



# The Gonzales Inquirer

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## Sucher, Anzaldúa advance to mayoral runoff

**BY LEW K. COHN**  
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales mayoral candidates S.H. “Steve” Sucher and Isaac Anzaldúa have advanced to a June 14 runoff election after complete but unofficial returns Saturday night.

Meanwhile, Gonzales ISD District 1 trustee Gloria Torres will be re-elected to the board for another term after she withstood a challenge from

Elisa Molina.

The five incumbents in the Gonzales Healthcare race all won re-election Saturday night in a very close race as well.

And Gonzales County voters easily approved tax increases to help fund the Gonzales County Emergency Service Districts No. 1 and No. 2.

### GONZALES MAYOR

Sucher received the most votes with 324, including 226 in early and absentee voting,

but it was not enough to avoid a June 14 runoff with Anzaldúa, who came in second with 271 votes, including 174 in absentee and early voting.

Todd Bright was just behind with 235 votes, including 161 in early and absentee.

In order to avoid the runoff, Sucher would have needed one vote over 50 percent, which would have been 416 votes.

See **ELECTION**, page 7

## Benavidez outgains Mills by 1 vote in Smiley mayoral race

**BY LEW K. COHN**  
Inquirer Publisher

Smiley City Councilmember Lisa Dominguez Benavidez appears to have beaten incumbent Smiley Mayor

Michael K. Mills by one vote, 69-68, in complete but unofficial returns.

Meanwhile, Melva Robinson Childress, Ellis Villa-

See **SMILEY**, page 7

## County shows preliminary property value exceeding \$9.1 billion

**BY LEW K. COHN**  
Inquirer Publisher

Preliminary property values from the Gonzales Central Appraisal District shows Gonzales County with a total overall market value of more than \$9.1 billion for 2022.

GCAD chief appraiser John Liford also presented his 2022 preliminary value estimates to each municipality, school district and taxing entity in Gonzales County on April 25 as required by state law.

However, Liford has also advised the numbers may change, due to requests for filing extensions on in-

See **PROPERTY**, page 17

## Commissioners will distribute ARPA money to buy radios

Split vote follows heated discussion among public officials

**BY LEW K. COHN**  
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County commissioners voted 3-2 Monday, May 9, to pay up to \$1.8 million for handheld and mobile radios for the county’s first responders, but not before things got testy between members of the court and the public.

The county will give each entity (police departments, fire departments, EMS and the Gonzales County Sheriff’s Department) an amount of money to purchase

See **RADIOS**, page 17



*Celebrating  
Cinco de Mayo*

Hugo Moreno of Los Chamacos performs on accordion at the Gonzales Cinco de Mayo celebration Saturday, May 7, in downtown Gonzales. The event featured live music, margaritas, food and much more. For more photos, see page 18.

## Search leads man to Gonzales roots



George del Castillo Jones, who stands beside the Come and Take It mosaic at Gonzales City Hall, has ties to that fateful day in Gonzales history as it was his great-great-great-great grandmother, Sarah Seeley DeWitt, who made that famous banner. Jones visited Gonzales for the first time in April as he learned more about his famous Texas ancestors.

**BY LEW K. COHN**  
Inquirer Publisher

An online search for his roots led one United States expatriate to come to Gonzales for the first time ever last month after discovering he is the great-great-great-great grandson of empresario Green DeWitt.

George del Castillo Jones and his wife, Danette, visited with employees at the Gonzales Inquirer and the Gonza-

See **ROOTS**, page 20

## Gonzales man dies in motorcycle accident

**BY BETTY COHN**  
Gonzales Inquirer

Gonzales resident Nathan “Nate” Thomas, 60, was killed in a motorcycle fatality on U.S. Highway 183 last Monday night, May 2 at about 10:16 p.m.

The accident occurred between Lockhart and Luling, per the Caldwell County Sheriff’s office.

Thomas’ business partner, Mike Hanson reports that Thomas went home late at night because he was tired and he was concerned about his cats being alone.

Thomas was reported missing to the Gonzales police department by friends who were unable to locate him after he left their home



Thomas

See **FATALITY**, page 7

## Nixon passes ban on mobile homes within city limits

**BY CLAYTON KELLEY**  
For the Inquirer

Nixon City Council has taken action prohibiting any new mobile homes from being installed within Nixon city limits. At their Monday, May 9, meeting, council members approved this housing amendment in the hopes of increasing Nixon’s property values within city limits.

See **NIXON**, page 20



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# Happy Apache Academy awards scholarships to staff



Happy Apache Academy owners Amanda Barrie, far left, and James Barrie, far right, presented certificates and scholarship checks to employees Kainah Cranfill, Merissa Guerrero and Amy Rodriguez on Friday, May 6.

**BY LEW K. COHN**  
Inquirer Publisher

Happy Apache Academy owners Amanda and James Barrie have made three members of their staff very happy Apaches by giving them scholarships to continue their education.

The Barries presented certificates and checks to Kainah Cranfill, Merissa Guerrero and Amy Rodriguez on Friday, May 6, at the day care, 1600 N. Sarah DeWitt, Suite 200, Gonzales.

The three staff members were selected through an application and essay submission process, Amanda Barrie said.

“Offering scholarships to our employees is a way for us to show our appreciation for their dedication and loyalty to Happy Apache Academy,” Amanda Barrie said. “We recognize their passion

for teaching and serving the smallest citizens of Gonzales and we want to recognize them for that.

“It’s also a way for us to give back to the community. These ladies will complete their education and start careers locally, all in areas that there’s a desperate need for.”

The three are interested in career paths that include teacher, principal and animal rescue.

“With this degree, I plan on opening a pet boarding center as well as an animal rescue,” Cranfill said.

“I want to be able to shape future generations with knowledge and compassion towards one another,” Guerrero said.

“With my intended career path, I want to help teachers become strong leaders and stand with them as they face challenges both inside and outside the classroom,” Rodriguez said.

## Katelyn Carter Memorial Scholarship established

**BY BETTY COHN**  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales High school drama club is seeking donations for the Katelyn “Katie” Olesya Carter Memorial Scholarship Fund to honor the memory of former Gonzales high school student Katie Carter.

This non-profit corporation is established to award Gonzales High School seniors with higher education scholarships.

Carter, 16, the daughter of Gonzales County ESD No. 1 board member Linda Carter, was the victim of a fatal automobile collision on Tuesday, Jan. 25, of this year. Fellow drama club students describe Carter as an important part of their theater department and drama club, always striving to do her best and willing to help anyone who may be in need.

Always in the background, Carter reportedly kept students laughing with her dry sense of humor and style, keeping fellow students on time and on cue with her leadership skills, and attention to detail.

To contribute to this memorial scholarship fund you may mail a check (The Katelyn Carter Memorial Fund at P.O. Box 1554 Gonzales, TX 78629); stopping by Gonzales National Bank to donate directly into the memorial account; giving an in-person donation to any drama club or theatre department member; or giving a donation to GHS teacher Leslie Buesing or Katelyn’s mother, Linda Carter.



## A SPECIAL NIGHT FOR SPECIAL STUDENTS

Gonzales High School held a Mardi Gras-themed prom for the Special Needs students on Saturday, May 7. Honored as Prom King was Dylan Reeves and Prom Queen was Kaylea Larsen.

CONTRIBUTED

## Learn to protect your property and right to protest at free event

**BY BETTY COHN**  
Gonzales Inquirer

Gonzales Community Advocates is sponsoring a property tax relief event, “Understanding and Navigating the Protest Process,” on Tuesday, May 17 at the Texian Heritage Conference Center, 608 Saint Paul St., Gonzales.

Guest speaker for this event is Michael Berlanga, CPA, LREB & property tax expert. The course is eligible for Continuing Education (CE) (provider #10566) as Property Tax Protesting Process for Tax Savings (course #42954).

The program starts at 6 p.m. with the agenda including learning the basics of the appraisal process, understanding your property tax rights, navigating your protesting your tax value, arbitration without an attorney, and how to gather appropriate paperwork and proof for best strategies.

This is a free in person event and you may reserve your place on Eventbrite at [eventbrite.com/e/property-tax-relief-understanding-and-navigating-the-protest-process-tickets-332209356127](https://eventbrite.com/e/property-tax-relief-understanding-and-navigating-the-protest-process-tickets-332209356127).

It’s important to be educated, understand the process and be prepare to protect your property with knowledge of the tax process.

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## Gonzales Weather



**May 12**  
95°/68°

Blazing sunshine and hot  
1% chance of rain • RealFeel 99



**May 13**  
96°/68°

Very warm with some sun  
4% chance of rain • RealFeel 101



**May 14**  
97°/70°

Partly sunny and hot  
25% chance of rain • RealFeel 101



**May 15**  
94°/70°

Mostly sunny and very warm  
6% chance of rain • RealFeel 98



**May 16**  
98°/71°

Increasing cloudiness and hot  
1% chance of rain • RealFeel 99



**May 17**  
99°/72°

Hot with clouds and sun  
1% chance of rain • RealFeel 97



**May 18**  
101°/75°

Mostly sunny and less humid  
0% chance of rain • RealFeel 99



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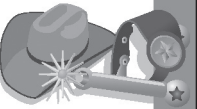
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# Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

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## Garden Q&A

## Ball moss thrives on dying plant matter

**Q. Tell me about ball moss. Why do horticulturists say it does not hurt trees when it is growing on live oak branches that are dying? Why isn't it identified as the cause of the dead branches?**

A. The ball moss is an epiphyte that lives on branches that are already dead or dying. It obtains its moisture and nutrients from the air around shaded branches in the interior of trees where they have quit growing. The real key is that the ball moss will even grow on utility wires if they are in low spots out of the wind. The growth of ball moss on the utility lines in interior Pleasanton is a good example. Ball moss just uses dead and dying branches as a place

to sit while it collects the moisture and nutrients from the air that it needs to survive.

**Q. I am trying to plant a bed of iris in the front of our house. Unfortunately, the deer pass through the area. They don't seem to eat the rhizomes and foliage, but they keep pulling the plants up. Is there a solution? Deer aren't supposed to eat iris.**

A. Deer can be curious and ornery about new plantings, even when they don't usually eat the flowers being planted. What often works to discourage them from pulling plants like iris is to spray Liquid Fence on the foliage once per week for 3 to 6 weeks.

**Q. We just moved into the area and are trying to figure out the tricks to grow tomatoes here.**

CALVIN FINCH

Gardening Q&A



**I don't see any plants at the nurseries now when we would usually be planting.**

A. Instead of one long season like they have in mid and northern America. We have two short seasons. One season runs from April until the end of June and another season runs from the end of July until Thanksgiving. We use fast producing determinate varieties, for more information visit the website [plantanswers.com](http://plantanswers.com) where my articles are archived. There are also a number of short classes offered by are nurseries and the Gardening Volunteers of South Texas.

**Q. What are the best zinnias to grow in the cut flower garden?**

A. I like to grow California Giant by seed and the Dreamland Hybrid by transplants. In addition to producing colorful blooms for cutting flowers, the zinnias attract butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinators for their nectar. Zinnia seed on the spent flowers also is a favorite food for lesser goldfinches, cardinals and other seed eating birds.

**Q. What lawn fertilizer do you recommend?**

A. My favorite fertilizer for the lawn is the slow-release 19-05-09 that is sold by several of the local retail nurseries. Half of the nitrogen in the product is fast release and half is provided to the lawn grass over a four-month period. Now is the time to apply it to the lawn.

## LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

### GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET

#### May 7

##### Cattle 935

Compared to our last sale: Number 1 quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer bulls sold steady while packer cows sold 2.00-3.00 lower.  
Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 210-212; 300-400 lbs., 190-197; 400-500 lbs., 180-188; 500-600 lbs., 167-177; 600-700 lbs., 155-165; 700-800 lbs., 143-151.  
Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 80-95.  
Stocker-feeder Heifers: Medium and large from No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 172-175; 300-400 lbs., 170-172; 400-500 lbs., 158-168; 500-600 lbs., 142-154; 600-700 lbs., 134-142.  
Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 64-73; Cutters, 72-77; Canners, 34-52; High yielding fat cows, 71-78.  
Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 97-104; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 88-96.  
Stockers Cows: \$600 to \$1,000.  
Pairs: \$750 to \$1,100.

### NIXON LIVESTOCK

#### May 9

##### Cattle – 478

##### Steers:

200-300 lbs - \$163-225  
300-400 lbs - \$138-183  
400-500 lbs - \$142-171  
500-600 lbs - \$144-173  
600-700 lbs - \$142-161  
700-800 lbs - \$137-151

##### Heifers:

200-300 lbs - \$140-180  
300-400 lbs - \$125-178  
400-500 lbs - \$137-164  
500-600 lbs - \$132-160  
600-700 lbs - \$121-173  
700-800 lbs - \$103-119  
Slaughter Cows - \$35-84  
Slaughter Bulls - \$84-106  
Stocker Cows – \$600-1000  
Pairs: \$325-1000

### HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.

#### Sale date: May 3

##### Cattle on hand: 1702

##### Packer Cows:

Canner and Cutter Cows: \$51-80  
Utility & Fat Cows: \$50-76  
Light Weight Canner Cows: \$40-52  
Pair/Weak: \$30-40  
Packer Bulls:  
Heavyweight Bulls: \$103-111  
Utility & Cutter Bulls: \$86-102  
Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$74-86

##### Stocker Cows:

Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: \$1175-1250  
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$800-1150  
Good Cow & Calf Pairs: None

Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: \$800-1100

### Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:

#### Number 1 steer & bull calves:

Under 200 lbs.: \$160-225  
200-300 lbs.: \$160-225  
300-400 lbs.: \$158-210  
400-500 lbs.: \$152-187.50  
500-600 lbs.: \$142-185  
600-700 lbs.: \$136-165  
700-800 lbs.: \$128-155  
Number 1 heifer calves:  
Under 200 lbs: \$150-225  
200-300 lbs.: \$145-182  
300-400 lbs.: \$140-180  
400-500 lbs.: \$138-175  
500-600 lbs.: \$138-172  
600-700 lbs.: \$128-157.50  
700-800 lbs: \$115-142.50

#### Replacement Heifers:

350-700 lbs.: None

The market was strong again this week. No. 1 kinds sold fully steady and very active. A few fleshy new crop calves starting to show up and they are a little harder to move. Packer cows sold \$3 lower. Packer cows \$2 lower. Approximately 300 hd. total..

### SEGUIN CATTLE CO.

#### May 4

Stocker cattle 3-5 better with packer cows and bull 2-3 softer.

Cattle – 776

Sheep & goats – 1166

#### Medium & large frame #1 Steers:

200-300 lb. 1.20-2.12

300-400 lb. 1.40-1.98

400-500 lb. 1.43-1.90

500-600 lb. 1.28-1.85

600-700 lb. 1.17-1.67

700-850 lb. .94-1.39

#### Medium & large frame #1 Heifers:

200-300 lb. 1.20-1.95

300-400 lb. 1.24-1.66

400-500 lb. 1.23-1.74

500-600 lb. 1.18-1.64

600-750 lb. .96-1.40

#### Cows:

Utility & commercial – 63-88

Cutters – 51-67

Canners – 28-50

Palpated cows (young) – None

(Middle Aged) – 450-1000

Cow/Calf Pairs – 575-1125

#### Bulls:

Heavy High Yielding – 95-110

Light & Low Yielding – 69-94

Feeder Bulls – None

#### Sheep & Goats:

Nannies (Young) – 200-365

(Thin & Old) - 110-190

Kid Goats (Fat) – 3.60-4.45

(Small & thin) – 3.00-3.60

Wethers -1.65-3.87

Billies – 1.50-2.57

Pairs - None

Barb. Ewes (Young) - 130-185

(Small & Old Ewes) - 80-130

Barb. Lambs (Fat) - 3.50-3.90

(Small & Thin) – 2.80-3.40

Wooled Ewes – 110-140

Wooled Bucks – 1.50-1.80

Lambs – 1.80-2.90

Barb. Bucks – 200-400

### CUERO LIVESTOCK

#### May 6, 2022

##### Number of head 972

There were 158 cows and 34 bulls. Tops on this market were exactly like last week. Demand remains strong.

