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Thursday, November 23, 2023

The Gonzales Inquirer

OUR 169TH YEAR SERVING GONZALES COUNTY \$1.00

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New staffers assume roles at Gonzales Chamber

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture recently added two new staff members at the Chamber office, 304 Saint Louis St. Laurie Cook is the new operations coordinator for the Chamber. Laurie spent many years as a dedicated stay-at-home mom and brings a warm and hospitable personality to the Chamber team. Her eagerness to learn and contribute is evident, aligning seamlessly with the organization's team culture. Laurie's years as a stay-at-home mom shows her dedication and commitment to creating a nurturing environment, qualities that will undoubtedly enhance our team dynamics.

See CHAMBER, page 14

Gonzales Healthcare Systems marks 45 years at current location

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Since 1978, Gonzales Healthcare Systems has been taking care of Gonzales County's health needs from its facility on Sarah DeWitt Drive

in Gonzales.

On Wednesday, Nov. 29, the administration and staff of GHS invite the public to join in celebrating Gonzales Healthcare Systems' 45th anniversary from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the GHS Outpatient lobby. There

will be snacks, memories and words from CEO Brandon Anzaldua and the members of the GHS Board of Directors. There will also be displays of historical information and



See GHS, page 14

WELCOMING WINTERFEST 2023

'Old Fashioned Christmas' comes to Gonzales

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Gonzales Main Street will host its annual Winterfest celebration in downtown Gonzales on Dec. 2-3. This year's theme is "Old Fashioned Christmas."

The event promises to be fun for all

ages, with a downtown Santa's Market of vendors, kids games and rides, live Christmas musical performances, the Christmas tree lighting and the lighted Christmas parade, among other events.

As an extra bonus, Santa Claus will ride into town in style on TXGN

Railways on Friday, Dec. 1 and will be at the old train depot at the corner of Saint Peter and Saint Andrew streets from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Children will have the opportunity to visit with

See WINTERFEST, page 13

Gonzales Elks Lodge sponsoring Winterfest Cook-off

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

There's a new sheriff in town when it comes to running the annual Winterfest Cook-off. This year, Gonzales Elks Lodge #2413 will be in charge of the mainstay event, which pits local cooking squads against one another in four categories: Bloody Mary, stew, beans and chili.

The cook-off will be held Sat-

See COOKOFF, page 13



JB Wells Home

The Gonzales Historic Homes Winterfest Tour returns Dec. 2-3

Experience the beauty of these historic homes, delightfully decorated for Christmas. As an added bonus, see the newly renovated chapel of the Episcopal Church of the Messiah. Your \$25 ticket/wristband is valid for either day, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, or Sunday Dec. 3. Come and tour it!

Tickets may be purchased online at <https://www.gonzaleshistorichomes.org> or at Laurel Ridge Antiques, 827 St Joseph St, Gonzales, or the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture, 304 St Louis St, Gonzales.

See TOURS, page 13

Winterfest Christmas parade set for Dec. 2

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas and that means it's nearly time for the Gonzales Main Street Winterfest Christmas parade, to be held at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 2 in downtown Gonzales after the official city tree lighting.

This is a time where holiday spirit brings families together to share old

See PARADE, page 12

Presentence investigation ordered in Little League theft case

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

2nd 25th Judicial District Judge Jessica Crawford on Nov. 8 ordered a presentence investigation be performed in the case of Jennifer Lynn Almaguer, who is charged with embezzlement and misuse of Gonzales Little League organizational funds.

Almaguer is also expected to appear back in court on Jan. 9 after Crawford reset her pre-trial hearing to that date.

A presentence investigation, or PSI, is usually ordered in a felony case in Texas where a judge is expected to impose sentence and often happens

See ALMAGUER, page 12

Gonzales man gets 10 years for solicitation of a minor

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A Gonzales man was sentenced to 10 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice — Institutional Division by senior judge Dwight E. Peschel in the 25th Judicial District Court on Nov. 3 after pleading guilty on Nov. 3 to online solicitation of a minor under age 14.

Calvin Rhoades will turn himself in

See COURT, page 12

1 SECTION
14 PAGES



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Chamber seeking nominations for Community Service, Walshak awards

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations for the Community Service Award & David B. Walshak Lifetime Achievement Award to be presented at the 102nd Annual Chamber Banquet.

To get a nomination form, go to <https://gonzalestexas.com/annual-chamber-banquet/> and click on the links. Email completed form to admin@gonzalestexas.com or return them to the Chamber office at 304 St. Louis St. by 4 p.m. Jan. 30, 2024.

The Community Service Award is an annual award given to an individual, business, or organization for meritorious service in one or more of the categories below:

- Historic Preservation
- Promotion of the Arts
- Education

- Commerce/Industry
- Youth Motivation
- Volunteer Work

A panel of judges consisting of the Executive Committee of the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture will review the nominees and decide the winner. Judging will be based solely on information contained on this nomination form. Nominees will be judged without regard to sex, race, religion, or age and must live in the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture area. Any job-related task or duty for which nominees are paid a salary will not be considered. This award will be considered for a deceased person provided the death occurred within the year for which the award is being presented.

The David B. Walshak Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to a person who has proved wor-

thy of distinction in the community. This Lifetime Achievement Award is appropriately named after a man, David B. Walshak, who gave himself unselfishly to his family, friends, church, and community.

A banker by profession, David B. Walshak was a two-time recipient of the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce "Citizen of the Year Award", once in 1961, the other in 1972. He served as Director and President of the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce and in 1974 was a Charter Member of the Minutemen, ambassadors of our Chamber of Commerce. He served as Chairman of the Gonzales Sesquicentennial Committee from 1973-1975, President of the Gonzales Area Development Corporation and Director of the Texas Allied Poultry Association from 1975-1976.



Restorations made to Episcopal Church of the Messiah

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The historic church building belonging to the Episcopal Church of the Messiah has drawn a lot of questions in the last year or so. First, the Rectory was restored a few years ago and is now used for offices and outreach.

Then last year they began construction of a memorial garden with a columbarium, a wall designated for the interment of the ashes of people who have died and been cremated. About the same time, the parish hall had to be gutted and rebuilt from the inside out because of a severely cracked floor.

The next project was to renovate the sacristy, the room in the south transept where preparations are made for worship. During that process, the electricians discovered some very old and dangerous wiring, so the church leadership decided it was important to have the entire building rewired and brought

up to modern code. To accomplish that work, they moved worship into the newly renovated parish hall.

As the congregation returns to worship in the 1881 building, the wiring has all been updated; the herringbone beadboard ceiling exposed and painted; the walls insulated and painted; the light fixtures cleaned and restored; the 1910 Pilcher organ tuned; the floors sanded and resealed; the pews cleaned and restained; new carpet laid in the center aisle; a new sound system installed; and monitored smoke and fire detection equipment added. The restoration and renovation work has been accomplished by Aptiva Interiors of Gonzales.

The Church of the Messiah will be on the Gonzales Historic Homes Tour on December 2-3, 2023, and they invite the community to "come and see it." They also welcome anyone who wants to worship on Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Smiley librarian resigns; library closed for now

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The librarian for the Stella Ellis Hart Library in Smiley, Sheri Matz, has submitted her letter of resignation, Mayor Lisa Benavidez announced Tuesday, Nov. 14, on Facebook.

The library, located at 103 FM 108 North, Smiley, was closed Wednesday, Nov. 15 and it is unclear when it will reopen. It is normally open every Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The organization had recently been the subject of an agenda item on the Smiley City Council meeting regarding "discussion/possible action on Stella Hart Library being financially responsible for their electric, water, trash, sewer, insurance and phone bills."

The city had been paying all utility bills in the past for the library as it had been considered to be under the umbrella of the city. It is overseen by a library board of nine Smiley residents. According to the website, current board members are Katie Garrett, Suzy Parker, Pat Stillwell, Carol Nuñez, Linda Warzecha, Kathy Whitehead, Sheila Apisa, Rebecca Mejia and Mary White.

Stella Ellis Hart Library a collection of items to meet the informational and recreational reading needs of the citizens of Smiley. The collection includes: adult and children's fiction and non-fiction books, a references section, Texana history, newspapers, magazines, books on tape, videos, audio-visual equipment and genealogy collection. The library also has a study area available for public use.

Other services provided are wireless internet access for the public. The library has four computers for public use. The library also has monthly events for children.



Stars in the Village will align in December

FROM STAFF REPORTS

It's getting cooler and the leaves are changing colors, so that must mean it is almost time to welcome in the holiday season like our forebears did.

Experience pioneer life during the happiest time of year at the Gonzales Pioneer Village Living History Center annual Stars in the Village event, which is offered on three separate dates to give all community members and visitors a chance to join in the fun.

The event will be offered Saturday, Dec. 2; Friday, Dec. 8; and Saturday, Dec. 9, from 6-9 p.m. This event is hosted by and held at the Gonzales Pioneer Village, 2122 N. Saint Joseph St. On Dec. 9, there will be music featuring Bill

Finch with The Bucksnot Boogie Band in the old church.

The event will have candle making, churning butter, spinning, ornament making, corn shuck dolls, popping popcorn around the campfire, hot chocolate, was-sail and holiday cookies, as well as roasting marshmallows around the campfire. Plus, the blacksmith will return to work with the live forge and Saint Nick himself will be there to ask the kiddos what they want for Christmas.

The event will be offered for both adults and children, with tickets at \$8 for adults, and \$5 for kids under 12 years of age.

For further information on this Stars in the Village event, go to the Pioneer Village Living History Center Facebook page.

Gonzales Main Street holding Giving Tree toy, coat drive

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Help make this Christmas merry and bright for local children in need through the Gonzales Main Street Giving Tree toy and coat drive.

The Gonzales Main Street is partnering with downtown businesses to ensure that each child

in the community has the most memorable Christmas!

If you're in the downtown district and are interested in collecting donations, please let Tiffany Padilla, Main Street Director, know at 830-672-2815 or by email at tpadilla@gonzales.texas.gov and she will get a collection bin to your business!

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The **Gonzales Inquirer**

Open: Friday, November 24 from 8 a.m.-12 Noon

Friday

Celebrations

Birthdays

November 23rd Bradley Bakken Tabitha Barborak Bill Cole Freddie Fisher Devin Gibson Kelly Gibson Marcus Pridgeon Melissa Schneider Kelly Wallace	November 26th Sandra Baker Lettie Griffaldo Jaclyn Harvey Shanna Heiman David Janota	November 27th Lona Ackman Christopher Brown Brittany Harkey Madeline Johnson Lawrence Kridler Sabrina Kugler Tessa Matias Tanya McKinney Denise Mobbs Georgia Pavliska
November 24th Doyle Heins Katie Muck Sarah Miller Loretta Schurig Sherrie White	November 25th Nolan Barborak	November 28th Tom Daniel Granelia Hendricks Sean Zambrano
November 29th Jessica Stout Pamela Moore Washichek	November 29th Lisa Hernandez Deidra Kuntschik	

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Gonzales Weather

	November 23 71°/48°	Plenty of sunshine 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 72
	November 24 76°/52°	Mostly cloudy 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 74
	November 25 74°/53°	Mostly cloudy; a passing shower in the morning followed by a little rain in the afternoon 56% chance of rain • RealFeel 69
	November 26 60°/39°	Variable cloudiness with a passing shower 55% chance of rain • RealFeel 59
	November 27 57°/43°	Rain 75% chance of rain • RealFeel 57
	November 28 62°/51°	Mostly cloudy 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 65
	November 29 64°/39°	Considerable clouds; periods of rain in the morning, then afternoon showers and thunderstorms 68% chance of rain • RealFeel 61

Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales



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Texas A&M Forest Service offers grant to promote sustainable community forests

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Texas A&M Forest Service is offering \$16.65 million in grant funding through the Community Forestry Grants program to bolster urban and community forestry initiatives in communities across the state.

