



The Gonzales Inquirer

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Gonzales shooting kills 1, injures 1

Subject surrenders to police; investigation ongoing

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Two people were shot, one fatally, during a domestic disturbance that

spanned two locations in Gonzales on Tuesday, Aug. 2, and resulted in a Gonzales woman being taken into custody.

Lt. Jason Montoya of the Gonzales Police Department said in a press release officers responded Tuesday night to the 1100 block of Hastings Street regarding a report

that a female had been shot. While they were in route to that call, the telecommunications officer advised a call came into 911 where a caller advised there had been a possible second gunshot victim at 410 Village Drive.

Officers responded to both locations. One female victim was found

in the 1100 block of Hastings Street with a single gunshot wound and was airlifted to an Austin hospital. She was last reported to be in stable condition, according to the release by Montoya.

When officers arrived at 410

See **SHOOTING**, page 7



Carol Hunt Russell

Property tax rates expected to drop

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

With appraised values up for nearly all of Gonzales County, local jurisdictions will be faced with lowering their existing property tax rates or risk holding a mandatory election in which voters could reject tax rates, requiring them to be set to a specified voter-approval rate.

County Tax Assessor-Collector Crystal Cedillo provided the Gonzales Inquirer Monday, Aug. 1, with copies of the benchmark 2022 tax rates for Gonzales County, the City of Gonzales, City of Nixon, City of Smiley, City of Waelder, Gonzales County ESD 1 and ESD 2, Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District, Gonzales Healthcare Systems and Nixon Hospital District.

See **RATES**, page 6

Inquirer brings home six awards at TPA contest

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Gonzales Inquirer won six awards total in the 2020-21 Texas Press Association Better Newspaper Contest at the annual TPA convention.

The Inquirer claimed first place in Page Design, while also grabbing second place in Best Website, Best Sports Coverage and Best Sports Photography. The Inquirer also won third place awards in News Photography and Feature Writing.

“The staff of the Gonzales In-

See **AWARDS**, page 7

BACK ON THE FIELD



VANDY VAN EPPS

First-year head football coach Joey Rivera stands in the huddle with his players as he and the Gonzales Apaches prep for the 2022 season. The Apaches began their first fall workouts on Monday, Aug. 1.

Website puts Gonzales near top of Texas' to-do list for small towns

BY BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

The Wide Open Country website recently ranked Gonzales No. 4 among the 15 small Texas towns that should be on everyone's to-do list.

The original article, “15 Small Texas

towns you need to visit,” may be viewed at wideopencountry.com/15-tiny-texas-towns-need-see/ for those wishing to view the recognition given this little gem of a historical city. The cities listed, as shown below, all have many redeeming qualities and

See **VISIT**, page 15

THIS JOB SUCKS!



BETTY COHN

An employee uses a Badger Hydrovac suction excavator while working at the intersection of Water Street (US 183) and St. Louis Street on Tuesday, Aug. 2. Excavators like this use integrated high-pressure water and vacuum systems to expose and clean out buried infrastructure.

Main Street discusses beautification projects

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Main Street board went over projects for the downtown beautification during its Thursday, July 28, meeting.

The board noted a similar beautification project had been brought up in the past, specifically the butterfly garden, according to Board Member Britney Caka.

Main Street Director Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla gave an update regarding the butterfly gar-

See **PROJECTS**, page 7

Back to School bashes

Main Street throws Back to School Bash

FROM STAFF REPORTS

It's a party and all Gonzales ISD Apaches are invited to come to the Back to School Bash, to be held this Saturday, Aug. 6, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Independence Square in Gonzales.

There will be free snow cones, Frito pies, chips and beverages and a dunking booth and water slides from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Studio E will be waiving registration fees for their classes and you can sign up your students for a well child/dental exam with Community Health Centers of South Central Texas. Meanwhile, DJ Buddy will be spinning tunes.

From 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., the Apache Athletics Booster Club will be selling Apache Dogs. For \$12.50 per person, you

See **SCHOOL**, page 16

Devine Ministries hosts back to school event

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Devine Purpose Outreach Ministries is hosting its first-ever “Back to School Dance & Supply Giveaway” on Friday, Aug. 5, with distribution of school supplies starting at 5 p.m.

The group encourages all school-age youth to come out and join the festivities provided by multiple local organizations. Following the distribution, there will be a dance, which will also include food and fun.

This collaboration will be held at the Freddie B. Valentine Pavilion at 1427 Fly St., Gonzales.



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Draft regional flood plan available for public comment

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Guadalupe Regional Flood Planning Group (RFPG) has unanimously approved the draft Guadalupe Regional Flood Plan covering all or parts of the 19 counties in the Guadalupe River Basin, also known as Region 11.

The Guadalupe Regional Flood Plan is part of a statewide flood-planning effort led by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). The TWDB will approve the final Guadalupe Flood Planning Region by December 2023 and will prepare the statewide flood plan by September 2024.

In accordance with state law, the Guadalupe RFPG is providing the public with the opportunity to comment on the draft plan. The 60-day comment period will begin on August 8, 2022 and will end on October 7, 2022. The draft plan is avail-

able on the Guadalupe RFPG website: <http://guadalupefpg.org/>.

The public can also view the plan in person at three locations from August 8 through October 7, 2022:

- Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA) – 125 Lehmann Dr., Kerrville, TX 78028
- Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) – 933 E. Court St., Seguin, TX 78155
- Victoria Public Library – 302 N Main St., Victoria, TX 77901

“Public input is extremely important to the success of this first-ever ‘bottom up’ planning effort and we want the public to be involved at this critical time in the planning process,” said Guadalupe RFPG Chairman Douglas R. Miller. “It is important that this plan captures projects and strategies to address the very real flood risks and concerns so they can be

considered for potential funding and become a reality.”

Opportunities for public comment will include two public meetings held at different locations in the Guadalupe River Basin as outlined below:

- September 7, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in Kerrville, Texas – Upper Guadalupe River Authority Auditorium (125 Lehman Dr., Kerrville, TX 78028)
- September 21, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. in Victoria, Texas – University of Houston – Victoria, Northwest Campus Multipurpose Room (1604 E. Airline Road, Victoria, TX 77901)

Both meetings will allow the public to provide oral or written comments. Written comments can also be submitted via U.S. mail, email or the Guadalupe RFPG website:

U.S. mail - Guadalupe Blanco River Authority, ATTN: Lauren Willis, 933 E. Court Street,

Seguin, TX 78155

Email – lwillis@gbra.org OR comments@guadalupefpg.org

Website Comment Portal - <http://guadalupefpg.org/Contact.aspx>

One of the challenges facing flood planning for the Guadalupe River Basin region is balancing the area’s population growth, resulting development, and the preservation of the regional natural resources. The plan cites data provided by the TWDB predicting population growth to increase by 62 percent from 2020 to 2050 – resulting in a Guadalupe Basin population of approximately one million people.

Currently, more than 19 percent of the region (1,169 square miles of land area) is at risk of flooding. If population growth trends, land development patterns, and flood management practices continue, the amount

of land area at risk of flooding is projected to increase by 18 percent over the next 30 years.

While the Guadalupe RFPG is responsible for developing the draft plan, implementation of the specific recommendations and flood mitigation actions included in the plan will require action by local communities throughout Region 11.

The Region 11 Guadalupe Flood Planning Region is administered by GBRA and led by a committee of volunteer members appointed by the TWDB. Each of the 15 members represents a special interest category, including: agriculture, the public, small business, industry, environmental, electric generating utility, water utility, flood districts, water districts, municipalities, counties, and river authorities. For more information, visit <http://guadalupefpg.org/>.

Eastside Baptist church hosts Back to School ice cream social

BY BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

Nothing beats the Texas heat and back to school blues like cooling ice cream, and even cooler prizes.

Eastside Baptist church is hosting a back to school community ice cream social and backpack raffle Saturday, Aug. 6, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend.

The event is being held at the hosting venue, located at 701 Seydler St., Gonzales.

Come and get some ice cream, prizes, and an opportunity to win a backpack filled with school supplies for grades K-6. There will be multiple backpacks per grade. Small prizes will be given to all attending participants, and winners of the backpacks must be present to win.

GO TO JAIL! DON'T PASS! GO!



The Gonzales County Jail Museum celebrated the opening of its newly remodeled east wing to the public for the first time on Tuesday, Aug. 2. The museum is now open Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$3 per person for ages 10 and up. There is a lot to see with new photos, including several donated anonymously, and additional information in the museum’s resource library. For information about group tour pricing, email jail.pgtx@gmail.com.

LEW K. COHN

MEET & GREET



LEW K. COHN

New Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture executive director Melissa Henderson, left, greets new Gonzales Healthcare Systems CEO Michael La Coste during a “come-and-go” mixer at the Chamber office, 304 St. Louis, Gonzales, on Thursday, July 28.

Nixon-Smiley CISD will continue free meal policy for 2022-23

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Nixon-Smiley Consolidated Independent School District announced it will continue its policy to operate the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program for the 2022-2023 school year.

Schools qualifying to operate CEP serve breakfast and lunch to all children at no charge and eliminate the collection of meal applications for free, reduced-price, and paid student meals. This new approach reduces burdens for both families and school administrators and helps ensure that

students receive nutritious meals.

For additional information please contact Lora Torres, child nutrition

director, at 800 N. Rancho Road, Nixon, TX 78140. You can also call 830-582-1536 ext. 211 or email torresl@nixonsmiley.net.

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BRIEFS

NIXON-SMILEY CISD OPEN HOUSE

The Nixon-Smiley Consolidated ISD will hold a districtwide Open House and Meet the Teacher Night from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 8 at the Nixon-Smiley Elementary School and from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Nixon-Smiley Middle School and Nixon-Smiley High School.

GISD STUFF THE BUS DONATION DRIVE RETURNS

Come out to the Gonzales ISD Back to School Donation Drive for school supplies on Friday, Aug. 12, from 8 a.m. to 3:30p.m. at both Wal-Mart and HEB.

This annual drive will benefit all students of Gonzales ISD as the district gets ready for a brand new school year beginning Aug. 17. Simply visit either or both stores, shop the “back to school” aisles, purchase items and a district employee located at the front will graciously receive your purchased items as you exit and place it in the bus parked outside.

Celebrations Birthdays

August 4th

Kim Avant
James Fehner
Greg Grier
Alice Hermann
Elizabeth Hillman
Elijah Mathis
DeEite Mills
Donald Pearson
Tia Williams

August 5th

James Posey Alford
Julie Marie Alford
Ruth Guerra
Peggy Janota
Daphne Koern
Boyd Lawing
Vivian Nesloney
Melda Rios

August 6th

Janet Baker
Lara Bastin
Casey Chavarria

August 7th

Bob Erickson
Roland Martinez
James Schellenberg
Jeff Simper
Tommy Wilson
Rachel Zamora

August 8th

Patricia Camarillo
Elizabeth Cook
Edward Cuvelier
D'Laine Easley
Donnie Glass
Sascha Kardosz
Christie Krueger
Ashley Pirkle
Tony Powers
Shelli Van Kirk
Lorelei White

August 9th

Carol Lynn Bautista
Kennon Lee DuBose
Astin Flach

August 10th

John Hahn
Christal Haub
Larry Hernandez
Mildred Lauraine
Nancy Null
Donnie Petru
Seth Rainey
John Turk
Belinda Walker

August 9th

Jason Campion
Leonard Frederick
Natalie Jackson
Marlene Metzler
Charles Patterson
Donald Rihn
Jonathan Rosenaur
Walter Vernon

August 10th

Bob Burchard
Louis Lopez
Matthew Schramm
Christi Venegas

Anniversary August 9th

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Gonzales Weather



August 4
99°/74°

Partly sunny; hot, less humid
3% chance of rain • RealFeel 99



August 5
101°/72°

Mostly sunny and hot
7% chance of rain • RealFeel 102



August 6
99°/76°

Cloudy and very warm
29% chance of rain • RealFeel 100



August 7
100°/75°

A t-storm around in the p.m.
40% chance of rain • RealFeel 103



August 8
96°/77°

Mostly sunny and very warm
7% chance of rain • RealFeel 101



August 9
100°/75°

A t-storm around in the p.m.
43% chance of rain • RealFeel 104



August 10
97°/75°

Cloudy and very warm
29% chance of rain • RealFeel 97

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Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

August 5-6 – Monster Truck –
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3

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET
July 30
Cattle 1964
Compared to our last sale: Number 1 quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer cows & bulls sold 3.00-4.00 higher.
Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 215-220; 300-400 lbs., 205-210; 400-500 lbs., 175-189; 500-600 lbs., 165-172; 600-700 lbs., 154-160; 700-800 lbs., 145-150.
Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 95-100.
Stocker-feeder Heifers: Medium and large from No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 172-175; 300-400 lbs., 162-165; 400-500 lbs., 155-158; 500-600 lbs., 145-151; 600-700 lbs., 134-142.
Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 57-67; Cutters, 71-81; Canners, 34-51; High yielding fat cows, 68-83.
Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 95-106; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 84-92.
Stockers Cows: \$600 to \$900. Pairs: \$750 to \$1,000.