The calf market was solidly higher across the board. There were many new highs particularly in the middle weights. Buyers were very aggressive on all qualities especially even on the 1.5 to 2 grade calves. A very good day to be selling as the average calf was \$3.50/cwt higher on on 27.6 more pounds for an increase in value of over \$57.50 per calf!!  
**Packer bulls:** 90.00-111.00

**Packer cows:**

canners & cutters 6 5 . 0 0 - 80.00

poor & weak 3 5 . 0 0 - 60.00

Palpated: 12 bred 7 0 . 0 0 - 79.00

PAIRS: 3 \$900-\$1,250

**Steer Calves:** ( A V G - HIGH)

Under 200 lbs. N O N E

200-249 lbs. 162.00-205.00

250-299 lbs. 197.00-210.00

300-350 lbs. 170.00-182.00

350-400 lbs. 171.00-196.00

400-450 lbs. 164.00-192.00

450-500 lbs. 163.00-183.00

500-550 lbs. 154.00-178.00

550-600 lbs. 159.00-167.00

600-700 lbs. 151.00-162.00

700-800 lbs. 143.00-154.00

Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

Under 250lbs 162.00-209.00

250-300 lbs. 171.00-203.00

300-350 lbs. 168.00-190.00

350-400 lbs. 152.00-200.00

400-450 lbs. 167.00-200.00

450-500 lbs. 163.00-180.00

500-550 lbs. 156.00-186.00

550-600 lbs. 157.00-179.00

600-700 lbs. 150.00-165.00

Over 700 lbs. 124.00-150.00

Heifer Calves: ( A V G - H I G H )

under 200 lbs. 161.00-186.00

200-250 lbs. 156.00-230.00

250-300 lbs. 123.00-180.00

300-350 lbs. 143.00-198.00

350-400 lbs. 150.00-188.00

400-450 lbs. 143.00-177.00

450-500 lbs. 155.00-

204.00=>replacement

500-550 lbs 143.00-

194.00=>replacement

550-600 lbs. 141.00-

194.00=>replacement

600-700 lbs. 135.00-157.00

Over 700 lbs 122.00-138.00

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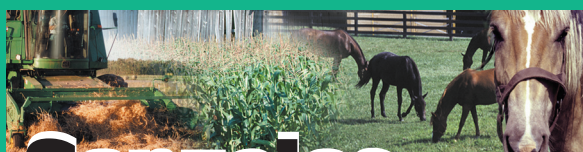
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Rodney Butler  
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## EARNING BADGES



CONTRIBUTED

The Robert Lee Brothers Jr. Memorial Library's Teen Action Group (TAG) wanted to help the Gonzales Girl Scout Troop# 5082 earn their Pet Care badges. These thoughtful teens gathered dog food, treats, and toys to help with the Girl Scout's donation drive for the Gonzales Dog Adoption and Gonzales Dog Shelter. Pictured are TAG members; TAG liaison Sandra Villa, library director Caroline Helms and the cuties from Gonzales Girl Scout Troop# 5082.

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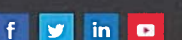
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# For those sick from & tired of COVID-19

BY BETTY COHN  
Gonzales Inquirer

First, what is COVID-19? Coronavirus disease 2019 is a disease caused by a virus (SARS-CoV-2), discovered in December 2019 in Wuhan, China. This disease is very contagious and very quickly became a global pandemic. COVID-19 is part of the coronavirus family, which also includes common viruses that cause everything from common chest and head colds to more severe (rare) disease like severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS).

Coronavirus is spread through droplets (in the air) that are projected out of your mouth or nose when you breathe, speak, cough or sneeze. Corona means crown and is in reference to the appearance the virus has from the spikes of protein sticking out of them. The spikes are what actually attach to human cells and infect them, allowing replication inside of the human cell, and spreading to other cells. Some antibodies can protect against SARS-CoV-2 by going after these very spike proteins.

As genetic mutations occur over time, the virus begins to form genetic lineages, somewhat like humans. And just like in a family tree not all prodigy are exactly the same, leading to variants. Like your children have different traits and attributes, so do the “offspring” of the virus.

These variants are still SARS-Co-V-2, (example: I was born a Blazek, like my father before me), however these variants may act differently. (Kids, what are you going to do?) And just like children, these variants may need to be addressed or handled differently than their parent virus.

COVID-19 more commonly leads to respiratory symptoms that may feel like a cold, flu, or pneumonia. However, COVID-19 can attack and affect more of your body than just your lungs or respiratory system. While most individuals with COVID-19 will have mild symptoms, others may become severely ill, and even die. Older adults or individuals with certain underlying medical conditions are at an increased risk of more severe illness related to COVID-19.

There are also those with lesser or even no symptoms that suffer with post-COVID conditions, or what is referred to as “long COVID.”

While hundreds of thousands of people have died from COVID-19 in the United States, alone, we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel, with vaccines (that teach our immune system to fight the virus causing COVID-19) and booster shots to “boost” the efficacy of the vaccines.

*Betty Cohn is a retired registered nurse with 35 years of experience in the medical field in a variety of roles. She will write a semi-monthly column about medical-related topics and welcomes questions and suggestions at bospangle@yahoo.com.*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear editor,

The members of the American Legion Post 40, Gonzales, Texas, would like to thank the Gonzales Inquirer and its employees for the outstanding support of our fundraiser that was held on April 16, 2022. Sanya at the front desk was when we asked for some help. Betty Cohn’s support of the BBQ ad was awesome. Thanks again!

For God and country, the American Legion

**Post Commander Fred Washichek**  
**Adjutant Albert Rodriguez**



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I want to send out a note of thanks to our community for all of the support for the education of our citizens. The Gonzales citizens have overwhelmingly supported the educational endeavors right here in our community. I personally have experienced this in my role.

I am currently the Coordinator of the Vocational Nursing (VN) Program at the Victoria College Gonzales Center, planning to retire as of June 1 this year. I have various ambivalent feelings about leaving my position of 18 years, and I want very much to encourage the current students, the graduates of our Program, and all our prospective VN students to continue to reach for their goal. Don’t give up on what you are dreaming to accomplish in your career, in your life.

I have attempted to demonstrate Christian love for each and every one I encounter. I have wanted to be their biggest cheer leader through the struggles, as the choice of nursing is a very difficult but an extremely rewarding path. Service to our community and to each individual is so fulfilling.

As an instructor, I have been able to do it doubly – caring for individuals and teaching so many students to pick up the torch and continue to shine a light in the world. I see so many familiar faces throughout our healthcare facilities in our area. Even the nurse hired to carry this torch of teaching nursing here is a graduate of our program – Trisha Storey.

I would appreciate your spreading the word that VC Gonzales Center Vocational Nursing Program will remain strong and will continue to be a vital asset to our community. Although the nursing program has had a presence in Gonzales for over 20 years, I still hear comments that many are unaware that we have a nursing program in Gonzales.

Please help to get the word out and encourage all to consider checking out our program or any of the various offerings at the Victoria College – right here in Gonzales.

I look forward to meeting more prospective nurses. And thank you to each of the graduates who touched my life. I pray that you are blessed and have a beautiful career, as I have.

**Karen Bauer Smith RN**  
VC Gonzales

Dear editor,

The correct Supreme Court Decision was made on January 22, 1973: Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113, was a landmark decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in which the Court ruled that the Constitution of the United States protects a pregnant woman’s liberty to choose to have an abortion without excessive government restriction.

‘Pro-Choice,’ and the ‘Spiritual’ reasoning of abortion, makes ‘perfect’ sense in God’s ‘Web-of-Life’...

God’s ‘Merciful and Unconditional Love,’ and gift of, ‘Free-Will,’ and ‘Pro-Choice,’ allows His sons, and daughters in His ‘Spirit Kingdom,’ the opportunity to live many lifetimes, as male and female human-beings, on His ‘physical’ earth, so we can all experience ‘physical’ life in each of the ‘Races,’ and learn to make ‘peace’ with one another, in order for our ‘spirits’ to ‘spiritually evolve,’ come around full-circle, and reach a higher level of, ‘Spirituality,’ so we can have the chance in becoming ‘completed spirits.’

We cannot learn all about ‘life’ - in one lifetime.

God, our ‘Spiritual Parent,’ does not interfere in our daily ‘physical’ lives, nor in our daily decisions, while we ‘evolve’ in the ‘physical.’

A pregnant woman has a ‘Free-Will-Right,’ to make her own, ‘Pro-Choice’ decision to have, or not to have an abortion, and her decision is strictly between her, and God.

It is her God-given-right, to make her own decision concerning her body, and no other earthly fallible human being, nor government, nor court has the right, nor the authority to force, their ‘Free-Will,’ on her decision to have an abortion.

‘Murder’ occurs, when the newborn is murdered ‘outside’ the mother’s womb, and is breathing on its own, not while it is still inside the mother.

When an expectant mother has an unfortunate miscarriage, or, the infant is stillborn, it simply means, the incoming ‘spirit,’ used its ‘Free-Will’ right, and made a ‘Pro-Choice’ decision, and changed its mind not to ‘enter’ the soon to be newborn’s body.

In other words, the incoming ‘spirit’ became ‘aware’ of an unexpected / imminent ‘danger’ to the ‘spirit’s’ present mission (spiritual growth), and decided at the last moment, to abort, and continues its search in locating another

See **LETTER**, page 6

# The Gonzales Inquirer

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**DR. DON NEWBURY**  
The Idle American

## A kingdom for a horse?

In all the years I’ve known my aged Uncle Mort, he has made few observations about horses, if any at all. For the past few days, he has spoken of little else, what with the news that the City of Dallas hardly knows what to do with one of its storied landmarks.

Yep, trouble isn’t limited to River City. Dallas leaders are moaning about what to do with The Pegasus, proudly perched atop the city’s first skyscraper, a 29-story structure built in 1922 by the Magnolia Oil Company. The company’s horse logo was a welcoming rotation of greeting to Big D. Some have claimed sightings of the 15-ton sign from 75 miles away.

No doubt squirming, the Dallas City Council has appropriated some \$360,000 to stabilize the base, address corrosion and replace missing neon lighting. The city manager has indicated that high winds have made Pegasus “unsafe,” adding that if it should be blown off the rooftop, city fathers (as well as city mothers) might one day be faced with multimillion dollar lawsuits. This is where Uncle Mort comes in....

\*\*\*\*\*

“I wish Dallas no ill,” Mort tells visitors in the thicket. “But I wouldn’t mind owning Pegasus.”

His mind racing and oiled with the smoothest of creative juices, he is fueled by “what ifs.” He’s wondering if the City of Dallas might entertain a bid for the horse’s, uh, remains, should Pegasus fall from the structure which now houses the Magnolia Hotel.

A recent Dallas Morning News headline caught my eye: “City to pony up for repairs.” I was immediately intrigued that the City Council had deliberated for 90 minutes before deciding to foot the bill. Much was said, including some sentiments that Newcrest Image — now owner of the hotel — should help with the cost....

\*\*\*\*\*

No hands went up offering help, and now the City of Dallas wishes it hadn’t maintained an easement to continue ownership of the sign, located atop the building once owned by the City of Dallas.

There are additional complications since the Dallas landmark is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It appears that this fabled horse cannot legally be put out to pasture, destroyed or given away....

\*\*\*\*\*

I asked Mort why he’d want a fallen horse, reduced to twisted steel and neon shards if winds sent the structure downward.

“I figure if such should happen, I’d rent an 18-wheeler from U-Haul, pick up the major pieces, sweep the small stuff into the storm drain and return to the thicket, burying the various remnants on my farm.”

My head wobbled in disbelief. He wasn’t through. “I’ve been hearing about banks, cities and individuals making big investments in mining for bitcoins,” he said. “I don’t pretend to understand what this means, and I’m wondering how enticing such mining could be if they come across gold or silver along the way...”

\*\*\*\*\*

In short, Mort claims he’d put up signs inviting “bitcoin miners” to bring their picks and shovels to mine for bitcoins, with prizes awarded to participants finding both bitcoins and parts of Pegasus.

“I can’t imagine why everybody is so intrigued by bitcoins,” Mort asserted. “We knew about them in junior high, mostly from yells at football games. “When we had the ball, fans would scream, ‘Two bits, four bits, six bits, a dollar. All for our team, stand up and holler.” Mort continued his yapping about the dismal future he predicts for bitcoins. “They threaten our monetary system. We won’t know what anything is worth, and if they catch on, there’ll be no understandable way to know the street value of drugs.”

Huh? Those who know Mort best think that before God made Mort, He broke the mold. Whatever, he’s clearly beating a dead horse....

\*\*\*\*\*

*Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, continues to write weekly and speak throughout Texas. Contact: Phone, 817-447-3872. Facebook: Don Newbury. Twitter: @donnewbury.*



Uncle Mort



# Waelder ISD voters reject \$13.6 million bond measure

BY LEW K. COHN  
Inquirer Publisher

Waelder ISD voters turned down a \$13.6 million bond measure by a 165-98 vote Saturday night in complete but unofficial returns.

Voters also returned the two incumbents, Troy Dewayne

Sullivan and Avery Williams, to office by a substantial margin. And Waelder city voters elected a new councilman in Sam Ramirez while re-electing Peggy Blackmon as well.

The Waelder ISD bond measure would have been for the “construction, acquisition and equipment of school buildings in the district,

including district-wide renovations and the purchase of necessary sites for school buildings” and was expected to result in a small property tax increase. However, voters cast as many votes against in early and absentee voting (98) as the measure received total in favor.

The defeat sends the district

back to the drawing board to determine what they wish to do next as this would have been the first for the district since a \$3.8 million measure 15 years ago in 2007, and just the second since 1967 in the small rural district that covers parts of Gonzales and Caldwell counties.

In the board election,

Williams received 157 votes while Sullivan received 146. Cathy Olmos Hernandez received 59 votes while Catrina Giovanna Hernandez received 52 votes.

In the Waelder city race, Ramirez received 77 votes, while Blackmon got 75 votes. Incumbent Robert “Kido” Tovar received 62 votes.



CONTRIBUTED

Laurel Ridge Antiques and Gifts recently received reimbursement for projects completed on the historic three-story brick structure. From left are Barbara Crozier of Laurel Ridge, Candice Granger of Laurel Ridge, Main Street Board President Britney Jones-Caka, Gonzales Main Street Director Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla, Main Street board member Adriane Hastings, Main Street board member Christine Presley, GEDC President Andy Rodriguez and Richard Crozier of Laurel Ridge.

## Main Street and GEDC honor Laurel Ridge gift shop for successful revitalization project

SPECIAL TO THE  
INQUIRER

Gonzales Main Street, in conjunction with the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation (GEDC), recently reimbursed Laurel Ridge Antiques and Gifts for projects completed on the historic three-story brick structure located at 827 St. Joseph Street in downtown Gonzales, Texas.

The landmark business is packed full of antiques, unique gifts and serves as an inn.

The scope of the project included adding a railing around the second-floor deck, upgrades to the electric main, adding a bathroom in one of the second story guest rooms, replacing the HVAC system and other various repairs.

Gonzales Main Street Inc. strives to assist in the preservation and revitalization of the Gonzales Historic Main Street District. Through the transformational strategies of economic vitality, design, promotion, and organization, they focus

on prosperity through preservation.

“A vibrant downtown and successful Main Street Programs help move Gonzales in the right direction so that we can propel our community forward,” said Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla, Gonzales Main Street Director.

“Funds from the GEDC, a Type 4B economic development corporation,

are administered through an agreement with Gonzales Main Street empowering Main Street to give grants to qualifying businesses in the designated Main Street District. This project helped add value and preserve the historic structure so the building can be used as a business and lodging for many years,” said Jennifer Kolbe, GEDC economic development director.

## LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

expecting mother, so it can be ‘born again’ in the ‘physical,’ and live out its new lifetime to its fullest and complete its overall ‘mission’ - to further ‘evolve.’