These competitive grants are designed to establish sound urban and community forestry principles that promote the protection and enhancement of urban and community forest ecosystems throughout the state of Texas. The goals of this funding are to increase tree cover to 30% of Texas school campuses through schoolyard forest grants and provide competitive pass-through community greening grants to local tree advocacy groups and community-based organizations.

"The initiatives supported by this grant funding will prioritize communities and neighborhoods in areas of greatest need based on environmental and social data," said Gretchen Riley, Texas A&M Forest Service Systems Department Head. "By focusing on these areas, we can ensure that the benefits of

urban forestry are distributed where they can make the most impact."

To support these goals, grant funding is available in seven categories. Among this year's seven grant categories are Human Health Equity and Accessibility, Municipal Foresters, Geospatial Analysis 65, Climate Resiliency, Tree City USA, Tree Planting and Schoolyard Forests.

"We are excited to be offering a historic amount of funding this year," said Riley. "The Community Forestry Grant program was established last year, with just two categories and \$100,000 total."

Funding was increased through The U.S. Department of Agriculture, providing Texas A&M Forest Service \$21.75 million. The funding, part of the Biden administration's Inflation Reduction Act, will help Texas expand its urban forest canopy, improve air and water quality, reduce energy consumption and enhance the health and well-being of residents.

Community, civic and neighborhood groups may apply with an eligible entity as

a sponsor. Eligible entities for these grants must be public or non-profit, including State and local government agencies, public education institutions, NGOs or non-profits and public utility districts. Individuals, businesses and federal agencies are not eligible.

The application worksheets for the 2024 Community Forestry Grants program are now available in preparation for the proposal submission window of Dec. 11, 2023, through Feb. 16, 2024.

The application worksheets contain instructions, requirements and a question form for each category required at the time of proposal submission. A guidance document is available to serve as a manual for how the grants can be prepared, frequently asked questions and helpful tips.

Bexar Branches Alliance and the city of College Station were awarded the Community Forestry Grants last year. Bexar Branches Alliance was the recipient of the climate resiliency grant, and College Station was the recipient of the human health and equity accessibility grant.

Garden Q&A with CALVIN FINCH



On shade trees, fire ants and feeding migrating Monarchs

Q. When should peach trees be fertilized to get ready for the spring and what kind fertilizer works best and at what rate?

A. If you only had limited growth (under 18 inches) this summer your trees should have been fertilized with slow-release lawn fertilizer in August. Fertilize in February with 1 cup of the same 19-5-9 slow-release lawn fertilizer for each inch of trunk diameter if there was little growth and you did not fertilize in the fall.

Q. I know I am late in planting my spring nectar sources but I went ahead and planted blue curl and larkspur last week to supplement my mistflower, zinnias, and milkweed for next spring. Do you think it will produce some blooms in time to meet the needs of the migrating Monarchs next spring?

A. Many of the wildflowers are already up, including the blue curl in Central

Texas. If you have other wildflowers such as coreopsis in your area and plenty of milkweed, you should meet the migrant Monarchs' needs.

Q. Which is the fastest growing of the recommended shade trees?

A. It depends on some extent to the soil conditions of the area where the tree will be planted but generally Mexican sycamore and Texas red oak are the fastest growing that I have experienced.

Q. Are the fire ants gone for the season or will they be around in the winter?

A. They are less prevalent, but they are around now and will be around all winter. They are in and around buildings plus in the garden. If you are pulling the weeds in the vegetable and flower garden, I expect you are crossing their paths. I also still see them in containers with plants. Keep your ant treatments close at hand.

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET

November 18th
 Cattle - 1169

Compared to our last sale:
 Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold fully steady to 4.00-10.00 higher on lighter side. 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., 285-310; 300-400 lbs., 275-345; 400-500 lbs., 250-320; 500-600 lbs., 237-275; 600-700 lbs., 220-247; 700-800 lbs., 185-227. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 90-155.

Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 285-295; 300-400 lbs., 275-315; 400-500 lbs., 220-300; 500-600 lbs., 205-235; 600-700 lbs., 175-215.

Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 72-88; Cutters, 90-102; Canners, 52-78; High yielding fat cows, 90-95.

Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 112-122; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 100-110.

Stocker Cows: \$750 to \$1,500. Pairs: \$1,100 to \$2,000. No Sale Saturday, November 25, 2023. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

HALLETTVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.

Sale date: November 14th
 Cattle on hand: 1137

Packer Cows:
 Canner and Cutter Cows: \$82-109
 Utility & Fat Cows: \$80-106
 Light Weight Canner Cows: \$55-78
 Poor/Weak: \$35-55

Packer Bulls:

Heavyweight Bulls: \$113-126
 Utility & Cutter Bulls: \$100-112
 Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$88-100

Stocker Cows:
 Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: NONE

Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1050-1375
 Good Cow & Calf Pairs: NONE
 Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: \$1125-1450

Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:
 Number 1 steer & bull calves: Under 200 lbs.: \$210-310
 200-300 lbs.: \$235-345
 300-400 lbs.: \$245-340
 400-500 lbs.: \$240-315
 500-600 lbs.: \$230-265
 600-700 lbs.: \$205-257.50
 700-800 lbs.: \$200-225

Number 1 heifer calves:
 Under 200 lbs: \$190-265
 200-300 lbs.: \$220-282
 300-400 lbs.: \$230-295
 400-500 lbs.: \$215-288
 500-600 lbs.: \$210-247
 600-700 lbs.: \$200-224
 700-800 lbs: \$170-205

Replacement Heifers:
 350-700 lbs.: \$220-300

The Calf market was steady this week with the light weights stronger, and the heavier weights a little weaker. Demand overall remains good. Packer cows & bulls sold \$4 to \$4 higher this week on a total supply of 150 head.

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET
 November 17, 2023
 NO SALE NEXT WEEK
 NOVEMBER 24 IN CELEBRATION OF THANKSGIVING

Number of head 1,807
 There were 168 cows and 17 bulls. Top packer bull was up to \$121/cwt while tops on packer cows was up at \$100/cwt. A small supply sold well in light of heavy marketings on packer cat-

tle this time of year. The calf market was dramatically higher on middle weights down. Other weights were higher also. Overall the market was over \$13/cwt higher on 3 more pounds of weight resulting in the average value of a calf being over \$70 higher.

Packer bulls: 98.00-116.00
 Packer cows: 81.00-100.00
 canners & cutters 30.00-57.00
 poor & weak 80.00-129.00
 Palpated: 5 BRED 93.00-129.00
 PAIRS: one \$1,400

Steer Calves:
 Under 200 lbs. N O N E
 200-249 lbs. 271.00-310.00
 250-299 lbs. 294.00-350.00
 300-350 lbs. 263.00-340.00
 350-400 lbs. 280.00-342.00
 400-450 lbs. 269.00-322.00
 450-500 lbs. 251.00-294.00
 500-550 lbs. 243.00-270.00
 550-600 lbs. 228.00-268.00
 600-700 lbs. 218.00-248.00
 700-800 lbs. 203.00-220.00
 Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
 Under 250lbs 223.00-320.00
 250-300 lbs. 247.00-342.50
 300-350 lbs. 276.00-345.00
 350-400 lbs. 257.00-342.50
 400-450 lbs. 257.00-302.00
 450-500 lbs. 237.00-312.00
 500-550 lbs. 237.00-262.00
 550-600 lbs. 217.00-258.00
 600-700 lbs. 214.00-240.00
 Over 700 lbs. 184.00-223.00
 Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
 Under 200 lbs. 219.00-266.00
 200-250 lbs. 219.00-280.00
 250-300 lbs. 248.00-340.00
 300-350 lbs. 244.00-328.00
 350-400 lbs. 238.00-338.00
 400-450 lbs. 233.00-310.00
 450-500 lbs. 222.00-288.00
 500-550 lbs. 207.00-236.00
 550-600 lbs. 202.00-262.00
 600-700 lbs. 193.00-238.00
 Over 700 lbs. 174.00-209.00

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The Heights of Gonzales invites you to come out and join the fun of helping us create our

2023

CHRISTMAS TREE FOREST

It's a great marketing tool for your organization or business but most important...enjoyment for our Residents and Visitors!!

We will have "Best Over All" winner to add to the fun! Families, businesses and organizations are invited to bring your own tree and decorate it with your personal creative theme. We have a fun filled month in December with many different activities that makes our Christmas Tree Forest joyous for our entire Community!!

Decorating begins November 24th - December 10, 2023

Trees should be removed by January 6th, 2024

For more information or to reserve your spot contact:
 Baby Mares, Admissions/Marketing Coordinator
 Or
 Margaret Casarez, Director of Activities

830-672-4530

The Pecan Tale of Plenty

BY SEN. JOHN CORNYN
U.S. Senator, R-Texas

As the days grow shorter and cooler, pecan trees in Texas prepare for their annual debut. Leaves take on hues of amber and crimson, painting a breathtaking landscape that attracts visitors from near and far. Amidst this natural transformation, pecans reach peak maturity and are ready to break through their sturdy shells.

In 1919, the pecan tree was named the state tree of Texas, thanks in large part to former Texas Governor James Stephen Hogg. On March 2, 1906, Hogg expressed his wish for a soft-shell Texas pecan tree to be planted at his grave with its nuts distributed to Texas farmers for planting. Years later, journalist Katie Daffan suggested the pecan tree become the state tree of Texas in Hogg's honor. This idea quickly gained widespread support, leading the state legislature to unanimously pass a resolution formalizing the designation in 1919, which was reaffirmed eight years later during the 40th Texas Legislative Session.

Pecans have deep cultural significance in Texas, dating back to prehistoric times when Native Americans would use them for currency, meals, and cooking. Even Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, the first European to traverse Texas, found solace in Texas pecans. Without these protein-rich nuts, he might not have survived the harsh winter of 1532.

