



The **Gonzales Inquirer**

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Former Inquirer publisher Fitzwater showed passion for community, led by example



Terence James "Terry" Fitzwater

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Former Gonzales Inquirer publisher Terence James "Terry" Fitzwater leaves behind a legacy of journalistic integrity, championing for the underdog and a devotion to community service following his death on Tuesday, Jan. 31, at the age of 65.

Fitzwater, who had been

editor and publisher of The Kingsville Record since April 2020, passed away due to complications from a heart attack he suffered one week earlier that had left him hospitalized and unconscious in ICU, friend and fellow publisher Mary Henkel Judson of the Port Aransas South Jetty said. Fitzwater's daughter and sister were at his bedside when he died.

His current newspaper honored their leader in a post breaking the news about his death on Tuesday:

"Terry was a passionate believer in the importance of a free and robust press to be a force for good in both a community and our democracy. He championed and led local events to strengthen his community and spotlighted the stories of those serving

our country. He built strong and diverse relationships throughout his communities to ensure that his papers were relevant and was a proud member the Elks and Rotary International. He was also a member of St. Gertrude the Great Catholic Church in Kingsville. You will be missed. Rest In Peace, Terry."

See **FITZWATER**, page 16

Edwards Association officers talk inclusion at council meeting

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Edwards Association had a dialogue with the Gonzales City Council during the public comments portion of the Thursday, Jan. 19 meeting.

David Tucs, the president of the Edwards Association, spoke to the council about "inclusion and recognition."

Tucs said the organization had a successful MLK march on Monday, Jan. 16 from Independence Square to Edwards High School, honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King.

"I dare to say that it was one of the largest of its kind in towns that are equivalent to our size. There were some

See **INCLUSION**, page 15

INSPECTION TIME



Above: Navy Commander Bill Hugen greets the Naval JROTC cadets one by one for their annual uniform inspection Thursday, Jan. 26 at Gonzales High School. Left: GISD Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda, Navy Commander Bill Hugen and Gonzales High School Principal Jon Basha watch the drills.

VANDY VAN EPPS

Nixon mourns loss of Councilwoman Mary Ann Fatheree

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The city of Nixon is mourning the passing of City Councilwoman Mary Ann Fatheree, who passed away Friday, Jan. 27, at the age of 55.

Fatheree had been first elected to the Nixon City Council in May 2017 and was re-elected in 2019 and 2021.



Mary Ann Fatheree

See **FATHEREE**, page 16

Chamber banquet also will celebrate Texas independence

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

There will be no more fitting place to celebrate Texas independence and the accomplishments of the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture than at this year's banquet,

aply named the Texas Independence Ball.

This Texas-themed gala will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 2, at the JB Wells Expo Center, 2301 County Road 197, Gonzales. Attire for the event is Texas chic, so break out your bolos, polish up your boots,

shine up your turquoise, freshen up that fringe and straighten out your Stetson.

The evening will kick off with cocktail hour featuring Texas cocktails and Texas beers, followed by a Texas BBQ dinner, a

See **BANQUET**, page 15

Gonzales unemployment rate lowest in area at 2.7 %

BY BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

Unemployment in Gonzales County was at 2.7 percent for December 2022, tied for the lowest rate of all seven counties which comprise the Golden Crescent Workforce Development Area, according to state Labor Market Information (LMI) figures

released by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

For the entire Golden Crescent Workforce Development Area, the unemployment rate for December 2022 was 3.4 percent, slightly lower to the state average of 3.6 percent. This represented a total of 3,053 residents in Gonzales

See **JOBS**, page 15



GISD receives \$100K nutritional aid grant

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales ISD's Child Nutrition Department was awarded a \$100,000 2022 National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant.

Every second counts and improvements to the design would support an efficient serving line

See **GRANT**, page 16



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Rancho Nixon Historic Association taking donations for monuments

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Rancho Nixon Historic Association wants to recognize Nixon’s place “in the middle of Texas history” with a set of entrance monuments along Texas 80, commonly referred to as the Rancho Road.

The 501(c)(3) non-profit organization is accepting donations to help pay for making these monuments a reality. Simply make checks payable to Rancho Nixon Historic Association and take them or (any donation you wish) to Third Coast Bank, 200 N Nixon Ave,



Nixon. The tellers at the bank will deposit your donation into an account set up for the association. Your donation is tax deductible and you will receive a tax credit document in the mail regarding your donation.

The proposed markers include information about early Spanish vaquero cattle drives as well as cattle drives along the Rancho Road; the early history of the foundation of Nixon and the John T. Nixon Ranch. It pays tribute to the role Nixon played as one of the birthplaces of the vaquero or cowboy in Texas.

The organization is also working to build a new museum in the old Nixon police and fire stations, across Third Street from Gladys Finch Park. The city of Nixon approved a lease with the association last year for the properties to be turned into a museum.

VC hosting Empty Bowls event Feb. 12

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The 2023 Victoria Empty Bowls will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 12 at Victoria College’s Student Center.

Empty Bowls is a grassroots movement that gives communities throughout the world an opportunity to support food-related charitable organizations.

“Empty Bowls has raised millions of dollars worldwide to help end hunger, and Victoria College is very proud to be a part of that effort,” said VC Marketing & Communications Assistant Director Tisha Sternadel. “This also gives the community a chance to taste some of the best soups from various restaurants in the area.”

The bowls will cost \$20 each and include soup, bread, and a drink donated by area restaurants and caterers. The proceeds from the event will benefit the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent, Christ’s Kitchen, Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry, Meals on Wheels South Texas, and the Victoria College Visual Arts Scholarship.

“Victoria College art students and area potters have been busy making bowls throughout the past year to prepare for this event,” said VC Art Instructor Debra Chronister. “Many people line up early for the best selection of bowls, so guests are



encouraged to get there early.”

If you want to donate to support Victoria Empty Bowls, visit <https://bit.ly/3Wodg2Q>.

Victoria College’s Student Center is located on VC’s Main

Campus at 2200 E. Red River St. in Victoria. The easiest access to the Student Center is the Main Entrance off Red River Street.

For more information, call (361) 573-3291.

Lions Clubs announce Opportunities for Youth contest winners

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales Noon and Breakfast Lions Clubs partnered to host a local Opportunities for Youth Contest, where winners would advance to the district competition.

Competitions consisted of a Peace Poster contest for ages 11-13 to depict “Lead with Compassion” and high school juniors and seniors were able to compete in three categories ranging from essay writing to public speaking on current event topics, diabetes and drug awareness.

division advance to the District 2-S5 Opportunities for Youth Contest, which was held locally at Victoria College Jan. 21, 2023, during the District 2-S5 Mid-Winter Conference, to compete for the opportunity to advance to State.

Both clubs are pleased to announce that local Outstanding Youth Winner Cooper LaBuhn, won the District 2-S5 competition, advancing to the state competition as a representative of both Gonzales Noon and Breakfast Lions Clubs. LaBuhn was the recipient of a \$2,000 scholarship from the district level and a \$250 cash prize from the local contest.

Other local contest winners from Gonzales Noon and Breakfast Lions Clubs include, Outstanding youth contest: 2nd place Dylan Krenmuller \$100 and 3rd place Angel Gallegos \$75. Peace Poster Contest winners: 1st place Alexis Pedilla \$75, competed at district, 2nd place Ava Cook \$50, and 3rd place Libby Molnosky \$25.

On behalf of both Lions clubs we encourage all students to participate in the local opportunities for youth contest, an excellent way to gain many tools for life after secondary education. Please contact your local club to find out information on the next contest.

Texas Lions provide a variety of programs to encourage youth participation in issues facing society today. Through its contests at the club level, the district level and ultimately the state level, students can research and gain knowledge on various social ramifications of both diabetes and substance abuse. These contests provide youth an opportunity to share leadership experiences and to make a difference in their school and community.

The local contest held between Gonzales Noon and Breakfast Lions Clubs had participants in the Peace Poster and Outstanding Youth Categories. First place in each

Chamber’s next Rise and Grind networking event set for Feb. 14

FROM STAFF REPORTS

You’re going to love the next Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture’s Rise and Grind coffee and networking

event.

It will be sponsored by Come and Organize It and held from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. Feb. 14 at 319 Saint Lawrence St., Gonzales.

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Gonzales Tractor Supply hosts backyard poultry event

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales Tractor Supply Company store will host a backyard poultry event on Feb. 11, providing customers with the opportunity to learn how to care for and manage an at-home flock.

“The popularity of raising backyard poultry continues to grow year after year,” said Lydia Grifaldo, manager of the Gonzales Tractor Supply store. “Poultry owners love the convenience of getting fresh eggs right from their own backyard, but many people don’t know where to start. Our goal is to continue educat-

ing suburban and rural poultry enthusiasts while ensuring anyone who’s interested in raising a backyard flock has the resources and information needed to do so.”

The event, which runs from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m., will feature a number of partners to provide customers with guidance.

When it comes to raising backyard poultry, Tractor Supply is a one-stop shop, with starter kits, feeders, bedding, heat bulbs and lamps, coops, feed and more.

This event is open to the public and will take place at 1619 Hwy 90A. For information, contact the Gonzales Tractor Supply at 830-672-5707.

Celebrations Birthdays

February 2nd Sylvia Schwausch	February 6th Mike Darilek David Floyd John Klapuch Mary Jane Leal Mary Sampleton
February 3rd Elizabeth Rivera	February 7th Kinsley Aldaco Wendy Logan Hileman
February 4th Jennifer Stewart	February 8th Adolph Gonzales James Molnoskey Robert Steed
February 5th Gary Combs Tony Matias Cynthia Mayberry Gary Quinton	








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Gonzales Weather

 BREEZY	February 2 52°/36°	Breezy with a few showers 55% chance of rain • RealFeel 47
 SUNNY	February 3 54°/39°	Plenty of sunshine 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 54
 SUNNY	February 4 56°/41°	Plenty of sunshine 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 62
 SHOWERS	February 5 54°/42°	Some sun with a few showers 57% chance of rain • RealFeel 60
 SUNNY	February 6 60°/44°	Plenty of sunshine 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 59
 MOSTLY SUNNY	February 7 64°/50°	Mostly sunny 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 62
 SHOWERS	February 8 64°/51°	A couple of showers 56% chance of rain • RealFeel 59

Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

February 2nd – South Texas Tour

February 4th-5th – Children's
Hospital Team Roping

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3

High egg prices could go higher

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Egg prices continue to set all-time per-dozen price records, and a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert does not expect that trend to reverse in the near future.

David Anderson, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension economist, Bryan-College Station, said inflationary pressure and the worst avian flu outbreak in U.S. history have combined to send egg prices upward over much of the last year.

For a year-to-year comparison, prices reached \$4.25 per dozen on average in December 2022 across the nation, according to a U.S. Department of Agriculture retail egg report. A dozen eggs was \$1.79 at the same time last year.

The previous peak price occurred in September 2015 – \$2.97 per dozen – and was also attributable to an avian influenza outbreak.

AVIAN FLU DRIVING EGG PRICES UPWARD

Higher production and



TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE | MICHAEL MILLER

Cartons of eggs inside a Brookshire Brothers in College Station on Jan. 23. Egg prices have climbed to all-time highs amid the avian flu pandemic.

logistical costs like feed and fuel have contributed, but the top factor driving egg prices to record highs is an ongoing outbreak of avian influenza, Anderson said. The highly pathogenic viral disease hit the U.S. poultry industry in early 2022 and cases continue to pop up at poultry farms nationwide.

The USDA-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA-APHIS, reported almost 58 million commercial poultry birds, including broiler and egg-laying chickens, turkeys and various fowl have been lost to the virus, now reported in 46 states.

The USDA estimated around 43 million egg-laying hens were cut from

the U.S. flock through December. The disease hits egg-laying chicken flocks harder because birds are in production much longer than broiler chickens, which increases their risk of exposure to the pathogen.

The losses resulted in U.S. egg inventories that were 29% lower than January 2022, according to the report.

EGG DEMAND PEAKS AROUND EASTER

Wholesale prices continue to rise, which indicates retail egg prices have not peaked, he said. The teetering flock numbers couldn't come at a worse time for consumers.

The January USDA egg report showed prices were steady to slightly lower than December, but yearly prices for eggs often peaks each spring due to Easter holiday egg hunts and baking, he said.

Garden Q&A

Growing raspberries in this area is difficult

Q. Based on the discussions I have heard you and the listeners of your radio show have, I understand that you have West Highland Terriers that are active and independent in your neighborhood. Are you at all worried about having them loose in your neighborhood with the presence of all the hawks and owls? I have terriers and am especially nervous about the presence of caracara and great horned owls.

A. I am more worried about coyotes and loose dogs and careless automobiles than the hawks and owls, so even though I let my Westies run loose in the fenced yard they are not loose in the neighborhood. So far over several generations of Westies I have not had a problem, but they weigh about 20 pounds. If I had smaller dogs I probably would be more nervous and would only let them out in the yard in a kennel or if I was out with them.