This ‘Spiritual’ learning process of ‘evolving,’ to a higher level of ‘Spirituality,’ by living in the ‘physical,’ hasn’t changed — since time began.

No fallible human being, nor government, nor court, has the absolute right to take away our Heavenly Father’s

precious freedom gift of ‘Free-Will, and ‘Pro-Choice’ from us, while we are on our ‘spiritual’ journey to ‘evolve’ in becoming ‘completed’ spirits on God’s earth.

To force one’s ‘free will’ on another human-being, violates God’s ‘Supreme Law’ to humanity.

Abortion should not be ‘politized,’ nor used to, ‘weaponize’ a particular groups agenda.

**Rick Sulik**  
*Retired  
Shiner*

GONZALESINQUIRER.COM

## Historical commission honors DeWitt Colony

BY BETTY COHN  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales County Historical Commission announced a DeWitt Colony tree dedication set to take place Friday, May 13, at 2 p.m. This event will take place at the Kerr Creek gazebo on Saint Louis Street, near the Oak Forest bridge.

The dedication program will be presented by seventh grade social studies students and their teacher, Leslie Patterson. This event is sponsored by Gonzales Spade and Trowel Garden Club and the Gonzales County Historical Commission.

DeWitt’s Colony, one of the major established colonies in the settlement of the state of Texas, was founded in 1825 by Green DeWitt and James Kerr.

DeWitt, influenced by

Stephen F. Austin’s success of colonization into Texas territories, as well as a direct influence and personal relationship with Austin, successfully petitioned the Mexican government on April 7, 1825 for an empresario contract to settle four hundred industrious Catholic families. DeWitt, with Baron de Bastrop’s assistance, thus settled DeWitt’s Colony.

This colony was to be adjacent and southwest of Austin’s own grant and was well situated along the Guadalupe river and other important landmarks for success in the Texas frontier. It is historically fitting that this dedication of a tree representing Gonzales County’s history, and representing the future growth of the area, be held along Kerr Creek in what was the capital of the DeWitt Colony.



### Gonzales’ own Mexican folk hero, part 2

Last week, we began the story of Gregorio Cortez. We’ll conclude Cortez’s story this week.

Gonzales Sheriff Robert Glover, a close friend of Sheriff Morris, was in Cuero on the day Morris was shot. He and a deputy rode to Kenedy where they learned about the fatal shooting. Glover pressured a Cortez family member of his whereabouts, took a train to Ottine and rode to Belmont to apprehend Cortez.

According to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, Glover attempted to sneak around to the back of the house to ambush Cortez. Testimony at trial stated both sides fired first but more evidence leads to Cortez and Robledo’s son Bonifacio actually firing first, killing Glover. The San Antonio Express-News in its coverage of the shootout praised the bravery of the officers and of desperation on the part of ‘the Mexicans.’ More likely, however, according to author Americo Paredes, who wrote the book With His Pistol in His Hand, chronicling the story of Cortez, was the posse arrived to being their attack and Cortez shot Glover who happened to cross in the line of fire. Cortez then hid in some brush while the others were eventually captured. A second lawman, Constable Henry Schnabel was killed by ‘friendly fire’ from the posse.

From June 15, until June 22, 1901, Cortez went on the run and headed southwest for Laredo, eventually stopping in Cotulla, where he virtually blended in with the population, right in the midst of the Texas Rangers’ search for him. He evaded a nearly 300 man search party by riding nearly 400 miles on four mares and walking 120 miles along the Texas-Mexico border.

Cortez endured six separate trials - in Gonzales, Karnes, Atascosa, Goliad, Wharton and Colorado Counties. He was convicted of murder twice, only to have the Court of Appeals reverse the decision. Cortez also had a horse thievery conviction overturned, had another murder case end in a hung jury and one acquittal before the Colorado County jury found him guilty of murdering Sheriff Glover. After serving eight years of a life sentence, Cortez was pardoned by Texas Governor Oscar Colquitt in 1913. Cortez fought and was wounded in the Mexican Revolution before eventually moving with his sons to Anson, Texas, where he died in 1916 - more than 500 miles from the border where he was born.

### Celebrations

#### Birthdays

<b>May 12th</b> Egon Barthels Bobby Jurek Jonathan Valenta	Betty Contreras Vera Staggs Henk Missy Hull Bo Petrek Jo West	<b>May 17th</b> Daniel Doran Sylvia Dreyer Hailee Houseton Kelly Lester David Valdez Kaela Warzecha
<b>May 13th</b> Amanda Autry Lorina Gaytan Coltin Russell Susanna Spiller Beverly Stepan Wendy Washichek	<b>May 15th</b> Isaac Anzaldua Angie Horner Michelle Stephens	<b>May 18th</b> Dillon Brown Kalli Davis Jennifer Ruddock Suzanne Vega
<b>May 14th</b> Wes Barfield	<b>May 16th</b> Meagan Campion Sergio Garza Buddy Wolff	

#### Anniversaries

<b>May 16th</b> Manuel & Sadie Canales	<b>May 17th</b> Roscoe & Michelle Stephens
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MAY 7 GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS				
	TOTAL	ABSENTEE	EARLY VOTING	ELECTION DAY
STATE PROP 1				
FOR	1,446	95	860	491
AGAINST	259	25	144	90
STATE PROP 2				
FOR	1,340	102	792	446
AGAINST	385	21	226	138
CITY OF GONZALES, MAYOR				
S.H. 'Steve' Sucher	324	24	202	98
Isaac Anzaldua	271	9	165	97
Todd Bright	235	16	145	74
CITY OF NIXON, ALDERMAN				
Mark A. Soto	42	1	21	20
Maggie Gaytan	64	2	32	30
Ellie Dominguez	58	1	34	23
CITY OF SMILEY, MAYOR				
Lisa Dominguez Benevidez	69	3	53	13
Michael K. Mills	68	2	23	43
CITY OF SMILEY, COUNCIL MEMEBER				
Lori Price	48	4	34	10
Silvia Garcia McKinney	28	0	18	10
Ellis Villasana	57	3	39	15
Michaela M. Mills	54	1	19	34
Melva Robinson Childress	63	2	26	35
Joshua Redus	7	0	4	3
CITY OF WAELDER, MAYOR				
Roy R. Tovar	106	6	48	52
CITY OF WAELDER, ALDERMAN				
Robert 'Kido' Tovar	62	3	30	29
Sam Ramirez	77	4	28	45
Peggy Blackmon	75	4	37	34
GONZALES ISD SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 1				
Elisa Molina	63	3	39	21
Gloria A. Torres	177	5	135	37
GONZALES ISD SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 2				
Justin Schwausch	92	6	53	33
WALDER ISD, SCHOOL TRUSTEE				
Troy Dewayne Sullivan	146	9	79	58
Cathy Olmos Hernandez	59	8	20	31
Catrina Giovanna Hernandez	52	1	23	28
Avery Williams	157	14	81	62
WALDER ISD, PROP A				
FOR	98	4	48	46
AGAINST	165	18	80	67
GONZALES HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS, DIRECTOR				
Gene Reed	745	32	465	248
David Malaer	699	39	413	247
Stephanie Kodack	736	32	462	242
Kerry Morgan	888	34	563	291
Sascha Kardosz	794	38	492	264
Tim Markham	900	55	565	280
GONZALES COUNTY ESD 1 PROP A				
FOR	1,076	75	641	360
AGAINST	624	43	366	215
GONZALES COUNTY ESD 2 PROP A				
FOR	1,017	71	614	332
AGAINST	632	43	369	220

## ELECTION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“The campaign has been an humbling and invigorating experience,” Sucher said. “I am thankful to everyone who participated in the process, and grateful to those who voted for me. My focus now is to give everyone the best reasons to make the right choice and vote for me in the runoff.”

“Gonzales is speaking. What more can we ask for?” Anzaldua said Saturday. “I was hoping to be one of the favored by Gonzales. They came out to vote and honored to be in that selection of who they think can do the best job for the city.

“I am excited for city of Gonzales. This is monumental moving forward. With great expectation, we look forward to June 14. We are Gonzales.”

“Although I came up short in the election, I’m humbled at the amount of support and would like to take the time to thank everyone who voted,” Bright said on a Facebook post. “Thank y’all from the bottom of my heart and let’s get out and support Steve

Sucher.”

### GONZALES ISD

Torres took a large lead in early and absentee voting and ended up receiving 177 votes overall, while Molina received 63 votes overall.

### GONZALES HEALTHCARE

Incumbents Tim Markham, Kerry Morgan, Sascha Kardosz, Gene Reed and Stephanie Kodack were all re-elected to the GHS board. Markham had 900 votes, while Morgan had 888. Kardosz had 794, Gene Reed had 745 and Kodack had 736. David Malaer had 699 votes.

### GONZALES ESD 1, ESD 2

Voters approved the Gonzales ESD adoption of a local sales and use tax at a rate not to exceed three-eighths of a percent by a vote of 1,076-624. Meanwhile, voters approved the Gonzales ESD 2 adoption of a local sales and use tax at a rate not to exceed 1 1/8 percent by a vote of 1,017-632.

## SMILEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sana and Michaela Mills appear to have been elected to the Smiley City Council as the top three vote-getters in that race.

Benavidez and Mills have been involved in a heated, heavily contested race. While Benavidez outpolled Mills, 53-23, in early voting, Mills outgained Benavidez, 43-13, on election day. The difference in the race came down to absentee ballots, where Benavidez received three and Mills had just two.

The city council must canvass the election results not before the third day after the election, but no later than after the 11th day after the election.

Because the outcome of the election is within less than a 10 percent margin of victory, Mills is entitled under Texas law to petition Election

Administrator Gwen Schaefer for a recount as long as it is made by 5 p.m. of the second day after the Smiley City Council canvasses the election.

The governing body is not allowed to conduct a recount on its own motion. The cost of a recount would be borne by the candidate seeking the recount.

“Thank you to all of my supporters,” Benavidez said in a Facebook chat group for Smiley residents. “The Lord heard all our prayers! Thank you Lord!”

In the City Council race, Childress received 63 votes, while Villasana got 57 and Michaela Mills received 54. Other candidates polling included Lori Price with 48, Silvia Garcia McKinney with 28 and Joshua Redus with seven.

## FATALITY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Monday night.

After an investigation, the case took a tragic turn when it was discovered that Thomas was the victim of a motorcycle fatality on US 183 South near Catfish Lane.


Caldwell County deputies reportedly closed the roadway, which

remained closed until 2 a.m. Tuesday, May 3, following the collision. Per Lieutenant Kyle McConnell of the Caldwell Sheriffs Department, this collision involved another vehicle, with no further details available at this time.

Friends reported that

Thomas recently embarked on a two-week, 600-mile bike ride to East Texas and back to Austin.

Thomas was the manager of Guadalupe Valley Services LLC, and lived in Gonzales on Saint John Street at the time of his death.



Thank you, Gonzales, for your kind support of my campaign. Here's to everyone participating in this process, and to our town's bright future and success!

-Steve Sucher

Election Day - June 14

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# Caka celebrated in Who’s Who for insurance expertise

## SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales insurance agent Britney Jones Caka has been included in Marquis Who’s Who. As in all Marquis Who’s Who biographical volumes, individuals profiled are selected on the basis of current reference value. Factors such as position, noteworthy accomplishments, visibility, and prominence in a field are all taken into account during the selection process. As an accomplished industry expert, Caka has exceled as an agent with Texas Farm Bureau

Insurance for almost a decade. She has a proven track record of success and strives to remain aware of changes in the insurance field. Caka has earned the CLU, LUTCF and FSCP professional designations from The American College of Financial Services, as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Social Entrepreneurship from Texas Lutheran University. In conjunction with her primary work, Caka is an advocate for community service. She was awarded the Community Service Volunteer of the Year Award by the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce in 2020. Caka is a Past President of the



Caka

Gonzales Noon Lions Club and currently serves as the President for the Gonzales Main Street Advisory Board while also being a member of the Gonzales Healthcare Systems Foundation Board, Come & Take It Committee, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Daughters of the American Revolution, Independent Cattleman’s Association, and Saints Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church. While proud of her professional accomplishments, Caka is most proud of her family. Her husband, John, and their four daughters, Jo, Jewel, Jessa, and Jillian have been very supportive and a driving force behind her success.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

**Gonzales Police Department**  
**05/02/2022 – 05/08/2022**

**Arrests:**

- 05/04/2022 Jonathan Lerma, 20 yoa, from Gonzales, Texas, , Possession of Marijuana
- 05/05/2022 Kenneth Alios Brister, 23 yoa, from Driftwood, Texas, Possession Controlled Substance Penalty Group 1<1g, County Warrant
- 05/05/2022 Dusty Wade Schubert, 32 yoa, from Kingsbury, Texas, Possession of Controlled Substance Penalty Group 2

<1g

- 05/06/2022 Chase Ryan Heldarsen, 20 yoa, Gonzales Texas, Fleeing from Police Officer
- 05/07/2022 Edward Reyes, 17 yoa, Gonzales, Texas, Possession of Marijuana, Possession of Controlled Substance Penalty Group 2 < 1g
- 05/08/2022 Amy Nicole Valerio, 37 yoa, Gonzales, Texas, Warrant

**316 Calls for Service**

**Cases**

- 2 Possession of Controlled Substance Penalty Group 1

- 1 Tamper Fabricate Physical Evidence with Intent to Impair
- 3 Possession of Marijuana
- 1 Falsification of Drug Test Results
- 1 Burglary of Habitation
- 3 Assault Family Violence
- 1 Sexual Assault
- 1 Electronic Transmission of Certain Visual Material
- 2 Possession of Controlled Substance Penalty Group 2
- 1 Theft of Motor Vehicle
- 1 Fleeing Police Officer

**Gonzales County Sheriff’s Office**  
**05/01/22 – 05/07/22**

**05/06/22**

- Contreras, Julie Ann, 12/1987, Baytown: Local Warrant – Injury Child/ Elderly/Disabled Criminal Negligence; Local Warrant – Abandon Endanger Child INT/Know/Reck/Criminal Negligence;Requires \$25,000 Bond, Remains in

Custody

- Ledesma, Nicholas Ryan, 02/1994, Corpus Christi: Commitment/ Sentence – Possession Controlled Substance PG 1 <1G, Released – Weekender

Total Arrest, Court Commitments, other agency arrest and processings:

GCSO	02
DPS	00

GPD	08
WPD	01
NPD	01
GISD	00
SMO	01
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

# THRIVE hosting summer youth camp

BY BETTY COHN  
Gonzales Inquirer

Gonzales Healthcare Systems THRIVE Complex is hosting the second annual Summer Vibes Youth Camp from 8 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday, May 31 – June 30. The summer youth camp offers recreational games, arts & crafts, and other fun activities like pool days. The age group for camp registration is 4-12 years old. The groups are divided into the following age groups: 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12 years old. The maximum registered attendees accepted is 20 kids per age group.

Breakfast, lunch, and a snack will be provided in the cost of this program, and is provided by THRIVE. Registration is ongoing, having begun April 1 and continuing on through Friday, May 13. The cost is \$50 per child per week, or \$225 for the entire

month. Members of THRIVE receive 10% registration fees. (Registration is inclusive of all fees for the camp program. Camp will be held at 1300 Capt. Albert Martin Trail, Gonzales, and you may call 830-672-4986 for further information.

**Budget Blinds**

**The Best in Custom Window Treatments!**

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- Shades
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- & More!

