

The Gonzales Inquirer

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Local sales tax allocations drop for sixth time in seventh months

Inflation concerns may be causing people to spend less than before

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

For the sixth time in seventh months, Gonzales County's municipalities received less in combined sales tax allocations than

they did the same month in the previous year — a trend which bears watching as the year continues and cities start to prepare for their next fiscal budget.

Combined sales tax allocations for the month of March 2024 for all four municipalities was \$247,087.79 — down \$40,250.51 or 14 percent from the \$287,338.30 that was received in March 2023. That combined amount was just

See **ALLOCATIONS**, page 15

County pushes HR decision to next meet

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County commissioners will have to wait one more meeting to decide whether to create a Human Resources (HR) position

under the direction of the Commissioners Court due to a problem with wording on their March 11 agenda.

The wording had commissioners considering moving

See **COUNTY**, page 16



IMMORTAL REMEMBRANCE

Ricky Walker of the Sons of the Republic of Texas lays yellow roses at the foot of the Immortal 32 monument in front of the Gonzales Memorial Museum as Judge David Bird reads off the roll call of fallen heroes during a remembrance ceremony Wednesday, March 6. Walker is the descendant of two different members of the Immortal 32, the only group which provided reinforcements to the Alamo defenders.



RUNAWAY SCRAPE RE-ENACTMENT



Members of the Young Texians troupe re-enact the return of Susanna Dickinson to Gonzales following the fall of the Alamo before Sam Houston ordered the city burned and a strategic retreat that became known as the Runaway Scrape. Singer-songwriter Fletcher Clark performed some of his original music about that period in Texas history during the Sunday, March 10 observance at Texas Heroes Square. Afterwards, Mayor Steve Sucher and others placed electric candles at the foot of the monument to honor those who struggled and sacrificed on the road to Texas independence.

LEW K. COHN



KIDS VISIT

The Victoria College nursing students with the Discovery Preschoolers Thursday, March 7. The preschoolers were given a tour of the campus and interacted with the students and faculty that were present for the tour. Victoria College nursing students show off the stethoscopes to one of the Discovery Preschoolers.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Bingo, Bags and Badges event already sold out

BY BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

Cheer on your local law enforcement officers as they model fabulous designer

bags during Bingo, Bags and Badges at the JB Wells Expo Center in Gonzales on Fri-

See **BINGO**, page 14



Gonzales Elks Lodge revives First Shot Cook-Off

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Gonzales Elks Lodge #2413 is reviving the popular First Shot Cook-Off for the first time in nearly four years and will hold it on Saturday, May 4, at the Doyle Pollard RV Park and Texas Elks Children's Services Inc., 1963 Farm-to-Market Road 1586, Gonzales.

Teams are encouraged to sign up for the competition, which has seven categories this year: salsa, margarita, beef fajitas, beans, CASI chili, chicken breast and pork ribs. All proceeds from the cook-off and RV rentals benefit TECSI programs for children with special needs.

See **COOK-OFF**, page 16

Gonzales County's kindness to Panhandle fire victims appreciated

Hemphill County Attorney, GHS grad, describes aftermath of Texas' largest wildfire

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales may be nine hours driving distance away from the Texas Panhandle, but the county's residents will forever

be in the hearts and on the minds of Panhandle residents for their generous donations of supplies and other necessary items, Hemphill County Attorney

See **FIRE**, page 14



Where purrs melt hearts: Gonzales Pet Adoption Center

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

It is with great excitement and a deep care for animals that Kingdom Rescue assumes the helm of the Gonzales Pet Adoption Center (GPAC), the municipal cat shelter serving the City of Gonzales community with a mission rooted in compassion and a vision for a brighter future for animals.

The municipal cat shelter was formerly operated by Friends of Gonzales Animal Shelter or FOGAS from 2004 through 2023. Kingdom Rescue, through the operation of the Gonzales Pet Adoption Center, is dedicated to continuing the operation as a “no-kill” shelter and will foster a lasting impact on the lives of our furry feline companions in Gonzales.

Kingdom Rescue is a foster-based 501(c)3 charitable animal rescue organization run by volunteers and fosters who now also operate the Gonzales Pet Adoption Center (GPAC). They utilize Biblical principles of charity, to “help His helpless” through quality care, compassion, and selflessness

JOIN OUR MISSION OF COMPASSION

We invite the community to join us in our life-saving mission. Whether you're looking to open your heart and home to a deserving pet, interested in learning more about our volunteer opportunities, or simply want to support our cause, we welcome your involvement and support.

For more information about Kingdom Rescue and our initiatives at the GPAC, you can either contact us via email at info@kingdom-rescue.org or call or text 830-333-9006 (Extension #2). You can also find more information about the facility or review Kingdom Rescue's latest impact report at www.kingdomrescue.org.

to bring God's hand of mercy to each family and animal we connect with.

Last year, Kingdom Rescue saved more than 152 stray dogs and cats from high-kill shelters and neglected environments and facilitated free spay and neuter surgeries to 102 dogs and cats. Their mission is to show unwavering compassion to neglected and abandoned animals in rural Texas communities; and through their public outreach efforts, they aim to address the root causes of animal welfare issues including the overpopulation of pets in our communities.

About the Gonzales Pet

Adoption Center (GPAC)

Located at 505 St. Francis St. in Gonzales, the Gonzales Pet Adoption Center (GPAC) is the City of Gonzales cat shelter that was formerly operated by Friends of Gonzales Animal Shelter or FOGAS. It is more than just a shelter — it's an adoption center and community hub with a robust array of amenities for community cats including a medical room, cozy adoption suites, and an expansive backyard area for cats and visitors.

GPAC provides a nurturing environment where cats free-roam and thrive while awaiting their forever homes. The facility houses more than 50

kittens and cats who are ready for adoption for guests that visit the facility. All adoptable cats are spayed/neutered, fully vaccinated, microchipped with an adoption fee of \$75. They also have barn cats available to individuals with homes with a structured barn or shelter for outside cats.

The hours of operation for GPAC are Tuesday-Friday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday from 1-4 p.m. and closed on Monday and Saturday. To contact GPAC, you can either call 830-333-9006, select extension 2 and leave a voicemail or send a message via text to the same number. In either case, a representative will contact you as soon as possible.

Current initiatives
The Gonzales Pet Adoption Center (GPAC) is proud to announce its collaborative partnership with local animal control in implementing targeted trap, neuter, and return (TNR) programs for community cats in high population areas. To date, GPAC has sterilized at least 40 community cats from high traffic areas, including JB Wells and 410 Village

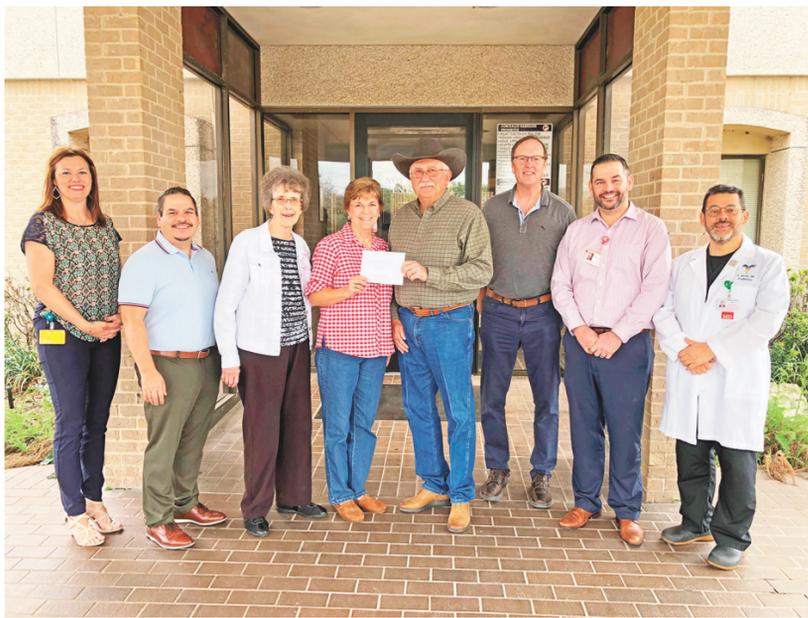
Drive. The group will continue to expand these efforts as more volunteers and community members support the program.

Upcoming events
With a dedication to serving Gonzales residents and their pets, Gonzales Pet Adoption Center has a few upcoming events available to the community. Mark your calendars for their upcoming events this spring!

• **Come and Chip It: Free Microchip Clinic:** This event will provide free microchips to cats and dogs of 75 Gonzales County residents. Date: Sunday, March 24 from noon-4 p.m.

• **Purrfect Pawty: Kitten Shower:** Like a baby shower, this event invites visitors to celebrate new life and provide gifts to recently born kittens at the Gonzales Pet Adoption Center! Appetizers and games will be provided. Date: Sunday, April 14 from 1-4 p.m.

Both events will be located at the Gonzales Pet Adoption Center at 505 St. Francis in Gonzales and require a RSVP to attend. Call 830-333-9006 to learn more.



Pictured from left are Holly Danz, Robert Camarillo, Barbara Koricaneck, Carolyn Orts, Mark Lindemann, Greg McLain, Brandon Anzaldua and Dr. Humberto Rivas.

GCHF board donates to GHS Foundation fundraiser gala

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Board of Directors of the Gonzales County Health Foundation is pleased to announce the recent donation of \$25,000 to the Gonzales Healthcare Systems Foundation for its “Roaring into the Future” Gala to be held on Saturday, April 27 at JB Wells Expo Center.

The Gonzales County Health Foundation was established in 1983 with the leadership of Dr.

Bryan Denman to assist the hospital district in providing quality healthcare to Gonzales County residents.

Dr. Walter A. Sievers contributed several millions of dollars and part of his life estate to the Foundation to ensure that Gonzales County residents had quality healthcare facilities for years to come.

A portion of those funds were earmarked for the Sievers Medical Clinic. Walter and Sue Traeger also donated to

the Foundation as well.

