-3, in a close contest.

Gonzales returned to Karnes City Friday, March 1 for its final tournament tilt against the Badgers.

The Apaches fell to the Badgers, 9-1, and dropped to 0-3 in the tournament.

Gonzales heads back on the road again for its last tournament of the season in at the Bastrop ISD Invitational in Cedar Creek Thursday, March 7.

The Apaches will take on host schools Cedar Creek and Bastrop on day one of the tournament; and will take on Liberal Arts & Science Academy Austin, Pflugerville and Killeen Chaparral in the final two days of the tournament.



VANDY VAN EPPS
Apaches Brandon DuBose (5) at bat for Gonzales against the Refugio Bobcats at the Karnes City baseball tournament Thursday, Feb. 29.

Lady Mustangs finish second in regional powerlifting meet

Four Nixon-Smilely lifters qualify for state

BY COACH ELISEO CANO
SPECIAL TO INQUIRER

What an experience the THSWPA Region 5-3A Division 2 Regional Championships were!

I am so proud of all the hard work my girls' powerlifting team put in this year!

All the time, dedication, blood, sweat and tears that these girls put in was well worth it!

From 6 a.m. morning practices, afternoon practices, working jobs, maintaining passing grades and participating in other sports, these amazing young ladies defied the odds and proved to everyone that they are a force to be reckoned with in the THSWPA!

I was so proud and speechless when I heard them announce Nixon-Smilely Girls Powerlifting Team as the second-place team at the regional championships.

As all my girl powerlifters that placed received their medals, I was over-

whelmed with emotions and excitement for them.

My girls powerlifting team placed second in Region 5-3A Division 2 Regional Championships.

We had four girls qualify for state for the first time in Nixon-Smilely High School history, and seven total girls medaled.

We also had our first girls regional champion in Nixon-Smilely High School history.

Grace Gomez placed second place in the 105 weight class and qualified for state.

Kaylie Morin placed second place in the 123 weight class and qualified for state.

Gabriela Castillo-Limon placed fifth place in the 132 weight class.

Zulema Rodriguez placed first in the 148 weight class and qualified for state.

Frida Casas placed fifth in the 165 weight class.

Jaylee Bustos placed third in the 165 weight class

Ashly Garcia placed second in the 165 weight class, qualified for state, and was named the top lifter in the upper weight divisions.



The Nixon-Smilely Lady Mustangs powerlifting team holds out their medals and their second place regional plaque.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



CONTRIBUTED

The Nixon-Smilely Mustangs track and field team shows off their medals from the Orange Grove Meet.

Nixon-Smilely track teams compete in Karnes City and Orange Grove

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smilely Mustangs and Lady Mustangs traveled to two different track meets last week.

The Lady Mustangs completed in the Karnes City meet and the Mustangs traveled to Orange Grove for their track meet.

--RESULTS--

LADY MUSTANGS:

Varsity Field Events
Long Jump- Janaelyn White 8th 12'9"
Long Jump- Kourtney Johnson 11th 12'3"

Discus- Janaelyn White 5th 84'5.5"
Shot Put- Emmersyn Stone 2nd 29'3.5"
100M
Hailee Houseton- 6th 13.94
Skylie Kitchens- 9th 14.38
Macy Kitchens- 15th 15.51
200M
Nichole Ivey- 4th 30.08
Geraldine Montoya- 13th 34.35
400M
Raelyn McGhee- 9th 1:17.75
Lee-Nuh Pecina- 10th 1:17.98
Macy Kitchens- 12th 1:29.37
800M
Yizel Galvan- 10th 3:08.22
1600M
Alize Davila- 9th 7:36.20
300 Hurdles
Kourtney Johnson- 7th 1:00.19

4x100 relay
5th place- 54.43
4x200 relay
6th place- 2:02.55
4x400 relay
5th place- 5:29.16

MUSTANGS:

3rd Place Long Jump - Luke Moses
4th Place Triple Jump - Tristen Mikesh
4x100 - 5th (Khali Jantes, Aiden Flores, John Garza, Eric Rodriguez)
110 Hurdles - 2nd Luke Moses
4x200 - 5th (Mystic Swenson, Tristen Mikesh, Eric Rodriguez, AJ Zamora)
300 Hurdles - 2nd Luke Moses
200m dash - 5th AJ Zamora
4x400 - 2nd (Aiden Flores, AJ Zamora, Luke Moses, Tristen Mikesh)

Gonzales track teams competes in La Grange

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches and Lady Apaches track teams traveled La Grange Thursday, Feb. 29 for their third meet of the season.

The varsity Lady Apaches took home third place with 116 points and the JV Lady Apaches finished fourth place with 56 points.

The varsity Apaches finished sixth place with 48 points and the JV Apaches finished seventh place with 31 points.

The track teams will travel to Cuero for their fourth meet of the season Thursday, March 8.

The meet kicks off at 2:30 p.m.

--RESULTS--

Girls 3200m run:
Yaritza Angel fourth place
Jordan Gonzales eighth place
Marinaelly Martinez ninth place

Boys 3200m run:
Cristopher Ramos eighth place

Girls 4x100 relay:
Gonzales Lady Apaches fourth place

Boys 4x100 relay:
Damion Hunt, Davonte Smith, Rocky Gallegos and Daevien Pitts fourth place

Girls 800m run:
Kilee Schwausch fourth place
J. Gonzales seventh place

Boys 800m run:
Carlos Pedreza eighth place

Girls 100m hurdles:
Macy Pena seventh place
Hailey Camarillo eighth place

Boys 110m hurdles:
Travis Malveaux eighth place

Girls 100m dash:
Tiana Smith second place

Boys 100m dash:
D. Pitts first place
D. Smith second place
Keath White 20th place

Girls 4x200 relay
Gonzales Lady Apaches first place

Boys 4x200 relay:
D. Smith, T. Malveaux, R. Gallegos and K. White fifth place

Girls 400m dash:
Jayda Glass first place
K. Schwausch fourth place
Kaylyn Gonzales eighth place

Boys 400m dash:
River VanKirk ninth place
Joshua Salins 24th place

Girls 300m hurdles:
Aubrey Lindemann second place
Alaina Valle fifth place

Boys 300m hurdles:
T. Malveaux fourth place

Girls 200m dash:
J. Glass second place
Kaylie Ramirez 11th place
M. Pena 18th place

Girls 1600m run:
J. Gonzales fourth place
Y. Angel fifth place
M. Martinez eighth place

Boys 1600m run:
C. Ramos eighth place
C. Pedreza ninth place

Girls 4x400 relay:
Gonzales Lady Apaches fourth place

Boys 4x400 relay:
R. VanKirk, D. Hunt, K. White and J. Salinas

Boys pole vault:
R. VanKirk fifth place

Girls high jump:
A. Lindemann and Malaiyah Mayo seventh place

Boys high jump:
T. Malveaux 11th place

Girls long jump:
T. Smith sixth place
M. Pena 11th place
H. Camarillo 12th place

Boys long jump:
D. Pitts 12th place

Girls triple jump:
J. Glass fourth place
T. Smith fifth place
Alaina Valle sixth place

Boys triple jump:
R. Gallegos second place
T. Malveaux eighth place

Girls shot put:
Mallory Clack third place
Macy Sample fifth place

Boys shot put:
Dylan Hunt seventh place

Girls discus:
Macy Sample second place
Serenity Smith fifth place
Mallory Clack seventh place

SOCCER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

and forth to the end, but Fox Tech came out on top with a 3-2 victory, though the Apaches nearly forced the tie in the final seconds.