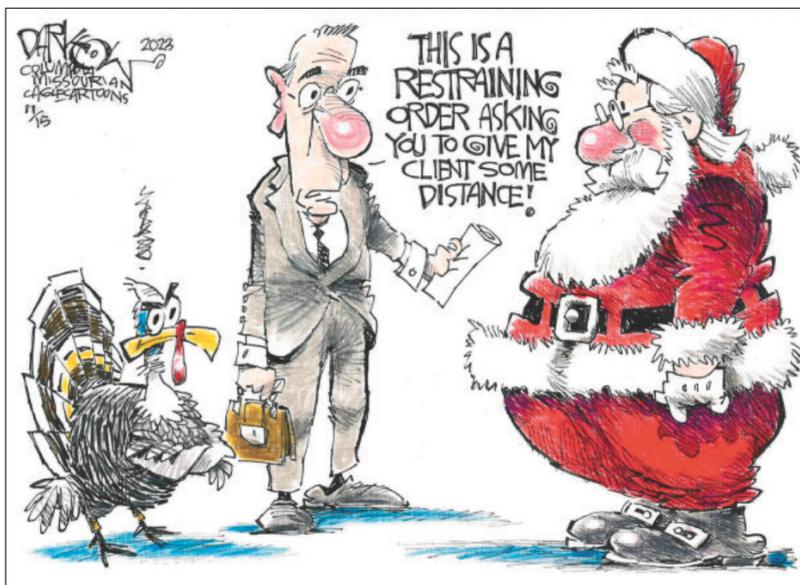
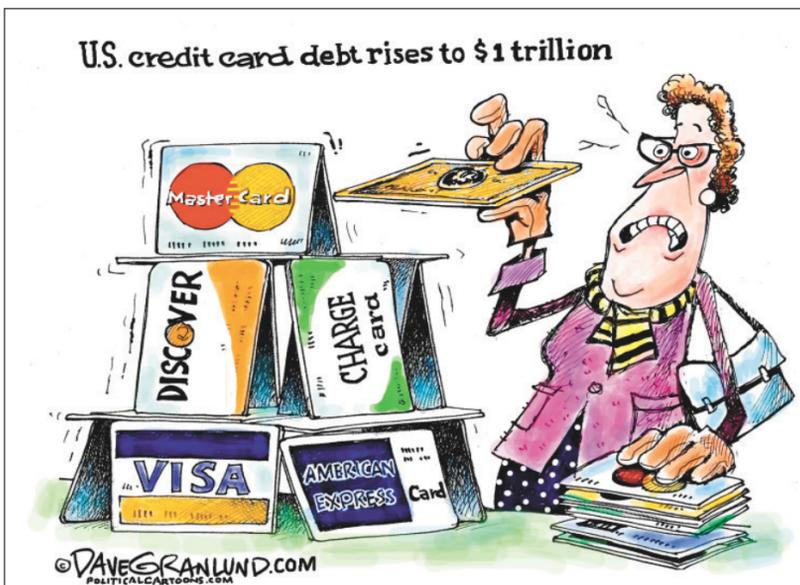
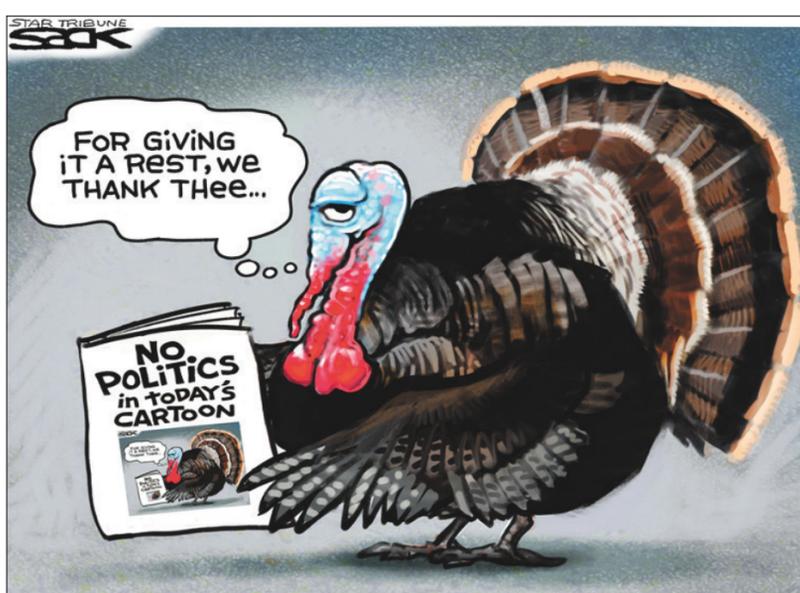
These deep Texas roots have led to the pecan's increased prevalence in our state, particularly in the Rio Grande Valley and Hill Country. There, pecan orchards are carefully tended. Growers use labor-intensive techniques, including grafting and crossbreeding, to produce multiple varieties of the nut.

Pecans are native to Texas' river valleys and are the only commercially grown nut in the state. Each year, Texas farmers produce an average of nearly 45 million pounds of pecans. As a result of their hard work and bountiful harvesting, Texas ranks third in the nation for pecan production, making it a significant contributor to Texas' booming agriculture industry.

Today, pecans are a Lone Star staple used for everything from candies and cookies to barbecue, but nothing says "Texas" more sweetly than a pecan pie, which has become the star of many Thanksgiving tables. This beloved dessert is so cherished that it eventually earned the designation as the official state pie of Texas in 2013, reflecting its special place in Texans' hearts.

They may be a tough nut to crack, but pecans have become a source of pride and a taste of history that continues to flourish year after year. From tree to treat, our tradition of honoring and appreciating the historic Texas pecan will continue in the Lone Star State for generations to come.

Senator John Cornyn, a Republican from Texas, is a member of the Senate Finance, Intelligence, and Judiciary Committees.



DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

Messing with Texas...

Much of what is making the news cycles these days is borderline UnAmerican, and in some cases, absolutely un-Texan.

That's the opinion of my Uncle Mort, an ancient relative who has lived more than a century down in The Thicket of East Texas. He is shocked that iced coffee has become an obsession in the U.S., even reviving cafes that are welcoming any menu items that will keep customers coming back for more. Mort didn't even know that iced coffee drinkers have a foothold in the market. Truth to tell, he figured a toehold might be all that consumers of the chilled variety could muster....

Mort thinks most Texans will continue to favor hot coffee, and in his crowd, most of 'em like java that is so hot that it needs to be "sauced and blowed" before consumption.

Further, in our frontier state where chaps are still worn and the "jingle/jangle" of spurs heard on the prairie, most men like their coffee strong.

Many prefer it to be made in a coffee can over an open fire, always remembering that "it don't take much water to make good coffee," Mort opines. He can't imagine cowboys crawling from their bedrolls on cold winter mornings, eager to start their morning after first swigging iced coffee....

Statistics don't lie, however, and it is possible that researchers on coffee consumption are right on. The consultancy firm Allegra World Coffee Portal says that nearly a quarter of coffeeshop customers are drinking cold offerings every single day, up 17 percent in just one year.

The younger you are, the more likely you take your caffeine cold. A survey of 5,000 consumers found that almost eight in every ten buyers under the age of 35 purchase the drink at least once weekly.

Icy beverages have become such a craze that the segment is helping U.S. coffeeshops bounce back from the COVID hit, and the industry is now topping pre-pandemic levels....

Maybe we old-timers might consider joining the younger bunch, but we simply don't want to order from menus that list numerous multisyllabic flavors. Many of us are timid about learning new words like "latte" and "mocha." We are admittedly worried about holding up the line, even if we wish only to order a cup of black coffee, nothing more, nothing less.

Who woulda thought, several decades ago, that a cup of coffee tab was a mere 10 cents, with many restaurants offering free refills? Back then, thoughts of iced coffee seemed light years away.

Early in my speaking career, I told the story of a hobo who asked a passerby for a quarter "to buy a cup of coffee." When the prospective donor pointed out that coffee cost only a dime, the hobo countered, "But won't you join me?"....

During a brief visit to Alto, NM, this summer, I was taken aback at a convenience store, where ice in seven-pound bags was priced at \$3.49.

With inflation hitting the ice industry so hard, I may need to consider investing, or, better yet, get a parttime job, selling ice priced by the cube.

Whatever, maybe ice is to be partially blamed for inflated costs of cold coffee. After all, half of industry leaders consider cold coffee to be the most important current market trend. So, maybe the old bromide is near the mark, the one expressing regret that youth is wasted on the young....

Meanwhile, researchers have found a new way to recycle clothing. Currently, 99% of all used clothing winds up in dumps, greatly impacting environmental efforts.

With almost all clothing a blend of cotton and synthetics, the new process will produce similar materials once more, thus turning old garments into new.

No longer will the claim that "he'd give you the shirt off his back" be universally true. Instead, the donor may be giving us the shirt off many backs. So, we press on, hopeful that too much information can be avoided....

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, continues to write weekly and speak regularly throughout Texas. Contact: Phone: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com.

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters must either be about Gonzales County, from a resident of Gonzales County, or in response to a story that appears in print or online in The Inquirer.

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

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

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

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

Please send Letters to the Editor:

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

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

The Gonzales Inquirer

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You can reach us at:

830-672-2861
OR
publisher@gonzalesinquirer.com

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and/or email ads@gonzalesinquirer.com

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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

110 APPLIANCE REPAIR

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL Appliance Repair. Call 210-774-9336.

190 LAWN, GARDEN

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

210 MISC. SERVICES

JOEL'S OUTDOOR SERVICES. Skid Steer Service. Dump trailer & flatbed trailer for hire. Fence Cleaning, Bulldozing & Firewood for sale. Lot cleaning. Tree trimming. 830-832-6985.

670 APARTMENTS FOR RENT OR LEASE

LOW INCOME APARTMENTS for rent. 1, 2, 3, 4 bedrooms. No electric deposit required. Apply at 410 Village Drive. Gonzales 830-672-3419.

Apartments For Elderly, Low Income

Rent based on Income
Water, Sewer, and Trash Paid
Country Village Square
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Gonzales, TX 78629
830.672.2877
countryvillagesquare@voatz.org
www.voatz.org

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination.

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



770 RVs, CAMPERS

FOR SALE: 2022 Keystone Springdale 26 ft Travel Trailer. Sleeps 5, like new. \$29,000 OBO. Call for more information. 830-857-0223.

850 HELP WANTED

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.



LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB?

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www.gonzalesinquirer.com
830-672-2861

670 APARTMENTS FOR RENT OR LEASE

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.



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.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS NIXON-SMILEY CISD State Financial Accountability Rating

Nixon-Smiley CISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM Monday, December 11, 2023, in the Nixon-Smiley High School LIBRARY, 800 Rancho Road, NIXON

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Nixon-Smiley CISD's 2022-23 rating on the state's financial accountability system.