NIXON LIVESTOCK
August 1
Cattle – 1422
Steers:
200-300 lbs - \$159-230
300-400 lbs - \$157-218
400-500 lbs - \$148-203
500-600 lbs - \$147-185
600-700 lbs - \$143-176
700-800 lbs - \$136-164
Heifers:
200-300 lbs - \$129-210
300-400 lbs - \$140-220
400-500 lbs - \$141-230
500-600 lbs - \$137-240
600-700 lbs - \$125-165
700-800 lbs - \$119-145
Slaughter Cows - \$20-83
Slaughter Bulls - \$85-108

Stocker Cows – \$550-1000
Pairs: \$250-925

HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.
Sale date: July 26
Cattle on hand: 2521
Packer Cows:
Canner and Cutter Cows: \$47-72
Utility & Fat Cows: \$45-71
Light Weight Canner Cows: \$30-45
Poor/Weak: \$15-30
Packer Bulls:
Heavyweight Bulls: \$88-99
Utility & Cutter Bulls: \$75-87
Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$65-75
Stocker Cows:
Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: NONE
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$700-875
Good Cow & Calf Pairs: \$1275-1325
Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: \$850-1050
Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:
Number 1 steer & bull calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$145-220
200-300 lbs.: \$155-220
300-400 lbs.: \$155-205
400-500 lbs.: \$152-185
500-600 lbs.: \$145-175
600-700 lbs.: \$135-167.50
700-800 lbs.: \$124-157.50
Number 1 heifer calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$135-210
200-300 lbs.: \$130-185
300-400 lbs.: \$138-177.50
400-500 lbs.: \$138-175
500-600 lbs.: \$135-160
600-700 lbs.: \$128-145
700-800 lbs.: \$110-140
Replacement Heifers:
350-700 lbs.: \$135-185
The market was stronger this week. No. 1 kinds in all weight brackets sold \$3 to #6 higher. Demand was very good on a very active sale. Pastures in dire need of rainfall.
Packer cows and bulls sold \$4 higher on a total supply of 300 hd.

SEGUIN CATTLE CO.
July 27
Quality not as deep this week with stocker cattle -23 softer with packer cows & bulls steady.
Cattle – 957
Sheep & goats – 720
Medium & large frame #1 Steers:
200-300 lb. 1.10-1.87
300-400 lb. 1.28-1.90
400-500 lb. 1.19-1.89
500-600 lb. 1.20-1.66
600-700 lb. 1.22-1.65
700-850 lb. .94-1.36
Medium & large frame #1 Heifers:
200-300 lb. .96-1.63
300-400 lb. 1.12-1.58
400-500 lb. 1.28-1.62
500-600 lb. 1.23-1.52
600-750 lb. 1.12-1.57
Cows:
Utility & commercial – 53-74
Cutters – 31-52
Canners – 18-30
Palpated cows (young) – None
(Middle Aged) – None
Cow/Calf Pairs – 225-975
Bulls:
Heavy High Yielding – 85-95
Light & Low Yielding – 35-84
Feeder Bulls – None
Sheep & Goats:
Nannies (Young) – 125-290
Cutters – 31-52
Canners – 18-30
Kid Goats (Fat) – 2.30-3.30
(Small & thin) – 1.70-2.20
Wethers – 1.30-2.10
Billies – 1.40-2.35
Pairs - None
Barb. Ewes (Young) - 90-130
(Small & Old Ewes) - 45-85
Barb. Lambs (Fat) – 2.40-2.80
(Small & Thin) – 1.10-2.30
Woolled Ewes – 90-100
Woolled Bucks – 1.00-2.80
Lambs – None
Barb. Bucks – None

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET
July 29, 2022
Number of head 1,425
There were 179 cows and 18 bulls. The packer market rebounded in dramatic fashion with top packer cows up \$9/cwt while to top packer bull was up \$14/cwt over last week. Strong demand and lull in numbers drove this market.
The calf market was UP sharply with all classes showing new highs. Some middle weights tops were over \$10/cwt higher. A good day all around because no matter what was consigned it registered new highs. Overall calves were higher by an average over \$2.40/cwt on over 23 pounds more weight resulting in an increase in value of over \$40/head.
Packer bulls: 75.00-99.00
Packer cows:
canners & cutters 55.00-78.00
poor & weak 20.00-49.00
Palpated: NONE
PAIRS: NONE
Steer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
Under 200 lbs. N O N E
200-249 lbs. 132.00-210.00
250-299 lbs. 172.00-210.00
300-350 lbs. 165.00-192.00
350-400 lbs. 165.00-194.00
400-450 lbs. 155.00-190.00
450-500 lbs. 161.00-183.00
500-550 lbs. 155.00-178.00
550-600 lbs. 153.00-173.00
600-700 lbs. 148.00-160.00
700-800 lbs. NONE
Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
Under 250lbs 155.00-200.00
250-300 lbs. 171.00-218.00
300-350 lbs. 173.00-210.00
350-400 lbs. 164.00-200.00
400-450 lbs. 162.00-200.00
450-500 lbs. 147.00-182.00
500-550 lbs. 153.00-170.00
550-600 lbs. 150.00-172.00
600-700 lbs. 133.00-159.00
Over 700 lbs. 116.00-140.00
Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
under 200 lbs. 135.00-150.00
200-250 lbs. 139.00-174.00
250-300 lbs. 154.00-174.00
300-350 lbs. 151.00-184.00
350-400 lbs. 152.00-180.00
400-450 lbs. 144.00-170.00
450-500 lbs. 145.00-161.00
500-550 lbs. 141.00-163.00

Garden

Q&A

Where have all the squirrels gone?

Q. We feed our squirrels and enjoy having them in our yard but 2 weeks ago they disappeared, and we have not seen them since. Do you have any idea what could have happened to them?

A. There are several causes to consider. Is there enough water for them in your yard? They may have to temporarily move to get access to water during this part of the drought. Have you seen any presence of hawks, coyotes, or feral cats? They could have needed to use them for food. They may be producing and caring for young squirrels.

Whatever the reason I predict that at least some of them will return within a short time.

Q. How fussy should we be about the tomato varieties we plant for the fall? My favorites are Tycoon, BHN 968, and Ruby Crush but the only varieties available at my local nursery are Celebrity and Red Deuce.

A. Time is getting short I recommend that you go ahead and use what is available. Save a few spots in the garden just in case that your nursery gets some more varieties. If plants are available in the 1-gallon containers use them so it cuts down the time you need for the tomatoes to reach production size.

Q. Our Belinda’s Dream roses are only 6 months old. I understand they are very tough and drought tolerant, but they look all dried out. How do I know if they are getting enough water? I water them with the lawn

sprinkler twice per week.

A. Twice per week from a lawn sprinkler is probably not enough. Try hand watering twice per week with a hose and 5-gallon pail until the roses recover and produce some new foliage. For the roses to perform well the whole root ball must be moist. Apply a pail full of water twice per week. Use a screwdriver to poke the root ball to make sure its moist.

Q. We have always used Amaze and XL to prevent the winter weeds but now we can’t find any of those products at the pesticide stores. Our salesperson

says that they were manufactured in China and are no longer available. He recommends that we use a new product called Crew. What is your recommendation? Crew is expensive.

A. Crew is highly recommended. Another product to consider that works for both grassy and broad-leaf weeds is Dimension. Check out the labels of the available products at your supplier or on the internet to find the one that seems to best target the weeds that show up in your lawn every winter.

Q. My Fanick’s phlox has been wonderful this summer with beautiful fragrant flowers but now it is declining. Can I dig the plants up and divide the roots to make more plants?

A. Yes, you can but I would wait until September or October. We may even get some rain and cool weather by then!



CALVIN FINCH
Gardening Q&A

Gonzales Master Gardeners class enrollment announced

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales Master Gardeners will offer their extensive Texas Master Gardener training class again this fall. Classes start September 13, 2022 and conclude May 2, 2023.

Classes are held at 623 Fair Street, Gonzales, on Tuesday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. approximately every two weeks (though the schedule may vary slightly to accommodate holidays, Christmas break and spring break).

There has been a renewed interest in home food production and landscaping. Getting outdoors to work

around our homes is a great use of time as well as a health benefit. The program is designed to teach a broad fundamental background in horticulture.

Classes give students a solid scientific foundation as well as a lot of practical and applied training. Subjects include not only botany and plant topics such as how to start and grow plants and cuttings, prepare soil mixtures and install and maintain irrigation in the most water efficient manner.

Topics and the class schedule are posted on the Gonzales Master Gardener website at www.gonzalesmaster-gardeners.org.

The Texas Master Gardener program is a program of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension designed to teach and promote good gardening practices. The Gonzales association conducts the training classes under the supervision of County Extension Agent Dwight Sexton.

Students who complete the program volunteer in the community for a total of 50 hours their first year to earn their certification as a

Texas Master Gardener. Volunteer projects are directed toward teaching in the community, which is Extension’s mission.

Working alongside other Master Gardeners, students learn as much from their volunteer activities as they do from the classes.

“The Gonzales Master Gardeners is not only a great learning experience, but also an opportunity to meet people with similar interests and make new friends,” said Gail Johnson, class coordinator.

Enrollment deadline is Sept. 1 at 5 p.m. Applications are available at the Gonzales Extension Office at 1709 E Sara DeWitt; at the Extension website at www.gonzales.agrilife.org; and at the Gonzales Master Gardner website at www.gonzalesmaster-gardeners.org.

The cost of the class is \$185, which covers the cost of the textbook, the state required background check and a soils test along with all fees associated with class activities. For more information, call the Gonzales Extension office at (830) 672-8531 or Gail Johnson (830) 491-1996.

Hallettsville Livestock Commission Co.

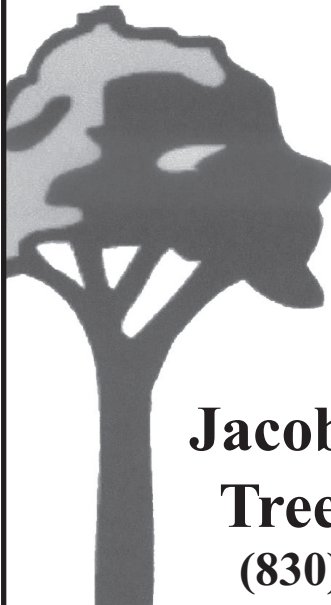
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Nixon Livestock Commission, Inc

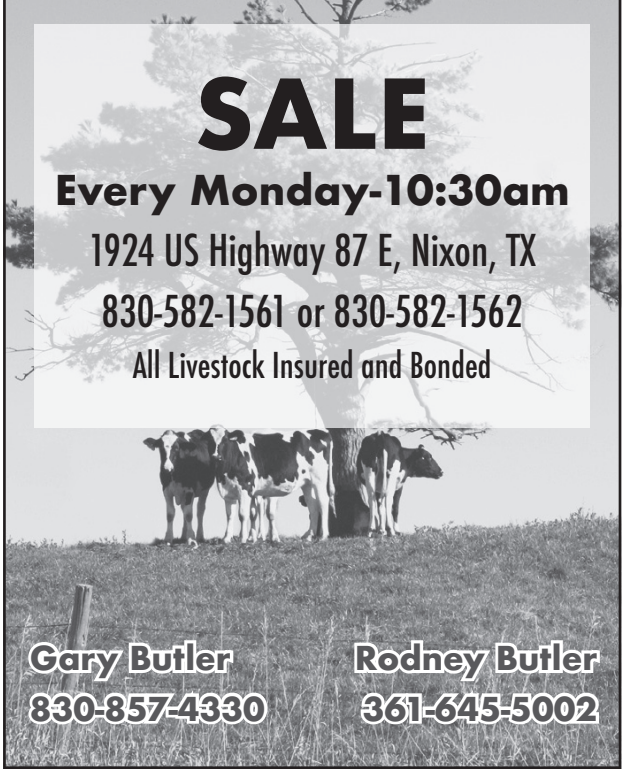
SALE

Every Monday-10:30am

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Rodney Butler 361-645-5002

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Travis Tresner

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Louis was right: We got robbed

BY BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

Starting an article, or column, is usually somewhat difficult for most writers. However, this particular article has proven to be one of the hardest things I have had to write in my lifetime.

This column, though certainly not about me, impacts my life greatly. It happens to come at a time in my life when things are already a bit much, shall we say, on this particular subject. In the last 15 months I have lost nine people that I love; all but one very sudden and all but one 63 or younger in age — far too young to bid farewell to this blue globe of happiness and daily grind we refer to as life.

