



# The Gonzales Inquirer

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## Cloud votes against McCarthy for House Speaker



Cloud

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

The 118th Congress officially opened on Tuesday, Jan. 3, and the first day ended with no resolution in who will be the next Speaker of the House as Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-California, failed three times

to get the necessary 218 votes to claim the gavel.

McCarthy received 203, 203 and 202 votes, respectively, in those three ballots, with Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, receiving 20 votes in the third round of voting as an alternative candidate to McCarthy, who had served as the Republi-

can party's minority leader in the House for the last four years.

New York Democrat Hakeem Jeffries, chosen to succeed former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-California, as his party's top leader, received 212 votes as the entire Democrat caucus voted en masse for Jeffries. He is the first

African-American to be nominated as Speaker of the House or to lead a party caucus in either chamber. One House seat is currently vacant following the death of Rep. Don McEachin, D-Va., in November. Among the 20 House Repub-

See **SPEAKER**, page 16

### NO ONE HURT IN CRASH



WANDY VAN EPPS

A pickup truck turned over on its side in a culvert off Church Street on Wednesday, Jan. 4, in Gonzales. There were no injuries reported as of press time but assistance was needed to get the passengers safely out.

## Sidewalk upgrades begin in Texas Heroes Square

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Work continues in Texas Heroes Square along the 400 block of Saint James Street in Gonzales as part of an effort to upgrade city sidewalks to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Texas Accessibility Standards.

Improvements are also being made in drainage and grading in the 400 block of Saint James as

part of the 2021 Sidewalk Improvement Plans for the City of Gonzales. The work is being performed by Diamond X Contracting Inc. at a cost of \$699,633.40 with a contingency of five percent, or \$34,981.67, for unforeseen issues during construction.

The city also is spending \$70,000 for engineering, \$30,000 for grant administration and \$10,000 for environmental services associated

with the grant funding for a total fiscal impact of up to \$844,615.07.

Funding for the project comes from Gonzales Economic Development Corporation (which contributed \$50,000); a Texas Community Development Block Grant (in the amount of \$500,000); from the city's Water Fund (\$35,661); and the General Fund (up to

See **SIDEWALK**, page 16

## GEDC OKs Lynn buyer, works to market Gonzales

### BY JENNIFER KOLBE GEDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Special to the Inquirer

At the December 19 GEDC meeting, the board heard presentations from potential buyers for the Lynn Theater. The board heard

three presentations in the open session and reviewed the financial portions of the offers in closed session.

When the board returned to open session, they voted to sell the Lynn the Sydney Allen

See **GEDC**, page 15

### SWEARING IN



CONTRIBUTED

Gonzales County elected officials were sworn into office for a new term on Sunday, Jan. 1 (with some also sworn in on Monday, Jan. 2). Those present on Sunday were sworn in by District Judge William Old III. Pictured front row are County Clerk Lona Ackman, County Judge Pat Davis, Precinct 1 JP Deidra Voigt, Old and Sheriff Keith Schmidt. Back row are Precinct 4 JP Darryl Becker and Treasurer Sheryl Barborak. For more photos, see page 6.

## Gonzales purchases new Pierce Enforcer pumper truck

### BY LEW K. COHN Inquirer Publisher

Christmas may have already come and gone, but the Gonzales Fire Department is waiting on one special present to be delivered to the city.

After receiving unanimous approval at the November Gonzales City Council meeting, GFD last month ordered a new Pierce Enforcer pumper fire truck from Siddons-Martin Emergency Group. Time of delivery is expected

to be between 29-30 months from the date of order.

The new fire truck will replace Engine 37, a 2008 Pierce Sabor, which has seen increased maintenance costs and liability — and has even caught fire not once, but twice, causing it to have to be towed to San Antonio for repairs.

"The engine has to be taken to the shop for repairs several times a year, leaving the Fire Department short on

See **TRUCK**, page 15

## 2022 Readers Choice winners named

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

The ballots have been cast and the winners have been named!

The Gonzales Inquirer presents the results of the 2022 Readers Choice balloting in a special section inside this edition of the newspaper. Balloting was close in many categories with some first timers finding their way to the winner's circle!

The Inquirer wants to congratulate all of the winners and thank all of our readers who participated in the voting.



A Dec. 28 fire destroyed the home of Rick Bivins and Megan Ainsworth on Kelley Loop. CONTRIBUTED

## GoFundMe account set up for Kelley Loop fire victims

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Firefighters from Gonzales, Belmont and Ottine responded to a house fire off County Road 342, also known as Kelley Loop, at about 9:48 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28.

It took several hours for crews to get the fire extinguished, but the home and all its contents were a total loss.

While reportedly no one was

See **FIRE**, page 15



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Contributed  
Prospective and current Victoria College students interested in taking classes during the upcoming Spring 2023 semester can get all the information and assistance they need during VC's "Super Saturday" event on Jan. 7.

## VC offering 'Super Saturday' event Jan. 7

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College will offer prospective and current students an opportunity to start or finalize their preparations for the upcoming Spring 2023 semester with a "Super Saturday" event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Jan. 7 at the Student Services Building on VC's Main Campus.

Students can discuss their educational plans with an advisor, apply for admissions and financial aid, enroll in classes, make payments and

purchase books and supplies. Students can also take the Texas Success Initiative Assessment by registering at [VictoriaCollege.edu/TSI](https://victoriacollege.edu/TSI). Seating is limited.

Advisors will be available to offer information on education and training opportunities at Victoria College; degree, certificate and transfer pathways; job-training courses; and adult education.

For more information, call (361) 573-3291 or chat live at [VictoriaCollege.edu](https://victoriacollege.edu).

## Devon Energy raises thousands for food bank

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Devon Energy employees in Cuero rallied together to raise a total of \$24,216 in support of the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent.

Employees hosted a corn-hole tournament and silent auction as part of Devon's annual "Give for Good" fund-raising campaign. The company matched the funds they

collected.

The beneficiary, Food Bank of Golden Crescent, serves families and seniors in 11 southeastern Texas counties.

"It can be easy for people to forget community members struggle with food insecurity," said Robin Cadle, CEO of the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent. "But Devon's employees demonstrate how much they care for others by stepping up

to help feed people in need."

Michael Zappe, Devon superintendent of product operations, said he and his coworkers are glad to serve others.

"The Food Bank of Golden Crescent does an amazing job filling a gap in our community, and we are proud to be a continual partner," Zappe said. "Giving back isn't just a responsibility, it's a privilege as good neighbors."



Contributed  
Devon employees Caitlin Harris, Janice Starr, Beth Reinecke and Michael Zappe present the check to Robin Cadle with the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent.

## State domino tournament comes to Hallettsville

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The 70th Texas State Championship Domino Tournament will be held Sunday, Jan. 15, 2023 at the Knights of Columbus (KofC) Hall in Hallettsville, Texas. Registration will begin at 7 a.m. and playing will begin at 9 a.m. sharp.

A consolation tournament will be held immediately for the first two setting of losers with two plaques given to the winners of the consolation tournament plus cash.

A barbecue chicken dinner will be served in the hall for players and spectators. There will also be plates to go for drive-

through customers. Short orders and refreshments will be served during the tournament.

Come join in the official Texas State Domino Championship Tournament play, where there is no better competition and fellowship. You can boast you played in the Texas State Championship Domino Tournament. You and your partner may even have the honor of winning this prestigious title.

This year's Texas Domino Hall of Fame inductees will be David Scott Henke, Joe Buzek, Sammy Judd, David "Rat" Schautteet.

A group of younger domino players will be coming in from Killeen, looking for a challenge.

## Noted bible teacher, archaeologist to speak at Emmanuel Fellowship

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Emmanuel Fellowship extends an invitation to all to come and hear noted bible teacher and biblical archaeologist Dr. Scott Stripling speak this coming Sunday, Jan. 8.

Dr. Stripling is noted for several significant archeological finds, including work at Khirbet el-Maqatir (Biblical Ai), Shiloh (site of the first Jewish tabernacle in the Promised Land), and

one of his more recent finds, the Curse Tablet found on Mount Ebal. This find is considered by many to the most significant archaeological find of 2022.

Dr. Stripling is an excellent speaker and masterfully weaves Scripture and archaeology together in his messages. We are blessed, and honored, to have Dr. Stripling share with us this Sunday, Jan. 8. The service will begin at 10:30 a.m., with a "Meet and Greet" time from 10

a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Everyone is invited, regardless of your denominational preference. A nursery for children below the age of five years is available. Emmanuel is located at 1817 St. Lawrence St., Gonzales, one block east of East Avenue School.

### CORRECTION

The preliminary contested case hearing on the on the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's request to drill three additional water wells in the Carrizo Aquifer will be held at the Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District office, 522 Saint Matthew St., Gonzales, on Thursday, Feb. 16. The Inquirer regrets printing the wrong location in a previous story.

## MLK events scheduled

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Edwards Association will host a pair of events in Gonzales to celebrate the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.

First, the non-profit organization, along with Gonzales Main Street, will host a MLK musical featuring a number of local gospel talents on the Main Street stage in Independence Square on Sunday, Jan. 15, from

5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Then, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 16 — the date on which MLK Day is celebrated this year — the Edwards Association will host its annual march from Independence Square up Saint Paul Street to Saint Peter and then to Fly Street, to the former Edwards High School, 1427 Fly St. Gonzales Police Department will provide escort and traffic control.

## AG secures \$168M for Texas in Walmart opioid agreement

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Attorney General Ken Paxton announced a planned \$3.1 billion settlement with Walmart, with more than \$168 million designated for Texas, for Walmart's role in the nationwide opioid epidemic.

The agreement will largely track the terms of the Global Prescription Opioid Litigation Settlement Agreement with the opioids distributors that was executed in July 2021.

"The opioid epidemic has had devastating impacts on millions of Americans, and we are hopeful that we will reach a final agreement on all terms to ensure that Walmart is held responsible for their role in it," Paxton said. "This settlement is yet another example of my office's commitment to protect-

ing the people of Texas and ensuring that we hold accountable those who have violated the law and worsened the effects of the opioid epidemic."

This agreement is the latest opioid settlement Paxton negotiated for Texas, working closely with the attorneys general of California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee.

To date, the Texas attorney general secured about \$2.4 billion for Texas from the manufacturers, distributors, pharmacies, and others that caused the opioid crisis, including Walmart, Allergan, Mallinckrodt, Teva, Endo, Johnson & Johnson, and McKinsey.

### Celebrations

#### Birthdays

<b>January 4th</b> Travis Decker	<b>January 7th</b> Crissy Lampkin Chris Reinger Gary Sutton	Ken West
<b>January 5th</b> Shirley Breitschopf Shane Carlile Alex Casares John DuBose Jr. Murray Montgomery	<b>January 8th</b> Jan Lindemann Mike McCracken Susan McGehee Ava Murphy Christie Tilghman Maisy Valenta	<b>January 9th</b> Callie Jordyn Cobler Trudy Dierlam
<b>January 6th</b> Adrienne Steen	<b>January 10th</b> David Vinklarek	<b>January 11th</b> Marsha Decker Andy Hohenessell Terry Pierpont

#### Anniversary

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### Gonzales Weather

	<b>January 5</b> 67°/47°	Plenty of sunshine 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 67
	<b>January 6</b> 67°/51°	Mostly sunny 3% chance of rain • RealFeel 65
	<b>January 7</b> 66°/43°	Plenty of sunshine 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 65
	<b>January 8</b> 61°/41°	Plenty of sunshine 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 67
	<b>January 9</b> 60°/41°	Plenty of sun 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 65
	<b>January 10</b> 60°/44°	Partial sunshine 5% chance of rain • RealFeel 58
	<b>January 11</b> 61°/50°	Sunny 20% chance of rain • RealFeel 64



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

January 5th – South Tx. Tour

January 6th-8th – TJHRA Region 6 Rodeo

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3

## Cat food recalled for salmonella

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Cat owners should take some extra precautions before their feline companion's next meal.

TFP Nutrition voluntarily recalled its HEB Texas Pets Indoor Complete Dry Cat Food on Friday, Dec. 16 due to salmonella contamination concerns, according to a notice shared by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Per the notice, the recall only affects HEB Texas Pets Indoor Complete Dry Cat Food. Manufactured at the company's Nacogdoches, Texas facility on Nov. 13, the dry cat food was sold in 16-pound packages that contain "MFG 13 NOV 22" on the second line of the lot code, which is located on the back of the bag.

An image of the product label can be found at right. The recall is relatively limited in scale, as the affected product was only distributed in the State of Texas and sold in HEB retail stores. The recalled cat food has since been removed from store shelves and no other HEB products are affected by the voluntary recall.

While no illnesses have been reported in connection to the recalled dry cat food to date,

**A cat infected with salmonella may be lethargic and have diarrhea or bloody diarrhea, fever, and vomiting. Decreased appetite, fever, and abdominal pain are also symptoms of infection. Some cats may appear healthy but may actually be carriers and infect other animals or humans.**

the product poses a health risk to both animals and humans. Consumption of products contaminated with salmonella can cause salmonellosis, a common foodborne illness.

A cat infected with salmonella may be lethargic and have diarrhea or bloody diarrhea, fever, and vomiting. Decreased appetite, fever, and abdominal pain are also symptoms of infection. Some cats may appear healthy but may actually be carriers and infect other animals or humans.

In humans, salmonella signs and symptoms – diarrhea, abdominal cramps, and fever – typically occur within 12 to 72 hours after exposure to the bacterium.

Although most people recover within four to seven days and do not require treatment,

in rare cases, the infection can spread from the intestines to the bloodstream, requiring the individual to be hospitalized.

Humans can become infected through consumption of products contaminated with salmonella, or through handling affected surfaces and then touching their mouth and swallowing Salmonella germs, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Due to the potentially life-threatening risk the cat food product poses to both animals and humans, consumers should discontinue use of the food.

The recalled HEB Texas Pets Indoor Complete Dry Cat Food can be replaced or refunded by contacting TFP Nutrition via a toll-free call at 1-800-560-9197.