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

The Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on December 4, 2023, at 5:15 p.m. at the Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph Street, to allow for public comment on the staff proposed amendments to the City of Gonzales Code of Ordinances described below. After consideration and recommendation by Planning & Zoning Commission and the Public Hearing, the proposed amendments will be presented to City Council for a Public Hearing and possible approval on December 14, 2023, at the Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph Street at 6:00 p.m. on the following specific proposed amendments:

Amendments to City of Gonzalez Code of Ordinances Chapter 14, Articles 14.200, 14.400, and 14.600 related the addition of new land uses for Bakery, commercial; Bakery, retail; Bar; Brewery/Distillery/Winery, industrial; Brewery/Distillery/Winery, craft; and Brewpub; associated land use definitions and off-street parking regulations.

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

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830-672-2861

850 HELP WANTED

VICTORIA COLLEGE
Est. 1925
Victoria College is recruiting for full-time, twelve-month, non-tenure track instructors to teach Commercial Truck Driving for the Workforce & Continuing Education Department. **Classes will begin in January 2024.** Position may include the role of Program Coordinator. Class size is limited to four students per tractor.

Starting earned monthly salary for the twelve-month position is \$4,944.89.

For more information and to complete an online application, please go to www.VictoriaCollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC. EEOE

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

NO. PW23-0302
IN THE ESTATE OF \$ **IN THE COUNTY COURT**
\$
LORRAINE T. SCHOMBURG \$ **OF**
\$
DECEASED \$ **GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS**

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of LORRAINE T. SCHOMBURG, Deceased, were issued on November 8, 2023, in Cause No. PW23-0302, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: TERRI SCHOMBURG HESTER.

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

TERRI SCHOMBURG HESTER
c/o Norman L. Burns
Attorney at Law
1606 N. Sarah DeWitt Drive
Gonzales, TX 78629

Dated the 15th day of November, 2023.

NORMAN L. BURNS
Attorney for TERRI SCHOMBURG HESTER
State Bar No.: 03448500
P.O. Box 827
GONZALES, TX 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-9511
Facsimile: (830) 672-7638
E-mail: nburns@munsonburns.com

Construction Advertisement and Invitation for Bids

The City of Nixon will receive bids for 2022 TxCDBG Downtown and Lowery Water Plant Improvements, TxCDBG Contract CDV21-0435 until 10:00 AM on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at City Hall, 302 E. Central Ave., Nixon, Texas 78140. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at City Hall, 302 E. Central Ave., Nixon, Texas 78140.

Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows:

1. Downtown Water Plant - Water Plant Piping, 12" Water Lines and Plant Chemical Buildings.
2. Lowery Water Plant - Plant Chemical Building.

Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at BEFCO Engineering, Inc., 485 N. Jefferson (PO Box 615), La Grange, Texas 78945 (979) 968-6474. Copies of the Bid/Contract Documents may be obtained by depositing \$100.00 with BEFCO Engineering, Inc. for each set of documents obtained. The deposit will not be refunded. Electronic copies may be obtained at no charge by request at (office@befcoengineering.com).

A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid [for those contracts that exceed \$100,000]. A certified check or bank draft payable to the City of Nixon or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin. The city is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The city strives to attain goals for compliance with Federal Section 3 regulations by increasing opportunities for employment and contracting with Section 3 residents and businesses where feasible.

The City of Nixon reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any irregularities and informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by the City of Nixon for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

City of Nixon Harold Rice, City Manager 11/16/2023 & 11/23/2023

All contractors/subcontractors that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.

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

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES 950 PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

CITY OF GONZALES
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION & CITY COUNCIL

The Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on December 4, 2023, at the Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph St. at 5:15 p.m., to allow for public comment on a rezoning request listed below. After consideration and recommendation by Planning & Zoning Commission and Public Hearing, the amendments will be presented to City Council for a Public Hearing and possible approval on December 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph St. on the following rezoning request:

Request to rezone the properties listed below from C-1, Light Commercial District to DMU, Downtown Mixed Use District:

Property Address: 425 St. James Parcel: 11636	Property Address: 516 St. Paul Parcel: 11725	Property Address: 521 St. Joseph Parcel: 11928
Property Address: 515 St. Joseph Parcel: 11650	Property Address: 305 St. Lawrence Parcel: 11754	Property Address: 307 St. Lawrence Parcel: 11956
Property Address: 507 St. George Parcel: 11660	Property Address: 621 St. Paul Parcel: 11798	Property Address: 607 St. Joseph Parcel: 11968
Property Address: 726 St. Paul Parcel: 11668	Property Address: 602 St. Paul Parcel: 11820	Property Address: 612 St. James Parcel: 11971
Property Address: 509 St. Joseph Parcel: 11673	Property Address: 617 St. Paul Parcel: 11836	Property Address: 306 St. George Parcel: 11986
Property Address: 510 St. Andrew Parcel: 11674	Property Address: 619 St. Paul Parcel: 11838	Property Address: 405 St. James Parcel: 11990
Property Address: 313 St. Lawrence Parcel: 11679	Property Address: 419 St. James Parcel: 11865	Property Address: 614 St. Paul Parcel: 11998
Property Address: 621 St. Joseph Parcel: 11701	Property Address: 415 St. George Parcel: 11888	Property Address: 411 St. James Parcel: 12002
Property Address: 510 St. Paul Parcel: 11706	Property Address: 421 St. James Parcel: 11889	Property Address: 418 St. Francis Parcel: 12003
Property Address: 322 St. George Parcel: 11708	Property Address: 335 St. George Parcel: 11919	Property Address: 301 St. George Parcel: 23487
Property Address: 623/627 St. Paul Parcel: 11714	Property Address: 300 Blk St. George Parcel: 11920	Property Address: 200 Blk St. Lawrence Parcel: 24911
Property Address: 300 Blk St. George Parcel: 11722	Property Address: 342 St. George Parcel: 11921	Property Address: 607 St. Joseph Parcel: 27437
Property Address: 500 Blk St. James Parcel: 11723	Property Address: 332 B St. George Parcel: 11924	

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

NOTICE OF REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FROM SUBCONTRACTORS

Weaver & Jacobs Constructors, Inc., the Design-Build Contractor, will accept proposals from subcontractors for the Nixon-Smiley Consolidated ISD Phase 1 Land Clearing Project located in Nixon, Texas, until 2:00 pm on Tuesday, December 5, 2023. This project is for clearing roughly 30.3 acres of land and burning/removal of debris from the location.

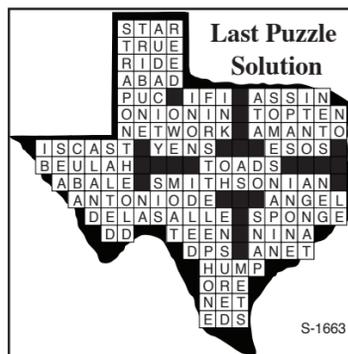
Bids should be submitted to:

Brenden Morris
Weaver & Jacobs Constructors, Inc.
301 Cooperative Way
Cuero, Texas 77954
Ph. 361-277-9300 Fax 361-277-9274
Email: bmmorris@weaverandjacobs.com

Interested bidders may obtain bidding documents by contacting the Design-Build Contractor for instructions. No paper plans are being issued. In accordance with the Government Code Chapter 2267, in determining to whom to award a contract, the Design-Build Contractor may consider any relevant factor a private business entity would consider in selecting a vendor. The Design-Build Contractor reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any informalities in the proposal process, and to accept the proposal which it considers to offer the best value to the Owner.

November 16 Puzzle Answers

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



NO. PW23-0300

IN THE ESTATE OF § IN THE COUNTY COURT
§
RANDALL UNDERWOOD SWEENEY, JR., § OF
§
DECEASED § GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate RANDALL UNDERWOOD SWEENEY, JR., Deceased, were issued on November 8, 2023, in Cause No. PW23-00300, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: RONALD PHILIP SWEENEY.

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

RONALD PHILIP SWEENEY
c/o Norman L. Burns
Attorney at Law
1606 N. Sarah DeWitt Drive
Gonzales, TX 78629

Dated the 15th day of November, 2023.

Norman L. Burns

NORMAN L. BURNS
Attorney for RONALD PHILIP SWEENEY
State Bar No.: 03448500
P.O. Box 827
GONZALES, TX 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-9511
Facsimile: (830) 672-7638
E-mail: nburns@munsonburns.com

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SUBSCRIBE! 830-672-2861

NOTICE OF SALE

STATE OF TEXAS § BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE
GONZALES COUNTY § DATED NOVEMBER 6, 2023
§

and issued pursuant to judgment decree(s) of the District Court of Gonzales County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date, in the hereinafter numbered and styled suit(s) and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff or Constable of said County, I have on November 6, 2023, seized, levied upon, and will, on the first Tuesday in December 2023, the same being the 5th day of said month, outside the Gonzales County Tax Office front door of the Randle Rather Building, located at 427 St. George, Gonzales, between the hours of 10 o'clock a.m. and 4 o'clock p.m. on said day, beginning at 11:00 AM, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit(s) in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Gonzales and the State of Texas, to-wit:

6923 Account No(s). R10232, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. ROOSEVELT ALLEN, ET AL., 1.00 acre, Eli Mitchell ¼ League, Abstract 337, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 445, Page 774, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$38,910.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$16,990.17;

7081, Account No(s). R14444, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. MARK SPENCER, INDIVIDUALLY AND DOING BUSINESS AS POWER TO ASSIST MINISTRIES, ET AL., Lot 10, Block 36, town of Nixon, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 1241, Page 612, Official Record of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$22,600.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$11,334.28;

7152, Account No(s). R24235, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. JOHN RIOS, ET AL., Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, Block 5, Colley's Second Addition, Town of Smiley, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 482, Page 247, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$47,470.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$2,444.11;

7264, Account No(s). R23043, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. ROBERT J. PENA, ET AL., Lots 5 and 6, Block 6, V.B. Colley's 2nd addition, Town of Smiley, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 570, Page 614; and Volume 574, Page 792, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$49,920.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$11,782.78;

(any volume and page references, unless otherwise indicated, being to the Deed Records, Gonzales County, Texas, to which instruments reference may be made for a more complete description of each respective tract.) or, upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion of the property described above shall be sold to satisfy said judgment(s), interest, penalties, and cost; and any property sold shall be subject to the right of redemption of the defendants or any person having an interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, within the time and in the manner provided by law, and shall be subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment(s) rendered in the above styled and numbered cause(s), together with interest, penalties, and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sales to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

Dated at Gonzales, Texas, November 6, 2023

Kerith Keith Schmidt
Sheriff Keith Schmidt
Gonzales County, Texas

By *[Signature]*
Deputy

Notes:
The Minimum Bid is the lesser of the amount awarded in the judgment plus interest and costs or the adjudged value. However, the Minimum Bid for a person owning an interest in the property or for a person who is a party to the suit (other than a taxing unit), is the aggregate amount of the judgments against the property plus all costs of suit and sale. ALL SALES SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION WITHOUT NOTICE. THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL TAXES DUE ON THE PROPERTY WHICH HAVE BEEN ASSESSED SINCE THE DATE OF THE JUDGMENT. For more information, contact your attorney or LINEBARGER GOGGAN BLAIR & SAMPSON, LLP, attorney for plaintiffs, at (512) 634-3709.

