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Vol. 171, No. 47

Thursday, April 18, 2024

# The Gonzales Inquirer

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Country singer Koe Wetzel performs day one of the Cattle Country Festival in Gonzales, Texas Friday, April 12.

WANDY VAN EPPS

CITY OF GONZALES

## Council discusses partnership with YMCA, approves waste services from Frontier

BY VANDY VAN EPPS  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales City Council met for its regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, April 11 at Gonzales City Hall.

One of the main topics of discussion was a proposed partnership between the YMCA Gonzales and the city; many members of the YMCA Gonzales board were present, including former mayor Connie Kacir, who is the YMCA Gonzales president.

"The YMCA is excited to be in Gonzales and serve the children of our community. The opportunity is one many cities could only dream of having," said

See CITY, page A10

## Inaugural Cattle Country Music Fest shines bright, thanks to star power

BY VANDY VAN EPPS  
Gonzales Inquirer

The city of Gonzales was on display on a worldwide stage with the first annual Cattle Country Music Festival held Friday, April 12 through Sunday, April 14.

The festival had many country and southern rock music lovers gathering for three days for a star-studded line up from Koe Wetzel, Whiskey Myers, Eric Church, Tracy Lawrence, Tanya Tucker, Randy Rogers Band, Colbie Caillat, The Glorious Sons, KALEO, Sublime with Rome and more.



WANDY VAN EPPS

Cattle Country Fest attendees dance in front of the Come and Take It stage Saturday, April 13.

See FESTIVAL, page A14

## Brassell to be honored as TJA Detention Officer of the Year

BY LEW K. COHN  
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County Jail Corrections Officer Cpl. William Brassell will be honored as the Detention Officer of the Year - Valor at the Texas Jail Association's 38th annual conference next month in San Marcos, Sheriff Keith Schmidt told county commissioners last week.

Brassell and his family will be honored TJA guests at the Embassy Suites in San Marcos on May 6-10 and Brassell will receive the award during the banquet on Thursday, May 9.

See BRASSELL, page A13

## Sales tax allocations back up for Gonzales Co. municipalities

BY LEW K. COHN  
Inquirer Publisher

Sales taxes for Gonzales County municipalities in April 2024 were just slightly better than what they received last April — but much better than what they had received just a month ago.

Combined sales tax allocations for the month of April

See TAX, page A11



LEW K. COHN

New Nixon City Council member Pat Dingler, left, is sworn in by Nixon Municipal Judge Deidra Voigt during the Monday, April 15, regular council meeting.

## Nixon swears in new council member, discusses vehicle and software purchases

BY LEW K. COHN  
Inquirer Publisher

New Nixon City Council member Pat Dingler was sworn in to office Monday, April 15, by Nixon Municipal Judge Deidra Voigt. Dingler was chosen by the council on April 8 to serve out the remaining term of former Council member Melissa Pompa, who was hired to be the

city's new finance officer.

Dingler was seated on the council dais immediately after taking the oath of office and had several intriguing items to vote on at Monday's meeting, including authorizing the purchase of new vehicles by the Nixon Police Department.

Nixon will order three 2025

See NIXON, page A13

## Gonzales ranked among most picturesque small towns to visit for a weekend retreat in Texas

BY BETTY COHN  
Gonzales Inquirer

An online national magazine has found Gonzales among the 9 most picturesque small towns in Texas to visit for a weekend retreat.

Texas is vastly beautiful, as well as being the second largest state in the United States, with its size alone guaranteeing both a diversity of landscapes to explore, as well as coastal leisure spots. While bigger cities, such as Houston, Dallas, Austin, San

Antonio and other metropolitan areas often capture the national attention for visitors and things to aspire in visiting, it's those smaller towns that are often the most lovable, capturing

See VISIT, page A11

2 SECTIONS  
22 PAGES



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# Day tripping: Palmetto State Park listed among best quick getaways from Austin

BY BETTY COHN  
Gonzales Inquirer

A national magazine has listed Palmetto State Park, just north of Gonzales, among the best day trips from Austin to take for the summer.

Listed in this trip are also the Hamilton Pool Preserve, which is about 30 miles or 45 minutes by car west of Austin. Named as Texas' most beautiful watering hole, Hamilton Pool captivates visitors from all over the state of Texas, with a

jade colored lake and glistening waterfall along a limestone canyon. The San Marcos River, which flows to a convergence with the Guadalupe River in Gonzales, is mentioned for the kayaking, and the crystal-clear springs and river which originate in San Marcos is a haven for all wildlife lovers. The area around the springs is known as one of the oldest continually inhabited areas in North America.

In Gonzales, the Palmetto State Park is highlighted for

the activities and beauty offered by the area, as well as the charming town, itself, the one we are all lucky enough to call home.

Also listed is San Antonio, and of course the River Walk and Alamo, among other things. Inner Space Caverns is next to be mentioned, with the highlight on caverns and limestone caves. Jacob's Well in Wimberley follows on this list, labeled as a cool haven from Texas heat, with the promise of hikes and nature.

Lake Travis rounds out the list, with boating, fishing and water sports emphasized. Waterfront restaurants are mentioned among the many offerings of the area.

With a day trip being, literally, a small vacation, bringing with it the many chances to explore, relax and refill on physical, mental and emotional energies, all of these places would fit the bill, though we are partial to believing Gonzales to be the best out of the bunch of wonderful choices.



Carol Gutierrez

Fabiola Mendez

## Waelder sending 2 to UIL Regionals in academics

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Waelder has two students advancing to Regionals in UIL Academics competition in Brenham on Friday, April 26.

At the District UIL Meet, Carol Gutierrez won first place overall in Science with second in Biology, second in Chemistry, and fourth in Physics.

Fabiola Mendez came in fourth overall with fifth place in Biology and fourth in Chemistry. Fabiola will compete in Regionals as Alternate replacing the third place contestant.

## Seventh graders to learn about DeWitt Colony history

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Gonzales Junior High School seventh grade will learn more about the history of their hometown and their county during a special program on Tuesday, April 23.

Gonzales County Historical Commission chair Glenda Gordon said the first of several

events to celebrate the bicentennial of DeWitt's Colony, which operated from 1825 to 1836, will be held on April 23.

It will include a tour by the seventh graders of Pioneer Village, a program at the Gonzales Memorial Museum amphitheater featuring singer-songwriter and historian Fletcher Clark and the dedica-

tion of interpretive panels to be installed at Kerr Creek.

Groups will take turns visiting Pioneer Village and the Memorial Museum before reuniting for lunch at Lion's Park and then returning to school for afternoon classes.

Other upcoming events include the Thursday, May 16, "Introducing DeWitt Colony"

luncheon co-sponsored by Gonzales County Judge Pat Davis and the GCHC for invited county and regional participants at the old Edwards High School classrooms. Then, on Sept. 27-28, GCHC will host a DeWitt Colony Bicentennial Heritage Fair and Symposium at the Edwards COMMUNITY Center gymnasium.



COURTESY PHOTOS

LCRA employees clean up brush at Independence Park in Gonzales during LCRA's Steps Forward Day on April 12. During the annual day of service, employees worked on 36 community projects throughout LCRA's service territory.

## Volunteers take on community projects during annual LCRA Steps Forward Day

Day of service included removing brush at Gonzales city park

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Hundreds of Lower Colorado River Authority employees picked up paint brushes, shovels and more on Friday, April 12, to volunteer on dozens of community projects throughout Texas during LCRA's annual day of service, Steps Forward Day.

In Gonzales, LCRA employees cleaned up brush at Independence Park. City of Gonzales employees joined LCRA on this project.

Other Steps Forward Day projects ranged from installing new landscaping and building a shade structure at San Saba River Nature Park to adding sand and mulch to the play areas at Play for All Abilities Park in Round Rock to painting and sealing the exterior of the city animal shelter in Shiner.

"Steps Forward Day is a day to work hard, have fun and give back to our

customer communities," LCRA General Manager Phil Wilson said. "This year, about 700 employees volunteered to pitch in on these projects to help support Texans and Texas communities."

Wilson said LCRA has a strong legacy of service.

"Our volunteers tackle projects that communities might not have the time and resources to complete on their own, and we're excited to see these projects to the finish line," Wilson said. "It's a way of saying 'thank you' to our customers and helping to make a real difference in the communities in which we work."

This year, LCRA employees volunteered on 36 Steps Forward Day projects in 30 communities: Austin, Bertram, Brady, Brenham, Burnet, Burton, Cuero, Dripping Springs, Eagle Lake, Flatonia, Fredericksburg, Giddings, Gonzales, Granite Shoals, Hempstead, Lexington, Llano, Lockhart, Luling, Mason, Pflugerville, Prairie Lea, Round Rock, San Angelo, San Marcos, San Saba, Schulenburg, Shiner, Smithville and Weimar. LCRA launched its

**“Steps Forward Day is a day to work hard, have fun and give back to our customer communities. This year, about 700 employees volunteered to pitch in on these projects to help support Texans and Texas communities.”**

— Phil Wilson, LCRA General Manager

Steps Forward employee volunteer program in 2015. LCRA works with its customers to identify service projects in their communities, supplies

the labor and helps provide the materials needed to complete the projects. For more information, visit [www.lcra.org/steps-forward](http://www.lcra.org/steps-forward).

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## Celebrations Birthdays

<b>April 18th</b> Sandi Huber O.B. Porter	<b>April 22nd</b> Cindy Breitschopf-Davis Rebecca Bujnoch Chase Nesloney
<b>April 19th</b> Vernice Lowery	<b>April 23rd</b> Paisley Jo Ramos
<b>April 20th</b> Paris Flach Glen Holcombe Caitlyn Kistler Ashton Miller Sara Perez	<b>April 24th</b> Megan Massey Gloria Martinez Ralph Null Brittany Salazar
<b>April 21st</b> Michelle Dolezal	








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## Gonzales Weather

	<b>April 18</b> 84°/66°	Intervals of clouds and sun 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 92
	<b>April 19</b> 76°/62°	Cloudy, windy and not as warm 2% chance of rain • RealFeel 73
	<b>April 20</b> 72°/59°	Mostly sunny 1% chance of rain • RealFeel 76
	<b>April 21</b> 70°/56°	Intervals of clouds and sunshine 4% chance of rain • RealFeel 75
	<b>April 22</b> 71°/56°	Cloudy 8% chance of rain • RealFeel 69
	<b>April 23</b> 77°/64°	Low clouds 13% chance of rain • RealFeel 76
	<b>April 24</b> 77°/68°	Low clouds 8% chance of rain • RealFeel 77

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## Sales Tax Holiday for Emergency Supplies, April 27-29

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

As we enter the severe weather season, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar reminds Texans they can purchase certain items tax free during the state's sales tax holiday for emergency preparation supplies, which begins at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, April 27, and ends at midnight on Monday, April 29.

"Fires, tornadoes and other severe weather conditions can strike at any time, so it is important that families, homes and businesses have the supplies they need to face these and other emergencies," Hegar said. "There is no sense in waiting for disaster to strike. I'm encouraging Texans to take advantage of this tax holiday to save money while stocking up for emergency situations."

The Comptroller's office estimates shoppers will save about \$2.1 million in state and local sales taxes during the tax holiday, which was approved by the Texas Legislature in 2015.

There's no limit on the number of qualifying items you can purchase. These include:

- household batteries, fuel containers and flashlights priced less than \$75;
- hurricane shutters and emergency ladders priced less than \$300; and
- portable generators priced less than \$3,000.

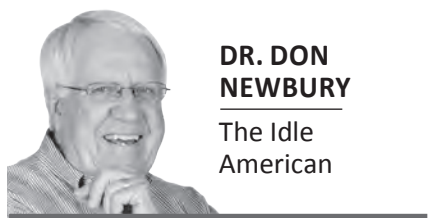
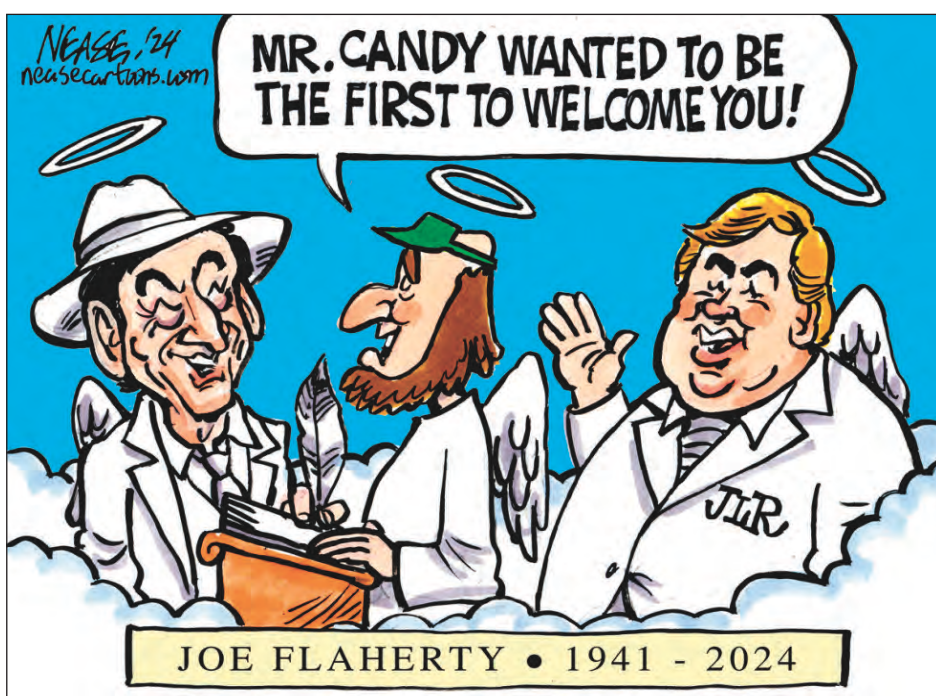
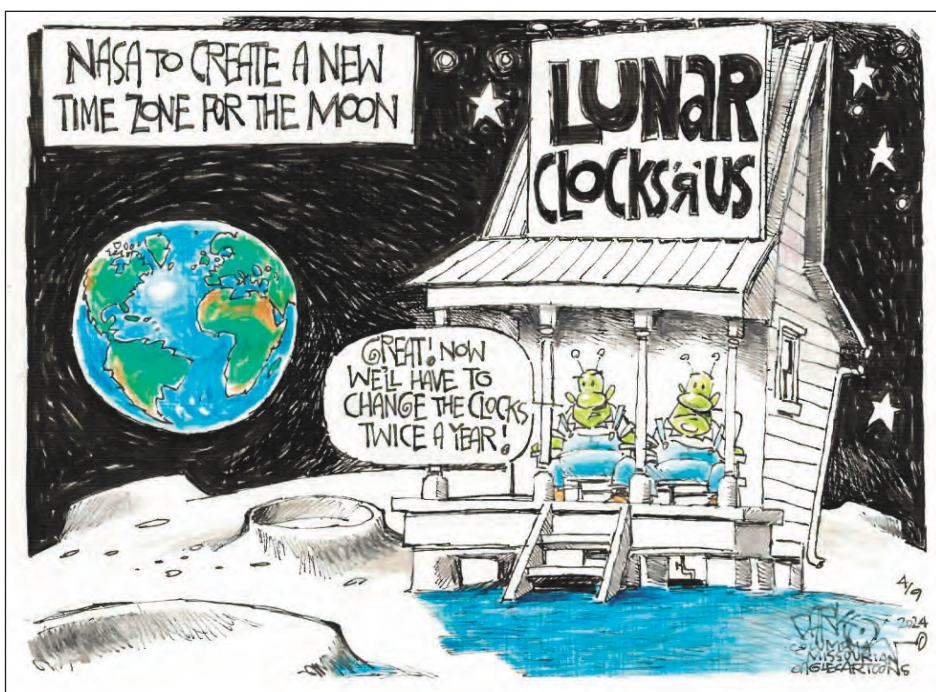
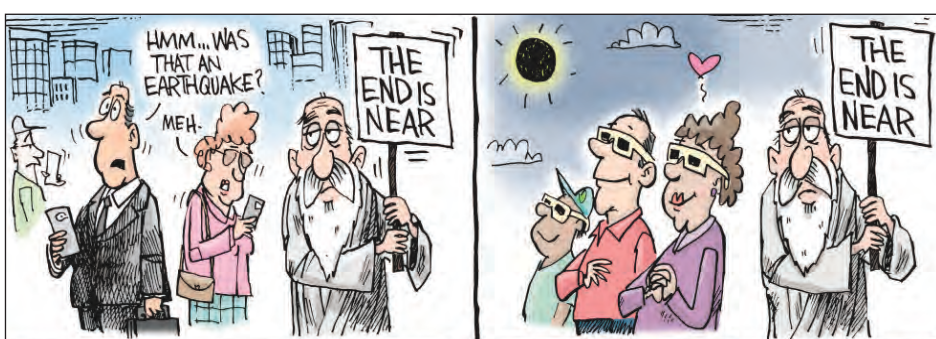
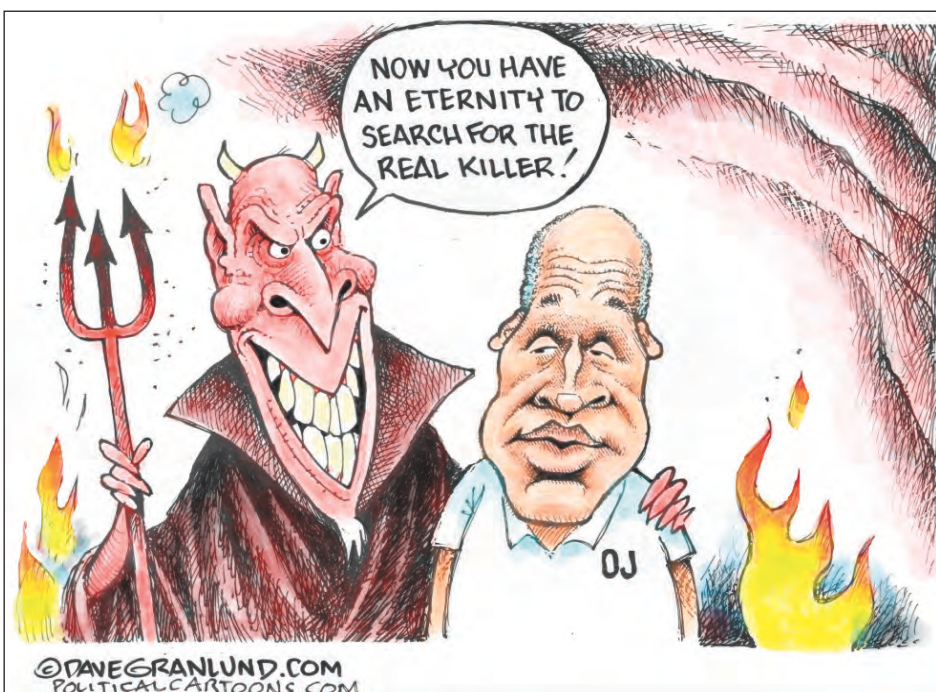
For purchases made online, note that delivery, shipping, handling and transportation charges are part of the sales price. If the emergency preparation supply being purchased is taxable, the delivery charge is also taxable. Consider these charges when determining whether an emergency preparation supply can be purchased tax free during the holiday.