Brandon Duenez and Enrique Reyna scored Gonzales' two goals in the match.

The Apaches drop to 3-4-1, tied for fifth place with Fox Tech with the same district record.

Gonzales has two more games left this season — against La Vernia on Friday, March 8 and San Antonio Memorial on Tuesday, March 12.

"We just fell short. One goal. One goal is the difference, but we're tied on points right now," Apaches head coach Shea Seip said. "We're gonna go out, we're gonna beat La Vernia on Friday and we're gonna beat Memorial and we're gonna kick Fox Tech out of the playoffs."

The La Vernia game kicks off on the road at 7 p.m. and the Memorial game kicks off at noon.

No. 20 Smithville stuns No. 12 Lady Apaches in walk-off

STAFF REPORT

The number 12 ranked Lady Apaches traveled on the road for a battle of ranked teams against the Smithville Tigers Tuesday, March 5.

The Lady Apaches started off the game strong, taking a 6-1 lead entering the sixth inning.

Gonzales outthit the Lady Tigers 10-2, but in the final two innings, Smithville rallied and sealed the win with a 7-6 walk-off victory over the Lady Apaches.

Gonzales pitcher Dixie Rae Lester allowed two hits, 11 walks and struck out 16 batters. Kelly Breitschopf,

Gyzelle Guevara, and Alaina Valle recorded two hits and each earned one run in the Smithville loss.

The Lady Apaches drop to 11-3 on the season and earned their first back-to-back losses for the first time since last year.

The Lady Apaches head back on the road for back-to-back games to close out non-district against Rice Consolidated Friday, March 8 and Steele, Monday, March 11.

Gonzales will open up district at home against La Vernia Tuesday, March 12. First pitch for the Rice game at 6 p.m., Steele at 1 p.m. and the La Vernia game at 2 p.m.

Lady Mustangs blow out Llano

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smilely Lady Mustangs came back home for a non-district game against the Llano Yellowjackets Tuesday, March 5.

The Lady Mustangs earned their fourth win of the season with a 14-4 win over the Yellowjackets.

Nixon-Smilely recorded 10 RBIs, 14 runs and seven hits in the win over Llano; one of those hits came from a home run by senior pitcher Kendall Amaya.

Freshman Marysol Granados led the team with two hits; and sophomore Tyra Ortiz led the team with three RBIs.

Amaya struck out nine batters and allowed five hits.

The Lady Mustangs will have a three-game series against the Shiner Lady Comanches Saturday, March 8 to Tuesday, March 12.

The first pitch of game one is set for noon Saturday in Nixon and games two and three are set for Tuesday at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in Shiner.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lady Apaches Yaritza Angel (14) competes in the 1600m race at the La Grange track and field meet Thursday, Feb. 29.



CONTRIBUTED

Brian Beran may not have penned the words himself, but he does a fine job of embodying the “Poor Ol’ Willie” of their new tune and video release on YouTube.

BAND

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

appear then, and cassette tapes were the hot items back in 1984. If you were really into stereo components, you might even have a reel-to-reel player, while the real tech junkies were running around with satchels that had phones in them talking about some new-fangled gadgets they called “seedees,” or some such thing.

Nowadays, folks amass small fortunes by selling just bits of their songs in five-second clips, so that people can use them as ringtones on their smart phones.

Even as Waldo and crew turned to local music producer/promoter Mark Hybner to try and collect up some of the existing tunes that were still around from the old days so that their kids and grandkids might have something to remember them by, he was posting to something he called Spotify.

Hearing the band had gotten back together again, Hybner made just one suggestion: “Y’all should make a video.”

And after talking it over with the guys, that’s precisely what they did, meeting up at Waldo’s camp house for the big shoot. Each picked his place out on the porch, and within a few times playing the song through—that, and them all gathering up to act out a scene or two—they pretty well had it taken care of.

The video went live on YouTube in September 2023, and already it has more than 7,000 views, and that was without a lick of promotion of any kind.

Waldo recently put together a news release to try and build it up just a bit more: “Poor Ol’ Willie” is a breath of fresh air, a harmonious blend of nostalgia and contemporary humor by a country rock band that needs no introduction, Kross Country,” the release began.

What they had, they soon discovered, was their very own visual

anthem.

“It’s more than just a song,” Hybner said. “‘Poor Ol’ Willie’ has worked its magic reuniting the members of Kross Country who once shared the stage in their heyday.”

Bass player Brian Beran’s smooth vocal performance delivers raw emotion that draws the listeners’ attention to its clever lyrics. Nick Shimek adds harmonies and puts the rhythm guitar track right into the groove laid down by drummer Bobby Kallus. On top of it all, Howard Gloor, their lead guitarist, adds melody lines and solos that create a sort of magic between this group of friends.

Or, as Boehm put it, “We’re just a bunch of crazy old men, having fun.”

Not only does the new release highlight the band’s enduring musical prowess, it reignited a camaraderie among the band of seasoned musicians. In fact, they’re already planning their next video project together, which is set to drop sometime in June of this year.

So, a band once scattered by time and distance finds itself right back where it left off, four decades ago. Brought together by an enduring friendship and, of course, Poor Ol’ Willie’s magic, all with good ol’ Waldo to blame for it, no less.

As Kross Country embarks on its newest chapter, Boehm invites everyone to go check their collections on YouTube and Spotify.

You can check out the new video directly at t.ly/AXNVF or find it along with one of Hybner’s other video creations at www.youtube.com/@farmtomarketertainment3225. You can find Kross Country’s Spotify collection at t.ly/xsGIP.

Bobby Horecka is a longtime storyteller who serves as managing editor of five South Texas weeklies, The Hallettsville Tribune-Herald, Luling Newsboy & Signal, The Moulton Eagle, The Shiner Gazette and Yoakum Herald-Times.



Waldo Boehm gnaws on a stogie as he plinks out melodies on the keyboard, pleased to be back with the boys of Kross Country. After all, it’s only been 40 years since they last toured regularly.

CONTRIBUTED

YOUTH STOCK SHOW



The youth show is sponsored by the Gonzales Youth Show Association. Many showed their animals for the community of Gonzales to see their progress.

PHOTOS BY WANDY VAN EPPS

HISTORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

belonged to an official of the Mexican Government, but was now occupied by Dickinson and his family. After the Texas army had defeated the Mexican troops in late 1835 in a battle called the siege of Bexar.