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LAND FOR SALE. Hunting, recreational, retirement. Hill Country, Trans Pecos regions in South Texas. 30-year fixed rate, owner financing, 5% down. www.ranchenterprisesllc.com 800-876-9720.

AUCTIONS
Ranch Dispersal Auction. Dec. 7, Mount Pleasant, TX. Full dispersal auction of McKellar Ranch: 430 acres w/2 homes in 11 parcels of 5 to 53+ acres each ideal for homesites or development; 75+ lots including tractors, trailers, implements, UTV's, gates, pens and more. 918-550-8118, CJ-AUCTIONS.COM.

42nd Annual Oklahoma Select Bull Sale. Sat. Dec. 2nd - 1 p.m., 800 East B Street, Atoka, OK. Just East of Hwy 69-75. 806-790-2535. www.lawrencefamilyfarms.com.

Farm, Ranch, Construction Equip Auction, 9 a.m., Dec. 2, 1036 S. FM 331, Sealy, TX. Onsite and online. Accepting consignments through 11/25. Switzer Land & Auction Services, 979-885-2400.

BASEBALL
BOB'S BASEBALL TOURS - August 2-12, 2024. See MLB games in Cincinnati, Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Toronto, Boston & NY Yankees. Visit Baseball, Hockey, Basketball, Pro Football and Rock & Roll Halls of Fame, guided Tour of Manhattan. \$3,500/person based on double hotel occupancy. Quality motor coach, hotels & game tickets. Call/text 507-217-1326. Also offering Arizona/Grand Canyon Spring Training Tour & New York/New England Fall Foliage Tour in '24!

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Rivera reviews Apaches football season

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches capped off their season with their first playoff berth since the 2019 season and a second-place finish in district.

Apaches head coach Joey Rivera, in his second season, improved the team from 2-3 in district in 2022 to 4-1 this year and saw the community rally around the team.

"Just a lot of pride in what our kids accomplished and our coaches and community. It was great to see everything come together, especially, you know, those last three to four weeks of the season and going into the playoffs. There's some hard-fought games, and kids that, a lot of times, we may have been out-matched, and they just willed their way to victory through toughness and effort," Rivera said.

The Apaches battled for every yard and point in the last three weeks, including an overtime win over Giddings to secure second place in district.

River said that Giddings game defined what the Apaches' season was.

"You saw everything come to fruition there in that Giddings game where, you know, down at half, our team could have easily folded it in and could have been fine with the three seed. They bore down and never thought they were out of the game and found a way to win — just to win it in the fashion that we did," Rivera said.

The Apaches won the Giddings game with a forced fumble by Jeshiah Barr that was recovered by

Jermane Upshaw and returned for a game-winning TD in overtime. Seeing the excitement and pride from that game summed up their season, Rivera said.

The Apaches ended their season as bi-district finalist, and Rivera said the biggest impact was the 18 seniors on the team that helped the team get where they are at and he is going to miss them.

"I talked to them yesterday and let them know that, you know, their successes and their life isn't measured by high school football. They're going to go on and do great things and use this year, as I told them, to continue to believe in themselves because they can do anything they want if they believe in themselves," Rivera said.

Rivera added, at the start of the summer workouts this year, the seniors were the leaders and were at the weight room on a daily basis.

"It started last year as juniors, running track, competing in other sports. That's really what we want to see here at Gonzales is our guys that are not just competing in football," Rivera said.

"I want to see more guys playing basketball. I want to see more guys running track. I want to see more guys playing baseball. I love going and seeing our Apaches competing. And I think they did a good job of starting that and getting it going now," Rivera added.

Gonzales will be filling key positions next season, especially on the offensive side of the ball, but Rivera said that every position is up for grabs in 2024.

"It's really just going to be pushing our offseason here and seeing our kids compete, and then we'll start really getting up on the board later this year, early over the summer to start seeing where those holes have got to be filled," Rivera said.

District realignment will hit next season, and Rivera is excited where his team will be placed.

"There's so many different ways we can go and it's kind of like when I was at Corsicana. We weren't East Texas and we weren't Waco and we weren't DFW, but we could have gone any of those ways. It's a lot similar here in Gonzales," Rivera said.

The Apaches are looking in the Austin, Corpus Christi or the San Antonio areas, and Rivera said they can go in any of those directions.

"It'll be interesting to see where we end up, and not just for football, but all of our sports as well. So it's exciting to see new faces; if not, we know where we stand right now in District 12 and Region III, but I think we're going to be seeing some new faces next year," Rivera said.

The Apaches met their expectations this year by making the playoffs, but now the 2024 Apaches are planning to go above that expectation.

"We've got to take the next step. You know, sometimes you take a step back and still take a step forward. That hopefully is not the case, but you never know as seasons progress. But, the expectation has been set by these guys, this team, of just playing hard, playing with pride and playing together as a team for this community," Rivera said.

Gonzales Main Street to hold Winterfest window decorating contest

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales Main Street will hold a Winterfest window decorating contest for all businesses and/or private windows within the Gonzales Main Street district.

Entry applications are available at the Main Street & Economic Development Office at 305 Saint Lawrence St. and must be received no later than 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, to be judged for the contest. Interested participants should have windows, areas or storefronts decorated and lit before Friday, Dec. 1.

Contest is for decorated areas that are visible to the public (either outside or inside with approval). Displays must be family friendly and can be creative, festive and fun. Judging criteria includes presentation, workmanship, originality and use of lights.

A panel of judges will visit the storefronts the evening of Friday, Dec. 1. Businesses are asked to leave their lights on between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. First, second and third place winners will receive a cash prize, a trophy and recognition in the Gonzales Inquirer, as well as on various social media sites. Consideration will be awarded to anyone who can incorporate in this year's theme, "An Old Fashioned Christmas."

Winners will be announced Saturday, Dec. 2, during the Winterfest celebration activities. For more information, please call or email Tiffany Padilla, Main Street director, at 830-672-2815 or tpadilla@gonzales.texas.gov.

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Thankful, in more ways than one

Happy holiday season 2023, hope you're enjoying it, cause it'll only come once. If you happen to be reading this on Thanksgiving day, please take a breath and appreciate all that you have, regardless of how much, or how little you feel that may be. However, most folks were probably way too busy and are reading this days after the fact, but not to worry, Thanksgiving should be an everyday occurrence, even though at times it may seem to be a little tougher than others. Scripturally speaking, In the book of Philippians, Paul explains that the secret to being content whether he has much or little, is having the faith that he can handle what ever comes his way, knowing that Christ will strengthen him as needed. In both Matthew and Luke, it tells us that with faith as small as a mustard seed, nothing will be impossible for us. Of course to build that type of faith (as small as a mustard seed is) takes practice for most of us, and I think we all can agree that with life being what it is, we'll never run short on opportunities to get in a faith workout most days. Yep, exercise that puppy and pretty soon you'll have a full fledged guard dog!

Seeing as humans have become a very self-centered creation (not the original intent), and while making every effort to override our pride, we should



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

be thankful that God designed such a complex, adaptive and useful physical body to carry us around during our short stint here on earth. Yeah, they do look pretty funny, but I hear new models (eternal) are on the way, so we shouldn't have to fight the upkeep too much longer. That being said, I guess we do need to maintain them to the best of our ability in the interim. I assume this would have to fall under the heading of "good stewardship," since disrespecting what God has blessed us with, would be the equivalent of idolatry, in one form or another, and not too awful smart, as negligence can raise it's ugly head when least expected.

I've always believed that our medical industry has been slightly miss labeled as "health care providers", when in reality they're more like "damage control specialists". When someone is enjoying a period of good health, you won't see them in doctors offices or the hospital. It's not until we're experiencing problems that we need their services. And buddy, we should definitely be thankful and appreciative that they're there when needed...cause they

don't call it an emergency room for nothing!

With that in mind, most of the responsibility for good health falls on our shoulders. God designed us to be able to heal and recuperate from most maladies if we follow some simple healthful guidelines, using the medical industry in times of crisis, not as a way of life. While we were always designed to be here on a temporary basis, living fat, sick, busted and disgusted wasn't the original plan. In todays world, trying to consume and live like our life (and quality therein) depends on it, is harder and more confusing than ever. We're constantly bombarded with sales pitches, tons of misinformation, altered food, and quick fix advertisements for whatever ails us... where do we start?

Since New Years is right around the corner, along with all of the hopeful resolutions that follow, I've decided to share my own journey over the next few articles. Like many of us, it's been a long off and on ordeal, with many successes and failures along the way, I've learned and experienced so much in my later life that would've helped earlier, but have also learned that it's not as hard as we've been told, and it's never too late to start, so stay tuned...

Love you guys, Eric.

Community HomeWord class begins the Gospel of Mark on Dec. 11

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Have you ever wanted to study the entire Bible in the comfort of your own home? Well, now's your chance! Ralph McGarity is leading a new class that you can attend remotely. Everyone is welcome, regardless of Bible knowledge or church background.

The Community HomeWord class aims to provide an in-depth study of the Bible, and it will soon begin the Gospel of Mark. We have participants from many church backgrounds and walks of life. We use the book series by Bible expert Warren Wiersbe. Before meeting each week, Ralph sends out a chapter summary from which he bases the week's lesson. During the session, we study each Bible verse to extract from it God's message, guided by Wiersbe's insights. If God has been calling you to study His scripture or learn more about Him, this class may be the answer.

We will begin studying the Gospel of Mark on Dec.

11, so that would be a perfect point to join us.

The class is held via Zoom. Anyone with a landline phone, smartphone, tablet, or computer can participate. The other attendees will be your neighbors and friends in the Gonzales community.

No prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary to benefit from this class. Your verbal participation is welcome but optional. So, if you are a shy person or you feel you do not know much about the Bible, don't worry.

Ralph, a retired engineer, has many years of experience hosting Zoom meetings, and he will gladly help you with technical issues.

Meeting Time: Every Monday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Expenses: None.

Next step: If interested, please call or text 830-672-6721 or email ralph_mcgarity@yahoo.com. Or, if you have used Zoom before, you can click on this link on December 11, 2023, at 5:30:

<https://www.bit.ly/CommunityHomeWord>
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Cost of Texas Thanksgiving dinner up slightly this year

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The average cost of a classic Thanksgiving dinner in Texas is slightly more expensive than a year ago, according to Farm Bureau's annual price survey.

The average cost of this year's Thanksgiving feast for 10 in Texas is \$61.89 or \$6.19 per person.

The average cost of the classic meal in the U.S. is \$61.17 or \$6.12 per person.

"High food prices remain a concern as inflation continues to impact families across Texas and the country," Texas Farm Bureau President Russell Boening said. "Farmers and ranchers are working hard to meet growing demands for food while facing higher prices for fuel, seed, fertilizer and other expenses related to growing our food."

A Thanksgiving meal is about 25% higher than it was in 2019, which highlights the impact high supply costs and inflation have had on food prices since before the pandemic.