For example, if you purchase an emergency ladder online for \$299 with a \$10 delivery charge, the total sales price is \$309. Because the total sales price of the emergency ladder is more than \$300, tax is due on the \$309 sales price.

Purchases that do not qualify include:

- batteries for automobiles, boats and other motorized vehicles;
- camping stoves and camping supplies;
- chainsaws;
- plywood;
- extension ladders and stepladders; and
- tents.

A list of emergency preparation supplies that may be purchased tax free can be found on the Comptroller's website.



**DR. DON NEWBURY**  
The Idle American

## Eclipse in our rearview mirror...

Enough already. The eclipse of April 8 has been smothered with coverage by both mass and social media. Americans--some who flail at things that go "bump" in the night--yearned for even more darkness! They carved out time from busy schedules and squeezed funds from their budgets to make their way to a slice of the globe where the solar eclipse darkened the day for some four minutes--give or take a few seconds.

"Twas sheer folly for most of us, but millions thought otherwise, rushing in to swell populations by three and four-fold in some cities and towns. And folks who had something to sell had field days, dwarfing the much-discussed effects of inflation. A "hang the cost" attitude prevailed.

Motel rooms for April 8 were sold out months ago, and some car rentals cost \$600 a day. Hertz reported a 3,000% increase in advanced bookings. Eclipse-seekers were happy to sign every contract they saw....

Such exorbitance brings to mind a story told by an avid bird hunter, who bragged to his wife that he lowered the family meat budget with his kill.

"Not so fast, Felix," his wife responded. "As I recall, last year you bought a new shotgun, spent a few hundred dollars on a hunting lease, took off a day from work to drive 150 miles, fire six shots and bag three birds." The game fell short of providing an entrée. Instead, it was a dainty appetizer that cost about \$50 per ounce."

"But April 8 was the only chance we had to see a full eclipse," one guy moaned. "The previous total eclipse was in 1878, and there won't be another one until 2317!..."

This year, Dallas was the largest city totally darkened when the moon--400 times smaller than the sun--orbited 400 times closer to the earth.

We were warned repeatedly about the danger of staring at the sun, so most of us didn't. About 31 million Americans and 12 million Texans were affected by the eclipse....

While on topics astrological, I can't shake a television interview a couple of decades ago with a 100-year-old woman, long known for her cynicism and negative views on all topics. She probably called the TV station to make sure the news folks knew about her 100th birthday. Whoever drew the assignment no doubt dreaded the interview with "Negative Nancy."

She was asked about her memories, which were all negative. "All Thanksgiving Holidays were blighted by too much sage in the dressing and I never got to the stores before they ran out of Cabbage Patch dolls," she moaned. She also complained about always being the last person chosen at school for playground games. "Don't you have at least one positive memory?" the interviewer asked.

After much thumb-twiddling and staring round about, she finally answered, "Well, I did see Halley's Comet back in 1986, but just from a distance!..."

With all the attendant angles about the temporary darkness, it is important to mention darkness in the political world. It never goes away.

My Uncle Mort phoned the other day. He wanted to know if I'd heard about the name of an unlikely presidential candidate. He mentioned that a Texas public school teacher has changed his name to "Literally Anybody Else," and that it will appear on the ballot.

"Sounds good to me," Mort snorted. "Now I've got someone to root for," greatly disappointed by most elected officials at both national and state levels....

Much-maligned AT&T used the eclipse positively, offering a free watch party featuring former NASA astronaut Jose Hernandez. He answered children's questions about science and technology.

After being turned down 11 times for NASA astronaut training, he

### Letters to the Editor Policy

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

Examples of content that will cause letters to be rejected include the following:

- Confusing or unclear points.
- Crude language.
- Poor taste.
- Disrespectful comments regarding a group's or individual's ethnicity, gender, religion, culture, sexual orientation or race.
- Other incendiary language or remarks.
- Endorsements for or complaints about individually named commercial products or services.
- Poetry.
- Personal attacks.
- "Thank You" letters that go beyond general thanks to the community; attempt to serve as an advertisement for a company, individual or political party; or is submitted in lieu of a paid "Thank You" advertisement.

During periods ahead of an election, The Inquirer does not accept letters to the editor urging voters to vote for or against candidates in local elections.

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

The Inquirer will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information.

Only letters written exclusively to the newspaper will be published.

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

All letters must be signed and include the writer's street address or route address telephone number, which will be used for verification purposes only.

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

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Left: Lady Apaches senior pitcher Haley Cantu (4) winds up a pitch against San Antonio JFK Tuesday, April 16. Above: The Gonzales Lady Apaches celebrate the careers of seniors Kelly Breitschopf, Sydney McCray, Dakota Schmidt (15) and Haley Cantu (4), who played their last home game against the San Antonio JFK Lady Rockets. Below: Gonzales senior outfielder Dakota Schmidt (15) at bat for the Lady Apaches in the final home game against San Antonio JFK Tuesday, April 16.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



## Lady Apaches clinch second in district with win over JFK

BY VANDY VAN EPPS  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches closed out their final home game with a bang from their seniors in a 12-2 season sweep of the JFK Lady Rockets Tuesday, April 16 in five innings.

The Lady Apaches celebrated senior night for four seniors (Sydney McCray, Haley Cantu, Kelly Breitschopf and Dakota Schmidt).

All four seniors contributed on offense; McCray recorded two triples, two RBIs and three hits; Breitschopf earned

an RBI sacrifice and a hit; Schmidt earned two runs and one hit; and Cantu recorded a hit and RBI.

Lady Apaches head softball coach Michelle Uribe was glad to have her four seniors play

See JFK, page A7

## No. 4 Cuero sweeps season series from Lady Apaches

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Lady Apaches traveled to Cuero for the series finale against the fourth-ranked Cuero Lady Gobblers Friday, April 12.

Cuero shut down the Lady Apaches' offense, allowing three hits from Ava Carrizales, Sarah Padilla and Alexzis Hernandez and three walks from Padilla, Hernandez and Alaina Valle.

The Lady Apaches fell to the Gobblers, 10-0, in six innings.

Gonzales hosted the San Antonio JFK Lady Rockets for its final home game of the season Tuesday, April 16.

The Lady Apaches hosted senior night for Haley Cantu, Sydney McCray, Dakota Schmidt and Kelly Breitschopf.



Above: Lady Apaches senior Malory Clack throws in the shot put competition in the area meet at Canyon Lake High School Wednesday, April 10. Clack finished third in the shot put competition and clinched a spot in the regional meet in Kingsville. Right: Jordyn Gonzales, Youahi Huerta, Ckristopher Ramos and Yaritza Angel at the area track meet. All four athletes competes in the 1600 meter races in their respective divisions at the area meet.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## Lady Mustangs sweep season series from Lady Cougars

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smilely Lady Mustangs took care of business on the road with a 13-0 shutout win over the Cole Lady Cougars Friday, April 12.

The Lady Mustangs got on the board first, scoring seven runs in the top of the second.

Nixon-Smilely shut down Cole's offense and allowed two hits; and senior Nichole Ivey recorded 13 put outs.

The Lady Mustangs traveled to Luling for the regular season finale Tuesday, April 16 and with second place on the line in District 26-3A.

The Lady Mustangs concluded their season with a 5-2 district record and 9-15 overall.

Bi-district playoff information to be announced at a later time.

## Lady Mustangs clinch second in district with win over Luling

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smilely Lady Mustangs completed the season sweep of the Luling Lady Eagles, 21-9, on the

road Tuesday, April 16 in six innings.

Nixon-Smilely went scoreless in the first two innings of the game, but in the top of the third inning,

the Lady Mustangs scored 12 runs.

The Lady Mustangs clinched second place with a 6-2 district record in District 26-3A.

The Lady Mustangs will take on Tidehaven in the bi-district round.

The time and location of that game will be announced at a later.

## Apaches, Lady Apaches headed to regional meet

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches and Lady Apaches traveled to New Braunfels for the area track meet at Canyon Lake High School Wednesday, April 10.

The Gonzales track teams will have multiple athletes heading to the regional meet in Kingsville Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20; regional qualifiers: Tiana Smith (100m dash and 4x100), Jayda Glass (4x100 and 400m dash), Macey Pena (4x100), Kaylen Gonzales (4x100) Malaiyah Mayo (4x100) Kaylie Ramirez (4x100), Macy Sample (discus and shot put), Malory Clack (shot put), Davonte Smith (100m dash), and Jermaine Upshaw (discus).

AREA TRACK RESULTS

**100 meter dash:**  
Lady Apaches: Tiana Smith (fourth place)  
Apaches: Davonte Smith (area runner-up, second place)

**200 meter dash:**  
Lady Apaches: T. Smith (sixth place)

**400 meter dash:**  
Lady Apaches: Jayda Glass (area runner-up, second place)

**800 meter run:**  
Lady Apaches: Jordyn Gonzales (sixth place) and Kilee Schwausch (eighth place)

**1600 meter run:**  
Lady Apaches: Yaritza Angel (seventh place) and J. Gonzales (eighth place)  
Apaches: Ckristopher Ramos (sixth place) and Youahi Huerta (seventh place)

**3200 meter run:**  
Lady Apaches: J. Gonzales (sixth place)  
Apaches: Y. Huerta (sixth place) and C. Ramos (seventh place)

**100 meter hurdles:**  
Lady Apaches: Macey Pena (seventh place) and Hailey Camarillo (eighth place)

See TRACK, page A7

# Apaches fall to La Vernia, 5-2, in series finale

## STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches hosted the La Vernia Bears for the series finale Tuesday, April 16.

Gonzales fell to La Vernia, 5-2.

The Apaches recorded three hits against La Vernia and got on twice from walks.

Gonzales got on the board with an RBI single by Brandon DuBose in bottom of the fourth and DuBose scored a run from an RBI double by James Sanchez.

Apaches pitcher Nathan Castillo struck out three La Vernia batters and Dakota DuBose struck out one.

The Apaches will conclude their season with a two-game series against the Cuero Gobblers.

Game one is set at home Friday, April 19 and game two in Cuero Tuesday, April 23.

First pitch for both games are set at 7 p.m.



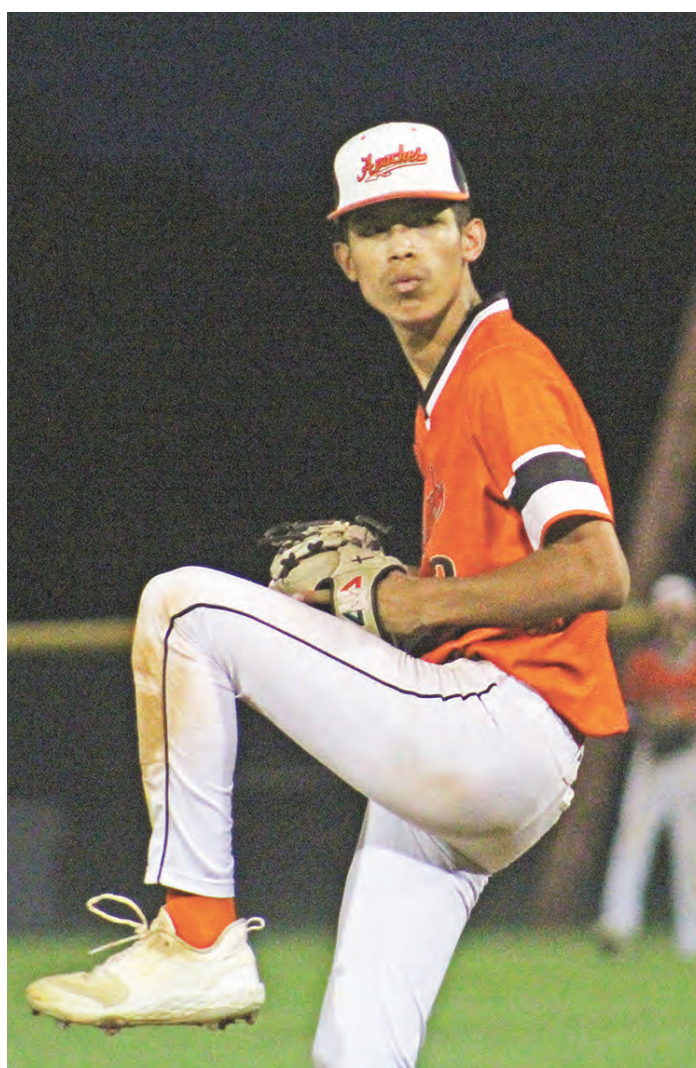
Gonzales senior Weston Ruddock (2) slides on home plate from a RBI single by Brandon DuBose against La Vernia.