They entertained influential Texans and travelers from the United States who were concerned about the drastic change in government dictated by General Santa Anna of Mexico. Life was pleasant for the 26-year-old Almaron Dickinson as he and his wife entertained the important people of Texas.

When word came that General Santa Anna was approaching San Antonio with a large military force, Lt. Dickinson moved his family in to the Alamo for protection. Susannah spoke to her husband, “Almaron, will we be safe here?” “Yes,” he replied, “we defeated the Mexican Troops at Gonzales, and we defeated them here in San Antonio, and we will do it again. Do not worry. You and the baby are safe.” “I hope so,” she replied worriedly.

What no one knew at the time was just how large Santa Anna’s army was, and that he had

vowed to kill all Texans who opposed him. Santa Anna had determined to restore the honor and reputation of the Republic of Mexico, and the defeat of the Texans at the Alamo was to be the first step in this goal.

As the battle started, the commander of the Texans, Col. W.B. Travis, sent out letters to all the towns in Texas asking for help. Assistance came only from Gonzales. Thirty-two men from Gonzales broke through the Mexican lines to fight in the Alamo. The battle continued on day after day with the brave Texans repelling the Mexican assaults on the walls of the Alamo.

Each night, Lt. Dickinson would eat with his wife. They would talk as well as they were able to under the noise of the gun and cannon fire. “Almaron, we are not going to live through this, are we?” Susannah asked one night to her husband. “Of course we are,” he replied. “Fannin is on his way from Goliad with 300 men. He should be here anytime now, and other help is coming. It must be on this way.” “I am so scared, Almaron. And for the baby, too,” she said.

“I know, I know,” He answered. “I am scared, also. But we will make it. We cannot let Santa Anna defeat us. We will lose everything we have worked for. Everything we dreamed. For us, and the baby. We must make it.” Susannah sobbed softly and held the baby tightly, close to her breast.

Santa Anna threw the full might of his army and artillery against the Alamo, and the walls finally crumbled. The Mexican troops poured in. In the final moments of the battle, Lt. Dickinson rushed into the chapel where Susannah was hiding with the baby. He said “Sue, the Mexicans are inside the walls. All is lost. If they spare you, love our child.” He then kissed her, touched the baby’s cheek, and went back to the fight, and to his death.

Freedom is not easy. It is hard. You have to want it bad. A free society

is not easy to defend, for it is the very nature of freedom that makes us vulnerable. Open to sacrifice. Open to pain. Those who are jealous of our freedom will do things to attack us. They will commit cowardly deeds that cause destruction and death because they want what we have – freedom. They want to hurt us because we ARE free and they are not.

Santa Anna defeated the Texans at the Alamo, but that victory sealed his fate. For that battle placed resolve in the hearts of the citizens of Gonzales and of all Texans. That freedom has value. That freedom is precious. That freedom is worth dying for. That Santa Anna must be defeated, and that freedom must prevail in Texas. And it did. And it will.

And that is part of our history. The history of Gonzales, Texas. Gonzales is the birthplace of your Texas freedom.

Space heater on? Know these safety tips

A space heater is a great way to warm yourself up in the winter months if you go about it safely.

“We see several fatal fires around this time of year that involve a space heater,” said Debra Knight, the state fire marshal. “Most of them are accidental and could have been avoided by following some basic safety steps.”



To avoid setting an accidental fire with a space heater, follow a few safety tips:

- Inspect the heater to make sure it has no loose wires or cracked or broken plugs. If so, replace the heater.
- Always plug your heater directly into a wall outlet. Avoid extension cords or power strips.
- Reduce risk by keeping your heater at least three feet from anything that can burn, including furniture, blankets, or mattresses.
- Turn off your heater before you leave the room or go to bed. The best way to be sure: Unplug it.
- Never use or store flammable liquids in the same room as a space heater. And because heaters are electric, don’t get near one when you’re wet.

Heating equipment, including space heaters, are the third leading cause of home fire deaths behind smoking materials and cooking. Space heaters account for more than 15% of all home fire deaths.

Have a question about insurance? Call the Texas Department of Insurance at 800-252-3439 or visit www.tdi.texas.gov.



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OBITUARIES

NANCY PATTESON COOK

Nancy Patteson Cook, age 93, passed away Sunday, March 3, 2024, at her home near Nixon, Texas. She was born on August 21, 1930 in Smiley, Texas, and was preceded in death by her parents, J.B. "Dock" Patteson and Doshia Lewallen; husband of 66 years, John L. "Bubba" Cook; brother J.B. Patteson, Jr.; son-in-law, Bo Brzozowski; and grandson-in-law, Jeremy Henke.

Nancy is survived by her children: Linda Parks and husband Gary of Nixon, John L. Cook Jr. and wife Laura of College Station, Connie Brzozowski of Cost, JoLyn Henderson and husband Sam of Nixon; her grandchildren: Robby Harvey and wife Patricia, Jeff Harvey and wife Jennifer, Lynsey Valencia and husband Dan, Jack Cook and wife Codi, James Cook and wife Cheyenne,

Anna Pearson and husband L.B., Kacie Henke, Ty Brzozowski and wife Baylee, Trevor Henderson, and Kelby Henderson; her great-grandchildren: Bailey Harvey, Cook Harvey, Blaine Harvey, Brett Harvey, Grace Valencia, Kate Valencia, Holdyn Morrow, Kolby Morrow, Waylon Cook, Grady Cook, Jace Cook, Cooper Cook, Truitt Pearson, Kelly Pearson, Keeli Henke, Braize

Brzozowski, Tripp Brzozowski, Ainsley Henderson, Kahl Henderson, Trigg Henderson; nieces and nephews, as well as other loving family and friends. A Visitation will be held Thursday, March 7, 2024 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am at Finch Funeral Chapel in Nixon. The Funeral Service will be held Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 11:00 am at Finch Funeral Chapel in Nixon

with the Rev. Jimmy Kennedy officiating. Interment will follow at the Nixon Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Nixon Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 427, Nixon, Texas 78140 or Bundick Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 56, Smiley, Texas 78159. You may sign the online guestbook at www.finchfuneralchapel.com.

SHELBY SUTHERLAND KING

Shelby Sutherland King, died peacefully at his home in Katy Texas, on Sunday, the 3rd of March 2024, at the age of 97. He was a longtime resident of Gonzales, TX. He was preceded in death by the love of his life and wife of 30 years, Alice Goebel King, his parents, Laura Mae Sutherland King, and Noel Chester King, his brother Noel Chester King Jr., and his son Shelby Eugene King.



Sul Ross State University. Shelby entered the U. S. Army on December 7, 1950, and was honorably discharged at the rank of Sergeant on November 21, 1952. His last assignment was with the 53rd Quartermaster Depot, based in Idar-Oberstein Germany during the Korean War. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal and the Army Occupation Medal with the Germany bar.

Shelby's civilian career incorporated such diverse jobs as a schoolteacher in Yancey, TX, hog farm manager in Crosby, TX, Purina feed salesman, teacher of math and science in several Texas schools, taxi driver in Houston, TX, dump truck driver, and Head Counselor at Eagle Pass High School, but his passion lay in ranching.