The centerpiece on most Thanksgiving tables—the turkey—helped bring down the overall cost of dinner. The average U.S. price for a 16-pound turkey is \$27.35. That is \$1.71 per pound, down 5.6% from last year. The average price in Texas for a 16-pound turkey is \$28.48 or \$1.78 per pound.

Farm Bureau volunteer shoppers checked prices Nov. 1-6, before most grocery store chains began featuring whole frozen turkeys at sharply lower prices. According to USDA Agricultural Marketing Service data, the average per-pound feature price for whole frozen turkeys declined further during the second week

of November. Consumers who have not yet purchased a turkey may find additional savings in the days leading up to Thanksgiving.

"Traditionally, the turkey is the most expensive item on the Thanksgiving dinner table," said American Farm Bureau Federation Senior Economist Veronica Nigh. "Turkey prices have fallen thanks to a sharp reduction in cases of avian influenza, which have allowed production to increase in time for the holiday."

The shopping list for Farm Bureau's informal survey includes turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, rolls with butter, peas, cranberries, a veggie tray and pumpkin pie with whipped cream, all in quantities sufficient to serve a family of 10 with plenty of leftovers.

In recognition of changes in Thanksgiving dinner traditions, the Farm Bureau price survey also includes boneless ham, Russet potatoes and frozen green beans, in an expanded menu. Adding these foods to the classic Thanksgiving menu increased the overall U.S. cost by \$23.58, to \$84.75. The average cost of the expanded Thanksgiving menu in Texas is \$86.40.

This year's national average cost was calculated using 245 surveys completed with pricing data from all 50 states and Puerto Rico. Farm Bureau volunteer shoppers checked prices in person and online using grocery store apps and websites. They looked for the best possible prices without taking advantage of special promotional coupons or purchase deals.

The AFBF Thanksgiving dinner survey was first conducted

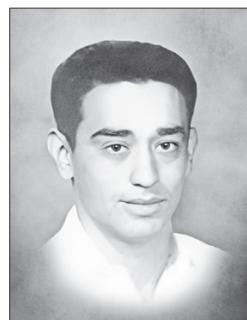
in 1986. The informal survey provides a record of comparative holiday meal costs over the years. Farm Bureau's classic survey menu has remained unchanged since 1986 to allow for consistent price comparisons.

INDIVIDUAL U.S. PRICES

- 16-pound turkey: \$27.35 or \$1.71 per pound (down 5.6%)
 - 14-ounces of cubed stuffing mix: \$3.77 (down 2.8%)
 - 2 frozen pie crusts: \$3.50 (down 4.9%)
 - Half pint of whipping cream: \$1.73 (down 22.8%)
 - 1 pound of frozen peas: \$1.88 (down 1.1%)
 - 1 dozen dinner rolls: \$3.84 (up 2.9%)
 - ingredients to prepare the meal: \$3.95 (down 4.4%)
 - 30-ounce can of pumpkin pie mix: \$4.44 (up 3.7%)
 - 1 gallon of whole milk: \$3.74 (down 2.6%)
 - 3 pounds of sweet potatoes: \$3.97 (up .3%)
 - 1-pound veggie tray (carrots & celery): \$.90 (up 2.3%)
 - 12-ounce bag of fresh cranberries: \$2.10 (down 18.3%)
- Regional averages
AFBF analysis revealed regional differences in the cost of the meal.
- The cost for the classic meal was the most affordable in the Midwest at \$58.66, followed by the South at \$59.10, the West at \$63.89 and the Northeast at \$64.38.
- The expanded meal (classic meal plus boneless ham, Russet potatoes and green beans) was the most affordable in the Midwest at \$81.83, the South at \$82.61, the West at \$87.75 and the Northeast at \$88.43.

OBITUARY

PAUL LEAL CERDA, JR.



Paul Leal Cerda, Jr., 77, of Gonzales, passed away Monday, November 13, 2023. He was born July 11, 1946 in Gonzales the son of Paul V. Cerda, Sr. and Luz Leal Cerda. He was a member of the 1965 graduating class at Gonzales High School. He was a running back for the Gonzales Apaches, was a "Star Football Athlete" and was voted "Orange Jacket Sweetheart".

He married Maria Dolores Garcia on September 11, 1965, in Shiner. He served with the Texas National Guard for 22 years and retired with the rank of Staff Sergeant in 1987. Paul was a commercial printer and worked with the Gonzales Inquirer and later with GVEC for 26 years. After retiring from GVEC, he opened his own printing company "A Touch of Country", which he ran from 2006 until 2018.

He coached Gonzales Little League Baseball, he enjoyed playing dominoes and was known as the Dominoe King and watching his favorite Dallas Cowboys and Texas A&M Aggies. Most of all he was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years Maria Dolores Cerda; daughter Darlene Valenta and husband Bo of Harwood; son Paul Garcia Cerda and wife Jackie of Allen, TX; grandchildren Nina Denà Valenta Autry, Jena Renee Valenta; great-

grandchildren Nash Bohus Autry and Paislee Jo Autry; sisters Rachel Rodriguez and Susie Molina both of Gonzales. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister Mary Frances Hidalgo.

Visitation will be held from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday, November 16, 2023 with a Rosary being recited at 7 p.m. at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home. Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated 2 p.m. Friday, November 17, 2023 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Reverend Jason Martini officiating. Interment will follow at St. James Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers include: Manuel Ruiz Garcia, Michael Ruiz Garcia, Justin Autry, Rudy Rosas, Charlie Valenta, Jr., Richard Hidalgo, Joseph Hidalgo and Jacob Molina.

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

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

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Report

11/05/23 - 11/11/23

11/06/23
• Okeke Johnson, Patricia Bond, 08/1963, Leesville: Warrantless/On-View - Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family Member, Released - \$2,500 Bond; Warrantless/On-View - Resist Arrest Search or Transport, Released - \$2,500 Bond

11/07/23
• Staton, Marion Elizabeth, 01/1975, Gonzales: Other Agency Hold - Illegal Dumping Comms>200lbs or >200CFT, Released - \$5,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold - Evading Arrest Det w/Veh, Released - \$30,000 Bond

11/12/23
• Oden, Wesley Alan,

08/1985, Brenham: Local Warrant - Agg Sexual Assault Child, Released - Weekender

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

GCSO	03
DPS	01
GPD	06
WPD	01
NPD	02
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 13

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M 830-857-6296
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Gonzales Healthcare Systems
November 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller	2 Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	3
6 Austin MFM	7 Dr. Echols	8 Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Twitero	9 Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	10 Amy Trost Dr. Miller
13 Austin MFM Dr. Malik Dr. Desai	14 Dr. Echols Dr. Quintero	15 Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller	16 Dr. Ryan Dr. Malik Dr. Echols	17 Dr. Bui
20 Austin MFM	21 Dr. Echols	22 Dr. Quebedeaux	23 Dr. Ryan Dr. Kirchner Dr. Echols	24
27 Austin MFM	28 Dr. Echols	29 Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller	30 Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	

Located at THRIVE Healthplex

Orthopedics Gloria Box, MD 830-672-8497	Surgery Kathleen Koerner, DO, FACOS 830-672-8497	Cardiology William Craig, MD 830-672-3845	Dermatology Alpesh Desai, DO 713-864-2659
--	---	--	--

Specialty Physician Outpatient Clinic

Audiology Amy Trost Hearing Specialist 830-372-2237	Pain Management Eric Miller, MD 830-272-7746
Chiropractic Jeff Echols, DC 512-799-6811	Urology Robert Ryan, III, MD 830-379-8491
Dermatology Vicente Quintero, MD 830-626-5551	Ophthalmology Joseph Kavanagh, MD 830-379-3937
Nephrology Azhar M. Malik, MD 361-576-0011 Yong Du, MD 361-576-0011	Orthopedics Trent Twitero, MD 830-625-0009
Obstetrics Alyson Kirchner, MD, OBGYN 830-379-1500	Podiatry Terri Quebedeaux, DPM, PA 830-303-0005 Charles White, DPM 830-303-0005
	Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine 512-821-2540

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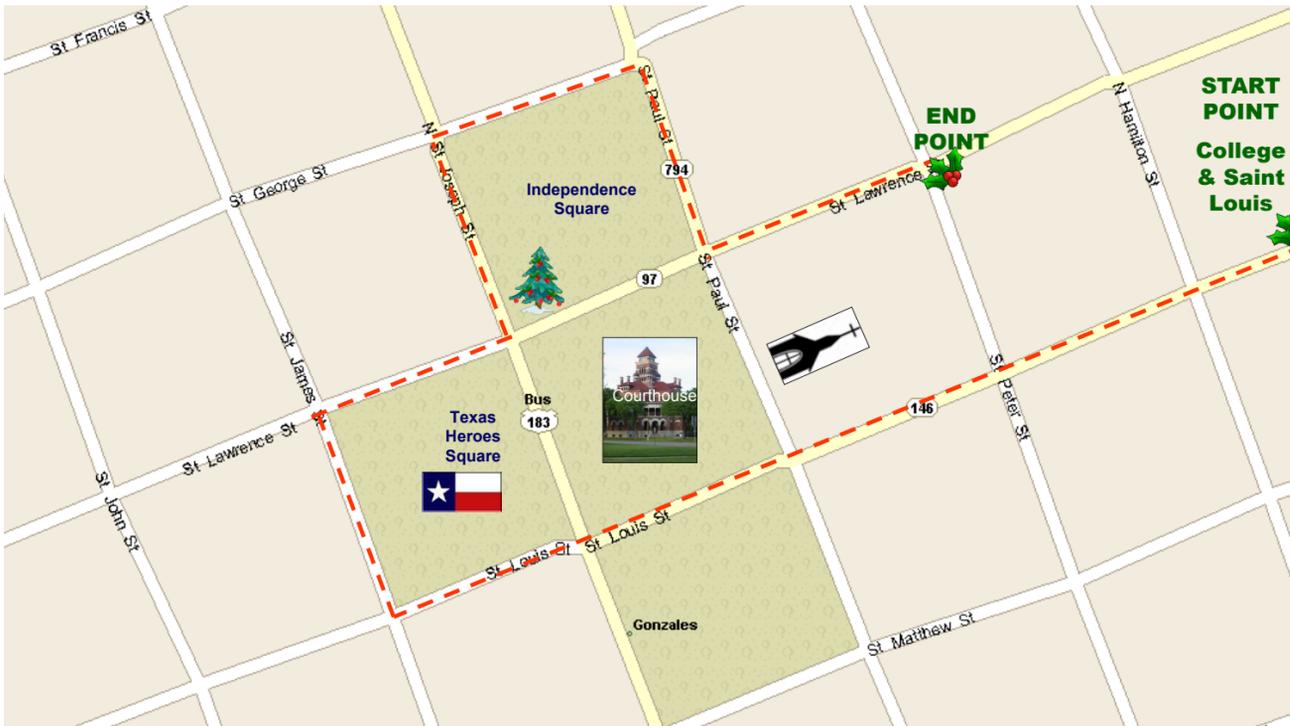
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Look for this logo to sign up at www.gonzalesinquirer.com

The Gonzales Inquirer

2023 GONZALES WINTERFEST LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE ROUTE



ALMAGUER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

when a defendant wishes to plead guilty and then seeks leniency or mercy from the court in assessing punishment.