VANDY VAN EPPS



Above: Apaches sophomore third basemen Brandon DuBose (5) at bat for Gonzales in the series finale against La Vernia Tuesday, April 16. Right: Apaches pitcher Nathan Castillo (3) pitches in the fifth inning against the La Vernia Bears for the series finale Tuesday, April 16.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



## La Vernia shuts out Apaches in game one of the series

### STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches traveled on the road Friday, April 12 to La Vernia to kick off the two-game district series against the Bears.

La Vernia shut out the Apaches in game one, 10-0.

The Apaches got on base two times with two hits.

Gonzales returned home Tuesday, April 16 for game two and the series finale against La Vernia.

The Apaches will conclude their 2024 baseball season with a two-game series against their rival Cuero; game one is set at home Friday, April 19 and game two is in Cuero Tuesday, April 23.

First pitch for both games are set at 7 p.m.

## DISTRICT TENNIS CHAMP



Apaches senior tennis player Miguel Moreno clinches the district title for 4A District 28 and will compete in the regional tournament.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Apaches beat Memorial, 5-4, at home

### STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches hosted the San Antonio Memorial Minutemen for game one of a two-game district series Friday, April 5.

The Apaches kicked off the district match strong with Dakota DuBose stealing home on a passed ball and RBI hits by Dylan Rodriguez and James Sanchez, making it 3-0 in the

first inning.

Memorial would tie up the game, 3-3, in the fourth, but Gonzales quickly responded quick with first baseman Brodie Ramos stealing home on a passed ball to retake the lead, 4-3.

Brandon DuBose scored the game winning run on a passed ball in the fifth inning, and the defense sealed the win, 5-4.

Pitcher Colt Robinson

struck 10 Memorial batters in the game one victory.

The Apaches concluded the series with the Minutemen in game two in San Antonio Tuesday, April 9.

The Apaches will travel to La Vernia Friday, April 12 for game one against the Bears and game two is set in Gonzales Tuesday, April 16.

First pitch for both games are set for 7 p.m.

## Luling sweeps series from Mustangs

### STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs went on the road to San Antonio for the series finale against Cole Cougars Friday, April 12.

The Mustangs and Cougars exchanged scores in the first three innings with

Nixon-Smiley trailing, 8-7, entering the bottom of the third.

The Mustangs would struggle defensively in the bottom of the third, allowing 16 runs; Cole handed Nixon-Smiley its eighth district loss, 26-8.

The Mustangs played

their final road game against the Luling Eagles Tuesday, April 16; and will conclude the regular season with a final home match against Great Heart Northern Oaks Friday, April 19.

First pitch for the Northern Oaks is set for 6 p.m.

## Mustangs fall to Eagles in extra innings

### STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs played their last road game of the season Tuesday, April 16 against Luling.

The Mustangs and the

Eagles exchanged runs throughout the match, but in the end, Luling beat Nixon-Smiley, 8-7, in a walk-off in the bottom of the eighth.

The Mustangs dropped to 0-9 in District 26-3A and

2-13-2 on the season.

Nixon-Smiley will host Great Hearts Northern Oaks on Friday, April 19 for the regular season finale.

First pitch is set for 6 p.m.

# TPW Commission approves 2024-25 statewide hunting, migratory game bird rules

## SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission have approved hunting regulations for the 2024-25 season with the following modifications and clarifications to 2024-25 Statewide Hunting and Migratory Game Bird proclamations:

- Eliminate the Light Goose Conservation Order from both eastern and western zones due to continuous declines of wintering light geese in Texas.
- Extend the regular goose season for light geese by 19 days in the Eastern Zone to provide more hunting opportunity during the regular season.
- Reduce the daily bag limit of light geese in both eastern and western zones from 10 to five.
- Standardize possession limit for light geese to three times the daily bag limit for regulatory consistency.
- Change greater white-fronted goose daily bag limit restrictions from two in the aggregate to a simplified dark goose daily bag limit of five in the western zone.
- Change the Special White-winged Dove Days season structure due to calendar progression.
- Change the season structure of the second segment for dove in the north zone to allow later dove hunting during the holiday season.
- Require statewide mandatory harvest reporting for all wild turkeys during all seasons and counties to improve harvest data for their management.
- Close the spring-only hunting season for wild turkeys south of Highway 82 in Fannin, Lamar, Red River and Bowie counties due to ongoing wild turkey restoration by TPWD, NWTf and landowners.
- Close all wild turkey hunting seasons in Bell and Williamson counties east of Interstate 35 (I-35) and in all of Milam County to allow

the restocking of wild turkeys for population restoration by TPWD and landowners.

- Remove references to Rio Grande and Eastern wild turkey subspecies in regulations and replace with "wild turkey" to simplify county regulations.
- Reduce the wild turkey hunting season length and annual bag limit in Brewster, Jeff Davis, Pecos and Terrell Counties west of the Pecos River; Comal, Hays, Hill, McLennan, and Travis Counties east of I-35, and Guadalupe County north of I-10 to a spring-only season from April 1-30 and a one gobbler (male turkey) annual bag limit to be more proportionate with wild turkey populations.
- Change desert bighorn sheep hunting season from Sept. 1 - July 31 to Nov. 15 - Sept. 30 to allow for safer flying conditions during TPWD aerial surveys.
- For properties enrolled in the Harvest Option of the Managed Lands Deer Program, allow youth to harvest bucks with a firearm for the same days that correspond to the early youth-only season for county regulations.
- Expand doe days in 43 counties in the Post Oak Savannah and Piney-woods ecoregions to better manage white-tailed deer populations.
- Expand youth-only seasons in the fall to include Friday for white-tailed deer, squirrels and wild turkeys to allow greater hunting opportunity for youth.

Hunters hitting the field in the upcoming season should make note of these changes and follow all regulations set for species, tagging, bag limits, counties, season dates, means and methods. Hunters can check the Outdoor Annual for complete and updated regulations for the 2024-25 season beginning May 13 on the TPWD website. Information currently in the Outdoor Annual reflects last season's information.

## MOVING ON TO REGIONALS



Johnny Gutierrez places second at the District 1A area meet in Fayetteville in the 3200 meter run. Gutierrez will travel to Seguin to compete in the regional meet on Friday, April 19.

## Mustangs compete in area meet



Senior Luke Moses with head track coach Troy Moses at the area track meet in Altair Texas Tuesday, April 11. Moses clinched a spot in the regional meet in Seguin for the 110 meter hurdles.

### STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs and Lady Mustangs track teams traveled to Altair, Texas for the Area Track Meet at Rice Consolidated High School Thursday, April 11.

The Mustangs and Lady Mustangs finished in the top 10 in their respective events; senior Luke Moses clinched a spot in regional meet in Seguin (Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20) for his fourth place finish in the 110 meter hurdles.

### AREA RESULTS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>200 meter dash:</b><br>Lady Mustangs: Haliee Houseton (seventh place)            | <b>4x200 meter relay:</b><br>Lady Mustangs: Eighth place<br>Mustangs: Eighth place |
| <b>400 meter dash:</b><br>Mustangs: Tristan Mikesh (eighth place)                   | <b>4x400 meter relay:</b><br>Mustangs: Fifth place                                 |
| <b>4x100 meter relay:</b><br>Lady Mustangs: Eighth place<br>Mustangs: Seventh place | <b>Discus:</b><br>Lady Mustangs: Janaelyn White (eighth place)                     |
|   | <b>Shot put:</b><br>Lady Mustangs: J. White (sixth place)                          |

## TRACK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A5

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>300 meter hurdles:</b><br>Lady Apaches: Alaina Valle (eighth place)<br>Apaches: Travis Malveaux (fifth place) | <b>4x400 meter relay:</b><br>Lady Apaches: Seventh place  | <b>Discus:</b><br>Lady Apaches: Macy Sample (third place), Malory Clack (sixth place) and Syrenity Smith (seventh)<br>Apaches: J. Upshaw (area champion, first place) |
| <b>4x100 meter relay:</b><br>Lady Apaches: Third place   | <b>Long jump:</b><br>Lady Apaches: T. Smith (sixth place)   | <b>Shot put:</b><br>Lady Apaches: M. Clack (third place) and M. Sample (fourth place)<br>Apaches: Dylan Hunt: (fifth place)   |
| <b>4x200 meter relay:</b><br>Lady Apaches: Seventh place<br>Apaches: Seventh place                               | <b>Triple jump:</b><br>Lady Apache: T. Smith (fifth place)<br>Apaches: Rocky Gallegos (sixth place) |   |



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## ATTENTION PARENTS! RESERVE YOUR GRADUATE AD BY MONDAY, MAY 13!

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It will feature a color picture and name of every graduating senior from Gonzales, Nixon-Smiley, Shiner St. Paul, Waelder and Emmanuel Christian School high schools. In addition, The Inquirer will highlight each school's Valedictorian and Salutatorian!

In addition to being in our print edition and e-edition on May 23, each graduating senior will receive a copy courtesy of The Inquirer and local businesses.

For more information – or to place your ad – please contact  
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- School: \_\_\_\_\_
- Message: \_\_\_\_\_
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OBITUARIES

KEITH STEEN GLASS



On April 11, 2024, Keith Steen Glass at age 53, surrounded by his adoring family, pushed away his wheelchair and ran gloriously into the arms of Jesus and into his eternal home.

Keith was born on October 5, 1970, to Roy Donald Glass and Robbie Lou Hinton Glass. Keith completed the Glass family and instantly became the apple of his parents, his brother, and his sister's eye. As a child, Keith enjoyed all the outdoor activities he could stand. He enjoyed riding horses, fishing, hunting, playing ball, and spending time with his family. Keith was especially fond of his big sister. He insisted on sleeping with her every single night, and she didn't mind it one bit. She and him enjoyed so much quality time together making mud pies, riding bikes, running across the pasture to their grandparents, and horseback riding all the trails in the pasture and to the family river bottom. Keith and his brother shared many memories of hunting on the family land together, and no matter the age difference Keith tagged along behind him. Keith was affectionate towards every dog he owned and took them with him everywhere he went. He was a child who you would always see smiling from ear to ear and had a contagious zest for life. In his teenage years, he enjoyed blaring rock and roll music and driving his big fancy trucks, and he passed that love onto his nieces and nephews. Keith was also an exceptional friend who proved this with his actions. Keith was dependable, reliable, and an all in type of friend. As a teenage boy, he would even get up extra early to give his friends a ride to school if they needed him to.

He was the type of friend you wanted to take on every adventure with you, because he was always well-organized and thought through everything they would need. There was no questions asked when any of his friends needed him, he would be there quickly and give 110% of his effort.

After graduating from Gonzales High School in 1989, Keith tried out college but quickly realized the family business was his choice way of life. He took great pride in working the family farm alongside his dad and brother. Keith was his Dad's righthand man. Wherever you saw one, you would see the other. Keith spent each day with his family. Whether it was working in the chicken houses, checking cows, feeding, cutting and baling hay, working cattle, or fixing all of the broke equipment, Keith and his dad tackled the day together. Every day, his dad and him raced each other inside to see what was cooked for lunch made by his mother. Keith was keen in taking things apart and putting it back together and always had the best ideas of how to fix anything. He had a real knack for making anything work. He truly was a jack of all trades.

Keith enjoyed to work hard, but he certainly knew how to enjoy all the fun things in life too.

Keith was a lover of all things outdoors. He particularly enjoyed basketball, hunting, fishing, and skiing. Being the avid outdoor sportsman, he was always up to something. Keith loved to fish, and it didn't matter if it was at the coast or at the tank. Most of his catches came back cleaned and his Mom would fry it up for him, his dad, and brother. Hunting was also one of Keith's favorite past times. He took many trips to New Mexico and Colora-

do, but he found the most fun hunting was with his bow here on the family land. Keith was blessed with natural talents that allowed him to master anything that interested him. If he put his mind to something, he would stop at nothing to achieve it. And, if you knew Keith at all, you know he was the most devoted Cowboys and Spurs fan. He was a season ticket holder as well as collector of his choice team members' jerseys.

Keith passed on his passions and talents onto his two adoring children, Kameron and Taylor, who treasure the many adventures they had with him over the years. They enjoyed many wonderful family and friend trips to the coast and to the mountains to ski. All the adventures aside, it was in his daily love, support, and dedication to his children that set him apart as a father. Keith was a devoted, hands-on dad who loved his children beyond measure. Keith taught them everything they needed to know about every sport. Whether it was baseball, football, hunting, fishing, or skiing, Keith continually poured his knowledge and time into coaching them and practicing with his children every day. He was an enthusiast when it came to coaching Kameron and Taylor's sports teams, so much so that he treated each game like it was the Superbowl, and Keith was definitely their number one fan. He didn't miss out on any moment with his precious children.

On March 10, 2012, Keith's world changed drastically. Keith's parents and siblings selflessly found a new normal to support Keith in the highest degree. On the daily, he and his family swapped funny stories, gave positive affirmations, and loved each other unconditionally. The family worked together to take him on daily rides to the country and to town, and he also went on many trips shopping. He spent Saturdays with his sister's family getting to know his great nieces and nephews and boy how Keith would light up when they would talk with and play with him. In Keith's last

days, family surrounded him with love and stories, and passed away peacefully with his sister's last words, "Keith, God has prepared a place for you. It is perfect for you. It has everything you need. If you're ready, go to Him." And he did.

Keith is survived by his parents, Roy Donald Glass and Robbie Lou Glass. his children, Kameron Glass (Kalli) and Taylor Glass, grandchild, Kace Glass, brother Darren Glass (Janice), sister Kathy Glass Lamprecht (John), nieces and nephews, Dustin Lester (Mikey), Kody Lester (Kathryn), Jenna Lester Mills (Morgan), Dillard Glass (Callie), Will Lamprecht (Tiffany), Jesslyn Lamprecht Horton (Baylen), and Paige Glass Hurt (Ethan), and great nieces and nephews, Madelyn Mills, Krista Lester, Isabella Mills, James Lester, Konnor Lester, Adaline Lamprecht, Dawson Glass, Hannah Horton, Jackson Lamprecht, Savannah Glass, Weston Lamprecht, Ella Hurt and Haley Horton. Keith is preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Bryan Steen Glass and Merle Hart Glass and maternal grandparents, Milton Frank Hinton and Sally Jay Edwards Hinton.