Q. Can we grow raspberries in our area? If not, what blackberry variety do you recommend?

A. It is difficult to grow raspberries in our area. Try the Kiowa blackberry. It has a sweeter berry than the usual varieties that are grown in the area. The Brazos grows well but is not very sweet.

Q. Were you ever able to determine if the deer will eat

snapdragons?

A. No, just as we were planning the test we were hit with the Christmas week freeze. Why don't you go ahead and conduct the test? Obtain 20 or more snapdragon transplants from your favorite nursery and plant them in an area of your landscape that is open to deer. To give the plants a chance spray them once per week

with Liquid Fence for 6 weeks. Record what happens every week and the characteristics of any damage if it occurs.

Q. We received a phalaenopsis orchid from our grandchildren for a Christmas present. I have been told that they are very easy to grow. Can you give us some hints?

A. Yes, the phalaenopsis orchid in addition to being beautiful it is easy to grow. For a detailed account visit plantanswers.com. Place the plant in a window with a Southern or eastern exposure. They are planted in a course planting mix so are very well drained and require to be watered twice per week. Fertilize with a soluble fertilizer when you water.

Q. Our neighborhood is dominated by oak trees and I am nervous about the potential for us to end up with oak wilt. What are some shade tree species to consider as alternatives for oak trees?

A. Consider cedar elm, Mexican sycamore, or anacua.

CALVIN FINCH

Gardening Q&A



LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET

January 28

Cattle: 880

Compared to our last sale: Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold steady to more active. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady active. Packer cows & bulls sold 2.00-4.00 higher.

Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 245-265; 300-400 lbs., 218-235; 400-500 lbs., 197-215; 500-600 lbs., 178-190; 600-700 lbs., 165-175; 700-800 lbs., 151-163. Bull Yearlings: 800-900 lbs., 80-95.

Stocker-feeder Heifers: Medium and large from No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 215-220; 300-400 lbs., 207-210; 400-500 lbs., 171-195; 500-600 lbs., 155-168; 600-700 lbs., 145-150.

Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 56-78; Cutters, 83-90; Canners, 28-48; High yielding fat cows, 78-86. **Packer Bulls:** Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 98-113; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 85-94.

Stickers Cows: \$750 to \$1,150. Pairs: \$850 to \$1,900.

NIXON LIVESTOCK

January 30

Cattle – 592

Steers:

200-300 lbs - \$147-157-220

300-400 lbs - \$160-170-205

400-500 lbs - \$167-177-215

500-600 lbs - \$147-157-195

600-700 lbs - \$137-147-187

700-800 lbs - \$132-142-162

Heifers:

200-300 lbs - \$134-144-185

300-400 lbs - \$145-155-185

400-500 lbs - \$147-157-190

500-600 lbs - \$142-152-173

600-700 lbs - \$131-141-175

700-800 lbs - \$121-131-143

Slaughter Cows - \$25-82

Slaughter Bulls - \$85-115

Stocker Cows - \$440-960

Pairs: 1 pair @ \$1,290

HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.

Sale date: January 24

Cattle on hand: 1218

Packer Cows:

Canner and Cutter Cows: \$58-88

Utility & Fat Cows: \$56-82

Low dressing canner cows: \$35-55

Poor/Weak: \$15-35

Packer Bulls:

Heavyweight Bulls: \$102-111

Utility & Cutter Bulls: \$90-102

Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$74-90

Stocker Cows:

Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers:

\$1050-1225

Medium Stocker Cows &

Heifers: \$825-1050

Good Cow & Calf Pairs: NONE

Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: 2 pair

\$1010-1350

Stocker & Feeder Calves &

Yearlings:

Number 1 steer & bull calves:

Under 200 lbs.: \$155-240

200-300 lbs.: \$175-240

300-400 lbs.: \$172-230

400-500 lbs.: \$170-225

500-600 lbs.: \$165-215

600-700 lbs.: \$155-192.50

700-800 lbs.: \$146-165

Number 1 heifer calves:

Under 200 lbs.: \$155-220

200-300 lbs.: \$150-215

300-400 lbs.: \$155-205

400-500 lbs.: \$150-200

500-600 lbs.: \$148-175

600-700 lbs.: \$142-165

700-800 lbs.: \$130-155

Replacement Heifers:

350-750 lbs.: NONE

The calf market was strong this

week. Heavier weights sold

steady to higher while the light

weights sold steady to a little

softer. Overall average of all

calves was \$4 higher. A very

active sale!! Packer cows & bulls

sold \$3 to \$4 higher on a total of

275 head.

SEGUIN CATTLE CO.

January 25

Quality not that deep. Market

untested due to rains. Packer

cows & bulls 3-4 better.

Cattle - 427

Sheep & goats - 434

Medium & large frame #1

Steers:

200-300 lb. 1.15-2.05

300-400 lb. 1.02-2.10

400-500 lb. 1.05-2.14

500-600 lb. 1.00-1.61

600-700 lb. .95-1.15

700-850 lb. 1.01-1.41

Medium & large frame #1

Heifers:

200-300 lb. 1.37-1.90

300-400 lb. 1.00-1.88

400-500 lb. 1.02-1.79

500-600 lb. .72-1.64

600-750 lb. .70-1.00

Cows:

Utility & commercial – 70-86

Cutters – 52-69

Canners – 39-52

Palpated cows (young) – None

(Middle Aged) – 500-875

Cow/Calf Pairs – NONE

Bulls:

Heavy High Yielding – 90-113

Light & Low Yielding – 67-89

Feeder Bulls – None

Sheep & Goats:

Nannies (Young) – 130-330

(Thin & Old) - 80-125

Kid Goats (Fat) – 2.40-2.75

(Small & thin) – 1.80-2.30

Wethers -2.10-2.85

Billies – 1.70-2.50

Pairs - None

Barb. Ewes (Young) - 130-185

(Small & Old Ewes) - 90-125

Barb. Lambs (Fat) – 2.70-2.40

(Small & Thin) – 2.00-2.35

Wooled Ewes – 140-180

Wooled Bucks – 1.20-1.60

Lambs – 1.50-1.70

Barb. Bucks – 850

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET

January 27, 2023

Number of head 1,076

There were 140 cows and 17

bulls. A small run of cows and

bulls sold again to a higher mar-

ket. Tops on packer cows was

up \$4/cwt from last week while

the bulls were a dollar higher.

Demand remains very strong.

The calf market was higher

across the board by \$3.00/cwt.

The overall quality in calves this

week was higher. Demand was

very strong.

Packer bulls: 85.00-111.00

Packer cows:

canners & cutters 60.00-90.00

poor & weak 25.00-50.00

Palpated: 29 bred 80.00-90.00

PAIRS: one \$1,100

Steer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

Under 200 lbs. NONE

200-249 lbs. 191.00-200.00

250-299 lbs. 201.00-220.00

300-350 lbs. 189.00-218.00

350-400 lbs. 200.00-224.00

400-450 lbs. 192.00-218.00

450-500 lbs. 178.00-209.00

500-550 lbs. 178.00-205.00

550-600 lbs. 165.00-193.00

600-700 lbs. 157.00-181.00

700-800 lbs. 149.00-161.00

Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

Under 250lbs 174.00-200.00

250-300 lbs. 174.00-216.00

300-350 lbs. 177.00-222.00

350-400 lbs. 174.00-206.00

400-450 lbs. 184.00-211.00

450-500 lbs. 171.00-210.00

500-550 lbs. 160.00-182.00

550-600 lbs. 160.00-182.00

600-700 lbs. 150.00-171.00

Over 700 lbs. 138.00-160.00

Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

under 200 lbs. 139.00-174.00

200-250 lbs. 167.00-192.00

250-300 lbs. 154.00-212.00

300-350 lbs. 169.00-216.00

350-400 lbs. 162.00-204.00

400-450 lbs. 170.00-212.00

450-500 lbs. 169.00-202.00

500-550 lbs. 162.00-186.00

550-600 lbs. 156.00

206.00=>replacement

600-700 lbs. 148.00-165.00

Over 700 lbs 133.00-165.00

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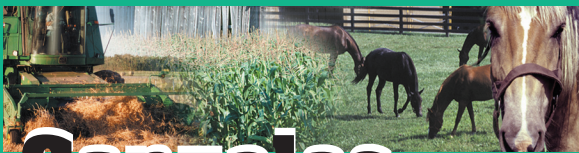
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Score the big win during the Super Bowl by committing to sober driving

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

During Super Bowl LVII, the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is teaming up with The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service to remind football fans everywhere that Fans Don’t Let Fans Drive Drunk.

Super Bowl LVII is on Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023. If you’re heading out to a Super Bowl party and you plan to drink alcohol, make sure you plan for a designated driver to get you home safely at the night’s end.

“We want our community members to enjoy Super Bowl festivities, but we also want responsible drivers on our roads,” said AgriLife Extension Family and Community Health Agent Gayle Bludau, Gonzales County. “If you are planning to be away from home during Super Bowl, make a game plan to ensure you don’t find yourself without a designated driver if you need one. If you’re hosting a party, make sure you take care of your designated drivers. Remind your friends and family: Fans Don’t Let Fans Drive Drunk.”

BE THE DD MVP

If you’re planning to be a designated driver, know that you’re the night’s MVP. Commit to a sober evening — people are relying on you. If you are attending a party or are at a bar or restaurant, enjoy the food, the company, and the nonalcoholic drinks. Encourage other designated drivers on social media by using the hashtag #DesignatedDriver. Your positive influence could help keep them on the right track.

If someone you know has been drinking and tries to drive, take their keys and help them get home safely. They may complain, but they’ll thank you later.

HOST A WINNING PARTY

If you’re hosting a party for this year’s Super Bowl, prepare plenty of snacks and nonalcoholic drinks for your guests and the designated drivers.

Ask your guests to designate their sober drivers in advance. Remind drinking guests that they have a long evening ahead of them, and encourage them to pace themselves, to eat food, and to drink plenty of water. Another important reminder: Never serve alcohol to minors. If an underage person drinks and drives, the person who provided the alcohol can be held liable for any damage, injury, or death caused by the underage driver.

HAVE A GAME PLAN

Whether you are attending a party or going to a bar or restaurant, make a game plan and follow these simple tips for a safe and happy evening:

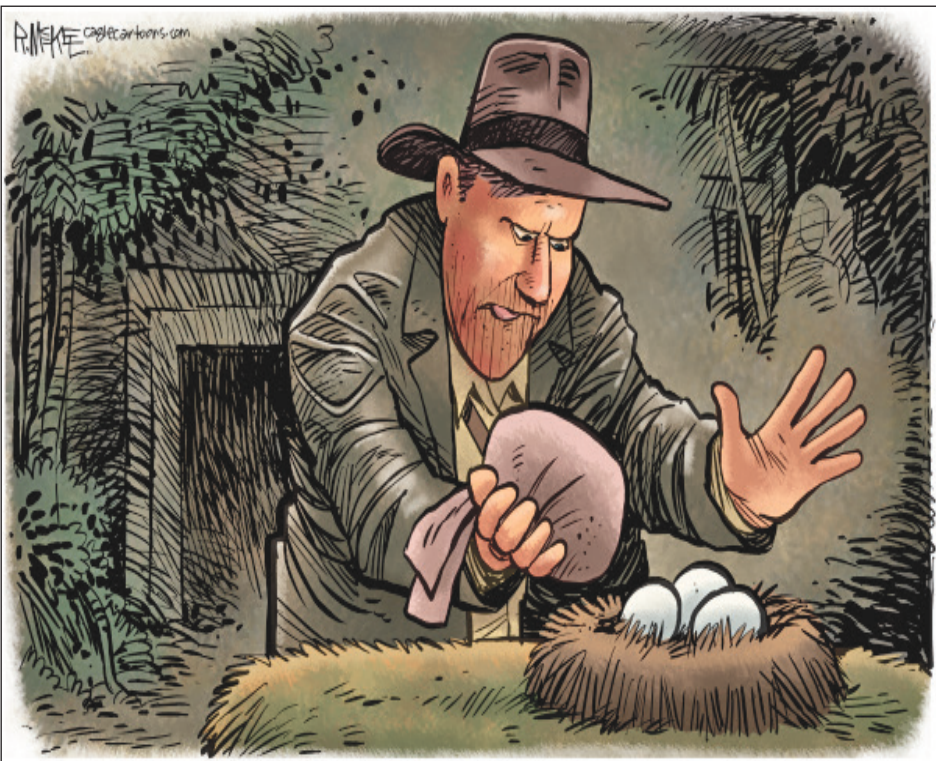
- Remember that it is never okay to drink and drive. Even if you’ve had only one alcoholic beverage, designate a sober driver or plan to use a ride service or call a taxi or sober friend to get home safely.
- If available, use your community’s sober ride program.
- If you see a suspected drunk driver on the road, call 911 immediately
- Do you have a friend who is about to drink and drive? Take the keys away and make arrangements to get your friend home safely.