Last week the ninth of these passed from my life, into a place he spoke of frequently. A place he believed would hold grace, mercy, hope, an all important heavenly chorus, and, most important of all, his family; of which he most spoke of his beloved father, of whom he will very soon be reunited with, here on earth, as his ashes are placed along with his father's at the pond they fished at, together, often. Though he spoke of this place, he did not speak of it as if it were a destination he would be visiting soon, certainly not at 44 years old.

Louis "Lou" Decker was a lot of things, to a lot of different people. He was a son, brother, cousin, nephew, uncle, stepfather (though he frequently felt the 'step' an unnecessary pejorative term), a grandfather, an employee, a community member, a band member, a singer, a sports enthusiast, a referee, a grandfather, a co-worker, but, to me, he was a friend.

He was a man that was both simple and complicated, depending on the subject or conversation. He was simple when it came to many things in life. He simply loved his grandchildren, his job, his cat, his friends, sports, his roommates, mixing up cans of things and calling it dinner, history, watermelon and berries, music, and God.

He loved to laugh, and he had a laugh that would catch you off guard if you could get a real belly laugh from him. He loved to put his fist up when he approved of a joke, statement, comment, or opinion that had or was being made. In fact, towards the very last few days of his life, when my husband told him that "Betty says hey," he could barely speak, but weakly raised his fist into the air.

He was complicated, however, by some standards, when it came to certain opinions, ideas, ideologies and theories. A true Texas conservative and a proud Texas Longhorn, who also held true for the Astros and his Apaches, he was complicated in his belief that certain Bible principals held true.

He was always a very proud Christian, believing in the Christianity of Jesus Christ, loving his neighbors, all of them, never shying from saying he disagreed with a few of them on certain things, but always disagreeing with respect, dignity, and most profoundly and beautiful of all, with love. He often said he didn't understand certain ideas, or things, and disagreed with others, openly, and freely, but was also quick to add that he certainly was not the judge of any man or woman.

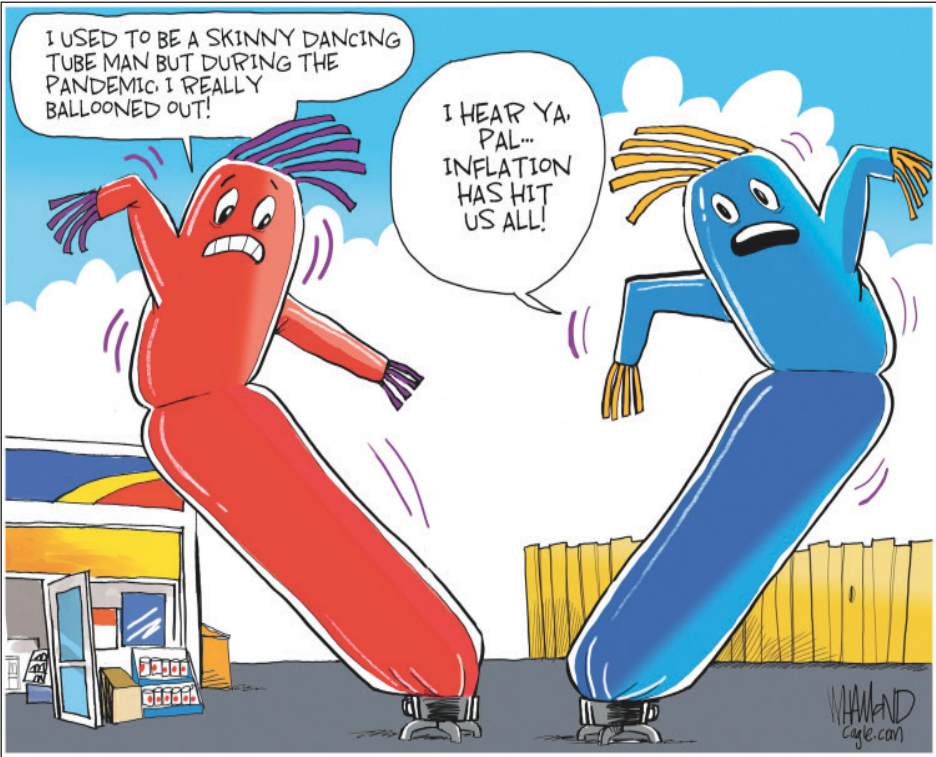
He was complicated, because while he loved a good gospel song and could sing it like an angel, he also loved country, rock, and some pop music. He was proud to be Texan, and super proud to be in Gonzales, but was also proud to have visited a few other places, and of having gained a bit of experience. My friend, I wish you had more time to visit the ones you wished for, but I hope and pray that you may now visit them all, in some fashion.

In May of this year, prior to Louis finding out he was ill, we had a company get-together, our second such event to be exact, and Louis had determined it would be "Chicken and Karaoke," creating an event complete with a gift card for the winner, decorations, a newly purchased (by him) sound bar and speaker, and a judging system, along with chicken and rolls, all provided by Louis.

The rest of us staff and invited family members provided the sides, desserts, some extra décor and some

See LOUIS, page 7

Opinion



Letters to the Editor Policy

It is the policy of The Inquirer to encourage reader participation on its Opinion page. Diverse and varied opinions are welcomed. Because of space limitations, we must limit all contributors to one letter per person per month. Letters of 400 words or less will be published unless they contain language or content that the editors feel is inappropriate. Letters must either be about Gonzales County, from a resident of Gonzales County, or in response to a story that appears in print or online in The Inquirer.

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

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

During periods ahead of an election, The Inquirer does not accept letters to the editor urging voters to vote for or against candidates in local elections. Endorsements should be displayed in political advertising. In light of

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

The Inquirer will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information.

Only letters written exclusively to the newspaper will be published. Letters to a third party or those written to more than one newspaper are not accepted. "Wallpaper" — submissions that are in large part copied-and-pasted from another author or organization — will not be published.

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

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

Please send Letters to the Editor:

- Email: publisher@gonzalesinquirer.com
- U.S. Mail: The Inquirer, P.O. Box 616, Gonzales, Texas, 78629
- In person: The Inquirer, 622 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629 (Please bring in a digital format, if possible).

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



DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

Helpful hints to start your day...

I am admittedly a slow learner. Asked on a game show to name the presidential images at Mount Rushmore, I would redden with embarrassment. Only in recent years have I been sure there are four honorees. Even now — if asked how many — I'd likely wither under the pressure of TV's bright lights, meekly asking if the number is between one and ten.

Last year, I learned that in the eyes of many merchants — squinted as they may be — that I am a military veteran, even though my "active duty" was limited to a couple of weeks of National Guard training at summer camps, 1954-1962. This means I missed 59 years of discounts at Lowe's, and dozens of other firms. (It was at Lowe's that an associate explained my veteran status to me!)

That aside, I pledge to continue to share discoveries made along the way if I think they might benefit others. I've rarely done so since picking up the quill almost 20 years ago....

Uncle Mort — my imaginary kin whom I think would prefer references to his being "100+" than the 109 he "actually" is — suggests expansion of my topics, focusing more on what people on the street are gabbing about. He mentioned the possibility of my writing about crypto mining.

I responded if I wrote about crypto mining, I'd first have to learn more about it. Would I need a shovel, dynamite or wrecking ball? Would I excavate a new mine, or settle for an old one? How would I know crypto if I saw it? Would I need gloves? Would it require refrigeration or a commercial oven? Would I dare tell others if I find it? Would I try to sell it on the open — or maybe black — market? Should poison control should be called if crypto splashes on me? Are there dangers of becoming a "cryptomaniac?" Disgustedly, Mort stopped me.

He agreed with me; this topic needs to be moved to my "backmost" burner. Thankfully, he didn't bring up the long-ago description my dad joked about. Dad said I was slower than a bread wagon with biscuit wheels....

I informed Mort that my wife and I, Ray Hildebrand, singer/composer (remember "Hey, Paula") and Burleson historian John Duke Smith* (our "Gober/Uber driver") are taking a road trip in August.

Ultimate destination will be Hunt Valley, MD, where I'll be breakfast speaker for Lions International Clubs from The District of Columbia, Delaware and Maryland convening in observance of their 100th anniversary.

Clubs in some other states were chartered a few years earlier, and interestingly, Lions Clubs in Ranger, Eastland and Cisco, TX, likewise are observing one century of service. (Admittedly, most sentences starting with "interestingly" tend not to be.)...

On the to the trip to Maryland, we're going to visit the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, NC, and while in Washington, we'll check out the Museum of the Bible. On the way back to the Metroplex, stops are scheduled for The Ark in Williamstown, KY, as well as the Creation Museum nearby.

Before re-entering Texas, we'll have the opportunity to see ducks walk at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis and perhaps visit Graceland again.

If we're plumb "tuckered out" from the proposed 2,500-mile pilgrimage, the Memphis stop may be for food only. No doubt, we can resume an argument about why Texas' beef barbecue is superior to pork. I tried once in Memphis. Not only did I lose the argument, I also endured additional humiliation upon return to my hotel. Babe — the "pig flick" — was running non-stop on the movie channel....

* For persons who want to know more about Gober, Smith's "growing up" place, I'll be happy to provide contact information. He claims the "once bustling community had a school, four churches, several businesses and a cotton gin." Only a church and post office remain in that Fannin County outpost, where city limit signs are nailed to the same post....

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, continues to write weekly and speak frequently. Contact information: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Facebook: Don Newbury

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Clams and Shellfish

Seashells you find on the beach were once homes to small, soft-bodied creatures called **mollusks**. Hard shells protect the soft bodies inside. When the mollusk dies, its shell washes up on shore.

Mammoth Mollusk
The giant clam can weigh 440 pounds (200kg) or more! When healthy, they can live up to 100 years.

Long ago, people thought giant clams could eat people. The truth is that a clam moves its shell way too slowly to trap a person inside. Circle every other letter to see what giant clams eat.

APDORAKNWKBTJOYN P L

Mollusks and Their Shells

Do the math to label each of these shells.

3 + 3 + 4 = Clam	15 + 6 + 7 = Triton
17 + 2 + 3 = Oyster	11 + 11 + 7 = Whelk
15 + 5 + 7 = Periwinkle	3 + 6 + 6 = Cowrie
9 + 2 + 2 = Cone	14 + 1 + 6 = Nautilus

Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have unique structures that aid in survival.

Mollusks with shells keep them their whole lives. But not all mollusks have shells. Unscramble the letters to discover a familiar mollusk that doesn't have a shell.

USTOPCO

How to Build a Shell

A few days after baby mollusks hatch from tiny eggs, they start building their shells, layer after layer.

They mix salt and minerals from the sea with other ingredients from their own bodies to build their shells.

When a mollusk grows, it needs a bigger shell. That's no problem! A mollusk adds to its shell every day.

Scientists can tell the age of a mollusk by counting a shell's rings!

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow written directions.

Finders Keepers

When a mollusk dies, its soft body disappears but its shell remains. Sometimes other animals, like hermit crabs, move in. Other empty shells wash up on the beach.

Pretty Irritating

When a bit of sand gets inside an oyster shell, it scratches and bothers the oyster. To protect itself, the oyster covers the sand with the minerals it uses to make its shell. Over time, it forms something that humans use for jewelry. Unscramble the letters to find out what it is.


LEPRA

Extra! Extra!

Even and Odd

Look through the newspaper and circle all even numbers in red. Circle the odd numbers in blue. Make a graph to show how many of each you found.

Standards Link: Math: Identify even and odd numbers.

 **Kid Scoop Together**

How Many Seashell Facts Do You Know?

Read each statement and choose. Then check your answer by doing the math. A true statement will have a math problem that adds up to an even number. If the math problem adds up to an odd number, that statement is false.

1. Seashells were the first money! A small white shell called a cowrie was once used as money worldwide.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

6 + 10 + 4 =

2. The ancient Greeks used crushed seashells to clean their teeth.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

9 + 9 + 4 =

3. A giant clam can kill people.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

7 + 3 + 9 =

4. A shell's color is determined by the food the animal eats and things in the water where it lives.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

6 + 10 + 4 =

5. Conch shells have been used as trumpets by people for thousands of years.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

8 + 8 + 8 =

6. The official name of a shell collector is a "conchologist."

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

14 + 2 + 2 =

7. Clams have no eyes, ears, or noses, so they cannot see, hear, or smell.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

16 + 7 + 3 =

8. The giant clam can live more than 100 years.

☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

13 + 13 + 2 =

9. Giant clams can snap their shells closed very quickly.

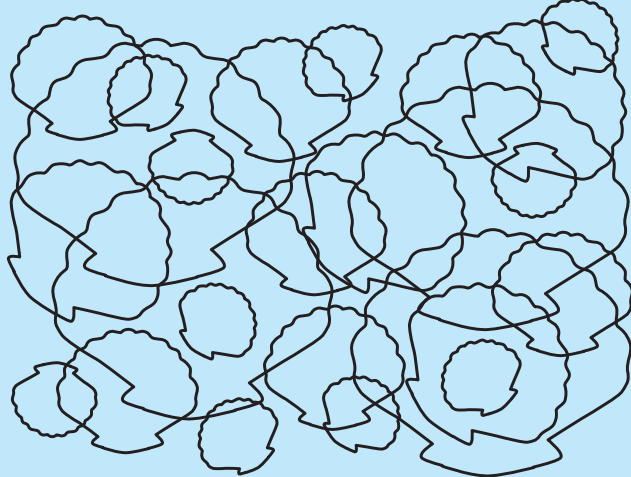
☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

11 + 1 + 1 =

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences up to 30.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

How many clam shells can you find? Have a friend try, too. Who found the most?