Visitation will be held for Keith Glass at Seydler - Hill Funeral Home on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Funeral services will take place at the First Baptist Church on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 10:00am. Interment will take place at the Gonzales Masonic Cemetery. Pallbearers include Dustin Lester, Kody Lester, Will Lamprecht, Dillard Glass, John O'Higgins, Darryl Keifer, Ryan Towns, and Kyle Towns. Honorary Pallbearers include Baylen Horton, Morgan Mills, Mitchell Hardcastle.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made out to the First Baptist Church of Gonzales. Friends and family may leave their condolences by visiting [www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com](http://www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com)

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

PATSY LEE ECKOLS



Patsy Lee Eckols, beloved mother and grandmother, passed away on April 8, 2024 in Dripping Springs, Texas at the age of 96. She was born in Gonzales on September 1, 1927 to Lee and Hettie Wilson.

After graduating from Gonzales High School and attending college, she returned to Gonzales and married Fred Brown on June 1, 1948. She and Fred raised their four children in the Belmont area surrounded by extended family, cattle and many friends. Patsy worked as the bookkeeper for the family business.

Ten years after her husband Fred's passing, Patsy, married Lewis (Honey) Eckols on September 14, 1996. Both active in the First Baptist Church in Gonzales, where Patsy taught Sunday school and volunteered in the library. They enjoyed fifteen years together before Honey passed away. She then moved to Dripping Springs and Laguna Vista to be closer to family.

Patsy was an avid reader, enjoying British crime novels as well as poetry, history and of course her Bible. A fantastic cook, she hosted large family gatherings and beat everyone in Scrabble, Mah Jong and 42. She was a

talented cross stitcher and completed intricate and colorful patterns to give to family and friends. Patsy never lost interest in life and cared deeply about those around her. Although often the quietest in the room, her presence was always felt. Everyone stilled when she had something to say and often sought her counsel. Pat lived a full and meaningful life and touched many with her kindness and humor. Loved by many, she will be sorely missed.

Patsy is preceded in death by Fred Tyre Brown, Sr., Lewis Eckols, son, Bruce Brown and grandson, Laval Brown, her parents and brother, Donald Wilson.

She is survived by her children Fred Tyre Brown, Jr. (Sandra); M Lee Brown (Mary Alice); and Donna Brown Willis (Bob),

daughter-in-law, Debbie Brown, stepchildren Deb Eckols (Tim Miller), and Steve Eckols. Her grandchildren include Rachel Wilchester (JJ), Ty Pirkle, Michael Durrett (Holli), Russell Durrett, Lucas Brown (Amber), Bryan Brown, and Andrea Brown. She had 10 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by Amy Wilson (niece) and Greg Wilson (nephew).

The family extends a special thank you to Lavender Springs Assisted Living in Dripping Springs for the special care provided to Patsy for the last five years. Her time at the facility provided a safe and loving place to call home where she enjoyed the staff and friends. Additional thanks to Ryan Carpenter with Austin Geriatric Specialists.

Graveside services will be held Sunday, April 14, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at the Belmont Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Dripping Springs Library, the Belmont Cemetery or the charity of your choice. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting [www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com](http://www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com)

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

ROSALINDA RAMOS



Rosalinda Ramos, 75, of Gonzales, passed away Monday, April 8, 2024. She was born January 6, 1949 in Gonzales, the daughter of Refugio and Paulita Cardenas Flores. She was a homemaker and a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

She is survived by her daughters Lori Ortiz and husband Julio and Norma Cervantes and husband George all of Gonzales; son Chris Ramos and fiancée Megan Ivey of Gonzales; sisters Rosalva Flores of San Marcos and Rita Flores of Round Rock; brothers Ralph Flores of Austin, Richard Flores of Martindale and Refugio Flores, Jr. of Gonzales. Also surviving are 16

grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Joaquin Almaguer, brother Ray Flores, Sr., sister Rebecca Flores and grandson Manuel Govea. Visitation will be held

Thursday, April 11, 2024 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home with a Rosary being recited at 7 p.m. The Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated 2 p.m. Friday, April 12, 2024 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Reverend Jason Martini officiating. Interment will follow at St. James Catholic Cemetery.

Friends may sign the guestbook and leave condolences by visiting [www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com](http://www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com)

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

FOR MORE OBITUARIES, PLEASE SEE A9

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Gonzales Healthcare Systems  
April 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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Austin MFM Dr. Malik Dr. Desai 8	Dr. Echols Dr. Quintero 9	Dr. Quebedeaux 10	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols 11	Amy Trost Dr. Miller 12
Austin MFM 15	Dr. Echols 16	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller 17	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols Dr. Malik 18	Dr. Bui 19
Austin MFM 22	Dr. Echols 23	Dr. Quebedeaux 24	Dr. Ryan Dr. Kirchner Dr. Echols 25	26
Austin MFM 29	Dr. Echols 30			

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Outpatient Clinic

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Hearing Specialist  
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Jeff Echols, DC  
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- 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  
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- Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine**  
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713-864-2659





**OBITUARY**

**BARBARA BRANDON**



Barbara Jane (Martin) Brandon passed away March 18, 2024, in Kingsland, Texas, at the age of 75, surrounded by family and her puppy dogs. Barbara was born to Fay H. Martin and Esther Martin, May 25, 1948, in San Antonio, Texas.

Barbara is survived by her long-time soulmate, Roy Seaton of Kingsland, Texas, son Jon Dawe and wife Julie of Waco, Texas, son Martin Dawe and wife Sandra of Canyon Lake, Texas, and daughter Tammie Brandon of Round Rock, Texas. Granbar, as she will always be remembered, was blessed with 7 grandchildren Dominick Wright, Thomas Dawe, Kiara Wright, Andrew Mills, Ariel Wright, Conner Klein, and Ethan Baker, 3 great-grandchildren Asher, Kian, and Serenity, brother Neil Martin and wife Louise of St. Hedwig, Texas and brother William (Bill) Martin of Midland, Texas.

Barbara was preceded in death by her former husband and father of her children Jon and Martin, Thomas (Tommy) Dawe. Husband and father of Tammie, Leonard Norris (Buddy) Brandon.

Parents Fay H. Martin Sr. and Esther Martin, and brothers Fay Martin Jr. and Ray Martin.

Barbara graduated from Harlandale High School in 1966, then quickly embarked on both her college education and her married life. Barbara had a fulfilling career that began after she graduated with a degree in Education from Southwest Texas State University. She initially dedicated her time to being a stay-at-home mom before setting out on a professional journey as a secretary at Warm Springs Rehabilitation Hospital in Ottine, Texas. She later served as the secretary and dispatcher for Goetz Services in Gonzales and then became the administrative assistant to the director of Care-Inn in Gonzales.

Driven by her passion for healthcare, Barbara pursued further education and eventually became a Nursing Home Adminis-

trator. She dedicated 20 years to this role, serving at various facilities across the state. Even after retirement, Barbara's commitment to education and caregiving persisted as she spent several years substituting teaching in Gonzales and Marble Falls.

Barbara grew up in the Harlandale United Methodist Church where she sang in the choir. After marrying Tommy Dawe and moving to Gonzales, she transferred to the First United Methodist Church in Gonzales where she was a member and sang in the choir for many years. Just as she was proud of her church affiliation, she was honored to be a Lifetime Member of the Order of the Eastern Star and as a widower of Leonard "Buddy" Brandon, a member of Gonzales Lodge No. 2413, Order of Elks. She had an accomplished green thumb, and enjoyed being outside, camping and fishing. She was an avid reader, cooked delicious meals and enjoyed music. Even in her final days, she was sharing recipes from memory, how she longed to sing 'How Great Thou Art' at one more class reunion and spoke of "the big fish she caught, that Roy let get away".

Barbara's legacy is one of hard work, dedication, and a deep-rooted commitment to caring for others. She will be dearly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Please join us April 27, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. for a Memorial Service held at the First Methodist Church, 426 St. Paul St., Gonzales, TX. In lieu of flowers, if so moved, please consider a donation made in Barbara Brandon's name to the charity of your choice.

**Scheske Freeman heads GVEC economic development**

**SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER**



**Scheske Freeman**

The leadership team at The Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative (GVEC) had the pleasure of welcoming Daisy Scheske Freeman as its new Economic Development Director last July. Since being appointed to her new role, Scheske Freeman has been driving economic and job growth in the Guadalupe Valley while supporting the needs of its member communities and consumers. Take a look at what her track record of success means for the future of Guadalupe Valley, Texas.

Scheske Freeman brings more than a decade of supervisory executive experience at the Gonzales Chamber, where she collaborated closely with businesses, civic organizations, government entities, and community leaders/volunteers.

"It is an honor and privilege to work for an organization that is community-focused while serving the needs of businesses and residents in the South Central Texas region," says Scheske Freeman. Her community-oriented past positions her as the perfect fit for the director role.

Scheske Freeman has a long

history of serving her community in the South Central Texas region. Her extensive experience with the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce speaks for itself, as do her awards and achievements.

Starting as a volunteer at the Chamber, she then progressed to Assistant Executive Director and finally served as Director, contributing a decade of dedicated service to the community. During her time there, she had the privilege of overseeing a membership base of over 375 members and implementing the student associate program.

Moreover, her involvement in securing Gonzales as a Texas Film Friendly City was one of many highlights, enabling various film projects, including a Dodge truck commercial, "Fear the Walking Dead," "The Son," Found Footage 3D, and other independent productions that were brought to her town. She also served as a Texas Film Friendly panelist for the Texas Film Commission.

Additionally, she had the

privilege of leading the Come and Take It Celebration committee for several years, winning the Community Service Award in 2024 with the committee. This event draws over 15,000 attendees to Gonzales, generating a significant economic impact of \$1.2 million. Further, it supports more than 20 nonprofits, raising funds for scholarships and community initiatives.

Daisy currently serves on the Gonzales County Historical Commission Board, the Gonzales ISD Community Committee, the University of Houston-Victoria Advisory Committee, the Early Voting Ballot Board & Signature Verification Committee, and treasurer for the South Texas Water Coalition. She is also a member of various organizations including the Gonzales Noon Lion's Club, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Pilot Club, where she held the position of Past President and Pilot Club Anchor Advisor.

"My past experiences have allowed me to meet amazing people and build relationships that positively impact the community," she said. "I am excited to do the same with the GVEC region."

**SHINER CATHOLIC SCHOOL HONOR ROLL - THIRD QUARTER**

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

**St Paul High School**

**SENIORS**

**High Honors:** Julia Barecky, Nate Boedeker, Alex Brown, Maurin Knesek, Emi Stamport

**Honors:** Tate Anders, Brooke Cerny, Joseph Davis, Faith Machart, Charlie Pilat, Stefany Pokluda, Gabrielle Rodriguez, Nathan Timmons, Tori Walker

**JUNIORS**

**High Honors:** Jessica Fikac, Petra Koch, Emersen Linn, Emily Moeller, Dallyn Pesek

**Honors:** Gage Anders, Gus Collins, Andrew Decou, Kennedy Dodson, Mary Sue Filip, Erica Hunke, Mariah Jackson, Holden Jacobs, Alyssa Jasek, Samantha Moeller, Avery Pesek, Christopher Peters, Joseph Peters, Hunter Zella

**SOPHOMORES**

**High Honors:** Karis Barta, Kristin Cerny, Sally Machacek, Riley Mozisek, Jenna Stock, Adalyn Stoll, Audrey Thibodeaux, Presley Tuch

**Honors:** Annslie Callais, Nora Koch

**FRESHMEN**

**High Honors:** Gabe Darilek, Jack Ehrig, Frances Filip, Sloane Kocian, Gabriela Rivas, Eden Rodriguez, Tatum Walker

**Honors:** Jacob Arriola, Faith Brown, Carter Chilek, Michael DeSarro, Kylie Kelso, Clara Kinney, Jack Leonard, Addison Matias, Skylar Mozisek

**St Ludmila Elementary**

**EIGHTH GRADE**

**High Honors:** Noah Bonorden, Reese Chilek, Lexie Ulcak

**Honors:** Rebecca Brown, August Dodson, Celestine Filip, Robert Garrett, Ahren Hattenbach, Emery Kennedy, Lana Lucas, Emma Marshall, Jace Matias, Levi Morkovsky, Annie Werner, Kenley Wyant

**SEVENTH GRADE**

**High Honors:** Ashlin DeSarro, Reese Patek

**Honors:** Eli Barton, Deuce Blaschke, Jane Davis, McKinley Jacobs, Ian Kennedy, Emori Rodriguez, Hayden Rother, Presley Rother

**SIXTH GRADE**

**High Honors:** Ellie Bargmann, Jude Boedeker, Evangeline Chilek, Hannah Machacek, Jacey Picha

**Honors:** Arley Applegate, Briana Hernandez, Emma Sanchez

**FIFTH GRADE**

**High Honors:** Ryan Bays, Anna Boedeker, Harper Patek

**Honors:** Luke Barton, Reese Blaschke, Wren Chilek, Matthew DeSarro, Paul Filip, Jake Good, Alaina Luedke, Ayden McCord, Tenley Wagner, Kolton Wilgus

**FOURTH GRADE**

**High Honors:** Ricardo Gonzales

**Honors:** Emma Bargmann, Elena Basquez, Bowen Davis, Wyatt Decker, Fallon Foxell, Jesslyn Garrett, Hudsyn Parker

**THIRD GRADE**

**High Honors:** Eli Bays, Gage Janak, Dario Lekgegaj, Andrew Machacek, Alexandra Rivas

**Honors:** Brody Blaschke, Adella Davis, Brunes Davis, Phinn Ince, Tate Kutzer, Ainsley McCord, Hazel Meischen, Evelyn Picha, Ezra Rodriguez, Sonney Tuch

**NEWBURY**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A4

worked on various assignments until his 2008 selection as a mission specialist on the STS-128 mission to the International Space Station in August, 2009.

Eclipse glasses were given to the first 4,000 attendees....

**Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, speaks throughout Texas, and his weekly piece of humor and inspiration is the state's longest-running syndicated column. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com.**

**Register for Crystal Theatre's Youth Summer Workshop**

**SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER**

Register your youth for the Gonzales Crystal Theatre Youth Summer Workshop by printing and filling out the form at <https://gonzalescrystaltheatre.org/register-for-camp> and returning

it to Laurel Ridge Antiques, 827 Saint Joseph Street in Gonzales. Any questions, call Barbara Crozier at 512-217-6565. There are just two spots left for the camp, which will be for children 8 - 17 years old and be held June 23 - July 7.

