

The Gonzales Inquirer

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County offices to vacate annex for repairs

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County commissioners agreed Tuesday, Oct. 10, to have all occupants of the Gonzales County Annex

vacate the property by Dec. 1 so work can be done to fix the severe structural issues at the building.

County Judge Pat Davis said a second engineering firm reviewed the building and its findings were almost identical to

that of the first firm which looked at the building earlier this year.

"The building needs to be repaired probably as fast as we can and we probably ought to start getting those offices out of the building by December," Davis

said. This will send some county offices scrambling to find temporary homes. For some, the fix will be easy. Texas

See ANNEX, page A17

Gonzales County lifts burn ban

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Rain in Gonzales County has alleviated the need for a burn ban, so County Judge Pat Davis has called for the emergency order that was enacted July 24 to be lifted effective immediately, Wednesday, Oct. 11.

"Due to the recent rains, the hazardous conditions have been alleviated," Davis said. "Citizens are cautioned to exercise extreme caution when burning is necessary."

Gonzales County Commissioners Court retains the right to re-enact a ban on outdoor burning if the need to do so should arise.

Annular eclipse comes to Texas this Saturday

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The first of two solar eclipses that will darken skies and obscure the sun over the Lone Star State will take place this Saturday, Oct. 14.

Gonzales County will be able to witness the partial eclipse, but will not be along the path of annularity — the narrow strip of land where the eclipse can be seen in its entirety and during which the sun pokes out behind the moon like a ring of fire.

See ECLIPSE, page A18

Happy Fall Y'all expands

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

No word in the English language is more Texan than "y'all" and no other Halloween event is so quintessentially representative of Gonzales, Texas, as the annual Happy Fall Y'all, which will be held Saturday,

See Y'ALL, page A18



Come & Celebrate It

Gonzales celebrated the First Shot for Texas Independence at the annual Come and Take It Celebration held Oct. 6-8. The event included the re-enactment of the Oct. 2, 1835 stand against the Mexican Army; live music from bands like Little Texas; the annual parade, which had a record 145 entries and the Chicken Flying Contest.

PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN AND VANDY VAN EPPS

GISD receives superior rating by FIRST

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
The Inquirer

The Gonzales ISD School Board met for its regularly scheduled meeting Monday,

Oct. 9 at the administration office.

One of the big topics from Monday's was the reveal of district's financial accountability rating by the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST).

Chief Financial Officer Amanda Smith said, just like the academic accountability rating, the Texas Education Agency

See GISD, page A17

HOMECOMING ROYALTY



VANDY VAN EPPS

Seniors Kynleigh Schroeder and Eric "EJ" Guevara were named the 2023 Gonzales High School Homecoming Queen and King Friday, Oct. 6.

Chamber unveils new online self-guided tourism website

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Just before the annual Come and Take It Celebration was held last week in Gonzales, the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce

& Agriculture, Visitor Center and Tour Gonzales unveiled an online, interactive website to help newcomers and residents alike find

See TOURISM, page A7

Main Street brings back Rum Run

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Only one event in Gonzales begs the question: Why "run" when you can "rum?"

It's the annual Gonzales Main Street Rum Run, and it's back by popular demand on Saturday, Oct. 21, as a way to raise glasses

and money to help revitalize and support Gonzales Main Street.

The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Check-in starts at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., where runners — or should be say "rummers" — will pick up their T-shirt and rum

See RUM, page A17



October declared 'Domestic Violence Awareness Month'

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County Commissioners Court signed a proclamation Tuesday, Oct. 10, declaring October 2023 to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

In reading aloud the proclamation, County Judge Pat Davis noted that the Guadalupe Valley Family Violence Shelter Inc., which has served Gonzales, Guadalupe, Karnes and Wilson counties for 40 years, answered 992 crisis calls and provided 6,398 services to survivors of domestic violence from September 2022 through July 2023.

The proclamation states that "domestic violence violates an individual's privacy and dignity, security and humanity and is a systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control and/or abuse, including abuse to children and the elderly."



The Gonzales County Commissioners Court declares October 2023 to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Gonzales County.

"The problems of domestic violence are not confined to any group, or groups, of people, but cut across all economic, racial and societal barriers, and are supported by societal indifference," Davis said. "The impact of domestic violence is wide-ranging, directly affect-

ing individuals and society as a whole.

"Women are not the only targets. Men, young children and the elderly are also victims, and sadly, emotional scars are often permanent."

The proclamation notes that domestic violence "costs United States companies at least \$3.5 billion in lost work time, increasing health care costs, high turnover and lower productivity."

Places like Guadalupe Valley Family Violence Shelter exist because "it is battered women themselves who have been in the forefront of the efforts to bring peace and equality to the home."

Finally, the proclamation calls on "all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities and businesses to increase their participation in efforts to combat domestic violence, thereby strengthening the community in which we live."

GISD shines at TASA, TASB Convention in Dallas

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales Independent School District (GISD) proudly represented its students, staff, and community at the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) and Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Convention (txEdCON) in Dallas, Texas, on Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 2023

GISD was the only district in the state to present four enlightening sessions that demonstrated its commitment to student and staff success.

The TASA/TASB Convention is the premier annual conference for Texas school board members and administrators. It provides an opportunity for education leaders to network, learn best practices, and share innovative ideas for improving public education in Texas.

GISD Superintendent



Dr. Elmer Avellaneda said he was honored to showcase the district's achievements and vision at the convention.

"We are very proud of our GISD team for their outstanding presentations and for sharing their expertise and passion with other educators from across the state," he said. "We are excited to continue our journey of excellence and innovation in GISD."

The GISD presenters and sessions were as follows:

- D'Anna Robinson,

Ashley Molina, Brandi Bell, and Dr. Elmer Avellaneda presented "Strategic Vision Design with Community Buy-In: How Will You Tell Your Story?" They described how GISD developed a comprehensive strategic plan that reflects the district's vision, mission, goals, and values, and how they engaged the community in the process.

- Adrienne Steen presented "Rewriting the Narrative: Improving District Morale and Stakeholder Relationships Starts with Leader-

ship." Steen shared how GISD transformed its culture and reputation by implementing effective communication strategies, engaging stakeholders, and celebrating successes.

- Ashley Wilke, and Amanda Smith presented "Staff over Staff: Prioritizing Student Need, Staff Retention, and Innovation Through Collaborative Budgeting Strategies." They explained how GISD aligned its budget with its strategic plan and prioritized student achievement, staff retention, and innovation over unnecessary expenditures.

- Ashley Molina and Dr. Elmer Avellaneda participated in a panel discussion on "State Accountability A-F System." They discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the state's accountability system and how GISD uses data to inform instruction and improvement.

GEDC, Main Street move into new digs

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales Economic Development Corporation and Gonzales Main Street often work hand in hand. They will continue to work out of the same building after both relocated to their new office at 305 Saint Lawrence Street earlier this month.

The two organizations, which fall under the city umbrella and report back to the Gonzales City Council, were originally housed in cramped quarters at Gonzales City Hall, 820 N. Saint Joseph St. Following the retirement of Dr. Gary Gage, the two agencies moved into the optometrist's former office.

At this time, the offices are operating off City of Gonzales cell phones.

Anyone in need of assistance can reach them at the following:

- Susan Sankey, GEDC Executive Director, 830-263-9327

- Alexis Cerda, GEDC Administrative Assistant, 830-857-4307

- Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla, Main Street Director, 830-203-1705.

An official open house will be held at a later date.

OATH OF OFFICE



New Gonzales County Assistant District Attorney Carrie Moy is given the oath of office by County Judge Pat Davis. She had been a longtime assistant district attorney in DeWitt County before accepting a position with Gonzales County this month.

CONTRIBUTED

Celebrations

Birthdays

October 12th Becky Bruns Susan Colwell Braxton Zella	Tanner Underwood	Betty Sampleton Florentina Taylor
October 13th Elaine Baker Emmet J. Baker Gerald Bazan Trey Alan Decker Katy Falks Blake Gescheidle Molly Manning	October 15th Bret Cappleman Garrett McGinley Matthew Holmes Emmy Lynn Irle Daniel Leazer Nelwyn Lewis Larry Mercer Christopher Myers Jerrie Lynn Walshak John Mark Zavadil	October 17th Christopher Irle Matthew James Sarah Menking Mallory Ramos
October 14th Sandra Brown Dee Noack Minerva Peeler George Reese	October 16th Kelsey Camarillo Abelardo Ibarra Sr. James Knox Sr. James Knox Jr. Leigh Pirkle	October 18th Stephen Hahn JoAnn Ibarra James Koehler Eric Lipsey Darren Parker Richard Pfuhl Ashlynn Stewart Albertha Vannall Lorrell Wright

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Gonzales Weather

	October 12 87°/71°	Partly sunny 3% chance of rain • RealFeel 91
	October 13 88°/59°	Sunny to partly cloudy and warm 16% chance of rain • RealFeel 92
	October 14 80°/51°	Breezy and not as warm with plenty of sunshine, pleasant in the afternoon 8% chance of rain • RealFeel 79
	October 15 80°/54°	Plenty of sunshine 7% chance of rain • RealFeel 81
	October 16 79°/56°	Plenty of sunshine 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 83
	October 17 80°/62°	Plenty of sunshine 5% chance of rain • RealFeel 84
	October 18 81°/62°	Clouds and sun with a strong thunderstorm 55% chance of rain • RealFeel 78

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Potatoes Yukon Gold, Russett, Bakers 50 lb bags for \$25	Sweet Potatoes 40 lb. box for \$20	Tomatoes 75¢ lb.	Avocados 60 size 2 for \$1	Bell Peppers: Red & Green 3 for \$1
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Garden
Q&A
with CALVIN FINCH



Wait to fertilize your lawn

Q. What can we control fire ants on okra with? What are they eating on the okra?

A. Fire ants on okra in an emergency can be washed off with a water spray. They can also be controlled with some products with Spinosad as the active ingredient for control of the ants in the vegetable garden. Check and make sure that the label lists the ants on a food plant as an allowed use. Fire ants will eat aphids on the okra, and they will also eat the blooms and young pods.

Q. Is there any way to control horse herb in the lawn?

A. Horse herbs are tough to control because they are a reseeding perennial. It will regrow from seed that it has deposited on the soil, or it will resprout from the roots if you kill the top of the existing plant. Use Over the Top to kill the growing plant and use a preemergent for broadleaf weeds to prevent the seeds from germinating.

Q. After the rain we received in early October my lawn is finally showing some green, it is Bermuda grass in full sun, should we go ahead and fertilize it with the "winterizer" or the 19-05-09 slow-release lawn fertilizer?

A. It is late in the growing season to be fertilized. Wait now until about May 1 when the lawns will start active growth for next year.

Q. Which of primula and cyclamen are the easiest to grow? Both are beautiful to grow in the shade in the winter

A. Both species are spectacular in terms of colorful constant bloom while the temperature stays cool. Primula grow like pansies, but their leaves have patterns, and the blooms remind me of circus show paint with intense colors. Cyclamens produce larger plants with deep but less waxy colors. Their leaves also have attractive etchings. Protect both plants from temps below 28 degrees and keep them well watered and protected from slugs and snails. I think they are equally easy to grow November through April.

SBA Economic Injury disaster loans available to Texas small businesses

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Small nonfarm businesses in the following counties are now eligible to apply for low interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration. These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by adverse weather conditions that occurred in the following primary counties in Texas announced Director Jeffrey Lusk of SBA's Disaster Field Operations Center-West.

DECLARATION NUMBER: 18234

Primary Counties: Anderson, Archer, Baylor, Bexar, Blanco, Brown, Burnet, Caldwell, Comal, Deaf Smith, Ellis, Fannin, Foard, Gillespie, Grayson, Hardeman, Haskell, Hays, Henderson, Houston, Kaufman, Kendall, Lampasas, Leon, Limestone, Madison, McLennan, Navarro, Rockwall, Runnels, Stonewall, Van Zandt and Wilbarger

Neighboring Counties: Angelina, Atascosa, Bandera, Bastrop, Bell, Bosque, Brazos, Callahan, Castro, Cherokee, Childress, Clay, Coke, Coleman, Collin, Comanche, Concho, Cooke, Coryell, Cottle, Dallas, Delta, Denton, Dickens, Eastland, Falls, Fayette, Fisher, Freestone, Gonzales, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hamilton, Hill, Hunt, Jack, Johnson, Jones, Kent, Kerr, Kimble, King, Knox, Lamar, Llano, Mason, McCulloch, Medina, Mills, Nolan, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Rains, Randall, Robertson, San Saba, Shackelford, Smith, Tarrant, Taylor, Throckmorton, Tom Green, Travis, Trinity, Walker, Wichita, Williamson, Wilson, Wood and Young in Texas; Curry and Quay in New Mexico; Bryan, Harmon, Jackson, Love, Marshall and Tillman in Oklahoma

Incident Type: Excessive Heat
Incident Date: June 1, 2023 & continuing
Deadline: May 29, 2024

DECLARATION NUMBER: 18235

Primary Counties: Austin, Bailey, Bell, Bosque, Cameron,

Cochran, Coke, Colorado, Coryell, Dawson, Duval, Erath, Falls, Fisher, Gonzales, Hill, Hood, Jefferson, Johnson, Lavaca, Llano, Mason, Matagorda, McCulloch, Nacogdoches, Nolan, Palo Pinto, Robertson, San Augustine, Shelby, Sterling, Throckmorton, Tom Green, Trinity, Washington, Webb, Wharton, Wilbarger, Williamson, Wilson, Wise and Young

Neighboring Counties: Angelina, Archer, Atascosa, Bastrop, Baylor, Bexar, Blanco, Borden, Brazoria, Brazos, Brooks, Brown, Burnet, Burnet, Caldwell, Calhoun, Chambers, Cherokee, Coleman, Comanche, Concho, Cooke, Denton, DeWitt, Dimmit, Eastland, Ellis, Fayette, Fort Bend, Gaines, Gillespie, Glasscock, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hamilton, Hardin, Haskell, Hidalgo, Hockley, Houston, Howard, Irion, Jack, Jackson, Jasper, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Jones, Karnes, Kenedy, Kent, Kimble, Knox, La Salle, Lamb, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Limestone, Live Oak, Lynn, Madison, Martin, Maverick, McLennan, McMullen, Menard, Milam, Mitchell, Montague, Navarro, Orange, Panola, Parker, Parmer, Polk, Reagan, Runnels, Rusk, Sabine, San Jacinto, San Saba, Schleicher, Scurry, Shackelford, Somervell, Stephens, Stonewall, Tarrant, Taylor, Terry, Travis, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Yoakum and Zapata in Texas; Cameron, De Soto and Sabine in Louisiana; Curry, Lea and Roosevelt in New Mexico

Incident Type: Excessive Heat and Drought
Incident Date: June 1, 2023 & continuing
Deadline: May 29, 2024

"SBA eligibility covers both the economic impacts on businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers that have suffered agricultural production losses caused by the disasters and businesses directly impacted by the disasters," Lusk said.