Shelby was one of the last true cowboys and raising Texas longhorns gave him great pride. He loved cattle ranching, and he loved his horses, especially his Colo-

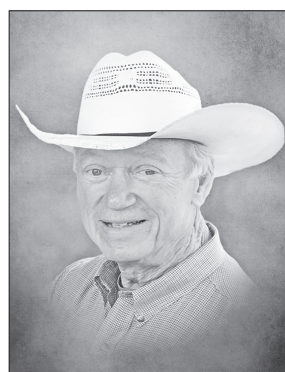
nial Spanish Mustangs. He ranched in Asherton, Texas, Bunkie, Louisiana and Gonzales, Texas. Shelby loved science and continually looked for better ways to raise livestock and be a good steward of the land he loved.

Shelby and his late wife Alice were founding members of the Cattleman's Texas Longhorn Registry whose charter was to conserve the "original" type of Texas Longhorn. They also founded the Cattleman's Texas Longhorn Conservancy which is dedicated to preserving the original Texas Longhorn which is now on the Livestock Conservancy's List of 150 Critically Endangered Heritage Breeds.

On Friday, the 8th of March, the family will greet friends at a viewing from noon - 2 P.M. with a service to follow at 2 pm in Seydler-Hill Funeral Home, 906 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629. Internment will immediately follow at St. Ann Catholic Church Cemetery, 4162 State Hwy 111 W., in Hochheim, TX. Pallbearers: Aaron King, Clayton King, Austin Almaguer, Chase Almaguer, Jakob Humphrey, Jaron Humphrey, Bruce Greenberg and Sean Greenberg.

The family requests in lieu of flowers, a donation can be made in his honor to Cattleman's Texas Longhorn Conservancy "501c," P. O. Box 36, Tarpley, Texas 78883. 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.

SKIP MILLER



William James Miller, Jr., known as Skip, was born November 29, 1939, to Maxine Sengelmann Miller and William J. "Billy" Miller, Sr., of Waelder, Texas. He died at 84, on February 26, 2024.

Growing up in Waelder, Skip often helped at his family's Millers Store, where you could buy everything from televisions sets to wood stoves, from fire arms and groceries to feed and fertilizer, from fabric and shoes to the best barbeque in Texas.

At Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, he enjoyed his classes, Kappa Sigma Fraternity, the San Gabriel River, and campus life. He met his future wife, Sandra Elliott, at SU and they married June 1, 1963. Skip had joined the United States Air Force after his graduation in 1962, and the newlyweds returned to Madison, Wisconsin, where he was stationed at Truax Field. After a year in Viet Nam, his last year of active service was spent at Bergstrom AFB, Austin, Texas, where the couple's first daughter, Susan Michelle Miller, was born.

Skip brought his family back to Waelder, where he helped his father at Millers Store and established Harwood Farm and Ranch Supply. He also taught history at Gonzales High School during 1969-1971, started his own cattle operation, continued to serve as a captain in the USAF Reserves, and the couple's second daughter, Stacy Elizabeth Miller, was

born. Following the close of Millers Store after 113 years of operation, Skip enjoyed being a rural mail carrier, learning new country roads and talking to folks at their mailboxes.

Skip was a member of the Gonzales County Hospital District Board of Directors when the Gonzales Memorial Hospital was planned and built, and he continued to serve on the Gonzales County Health Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors from 1983 to 1997. The Mesquite Horse Club, The Gonzales Livestock Show, and the 4-H Shooting Sports Team gave him the opportunity to work with his daughters and other young people. In 1985, he was awarded the Honorary Chapter Farmer Degree. Skip served on the board of the Gonzales Soil and Water District from 1993-2000.

In 2012, he received Gonzales County's Outstanding Conservation Rancher award, and in 2013, Region III's Resident Conservation Rancher Award. His family's one hundred-year-old ranch on Sandy Fork was enrolled in the Texas Land Heritage Program in 2004.

Skip enjoyed: hunting for (and particularly FINDING) arrowheads and artifacts, history

(especially Greek and Roman), land (especially west Texas), old cars (especially Model A Fords), a good conversation, all dogs, and most cattle.

Honorary pallbearers: Clint, Wain, Ace, Jason, Jake, Duke, Travis, J.W., and James Fairchild, Wesley Oliver, James Lassig, Ricky Berger, Lester Henry, and Jim McGinnis.

Skip was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Lorraine McHugh.

To remember him with joy and love, Skip leaves Sandra, his wife of 60 years; daughter Susan and her husband Kevin Shields; daughter Stacy and her husband Brian Good; and his grandson, Jake Miller Good; niece Kathy Snider, and husband Alan; nephew Robert McHugh and wife Karen; brother-in-law Bill Elliott and his wife, Gayle Unruh; his first cousins Ginna Bullock and husband, Charles; Bo Miller and wife, Sharon Reed; and Suzanne Maeker and husband, Kenwood.

The family thanks Lynn Hancock and her staff for the compassionate care Skip received at Willowbrook Personal Care Home in Seguin.

A memorial for Skip Miller will be held at 10:00 Saturday, March 16, 2024, at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Waelder Homecoming Foundation, Inc., or the Alzheimer's Association.

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

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

ADDITIONAL OBITUARY CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 14.



First Greater Webster AME Community Closet set

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Greater Webster AME Chapel will host its inaugural Community Closet for the Gonzales community.

The Community Closet provides free clothing and shoes for men, women, and children in the Gonzales area.

The event will have hotdogs, chips, and soda for participants who stop by and fellowship with the Webster family.

Everything at the event is free.

Place: 1027 Church St. Gonzales, TX. (Greater Webster Chapel, A.M.E.)

Date: Saturday, April 13, 2024

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



District 3 Meeting

GVEC MEMBERS IN DISTRICT 3 ATTEND YOUR DISTRICT MEETING

Thursday, March 14, 2024

First Evangelical Lutheran Church 1206 N. St. Joseph Street

Registration: 6:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate individuals as Director-Candidates to represent you on the Board of Directors as well as share in topics of interest to you on Cooperative-related matters.



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717 N. Hwy 123 Bypass Seguin, Texas 78155 (Located directly behind Valvoline Express Care) (830)379-8100

Gonzales Healthcare Systems March 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
Austin MFM	Dr. Echols	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	Amy Trost Dr. Miller
Austin MFM Dr. Malik Dr. Desai	Dr. Echols Dr. Quintero	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Twitero	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	Dr. Bui
Austin MFM	Dr. Echols	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller	Dr. Ryan Dr. Malik Dr. Echols	
Austin MFM	Dr. Echols	Dr. Quebedeaux	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols Dr. Kirchner	

Located at THRIVE Healthplex
Orthopedics: Gloria Box, MD 830-672-8497
Surgery: Kathleen Koerner, DO, FACOS 830-672-8497

Cardiology: William Craig, MD 830-672-3845
Dermatology: Alpesh Desai, DO 713-864-2659

Specialty Physician Outpatient Clinic

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

Pain Management: Eric Miller, MD 830-272-7746

Urology: Robert Ryan, III, MD 830-379-8491

Ophthalmology: Joseph Kavanagh, MD 830-379-3937

Orthopedics: Trent Twitero, MD 830-625-0009

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

Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine: 512-821-2540



Community HomeWord Class begins study of Abraham

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Have you ever wanted to study the entire Bible in the comfort of your own home? Well, now's your chance! Ralph McGarity is leading a class that you can attend remotely. Everyone is welcome, regardless of Bible knowledge or church background.