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- ACROSS**
- 1 to Houston in 1969: "That's one small step for \_ \_"
  - 5 " \_ \_ qua non" (totally necessary)
  - 6 Santa \_ \_ , Texas
  - 7 France village
  - 8 route for TX Farrah Fawcett's "Cannonball Run" race (3 wds.)
  - 17 "... our Texas, \_ \_ hail the mighty state"
  - 18 Texas bluebonnet is a lupine, known as this (2 wds.)
  - 21 Texas-born Martin 1991 film " \_ \_ Story"
  - 22 one of a deck
  - 23 actress raised in Dallas, Dorothy
  - 24 cow gave birth
  - 29 this Lindsey won 2010 downhill Gold
  - 30 eat dinner
  - 31 once most popular music storage
  - 32 RVing?
  - 34 Monahans \_ \_ hills State Park
  - 35 not shining bright
  - 36 TXism: "black as the \_ \_ a coffin"
  - 37 UT has the manuscripts of \_ \_ Stanley Gardner
  - 38 holder of Texas Blue Bell scoops
  - 39 this dentist moved to Dallas after TB diagnosis (2 wds.)
  - 41 Ruth of 1950 film "Dallas"

- 42 Del \_ \_ , Texas
  - 43 Texas WWII hero and actor, Murphy
  - 44 judge's mallet
  - 45 retired Ranger sports-caster, Grieve (init.)
  - 46 historic Panhandle ranch, once the world's largest
  - 47 TX L.Q. Jones' 1960 film: "Ten Who \_ \_"
  - 48 James Bond number (2 wds.)
  - 50 copy on transparent paper
  - 51 TXism: "bought a pig \_ \_ poke"
  - 52 cash dispenser
  - 53 TXism: "in the \_ \_ of luxury"
- DOWN**
- 1 TXism: "naked \_ \_ \_"
  - 2 in Wood County on U.S. 69 & U.S. 80
  - 3 yearly
  - 4 approaches closely
  - 9 "Texas \_ \_" (manner of talking)
  - 10 Texas Actor, Rip
  - 11 TXism: "he's no spring chicken"
  - 12 Gold Glove center field, TX Curt (init.)
  - 13 TX Autry's "That Silver Haired Daddy \_ \_"
  - 14 TXism: "does \_ \_ office business" (sells a lot)
  - 15 boot bottom
  - 16 TXism: "happy as a dog with \_ \_ tails"
  - 19 in La Salle County on I-35
  - 20 Waco is headquarters of "Improved Order of \_ \_"
  - 22 junction of 2 rivers
  - 24 TX George H.W. appointment to the Supreme Court, Clarence (init.)
  - 25 TX George W. press secretary, Fleischer

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
*by Charley & Guy Orbison*  
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**SUDOKU**

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

**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.



Gonzales Mayor Steve Sucher reads two proclamations at the Thursday, April 11 city council meeting declaring the month of April as Fair Housing Month and National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

VANDY VAN EPPS

## CITY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Adriane Hastings. “The YMCA is here to benefit our city by benefiting the future of the children it serves. A YMCA changes the lives of children by teaching them strong virtues of character, increasing literacy with educational mentoring, and building self-confidence and self-esteem.”

Vince Ortiz, the Gonzales Center manager for Victoria College and a member of the YMCA Gonzales board, spoke to the council about the impact the YMCA has had on him and on people from surrounding communities.

“The Y is a very special place in my heart, because I know the benefits those services provide. My grandson is a participant of the Y in his town. And I’ve seen how it has been beneficial to him. The Y he was attending actually had daycare service, so my daughter was able to use those services for my grandson.” Ortiz said.

Kacir and executive director Lauren Harris gave a presentation to the council about the upcoming Gonzales YMCA Summer Camp and Kacir asked the city to consider partnering with the YMCA by contributing \$21,270 that is already “currently budgeted” by the city for recreation.

“By doing so, you continue the great legacy that you started investing in Gonzales city youth. When we work together as a community leveraging resources, programs and funds, we’re able to do greater work and we see greater results. The benefits you gain in this partnership include no fiscal impact to your current budget, since the \$21,270 is already budgeted,” Kacir said.

“The city’s contribution to the YMCA is critical to fund children who are unable to attend the program without a full scholarship. Many times it is the children that are in need of the full scholarship who benefit most from the YMCA,” Kacir added.

In other council business, the council discussed the solid waste collection for the city and co-founder Tim Henderson of Frontier Access spoke to them about their services and making it better for residents.

“I’d like to thank you all for the business over the last four and a half years and I believe it’s been a pretty good partnership between us and the city, and thank you for allowing us to be here,” Henderson said.

Henderson sent a new proposal to City Manager Tim Crow to renew the contract with a few changes he added.

In the existing contract with the city, Henderson said they have two 40-yard roll off containers that will get hauled once a year, and in the new proposed contract, they are offering to haul 12 30 cubic yards annual with no additional charge.

“We just kind of ran some numbers on some of the stable matter that’s been piling up down there. And we figured this would take care of a pretty large chunk of that on a regular basis,” Henderson said.

Henderson said at the last meeting, he had a Gonzales resident that did not understand how the roll-offs work, he said.

“I get a lot of requests from a lot of our cities, where residents can’t afford

a roll-off. And so what we are proposing is to exempt the residential, temporary roll-off services in the city from the exclusive franchise grant. So what that would do is, say, we’re needed a roll off into his house, but he doesn’t need 20 or 30, or 40, what we is what we offer, he could call in, Ace roll off and get a 10 yarder at his house, and he wouldn’t be in violation of the city’s franchise agreement.” Henderson said.

Henderson added that permanent businesses, like large construction companies, would still fall under the exclusive franchise grant.

Regarding bulk pickup, in the current contract, Frontier collects bulk pickup once a year, up to five cubic yards per resident, Henderson said in the proposed contract, residents can now do four bulk pickups per year — about two cubic yards per collection — for no additional charge.

“This basically gives each resident the opportunity to get rid of their items a lot quicker. Right now they have to save up all year, and then call in and request the bulk pickup. What this would do is it would allow him to call in four times a year, get rid of a pile that’s a little smaller, but he doesn’t have to sit around and let it accumulate,” Henderson said.

Council member Lorenzo Hernandez spoke about concerns regarding residential roll-offs for developers and contractors.

“My concerns are developers and contractors. There have been an excessive amount, even though you’re trying to convince me that you’re giving the city money back. That’s not helping the developer or the contractor. That’s actually taking more money from them and we want to bring them in to work with them, not to charge them excessive amounts of money,” Hernandez said.

The council approved, 4-1, to approved the city manager to renegotiate in an agreement with Frontier Access, LLC.

The council had had other presentations, including a quarterly report by the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture and one about a proposed dog park by Jennifer Teager. The council is expressing interest in the possibility of developing a Gonzales dog park.

The council approved the follow agenda items:

--approved Authorizing the City-Manager to execute an Encroachment Agreement with Clyde Hinton for a property located at 302 Botts Street.

--approved Authorizing the funding to the Wine Country Festival LLC. dba Cattle Country Fest in an amount of (\$20,000 to be used for promotion of the arts that directly enhance tourism and the Hotel & Convention Industry and \$20,000 to be used for advertising, solicitations and promotions that attract tourists) for the 2024 Cattle County Music Festival to be held April 12-14, 2024.

--approved and updating the Gonzales Economic Development Administrative Assistant job description and position classification for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

--approved Authorizing a Variance to Section 8.603 Sale of Alcoholic Beverages within 300 Feet of Certain Places for 510 St. Paul Street (The Lynn Theater).

## Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

Property owners have the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- your property’s appraised (market) value
- the unequal value of your property compared with other properties;
- your property’s inclusion on the appraisal records;
- any exemptions that may apply to you;
- qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal;
- the taxing units taxing your property;
- the property’s ownership;
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal;
- failure of the chief appraiser or appraisal review board (ARB) to send a required notice;
- the denial, modification or cancellation of the circuit breaker limitation on appraised value; or
- any action taken by the appraisal district or ARB that applies to and adversely affects you.

### Informal Review

**Gonzales Central Appraisal District**  
**P.O. Box 867,**  
**301 St. Joseph Street, Suite A**  
**Gonzales, TX 78629**  
**Telephone: (830)672-2879**

### Review by the ARB

If you cannot resolve your problem informally with the appraisal district, you have the right to have your case heard by the ARB.

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that hears and determines protests regarding property appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the appraisal district to make the necessary changes based on evidence heard during the ARB hearing.

If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing and send you written notice of the time, date, place and subject of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening or on a Saturday. You may use Comptroller Form 50-132, *Property Appraisal - Notice of Protest*, to file your written request for an ARB hearing.

Prior to your hearing, you may request a copy of the evidence the appraisal district plans to introduce at the hearing to establish any matter at issue. Before a hearing on a protest or immediately after the hearing begins, you or your authorized representative and the appraisal district are required to provide each other with a copy of any materials (evidence) intended to be offered or submitted to the ARB at the hearing. Evidence may be submitted for any hearing type either in paper or on a small portable electronic device (such as a CD, USB flash drive or thumb drive) which will be kept by the ARB. Do NOT bring evidence on a smart phone. The ARB’s hearing procedures regarding all the requirements to properly submit evidence on a small portable electronic device must be reviewed.

To the greatest extent practicable, the hearing will be informal. You or your authorized representative may appear in person, by telephone conference or videoconference call or by submission of a written affidavit to present your evidence, facts and argument. You must indicate the type of hearing you request on your written notice of protest filed with the ARB not later than the 10th day before the hearing date and provide your evidence and written affi-

davit before the ARB hearing begins. You may use Comptroller Form 50-283, *Property Owner’s Affidavit of Evidence to the Appraisal Review Board*, to submit evidence for your telephone or video conference call hearing or for hearing by affidavit.

You and the appraisal district representative have the opportunity to present evidence about your case. In most cases, the appraisal district has the burden of establishing the property’s value by a preponderance of the evidence presented.

In certain protests, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property’s value by clear and convincing evidence. You should review ARB hearing procedures to learn more about evidence and related matters.

You should not try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. ARB members are required to sign an affidavit saying that they have not talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

If you believe that the ARB or chief appraiser failed to comply with an ARB procedural requirement, you may file a complaint with the local taxpayer liaison officer. If it is not resolved by the ARB or chief appraiser, you can request limited binding arbitration to compel the ARB or the chief appraiser to comply.

### Review by the District Court, an Arbitrator or SOAH

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you are not satisfied with the ARB’s decision, you have the right to appeal to district court. As an alternative to district court, you may appeal through regular binding arbitration or the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) if you meet the qualifying criteria.

If you choose to go to district court, you must start the process by filing a petition with the district court within 60 days of the date you receive the ARB’s order. If you chose to appeal through regular binding arbitration, you must file a request for regular binding arbitration not later than the 60th day after you receive notice of the ARB order. Additional information on how to appeal through regular binding arbitration will be included with the ARB’s order of determination. If you chose to appeal to SOAH, you must file an appeal with the appraisal district not later than the 30th day after you receive notice of the ARB’s order. Appeals to district court, regular binding arbitration or SOAH all require payment of certain fees or deposits.

### Tax Payment

You must pay the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute, the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken or the amount of taxes due in the previous year.

### More Information

You can get more information by contacting your appraisal district at

**Gonzales Central Appraisal District**  
**P.O. Box 867,**  
**301 St. Joseph Street, Suite A**  
**Gonzales, TX 78629**  
**Telephone: (830)672-2879**

You can get Comptroller forms and additional information on how to prepare a protest from the Comptroller’s website at [comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/](http://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/).

### Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB\*

#### Usual Deadline

Not later than May 15 (or within 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed for good cause if you miss the usual deadline. The ARB decides whether you have good cause. Late protests are not allowed after the ARB approves the appraisal records for the year.

#### Special Deadlines

For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was delivered to you.

\* The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or legal, state or national holiday.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change did not result from a protest you filed), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the change was delivered to you.



If you believe the appraisal district or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually Feb. 1) or no later than the 125th day after the date you claim you received a tax bill from one or more of the taxing units that tax your property. The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

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# TAX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

2024 for all four municipalities were \$294,990.92 — up just \$970.20 or 0.34 percent more than the \$294,020.72 received in April 2023. However, that amount was \$47,903.13, or 19.4 percent, greater than the \$247,087.79 the communities received this March.

The upward trend came after the cities in Gonzales County had seen lower combined sales tax allocations in six of the previous seven months. Other areas of the state had also been feeling the pinch of decreased sales tax receipts.

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced last week he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1.03 billion in local sales tax allocations for April, 5.5 percent more than in April 2023. These allocations are based on sales made in February by businesses that report tax monthly.

For the year, Gonzales County municipalities have received a combined total of \$1,161,520.87, down \$82,632.02 or 6.64 percent from the \$1,244,152.89 received as of this point last year.

Sales tax allocations for April 2024 for Gonzales, the largest

# SALES TAX ALLOCATIONS

County	City	Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change	Payment YTD	Prior Year Payment YTD	% Change
Gonzales	Gonzales	1.500%	\$249,946.79	\$244,368.29	2.28%	\$981,991.99	\$1,051,582.82	-6.61%
Gonzales	Nixon	1.500%	\$34,501.12	\$30,760.82	12.15%	\$128,686.04	\$133,762.04	-3.79%
Gonzales	Smiley	1.000%	\$2,304.29	\$2,563.88	-10.12%	\$12,527.12	\$11,592.89	8.05%
Gonzales	Waelder	1.500%	\$8,238.72	\$16,327.73	-49.54%	\$38,315.72	\$47,215.14	-18.84%

County	Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change	Payment YTD	Prior Year Payment YTD	% Change
Gonzales	0.500%	\$217,654.65	\$189,995.52	14.55%	\$1,202,567.07	\$846,311.02	42.09%

city in the county which generates the lion's share of sales tax revenue, were \$249,946.79, up 2.28 percent or \$5,578.50 from the \$244,368.29 the city received last April. It was the second-best sales tax allocation for April in Gonzales history and the best in nine years.

It also was \$44,074.79 than the city had received just one month ago, when the March allocation brought in just \$205,872, as perhaps the city has begun to see a return to good fortune.

For the year, the city has received \$981,991.99, down 6.61 percent or \$69,590.83 from the \$1,051,582.82 Gonzales had

received at this point in 2023.

Sales tax receipts were also up for Nixon, which received \$34,501.12, up \$3,740.30 or 12.15 percent more than the \$30,760.82 received in April 2023. This was also up \$5,506.19 above the \$28,994.93 received in March 2024.

For the year, the city has received \$128,686.04, 3.79 percent or \$5,076 less than the \$133,762.04 received through this time last year.

Waelder received a total of \$8,238.72, which is a little unfair to compare to their all-time record of \$16,327.73 received in April 2023. This is a decrease of 49.54 percent from the year

before, which may have been an aberration. However, it is also down \$1,280.75 from the \$9,519.47 the city received in March 2024.

For the year, Waelder has received a total of \$38,315.72, or \$8,899.42 less than the \$47,215.14 the city had received through this time last year, though, as previously stated, this may be an unfair comparison for Waelder.

Finally, Smiley's sales tax receipts were \$2,304.29, down \$259.59 or 10.12 percent from the \$2,563.88 received in April 2023. For the year, Smiley is the only city in the black, having received \$12,527.12,

or 8.05 percent more than the \$11,592.89 received through the first four months of 2023.

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

Gonzales County itself also receives a 0.5 percent sales and use tax and for the month of April 2024, the county received \$217,654.65, or 14.55 percent more than the \$189,995.52 received in April 2023. For the year, the county has received \$1,202,567.07, 42.09 percent more than the \$846,311.02 received through this point last year.

# VISIT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

ing the hearts of those lucky enough to visit and explore their small town charms and attributes.

Many of these small towns also offer beautiful — picturesque, if you will — visages with endless free activities and weekend adventures available for both visitors and residents of their areas. Many of these small towns are actually a sort of entry to larger, more renowned attractions, such as Palo Duro Canyon, while others offer simple yet beautiful beaches and waterfront dining that is nestled in quiet and peaceful settings.

To that end the list of those that the article found to be the “most picturesque” in Texas, are charming and unmatched for their beauty and attractions.

Among those places listed there is Salado, which is called “a captivating village nestled along Salado Creek.” Among the reasons to visit, according to the article, is the village atmosphere, including the 1.5 mile Main Street, which is filled with beautiful sites and opportunities to embrace the small town charm. The sculpture garden is a must see, as well as the Gault Archaeological Site, and Salado Creek and Pace Park.