Small nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organi-

zations of any size may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disasters not occurred.

"Eligibility for these loans is based on the financial impact of the disasters only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate as low as 4 percent for businesses and 2.375 percent for private nonprofit organizations, a maximum term of 30 years, and are available to small businesses and most private nonprofits without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship," Lusk said.

Interest does not begin to accrue until 12 months from the date of the initial disaster loan disbursement. SBA disaster loan repayment begins 12 months from the date of the first disbursement.

By law, SBA makes economic injury available when the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. The Secretary declared these declarations on Sept. 29.

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

Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

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LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales Livestock Market

October 7th
Cattle - 703
Compared to our last sale:
Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold steady to 3.00-6.00 higher and lighter ones 10.00-15.00 higher. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer

cows sold steady & bulls sold steady.

Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 355-360; 300-400 lbs., 315-340; 400-500 lbs., 267-300; 500-600 lbs., 240-255; 600-700 lbs., 225-232; 700-800 lbs., 213-221.
Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs.,

80-115.

Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 242-255; 300-400 lbs., 235-240; 400-500 lbs., 232-234; 500-600 lbs., 223-229; 600-700 lbs., 185-215.

Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 72-90; Cutters, 92-105; Canners, 52-83; High yielding fat cows, 92-102.

Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 112-117; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 100-110.

Stocker Cows: \$750 to \$1,700. Pairs: \$1,100 to \$1,800.

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Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$90-102

Stocker Cows:
Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: NONE
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1000-1400

Good Cow & Calf Pairs: NONE
Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: NONE
Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:

Number 1 steer & bull calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$210-300
200-300 lbs.: \$235-315
300-400 lbs.: \$230-330
400-500 lbs.: \$230-315
500-600 lbs.: \$220-275
600-700 lbs.: \$215-255
700-800 lbs.: \$190-232.50
Number 1 heifer calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$200-290
200-300 lbs.: \$190-270
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear editor,
 Nearly 420,000 Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) public education retirees — teachers, administrative personnel, school bus drivers, nurses, cafeteria workers, and more — are set to receive their first cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) in their retiree benefits in more than 10 years.

The Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA) endorses Proposition 9 for our retired educator professionals who dedicated decades of their lives to our school children. TRTA is the only organization in Texas that works to improve retirement security for TRS retirees!

In November, Texas voters can also support and help improve retirement security for our education retirees by voting FOR Prop 9.

Why should you vote FOR Prop 9? Most TRS retirees have NEVER had an increase! There has been no cost-of-living increase passed for public school retirees since 2013, which was capped at \$100 per month and provided to only those who retired as of August 31, 2004.

Prop 9 won't create a tax increase for you or any other Texas taxpayer! The Texas Legislature has already set aside the funds to make this happen with voter approval using surplus funds. All legislators in both the Texas Senate and House voted favorably to support this important endeavor.

One out of every 20 Texans is a member of TRS! Someone you know is a TRS retiree—a neighbor, a family member, or a friend.

The average TRS annuity is \$2,174. TRS retirees, whose pensions cannot increase without legislative action, have struggled with financial decisions due to the onset of historically high inflation. Older retirees and those who retired a long time ago are hurting the most because their salaries were lower when they worked, and the impact of inflation over time is even more significant.

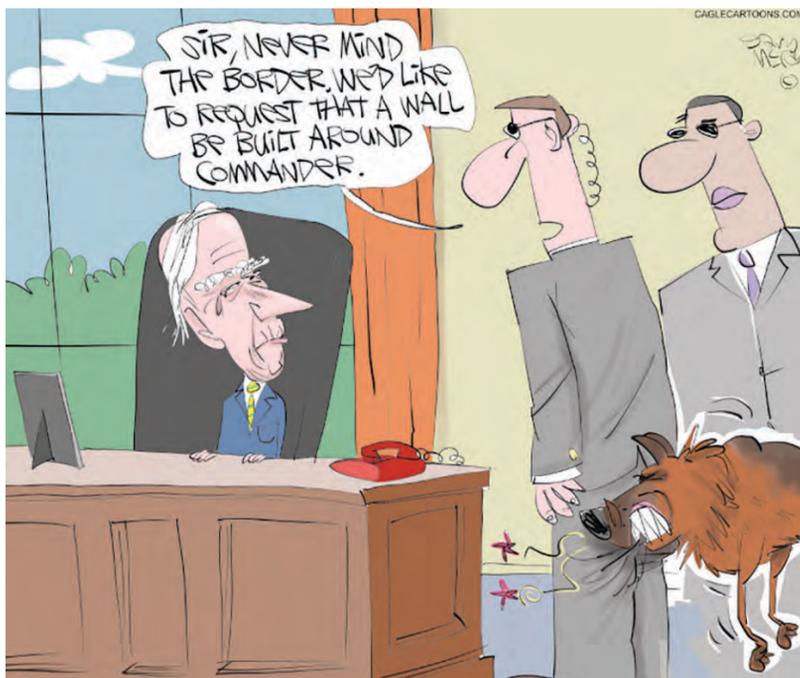
This cost-of-living increase is very important to TRS retirees, 95% of whom do not receive federal Social Security benefits like many other retirees. This includes earned as well as spousal benefits, as TRS retirees are subject to two federal provisions that drastically reduce or even eliminate their earned SS benefits (Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset!)

Prop 9, once passed, will provide a 2% increase for 150,000 TRS annuitants (those who retired between September 1, 2013 and August 31, 2020), a 4% increase for 195,000 TRS annuitants (those who retired between September 1, 2001 and August 31, 2013), and a 6% increase for 75,000 TRS annuitants (those who retired on or before August 31, 2001).

Forty-five years ago, the voters of Texas approved a constitutional spending cap that limits growth in appropriations from one biennium to the next. The total allocation needed to fund the cost-of-living increases for TRS annuitants adds up to \$3.3 billion dollars, which exceeds the funding cap. In November, voters will be asked to give final approval for the expenditure, or it dies.

Three billion dollars is a lot of money. Texas has the funds to support the cost. The expenditure will provide a modest—but much-needed—cost-of-living increase for the oldest TRS retirees. Retirees will not be planning vacations with this increase, but they will be able to help pay for medications, groceries, electricity bills, home and car repairs, and other needs, while giving back to their local economies. The need is real, and your support is appreciated. Please vote in the November election and vote FOR Prop 9.

Diane Halliburton
 Gonzales County Retired Teachers Association President



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear editor,
 No! I am voting no. I am voting no against the bond issues proposed by the Gonzales Independent School District (GISD) to be voted on in November.

Here is my reason why: Gov. Greg Abbott has called the Texas Legislature into special session in Austin beginning the week. One of the items on the agenda for the special session in Austin beginning this week.

One of the items on the agenda for the special session (and the governor sets the agenda) is the issue of school choice, or some call it school voucher. If school choice becomes law, it would give the parents, or guardians, the choice of choosing the school their child would attend, whether public, private or church.

And with some limitations, the state of Texas would pay for the tuition at the selected school — public, private or church.

This idea of school choice, if it becomes available, will have a dramatic impact on all public schools, including GISD.

In my opinion, this is not the time for the taxpayers and GISD to incur new and additional debt to the school system. We should wait and evaluate the impact school choice will have on GISD. Then we may determine what fits the financial needs of GISD.

I hope you will vote no with me. Thank you.

Bob Burchard
 Gonzales



A Man Who Got It Right...

Mention the name Walter R. Chambers to families with long connection to the tiny Coleman County community of Burkett, TX, and a hush of funereal proportions is immediately evident. Mr. Chambers' views on all issues — school, sports, community and otherwise — carried the day. Respected as much as any educator of his era, he is most remembered for the boys' basketball teams he coached during his entire career.

Oh, he was superintendent, taught three math classes and was a community leader. He was there when the school opened in 1920 and wept with others when dwindling enrollment led to closure in 1957.....

During the school's 37 years, 306 students graduated. Typically, there were about a dozen boys in high school, but they scheduled teams from Texas' largest schools, usually emerging victorious. They won three-fourths of their games.

In the early years, the school didn't even have a bus. "We were used to car rides to out-of-town games," remembers Dick Koenig, a 1954 graduate who has remained in the community as a third-generation farmer.

Pat DeBusk, now a retired industrial cleaning professional in Houston, was on the final team, finishing his last two years of high school in Coleman. He and Koenig—first cousins—are the only remaining members of Chambers-coached teams....

When the school opened, Burkett's "sports facility" was an outdoor dirt basketball court. Interest grew, and soon all boys in high school — with one or two exceptions — went out for basketball every year. Chambers also coached girls' teams when they had enough players. Soon Coach Chambers and his teams were the talk of the community.

Later, the Bluehawks played indoors, thanks to an abandoned old building in town. The owner didn't charge rent, but kept the gate receipts. In 1936, voters approved a \$22,000 bond issue for classrooms — and a gymnasium seating 200 fans.

That a school bond would pass by a vote of 44-4 says all one needs to know about the respect Mr. Chambers merited and maintained

To say that he was a disciplinarian would be a serious understatement. "We knew he had a big board paddle, but we never saw it used," Koenig said. "All of us respected him too much to cause him disappointment."

The "survivors" don't remember any players ever getting technical fouls. And they are certain that Chambers never got one.

The discipline and hard work paid off with three trips to the state tournament, including the final year of 1957. Leader of that team was Chambers' grandson, who also was valedictorian....

Chambers' two sons also played, and all of his kin were leading scorers. Koenig and DeBusk agreed that no one ever criticized the coach for anything.

Remarkably, he was able to keep everybody happy on all matters....

"Burkett would have made it to state a few more times except for the star player over at Avoca," DeBusk remembers. The nemesis was Max Williams — later a basketball star at Southern Methodist University. He wound up his basketball association as general manager of the Dallas Chaparrals. The Chaps, members of

See **CHAMBERS**, page 17



Two remaining members of late Coach Walter Chambers' Burkett High School basketball team stand in front of the backboard, still attached to wall of gymnasium constructed in 1937. Shown are Pat DeBusk, left, and Dick Koenig.

The Gonzales Inquirer

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U.S. BILL OF RIGHTS

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

Amendments I - III

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

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

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

Constitution Essay Contest packets delivered to local high schools

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Constitution Essay Contest is held by the Republican Women of Yoakum Area in celebration of Constitution Day, Sept. 17.

High school seniors from Lavaca, Gonzales and DeWitt County schools, as well as Christian schools and all 12th grade home-schooled students from these areas are eligible to participate in this Constitution Essay Contest for a scholarship. Checks to be awarded to the

essay winners are \$1,300, \$800, \$600 and \$400. A total of four winners will be selected from all entries. This year we are again including a prize of \$300 for the government teacher with the most students remaining in the semi-final round of judging. The Scholarship Certificates and checks will be presented to the winners at an impressive Constitution Essay Contest Awards Ceremony and Luncheon. This ceremony will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 11:30 a.m. at the Yoakum

Community Center, 105 Huck St., Yoakum.

Schools of the winners will be notified prior to the awards ceremony. The winners and their parents will be notified and invited, but they will not know the place/amount of scholarship until it is announced at the ceremony. The first place winner of \$1,300 must attend and will be asked to read his/her essay to the audience at the ceremony.

Judging of the essays is done with no reference to school or

name of the student. The essays are identified by assigned numbers. Students submitting the winning essays are not identified until the winning essays are selected.

Complete rules for the Essay Contest and Pocket Constitutions will be provided for each of the school campuses and for home-schooled students. Essays for judging will be picked up from each school's office on Wednesday, Oct. 25. No essays will be accepted after those are picked up.

All high school seniors are invited and encouraged to attend the Constitution Essay Awards and Scholarship Luncheon, as there will be an impressive educational keynote speaker with a message in reference to the Constitution. Photos will be taken.

All school principals, counselors and staff, as well as the public, are invited to attend. Lunch will be provided at no charge for all students. Donations are accepted from adults

GVTC launches GVTC TV™

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

In a game-changing move to enhance the way customers consume entertainment, GVTC Communications is proud to launch GVTC TV™.

This next-level streaming service brings high-definition quality and unprecedented user control directly into local living rooms and mobile devices. Designed to meet the evolving demands of modern viewers, GVTC TV™ offers unmatched convenience, flexibility, and personalized experience, positioning it as a superior alternative to traditional cable TV services.