Double Double Word Search

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

PLANKTON
MOLLUSK
PEARL
SHELL
CLAM
SHORE
BEACH
RINGS
LAYER
TRAP
GIANT
SEA
OYSTER
CONE
SAND

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

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

 **Write On!** 

Shell Story

While walking on the beach, you find an unusual seashell. Write a paragraph describing it and whether you will keep it or throw it back into the ocean.

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* Statistics published by the Newspaper Association of America from independent researchers.



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RATES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Taxing entities may adopt a tax rate up to the voter-approval rate without reprisal, but if they adopt a tax rate higher than the voter-approval rate, they must hold a mandatory November election to allow voters to decide for or against the tax-rate proposition. If the majority of votes are cast in opposition to the adopted tax rate, the election limits the taxing unit's tax rate to the current year to the voter-approval tax rate.

A taxing unit other than a water district must adopt its tax rate before Sept. 30 or by the 60th day after the taxing unit receives the certified appraisal roll, unless it adopts a tax rate that exceeds the voter-approval rate, in which case it must adopt the tax rate no later than the 71st day before the next uniform election date. This year, that date would be Aug. 29 because the uniform election date is the Nov. 8 general election.

GONZALES COUNTY

Using Gonzales County's adjusted taxable value of just over \$4.41 billion, the county has a no-new-revenue rate of \$0.3071 per \$100 valuation, which would generate \$13,544,875 in taxes. The de minimis rate for Gonzales County is \$0.3189, which would generate a tax levy of \$14,065,323, or an extra \$520,448 in taxes.

The Gonzales County voter-approval rate (not adjusted for unused increment rate) is \$0.3203, which would generate \$14,127,071 in tax levy for 2022. If the county were to add the unused increment rate, the final voter-approval rate would be \$0.3690, which would generate \$16,275,021 in taxes, an increase of \$2,730,146.

Gonzales County does not have a debt service rate. The county does have a sales tax adjustment of \$0.0470 per \$100 valuation because money raised from sales tax is used to help provide property tax relief. Without the sales tax adjustment, the no-new-revenue rate would be \$.3541 per \$100 valuation and the final voter approval rate would be \$0.4160.

The 2021 tax rate for Gonzales County was \$0.4291 per \$100 valuation. The benchmark

rates fell because the adjusted taxable value for the county grew from just \$3.318 billion last year, an increase of nearly \$1.092 billion in taxable value.

CITY OF GONZALES

Using the city's adjusted taxable value of nearly \$566.69 million, the City of Gonzales has a no-new-revenue rate of \$0.3048, which would generate \$1,727,266 in taxes. This is a maintenance and operations (M&O) rate of \$0.1623 and a debt service rate of \$0.1425.

The de minimis rate for Gonzales is \$0.3942, which would generate a tax levy of \$2,233,886, or an extra \$506,620 in taxes. In that scenario, the M&O rate would be \$.2517.

The Gonzales voter approval rate is \$0.3117, which would generate \$1,766,368 in tax levy for 2022. The city does not have an unused increment available. The M&O rate would be \$.1692.

The 2021 tax rate for the city was \$0.3252 (\$0.1736 M&O and \$0.1516 debt service). The benchmark rates fell because the adjusted taxable value for the City of Gonzales grew from \$529.2 million, an increase of nearly \$37.5 million in taxable value.

CITY OF NIXON

Using the city's adjusted taxable value of over \$120.1 million, the City of Nixon has a no-new-revenue rate of \$0.32325, which would generate \$388,584 in taxes. Nixon does not have a debt service rate.

The de minimis rate for Nixon is \$0.7398, which would generate a tax levy of \$888,637, or an extra \$500,053 in taxes.

The Nixon voter approval rate is \$0.2644, which would generate \$317,594 in tax levy for 2022, a decrease of \$70,990 from the no-new-revenue rate. The reason the voter approval rate is lower than the no-new-revenue rate is because Nixon has a sales tax adjustment of \$0.0705 for 2022 because sales taxes are dedicated to property tax relief. Without the sales tax adjustment, the voter approval rate would be \$.3349 per \$100 valuation.

The 2021 tax rate for the city was \$0.3853. The benchmark rates fell because the adjusted taxable value for the county grew from \$100.4 million,

an increase of nearly \$16 million in taxable value.

CITY OF WAELDER

Using the city's adjusted taxable value of nearly \$50 million, the City of Waelder has a no-new-revenue rate of \$0.1877, which would generate \$91,908 in taxes. This is an M&O rate of \$0.0143 and a debt service rate of \$0.1734.

As a special taxing unit which has an M&O rate of \$0.025 or less, Waelder cannot by law set a de minimis rate. They also do not have unused increments available to them.

The Waelder voter approval rate is \$0.1887, which would generate \$92,398 in tax levy for 2022. The M&O rate would be \$0.0153.

The 2021 tax rate for the city was \$0.2108 (\$0.0160 M&O and \$0.1948 debt service). The benchmark rates fell because the adjusted taxable value for the City of Waelder grew from \$42.74 million, an increase of more than \$6.2 million in taxable value.

CITY OF SMILEY

Using the city's adjusted taxable value of nearly \$13.57 million, the City of Smiley has a no-new-revenue rate of \$0.2471, which would generate \$33,500 in taxes. Smiley does not have a debt service rate.

The de minimis rate for Smiley is \$3.9377, which would generate a tax levy of \$533,849, or an extra \$500,349 in taxes.

The Smiley voter approval rate unadjusted for the unused increment rate is \$0.2584, which would generate \$35,032 in tax levy for 2022. The voter approval rate with the unused increment from 2020 and 2021 would be \$0.2816, which would generate a total of \$38,178.

The 2021 tax rate for the city was \$0.2899. The benchmark rates fell because the adjusted taxable value for the City of Smiley grew from \$11.34 million, an increase of more than \$2.22 million in taxable value.

GONZALES COUNTY ESD 1

Using an adjusted taxable value of just over \$4.68 billion, ESD 1 has a no-new-revenue rate of \$0.0710 per \$100 valuation, which would generate \$3,324,625 in

taxes. The de minimis rate for Gonzales County ESD 1 is \$0.0817, which would generate a tax levy of \$3,825,660, or an extra \$501,035 in taxes.

The ESD 1 voter-approval rate (not adjusted for unused increment rate) is \$0.0735, which would generate \$3,441,689 in tax levy for 2022. If ESD 1 were to add the unused increment rate, the final voter-approval rate would be \$0.0938, which would generate \$4,392,251 in taxes, an increase of \$1,067,626. Gonzales County ESD 1 does not have a debt service rate.

The 2021 tax rate for Gonzales County ESD 1 was \$0.40998 per \$100 valuation. The benchmark rates fell because the adjusted taxable value for the county grew from just \$3.313 billion last year, an increase of nearly \$1.37 billion in taxable value.

GONZALES COUNTY ESD 2

Using an adjusted taxable value of just over \$4.68 billion, ESD 2 has a no-new-revenue rate of \$0.0213 per \$100 valuation, which would generate \$997,387 in taxes. The de minimis rate for Gonzales County ESD 2 is \$0.0319, which would generate a tax levy of \$1,493,740, or an extra \$496,353 in taxes.

The ESD 2 voter-approval rate (not adjusted for unused increment rate) is \$0.0220, which would generate \$1,030,165 in tax levy for 2022. If ESD 21 were to add the unused increment rate, the final voter-approval rate would be \$0.0223, which would generate \$1,044,213 in taxes, an increase of \$46,826. Gonzales County ESD 2 does not have a debt service rate.

The 2021 tax rate for Gonzales County ESD 2 was \$0.03 per \$100 valuation. The benchmark rates fell because the adjusted taxable value for the county grew from just \$3.313 billion last year, an increase of nearly \$1.37 billion in taxable value.

GONZALES COUNTY UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Using the GCUWCD adjusted taxable value of nearly \$3.73 billion, the Gonzales County Underground Water Conserva-

ABOUT BENCHMARK RATES

Benchmark rates are comprised of:

- The no-new-revenue rate, which essentially is based on a tax rate that would produce the same amount of taxes if applied to the same properties taxed in both years.
 - The de minimis rate, which is the rate that, when applied to a taxing unit's current total value, will increase the amount of taxes generated by \$500,000.
 - The voter-approval tax rate, a calculated maximum rate allowed by law without voter approval. It is the sum of no-new-revenue M&O and debt service rates, plus the unused increment rate, if applicable. The unused increment can be used to increase the voter-approval tax rate, depending upon the tax rates adopted by the taxing unit in the previous three years and whether the entity had "banked" any unused amounts below the voter-approval tax rate in those prior years.
- The City of Nixon and Gonzales County also have a sales tax adjustment rate because sales tax monies collected are specifically used to reduce property taxes. This adjustment rate reduces the no-new-revenue and voter-approval tax rates.

tion District has a no-new-revenue rate of \$0.003735, which would generate \$139,151 in taxes.

As a special taxing unit which has an M&O rate of \$0.025 or less, GCUWCD cannot by law set a de minimis rate. They also do not have unused increments available to them.

The GCUWCD voter approval rate is \$0.004042, which would generate \$150,588 in tax levy for 2022.

The 2021 tax rate for the GCUWCD was \$0.005354. The benchmark rates fell because the adjusted taxable value for GCUWCD grew from \$2.575 billion, an increase of more than \$1.15 billion in taxable value.

GONZALES HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

Using an adjusted taxable value of nearly \$3.94 billion, Gonzales Healthcare Systems has a no-new-revenue rate of \$0.2938 per \$100 valuation, which would generate \$11,561,538 in taxes. The de minimis rate for GHS is \$0.3091, which would generate a tax levy of \$12,163,620, or an extra \$602,082 in taxes.

The GHS voter-approval rate (not adjusted for unused increment rate) is \$0.3067, which would generate \$12,069,175 in tax levy for 2022. If GHS were to add the unused increment rate, the final voter-approval rate would

be \$0.3227, which would generate \$12,698,803 in taxes, an increase of \$1,137,265. GHS does not have a debt service rate.

The 2021 tax rate for GHS was \$0.4200 per \$100 valuation. The benchmark rates fell because the adjusted taxable value for the county grew from just over \$2.73 billion last year, an increase of more than \$1.20 billion in taxable value.

NIXON HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Using the Nixon Hospital District's adjusted taxable value of more than \$384 million, the district has a no-new-revenue rate of \$0.0154, which would generate \$59,141 in taxes. Nixon Hospital District includes property in both Gonzales and Wilson counties.

As a special taxing unit which has an M&O rate of \$0.025 or less, Nixon Hospital District cannot by law set a de minimis rate. They also do not have unused increments available to them.

The Nixon Hospital District voter approval rate is \$0.0194, which would generate \$74,502 in tax levy for 2022.

The 2021 tax rate for the Nixon Hospital District was \$0.0183. The adjusted taxable value for Nixon Hospital District grew from \$323.1 million, an increase of nearly \$61 million in taxable value.

House fire displaces Gonzales County family

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A Gonzales County family was displaced from their home by a fire on Monday, Aug. 1, according to the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office.

The blaze was reported to first responders at 5:17 p.m. Monday. They were dispatched to a structure fire in the 700 block of County Road 298.

According to GCSO, all occupants of the home made it out of the house safely once they noticed

the building was on fire. The residents went to stay with other family members Monday night.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation and it had not been determined as of press time whether the home would be declared a total loss.



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Wildfire risks: Projects to help you protect your home


There are several simple steps you can take to protect your home from a wildfire. Make each of these a weekend project, and you'll be ready in no time.