The Gonzales County Health Foundation Board of Directors manages the assets of the Health Foundation. The Board is comprised of local community leaders: President Sue Ortman, Vice President John Mohrmann, Treasurer Darren Schauer, Secretary Dr. Terry Eska, and members Ricky Lester, Dr. Humberto Rivas, Greg McLain, Bryan Denman, Mark Lindemann, Tim Markham, Brandon Anzaldua and Greg Ticken.

3 arrested after US 183 pursuit

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Three male subjects are in custody after being apprehended on US 183 on Friday, March 8, with a vehicle reported as stolen by the San Antonio Police Department.

According to the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office, a GCSO deputy was traveling south on US 183 when he located a black Kia Optima that had been reported as stolen from San Antonio. The deputy attempted to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle; however the Kia did not stop, leading to a pursuit.

The deputy, along with a Gonzales County Precinct 1 Constable's deputy, pursued the vehicle for a total of 32 miles at speeds in excess of 120 miles per hour. The GCSO deputy requested assistance from the DeWitt County Sheriff's Office in disabling the vehicle and DCSO deputies and Cuero police officers joined the fray.

A Cuero Police Department officer disabled the vehicle and it came to a stop within the 2200 block of US 183 in Cuero, where two of the three occupants fled the vehicle on foot. One suspect was apprehended by a Cuero PD officer, while the driver was apprehended by



Mason Nabers



Benjamin Willis



Douglas Conethan



the GCSO deputy. The third individual was apprehended by a DeWitt County deputy.

The driver of the vehicle, Benjamin Willis, had two outstanding felony warrants from Bexar County and the Texas Board of Pardons

and Paroles aside from charges of evading detention with a vehicle and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle stemming from this incident.

The passengers, Mason Nabers and Douglas Conethan, were also taken into custody on similar charges.

Editor's Note: All individuals arrested and charged are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law beyond a reasonable doubt.

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Gonzales Weather

	March 14 81°/68°	Cloudy with a couple of thunderstorms in the morning, becoming breezy in the afternoon 64% chance of rain • RealFeel 82
	March 15 76°/60°	Periods of rain and a thunderstorm in the morning; mostly cloudy 75% chance of rain • RealFeel 79
	March 16 74°/57°	Cloudy; watch for a strong thunderstorm in the morning, then afternoon showers 92% chance of rain • RealFeel 71
	March 17 71°/52°	Intervals of clouds and sun with a couple of showers, mainly later 59% chance of rain • RealFeel 68
	March 18 62°/42°	Cloudy 1% chance of rain • RealFeel 59
	March 19 65°/46°	Plenty of sun 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 72
	March 20 70°/52°	Plenty of sun 1% chance of rain • RealFeel 75

County judge's office seeking Courthouse interior photos

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales County is seeking help from local historians. The county is currently working on a project involving the Courthouse and is looking for historic photos, especially interior photos. If you have any photos of the Courthouse or you know someone that may, please contact the Gonzales County Judge's office at 830-672-2327 or you can email copies to countyjudge089@co.gonzales.tx.us.



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Celebrations

Birthdays

March 14th Ella Rhoades	Patsy DeVries Austin Phillip Meyer Cosme Molina
March 15th Tamela Baker Suzanne Benes Dr. Terry Eska Garrett Wayne Heiman Linda Koricaneck Norvi Mayfield	March 18th Jessica Frazier Jim Gracey Gary Haynes Sara Hohensee Lane Jackson Kevin LaFleur
March 16th Ronald Barborak Cleve Handley Cayedance Harkey Krystal Kelley Marilyn Krum Randy Robinson Jackie Rodriguez Ryan Wilkerson	March 19th Felica Camarillo Janice Molnoskey Angel Palmaraz Art Rodriguez
March 17th Valorie Daniel Patsy Darilek	March 20th James Ara Johanna Lamprecht Quinton Parker Kasey Rhodes Sarah Tenberg

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Public input sought on Texas hunting regulation proposals for 2024-2025

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is taking public comment until March 27 to the following proposed changes to the 2024-2025 Statewide Hunting and Migratory Game Bird proclamations:

MIGRATORY GAME BIRD REGULATIONS

- Eliminate the Light Goose Conservation Order from both Eastern and Western Goose Zones.
- Reduce the daily bag limit of light geese from 10 to 5 in both eastern and western zones.
- Extend the regular goose season for light geese to 19 days in the eastern zone.
- Standardize the light goose possession limit to three times the daily bag limit - similar to all other migratory game

birds - during the regular hunting season.

- Change the Special White-winged Dove Days season structure due to calendar progression.
- Change the season structure of the second segment for doves in the north zone to allow later dove hunting.
- Change greater white-fronted goose daily bag limit restrictions from two in the aggregate to a dark goose daily bag limit of five in the western zone.
- Include Mexican ducks in the duck daily bag limits for all zones while deleting "Mexican like" verbiage.
- Calendar progression for all other migratory game bird hunting season dates.

UPLAND GAME BIRD REGULATIONS

- Require statewide mandatory harvest reporting for all harvested wild turkeys during all

seasons and counties.

- Close the spring-only hunting season for wild turkeys south of Highway 82 in Fannin, Lamar, Red River and Bowie counties.
- Close all wild turkey hunting seasons in Bell and Williamson counties east of Interstate 35 (I-35) and in all of Milam County.
- Remove references to Rio Grande and eastern wild turkey subspecies in regulations and replace with "wild turkey."
- Reduce the wild turkey hunting season length and annual bag limit in all counties with an open season west of the Pecos River and that portion of counties falling east of I-35/north of I-10 to a spring-only season from April 1-30 and one gobbler (male turkey) annual bag limit.

BIG GAME REGULATIONS

- Change Desert Bighorn Sheep hunting season from Sept. 1 - July 31 to Nov. 15 - Sept. 30.
- Remove references to "antelope" in regulations and replace with "pronghorn."
- For properties enrolled in the harvest option of the Managed Lands Deer Program, allow youth to take bucks with a firearm for the same days that correspond to the early youth-only season for county harvest regulations.
- Expand doe days in 43 counties in the Post Oak Savannah and Pineywoods ecoregions.
- Expand youth-only seasons in the fall to include Friday for white-tailed deer, squirrels and wild turkeys.

Additional details can be found on the public comment page and in the Texas Register. The public is encouraged to provide comment on the proposed regulation changes before any action is taken by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission at its March 28 public hearing.

Garden Q&A

with CALVIN FINCH



Q. I understood that deer did not eat lawn grass but the deer in our neighborhood seem to graze on our lawn quite often.

A. Deer do seem to browse on grass occasionally but if you look closely at the "lawn" it probably includes broad-leaf weeds such as hen bit and chickweed plus seedheads on plants like rescue grass. Researchers state quite firmly that deer cannot survive on grass and do not eat much of it.

Q. Tell us again about the product that you can apply to the pruning cut of hackberries, mulberries, and other unwanted seedlings to kill the roots without hurting the adjacent plants.

A. The product is Cut Vine and Stump Killer, and you apply it with the included brush to the ground side of the pruning cut. The active ingredient translocates to the seedlings root system and kills the root system. It works very well, and you usually don't have

to re-engage the treated seedling. One of the best characteristics is that the brushing system allows you to treat unwanted seedlings in shrub borders and even rose beds.

Q. This is the third year in a row that three out of four of my peach trees have not bloomed. The only variety that blooms every year is Florida King. The June Gold, Tex star and LA Felician are not reliable. Any suggestions?

A. The Florida King has a much lower chill requirement. You may want to replace the June Gold, Tex star, and LA Felician with varieties that have a similar cold requirement to the Florida King.

Q. How long will our snapdragons last this spring? They look great now.

A. They usually last in the spring until mid-April when the weather gets warm, and the "rust" disease shows up. Zinnias can be planted after mid-March by seeds or transplants, to replace the snapdragons.

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET

March 9th
Cattle - 1104
Compared to our last sale:
Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold fully steady. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold fully steady.
Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 375-405; 300-400 lbs., 345-410; 400-500 lbs., 265-395; 500-600 lbs., 255-315; 600-700 lbs., 230-272; 700-800 lbs., 198-250. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 90-155.
Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 325-330; 300-400 lbs., 300-355; 400-500 lbs., 275-295; 500-600 lbs., 242-285; 600-700 lbs., 225-260.
Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 88-110; Cutters, 115-127; Canners, 72-85; High yielding fat cows, 101-115.
Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 126-137; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 109-121.
Stocker Cows: \$900 to \$1,900. Pairs: \$1,400 to \$2,100.

NIXON LIVESTOCK

March 11th
Cattle - 957
Steers:
200-300 lbs - \$314-430
300-400 lbs - \$299-400

400-500 lbs - \$285-400
500-600 lbs - \$266-318
600-700 lbs - \$245-290
700-800 lbs - \$218-252
Heifers:
200-300 lbs - \$275-400
300-400 lbs - \$256-325
400-500 lbs - \$249-300
500-600 lbs - \$225-261
600-700 lbs - \$221-325
700-800 lbs - \$205-220
Slaughter Cows - \$86-132
Slaughter Bulls - \$100-155.50
Stocker Cows - \$700-1800
Pairs: \$1250-1650

HALLETTVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.

Sale date: March 5th
Cattle on hand: 1187
Packer Cows:
High Dressing: \$95-135
Medium Dressing: \$88-121
Low Dressing: \$70-88
Poor/Weak Cows: \$60-70
Packer Bulls:
High Dressing Bulls: \$128-150
Medium Dressing Bulls: \$108-130
Low Dressing Bulls: NONE
Stocker Cows:
Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: \$1500-2350
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1225-1600
Good Cow & Calf Pairs: 1 PAIR \$2200
Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: NONE
Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:
Number 1 steer & bull calves: Under 200 lbs.: \$310-425
200-300 lbs.: \$325-425

300-400 lbs.: \$315-415
400-500 lbs.: \$285-345
500-600 lbs.: \$255-325
600-700 lbs.: \$230-295
700-800 lbs.: \$210-250
Number 1 heifer calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$265-415
200-300 lbs.: \$270-365
300-400 lbs.: \$265-385
400-500 lbs.: \$250-335
500-600 lbs.: \$230-285
600-700 lbs.: \$215-260
700-800 lbs.: \$190-235
Replacement Heifers:
350-700 lbs.: \$255-300
The calf market was higher this week. Most classes sold \$4 to \$8 higher. Instances \$10 higher. Demand was extremely strong. Packer cows & bulls sold \$4 to \$8 higher on a supply of 175 head.