Only one team wins Super Bowl, but if you drive drunk, you lose. Everyone should know by now that it is illegal to drive impaired. Drunk driving can have a range of consequences, including the possibility of causing a traumatic crash. These crashes could cause you, someone you love, or a total stranger to suffer serious injuries or even death.

Make a commitment today to refrain from drunk driving. For more information, visit www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving.

For more information, contact: Bobbi Brooks, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Watch UR BAC program, by phone 979-321-5224; or email: Bobbi.Brooks@ag.tamu.edu

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service’s Watch UR BAC program is a free, statewide program to promote alcohol awareness, the dangers of impaired driving, and friends watching out for friends.



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.
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- Endorsements for or complaints about individually named commercial products or services.

- Poetry.
- Personal attacks.
- “Thank You” letters that go beyond general thanks to the community; attempt to serve as an advertisement for a company, individual or political party; or is submitted in lieu of a paid “Thank You” advertisement.

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

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

The Inquirer will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information.

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

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

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

Please send Letters to the Editor:

- Email: publisher@gonzalesinquirer.com
 - U.S. Mail: The Inquirer, P.O. Box 616, Gonzales, Texas, 78629
 - In person: The Inquirer, 622 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629 (Please bring in a digital format, if possible).
- Further questions may be directed to Publisher Lew Cohn, 830-672-2861.



DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

Struck down by what?

A weathered rancher of my acquaintance stubbornly refused to join a group of church friends who “enjoy” bad health. A woman of few words, she explained her absence from services the previous Sunday.

“I was struck down by the flu,” she stated, leaving it at that.

Would that our health conditions be so succinctly categorized these days. Now, there are strains, distresses, aches, pains and assorted illnesses that not only have names, but typically are reduced to abbreviations and sometimes even numbers. It’s a mistake to try to keep up; much blame is attributed to COVID....

I surrender all, having been “stove up” since Christmas with respiratory issues that may seem minor to you and little more than that to me.

All I know is that coughing, wheezing and congestion stretched over three weeks, and my wife’s similar symptoms hung around longer.

A neighbor thinks we’ve been “struck down” by a new set of abbreviations. “Probably the RSV stuff that’s going around,” she said....

Until lately, “RSV” was totally foreign to me. (Without the “S,” of course, “RV” seems far removed from illness, with the allure of being “on the road again.”)

I could have left it right there, but later in the day, I spoke on the phone with my friend Paul Butler. He and his wife Virginia had endured similar symptoms, and Paul joked (I think) that they were victims of that “RSVP” disease.

Maybe he wasn’t kidding. He may have known that “RSV” stands for “respiratory syncytial virus,” adding the “P” for Paul intentionally to personally identify with the disease....

This set me to thinking about former terms concerning illnesses. We had “bad colds,” croup, crud, upset tummies, sprains, strains, headaches and other names that rarely exceeded two syllables, and often were just one. Abbreviations weren’t needed.

An age-old condition remains colorful. The guy was “rode hard and put up wet,” an expression better understood by non-urban folks.

There were other expressions in a general category, “running off at the mouth.” These were usually attributed to political figures who didn’t know when the shut up....

Texas Governor Greg Abbott probably would like to retract his “tweet” bragging that he could kick better than Dallas Cowboy Brett Mayer, who muffed five straight point-after kicks during his team’s two final games.

The gov’s attempt at humor not only fell flat, but also offended others confined to wheelchairs.

Maybe someone stole our leader’s identity. That could be the story he’ll stick to. Whatever, Dallas has joined Houston in having a problem....

Now, I return to the original premise that medical ID’s are galloping ahead of us. In a recent Dallas Morning News edition, facing pages caught my eye. One led with a major headline, asking readers if they’ve had heart failure; the other pointed to “pacing” as the key for “long COVID.”

I read the one about heart failure first, since I’ve had four bypasses and a mitral valve repair — and later implantation of a stent, defibrillator and pacemaker — in 1998 and 2021, respectively....

The ad cited familiar symptoms, suggesting that I could be saddled with a condition called “ATTR-CM.” I’ll ask my cardiologist about it, since transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy — the abbreviation spelled out — sounds like something I already have.

When I inquire, he may wax rhetorical, asking why I’m blinking incessantly. If he does, I’ll urge him to relax and take a few deep breaths, informing him that my blinking serves only to signify my disbelief about “long COVID.” I didn’t even know the disease can be measured.

Returning home, I’ll mull over

The Gonzales Inquirer

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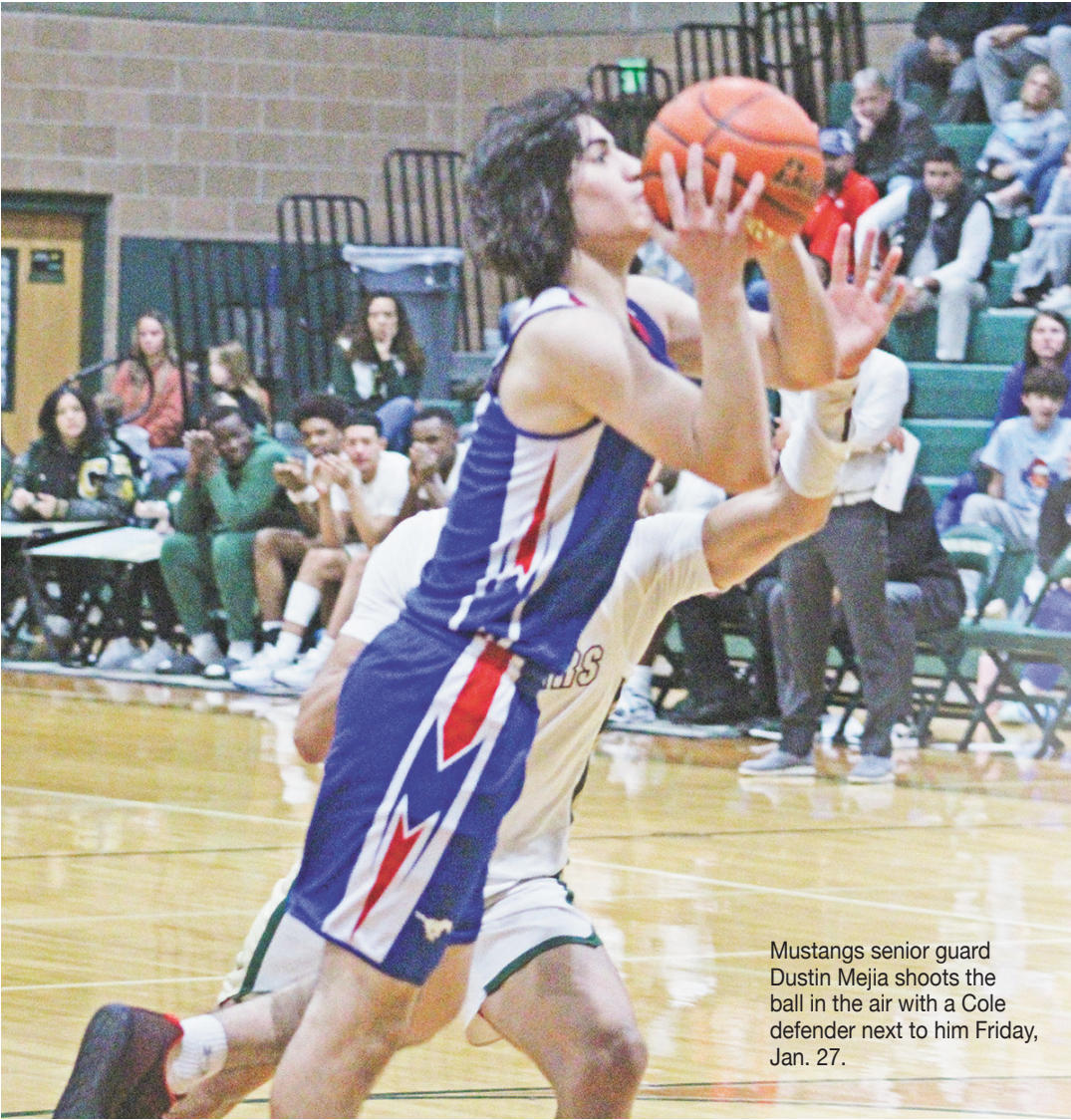
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First place slips out of Mustangs' hands



Mustangs senior guard Dustin Mejia shoots the ball in the air with a Cole defender next to him Friday, Jan. 27.

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs varsity basketball team had their five-game win streak snapped by the Cole Cougars, 60-33, Friday, Jan. 27.

The Mustang struggled in the first quarter trailing nine points, 17-8, but quickly turned it around and cut Cole's lead to five points with 5:50 left in the half.

Nixon-Smiley head basketball coach Carlton McKinney said this was playoff style of basketball heading into the second half and knew the level is different when facing Cole a second time.

"This was a playoff atmosphere type of basketball game against a perennial playoff team. And if you saw the difference of their approach and our approach, you know, theirs was business-like and ours was, well we're going to play hard," McKinney said.

The Mustangs need two more wins to punch their playoff ticket, and McKinney said they are pushing and preferred to get all four wins to close out the season.

Due to the weather, the match against the Luling Eagles has been moved to Thursday, but McKinney and his team will be ready for the Eagles.

"Every game is a game where



PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Senior forward Braxton Regalado (10) shoots free for the Mustangs on the road at Cole in San Antonio Friday, Jan. 27.

we have to be more focused and more dialed in when we were at the beginning of the year," McKinney said.

"So right now, it's not about adding things. It's all about execution. It's not about running plays or running a certain defense. It's about executing plays and executing a certain defense" McKinney added.

The Mustangs will host the Luling Eagles on Thursday, Feb. 2.

Please go to the Gonzales Inquirer Facebook page for sports and highlights from the Nixon-Smiley Mustangs basketball season.

Lady Mustangs fall to Cole on road, 65-30

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustang varsity basketball squad fell to Cole, 65-30, Friday, Jan. 27 on the road.

The Lady Mustangs struggled against the Lady Cougars, scoring 13 points in the first half.

Nixon-Smiley head girls basketball coach Jordan Estrada said her team was not prepared against a tough Cole team, being down three starters.

"We had some stuff happen over the past few days since our last game and we're down three starters right now. So we had some younger girls in some different situations than they're used to having to play a much bigger role than they're used to," Estrada said.

Estrada added she wasn't mad about how her young players

handled the game and they came out to play.

"They did a good job. I have six sophomores on the team and they're a group that I'm really, really excited about," Estrada said.

Estrada praised her six sophomores, Kaylie Morin, Madison Yanes, Ashly Garcia, Juliana Kendrick and Janaelyn White for their hard work against Cole.

The Lady Mustangs have a chance to clinch the final playoff spot in District 26-3A with a win against the Luling Lady Eagles Thursday, Feb. 2 in a game rescheduled from Tuesday, Jan. 31.

Estrada and her team know what is at stake, and know they want it.

"We have to practice to get ready for them and to do some preparing what we're going to do without those starters," Estrada said.

Nixon-Smiley will host Luling Thursday, Feb. 2.



VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales sophomore Bella Aguero dribbles the ball in front of YWLA players early this season. Aguero earned a season high 22 points in the 58-40 win over the San Antonio JFK.

Lady Apaches sweep JFK to keep playoff hopes alive

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Lady Apaches varsity basketball continued to keep their playoff hopes alive with a 58-45 win over the San Antonio JFK Lady Rockets Friday, Jan. 27 on the road.

The Lady Apaches finished the season sweep of the Lady Rockets and improved to 3-5 in district play.

Sophomore Bella Aguero

recorded a season-high 22 points against the Lady Rockets; and had four rebounds, four assists and two steals.

Sophomore Kilee Schwausch recorded a season-high 12 rebounds and led the team with six steals.

Gonzales has two more games left of the season; Friday, Feb. 3: at San Antonio Memorial and Tuesday, Feb 7: Vs Cuero.

STATS

- Bella Aguero:** 22 points, 4 rebounds, 4 assists, 4 deflections, and 2 steals
- Sydney McCray:** 7 points, 6 rebounds, 3 deflections, 2 steals
- Haley Cantu:** 4 points, 1 assist, and 1 steal
- Kilee Schwausch:** 7 points, 12 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 deflections, and six steals
- Maddy York:** 9 points, 7 rebounds, 3 deflections, and 4 steals
- Isabella Ikard:** 5 points, 4 rebounds, 2 deflections, and 1 steal
- Carlee Ramos:** 4 points, 9 rebounds, 1 deflection, and 1 steal
- Haley Bairrington:** 1 rebound



VANDY VAN EPPS
Lady Mustangs sophomore point guard Madison Yanis (3) squares off against Cole's Lai'La Reese in a district match in San Antonio Friday, Jan. 27.

Apaches FC falls to Pleasanton

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches FC returned to the soccer field Friday, Jan. 27 against the Pleasanton Eagles.