## Annual Knights of Columbus Wild Game Supper to be held Jan. 28

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The annual Knights of Columbus wild game supper will be held Saturday, Jan. 28, at the K of C Hall in Hallettsville, Texas, 321 US 77, Hallettsville. This is the fun night everybody waits for all year.

Tickets are available at Hoffers Drive-in Grocery, Rainosek's True Value, and at the K of C Hall now and on Saturday, Jan. 28. See this year's fantastic results of the Big Buck Contest. Doors open at 5 p.m. with social hour from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Supper is served from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

The annual Knights of Columbus wild game supper will feature prepared crawfish, deer, hog, dove, duck, wild rice, duck gumbo, Lavaca County sausage and more.

There will be an abundance of expertly prepared crawfish, deer, hog, dove, duck, wild rice, duck gumbo, Lavaca County sausage, wild pinto beans, all marinated and

prepared by head cook Brother Richard Henke and Lavaca County's prestigious wild game chefs.

Need a new 4x4 Ranger or gun? Come be a win-

ner of the big 75 gun drawing or the Ranger drawing, along with other prizes. Total valued at more than \$50,000. See and talk to the folks that got the big bucks and the commercial displays. Get into a game of dominoes or just visit with the folks.

Arrive early and enjoy the fellowship of old friends and new acquaintances. Admission to the hall is \$12 and the wild game supper is free with hall admission.

Bring your camper and spend the weekend. More than 100 full hookups available. For more information, contact the K of C Hall at 361-798-2311 or go to [www.kchall.com](http://www.kchall.com).

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## Former presidential press corps speaker to headline TSCRA event

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Former White House press secretary and Fox News host Dana Perino will headline the 2023 Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association's annual convention and trade expo in downtown Fort Worth March 24-26.

The TSCRA, Texas' largest and oldest livestock association based in Texas, made the announcement the final week of 2022 from its headquarters in the historic Fort Worth Stockyard District.

Former White House Press Secretary and Fox News host Dana Perino, who served as the 26th White House Press Secretary under President George W. Bush, will address how the public is affected by the current

political climate, drawing from personal experience in politics and her rich background in the cattle industry.

In addition to Perino, the 2023 Cattle Raisers Convention & Expo will offer can't-miss opportunities for landowners, ranchers, farmers and wildlife managers, including:

- More than 30 hours of educational programming.
- More than 250 exhibitors inside the expo hall.
- Youth-specific contests and events.
- Saturday night dinner and dance, followed by a late-night party.

Guests can reserve their seat to see Perino and other well-known speakers at the 2023 Cattle Raisers Convention & Expo beginning Jan. 1. For more information, visit [www.cattleraisersconvention.com](http://www.cattleraisersconvention.com).



# Oh sure, just one more of grandma's cookies

BY BETTY COHN  
Gonzales Inquirer

When children are chubby we often give them cute nicknames (mommy's little butterball) or we call it "baby fat" that these children will outgrow. We also tell them not to worry about what others say about their "extra bit of cushion", that it's important to be a great person on the inside, and not worry so much about those mean little jabs about that double chin or t-shirt in the swimming pool. These are statements that are both very true (those inside good traits fair exceed the value of those outside) and yet, these statements should be concerning and considered seriously.

There are individuals who never experience the act of being referred to as overweight, obese, big for your size, larger, or, my personal favorite, "big-boned"

Weight is a very personal topic, and there are many reasons an individual can be over a healthy weight because of medical causes, but those medical explanations are very rare, and more often than not, clung to by those wishing to believe that they themselves are just destined to be large, or have a medical cause for their excess weight issues. The more common, and much more likely causes involve (1) eating more calories than our body expends in any given day (calories in/calories out, which I will touch on again, in a few paragraphs) (2) eating foods high in sugar, fat, or empty calories (those grouping of calories that have no equivalent nutritional value for the calories expended).

Eating is a very personal and complex, as well as learned, activity and behavior. The act of eating, for the majority of humans, is often a source of tremendous comfort and joy, as well as a sense of what many actually feel as "love". Sounds odd, to many, but yet our society rotates around the warm, loving feeling of food and the joy that every intake of food gives us, both for commercial gain and personal feeling of familiarity and warm love.

While there should be no judgment on how an individual looks on the outside, because we all look different, and beauty is dependent on who you ask, at any given time or decade, the health lurking beneath the outward appearance is the real concern.

Excess weight can mean health problems that range from hypertension, diabetes, heart problems (from congestive heart problems, to cardiomyopathy, to organ failure, eventually, created by the overexertion of the different functions required to sustain your body's homeostasis, or natural state of being.

To wrap this up with a beautiful bow, be it a size 4 bow or size 32 bow, the body requires the ability to function at the weight it becomes used to sustaining, and to do that, each individual must exercise, eat properly seek advice from a medical provider, and do your best to never exceed 20% greater than the recommended weight for your height and body frame.

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](mailto:bospangle@yahoo.com).

## U.S. BILL OF RIGHTS

The following text is a transcription of the enrolled original of the Joint Resolution of Congress proposing the Bill of Rights, which is on permanent display in the Rotunda at the National Archives Museum. The spelling and punctuation reflects the original.

### Amendments I - IV

#### Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

#### Amendment II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

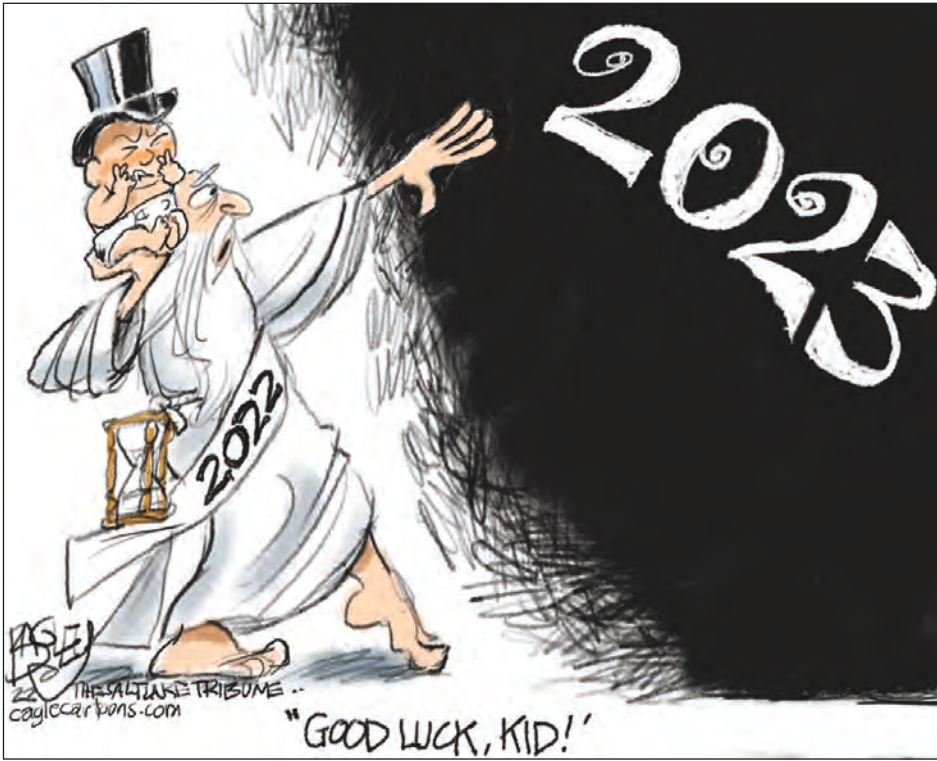
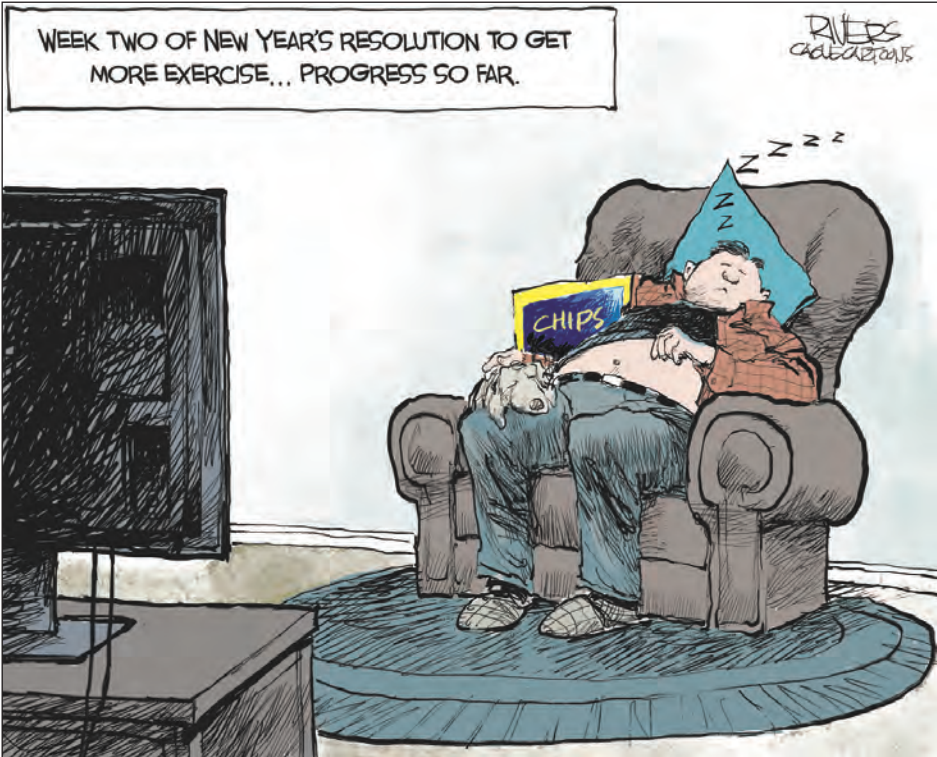
#### Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

#### Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

# 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](mailto: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

## Christmas on the rails...

Less is heard about trains these days, particularly since the homegoing of Johnny Cash. He always loved train songs. Accounts of a single railroad car are even rarer, despite the jump start provided in 1930 by "The Little Engine That Could," a children's book.

This piece about Christmas centers on a single 1950-model dormitory lounge car which trailed behind the Santa Fe Super Chief for several decades before it was idled in Lake Charles, LA.

That's where the late Donald Rassmussen found it 26 years ago. He was known as the "quiet founder" of ESPN (Entertainment and Sports Programming Network). A lifelong entrepreneur, he spent several years in Brownwood, relocating the railcar to a remote area where Camp Bowie was operative during World War II....

\*\*\*\*\*

No doubt residents scratched their heads in wonderment about someone laying track for one railcar, not to mention paying the freight bill. Today, its location is still remote, opening as the "Classic Car Diner" after a year's renovation. It's a virtual rural setting, with only the junior high school and a scattering of industries, homes and apartments in the neighborhood.

In 2004, Kim Bruton noticed online that the diner was for sale. Weary of the corporate world, she and her then husband decided to buy it.

They moved from the Metroplex to Brownwood with sons ages one, two and five. She has operated it since that time, naming it "The Runaway Train". She was divorced in 2006, and in 2009, married firefighter Brent Bruton, who is in partnership with her in real estate ventures. Together, they have five sons, all of whom grew up in the café environment.

Kim credits customers with much, including her becoming a Christian in 2008....

\*\*\*\*\*

On Christmas Day, 2010, seasonal magic began. Kim and the boys noticed that a frequent visitor always walked to the diner. He didn't own an automobile, and was on their hearts when it was decided to serve free meals on Christmas Day, 1-3 p.m. The walker--and several other patrons--showed up, responding to a home-made sign on the front door.

"It was a joyous experience, one we have repeated annually," Kim said. Crowds grew, with 300 or so now claiming free chili Frito pie and ice cream. Many who previously were "partakers" now are "giver-outers."

Count her and her family among those believing that it is more blessed to give than receive....

\*\*\*\*\*

Kim now focuses largely on "The Intermission Bookshop," her charming bookstore downtown. It is housed in an old movie theater building. (Brownwood had eight downtown movie houses around 1950.) She's turning over "train" management to son Zach, 19, with son Atticus, 18, alongside. Folks still flock to the diner that has original features, plus a 10-foot extension on one side for the kitchen. They've shortened operating hours since COVID. Customers still find their way to 3600 Stephen F. Austin Blvd. "on purpose."

Maintaining social distancing challenges, but patrons may dine in, grab food to go or sit at outdoor picnic tables, Christmas Day or whenever....

\*\*\*\*\*

The community also has a Thanks-giving Feast each year for whoever wants to partake. It was introduced in 1983 by the late Ronald Gray, Brownwood Bulletin publisher, and Harold Preston, Howard Payne University CFO. Ten years later, Bill Fishback,

See NEWBURY, page 15



## The Gonzales Inquirer

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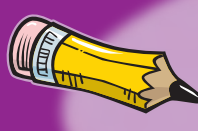






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**DR. I. CICLE'S WEATHER SCHOOL**

I'm puzzled, Dr. Cicle. What are cold fronts and warm fronts?

Good question, Paula! Cold fronts and warm fronts are something meteorologists—scientists who study the weather—watch to make predictions about the weather.

Oh no! A cold wind blew my display about weather fronts all apart! Luckily, I numbered each sentence. Do the math problem on each piece. Then use the answers to put the sentences in order from the smallest number to the largest.

Here's how meteorologists show a cold front on a map.

This is how they show a warm front.

The cold front looks like icicles on a string!

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students understand how to read a weather map.

**8+7=**  
Cold fronts move quickly and can bring storms and even hail. But the storms won't last long.

**4+3=**  
The sun's heat warms the air. Some parts of the world get warmer than others. These differences in temperature make the air move, causing weather to change.

**20-8=**  
This cools the warm air, and if there is moisture in that air, it condenses and forms drops that fall as rain or snow.

**19-3=**  
A "warm front" moves slowly. If the air is moist, dark clouds will form and it may rain or snow for days.

**6+3=**  
A "cold front" happens when a cold air mass pushes the warm air up.

**17-9=**  
When cold and warm air masses meet, they don't mix. They form a front.

Standards Link: Number Sense: Students compute sums and differences, order numbers from least to greatest.