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET

March 8, 2024
Number of head 937
There were 135 cows and 21 bulls. Top packer bull was up \$7/cwt to \$147/cwt, while the top packer cows was up to \$5/cwt at \$130/cwt. Prices continue to climb higher as demand continues to be very strong, resulting in record highs on packer bulls and cows.
The calf market was again higher even on top of last week's jump. Weights under 550 pounds were particularly much higher. Demand remains incredibly strong across the board. Calves were \$16/head higher on 17 pounds more weight.

Packer bulls:

All weights	104.00-147.00
Packer cows:	
canners & cutters	85.00-130.00
poor & weak	30.00-65.00
Palpated: 45 BRED	900.00-1,250.00
PAIRS: 9	\$1,275 & 2,075
Steer Calves:	
Under 250lbs	N O N E
250-300 lbs.	377.00-430.00
300-350 lbs.	341.00-430.00
350-400 lbs.	345.00-395.00
400-450 lbs.	322.00-360.00
450-500 lbs.	316.00-365.00
500-550 lbs.	285.00-332.00
550-600 lbs.	293.00-328.00
600-700 lbs.	240.00-300.00
700-800 lbs.	246.00-273.00
Bull Calves:	(AVG-HIGH)
Under 250lbs	370.00-395.00
250-300 lbs.	377.00-430.00
300-350 lbs.	341.00-430.00
350-400 lbs.	335.00-385.00
400-450 lbs.	299.00-342.00
450-500 lbs.	309.00-348.00
500-550 lbs.	278.00-320.00
550-600 lbs.	260.00-320.00
600-700 lbs.	247.00-282.00
Over 700 lbs.	222.00-252.00
Heifer Calves:	(AVG-HIGH)
under 200 lbs.	314.00-390.00
200-250 lbs.	309.00-390.00
250-300 lbs.	297.00-352.00
300-350 lbs.	298.00-360.00
350-400 lbs.	280.00-335.00
400-450 lbs.	275.00-330.00
450-500 lbs.	270.00-326.00
500-550 lbs.	248.00-314.00
550-600 lbs.	236.00-290.00
600-700 lbs.	223.00-250.00
Over 700 lbs	192.00-240.00

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And that was then...

They were being chased by someone who wanted them dead

BY BOB BURCHARD
Special to the Inquirer

“Hurry, children. Hurry now,” he said, trying to conceal the excitement in his voice. “And your boots. Get your boots. And hats.” The perilous nature of the situation hit hard, and he yelled – at no one in particular, certainly not his two little daughters to whom he had been giving instructions. “Where is my knife? Where in the sam hill is my knife?”

His wife had gone to the pens to try and ready the milk cow for the trip. What a task that would be. They were leaving. No. They were running. Somewhere. Anywhere. To the East. Running for their lives.

I do not remember ever having to run for my life. And by that I mean someone was chasing me, and if I were caught, I would be killed. We all played games of chase when we were youngsters — cops and robbers, cowboys and Indians, kick the tin can, games of tag, but nothing of consequence happened to us when we were caught.

I was never on active duty in a war defending our country. I was too young for World War II, and for Korea, and too old for Vietnam. I was never pursued and shot at by some enemy soldier who wanted to kill me.

I was a member of the Texas National Guard, serving as a member of the headquarters unit in Gonzales. I remember one summer at Guard Camp at Fort Hood our company was to go through an obstacle course at night, crawling on our bellies, while the regular US Army soldiers fired tracers over our heads.

I remember the fear we all had – that a head might be raised too high; that an arm or shoulder, or possibly a rear end or a foot might stick up too tall, and be hit by a tracer. I remember being in the trench before we went over the top to start crawling through the course – everyone scared to death: grown men throwing up; grown men losing control of their bladders. And no one was trying to shoot AT us or HURT us or KILL us. It was just a training course at Fort Hood.

When Susannah Dickinson arrived in Gonzales on March 13, 1836, she brought with her not only the news of the fall of the Alamo, and the death of all of the Texans who fought there, but she also carried a message Santa Anna, commanding General of the Army of the Republic of Mexico. Santa Anna said that he and his generals were going to sweep

See HISTORY, page 11

Sunshine Week: Taking a stand against public information blackouts

BY KELLEY SHANNON
Freedom of Information
Foundation of Texas

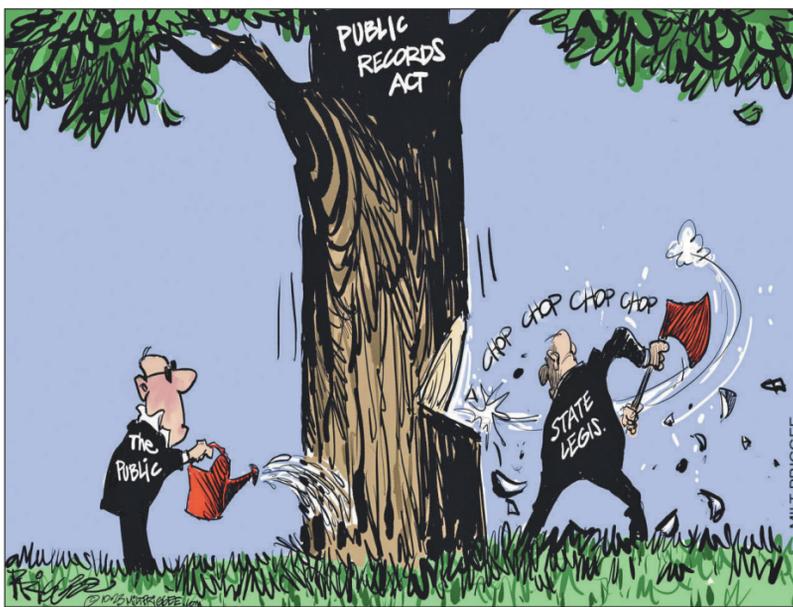
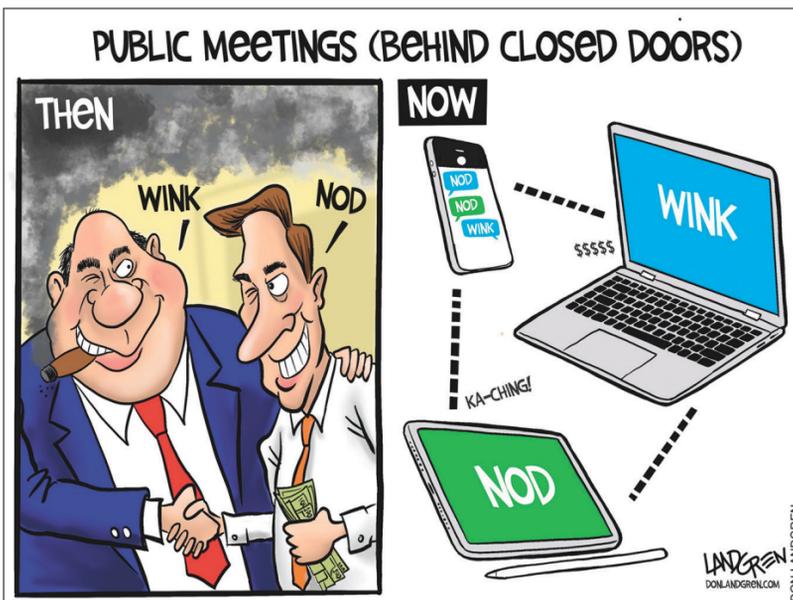
Shining light on our government through public information helps us ask questions of elected officials – and hold them accountable.

Sunshine Week, taking place March 10-16, recognizes the importance of open government and educates Americans about their right to public information. It’s not an abstract notion. It’s about what’s happening in the real world.

You may be checking on the safety of roads and bridges in your community. Or wanting to know how your school board is spending taxpayer money. Perhaps there’s concern about pollution or water quality in your neighborhood.

In each of these scenarios, the Texas Public Information Act, one of our state’s main government transparency laws, allows us to request government records, get answers and demand

See SUNSHINE, page 11



The Gonzales Inquirer

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Lew Cohn

STAFF WRITER
Vandy Van Epps

CONTRIBUTING
Betty Cohn

BOOKKEEPER
Sanya Simmons

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DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

Accept all cookies...

We are among the dwindling few who still answer the doorbell when it chimes between sunup and sunset. (If we don’t hear it, we can rely 100% on our new rescue dog, Archie, to “bark” an alert.)

Oh, it’s not quite that simple. First, we use the peephole to see who is seeking entry. If the person is exceedingly short, the visitor may be a Girl Scout. I figure I can hold my own with her, knowing her mom is likely nearby, fading into the background after pressing the bell button.

When it rang recently, I was reading details of AT&T’s “make it right” email, noticing an option in the small print to “accept all cookies.”...

Wouldn’t you know it? A charming eight-year-old, smartly outfitted in her Girl Scout uniform, was there to lighten her load of Girl Scout cookies. Sure enough, there was her mother nearby, smiling broadly. Usually, I buy a couple of boxes of Thin-Mints, feeling less guilty when chomping down on a snack with “thin” in its name. However, the AT&T ad kicked in, and I thought of the “accept all cookies” option.

“Why don’t I just take one of each flavor?” I suggested. “Great,” she replied, “I’ll need to get ‘em from the car.” I didn’t realize there are a dozen flavors. At \$4 per box, that pretty much uses up a 50-dollar bill.

If you’re curious, current flavors in our neck of the woods include Samoas, Thin-Mints, Lemonades, Toffee-Tastic, Caramel Chocolate Chip, Peanut Butter Patties, Dosidos, Adventurefuls, S’mores, Lemon-Ups, Toast-Yay! and Trefoils. (Perhaps the AT&T “make it right” email softens my “budget blow.”)...

The AT&T apology, if you haven’t heard, was offered to customers who may have been inconvenienced by a service breach that spanned but a few hours. Viewed positively, the gesture goes well beyond what might be expected.