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## Gonzales Healthcare Systems

# MAY 2022

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 <b>Austin MFM</b>	3 Dr Echols	4 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Miller	5 Dr Ryan	6 Dr Echols
9 <b>Austin MFM</b> Dr Malik Dr Desai	10 Dr Echols Dr Quintero	11 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Twitero	12 Dr Ryan	13 Amy Trost Dr White Dr Echols
16 <b>Austin MFM</b>	17 Dr Echols	18 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Miller	19 Dr Ryan Dr Malik	20 Dr Bui Dr Echols
23 <b>Austin MFM</b>	24 Dr Echols	25 Dr Quebedeaux	26 Dr Ryan Dr Kirchner	27 Dr Echols
30 <b>Austin MFM</b>	31 Dr Echols			

LOCATED AT THRIVE:

<b>Orthopedics</b> Gloria Box, M.D. (830) 672 - 8497	<b>Surgery</b> Kathleen Koerner, DO, FACOS (830) 672 – 8497	<b>Cardiology</b> William Craig, M.D. (830) 672 – 3845	<b>Dermatology</b> Dr. Desai (713) 864-2659
--	---	--	---

### Specialty Physician Outpatient Clinic

**Audiology**  
Amy Trost, Hearing Specialist  
(830) 372-2237

**Chiropractic**  
Jeff Echols, DC  
(512)799-6811

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

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

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

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

**Urology**  
Robert Ryan, III, M.D.  
(830) 379-8491

**Ophthalmology**  
Joseph Kavanagh, M.D.  
(830) 379-3937

**Orthopedics**  
Trent Twitero, M.D.  
(830) 625-0009

**Podiatry**  
Terri Quebedeaux, D.P.M., P.A.  
(830) 303-0005  
Charles White, D.P.M  
(830) 303-0005

**Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine**  
(512) 821-2540

**GONZALES**  
HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS  
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# CLASSIFIEDS

## HOW TO PLACE AN AD

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[www.gonzalesinquirer.com](http://www.gonzalesinquirer.com)

or call

**(830) 672-2861**

and/or email [ads@gonzalesinquirer.com](mailto:ads@gonzalesinquirer.com)

All rates are net cash with order until credit is approved.

We accept Mastercard, VISA, American Express and Discover or payment can be made in person with cash or check.

622 St. Paul or PO Box 616, Gonzales, TX 78629

(830)672-2861 • (800)210-5909 • Fax (830)217-8924

[www.gonzalesinquirer.com](http://www.gonzalesinquirer.com)

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**\$10 PER RUN UP  
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Pre-paid, private party ads.

40¢ for each additional word.

**4 runs for \$30**

**DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR CONSECUTIVE RUNS**

**\$15.00 Garage Sale Packages**

## CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

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

### ERRORS

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

**CALL TODAY  
830-672-2861**

**040  
AUCTIONS**

**040  
AUCTIONS**

**670  
APARTMENTS FOR  
RENT OR LEASE**

**670  
APARTMENTS FOR  
RENT OR LEASE**

**850  
HELP WANTED**

**850  
HELP WANTED**

**850  
HELP WANTED**

**850  
HELP WANTED**

**850  
HELP WANTED**

### MULTI ESTATE AUCTION

SUNDAY, May 15, 10:00 AM  
801 CR 488, Gonzales, TX 78629

[www.IntegrityAuctions.biz](http://www.IntegrityAuctions.biz)

Furniture, Large & Small Appliances, Beer Signs, Highway Metal Signs, Blacksmith's Anvil, 2 Cast Iron Kettles, Large Vise, Galvanized Tubs & Buckets, Iron Wheels, 8 ft. Windmill, Yard Art, Garden Tools, Power Tools, Shop Vac, Intersection Signal Light, BBQ Grill, Western Boots, Wood Boot Lasts, Wood Carvings, Antique Collectibles, Sterling Silver & Costume Jewelry, Large Planer, Miter Saw, Tool Benches, Head Valve Resurfacing Machine Lamps, Artwork, Posters, & More!

15% BP, Cash, Check or Credit Card

James Molnoskey Auctioneer TX15091

### PARKWOOD APARTMENTS

114 West 10th  
Nixon, TX 78140

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, Wednesdays &  
Thursdays - 9:00am to 3:00pm  
PHONE: 830-582-1343

Rates Based on Income

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

CENTRAL HEAT & AIR

ENERGY EFFICIENT

LAUNDRY ROOM

WATER, SEWER & GARBAGE PAID

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE UNITS

Individuals with a disability wishing to request a reasonable accommodation  
to complete the application process should contact the apartment manager  
at 830-582-1343.

Para solicitar un apartamento favor llamar a manager al siguiente numero  
830-582-1343. Para solicitar una adaptacion o modificacion razonable, favor  
llamar manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343.

Personas que hablan español y requieren un interprete, favor llamar a  
manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343.

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

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

### TRUCK DRIVERS NEEDED LOCAL/O.T.R Cal-Maine Foods Inc.

Fast growing company has openings  
for qualified experienced Class A CDL  
Drivers.

Good Driving Record - Ability to Pass  
DOT Physical & Drug Screen.

Vacation, Holidays, Sick leave, health  
plan, 401k, life insurance, home nightly.

E.O.E.

All applicants apply at

400 S. Colorado,

Flatonia, TX 78941

Contact Jessie Guardiola at

361-217-3798



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

In partnership with HCC

For details contact

Melissa Robinson at

(361) 573-3291, ext. 3461.

**050  
GARAGE SALES**

**050  
GARAGE SALES**

**850  
HELP WANTED**

**850  
HELP WANTED**

### Waelder Moving Sale

Saturday, May 14 &  
Sunday, May 15 from 9a-4p  
1646 CR 429 in  
Waelder, TX 78959

No early birds, prices given  
prior OR presales!

Follow:

[www.facebook.com/comeandorganizet](http://www.facebook.com/comeandorganizet)  
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Matching Leather Couch, Recliner & 2 Arm  
Chairs, 2 King Tempur-pedic Bedroom  
Suites, Dresser, Dining Room Table, Decor,  
Lamps, Rugs, Kitchen Items, Linens,  
3 Freezers, Tools, Riding Mower, Fencing,  
Bee Catcher Gear & Equipment, Barrels,  
Ladders & Sooo Much More!

(Additional Directions: Follow CR 429 all the way  
until it ends at cattle guard. You will see a small  
green sign that say "Autry Residence Private Road".  
Follow that and it is the bright blue house at the end)

**EXPERIENCED  
RESIDENTIAL  
CONSTRUC-  
TION** workers  
needed. Pay de-  
pends on skill lev-  
el. Further details  
available by call-  
ing/texting 830-  
263-1435.

**DIVERSICARE  
OF LULING**  
has openings  
for CNA. New  
wage scale and  
\$1500.00 sign on  
bonus. Apply on  
the website [www.  
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OF LULING** has  
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and LVN. New  
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bonus. Apply on  
the website [www.  
dvcr.com](http://www.dvcr.com).

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looking for Di-  
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help. Please ap-  
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and Rehab of  
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Moulton Rd.,  
Gonzales, Texas  
78629. EOE

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Call 830-339-  
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**TEXAN NURS-  
ING AND Rehab**  
of Gonzales is  
now hiring for the  
following posi-  
tion: Full Time:  
C.N.A., all shifts;  
LVN, all shifts,  
full-time, with a  
\$1000 Sign On  
and Referral Bon-  
us. Individual  
should be multi-  
task oriented,  
self-motivated,  
and must enjoy  
working around  
the elderly. Please  
apply in person:  
Texan Nursing  
and Rehab of  
Gonzales, 3428  
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Gonzales, Texas  
78629. EOE

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Some weekday & weekend call. Experience  
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Minimum one (1) year experience in x-ray.  
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Apply online only at  
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NURSING POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT GONZALES  
HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

- Med/Surg C.N.A.: Full-Time positions available for all shifts.
- OB-RN: Full-Time and PRN positions available for 7pm-7am shift.
- ER RN: PRN positions available for 7PM-7AM shift.
- Respiratory Therapist: Full-Time positions for 7pm-7am shift.

Current Texas licensure or certification, and BLS  
certification required for all positions. Competitive  
salary and benefits packages; weekend and evening  
differentials will apply.

We invite you to join our team in providing high  
quality services to the residents of Gonzales and the  
surrounding communities. For more information,  
please visit our website at [www.gonzaleshealthcare.com](http://www.gonzaleshealthcare.com)  
or call Human Resources at 830-519-9100.

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LAWN, GARDEN**

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RENT OR LEASE**

**TREE TRIM-  
MING & Remov-  
al.** Yard mainte-  
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since 1987. Call  
Dennis Droupy,  
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**LOW INCOME  
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for rent. 1, 2, 3,  
4 bedrooms. No  
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Gonzales 830-  
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lease land for cat-  
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acres, water and  
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Rebekah Morgan: (830) 857-5664  
Garen Reese: (830) 857-3114  
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Gonzales, Texas 78629  
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**Home Health LVN - FT \$5,000**

**ICU RN - FT \$10,000**

**Kenedy Clinic LVN - FT \$5,000**

**Kenedy Clinic MA - FT \$2,500**

**Lab MT/MLT - FT \$10,000**

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R.N., Charge - full-time and regular part-time. Emergency  
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R.N. Charge - full-time. Med-Surg. Night shift. ACLS & PALS  
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R.N.s./L.V.N.s - full-time. Med/Surg Unit. Day and night shifts.

R.N., Charge - PRN (as needed) Emergency Department. Day  
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Minimum one year experience preferred. Full benefits  
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# CLASSIFIEDS

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**VICTORIA COLLEGE**  
Est. 1925

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



**WB FARM RANCH SUPPLY**

Dependable **INSIDE SALES** person needed! Must have prior sales experience, computer skills, and building material knowledge.

Applicant must be organized, have strong customer service, and communication skills. This is not a cashier position! Only qualified candidates will be considered!

Send resume to:  
[kevinwbfarm@gvtc.com](mailto:kevinwbfarm@gvtc.com)  
or drop off, at 2031 Water St. Gonzales, TX 78629.  
*No Phone Calls Please*

WB Farm and Ranch Supply  
2031 Water St., Gonzales, Texas



**Cal-Maine Foods, Inc.**

Cal-Maine Foods, Inc. in Harwood is seeking applicants for

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Applicants must have their own transportation to and from work.

Competitive pay, vacation, sick leave, health, dental & vision insurance, 401K & ESOP

Cal- Maine Foods is an Equal Opportunity Employer

For more information, please call 830-540-3970 M-F (8-4)  
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Full-Time  
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Starting Wage \$11.75**

Apply In Person or at  
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1034 CR 348, Gonzales  
830-540-4516  
Same Day Interview



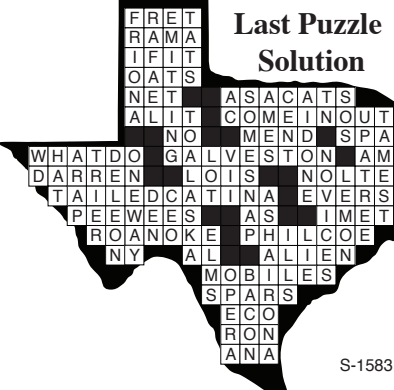
**GONZALES HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS**  
*Feel the Difference*

Gonzales Healthcare Systems has immediate openings at Memorial Hospital Home Health Agency for the position of Registered Nurse Case Manager. Current Texas licensure, BLS certification and valid Texas driver's license required. Minimum of one year of nursing experience recommended; previous experience in a home health setting preferred. Part-time positions available with flexible schedule.

We invite you to join our team in providing high quality services to the residents of Gonzales and the surrounding communities. For more information, please visit our website at [www.gonzaleshealthcare.com](http://www.gonzaleshealthcare.com) or call Human Resources at 830-519-9100.

## May 5 Puzzle Answers

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



**Last Puzzle Solution**

S-1583



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**PRECISION WELL LOGGING, INC**

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[office@pwl-inc.com](mailto:office@pwl-inc.com)

950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES
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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of DELAINE H. RYDER, A/K/A FANNIE DELAIN BAKER, Deceased, were issued on May 2, 2022, in Cause No. AD22-0182, pending in the Probate Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: BRIAN JOSEPH NIGRO.

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

BRIAN JOSEPH NIGRO, Independent Administrator, Estate of DELAINE H. RYDER, A/K/A FANNIE DELAIN BAKER.

c/o Rashmi P. Krishnappa  
May 3, 2022  
The Law Offices of Kyle Robbins, PLLC  
3800 N. Lamar Blvd., Suite 200  
Austin, Texas 78756  
Telephone: (512) 851-1248  
**ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR**

**– PROPOSAL NOTICE –**

The Owner invites competitive sealed proposals from Contractors for **CITY OF GONZALES – GONZALES MEMORIAL MUSEUM RESTORATION – UNDERGROUND CRAWLSPEACE PROJECT**, Gonzales, Texas. Proposals will be received until **2:00 p.m., Thursday, June 9, 2022**, at the office of TSG Architects AIA and at that time all proposals shall be opened and read aloud. Proposals shall be addressed and delivered to the City of Gonzales c/o TSG Architects AIA, 312 Saint Francis Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, 830.672.7801. No proposal may be changed, amended or modified after the same has been submitted. A proposal may be withdrawn, however, and resubmitted any time prior to the time set for receipt of proposals. The City of Gonzales has the right to accept or reject any bid or to waive any technicality which may be in the best interest of the City of Gonzales.

Each bid proposal must be accompanied by a certified or cashier's check, or an approved bidder's bond in an amount not less than 5% of the maximum total bid, payable to the City of Gonzales, Texas without recourse, as a guarantee that the Bidder will enter into a contract and execute performance and payment bonds on the forms provided, within ten (10) working days after the award of contract.

The work will be awarded under a single lump sum contract for all general construction work per Section 00 2116 and Section 00 4200.

**A mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, May 26, 2022, at the Gonzales Memorial Museum, 414 Smith Street, Gonzales, Texas. All bidding general contractors must attend or have a qualified representative present to attend this meeting.**

Included in the construction but not limited to will be:

- Misc Demolition
- Ventilation / Misc MEP
- Underground Drainage
- Misc Structural Repairs

Substitutions: During bidding, the Architect may consider written Request for Substitutions, received at least ten (10) days prior to the original bid date and hour. Request for Substitution must be submitted in accordance with Section 01 6000.

Availability of Plans and Specifications: Plans and Specifications are available from the architect, TSG Architects AIA, 312 Saint Francis Street, P.O. Box 1573, Gonzales, Texas 78629, 830.672.7801. A current, completed AIA A305 will be required prior to receiving plans and specs. Contractors may obtain one (1) printed set after receipt of refundable deposit of \$85.00 per set. Sub-Contractors may obtain one (1) printed set after receipt of non-refundable deposit of \$85.00 per set. Additional printed construction document plan sets may be purchased at \$85.00 per set non-refundable, plus postage and handling if applicable. A downloadable electronic file of the construction document plan set is available for a non-refundable deposit of \$50.00. Plans must be returned to the architect within ten (10) calendar days from bid date, in good condition, for a complete refund of plan deposit.




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900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES	900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES	900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
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**TexSCAN Week of May 8-14, 2022**

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**Own your piece of Texas TODAY!** Prices starting at \$650/acre. Trans Pecos region. Also the Hill Country (Edwards, Menard, Coke, Val Verde Counties - free ranging exotics), South Texas (Duval County - whittail, hogs). Large acreage or small. 30 year fixed rate owner financing, only 5% down. Call toll free or email for individual prices and terms. [www.ranchenterprisesdtd.com](http://www.ranchenterprisesdtd.com), 800-876-9720

**ARROWHEADS**

**Indian Arrowheads Wanted** – Point Type: Clovis, Yuma, Firstview & Eden. Must be old, authentic & unbroken. Absolute TOP DOLLAR paid – up to 5 figures for one point. I am a very serious high-end collector. Call 979-218-3351.

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**WANTED**

**FREON WANTED:** Certified buyer looking to buy R11, R12, and R500 and more. Call Joe at 312-625-5322.

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**NOTICE FOR PROPOSALS**

The Gonzales Central Appraisal District is seeking proposals for Group Health/Life/AD&D Insurance. A statement of the benefit specifications may be obtained from the district office free of charge.

Proposals must be received by the Gonzales Central Appraisal District office, Physical Address: 1709 E. Sarah Dewitt Drive, Unit B, Gonzales, Texas 78629, Mailing Address: P.O. Box 867, Gonzales, Texas 78629, no later than 12:00 Noon on Thursday, May 19, 2022.