**WARM**

**WEST**


**EAST**

**COLD**

**Extra! Extra!**  
**Cool Division**  
Search through the newspaper for the following numbers:  
• Numbers divisible by 2  
• Numbers divisible by 3  
• Numbers divisible by 5

Standards Link: Number Sense: Students know rules of divisibility.


**Help Paula Predict the Weather**  
Look at the two weather puzzles. Which town is most likely to have stormy weather? Use the cold front and warm front symbols to help you predict.  
Standards Link: Earth Science: Students understand that weather can be observed and predicted; different conditions affect different results.

**Kid Scoop Puzzler**  
Chill out while you find the two identical snowmen.  
  
Standards Link: Visual discrimination.

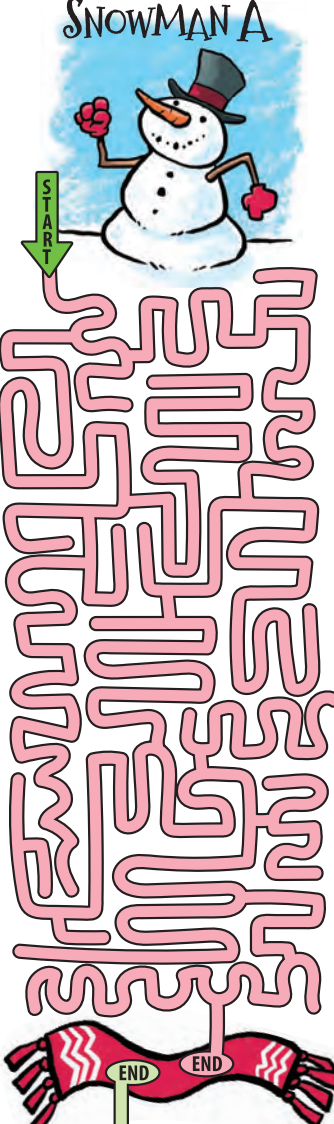
**Double Double Word Search**  
WEATHER  
FRONTS  
SYMBOLS  
CONDENSES  
STORMS  
SNOWMEN  
WARM  
WATCH  
MOISTURE  
CHILL  
COLD  
MASS  
LAST  
LONG  
PREDICT  
Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?  

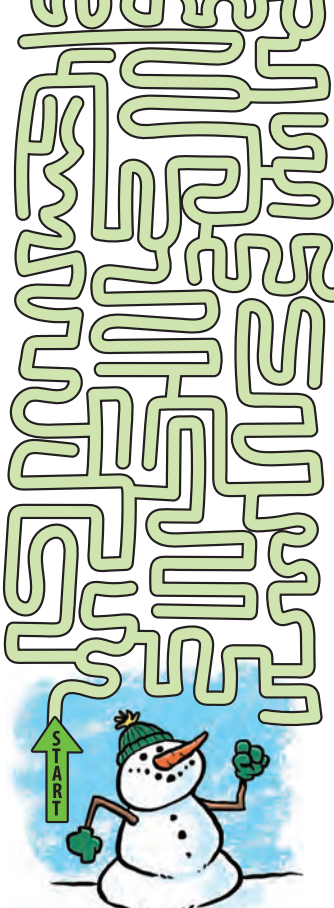
E	R	U	T	S	I	O	M	S	P
S	N	O	S	D	C	F	R	E	R
T	L	A	L	M	O	R	F	S	E
O	M	O	R	L	E	O	G	N	D
R	C	A	B	H	D	N	W	E	I
M	W	T	T	M	O	T	A	D	C
S	P	A	M	L	Y	S	T	N	T
N	E	M	W	O	N	S	C	O	N
W	T	S	A	L	L	I	H	C	S



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

**Kid Scoop Together**

**Snowman Run**  
You choose one snowman. A family member chooses the other. Who can race through their maze to reach the scarf first?

**SNOWMAN A**  
  
**END**

**SNOWMAN B**  
  
**START**

**Write On!** 


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SWEARING IN



Gonzales County Judge Pat Davis, left, swears in Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace Jesse Almaraz for another term in the latter's courtroom on Monday, Jan. 2.



Gonzales County Judge Pat Davis swears in County Surveyor Seth Fullilove for another term at the Gonzales County Courthouse on Monday, Jan. 2.



District Judge William Old III swore in Gonzales County Clerk Lona Ackman to another term on Sunday, Jan. 1, in the District Courtroom at the Gonzales County Courthouse.



District Judge William Old III swore in Gonzales County Treasurer Sheryl Barborak to another term on Sunday, Jan. 1, in the District Courtroom at the Gonzales County Courthouse.



District Judge William Old III swore in Gonzales County Sheriff Keith Schmidt to serve out the remainder of an unexpired term on Sunday, Jan. 1, in the District Courtroom at the Gonzales County Courthouse.



District Judge William Old III swore in Gonzales County Judge Pat Davis to another term on Sunday, Jan. 1, in the District Courtroom at the Gonzales County Courthouse.



District Judge William Old III swore in Gonzales County Precinct 1 JP Deidra Voigt to another term on Sunday, Jan. 1, in the District Courtroom at the Gonzales County Courthouse.



District Judge William Old III swore in Gonzales County Precinct 4 JP Darryl Becker to another term on Sunday, Jan. 1, in the District Courtroom at the Gonzales County Courthouse.

Lawmakers push for Texas National Guard death benefits

FROM STAFF REPORTS

After a 2019 hurricane response mission for the Texas National Guard and a yearlong stint in Kuwait, Bishop Evans thought he was done with deployment. But then the 22-year-old part-time artilleryman from Arlington was called up for border duty. He was involuntarily mobilized, like thousands of other Texas National Guard troops, for Gov.

Greg Abbott's Operation Lone Star. He reported to the border last spring and returned home in a flag-draped casket. In April, Evans drowned after jumping into the Rio Grande to save two migrants swept away by the current. Had Evans been on federal deployment, his family would have received \$100,000 to ease the burden of his passing. But because he was a Texas National Guard member

deployed on Operation Lone Star, serving on state active duty, Evans' family didn't get a dime from the state, according to a Texas Tribune report published Friday, Dec. 16. Now, state lawmakers hope to address these gaps in coverage during the upcoming legislative session through The Bishop Evans Act. The bill, filed by Texas State Rep. Jared Patterson, R-Frisco, and Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Hous-

ton, would allow service members on state active duty to have the same access to the state's death benefits as law enforcement officers who die on the job. If approved, the death benefit legislation — which failed in the past two legislative sessions — could be one of the most significant changes to come out of Operation Lone Star. Incidentally, a joint Tribune/Military Times investigation revealed

that administrative delays in purchasing orders kept hundreds of pieces of water-rescue equipment from ever making it to the border. Jo Ann Johnson, Evans' grandmother, told the Tribune that extending such death benefits would help grieving fami-

lies by easing the load of what they must take care of during difficult times. "It changes your life when you lose someone," she said. "No matter what the financial situation is of that family that's left behind, this death benefit will help, it will definitely help."

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- If the fire is in the oven, turn off the heat and don't open the door.
- Never pour flour or water on a cooking fire.
- If you have any doubt about fighting a fire, just don't. Get away by going outdoors. When you leave, close doors behind you to help contain the fire. Call 9-1-1 from outside.

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# Welcome to 2023

Howdy folks, and Happy New Year! Congratulations, 'cause if your reading this you've made it into 2023, and as a neighbor recently reminded me, any day you wake up on this side of the dirt... is a good day. Being as I'm looking forward to seeing Heaven some day, I have to assume that that'll even be a better one, but for now, daylight's-a-burnin'.

It seems it wasn't all that long ago that the artist Prince was singing "They say 2000-00 party over, oops out of time, so tonight I'm gonna party like it's 1999." After moving to the country (just in case), I remember our family standing outside at midnight, New Years Eve 1999, flashlights in hand, waiting to see if the lights would go out as the threat of Y2K loomed over our heads. Very curious and a little anxious, we awaited the stroke of midnight. Here it comes, wait for it - wait for it - and; nope, lights still on, time for some hot chocolate with extra marshmallows! As humanity



**ERIC ESTES**  
Love, Eric and Eloise

goes, we've always feared "The End of the World as We Know It" (R.E.M. 1987) by whatever means. Yet, here we are, still chugging along. It seems as though life is a constant roller coaster of ups and downs. Up we go - down we go - up we go...you get the picture. So, enjoy the peaks as much as possible, and get through the valleys as best you can, 'cause the next peak may just be a doozy!

Due to work and family constraints, our family couldn't all get together for the holidays this year, but was able to spend time with most of them earlier in the month. Christmas for me was quiet, and kind of sad, as I had just lost my dad in November. On top of that, Taffy, a Jack Russell Terrier; my best little friend and only constant companion since

loosing Eloise, passed away from congestive heart failure two weeks ago. If your not an "animal person" you probably won't understand, but I can assure you the loss is very real, as any animal lover can attest to. Whether sleeping next to my bed on her large pillow and snoring up a storm, laying her head in my lap as we watched TV together, chasing me around the yard, or barking at my voice activated disco lights, she has left yet another vacancy in my life that can't be replaced.

Fully realizing that there are millions of people that have suffered way more than I have, my prayers of peace and strength go out to them on a daily basis. After loosing Eloise, my dad, situations and twelve close pets, all loved more than words can express, it was time for yet another "Come to Jesus" meeting. I literally asked Christ to give me a reprieve from this grief tsunami. On the average, that's a significant loss every three and a half months over the last



four and a half years...enough already. I explained to God (as if he didn't already know?), that if I'm to finish out my time here on earth trying to somehow encourage people, I need to be able to catch my breath if I'm to move forward. Feeling a little baby seal-ish, beat down and thrown into the sea, only to be hit by another wave every time I come up for air, well, let's just say...I ain't done yet. God has brought me this far

and won't abandon me now, as the vision he's put inside me has yet to be completed. When we rely on God...we can rely on God!

So, regardless of the struggles we've encountered in the past, we owe it to God and ourselves to dust off our feet on the welcome mat entering into 2023, press on, and be determined to have a...Happy New Year!

Love you guys, Eric.

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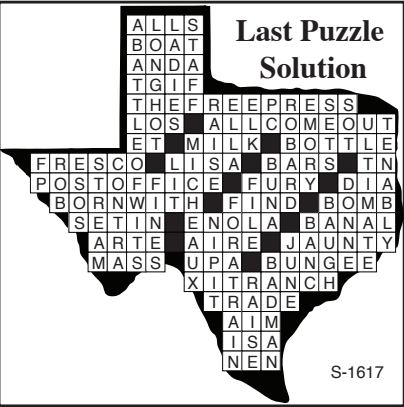
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**Last Puzzle Solution**

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2	8	1	4	9	5	6	7	3
3	9	5	6	7	8	1	4	2
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### NOTICE OF PERMIT APPLICATION FOR IRRIGATION WELL

Filed By  
EP Valley Investments

EP Valley Investments 1800 Lee Trevino, Suite 201, El Paso, Texas has submitted an application for a permit to the Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District (GCUWCD) to drill new irrigation water well not to exceed 250 ac-ft per year. The proposed well is located approximately 6 miles west of the community of Waelder, 6.7 miles east of the community of Harwood at the intersection of State Highway 90 and State Highway 304 in Gonzales County. The well will produce from the Carrizo City Aquifer.

The GCUWCD Rules in effect at the time of this permit application submittal are the April 14, 2020 Rules. Permit notice and hearing procedures are included in Rule 24. Copies of the GCUWCD's April 14, 2020 rules are available at the GCUWCD office located at 522 Saint Matthew Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629 or online at the GCUWCD website [www.gcuwcd.org](http://www.gcuwcd.org). The GCUWCD phone number is 830-672-1047.

Interested persons may provide written comments to the GCUWCD on the proposed irrigation well aggregate permit application. Written comments should be filed within thirty (30) days of the date of publication of this notice and in accordance with Rule 24 of the rules of the GCUWCD. Comments should be submitted to the GCUWCD's General Manager at 522 Saint Matthew Street, P.O. Box 1919, Gonzales, Texas 78629.

Where no comments are received by the District and the General Manager determines the application meets all relevant District rules, a public hearing is not required and the Board may act on the permit application at a Board meeting.

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### CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
County of Gonzales

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 am on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you."

**To: HEIRS AT LAW OF MILTON RAY LACKEY, DECEASED**

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the 2nd 25th Judicial District Court of Gonzales County, Texas in the Courthouse in the City of Gonzales, Texas at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. Monday, the 30th day of January, 2023 being the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after this citation is issued, and you are hereby required then and there to appear and file written answer to the Petition, filed in said Court on August 5, 2022, in suit numbered 28,325 on the docket of said court, wherein The Veterans Land Board of the State of Texas, Plaintiff, v. Milton Ray Lackey and the Heirs at Law of Milton Ray Lackey, Deceased, Defendants.