When’s the last time you recall any reduction in billing by other utilities? It’s not even an “apples and oranges” comparison, but a century or so ago, most utilities--as well as companies of all sizes--gave little thought to token gifts, apologetic or not...

I can’t shake the idea that Cross Plains, Texas, bank directors got into a minor scuffle more than a century ago when they argued over whether to provide paper cups for customers who “dipper-dipped” water from the bank lobby bucket. “A dipper and bucket are good enough at home, and they’re good enough at the bank,” one of the directors is said to have argued, but was later outvoted...

On the subject of “free stuff” that’s what Energy Worldnet, Inc. (EWN) is offering to one lucky winner on the Internet. The lone prize is a “mystery box of swag.” The contest has minimal requirements, merely asking participants to “follow us”... “like this post”... and “tag a friend.”

Hundreds have entered, and entries continue to pour in. (I’m not sure what “swag” is, but the dictionary definition seems clear: “a noun identifying a curtain or piece of fabric fastened so as to hang in a drooping curve.”)

For readers who don’t know about Energy Worldnet, its website provides detailed information. “The company offers platforms for managing workplaces and accessing information--particularly for employee training, certifications, evaluation data, supply chain management, regulatory compliance, consulting and enterprise management--on a global scale.”...

That’s a mouthful, or perhaps better described, a “paragraphful.” And, you, too, can enter. You may be running short on swag, or conversely, may have so much of the stuff that you need a box to put it in. After all, those old cigar boxes we used to store miscellaneous items in are hard to come by.

Whatever, I intend to enter the contest, as well as provide this free column publicity for a firm that seems to be spanning the globe.

Should I win, I’ll brag about it--explaining, in detail--exactly what I have won. I can always use additional stuff to hang from drooping curves...

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, public speaker and author, has written a weekly column since 2003.



VANDY VAN EPPS

Senior Marcos Vazquez (10) kicks the soccer ball on the offense for the Apaches in the final match of the season against Memorial Tuesday, March 12.

Lady Apaches FC season sweeps YWLA

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches FC inched closer to the second seed in District 27-4A with a 2-1 home win over the YWLA Lady Cardinals on Monday, March 11.

The Lady Apaches battled through adversity throughout the match after trailing, 1-0, after the first half.

Lady Apaches head soccer coach Shantael Trimm knew heading into this game that it was important, especially with second place on the line.

“At this point we have a

pretty solid playoff position, regardless of these last two games; however, to keep our second place space and go into playoffs in a better position, winning this game and the next game when we play Memorial is really important and the girls knew that and they rallied back,” Trimm said.

The Lady Apaches rallied back in the second half with scores by Bella Aguero and Emmajeanna Riojas; Riojas scored the game winner in the final six minutes and sacrificed her body to get the goal.

See **SOCCER**, page 6



VANDY VAN EPPS

Lady Apaches junior Bella Aguero (2) moves the ball down field in the final home game against the YWLA Lady Cardinals Monday, March 11.

Apaches FC ends season in 4-4 tie with Memorial

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
The Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches FC soccer season came to an end Tuesday, March 12 in a 4-4 tie with the San Antonio Memorial Minutemen.

The Apaches battled to the very end in a back-and-forth match against Memorial.

Apaches head soccer coach Shea Seip was proud of how his team never gave up and overcame adversity.

“I’m extremely, extremely, extremely proud of my boys. I know the results didn’t go our way all the way this season. And missing it [the playoffs] by a few points is going to hurt. But I love my seniors. Those seniors really changed the program this season. They bought in and that’s really what got us here,” Seip said.

The Apaches say goodbye to seniors Miguel Moreno, Alan Orduna, Marco Vazquez, Matthew DeLeon, Jesus Huerta, and Santiago Almaguer.

“I’m gonna be right there when they walk the stage. I’m gonna shake their hands and I’m gonna wish them well and I hope they do amazing things out



Above: The Gonzales Apaches FC say goodbye to their six seniors in the final match of the season. Left to Right: Alan Orduna, Santiago Almaguer, Miguel Moreno, Matthew DeLeon, Marco Vazquez and Jesus Huerta. Left: Apaches Enrique Reyna (7) and a San Antonio Memorial player chases after the soccer ball in the final match of the season.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

in the real world,” Seip said.

Seip said he and his team are eyeing a district championship

in 2025.

The Apaches FC will return in 2025.

La Vernia snaps Lady Apaches FC’s win streak

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Lady Apaches FC and the La Vernia Lady Bears squared off at Apache Field Friday, March 8 in a battle of the two top teams in District 27-4A.

The Lady Apaches fell to La Vernia, 2-0, but held them to only two goals; the lowest allowed to La Vernia in any district game.

Gonzales then got back on the winning track beating YWLA, 2-1, for its final home game of the season

and inching close to securing the second seed in the district.

The Lady Apaches played their final regular season game against San Antonio Memorial Wednesday, March 13 on the road.

As of right now, the Lady Apaches will either face Floresville (if they finish second) or Uvalde (if they finish third) in the bi-district round.

The first round of the 4A UIL girls soccer playoffs kicks off Monday, March 25 and Tuesday, March 26.

Apaches FC fall to district leading La Vernia

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches FC battled through a tough match against the undefeated La Vernia Bears on the road Friday, March 8.

La Vernia quickly got on the board with two goals, but the Apaches responded back with goals by seniors Jesus Huerta and Alan Orduna.

After Gonzales tied the game up before the end of the half, both teams received several yellow and red cards.

Apaches head coach Shea Seip said his team has to play their game and can’t play anyone else’s game.

“Next year, we’re going to be the one celebrating. It’s going to be our district championship. We’ve just got to get ready. It’s not over yet. We’re going to play Memorial, we’re going to win, beat them and we’re going to get in the playoffs,” Seip said.

The Apaches fell to La Vernia, 5-2, but this year felt different for Seip and his team.

Seip said the difference between this year and last year is his team knows if they get behind, they can fight back.

The Apaches FC season came to end in a 4-4 tie with San Antonio Memorial Tuesday, March 12 at home.

The Apaches FC will return in 2025.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs were named region champions in the Division III THSPA Regional meet in Colmesneil Thursday, March 7. The team consisted of Cesar Vazquez, Andrew Meza, Tyler Barrientez, Oscar Acosta, Jose Olvera, Omar Morales Navarro, Jesus Espino, Gavino Moreno, Noah Jenks and coached by Eliseo Cano.

Mustangs crowned THSPA regional champions

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Nixon-Smiley High School boys powerlifting team will send seven lifters to state after winning the THSPA Region 4 Division 3 regional championship.

“I am blessed beyond anything I can think of, being able to coach some amazing kids at Nixon-Smiley High School!” said Coach Eliseo Cano. “My girls team made history last week and this week my boys team made history by winning

See **LIFT**, page 6

Apaches powerlifting competes at THSPA regional meet

STAFF REPORT

Four Apaches are heading to the state powerlifting meet after competing in the regional meet Thursday, March 7 in Colmesneil.

Apache Jessiah Barr set a new regional record with 1,490 total pounds at the meet; the previous record was 1,385.

Barr will be joined by Kaden Deleon, Landon Holub and Omar Borjon at the state meet in Abilene Friday, March 22.

—RESULTS—

Team results: seventh place with 14 points.
114 weight class: Hector Reyna: fifth place 690 total pounds
148 weight class: J. Barr (state qualifier): first place 1,490 total pounds
165 weight class: K. Deleon (state qualifier): fifth place 1,395 total pounds
242 weight class: Gary Lewis III: eighth place 1,290 total pounds
275 weight class: L. Holub (state qualifier): third place 1,580 total pounds
308 weight class: Omar Borjon (state qualifier): third place 1,620 total pounds



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Apaches state powerlifting qualifiers Landon Holub, Kaden Deleon, Jessiah Barr, and Omar Borjon with their plaques and medals from the regional meet at Colmesneil Thursday, March 7.



PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Above left: Lady Apaches freshman pitcher Dixie Rae Lester (10) pitches in the district opener against the La Vernia Lady Bears Tuesday, March 12. Above right: Sophomore Ava Carrizales (2) at bat for the Lady Apaches against La Vernia in district opener Tuesday, March 12.

No. 23 Lady Apaches beat La Vernia in district opener

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches rallied from behind in a 12-8 win over the La Vernia Lady Bears in the home district opener Tuesday, March 12. The Lady Apaches entered the fourth inning trailing La Vernia, 5-0; Gonzales entered the game with a three-game losing streak to the Lady Bears in district as their last win against them was in April 2021.

The bats came alive in the bottom of the fourth as Ava Carrizales, Kelly Breitschopf and Sidney McCray recorded RBI hits to make it a one-run game, but the biggest RBIs came from senior Dakota Schmidt with a bases-loaded triple in the bottom of the fifth. “It was really great, especially against this team that we’ve never beaten before. I think this year we’ve really grown as a team and it’s just been really good,” Schmidt said.

The Lady Apaches remained claim and confident throughout the game, and Breitschopf said they used what they learned from practice to not get scared or nervous. Second year head softball coach Michelle Uribe was proud of her team’s come-from-behind win and getting the first district win of the season. “It is important because now you’re not trying to dig yourself out of a hill. We’re starting on top. We’re gonna keep it rolling

next Tuesday with Memorial and see how much further we can take it from there,” Uribe said. Uribe said the bats coming alive was incredibly timely. “We’ve been talking about having those big innings and the games that we won and have been on top. That’s what we’re doing, having those big innings, getting those key hits and those key moments and so it’s really coming together,” Uribe said. The Lady Apaches will close

out non-district play against Weimar Thursday, March 14 on the road. “We’ve already played Weimar, so we’re confident going into the game, but we just have to stay strong at practice and do our best,” Breitschopf said. The Lady Apaches will resume district play on the road Tuesday, March 19 against San Antonio Memorial. First pitch for the Weimar game is set for 7:30 p.m. and Memorial game starts at 6 p.m.