No longer are you tied to cable boxes. GVTC TV™ delivers high-definition streaming compatible with a range of devices, from set-top boxes to mobile phones, tablets, and media players. Now, you can catch both local favorites and national broadcasts effortlessly.

GVTC TV™ comes loaded with features aimed to offer a seamless and customizable entertainment experience:

- Restart TV: Jump back to the start of a program even if you tuned in late.
- Replay TV: Turn back the clock up to 72 hours to catch up on shows or revisit memorable scenes.
- Cloud DVR: Store up to 50

hours of your favorite content in the cloud, accessible anywhere, anytime.

- Enhanced User Experience: Navigate effortlessly with voice-controlled access and intuitive search functions.

Ritchie Sorrells, President and CEO of GVTC, notes, "GVTC TV™ is not just another streaming service. It's a pivotal advancement in how we interact with and control our entertainment. We're delighted to offer a service that genuinely enhances our customer's viewing experience."

Josh Pettiette, Vice President of Product, Business Development & Strategic Planning at GVTC, adds, "We aim to provide more than just high-definition streaming. GVTC TV™ is about delivering a user-driven, immersive experience that adapts to individual preferences and lifestyles.

By incorporating cutting-edge technology with user-driven features, GVTC TV™ stands at the cusp of a transformative shift in television engagement. Whether you're a homebody or constantly on the move, GVTC TV™ has an entertainment solution for every lifestyle.

For more information about GVTC TV™ and its innovative offerings, please visit www.gvtc.com

Physics professor, viral video star to speak at VC Lyceum event

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College's 2023-24 Lyceum Lecture Series continues on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 11 a.m. with physics professor and viral video star Dr. Tatiana Erukhimova.

The Texas A&M University physics instructor is a recipient of numerous awards for teaching and public outreach. She organizes annual Physics & Engineering Festivals attended by thousands of visitors.

Erukhimova's recent videos featuring physics demonstrations have attracted over 500 million views on social media, and she has appeared with her physics demonstrations on CBS Mornings, ABC News, and the Jennifer Hudson Show.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will include a presentation, demonstrations, and a question-and-answer session.

The Victoria Fine Arts Center is located at 1002 Sam Houston Drive.



CONTRIBUTED
Dr. Tatiana Erukhimova will speak at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at the Victoria Fine Arts Center as part of Victoria College's Lyceum Lecture Series.



CONTRIBUTED
On Wednesday, Oct. 4, Sarah Zamora Rivera, resident service coordinator at Country Village Square Apartments in Gonzales, hosted the second annual Coffee With A Cop with Gonzales Police Department and the Gonzales County Sheriff's Department in attendance. The mission of Coffee With A Cop is to break down the barriers between police officers and the citizens they serve. Residents learned and inquired about scams, fraud, identity theft, traffic violations, safety and security measures.



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Seton**

Leading the way in caring for our community

Congratulations to Ascension Seton Edgar B. Davis, recently named by Becker's Hospital Review as a top hospital for patient experience.

Hospitals are rated on 10 specific patient satisfaction measures, including nurse and physician communication, responsiveness of hospital staff, care transitions and cleanliness. Ascension Seton Edgar B. Davis received a five-star summary rating.* This recognition is a testament to the compassionate, personalized care our teams deliver. We are honored to provide inpatient and outpatient services, including general surgery and 24-hour emergency care, for residents of Caldwell County and surrounding communities.



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*The star rating is based on recently released Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers data collected from patient surveys October 2021 through September 2022.

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Improving school facilities impacts teaching, learning

BY RON LILIE, WAELDER ISD SUPERINTENDENT
Special to the Inquirer

Research has confirmed what educators already know, school facilities impact teaching and learning. Proper lighting, air quality, appropriate classroom equipment and noise levels, all either support or hinder the teaching and learning process. The condition and size of other areas in school buildings impact student behavior and general operations of the campus.

Crowded conditions in areas with student movement – think cafeteria and gymnasium – create discipline problems and hinder the objectives of feeding students efficiently and providing adequate space for physical activities.

In a recent Texas Association of School Boards article titled “5 Ways Your School Facilities Impact Student Achievement,” five specific facility issues were discussed: acoustics and noise,

air quality, lighting, temperature control, and classroom space.

A growing body of peer-reviewed research finds a relationship between school facility quality and student achievement. A review of literature, compiled by Mark Schneider, the current director of the Institute of Education Sciences at the U.S. Department of Education, found that, on average, researchers observed a difference in student achievement between above-standard buildings and substandard buildings to be 5 to 17 percentile points.

The studies cited in this review, and most studies done since, find significant correlations between poor structural, conditional, and aesthetic attributes of school buildings (including lighting, temperature and thermal comfort, acoustics, and indoor air quality) and low student learning and achievement (Earthman, 2002; Uline & Tschannen-Moran, 2008; U.S. Department of Education, Of-

ice For Civil Rights, 2014).

Recent school shootings and student abductions also indicate the importance of providing a safe school that inhibits outside intruders. Additionally, it is the responsibility of the school district and the community it serves to keep students safe from fire and other on-campus risks.

Let’s take a look at some of the facility and safety issues that will be addressed by the upcoming Waelder ISD bond issue.

STUDENT SAFETY

Temporary buildings on campus have few safety features and some permanent buildings are lacking in this area as well. The bond issue will provide all permanent structures with sprinkler systems, monitored fire alarms, and a safety vestibule at the entrance of each campus. The conversion of the covered pavilion to a gymnasium will include a separate entrance

that will allow community use without entering other parts of the campus and by building a permanent building for 5th and 6th graders, multiple, unprotected entrances to portable buildings will be eliminated.

LIGHTING

Inappropriate lighting will be replaced at all three campuses with quality lighting to meet recommended standards. Lighting affects students’ ability to read and reading is important to learning all subjects.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

The existing cafeteria is so small that four lunch periods are scheduled each day to accommodate all students. The proposed cafetorium will allow the district to feed all students in two lunch periods, thus enabling the schedule additional time for academic classes. The cafetorium will also provide a stage for fine arts and by rear-

anging furniture, can be converted into an auditorium. This project will support multiple academic programs.

AIR QUALITY

Old carpets retain pollen and mold spores, and leaking windows allow mold to accumulate in walls. Additionally, current HVAC units need repair for greater efficiency. All of these conditions will be remedied in the proposed bond issue and all of them will significantly improve overall air quality in all three campuses.

EQUITY

Research indicates that differences between school quality among the 13,000 school districts in the US is a significant equity issue. While complete equity in terms of school facilities will probably never be achieved, it is important to provide appropriate school facilities in all communities, rich or poor.

Myers given hand-sewn Honor Quilt

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

WWII veteran Glynn Myers was given a hand-sewn quilt in recognition of his service, dedication and sacrifice made on behalf of our country. The presentation took place at the Oct. 3 Shiner Heritage Quilters meeting.

The Quilt of Honor members also presented a trunk show of quilts they will give to veterans on Nov. 11 at the Wounded Warrior Hunt near Hallettsville.

President Janet Ferguson conducted the meeting that followed. Plans for the “Spring into Quilting” show scheduled for March 8-9, 2024, were discussed. Members took publicity cards advertising the show and many displayed boutique items they had made at the afternoon workshop. The Christmas party



CONTRIBUTED

WWII veteran Glynn Myers is pictured talking about his experiences in the navy to “Quilt of Honor” members (from the left) Debbie Hayes (coordinator), Mary Juchnik, Margie Williams, and Pat Nunley.

on Dec. 5 was discussed. Nov. 7 is the deadline for entering Christmas blocks for the drawing to be held at the Christmas party. Show and Tell followed.

The meeting adjourned after door prizes were given out by the hostesses: RaeNell Janik, Janet Ferguson, Joyce Mach-

icek, Nola Bohuslav and Pinkie Leatherwood.

The Nov. 7 meeting will feature the sharing of tips and tricks that members have learned throughout their quilting life. It should be very interesting and informative! For more information, go to www.shinerheritagequilters.org.

Jailhouse Rock fundraiser to benefit County Jail Museum

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

It’s now or never if you want to buy tickets for the Gonzales County Jail Museum’s first-ever Jailhouse Rock fundraiser, to be held from 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 26, at GG’s Steaks & Spirits, 216 Middle Buster Road, Gonzales.

Tickets are only on sale through Oct. 21. Surrender, return to sender and spend \$35 per person (\$50 per couple to bring your latest flame) because you don’t have a wooden heart, and if you don’t try a little less conversation and a little more action, please, you may find yourself crying in the chapel or all shook up at the end of lonely street in the Heartbreak Hotel once tickets are gone.

The event will pay tribute to the Elvis Presley’s “Jailhouse Rock” and is

being held near the anniversary of his Oct. 28, 1956, second performance on “The Ed Sullivan Show,” when he performed “Don’t Be Cruel” and “Hound Dog” along with “Love Me Tender.”

There will be an Elvis impersonator present as well as a floor show of old-time Western music. The Gonzales Lions Club will hold a 50-50 drawing and there will also be a jail cell where people can be “arrested” and held for “bond” that will benefit the museum. First responders will also participate in an “Elvis-Off” of their own!

On the menu will be “jailhouse stew and cornbread,” the very meal prisoners turned themselves back in for if they broke out of jail too early!

Tickets can be bought at the museum or by calling 830-263-4663 or at the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture or at Granny’s Timeless Treasures.

Historical Homes of Gonzales

Gonzales boasts a variety of stunning homes that date back to the 1800s and early 1900s, each with its own unique story to tell. From Queen Victoria to Victorian, our historic homes are a testament to the town's past and a window into the lifestyles of early settlers.



1846, The Eggleston House
The Eggleston House is a fine, well-up kept self-guided museum.



1851, Old Gonzales College / W.M. Atkinson House
One of the oldest and most beautiful houses in Gonzales was originally built as the Gonzales College.



1853, C.J. Pilgrim House
Thomas was president of the board of trustees of the Gonzales College and began the first Sunday School in Texas. Sarah was the daughter of Major Valentine Bermet, one of the "Old Eighteen."

A screenshot of the self-guided Historical Homes of Gonzales tour that is being promoted by Tour Gonzales.

TOURISM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

their way not only around CTI, but also around to community attractions.

Updated webpages included not only extensive information about Come and Take It, but also include self-guided tour information for the city’s historical markers and historic homes as well as a guide to local lodging.

The pages are part of Culture Connect, which creates an immersive digital experience for those seeking information about a community and what it has to offer. Webpages are designed for mobile optimization and a way to bring a fully modernized approach to tourism.

To view the new interactive website, go to <https://tour-gonzales.gcca.yourcultureconnect.com>.

Attention All Hunters!! It's getting that time of the year again.

Come to Fehner & Son Grain and Fehner Firearms to stock up on all your hunting supplies and needs! Make sure you get your hunting license too!



830-672-3710
1922 Co. Road 197, Gonzales, TX 78629
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For your Firearms needs Contact Brandon or Stephanie
Fehner Firearms is closed on Mondays

WANTED
Autograph, as shown.



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1-855-894-1869

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(830) 672-2861

and/or email ads@gonzalesinquirer.com

All rates are net cash with order until credit is approved. We accept Mastercard, VISA, American Express and Discover or payment can be made in person with cash or check.

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\$15.00 Garage Sale Packages

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

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

ERRORS

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

CALL TODAY
830-672-2861

040 AUCTIONS

23rd Annual Fall Harvest Antiques, Primitives & Collectibles Auction
Sunday, Oct. 15, 10:00 AM
801 CR 488 Gonzales, TX 78629
www.IntegrityAuctions.biz
Furniture, Golf Cart, Pyrex Collection, Intersection Light, Chandelier, Lanterns, Milk Cans, Egg & Milk Crates, Trunks, Wood Tool Chest, Milk Bottles, Tiara Set, China, Cast Iron, Snowshoes, Sleds, Oxen Yoke, Crock Jugs, Butter Churn, Scales, Cans & Tubs, Sad Irons, Lobster Trap, Chicken Crate, Wood Spools and Bobbins, Tin Signs, Coins, Power Tools, Garden Tools, Shelves Jewelry, & more!
15% BP, Cash, Check or Credit Cards
James Molnoskey Auctioneer
TXL# 15091 512-557-3333

050 GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE:
618 Qualls Street, Friday, October 13, 8am to 2pm & Saturday, October 14, 8am to NOON.

060 LOST AND FOUND

LOST DOG:
LOST male dog between Waelder and Gonzales, on Saturday evening about 5:00 pm. 1/2 Border Collie, 1/2 Blue Heeler, black with white on forehead. \$200 Reward. Call Jerry Simon, 830-857-4073.

190 LAWN, GARDEN

TREE TRIMMING & Removal. Yard maintenance. Serving Gonzales area since 1987. Call Dennis Droupy, 830-672-2000.