- 1. Create fire-safe space around your house**
 - Remove anything flammable within 5 feet from your house, such as leaves, firewood, or building materials. Use hard surfaces, such as stone, brick, gravel, or concrete as a buffer.
 - Remove plants near windows, vents, or siding that could catch fire.
 - Trim branches hanging over your roof. Trim lower branches on trees that could ignite from fire on the ground.
 - Keep your lawn and plants watered and remove dead branches or leaves.
- 2. Maintain roof and gutters**

Remove leaves, pine needles, and other debris from your rain gutters and roof. They can be ignited easily from windblown embers that travel ahead of a wildfire. You should do this regularly.
- 3. Maintain decks**

Check your deck for any material that can catch fire, such as potted plants or mulch beneath the deck. Don't store wood on or under your deck. If a wildfire threatens, move wooden patio furniture or shade umbrellas inside.
- 4. Check your insurance**

This is an indoor project! Review your homeowners insurance policy to make sure you have enough coverage to rebuild your house if it's destroyed. In addition, create a home inventory to help if you have to file a claim.




BRITNEY JONES CAKA
LUTC, FSCP, CLU
Agent

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Gonzales, TX 78629

o 830-672-7518
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TEXAS FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
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LOUIS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

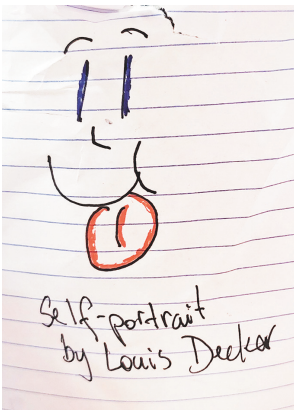
of the fun. Truth be told, though, most of the fun of that evening was provided by the emcee of the event, Louis Decker. He was not only the master of ceremonies, he told jokes (not always great ones, sorry buddy), he sang his own contest songs and then announced the other singers, as well as the winners of each event and prize.

He beamed and preened and just had the time of his life that night, and so did the rest of us, because he was fun to be around, and it was a great event. Filled with some gospel, some rock, some soft drinks, some alcohol, some really good people, good music, lots of laughs, and plenty of food. At the end of the night, going off the scorecards from the “judges,” Louis found me and exclaimed, “Betty, we were robbed!” He was laughing so hard, he just kept saying, “We were robbed!”

Due to scheduling in early June, our monthly get-together was canceled. It has been our last event to date. I am quite honestly not sure we will hold another — at least not for a while. It just doesn’t feel the same, when Louis loved the events so much.

Our first event, our office manager Sanya (who is also Louis’ cousin) and I referred to it as a BBQ (being real Texans, or at least, maybe raised real poor Texans). However, Louis and our publisher (my husband) Lew called it grilling. It became a huge inside joke of a “disagreement” that was of course, just having fun.

It was the playful side of Louis, doing mischievous



things, that I believe we will miss the most. He called this entity “purple monkey,” because it certainly wasn’t him behaving that way. He liked the way I decorated my desk with knick-knacks, and decided I needed a picture of him, drawn by purple monkey. It was a self portrait of Louis Decker that I am including with this column for all to enjoy. I must admit, it’s quite good, it resembles him, a lot, especially his good and kind nature. I hope you find this artwork to be as priceless as I do. It resides on my desk, where it has not been removed, except to take a picture for sharing.

I miss my friend, I miss purple monkey, I miss his being playful and silly, saying both beautifully kind things, and entirely off-color, but not too off-color, things. Purple monkey or no, my friend was a gentleman and a scholar. I hope he has found peace, I hope his wishes come true, and I hope he is fishing, right now, with his daddy.

As for me, I have to agree with my friend. We got robbed. We got robbed by disease and the early death of a good friend, a good man, and a loving community member.

SHOOTING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Village Drive, they located a male victim in an apartment who appeared to have a gunshot wound and was unresponsive. EMS was called to the scene to assist and determined the victim was dead. Justice of the Peace Deidra Voigt was called to the scene and the victim was

pronounced deceased.

A short time after officers responded to these calls, 55-year-old Carol Hunt Russell of Gonzales surrendered to police. She remains in the Gonzales County Jail, charged with murder and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Bond was set at

\$600,000 on the murder charge and \$150,000 on the aggravated assault charge.

The Gonzales Police Department, The Gonzales Sheriff’s Office and the Department of Public Safety Texas Rangers are working jointly on the investigation, which is still ongoing.

PROJECTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

den. The garden was presented to a vote to Gonzales City Council, but was postponed so the city could discuss partnering with additional organizations and Main Street could visit other communities to learn about additional ideas for downtown beautification.

Funds for downtown beautification for the handrails and garbage cans have been approved, Hutchinson-Padilla.

“I would strongly suggest that a subcommittee be created or I would like to reach out to those

additional community organizations to try to find a way to improve that space where the butterfly garden has been,” Hutchinson-Padilla said. “Possibly (we can) even do additional beautification things, since it is part of the focus of Main Street.”

The board went over other beautification project ideas, including a dog park. Councilwoman Ronda Miller, who was in attendance, mentioned she had people come up to her about wanting a dog park in Gonzales, though Miller said nothing has

been set in stone yet about one being created.

The board voted unanimously to make a subcommittee for the downtown beautification project.

Main Street Board approved the following agenda items:

- approved a business incentive grant submitted by Connie Dolezal for 805 N. St. Joseph St. in the amount of \$24,040.
- approve the promotion of Downtown Businesses and Businesses of the Month.
- approved a board training and planning session/retreat.

AWARDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

quirer takes great pride in trying to put out the best newspaper we possibly can with every edition and to be honored and recognized by our peers in the industry for the work we do is very rewarding and humbling,” Publisher Lew K. Cohn said.

“The announcement of these awards also came at a time when we are mourning the sudden and untimely death of our friend and colleague, Louis Decker, who was a valued contributor to our success

as a newspaper. I can think of no more fitting tribute to him than our awards in Sports Coverage and Sports Photography because Louis lived and breathed Gonzales County sports.”

The newspaper scored a cumulative total of 425 points, but finished just out of the top 4 in Sweepstakes since one of the categories (Website) in which the paper scored points was not considered a “Sweepstakes” category. Had those points been counted, the Inquirer

would have finished tied for third in Division 7 weekly newspapers.

“The Gonzales Inquirer will be celebrating its 170th anniversary next year as the oldest continuously published weekly newspaper in the state,” Cohn said. “Our goal for next year’s Texas Press Association contest is to win the Sweepstakes Award and build off the success we had this year.”

The judges from the West Virginia Press Association offered comments in three of

the categories in which the Inquirer placed. In Page Design, where the Inquirer topped all competitors, the judges wrote, “Solid newspaper layout! Easy to read. Great work!”

For Best Website, where the Inquirer finished second, the judges wrote, “The Gonzales Inquirer offers a website with a robust selection of local news, including crime stories and local sports. The website is easy to use with an attractive design, including a newsy carousel and a robust multi-media selection of slideshows and videos.”

In Feature Writing, where the Inquirer scored a third place, the judges were impressed with a feature by Cohn about Baker Boys BBQ having been named to the Texas Monthly Top 50.

“Very well done, and very solid writing. ‘Baker Boys’ checks every box that a great feature should,” the judges wrote.

This year’s contest featured 18 categories and participating newspapers were invited to submit entries from work published between Sept. 1, 2020 and Dec. 31, 2021. This year, 80 newspapers submitted 850 entries in the contest. Competitions were divided into divisions in which newspapers competed against publications of similar circulation. Fifty-three weekly newspapers competed in divisions 5 through 9, submitting 494 entries.

TPA member newspapers competing in each division had the opportunity to submit entries in 12 sweepstakes contest categories and six non-sweepstakes contest categories.

In the sweepstakes contest categories, awards were presented in all eight circulation divisions. In the non-sweepstakes categories, divisions were determined by the number of entries from dailies, semiweeklies and weeklies. This year there were three divisions in the Community Service, Best Website, Online Coverage and Best Magazine competition categories; four divisions in the Special Section category and one division in the Public Notice category.

Awards were presented on July 29 at the TPA Convention & Trade Show, held at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Convention Center in San Marcos.

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

ERRORS

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

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We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.



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Now Hiring Drivers for Water Vacuum company in Gonzales Texas Area. Competitive pay and benefits. Paid hourly but based on performance and reliability. Must have valid Class A CDL and medical card. HazMat not needed but a plus. Must be able to pass a background check and D&A screen.

Please apply at Day County Services INC., 2006 Robertson, Gonzales, Texas 78629 or call 361-319-4006.

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850 HELP WANTED

DAY COUNTY SERVICES INC located in Gonzales, Tx has immediate openings for day and night dispatchers. Must be reliable and dependable, experience is a plus but not required. Excel and QuickBooks experience is a plus. Dispatchers will be responsible for communicating with our customers and drivers. Must be able to work in fast paced environment and able to adjust at moment's notice to ever changing need in an oilfield environment. Applicants should be able to work 12-hour shifts. You will be required to enter and maintain spreadsheets and data daily. Please apply at Day County Services INC., 2006 Robertson, Gonzales, Texas 78629 or call 580-827-0603.

850 HELP WANTED

SOUTH TEXAS APPLICATORS Equipment operator needed, higher pay with CDL. Overtime available. Call (979)250-3252 for more information.

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BOBTAIL DUMP TRUCK driver needed. Must have experience and CDL. Call Randall at 361-243-6908..

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

850 HELP WANTED

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

850 HELP WANTED

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

850 HELP WANTED

Advertising Sales Representative

The Gonzales Inquirer is seeking a motivated individual to assist with advertising sales across our print, digital and social media platforms.

We are an award-winning weekly community newspaper in Gonzales County, where the fight for Texas Independence began. We are also one of the oldest continually published newspapers in the state with editions dating back to 1860. We publish daily online and have a weekly print newspaper as well as a variety of magazine and special promotional products.

While we are very proud of our newspaper's history, not to mention the history of our community - we ARE where the phrase, 'Come & Take It' originated - we are also proud of our future and want the right person to help us take our newspaper to the next level.

We are looking for the right person to sell advertising for us in a full-time position. We offer a competitive performance-based compensation plan, including base pay plus commissions Successful candidates have good earning potential, plus we also offer top-notch benefits, including health insurance.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Partner with businesses within our communities to help them with their advertising, marketing and branding needs
- Contact businesses via phone and email
- Provide excellent customer service
- Collaborate with fellow team members both in-person and virtually
- Process paperwork
- Accomplish project and monthly sales goals
- Build and nurture relationships with customers and potential customers

QUALIFICATIONS

- Strong verbal, phone and written communication skills
- Reliable transportation
- Computer-literate
- Self-motivated, competitive attitude
- Experience with Microsoft Office software, in particular Outlook, Word and Excel
- Comfortable making phone calls to prospective customers
- Ability to thrive, multi-task and be flexible in a fast-paced, deadline-oriented environment

NICE TO HAVE

- Business to business sales experience — a plus, but can train the right candidate
- Use of various social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)
- Knowledgeable of Gonzales County and its communities

The Gonzales Inquirer is part of Fenice Community Media, a progressive group of Texas community newspapers that prefers to promote from within. If you're ready for an exciting job where there's always something new happening, please apply!



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321 Cottonwood Ave, Luling, 2 bdrm, 2 ba, Built 1999, 868 sqft, \$95,000
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4507 Outpost Trace, Lago Vista, .321 acres, \$75,000
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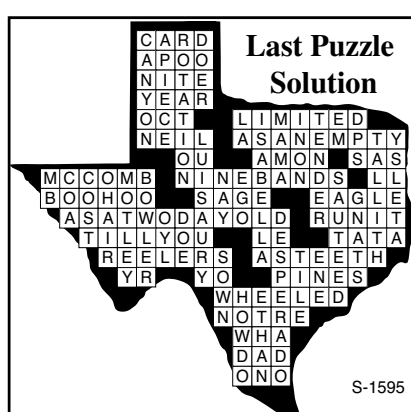
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233 CR 152, Nixon, 3 bdrm, 1 ba, Built 1940, 32.4+ acres, 1024 sqft, \$430,000
3053 Coral Sky, Seguin, 4 bdrm, 3 ba, Built 2017, 3250 sqft, \$550,000
315 Porpoise, Aransas Pass, 4 bdrm, 4 ba, Two Story, Built 2013, 3626 sqft, \$1,550,000
2869 FM 2091, Gonzales, 4 Bdrm, 3 ba, Built 1980, 5.2+ acres, 2528 sqft, \$460,000
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2	5	6	1	9	3	7	8	4
7	4	3	8	5	6	1	9	2
9	1	8	7	2	4	3	6	5
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AUCTIONS

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Commercial/Industrial Land - Aug. 30 - Real Estate to be sold Absolute, Regardless of Price. ExxonMobil directs immediate sale: 3.7 Acres South of Marilyn St., Conroe, TX; 38,147 SF, 577 W. Santa Fe St., Conroe, TX; 5.37 Acres, Mc Farland Rd., League City, TX. FineAndCompany.com, 312-278-0600.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Nixon is requesting proposal for Gas and Diesel to be used by the Police and Utility Departments. Sealed Proposals are due by August 19, 2022 @ 2pm. The deadline for questions is August 16, 2022. Any questions regarding this RFP for fuel, please contact City Manager, Harold Rice @ 830-582-1924.