All proposals must be addressed to Lauren Clampit, Chairman, Board of Directors. All proposals must be sealed and marked on the outside of the envelope "Group Health/Life/AD&D Insurance".

Proposals will be opened and the contract awarded at the Board of Directors meeting to be held at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 1709 E. Sarah Dewitt Drive, Unit B, Gonzales, Texas. All persons submitting proposals are welcome to attend.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. If a proposal is accepted it will be the proposal considered most advantageous to the Gonzales Central Appraisal District. All parties submitting proposals shall use lump sum pricing. The method of payment will not be more often than monthly from the District's General Operating Fund. No bond is required.

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
CITY OF GONZALES  
CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Gonzales, by this instrument, notifies the public of a PUBLIC HEARING on the following project that will be presented to the City Council for their consideration:

**PUBLIC HEARING for early citizen input regarding the use of City Funds for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023.**

The City Council will hold a **Public Hearing June 9, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph St.**, to allow for public comment on the upcoming budget.

The City Council encourages citizens to participate in the public comment and public hearing stages of all City Council projects. Citizens unable to attend meetings may submit their views to Kristina Vega, City Secretary for the City of Gonzales, by mailing them to P.O. Box 547, Gonzales, TX 78629. For additional information, contact the City Secretary office at (830)-672-2815.

I certify that a copy of the June 9, 2022, Notice of Public Hearing was posted on the City Municipal Building bulletin board on the 6th day of May 2022, at 5:00 p.m. and remained posted continuously for at least 16 days prior to the scheduled time of the meeting.



Kristina Vega, City Secretary

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
CITY OF GONZALES  
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION  
& CITY COUNCIL

The City of Gonzales, by this instrument, notifies the public of PUBLIC HEARINGS on the following projects:

The property located at 525 St. Joseph Street is currently zoned as C-1, Light Commercial District and a request for rezone to DMU, Downtown Mixed Use District has been received.

1) An amendment to the Official Zoning Map of the City of Gonzales for the property commonly known as 525 St. Joseph Street, said property being currently zoned as C-1, Light Commercial District and seeking to be rezoned DMU, Downtown Mixed Use District.

**PROPERTY OWNER:** Larry & Johnny Edwards

**LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS:** Blk 19 N and W PT Lot 6 Gonzales Blocks

**PARCELS:** 11861

The Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a **Public Hearing on May 23, 2022 at the Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph St. at 5:15 p.m.**, to allow public comment on a possible amendment to the Official Zoning Map of the City of Gonzales for the listed property. After consideration and recommendation by Planning & Zoning Commission and Public Hearing, the amendments will be presented to **City Council for a Public Hearing and possible approval on June 9, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph St.**

The City Council encourages citizens to participate in the public comment and public hearing process for all applications for zoning or rezoning before the City Council. Citizens unable to attend meetings may submit their views to Kristina Vega, City Secretary for the City of Gonzales, by mailing them to P.O. Drawer 547, Gonzales, TX 78629. For additional information, contact the City Secretary office at (830)-672-2815.

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# Camarillo selected as Lockhart ISD's new deputy superintendent

Special to the Inquirer

Superintendent Mark Estrada announced the selection of Dr. Stephaine Camarillo, a Gonzales native, as the new deputy superintendent for Lockhart ISD.

She will provide leadership and supervision to all campus principals and the administrative functions of the district. She also serves as the senior administrative officer of the district in the absence of the superintendent. She will officially assume her new role in July.

Camarillo currently serves as the assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction since joining Lockhart ISD in 2018. In this role, she leads and implements all components of the district's curriculum and instructional program, including the areas of special education, gifted and talented, Response to Intervention (RtI), 504 services, career and technical education, bilingual/ESL services, and accountability and assessment.

Camarillo tracks the school district's annual 1.5 growth goals for students and reports the data to district leadership and the school board on a monthly basis. Last school year, the district set a goal for at least 75 percent of students to grow by 1.5 years in reading last year, and the district exceeded that goal with 76 percent achieving this growth. This was notable as this was achieved during the height of the pandemic during a year of both distance and in-person learning—an achievement Camarillo said demonstrated the commitment of Lockhart ISD teachers to being “Locked on Excellence.”

As a member of the Superintendent's Cabinet, Camarillo is part of the district leadership team that participated in The Holdsworth Center Leadership Program, one that sparked a cultural and leadership transformation throughout the district resulting in the estab-

lishment of the #LockhartLeading values of having a “LockHeart for People,” being “Locked on Excellence,” and “Unlocking Potential” of ourselves and others. Additionally, Camarillo was a graduate of the 2020 District Leadership Institute by The National Council for Community and Education Partnerships. She was one of only 45 education leaders from across the United States to complete the program.

Prior to joining Lockhart ISD, Camarillo served as the assistant superintendent of accountability and compliance at Gonzales ISD. She ascended to this role after having served as assistant principal; director of academics, assessments, and student affairs; and assistant superintendent of academics and accountability within the district.

Camarillo concurrently worked as a school turnaround consultant with the University of Virginia Darden/Curry Partners for Leaders in Education program, the only program in the country dedicated to empowering systems and school leaders to achieve significant turnaround in underperforming schools.

She previously worked for Region 13 Education Service Center as coordinator for the Texas Turnaround Leadership Academy, coordinator for systemic change initiatives, IDEA coordinator, and educational specialist in bilingual and special education.

Camarillo additionally worked with the United States Department of Education Office of English Language Acquisition, the Free Trade Alliance San Antonio, international engineering firm Alchemia Inc., and Estrada Communications Group, a national communications and marketing agency targeting the Hispanic community.



Camarillo

“From the first day I walked into Lockhart ISD over four years ago, I have seen how we have consistently held true to keeping children first in all we do. I feel blessed and honored for the opportunity in continuing to be part of building that legacy in this new role,” said Camarillo. “I want to thank Superintendent Estrada and the Board members for placing their trust in me as we remain focused on creating a school system that ensures the success of all our students—they deserve nothing less.”

“Dr. Camarillo is a talented leader who is bold yet savvy in her approach to facilitate the change needed across educational systems,” said Superintendent Mark Estrada. “Her deep and thorough understanding of instruction and learning combined with excellent organizational and management skills make her an asset to the staff and students we serve.”

Camarillo has a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish with a minor in education from The University of Texas at Austin, a Master of Education in Educational Administration from Concordia University Texas, and a Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership and Policy from The University of Texas at Austin - Cooperative Superintendency Program.

Current Deputy Superintendent Kimberly Raymond accepted a position as the new assistant superintendent of student and community programs in Aledo ISD beginning in July. Raymond joined Lockhart ISD in 2016, providing leadership in key district initiatives over the years. “We wish Ms. Raymond well in her new chapter and thank her for her contributions to our students, staff, and community,” said Superintendent Estrada.

The school district will soon begin its search for a new assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction to replace Camarillo.

## SBA disaster loans available to small businesses

Special to the Inquirer

Small nonfarm businesses in 29 Texas counties are now eligible to apply for low interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration, announced Director Tanya N. Garfield of SBA's Disaster Field Operations Center-West. These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by drought in the following primary counties that began March 8, 2022.

Primary Texas counties: DeWitt, Falls, Freestone, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Limestone and Newton;

Neighboring Texas counties: Anderson, Bell, Bexar, Caldwell, Comal, Fayette, Goliad, Hays, Henderson, Hill, Jasper, Karnes, Lavaca, Leon, McLennan, Milam, Navarro, Orange, Robertson, Sabine, Victoria and Wilson.

“SBA eligibility covers both the economic impacts on businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers that have suffered agricultural production losses caused by the disaster and businesses directly impacted by the disaster,” Garfield said.

Small nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred.

“Eligibility for these loans is based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 2.94 percent for businesses and 1.875 percent for private nonprofit organizations, a maximum term of 30 years and are available to small businesses and most private nonprofits without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship,” Garfield said.

By law, SBA makes Economic Injury Disaster Loans available when the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. The Secretary declared this disaster on May 2, 2022.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency about the U.S. Department of Agriculture assistance made available by the Secretary's declaration. However, nurseries are eligible for SBA disaster assistance in drought disasters.

Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov) for more information on SBA disaster assistance.

The deadline to apply for economic injury is Jan. 3, 2023.

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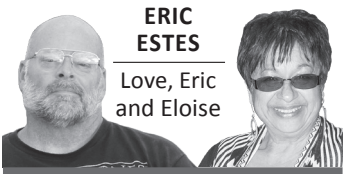
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# Find your motivation

Hey there everyone, I pray all is well. As of late, I've been busy trying to tame my yard, as it kind of got away from me last year. While every thing's coming along nicely and looking better than it has in quite some time, I did have a bit of a run in with a yucca plant. While bending over to move a large piece that was growing into the driveway, I stabbed myself in the forehead on one of the sharp needles. I did get quite a laugh out of it as it reminded me of the time I impaled myself on a nail, also in the forehead, while remodeling the mobile home we lived in while building the house. I literally had to push against the wall to pry myself off of it, finding it also hysterically funny at the time. In this case it was funny because I bled so much that it looked like Mike Tyson's mom had beaten me up. Which got me to wondering, if Mike Tyson bought out Tyson Chicken, would his chickens be able to beat up the other chickens? With random thoughts like this, it's easy to understand that I needed this injury like I needed... another hole in the head!

A few years back, I received a call



ERIC ESTES

Love, Eric and Eloise

from my first wife, as she had found some things she thought may be important to me. When she heard that I was building our families house myself, she had to reconfirm my identity, as I apparently was not the same person she married many years ago. While she was a great woman and friend, I was just too young and immature at the time to do her justice. To say that I was uninspired and lacked motivation during my early adulthood, would be a gross understatement. At that time I was into getting away with as little effort as possible in order to save my energy for beer runs, not exactly a recipe for a successful relationship. Yep, she wanted a man but got a boy instead, still sorry about that. Fortunately, she's now married to a good man that treats her well, and they're always in my prayers.

Many years later, after getting sober and accepting Christ, God was gracious enough to bring Eloise and the boys into my life, giving me the motivation and drive to break out of my comfort zone, something that was previously unattainable. While learning how to deal with this new way of

living, Philippians 4:13 continuously ran through my mind; "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

According to an article in Psychology Today, while many things can motivate us, the most powerful motivator of all is fear. It seemed to have worked exceptionally well in my case, as having come from a long list of personal failures, I was afraid that I wouldn't be man enough to handle the task at hand. I did however believe that if I gave it my all, God would help me along and that's exactly how it played out...thank you Lord.

While some fears are perfectly valid, like rattlesnakes, skydiving without a parachute, letting grandma ride your Harley without a helmet, or cage fighting with unhappy nuns, sometimes we just have to buck up and face our fears head on. It seems that with every small victory, we tend to build up more confidence to tackle the next one. After a while, you may find yourself having to be fitted for a new cape, just don't let it go to your head. So when in doubt remember, shoulders back, chin up, and don't be afraid to ask God for help. Like Psalms 56:3 says; "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

Hope you have a great week. Until next time, love you guys, Eric.

## BRIEFS

### CAR SHOW COMES TO BELMONT

Gonzales Classic Cruisers and Luling Oil City will be showing off some classic beauties at a car show from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 14, at Diamond A Goss in Belmont.

### MASONIC LODGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Gonzales Masonic Lodge #30 will award five \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors this year. Texas Masons in 2022, in conjunction with the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation, will give away approximately \$2.4 million in scholarships to Texas Students. Since 2010, Texas Freemasonry has given over \$16 million in scholarships.

### RUPPERT CEMETERY MEETING

The annual Ruppert Cemetery meeting will be held on Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m. at the Cheapside Community Center. Please bring a small snack to share. Water, tea, and coffee will be provided.

Please let your family know since we will not be mailing invitations. If you have friends that may be interested in attending please tell them also.

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Efeso Iglesia Bautista Highway 87, Smiley	Union Valley Baptist Church FM 1681, NW of Nixon	<b>METHODIST</b> Belmont United Methodist Highway 90A, Belmont	River of Life Christian Fellowship 207 Steele St., Smiley
Elm Grove Baptist Church 4337 FM 1115 Waelder, TX, 78959	<b>CATHOLIC</b> St. James Catholic Church 417 N. College, Gonzales	Dewville United Methodist West of FM 1117 on CR 121	Thompsonville Community Church CR 423, Thompsonville Between Harwood & Waelder off old Hwy. 90
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First Baptist Church 403 N. Texas, Nixon	St. Joseph Catholic Church 207 S. Washington, Nixon	First United Methodist 410 N. Franklin, Nixon	<b>INTER-DENOMINATIONAL</b> Faith Family Church 1812 Cartwheel Dr., Gonzales
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Harwood Baptist Church North of Post Office, Harwood	Church of Christ (Iglesia de Cristo) 201 E. Second St. Nixon	Christ the King Church 1262 U.S. Highway 77 South Hallettsville	Life Changing Church of Gonzales 3.3 miles north on Hwy 183, right on CR 235, then right on CR 236
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NIXON LATIN-AMERICAN CEMETERY FUNDRAISER



The Nixon Latin-American Cemetery Association held a FUNdraiser at the Nixon-Smiley Livestock Show Barn on Saturday, May 7, to raise money for traffic improvements and a new gate entrance and fencing to the cemetery on Texas Highway 80. The event features live music, a silent auction, Loteria, food and other amusements and was well attended by the community at large.

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**ACROSS**

1 \_\_\_\_\_ Davis County

5 spoken, not written

6 “\_\_\_\_\_-Million” Gates wagered he could sell barbed wire in Texas

7 TXism: “the tail \_\_\_\_\_ wagging the dog”

8 TX Mary Kay \_\_\_\_\_ of cosmetics fame

9 FC Dallas players compared to the Astros, e.g. (2 wds.)

15 TX Audie Murphy’s war (abbr.)

16 clean up used lumber? (2 wds.)

19 this George killed 23 and wounded 27 at Kileen Luby’s in 1991

21 TX Banks, infielder who was “Mr. Cub”

22 “\_\_\_\_\_ idea” (should reconsider)

27 Texas state \_\_\_\_\_

28 22-across could be “\_\_\_\_\_ of time and money”

29 O. Henry: “Austin’s \_\_\_\_\_ crown” (hill country)

30 TX-filmed 1986 “Adam: \_\_\_\_\_ Continues”

32 Rangers broadcaster, Eric (init.)

33 TXism: “\_\_\_\_\_ -eyed cow”

36 forearm bone

37 Amarillo hosts “\_\_\_\_\_ State Fair & Rodeo”

38 cattle assembly

39 TXism: “I \_\_\_\_\_ like an armadillo needs an interstate”

41 Colorado Indian

42 back yard roofed, open-sided structure

44 when the Dallas Stars put the puck in the net dir. from Canyon to Andrews

46 this Ephron wrote TX-filmed “Silkwood”

48 TXism: “table graze”

49 game of questions: “This \_\_\_\_\_”

52 Larry in “Texas Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame”

53 U.S. Senator from Texas, Cruz

54 anger

55 Civil War ship, “\_\_\_\_\_ Texas,” was in film “Sahara”

**DOWN**

1 1977 country song: “Take This \_\_\_\_\_ and Shove It”

2 poetic “before”

3 TXism: “the \_\_\_\_\_ the fire” (trouble)

4 TXism for brief success (4 wds.)

8 filled with wonder

9 visitors to “Hippie Hollow” (2 wds.)

10 “good \_\_\_\_\_ boy”

11 actress Cloris of TX-based “The Last Picture Show” (init.)

12 latest “thingamabob” (3 wds.)