670 APARTMENTS FOR RENT OR LEASE

PARKWOOD APARTMENTS
114 West 10th
Nixon, TX 78140
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays - 9:00am to 3:00pm
PHONE: 830-582-1343
Rates Based on Income
Rental Assistance For Qualified Families of very-low, low, and moderate income applicants.
CENTRAL HEAT & AIR
ENERGY EFFICIENT
LAUNDRY ROOM
WATER, SEWER & GARBAGE PAID
HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE UNITS
Individuals with a disability wishing to request a reasonable accommodation to complete the application process should contact the apartment manager at 830-582-1343.
Para solicitar un apartamento favor llamar a manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343. Para solicitar una adaptacion o modificacion razonable, favor llamar manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343.
Personas que hablan espanol y requieren un interprete, favor llamar a manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

650 MISCELLANEOUS REAL ESTATE

BREITSCHOFF - COOPER REALTY
1331 St. Joseph St.
Gonzales, Texas 78629
Office: (830) 672-2522
gonzalesproperties.com
gonzalesproperties@gmail.com
RESIDENTIAL | FARM & RANCH | COMMERCIAL
The Associates of Breitschopf-Cooper Realty:
Shirley Breitschopf: (830) 857-4142
Elaine Brzozowski (361) 798-8008
Lynnette Cooper: (830) 857-1364
Kristine Kotzebue: (830) 203-4550
Carol Hardcastle: (830) 857-3517
Rebekah Morgan: (830) 857-5664
Garen Reese: (830) 857-3114
Sherri Schellenberg (830) 857-6439

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

750 AUTOMOBILES

2012 GMC ARCADIA. 1 owner, great condition. \$10,500. Call 830-263-1282 or 830-491-9714.

850 HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED: FEMALE In-Home Caretaker for female Alzheimer patient in Nixon area. Experience with Alzheimer's patients preferred. Some light housekeeping duties. Part-time position with at least 24 hours a week. Text name and number to 361-401-0174 and a call will be returned.

CAL MAINE FOODS

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

GENERAL FARM LABOR.

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

CAL - MAINE FOODS INC.

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

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850 HELP WANTED

VICTORIA COLLEGE
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.

VICTORIA COLLEGE
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

W.B. FARM AND RANCH SUPPLY

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No phone calls
We now offer Health Insurance

VICTORIA COLLEGE
Est. 1925

The Division of Allied Health is hiring part-time Adjunct Instructors for the 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.

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\$ Driver needed to distribute papers to Post Offices and Vendors. \$
\$ Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings. \$
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In partnership with HCC
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850 HELP WANTED

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Holmes Foods has employment opportunities at multiple locations!

October 5 Puzzle Answers

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

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

October 5 Puzzle Answers

900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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TexSCAN Week of Oct. 8-14, 2023

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Gonzales County intends to participate in the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program (THCPP) Round XIII Grant. We are soliciting proposals to provide a Courthouse Master Plan Design Rehabilitation for application process. Please submit one (1) e-mailed version to: countyjudge089@co.gonzales.tx.us or (1) one printed copy to: Judge Patrick C. Davis, Gonzales County, 414 St. Joseph, Suite 200, Gonzales, Texas, 78629. Submittals for these services will be accepted until 2 P.M., Friday, October 20, 2023. The County reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards. Disadvantaged Business Enterprises including Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Vendors are encouraged to submit proposals. Gonzales County is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

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**NOTICE OF SPECIAL/JOINT ELECTION
(AVISO DE ELECCIÓN ESPECIAL)**

To the registered voters of the County of Gonzales, Texas:
(A los votantes registrados del Condado de Gonzales, Texas)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., November 7, 2023, for voting in a special/joint election to adopt or reject the proposed Constitutional Amendments as submitted by the 88th Texas Legislature, Second Called Session of the State of Texas. As well as any Entities that are holding an Election.

(Notifíquese por la presente, que las casillas electorales citados abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 7 de noviembre de 2023 para votar en la Elección Especial para adoptar o rechazar las enmiendas constitucionales propuestas así como fueron sometidas por la 88th Legislatura de Texas, Segunda Sesión Llamada, Así como los Entidades que estén celebrando una Elección.)

**On Election Day, voters must vote in their precinct where registered to vote.
(El Día de Elección, los votantes deberán votar en su precinto donde están inscritos para votar.)**

Location of Election Day Polling Places Include Name of Building and Address (Ubicación de las casillas electorales el Día de Elección) (Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)	Precinct Number(s): (Número de precinto):
Pct. 1 Randle Rather Building 427 St. George, Suite 100, Gonzales, Tx. 78629	Precinct #1 Precinct #14 Precinct #15
Pct. 2 Emmanuel Fellowship & School 1817 St. Lawrence, Gonzales, TX 78629	Precinct #2 Precinct #11
Pct. 3 Gonzales City Building 820 St. Joseph, Gonzales, TX 78629	Precinct #3 Precinct #5 Precinct #7 Precinct #8
Pct. 4 Nixon City Building 302 E Central, Nixon, TX 78140	Precinct #4 Precinct #6 Precinct #10 Precinct #13
Pct. 9 Waelder Community Center 311 Hwy. 90W., Waelder, TX 78959	Precinct #9
Pct. 12 Riverside Community Center 200 St. Lawrence, Gonzales, TX 78629	Precinct #12

**For early voting, a voter may vote at any of the locations listed below:
(Para Votación Adelantada, los votantes podrán votar en cualquiera de los sitios de votación nombradas abajo.)**

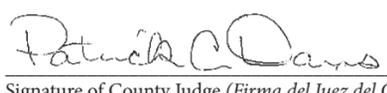
Location of Early Voting Polling Places Include Name of Building and Address (Ubicación de las casillas electorales de votación adelantada) (Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)	Days and Hours of Operation Días y Horas Hábiles
Main Early Voting Location Randle Rather Building 427 St. George, Suite 100 Gonzales, TX 78629	October 23-October 27 Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm October 30-November 1 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm November 2 and November 3 from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm 23 de octubre - 27 de octubre de lunes a viernes de 8:00 am a 5:00 pm, 30 de octubre - 1 de noviembre de 8:00 am a 5:00 pm, 2 y 3 de noviembre de 7:00 am-7:00 pm
Temporary Branch Early Voting Location: (Lugar de votación anticipada de la sucursai temporal:) Nixon City Building 302 E. Central St. Nixon, TX 78140	October 23-October 27 Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm October 30-November 1 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm November 2 and November 3 from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm 23 de octubre - 27 de octubre de lunes a viernes de 8:00 am a 5:00 pm, 30 de octubre - 1 de noviembre de 8:00 am a 5:00 pm, 2 y 3 de noviembre de 7:00 am-7:00 pm
Temporary Branch Early Voting Location: (Lugar de votación anticipada de la sucursai temporal:) Waelder City Hall 300 Hwy 90W Waelder, TX 78959	October 23-October 27 Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm October 30-November 1 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm November 2 and November 3 from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm 23 de octubre - 27 de octubre de lunes a viernes de 8:00 am a 5:00 pm, 30 de octubre - 1 de noviembre de 8:00 am a 5:00 pm, 2 y 3 de noviembre de 7:00 am-7:00 pm

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votación adelantada por correo deberán enviarse a:)

_____ Gwen Schaefer
(Name of Early Voting Clerk)
(Nombre del Secretario/a de la Votación Adelantada)
P.O. Box 1753
(Address) (Dirección)
Gonzales 78629
(City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Codigo Postal)
ea@co.gonzales.tx.us
(email address) (Dirección de correo electrónico)
<https://www.co.gonzales.tx.us/gonzales.Elections.Admin>
Early Voting Clerk's Website
(Sitio web del Secretario/a de Votación Adelantada)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on: October 27, 2023
(Las solicitudes para boletas de votación adelantada por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el: 27 de octubre)

Issued this the 10th day of October, 2023
(Emitida este día 10th de October, 2023)


Signature of County Judge (Firma del Juez del Condado)

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- DON'T ADVERTISE.** Forget that you have a competition trying to attract your customers away from you.
- DON'T ADVERTISE.** Tell yourself it costs too much to advertise and that you don't get enough out of it.
- DON'T ADVERTISE.** Overlook the fact that advertising is an investment in selling - not an expense.
- DON'T ADVERTISE.** Be sure not to provide an adequate advertising budget for your business.
- DON'T ADVERTISE.** Forget that you have to keep reminding your established customers that you appreciate their business.

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COOKING WITH PARIND

Cinderella would stay out past midnight for this pumpkin custard

Hello everyone. My name is Parind Vora. In this column we talk cooking, tricks to cooking, and sometimes eating.

As I have gotten older, I pretty strongly despise flavoured coffee and other frou-frou things as a general rule, as well as, I am a guy thus I skip the yoga pant crowd's usual fall ritual. I have used some of the flavours in this abomination of coffee in desserts since the late 80's.

People have asked for the recipe so I thought I would share that in today's column. We will make a pumpkin, ginger and dark chocolate bread pudding. So, let's get started.

We use Cinderella pumpkin puree and dark chocolate aside from the normal bread pudding recipes. Remember that dark chocolate is predominantly 2 ingredients. Cacao and cocoa butter (collectively called cacao liquor). The darker the chocolate the less cocoa butter it contains and a higher % of cacao. The higher cacao content also makes the chocolate deeper, contains more nuance along with the prerequisite accompanying bitterness. Also, the % of chocolate is based on the cacao

liquor and not the cacao solids so two 70% chocolates can have different cacao solid contents.

Chocolate is a tropical product that is refined in other places like France, Belgium, Germany and the US predominantly.

We will use Callebaut 45% cacao chocolate that is readily available at 'whole paycheck' type grocery stores or on-line. You can get it either as small chips or bars. Either will do though the bar you will need to just cut break it up into chunks.

For the pumpkin puree we wash, cut, deseed, peel and roast a Cinderella pumpkin slices in a 350-degree F oven until very tender. We then puree it in a food processor or with a stick blender.

Ingredients:

Cinderella pumpkin, ginger and dark chocolate bread pudding

- 1 -1½ cup Cinderella pumpkin puree
- 2 cup heavy whipping cream
- ¼ pound (1 stick) of very good butter

- 1/3 cup Callebaut 45-60% cacao chocolate coarsely chopped
- 2/3 cup light brown sugar
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon ground cardamom
- 2 egg yolks
- 2 whole eggs
- 1 inch knob of fresh ginger peeled and minced
- Homemade whipped cream or marshmallows if desired.
- Tiny pinch of salt & a small pinch finely ground pepper to taste
- 4 cups of crustless Challah or even French/Italian bread

In a big enough pot, scald all the heavy whipping cream, ginger, nutmeg, cardamom, sugar, salt & the black pepper over medium low heat until all of the sugar is dissolved.

Turn off the heat and add all of the pumpkin puree and whisk until the puree is incorporated completely into the heavy whipping cream. Let cool to room temperature and add all the eggs/yolks (beaten together until pale and frothy). Set the custard in the fridge overnight

for the flavours to meld.

Well butter a muffin tray and fill with stale bread and 4-5 pieces of dark chocolate per compartment.

Pour in the chilled pumpkin custard.

Let the bread completely absorb the custard, adding more custard as necessary.

Let the mixture come to room temperature (about an hour) and dot with a bit of butter.

Bake in a 300 degree F oven until the center of the muffin is still a bit jiggy (about 35 minutes).

Pop out of the tins and serve in bowls, topping with whipped cream or the marshmallows and serve immediately.

If the kids are within eyesight but preoccupied by other matters, feel free to spike any of the adult bread pudding with two fingers of any good Catholic whiskey like Jameson's. Protestants will use Bushmills of course. Those of us who remain unaffiliated may use anything they fancy like Basil Hayden's, Lagavulin or even Baileys or Kahlua. Cheers.

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Leave some headroom

Howdy folks, hard to believe we're in October already. I hope you'll find time to get out and enjoy the beginning of fall, as a change in seasons is always welcome after a blistering summer. As I sit here writing this, the weather channel is once again threatening, or should I say teasing us with the possibility of some much needed and overdue rain. Yeah, I hear you talkin', lets see what you got!

Having lived throughout the south, with a 12 year stint in Illinois for good measure, I have to say that fall colors are not exactly south Texas' strong point. Once after visiting my grandmother during the fall in Kentucky, I collected some large maple and oak leaves so bright red and orange they made your eyes want to slam shut, with some giant acorns thrown in for good measure, bringing them back to Florida for a successful "show & tell" (remember those days?). Here in our neck of the woods, our poor water starved, heat drenched tiny oak leaves just go from green to brown to ground. If you want to see some beautiful fall colors you'll have to travel slightly north to somewhere like Lost Maples park north west of San Antonio. I once went to Kerrville in late October and definitely got my fall color fix in spades, absolutely gorgeous. Whatever your pleasure, take time to get you some, as winter

will be here before you know it.

If you're curious about today's title, I'll explain. Headroom is a common term used when recording music. Think of it like the distance between the top of your head and the roof of your car, the more "headroom", the less chance of a messy accident. When recording many instruments in a song it's important to keep your individual instrument volumes somewhat low, leaving some room at the top of your volume meters, as many signals recorded at the same volume add up to a hefty sum, and can sound terrible when driven to extremes.

I've found that this philosophy also applies to everyday life. When we take on too much we risk overloading ourselves, leading to occasional bad decision making, too much stress and eventual burnout. I've learned that I can personally only handle about three different tasks or areas per day, handling the top priority first, then working my way down the list, while always trying to leave some reserve for the unexpected circumstances life so often throws our way. As an example; I started this article last night, challenging the weather to "Show me what you've



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

got" after the promise of much needed rain. This morning while finishing up, storms blew in and my electricity shut down before I could

hit save. Guess that's what I get for shooting off my big mouth, apparently, the joke's on me. That being said, thank you Lord for the rain, we all (especially the animals) sure do appreciate it. If leaving room in your busy schedule is not something you often think about, you may want to start as it seems to help things run a little smoother.

Of course at the top of my list for successful tips and tricks is found in Proverbs 16:3, "Commit your actions to the Lord, and your plans will succeed." As in construction, if your foundation is weak, the rest of your structure will just end up falling down and blowing away. However, it says your plans will be successful, it doesn't say they'll be particularly fast, easy or without the challenges of any learning curve worth its weight. It seems to me that while prayer is at the top of the list, we still have to cowboy or cowgirl up, and endure the process if we're going to reach our desired destination.