SOCCER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

“Really just to win, we want to make it to playoffs. You know? We work so hard for what we have and everyone just doubts us most of the time, but I think we really have something here,” Riojas said. Trimm knew when she put Riojas in the game, she was going to get the goal that her team needed. “Before I sent her in up there, I just turned around and made eye contact with her and I had a gut feeling about Emma, because she is such a hard-working soccer player. Maybe she doesn’t have the most years of experience under her belt, but she does not back down from a challenge and she went in there, one on one, with that goalie and she did it for us,” Trimm said. Gonzales shut down the Lady Cardinals’ offense throughout the second half and Yaritza Angel was proud to contribute in the defense. “Everyone was nervous because they didn’t want to mess up, but we kept our head in the game and then we just kept trying. They really didn’t want throw it too much so they just tried their best,” Angel said. The Lady Apaches played their last match against San Antonio Memorial with second place on the line Wednesday, March 13. Trimm said her team rested Tuesday, March 12 to recover from injuries and get ready for Memorial. “We have a lot of injuries right now. We were down three starting players there at the end of the game and didn’t have any subs left, so I really need them to get healthy, get their bodies healthy so that we can be ready for Memorial and then going into playoffs,” Trimm said.



Above: Yazmin Barrientos (15), Bella Aguero (2), Kassandra Matamoros (5) and Abigale Reyna (13) together for their last home game of the 2024 season. Left: Lady Apaches Eva Moreno (16) kicks a corner kick in the final home match against the YWLA Lady Cardinals Monday, March 11. PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Lady Apaches shut out Rice Consolidated

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Lady Apaches were on the road Friday, March 8 for a non-district match against Rice Consolidated. The Lady Apaches shut out Rice, 15-0, in four innings and the offense recorded 15 hits and 11 RBIs in the win. The Lady Apaches stole a base six times and, on defense, the fielders recorded 12 putouts and a double play. Gonzales went back on the road to Cibolo Monday, March 11 and fell to them, 14-4, but quickly rebounded with a district opening win over La Vernia. The Lady Apaches head back on the road for their last non-district game against Weimar Thursday, March 14. First pitch is set for 7:30 p.m. in Weimar.

Lady Mustangs compete in Seguin tourney

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smilely Lady Mustangs traveled to Seguin for their final tournament of the season Thursday, Feb. 29 to Saturday, March 2. The Lady Mustangs finished the tournament with a 1-5 record; beating Anderson, 12-11, and losing to Silsbee, 14-4; Roma, 15-3; Somerset, 15-1; San Diego, 8-6; and Edgewood, 10-6. Nixon-Smilely will host back-to-back home games against Llano Tuesday, March 5 and a three-game series against Shiner Saturday, March 9 and Tuesday, March 12. First pitch for the Shiner series is set for noon Saturday and 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tuesday.

Apaches baseball competes in Cedar Creek Tournament

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches traveled on the road for their last tournament of the season at Cedar Creek Thursday, March 7 through Saturday, March 9. The Apaches finished the tourna-

ment 1-3; beating Chaparral, 10-9, and losing to Pflugerville, 5-3, Liberal Arts and Science Academy, 12-6, and Cedar Creek, 19-1. The Apaches will travel to La Grange for their last non-district game of the season Tuesday, March 19.

Gonzales kicks off district play with a two-game series against Navarro Friday, March 22 at Navarro High School; and game two at home Tuesday, March 26. First pitch for both games is set for 7 p.m.

Shiners sweeps Lady Mustangs in 3-game series

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smilely Lady Mustangs and the Shiner Lady Comanches faced each other in a three game non-district series Saturday, March 9 through Tuesday, March 12. The Lady Mustangs were swept by Shiner in three games; game one, 19-3,

game two, 16-0, and game three, 16-1. Nixon-Smilely concluded their non-district season with a 4-13 record. The Lady Mustangs will kickoff district play on the road against the Randolph Lady Ro-Hawks Tuesday, March 19 and enter district as the two-time defending District 26-3A champions.

LIFT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

the THSPA Region 4 Division 3 Regional Championship! (We’re) taking seven boys to state!” The Nixon-Smilely boys powerlifting team won first place with 36 points overall. • Cesar Vazquez, 114 weight class - second place state qualifier • Andrew Meza, 123 weight class - third place • Tyler Barrientez, 132 weight class - first place state

qualifier • Oscar Acosta, 148 weight class - first place state qualifier, best bench award, best dead lift award, best overall lifter, deadlift regional record holder of 510 pounds and tied the regional bench record of 365 pounds. • Jose Olvera, 148 weight class - fifth place state qualifier on state totals of 1,200 pounds. • Omar Morales Navarro, 181

weight class - third place state qualifier on state totals of 1,405 pounds. • Jesus Espino, 198 weight class - second place state qualifier • Gavino Moreno, 220 weight class - fourth place state qualifier on state totals of 1,480 pounds. • Noah Jenks, 308 weight class -third place “Now to state so we can make some history,” Cano said.

Apaches, Lady Apaches basketball receive all-district honors

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches and Lady Apaches basketball teams took home all-district recognition for their 2023-24 season.

APACHES

The Apaches finished the season with a 7-24 record and

finished sixth in District 28-4A with a 4-8 record.

First team all-district:
Junior Gavin Lekgega

Second team all-district:
Junior Jermane Upshaw

Honorable mentions:
Senior Weston Ruddock (academic all-district), senior

Carlos Martinez and freshman Damion Hunt

LADY APACHES

The Lady Apaches finished their season with a 12-20 record and finished third in District 28-4A with a 7-5 record.

Gonzales finished the season as bi-district finalists in the 4A UIL girls basketball playoffs.

First team all-district:

Junior Bella Agüero (academic all-district), junior Kilee Schwausch (academic all-district), and sophomore Issabella Ikard (academic all-district).

Second team all-district:

Senior Haley Cantu (academic all-district) and junior Skarlet Cerda (academic all-district).

Honorable mentions:

Sophomore Jayda Glass (academic all-district) and freshman Jordyn Gonzales (academic all-district).

Academic All-district:

Senior Kimberly Dolezal, sophomore Amiyah Ibarra and sophomore Mckenzie Gillette.



VANDY VAN EPPS

Lady Apaches' Malaiyah Mayo competes in the high jump competition of the Cuero track meet Thursday, March 7.

Gonzales track teams compete in Cuero meet

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales track teams traveled to Cuero High School for the Jack Adcock Relays Thursday, March 7.

VARSITY

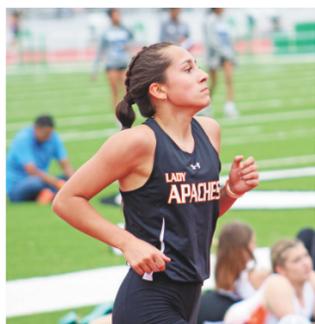
Several Apaches varsity athletes finished in the top 10 in their respective events; Davonte Smith finished third in the 100m dash and Daevien Pitts finished fifth in the same event; Rocky Gallegos finished seventh in the 200m dash and fifth place in the triple jump; Ckristofer Ramos finished eighth in the 1600m run and seventh in the 3200m run; Travis Malveaux III finished first in the 300m hurdles; and the relay teams finished seventh in the 4x100, eighth in the 4x200 and ninth in the 4x400.

The Lady Apaches finished strong with Tiana Smith finishing second in the 110m dash and 10th place in the triple jump; Jayda Glass finished eighth in the triple jump; Mallory Clack finished seventh in the shot put; Macy Sample finished fourth in the discus and eighth in shot put; Syrenity Smith finished ninth discus; Yaritza Angel finished fourth in the 1600m run and second in the 3200m run; Marianelly Martinez finished sixth in the 3200m run and eighth in the 1600m run; Jordyn Gonzales fifth in the 3200m run; Serenity Reyes finished ninth in the 1600m run; and the Lady Apaches relay teams finished fourth in the 4x100k, fifth in the 4x200 and ninth in the 4x400.

JUNIOR VARSITY

Jude Hataway finished ninth in the 3200m run; Isaiah Balderas finished 10th in shot put; and Kevin Veliz finished eighth in the discus.

Jaelyn Ramos finished eighth in the 800m run and 10th in the 300m hurdles; Kea'anna White finished second in shot put and fourth in the discus; Anyanh Browne finished seventh in the shot put and 10th in the discus; Anayah Bolden finished sixth in the discus; Gabriela Torres finished third in the high jump; and the relay teams finished fourth in the 4x100, fifth in the 4x200 and sixth in the 4x400.



MEET RESULTS

JV Boys 100m dash: 14th place: Marcus Izaguirre 22nd place: John Izaguirre	24th place: K. White 26th place: Ckristofer Ramos
JV Boys 200m dash: Sixth place: M. Izaguirre 23rd place: J. Izaguirre	Varsity Boys 1600m run: Eighth place: C. Ramos
JV Boys 400m dash: 12th place: M. Izaguirre 22nd place: Adrian Russell	Varsity Boys 3200m run: Seventh place: C. Ramos
JV Boys 1600m run: 16th place: Jude Hataway	Varsity Boys 300m hurdles: First place: Travis Malveaux
JV Boys 3200m run: Ninth place: J. Hataway	Varsity Boys 4x100 relay: Seventh place: Gonzales High School
JV Boys 300m hurdles: 18th place: Tyler Pendley	Varsity Boys 4x200 relay: Eighth place: Gonzales High School
JV shot put: 10th place: Isaiah Balderas	Varsity Boys 4x400 relay: Ninth place: Gonzales High School
JV discus: Eighth place: Kevin Veliz	Varsity Boys shot put: 12th place: Dylan Hunt
JV Girls 100m dash: 19th place: Shakyden Clack 20th place: Kendal McDow 21st place: Lyanette Rios	Varsity Boys triple jump: Fifth place: R. Gallegos
JV Girls 400m dash: 16th place: McKenzie Gillette	Varsity Girls 110m dash: Second places: Tiana Smith
JV Girls 800m run: Eighth place: Jaelyn Ramos 13th place: Kylee Bairrington	Varsity Girls 200m dash: 13th place: Kaylie Ramirez
JV 300m hurdles: 10th place: J. Ramos 11th place: K. Bairrington	Varsity Girls 400m dash: 14th place: Kilee Schwausch
JV Girls 4x100 relay: Fourth place: Gonzales High School	Varsity Girls 800m run: 11th place: K. Schwausch
JV Girls 4x200 relay: Fifth place: Gonzales High School	Varsity Girls 1600m run: Fourth place: Yaritza Angel Eighth place: Marianelly Martinez, Ninth place: Serenity Reyes
JV Girls 4x400 relay: Sixth place: Gonzales High School	Varsity Girls 3200m run: Second place: Y. Angel Fifth place: Jordyn Gonzales Sixth place: M. Martinez
JV Girls Long Jump: 11th place: Makayla Smith 13th place: S. Clack	Varsity Girls 300m hurdles: 12th place: Alaina Valle 14th place: Hailey Camarillo
JV Girls shot put: second place: Kea'anna White seventh place: Anyanh Browne	Varsity Girls 4x100m relay: Fourth place: Gonzales High School
JV Girls discus: Fourth place: K. White Sixth place: Anayah Bolden 10th place: A. Browne	Varsity Girls 4x200m relay: Fifth place: Gonzales High School
JV high jump: Third place: Gabriela Torres	Varsity Girls 4x400m relay: Ninth place: Gonzales High School
Varsity Boys 100m dash: Third place: Davonte Smith Fifth place: Daevien Pitts 22nd place: Jermane Upshaw	Varsity Girls long jump: 16th place: A. Valle 17th place: T. Smith 18th place: Macy Pena
Varsity Boys 200m dash: Seventh place: Rocky Gallegos 24th place: Keath White	Varsity Girls shot put: Seventh place: Mallory Clack Eighth place: Macy Sample
Varsity Boys 400m dash: 12th place: River VanKirk	Varsity Girls discus: Fourth place: M. Sample Ninth place: Syrenity Smith
	Varsity Girls triple jump: Eighth place: Jayda Glass 10th place: T. Smith