The Apaches FC fell to the Eagles, 2-1, after Pleasanton took the lead in the second half with two goals and shutting out Gonzales in that half of play.

Gonzales will travel to San Antonio to face the JFK Rockets for the district opener Friday, Feb. 3.

The game kicks off at 7 p.m.



VANDY VAN EPPS
Apaches senior guard Angel Martinez (4) passes the ball in the Schulenburg Tournament early in the season. Martinez scored 22 points in the, 38-35, loss to San Antonio JFK Friday, Jan. 27.

- STATS**
- Gavin Lekgega - 10pts
 - Weston Ruddock - 2pts
 - Carlos Martinez - 2pts
 - Angel Martinez - 22pts
 - Ryder McGehee - 1pt

Apaches fall to JFK

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches varsity basketball fell in a close contest against the San Antonio JFK Rockets, 38-35, at home Friday, Jan. 27.

The Apaches dropped to 2-6 in district and fifth place in 4A District 28-4A.

Gonzales will host the San Antonio Memorial Minutemen this Friday, Feb. 3.

The Apaches remaining schedule: Tuesday, Feb. 7: At Cuero, Friday, Feb. 10: vs YMLA, and Tuesday, Feb. 14: at San Antonio Fox Tech.

Nixon-Smiley has success at middle school UIL meet

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

This past Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023, Nixon-Smiley Middle School students traveled to Cole Middle School in San Antonio for the UIL District Meet (In-House events were held on January 10, 2023). The middle school students had great success bringing home 74 total awards: 7 gold medals, 10 silver medals, 17 bronze medals, 11 4th place ribbons, 13 5th place ribbons, and 16 6th place ribbons.

Below is the list of students who placed in their events:

1ST PLACE

- (6th gr) Alana Newman - Spelling
- (6th gr) Erika Meraz - Art Smart
- (6th gr) Laramie Carney-Birdwell - Impromptu Speaking (7th gr level)
- (6th gr) Tanya Cortina - Editorial Writing
- (8th gr) Olivia Jackson - Science
- (8th gr) Oscar Gamez - Oral Reading
- (8th gr) Kendra Savoie - Spelling

2ND PLACE

- (6th gr) Bailee Cagle - Music Memory
- (6th gr) Cynthia Vazquez-Leasman - Impromptu Speaking
- (6th gr) Dayana Duarte - Listening Skills
- (6th gr) Kynzli Munoz - Spelling
- (6th gr) Tanya Cortina - Impromptu Speaking (7th gr level)
- (7th gr) Elias Villasana - Science
- (7th gr) Kaelee Savoie - Oral Reading
- (8th gr) Eric Rodriguez - Editorial Writing
- (8th gr) Gavin Garcia - Oral Reading
- (8th gr) Oscar Gamez - Dictionary Skills

3RD PLACE

- (6th gr) Amadee Riojas - Impromptu Speaking
- (6th gr) Amadee Riojas - Oral Reading
- (6th gr) Kaitlyn Rice - Music Memory
- (6th gr) Karis Dyer - Listening Skills
- (6th gr) Kynzli Munoz - Editorial Writing
- (6th gr) Kynzli Munoz - Impromptu Speaking (7th gr level)
- (6th gr) Laramie Carney-Birdwell - Modern Oratory
- (7th gr) Elias Villasana - Ready Writing
- (7th gr) Levi Alvis - Science
- (7th gr) Ruby Mendez - Editorial Writing
- (8th gr) Kendall Hemmler - Impromptu Speaking
- (8th gr) Lee-nuh Pecina - Spelling
- (8th gr) Olivia Jackson - Music Memory
- (8th gr) Olivia Jackson - Oral Reading
- (8th gr) Olivia Jackson - Ready Writing
- (8th gr) Oscar Gamez - Editorial Writing
- (8th gr) Thomas Newman - Calculator Applications

4TH PLACE

- (6th gr) Cynthia Vazquez - Leasman - Listening Skills
- (6th gr) Cynthia Vazquez - Leasman - Music Memory
- (6th gr) Dayana Duarte - Social Studies
- (6th gr) Dezi Pena - Modern Oratory
- (6th gr) Jazmin Granados - Dictionary Skills
- (6th gr) Kylie Munoz - Editorial Writing
- (7th gr) R.J. Flores - Maps, Graphs, & Charts
- (7th gr) Ruby Mendez - Oral Reading



CONTRIBUTED
Nixon-Smiley High School students Wendy Rodriguez Cervantez and Jennifer Vasquez recently competed on Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Kenedy Invitational Meet. The meet hosted 20 schools. Wendy placed second in Spelling and Jennifer placed fifth in Number Sense. The next meet will be on Feb 11 at MacArthur High School in San Antonio.

- (8th gr) Camila Gutierrez - Editorial Writing
- (8th gr) Kendra Savoie - Music Memory
- (8th gr) Oscar Gamez - Maps, Graphs, & Charts

5TH PLACE

- (6th gr) Karis Dyer - Oral Reading
- (6th gr) Kylie Munoz - Impromptu Speaking
- (6th gr) Kylie Munoz - Spelling
- (6th gr) Kyzick Jantes - Math
- (6th gr) Tanya Cortina - Modern Oratory
- (7th gr) Adam Bustos - Social Studies
- (7th gr) Elias Villasana - Editorial Writing
- (7th gr) Juliana Duarte - Listening Skills
- (7th gr) Levi Alvis - Oral Reading
- (7th gr) Ruby Mendez - Science
- (7th gr) Stephanie Avila - Spelling
- (8th gr) Lee-nuh Pecina - Ready Writing
- (8th gr) Oscar Gamez - Social Studies

6TH PLACE

- (6th gr) Ashley Ivey - Science
- (6th gr) Braylan Johnson - Math
- (6th gr) Dezi Pena - Oral Reading
- (6th gr) Laramie Carney-Birdwell - Dictionary Skills
- (6th gr) Laramie Carney-Birdwell - Social Studies
- (7th gr) Jenna Bustos - Ready Writing
- (7th gr) Levi Alvis - Editorial Writing
- (7th gr) R.J. Flores - Chess Puzzles
- (7th gr) Ruby Mendez - Spelling
- (8th gr) Branson Nino - Chess Puzzles
- (8th gr) Eric Rodriguez - Dictionary Skills
- (8th gr) Gavin Garcia - Social Studies
- (8th gr) Jasmin Rangel - Number Sense
- (8th gr) Kendra Savoie - Ready Writing
- (8th gr) Kendra Savoie - Science
- (8th gr) Marysol Granados - Spelling

A huge thank you is necessary to Shelly Trammell, Hayley Gordon, Carolina Medina, Karly Moss, Mike Billings, Jennifer Hines, Lindsay Martin, and Jeff Stavinocha for helping with scoring the in-house contest materials. Meanwhile, Gregg Miller, Tabitha Miller, Cristina Leal, Carolina Medina, and two parent volunteers, Lydia Alvis and Vanessa Dyer, helped by chaperoning, grading, and bus driving to Cole yesterday. A big shout-out to all those teachers who volunteered their time to coach these young men and women.

ST. PAUL HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATES IN SHINER ISD ACADEMIC MEET



CONTRIBUTED
Shiner St. Paul students recently participated in an academic meet by Shiner High School. The students participated in a variety of competitions. The following students placed: Top Row, from left, Carson McNabb - 6th Place in Social Studies; Jacob Wachsmuth - 1st Place in senior division Calculator, 2nd Place overall in Calculator, 5th Place in Math; Joseph Twyford - 3rd Place in senior division Number Sense, 4th Place overall in Number Sense, 6th Place in Math; Joseph Davis - 3rd Place in junior division Science, 2nd Place overall in Physics; Brooke Cerny - 5th Place Ready Writing; Erica Hunke - 2nd Place in sophomore division Science. Front Row, from left, Dallyn Pesek - part of 2nd place Number Sense team along with Joseph Twyford, Jacob Wachsmuth, and Hailey Radicke; Audrey Thibodeaux - 9th Place in freshman division Number Sense; Hailey Radicke - part of 2nd place Number Sense team; and Ashlyn Pesek - 1st place Ready Writing.

GONZALES' UIL FILM ENTRY ADVANCES



CONTRIBUTED
Gonzales High School is proud to announce that its 2023 UIL Film entry, "The Secret," has advanced to Round 2! The film is written by Jeslynn Vigil and performed by Mariah Rios, with teachers Mr. Ticken and Mrs. Rothrock, Emily Hull, and Kayleigh Fridrich. The film was filmed and edited by theatre and AV students: Hailey Garza, Madison Stewart, Angel Gallegos, Jamar Torres, Andrew Pennington, Eric Rosas, and River VanKirk. Rocky Gallegos composed and performed original music. UIL Film sponsors are Mrs. Buesing and Mrs. Low.

NIXON-SMILEY MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

On Thursday, Jan. 26, the Nixon-Smiley Middle School 7th and 8th grade Lady Mustangs took on the Cole Cougars.

In 7th Grade action the Lady Mustangs put up a valiant effort but fell short to a tough squad from Cole, 16-26. Ruby Mendez led the charge for her team with 11 points, Cali Smith and Amanda Ivey each contributed a basket and Braelynn Harris banked a free throw. Stephanie Avila and Analyah Sanchez helped their team corral some big rebounds and steals.

The 8th grade Lady Mustangs wrangled the Cougars for a 22-13 victory. Kourtney Johnson and Mariah Yanes both contributed 8 points each for their team. Grace Gomez knocked down 5 points, and Dani Jenks toss in a free throw. Jocelyn Vasquez, Raven Barrera, Mariela and Gaby Limon played tough Lady Mustang defense with numerous steals and rebounds to keep the Cougars at bay.

The coaching staff is extremely proud of the Lady Mustangs and how hard they competed and represented Mustang Country with pride. The next game will be Thursday, February 2, at Luling.

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you're needing a
personal caregiver/
housekeeper. De-
tailed oriented
and very depend-
able. Available in
and around the
Gonzales area.

850
HELP WANTED


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

850
HELP WANTED


Instructor needed to teach Certified
Pharmacy Technician course at the
Gonzales facility. Classes begin
in August 2022. Prefer minimum
of one year experience. For more
information call (361) 572-6446 or email
HealthCareers@VictoriaCollege.edu.
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850
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R.N.s/L.V.N.s - full-time.
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Minimum one year experience
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Apply online only at
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Same Day Interview

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

In partnership with HCC

For details contact
Melissa Robinson at
(361) 573-3291, ext. 3461.

850
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**Spoetzl Brewery is hiring a
Quality Assurance Analyst**

2nd/3rd shift

• Ability to understand and operate basic
laboratory testing equipment
• Basic aptitude for math, chemistry, and
microbiology
• Prior experience in a laboratory setting
• Knowledge of food safety principles
• Ability to work in teams, as well, as
independently on projects
• Minimum: 2-year degree in science related
subject; Bachelors preferred
• Benefits include medical, dental & vision
along with a matched 401K program
Interested applicants should email their cover
letter and resume to shinerhr@spoetzl.com

850
HELP WANTED


The dust is settling and furniture
is on its way at Nest Fresh Egg
Company in Cuero. We are
currently taking applications for
employment with a potential start
date of February 1st.

Available Positions
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-Loader
-Palletizer
-Sanitation
-Shipping and Receiving
-Machine Operator
-QC
-Front desk clerk
-CDL Class A driver

Starting pay based on
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Weekly pay and OT available!
*Medical, Dental, 401K available
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Nest Fresh-Gonzales
925 St Andrew Street
Gonzales, TX 78629
(830)672-4433
Please call or stop in!

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The Gonzales Inquirer

622 St. Paul St. • Gonzales, TX 78629
lew.cohn@gonzalesinquirer.com
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Victoria College’s Workforce & Continuing Education Department is hiring for the following part-time positions:

Electrical Instructor
Welding Instructor


For more information go to www.victoriacollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC.
Equal-Opportunity Institution

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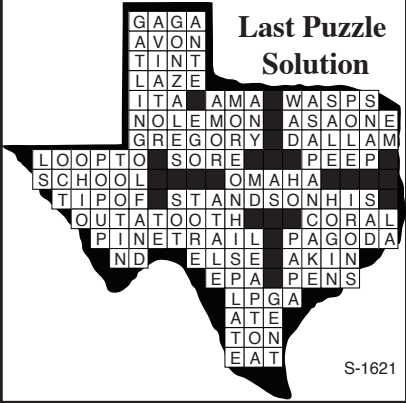
The Division of Allied Health is hiring part-time Adjunct Instructors for the Fall 2022 semester for the clinical setting of the ADN and VN Nursing Programs. Adjunct Instructors are needed at our Victoria campus as well as in the Gonzales, Cuero, and Hallettsville locations. For more information and to apply go to www.victoriacollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC.

Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES
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Notice is hereby given in accordance with the terms of the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code that Kbees Inc. d/b/a Kash’s Bourbon Barn has filed application for a package store permit. Said business to be conducted at 1522 Water St, Gonzales, Gonzales County, TX 78629. Owner: Syed K. Dilawar, President/Secretary.

**January 26
Puzzle Answers**



Last Puzzle Solution

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

**SUBSCRIBE!
830-672-2861**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Nixon-Smiley CISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00pm, Monday, February 13, 2023, at Nixon-Smiley HS Library 800 North Rancho Road, Nixon, Texas to discuss Nixon-Smiley CISD Texas Academic Performance Report and review the Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Update.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF THE CLAIM OF ADVERSE POSSESSION TO COTENANT HEIRS FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 113 CAPE STREET, GONZALES, GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS 78629

The possessing cotenant claimant, **Jeanette McVea Conquest** is providing this notice in accordance with Section 16.0265 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code to the cotenant heirs of **MINNIE MAE MCVEA**, deceased, as stated in the Affidavit and Adverse Possession and Statement of Heirship regarding Minnie Mae McVea filed under Document Number 19302588 of the Official Public Records of Gonzales County, Texas on December 19 2019 and is hereby incorporated by reference for all purposes.


Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of KATHRYN W. CARAWAY, Deceased, were issued on January 23, 2023, in Cause No. PW23-0244, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: J. KIM CARAWAY and KEVIN W. CARAWAY.

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

**c/o JEAN PETEREK BURNS
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 827
1606 N. Sarah DeWitt Drive
Gonzales, TX 78629**

Dated the 25 day of January, 2023.



JEAN PETEREK BURNS
Attorney for J. KIM CARAWAY and KEVIN W. CARAWAY
State Bar No.: 00792756
P.O. Box 827
1606 N. Sarah DeWitt Drive
Gonzales, Texas 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-9511
Facsimile: (830) 672-7638
E-mail: jeanburns@gvec.net

GRANT SERVICES PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

City of Smiley plans to apply for the upcoming 2023-24 TXCDBG from the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). Accordingly, the City of Smiley is seeking to contract with a qualified Engineering/Architectural/Surveying Firm(s) (individual/firm) to prepare all preliminary and final design plans and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections. These services are being solicited to assist the City of Smiley in its application preparation and project implementation of a TxCDBG contract, if awarded, to support eligible activities in City of Smiley. Please electronically submit your SOQs in .pdf format via email/website to/at smileytx@gvec.net OR submit your SOQ to the address below on a thumb drive OR submit 3 copies of your SOQ of services to the following address: Attn: Mayor Lisa Benavidez, 207 Steele St, Smiley, TX 78159. SOQs must be received by the City of Smiley no later than 2:00pm on February 13, 2023, which must be at least ten (10) days after this publication and contact dates of the RFQ. The City of Smiley reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit SOQs, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards. Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to submit SOQs. The City of Smiley is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Notice of Availability of Electronic Communications

Gonzales County – Chief appraisers of county appraisal districts, appraisal districts, and appraisal review boards may communicate electronically through email or other methods with property owners or their designated representatives. Electronic communication for the purpose of delivering notices, applications and other documents is authorized only if the Chief Appraiser and property owner or designated representative agree under that law to communication in an electronic format.

At this time, the Gonzales Central Appraisal District has opted not to use electronic communication for the purpose of receiving or delivering any notice, application, or other documents required or permitted by the Property Tax Code. This shall serve as notification that the Gonzales Central Appraisal District shall rely on any method of delivery authorized by the Property Tax Code except for delivery by electronic data storage device. For more information, please contact us at: GONZALES CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT P O BOX 867 / 1709 E. SARAH DEWITT DR., UNIT B GONZALES, TEXAS 78629 830-672-2879

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Administration Professional Services - Cover Letter

January 23, 2023

Re: Texas General Land Office (“GLO”) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery-Mitigation (CDBG-MIT), Resilient Communities Program

Dear Service Providers:

Attached is a copy of the City of Gonzales’ Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for professional administration services. These services are being solicited to assist the City of Gonzales in its application(s) for and implementation of one or more contracts, if awarded, from the GLO’s CDBG – MIT program. The City of Gonzales is considering applying for such funding for planning activities.


Service providers may submit proposals for any or all activities. Multiple contracts may be awarded as a result of this solicitation. The City of Gonzales will, in its sole discretion, determine the number of contracts awarded, and may decide not to award any contracts.

The submission requirements for this proposal are included in the attached RFP and can be found online at www.gonzales.texas.gov/p/cdbg-dr-grant-application. Please submit a proposal of services and statement of qualifications to citysecretary@gonzales.texas.gov.

The deadline for submission of proposals is 2:00 PM on February 7, 2023. It is the responsibility of the submitting entity to ensure that the proposal is received in a timely manner. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered for award, regardless of whether or not the delay was outside the control of the submitting provider. The City of Gonzales reserves the right to negotiate with any and all service providers submitting timely proposals.

The City of Gonzales is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Section 3 Residents, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals.

Sincerely,



Tim Crow
Interim City Manager

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Administration Professional Services - Cover Letter

January 23, 2023

Re: Texas CDBG -MIT Regional Mitigation Program’s Method of Distribution Development (CDBG MIT-MOD)

Dear Service Providers:

Attached is a copy of the City of Gonzales Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for *professional administration services*. These services are being solicited to assist the City of Gonzales in its application(s) for and implementation of one or more contracts, if awarded, from the GLO’s CDBG MIT-MOD program. The City of Gonzales is applying for such funding for engineering, grant administration, infrastructure construction and activities as indicated in the attached Scope of Work.

Service providers may submit proposals for any or all activities. Multiple contracts may be awarded as a result of this solicitation. The City of Gonzales will, in its sole discretion, determine the number of contracts awarded, and may decide not to award any contracts.


The submission requirements for this proposal are included in the attached RFP. Please submit a proposal of services and statement of qualifications to: Citysecretary@gonzales.texas.gov.

The full Request for Proposals may be found at: <https://www.gonzales.texas.gov/p/cdbg-dr-grantapplication>.

The deadline for submission of proposals is 2:00 pm on February 7, 2023. It is the responsibility of the submitting entity to ensure that the proposal is received in a timely manner. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered for award, regardless of whether or not the delay was outside the control of the submitting provider. The City of Gonzales reserves the right to negotiate with any and all service providers submitting timely proposals.

The City of Gonzales is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Section 3 Residents, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals.

Sincerely,



Tim Crow
Interim City Manager

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
CITATION BY PUBLICATION**

**CAUSE NO. AD22-0238
IN THE ESTATE OF JOE EDWARD OUTTERSON, DECEASED
TO ALL UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS
OF THE ESTATE OF JOE EDWARD OUTTERSON, DECEASED**

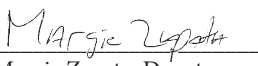
Jerry D. Outterson, in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on November 22, 2022 an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF DEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION in the estate of **Joe Edward Outterson**, Deceased, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of Joe3 Edward Outterson, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in said estate, and appoint Jerry D. Outterson to serve as the Dependent Administrator of said estate and grant Letters of Dependent Administration to same.

The Court may act on said Application and any opposition at any call of the docket on or after 10 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the **Gonzales County Courthouse, 414 St. Joseph St, Commissioner’s Courtroom, Gonzales, Texas, 78629** in Gonzales County, Texas.


You are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to said Application before the above stated time and date should you desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any contest, objection, intervention, or response in writing with the County Clerk of Gonzales County, Texas, on or before the above noted date and time.

Given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in Gonzales, Texas, on January 26, 2023.

Lona Ackman, COUNTY CLERK
Gonzales County, Texas
427 Saint George St., STE 200
Gonzales, Texas 78629

By: 
Margie Zapata, Deputy

Plaintiff(s) Attorney;
Noel Reese
Attorney at Law
PO BOX 887
Gonzales, Texas 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-8773
Facsimile: (830) 857-1024
E-mail: nhr@noelreese.org



CLASSIFIEDS

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION

CLERK OF THE COURT:

PLAINTIFF:
TIDAL PETROLEUM, INC.
5501 Mid Cities Pkwy, Suite 100
Schertz, Texas 78154

ATTORNEY:
Wales Madden
STEED BARKER BOYD MADDEN, P.C.
8610 N. New Braunfels, Suite 701
San Antonio, Texas 78217

THE STATE OF TEXAS

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

TO: ERNESTINE SPENCER JONES, RUBEN SPENCER JONES, ROBERT SPENCER JONES, DARYL ERNEST JONES, SONYA JONES, DEMARCUS HICKS, DANIEL BRYANT, FREDERICK L. BRYANT, JR., SALLIE DICKSON, THE PATERNAL HEIRS OF EMMETT LAWRENCE WILLIAMS, JR., DECEASED, GREGORY HERMAN JONES, CEDRIC ANDERSON, and BOBBIE RAYE YOAKUM HARPER, and THEIR HEIRS, KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, IF ANY OF SAID PERSONS ARE DECEASED, Defendants in the cause herein described.

You and each of you are hereby commanded to appear and answer before the 25th Judicial District Court in the Gonzales Courthouse in Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance hereof, being at or before 10:00 a.m. on Monday, the 13th day of March, 2023, then and there to answer the petition of TIDAL PETROLEUM INC., in Cause No. 28,468, styled “TIDAL PETROLEUM INC. vs ERNESTINE SPENCER JONES, ET AL,” wherein the said TIDAL PETROLEUM INC is Plaintiff, and the said ERNESTINE SPENCER JONES, RUBEN SPENCER JONES, ROBERT SPENCER JONES, DARYL ERNEST JONES, SONYA JONES, DEMARCUS HICKS, DANIEL BRYANT, FREDERICK L. BRYANT, JR., SALLIE DICKSON, THE PATERNAL HEIRS OF EMMETT LAWRENCE WILLIAMS, JR., DECEASED, GREGORY HERMAN JONES, CEDRIC ANDERSON, and BOBBIE RAYE YOAKUM HARPER, and THEIR HEIRS, KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, IF ANY OF SAID PERSONS ARE DECEASED, Defendants. The said petition, filed on the **26th day of January, 2023**, discloses that the nature of said suit is as follows:


This suit is brought to have a receiver appointed under the provisions of Section 64.091 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code for undivided mineral interests owned by the Defendants in the following described lands in Gonzales County, Texas, to-wit:

35.00 acres of land, more or less, being a part of the Jean Humphrey Survey, Abstract No. 266, Gonzales County, Texas, and being described in that certain Warranty Deed dated March 29, 1951, from Percy Yoakum and wife, Thelma Yoakum, to Captain Melvin Yoakum, being recorded in Volume No. 269, Page No. 172, of the Deed Records, Gonzales County, Texas.

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

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

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT on this the 26th day of January, 2023, at Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas.



Janice Sutton
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
OF GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS

By: *K. Alenon*
DEPUTY

Notice of Established Procedure for the Calculation of Value of Inventory

To all persons owning or controlling as agents of otherwise any inventory subject to appraisal by the Gonzales Central Appraisal District.

I, John Liford, Chief Appraiser for Gonzales Central Appraisal District pursuant to Section 23.12, Chapter 23, Texas Property Tax Code, give notice on behalf of Gonzales Central Appraisal District and publish the established procedure for the calculation of the value of inventory on January 1, 2023. The value of inventory held for sale, lease, or rental, will be assigned by rendition, observation by appraisers, and comparison of like properties, pertinent record of the business and any other reasonable approaches necessary to accurately reflect the market value of taxable inventory as required by statutes and Constitution of the State of Texas.


Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of H.C. CANNON, Deceased, were issued on January 27, 2023, in Cause No. PW22-0242, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: AMANDA CHRISTINE BEHRENDT SANDERS, Independent Executor of the Estate of H.C. CANNON.

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

AMANDA CHRISTINE BEHRENDT SANDERS, Independent Executor of the Estate of H.C. CANNON, Deceased
c/o CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE
403 St. George
Gonzales, Texas 78629

Dated the 27 day of January, 2023.



CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE
Attorney for: AMANDA CHRISTINE BEHRENDT SANDERS
Independent Executor of the Estate of H.C. CANNON, Deceased
State Bar No.: 24084171
403 St. George
Gonzales, Texas 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-9535
Facsimile: (830) 672-8654

The Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas is accepting proposals for construction of 10 new homes in the Vega Land Subdivision

Deadline: Feb. 28, 2023 by 3 p.m.

Specifications: Purchasing@ktttribe.org or 830-773-2105

All proposals and scope of work will need to include materials, equipment, and labor for 10 new wood frame homes. Proposals must be received in a sealed envelope labeled: CONSTRUCTION OF 10 NEW HOMES IN THE VEGA LAND SUBDIVISION. A performance and payment bond will be required for this project. All proposals should be sent/delivered to: PURCHASING DEPARTMENT, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas, Government Building, 2212 Rosita Valley Rd., Eagle Pass, Texas 78852

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- FLEXIBILITY:** Advertising that fits the size of the business and the size of the event, with short deadlines.
- CREDIBILITY & TRUST:** Consumers trust newspapers and frequently seen ads create a level of implied trust. You purchase the trust the Newspaper has spent many years building.
- SELECTIVE NOT INTRUSIVE:** Today's shoppers are far less likely to accept advertising that is spooned out to them. Newspapers are the medium used most for shopping during an average week. (59% of Shoppers)
- ENVIRONMENT:** Readers trust the newspaper to regularly deliver relevant news and information. People still love to read their names of names of people they know, or see their pictures in the local newspaper.
- RELIED UPON:** Newspaper advertising is a valuable commodity to consumers. Newspapers outdistanced other media in terms of: shopping plans, comparing prices.
- RESULTS:** Consistent newspaper campaigns have been very effective in building Brand recognition, delivering Merchandising messages and motivating customers with attractive “Call-to-Action” limited opportunities.

First Miss DeWitt County crowned Jan. 28 in Cuero

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

DeWitt County's first local preliminary competition to Miss Texas within the Miss America Scholarship Program was held Saturday, Jan. 28 at The Venue on Church Street in Cuero, Texas. Eleven contestants participated in the new Miss DeWitt County Scholarship Competition, coordinated by Local Director, Aaron Franco. Guests of honor at Saturday's pageant included Miss Texas Averie Bishop and J-Belle Kimbrell, Miss Texas Outstanding Teen.

Following the talent, evening gown, interview and physical fitness competition, votes were tallied and the winners were announced. Madison Matlock will serve as Miss DeWitt County, Sydney Dias will serve as Miss DeWitt County's Outstanding Teen, Sharity Brent will serve as Miss Corpus Christi and Emma Meyer will serve as Miss Corpus Christi's Outstanding Teen.

Local Director Aaron Franco shared his excitement for the success of the first competition, "Given it was our first year to hold the competition, we were absolutely thrilled at the response in terms of contestants as well as attendees of the competition itself, said Franco.

"The icing on the cake was our fantastic emcee, Karissa Winters, and, our honored guests, Miss Texas and Miss

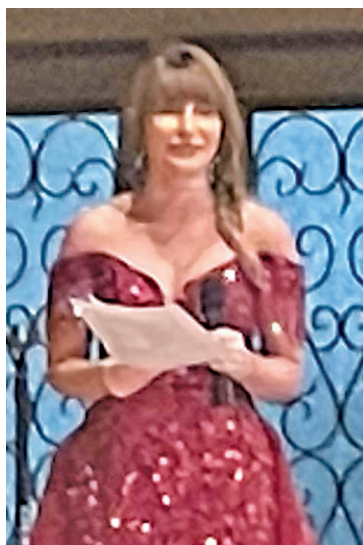
Texas Outstanding Teen. We greatly appreciate the support of our incredible sponsors that made this competition possible, as well as thank our independent judges and our auditors to ensure a fair competition," said Franco.

In August of 2022, Aaron formally became a Local Director, creating the Miss DeWitt Scholarship Organization. Miss DeWitt County and Miss DeWitt County's Outstanding Teen is a local preliminary competition to Miss Texas within the Miss America Scholarship Program.

Franco explained that Miss Texas upcoming events include a spring showcase in April as well as the Miss Texas Competition Week June 25 to July 1 and is thrilled to have Miss DeWitt County and the other winners participate in the upcoming Miss Texas events and competitions.

"We are beyond proud of every contestant that competed!" said Franco. "Each contestant puts countless hours of rehearsing and preparation into the competition and we were absolutely blown away by their professionalism, poise and their talent."

Miss DeWitt County, Madison Matlock is a graduate of Texas A&M University with a Bachelors in Science in Agricultural Leadership and Development. Madison has a minor in Agricultural Communications and Journalism



CONTRIBUTED

Pictured is Karissa Winters, emcee for the event.

and was a Dean's List recipient. Madison is originally from Canyon, Texas, and is currently living in Dallas, Texas. Serving a MADD Partner, Madison's Social Impact Initiative, Perfectly Preventable: Drunk Driving Awareness, allows her to be a champion for victims, their families, and all affected by this preventable tragedy.

Miss DeWitt County's Teen, Sydney Dias is a senior at Porter High School in Porter, Texas. A member of the National Honor Society, Sydney is in the Top 10% of her graduating class. Serving as Senior Lieutenant of the Golden Graces Dance Team, Sydney is a 3 year member and a 2 year officer. Sydney's dog inspired her Social Impact Initiative,



CONTRIBUTED

Pictured is Miss DeWitt County, Madison Matlock, performing a musical number during the talent portion of the competition on Saturday.

Let's Rescue Pets: Anything is Pawsable, which aims to find permanent homes for shelter pets, while also influencing better care of pets. A Partner of the Houston Humane Society, Sydney served as a HHS Camp Pawsome Counselor and

learned firsthand the benefits of pet adoption.

For the latest updates and more information on Miss DeWitt County Scholarship Organization, visit <https://missdewittcounty.org/> or follow them on social media.

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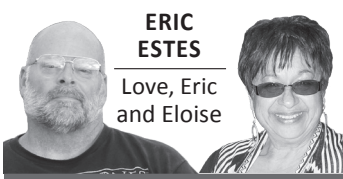
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Saved, Not Perfect!

Hello again, nice to see you. Please come on in and sit a spell, won't you. Some of you that have been around a while may recall the days when neighbors weren't too busy to visit one another just for the heck of it. I remember as a kid spending summers on my grandmother's farm in Kentucky, folks would walk down the road in the cool of evening, often stopping to sit on someone's porch just to "chew the fat" and catch up. And what's that I hear? Oh yeah, it's the clip-clop of uncle Merle's wagon being pulled by his two giant mules...good times!

We moved around a lot as I was growing up. One memory that sticks out is that, after moving into a new place, a few friendly neighbors would show up to say hello and welcome us to the neighborhood, often bringing food. Yeah I know, some were absolutely genuine, while some others were just curious and nosey. Funny thing is that the gossip mongers, who had just welcomed us and invited us to visit their



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

church, failed to realize that we still had ears and could hear their condescending remarks as they headed back down the sidewalk. Apparently, they didn't have a good understanding of James 1:26 which says that if we claim to be religious and don't control our tongue, we're fooling ourselves and our religion is worthless. Or as my mom drilled into my head "Actions speak louder than words"! But honestly, I believe most of us have fallen into this category at one time or another. So, it's important to remember (as most Texans do), that if you fall off the horse, get right back on. It's beneficial to remind ourselves that, while we may make an honest and gallant attempt at being the best followers we can be, we're still human, and at the end of the day...we're saved, not

perfect!

In getting back to my dad's story; his pursuit of a career in aviation is one of diligence, following the axiom "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." Seeking pilot training during his first stint in the Army, he was denied, told that after WW2 they had too many pilots already. So, as many of us do, he started at the bottom, eventually working his way up the ladder. While working for Delta on the tarmac at Midway airport in Chicago (named after the famous battle of 1949), he'd recall some funny and interesting incidents he experienced along the way.

Once, while he was loading baggage, a co-worker was emptying out the planes lavatory and failed to secure the hose correctly, leaving him covered in poop with toilet paper dangling from his ears, but not enough to drown out the laughter from his colleagues. I guess it really is true that "Fecal Matters". On another occasion, a commercial flight returned shortly after takeoff,

with a goose head in the cockpit after coming through the windshield, leaving the captain soaked in blood. Surviving the extreme heat of summer and brutally cold winters, while deicing a wing, my dad slipped off and landed on the service truck below, wearing an ankle cast for the next several weeks. Of course there were plenty of bad takeoffs, landings, and near misses in the mix for good measure, but I'll leave those for your imagination.

After leaving frigid Chicago, they (my mom and dad) headed south to bask in the sunshine, under the palm trees in Miami. Yep, a bright future in the land of alligators, dolphins, manatees, and retirees. Both finding employment with the airlines there, it was time to consider having a family. Good idea or not? Let's just say that when I was seven my family moved again...but I found'em!...just kidding.

More to come, so stay tuned. Have a great week, love you guys, Eric.

Council approves handful of agenda items

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales City Council met for their monthly meeting Thursday, Jan. 19, but the vote about the Lynn Theatre's future was not the only thing on the agenda.

After the vote on the Lynn Theatre, the council approved the following agenda items during that Thursday's meeting:

- appointed Councilwoman Sherri Koepp to the General Assembly and Mayor Steve Sucher to the board of directors for the Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission for terms ending Aug. 31, 2023.
- approved authorizing the City Manager to Execute an amendment to the previously approved Agreement with Gonzales Dog Adoptions, increasing the dollar amount of funding from \$27,600 to \$41,857.64.
- approved authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Contract for the installation of the City's Trojan 3000 Plus UV disinfection system to ACP, Ltd.

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First Baptist Church Highway 108 N., Smiley	St. Patrick Catholic Church Waelder	First United Methodist 426 St. Paul, Gonzales	INTER-DENOMINATIONAL Faith Family Church 1812 Cartwheel Dr., Gonzales
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Harwood Baptist Church North of Post Office, Harwood	Church of Christ (Iglesia de Cristo) 201 E. Second St. Nixon	Henson Chapel United Methodist 1113 St. Andrew, Gonzales	Temple Bethel Pentecostal 1104 S. Paul, Gonzales
Iglesia Bautista Macedonia 201 S. Congress, Nixon	Church of Christ E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon	Monthalia United Methodist CR 112 off Highway 97	Life Changing Church of Gonzales 3.3 miles north on Hwy 183, right on CR 235, then right on CR 236
Iglesia Bautista Memorial Highway 97, Waelder	Church of Christ, Belmont	Smiley United Methodist 1 blk. S. of Hwy. 87, Smiley	PRESBYTERIAN Pilgrim Presbyterian Church CR 210 off FM 1116
Leesville Baptist Church E. of Highway 80 on CR 121	CHURCHES OF GOD Community Church of God 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales	Webster Chapel A.M.E. 1027 Church St., Gonzales	Presbyterian Church of Gonzales 414 St. Louis, Gonzales
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OBITUARIES

CATHERINE LLOYD “CATHY” BOELTER

Catherine Lloyd “Cathy” Boelter, 80, of Seguin, formerly of Gonzales, passed away Monday, January 23, 2023. She was born July 12, 1942 in Gonzales the daughter of Charlie and Anna Catherine Sestak Lloyd. She was a graduate of Gonzales High School. She married Oscar Boelter on October 14, 1979 in Seguin and worked in sales and customer service for many years.

Cathy loved trips with her four sisters and going to the casinos with her husband and his sisters. She loved cooking for her husband and was the best cook in her family. She enjoyed gardening and spending time with her dog “Lil Bit.”

She is survived by her



husband Oscar; sisters: Connie Dolezal and husband Sonny of Gonzales, Judy Bell and husband Mack of Katy and Mary Jane Geaslin and husband David of Gonzales; brother Jimmy Lloyd and wife Barbara of Shiner. Also surviving are numerous nieces and nephews. She

was preceded in death by her parents, sister Laura Wilson and brothers Chili Lloyd and Jack Lloyd and his wife Bonnie.

The Rosary will be recited 9:30 a.m. Friday, February 3, 2023 at St. James Catholic Church in Gonzales with the Mass of the Resurrection being celebrated at 10 a.m. Private family interment will follow at St. James Catholic Cemetery.

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

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

BENNO JULIUS LUENSMANN



Benno Luensmann, 88, passed away peacefully at home on January 29, 2023.

Benno was born August 7, 1934 to Otto Sr. and Alma (Bielke) Luensmann in Zuehl, Texas. He was the eighth of ten children born on a 75-acre family farm that supported the entire family. Life was difficult and money was scarce during his childhood but those conditions helped mold his life-long philosophy of hard work and determination as well as the value of family, church and community.

He married Shirley Ann Drzymalla on January 26, 1957. He and Shirley started life together with their love for each other, a Master's degree in Education and a strong determination to succeed. With a lifetime of practical experience in agriculture and degrees in Animal Husbandry and Education, he taught Agriculture at Texas Lutheran College. He also taught at East Central High School and Seguin High School.

Benno was an entrepreneur at heart. In 1960, he won Grand Champion Barrow at the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo. Lone Star Brewery paid the world's record price at that time for the barrow - \$3,500. With the prize money Benno and Shirley purchased part of the farm they have lived on for 62 years. On that farm, they raised their four children, Yvonne, Donna, Reagan and Bryan. Everyone worked together to raise crops and run a very successful purebred swine breeding operation. After a near fatal tractor accident they converted to a cow and calf operation.

In 1974, Benno was asked by the U.S. Feed Grain Council to travel to South Korea and work as a Service Consultant for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He spent 2 years in South Korea, Japan and Taiwan. He was asked to continue working for the Agriculture Department but he chose to return home to his beloved farm

and community.

In 1978, Benno and brothers Hank and Otto purchased the Seguin Cattle Company. All the brothers, including Richard, worked for years at the Union Stockyards for A.C. Oefinger in San Antonio Texas. When the Union Stockyards closed in 2001, Richard joined his brothers at the Cattle Company.