Remote Format: You can attend by phone or Zoom. If you have a phone, smartphone, tablet, or computer, you can participate. The other attendees are your neighbors and friends in the Gonzales community.

Description: The Community HomeWord class provides

Gonzales with an in-depth look at the Bible, and it will soon begin a study of Abraham, Genesis 12-25. We have participants from many church backgrounds and walks of life. We use the book series by Bible expert Warren Wiersbe.* Before meeting each week, Ralph sends out a chapter summary from which he bases the week's lesson. During the session, we study each Bible verse to extract from it God's message, guided by Wiersbe's insights. If God has been calling you to study His scripture or learn more about Him, this class may be the answer.

We will begin studying the study of Abraham on March 11,

so that would be a perfect point to join us.

Your Commitment: If you attend these one-hour weekly sessions, you will improve your understanding of the Bible and of God. If you prepare in advance by reading the scripture and weekly summary, you will gain even more of God's wisdom.

Audience: We encourage both those who are homebound and those who are not to attend.

Prerequisites and Participation: No prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary to benefit from this class. Your verbal participation is welcome but optional. So, if you are a shy person or you feel you do not

know much about the Bible, don't worry.

Technology requirements: If you know how to dial a phone, you can dial in and participate by listening and speaking. If you want a more visually immersive experience, you can use Zoom. Ralph, a recently retired engineer, has many years of experience hosting Zoom meetings, and he will gladly help you with technical issues.

Meeting Time: The class meets every Monday from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Expenses: None.

Next step: If interested, please call or text 830-672-6721 or email ralph_mcgarity@yahoo.com. Or, if you have used Zoom

before, you can click on this link on December 11, 2023, at 5:30:

<https://www.bit.ly/CommunityHomeWord>
Meeting ID, if required: 896 1128 5778

Passcode if Required: 692468

* Dr. Warren W. Wiersbe (1929-2019) was an internationally known Bible teacher, author, and conference speaker. He served as the pastor of Moody Church in Chicago from 1971 to 1978. He wrote over 170 books, including the popular BE series, which has sold over four million copies. The Evangelical Christian Publishers Association (ECPA) awarded him the Gold Medallion Lifetime Achievement.

OBITUARY

JOSE JUAN PEREZ

Jose Juan Perez, 55, of Gonzales, went to join the Lord on Wednesday February 28, 2024. He was born on October 06, 1968, in Dolores Hidalgo, Guanajuato, Mexico. He married Valentina Correa on September 07, 2002, in Gonzales, and together they raised their 7 children.



José Juan Pérez, de 55 años, de Gonzales, paso a estar con el señor el miércoles, 28 de febrero de 2024. El nació el 06 de octubre de 1968 en Dolores Hidalgo, Guanajuato, México. Se caso con su esposa Valentina Correa el 07 de

septiembre de 2002 en Gonzales, y juntos criaron a sus 7 hijos.

José era muy trabajador. Ya sea cuidando su jardín, trabajando en proyectos en la casa o cuidando a sus animales, disfrutaba estar al aire libre. Los sábados, le encantaba ir a las subastas de ganado locales. Por encima de todo, José fue un gran padre. Dio todo lo que tenía para cuidar a su esposa e hijos, y siempre estuvo ahí para apoyarlos y guiarlos en la vida.

Se llevará a cabo un velorio en la funeraria Seydler - Hill el martes 5 de marzo de 2024, de 5:00 p.m. a 7:00 p.m. y un rosario comenzará a las 7:00 p.m. Una misa de resurrección tendrá lugar en la Iglesia Católica del Sagrado Corazón el miércoles 6 de marzo de 2024 a las 2:00 p.m. El entierro seguirá en el Cementerio Católico St. James. Los portadores del féretro incluirán a Jesús Pérez, Eduardo Pérez, Fabián Cárdoza, José Luis Pérez, Daniel Pérez y Juan Ramón Pérez. Los amigos y familiares pueden dejar sus condolencias a la familia visitando www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com

Todos los servicios están bajo el cuidado y la dirección de Seydler - Hill Funeral Home.

Jose was a hard worker, he loved working with his hands. Whether it was tending to his yard, working on projects around the house, or caring for his animals, he enjoyed being outside. On Saturdays, he loved attending the local livestock auctions. Above everything else, Jose was a great father. He gave everything he had to care for his wife and children, and he was always there to support them and guide them through life.

A visitation will be held at Seydler - Hill Funeral Home on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm and a rosary will begin at 7:00pm. A mass of the resurrection will take place at Sacred Heart Catholic Church on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 2:00pm. Interment will follow at St. James Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers will include Jesus Perez, Eduardo Perez, Fabian Cardoza, Jose Luis Perez, Daniel Perez and Juan Ramon Perez. Friends and family may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com

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



A cast scene from "Accommodations" includes, from left, Jodi Adamek, Gabe Adamek, Chuck Stratman, Josh Kaspar.

Tickets go on sale March 11 for Gaslight Theatre's 'Accommodations'

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

It is time to reserve your tickets for "Accommodations," the spring play at the Shiner Gaslight Theatre. Josh Kaspar, director, is assisted by Jim Winkenwerder (light and sound), Elaine Berkovsky (stage manager) and Tatum Carson (crew).

This poignant comedy revolves around a woman who leaves her husband and

moves into an apartment she believes will be shared by two other women. At the same time, one of the 'room mates' thinks the same thing - only he believes it's two other men!

The ensuing complications make a hysterical evening of entertainment for the whole family with a happy ending for everyone. This play was made into the popular 1980s TV show, "Three's Company." Friday, Saturday and Sun-

day performances are April 5-7, 12-14, 19-21. A Wednesday performance is April 17. All are in the evening except for Sunday matinees. A meal is served before the play.

General tickets sales begin Monday, March 11. Please call 361-594-2079 between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. on weekdays to reserve. All tickets must be reserved in advance. For more information log onto www.shinergaslight.org.