13 firearms maker \_\_\_\_\_ USA is now a part of Remington

14 transgressions

15 TX Paula Prentiss 1965 film: “\_\_\_\_\_ Pussycat?”

16 former nat’l job for Texans sr. & jr. Bush

17 unembellished

18 “I should have \_\_\_\_\_ coming”

20 West Texas climate

22 TX Willie’s “Farm Aid \_\_\_\_\_” was in 1990

23 great San Antonio Spur, Duncan

24 fly like an eagle

25 “Brave New World” writer, Huxley

26 good looking gals

28 TX “scream queen” actress, Gwynne

31 margarine

34 business info in the Clyde Journal

35 TXism: “\_\_\_\_\_ rat” (child)

37 TXism: “run \_\_\_\_\_ by me one more time”

40 TXism: “worn \_\_\_\_\_ frazzle”

43 videoconferencing application

44 unpredictable

50 where the dead await judgment, according to some

51 TXism: “fits like ugly on \_\_\_\_\_ ape”

**SUDOKU**

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

Level: intermediate

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Answers found in next week's Classifieds.

# Lady Mustangs' 7th-inning collapse ends season



Nixon-Smiley can boast first-ever district championship and playoff wins

BY LEW K. COHN  
Inquirer Publisher

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs clawed, fought and scrapped their way through six innings of Game 2 of their playoff series with the Yoakum Lady Bulldogs on Saturday, May 7.

In the top of the seventh inning, however, things went haywire for the host team as they allowed eight runs — seven unearned — en route to a 13-5 loss that eliminated them in the area round of the Class 3A softball playoffs.

Yoakum had previously defeated the Lady Mustangs, 8-1, on their own home field Friday, May 6, which made Saturday's game a must-win for Nixon-Smiley (16-15).

And at some points Saturday afternoon, in the blistering heat of temperatures which neared the century mark, it seemed like the Lady Mustangs would be able to force a third game in the series, but it wasn't to be.

Yoakum struck first in the top of the first inning, erupting for three runs with two out. A double off the top of the chain link fence in center field plated two runners and a triple scored another to make it 3-0 before Nixon-Smiley could get the third out.

In the bottom of the first, the home team would tie the game. Hailee Houseton led off with a walk, followed by Emily Granados. Mady Velasquez hit into a forceout at second, but beat the throw to first, giving



Above, Freshman Hailee Houseton slides into home before a throw to score Nixon-Smiley's first run in the first inning against Yoakum Saturday, May 7. Down 3-0 early, the Lady Mustangs would tie the score with three runs of their own. At left, sophomore pitcher Kendall Amaya delivers a strike against a Yoakum batter in Saturday's home playoff game. Amaya pitched four innings and allowed five runs, all earned, while scattering eight hits. However, the game was tied at 5-5 when she moved to shortstop, swapping with Mady Velasquez.

LEW K. COHN

the Lady Mustangs runners at the corners with just one out. Velasquez would steal second to give them runners at second and third.

Kendall Amaya hit into a fielder's choice, but Yoakum committed an error and could not throw out Amaya at first or the speedy Houseton at home, making the score 3-1. Amaya stole second and then Mary Kate Garcia then drove in Velasquez with a fielder's choice that sent Amaya to third. Houseton walked and ball four was a wild pitch, when sent Amaya scurrying in from third ahead of the throw back from the catcher, knotting the game at 3-3.

In the top of the third inning, Yoakum reclaimed the lead at 4-3 with a home run to left

center field. Again, the Lady Mustangs would answer and would take their first — and only — lead of the series. Granados led off the third by reaching on an error when the first baseman came off the bag to get the throw.

Velasquez singled, putting runners at first and second. Amaya hit a bloop into left field, but it was snared by the shortstop for the first out. Garcia grounded out and advanced both runners a base. Houseton then lined a single up the middle that scored both Granados and Velasquez to make it 5-4 for Nixon-Smiley.

The lead would be short-lived, however, as Yoakum tied the game back up at 5-5 in the top of the fourth inning off starting pitcher Amaya, who

ended up allowing five runs, all earned, in four innings while striking out one and walking two. The Lady Bulldogs got eight hits off Amaya, who closed out her season with 101 total strikeouts.

Velasquez took over mound duties beginning in the fifth and kept Yoakum off the scoreboard for the first two innings of relief. Meanwhile, the Lady Mustang had one golden scoring opportunity in the top of the fifth. Granados walked and so did Velasquez. Garcia hit a ball to second that was thrown poorly and she reached on an error, but when Granados tried to advance home, she was thrown out at the plate.

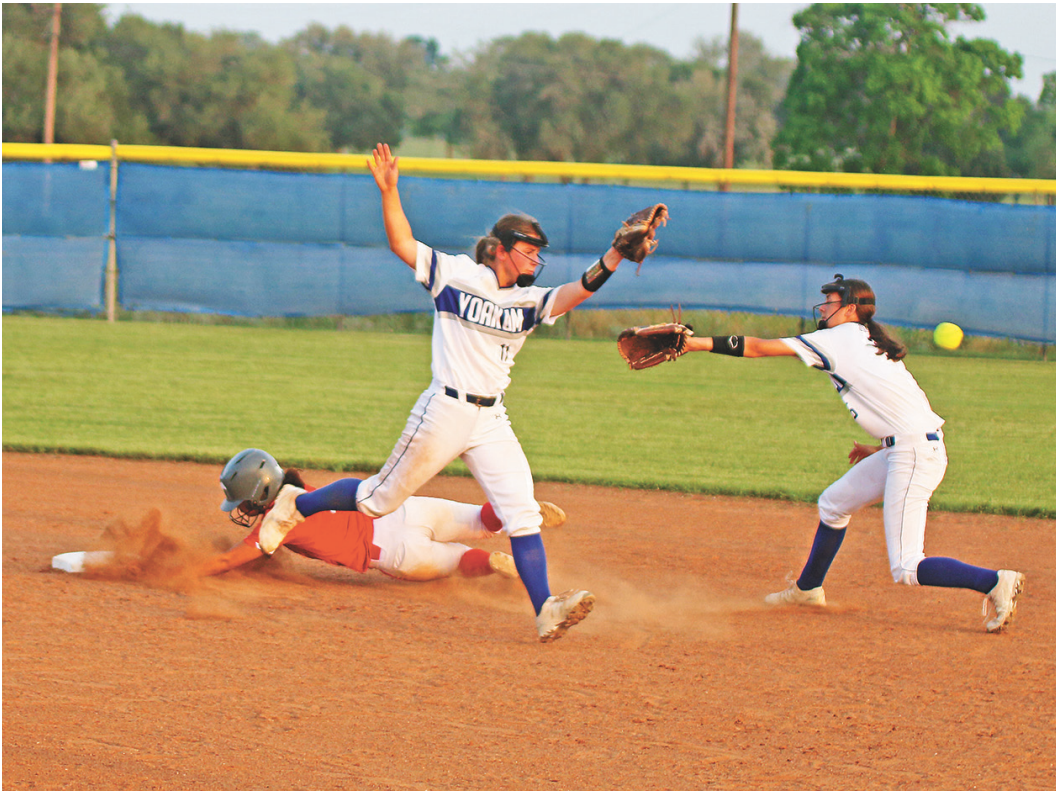
In the top of the seventh, Velasquez ran into control issues as she walked a few bat-

ters. Then, the Lady Mustangs' defense — which had some stellar plays earlier, including a lineout double play from Amaya to Carlee Cano and acrobatic catches by Velasquez and Amaya — fell apart.

Granados made multiple errors at second base — three total in the game — and Yoakum then roughed up Velasquez with a couple of hits, including a homer, to bring eight runs across the plate and break the game wide open at 13-5. Only one of the baserunners in the inning who scored did so on an earned run.

Nixon-Smiley couldn't manage any further offense in their half of the seventh inning and the game — and season —

See **MUSTANGS**, page 16



At the far left, freshman Emily Granados tries to advance home to break a 5-5 tie on an error by Yoakum, but gets thrown out at home plate in the fifth inning Saturday. This represented Nixon-Smiley's last best chance to take the lead against the Lady Bulldogs, who eventually scored eight runs in the top of the seventh for a 13-5 series-clinching win. At the left, junior Mady Velasquez slides safely into second ahead while a throw goes past the second baseman and shortstop in Friday's game at Yoakum. Velasquez would go on to third and later scored the only run of the game for the Lady Mustangs.

LEW K. COHN

# Boerne uses late rally to down Tribe in Game 1

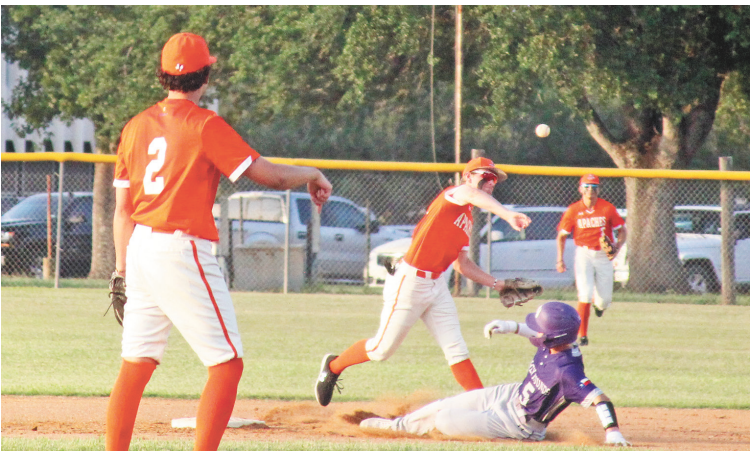
BY LOUIS DECKER  
The Inquirer

For five innings, the Gonzales Apaches proved they were up to the challenge of facing the #2 team in the state. After scoring four runs in their half of the fifth inning, the Tribe was within striking distance at 8-5. “I told the kids before the game – we know what they’re bringing to the table – just go play baseball,” said Coach Beaux Gipson. “They still gotta hit it, and pitch it, and field it, and still gotta run the bases. Go play the game the way it’s supposed to be played and let the chips fall.”

Unfortunately, for the Apaches, the Boerne Greyhounds scored 11 runs over the final two innings to pull away for a 19-6 win in Game 1 of the best-of-three series, Friday night in Gonzales.

The Greyhounds took a quick lead in the top of the first. After a walk to leadoff hitter Kalob Sanchez, Rashawn Galloway followed with a check swing pop-up that Apache center fielder Paul Deleon was unable to come up with. A fielder’s choice erased Galloway on the base-paths, but another walk loaded the bases for Riley Pechacek, who came through with a two-run single. Apache starter Carson Gaytan was able to get out of the jam with another fielder’s choice and a strikeout.

Gonzales answered back in the bottom of the first, cutting the lead in half. Joe “Mucho” Canales singled back up the middle, moved to second on a wild pitch, and advanced to



Jared Cook tries to complete a double play during the first inning of Friday night’s bidistrict opener against Boerne. The Greyhounds pulled away late for a 19-6 victory.

third on a groundout by Jared Cook. Jarren Johnson was intentionally walked with two outs, but the move backfired when Boerne starter Xander Cloudy uncorked his second and third wild pitches of the inning, allowing Canales to score.

“We came out focused on what we needed to accomplish,” said Gipson. “We moved up on a wild pitch and scored on a wild pitch or passed ball.”

In the second inning, the Hounds extended their lead when, with two outs, catcher and Texas State commit Galloway lifted a 2-0 pitch from Gaytan deep over the center field fence for a two-run homer.

Back-to-back hits by Tyler Garritano and Dylan Perez fueled another two runs in the top of the third as Boerne scored on a wild pitch and a suicide squeeze bunt to take a 6-1 lead after three innings.

Neither team scored in the fourth, but in the fifth the

Greyhounds were able to get two more runs off Gaytan on a single by Sanchez and an RBI fielder’s choice to take an 8-1 lead to the bottom of the fifth.

That’s when the Apache bats came to life. Deleon led off with a four-pitch walk and with one out, Weston Ruddock was hit by a pitch. Canales followed with a double that landed just inside the right field line, scoring Deleon. With two outs in the inning, Cook lined a single to right center to plate Ruddock and Canales and advanced to second on the throw. Johnson then doubled down the left field line to score Cook and chase the Hounds’ starter, Cloudy, from the game. Landon LeStourgen came on in relief and Gaytan lined the first pitch he saw back up the middle – but unfortunately it was right at the center fielder.

Having reached his pitch limit, Gaytan was pulled to start the sixth inning and Boerne



PHOTOS BY LOUIS DECKER  
Carson Gaytan awaits a throw as Tyler Garritano comes home to score during Friday’s bidistrict playoff game at T.E. Burrows Field. The Apaches were swept by the Greyhounds to end their season.

was able to rough up reliever Kason Tieden to the tune of six runs in the top of the sixth. The Apaches answered back with a leadoff single by T.J. Riojas, who came around to score on an RBI single by Ruddock. That would be the last run Gonzales would score.

Boerne put the game away with five runs in the top of the seventh, turning what once was a close game into a rout. The big blow in the inning was a three-run homer to left center by Galloway.

“He’s the real deal,” said Gipson. “There’s a reason he’s going to Texas State and it ain’t because he’s not very good.”

LeStourgen was able to earn

the save by retiring the Tribe in order in the bottom of the seventh, striking out Brady Barfield, getting Cook to line out to right and striking out Johnson to end the game.

“That’s baseball,” said Gipson, “You’re gonna face good players but you gotta play against them. If you wanna be the best, you gotta beat the best. If we wanna take this program where we wanna take it, then we gotta play against those guys and compete against those guys.”

While the end result was not what Gipson or the team would have liked, there were

See **APACHES**, page 16

# Greyhounds complete sweep, ends Tribe’s season

BY LOUIS DECKER  
The Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches proved they weren’t above the challenge of facing one of the top teams in the state, but in the end the Boerne Greyhounds were able to complete the two-game sweep on a hot Saturday afternoon in Boerne.

“It’s depth, it’s definitely depth,” said Coach Beaux Gipson. “Even at the plate meeting prior to the game, the umpire flipped the game card over and they had 10 subs and we had three. It’s different, but our kids didn’t back down.”

The Greyhounds turned to their de facto ace, Andrew Poole, to put the Tribe away, but the Apache bats were hot to begin the game. With two outs, Jared Cook was hit by a pitch and Jarren “Bug” Johnson drove an 0-1 pitch into the gap in left center for a standup double. Cook rounded third base aggressively but was able to scamper back and avoid the tag. Carson Gaytan then followed with a grounder that appeared headed for right field to score a pair of runs, but Kalob Sanchez was able to swoop in and make the play to retire the Apaches.

In the bottom of the first, Joe “Mucho” Canales gave up a leadoff single, but Dakota DuBose was able to track down a grounder just to his left and throw onto second for a fielder’s choice, Cook made a leaping stab of a line drive for an out, and T.J. Riojas nailed courtesy runner Max Garcia trying to steal second to keep the Hounds off the board.

“Mucho didn’t back down,” said Gipson. “He went out there and shoved just like he always does. Heck, first inning we had second and third after Bug’s double and we’re giving them all they can handle.”

As was the case in Game One, the Apaches were hampered by inconsistency behind the plate as neither plate umpire could determine what was a strike. “It’s pretty ridiculous,” said Gipson. “At some point, you’ve got to have some consistency with the strike zone. A belt-high fastball – that’s a strike. It’s pretty sad when



you can’t even get a belt-high fastball call [for a strike].” The inconsistent zone forced the Apaches to throw pitches that a good-hitting team were able to take advantage of.

After Poole struck out the side in the top of the second, Boerne went to work with three straight singles to start the bottom of the inning. Poole collected the RBI with a ground ball past the drawn-in infield to plate Riley Pechacek, who led off with a “Texas League” single. Tyler Garritano attempted to also score on the play, but

was thrown out on a great relay throw from Brady Barfield to DuBose to Riojas.

Tempers flared in the third inning. Canales hit a ground ball back to Poole, who took time to showboat before throwing to first base. Poole then began to exchange words with Gipson, who was coaching third base. After striking out Barfield, Poole was demonstrative upon heading to the Boerne dugout. The umpiring crew was able to restore order and the game continued.

Boerne added two runs in

the bottom of the fourth on an RBI single by Connor Shill and a sacrifice fly by Sanchez. The Hounds threatened to end the game in the fifth when they plated six runs and chased Canales from the game. Johnson came on in relief and got the Tribe out of the inning.