Over the years, Benno received many awards for his accomplishments as well as recognition for a life time of service to the community and agriculture. He was recognized by the Swine Breeders Association, Independent Cattlemen's Association, Texas State University, Texas Lutheran College and the Seguin Chamber of Commerce, to name a few.

Benno and Shirley loved meeting and socializing with each of you. The Covid outbreak ended their busy social schedule but you were always in their hearts.

Benno is preceded in death by his parents, sisters Viola (Pat) Loeffler, Elfrieda (Adolph) Beyer, Evelyn (Chuck) Klein, Marie (Howard) Stacey, Helen (Sinton) Lampman and brothers Henry “Hank” Luensmann and Richard Luensmann as well as brother-in-law Theodore Drzymalla Jr.

He is survived by his loving wife of 66 years, Shirley (Drzymalla) Luensmann, his sons, Reagan (Mary) Luensmann and Bryan (Lauren) Luensmann, daughters, Yvonne (Steve) Evilsizer and Donna (Tom) Skogman. Grandchild-

dren, Andrew Evilsizer (Kelle Muse), Cheyenne Luensmann, Hunter Luensmann, Garret Luensmann, Savannah Luensmann, Lane Luensmann, Cole Luensmann and Kelsey Luensmann. Brother, Otto (Loraine) Luensmann, sister, Lillian (Willie) Strey and sisters-in-law, Helen Luensmann, Laverne Luensmann and Betty Drzymalla, brother-in-law, Carl Ray (Linda) Drzymalla as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends. Serving as pall bearers will be Mike Friesenhahn, Darren Luensmann, Mark Cerda, Lane Luensmann, Cole Luensmann, Andrew Evilsizer, Hunter Luensmann, Garrett Luensmann and Bubba Jahns.

The family would like to give special thanks to Julia and Noemi as well as Nancy and Vanessa who took wonderful care of “Mr. B.” Your kindness will never be forgotten. Also, many thanks to GRMC Hospice and nurse Sara Sutton Vogel who helped our family through this journey.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, February 2, 2023 at Tres Hewell Mortuary from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Funeral services will be conducted on Friday, February 3, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at Cross Church with Rev. Jim Price officiating. Interment will be at Eden Cemetery in Seguin. Following services, a reception will be held at the Seguin Cattle Company, 2424 Hwy 46, Seguin 78155.

For those who desire, services may be livestreamed at <https://www.facebook.com/crosschurchseguin/>.

Memorial contributions may be made directly to Cross Church Memorial Fund, 814 Bauer, Seguin Texas 78155.

You are invited to sign the guest book at www.treshewell.com Arrangements are under the direction of Tres Hewell Mortuary, 165 Tor Dr., Seguin, Texas 78155, 830-549-5912.

MARGARET ANN FRYE

Margaret Ann Frye, 79, of Harwood, passed away Tuesday, January 17, 2023. She was born June 6, 1943 in Aransas Pass to George and Annie White Walker. She married Lawrence Frye on July 6, 1973 in San Antonio. She had been a member of the Gonzales First United Methodist Church.

Margaret (Marge to her friends and family) loved life, people, and the outdoors. As a First-Grade teacher in the Judson Independent School District, she touched many lives. While living in Converse, TX, she was active in her community, serving on the Parks Commission and tutoring underprivileged children at Boysville.

After retiring she moved to Harwood with her husband to take over the family farm. Her days were filled with watching her cows and keeping her wild birds fed. She rarely missed watching




Wheel of Fortune and was always game for another Hallmark movie. Margaret enjoyed camping on the beach and spent many happy days there with her grandchildren hunting for seashells. Marge never met a shell she didn't like.

As her health began failing, she never lost her lust for life or her concern for the well-being of others. Marge will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Marge is survived by her beloved family, husband of nearly 50 years, Lawrence Frye of Harwood,

daughter, Denise Lea Frye (Patrick Gabrysch) of Floresville, sisters, Marilyn Welch (Mikel) of Live Oak, Carolyn Freeman of Windcrest, grandchildren, Michael Kiolbassa, Krystal Kiolbassa, Jessica Worthey (Justin), and Justin Gabrysch, great-grandchildren, Sadie Worthey, Khloe Worthey, and Ezra Dunham. She was preceded in death by her parents and a son, Donald Frye.

A memorial service will be held at 11 am Thursday, February 2, 2023 in the Floresville United Methodist Church, 1205 B Street, Floresville, Texas with Pastor Valli Blair officiating. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.



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NEWBURY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

prescribed medications and whether my exercise regimen is “set” on the lowest possible bar.

Maybe I’ll reconstruct the old joke about a guy undergoing sedation prior to surgery. “This makes you feel like you do when you’re drunk,” he said. “I

wouldn’t know,” the anesthesiologist replied. “I’ve never had anesthesia...”

Dr. Newbury was a longtime university president who continues to write weekly and speak regularly throughout Texas. Phone: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Facebook: Don Newbury

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OBITUARY



KAREN LEA CHILDERS HOLMSTROM

Karen Lea Childers Holmstrom was born on July 8, 1948, to Ora Lea Chernosky and Tommy Whitley Childers in Gonzales, Texas. Karen went to be with her Lord and joined her beloved husband, James Carroll Holmstrom, on January 23, 2023. She was a baptized and confirmed member of Gethsemane Lutheran Church.

She lived her first 18 years in the small town of Waelder, Texas with her parents, sister, Valerie Sue Volk, brother, Tommy Max Childers, and beloved grandparents, August and Novella Chernosky. She graduated from Waelder High School in a class of fifteen. She went to work for the Texas Department of Public Safety in 1967 and retired in 1998 after 31 years of service.

On May 15, 1982, she and her beloved husband, James Carroll Holmstrom, were married at Gethsemane Lutheran Church. With the marriage came Carroll's three children, daughter, Jan Carole Kruse, and sons, Russell Jay (Marylin) and Terry Myall (Tammy) and their families.

She is also survived by her brother, Tommy Max Childers, sister, Valerie Sue Volk, beloved nephews, Kevin Lynn Laake and Jason Allen Whitley Crozier, niece, Misty Renee Greget, and their families, her guardian angels, Brian and Diana, and their beautiful angels, Addison and Matthew.

Karen and Carroll loved their retirement years and being able to travel with their much loved Greta and Sofie. They enjoyed many trips to Tennessee. Karen especially loved the Great Smoky Mountains. She felt truly blessed to have been able to share her life with Carroll and all those she loved.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Karen's honor to Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 200 W Anderson Ln., Austin, TX 78752, or to the ASPCA, www.aspc.org.

A Visitation will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2023, from 3:00 to 5:00 PM at Providence-Jones Family Funeral Home. A Celebration of Life will be held on Monday, January 30, 2023, at 11:30 AM at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Austin.

Arrangements entrusted to Providence-Jones Family Funeral Home.



Sesame Study Club learns how to make hand-made soap

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

At the first meeting of 2023, members of Sesame Study Club met at the Robert L. Brothers Jr. Memorial Library. Hostesses Jenice Benedict and Noelle Ince provided a Valentine's Day table laden with heart-shaped sandwiches, a fruit platter, chocolate chip cookies, coffee, or water.

VP Lynn Gescheidle introduced Kelly Quinney, owner and artisan of Swoonworthy Suds in Luling. Kelly demonstrated the steps and safety precautions in creating hand-made soaps. Explaining the chemical process as it developed, Kelly com-

bined oil and lye water, ingredients to add color, fragrance, and to increase bubbles. Samples were available showing the colorful, aromatic finished products.

During the business meeting, Christina Menking of the Library Committee reported the number of books checked out and the number of visitors to the library and to the Mary Elizabeth Tinsley History Center last month. Joan Griffin of the Book Committee reviewed "Start Dancin' and Don't Stop; Thrive, Don't Just Survive" by Kate Null Asbill, and Sandra Miller offered "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus.

Machine quilting featured at upcoming Shiner Heritage Quilters meeting

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Shiner Heritage Quilters will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 7, at the Shiner Methodist Fellowship Hall. Members gather at 5 p.m. for socializing and begin the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Victoria West will present a program about types of long-arm quilting machines. She will discuss the pros and cons, midarm and domestic machine quilting along with the cost of supplies and give suggestions of where to place this "new toy."

Janet Ferguson will provide instruction cards for the second block in the "Block of the Month" project. Members will draw one card from this group and make one or more blocks from the instructions. That card will be returned at the March meeting and another card will be selected. The goal is to make enough blocks to complete a quilt to enter in the 2024 "Spring into Quilting Show."

For more information visit www.shinerheritagequilters.org or email at info@shinerheritagequilters.org.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office
01/22/23 – 01/28/23

01/23/23

- Smith, Cameron Matthew, 07/2000, Huffman: Local Warrant – Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Released on \$10,000 Bond
- Tamayo-Quesada, Yan Manuel, 03/1988, Unknown: Public Intoxication, Released on Order to Appear; Fail to Identify giving False/Fictitious Info; Released on \$3,000 Bond
- Martinez, Juan Manuel, 04/1994, Houston: Local Warrant – Possession Controlled Substance PG 2 <1G; Requires \$75,000 Bond
- Hernandez, Marcus John, 01/1992, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Manufacture Deliver Controlled Substance PG 1 >1G <4G, Requires \$25,000 Bond; Local Warrant – Manufacture Deliver Controlled Substance PG 1 >1G <4G, Requires \$25,000 Bond; Local Warrant – Unlawful Carrying Weapon, Local Warrant – Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Requires \$1,000 Bond; Evading Arrest Detention w/Previous Conviction, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Fail to ID Fugitive from Justice Refuse Give, Requires\$3,000 Bond; Parole Division – Parole Violation; Remains in Custody
- Riewe, Nathan Ross, 09/1983, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Abandon Endanger Child Int/ Know/Reck/Crim Neg, Released on \$7,500 Bond

01/24/23

- Martinez-Martinez, Juan Jose, 02/2000, Gonzales: Driving while Intoxicated, Requires \$3,000 Bond; Homeland Security – Detainer, Remains in Custody
- Salas Jr., David, 02/1988, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Possession Controlled Substance PG 1/1-B <1G, Requires \$75,000 Bond; Remains in Custody
- Moreno, Carlos Orlando, 09/1990, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Continuous Violence against Family, Requires \$150,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

01/26/23

- Stautzenberger, Fritz Douglas, 11/1975: Local Warrant – Aggravated Assault w/Deadly Weapon, Local Warrant – Aggravated Assault w/ Deadly Weapon, Local Warrant – Aggravated Assault w/Deadly Weapon, Requires \$300,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

01/27/23

- Taylor, Tyteanna Lasha, 04/2000, Houston: Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Requires \$750 Bond; Assault Public Servant, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Assault Public Servant, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Remains in Custody
- Solis, James Elis, 11/1976, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Possession Controlled Substance PG 1 <1G, Released – Weekender

01/28/23

- Alford, Jason Paul, 11/1983, San Marcos: Commitment/Sentence – Possession Controlled Substance PG 1 <1G; Remains in Custody

Total Arrest, Court Commitments, other agency arrest and processing's:			
GCSO	12	Constable 4	00
DPS	02	DWCSO	00
GPD	04	DEA	00
WPD	02	TPW	00
NPD	00	GCAI	00
GISD	00	Rangers	00
SMO	00	Other	00
Constable 1	00		
Constable 3	00	Total	20

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ACROSS

1 TXism: “ ____ pill to swallow”

5 Valley medicinal plant

6 TX Welchel of “Facts of Life”

7 Harris of Texas-based “Alamo Bay”

8 network of “Austin City Limits”

9 this magazine has called Luby’s “the best little hash house in Texas”

15 Brenham’s ____ Bell ice cream

16 inlet just north of the Yellow Sea (2 wds.)

18 Texas pests (2 wds.)

20 Robert Lee is the seat of this county

21 TX Jerry “Count Jackson” ____ of “Boogie Kings”

26 TXism: “commits matrimony”

27 Texas recipes blog: “ ____ to Bake”

29 this Davis was 14th governor of Texas

30 window shelters

32 Andrews is named for this Texas Revolution hero (init.)

33 TXism: “loose ____”

36 TXism: “takes a big ____ to rope him” (obese)

37 Gov. Richards

38 Davy advice: “Be sure you’re right, ____ ahead”

39 said of Rudolph’s nose (2 wds.)

41 sleep in? (2 wds.)

44 in Red River County on U.S. 82

45 TXism: “he could strut sitting down” (big ____)

46 this Diane was “Lorena” in “Lonesome Dove”

47 cowboy’s bath night (abbr.)