Photos (top to bottom): Apaches Daevien Pitts jumps in the air for the long jump competition at the Cuero track meet Thursday, March 7. Lady Apaches' Jordyn Gonzales (left) and Marianelly Martinez (right) run in the 1600m race at the Cuero meet. Apaches' Ckristofer Ramos runs in the 1600m race at the Cuero track meet Thursday, March 7.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

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Silver Eagle Dollars, Morgan & Peace Silver Dollars, Silver Walking Liberty, Franklin, & Kennedy Halves, Silver Washington Quarters, Mercury & Roosevelt Silver Dimes, Pennies, Commemorative Coin Sets, 4 Rifles, 9MM Luger, Ammo, Deer Antlers, Furniture, 100 Pcs of Framed Artwork, Pyrex, Galvanized Buckets, Enamel Pans, Neon Signs, Beer Posters, Texaco Planes, Tin Signs, 10 Gal. Crock, Fishing Poles, Power, Hand, & Garden Tools, Appliances, Wood Spools, Moon Shine Distiller, Dolls, Jewelry, McDonald's Toys

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PARKWOOD APARTMENTS

114 West 10th
Nixon, TX 78140

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays - 9:00am to 3:00pm
PHONE: 830-582-1343

3BR Apartments Available
Rates Based on Income

Rental Assistance For Qualified Families of very-low, low, and moderate income applicants.

CENTRAL HEAT & AIR
ENERGY EFFICIENT
LAUNDRY ROOM
WATER, SEWER & GARBAGE PAID
HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE UNITS

Individuals with a disability wishing to request a reasonable accommodation to complete the application process should contact the apartment manager at 830-582-1343.

Para solicitar un apartamento favor llamar a manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343. Para solicitar una adaptacion o modificacion razonable, favor llamar manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343.

Personas que hablan espanol y requieren un interprete, favor llamar a manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343.

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

Gonzales County Election's Office is now accepting applications for the full time position of:

Deputy Elections Clerk

Gonzales County Election's Office is requesting applications for the position of Deputy Elections Clerk. High School Graduation is required. This position requires the clerk to work well under pressure in a high-volume multi-task office. Must work closely with others and maintain confidentiality in the performance of duties. The candidate must have general office skills, phone etiquette, data entry skills, knowledge of basic mathematical principal and the ability to deal with the public. Election experience is preferred. There will also be lifting of election machines over 50lbs and election boxes over 40lbs. During the election cycles extended hours and weekend hours will be required for various aspects of this position.

The Election Office is required to be completely neutral to any and all elections/candidates.

Applications may be obtained at the Gonzales County Election's Office located at 427 St. George, Suite 306, Gonzales, Texas, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:45 P.M. or on the web at <https://www.co.gonzales.tx.us> Only complete applications will be considered. Applications must be received by April 5, 2024. A drug and alcohol test and physical will be required. Gonzales County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age and handicap status in employment or the provision of services.



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.

W.B. FARM AND RANCH SUPPLY

Is now hiring for Yard Hand

Forklift experience required. Must be dependable. Benefits Package & Overtime available.

Apply in Person
2031 Water St., Gonzales, TX
No phone calls

110 APPLIANCE REPAIR

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

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.

850 HELP WANTED

DRIVER NEEDED AT Ingram Ready Mix. CDL required. Apply in person at 307 Theo St. 830-625-9156, ext. 253.

850 HELP WANTED

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.

190 LAWN, GARDEN

LAWN SERVICES. SMALL, Medium, Large Yards. Tree Trimming. Junk Removal. Serving Gonzales, Luling and surrounding areas. Free Estimates. James, 512-698-1385.

Apartment For Elderly, Low Income

Rent based on Income
Water, Sewer, and Trash Paid

Country Village Square
1800 Waelder Rd.
Gonzales, TX 78629
830.672.2877
countryvillagesquare@voatz.org
www.voatz.org

210 MISC. SERVICES

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



Find what you are looking for in the Inquirer!

The Gonzales Inquirer

560 WANT TO BUY

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.

650 MISCELLANEOUS REAL ESTATE

WANT TO BUY: Need scooter. Good condition. Will pay cash. Please call Ellen. 830-203-2368.

650 MISCELLANEOUS REAL ESTATE

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.

650 MISCELLANEOUS REAL ESTATE




Victoria College's Workforce & Continuing Education Department is hiring for the following part-time positions:

Electrical Instructor
Welding Instructor

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

Part-Time Help Wanted!
Retail Customers Service Cashier

Looking for someone to join our team!

Provide excellent customer service, greet, and assist customers.

- Ability to work during the day. Thursday is a must.
- Some nights and rotation on weekends.
- Operating a point-of-sale system, provide general housekeeping.
- Capability to lift cases of liquor and stock shelves.

Applications can be picked up and returned at 102 W Wallace.

TOOTLES LIQUOR STORE
102 W Wallace St. | (830) 672-9477

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

CLERK OF THE COURT
Janice Sutton
414 St. Joseph Street #300
Gonzales, TX 78629

PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY
Judi C. Wells
Skelton Slusher Barnhill Watkins Wells PLLC
302 North University Drive
Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

THE STATE OF TEXAS

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

TO: EDWARD ALBERT HOHMANN AND HIS HEIRS, KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, IF SAID PERSON IS DECEASED, Defendants in the cause herein described.

You and each of you are hereby commanded to appear and answer before the Gonzales County Judicial District Court in the Gonzales County Courthouse in Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, on or before 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance hereof, being at or before 10:00 a.m. on Monday, the 1st day of April, 2024, then and there to answer the Petition of Baytex Energy USA, Inc., in Cause No. 28,722, styled **Baytex Energy USA, Inc. vs. Edward Albert Hohmann and/or His Heirs, Known or Unknown**, wherein BAYTEX ENERGY USA, INC. is Plaintiff, and the said EDWARD ALBERT HOHMANN AND/OR HIS HEIRS, KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, IF SAID PERSON IS DECEASED, are Defendants in the cause herein described. The Petition, filed on the 20th day of December, 2023, discloses that the nature of said suit is as follows:

This suit is brought to have a receiver appointed under the provisions of Section 64.091 of the TEXAS CIVIL PRACTICE AND REMEDIES CODE for undivided mineral interests owned by the Defendants in the following described lands in Gonzales County, Texas, to-wit:

Being 8.00 acres of land, more or less, located in the Turner Barnes Survey, A-112, Gonzales County, Texas and being the same land described in the Deed from S.B. Moore and W.J. Moore to Aug. Krauze, dated April 27, 1895, recorded in Volume Z-2, Page 295, of the Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas.

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

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

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT on this the 16th day of February 2024, at Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas.

Janice Sutton
JANICE SUTTON,
Clerk of the District Court of
Gonzales County, Texas

By: *K. Alarcon*, Deputy



BREITSCHOPF - COOPER REALTY

1331 St. Joseph St.
Gonzales, Texas 78629
Office: (830) 672-2522
gonzalesproperties.com
gonzalesproperties@gmail.com

RESIDENTIAL | FARM & RANCH | COMMERCIAL

The Associates of Breitschopf-Cooper Realty:

Shirley Breitschopf: (830) 857-4142
Lynette Cooper: (830) 857-1364
Kristine Kotzebue: (830) 203-4550
Carol Hardcastle: (830) 857-3517

Rebekah Morgan: (830) 857-5664
Garen Reese: (830) 857-3114
Sherri Schellenberg: (830) 857-6439



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.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



LOOK!

SEE, ADVERTISING WORKS.

Place your classifieds with
Gonzales Inquirer
830-672-2861

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LEGAL NOTICE:

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine & Malt Beverage Retailer's Off-Premise Permit (BQ) by Eula's Crossvine Market & BBQ LLC dba Crossvine, to be located at 419 Hwy. 90, Waelder, TX 78959 in Gonzales County Texas. The limited liability corporation is owner and member-managed by Robbie L. Lewis.

Texas Comptroller's Office Helps Property Taxpayers Stay Informed of their Rights with Updated Publication

The Texas Comptroller's office has released the *Taxpayer Assistance Pamphlet*, a reference guide for property taxpayers which addresses property tax basics, providing a step-by-step guide on preparing for a protest hearing and what they can do if they are dissatisfied with an appraisal review board's decision.

The *Taxpayer Assistance Pamphlet* also provides key dates so property owners know what they must do and when they are required to act to exercise their right to protest.