The Petition seeks an order to foreclose the lien on the property and assert a claim to the property located at 1434 Saint Andrew Street, Gonzales, TX 78629 and legally described as: Being All That Certain Tract Of 0.228 Acres of Land, More Or Less, Lying And Being All Situated In Gonzales County, Texas, Being Part Of Lot No. 7, Tier No. 2, East Of Water Street, In The Original Outer Town Of Gonzales, And More Particularly Being Part Of That Certain Tract Described In Warranty Deed Dated November 6, 1961. Executed By Elizabeth L. Lewis Et. Al. To Arnold Jones Recorded In Volume 327, Page 414, Of The Gonzales County Deed Records, And The Particular Portion There Of Hereby Intended To Be Conveyed Is Described By Metes And Bounds As Follows To Wit:

Beginning At A 5/8 Inch Iron Rod Found At The Northeast Corner Of That Certain Tract Described To Warranty Deed Dated June 11, 1990, Executed By Vivian Jones Hunt to A.B. Allen, Jr., Recorded In Volume 654, Page 343, Of The Official Records Of Gonzales County, Texas, And In The South Line Of The Abandoned Southern Pacific Railroad Tract, And In The North Line Of Said Jones Tract For The Northwest Corner Of This Tract Or Parcel Of Land Hereby Intended To Be Described:

Thence North 88° 39' 24" East 95.67 Feet With The South Line Of Said Abandoned Southern Pacific Tract, And The North Line Of Said Jones Tract To A 5/8 Inch Iron Road Found In The South Line Of Said Abandoned Southern Pacific Railroad Tract, And In The West Line Of Clark Street, And At The Northeast Corner Of Said Jones Tract For The Northeast Corner Of This Tract Or Parcel Of Land Hereby Intended To Be Described:

Thence South 20° 00' 00" East 91.73 Feet With The Cast Line Of Said Jones Tract, And The West Line Of Said Clark Street To A 6/8 Inch Iron Rod Found In Said Lines, And At The Northeast Corner Of That Certain Tract Described In Warranty Deed Dated January 3, 2002. Executed By Arnold Guerra Et Us., To Sergio Leon Et. Al, Recorded In Volume 860, Page 519, Of The Official Records Of Gonzales County. For The Southeast Corner Of This Tract Or Parcel Of Land Hereby Intended To Be Described:

Thence South 71° 45' 36" West 96.42 Feet And Entering Said Jones Tract With The North Line Of Said Leon Tract To A 5/8 Inch Iron Rod Found At The Northwest Corner Of Said Leon Tract, And In The Cast Line Of Said Allen Tract For The Southwest Corner Of This Tract Or Parcel Of Land Hereby Intended To Be Described:

Thence North 17° 15' 00" West 119.51 Feet With The East Line Of Said Allen Tract To The Place Of Beginning, Containing Within Said Bounds 0.228 Of An Acre Of Land, More Or Less.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT at Gonzales, Texas this 16th day of December, 2022:

Issued at the request of: Gina R. Boul  
Address: 13105 Northwest Freeway, Suite 960, Houston, TX 77040

Janice Sutton, District Clerk  
Gonzales County, Texas  
414 St. Joseph Street; Suite 300  
Gonzales, Texas 78629

By: *[Signature]*

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**AUCTION**

**45th Annual Cattleman Bull & Female Sale** 12:00 Noon, Jan. 21, 2023, El Campo Livestock Exchange, El Campo, Texas. 100 bulls, 250 females, [cattlemansale.com](http://cattlemansale.com).

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# SPORTS

## Apaches drop district opener to La Vernia

**BY VANDY VAN EPPS**  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches and the La Vernia Bears kicked off district play at Apache Gymnasium Friday, Dec. 30.

The Apaches dropped their district opener, 64-46, against La Vernia after starting off strong against the Bears.

Gonzales continues to deal with problems of starting off strong and not finishing all four quarters of game.

“We play well in the first two quarters and we talked about we’ve got to have three, hopefully four good quarters, but it’s just one of those things that we’ve got to watch film and we’ve just got to make adjustments and try to find different pieces that kind of fit those things that were lacking in those areas,” Gonzales head basketball coach Matthew Hart said.

Hart and the Apaches hope to have their full strength in their match against San Antonio Kennedy Tuesday, Jan. 3. See separate story on this page.

Hart said during the last couple of games they didn’t have their full team together for the Pleasanton game and the Shulenburg tournament.

“It’ll be good to see all them together and have different scoring options that we’ll have. I think it’d be really good and, again, I think it’s going to be that spark that we need because we got guys that can come in here and score the basketball,” Hart said.

The Apaches will face a Kennedy team that is coached very well, Hart said.

“They’ve got a lot of good guards. They’re not the tallest team in the world, but they’ve got a good point guard that can handle the ball. He can pass and can shoot, so we’ve got to figure out what we can do to slow him down so that we can slow that team down,” Hart said.



Above: Apaches senior guard Angel Martinez (4) dribbles the ball against a Bears defender inside La Vernia’s paint with junior forward Ryder McGehee (13) Friday, Dec. 30, at home. Apaches junior guard Weston Ruddock (2) shoots the ball towards La Vernia’s basket Friday, Dec. 30.

PHOTOS BY  
VANDY VAN EPPS

## Apaches fall to JFK in second district game

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Gonzales Apaches varsity basketball squad came up short in a 50-47 loss to San Antonio John F. Kennedy Tuesday, Jan. 3 on the road.

The Apaches led most of the game. However, during the final two min-

utes of the game, Kennedy went on a 11-4 run to snatch a victory from Gonzales’ grasp.

Gonzales will get back on the road into San Antonio again as they face the San Antonio Memorial Minutemen on Tuesday, Jan. 10.

Tip off is set for 6:30 p.m.



VANDY VAN EPPS

Junior Sydney McCray (3) possesses the ball for the Lady Apaches with senior Carlee Ramos (35) against the La Vernia Lady Bears Saturday, Dec. 31.

## Bears stall Lady Apaches’ offense

**BY VANDY VAN EPPS**  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches lost their second straight district game, 79-33, against the La Vernia Lady Bears on the road Saturday, Dec. 31, to close out 2022.

Gonzales struggled offensively, scoring 12 points in the first half against a tough La Vernia team.

“They’re a very talented team and they’ve got a lot of depth and they shoot the ball really well,” Lady Apaches head basketball coach Dana Sestak said. “So it’s very frustrating because I thought we did a really nice job on defense, but they’ve just got some players who can hit the shots.”

Gonzales made some adjustments in second half, and Sestak said they talked about effort

and trying to contain the paint and not let La Vernia score inside.

“We adjusted our press break just a little bit to take a little bit of pressure off of us and it helped. We did a better job of running our lanes in the second half. And we got a little bit better,” Sestak said.

The Lady Apaches played San Antonio Kennedy Tuesday, Jan. 2. See separate story on this page.

Sestak said every team they have lost to will make her team work much harder everyday, especially against Kennedy.

“Each game is important, and we’re looking forward, rather than looking backwards. We can’t do anything about today’s game, but we can learn from it and that’s what we’re definitely going to do,” Sestak said.

## Lady Apaches earn first district win of the season against JFK



Junior Sydney McCray (3) tips the game off for the Lady Apaches against San Antonio Kennedy Tuesday, Jan. 3.

VANDY VAN EPPS

**BY VANDY VAN EPPS**  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches snapped a six-game losing streak with a 52-35 win over San Antonio Kennedy Tuesday, Jan. 3 and earned their first district win of the season in the process.

The Lady Apaches rebounded from losses to San Antonio Fox Tech and La Vernia in the first two district matches of the season.

Head girls basketball coach Dana Sestak said she and her team were so happy to get that first district win against Kennedy and worked very hard to get to this point in the third district game.

“We’ve really battled a lot. We’ve battled a lot of injuries, we’ve battled different rotations every time we play, but we don’t want to use that as excuses,” Sestak said.

“It’s one of those things that you have to get over the hump. And once you finally get over the hump, we’ll have a little bit of confidence in ourselves, a little bit of belief that we can actually play hard and win,” Sestak added.

See **WIN**, page 11

## Lady Apaches lose in thriller against Fox Tech

**BY VANDY VAN EPPS**  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches kicked off district with a thriller against San Antonio Fox Tech at home Thursday, Dec. 29.

The Lady Apaches fell to Fox Tech, 47-43, in the final minutes of the game after starting strong in the first quarter with a 17-4 lead.

Lady Apaches head basketball coach Dana Sestak said it was a good fast-paced game for her

team against Fox Tech, but their shooting percentage was off.

“We just have to keep working to get better, we’re not talking, we’re not blocking out. And those are important things, whenever you play against teams that takes as many shots as they do,” Sestak said

“We need to be able to take the long shot and let our inside people clear off the backboard,” Sestak added.

Entering the second quarter,

See **GONZALES**, page 11



VANDY VAN EPPS

Sophomore Kilee Schwausch (5) holds the ball on the San Antonio Fox Tech side of the court Thursday, Dec. 29.



# Mustangs, Lady Mustangs finish 2nd in home tournament



Mustangs Senior forward Braxton Regalado dunks the ball in to Sacred Hearts basketball in the Nixon-Smiley Tournament Wednesday, Dec. 28.

**BY VANDY VAN EPPS**  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Nixon-Smiley varsity basketball teams closed out 2022 with their third annual Nixon-Smiley Holiday Invitational Wednesday, Dec. 28 to Thursday, Dec. 29.

The Mustangs and Lady Mustangs started strong in day one of the tournament; the Mustangs defeated Sacred Heart, 56-29, and Jourdanton, 41-25, and the Lady Mustangs beaten Karnes City, 32-25, and Three Rivers, 35-27.

Both head coaches, Carlton McKinney and Jordan Estrada, were excited about hosting the tournament and how much it has grown over the last three seasons.

“We’ve done a really good job. We kept it in one gym for the first two years and this year the coaches wanted to expand it,” McKinney said. “So we added three more teams on the boys side, three more on the girls side. It’s gonna be a lot more competitive, which it’s a great opportunity [for the team].”



Lady Mustangs Sophomore Kaylie Morin (15) squares off against a Three Rivers defender Wednesday, Dec. 28, in the Nixon-Smiley middle school gym.

After the Karnes City game, Estrada said she looked forward to facing good competition in the tournament, especially an opportunity to get some of the younger players on the court.

The varsity teams would clinch a spot in the tournament championship game beating Rice Consolidated in both the boys and girls bracket.

The Lady Mustangs would lose to Sacred Heart, 54-35, and the Mustangs fell to Hondo, 66-52, and finished second in their respective brackets.

Ayanna Corpus, Kendall Amaya, Mady Velasquez, Braxton Regalado, Bradyn Martinez, and Carl White were named to the Nixon-Smiley all-tournament team.



Apaches Miguel Ramos (6) battles with a Victoria West player during Tuesday, Jan. 3 match up.

## Apaches lose opener to Warriors

**BY VANDY VAN EPPS**  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzale Apaches have a lot to work on after losing their opener, 7-0, against the Victoria West Warriors at home Tuesday, Jan 3.

The Apaches allowed three goals from the Warriors in the first half and their troubles continued with four more goals in the second half.

Apaches head soccer coach Shea Seip said his team started off slow against Victoria West. He told them if they started off slow, it would not be good.

“We’ve got to get out of this funk because we come out slow. Then we get down at halftime

and then we have to come up and we need to be the aggressors,” Seip said.

The Apaches are a young team, many of whom are playing varsity for the first time. Heading into the La Grange tournament, they have to learn it’s a fast-paced game.

“They’re going to learn they can’t come out slow [heading into tournament season in La Grange]. They’re going to learn that everything is fast-paced and everything that we do has to have a certain intensity,” Seip said.

Gonzales kicks off the tournament season in La Grange on Thursday, Jan. 5 through Saturday, Jan. 7; they’ll face La Grange, Sealy, Manor New Tech, Corpus Christi London, and Bandera.

## Lady Apaches fall to Titans in opener

**BY VANDY VAN EPPS**  
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches kicked off their soccer season opener at home against the Victoria East Lady Titans Tuesday, Jan. 3.

The Lady Apaches fell to the Lady Titans, 3-1, but despite the loss, head girls soccer coach Shantael Trimm said she was utilizing skills that her team has been working on at practice, she said.

“We have seen an incredible amount of improvement from these girls, so we’re really proud of them. There’s still some things we need to tweak before we get into our district games,” Trimm said.

“This is perfect opportunity in these games. These tournaments that we have coming up this weekend, and next week are the perfect opportunity for us to experiment a little bit and clean up our mistake,” Trimm continued.

The Lady Apaches prevented the shutout, scoring their only goal of the game in the second half.

Trimm said scoring that goal was an important thing for her players and for their morale.

“No, we weren’t at 100%, but I’m so proud of the effort that they gave. And I know



Senior Nancy Nino (17) kicks the ball to sophomore Bella Aguero in the home opener against the Victoria East Lady Titans Tuesday, Jan. 3.

that was a little morale boost because we need to work on not being down and then hanging our heads and giving up,” Trimm said.

The Lady Apaches will travel to Steele High School for their first tournament of the season, and hope they will get some experience when facing the tough competition.

“We’ve actually scheduled our pre-district games and our scrimmages against some really competitive

teams from schools and districts who are ranked higher than us specifically for that, so that we have these challenges. If we’re coming out, and we’re having these practice games against opponents who are below where we are, that’s not good practice for us,” Trimm said.

Gonzales travels to Steele Thursday, Jan. 5; and will face East Central, Peiper and Gregory Portland in the tournament.

## WIN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

The Lady Apaches kept out of foul trouble with less than 10 versus Kennedy’s 16 fouls during the whole game.

Sestak said it shows growth from her team, not committing too many fouls against Kennedy, and she added that’s the first thing “in the beginning of the game” to not make easy fouls.

Sophomore Bella Aguero contributed to the offense and she said it’s always good to pass the basketball to her teammates and vice versa.

Aguero said she loves to pass the ball when her teammates are on fire and able to execute what they have been preaching about.

The Lady Apaches will have a bye this Friday and will host San Antonio Memorial Tuesday, Jan. 10, and they’ve already started looking at film.

“So we’re going to try to



Freshmen Isabella Ikard, of the Lady Apaches, goes on defense against San Antonio Kennedy player Tuesday, Jan. 3.

mimic some of the things that they do, so that when we see it, it’s not new. So we’ll just spend a little bit more time watching film on us to see the things that we need to do better,” Sestak said.

“Then we’ll focus a bit on Memorial, but I think our biggest

key right now has got to be to just focus on ourselves,” Sestak continued.

The Lady Apaches will be back on their district schedule Tuesday, Jan. 10 against the San Antonio Memorial Minutewomen at home.

Tip off is set for 6:30 p.m.

## Velasquez reaches 1,000 career points

**FROM STAFF REPORTS**

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs celebrated one of their own during the Cole game Tuesday, Jan. 3 at home.