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ACROSS

- 1 slightly wet
- 5 TXism: "went to the well ___ too often"
- 6 "don't put all your ___ in one basket"
- 7 "I will do nothing of the ___"
- 8 TX Willie & Kenny sang "We ___ the World" in 1985
- 9 moon to Houston on 7/20/1969: "The Eagle ___ Landed"
- 12 Beaumont University
- 17 TX Ellie Breaux was 1st Runner-Up of 2024 Miss America
- 19 TXism: "panting like a lizard ___ ___ rock"
- 21 "she ___ ___ of the world" (happy)
- 22 in Palo Pinto County on highway 16
- 23 "___ a leak"
- 28 "___ areas" on Texas highways
- 29 groupings of dominos
- 30 TXism: "happy ___ ___ with two tails"
- 31 TXism: "pay ___ ___ never mind"
- 35 Rio Grande City is seat of this county
- 36 TXism: "mean as a ___"
- 42 Lone Star Museum has a NASA Motion Base ___
- 44 "Texas Goes ___ ___" (about WWII)

- 46 "she ___ ___ on him" (unfaithful)
- 48 a tater
- 49 follows OT in the Bible
- 50 Haing S. ___ was in "Vietnam, Texas"
- 51 TXism: "___ piece" (distant)
- 52 Hobby arrival est.
- 53 Texas beach substance that's easy on the feet
- 54 TXism: "tax wranglers"

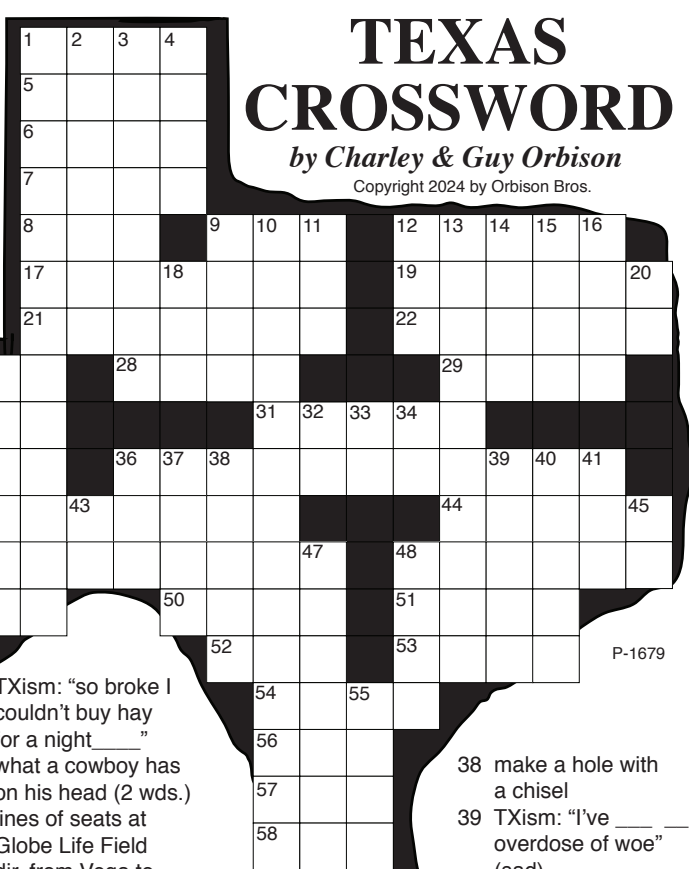
DOWN

- 1 TXism for "yes" (4 wds.)
- 2 Texas has the most of these mohair goats in the U.S.
- 3 in McLennan County on U.S. 84
- 4 Texas fire ant, e.g.
- 9 ten-gallon lids
- 10 TXism: "that's ___ his belt" (success)
- 11 oil or gas additive
- 12 "___ Ebanos Ferry" crosses Rio Grande
- 13 TXism: "ran like ___ burning stump"

- 14 TXism: "so broke I couldn't buy hay for a night ___"
- 15 what a cowboy has on his head (2 wds.)
- 16 lines of seats at Globe Life Field dir. from Vega to Pampa
- 18 dir. from Vega to Pampa
- 20 Davy's home st.
- 23 Alamo City (abbr.)
- 24 longest book of the Bible (abbr.)
- 25 stool pigeons
- 26 TX "Red" who was an oil well firefighter
- 27 This Bates was a momma's boy in 1960 film "Psycho"

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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SUDOKU

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

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.

ELECTION RESULTS — GONZALES COUNTY

Republican Primary

PRESIDENT

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
Vivek Ramaswamy	8	0	8	0
Chris Christie	8	1	5	2
Asa Hutchinson	2	0	2	0
David Stuckenberg	5	0	3	2
Nikki Haley	395	11	250	134
Ryan L. Binkley	7	0	7	0
Donald J. Trump	2,672	84	1,601	987
Ron DeSantis	42	2	25	15
Uncommitted	80	1	58	21

US SENATOR

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
R E (Rufus) Lopez	109	0	63	46
Holland "Redd" Gibson	170	5	109	56
Ted Cruz	2,674	91	1,618	965

US REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 27

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
Chris Mapp	166	0	95	71
Luis A. Espindola	139	0	77	62
Michael Cloud	2,307	84	1,458	765
Scott Mandel	246	4	142	100

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 44

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
Alan Schoolcraft	1,512	34	900	578
John Kuempel	1,258	60	802	396
David Freimarck	56	2	34	20
Greg Switzer	133	3	85	45

COUNTY COMMISSIONER - PRECINCT 1

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
David Janota	58	6	31	21
Anton W "Tony" Matias	509	17	374	118
Ryan W Mills	499	15	347	137

COUNTY COMMISSIONER - PRECINCT 3

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
Tommy Barnick	432	14	255	163
Roy A Staton	520	11	300	209

CONSTABLE - PRECINCT 1

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
Johnnie Hall	1,710	41	1,165	504
Scott Rhodes Sr	393	13	238	142

Democratic Primary

PRESIDENT

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
Marianne Williamson	7	0	5	2
Dean Phillips	12	0	7	5
Armando "Mando" Perez-Serrato	15	0	9	6
Joseph R. Biden Jr.	213	25	100	87
Cenk Uygur	2	0	2	0
Frankie Lozada	2	0	1	1
Star Locke	0	0	0	0
Gabriel A. Comejo	2	0	1	1

US SENATOR

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
Heli Rodriguez Prilliman	10	0	5	5
Thierry Tchenko	6	0	1	5
Steven J. Keough	9	1	6	2
A. "Robert" Hassan	5	0	2	3
Colin Allred	121	19	66	36
Meri Gomez	14	0	6	8
Mark Gonzalez	31	5	14	12
Roland Gutierrez	40	0	20	20
Carl Oscar Sherman	6	1	3	2

US REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 27

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
Tanya Lloyd	133	13	72	48
Anthony (A.J.) Tristan	85	13	40	32

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 44

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
Eric Norman	205	27	100	78



Summary Results Report

Joint Primary March 5, 2024

Statistics

	TOTAL	Absentee	Early Voting	Election Day
Registered Voters - Total	0			
Ballots Cast - Total	3,530	128	2,121	1,281
Ballots Cast - Republican Party	3,259	101	1,986	1,172
Ballots Cast - Democratic Party	271	27	135	109
Ballots Cast - NONPARTISAN	0	0	0	0
Ballots Cast - Blank	2	0	2	0
Voter Turnout - Total	0.00%			

RESULTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to thank my family and everyone who supported me through this election. I can't wait to get to work (in January). I'm ready."

"I thought it was a pretty good turnout for the election," Barnick said. "Congratulations to Mr. Staton and thank you to all who supported me."