GRANT ENGINEERING SERVICES PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Nixon is soliciting proposals from a State of Texas-registered **engineering firm** to assist with post-award engineering services. Services will include final design plans, bid documentation, construction contracting, and necessary interim and final inspections as required by the City for its funded HMGP DR 4332-0065 emergency generator project.

Please submit three (3) copies and one (1) electronic copy of your proposal of services, a statement of qualifications, resumes of key personnel, references and a list of jobs performed under this or similar programs to:

Harold Rice
City Manager, City of Nixon
302 E. Central Ave
Nixon, Texas 78140-2555

Proposals must be received by the City of Nixon no later than **3:00pm** on **August 22, 2022** to be considered. The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all engineers/engineering firms that submit proposals, per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards.

The City of Nixon is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and strives to attain goals for Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) as amended.

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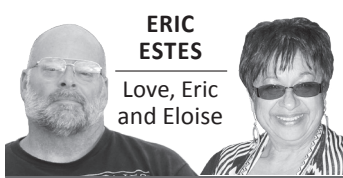
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Keep On Keepin' On

Hey there everyone. Even though I didn't know him personally, I was sorry to hear about the loss of former Inquirer staffer Louis Decker. My sincere condolences go out to his family and friends. I pray that God will help you through this toughest of times. Honestly, if it wasn't for God giving me the strength to get through the loss of Eloise, I really don't know if I could have done it on my own. Hang in there the best you're able to, and again, truly sorry for your loss.

Life, and all of the great things that come with it, can still be temporarily overshadowed by the trials and pitfalls we'll occasionally have to endure along the way. The only thing we can do when they happen is to lean on Christ, give ourselves time to heal, and then muster the strength to try and carry on. Realizing it's much easier said than done, the only other choice would be to give up entirely. Something that's stuck in my mind and helped me weather life's storms, is something I experienced in my youth. Now, being a reformed alcoholic of more than 31 years (thank you Lord!), I often remember the many times I over drank and ended up passing out early and missing out on the party, only to hear about all I had missed the next day. Being as the



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

party will end for all of us at some point, why not stick around so we don't miss out on all of the great things that haven't happened yet. May not exactly be profound words of wisdom, but they sure have helped me along the way.

Unfortunately, love and loss seem to go hand in hand in this life we find ourselves in. Not only losing people that we love, which of course is always at the top of the list, but also pets, places, things and situations we've come to love as well. Changing where you live can cause both excitement over new possibilities, but also the missing of friends or family, and familiar places and activities you loved. Letting go of a house or car and all of the memories associated with them can also trigger a sense of loss. Changing jobs can be stressful, even when for the better, as you may miss the job itself or the people you worked with. Anyone who's ever lost a pet understands the sadness of losing a friend and companion. The loss of the good things in life are hard on

us all, that's why it's important that we keep focused on the good that the future may hold, as it helps keep hope alive.

As for me, well, four years out and I'm still trying to get my legs back. I still feel a little fish out of waterish, occasionally flopping around the pasture trying to catch my breath. While I've stayed plenty busy getting things in order, completely changing the house and what not, life still feels a bit strange, but is constantly getting better with time. That being said, I do have a healthy dose of hope for whatever comes next and am getting excited to see where this new season of life will lead. I'm still, even at this stage of life, learning to enjoy the journey (pitfalls and all), instead of always focusing on the destination. Eloise used to say that life is great if you don't crumble, and I agree. Those dark clouds of grief will slowly dissipate over time, and the sun will shine once again.

If you'll allow him to, Christ will help you weather life's toughest storms. Jesus said (Matt 11:28) "Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." In my experience, I've found this to be absolutely true, so hang in there.

Until next time, love you guys,

Eric.

CHURCH BRIEF

PILGRIM CHURCH SERVICES

The Pilgrim Presbyterian Church located on County Road 210 off FM 1116 will begin holding Church Services on the second Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

REUNIONS & MEETINGS

SATURN CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Saturn Cemetery Association will have a General Meeting on Sunday, August 21 at 6 p.m. at the Saturn Community Building.

SIMMONS, LEMONS, ADAMS REUNION CANCELED

The Simmons, Lemons, and Adams annual Family Reunion has been canceled because of our current conditions. We are hoping and praying to resume on Saturday, Sept. 30. Please note that our annual family reunion has been changed from August to September beginning 2023.

Additionally, we are in the process of designing a website and should be finalized by the end of August, 2022.

If you have any questions, please contact Margie (Nell) Simmons at (512) 565-1218 or at bertmason58@gmail.com.

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First Assembly of God 509 E. 3rd St., Nixon	Stratton Primitive Baptist FM 1447, 9 miles east of Cuero	FULL GOSPEL Camp Valley Full Gospel Hwy 80, 7 mi. north of Nixon	El Centro Cristiano "Agua Viva" 403 Highway 90 W, Waelder
BAPTIST Clark Baptist Church FM 794, Gonzales	St. James Baptist Church Hwy 80, north of Belmont.	Full Gospel Church 1426 Fisher, Gonzales	Emmanuel Fellowship 1817 St. Lawrence, Gonzales
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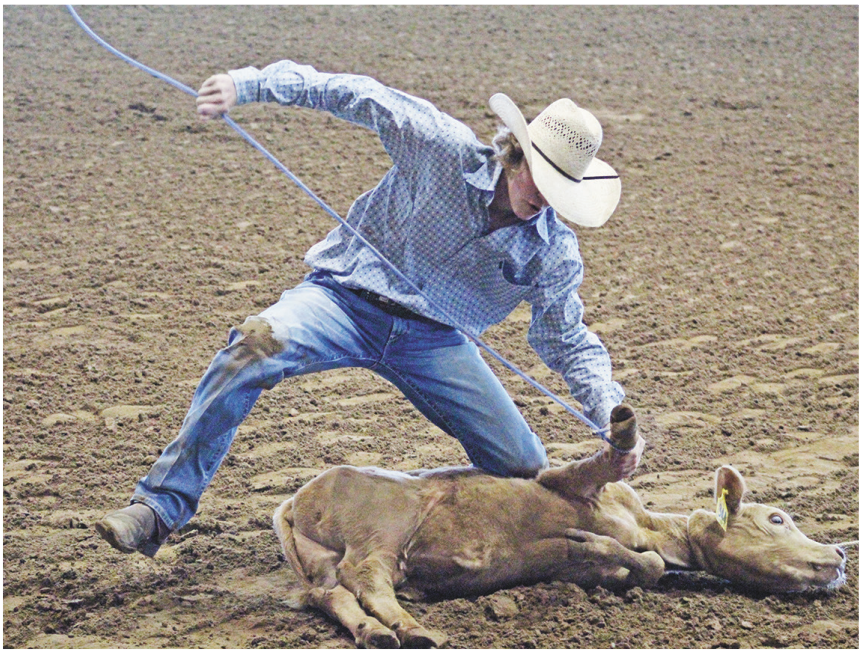
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Texas Youth Rodeo Finals

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



Kyndelyn Roberts, of Livingston, competes in the Senior Poles competition at the TYRA Finals in J.B. Wells Arena. Roberts finished 10th in the competition with 16 points.



Above: Reagan Thompson, of Sweeny, ties up a calf in the Senior Division Tiedown competition at the Texas Youth Rodeo Finals at J.B. Wells Arena last Friday morning. Thompson clocked in 13 seconds and scored 24 point to finish second place. At left: Alexis Torres, of Bulverde, rides her horse through the obstacle for the Senior Pole competition at the TYRA Finals at J.B. Wells Arena



Joseph Villarreal, of Jourdanton, lifts the calf in the air as he ties it down in the TYRA Finals last Friday in J.B. Wells Arena. Villarreal finished seventh with 19 points.



Bleu Watson, of Paige, Texas, completes his tiedown in the Junior Division of the TYRA Tiedown finals last Friday morning.

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A tribute to a fellow sports nerd and friend

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

I've been covering sports for more than five years now, and during that time, I've met people from different fan bases. From the high school level to the professional level, sports fans from the stands and press box always show their passion for their respective sports, especially Louis Decker.

Louis was a huge sports fan; he loved his Gonzales Apaches, his Houston Astros, Texas Longhorns, Dallas Stars and Dallas Cowboys.

When I came into Gonzales, we got along very well, including with our publisher Lew [Cohn]; all of our favorite MLB teams were in the same division in the AL West; Astros (Louis), Texas Rangers (Lew) and Seattle Mariners (me).

We all had a good blast talking about our favorite teams, especially when Louis mentioned the last time Gonzales went deep into the playoffs in football in 2007; unfortunately, they lost in the third round against my Pleasanton Eagles in the quarterfinals.

He cared for his Apaches and the other high schools inside the county, and it showed in his writing and sports coverage.

Louis was a walking sport encyclopedia when it came to Gonzales sports, and I can relate to that because I have sports knowledge inside my head.

During the College World Series, Louis would talk about the Longhorns baseball team and explained what the team should do in order to advance; and as a bonus, he was happy that Texas got Arch Manning, then the No. 1-ranked high school quarterback in the country and the nephew of Peyton and Eli Manning.

The office will not be the same without Louis, but his impact will live on through the sports pages here at the Gonzales Inquirer.

Now he gets to sit down and relax in the big press box in the sky as he watches and covers his teams in heaven, next to sports legends.

BACK IN ACTION

Gonzales, Nixon-Smiley football teams hit the practice fields



GONZALES Apaches

Left: Gonzales head coach Joey Rivera works with the offense on the first day of football practice for the 2022 season.

Below, right: The Apaches in the huddle formation as the team gets ready for the 2022 season. Gonzales kicks its 2022 season at home against Bastrop Cedar Creek Friday, Aug. 26 at Apache Stadium.

Below, left: The Gonzales Apaches hustle down the practice field to their next drill. The Apaches open up district play on the road against Caldwell Friday, Oct. 7.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



NIXON-SMILEY Mustangs

Right: The Nixon-Smilely varsity defense (left) in formation as they practice their defensive plays with the JV offense.

Below, right: Troy Moses (right) enters his second year with Nixon-Smiley as he works with his slot-T offense with his players at practice. The Mustangs kick off their district play against Comfort on the road Friday, Sept. 23.

Below, left: The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs are back at practice for the second day as they practice offensive drills last Tuesday afternoon.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS
The winning team from the July 27 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Will Ruddock, Frank Ingram, Wes Caldwell, Ryan Lee and Spencer Breitschopf.



The second-place team from the July 27 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Robert Camarillo, Dee Tiller, Ace Tiller, Pat Davis, Chuck Emmick, Mike Turk and David Meredith.

OBITUARIES

LOUIS EDWARD “LOU” DECKER

Louis Edward “Lou” Decker, 44, of Gonzales, Texas, made his heavenly debut in the musical revue of the Lord Almighty on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, after slipping the surly bonds of his earthbound body at The Heights of Gonzales following a brief illness.

Louis was born August 22, 1977, in Gonzales to Louis Douglas “L.D.” Decker Jr. and Marsha Lynn Pigg Decker. He proudly attended Gonzales ISD schools, graduating as a member of the Gonzales High School Class of 1995. He was an Apache through and through and bled orange and black to his very core. He was a member of the Mighty Apache Band and was a manager and statistician for the school’s athletic teams.

Following graduation from high school, Louis attended the University of the Texas at Austin and spent five years as a member of the UT Band, the “Showband of the Southwest,” which allowed him to perform on field and see his Longhorns on every game day. Win or lose, he lived to root for the Texas Longhorns and the Houston Astros.

In his early adult years, you could find Louis decked out in zebra stripes as a referee for high school football games in the South Texas area. He worked for KCTI radio station, helping broadcast multiple athletic events. He also wrote sports for the Gonzales Inquirer, covering not just his own Gonzales Apaches, but also the



Nixon-Smilely Mustangs, the Waelder Wildcats, the Shiner St. Paul Cardinals and the Shiner Comanches as a consummate professional.

Sports was a passion for Louis — watching them televised or in-person, broadcasting them, photographing them and writing about them. He made it a habit to know everything he could about those taking part in any contest and would warmly greet players and coaches alike, thankful for the opportunity to chronicle their exploits.

Music played such an important part in Louis’ life. At various times in his life, he served as youth director and musical director at several different churches. He loved singing in a quartet with his father L.D. and was proud to have recorded and sang on several musical compositions, some of which can still be heard on Youtube. Louis loved all music in general, but especially Gospel, and loved to share his singing gift with others.

Not long before he became ill, Louis organized a “karaoke and fried chicken” night for his coworkers at the Gonzales

Inquirer, where he worked as an advertising account executive until his health forced him to resign. By the end of the night, Louis was smiling as if he had just had the best day of his life because that is how much music, his friends and having fun meant to him.