Senior Madeline “Mady” Velasquez went over 1,000 points in her fourth year on the varsity team and was honored by her teammates, coaches and Nixon-Smiley fans during the second quarter of the Cole game.

The Lady Mustangs fell to Cole, 28-27, dropping to 0-3 in district play.



Lady Mustangs head basketball coach Jordan congratulates Mady Velasquez for scoring 1000 career points.

Nixon-Smiley will hit the road Friday, Jan. 6 to face the Luling Lady Eagles.

Tip off is set for 6:15 p.m.

## Mustangs earn their first district win over Cole

**STAFF REPORT**

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs got back to district play with a 45-40 home win over the Cole Cougars Tuesday, Jan. 3 at home.

The Mustangs improved

to 14-3 on the year and moved to 1-1 in district.

Nixon-Smiley will hit the road Friday, Jan. 6 as they face the Luling Eagles in the third district game of the season.

Tip off in Luling is set for 7:30 p.m.

## GONZALES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

the Lady Apaches led 17-4, but Fox Tech tied the game with a 13-0 run over Gonzales.

Sestak said Fox Tech made their adjustments and her team

didn’t make the adjustments against them.

The Lady Apaches faced the La Vernia Bears Saturday, Dec. 31. See separate story on this

page.

Sestak said her team will go back to work on the small things that are hurting them and start building their foundation.



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contrary. Don't say, "Yeah but I'm hurting." I guarantee you that if you will hold fast to that one confession and not negate it by saying, "I still have this and I still have that," you will be alright. Your symptoms will disappear.

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# Deadlines approaching for SBA Working Capital Loans

## SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Director Tanya N. Garfield of the U.S. Small Business Administration's Disaster Field Operations Center-West reminded Texas small nonfarm businesses of the deadline dates to apply for an SBA federal disaster loan for economic injury. These low-interest loans are to offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by drought in the following primary counties.

The deadline for declaration number 17481, which includes Gonzales County and is related to drought as of April 5, 2022, is Jan. 31, 2023.

According to Garfield, small nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may apply for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to help meet working capital needs caused by the disasters. "Economic Injury Disaster Loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that cannot be paid because of the disasters' impact," said Garfield.

"SBA eligibility covers both the economic impacts on businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers that have suffered agricultural production losses caused by the disasters and businesses directly impacted by the disasters. Economic injury assistance is available regardless of whether the applicant suffered any property damage," Garfield added.

The interest rate is 2.94 percent for businesses and 1.875 percent for private nonprofit organizations with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

By law, SBA makes Economic Injury Disaster Loans available when the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. The Secretary declared declaration 17481 on May 31, 2022.

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

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

For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 King-sport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

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OBITUARIES

PEGGY JEAN ELZNER TEPERA JANOTA

Peggy passed away peacefully December 31, 2022 in The Woodlands, Texas surrounded by her family. She was born August 30, 1933 to Peter Leopold and Annie Malish Elzner. Peggy was raised in Taft, Texas. She married Steve M. Tepera in 1953. After his passing, Peggy married Edward Janota in 1984. She and her friend, Rosalie Bohuslav, owned and operated a bakery in Corpus Christi.

Peggy lost her daughters, Debra and Cynthia, in 1995 and 1998, respectively.

Survivors include her children: Gary Tepera,



James Tepera, Ronald Janota, Donna Harkins and William Janota; 12 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren with the 10th expected in May 2023.

Peggy liked cooking and baking, her Czech heritage and Czech songs. She was a devout Catholic.

Visitation will begin Sunday, January 8, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Resthaven Funeral Home Chapel in Sinton with rosary at 5:30 PM. The Funeral Mass will be Monday, January 9, 10:30 AM at The Holy Family Church in Taft. Burial will follow in Lamas Memorial Park Cemetery, Taft.

Guestbook available online at [www.resthavenfunerals.com](http://www.resthavenfunerals.com)

Arrangements and care entrusted to Resthaven Funeral Home, Sinton.

MIGUEL “MIKE” DELEON

On December 29, 2022, our loving father Miguel “Mike” DeLeon, age 59, of Nixon, went to be with the Lord. Mike was born March 14, 1963, in Nixon, to Pablo DeLeon Sr. and Dorothy (Flores) DeLeon. Mike worked many years in the construction field as a truck driver and was a loving son, brother, father and grandfather. Preceding him in death are his lifetime partner Agrippina “Pina” DeLeon, parents and brothers, Pablo DeLeon Jr. and Rene DeLeon.

Mike will be dearly missed by his children Erica DeLeon, Michelle DeLeon (Michael Perez), Kimberly DeLeon, Miguel DeLeon Jr. (Elizabeth) and Ashley DeLeon; grandchildren, Gracen Sam Martin, Reagan Grace Martin, Masen Ryan DeLeon, Alexis Brooke DeLeon, Haley



Monique Kalisek, Katelyn Daniele Fernandez, Angel Anselmo Barbosso, Lauren Grace DeLeon, Josiah Rene DeLeon, Juliete Faith Ovalle and Houston Garcia; brothers Gabriel DeLeon, Nick DeLeon (Kristine) and Fernando DeLeon (Andrea); sisters Diana Kozlovsky (Michael) and Anna DeLeon (Gayle Autry); numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews,

cousins and a host of friends. A visitation with the family will be held on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, from 5pm to 8pm with a Rosary Vigil recited at 6:30pm, at Finch Funeral Chapel, Nixon.

**FUNERAL MASS**  
Thursday, Jan. 5, 2023  
10:00am  
St. Joseph Catholic Church, Nixon

Father Kuriakose Ouseph will officiate at the Mass. Interment will follow in the Leesville Latin American Cemetery, Leesville. You may sign the online guestbook at [www.finchfuneralchapels.com](http://www.finchfuneralchapels.com). Services in care of:

Finch Funeral Chapel, LLC  
308 E. Third St.  
Nixon, Texas 78140  
(830)582-1521

DOMINGO O. RAMIREZ JR.

We are saddened to announce the passing of our family’s patriarch, Domingo O. Ramirez Jr. on December 30, 2022, at the age of 81. Domingo was born December 9, 1941, in Gonzales, to Domingo Ramirez Sr. and Juana Ornelas Ramirez.

On September 14, 1973, he married the love of his life Mary Rodriguez Ramirez. In his younger years he enjoyed fishing and hunting along with camping. During his retirement he loved to go riding in his car from town-to-town, shopping, while listening to oldies or what he called “oldies but goodies”. His favorite moments in life were spending time with his family, watching his grandchildren and great grandchildren play. He was always one for a good joke and was always one phone call away.

For the last 18 years every breath he fought for, was for his youngest son Eric Mark who he nurtured and devoted 33 years to his every need.

This is not the end Pop; for we know you are rejoicing in heaven, whole again with a brand-new heart. While we will miss walking in the house hearing you say, “Hello



hello hello!” we know you will be watching over us until we meet again.

Domingo is survived by his wife Mary Rodriguez Ramirez, his children, Pamela Cobler, Sonny Ramirez and wife Susie, Karen Ann Ramirez and husband Randy Tovar, and Eric Mark Ramirez; his grandchildren, Stephen Cobler Jr. (Cecelia), Matthew Cobler (Brittany), Randy J. Tovar (Kerri), Dylan Tovar (Dezirey), Jeffery Tovar (Lexi), Destiny Tovar, Jimmy Tovar, Kobe Tovar, Jaylen Tovar, Kayla Ramirez, Sonny Martin Ramirez Jr., and Breanna Hodges; his great grandchildren, Jonathan Zavala, Jesslyn Zavala, Paris Martinez, Jeremiah Falcon, JoAnna Tovar, Julianna Tovar, Lexxani Tovar, Isabella Cobler, Gabriella Cobler, Hannah Cobler, Callie Cobler, Me-

kenzie Cobler, Matthew Cobler Jr., Abigail Cobler, Zoey Cobler, Samantha Cobler; his siblings, Gloria Ramirez, Roy Ramirez, LeeRoy Ramirez, Diane Ramirez, JoAnn Ramirez, Ruben Ramirez, Ricky Ramirez, Martina Aguero, Tony Ramirez, Richard Ramirez, Rudy Ramirez, and Janie Rosales.

He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings Mary Rivera, Inez Ramirez, Mary Ann Villanueva, and Jimmy Ramirez.

Pallbearers include Sonny Ramirez, Steven Cobler, Jr., Matthew Cobler, Sonny Martin Ramirez, Jr., Randy J. Tovar, Dylan Tovar, Jeffery Tovar, Kobe Tovar, and Jimmy Tovar.

A visitation will take place at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, from 5 to 7 pm, with a rosary following at 7pm. A Mass of The Resurrection will take place at St. James Catholic Church, Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at 2pm. Interment will follow at St. James Catholic Cemetery.

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

Woman’s Study Club meets for Christmas Party

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

On Wednesday, Dec. 14, the Woman’s Study Club met at the beautifully decorated home of Jean Ollum for their annual Christmas party. Ollum has hosted this lovely event since approximately 1992. Twelve members and two guests were present.

In the absence of the president,

vice-president Noell Ince presided and read a Christmas poem to the group. Some matters of interest were discussed and Christmas greetings were distributed from former member Ann Covert. Jean Ollum gave each attendee a handcrafted quilted item.

Delicious food, provided by the members, was then enjoyed by the group.

Angelo State University announces Fall 2022 Dean’s List

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas, has announced the students achieving the Dean’s List for the 2022 fall semester.

To be eligible for the ASU Dean’s List, full-time undergraduate students must maintain a 3.25 or better grade

point average on a 4.0 scale.

The complete Dean’s List is available at [angelo.edu/commencement](http://angelo.edu/commencement).

Students from the area on the list include:

- Lillie Coplin of Gonzales (78629), Dual Credit
- Kabel Faltisek of Gonzales (78629), Studio Art

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Garza graduates from SHSU

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The following area students received degrees during the 2022 Fall semester at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville:

- Haley Garza of Gonzales, Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology.

**Gonzales Healthcare Systems**  
**JANUARY 2023**

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

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Jeff Echols, DC  
(512)799-6811

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(830) 626-5551  
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Eric Miller, M.D.  
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# Shiner Gaslight Theatre season tickets on sale

## SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Be a part of the action! Get your season tickets for the 2023 plays presented at the Shiner Gaslight Dinner Theatre.

The spring production, “Dear Jack, Dear Louise,” is a joyous, heartwarming love story about Jack, a soldier, and Louise, a beautiful young actress, who meet by letter during WWII. Go back in time

and enjoy the music and experiences of a bygone era.

The summer production, “Drinking Habits,” is about two nuns who are secretly making wine to keep their beloved convent from being closed. Accusations, mistaken identities, and romances run wild when undercover reporters and paranoia take over. Wine and secrets are inevitably spilled in this hilarious farce.

The fall production, “The Charitable Sisterhood Christmas Spectacular,” involves the ladies of the Charitable Sisterhood who are preparing for Second Trinity Church’s annual Christmas Spectacular. Trouble brews when it is discovered that the baby Jesus figure has been stolen from the nativity scene! Finding the guilty thief takes precedence, but the truth isn’t disclosed until the end of the Spectacular.

The hilarious revelation at the show’s climax leaves the audience and the sisterhood filled with the best Christmas spirit ever.

Please log on to the website at [www.shinergaslight.org](http://www.shinergaslight.org) to access the season ticket form and mail it to P.O. Box 223, Shiner, TX 77984. Call 361-594-2079 for additional information.

Deadline is January 31, 2023.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

### Gonzales County Sheriff’s Office

12/25/22 – 12/31/22

12/25/22

• Carreno, Florentino, Jr., 08/1999, San Antonio: Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Released on \$500 Bond

12/26/22

• Rodriguez, Lisa Marie, 3/1990, Harwood: Assault causes Bodily Injury Family Member; Requires \$3,500 Bond, Remains in Custody

12/27/22

• Crothers. Antwone Jabrel, 07/1982, Austin: Local Warrant – Violate Bond/Protective Order; Local Warrant – Fail to Identify giving False/Fictitious Info, Requires \$1,500 Bond; Travis County Warrant – Violate Bond/Protective Order Assault/Stalking IAT, Remains in Custody

12/30/22

• Salazar, Jason Ryan, 03/1992, Austin: Local Warrant – Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Requires \$1,500 Bond, Remains in Custody

• Solis, James Elis, 11/1976, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Possession Controlled Substance PG 1 <1G, Released – Weekender

• Thorne, Colby Wayne, 11/2001, Waelder: Commitment/Sentence – Burglary of Habitation; Commitment/Sentence – Prohibited Substance/Item in Correctional Facility, Released – Weekender

12/31/22

• Hansen, Natalie Kara, 11/1991, Leander: Local Warrant – Burglary of Habitation; Local Warrant – Burglary of Building; Released on \$75,000 Bond

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

GCSO	07
DPS	02
GPD	08
WPD	00
NPD	00
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 17



CONTRIBUTED

Certain security elements of the temporary tag depicted here have been modified so they are not as easily replicated.

## Redesigned Texas temporary tags now in use

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

New temporary tags are now in use in Texas, The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles reported Friday, Dec. 9.

TxDMV introduced a new look for tags issued by licensed Texas motor vehicle dealers to further back efforts to prevent the fraudulent production of, access to and use of temporary license tags in Texas.

The new tags feature a more complex design than existing tags and include added security features to facilitate law enforcement identification of counterfeit tags and increase the safety of traffic stops.

Features of the new tag design include:

- Texas flag watermark.
- Enhanced depiction of tag expiration date, vehicle year and make, and name of issuing dealer.
- Identification of the specific type of tag issued.
- Font selection and size that maximize readability of primary components.
- Active and passive security features identifiable by law enforcement.
- Numerous pieces of embedded data and text, linked to law enforcement databases, that can be created only by internal TxDMV computer systems.

It should be noted that for security purposes, not all features have been described in this list, TxDMV said in their news release.

For more information about the new tags and prior actions taken to reduce fraudulent temporary tag use, please visit [www.TxDMV.gov/temporarytags](http://www.TxDMV.gov/temporarytags).