A graduate of Gonzales High School, Staton was a former electrical/line superintendent for city of Luling after previously working for GVEC as a lineman. He has been with Gonzales County Precinct 3 Road and Bridge for 13 years and also owned and operated Staton's Wild Hogs for nearly 15 years. Staton has also volunteered with the Gonzales and Ottine volunteer fire departments and the Gonzales County Area Go Texan committee.

Among the issues he may have to deal with upon taking office will be necessary upgrades to the Gonzales County Courthouse as well as the possible need for a new Gonzales County Jail building.

PRECINCT 1

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

candidate in the race, David Janota, received 58 total votes (31 early voting, 21 election day and six absentee).

However, neither Matias nor Mills could cross the threshold of 50.01 percent, or one vote over 50 percent of the total votes cast, which means they will now face each other a second time in a Tuesday, May 28 runoff.

The winner of that runoff will essentially be elected the incoming Precinct 1 commissioner as there is no Democrat candidate in the November general election and he would assume office on Jan. 1, 2025, succeeding incumbent Precinct 1 Commissioner K.O. "Dell" Whiddon, who did not seek re-election.

"I am pleased with the results from last night and how it turned out," Matias said. "We do have a runoff with early voting on May 20-24 and election day on May 28. Your vote would be very appreciated so please come out and vote during early voting or on election day. I thank everyone for their support and God Bless."

"I am thankful and grateful for those who came out to vote for me," Mills said. "I thought the voter turnout was significantly lower than what I had expected. I do think I finished about where I thought where I would be, close to the 50 percent mark, but I expected another 500 or so voters in the race and I thought it might be split a little more evenly among the three candidates."

"I am very pleased with making the runoff and I think we all knew with three men running, there was likely going to be a runoff. This job is about more than just maintaining county roads as there is a lot that the commissioners do and control in the county. I am glad to have a chance to move forward and on to runoff."

Early voting for the May 28 runoff will be May 20-24 with times and locations to be announced.

RUNOFF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ther Schoolcraft nor Kuempel could muster enough votes to cross the threshold necessary for election — one more than 50 percent of the total number of votes cast in the race.

In complete but unofficial returns, with 100 percent of the votes counted, Schoolcraft received 10,910 votes, or 48.11 percent, to 10,213, or 45.04 percent, for Kuempel. Switzer had received 1,030 votes, or 4.54 percent, while Freimarck received 523, or 2.31 percent.

The winner of the May 28 runoff election will face the sole Democrat candidate, Eric Norman, in the November general election.

Schoolcraft touted his endorsements from several top Republicans, including Gov. Greg Abbott and Attorney General Ken Paxton, both of whom had targeted Kuempel due to his votes against Abbott's school voucher plan and for his vote to impeach Paxton last year.

"From Day One, I have demonstrated that I am undeniably the real conservative in this race. Not a single moment have I wavered from my dedication to faith, family values and conservative principles," Schoolcraft said in a statement. "I urge every conservative in this district to stand up now in this runoff election and choose a true champion for their values."

"I'm very grateful to thousands of Guadalupe and Gonzales County conservatives for propelling us into the runoff in such a strong position," Kuempel said. "We are fighting relentlessly to advance our Christian values, deliver record-setting property tax relief, and fully secure our border. Now, it's on to victory in the May 28 runoff and even more conservative results for our families God Bless Texas!"

RUNOFF REMINDER

If you voted in the Democratic primary on March 5, you cannot cross over and vote in the Republican runoff on May 28. Texas does not allow cross-party primary voting. However, if you voted in the Republican primary or did not vote at all in either primary, you may still vote in the May 28 runoff as long as you are registered to vote by April 29. Early voting will be held May 20-24.

Victoria College offers scholarships to high school seniors; deadline March 8

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College is encouraging graduating high school seniors to apply for scholarships by the upcoming March 8 priority deadline. Once students have

been accepted for admission to Victoria College, they are able to apply for more than one hundred available scholarships by submitting one application. Scholarships are available for students pursuing a variety of academic interests and career paths.

The scholarship application remains open through Aug. 30, but early applicants have a greater opportunity of being awarded a scholarship.

To learn more about available scholarships and how to apply, visit VictoriaCollege.edu/Scholarships.

INCIDENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the GMH Emergency Room and the gun was discovered by a male witness. The male witness attempted to confront the male subject, who then fled the hospital on foot.

The male subject had arrived at the hospital with a white female subject who was attempting to receive medical services and a Hispanic male juvenile subject who also departed prior to law enforcement arriving.

The pistol was recovered and secured by officers on the scene. Officers

then spoke with the individuals who witnessed and had contact with the male subject, and they reported that no threats or assaults were made to anyone on scene.

"Law enforcement has positively identified two of the three subjects. Currently, it is still an active investigation," Montoya said. "Gonzales Police Department would like to thank all responding law enforcement agencies and responding hospital staff for their quick response."

ALAMO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Fletcher Clark-penned ballad of "The Immortal 32."

On March 6, 1836, after 13 days of intermittent fighting, the Battle of the Alamo in San Antonio came to a gruesome end, capping off a pivotal moment in the Texas Revolution. To commemorate the losses of the 41 brave Gonzaleans that fought, a yellow rose will be placed in their honor at the foot of the Immortal 32 monument during an official roll call.

There were nine men from Gonzales already stationed in the

Alamo mission when the Immortal 32 came to provide reinforcements for the Alamo defenders. Descendants from the families of those who perished will be present Wednesday to represent their loved ones who made the ultimate sacrifice for Texas freedom.

From 6:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Sunday, March 10, at Texas Heroes Square, there will be one final event — a candlelight vigil to recognize and commemorate the sacrifice and hardships experienced by the families and community of Gonzales

in the aftermath, known as the Runway Scrape.

Susanna Dickinson, the wife of fallen Alamo defender Almaron Dickinson, will "appear" to tell of the Siege and Fall of the Alamo along with Joe, the personal servant of Lt. Col. William B. Travis, commander of the Alamo, who accompanied her on her trip to Gonzales.

Clark will be at the ceremony to perform his original music about the "Runaway Scrape" and about Gonzales' place in the struggle for Texas independence.

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SHOW

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ers, roasters, turkeys, market rabbits and fryer rabbits starting at 6 p.m. Friday in the arena and layered cakes, crafts and Ag mechanics in the barn.

Judging continues at 9 a.m. Saturday with market hogs, breeder hogs, market lambs, market goats, breeder goats, market steers, local bred steers and 4-H Clover bucket calves.

The buyers' buffet and registration then begins at 4

p.m. Saturday, followed by the auction at 5 p.m. Bucket calf projects will be introduced, followed by auctions for layered cakes, crafts, steers, local bred steers, market goats, market hogs, individual Ag mechanics, team Ag mechanics, market lambs, market rabbits, turkeys and then broilers.

All participants then are required to take part in the mandatory clean-up of the

arena and show barn at 8 a.m. Sunday, March 10.