The Apaches were able to get two runners on base in the top of the sixth – Canales with a slow roller down the third base line for a single and Cook with a hard grounder to second that Sanchez mishandled. Poole was able to strike out John-

son and Gaytan to escape the threat, however.

In the bottom of the sixth, Pechacek led off with a double and moved to third on a passed ball. A ground ball to DuBose held Pechacek at third, but a sacrifice fly to center by Poole brought home Pechacek with the tenth run and ended the game due to the mercy rule.

The double by Johnson and the single by Canales were the only two hits collected by the Tribe in the game. Canales took the loss, going 4 1/3 innings, surrendering seven runs on eight hits, while walking four. Johnson pitched the final 1 1/3 innings and gave up three runs on two hits and walked one.

The Greyhounds advance to the area round where they’ll take on the Sweeny Bulldogs, ranked #8 in the state. The Apaches finish the year at 9-15. Five seniors played their final games this weekend – Gaytan, Barfield, Cook, Paul Deleon and Sam De La Garza.

Gipson gave credit to the team for their never-say-die attitude at the end of the season. “These last three games, the guys played baseball the way it’s supposed to be played,” said Gipson, “and I couldn’t be prouder of their effort.

PHOTOS BY LOUIS DECKER

# Gonzales Breakfast Lions prep for 10th annual golf scramble

BY BETTY COHN  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Breakfast Lions Club will be hosting their 10th annual 3-Man Scramble golf tournament Saturday, June 4. The shotgun start will be at 8:30 a.m. and the event will include prizes, refreshments and proceeds support local community projects.

The tournament fees are \$120 per team, with player's pool \$10 and optional. Non-club members are responsible for green fees (\$21.65/each) and cart rental fees (\$23.82). There are also muligan fees (\$10 limit one per person) and special drive fees (\$20

per team) at holes one and 10 only. Fees are required to be paid when tournament registration fees are completed.

Prizes for this event include a \$500 first place, \$300 second place, and \$200 third place. Expected refreshments include sausage with trimmings, soda and water.

For more information contact Gene Kridler 830-857-1576 or David Bird 830-857-5489. Submit registration forms and entry fees to Gene Kridler, 2622 Alamo St., Gonzales, TX 78629, or drop off at the Gonzales Independent Golf Course. Checks should be made payable to Gonzales Breakfast Lions Club.

# GHS All-Sports Banquet will be held Monday at JB Wells

BY LOUIS DECKER  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches and Lady Apaches will put the final touches on the 2021-22 school year with their All-Sports Banquet this Monday, May 16, from 6-8pm

at the JB Wells Expo Center, located at 2301 County Road 197.

The dinner menu will include pork loin with mashed potatoes, green beans, dessert and tea. Following the meal, the athletes will be honored for their respective sports.

# GISD to hold strength and conditioning camp for incoming athletes

Gonzales Independent School District will be holding a strength and conditioning camp for all incoming male and female 7th-12th grade athletes for the 2022-23 school year.

Cost is \$25 per student and the camp begins on June 6, 2022, and runs each week

through July 22, 2022. There will be no camp the week of July 4th.

The camp will be from 8:00-10:30am each day. The boys camp will meet in the field house and the girls camp will meet in the Game Gym in the high school. Breakfast and lunch will be available each day.

# APACHES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

still many positives to build on for the rest of the series.

"For the most part, I don't think we walked in here scared," said Gipson. "I thought the kids came out fighting,

came out clawing and scratching trying to get runs and toward the later part of the game it was a three-run ball-game. And I don't think [Boerne] came in here expecting that."

## GOLF SCRAMBLE



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The second-place team from the April 27 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Dylan Mills, Kyle Day and Raul Contreras.

The winning team from the April 27 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were (from left) Donnie Janicek, Brent Tieken, Brad Broussard, Manny Gonzales and Chuck Emmick.



The winning team, above, from the April 20 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were (from left) Bill Kessler, Ronnie Dubose, Glenda Kessler, Devin Benes, Jaleen Longoria and Tuffy Hudson. Kiley Allen, right, got a hole in one.

# MUSTANGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

ended.

For the game, the Lady Mustangs only batted .120 as a team, collecting three hits in 25 at-bats with five walks and one hit by pitch. They struck out eight times and left six runners on base while committing four errors in the field.

The 2022 Nixon-Smiley squad reached heights never before achieved by any other softball team at the school, winning a district championship and a bi-district championship while advancing to the area round.

The Lady Mustangs look to be in great shape for 2023, as they graduate just three seniors — Greenlee Houseton (left field), Carlee Cano (first base) and Angelina Sanchez (utility player) — while returning seven starters (Velasquez, Amaya, Hailee Houseton, Granados, Garcia, Natalee Mendez and Haven Davis).

**YOAKUM 8, NIXON-SMILEY 1**

On Friday, May 6, the Lady Mustangs fell behind early and could only manage a single run in the fourth inning as they lost the opener at Yoakum, 8-1.

The Lady Bulldogs scored two runs each in the first, third, fifth and sixth innings as Nixon-Smiley committed three errors. Amaya



pitched six innings and allowed eight earned runs, striking out four while walking three.

It was a very long game on the mound for the Lady Mustangs' ace as she threw 143 pitches. For the series, she went 10 innings and threw 196 pitches, while Velasquez threw 70 pitches in her three-inning stint in Game 2.

Nixon-Smiley's only run came when Velasquez singled and

stole second and advanced to third when the ball got away from the shortstop and second baseman covering the bag. Garcia, who made a great diving catch in center field later in the game to rob Yoakum, singled to bring her home.

For the game, the Lady Mustangs managed only three hits as they hit .115 and walked twice while striking out seven times.

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Tim Markham

Ad paid for by Tim Markham

# PROPERTY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dustrial properties, completion of schedules for the year 2022 and the filings of agricultural use valuations, as well as protests filed by property owners to the Appraisal Review Board.

“Please be advised that these figures are not a reliable source of information to use in calculation of tax rates or budgetary purposes,” Liford wrote.

Final certified values are not due from GCAD to the taxing entities in the county until July 25 and it is those numbers that will be used to determine the taxable value of property for each jurisdiction as well as to calculate budgets and tax rates.

## GONZALES COUNTY

Gonzales County shows a real and personal property market value of more than \$5.33 million, which includes more than \$29.2 million in new improvements. The mineral, industrial, utility and personal property (MIUP) market value for Gonzales County is more than \$3.78 billion, which includes nearly \$627.6 million in new improvements.

This adds up to a total market value of more than \$9.115 billion. The 2022 preliminary net taxable value is more than \$5.394 billion.

## CITY OF GONZALES

The City of Gonzales has a real and personal property market value of \$613.1 million, including nearly \$4.1 million in new improvements. The MIUP market value for Gonzales (city) is nearly \$208.1 million, bringing the total market value to more than \$821.2 million, with a 2022 net taxable value of \$663.9 million.

## CITY OF NIXON

Nixon shows real and per-

sonal property market value of more than \$83.8 million, including \$431,030 in new improvements. The MIUP market value for Nixon is more than \$27.5 million, bringing the total market value to nearly \$111.4 million. The 2022 net taxable value is nearly \$96.3 million.

## CITY OF WAELDER

Waelder has a real and personal property market value of more than \$42.6 million, including \$1,019,850 in new improvements. The MIUP market value for Waelder is more than \$20.5 million, bringing the total market value to nearly \$63.2 million. The 2022 net taxable value is more than \$50.1 million.

## CITY OF SMILEY

Smiley shows real and personal property market value of nearly \$23 million, including \$203,310 in new improvements. The MIUP market value for Smiley is \$643,850, bringing the total market value to more than \$23.6 million. The 2022 net taxable value is nearly \$17.4 million.

## GONZALES ISD

Gonzales ISD has real and personal property market value of more than \$2.96 billion, including more than \$14.4 million in new improvements. The MIUP market value for Gonzales ISD is nearly \$1.42 billion, including more than \$227.7 million in new improvements. This brings the total market value to nearly \$4.38 billion. The 2022 net taxable value is more than \$2.41 billion.

## WAELDER ISD

Waelder ISD shows real and personal property market value

of more than \$651.1 million, including more than \$8.83 in new improvements. The MIUP market value for Waelder ISD is nearly \$152 million, bringing the total market value to nearly \$803.1 million. The 2022 net taxable value is nearly \$313.45 million.

## MOULTON ISD

The portion of Moulton ISD in Gonzales County has real and personal property market value of nearly \$138.2 million, including \$623,710 in new improvements. The MIUP market value for Moulton ISD is more than \$222.4 million, including new improvements of nearly \$72.7 million, bringing the total market value to more than \$360.6 million. The 2022 net taxable value is more than \$251.4 million.

## CUERO ISD

The portion of Cuero ISD in Gonzales County has real and personal property market value of more than \$70.4 million, including \$489,220 in new improvements. The MIUP market value for Cuero ISD is nearly \$158.8 million, including new improvements of nearly \$23 million, bringing the total market value to more than \$229.2 million. The 2022 net taxable value is more than \$169 million.

## NIXON-SMILEY CISD

Nixon-Smiley CISD shows real and personal property market value of more than \$1.31 billion, including \$4.7 million in new improvements. The MIUP market value for Nixon-Smiley CISD is nearly \$1.32 billion, including new improvements of nearly \$279.5 million, bringing the total market value to more than \$2.63 billion. The

2022 net taxable value is more than \$1.56 billion.

## SHINER ISD

The portion of Shiner ISD in Gonzales County has real and personal property market value of more than \$143.3 million, including \$114,320 in new improvements. The MIUP market value for Shiner ISD is more than \$432.6 million, including new improvements of nearly \$24.8 million, bringing the total market value to nearly \$576 million. The 2022 net taxable value is nearly \$469.4 million.

## YOAKUM ISD

The portion of Yoakum ISD in Gonzales County has real and personal property market value of more than \$50.2 million. The MIUP market value for Yoakum ISD is nearly \$81.5 million, bringing the total market value to nearly \$131.7 million. The 2022 net taxable value is more than \$89 million.

## GONZALES COUNTY ESD1, ESD2

The preliminary values for Gonzales ESD1 and ESD2 are the same as they include the same boundaries. They have real and personal property market value of more than \$5.33 billion, including \$29.2 million in new improvements. The MIUP market value for both is more than \$3.78 billion, including new improvements of nearly \$627.6 million, bringing the total market value to more than \$9.11 billion. The 2022 net taxable value is nearly \$5.39 billion.

## GONZALES COUNTY UWCD

Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District has real and personal property market value of nearly

\$4.68 billion, including nearly \$27.2 million in new improvements. The MIUP market value for GCUWCD is nearly \$2.38 billion, including new improvements of nearly \$457 million, bringing the total market value to more than \$7 billion. The 2022 net taxable value is more than \$3.87 billion.

## GONZALES HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

Gonzales Healthcare Systems has real and personal property market value of nearly \$4.39 billion, including more than \$26 million in new improvements. The MIUP market value for GHS is more than \$3.1 billion, including new improvements of nearly \$603 million, bringing the total market value to more than \$7.5 billion. The 2022 net taxable value is more than \$4.4 billion.

## NIXON HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Nixon Hospital District has real and personal property market value of more than \$747.2 million, including new improvements of more than \$3 million. The MIUP market value for Nixon Hospital District is more than \$134 million, bringing the total market value to more than \$881.6 million. The 2022 net taxable value is more than \$334 million.

## YOAKUM HOSPITAL DISTRICT

The portion of Yoakum Hospital District in Gonzales County has real and personal property market value of more than \$50.2 million. The MIUP market value for Yoakum Hospital District is more than \$82.4 million, bringing the total market value to more than \$132.6 million. The 2022 net taxable value is more than \$90.4 million.

# RADIOS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

handhelds and mobiles, based upon requests those entities already submitted to Gonzales County Emergency Management coordinator Jimmy Harless.

The money is coming from American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds the county has received from the federal government.

The amount of money will be based on a bid tendered by Motorola and Victoria Communications Systems (VCS) to supply 131 Motorola APX 8500 mobile units at \$6,893.95 each and 151 Motorola APX 800 XE handhelds at \$6,930.11 each

Two weeks ago, Harless presented the entities’ requests to commissioners, who also heard from Motorola/VCS as well as representatives from LCRA/L3Harris about their respective bids. At

that time, the court tabled action until the May 9 meeting to be able to study everything.

Precinct 3 Commissioner Kevin La Fleur said Monday he had received advice from Jim Allison of Allison Bass & Associates, a law firm which helps Texas counties, that “we don’t want, besides county entities, we do not want to be responsible for inventory for other entities.”

“He recommended we enter into an interlocal agreement with each entity before we give them case and in that agreement, it will state it has to be used for cash or other public safety equipment,” La Fleur said, with County Auditor Becky Weston noting the money could not be used towards any debt retirement, pending litigation or any salary

reimbursement.

“What you’re saying is they use the money for radios first, and if they have anything left over, they can use it for safety equipment, but the county would not have to be responsible for any inventory,” Precinct 2 Commissioner Donnie Brzozowski said.

County Judge Pat Davis said he thought it made sense to go with the Motorola bid or use it for pricing, especially as he saw some advantages to what Motorola and VCS were offering.

“You’re looking at a three-year warranty versus a two and a 100-watt radio versus a 50,” Davis said. “(L3Harris) doesn’t even make a 100-watt radio. To me, it’s just a no-brainer.”

Reminded by a member of the audience that Waelder and Gonzales had already purchased their own Motorola radios, Davis noted, “We will reimburse them since they have paid their radios and we’re buying radios for anybody else. I’m not gonna let them be on their own. And I know that the chief of police here in Gonzales said they didn’t even come because they already put Motorola into theirs and they don’t even want to talk about it.”

Nixon City Councilmember Justin La Fleur, who is also Kevin La

Fleur’s son, wanted to be recognized to speak as he has been part of a contingent from Nixon that has been wanting the county to go with L3Harris. Davis appeared to be frustrated by the younger La Fleur’s insistence on joining the conversation.

“Nixon has been here every time. We’ve never had a Waelder person. We’ve never had a Gonzales person. We’ve never had anyone here other than Nixon,” Davis said. “And I know we had a city councilman from Nixon contact everybody on our grant. Our grant!

“Now we have beat this horse, we have beat this horse to death. I don’t know what else. How much more beating do you want to do on it?”

At this point, Precinct 1 Commissioner Dell Whiddon said he agreed with Davis and he thinks all of the entities “need to get whatever kind of radios they want. Whichever ones use it, let them get whatever one they want to use.”

“It’s not that simple, commissioner,” Weston responded. “Give me some more guidelines, like if I have to issue checks for them or you are going to purchase radios. I agree. This has been going on and they still need radios. They needed them a long time ago.

“I originally thought

the court was only talking handhelds. I didn’t realize they were also going into mobiles. I don’t know that we have enough money today for all of them. But figure out the cost and everyone gets the same amount of money times however many numbers they turned into Jimmy.

“Pass this interlocal, we go write them a check, they can buy whatever radio they want and y’all are out of the discussion,” Weston added. “Obviously, we’re gonna buy whatever our county wants for our county, but if (some other entity) wanted to buy Motorola or GE or whoever, they have the option of doing that, but come up with the dollar amount and what type of radio.

“So when they come back with an interlocal agreement that I think the county attorney needs to take a look at, if that’s the route, then we go from there and put it on the agenda, so I can issue the checks and these agencies can move forward.”

Justin LaFleur again tried to get recognized to speak, but Davis said, “I’ve heard enough from Nixon. When your dad wants to call on you, I’ll let him call on you.”

“No, you’re supposed to,” Justin La Fleur said. “You can’t deny me that. That’s a violation of the Open Meetings Act.”

“I said he can call on you,” Davis responded. “I didn’t deny you anything. It’s up to your father to call on you.”

“You let everyone else

speak but me,” Justin La Fleur said. “(County Attorney) Paul (Watkins) knows that too. Tell him, Paul.”

“I don’t answer to you,” Watkins told him flatly, to which the elder La Fleur said, “Paul, you’re wrong.”

“If you want to call on him, call on him,” Davis told the elder La Fleur.