Gonzales is featured second on the list, highlighting the historical charm, juxtaposed along the natural beauty and river areas. Listed are attractions such as Independence Park, the

**Gonzales is featured second on the list, highlighting the historical charm, juxtaposed along the natural beauty and river areas. Listed are attractions such as Independence Park, the Guadalupe River, including the park with picnic tables and BBQ pits, with a playground and scenic overlook of the river. Palmetto State Park is highlighted for nature enthusiasts, with the San Marcos River running through it featuring as a spot not to miss.**

Guadalupe River, including the park with picnic tables and BBQ pits, with a playground and scenic overlook of the river. Palmetto State Park is highlighted for nature enthusiasts, with the San Marcos River running through it featuring as a spot not to miss.

The First Shot Monument Historic District, honoring the Texas Revolutionary War, is listed as a must-see spot. Among those spots listed to find accommodations include the Belle Oaks and Dilworth Inns.

Among the others honored on this list are Canyon, with a spotlight on Palo Duro Canyon. Port Isabel appears next on the list, with the article showcasing the lighthouse and Queen Isabella Causeway (and South Padre Island). Next to appear is Port Aransas, with emphasis on the title of fishing capital of Texas. The Port Aransas Museum and historical areas are also mentioned as not

to be missed.

Rockport follows, with mention of the beach, including pristine white sands allowing for sunbathing or leisure time and serene blue water. The Tule Creek Hike and Bike Trail is mentioned spot to visit on your way in or out of this historical area.

Others to appear on the list are Dripping Springs (highlighting the natural beauty and charm, with emphasis placed on the Hamilton Poor Preserve; Wimberley, shown as the small charming village that calls Blue Hole Regional Park and the Jacob's Well Natural Area, also mentioned is the Cypress Creek Natural area. Finally the last mentioned is Fredericksburg, called the prime example of small town charm. Listed is shopping, rock climbing and the nearby Lyndon B. Johnson State Park and Historic Site (birthplace of the 36th president of the United States).

# Edwards Association Save the Ceiling luncheon Friday

## SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Edwards Association will hold a Save the Ceiling Campaign luncheon from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 19, with proceeds to go towards roof restoration on the old Edwards “gem” of a gymnasium, located at 1427 Fly Street, Gonzales. Tickets for a catfish plate with all the trimming are \$15 per person.

The Edwards School Gym was built in 1950 at a cost of \$59,000 and includes eight classroom spaces while also doubling as an auditorium. The gym features a historic and architecturally significant lamella roof system.

The lamella roof system was devised in 1908 in Dessau, Germany, by Frederick Zollinger, the city architect. Lamellae are the vertical membranes you see when you examine the underside of

a mushroom. They also form the chambers in the shell of a univalve mollusk. These pieces support the membrane which protects the plant/animal.

In the Lamella roof system, the wood members themselves are called lamellas. The individual pieces are joined together with bolts and/or plates to form intersecting transverse arches that create a rhomboid pattern. The sheathing covering these pieces completes the structure. These roofs were especially popular between World War I and World War II when metal was in short supply.

To donate to the Edwards Association, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, you can mail checks to P.O. Box 1823, Gonzales, TX 78629. They have a Zelle set up at 830-263-1611 and the groups EIN is 74-2550974.

# ORGAN CONCERT FRIDAY, APRIL 19 AT 6:00 PM

The Episcopal Church of the Messiah is hosting a free organ concert in our newly restored sanctuary.

Seating capacity is 100, so we urge guests and members to come early to find a place.

Reception will follow in the parish hall.



The guest organist, Daniel McIntosh, is a graduate student majoring in organ performance at Baylor University where he studies with the internationally acclaimed Dr. Jens Korndörfer. Presently, Daniel is organist for Calvary Baptist Church in Waco, Texas, serving under the direction of Dr. Randle Bradley, the department chair of the Baylor Church Music program. Previously organist at Trinity Lutheran Church at Badger Ranch in Woodway, Texas, and First Baptist Church of Valley Mills, TX, Daniel received an undergraduate degree in Church Music with organ concentration from Baylor in 2023. A multi-talented musician, Daniel has played organ, piano, saxophone, and drums for different styles of worship services around the world – in Texas, Florida, California, Guam, South Korea, Japan, and Cambodia. Most recently he toured France playing organ in Cathedrals across Paris and in the palace of Versailles. When he is not practicing an instrument, his hobbies include distance running or playing basketball with friends.

Attendees may make a free-will offering to support the outreach efforts of the church.

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# "A Night Under The Stars"



Simple Jest Photography



Gonzales High School students sparkled at "A Night Under The Stars." Congratulations to prom king Cristian Hernandez and prom queen Eliana Eldridge. A heartfelt thank you goes out to the staff because the night would not have been possible without their support. Sponsors for the event included: Rotary Club of Gonzales, Christian Kids Day Care, Noon Lions Club of Gonzales, Greg and Kris McClain, First Lutheran Church, Steve Sucher, Mayor of Gonzales, Lisa Benavidez, Mayor of Smiley, Episcopal Church Outreach, The Bridal Rail - Moulton, Texas, Persons Flower Shop, Snavelly, Ashley and Gabe Molina, Tommy and Sandy Huber, Tamara DuBose, Isaac Anzaldua, Lisa and Daniel Benavidez, Manuel DeLaRosa, Manuel Pena Jr., Jesse and Suzanne Vigil, Michael and Liz Longoria, Eric and Vivian Gallegos, Sylvia Dryer, Audra and Billy Holifield, Leigh Coke, Poochy and Lawren Kridler, Carmen and Nick Gonzales, Joe Melgar and GG's Steaks and Spirits.

PHOTOS COURTESY TWILA HUBER AND SIMPLE JEST PHOTOGRAPHY



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# Roeber

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# NIXON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

police package Ford Explorers from Caraway Ford at a cost of \$63,231.76 each using Government Capital to finance the purchase after council members voted unanimously to approve a request by Interim City Manager Darryl Becker and Police Chief Miguel Cantu.

However, the vehicles will not be built by Ford for some time, leaving Becker and Cantu scrambling to find makeshift replacements for non-working vehicles.

Becker said the age of the city's police fleet is seven years and they have had to decommission two of the four vehicles they've been using.

"We're in a peculiar situation where the availability of vehicles for the police packages are just not there," Becker said. "So we went and talked to the sheriff and the county judge and they're going to put it on the agenda to see if we can use some vehicles until we can get some ordered."

Cantu called his two decommissioned vehicles "deadlines," meaning they won't hold up to the needs of the department.

"They're having transmissions issues to fix and in one of them, the AC alone is \$3,500 and the vehicle is probably worth \$4,000 if we're lucky," Cantu said. "It doesn't make sense to put that much money out on a vehicle that the transmission could go out a week later."

Cantu said the three Chevy Tahoes from the GCSO are "not in the best of conditions, but they're better than what we have right now" and the county is willing to let them lease the vehicles, which are still equipped. Nixon PD would have to put their own radios and computers into the Tahoes, however.

Council members also voted unanimously to approve the purchase of FundView software to use for financial accounting, utilities, payroll and human resources at a cost of \$28,500, which includes training for a year, plus a yearly licensing and maintenance fee of \$22,000. Becker said the city solicited multiple bids and found FundView to be the best one for their needs.

"This is a software that that we could bring in to the city that would bring all of City Hall onto one server," Becker said.

FundView was founded by former employees of Tyler Technologies, whose system OneView has been the pre-eminent governmental software used by municipalities and counties. The founders of FundView took their knowledge of OneView and created a program which improves upon that successful software,

Cantu said.

The city has been using QuickBooks, but the limitations on the software make it to where only one person can log into the system at a time, which makes it harder to use.

Also, QuickBooks is meant more for use by for-profit businesses that to track cash management and ultimately profit and loss, whereas a local government needs instead to track cash assigned to different purposes and how that cash was used according to "generally accepted accounting principles" or GAAP.

The city has had to pay an outside auditor an extra \$15,000 per year to create spreadsheets that would accurately show the city's financial position and what funds are available for each department, Becker said.

"We're trying to get a system that has GAAP in it where an outside auditor can view and receive the invoices and minimize the time that he spends doing our audit," Becker said. "The city paid \$50,000 for the fiscal year 2021 audit. We paid \$65,000 that year to audit a \$2.8 million budget. That's not acceptable and it's throwing tax dollars out the window."

"We've only done the 2020 and 2021 budget. We've got a letter to start the 2022 budget. In order to start that, I'm going to have to straighten the books on it. We can either send it to an outside CPA for \$15,000 or fix it ourselves. The outside audit itself is \$50,000 and we're two behind, so that's another \$100,000. Make the choice. The choice is simple to me. We have got to get the system working that everyone can see the finances."

The FundView software can update and show the city's financial position in real time while handling not only financial accounting, but also work orders, utilities billing and even HR, Becker said.

Cantu said he would have to ask City Secretary Tanya Torres for a printout of his police department budget the past few years "and I would get a sheet where it was pretty much a month behind, so I didn't have any real time idea of what my budget was like."

Cantu said any of the city's department heads would be able to use FundView to get real time information about their department spending and finances and make budgetary decisions using accurate data instead of guessing their position based upon information that is a month old.

"In my opinion, if we had had something like this for the past five years,

we wouldn't be in the position we're in now," Cantu said.

Pompa said "with the last audit that we had completed, there was a lot that had to be undone and redone and that's the reason why the audit cost so much."

"This product allows us to provide the auditors with a log-in to the portal. They'll be able to go in and pull whatever information they need," Pompa said. "I think it's awesome. I wouldn't even have to wait to get a bill in from chief or Jeremy. They can scan a bill into the system and I can see that it's going to pop up and it can be paid."

"Will this system allow you to miss a \$340,000 bill that needs to be paid?" Council member Justin La Fleur asked, referring to a situation last year which led to the dismissal of former City Manager Harold Rice.

"It would be hard to miss a \$340,000 bill with this system," Pompa replied.

"This system is going to cost us," Becker said. "Is it going to cost us more than what we're paying for with every other system we have? I have no idea, but we have 12-13 different things now we're trying to run the city off."

"I want a system where every person in the city is able to sit at home and pull up on the internet and see exactly what the city spent their money on this week."

The council tabled until next month a \$5,200 reimbursement to the Rancho-Nixon Historical Association for signage and a video about the impact of gunslinger John Wesley Hardin on the Nixon and Gonzales County area.

Donald Hoffman of the Rancho-Nixon Historical Association said his organization was granted an allocation of \$15,000 in this year's City of Nixon fiscal budget to spend on historical projects.

The current invoices are for \$1,000 to mount the 4x8 quarter-plate engraved steel entrance monuments for the city (plus \$700 for actual quarter plates and engraving) and another \$3,500 to produce a film about Hardin's life story, which will be shown and used as a fundraiser for the Aphne Pattillo Nixon Public Library.

Rancho-Nixon Historical Association has already paid for these projects out of their own funds, so they would be seeking reimbursement from the money already set aside in a budget by the council, Hoffman said.

The council also voted unanimously to approve moving the tiling of all fire department vehicles from the city to the Nixon Fire Department.

# BRASELL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

On May 20, 2023, at about 3:40 p.m., Brassell responded to a fight in progress between two males inmates at the inmate visitation center at the Gonzales County Jail, Schmidt said. Upon arriving, Brassell observed one of the inmates actively stabbing the other with a homemade shank the inmate had fashioned from a sharpened toothbrush.

"Corporal Brassell quickly intervened, and without regard for his own life, acted swiftly and placed himself between the inmates. He was able to subdue (the attacker) and then wait for help and they got the inmate handcuffed," Schmidt said. "Because of that, we submitted this and several other documents to the Texas Jail Association for the Detention Officer of the Year for Valor, and we were notified on Thursday (April 4) that he had won the award. We're real proud of him for winning this."

Nominations had to be received by TJA by March 1, 2024, in order to be eligible and included a nomination packet with supporting documentation including offense reports, sworn statements, newspaper accounts (if any) and letters of recommendation.

According to the Texas Jail Association, the purpose of their annual awards is to recognize exceptional service provided by an individual in the field of county jail operations. There are two awards for Detention Officer of the Year:

- Detention Officer of the Year - Professional Service: This award is given to an individual working in county corrections who has demonstrated a commitment to professional service at his/her agency by making outstanding contributions to county corrections that exceed basic ability and expected performance.
- Detention Officer of the Year - Valor: This award is given to an individual working in county corrections who demonstrated courage or valor in the face of danger while in the performance of his/her official duties.

Schmidt also informed county commissioners the jail is back to "within an officer of being fully staffed, so we are almost back to where we need to be."

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Above: Whiskey Myers closes out night two of Cattle Country Fest Saturday, April 13. Right: Country singer Tanya Tucker performs on the Pecan stage (stage two) for day two of the Cattle Country Festival Saturday, April 13.

PHOTOS BY LORRELL WRIGHT



Left: Country artist Sophia Scott kicks off the inaugural Cattle Country Festival as the first act Friday, April 12. Below, right: Lead singer Cameron Sackey, of The Cameron Sackey Band, performs on the Come and Take It stage for day two of the Cattle Country Music Festival Saturday, April 12.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



Tracy Lawrence performs for the final day of the Cattle Country Festival Sunday, April 14 on the Austin Hope Wine stage (main stage).

LORRELL WRIGHT



## FESTIVAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Many traveled from both in Texas and outside the state to see the festival, including Joe Pierce of Manteca, Calif., who was excited to see his favorite band Whiskey Myers.

“It started about three to four years ago. One of my neighbors moved down and I knew nothing about Whiskey Myers. As we were working on the fence, he introduced me to Whiskey Myers and I loved the music and follow them,” Pierce said. “We’d never been up here [to Gonzales, Texas] before and Whiskey Myers is playing and we decided to make a big weekend out of it. So, me and the wife came up here to see Whiskey Myers perform.”

Pierce flew down with his wife to Austin and then San

Antonio and a made a five-day trip out of it, he said.

Pierce and his wife attended the festival for one day, but he said they were going to travel and visit Gonzales and read about the local history.

Pierce was impressed with how the festival turned out, especially being held in a small town like Gonzales and being a farm boy himself.

“This is my country, so coming out here and doing and seeing this, it’s been awesome. I’ve been to a lot of concerts, but in the city, but being out here among nature and seeing this so far is awesome,” Pierce said.

The festival also showcased local Texas groups, including San Marcos’s The Cameron Sackey Band.

Lead singer Cameron Sackey said the festival has been great with the warm and sunny weather and he was excited to hear other great music.

Sackey’s genre of music is wide ranging, and he said they can’t put a finger what genre they are.

“So I would just say that good music is good music. And if you like what you’re listening to, we always try to spice things up,” Sackey said.

Sackey was excited to get an opportunity to perform at a big festival like Cattle Country, especially seeing his favorite artists.

“That’s the perks of being an artist, you get to hang out with some of your favorites you may have listened to. So that’s

always cool to do whenever you get to shake some hands,” Sackey said. “Just seeing all the great vendors that they get out here, you know, you get to meet them. And then turns out they like your music, so you swap some merchandise, and the show goes on and you have a great day.”

One of Sackey’s favorite artists he got a chance to see was Sublime with Rome, and he said he is a huge fan of reggae music. He also loved seeing Koe Wetzel top the festival on day one.