In order to take part in the Nixon-Smilely Livestock Show, an exhibitor must be a full-time student in grades 3-12 and not have graduated or completed a GED program. They must either be in home school or in school at Nixon-Smilely CISD and either reside in the Nixon-Smilely CISD or attend school there.

Exhibitors must be a member in good standing of at least one of the following clubs: Nixon 4-H Club, Smiley 4-H Club, Leesville 4-H Club, Nixon-Smilely FFA and/or Nixon-Smilely FCCLA and cannot be expelled, suspended or enrolled in alternative school any time after Jan. 1 in the calendar year of the show.

Also, each exhibitor must volunteer four hours of

community service at the show grounds prior to the livestock show check-in and they are required to write hand-written thank you notes to each buyer of his/her project or to any add-on buyer the exhibitor receives. Any exhibitor awarded a medal, buckle, vest or rosette also is required to write a hand-written thank you note to each donor of the award.

FIRE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

wildfires.

The disaster especially hits close to home for Ricky and Kelly Lester, owners of the Lester Ranch, who donated the use of their truck and trailer to haul not one, but two loads so far to the Panhandle.

Kelly Lester's brother, Kyle Miller, is not only a Gonzales High School graduate but also the Hemphill County Attorney in Canadian, where some of the greatest destruction from the Smokehouse Creek Fire can be found.

"We've had so many Gonzales people really outpouring their love to everyone that has been affected," Ricky Lester said Tuesday, March 5. "The people of Gonzales have gone overboard when it comes to giving and we're getting load No. 2 ready to go right now at Fehner & Son. We're in the cattle business and we understand that when devastation like that comes, people need help."

Donations came pouring in on Thursday, Feb. 29, right before the start of the Gonzales County Youth Stock Show, which was being held right across from Fehner & Son Grain Co. at the J.B. Wells Arena, and continued throughout the weekend and into this week.

The first truck left for the Panhandle on Sunday, March 3, with 14 pallets of cubes; four pallets of Creep; two pallets of T-posts; a pallet of wire; four pallets of horse feed; seven bags of salt meal; 15 bags of sheep and goat feed; two pallets of water; plus vet supplies, cloths, fencing supplies, milk replacement, dog food, wound care, vet wrap, cattle bottles and even \$3,900 in cash donations.

Ricky Lester said his daughter, Loni Kay Yates (phone 830-857-6249), has been in contact with relief coordinators in Canadian and Miami and was taking donations through Venmo and using it to purchase additional supplies if necessary.

Fehner & Son was also accepting purchases of

supplies made on behalf of the fire victims that can be donated by contacting the store. The Gonzales County 4-H office at 623 N. Fair St. has also been accepting donations on behalf of fire victims.

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller expressed "deep concern for the affected communities and the agricultural impact," noting the Panhandle region "is facing significant losses, impacting farmers and ranchers profoundly." According to Miller, the Smokehouse Creek Fire is the largest recorded in Texas at more than 1,075,000 acres; the second largest fire in the nation's history; and is larger than the top 20 largest wildfires in California over the past 90 years.

"I pledge my ongoing support for our neighbors who have a long road ahead to recovery from this disaster," Commissioner Miller said. "I know of ranchers who have lost everything. Our agency will continue its efforts to do everything we can through our STAR Fund, AgriStress Helpline, Hay Hotline, and by partnering with other agencies to lend a helping hand.

"Cattle and crop losses in the Panhandle are significant and infrastructure damage is catastrophic. Even those Texans fortunate enough to save their herd may not have anything to return to but ashes. The path forward as an agricultural operation is unclear without home and belongings. Hemphill County has reported over a thousand missing or dead cattle and several dead horses, goats, and sheep. Numbers in Hemphill County and other impacted areas are expected to rise as the smoldering fire subsides and assessment can be conducted."

Miller also mourned the death of Fritch Fire Chief Zeb Smith, who "made the ultimate sacrifice while battling to contain the devastation plaguing our community."

"Amidst the destruc-



CONTRIBUTED

Fenceposts, wire and other supplies are also needed by ranchers and farmers in the Panhandle who have seen millions of acres burned by wildfire since last month.

tion of hundreds of miles of fencing, numerous structures, and the tragic loss of over 6000 cattle, our first responders have shown remarkable bravery in their efforts to protect lives," Miller said. "Thanks to their unwavering courage, they have managed to prevent even greater loss of life during this unprecedented disaster. Today, as we mourn the loss of Chief Smith, let us honor his bravery and the selflessness of all our emergency personnel who continue to risk their lives to keep us safe."

Miller praised the generosity of Texans all over the state, including those in Gonzales County, for stepping up to "donate hay and feed resources, to support emergency responder needs, and provide transportation to haul livestock and hay as needed."

"I am immensely grateful for the unity and generosity shown by Texans during this challenging time," Commissioner Miller said. "The unwavering support and assistance I've witnessed is a testament to the strength of our state. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the emergency personnel and all those who have selflessly united to aid those affected by the wildfires."

The state has temporarily suspended oversize/overweight permitting requirements for vehicles and loads associated with activities necessary to respond to the disaster and has set up livestock supply points. Additionally, the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has facilitated a waiver of animal movement documentation for livestock producers because of the 2024 Texas Panhandle wildfire.

GISD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

munity, we bumped it up to March this year," said GISD Chief Financial Officer Amanda Smith.

Smith recommended to the board that the tuition stay at \$5,150 and the board approved keeping it at that amount for the upcoming school year.

In other business, Athletic Director Joey Rivera spoke to the board about approving the GISD Local Board Policy FFAA(Local) A-1 Update 114 Amendment.

Rivera said the policy is in regards to "required medical clearance" to participate in University Interscholastic league (UIL) programs and other district extracurricular programs.

"This amendment will change the current policy of physical examination from being completed prior to junior high participation, and again, prior to first and third years of high school participation to an annual physical examination," Rivera said.

Athletic trainer Jeremy Phillips said currently the district does it every other year for band and some of the other extracurricular activities.

"The downside to that is they don't see their physician every year. They see them every other year. Most districts have moved to yearly because in that off year, things slip through the cracks. Something happened, something changes in their health, and we don't know about it, something

happens. And we have to address it," Phillips said.

Phillips added in a post-COVID world, they are seeing athletes and young students who had COVID who are having cardiac issues. He said seeing a physician yearly is highly recommend.

GISD will fall in line with other districts who do yearly physical examinations like Cuero, Lockhart and Pleasanton.

"Additionally, there's no added costs to our kids or district. We work with Sievers Medical Clinic to do our physicals for free in May and we're doing it again this year. And it is open to all GSD students, extracurriculars, band, cheer athletes — they can all come whatever that day is," Phillips said.

"Furthermore, even if they want to go to their own physician for clearance, most medical insurance policies will cover annual physicals, so there's no cost for them out of their pocket and there's no cost for us either," Phillips added.

The board approved the amendment for GISD Local Board Policy FFAA(Local) A-1 Update 114 Amendment.

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

- approved Representatives for Lone Star Investment Pool.

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