Until next time, y'all have a great week. Love you guys, Eric.

25TH ANNIVERSARY



CONTRIBUTED

Raphael's Refuge, home of the Monument to the Innocents, is celebrating its 25th anniversary! Pictured are two of the founding members, Mildred (Midge) Elam and Rex Moses. Midge, having recently stepped down from her position on the board, is still available to show visitors around the premises and share more about the ministry. Raphael's Refuge is a place of healing, a place to honor babies who have died, from conception to 12 months. Peer counseling is available for those who have suffered the loss of a baby. The Refuge is located in Fayette County, about two miles west of Flatonia, along US 90. For more information call/text 361-258-1514, e-mail raphaelsrefuge@att.net, or visit raphaelsrefuge.org.

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Leesville Baptist Church E. of Highway 80 on CR 121	Church of Christ, Belmont	Webster Chapel A.M.E. 1027 Church St., Gonzales
Memorial Heights Baptist Church 1330 N. College, Gonzales	CHURCHES OF GOD Community Church of God 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales	NON-DENOMINATIONAL Agape Ministries 512 St. James, Gonzales Bread of Life Ministries 613 St. Joseph, Gonzales
Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church 100 Capes, Gonzales	Gonzales Memorial Church of God in Christ 1113 Hastings, Gonzales	Christ the King Church 1262 U.S. Highway 77 South Hallettsville
Oak Valley Baptist Church Highway 97, Bebe	New Beginnings 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales	PRESBYTERIAN Pilgrim Presbyterian Church CR 210 off FM 1116
Old Moulton Baptist Church 1121 N. College, Gonzales	Episcopal Episcopal Church of the Messiah 721 S. Louis, Gonzales	Presbyterian Church of Gonzales 414 St. Louis, Gonzales Cheapside Presbyterian Church, Cuero

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OBITUARIES

JAMES (JIM) EDWARD DICKINSON



James (Jim) Edward Dickinson of Luling, TX passed away on September 29, 2023. Jim was born on November 29, 1941 in Merkel, TX. After his father's passing in the summer of 1942, Jim, his mother, and older sister, Janice, moved to Gonzales, TX to live with Jim's grandmother, Kate Cobb Pettus, and his uncles, William (Bill) and Percy Pettus.

In the fall of 1953, Jim accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior and was baptized at the First Baptist Church of Gonzales. After graduation he attended and graduated from Southwest Texas State (Texas State University) in February of 1965. He was employed at the State Auditor's Office from February 1965 until October 1969 when he transferred to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. He was employed there from October 1969 to December 2001. He was promoted to Deputy Director and worked successfully with the Texas State Legislature for many years.

In July, 2001, Jim married the love of his life, Bobbie, who stood with him in serving Jesus, the church and the community. They enjoyed traveling the world as well as sitting together on their patio.

After retiring from the State, he became a full-time rancher. He enjoyed traveling, hunting and any outdoor activity, especially with family, and enjoying God's natural world with them.

In 2005, Jim was drawn closer to God when his Savior spoke to him about reading the Bible every day, which he did, every day since then. He encouraged family, friends and others to also read their Bible daily. His prayer was that all his family know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James Edward Dickinson and Virginia Pettus Dickinson Brown and one sister, Janice Dickinson Lester; also, his grandparents and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara "Bobbie" Watson-Dickinson, as

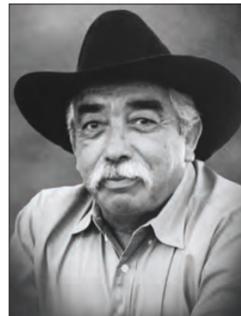
well as his two sons, Todd (Rayla) Dickinson of Jonesville, TX, Jonathan (Julie) Dickinson of Gonzales, TX and step-daughter Jennifer Mae Johnson of Danville, Illinois. Grandchildren are Collett Dickinson (Jon) of Waskom, TX, Blake Dickinson Gutterrez (Raymond) of Waskom, TX and Thomas Dickinson of Jonesville, TX. Also, Megan Dickinson Blakeney (Tim) of Cuero, TX, Mikayla Dickinson of Gonzales, TX, Jonathan Dickinson of Gonzales, TX and Heather Johnson of Danville, Illinois. He is also survived by his five great-grandchildren; as well as his first wife, Barbara Thomas Dickinson Aker.

The service was scheduled for 10:00 on October 4th at Central Baptist Church Activity Building in Luling, TX, officiated by Pastor Brad Mills. The family received visitors at O'Bannon Funeral Home in Luling, TX on Tuesday, October 3rd from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Burial was at the Masonic Cemetery in Gonzales, TX immediately following the funeral.

Friends are invited to go to www.obannonfuneralhome.com to sign the register.

Services under the care and direction of O'Bannon Funeral Home.

POMPOSO RAMOS, JR.



Pomposo Ramos, Jr., 73, passed away Saturday, September 23, 2023. He was born February 6, 1950 in Gonzales to Pomposo Ramos, Sr and Vincenta Guevara Ramos. He was a member of the Two Rivers Church.

Pomposo was raised in Gonzales. He worked in the fields with his dad at an early age to help support the family. He followed his dad to Marrou and Co. continuing to work by his side. He later broke horses for local ranchers. Pomposo dearly loved to ride deep into the pastures and when the occasion presented itself, he would sneak away to fish, his favorite pastime. He paid his dues in the oil fields and made a comfortable living, the work was hard, just the way he liked it.

Pomposo never met a stranger. He loved people and more importantly his family. He adored his children, grandchildren, and siblings. He cherished family barbecues where all would gather for a good time. He lived his life out loud; he loved a good drink and loud music.

He raised his family to be strong and love life. It was important to him that his children knew when it was time to be a man and to always be responsible citizens. He deeply loved his family, and he was very proud of them. He often read his bible and would go to the Lord in prayer in humble gratitude for all that had been bestowed upon him.

Pomposo is survived by his loving family, his daughters Stephanie Ann Ramos, Christina Marie Cordova, his son Ronald Lee "Stoney" Ramos (Heather) all of Gonzales. He is also survived by his grandchildren Kyle Gunn, Alexandria Martinez (Tony), James Garcia (Misty), Bryanna

Iakopo, Mattilene Ramos, Colbey Ramos, Stoney Ramos, Michael Iakopo and Bastian Cordova, his sisters, Annie Tiekem, Mary Schwausch, Yolanda Crabtree (Jeff), Frances Anderson, Trina Magallanes (Manuel), Teresa Magallanes (Daniel) and 8 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, granddaughter, Milani Iakopo, brothers, Lico and Jacob Ramos, sisters, Virginia, Bertha, Janie, and Marcella Ramos.

The family will receive friends from 1 pm to 2 pm Friday, September 29, 2023, in Seydler-Hill Funeral Home. The funeral service will follow at 3 pm in Seydler-Hill Funeral Home with Pastor Jesse Elizondo officiating. Friends may sign the guest register and leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com. Memorials may be made in the name of Pomposo Ramos to the National Autism Association. Services are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.

TERESA KIMBERLY JOHNSON HENSLEY



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Teresa Kimberly Johnson Hensley, a talented artist, beloved art teacher, wife, and mother. She passed away on Wednesday October 4, 2023, at the age of 70 after a difficult battle with ALS.

Teresa was born on September 26, 1953, in Haltom City, Texas, to parents Rex and Jeannette Kimberly. She attended Haltom High School where she was head cheerleader, homecoming queen, football sweetheart, and was part of the graduating class of 1971. She attended Saint Edwards University where she earned a Bachelors degree in Anthropology, later received her Teaching Certificate, and continued her pursuit of Arts in Education from Texas State. Teresa loved all forms of art, and her passion for creating beautiful pieces was evident in every aspect of her life.

After completing her education, Teresa taught at various schools before joining the faculty at Gonzales High School where she served as the Art Teacher for over 10 years. Her artistic talent and love of teaching inspired

and influenced countless students who went on to achieve great success in their own pursuits.

In addition to her career in education, Teresa was an accomplished artist in her own right, known for her stunning landscape paintings, outstanding weaving skills, and amazing watercolors. Her work has been exhibited in galleries and shows throughout Texas and has won numerous awards.

Teresa Kimberly Johnson Hensley will be greatly missed by her family, friends, and all who knew her. She is survived by her husband Danny Hensley, daughter, Tania Johnson of Gonzales, son, Kyle Johnson and wife Lauren of Pflugerville, three Grand Children, two brothers, Arlen (Cathy)

Kimberly, Keith Kimberly, and two son in-laws Daniel and Dustin. She is predeceased by her parents Rex and Jeannette Kimberly.

Her legacy as an inspiring teacher and talented artist will continue to live on in the hearts of those she touched. In lieu of a funeral, a memorial and celebration of life will be held at a later date, to be determined.

Donations in her memory can be made to ALS research, which Teresa believed was important to help find a cure for this devastating disease.

GARY THOMAS SCHURIG



Gary Thomas Schurig, 69, of Gonzales, passed away Monday, October 9, 2023. He was born March 4, 1954, in Gonzales the son of Joe Emil Schurig and Georgia B Winegeart Schurig. Gary graduated from Edna High School Class of 1972. He later graduated from Dallas Baptist University with a B.A. degree in Sociology. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Gonzales. Throughout his working career, Gary worked with Campus Life in Edna TX, Jackson County Electric Co-op, a courier service in Dallas, a film industry craft services firm in San Antonio, he taught at the Waelder Middle School, and for the past seven years he served as director of the Gonzales Memorial Museum.

He is survived by his sisters JoLaine Schurig and Linda K Schurig Sucher and husband Steve, all of Gonzales. He was preceded in death by his parents, and his grandparents S.T. and Ethel Winegeart and Max and Alma Schurig. Visitation will be from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 11 at Seydler-Hill Funeral

Home. Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Thursday, October 12, 2023 at the First Baptist Church in Gonzales with Dr. Josh Breslaw officiating. Interment will follow at the I.O.O.F. Cemetery.

Pallbearers include Tim Gescheidle, Ike Peterson, Tyree Schurig, Kim Spring, Frank Wallace, and Perry Winegeart. Serving as honorary pallbearers are Jack Downs, Steve McMillan, Tommy Schurig, and the Edna Class of 1972.

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, Gonzales.

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SBAG plans Fall Festival

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Will the Great Pumpkin show up at the Smiley Bantam Activity Group's Fall Festival, to be held at the Smiley Volunteer Fire Department, 208 N. FM 108, Smiley, on Saturday, Oct. 21.

The community at large is invited to spend an evening of fun. Businesses and community organizations are asked to take part in the Candy Alley and there will be a first-place prize for the best decorated car in Candy Alley.

For more information, check out the SBAG Facebook Page.

Gonzales Healthcare Systems OCTOBER 2023

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

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Jeff Echols, DC
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- Dermatology**
Vicente Quintero, M.D.
(830) 626-5551
Dr Desai
(713) 864-2659
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George Osuchukwu, MD
(361)576-0011
Yong Du, MD
(361)576-0011
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- Pain Management**
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- Urology**
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(830) 379-8491
- Ophthalmology**
Joseph Kavanagh, M.D.
(830) 379-3937
- Orthopedics**
Trent Twitero, M.D.
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- Podiatry**
Terri Quebedeaux, D.P.M., P.A.
(830) 303-0005
Charles White, D.P.M
(830) 303-0005
- Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine**
(512) 821-2540



Tickets on sale for 'Sisterhood Christmas Spectacular'

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Tickets for "The Charitable Sisterhood Christmas Spectacular," the Shiner Gaslight Theatre fall production, can be reserved beginning Monday, Oct. 16.

The play, written by Bo Wilson and directed by Meredith Hairell, is a comedy that involves the preparation for the Second Trinity Victory Church's annual Christmas Spectacular. All does not go as planned when it is discovered that the baby Jesus figure is not in its place in the nativity scene. Has it been stolen?

The hilarious search for the culprit is finally resolved at the show's climax and the heart-warming revelation leaves everyone with the inevitable warm spirit of Christmas.

Friday, Saturday, and



Pictured is a rehearsal scene from "The Charitable Sisterhood Christmas Spectacular. From the left Briana Baker, Veronica Johnson, Carmen Appelt, Terri Dieringer, and Diane McCommas.

Sunday performances are Nov. 3-5, 10-12 and 17-19. A Wednesday performance is Nov. 8. All are in the evening except for Sunday matinees. A meal is

served before each performance of the play.

General ticket sales begin Monday, Oct. 16. Please call 361-594-2079 between 8:30 a.m.

and 4 p.m. on weekdays to reserve tickets. All tickets must be reserved. For information, visit www.shinergaslight.org or find us on Facebook.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office

09/24/2023 - 09/30/2023

09/25/23

- Garza, Patricie Jr, 05/1961, Gonzales: Local warrant - Driving while Intoxicated 3rd or more, Released - \$50,000 Bond; Local warrant - Driving while Intoxicated 3rd or more, Released - \$50,000 Bond

- Hall, Gregory Joe, 01/1988, Gonzales: Local warrant - Continuous Violence against Family, Requires \$50,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

09/26/23

- Mize, Seth Matthew, 09/1982, Cost: Other Agency Hold - Theft Prop >+\$2,500<\$30K, Released - \$35,000 Bond

09/27/23

- Rivera, Tomas, 05/1994, Yoakum: Local warrant - Driving w/Lic Inv w/prev Conv/susp/w/o Fin Res, Requires \$1,500 Bond; Remains in Custody

09/29/23

- Nino-Nino, Jose Mercedes, 04/1998, Waelder: Commitment/Sentence - Injury Child/Elderly/Disable w/Int Bodily Inj, Released - Weekender

- Perez Arredondo, Eric David, 04/2000, Nixon: Commitment/Sentence - Poss Marij <2oz, Released - Weekender

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

GCSO	07
DPS	06
GPD	02
WPD	00
NPD	00
GISD	00
SMO	00
Constable 1	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	15



Smiley VFD sets BBQ fundraiser

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Smiley Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual BBQ plate fundraiser at noon Saturday, Nov. 4, at the fire department, 208 N. FM 108, Smiley.