Louis is survived by his mother, Marsha Lynn Decker; sister, Kelleye Dawn Decker and her two sons; uncle, Timothy Decker and wife Michelle; his ex-wife, Jennifer, and her children and grandchildren who he claimed as his own, a daughter, two sons, and three grandsons.

He was preceded in death by his father, his paternal grandparents, a maternal grandmother and three aunts.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, August 13, 2022, in the St. James Catholic Church, with Father Jason Martini officiating. Interment will be held in a private ceremony at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Louis’ GoFundMe Account at gofundme.com/manage/hope-health-and-contingency, or to Hospice of South Texas. Contributions to the GoFundMe account will be set aside for his beloved grandsons. Friends and family may leave their condolences and sign the guestbook by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.

IRENE REYES CHAVARRIA



Irene Reyes Chavarria, 84, of Gonzales, passed away Friday, July 29, 2022. Irene was born October 4, 1937 in Gonzales County to Apolonio and Rosa Amaro Reyes. She married Thomas Chavarria, Sr. on April 7, 1957 in Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Irene was born and raised in Gonzales County. Her family were migrant workers, and she went to work at young age to help support the family. After marrying she was a housewife and mother. She enjoyed cooking, baking, and caring for her family. She relished time spent working on word puzzles and enjoyed shopping and watching scary movies. Irene loved her family and delighted in spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. “Grandma” was always there for assuring hugs and welcoming smiles. Irene led her family in her Catholic faith and earnestly prayed her rosary daily.

Irene is survived by her loving family; daughters, Diana Gaytan, Nancy Rocha (Silverio), Doris Valle (Jesus, Jr) all of Gonzales, sister, Natalia Rios of Hallettsville, brother, Johnny Reyes of Gonzales, 17 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, daughter, Norma Jean Chavarria, sons, Tommy Chavarria, Jr, and Carlos Chavarria, sister, Rosa Magallanez, brothers, Eusebio, Benny, Apolonio, Jr, and Robert

Reyes, and great-great grandson, Hudson Nownotny.

The family will receive friends from 9 am to 9:30 am Thursday, August 4, 2022 in Sacred Heart Catholic Church a Holy Rosary being recited at 9:30 am in the church. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 am in Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Fr. Jason Martini officiating. Interment will follow in the Gonzales Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers: Jesus Orduna, Joshua Esparza, Jeremy Rocha, Robert Corona, Michael Sirildo, Sr, C.J. Chavarria, Dustin Valle, and Jesus Valle, III. Honorary pallbearers: David Gayton and Juan Gayton, Jr. Memorials may be made to Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com. Services are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff’s Office

07/24/22 – 07/30/22

07/24/22

• Perez-Rodriguez, Martin, 04/1980, Waelder: Driving while Intoxicated, Requires \$2,500 Bond; Department of Homeland Security – Immigration Detainer; Remains in Custody
• Turrubiarte, Anthony Rene, 02/1995, Gonzales: Driving while Intoxicated, Requires \$3,500 Bond; Evading Arrest Detention w/Vehicle, Requires \$5,000 Bond; Resist Arrest Search or Transport, Requires \$4,500 Bond; Remains in Custody

07/27/22

• Miller, Vincent Wayne, 10/1978, Kingsbury: Commitment/Sentence – Driving while Intoxicated 3rd or More; Commitment/Sentence – Driving while Intoxicated 3rd or More IAT; Remains in Custody

07/28/22

• Lijon, Jewel Toure, 04/2000, Saint Hedwig: Local Warrant – Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Released on \$15,000 Bond

07/29/22

• Romero-Cruz, Yimi Esau, 08/1990, Houston: Local Warrant – Prohibited

Substance/Item In Correctional Facility, Requires \$25,000 Bond; ICE – Immigration Detainer; Remains in Custody

• Hernandez, David Samuel, 12/1967, Cost: Commitment/Sentence – Driving while Intoxicated 3rd or More, Released – Time Served
• Hall, Jonathan Lee, 03/1981, Bonham: Public Intoxication, Released on Order to Appear
• Tirado, Gustavo Gonzales, 04/1973, Bebe: Accident Involving Damage to Vehicle >\$200, Released on \$3,000 Bond

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

GCSO	08
DPS	05
GPD	04
WPD	00
NPD	01
GISD	00
SMO	00
Constable 1	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	18

Gonzales Police Department

Monday 07/25/2022 – Sunday 07/31/2022

Arrests:

• 07/25/2022 Hugo Antonio Estrada, 33 yoa, from Austin, Texas, , Possession of Marijuana
• 07/27/2022 Blake Oneal Mathis, 39 yoa, from Gonzales, Texas, Warrant
• 07/27/2022 Tommy Lee Barnard, 39 yoa, from Gonzales, Possession of

Marijuana
• 07/30/2022 Miles Avant Svoboda, 21 yoa, from Nixon, Possession of Marijuana

201 Calls for Service

Cases:

3 Possession of Marijuana
1 Assist Other Agency
1 Assault Causes Bodily Injury
1 Criminal Mischief
1 Violate Bond/Protective Order
1 Theft

MANUELA REYNA

Manuela Reyna, 81, of Gonzales, passed away Friday, July 29, 2022. She was born June 17, 1941 in Cardoncita, San Luis Potosi, Mexico, the daughter of Francisco and Maria Martinez Carreon.

She married Rodrigo Reyna on August 10, 1958 in Catorce, San Luis Potosi, Mexico. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. She was a longtime owner of Reyna’s Restaurant in Gonzales.

She is survived by her husband of 63 years Rodrigo Reyna; daughters Romana Llamas and husband Constantino, Maria Molina and husband Reyes and Patricia Reyna and husband Andres; son Luis Reyna and wife Elma; sisters Modesto Carreon, Bernarda Ramirez, Antonia Palacios and Merejilda Medina; brothers Martin



Carreon, Ramon Carreon and Reyes Carreon; 16 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded by her parents, children Modesta Reyna, Tomas Reyna, Joe Reyna, Alfredo Reyna and Jose Luis Reyna; sister Rosa Medina; brothers Jose Carreon and Agapito Carreon.

Visitation will be held from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday, August 2, 2022

at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with a Rosary being recited at 7 p.m. Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated 10 a.m. Wednesday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Reverend Jason Martini officiating. Interment will follow at St. James Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers include Jose Matamoros, Julian Matamoros, Cesar Matamoros, Ivan Reyna, Hector Llamas and Armando Llamas. Honorary pallbearers are Saul Llamas, Gabriel Molina, Adrian Molina and Emmanuel Matamoros.

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

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

Gonzales Healthcare Systems
AUGUST 2022

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 Austin MFM	2 Dr Echols	3 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Miller	4 Dr Ryan	5 Dr Echols
8 Austin MFM Dr Malik Dr Desai	9 Dr Echols Dr Quintero	10 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Twitero	11 Dr Ryan	12 Dr Echols Dr White Amy Trost
15 Austin MFM	16 Dr Echols	17 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Miller	18 Dr Ryan Dr Malik	19 Dr Echols Dr Bui
22 Austin MFM	23 Dr Echols	24 Dr Quebedeaux	25 Dr Ryan Dr Kirchner	26 Dr Echols
29 Austin MFM	30 Dr Echols	31 Dr Quebedeaux		
LOCATED AT THRIVE:				
Orthopedics Gloria Box, M.D. (830) 672 - 8497	Surgery Kathleen Koerner, DO, FACOS (830) 672 – 8497	Cardiology William Craig, M.D. (830) 672 – 3845	Dermatology 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



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FCH-Agent Gayle Bludau honored at extension conference

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gayle Bludau, the Family and Community Health Agent from Gonzales County, attended the Texas Extension Association meeting in Decatur, Texas on July 26-28.

The conference objective was to provide professional and personal training opportunities to increase agents' knowledge and skill set to provide education about health in their communities.

During the awards program at the conference, Bludau was awarded three state awards to add to her wall of honors. She

received the Innovation in Programming Award for her collaboration to create education series to train 4-H Health Ambassadors. She also received the Excellence in Teamwork Award and the Florence Hall Award for teaching life skills.

Additionally, she received two National Awards for her work in Extension, which included Third Place Southern Regional Winner Florence Hall and Third Place Southern Region Winner in Innovation in Programming Award.

Contact Bludau at the Gonzales County AgriLife Extension Office at 830-672-8531 to find out about health programs coming this fall.

Grief and your mental health

BY BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

In 1969, Elisabeth Kubler-Ross wrote her book, *On Death and Dying*, discussing the development of the five stages of grief. Though grief is generally conceptualized as a direct reaction to physical death, it may occur anytime the reality we wish for, want, hope for, or expect does not materialize.

Humans, generally speaking, cycle through the same stages of grief (sometimes quickly). Those stages are denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance.

We go through these stages to process the changes associated with grief, and adapt to the new reality of our life without the loved one who was formerly in our world. These stages of grief tend to be consistent, however, during each stage the process of grieving may look different for each individual. Sometimes the stages don't appear in the same exact order for everyone experiencing a loss. There is no right way to grieve.

Life trauma, experiences of trauma, stress, and grief can be very overwhelming. It takes a toll on not only our mental health, but our physical health, leading to many problems and conditions. Our bodies are directly impacted by stress response, which is a nervous system reaction to feeling afraid or under threat (fight or flight). This system releases adrenaline and cortisol, which impacts sleep, and lack thereof, appetite,

leading to weight gain, as well as anxiety and depression.

Denial may present as avoidance, procrastination, forgetting, distraction, or saying I'm fine, or it's okay. It may also present as a feeling like shock, numbness, confusion or closing off. Anger, the second stage, often presents as pessimism, sarcasm, cynicism, irritability, aggression or passive aggression, as well as increased substance use or abuse. It often presents as frustration, impatience, resentment, embarrassment, rage, or an unexplained feeling of being out of control.

Bargaining will often present as memorializing or ruminating over the future or the past, what was or could have been, overthinking, worrying, assuming future worse case scenarios, perfectionism, preoccupation over "I should have...I could have...if only", as well as judgment about yourself or others related to the associated loss. The manifestations of these emotions tend to feel like guilt, shame, blame, fear, anxiety, and insecurity. Depression, the fourth listed stage, tends to present as changes in sleep or appetite, reduced or lack of energy, social interest and motivation, as well as (sometimes) excessive crying, as well as increased alcohol and substance usage. This stage will manifest in feelings of sadness, despair, helplessness, hopelessness, disappointment, and general feelings of being overwhelmed with life.

The fifth and final stage that Kubler-Ross researched and wrote about was acceptance.

This final stage of the grief process appears in mindful behaviors, engaging with life the way it actually is, now, in the reality of the absence of your loved one, accepting that this is really the way life is, now, and the way it will be, and that it is where you are living, physically and emotionally, now. It presents as being present in the moment, being vulnerable and being able to regulate, handle and express emotions around your loss in a positive, loving manner. Often individuals refer to this as being able to "remember something their loved one did and laugh about it, instead of burst into tears or simply grieve the loss". Acceptance usually also involves reaching a place of honest, adaptive, coping and non-defensive honest communication. Being able to not only accept a departed loved ones flaws and idiosyncrasies, but embrace them and honor them, accepting the good and the bad, loving the whole person, not the ideal version often memorialized immediately after a death. Acceptance may manifest in, finally, feeling as if your efforts, in both the life of and death of your loved one, were and are good enough. You feel validation in your right to feel your grief, as a direct reflection of the love you felt, as the quote goes, "the deeper you love, the deeper you grieve". It may feel like courage to move forward with plans, or daily life. Sometimes simply courage to get out of bed every single day and do your best. It can include the wisdom that

everyone experiences death, including a reconciliation with the fact of your own inevitable death, as well as pride at having not gotten "over" your grief, which one never truly does, but continuing to live with it and get "through" the daily grieving process that never leaves, only gets gentler and easier to handle, as your own life carries on towards its path.

It is not only difficult, but rare to process grief, or move through the Kubler-Ross stages in a linear fashion, ordered and by numerical designation. Human beings and emotions just do not work that way, in any form or fashion, no matter the circumstances of the death or other cause of grief. Everyone has their own way of dealing with loss, stress, grief, and emotional trauma, both from past and present situations. The difference in these coping methods, consequently, lead to different ways of dealing with the grieving process for each individual.

Rest assured, in your grief journey, that it is entirely normal to experience many changes in moods, thoughts, attitudes, and periods of adjustments. Behaviors may be all over the place and difficult to navigate as you move between the stages of grief, be they "in order" or out of order, or in and out of the stages, sometimes spending time back in forth within each. This can also be within the realm of normal grieving and loss process. If you are overwhelmed in your grief, loss, trauma or stressful situation you are not alone.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

- Resources recommended by local establishment Seydler-Hill Funeral home include:
- *Coping with the Loss of a Loved One*, 2012, by the American Cancer Society.
 - *How to Help a Friend Who is Grieving*, 2013, by J.D. Bailey, Huffington Post.
 - *Disenfranchised Grief: New Directions, Challenges, and Strategies for Practice*, by Kenneth Doka
 - *Disenfranchised Grief Revisited: Discounting Hope and Love*, by Thomas Attig, Ph.D.
 - *Mourning Becomes Neglected: 4 Healthy Ways to Grieve*, by Jonathan Vattner
 - *No One Has to Grieve Alone: Validation is the Key to Resolving Grief*, 2012, by Lani Leary, Ph.D.

Many individuals have losses, while these may not be exactly the same losses, the experience and profound understanding of the pain associated with your grieving is often enough to help an individual to a safer emotional place.

If you, or someone you care about, is experiencing the grief of death, divorce, an emotional loss, financial/employment loss, or the loss of something in your life that you felt deeply emotionally connected to speak with someone who can help you find the peace you deserve and need.

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.



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ACROSS

1 Yale is an _____ mater of George W.

5 Granbury is the seat of this county

6 Santa _____, Texas

7 "____ an old cowhand from the Rio . . ."

8 money machine (abbr.)

9 torment

15 Kick _____ Indian Reservation is in Maverick County

16 place of refuge

19 TXism: "never look a gift _____ the mouth" (appreciate)

21 distinguishing characteristic

22 prepared something

27 TXism: "chrome dome"

28 "gave it _____-ho" (tossed it out)

29 lately, one buys Texas crude _____ high price

30 TXism: "disappointed as _____ with a rubber chicken"

32 former spouse

33 Cal Farley founded this youth place in 1937 (2 wds.)

36 Dallas' ABC television affiliate

37 retir. savings acct.

38 technology based on biology

39 dental _____ for artificial teeth

41 ICAO code for Texas "Southwest"

DOWN

1 TX Dale Evans' "____! San Antonio"

2 this TX Tinkle wrote Alamo book: "Thirteen Days to Glory"

3 newspaper in Mineola: "Wood County _____"

4 TX Robert _____ was Secretary of Commerce for TX George W.

8 TXism: "two peas in _____" (alike)

9 TXism: "he's right _____" (big eater)

10 TXism: "frisky as _____ unsaddled horse"

11 noted A&M football coach: _____ Slocum

12 TX McCordle painted "Dawn _____"

13 TXism: "_____ 'nuff"

14 apt. assn. in the Alamo City

15 TXism: "got _____ big as Texas" (kind)

16 farm storage tower

17 old spiritual: "Down to the _____ Pray"


18 former Mexican state: "Coahuila _____" (often "Tejas")

20 "to _____ his own"

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1596

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

Answers found in next week's Classifieds.

VISIT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

much to be proud of, and in the words of wealthy hotelier, Conrad Hilton, when speaking of Texas, and Texans:

“There’s a vastness here and I believe that the people who are born here breathe that vastness into their soul. They dream big dreams and think big thoughts, because there is nothing to hem them in.”

Texas is, indeed, a great big open space, filled with cosmopolitan cities, the skyscrapers of Houston and Dallas reigning large. There are many historical sites to visit, including the Riverwalk, and a little place called the Alamo in San Antonio. A stop to visit famous city limits and get a little weird in Austin, the larger city that fancies itself a small town home. Visit the state’s famous bluebonnets all along the highways and wild across the fields of Texas.

If you’re a native, though, you know to watch for those sneaky snakes that might be hiding in your potential photo grounds. There are so many exciting and beautiful places, filled with people and activities, it would be easy to miss the lure of the beautiful small towns and all the secrets they have to offer.

The slightly smaller towns of Texas, some more well known (and bigger) than others, like Galveston, on the Gulf of Mexico, New Braunfels, filled with water park fun, historical music venue Gruene Hall and tubing adventures along the river. There’s El Paso with it’s rich history, Waco, and Abilene, as well as Amarillo, by morning. and so many more. It would be easy to miss the tiny little gemstones that shine along Texas highways and byways. It’s plainly visible to see, and harder to miss, that in the smaller towns there is history, beauty, hope, and heritage.

With that in mind, the list of 15 “tiny” Texas towns to not be missed, according to the wide open country website are, in descending order: Granbury. Wimberley, Shiner, Schulenburg, Chappell Hill, Seymour, Liberty, Archer City, Fredericksburg, Gruene, Marfa, Gonzales, West, Terlingua, and Luckenbach. The story pointed out many things about these cities, as well as notable things about Gonzales, but we’re here to name even more to proud of in your hometown.

“Gonzales is the perfect place to experience Texas heritage tourism at its best” said Gonzales Main Street Director Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla. “The community proudly works to preserve our history while embracing the future.”

Recently the local home of the 2022

FloatFest, hosting over 15,000 participants and a host of well-known performers, Gonzales is also the proud annual host to the wildly popular Come and Take It Festival every year in October, a widely anticipated and attended event.

In this small town, the birthplace of Texas independence, must see destinations include many beautiful, well maintained, and historical homes, one of which was founded as the first institution of higher education in Texas to offer four- year degrees to women, making it of special importance to the history of education in the state. After the college closed in the 1880s it as converted into a residence by attorney W.M. Atkinson, and remains known as the Atkinson house, to this day.

Continue on to visit the Gonzales Memorial Museum, where the original cannon that caused the come and take it cry of independence resides, as well as other fascinating historical artifacts.

Not to be missed are Texas Heroes Square, Pioneer Village Living History Center, where you can go back in time for a hands on experience of what life was like back in the days yore. Other must see places in this wonderful little beauty of a Texas small town include Independence Park, Palmetto State Park, Confederate Square, the historic courthouse, and the very must see and the official picture of a life back in time Eggleston House. Also take note of and visit the original jail, now the Old Jail Museum, and the historic Alcalde Hotel, which has hosted the likes of Elvis Presley and Bonnie and Clyde.

Also stop to take in the many rodeo type events, fund raisers, galas, year-round fun events (Bags and Bingo, Casino Night), and trade shows. And we would be remiss to not mention that you can also, in this great little city, visit the oldest continuously published weekly newspaper in the state of Texas, The Gonzales Inquirer, which will turn 170 years old in 2023.

For the real flavor and sense of what embodies the independence, self reliance, perseverance, and community that makes Texas the great state we all know and love, there is no better place than Gonzales to recognize that pride. From the first battle cry of the Texas Revolution of “Come and Take It” to the overwhelming pride of every citizen of Gonzales, and Texas, this “small little city” is the shining example that, perhaps, shines as the biggest, brightest star, deep in the heart of Texas.



Visitors to Gonzales can see the famous Come and Take It cannon at the Gonzales Memorial Museum, the Gonzales County Jail Museum, find directions at the Chamber of Commerce and read the Gonzales Inquirer, the oldest continuously published weekly newspaper in Texas.

BETTY COHN



SATURDAY, August 6, 2022

JB WELLS EXPO CENTER

Doors open at 5:30pm; DINNER AND PROGRAM at 6:00pm

featuring

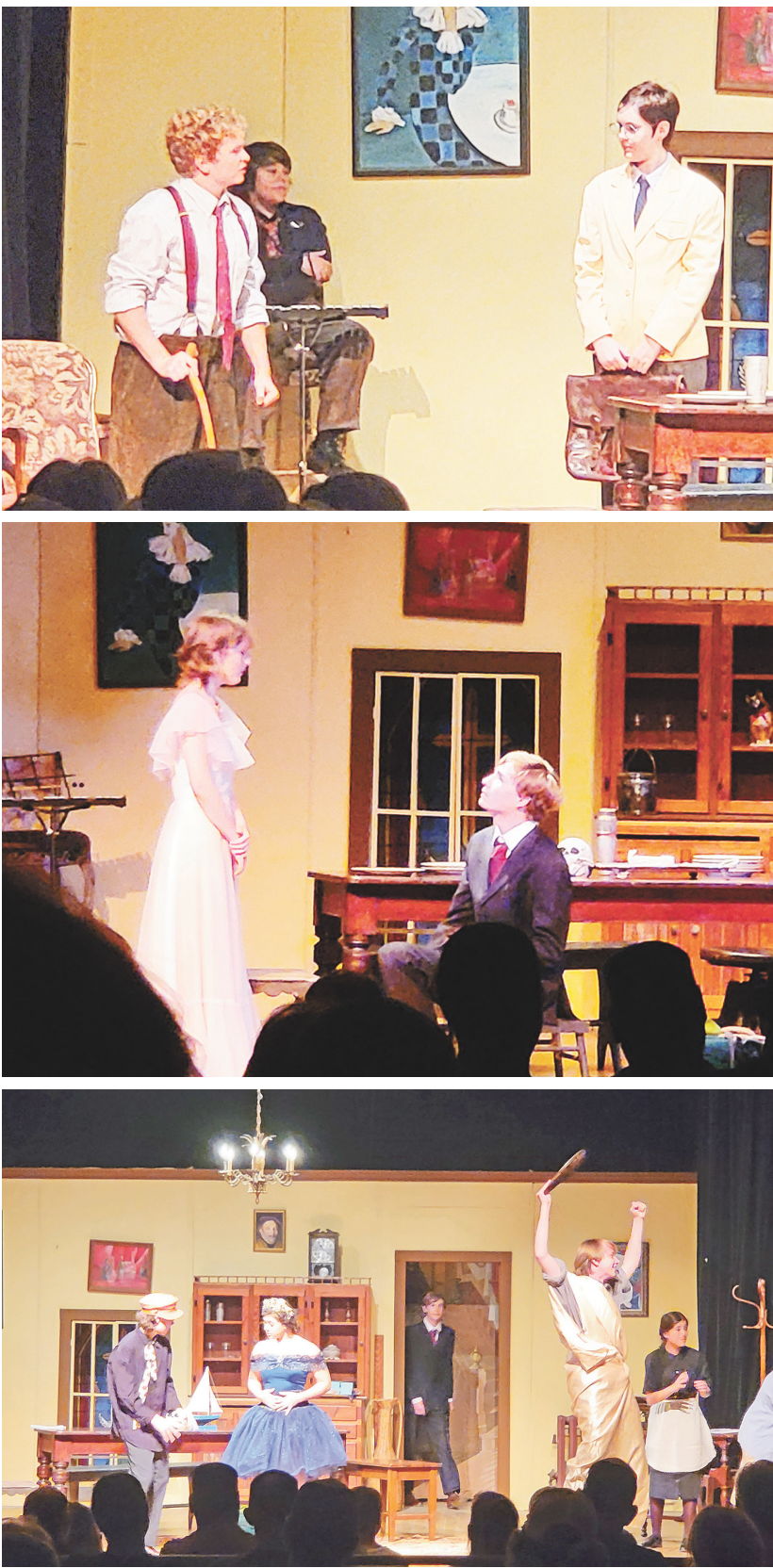
Connie Northam, Speaker
Erin Fortner, Musical Guest

Ladies bring your friends for a night of Fun, Fellowship and Food. Also for the Sharing of God and Proclaimed Praise. Drawings for Door Prizes throughout the evening.

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YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU!



Participants in the Crystal Theatre Summer Youth Workshop perform the classic madcap comedy “You Can’t Take It With You” to a packed house at the theatre on Friday, July 29. It was the 30th year the Crystal Theatre has held a summer youth program. The play is about the eccentric Vanderhof-Carmichael-Sycamore clan and the snobbish and rigid Kirbys, who meet each other after their children become engaged. Eventually, the elder Martin Vanderhof convinces Mr. Kirby that life is meant to be lived in the moment, because, after all, “you can’t take it with you.”

SCHOOL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

can get two hot dogs, potato salad and an Apache Spirit T-shirt. A QR code can be found on the Apache Athletics Facebook page.

Beginning at 7:30 p.m. will be Apache Night, where everyone can meet the Gonzales High School Apache athletes and cheerleaders. Following that, the band Prohibited, which is comprised of current Gonzales High School students, will perform.

The goal of the Back to the School Bash is to provide basic but necessary items, including clothes and school supplies, to students in Gonzales ISD by “filling the school bus” with items.

Anyone who would like to sponsor an individual child may do so by contacting Adriane Hastings at 830-203-9632 or Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla at 830-672-2815. All information provided will be kept strictly confidential.

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f GONZALESINQUIRER

a Gonzales Main Street Event

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

HELP US STUFF THE BUS!

Studio E will be waiving registration fees

APACHE NIGHT 7:30 p.m.

Independence Square

Saturday | August 6th | 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Free snow cones, frito pies, chips, and beverages

DJ Buddy

Dunking Booth & Waterslides 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Following “Apache Night” our very own students from Gonzales High School “Prohibited” will be playing!

Sign your student up for a well child/dental exam - Community Health Centers of South Central Texas

If you would like to sponsor an individual child, please contact Adriane Hastings at 830-203-9632 or Tiffany Padilla at 830-672-2815