The *Taxpayer Assistance Pamphlet* is available from the Gonzales Central Appraisal District at 301 N. St. Joseph Street, Suite A, Gonzales, Texas 78629. It is also available from the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/.

Notice of Availability of Electronic Communications

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

Pursuant to Section 1.085 of the Texas Property Tax Code, Gonzales Central Appraisal District will deliver communications to a property owner or their designated representative electronically if requested by using Comptroller Form 50-843. This form is available at: (<https://comptroller.texas.gov/forms/50-843.pdf>), or at the appraisal district website, gonzcad@gvec.net. For more information, please contact us at:

GONZALES CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT
P O BOX 867 / 301 ST. JOSEPH STREET, SUITE A,
GONZALES, TEXAS 78629
830-672-2879

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Executor for the Estate of MINERVA FERRELL PEELER, Deceased, were issued on March 11, 2024, in Cause No. PW24-0321, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: AMY DENISE PEELER AND WILLIAM RAY PEELER, Co-Independent Executor of the Estate of MINERVA FERRELL PEELER.

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.

AMY DENISE PEELER AND
WILLIAM RAY PEELER,
Co-Independent Executors, Estate of MINERVA
FERRELL PEELER, Deceased
c/o CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE
403 St. George
Gonzales, Texas 78620

Dated the 11 day of March, 2024.

Christie Ortman Fullilove
CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE
Ortman Fullilove Law, PLLC
Attorney for: AMY DENISE PEELER AND
WILLIAM RAY PEELER
Co-Independent Executors, Estate of MINERVA
FERRELL PEELER, Deceased
State Bar No.: 24084171
403 St. George
Gonzales, Texas 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-9535
Facsimile: (830) 672-8654

Request for Competitive Sealed Proposals

Gonzales Healthcare Systems will be accepting sealed proposals for the project listed below on the date and time indicated. Bid Documents will be available on March 1, 2024.

Gonzales Healthcare Expansion

Bids Due: April 10, 2024, 2:00pm

Scope includes the addition of a new Surgical Department Addition of approximately 12,000sf and remodel of patient rooms. A Non-Mandatory Preconstruction Conference will be held on April 2, 2024, 10:30 am at the below address:

Gonzales Healthcare Systems
1110 N Sarah DeWitt Dr.
Gonzales, Texas 78629

All proposals must be delivered to the above address on or before the due date and time. Proposals will be opened after receipt. Electronic bid documents are available at www.gonzaleshealthcare.com or by emailing construction@gonzaleshealthcare.com, and also at Virtual Builders Exchange. Construction budget is approx. \$13-16 Million. Contact Dan Haupt with AG|CM, Inc. at 361-537-6147 with additional questions.

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Margaret Elizabeth Ward, Deceased, were issued on February 26, 2024, in Cause No. AD24-0313, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: William Cheatham and Sharon Sanders.

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

c/o: Robert W. Bland
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 119
GONZALES, TX 78629

Dated the 6th day of March, 2024.

Robert W. Bland
Robert W. Bland
Attorney for William Cheatham and Sharon Sanders
State Bar No: 24044756
P.O. Box 119
GONZALES, TX 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-2437
Facsimile: (830) 672-2439
E-mail: rbland@gvec.net

**ORDER OF GENERAL ELECTION FOR OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS
ORDER DE ELECCIÓN GENERAL PARA OTRAS SUBDIVISIONES POLITICAS**

An election is hereby ordered to be held on 05/04/2024 for the purpose of voting on:

(Por la presente se ordena celebrar una elección el 05/04/2024 con el propósito de votar sobre.)

List Offices/Propositions/Measures on the ballot (Enumere los puestos/proposiciones/medidas oficiales en la boleta)

Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District: Precinct 4
Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District: Precinct 5

**Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at:
(La votación adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en:)**

The Main Early Voting Location (*sitio principal de votación adelantada*)

Location (<i>sitio</i>)	Hours (<i>horas</i>)
427 St. George Street, Gonzales, TX 78629	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Location (<i>sitio</i>)	Hours (<i>horas</i>)
Randle Rather Building 427 St. George Street Gonzales, Tx. 78629	8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Branch Early Voting Locations (*sucursal sitios de votación adelantada*)

Location (<i>sitio</i>)	Hours (<i>horas</i>)
Waelder Community Center 311 Highway 90 West Waelder, TX 78959	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekend at:
(La votación adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo en el fin de semana en:)**

The Main Early Voting Location (*sitio principal de votación adelantada*)

Location (<i>sitio</i>)	Hours (<i>horas</i>)
Randle Rather Building 427 St. George Street Gonzales, Tx. 78629	8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Main Early Voting Location (*sitio principal de votación adelantada*)

Location (<i>sitio</i>)	Hours (<i>horas</i>)
Randle Rather Building 427 St. George Street Gonzales, Tx. 78629	8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Branch Early Voting Locations (*sucursal sitios de votación adelantada*)

Location (<i>sitio</i>)	Hours (<i>horas</i>)
Waelder Community Center 311 Highway 90 West Waelder, TX 78959	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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

Gwen Schaefer
(Name of Early Voting Clerk)
(Nombre del Secretario/a de la Votación Adelantada)

427 St. George Street
(Address) (*Dirección*)

Gonzales 78629
(City) (*Ciudad*) (Zip Code) (*Código Postal*)

830-519-4054
Telephone Number (*Número de teléfono*)

ea@co.gonzales.tx.us
Email Address (*Dirección de Correo Electrónico*)

<https://www.co.gonzales.tx.us/page/elections.contactUs>
Early Voting Clerk's Website (*Sitio web del Secretario/a de Votación Adelantada*)

Applications for Ballots by Mail (ABBMs) must be received no later than the close of business on:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán recibirse no más tardar de las horas de negocio el:)

04/23/2024

Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) must be received no later than the close of business on:
(La Tarjeta Federal Postal de Solicitud deberán recibirse no más tardar de las horas de negocio el:)

04/23/2024

Issued this 5 day of March, 2024
(Emitida este día 5 de Marzo, 2024)

Barry Miller
Signature of Presiding Officer (*Firma del Dirigente que Preside*)

Bruce Tiekens
President, Bruce Tiekens
Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District

Mark Ainsworth
Director, Mark Ainsworth
Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District

Kermit Thiele
Vice-President, Kermit Thiele
Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District

Mike St. John
Director, Mike St. John
Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District

Barry Miller
Secretary, Barry Miller
Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District

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ESTATE SALE LOG HOMES

PAY THE BALANCE OWED ONLY!

4 LOG HOME KITS SELLING FOR BALANCE OWED, FREE DELIVERY

1) MODEL #103 WACO	\$22,780 BALANCE OWED \$14,500
2) MODEL #202 TOPEKA	\$34,050 BALANCE OWED \$16,000
3) MODEL #403 AUGUSTA	\$42,450 BALANCE OWED \$16,500
4) MODEL #502 SANTE FE	\$44,950 BALANCE OWED \$20,500

BEFORE CALLING: VIEW at www.americanloghomesandcabins.com Click on House Plans

NEW - HOMES HAVE NOT BEEN MANUFACTURED

- Make any plan design changes you desire!
- Comes with Complete Building Blueprints & Construction Manual
- Windows, Doors, and Roofing not included
- NO TIME LIMIT FOR DELIVERY!

AMERICAN LOG HOMES & CABINS

Offer not available to American Log Home Dealers*

SERIOUS ONLY REPLY. Call (704) 602-3035 ask for Accounting Dept.

INSTRUCTION NOTE: A copy of this election order must be delivered to the County Clerk/Elections Administrator and Voter Registrar not later than 60 days before election day.
Nota de Instrucción: Se deberá entregar una copia de esta orden de elección al/a la Secretario(a) del Condado/Administrador(a) de Elecciones y el/la Registrador(a) de Votantes a más tardar 60 días antes del día de elección.

VISIT US ONLINE AT GONZALESINQUIRER.COM

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THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION

CAUSE NO. AD24-0332
IN THE ESTATE OF ELEAZAR GARZA, DECEASED
TO ALL UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS
OF THE ESTATE OF ELEAZAR GARZA, DECEASED

Tina Marie Garza & Eleazar Garza Jr, in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on February 29, 2024 an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION in the estate of Eleazar Garza, Deceased, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of Eleazar Garza, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in said estate, and appoint Tina Marie Garza and Eleazar Garza to serve as Co-Independent Administrators of said estate and grant Letters of Independent Administration to same.

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

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

Given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in Gonzales, Texas, on March 11, 2024.

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

By: *Margie Zapata*
Margie Zapata, Deputy

Plaintiff(s) Attorney;
Robert Bland
P O Box 119
Gonzales, Texas 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-2437
Email: rbland@gvec.net



ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The County of Gonzales will receive bids for **Gonzales County Radio Communications System Improvements GLO Contract No. 22-085-052-D305** until **2:00 pm on April 15, 2024**, at the **County Judge's Office, 414 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629**. Bids must be addressed to: The **Gonzales County Commissioners Court**. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud on April 15, 2024, at 2:00 pm at 414 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629.

The project consists of a P25 Phase 2 standards-based 700/800 MHz trunked radio system to provide greater county-wide communications coverage and message capacity. Components include: 3 new towers, 2 new shelters and 3 emergency backup generators, trunked radio network with geographically-redundant central control systems, interface with, or replacement of existing dispatch console equipment, and redundant IP-based microwave backhaul.

Bid and Contract documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file and available for inspection at the County Judge's Office, 414 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629. A pre-bid conference will be held on **March 26, 2024**, at the Gonzales Sheriff's Office Tower Site at **11:00 am** at 202 FM 532, Gonzales Texas 78629. The pre-bid conference is not mandatory.

Electronic copies of the Bid/Contract documents including drawings and technical specifications may be obtained at no charge via the internet at: <http://www.civcastusa.com/>. The project can be located on civcastusa.com by the bid date, the state (Texas) or the City/County (Fulton/Aransas County). Bidders will be required to register through CivCastUSA. There is no charge for registering or downloading the plans. Hard copies of plans may also be purchased through CivCastUSA at the bidder's expense.