This will be a drive-thru event only. For \$12 per plate, get chicken, sausage, beans, cowboy potatoes and a drink. All donations go to the Smiley VFD.

For any questions or donations, please contact Chief Mark Mendez at smiley-firedepartment@gmail.com. For more about the department, go to www.smileytx.com/fire-department.

First responders look to bowl over competition in dip duel

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales' finest will battle to make the finest dip in the city.

The Gonzales Independent School District (GISD) will host local first responders for an inaugural Battle of the Badges Party Dip Cook-off this Friday, Oct. 13, from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Gonzales ISD Administration Office, 1615 Saint Louis St. This event is only for emergency first responders, however!

Whose seven-layer will stay one layer ahead of the competition? Whose queso is so-so and whose guac really rocks? These squads will put it on the line to be "the squad" when it comes to culinary cache!

All emergency responders are welcome to attend, meet the district's five-member police team, grab a bite and have fun.

To RSVP for the event, visit <https://shorturl.at/ioyz0>.

Hospital Auxiliary discusses gift shop, upcoming events

BY ELIZABETH BRELFSDORD BENNETT

Special to the Inquirer

The Auxiliary of Gonzales Memorial Hospital met for their Sept. 26 meeting at Bella Tavola for their luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Barbara K said the blessing before we enjoyed a most delicious lunch of Italian dishes.

President Betty Neubauer called for the business portion of our meeting to order. The minutes of August meeting

were read and approved. The Treasurer's reporter gave the report. Vice President Irene Oakes reported 100 volunteer hours worked.

Work hours were discussed, it was decided to go back to opening the Gift Shop at 9 a.m. each morning.

Dyna DuBose presented Betty Neubauer a Past President pin for 2022-2023.

Betty Fink, volunteered to make baby quilts to offer for sale in the Gift Shop. Thank you Betty for doing this with

your wonderful talent. Members were reminded of the "Pink Out" to be held Oct. 12, 2023 at Thrive.

Barbara K. told members there would be a drive-by for Flu Shots on the Hospital parking lot in mid-October. Please check with the Hospital for days and times. Thank you for doing so.

The next meeting will be on Oct. 31 at Thrive.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sylvia Mercer and seconded by Irene Oakes. Mo-

tion passed.

The holidays are coming soon. Visit the Hospital Gift Shop as you plan your Santa list, we appreciate your business.

Remember each penny is used to purchase items, along with our expenses to stay open for shoppers, profits go directly back to the Hospital to serve our community.

Yes, we are short on members, but not on effort to accommodate our area. We do thank all who visit us and new members are welcome.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- Information
- Seaport (abbr.)
- Agricultural disease (abbr.)
- Riding horses
- Boxing's GOAT
- Hurt or discomfort
- A small sharp knife to trim vegetables
- A beaver builds one
- Horizontal passage into a mine
- Self-immolation by fire rituals
- Chain bar with lots of games (abbr.)
- Goo Goo Dolls' hit
- Agreeable
- In an early way
- In a way, struck
- It's there in the morning
- County in the S. Pacific
- Central Florida city
- Numbers cruncher
- Mexican beers
- Lawyers say you can indict one
- Capital of South Australia
- Wings
- Drug used to treat HIV/AIDS
- Fencing sword

CLUES DOWN

- A way to fish
- Greek mythological figure
- Scarlett's home
- Assist
- More doleful
- Premeditated
- Dish featuring minced food
- San Diego ballplayer
- Eight
- Unwelcome picnic guests
- Human gene
- Bucket
- Make full
- Dirt
- Person cited as ideal example
- A part of (abbr.)
- The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet

CLUES ACROSS

- Capital of Qatar
- Portable bed
- Afflicted
- Lying down
- Midway between northeast and east
- Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- Inflamed
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Impudence

CLUES DOWN

- Very long period of time
- Gas usage measurement
- North American native people
- It says "moo"
- Folk singer Di Franco
- Resinlike substance of certain insects
- Residue
- Grand homes
- Popinjays
- Man who behaves dishonorably

CLUES ACROSS

- Figures
- One who watches over children
- Expressed pleasure
- No longer living
- Hebrew calendar month
- Part of the ear
- Swiss river
- Prejudice
- Italian Island
- Resist authority (slang)
- Criticize

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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

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

Answers found in next week's Classifieds.



PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Above: Sophomore running back David Clack III singles a first down in the district game against the Caldwell Hornets Friday, Oct. 6 at Apache Field. Left top: Senior running back Kamren Leal runs through the Caldwell defense in the district opener Friday, Oct. 6. Leal recorded two rushing touchdowns and a safety in the win over the Hornets. Left bottom: Gonzales Apaches sophomore quarterback Travis Malveaux III (12) hands the ball to senior running back Kamren Leal (4) in the district opener against Caldwell Friday, Oct. 6.

Apaches tomahawk Hornets, 56-7, celebrate Homecoming

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches signed off on their homecoming festivities with a giant exclamation point in a 56-7 win over the Caldwell Hornets Friday, Oct. 6.

The Apache defense shut down Caldwell's offense in all four quarters and scored a safety from Kamren Leal; the Hornets' only score came from a kickoff return late in the third quarter.

Caldwell combined for 36 yards of total offense on 37 plays — less than a one yard average per play.

Leal led the team with four total tackles and one tackle for loss.

"First off is district, so it's a whole new ballgame. You're not playing just to play, you're playing to make it to

the playoffs and that means a lot for us because we haven't been in probably the past three years, so that's a goal for us as a team," Leal said.

The Apaches didn't punt the ball in the first three quarters of the game and scored on every scoring drive.

Senior wide receiver Davonte Smith recorded three touchdowns (two rushing and one receiving) in the game win over Caldwell; Smith lead the team in rushing with 161 yards on seven carries.

"We did pretty, pretty good all around the ball. Defense was good, got the stops, got it back to the offense; offense went down and scored fast. We kept fighting through the whole game and played all four quarters," Smith said.

Gonzales head football coach Joey Rivera was impressed by how physi-

cal his team's defense performed against the Hornets and how fast they played.

"This is what our defense is built to do and I'm excited to see the performance they had today," Rivera said.

The Apaches combined for 586 total yards on 60 plays and rushed for 429 yards on the ground.

"We're kind of building on offense and gearing it up for these last four games of district and you know, we're gonna build off of this performance and we've got a tough test next week and just gonna continue to build," Rivera said.

The Apaches will host No. 4 Cuero Friday, Oct. 13 in the second district game of the season.

Rivera and the Apaches will be

See FOOTBALL, page A15

—OFFENSE—

PASSING:

Travis Malveaux III: 10/13 pass attempts for 157 yards, two touchdowns and one interception

RUSHING:

D. Smith: 161 yards on seven carries and two touchdowns
David Clack III: 92 yards on seven carries and one touchdown
K. Leal: 72 yards on five carries and two touchdowns
T. Malveaux III: 39 yards on five carries and one touchdown
Kaden Deleon: 32 yards on five carries
River VanKirk: 29 yards on eight carries
Rocky Gallegos and Dakota Dubose: two yards and one carry

RECEIVING:

Daevien Pitts: 52 yards on one reception and on touchdown
Weston Ruddock: 47 yards on four receptions
D. Smith: 25 yards on reception and one touchdown
D. Dubose: 16 yards on one reception
Brandon Dubose: 10 yards on two receptions
D. Clack III: seven yard on one receptions

—DEFENSE—

TACKLES:

K. Leal: four tackles
Jessiah Barr: three tackles
Jermain Upshaw, Alex Cantu, and D. Pitts: Two tackles
Marcus Izaguirre, Isaisah Balderas, R. Gallegos B. Dubose, Isaac Gonzales, John Izaguirre, Omar Borjon, Christian Jurek, Hayden Lopez, Sebastian Gallegos, Hector Reyna, Jaydon Lampkin: one tackle

INTERCEPTIONS:

D. Pitts and S. Gallegos: one interception

SAFETY:

K. Leal: one safety

Lady Apaches sweep season series with Fox Tech

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Lady Apaches improved to 5-3 in district in a three-set sweep of the San Antonio Fox Tech Lady Buffaloes Friday, Oct. 6.

Senior Tara Lester led the team with nine kills in the win over Fox Tech; senior Sydney McCray finished with seven kills.

The Lady Apaches recorded 10 total aces against Fox Tech; senior Macy Sample and freshman Alaina Valle each recorded three aces.

On defense, McCray led the team with two blocks.

Junior Dakota Schmidt and Sample led the team with 14 digs each; and Sample led the team with 10 assists in the win over Fox Tech.

The Lady Apaches played San Antonio Young Women's Leadership Academy Tuesday, Oct. 10 at home, and will travel to San Antonio Friday, Oct. 13 to take on SA Memorial.

STATS

KILLS:

T. Lester: nine kills
S. McCray: seven kills
Kelly Breitschopf: four kills
M. Sample: three kills
Hannah Avant: two kills
Mallory Clack and Samantha Baker: one kill

ACES:

M. Sample and A. Valle: three aces
Aubrey Lindemann, D. Schmidt, K. Breitschopf and H. Avant: one ace

BLOCKS:

S. McCray: two blocks
T. Lester, M. Clack, and Isbella Ikard: one block

DIGS:

D. Schmidt and M. Sample: 14 digs
H. Avant: eight digs
A. Valle: seven digs
I. Ikard and K. Breitschopf: four digs
A. Lindemann and T. Lester: two digs
S. McCray, Joelee Lester, M. Clack: one dig

ASSISTS:

M. Sample: 10 assists
H. Avant: nine assists
S. McCray: three assists
D. Schmidt: two assists
A. Lindemann, S. Baker, and K. Breitschopf: one assist



VANDY VAN EPPS

Junior libero Dakota Schmidt records a dig in the district match against the YWLA Lady Cardinals Tuesday, Oct. 10.

Lady Apaches knock out YWLA in five-set thriller

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches and the YWLA Lady Cardinals battled for the last time this season Tuesday, Oct. 10 with playoff seeding on the line.

The Lady Apaches came out victorious, taking a series sweep by beating YWLA in a five-set (25-22, 11-25, 28-26, 16-25, 15-12) win at home; last season, the Lady Cardinals swept Gonzales, so the Lady Apaches were able to return the favor.

Senior Macy Sample was part of the team last season that got swept by YWLA, but she said it was exciting to sweep them this year.

The Lady Apaches and

Lady Cardinals battled through five sets, with set three going into extra points.

"It was really intense. I feel like it went by in a flash, but we stuck through it and they fought to the end," Lady Apaches head volleyball coach Jillian Gonzales said.

Coach Gonzales knew this was going to be a tough team entering the second half of district; the Lady Apaches beat YWLA in four sets in the first matchup in San Antonio.

"We knew going into it that we were going to play a bunch of smart, defensive girls that played good defense and we just prepared for them in that way. Just try to outsmart them and play harder, better, faster volleyball," Gonzales said.

The Lady Apaches kept their composure during all five sets of the match, and sophomore Aubrey Lindemann said her team remained calm after losses that evened things up in sets two and four.

The Lady Apaches have three more matches left in the regular season; one home game against San Antonio JFK and two road matches against San Antonio Memorial and Cuero.

Coach Gonzales hopes the motivation from the win over YWLA will get them ready for the final games of the season.

"We were not intimidated by being on the road. We

See VOLLEYBALL, page A15



VANDY VAN EPPS

Lady Apaches Hannah Avant (1), Dakota Schmidt (20) and Aubrey Lindemann (3) get in position for a serve by San Antonio Fox Tech Friday, Oct. 6.



Sophomore class representative Candice White, right, is escorted by Abel Perez.



Junior representative Kaylie Morin, right, is escorted by John Garza.

Seniors Kendall Amaya and Kade Dixon were named the Nixon-Smiley High School Homecoming Queen and King during Friday night's halftime festivities.



Senior court representatives for 2023 Homecoming are, from left, Emmersyn Stone, Jaylee Bustos and Kendall Amaya.



Senior representative Jaylee Bustos, right, is escorted by Antoni "Toni" Barrientos.



Senior representative Kendall Amaya, right, is escorted by Dakota O'Neal.



Senior court members include, from left, Dakota O'Neal, Emmersyn Stone, King Kade Dixon, Queen Kendall Amaya, Jaylee Bustos and Antoni "Toni" Barrientos.



Freshman representative Grace Gomez, right, is escorted by Jaylun Rodriguez.



Senior representative Emmersyn Stone, right, is escorted by Kade Dixon.

Mustangs fall in Homecoming heartbreaker to Dilley

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs dropped their second district game of the season, 33-7, to the Dilley Wolves Friday, Oct. 6 as part of the Homecoming festivities.

The Mustangs were held to just 169 rushing yards total against Dilley; Nixon-Smiley scored its only touchdown in the game with a seven-yard score by Garett Gonzales. Gonzales led the Mustangs with

15 carries for 111 yards in the game against the Wolves.

The Mustangs defense recorded 35 total tackles in the loss against Dilley.