Article 42A.252 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure states that “before the imposition of the sentence by a judge, the judge shall direct a supervision officer to prepare a presentence report for the judge.

A judge is not required to seek a presentence report when punishment is to be assessed by a jury, or if the judge is informed that a plea bargain agreement exists, under which the defendant agrees to a punishment of imprisonment, and the judge intends to follow that agreement.

Almaguer was indicted for theft of more than \$30,000 but less than \$150,000, a third-degree felony. On May 6, 2021, Little League officers made a report to the Gonzales Police Department regarding theft from their organization and alleged to have a signed confession regarding the missing money.

COURT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

on Jan. 3, 2024, under the terms of his plea agreement and will have 72 days credit for his sentence when he does. He also was sentenced on a separate charge of possession of a controlled substance to 270 days in a state jail facility with 22 days credit and that sentence will run concurrently.

Other sentences handed down by Peschel include:

- Gregory Hall was sentenced to five years in TDCJ-ID with 370 days credit on a charge of continuous family violence after a motion to revoke probation was granted.

- Isabel Hernandez was sentenced to three years deferred adjudication plus a \$1,000 fine, attorney fees and court costs after pleading guilty to theft of property.

- Sonia Hernandez was sentenced to five years in TDCJ-ID with 518 days credit for bringing a prohibited substance into a correctional facility.

- Otis Jarmon was sentenced to 583 days in a state jail facility with 583 days credit on a charge of indecency with a child after pleading guilty.

PARADE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

memories and make new ones. Parade applications are available online by going to <https://bit.ly/3QI7Ltz>. The theme for this year's festivities will be “An Old Fashioned Christmas.”

Please complete the application and return to secure your place in line. We ask that applications please be submitted to City Hall by Nov. 22, 2023. If time does not allow for accommodation, late applications will be placed towards the end of the parade.

The parade route will start at College and Saint Louis Streets and head west, turning north on Saint James and east on Saint Lawrence Street before turning north again on Saint Joseph in front of the Christmas tree, east on Saint George, south on Saint Paul and then east again on Saint Lawrence to the stopping point at the intersection with Saint Peter.

GONZALES MAIN STREET PARADE RULES

Parade begins promptly at 7 p.m., rain or shine (bring rain gear or plastic covering if needed). Judging will take place as participants drive through downtown. All entrants should be in place and set up by 6:30 p.m.

1. No undecorated private or commercial large trucks, tractors etc. will be included in the parade. (Ex. beer trucks, grocery trucks, heavy farm equipment) Does not apply to antique-type vehicles. Car & truck clubs, antique and others, limited to 8 entries per club. Autos and large vehicles

must be driven by a licensed driver. Small vehicles (mini-bikes, go-carts, etc.) Must be operated by a person 12 years or older and parents are responsible for the conduct of the participating minor(s).

2. Any and all horses participating in the parade must have an up to date, negative Coggins paper presented to the Chairperson along with the parade entry. No individual horse & riders. Only members of organized groups that are registered. All entries must have a designated contact person responsible for groups' conduct. There must be an address and current phone number provided. All riders in cavalcade groups (horses, trail riders, etc.) are encouraged to dress in common attire or costume as a group. Example: blue jeans, western shirt, cowboy hat, etc. It is preferred to have your horse(s) diapered if possible.

3. Alcoholic beverage consumption by drivers or any participants before or during the parade is expressly forbidden. If a participant is seen consuming alcohol prior to or during the parade, it will result in their immediate removal from the parade formation and will affect future invitations.

4. No items such as candy, gum, koozies, water bottles or pencils, etc. will be allowed to be thrown from parade entries. Your organization may have someone walking beside your entry handing out these items. If you are handing out items, please do not stall the parade. No children under 12

years or younger may walk the parade route. No Silly String or comparable material is to be used to spray other entrants, pedestrians, vehicles etc.

5. Marching drill teams will be limited to official school groups, ROTC units and military or veterans' organizations. All school bands and youth groups are to be accompanied by an adult leader. High school bands that participate are encouraged to bring their Junior High bands either to march with them or as a separate unit. Please complete a separate registration form for each. Leader's name and a phone number must be submitted with registration. NOTE - All marching groups are to report to the starting point at Saint Louis & College Street prior to the parade rather than to their numbered space along the lineup route.

6. When disbanding, please don't block flow of traffic for the entries behind you.

7. Due to the length of the parade, it is very important that it keep moving! There should be no more than 1-2 car spaces between each entry. Please don't intentionally stop or slow the movement of the parade for any demonstration etc., maintain the set spacing. If your entry has mechanical or other problems, pull off to the side and we will try to get you assistance quickly.

8. “School” entries are limited to recognized organizations. (Ex. FFA, FHA, DECA, cheerleaders, student council, class officers and royalty etc.) Entry

forms turned in and approved by the school principal. “Class” vehicles are for currently enrolled students. Reunion floats are permitted and encouraged.

9. All vehicles participating in the parade must be clean and in safe operating condition. They must also be operated in a safe manner not to endanger other participants or spectators.

10. All floats, autos, trucks and ‘novelty’ entries should display their assigned parade position number in a readable manner on both sides of the vehicle for judging purposes. A typed # (8 1/2" x 11") will need to be taped to both sides of the vehicle windshield in the upper corners so they are visible.

11. The Parade Committee retains the right to refuse entry of any float, unit or individual not conforming to the standards of the Committee. Failure to comply with the parade rules may result in removal from the parade formation and will affect future invitations.

12. The Gonzales Main Street Committee & City of Gonzales assume no responsibility for accidents or loss of any kind. We will make every effort possible to provide an enjoyable and safe parade for everyone but will need and expect your cooperation in order to achieve this goal.

13. The fee for all parade entries is \$10.

14. There will only be one Santa Claus in this parade and Gonzales Main Street is responsible for securing said Santa.



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ACROSS

- 1 Oldham County seat
- 5 TXism: “easy as falling off _____”
- 6 TXism: “a day _____ and a dollar short”
- 7 at Six Flags Fiesta: “Lone Star _____ Amphitheater”
- 8 dir. to La Grange from New Braunfels
- 9 TXism: “hard pill to _____”
- 16 TX Norah Jones had the “Song of the _____” in 2003
- 18 TX Larry Henley co-wrote “Wind _____ Wings”
- 21 today, a disfavored group: _____ Klux Klan
- 22 _____ beans (in pod)
- 23 “si” in Mexico
- 24 TXism for “gadget”: “thing _____”
- 30 El Paso tribe: “_____ Sur Pueblo”
- 34 Astros leag.
- 35 space program before Apollo
- 36 “wear to a frazzle” this Greene was TX Dan Blocker's dad on “Bonanza”
- 39 “Big Bend _____” in West Texas
- 43 what golfers do in the Texas heat
- 44 El Paso has a staute of conquistador Juan _____
- 45 Nolte of film “North Dallas Forty” (init.)

- 46 in Hidalgo County on highway 107
- 47 military marksmen
- 49 kids cereal, e.g.
- 52 state where William Travis was born (abbr.)
- 53 “yes” in Mexico
- 54 holder for Texas Blue Bell ice cream
- 55 sitcom for Texas-born Jay Thomas: “_____ Mindy”

DOWN

- 1 newspaper published in Quitaque: “_____ Tribune”
- 2 Texas wife of John Steinbeck
- 3 TXism: “he's _____ morals” (unethical)
- 4 91 for TX Willie and 54 for TX McConaughey
- 9 Texas outlaw, Bass (init.)

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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- 10 cowboy movies
- 11 Santa _____, Texas
- 12 TXism: “get the _____ out” (hurry up)
- 13 where you stick pins on suit jackets
- 14 extended play for the Cowboys (abbr.)
- 15 TX Kristofferson's “_____ Me (Lord)”
- 17 cattle thieves
- 19 TXism: “_____ a caged cougar”
- 20 Mission _____ is the oldest in Texas
- 24 Paxton's job (abbr.)
- 25 novel by writer in 2-down: “Of Mice and _____”

- 32 historic period
- 33 reduced taxes depend on
- 40 “siesta” in Mexico
- 41 TXism: “_____ some gravel” (fell)
- 42 “_____ down” (applying oneself)
- 48 this NY Knicks player Jericho was a UT Longhorn
- 50 Dallas Stars score
- 51 Gov. Richards
- 56 Texas atheist Madalyn Murray _____
- 57 Texas singer, English

SUDOKU

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

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:

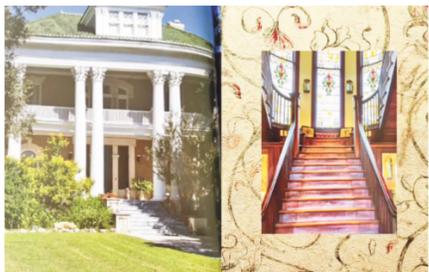
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric 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.

TOURS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

DILWORTH HOUSE



Robert Scott Dilworth was born September 24, 1868 in Gonzales, Texas. R.S., or Scott as he was called, was educated at the University of Virginia, returned home and went into the banking business with his father. Scott was a very astute businessman and in 1900 he joined C.J. Rather, Madden Fly and T.F. Harwood to build the Gonzales Cotton Mill, which prospered until the 1900s. When his father died in 1911, Scott and his brother, Coke E. Dilworth, owned and operated the Dilworth Bank. In 1906 Scott and his wife employed noted architect J.Riely Gordon to design their Greek Revival house. Construction began about 1908 and was completed in 1911.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH



Following early missionary efforts in the Gonzales area, the Episcopal Church of the Messiah was established in 1855. Land at this site was granted by city officials, and construction of the Gothic Revival Sanctuary was completed in 1881. The was replaced by the native stone bell tower in 1928. Interior furnishings include walnut woodwork produced from trees in the Guadalupe River area.

THE FAUTH COTTAGE

John Fauth, born April 7, 1833, in Derrenbach, Bavaria, Germany, immigrated to the United States through New York in 1852, settled in Buffalo and worked for two years learning the carriage and buggy trade. He

came to Gonzales in 1858 and John opened his business. Although the Texas Historical Marker indicates that the house was built around 1857 by John Fauth, this is unlikely since Fauth did not purchase the property until 1868 and paid only \$300 for the two lots. A review of the tax value records indicates that this Gothic Revival style cottage was probably completed in 1869 with modifications in 1884.

W.F. ROBERTSON HOUSE



Step into the heartwarming elegance of the W.F. Robertson House. Completed in 1913, this beauty designed and built by Fred Meisenhelder, boasts period-true additions and embellishments that bring a sentimental familiarity to a span of generations. Surrounded by lush landscaping and the curious “three in the middle of the street,” the outdoor gardens make for a peaceful and serene retreat. Originally built as a three-bedroom and two-bath home, recent additions have evolved the home into a five-bedroom, three-and-a-half bath home with two additional flex spaces that can be used for offices or additional sleeping quarters. Prior to the turn of the century, a separate apartment and garage was added along with an RV pad. The Robertson family rests behind the home in the Masonic Cemetery, along with the Payson family that owned the home from the 1940s to 1970s.