“No, make him (call on me),” the younger La Fleur said to his father.

“Judge, it’s your call,” Kevin La Fleur said.

“Nobody makes me do anything,” Davis said. “If you want to hear from him, this is all our board together as a whole, so y’all have at it.”

Whiddon and Davis reminded the court there was a motion on the floor and Kevin La Fleur said he thought the court still needed to “have a sitdown and find out how many radios we need,” to which Davis took exception.

“We got that in the last time,” Davis said. “It was presented to the court. You asked for it. You got it. And now we don’t want to vote on it? Every department gave you what they wanted. It was here last time, two weeks ago, before the court, and it was there. That’s what you asked for. You got it. And then we tabled it.”

Davis then seconded the motion himself and called for a vote. He, Whiddon and Precinct 4 Commissioner Collie Boatright Jr. voted in favor of the motion, while Kevin La Fleur and Brzozowski voted against it.



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# Cinco de Mayo!



CONTRIBUTED/GONZALES MAIN STREET

The first-ever Gonzales Main Street Cinco de Mayo celebration was a huge success on Saturday, May 7, as many came out to listen to live music by Los Chamacos, Grupo Vidal and Gonzales' own young accordion player El Bon Bon. A margarita contest helped quench thirst on what was the hottest day of the year so far. The free, family friendly event was co-sponsored by a number of local businesses.



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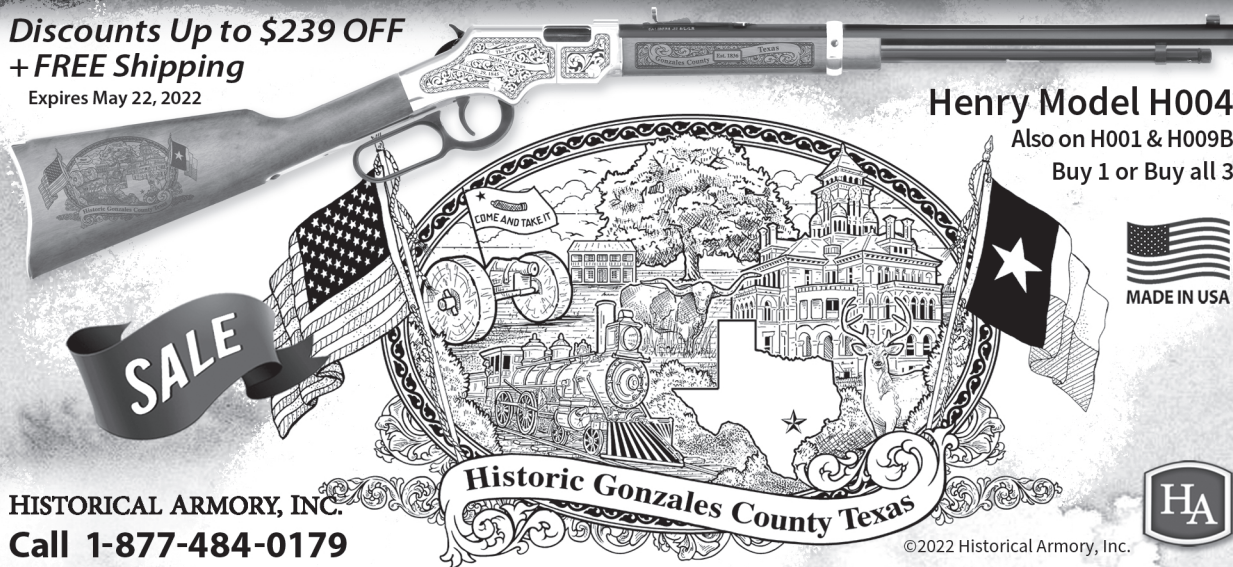
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and Family**

*Farewell and Godspeed*

**Saturday, May 14  
2-4 p.m.**  
(Remarks at 2:30 pm)

at the  
**First Lutheran Church  
Fellowship Hall  
1206 N. St. Joseph**

# Locals competing in Texas Junior High, Texas High School rodeos

## SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

When Gonzales hosts the annual Texas Junior High Rodeo Association (TJHRA) State Finals on May 22-28 at JB Wells Rodeo Arena and Expo Center, expect to see several individuals with local ties competing against youth from all across the state.

This includes Addyson Kardosz, Morgan Culpepper, Audrey Thibodeaux, Tawni Kay Shelton, Hagen Brown and Wyatt Withers. Meanwhile, three other youth — Brody Browne, Barret Shelton and Buck Garza, will be competing at the Texas High School Rodeo Association (THSRA) State Finals in Abilene on June 4-11.

Kardosz, 14, is in the eighth grade from Gonzales and is a two-time qualifier for TJHRA State Finals. She will be competing in barrel racing, pole bending, and goat tying this year. Her parents are David and Sascha Kardosz, and her sister is Ashtyn Kardosz.

Her grandparents are Mary Caraway and the late Eddie Ray Caraway and the late Vonnice DuBose. Her extracurricular activities include rodeoing, playing volleyball, showing sheep and goats, and cheerleading.

Culpepper, a freshman homeschool student from Gonzales qualified for state at Region VII in the goat Thibodeaux qualified for Texas Jr. High Rodeo Association State Finals in pole bending, coming in first at Region VI; barrel racing (fifth), breakaway roping (fourth) and goat tying (sixth). She was the Region VI All Around Cowgirl. Audrey attends Shiner Catholic School and is the daughter of Amy and Chris Thibodeaux.

Tawni Kay Shelton qualified in Junior High Goat Tying. She is an eighth grader at Shiner Junior High and is the daughter of Heather and JD Shelton.

Brown and Withers are eighth graders and qualified for team roping, placing eighth for the region. Hagen is the son of Tinker and Kimberlee Brown. Wyatt qualified for tie-down as well, placing third for the region. Wyatt is the son of John and Amber Withers. Both attend Gonzales Junior High School.

Browne qualified for Texas State High School Rodeo finals in team roping with his partner Ryder Harris. Brody is the son of Larry Browne and Fancy and Craig Morris. He is in ninth grade at Emmanuel Christian School in Gonzales.

Barrett qualified for state in steer wrestling at Region VI. He is a freshman at Shiner High School and is the son of Heather and JD Shelton.

The son of Amanda and Kenny Garza of Gonzales, Buck Garza qualified for state high school finals in the third position of team roping at Region VI with Landry Wren. Due to an accident, Buck will be roping with Rashaun Sidney of Hallettsville at finals in Abilene.



Addyson Kardosz



Audrey Thibodeaux



Barret Shelton



Brody Browne



Hagen Brown



Morgan Culpepper



Buck Garza



Tawni Kay Shelton



Wyatt Withers

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## ATTENTION PARENTS!

### RESERVE YOUR GRADUATE AD BY MONDAY, MAY 16!

Recognize your graduate with a specially priced Parent Ad in our Class of 2022 Graduation Special Section! The keepsake edition publishes in our Thursday, May 26 edition of The Gonzales Inquirer.

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 26, each graduating senior will receive a copy courtesy of The Inquirer and local businesses.

For more information – or to place your ad – please contact Sanya Simmons or Louis Decker at (830) 672-2861 or e-mail [sanya.simmons@gonzalesinquirer.com](mailto:sanya.simmons@gonzalesinquirer.com) or [louis.decker@gonzalesinquirer.com](mailto:louis.decker@gonzalesinquirer.com).

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05 03 2022

CONTRIBUTED

Pictured from left are Wanda Maas, owner of Calico Crossing Quilt Shop in Lockhart, Shiner Heritage Quilters members Betty Kloesel, Kathleen Schacherl and Annette Meyer.

## Maas and her ‘Queen Bee’ mobile shop entertain Shiner Quilters

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Wanda Maas, owner of Calico Crossing Quilt Shop in Lockhart, brought her mobile quilt shop named Queen Bee to the May 3 meeting of the Shiner Heritage Quilters. Everyone enjoyed her visit.

At the meeting, reports about the recent quilt show were given and beginning plans for the 2024 quilt show were discussed. A committee was formed to design the 2024 donation quilt, fabric kits for making quilts for nursing homes

and Norma’s House were offered, several beautiful donated quilt blocks were shown and ideas for their use were given. Show and Tell followed.

The meeting ended with door prize drawings provided by the hostesses: Toni Rogers, Kathleen Schacherl and Irene Cerny.

The next meeting is Tuesday, June 7, at 6:30 p.m. at the Shiner Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Guests and new members are always welcome. For more information, go to [www.shinerheritagequilters.org](http://www.shinerheritagequilters.org).

## Records Advisory Board seeks nominations

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Texas Historical Records Advisory Board (THRAB) invites nominations for its 2022 archival awards.

THRAB bestows awards in the categories of excellence, advocacy and distinguished service. The Archival Award of Excellence honors institutions and individuals who have made significant achievements in preserving and improving access to historical records.

The Advocacy for Archives Award acknowledges an individual or organization that has made significant contributions to ensure the preservation and availability of Texas’s historical record.

Finally, the David B. Gracy II Distinguished Archival Service Award recognizes an individual, archival institution, education program, or nonprofit/government organization that has provided outstanding leadership, service or contribution to the profession in Texas.

THRAB is accepting nominations through July 1 and will announce the recipients in October during Texas Archives Month. For nomination forms and additional information, visit [tsl.texas.gov/archivalaward](http://tsl.texas.gov/archivalaward).

# NIXON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“Our structures that we get property taxes on per the amount of people who live here is one of the lowest in the state,” Councilman Justin La Fleur said. “We get more income off of sales tax revenue than we do property tax revenue because a lot of mobile homes are dilapidated and they don’t increase in value; they decrease in value.”

According to the amendment, any mobile homes that are already in place in the city will be grandfathered in and will not be affected, unless they are not up to code and in compliance with the city. This can include any deficiency within the home that may be a hazardous environment such as plumbing, heating, and electrical systems that are not in working order or faulty walls, floors, and roofs that are not structurally sound.

“If they are not up to code and a code enforcement official says that it’s not up to the international building code, plumbing code, electrical code, then they would have to bring that to compliance or they would be limited on what kind of utilities they can receive because it’s not up to code,” City Attorney Eddie Escobar said.

Other occupancy requirements and maintenance of a manufactured home in the amendment include owning smoke detectors, safe water drainage, and grounds must be free of debris and not have an overgrowth of weeds, brush or grass. Use and occupancy shall be limited to single-family residence only. Alterations or additions shall not be made to manufactured homes that make the home uninhabitable, according to the amendment.

The city will notify individuals who are not in compliance. Owners will have 30 days to abate the violation, according to the amendment. When a serious threat to life or substantial damage to the property may exist, the individual may need to provide immediate compliance.

This amendment will not affect modular homes, which are different than a mobile home in that they are kit homes that come in pieces, built at a location other than the permanent site.

“What we’re trying to get people to do is get a modular home or build a metal Barndominium type home for probably cheaper and it’s going to appreciate in value,” La Fleur said. “They can still have affordable housing, but do it a different way.”

A modular home is designed to be used as a permanent residential structure when the module or the modular component is transported to the permanent site and erected or installed on a permanent foundation system, according to the amendment.

“The only problem people have is it’s quick and easy to get a manufactured home and put it somewhere, but is it cost effective? Probably not,” La Fleur said.

The amendment also states that if any resident wishes to own a new mobile home in Nixon City, the only place the mobile home would be able to reside is in a mobile home park.

Readers with any concerns about the new policy can email the Gonzales Inquirer at [publish@gonzalesinquirer.com](mailto:publish@gonzalesinquirer.com) to share their comments.

# ROOTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

les Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture on Friday, April 22, and also perused historical texts at the Mary Elizabeth Tinsley Texas History Center at the Robert Lee Brothers Jr. Memorial Library.

The journey has been about “five years in the making,” del Castillo Jones said.

“I’ve been working on my genealogy for about 15 years, but it finally got back far enough to find out about the Joneses,” he said. “My mother is a Jones and she was born in Laredo, Texas, and we traced her roots back to Isham Green Jones, also known as Ice Jones, a captain with Terry’s Texas Rangers. He was the son-in-law of Green DeWitt and Sarah Seeley DeWitt. He married their daughter, Minerva.”

Performing genealogical searches through websites like Ancestry.com led del Castillo Jones to the DeWitt family, and especially, an extensive history of Green DeWitt, even prior to the start of the DeWitt Colony in Texas.

“I think he started in Kentucky, then moved to Ralls County, Missouri,” del Castillo Jones said. “He had married Sarah and they had, I think, the first three or four children in Ralls County, where he was sheriff, before he got approved for a colony here by the Mexican government, with a lot of help from Stephen F. Austin and Baron de Bastrop.”

It was in Saltillo, the capital of Coahuila y Tejas, that Green DeWitt was granted — on April 15, 1825 — a contract to bring 400 families to land that was south-

“ We moved there because it is a lot more affordable to live, so you could say the great-great-great-great grandson of Green DeWitt has been ‘colonizing’ Mexico, so to speak. We love it there and I am actually working on my dual citizenship now.”

—George del Castillo Jones

west of the Austin Colony. For his efforts, some 75,000 acres of land were placed into escrow with a promise of 25 percent to be delivered upon the first 100 families settling and the rest to be delivered as he met other terms of his contract.

It was a fellow Missourian from St. Charles County — DeWitt’s right-hand man and surveyor-general James Kerr — who laid out the DeWitt Colony capital across four leagues near the confluence of the San Marcos and Guadalupe rivers and named it after Don Rafael Gonzales, provisional governor of Coahuila y Tejas.

Unfortunately for DeWitt, a new law by the Mexican legislature in 1830 prohibited any further immigration from the United States to Texas and he could not meet the terms of

his contract, which ended in 1831. Four years later, prior to the “first shot” in Gonzales that started the Texas Revolution, DeWitt died on May 18, 1835, in Monclova, Mexico.

“He was in Monclova trying to get more property or get approved for more families to come to DeWitt Colony and was doing business for the colony when he supposedly died from cholera,” del Castillo Jones. “Another woman who wrote a book offers the hypothesis — which makes good sense to me — that he was perhaps murdered by the Mexican Army and they were perhaps taking revenge on him for (incidents in Texas). That could be very possible.

“My wife suggested if he had cholera or was suspected of having it, he would have been thrown in a mass grave with all the cholera victims, which is why his body was never found and returned. Of course, Sarah Seely DeWitt is right here in Green DeWitt cemetery, which is now on the (JB Wells) rodeo grounds.”

Interestingly, del Castillo Jones — who continues the Spanish tradition of using surnames from both parents — actually should be known as Gonzales Jones.

“I’m actually a Gonzales through my father,” he said. “My father was Gonzales del Castillo, but when they immigrated to the United States, immigration didn’t know anything about having two last names. They thought Gonzales was his middle name, so they gave him del Castillo as his last name.

“He and his brother, who im-

migrated with him, they were smart,” he added. “They said, ‘Well, wait a minute, maybe del Castillo will be more advantageous for us here. It sounds more exotic when you say it that way and they both had aspirations for business, so they thought it’d be a catchy name.”

George’s mother was born and raised in Texas, but her mother was a Mexican national from Coahuila, so she spent some time living in Mexico with her mother. It was in Mexico City she met his father, who was working for American Airlines.

“They decided to move to the United States, where I was born, so they could afford to live,” del Castillo said.

After years of living in the United States, once both del Castillo and his wife had retired, they decided to move to Mexico, where they live along Lake Chapala, near Guadalajara. You could say del Castillo is following in the footsteps of his great-great-great grandfather, but instead of settling Texas, he has settled into Mexico.

“We moved there because it is a lot more affordable to live, so you could say the great-great-great-great grandson of Green DeWitt has been ‘colonizing’ Mexico, so to speak,” he joked. “We love it there and I am actually working on my dual citizenship now.”

He said he loved his visit to Gonzales but there was just one sad thing about it.

“Unfortunately, my mother didn’t live long enough to know this family heritage,” del Castillo said.

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To learn more about our Diet and Nutrition services, visit [GonzalesHealthcare.com](http://GonzalesHealthcare.com).



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