Sackey is originally from Corpus Christi and the beach vibes influenced his music. He later moved to Texas State University and started playing Texas country and blended both styles of

music, he said.

Sackey’s band has new music coming soon — the day before the festival he was in the recording booth for their new album.

“Just got out of the studio yesterday. I gotta go back for a couple more days to record some vocals. And we’re really excited for this next album. I think it’s going to be some of our best work,” Sackey said.

The Cameron Sackey Band can be found on YouTube, Spotify, Apple Music and Google Play.

The festival closed out Sunday, April 14 with Eric Church; Church played his classic songs, including “Springsteen,” “Drink in my Hand,” Talladega” and more.

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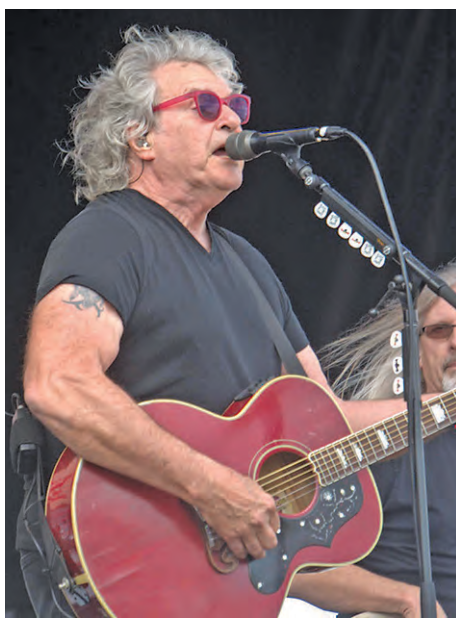
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PHOTOS BY LORRELL WRIGHT, WANDY VAN EPPS AND CONTRIBUTED BY FESTIVAL





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### 950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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To promote fair housing practices, the City of Waelder encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights under the National Fair Housing Law.  
Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market.  
For More information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's toll-free hotline at: 1-800-669-9777; or Texas Workforce Commission at (888) 452-4778 or TTY: (512)-371-7473 Complaints may be filed locally with the City of Waelder at (830) 788-7331.

★ ★ ★ ★  
The City of Waelder has appointed a Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity Standards Officer responsible for the oversight and compliance of fair housing and equal opportunity provisions and certification activities to be performed by the City. This Officer may be contacted through the Office of the Mayor, 300 Highway 90 West, Waelder, Texas 78959-0427; Telephone: (830) 788-7331 (Voice).

**Policy Prohibiting the Use of Excessive Force**  
The City of Waelder announces that it has a Policy Prohibiting the Use of Excessive Force by law enforcement personnel within its jurisdiction against any individual engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations, and a policy enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location that is subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdictions. In accordance with 24 CFR 91.325(b)(6), this policy is in compliance with Section 104(1) of the Housing and Community Development Act, as amended.

**NOTICES OF NON-DISCRIMINATION**  
**Policy of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability Status**  
The City of Waelder, Texas does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission to, or access to, or employment in, its programs or activities. The Mayor has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) regulations implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended (24 CFR Part 8.4(a)).

**THE LAW Equal Employment Opportunity Statement**  
The City of Waelder does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability status in employment or the provision of services. (Section 109 of Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act (24CFR6); the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C 6101-6107); and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794)

In accordance with Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 as amended, the City has implemented a policy to provide "to the greatest extent feasible" training and employment opportunities to lower income residents and contract opportunities to businesses of the areas in which TXCDBG Program / Project is being carried out. A copy of the policy may be obtained for review. (24 CFR Part 135)

The City of Waelder has appointed a Section 504/Section 3 Coordinator responsible for the oversight and compliance of equal opportunity provisions and Section 504 certification activities to be performed by the City. This Officer may be contacted through Office of the Mayor, City of Waelder, 300 Highway 90 West, Waelder, Texas 78959-0427; Telephone: (830) 788-7331 (Voice)

The City of Waelder Citizen Participation Plan includes the adoption of Complaint and Grievance Procedures regarding its Texas Community Development Programs. These procedures outline the steps for a citizen to follow if he/she wishes to file a written complaint about proposed TxCDBG activities. The City will make every effort to respond fully to such complaints within ten (10) working days. Citizens may obtain a copy of these written procedures at the City Hall between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Citizens may also request the procedures be mailed to them by calling the City Secretary's Office at (830) 788-7331.

**Accommodation for Non-English speaking residents and Limited English Proficiency (LEP)**  
The City will upon request provide an interpreter to accommodate the needs of the Non-English speaking residents and ensure nondiscrimination by taking reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access for person with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) by providing language assistance as appropriate. Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) needs are asked to contact City Hall for further assistance. Para mas información en español, comuníquese con la Oficina del Alcalde al (830) 788-7331.

# CLASSIFIEDS

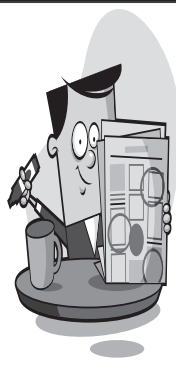
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## 2nd 25th Judicial District OFFICE/BUSINESS MANAGER - Intermediate Sanction Facility - Gonzales, Texas

The 2nd 25th Judicial District, Serving Colorado, Gonzales and Lavaca Counties is seeking to hire an Office/Business Manager for the Intermediate Sanction Facility (ISF) located in Gonzales, Texas. The ISF is a 60-bed male residential facility for offenders on felony and misdemeanor probation.

All interested applicants are required to submit an Application for Employment which can be found at 2nd25thprobation.com and a resume with cover letter to the attention of: Traci Darilek, Director at tdarilek@gonzales-county.net; in person at the Lavaca CSCD office located at 412 North Texana, Hallettsville, Texas 77964 or via U.S. Mail to the 2nd 25th Judicial District, P.O. Box 330, Hallettsville, Texas 77964 by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 3, 2024.

Salary will be based on qualifications and experience. Minimum starting salary of \$43,000 with 3 years' experience in bookkeeping and accounting is preferred. High school diploma or the equivalent is required.



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## CITY OF GONZALES

**PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT**  
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Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, makes discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin illegal in connection with the sale or rental of most housing and any vacant land offered for residential construction or use.

### YOU CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT HOUSING DISCRIMINATION.

Complaints may be filed locally with the City of Gonzales at (830) 672-2815 or by reporting violations to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Toll Free, 1-800-669-9777, 1-800-927-9275 (TDD).

The City of Gonzales has appointed a Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity Standards Officer responsible for the oversight and compliance of fair housing and equal opportunity provisions and certification activities to be performed by the City. This Officer may be contacted through the Office of the Mayor, 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629 Telephone: (830) 672-2815 (Voice).

### INITIAL NOTICE

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, As Amended Policy of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicapped Status.

The City of Gonzales does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its federally assisted program or activities.

Name: Steve Sucher, Mayor of the City of Gonzales

Address: 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629

Telephone: (830) 672-2815 (Voice)

Has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Developments (HUD) regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR Part 8, dated June 2, 1988).

\*\*\*\*\*

The City of Gonzales has appointed a Section 504/Section 3 Coordinator responsible for the oversight and compliance of equal opportunity provisions and Section 504 certification activities to be performed by the City. This Officer may be contacted through the Office of the Mayor, 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, Telephone (830) 672-2815 (Voice).

The City of Gonzales announces that it has a policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement personnel within its jurisdiction against any individual engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations. This policy is in compliance with Section 519 Public Law 101-44, 1990, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, as Amended.

## CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS: Cause No. 28,473

HOMER WILLIAMS, JANET	\$	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
ANTWINE, AND JOHNNIE	\$	
RICHARDSON, ET AL	\$	
PLAINTIFFS	\$	25TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
	\$	
V	\$	
RACHEL BARFIELD, ET AL	\$	
DEFENDANTS,	\$	GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: Unknown heirs of RACHEL BARFIELD ALSO KNOWN AS RACHEL BAREFIELD, DECEASED, PEARSON and PASTURE STEEN, DECEASED, LOUISA MIKES, DECEASED, EUGENE STEEN, DECEASED, NOVELA JONES, DECEASED, RATE STEEN, DECEASED, OZ STEEN, DECEASED, SYLVESTER STEEN, DECEASED, KATIE MAE BLACKWELL, DECEASED, LAWYER STEEN, DECEASED, LILLIAN STEEN, DECEASED, HARROSLIS STEEN, DECEASED, JOSEPH STEEN, DECEASED, BIRDO STEEN, DECEASED, EDMAN STEEN, DECEASED, RUBY L.S. MOSLEY, DECEASED, KENNETH COLEMAN, SYLVESTER STEEN, JR., DECEASED, JOHNNIE E. STEEN, DECEASED, BIRDO STEEN, JR., DECEASED, BURNIE WILLIAMS, DECEASED, JOSEPH STEEN, DECEASED, MARTHA L. STEEN, DECEASED, WILLIE STEEN, DECEASED, LILIAN SIMMONS, ROSEMARY STEEN, DECEASED, GRACE L. HECK, LIONEL ROGERS, NATHAN K. ROGERS, DECEASED, STANLEY E. ROGERS, WILLIAM J. SHROPSHIRE, MICHAEL W. STEEN, JULIA C. MCAFEE, MARTHA K.T. MADDOX, MARSHA T. PICKENS, ETHEL T. SHELTON, BOBBY JOE THOMPSON, DECEASED, MITCHELLE THOMPSON, STEVEN THOMPSON, DECEASED, BOBBIE STEEN, JOHNSIE STEEN, LAURA STEEN, BERDA J. WILLIAMS, WANDA THOMPSON, EDNA LEE STEEN, DECEASED, BILLY JO NEAL, MARYLIN STEEN, SALLIE C. STEEN, DECEASED, SHAWN DEAN THOMPSON, COREY D. BROOKS, MONIQUE THOMPSON, NICHOLE THOMPSON, DELORIS Y. THOMPSON, LARKIN GOODPASTURE, DECEASED, HENRIETTA GOODPASTURE, also known as HENRIETTA COLLINS, JUSTIN GILMORE, RACHEL KETCHUM, AMY KETCHUM, ALFRED J. MCNEAL, JESSIE IRVIN, ANTHONY PEARSON, and HEINRIETTA JOHNSON, DECEASED, JULIAS JOHNSON, DECEASED, MATTIE L. JOHNSON, DECEASED, JUSTIN GILMORE, DECEASED, RACHEL KETCHUM, DECEASED, AMY KETCHUM, DECEASED, ALFRED J. MCNEAL, DECEASED, JESSE LEE MCNEAL, DECEASED, ANTHONY PEARSON, DECEASED and their respective unknown heirs

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 am on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you. "You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two (42) days after the date of issuance of this citation before the Honorable District Court of Gonzales County, at the Courthouse in said Gonzales County, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the January 30, 2023 in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is a PETITION FOR SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 23A TEXAS PROPERTY CODE, as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gonzales Texas this 20th day of March, 2024.



Clerk of the Court:  
Janice Sutton  
414 St. Joseph St., Ste. 300  
Gonzales County, Texas

By K. Alarcon Deputy

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

### CITY OF GONZALES GONZALES, TEXAS 2024 STREET IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Separate sealed bids addressed to the City of Gonzales (OWNER) clearly labeled "2024 STREET IMPROVEMENT PLANS, ATTN: CITY SECRETARY" will be received at Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, until 2:00 o'clock p.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2024 and then publicly opened and read aloud immediately.

This project includes installation of approximately 11,670 SY of Two Course Surface Treatment over 6-inch reclaim of existing streets and the replacement of approximately 762 LF of curb & gutter and 233 LF of Valley Gutter. The bid also includes an alternate of 1-1/2-inches of HMA in Lieu of the Two Course Surface Treatment.

The Contract Documents, consisting of Advertisement for Bids, Information for Bidders, Bid Proposal, Bid Bond, Agreement, Performance and Payment Bonds, General Conditions, Special Conditions, Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, Technical Specifications and Plans, together with any Addenda are available at Doucet & Associates, Inc., 829 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, (512) 583-2672. Plans, Specifications, and Contract Documents may be examined and purchased for a non-refundable fee of \$50.00 at this location or may be received via email at no charge. Email kschauer@kleinfelder.com if interested in bidding the project.

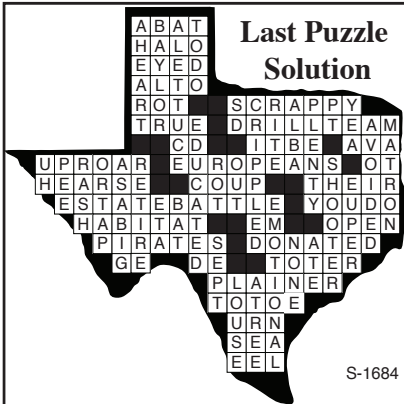
Each bid shall be accompanied by a cashier's check or certified check upon a national or state bank in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total actual bid price payable without recourse to the City of Gonzales, or a bid bond in the same amount from a reliable surety company as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract and execute required performance and payment bonds.

The contract shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder; however, the right is reserved, as the interests of the OWNER may require, to reject any and all bids, and to waive any informality or minor defects in bids received. Bids may be held by the OWNER for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of the opening for Bids for the purpose of reviewing the Bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders, prior to awarding of the Contract.

There will not be a pre-bid conference. Contractors shall make their own individual site inspections and/or investigations to make themselves aware of existing conditions/issues. Failure to make adequate observations, investigations and/or ask questions prior to bidding shall not be grounds for requesting additional work or services. Questions shall be forwarded to J. Keith Schauer, P.E., 829 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, kschauer@kleinfelder.com, (512) 583-2672, by 5:00 o'clock p.m., Monday, April 29, 2024.

## April 11 Puzzle Answers

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



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**NOTICE OF SALE**

STATE OF TEXAS § BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE  
GONZALES COUNTY § DATED APRIL 04, 2024  
§

and issued pursuant to judgment decree(s) of the District Court of Gonzales County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date, in the hereinafter numbered and styled suit(s) and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff or Constable of said County, I have on April 4, 2024, seized, levied upon, and will, on the first Tuesday in May 2024, the same being the 7th day of said month, The steps outside the Gonzales County Tax Office in the Randle Rather Building, located at 427 St. George, Gonzales, between the hours of 10 o'clock a.m. and 4 o'clock p.m. on said day, beginning at 11:00 AM, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit(s) in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Gonzales and the State of Texas, to-wit:

7001 Account No(s). R10450, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. CITIBANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR BY ACQUISITION OF HOME SAVING ASSOCIATION, ET AL., Lot 37, Glen Heights Addition, City of Nixon, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 506, Page 24, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$27,020.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$27,020.00;

7090, Account No(s). R26168, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. WILLIAM STEUBING, ET AL., Lots 1, Block 4, H.C. Forester Addition, Town of Nixon, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 248, Page 248, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$26,540.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$15,727.49;

7164, Account No(s). R12895, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. FELIX CASARES, ET AL., Lot 6, Block 3, Norwood Heights Addition, Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 779, Page 898, Official Records of Gonzales County, Texas, SAVE & EXCEPT that 0.129 acre portion of Lot 6, Range 6, East of Water Street in the Original Outer Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 585, Page 739, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$52,580.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$10,219.09;

7185, Account No(s). R23820, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. CLEMENTE RAMOS, ET AL., 0.22 acre, more or less, being Part of Lot 2, Range 1, East of Water Street, in the Original Outer Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 232, Page 347, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$61,420.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$28,020.15;

7209, Account No(s). N340256, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. CHARLES LEE JACKSON, LEASE #0085717 BARNHART (EF) D W#1H-8H (MARATHON OIL EF LLC) R1 0.001064 ABSTRACT 247, A W HILL, RRC 17171, GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS, with an adjudged value of \$2,970.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$1,518.06;

7209, Account No(s). N340257, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. CHARLES LEE JACKSON, LEASE #0085733 BARNHART (EF) K W#1H-3H 5-10H (MARATHON OIL EF LLC) R1 0.000763 ABSTRACT 247, A W HILL, RRC 17273, GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS, with an adjudged value of \$1,210.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$1,210.00;

7233, Account No(s). R26520, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. LUCENIA TAYLOR ARKADIE, ET AL, 7.20 acres, more or less, A.B. Williams League, A-79, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 246, Page 27, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$111,100.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$21,236.30;

7277, Account No(s). R21132, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. OLD STONE CONSUMER FINANCE CORPORATION, FORMERLY KOWN AS DIXIE ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION, ET AL., Lot 8, Block 1, Ewings, Second Addition, Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 373, Page 11, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$42,850.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$23,607.25;

7284, Account No(s). R313910, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. PAMELA KAY ANDERSON, An undivided 16.666% interest in Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Block 70; Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 75; Lots 1 and 2, Block 88; and Lots 1 and 2, Block 89, Town of Harwood, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 550, Page 649, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$28,260.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$11,456.18;

7332, Account No(s). R12874, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. MIGUEL ALMAZAN, ET AL., Lots 3 and 4, Block 72, Town of Waelder, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 870, Page 245, Official Records of Gonzales County, Texas, together with a manufactured home situated thereon, with an adjudged value of \$23,610.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$8,006.60;

7359, Account No(s). R28241, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JULIA WILLIAMS., Lot 9, Block 77, Kelley Addition, an addition to the City of Waelder, Gonzales County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 217, Pages 481 and 482, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$2,330.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$2,330.00;

7383, Account No(s). R76567, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. LUCIANO RODRIGUEZ, AKA LUCIANO RODRIGUEZ MARTINEZ, ET AL., 0.747 acre, more or less out of Lot 4, Block 16, Range 1, West of Water Street, Original Outer Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, as described in deed dated July 13, 2018, from Angelina Rodriguez to Luciano Rodriguez, in Volume 1289, Page 765, Official Records of Gonzales County, Texas, including Mobile Home, Label no. GEO0837243., with an adjudged value of \$38,960.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$4,230.31;

7387, Account No(s). R24027, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. CATHERINE REYNA, 0.1291 acre, more or less, out of Lot 3, Block 3, Norwood Heights Addition, an addition to the City of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, as described in deed dated June 30, 1986, from Jesus Casarez etux to Catherine Reyna, in Volume 585, Page 739, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$124,250.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$15,785.78;

7394, Account No(s). R28031, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. L.V. STEVENS, JR., ET AL, Lot 5, Block 2, Ewing's Second Addition, an addition to the City of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 105, Page 260, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$19,300.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$5,163.53;

7421, Account No(s). R19881, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. ELIZABETH LEE, ET AL, Lot 1, Block 5, Davis Addition, an addition to the Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 123, Page 428-431, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$1,780.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$1,780.00;

(any volume and page references, unless otherwise indicated, being to the Deed Records, Gonzales County, Texas, to which instruments reference may be made for a more complete description of each respective tract.) or, upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion of the property described above shall be sold to satisfy said judgment(s), interest, penalties, and cost; and any property sold shall be subject to the right of redemption of the defendants or any person having an interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, within the time and in the manner provided by law, and shall be subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment(s) rendered in the above styled and numbered cause(s), together with interest, penalties, and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sales to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

Dated at Gonzales, Texas, April 4, 2024.

*Keith Schmidt*  
Sheriff Keith Schmidt  
Gonzales County, Texas

By *Deena* \$1150  
Deputy

**Notes:**  
The Minimum Bid is the lesser of the amount awarded in the judgment plus interest and costs or the adjudged value. However, the Minimum Bid for a person owning an interest in the property or for a person who is a party to the suit (other than a taxing unit), is the aggregate amount of the judgments against the property plus all costs of suit and sale. ALL SALES SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION WITHOUT NOTICE. THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL TAXES DUE ON THE PROPERTY WHICH HAVE BEEN ASSESSED SINCE THE DATE OF THE JUDGMENT. For more information, contact your attorney or LINEBARGER GOGGAN BLAIR & SAMPSON, LLP, attorney for plaintiffs, at (512) 634-3709.

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# Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announces launch of naloxone distribution grant opportunity

## SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced that the Opioid Abatement Fund Council's (O AFC or the Council) Naloxone Distribution Grant Opportunity is open for applications.

The grant opportunity invites eligible Texas governmental entities, nonprofit organizations and business entities to apply to implement a statewide program that will distribute the opioid overdose reversal medication naloxone

where it is needed most. This important initiative allocates up to \$25 million for naloxone distribution, training and targeted interventions.

"Reflecting our firm commitment to saving lives and safeguarding Texas communities, this critical initiative marks a significant step forward in the Council's ongoing efforts to combat the opioid crisis affecting the state," Hegar said. "With dangerous fentanyl continuing to stream across our southern border and Texas continuing to struggle with the federal government's failures,

our state government must do everything we can to protect Texans. Naloxone is a key tool in that fight."

Applications for this grant will be accepted until May 7 through the O AFC's grant management system. Eligible entities are encouraged to submit comprehensive proposals and budgets. The selection process, including evaluation by an independent peer review panel, involves a thorough assessment of criteria such as experience, timeline feasibility, cost-efficiency and operational capacity. A grant will

be awarded to one applicant to implement the program statewide, and applicants may use qualified subcontractors or subgrantees to help implement the program regionally.

"Our goal is to ensure these resources get into the hands of people who need them the most, but we must also ensure these expenditures are made in an informed and accountable manner," Hegar said. "Our agency and this Council are dedicated to transparency and accountability throughout the life cycle of the grant program."

The O AFC is guided by 13 appointed experts and the Texas Comptroller, who is the non-voting presiding officer. The Council is dedicated to responsibly allocating settlement agreement funds acquired through litigation against pharmaceutical companies and other liable actors to directly address the opioid crisis while ensuring efficiency and fairness in its efforts.

Go to the Comptroller's website (PDF) for more information on the Naloxone Distribution Grant Opportunity.

## GOLF SCRAMBLE



CONTRIBUTED

The winning team from the April 10 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Jake Barnick, Matt Dunham, Will Ruddock, Astrit Lekgegaj and Kameron Craft.



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The second-place team from the April 10 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Dan Parker, Robert Young, Ralph Aguirre, Chase Kotzebue, Randy Young and Roland Young.

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# Shouldering the burden

Howdy y'all, where's the time go? Here we are again, another quick week later. That's why today may be a great time to start your fitness journey, if you haven't already. The good news is that it doesn't have to be any harder than you want it to be, just by getting something done with reasonable consistency, your not too distant future could change for the better. Besides, science through a multitude of studies has proven that retaining, or even building muscle as we get older, adds significantly to better health and longevity.

Like most people, I'd rather not exercise, eat all the garbage I want, and never gain weight or incur worse health through lack of personal maintenance. However, after giving that approach a rigorous attempt for a number of years, I came to the conclusion that it wasn't panning out the way I'd hoped. After somehow finding the energy to crawl onto the scale, and being somewhat embarrassed when it screamed in agony and yelled "Get off me Fatty!", I decided that maybe a new approach was in order. Being a Christian (believing in God through Jesus), a few scriptures always stood out to me.

(1 Cor 6:12) "All things are permitted for me, but not all things are of benefit", (1 Tim 4:8) "Physical training is good, but training for godliness is better", and (Psalm 119:29 & 73) "Keep me from lying to myself, give me the privilege of knowing your instructions" "You created me, now give me the sense to follow your commands". So today, I'll do just that (to the best of my ability).

In the last few articles I've covered my current ab/leg and chest/back routines, so today I'll touch on shoulders. Over the years I've managed to separate my shoulders several times, dislocated an elbow and cut off the tips of two fingers. Needless to say, I'm somewhat cautious when using or training my upper extremities. That being said, I'll always start with some stretching and plenty of warmups, then I slowly ease into my workout with slow and intentional movements, in order to avoid straining anything. First a word of caution, the shoulders are a very complex joint and easy to overtax or injure if not paying close attention to your execution. Besides, I find them particularly useful when doing anything involving my arms, and when



**ERIC ESTES**

Love, Eric and Eloise

**“Keep me from lying to myself, give me the privilege of knowing your instructions” “You created me, now give me the sense to follow your commands.”**

—Psalm 119:29 & 73

strained or injured, my arms just tend to flop around, making me look even dumber than I already do while shopping at Walmart or HEB.

The shoulders (deltoids) have three basic functions, the front delts move arms to the front and overhead, the side delts to the side, and the rear delts to the rear, and all need work to

maintain balance and optimal functionality. My first exercise is the good old seated shoulder (military) press on the smith machine (barbell gliding on rails, as to eliminate fighting balance), keeping my posture and form tight. After starting with just the bar, I'll add 20 lbs. per set to a current maximum working weight of about 75 lbs. After several shoulder injuries, this allows me a sufficient workout without re-injury. Three to four sets of 12- 15 reps, followed by two sets of front raises with 10 lb. dumbbells concludes front delts. Next is dumbbell side then bent over rear laterals (done together in same set), 3-4 sets with 10-15 lbs. of what ever I can muster. Finishing off with one set of upright rows ( standing and pulling bar to chin, elbows out) and one set of barbell shoulder shrugs for traps (muscles on top of shoulders sloping up to neck) completes my shoulder workout. Probably doesn't sound like much, but when done properly will also cause your arms to dangle a bit. Yep, no shopping today as I'm looking dumb enough already! Next week we'll tackle arms, so stay tuned... Love you guys, Eric.

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## Aggie Muster set for April 21 in Gonzales

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales County A & M Club, Aggie Muster, will be held Sunday, April 21, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Hwy. 90A East, Gonzales, Texas.

Social time is 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. Meal \$20, dues for individual \$20 and for a couple \$35.

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First Assembly of God 509 E. 3rd St., Nixon	Stratton Primitive Baptist FM 1447, 9 miles east of Cuero	<b>FULL GOSPEL</b> Camp Valley Full Gospel Hwy 80, 7 mi. north of Nixon	El Centro Cristiano "Agua Viva" 403 Highway 90 W, Waelder
<b>BAPTIST</b> Clark Baptist Church FM 794, Gonzales	St. James Baptist Church Hwy 80, north of Belmont.	Full Gospel Church 1426 Fisher, Gonzales	Emmanuel Fellowship 1817 St. Lawrence, Gonzales
Country Baptist Church Highway 87, Smiley	St. Paul Baptist Church SE 2nd Street, Waelder	<b>JEWISH</b> Adat Haderech, a Messianic shul HashemYeshua1 @yahoo.com	Encouraging Word Christian Fellowship Highway 80, Leesville
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Iglesia Bautista Memorial Highway 97, Waelder	Church of Christ E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon	Smiley Methodist Church 1 blk. S. of Hwy. 87, Smiley	Presbyterian Church of Gonzales 414 St. Louis, Gonzales
Leesville Baptist Church E. of Highway 80 on CR 121	Church of Christ, Belmont	Webster Chapel A.M.E. 1027 Church St., Gonzales	Cheapside Presbyterian Church, Cuero
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# VC's Respiratory Care Program receives \$10,000 grant to award scholarships

## SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College's Respiratory Care Program received a \$10,000 grant from the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) to award student scholarships.

VC is among more than 450 institutions nationwide to receive a total of \$4 million in scholarship funding from the NBRC to support respiratory therapist education and address the current workforce shortage.

"We are profoundly grateful for the NBRC's generous support," said JJ Valdez, Clinical Coordinator of Respiratory Care at Victoria College. "This scholarship funding will empower our students to pursue careers in this critical field and contribute to a brighter future in healthcare."

VC's Respiratory Care Program is a two-year associate degree program that prepares graduates for successful careers as registered respiratory therapists. The NBRC



VC Respiratory Care Program students participate in collaborative skills at the Allied Health Building.

scholarship funds can be used for a variety of purposes, including purchasing practice exams, sup-

porting student recruitment activities, and acquiring classroom equipment.

# VC invites community to share student, graduate success stories for Community College Month

## SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College is joining the nation in recognizing April as Community College Month in celebration of the vital role community colleges play in providing accessible, high-quality education.



Throughout April, VC will be highlighting student and alumni stories on social media. VC alumni, students, employees and the community are invited to join the celebration by sharing their favorite VC memories or the achievements of a current student or graduate. Participants are encouraged to tag @VictoriaCollege on Facebook and Instagram and to use #CCMonth and #VC-Strong to join the national conversation.

"We are inspired every day by our alumni who have achieved upward economic mobility through their education and workforce training at Victoria College," said Dr. Jennifer Kent, VC President. "Their success stories are a powerful testament to the impact of accessible, high-quality education that leads to good jobs in the region."

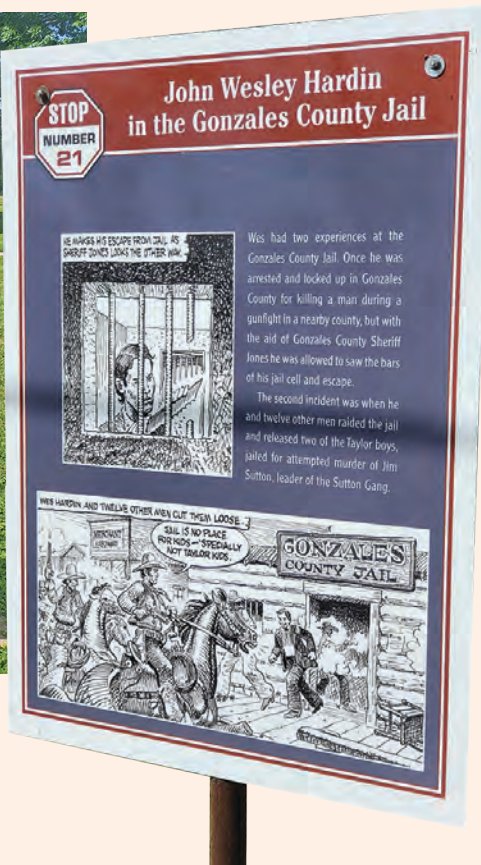
Community College Month, spearheaded by the Association of Community College Trustees, aims to raise awareness of the economic and academic benefits of attending a community college.

"It's incredibly rewarding to interact throughout the community with healthcare professionals, industrial technicians and public service employees who got their start at VC and have since entered good careers," said Kent. "People who grow up in rural areas should have a path to stay in their hometowns without sacrificing career opportunities, and that's exactly why we have community colleges."

The public can also nominate VC students and alumni for a spotlight by emailing Marketing@VictoriaCollege.edu.



Local historian Donald Hoffman installed an interpretive panel about famed gunslinger John Wesley Hardin at Market Square off Saint John Street on Friday, April 12. Market Square was the original site of the old Gonzales County Jail before it was built by the Gonzales Courthouse Square. Hardin was both locked up in the Gonzales County Jail only to escape and he later broke the Taylor boys from the jail with a group of 12 other men.



LEW K. COHN



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Repeat steps 2-4 until you feel more relaxed.

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