## SUNDOWNERS 4-H CLUB HELPS OUT



The Sundowners 4-H club members used their hands for larger service on Monday, Jan. 2, to help the First United Methodist Church take down Christmas decorations.

CONTRIBUTED

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TPCL #12594

### ACROSS

1 Happy New \_\_\_\_ 2023!

5 Guthrie performer at several TX Willie “Farm Aids”

6 Austin FM

7 \_\_\_\_ Jo, TX (abbr.)

8 Texans Bonnie & Clyde, e.g.

9 “Big D”

15 Sherilyn of 1992 film “Ruby” about Texas nightclub owner

16 TXism: “I gave him a \_\_\_\_ own medicine”

19 TXism: “tame as \_\_\_\_”

21 “\_\_\_\_ minutel” (hold your horses)

22 Mexican female in Texas

27 apartment expense

28 “\_\_\_\_ your heart be troubled,” (Biblical advice)

29 \_\_\_\_ Shoot, TX

30 final month of the State Fair of Texas

32 “nickel” symbol

33 TX Candace was “\_\_\_\_ Beck Tyler Cortlandt \_\_\_\_ Tyler” on “All My Children” (1976-95)

36 Smith of Texas-based “Death of a Gunfighter” (1969)

37 TXism: “no flies on \_\_\_\_” (pretty gal)

38 TXism for “rogue”

39 put into the NFL Hall of Fame, like Troy

### DOWN

1 talk, talk, talk

2 “to \_\_\_\_ is human”

3 Astro pitcher (1990-93) (2 wds.)

4 newspaper for Lamar County town on FM 137 & FM 38 (2 wds.)

8 “Mission Nuestra Senora \_\_\_\_ Purisma Concepcion” (San Antonio)

9 TXism: “a hard \_\_\_\_ the porch” (good canine)

10 TXism: “old \_\_\_\_ sin”

11 country singer and rodeo cowboy Chris \_\_\_\_Doux

41 TXism: “two-bit \_\_\_\_” (poor horse)

42 made watertight

45 1-across song: “\_\_\_\_ Lang Syne”

46 “\_\_\_\_ and behold”

47 “Texas Two-\_\_\_\_”

48 assn. for the Rockets, Mavericks, and Spurs

49 cowboy bath night

52 ate at a nice restaurant

53 Cowboy scores (abbr.)

### TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1618

# SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

### Fun By The Numbers

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

### Here's How It Works:

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

Answers found in next week's Classifieds.



TRUCK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fire engines,” City Manager Tim Crow and Fire Chief Wade Zella told council members in a request for funding. “The repairs are extremely costly and more than \$100k has been spent for repairs since 2016.

“This engine is unreliable and as stated the repairs have become an ongoing extremely costly expense. This particular engine takes up a majority of the maintenance to vehicles line item within the budget annually.”

The new pumper is being purchased through the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Purchasing Program for a total cost of \$853,093. The purchase will be financed through the Government

Capital Corporation at 4.895-percent interest over the course of eight years at a cost of \$132,202.75 per year.

The city had originally approved the purchase at their Oct. 13 council meeting with annual payments of \$129,760.54, but GCC was unable to fund the purchase at that time before the 30-day lock on interest expired. However, they were able to lock in the interest rate this November, albeit for an additional annual amount of \$2,442.21.

Payments will officially begin on the new vehicle one year from the contract signing with Siddons and annually thereafter for seven more years.

FIRE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

injured in the blaze, a couple living in the home, Rick Bivins and Megan Ainsworth, now has been left without their possessions.

A GoFundMe campaign was begun by Kacie Henke of Gonzales to help the couple.

“I am trying to get them a little help to get them back on their feet,” Henke said on the GoFundMe page. “If you are able to

donate anything please do or just keep them in your prayers as they sort through this devastating time. Thank you!”

To donate to the GoFundMe and spread some post-Christmas cheer to this family, go to <https://gofund.me/3823ef8a>.

As of Tuesday, Jan. 3, some \$1,610 had been raised towards a goal of \$5,000.

NEWBURY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Preston’s successor, directed the event for 27 years.

When he retired, Ron Keener, pastor of Northlake Community Church, took over. They’ve served some 60,000 meals--most of them at Howard Payne University--for the past 38 years. Some 2,000 persons have been served annually for several years. Area residents and businesses underwrite feast food costs.

Brownwood also has the Lehnis Railroad Mu-

seum. The city’s mantra is “feels like home.” And it does.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. God willing, I’ll begin my 21st year of weekly ramblings come February, hoping always to provide smiles....

\*\*\*\*\*

Dr. Newbury was a longtime university president. He continues to write weekly and speak regularly throughout Texas. Contact information: Phone, 817-447-3872. Email: [newbury@speakerdoc.com](mailto:newbury@speakerdoc.com). Facebook: Don Newbury.

Your Ticket to Local Finds



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GEDC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and Devon Warzecha. GEDC Board President Ken Morrow would like the community to know that the decision was made because it was the highest local offer that preserved the historic integrity of the building. The GEDC is eager to get the building back on the tax roll and in use.

GEDC listened to the council when they decided that they did not want the building to be used for multifamily housing. The deal that GEDC is working on will preserve the marque and restrict the use of the facility as an entertainment venue. We anticipate the buyers will make a presentation to council on Jan. 19. GEDC has invested more than \$700,000 into the theater over the past two decades for the community.

The board also approved a contract with Retail Strategies for GEDC to participate in the ICSC Red River deal making trade show in Dallas. The scope of the work includes updating all of the Gonzales retail statistics, identifying sites for retail developments and setting up appointments with potential retailers. When we look at sales tax money that is leaving the community, we have a gaps in food and grocery, apparel, fast food and several other categories. We hope to attract new retail and use the data to help our existing retailers expand.

The Gonzales Chamber of Commerce recently took over the responsibilities of promoting Gonzales as a tourist destination. Because GEDC has funds available for advertising and because tourist spend money while they are visiting, the board approved

spending \$4,800 for cooperative advertising on two billboards.

The digital billboard will be used to promote seasonal events such as Winterfest, Come And Take It, The Texas Independence Relay and more along with GEDC job fairs and a static billboard located on I-10 near Buc-ees will promote overnight stays, shopping and eating.

We think this is likely just the first step in a very positive and great relationship working with the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce to not only promote tourism but to promote commerce. We are excited about the new energy and ideas Melissa Henderson and Alise Mullins, along with the Chamber have to reach their goals in the new year.

A second amendment for a Main Street grant for 415 St. James was approved. The owners of the building are making improvements that allow them to retain one of their tenants and attract a new renter.

When they began renovations they discovered some infrastructure issues, more specifically, a sewer line that was tied into their facility that served more than one business. The board decided that it was in the best interest to revitalize downtown, they would provide additional funding so the building owner could honor their lease agreements. The building owner has upgraded the electrical and is now working on improvements to the plumbing.

The public will notice that there are significant improvements going on in the vicinity of Texas

Hero square. The city was the beneficiary of a TXGDBG grant through the Texas Department of Agriculture. The grant funds are being used to make Texas Hero Square accessible for visitors and to improve the sidewalks in front of the businesses in the 400 block of St. James. We anticipate these significant improvements along with the new Chamber of Commerce visitors center will be a catalyst for new development in that square.

There are several vacant and underutilized buildings in that district we would like to see occupied. Building owners are encouraged to reach out to Main Street Director Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla and GEDC Director Jennifer Kolbe for information on grants and other resources to revitalize their properties.

We continue to work on development plans for 2521 Harwood Road for future industrial development and the new water tower. During January, we expect to hear the results of the regional plan with the Victoria Economic Development Corporation, host a business roundtable and continue working on job fairs, a career fair with the Gonzales ISD and expanding our marketing efforts attract new primary job businesses.

Snively Forest products, located in the industrial park, continues to staff up and started receiving lumber shipments in December. We are excited to see them grow. Remschel Customs, a project we funded, continues to work on improvements to their building on Oilpatch Lane.



**2023**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

*61 Years of Service*



**January 10, 2023**

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**The Gonzales Inquirer**  
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**DISCOVER**  
**Gonzales County**  
**Visitors' Guide**

Discover Gonzales County is a full-color, glossy publication featuring county-wide dining, lodging and shopping guides; things to do and places to go within Gonzales County; and a calendar of yearly events.

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**Ad deadline: Friday, Jan. 13**  
**Publishes: Thursday, Feb. 23**

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# SIDEWALKS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

\$258,954.07). Originally, the city had budgeted \$500,000 to perform the work some two years ago, but as the project was delayed, costs escalated. The city had received bids for the work on May 12, 2022, but those bids were subsequently all rejected due to budgetary issues. The project was rebid and bids were received Sept. 29, 2022, with Diamond X coming in as the lowest bidder. Street Department director Todd Remschel is serving as the project manager, while city engineer J. Keith Schauer of Doucet & Associates is the project consultant.

# SPEAKER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

licans who voted against McCarthy — mostly members of the hardline-conservative House Freedom Caucus, of which Jordan is the deputy chair — is Rep. Michael Cloud, R-Victoria, who represents Gonzales County in Congress.



McCarthy



Cloud



Jordan

Cloud, a Freedom Caucus member, issued the following statement regarding his vote in opposition to Kevin McCarthy as Speaker of the House of Representatives: “Congress is broken. I have worked for months in high hopes and good faith that our conference would chart a course away from the status quo, put us on a path toward fiscal responsibility, and form a Congress in which the elected Representatives would truly be able to work on behalf of the American people. “I have worked diligently with members of Congress, including Kevin McCarthy, to find agreement on key structural reforms and policy initiatives needed to put our country on the right path. Some progress was made, but ultimately many of the promises made lacked enforcement mechanisms necessary to ensure their implementation, casting doubt on the sincerity of reforms.”

# OBITUARY

## GUADALUPE “LUPE” RODRIGUEZ

Guadalupe “Lupe” Rodriguez, 77, of Houston, formerly of Gonzales, passed away Monday, January 2, 2023. He was born February 5, 1945 in Gonzales the son of Luciano and Julia Longoria Rodriguez. He was a graduate of Gonzales High School and married Evelia Reyes in 1967. He enjoyed the outdoors, hunting, fishing or just walking admiring nature. He was a history buff and followed the History Channel often. Old Country music was his favorite especially Johnny Cash and Willie Nelson. Most of all he treasured time spent with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren who affectionately called him “PeePaw”. He is survived by his wife Evelia Rodriguez of Houston; daughters Rachel Hernandez and husband Ray, Rosalinda Rodriguez and Rebecca Rodriguez all of Houston; son Gregory Rodriguez of Houston; grandchildren Jessica Zamora and husband Jose and Kristen Hernandez and husband John; great-grandchildren Ava Zamora, Alana Zamora, Nora Hernandez and Karina Hernandez; sisters Jamie Hastings and husband Jose Sanchez of Gonzales and Carmen Guterrez and husband Diego of Crown Point, Indiana; brothers Luciano Rodriguez, Jr. and Richard Rodriguez both of Gonzales. He was preceded by his parents, sisters Esther DeLaCruz, Hope Sourbeck and Lupita Tejerina, brother Emilo Rodriguez. Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated 10 a.m. Friday, January 6, 2023 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Reverend Jason Martini officiating. Interment will follow at the St. James Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers include Ray Hernandez, Gregory Rodriguez, Jose Zamora, Richard Rodriguez, Edward Reyes and Joseph Hastings.



Friends may sign the guestbook and leave condolences by visiting [www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com](http://www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com) Arrangements are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home 906 St. Paul St., Gonzales.

# Garden Q&A

## Winter greens should survive the freeze

**Q. Which of the winter greens can I expect to re-grow after the damage from the Christmas week freezes? Can some be replanted or is it too late?**

A. The spinach, kale, collards, onions, turnips and Brussels sprouts don't usually show much damage to freezes. Carrots, beets, and Swiss chard will be quick to recover. You should be able to harvest a new broccoli crop if you put in new transplants by early February. Reseed your lettuce and English peas.

**Q. Will any of the cold weather annual flowers recover? They all look pretty sad!**

A. Pansies and violas usually survive freezes like we experienced without much damage. Snapdragon-

ons, stock, and petunias will usually surprise you and recover their bloom in 5 or 6 weeks. In the shade the begonias look terrible but expect them to sprout again in late spring for summer blooms. We received reports that primrose survived well but the cyclamen looks flattened. Check with your favorite nursery to see what replacement plants they have available.

**Q. Our Mexican olive had its leaves and branches freeze back during the February 2021 freeze and now it looks the same again. Do you think it will survive another experience like that?**

A. It will probably survive another freeze but I think you may be lucky this time and only the leaves will be frozen! Give it some time



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Cold weather annuals such as pansies and violas should survive the recent freeze without much damage.

this winter and spring to see if the branches releaf. If so, you should enjoy blooms by mid-summer.

**Q. We just moved into this area and are fascinated by the wide array of birds that are in the parks and yards. What are some species that would respond if we placed bird houses in our yard?**

A. You are right, it is a wonderful area to observe and enjoy birds. Purple martins, chickadees, titmice, house finches, and English sparrows will use bird houses. Several kinds of woodpeckers and wrens

will use birdhouses and sometimes barn owls will use houses.

**Q. What determines how tall a tree species will grow? Which are the biggest species in the list of recommended species of shade trees?**

A. In simplest terms genetics determines which trees grow the largest but there are other factors involved such as soil depth, soil fertility, and moisture availability. In most lists for our area cedar elm, sycamore, and bur oak are listed as the tallest recommended shade trees.