48 Jewish language

51 TXism: “give your ____ rest” (be quiet)

52 polite Texas address to a woman

53 ____ Mott, TX

54 Dallas univer.

DOWN

1 TX singer Ketchum

2 boxer Muhammad

3 in Falls County on U.S. 77

4 TXism: “he was around when the ____ sick” (old)

8 “Metro ____” (DFW)

9 Texas state stone: ____ wood

10 TXism: “got knocked down a peg ____ two”

11 this Texan was NBC “Tarzan” (init.)

12 wall protection behind stove or countertop

13 fancy word for “black”

14 “for Pete’s ____”

15 uncompleted span: “ ____ nowhere”

16 was a Palestine FM

17 one who desires

19 Boerne had the “Kid ‘ ____ Fiber Fair”

21 TX A.J. Foyt won at ____ Mans in 1967

22 “in the year of our Lord” (abbr.)

23 country entertainment org.

24 TXism: “ ____ up some grub” (prepare a meal)

25 TXism: “ugly as a wart ____”

27 excited

28 first Cowboy QB: “ ____” Don

31 used car offer: “We tote the ____”

34 TXism: “ ____-horse town” (small town)

35 TX Smith who won gold in vault with bamboo pole (init.)

37 TXism: “does ____ dog stink?” (yes)

40 female eggs

42 ____ “Bum” Phillips

43 instant stops for cars? (2 wds.)

49 this Taniguchi built the Oriental Garden in Austin’s Zilker Park

50 Texans Houston or Rayburn

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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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.

INSPECTION TIME



PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

The 2022-23 Gonzales High School Naval JROTC. Alphabetical order: Jessiah Barr, Christain Barrera, Juan Cardenas, Justin Ecobedo, Hector Gomez, Lucero Govea, Shawna Greathouse, Ian Harborth, Mauricio Lerma, Saleen Maruffo, Rylan McGhee, Jadon Medina, Ryann Michalec, Marcus Milson, Payton Moore, Eva Moreno, Miguel Moreno, Javier Ortiz, Miguel Ramos, Alexandria Rodriguez, Alex Roman, Taylynn Thwig, Marrisra Trice, Jose Villarreal, Jonathan Wear, Johusa White, Robbie Yankee, John Ybarbo, Richard Ervin and Jackson Trent.



The Naval JROTC lines up as they receive their orders from senior Jonathan Weare Thursday, Jan. 26 in the old Gonzales High School Gym.



Senior Jonathan Weare salutes Navy Commander Bill Hugen (left) and NJROTC instructor retired United States Army Sgt. 1st Class Curtis StPierre (right) during the annual uniform inspection Thursday, Jan. 26 at Gonzales High School.

JOB

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

les, Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson, Lavaca and Victoria counties seeking employment out of a total workforce of 90,299 people.

The other county reporting a rate equal to Gonzales County is Dewitt County, with an unemployment rate of 2.7 percent — Lavaca County at 3.0 percent, Jackson County at 3.2 percent, Calhoun County at 3.3 percent, Victoria County at 3.8 percent and Goliad County at 4.0 percent.

For December 2022, there were 256 individuals in Gonzales County seeking employment out of a workforce of 9,428 with 9,210 reported as employed. In November 2022, there were 285 people

seeking work in Gonzales County out of an employment force of 9,341 for a total unemployment rate of 3.1 percent.

In December 2021, Gonzales County had an unemployment rate of 3.2 percent. The 2.7 percent unadjusted unemployment rate for December 2022 is the lowest seen in Gonzales County since it was just 2.6 percent in April 2022.

Unemployment rates since December 2020 for Gonzales County:

- December 2020, 5.2 percent.
- January 2021, 5.6 percent.
- February 2021, 5.7 percent.
- March 2021, 5.4 percent.
- April 2021, 4.7 percent.
- May 2021, 4.5 percent.

- June 2021, 5.1 percent.
- July 2021, 4.3 percent.
- August 2021, 3.9 percent.
- September 2021, 3.8 percent.
- October 2021, 3.6 percent.
- November 2021, 3.5 percent
- December 2021, 3.2 percent
- January 2022, 3.6 percent
- February 2022, 3.4 percent
- March 2022, 2.7 percent.
- April 2022, 2.6 percent.
- May 2022, 2.9 percent.
- June 2022, 3.5 percent.
- July 2022, 3.2 percent.
- August 2022, 3.2 percent.
- September 2022, 3.1 percent.
- October 2022, 3.1 percent.
- November 2022, 3.1 percent
- December 2022, 2.7 percent.

INCLUSION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

who spoke and said that even though we’ve come a long way, there’s still work to be done. And that statement is very true,” Tucy said.

In a July 9, 2020, Tucy gave a presentation regarding the square formerly known as “Confederate Heroes Square” and

the next several meetings he would talk about the city’s work of “inclusion and recognition of the history of its African American residents,” and the square subsequently was renamed Independence Square.

“Inclusion and recognition are not just

words without meaning. These are words that are instilled in the hearts of people who have been deprived of them. People who want to see physical, perpetual evidence that exhibits pride throughout this place which we call home. But there is still work to be done,” Tucy said.

Tucy suggested to the council by renaming one of the streets to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King.

“We keep the dream alive by changes and implementations, not by stagnation. We have indeed come a long way. But there’s still work to be done. And with your help, we can move forward toward fulfilling that dream,” Tucy said.

Edwards Association Vice President Quincy Johnson backed up Tucy’s comments with his own.


“Change always comes with speed bumps and

hurdles. But we must keep moving forward. I will simply ask that the city continue to be open to the many ideas and projects of its citizens to keep an eye on diverse cultures moving in a forward and positive direction,” Johnson said.


Johnson added that this is not change, but more progress, and the monuments at Independence Square will not only “highlight those educators who not only

transformed the lives of segregated youth, but continue to transform and educate our youth after desegregation,” and it’ll show the continuing progress of the community.

“We hail ourselves in the cradle of Texas independence and the place of the ‘first shot.’ Let’s continue to work together to continue to be first to lead our state in progress and unity,” Johnson concluded.



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BANQUET

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

silent and live auction and the distinguished awards ceremony. There also will be a live performance by the Hot Texas Swing Band so you will definitely want to mosey on out to the dance floor to two-step with your sweetie!

Recipients of the Community Service Award and David B. Walshak Lifetime Achievement Award will also be named. The Community Service Award is an annual award given to an individual, business, or organization for meritorious service in one or more of the categories below:

- Historic Preservation
- Promotion of the Arts
- Education
- Commerce/ Industry
- Youth Motivation
- Volunteer Work

The David B. Walshak Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to a person who has proved worthy of distinction in the Community. This Lifetime Achievement Award is appropriately named after a man who gave of himself unselfishly to his family, friends, church, and community.

Tickets are on sale now. Gold First Shot tables will seat 10 for \$650 and includes your company or personal name on the welcome banner and Chamber program, some premier seating and highlights on social media. The Silver First Shot tables run you 10 for \$550 and includes reserved seating and highlights on

social media as well. Meanwhile, individual tickets are \$50 each for members, while non-member tickets are \$65 per person

The Chamber is looking for help from its membership to make this a successful event and is looking for donations for the auction in the form of products or services from member businesses. Funds raised will help the Gonzales Chamber and all donations are greatly appreciated.

A donation can be something as simple as a gift certificate to your business or anything you choose to donate for the auction. In exchange, your company logo image, name, address, phone number, and donation will be listed on the Chamber Facebook page and Instagram. Your logo image will be listed with the donation during the auction.

Funds raised during our annual banquet go to support the mission of the Chamber of Commerce: “To promote community prosperity by providing services and advocacy for our members.” It helps to provide high-quality networking events, ribbon-cuttings, and events that contribute to the prosperity and economy of the community.

For more information about the Chamber banquet, contact the Chamber at 830-672-6532, email director@gonzalestexas.com or log onto gonzalestexas.com.



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FITZWATER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A veteran journalist, Fitzwater was a former regional sales and marketing manager at Gannett Publishing Services for all Gannett daily newspapers in his home state of Michigan from 2014 to 2017. This included USA Today as well as the Detroit Free Press, Detroit News, Lansing State Journal, Port Huron Times-Herald, Battle Creek Enquirer and Livingston Daily Press and Argus.

However, in November 2017, Fitzwater left to take the position as publisher of the Gonzales Inquirer, one of the oldest continuously operated weekly newspapers in the state of Texas. Fitzwater became known for his passion for local news reporting as well as his editorials and columns, which often featured a unique take on the community and the world.

His peers recognized his work as he won a first-place award for best editorial and best headline writing from the Texas Press Association and also took home honors for best column and news coverage writing from the South Texas Press Association. One of his proudest achievements was winning the prestigious Latham Award for Community Service, which recognizes the leadership a newspaper takes within its community to foster change for the better.

Fitzwater also founded a Come and Taste It Craft beer and wine festival that was sponsored by the Inquirer during his time as publisher, with the event taking place in Texas Heroes Square (formerly Confederate Square) in downtown Gonzales.

Erik McCowan, who worked as a reporter for the Inquirer under Fitzwater, eulogized his former boss when news of his passing was announced on Facebook.

“He was a good guy, a great boss, and an American who served and wasn’t fooled by the fake patriotism that blinds so many,” McCowan said. “He’d call it out, but in a way that wasn’t insulting (unless they deserved it). It was fascinating to watch. Too bad Michigan didn’t go all the way this year (in the college



FILE PHOTO
Former Gonzales Inquirer publisher Terry Fitzwater contributed to the betterment of the Inquirer and the Gonzales community during his time at the helm of the newspaper. That included founding the Come and Taste It craft beer and wine festival, which included live music performances as well.

football playoffs) for him.”

As a U.S. Marine, Fitzwater was also an unwavering supporter of veterans within the communities where he worked.

In April 2020, Fitzwater left Gonzales to take over as editor and publisher at The Kingsville Record, which had been owned and operated by the legendary King family and the King Ranch since the early 1900s until it changed hands in December 2019. Within a short period of time, Fitzwater had left as indelible a mark on Kleberg County as he had on Gonzales County.

“I am shocked and saddened to hear about Mr. Fitzwater’s passing,” said Emeri Sage Drewry. “I had the distinct opportunity to intern for him in the summer of 2022 while majoring in Journalism at TAMUK. Mr. Fitzwater’s passion for fostering and reporting on local stories was the driv-

ing force to keeping community members informed. This passion was passed onto me and he taught me that reporting was one angle of the story, the other was the relationships I established with those I was reporting on or on behalf of.

As journalists we commit ourselves to delivering the news. Mr. Fitzwater was the epitome of this ideology. I will forever be grateful for the time I spent with him, but most importantly for the lessons he taught me. Rest In Peace, Mr. Fitzwater.”

Journalism was not Fitzwater’s only interest, however. He studied litigation, real estate and municipal law at Rutgers Law School and also studied history, economics, English literature and political science as an undergrad at Central Michigan University.

Funeral arrangements for Fitzwater are pending at this time.

GRANT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for our campuses. Our goal is to improve our food service experience.

In a letter from the Texas Department of Agriculture Commissioner, Sid Miller stated, “The additional capabilities afforded by this grant will promote the consumption of nutritious foods in school and support your work to create healthy campus environments. This investment

will reinforce the keys of healthy living — education, exercise, and eating right.”

Edward Wayner, Gonzales ISD Director of Food Services, has been working on this project for a couple of years and has started initial discussions with two companies. This grant will allow GISD to continue its mission of Growing Greatness in Gonzales ISD.

FATHEREE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The election filing period began just nine days prior to her passing and Fatherree would have been eligible to seek a fourth consecutive term on the council.

During her tenure on the council, the city completed construction of a new City Hall and Community Center. One of her most ardent supporters has been Patsy Virgil Scherrer, executive director of Passion for PAWS Memorial Animal Shelter, who had known Fatherree since grade school and had also run for council along with her during that 2017 campaign.

“My deepest condolences go out to Mary Ann’s family. This woman, my dear friend, will definitely be missed,” Scherrer wrote on Facebook in memorializing her friend. “As a member of the Nixon Council she has been such an inspiration in our community. Her concerns were always for the citizens of our community and the welfare of all senior citizens and elderly. Not many people put this in front as priority for our community, but MaryAnn has followed the Lord as putting the needs of the citizens first. She has always been very dog friendly and I

have admired her Godly heart for God’s animals.

“It really breaks my heart to hear of her passing but we all know that God has her in his arms now.

She was a very strong woman in believing in what was right in our community. Mary Ann, my dear friend, you will be missed very much and I promise you I will try my best to continue to help the citizens as much as I can, which is something you kept pushing me with before every election. I thank you for having faith in me and I have always carried my faith in you as you went through your battles.”

In addition to her role on the city council, Fatherree was a lay speaker for Dewville United Methodist Church, president of the United Methodist Women’s Women in Faith; winner of the Discipleship award from the Corpus Christi District of the UMC; and a graduate of the advanced course “Spiritual Gifts” from Las Misiones Director of Lay Servant Ministries.

Her funeral service was held Monday, Jan. 30, at Finch Funeral Chapel in Nixon and burial followed at Harris Chapel Rising Star Cemetery in Nixon.

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