TR SKINNER HOUSE

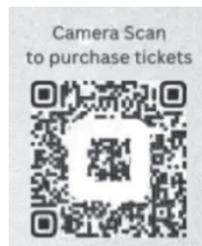


The TR Skinner home is an example of a Queen Anne cottage. It was built circa 1914. The land was originally part of the neighboring Smead homestead. It has been a single family home, a duplex, a daycare and twenty years ago it was heading to the demolition list. Lovingly restored, the home featured abundant beadboard and original longleaf pine floors.

J.B. WELLS HOUSE

This wonderfully preserved house was built by cattleman Thomas Newton Matthews. Thomas was born in Gonzales County April 4, 1849. By 1867, when he was only 18 years old, Thomas was in the cattle business and was extremely successful. In 1886, he moved to Coleman, Texas, where he continued his cattle business. He later moved to South Dakota.

This house is constructed of Florida longleaf pine shipped in by water to the old port of Indianola, Texas, and hauled to Gonzales by ox teams. It was quite modern for its time, with fire escapes, lightning rods, and indoor plumbing. The house was purchased by James saucy Wells and on January 1, 1890, Mr. and Mrs. Wells, their sixteen year old son, Charles, and their twelve year old daughter, Effie, moved to Gonzales from Leesville. Mr. Wells marked the date of the move on the old calendar clock on the mantel. Only the kitchen and bathrooms have been modernized and the total structure stands as it was built. This historic home now belongs to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.



WINTERFEST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Santa, receive a small gift and sip on hot cocoa.

Get an early start at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, with Breakfast with Santa, sponsored by the Gonzales Rotary Club, at First Methodist Church, 426 Saint Paul St. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Advance tickets required (available for purchase at the Chamber of Commerce). Individual tickets are \$8 per person. Tables of 8 are \$50 and tables of 10 are \$60.

Independence Square then will play host to Santa's Market vendors, opening at 10 a.m. Kids games and fun include a four-person bungee trampoline, a mechanical reindeer and a festive bounce house. There will be photo ops, ornament decorating and a special place to mail your letters to Santa. WildSpirit Ranch will also be back with their petting zoo.

The fun Gonzales Main Street Jingle Mingle 1K begins at 11 a.m. and goes to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2. Sip, savor, and shop your way around downtown merchants. Each participating business will offer free sips or savors while you shop. Fill out the punch card and return for a chance to win a gift basket. Ticket includes participant t-shirt, punch card, merchant map, and drink sample cups. Online registration and payment link for your convenience is at <https://www.eventeny.com/events/ticket/?id=6975>

In person registration with cash or check can be made at Gonzales Main Street office located at 305 St Lawrence Street.

The Gonzales Elks Lodge #2413 will host the Winterfest Cookoff at Independence Square with competition in four categories: Bloody Mary, stew, beans and chili. For more information, see separate article on the cookoff. There will also be the annual Elks Lodge cornhole contest at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2. You can register online at <https://app.scoreholio.com/link/s5ME>.

Live Christmas entertainment begins at noon at the Main Street stage. It includes performances by a saxophonist at noon and 1 p.m.; live performances by Come and Take It Dance at 2 p.m.; the Magpies (Cindy and Amanda) at 3 p.m.; the Apache Flames at 4 p.m.; Studio E Dance at 5 p.m.; and Christmas caroling by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at 6 p.m.

The historic homes tour is from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on both Saturday, Dec. 3, and Sunday, Dec. 4, sponsored by the Historic Homes Association (advance tickets required, which may be purchased online at gonzaleshistorichomes.org or in person at Laurel Ridge, 827 Saint Joseph St.).

Chris Oelkers will be featured at the Winterfest organ concert, showcasing the historic pipe organ at the Presbyterian Church, 414 St Louis St., Gonzales, at 4:30 pm. Saturday, Dec. 2. The concert will include improvisations of many well-known Christmas carols. Light refreshments will follow the performance. The concert is free of charge.

Stars in the Village, hosted by and at Pioneer Village, will be held at 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, with both online tickets and tickets available at the event available.

The city of Gonzales tree lighting ceremony will be held at the official city tree at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2 in Independence Square and then the annual Lighted Christmas Parade will begin at 7 p.m. Following the parade, Brandi Behlen will perform in concert from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Community HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

Thursday, November 30th

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Gonzales Healthcare Systems
THRIVE Healthplex
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For more information:
830.672.7581, ext 1020 OR 830.672.6251, ext. 3412

Sponsored by:

COOKOFF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

urday, Dec. 2 in Independence Square in downtown Gonzales. Registration/check-in and container pickup will be held from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at Holly Jeane Boutique, 505 Saint Joseph St., Gonzales. This is also where all finished items will be turned in.

The contest itself will be in the 400 block of Saint George Street and the 600 block of Saint Paul Street.

There will be barricades downtown. Cooking squads may drive in to the area at the intersection of Saint George and Saint Paul. All vehicles will have to be removed from the area by 10 a.m. Vehicles will be allowed back in at 3:30 p.m. to load up, and will need to be removed by 4:30 p.m.

There will be a 10-minute window to turn in each item.

BLOODY MARY

Turn in 12:30 p.m., \$15 entry fee.

No container will be provided for the Bloody Mary turn in. You will be permitted to pick up your turn-in container after judging is complete. Decor/garnish and appearance will be part of judging.

STEW

Turn in 1 p.m., \$15 entry fee. Must be cooked from scratch. Ingredients and meat are cook choice. No canned or pre-cooked stew allowed. One pot of stew per team. Must be turned in in the container provided.

BEANS

Turn in 1:30 p.m., \$15 entry fee.

Must be cooked from scratch, starting with uncooked beans, canned beans are not allowed. One pot of beans per team. Must be turned in in the container provided. Nothing larger than the bean should be put in the turn in cup. Do not put jalapenos in the turn in cup.

LOCAL CHILI

Turn in 2 p.m. Chili grind, cooked from scratch, starting with raw meat, complete commercial chili mixes are not allowed. Beans, macaroni, rice, hominy, or other filler ingredients are not permitted. One chili per team. Must be turned in in the container provided.

Entry forms can be found on the Gonzales Elks Facebook page. Completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to Gonzales Elks Lodge \$2413, P.O. Box 762, Gonzales, TX 78629, or the day of the cook-off at Holly Jeane Boutique. Entry fees can be paid in cash or check. Winners will be announced after judging takes place.

GHS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

memorabilia from the hospital.

“Celebrating 45 years of unwavering commitment to community health and well-being, Gonzales Healthcare Systems stands as a beacon of excellence, compassion, and innovation,” Anzaldua said. “Since its inception, the organization has been dedicated to providing high-quality, patient-centered care, fostering a healthier community.”

“As we mark this milestone, we reflect on the countless lives touched, milestones achieved, and the enduring impact Gonzales Healthcare Systems has had on the health landscape. Here’s to four and a half decades of healing, growth, and a future filled with continued dedication to the well-being of the patients we serve.”

In addition to Gonzales Memorial Hospital, the flagship of the organization, GHS also includes Sievers Medical Clinic-Gonzales, which just celebrated its 30th anniversary; Sievers Medical Clinic-Waelder; Sievers Medical Clinic-Shiner; Surgical Specialty Clinic; Outpatient Infusion & Nursing Services; Rejuvenate Med Spa, THRIVE Healthplex; Occupational & Community Health Services; Memorial Hospital Home Health Agency; Physical, Occupational, & Speech Therapy Services; the Gonzales Healthcare Systems Foundation and more.

The hospital itself includes 33 beds,

“As we mark this milestone, we reflect on the countless lives touched, milestones achieved, and the enduring impact Gonzales Healthcare Systems has had on the health landscape. Here’s to four and a half decades of healing, growth, and a future filled with continued dedication to the well-being of the patients we serve.”

—Brandon Anzaldua, Gonzales Healthcare Systems CEO

including obstetrics/labor & delivery, with an inpatient area staffed round-the-clock with registered nurses and LVNS, designed to care for patients suffering from an illness or recovering from surgery until their physician deems they are well enough to be discharged. For patients needing a higher level of attention and care, a special care unit is available.

The hospital also offers 24/7 laboratory services, respiratory, diagnostic imaging and nutritional consultations with a registered dietician. Plus the dining room continues to excel under the leadership of food service manager Toni Gonzales, who began working for GHS at the old location in 1978, moved to the current location when it opened and has been there ever since!

“Ever since our last anniversary celebration, we’ve seen remarkable changes,” said Holly Danz, director of marketing for Gonzales Healthcare

Systems. “We added a rural health clinic in Shiner, we’ve added specialists to our outpatient specialty clinic, we withstood the COVID pandemic and cared for patients with unwavering strength.

“Most recently, we transitioned to a new electronic medical records software which allows for greater efficiency when patients are seen in any of our facilities as all of their previous visits/screenings/etc. can be viewed in one place at one time. We look forward to the construction of a new surgical wing as we start 2024.

“Every change and upgrade we take on truly has the patient in mind,” Danz said. “We want to be the healthcare provider of choice for our community, and we want to offer those patients the amenities they would experience in urban facilities. Patient care and patient experience drives every decision our organization makes.”

CHAMBER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Laurie is enthusiastic about contributing her skills to enhance operational efficiency and overall team success.

Meanwhile, Regan Wilkerson is the new tourism coordinator for the Chamber. In addition to Laurie, Regan officially joined the team on Oct. 2, and hit the ground running, helping to get ready for Come and Take It Celebration. She was able to do this seamlessly, being no stranger to Gonzales or this festival.

As a hometown girl, Regan worked at the Chamber as a student technician during high school and later as an intern during college. She gradu-

ated from Texas A&M University with a bachelor’s degree in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Sciences as well as earning certification in Tourism Management. She has worked most recently as a social media content and marketing specialist, and her skills in business literature creation, customer service, networking, content creation, and tourism itself will be a great asset to the Chamber as well as the Gonzales community.

Regan and 1-year-old son Grayson recently relocated to Gonzales from Hinesville, Georgia. Her husband, Trent, will be joining them after he

concludes his service in the U.S. military in 2024.

The Chamber is confident that Laurie and Regan will play pivotal roles in the continued success and growth of the team and organization.

The Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture is still looking to hire an Executive Director responsible for planning, coordinating, and implementing the operational activities of the Chamber. The Executive Director will represent the Chamber with the membership, tourists, public agencies and officials, local organizations, and the public.



Snacks, memories, and words from our CEO and Board of Directors.

45th
Anniversary

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
GONZALES HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS'
45TH ANNIVERSARY

Wednesday, November 29th
11am-1pm
GHS Outpatient Lobby