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



## BEST LAW FIRM ORTMAN FULLILOVE LAW PLLC

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# READERS' CHOICE 2022

GONZALES  
COUNTY'S  
FAVORITE PEOPLE  
& BUSINESSES

*chosen by you!*

A SPECIAL PUBLICATION OF

The  
Gonzales Inquirer







# Readers' Choice

**HIGHLIGHTING OUR READERS' FAVORITES AND  
CELEBRATING THE BEST OF THE BEST OF OUR LOCAL  
BUSINESSES AND PEOPLE**



## BUSINESS

### BEST ANTIQUE STORE:

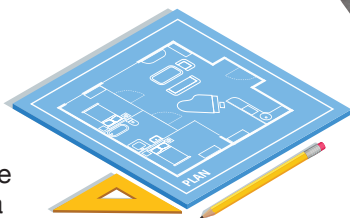
- 1st - Main Street Antiques
- 2nd - Sophie's Treasures
- 3rd - 321 Pop-Up Market

### BEST APPLIANCE STORE:

- 1st - Edwards
- 2nd - GVEC
- 3rd - Apache

### BEST ARCHITECT:

- 1st - Tim Gescheidle
- 2nd - Arnold Guerra



### BEST NEW AUTO DEALERSHIP:

- 1st - West Motors
- 2nd - Steele
- 3rd - Caraway-Gonzales



### BEST PRE-OWNED AUTO DEALERSHIP:

- 1st - West Motors
- 2nd - Tieken-Circle T
- 3rd - Lo's Auto Sales

### BEST AUTO PARTS:

- 1st - Auto Zone
- 2nd - O'Reilly
- 3rd - Irle Auto/NAPA

### BEST AUTO REPAIR:

- 1st - A C Collision
- 2nd - David Hernandez
- 3rd - Matt's Mobile

### BEST BACKHOE/ TRACTOR SERVICE:

- 1st - E.F Ehrig & Sons
- 2nd - Clampit Dozing
- 3rd - CJ



### BEST BANK/FINANCIAL INSTITUTION:

- 1st - Sage Capital Bank
- 2nd - RBFCU
- 3rd - Gonzales National Bank







# BUSINESS

## BEST BEAUTY SHOP:

1st - Le Petit  
2nd - Shear Designs  
3rd - Study Envy

## BEST BED AND BREAKFAST:

1st - Belle Oaks  
2nd - St. James

## BEST BODY SHOP:

1st - Allen's Body Tech  
2nd - A C Collision  
3rd - Jeff's Paint & Body

## BEST BOUTIQUE:

1st - Angels & Outlaws  
2nd - China Basket  
3rd - Shear Designs

## BEST BUILDING SUPPLIES:

1st - Gonzales Building Center  
2nd - McCoys  
3rd - WB Farm & Ranch

## BEST CAR WASH:

1st - Sudz  
2nd - Gonzales Healthcare Systems

## BEST CATERER:

1st - Guerra's  
2nd - Baker Boys  
3rd - Sarah Tenberg

## BEST CATTLE COMPANY:

1st - Gonzales Livestock  
2nd - Graham Cattle Co.  
3rd - Tuna Rosa



## BEST CHILD CARE:

1st - Kendall Zella  
2nd - Christian Kids  
3rd - Apache Academy

## BEST CHILDREN'S WEAR:

1st - Wal-Mart  
2nd - Crew  
3rd - 321 Pop Up

## BEST CHIROPRACTOR:

1st - Dr. Nickells/Luling  
2nd - Dr. Heximer  
3rd - Healing Hand/Seguin

## BEST CRAFT STORE:

1st - Dollar Tree  
2nd - Wal-Mart  
3rd - Purple Cactus

## BEST COSTUME JEWELRY:

1st - Angels & Outlaws  
2nd - Wal-Mart  
3rd - 321 Pop Up

## BEST COMPUTER SERVICE:

1st - Steve Scott  
2nd - Wink's Tech Solutions  
3rd - Cottage Computers

## BEST CONTRACTOR (BUILDING/REMODELING):

1st - Raymond Malatek  
2nd - Arnold Guerra  
3rd - Hartex Construction

## BEST CONVENIENCE STORE/GAS:

1st - HEB  
2nd - Wal-Mart  
3rd - Texaco (St. Joseph Food Mart)

## BEST COSMETICS:

1st - Wal-Mart  
2nd - Hayley Lavon Makeup

## BEST DELI:

1st - Come & Crepe It  
2nd - H E B  
3rd - Subway

## BEST DETAIL SHOP:

1st - Sudz Car Wash  
2nd - Come & Detail It  
3rd - David Smith/Sudz



## BEST INSURANCE AGENT



*Thank you all for your votes!*



**BRITNEY JONES CAKA**  
LUTCF, FSCP, CLU  
Agent

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Gonzales, TX 78629

o 830-672-7518  
M 830-857-6296  
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# BUSINESS

## BEST DOLLAR/DISCOUNT STORE:

1st - Dollar Tree  
2nd - Family Dollar  
3rd - Dollar General

## BEST DRILLING COMPANY/WHERE:

1st - VES  
2nd - Friedels

## BEST DRY CLEANERS:

1st - Victory Cleaners  
2nd - City Dry Cleaners  
3rd - Come & Wash It

## BEST ELECTRICIANS:

1st - Tommy Avant  
2nd - Phil Roeber  
3rd - Frank Wallace

## BEST FARM EQUIPMENT:

1st - E-Barr  
2nd - Fehner  
3rd - Tractor Supply

## BEST FARM SUPPLY STORE:

1st - E-Barr  
2nd - Fehner  
3rd - Tractor Supply



## BEST FEED STORE:

1st - Fehner Son & Grain  
2nd - E-Barr  
3rd - Tractor Supply

## BEST FERTILIZER:

1st - Lindemann Fertilizer  
2nd - Ehrig  
3rd - Fehner

## BEST FINE JEWELRY:

1st - Storeys  
2nd - Laurel Ridge



## BEST FIREARMS:

1st - Fehner Firearms

## BEST FLORIST:

1st - BZ's  
2nd - Persons  
3rd - HEB



## BEST FUNERAL SERVICES:

1st - Seydler Hill  
2nd - Harris Funeral Home

## BEST FURNITURE:

1st - Edwards Furniture  
2nd - 321 Pop Up  
3rd - Spaces Sublime

## BEST GIFT SHOP:

1st - China Basket  
2nd - Laurel Ridge  
3rd - Gonzales Memorial Hospital

## BEST GROCERY STORE:

1st - H E B  
2nd - Wal-Mart  
3rd - Pateks/Shiner

## BEST HARDWARE:

1st - Gonzales Building Supply  
2nd - McCoy's  
3rd - Harbor Freight



## BEST HEALTH/FITNESS BUSINESS:

1st - Thrive  
2nd - Revival  
3rd - Gonzales Healthcare

## BEST HEATING/AC:

1st - Hector Alaniz/HAR  
2nd - Kardosz  
3rd - Jahn Refrigeration

## BEST HOTEL/MOTEL:

1st - Alcalde  
2nd - La Quinta  
3rd - Holiday Inn

## BEST HOSPITAL:

1st - Guadalupe Regional Medical Center  
2nd - Gonzales Healthcare Systems



# Thank You

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2nd Place - Best Farm Equipment & Best Farm Supply Store

3rd Place - Best Fertilizer



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# BUSINESS

## BEST INSURANCE COMPANY:

1st - DuBose Insurance Agency  
2nd - Texas Farm Bureau  
3rd - Logan/Hochheim Prairie

## BEST INTERNET PROVIDER:

1st - GVTC  
2nd - Spectrum  
3rd - GVEC

## BEST INVESTMENT FIRM:

1st - Edward D Jones/Dane King  
2nd - Edward D Jones/Stephanie Hill

## BEST LANDSCAPING/GROUND MAIN:

1st - Rayce Wurz  
2nd - John Parr  
3rd - GLZ Landscaping

## BEST LAW FIRM:

1st - Christie Ortman  
2nd - Reese & Escobar  
3rd - Robert Bland

## BEST LIQUOR STORE:

1st - D&D Liquor Store  
2nd - First Shot



## BEST LAWN AND GARDEN PRODUCTS:

1st - Wal-Mart  
2nd - E-Barr Feeds  
3rd - Gonzales Building Center

## BEST LOAN COMPANY:

1st - Sage Capital Bank  
2nd - RBFCU  
3rd - Texan Credit

## BEST MARKETING/DESIGN:

1st - Personal Impressions  
2nd - Jessie Holt Campion  
3rd - Spaces Sublime

## BEST MEN'S WEAR:

1st - Crew

## BEST MONEY MNGT. COMPANY/ WHERE:

1st - Edward Jones

## BEST MONUMENT CO.:

1st - Capital Monument

## BEST NEWSPAPER:

1st - Gonzales Inquirer



## BEST NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING:

1st - Heights  
2nd - Texan  
3rd - Romberg House

## BEST OIL CHANGE:

1st - Quick Lube  
2nd - Wal-Mart  
3rd - Kings Service Station

## BEST PET GROOMING:

1st - Guadalupe Valley Vet Clinic  
2nd - Stacy Garcia

## BEST PEST CONTROL:

1st - Annie Oakley  
2nd - Orkin  
3rd - Jack's Pest Management



# Thank You!

Thank you for making CREW Men's Store the 2022 winner for

# Best Men's Wear

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1026 Saint Louis Street  
Gonzales, TX





## BUSINESS

### BEST PHARMACY:

- 1st - Wal-Mart
- 2nd - H E B
- 3rd - Mohrmanns

### BEST PHONE SERVICE:

- 1st - AT&T
- 2nd - GVTC
- 3rd - Cricket

### BEST PHYSICAL/OCC. THERAPY:

- 1st - Brittany DuPree
- 2nd - Thrive
- 3rd - Ashley Molina/GHS

### BEST PRO. PHOTOGRAPHY:

- 1st - Courtney Rea
- 2nd - Alex Trevors
- 3rd - IZ

### BEST PLANT NURSERY:

- 1st - Manny Manny
- 2nd - HEB
- 3rd - Green Gate Nursery/Seguin

### BEST PLUMBING BUSINESS:

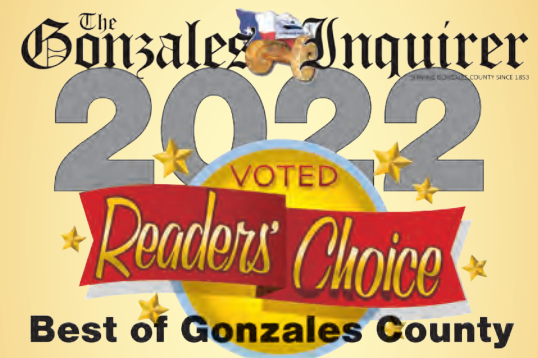
- 1st - Turk & Pavloc
- 2nd - Walker Plumbing
- 3rd - Hartex Construction



# Thank You Everyone for voting D&D Liquor

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## BUSINESS

### BEST POULTRY SUPPLY:

1st - Gonzales Poultry Supply  
2nd - E-Barr  
3rd - Texas Poultry Supply

### BEST PRINTING:

1st - Reese's Print Shop  
2nd - Gonzales Inquirer  
3rd - C H Graphics

### BEST REAL ESTATE FIRM:

1st - Remax/First Shot  
2nd - Breitschopf-Cooper Realty  
3rd - Barrie Inspections

### BEST RENTAL CENTER:

1st - Edwards Furniture  
2nd - Rent-A-Center

### BEST RENTAL PROPERTY:

1st - Monte Vista Apartments

### BEST RESTAURANT:

1st - Mi Lupita's  
2nd - Come & Take It  
3rd - Baker Boys

### BEST RESTROOM MEN:

1st - Circle G  
2nd - San Antonio Distillery  
3rd - Gonzales  
Healthcare Systems



### BEST RESTROOM – WOMEN:

1st - Buc-ees/Luling  
2nd - Circle G  
3rd - Gonzales Healthcare Systems



### BEST ROYALTIES COMPANY/WHERE:

1st place - Lacy/Midland

### BEST STORAGE UNITS:

1st place - Gonzales Storage Units  
2nd place - Storage Box 2U

### BEST TAX PREPARER:

1st - JoAnn Mercer  
2nd - LeAnn Wolff  
3rd - H&R Block

### BEST TANNING SALON:

1st - Revival

### BEST THRIFT STORE:

1st - 321 Popup  
2nd - Main Street Marketplace

### BEST TIRES:

1st - Quality Tire & Auto  
2nd - Wal-Mart  
3rd - Kings Texaco

### BEST TITLE COMPANY:

1st - Burchard Abstract

### BEST TRUCKING COMPANY/WHERE:

1st - E F Ehrig & Son  
2nd - 3G Livestock  
3rd - Stewart

### BEST VETERINARIAN:

1st - Dr. Kenneth Gottwald/GVVC  
2nd - Dr. Bryan Glass/GVVC  
3rd - John Withers/Pecan Grove

### BEST WESTERN WEAR:

1st - Angels & Outlaws  
2nd - CREW

### BEST WINDOW TINTING:

1st - David Matias/No Limit

### BEST WOMEN'S WEAR:

1st - Angels & Outlaws  
2nd - Shear Designs  
3rd - Wal-Mart



*Thank You for Voting us*

## Best Gift Shop

2nd Place - Best Boutique

## The China Basket

617 St. Joseph • 672-8013







# FUN STUFF

## BEST CAMPGROUND/RV PARK:

- 1st - Palmetto State Park
- 2nd - Lakewood
- 3rd - Independence Park

## BEST CIVIC CLUB:

- 1st - Gonzales Noon Lions
- 2nd - Gonzales Odd Fellows Lodge #38
- 3rd - Spade & Trowel Garden Club

## BEST COMM. FESTIVAL/EVENT:

- 1st - Come & Take It
- 2nd - WinterFest
- 3rd - Gonzales Healthcare Systems

## BEST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT:

- 1st - Summer Concerts Series
- 2nd - Float Fest
- 3rd - Independence Park

## BEST FISHING HOLE:

- 1st - Palmetto State Park
- 2nd - Guadalupe River
- 3rd - Lakewood

## BEST HIKING TRAIL:

- 1st - Palmetto State Park
- 2nd - JB Wells



## BEST LIVE PLAY PERFORMANCE:

- 1st - Crystal Theatre
- 2nd - Running M
- 3rd - Young Texians



## BEST MOVIE THEATRE:

- 1st - Netflix
- 2nd - The Grand Yoakum, Tx

## BEST MUSIC VENUE:

- 1st - Running M
- 2nd - GG's

## BEST NIGHT CLUB/BAR:

- 1st - Come and Take It Bar
- 2nd - Running M
- 3rd - ELKS

## BEST PARK:

- 1st - Palmetto State Park
- 2nd - Independence
- 3rd - JB Wells

## BEST PLACE TO SWIM:

- 1st - Thrive
- 2nd - Independence Park
- 3rd - ELKS

## BEST PLACE TO WORK:

- 1st - Sage Capital Bank
- 2nd - Texas Land and Right of Way
- 3rd - Logan Insurance