John Garza, Timothy McGlothline and Davian Ramos each recorded a sack.

Things don't get any easier as now the Mustangs will travel to Poth Friday, Oct. 13 to take on the Pirates.

Kick off is set for 7:30 p.m.

STATS

--OFFENSE--

PASSING:
Luke Moses: 0/8 in pass attempts for zero yards

RUSHING:
G. Gonzales: 111 yards on 15 carries and one touchdown
Aiden Flores: 31 yards on nine carries
Adrian Zamora: 20 yards on five carries
L. Moses: seven yards on eight carries
J. Garza: zero yards on two carries

--DEFENSE--

TACKLES:
T. McGlothline: eight tackles
D. Ramos: five tackles
Kade Dixon: four tackles
Carl White, A. Flores, and A. Zamora: three tackles
Nicholas Martinez, Jesus Espino and Gavino Moreno: two tackles
Alan Espino, Gracen Martin, and J. Garza: one tackle

TACKLES FOR LOSSES:

D. Ramos: two tackles for losses
T. McGlothline, J. Espino, J. Garza and A. Zamora: one tackle for loss

SACKS:

J. Garza, T. McGlothline, D. Ramos: one sack

FUMBLE RECOVER:

Jaylun Rodriguez: one fumble recover

CAUSE FUMBLE:

J. Espino: one cause fumble

VOLLEYBALL

N-S Lady Mustangs lose to Monte Vista in four sets

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs losing streak continued in their four-set loss to Monte Vista (17-25, 23-25, 25-18, 17-25).

The Lady Mustangs are officially eliminated from postseason with a 1-8 record and it is the first time since 2020 that Nixon-Smiley missed

the playoffs.

Nixon-Smiley will have three more matches left this season; they'll have two road matches against Northern Oaks and Randolph and one more home match with Luling.

The Lady Mustangs will have a bye Friday, Oct. 13 and will travel to San Antonio Tuesday, Oct. 17 against Northern Oaks.

Lady Mustangs drop fourth in a row

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs were handed their sixth district loss of the season with a three-set sweep (14-25, 16-25, 21-25) by the Cole Lady Cougars Friday, Oct. 6 at home.

The Lady Mustangs are on a four-game losing streak with their last win against Prairie Lea Tuesday, Sept. 19.

Nixon-Smiley traveled to San Antonio to face Great Hearts Monte Vista Tuesday, Oct. 10, and will have a bye Friday, Oct. 13.

The Lady Mustangs will have three more games this season; two road games against Northern Oaks (Tuesday, Oct. 17) and Randolph (Tuesday, Oct. 24) and one home game against Luling (Friday, Oct. 20).

FOOTBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A14

preparing for a tough match at home, but they are familiar with Cuero.

"We don't have to tell the kids much. You know, it's Cuero. We know what's at hand. We know that we've got to come ready to roll and I know Apache [Field] is gonna be rocking. You throw the rankings out the window when it's Cuero against Gonzales," Rivera said.

Kick off to the Cuero game kicks off at 7:30 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A14

feel sometimes that our best work is on the road, so we're ready for Memorial on Friday," Gonzales said.

The Lady Apaches will travel to San Antonio for their next match against Memorial Friday, Oct. 13; Gonzales swept Memorial in three sets in the first meeting this year.

The San Antonio Memorial game kicks off at 6:30 p.m.

GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS



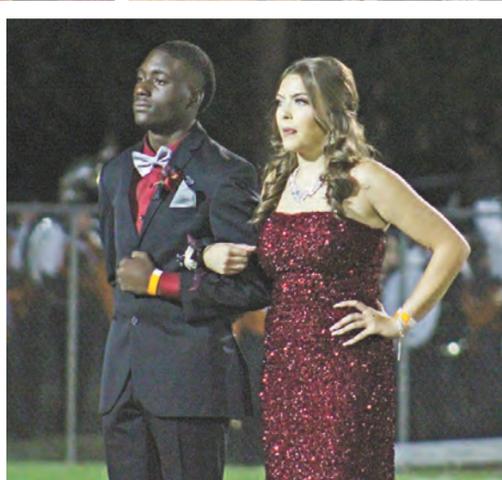
The winning team from the Oct. 4 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Bill Kessler, Zack Reed, Randy Reed, Ron Darilek, Spencer Breitschopf.



The second-place team from the Oct. 4 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Kenneth Hernandez, Billy Hyman, Mike Turk, Roy Staton, San Juan Garcia.

GONZALES HIGH SCHOOL

HOMECOMING



Gonzales High School closed out its homecoming festivities with the crowning of the homecoming king and queen during halftime of the Apaches vs Caldwell game. Seniors Eric "EJ" Guevara and Kynleigh Schroeder were crowned the 2023 Homecoming King and Queen. The 2023 Homcoming Court: Senior Princesses: Kelly Breitschopf, Macey Pena and Kynleigh Schroeder. Senior Princes: Rocky Gallegos, Eric "EJ" Guevara, and Davonte Smith. Senior Duchess: Eva Frost, Dakota Navejar, and Christie Reyna. Senior Dukes: Cole Duty, Cristian Hernandez, and Blake Wright. Junior Duke and Duchess: Jermane Upshaw and Ruby Camarillo. Sophomore Duke and Duchess: David Clack and Anayah Bolden Freshman Duke and Duchess: Kinsley Aldaco and Keath White, Jr.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



CHAMBERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A4

the old American Basketball Association, moved to San Antonio, later to become the San Antonio Spurs of the National Basketball Association.

An aside: Details of Williams' fascinating life in sports and oil exploration are included in a wonderful new book, *The Last Shot*, the final biography by the late

and inimitable author, Caleb Pirtle III. Small world observation: Mr. Chambers and Max Williams were cousins!... *****

The late Fred Sanner, Abilene Reporter-News sports editor, called Chambers "the dean of Texas High School Basketball Coaches." High praise from a

sports writer who "called 'em the way he saw 'em."

By all accounts, Chambers deserved every accolade. DeBusk summed it up well. "Players learned the game from Coach Chambers, who taught life, honor and dignity first. To all who knew him, it was the 'gospel according to

Chambers."

A stroke claimed the beloved educator in 1975 at age 80.....

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, writes weekly and speaks to educational, church and business groups. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Facebook: Don Newbury

RUM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

cup in Independence Square. They have the choice of starting the "run" at 11 a.m. or enjoying brunch at one of downtown's restaurants first, because, after all, "the most important meal is the one you eat before doing a little day drinking."

How does it work? You "run" or "walk" to participating merchants, enjoying some liquid libations at each stop along the way. There is no set time limit, so you can travel downtown at your own pace (please, not at your own stagger; drink responsibly!) and you can enjoy all that Gonzales has to offer.

The "run" officially ends at 4 p.m., but don't let that discourage you from checking out specials that downtown restaurants and hot spots will continue to offer throughout the rest of the day.

Tickets are \$25 per person and include a commemorative T-shirt. Sign up at <https://www.eventeny.com/events/rumrun2023-7636/>.

The Gonzales Main Street program aims to create an experience-rich environment while preserving the beautiful historic features of the city's downtown. Main Street's vision is for Gonzales to become a destination for those seeking a unique, friendly small-town atmosphere and keeping our role in Texas history alive.



GISD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

assigns a financial accountability rating to each school district in the state.

"This is the 21st year of School FIRST, and the rating for this year was determined using data from the 2021-2022 fiscal year," Smith said.

Smith informed the board that GISD has received a superior A rating by FIRST.

"The primary goal of School FIRST is to ensure quality financial management practices, and improved performance and the management of resources in school districts. Also, it's to ensure the maximum amount of dollars are allocated for instructional purposes," Smith said.

In other school board business, board tabled an agenda item regarding policy EIC (LOCAL) academic achievement - class ranking.

Gonzales High School principal Jon Basha

requested the board to amend the policy due the grading periods changing from a six-week schedule to a nine-week schedule.

The board was presented with two options:

- Option 1: For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the District shall calculate class rank using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the third nine-week grading period of the senior year. The third quarter grade shall be used as the semester grade for this purpose.

- Option 2: For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the District shall calculate class rank in accordance with this policy and administrative regulations by using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the fall semester of the senior year.

"So typically, when you are going to run calculations for graduation honors, you want to do it at the end of a term. So it needs to be discussed on would you rather have the calculation calculate at the end of the fall semester, or at the end of the third nine week grading period?" Basha said.

The high school ran into a problem last year; the school ran local graduation honors on the fifth sixth week. Basha said what they did last year at the end of the fifth sixth weeks was they ran the average and that became the grade for the second semester.

"We had a situation where in that last six weeks, grades that were taken for our senior class, there was enough fluctuation because the students were close enough that that six weeks grading period, the last six weeks ended up changing the rank," Basha said.

"But based on the policy we had to go with, you know who we had at the end of the fifth six weeks for graduation, which was different after completion of their high school career." Basha added.

The board made the decision to table the item for next meeting to have better understanding of the options that were presented.

The board approved the following agenda items:

- approved an Interlocal Agreement with the Harris County Department of Education to Facilitate Participation in the Choice Partners Purchasing Cooperative
- approved the 2023 Tax Roll Per Seciton 26.09 Texas Property Tax Code.
- approved to Accept the Annual Investment Report and Approve a Resolution Related to Review of Investment Policy and Investment Strategies.



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FARM&RANCH / ANNUITIES / MEDSUP



ANNEX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

A&M AgriLife Extension works closely with the Master Gardeners and is expected to be housed for the time being in their

PACE (Plantatarium A Center for Exploration) building at 623 N. Fair St.

For others, such as the driver's license office, Texas Department of Public Safety, Adult Probation and the Gonzales Central Appraisal District, they will have to find other accommodations.

"They're saying it could take anywhere from eight months plus to make the necessary repairs," Davis said.

Concerns about the building arose from large cracks in walls at the annex and missing pieces of concrete, which prompted Davis and county maintenance employees Scott McNabb and Brian Kloesel to meet with engineering firms out of Austin and Victoria to determine what was taking place and causing the building to deteriorate rapidly.

"Both of the engineers said this structure should have lasted for 150 to 200 years," Davis said. "They've both come to the conclusion

that there's probably a chemical reaction inside the concrete and that it was not poured right at the time (the construction contractor) was doing it because they said the wall, that they both seem to have that type of mentality because they said wall is falling, and it's deteriorating from the inside out.

"Both of the engineers are saying that, with winter coming on and it is going to be wet, you're going to get expansion and contraction that will cause more problems," Davis said.

Davis said the county has been told of three options to repair the building.

"The front wall and the rear wall are load-bearing walls, while the side walls are not load-bearing walls, but they're there," Davis said. "The three ways to fix it would be to shore up the front and the back and the walls would have to be torn down. And then you can go back with a brick structure

or some type of stone structure, or you can go back with a metallic outer finish or you can do some type of stucco, and I don't want any stucco."

McNabb said they should begin moving offices as soon as possible and that with the Ag Extension office, "that's probably going to be our easiest move."

"We already have a location that if we can use that we can go ahead and start getting their stuff out and begin moving them," McNabb said.

Davis said the Appraisal District is looking at the former Spectrum building, which is located next to the Robert Lee Brothers Jr. Library on Saint Joseph Street.

The driver's license office and DPS would likely move in together and the county has been speaking to Gonzales ISD about the possible use of the former administration building (red brick structure) at the intersection of Waelder Road and Sarah DeWitt, Davis said.

Second Annual Main Street RUM RUN

WHY RUN WHEN YOU CAN RUM?!

October 21, 2023
11:00am - 4:00pm



Registration Open Online
<https://www.eventeny.com/events/rumrun2023-7636/>

#WhyRunwhenyoucanRum














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ECLIPSE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

However, there are locations not far away that will fall within that path of the annular eclipse where one can experience a phenomenon that only takes place on average once in about every 375 in any given location, according to Angela Speck, professor and chair of the UTSA Department of Physics and Astronomy.

“It’s hard to convey just how amazing it is to experience an eclipse,” Speck said. “One thing is that it’s not just visual. Obviously, it’s gorgeous to look at but you also feel it on your skin because it cools down and you get a breeze. There’s also sounds depending on where you are. Right before a total eclipse, the birds get loud and then when it goes dark, they are quiet. For me, it’s not just one thing. You have all this stuff going on all at once and you have a very limited time to take everything in. It’s kind of very intense.”

Neighboring Seguin in Guadalupe County will be within the path of annularity, which will begin there at 11:54:37 a.m. and last for just 41 seconds. In Comal County, New Braunfels will see annularity at 11:54:02 a.m. but it will be over in just 59 seconds at 11:55:01 a.m.

For a longer view of the eclipse, you can go to Three Rivers, where annularity begins at 11:53:36 a.m. and goes for five minutes and one second — the longest viewing time short of driving to Corpus Christi, where annularity begins at 11:55:48 a.m. goes for five minutes and two seconds.

There’s George West, where annularity will commence at 11:53:54 a.m. and continue for five full minutes — one of the longest viewing times avail-

able. In Pleasanton, annularity begins at 11:52:27 a.m. and continues for four minutes, 58 seconds, while in Beeville, annularity begins at 11:54:26 a.m. and continues for four minutes, 54 seconds.

Karnes City will see annularity begin at 11:53:56 a.m. and end four minutes, 22 seconds later, while Kenedy will see it begin at 11:53:56 a.m. and end four minutes, 25 seconds later. In Goliad, there will be three minutes, 35 seconds of annularity beginning at 11:55:18 a.m.

“With any type of solar eclipse, you get a partial eclipse. By that I mean part of the sun is visible and part of the sun is hidden. Depending on where you are, you may get the moon directly between us and the sun. That’s what we’re going to see here,” said Speck.