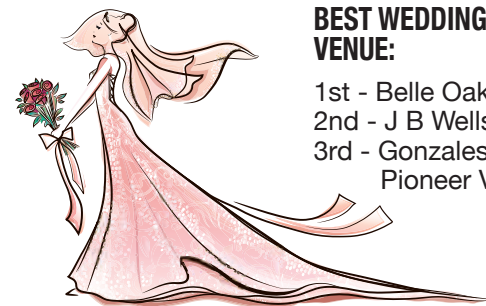


## BEST PUBLIC BOAT RAMP:

- 1st - Palmetto State Park
- 2nd - Cost Boat Ramp
- 3rd - Hwy 183 Boat Ramp

## BEST SCHOOL:

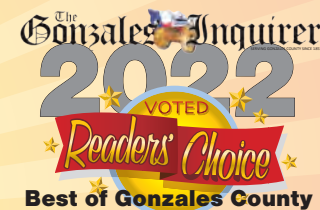
- 1st - Gonzales Junior High
- 2nd - Gonzales Elementary
- 3rd - Gonzales High School



## BEST WEDDING VENUE:

- 1st - Belle Oaks Inn
- 2nd - J B Wells
- 3rd - Gonzales Pioneer Village

**Voted Best  
Insurance  
Company**



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**John DuBose**

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# PEOPLE

## MR. GONZALES COUNTY:

1st - Billy Malaer  
2nd - Pat Davis  
3rd - Robert Ramirez

## MS. GONZALES COUNTY:

1st - Margie Radicke  
2nd - Daisy Scheske Freeman  
3rd - Olivia Dean Freer

## BEST ACCOUNTANT:

1st - LeAnn Wolff  
2nd - Ashlie Gottwald  
3rd - Jerry Floyd

## BEST BANK TELLER/WHERE:

1st - Mallory-Sage Bank  
2nd - Roxann Laredo-Prosperity Bank  
3rd - Hilary Hernandez/GNB

## BEST BARBER/WHERE:

1st - Rico Lopez/D'Clare Vanity  
2nd - Amanda/Gonzales  
3rd - Come and Fade It-Rocky

## BEST BARTENDER/WHERE:

1st - Christine-Come & Take It Bar  
2nd - Bessie Gegaj/Come  
and Take It Bar  
3rd - Jo Dalton/Running M

## BEST BEAUTICIAN/WHERE:

1st - Jamie Burton/Thrive  
2nd - Janie Campion/LePetit  
3rd - Dardenella/Vanity Flair

## BEST CARPENTER:

1st - Raymond Malatek  
2nd - Arnold Guerra  
3rd - Clayton Dudley-Hartex  
Construction



## BEST CAR SALESPERSON/WHERE:

1st - Veronica Soto/West Motors  
2nd - Arnold Guerra/Seguin  
3rd - Lorenzo/Lo's Auto

## BEST CASHIER/WHERE:

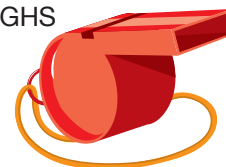
1st - Maria/Mi Lupita  
2nd - Debbie Zella-Wal Mart  
3rd - Tammy Mathis/Gonzales  
Healthcare Systems

## BEST CNA/WHERE:

1st - Billie Kloesel  
2nd - Lori Ramos/Gonzales Health-  
care

## BEST COACH/WHERE:

1st - Joey Rivera/GHS  
2nd - Donna  
Smith/NA  
3rd - Jeremiah  
Lopez-GHS



## BEST COMMUNITY ICON:

1st - David Bird  
2nd - The Cannon  
3rd - Bert Ehrig

## BEST COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER:

1st - Daisy Scheske Freeman  
2nd - Tiffany Hutchison-Padilla  
3rd - Jessie Holt Campion

## BEST DELIVERY DRIVER:

1st - Josh Daniel  
2nd - Donna Malik  
3rd - James Ara-D&D Liquor



## BEST DENTIST/ WHERE:

1st - Gloria Haug  
2nd - Kamala Lewis/  
Luling  
3rd - Adam Panos

## BEST DOCTOR/WHERE:

1st - Dr. Eska/Gonzales  
2nd - Commie Hisey/Sievers  
3rd - Humberto Rivas

## BEST ELECTED OFFICIAL:

1st - Lona Ackman  
2nd - Pat Davis  
3rd - Bobby O'Neal

## BEST EMS WORKER:

1st - Eddie Callendar  
2nd - Michelle Molina  
3rd - Jennifer Miller

## BEST FIREFIGHTER:

1st - Cody Whitehead  
2nd - Wade Zella  
3rd - Ruty Decou/Belmont





# PEOPLE

## BEST GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE:

1st - Josh Daniel  
2nd - Billy Rhoades  
3rd - Judge Deidra Voigt

## BEST INSURANCE AGENT/WHERE:

1st - Britney Jones Caka/Texas Farm Bureau  
2nd - John DuBose-JDCO  
3rd - Travis Tresner-Logan/Hochheim

## BEST LAWYER/WHERE:

1st - Christy Fullilove  
2nd - Robert Bland  
3rd - Norman Burns/Gonzales

## BEST LOCAL BAND OR MUSICIAN:

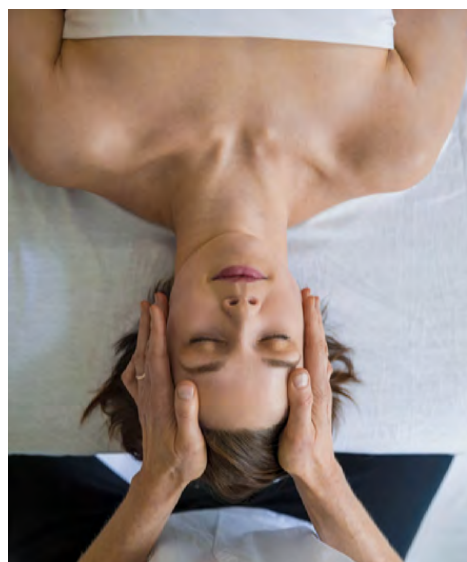
1st - Brandi Behlen  
2nd - Aaron Hernandez  
3rd - Prohibited

## BEST MANICURIST/WHERE:

1st - Ms. Nails-Gonzales  
2nd - Diane McCaskill  
3rd - Linda's Nails

## BEST MASSAGE THERAPIST:

1st - Leah Camarillo  
2nd - Michelle Decker  
3rd - Karen Carroll



## BEST MECHANIC/WHERE:

1st - Benji Hill/3G Livestock  
2nd - Joe Zuniga-Quality Tire  
3rd - David Hernandez/Nest Fresh

## BEST NURSE/WHERE:

1st - Arista Venegas/Sievers  
2nd - Jodi Kloesel/ER  
3rd - Bailey Nichols/GMH

## BEST NURSE PRACTITIONER; PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT/WHERE:

1st - Diana Picha  
2nd - Todd Crawford  
3rd - Arista Venegas/Sievers

## BEST PEACE OFFICER:

1st - Howard Schwausch  
2nd - Darrance James  
3rd - Chris Cantu/Cuero

## BEST PHARMACIST:

1st - Bruce Blackwell  
2nd - John Mohrmann  
3rd - Sharon Raley

## BEST PHARMACY TECHNICIAN:

1st - Rosa Rodriguez  
2nd - Rosalinda Izaguirre  
3rd - Penci Petty

## BEST POSTAL CARRIER:

1st - Josh Daniel  
2nd - Pamela Moore  
3rd - Jim Bo Lamprecht

## BEST REAL ESTATE AGENT/WHERE:

1st - Caitlyn Boscamp/Remax  
1st Shot  
2nd - Rebekah Morgan/BCR  
3rd - Carol Hardcastle/BCR

## BEST RECEPTIONIST:

1st - Krystal Navejar  
2nd - Martha Jiminez  
3rd - Candice Ramirez/Texas Land & Right of Way



## BEST SALESPERSON/WHERE:

1st - Renee Rathmann/Logan Insurance  
2nd - Larry/Edwards Furniture  
3rd - Lorenzo/Lo's Auto

## BEST SCHOOL PRINCIPAL/ WHERE:

1st - Karen Perez/GJH  
2nd - Neely Yackel/Shiner Catholic  
3rd - Jon Basha/GHS

## BEST TEACHER/WHERE:

1st - Mary Camarillo/GE  
2nd - Tiffany Lester/GPA  
3rd - Kitty Petre/GE



## BEST TRUCK DRIVER/WHERE:

1st - Johnny Rathmann/3G Livestock  
2nd - Tim Gray

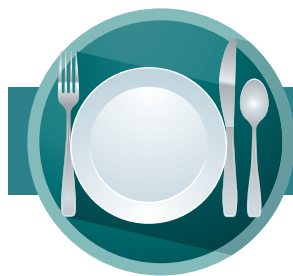
## BEST WAIT PERSON/WHERE:

1st - Lupe/Mi Lupita  
2nd - Christie-Come & Take It  
3rd - Tyla Dalton/Running M

## BEST WELDER/WHERE:

1st - Scott Barfield  
2nd - Michael Mercer/Mercer Welding  
3rd - Charlie Campion-Rocking C





# FOOD & DRINK

## BEST APPETIZERS:

- 1st - Running M
- 2nd - Come & Take It
- 3rd - ELKS

## BEST BBQ:

- 1st - Baker Boys
- 2nd - Fire City Grill
- 3rd - Gonzales Food Market

## BEST BREAKFAST:

- 1st - Mi Lupita
- 2nd - Cow Palace
- 3rd - Gonzales Healthcare Cafeteria

## BEST BREAKFAST TACOS:

- 1st - Mi Lupita
- 2nd - Matamoros
- 3rd - Taquito 183



## BEST BUFFET:

- 1st - Toni's
- 2nd - Gonzales Healthcare Cafeteria
- 3rd - Refugio Buffet



## BEST CHICKEN FRIED STEAK:

- 1st - Cow Palace
- 2nd - Running M
- 3rd - Gonzales Healthcare Systems

## BEST CHILI:

- 1st - Sonny's
- 2nd - Mi Lupita
- 3rd - Gonzales Healthcare Systems

## BEST COFFEE:

- 1st - Mi Lupita
- 2nd - Texpresso
- 3rd - Mr. Taco

## BEST DOUGHNUTS:

- 1st - Daylight Donuts
- 2nd - Snowflake
- 3rd - Gonzales Healthcare Systems



## BEST DRIVE THRU:

- 1st - Mr. Taco
- 2nd - McDonalds
- 3rd - Whataburger

## BEST FINE DINING:

- 1st - Running M
- 2nd - GG's
- 3rd - Gonzales Bistro

## BEST FRENCH FRIES:

- 1st - McDonalds
- 2nd - Guerra's Grill
- 3rd - Dairy Queen

## BEST FRIED CHICKEN:

- 1st - Rusty Rooster
- 2nd - Cow Palace
- 3rd - Golden Chick

## BEST HAMBURGERS:

- 1st - Cow Palace
- 2nd - Fire City Grill
- 3rd - Mi Lupita

## BEST HOT SAUCE:

- 1st - Mi Lupita
- 2nd - Guerra's Grill
- 3rd - Gonzales Healthcare Systems

## BEST ICE CREAM/YOGURT:

- 1st - Dairy Queen
- 2nd - Candy Coop
- 3rd - Hollerin Heifer

## BEST ICED TEA:

- 1st - Mi Lupita
- 2nd - Mr. Taco
- 3rd - Golden Chick







## FOOD & DRINK

### BEST ITALIAN FOOD:

1st - La Bella Tavola

### BEST KIDS MEAL:

1st - McDonalds  
2nd - Dairy Queen  
3rd - Running M

### BEST LUNCH SPECIALS:

1st - Cow Palace  
2nd - Mi Lupita  
3rd - Running M



### BEST MARGARITA:

1st - Running M  
2nd - Mr. Taco  
3rd - Come & Take It



### BEST MEXICAN FOOD:

1st - Mi Lupita  
2nd - Matamoros  
3rd - Taquita 183

### BEST MIXED DRINK:

1st - Come & Take It Bar  
2nd - Running M  
3rd - Mr. Taco

### BEST PIZZA:

1st - Bella Tavola  
2nd - Come & Take It  
3rd - Pizza Hut

### BEST SALAD BAR:

1st - Cow Palace  
2nd - Running M  
3rd - Gonzales Healthcare Systems Cafeteria

### BEST SANDWICHES:

1st - Running M  
2nd - Subway  
3rd - Come & Take It

### BEST SOUP:

1st - Sonny's  
2nd - Running M  
3rd - La Bella



### BEST STEAK:

1st - Running M  
2nd - Cow Palace  
3rd - Come & Take It

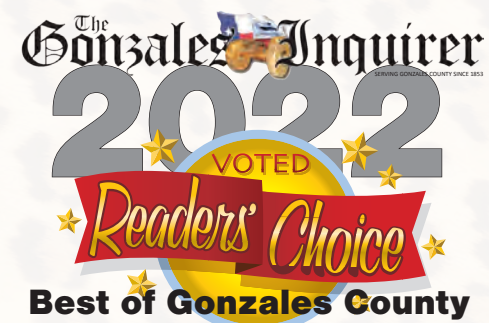
# Thank You!



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2nd Place  
BEST FURNITURE

3rd Place  
BEST ANTIQUE STORE,  
BEST CHILDREN'S WEAR  
AND BEST COSTUME JEWELRY



## 321 Pop-Up Market

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