“In the case of an annular eclipse, you’re going to see a partial eclipse until the moon is directly in the way. It’s still technically a partial eclipse because we can see part of the sun. We see the edge of the sun all the way around the moon. That’s the annular eclipse because annulus is a fancy word for donut. It takes about an hour and a half for the partial phase and then, for maybe four minutes or so, it’s in annularity, where we see a ring of fire. Then you have another hour and a half of partial.”

Speck reminded people they will need special lenses to view the eclipse to protect their eyes.

“I think this is one of those things where you can have people go out and they don’t need any special equipment,” Speck said. “It’s good to have the special lenses so you don’t hurt your eyes, but even if you

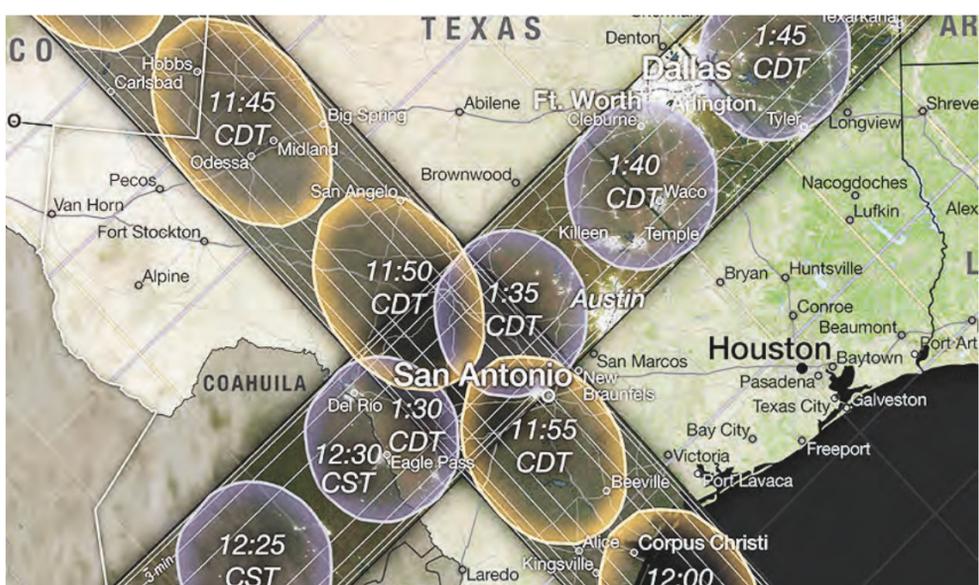


PHOTO COURTESY OF UTSA
This NASA map shows the paths of the upcoming annular solar eclipse on October 14, 2023 (in yellow), and the far more rare total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024 (in purple). Using observations from different NASA missions, this map shows where the Moon’s shadow will cross the U.S. during each eclipse.

“It’s hard to convey just how amazing it is to experience an eclipse. One thing is that it’s not just visual. Obviously, it’s gorgeous to look at but you also feel it on your skin because it cools down and you get a breeze. There’s also sounds depending on where you are. Right before a total eclipse, the birds get loud and then when it goes dark, they are quiet. For me, it’s not just one thing. You have all this stuff going on all at once and you have a very limited time to take everything in. It’s kind of very intense.”

— Angela Speck, Professor and chair of the UTSA Department of Physics and Astronomy

don’t have them, you can experience an eclipse. It doesn’t cost you anything.

“If we want to view the sun, even on a normal day, we shouldn’t be staring at it. But you can use a projection effect to experience an eclipse. It’s basically what a pinhole camera is, but anything that has a hole in it is going to work.

If you have a colander, like a pasta drainer, you can hold it and look at the shadow on the ground to experience the images of the sun throughout the eclipse.

“Anything with holes will work, and it doesn’t matter what shape the holes are either. In fact, one of the coolest things is to find a tree. Stand by the

tree and look at the shadow underneath because all of the little gaps between the leaves behave like holes. So, you get lots and lots of images of the sun. This happens every day but on a normal day, all those images are circular, which is kind of boring. But on an eclipse day, you have lots of little presences of the sun.”

Y’ALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Oct. 28, from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The free Gonzales Main Street event has grown to include both Texas Heroes Square and Independence Square and will also feature a Fall Job Fair, sponsored by both the Gonzales Economic Development Corporations (GEDC) and Main Street.

Texas Heroes Square (where the Come and Take It Carnival was just held) will feature hay rides, photo booths, face painting, games and trick or treating at downtown businesses as part of the Downtown Business Monster Mash.

The Gonzales Ministerial Alliance and Main Street will present Trunk or Treat, a walk-through Halloween experience where children will go vehicle to vehicle in Independence Square for candy and goodies from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28.

The Main Street and GEDC Gonzales Job Fair will be held during Trunk or Treat and Happy Fall Y’all to allow job seekers a chance to explore new career paths and see who is hiring in the Gonzales area from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Texas Heroes Square. Businesses can register for the job fair by contacting Alexis Cerda with GEDC at gedc-admin@gonzales.texas.gov or by calling 830-857-4307 or by logging onto www.gonzalesedc.org.

Main Street will also sponsor a Fall Window Decorating Contest for businesses located in the Gonzales Main Street District. Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 23, and judging will take place Oct. 25. Categories include Best Fall Window 2023 and Best Halloween Window 2023.

Applications can be submitted to Main Street Director Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla at tpadilla@gonzales.texas.gov or be dropped off at City Hall.

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Must be 3 years old and older to receive drive-thru vaccination. Other restrictions may apply.

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COME & TAKE IT 2023

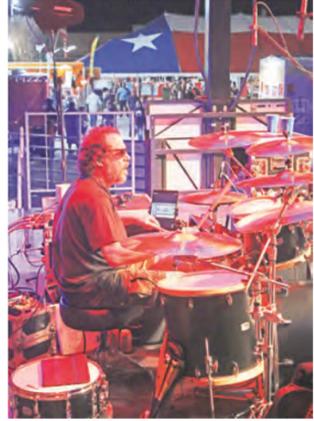
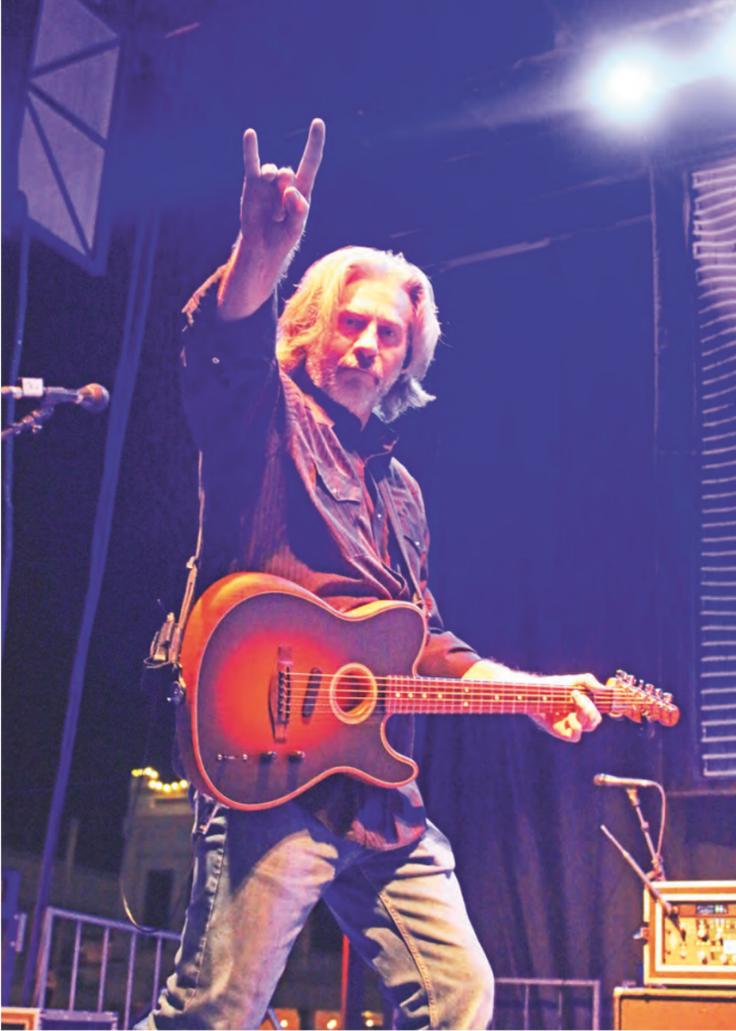
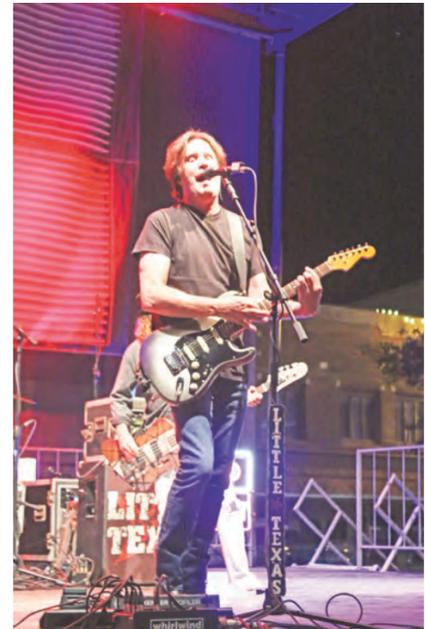
B1 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023

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TAKING THE STAGE



PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN
Friday, Oct. 6 was a great night for music at the Come and Take It Celebration in downtown Gonzales. Performers included The Lost Cause Band, Nathan Colt Young and headliners Little Texas, who played their hits including "My Love," "God Blessed Texas" and "Amy's Back in Austin."



COME & TAKE IT: A WALK THROUGH HISTORY



Gonzales residents and many outside of the community gather to witness history re-enacted with the annual "Battle of Gonzales" reenactment at Gonzales Pioneer Village in celebration of the 2023 Come and Take It Festival and the first shot of the Texas Revolution.
PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



CHICKENS TAKE FLIGHT



PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN
Birds of a feather flocked together at the annual Come and Take It Celebration Chicken Flying Contest. The winning flight this year was just a little over 79 feet (with many chickens turning 'chicken' and flying the wrong way for negative yardage). Smiling faces could be found everywhere.



MULLET MANIA

"Kentucky waterfalls," "Canadian passports" and "Achy-breaky-bad-mistakeys" all were on display during the second annual Mullet Contest at Come and Take It Celebration, sponsored by Gonzales Main Street. This hair-raising event is quickly becoming a fan favorite.

PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN



COME & TAKE IT PARADE



People gathered on St. Paul Street for the annual Come and Take It Parade in Gonzales, Texas. Many businesses and organizations from in and out of the county showed off their Come and Take It pride with their unique floats.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS





AROUND THE COME & TAKE IT CELEBRATION



PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN
Pride of Texas Carnivals provided entertainment during Come and Take It, while there were a variety of food booths present to cater to all tastes — some run by local organizations and some by area businesses. The beer tent was quenching thirsts while the vendor booths were making people reach for their wallets for must-have items.



CTI COOKOFF



PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Steak, chili and beans...OH MY! The Lions Club of Gonzales hosted its annual T-Bone, Chili & Bean Cook-Off. Many people young and old were showing off their grilling and cooking skills for the Come and Take It Festival attendees.



CTI CAR SHOW

People gather on St. Joseph Street for the annual Car Show at the 2023 Come and Take It Festival. Many car fanatics showed off their vehicles from classic Fords and Chevrolets, old and new vehicles, and the most customized vehicles.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



SHINER HOBO BAND

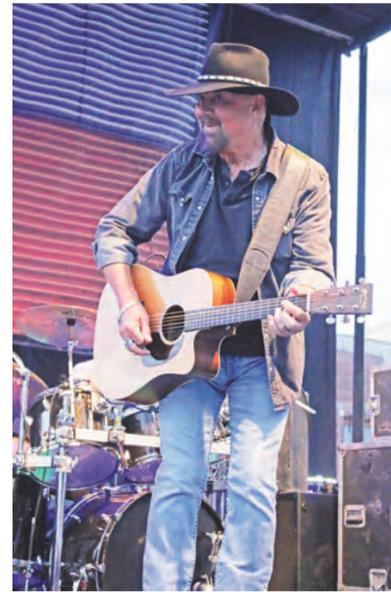
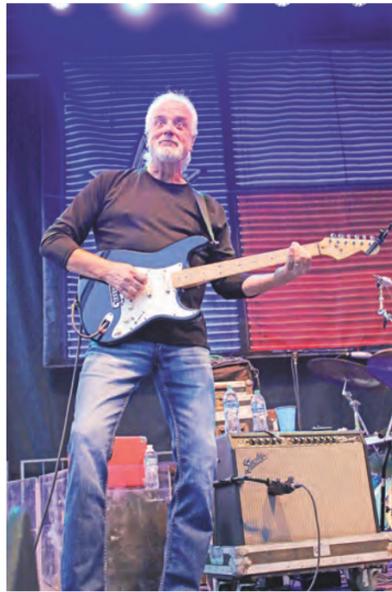


PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

The Shiner Hobo Band performs at the 2023 Come and Take It Festival.



TAKING THE STAGE



Saturday night at the Come and Take It Celebration saw music from Taylor Branch and the Lone Star Ramblers, Confederate Railroad and headliner Doug Stone, who performed such hits as "Busy Being in Love" and "Little Houses" and "Why Didn't I Think of That?" For those who like music with a Tejano flavor, Marcos Orozco and his band finished off the night. People of all ages were on their feet and "moving to the grooving."

PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN