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 **County of Gonzales** or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

The project to be constructed will be financed with assistance from the General Land Office (GLO) under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) program and is subject to all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations. 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 Department of Labor 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 orientation, gender identity, or national origin.

All contractors and subcontractors must be cleared (not suspended or debarred) prior to any formal action authorizing the award of a contract to the contractor. Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are encouraged to submit bids.

The County of Gonzales reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by the County of Gonzales for a period not to exceed 90 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.

Honorable Patrick C. Davis, Gonzales County Judge March 14, 2024

March 7 Puzzle Answers

Last Puzzle Solution

S-1679

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

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WE BUY OIL, GAS, & MINERAL RIGHTS

Both non-producing and producing including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI)
Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation.

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LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com

It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 855-704-8579 to schedule your free quote!

*Terms and Conditions apply.

THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION

CAUSE NO. AD24-0333
IN THE ESTATE OF SARAH PAT GARZA, DECEASED
TO ALL UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS
OF THE ESTATE OF SARAH PAT GARZA, DECEASED

Tina Marie Garza & Eleazar Garza Jr, in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on February 29, 2024 an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION in the estate of Sarah Pat Garza, Deceased, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of Sarah Pat Garza, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in said estate, and appoint Tina Marie Garza and Eleazar Garza to serve as Co-Independent Administrators of said estate and grant Letters of Independent Administration to same.

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

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

Given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in Gonzales, Texas, on March 11, 2024.

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

By: *Margie Zapata*
Margie Zapata, Deputy

Plaintiff(s) Attorney;
Robert Bland
P O Box 119
Gonzales, Texas 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-2437
Email: rbland@gvec.net



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SUNSHINE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

action. The act presumes records are open unless there's a specific exemption in the law. This places power in the hands of the people, and rightly so.

What can block the way, though, is a government ignoring or stalling an information request, which defies the law's mandate to provide records "promptly," meaning as soon as possible "without delay."

Government's failure to respond results in an information blackout. In most cases, a government agency in Texas cannot decide on its own to withhold records and must ask permission to do so from the attorney general's office, which rules on whether the law allows it.

Unfortunately, it's becoming more common for governments to abuse or overuse the attorney general ruling process; to charge outrageously high prices for producing documents; or to simply flout the public records law.

Since the May 2022 mass shooting at Robb Elementary School, the Uvalde Leader-News has made multiple records requests related to the tragedy. Among other roadblocks it has encountered, the newspaper has yet to receive the total compensation amounts paid to Uvalde school district administrators who were terminated or resigned after the shooting.

Other examples abound. A city in the Rio Grande Valley never replied to repeated requests for city manager applications until The Monitor newspaper reported the non-responsiveness. City officials finally said there weren't any applications. In San Antonio, bird enthusiasts complain they have

not received all the city records they requested related to tactics used to remove migratory birds from a local park.

Craig Garnett, the Leader-News publisher, wrote in one of his columns that government entities have "learned to play word games with open records requests, to assert that they have no such records in their possession or simply lie about what they have turned over." He added: "They do so because there are absolutely no consequences for them to do otherwise."

The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas and other members of the diverse Texas Sunshine Coalition have urged the state Legislature to close loopholes in the Public Information Act and add enforcement measures to the law.

Although many public officials understand they are the custodians of the people's records and are committed to carrying out the letter and spirit of the Public Information Act, others must be pushed in that direction.

The Texas Public Information Act, now 50 years old, states that the act shall be construed in favor of granting a request for information and that "government is the servant and not the master of the people."

Without the free flow of information, the people are in the dark. We need plenty of sunlight to ensure our government is answerable to us.

Kelley Shannon is executive director of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, a nonprofit organization based in Austin that advocates for open government and free speech.

HISTORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

through Texas from West to East, destroying everything in the paths, killing every Texan they could find.

General Sam Houston came to Gonzales two days after the arrival of Susannah Dickinson. He had been designated by the Constitutional Convention, held at Washington on the Brazos a few days earlier, as the commander of the Texas Army. He was sent to Gonzales to re-organize the troops, and prepare for military conflict with the Republic of Mexico.

When General Houston heard the shocking news from Susannah Dickinson, he immediately ordered the evacuation of Gonzales and Green Dewitt's colony, and instructed the citizens to head eastward as rapidly as they could. The departure of the citizens began during the night of March 13th, and is titled by historians as the Runaway Scrape. As he was leaving, General Houston set fire to the town of Gonzales to prevent it falling into enemy hands.

Santa Anna viewed the Texans as traitors, not as enemy soldiers. The Texans were traitors, said Santa Anna, because they had sworn allegiance to Mexico and her laws, and were now openly disobeying those laws. So, Santa Anna and his generals led their troops eastward, having vowed to rid Texas of its Anglo inhabitants, wanting to drive the Texans across the Sabine River into Louisiana.

One Mexican general with his troops took a northeast route from San Antonio; another through Gonzales; a third pursued the Texans along a southerly route; another general was already moving along the Gulf coast — all moving east, rushing, pushing, chasing the Texans ahead of them, killing the ones they caught, destroying everything along the way.

Fear drove our first citizens of Gonzales and Green DeWitt's Colony — the fear of death, the fear of being chased, the fear of being pursued. Our people ran, then walked, then stumbled and fell. Got up — kept moving — may we please just stop for a rest — just

for a few minutes — I cannot go on any longer — I must rest — our people being chased — by someone who wants to kill them.

And the days of chase turn into weeks, with inadequate food and nourishment; many of us, many of our people, consumed by fatigue, sapped of strength from illness caused by the harsh, wet cold of early Spring — many of us fall to the ground; unable to keep going lying where we fell reaching out and wishing for the peace and rest brought by death. Our people are being chased by someone who wants to kill them.

Babies were born during the chase. Some of these babies died, mothers, too. Being forced to get up off the wet ground, the place of birth — must keep moving; keep going; keep running — being chased by someone who wants to kill them.

The older ones cannot sustain the pace — they move slower and slower — What to do? Slow the pace and risk being overtaken by the Mexican troops — or leave our older citizens behind — leave our sick behind — and save ourselves?

The life of our first citizens was hard — the people of Gonzales and Green DeWitt's Colony suffered greatly in their efforts to start a new life. They did not anticipate when they came here that this new life would include being chased by someone who wants to kill them.

"Come on, baby girl," he urged. "Oh, Daddy. I AM SO TIRED. Are we almost there?" she pleaded. "Come here, Sugar," he said, "Let me carry you for a while. We will be there soon, we are almost there." "Thank you, Daddy. I am so tired,"

Some of us made it, and some of us did not. Some of us made it to Louisiana, and some of us are buried between here and there.

We were being chased by someone who wanted to kill us.

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Olympic dog paddling?

Howdy folks, hope all is well. Today's title might seem a little confusing, but it popped into mind during this week's series of workouts. While there is no actual dog paddling event on the current Olympic roster, it is by any definition, still considered swimming. It's one of the first maneuvers most of us were taught when learning how to swim, and will still be practiced from time to time, especially as we get older. It'll keep many of us senior citizens from experiencing one of those "Help, I've fallen into the pool and can't get out" moments...Blup...Blup! Yep, senior moments can, and often do, take many different forms. Seeing that I was a Gymnast in high school, now if I can get both shoes on the correct feet in under a minute, I expect the judges to reward me with scores of at least 7.8 or higher. And yes, I do appreciate the senior handicap for wearing slip-ons, as even with old age shrinkage, the floor somehow does seem to be getting farther away?

Continuing with our "fit for '24 series", we're still concentrating on the resistance (strength) training aspect of things. While there is a myriad of health benefits (listed in upcoming articles), I have to admit that the word "strength" has had many varied connotations along the journey. I no longer say I pump iron, today it's more like pumping tin foil. Just gotta



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

be happy with what ever we can do at any given time, or else it'll drive us crazy, and let's be honest, we're probably all a little crazier than we'd like to be anyway. The weights I used in my youth would now just leave an Eric shaped bloody / chunky stain on the floor, so tin foil it is.

That being said, new research suggests that even with lighter weights, fair strength and growth increases are still possible if you push hard enough to stimulate the muscles (ie. the last few reps are somewhat tough). I've found this to be absolutely true. This morning, just for kicks, I measured my arms and they managed to stretch the tape to just over 15 1/2 inches at 66 years of age. Yep, getting uglier, but at least my biceps haven't fallen off yet!

While getting older may have some advantages (still trying to figure those out), strength, endurance and recovery aren't really among them. During the "good old days" I could hit a bodypart heavy twice a week, now even with lighter weights and higher reps, once is more than suf-

ficient and allows for reasonable recovery. I was both surprised and happy to find that this approach works as well as it does, and allows me the health benefits without injuries, sore joints and exhaustion, and is highly recommended to people of all ages. Unless you're a competitive athlete, there's really no need to half kill yourself, unless your ego gets the better of you, causing some form of temporary insanity, as muscle and strength gains are temporary themselves if you back off for a while.

At this stage of life it's all about health, mobility and just finishing the journey without prematurely falling apart. Don't worry, you young'uns will understand this at some point. Unfortunately, when we're young we can't feel the future yet and don't treat ourselves with enough respect, I know I didn't. How's the saying go, if I knew I'd last this long I would've treated myself better. It seems us humans have the uncanny ability to get overzealous and beat ourselves up in all areas: relationships, business, health, politics, religion etc., without ever stopping to figure out if the results will be proportionate to the effort. If only we had a time machine, but realistically, if I could start over, knowing what I know now, I'd probably just make all new mistakes.

Love you guys, Eric.

Henson Chapel UMC annual Good Friday fish fry

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Henson Chapel UMC, which is "Transforming Communities Through the Power of Love" at 1107 St. Andrew St., Gonzales, will hold its annual Good Friday fish fry on Friday, March 29, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Plates include two crispy farm-raised catfish fillets, homemade tartar sauce, delicious trimmings, dessert, and a cold drink for \$15. They deliver as well.

For more information, call 830-285-1244.

Presbyterian Church sets Easter schedule

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The Presbyterian Church of Gonzales welcomes everyone to join in their Easter services.

Maudy Thursday and Tenebrae will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28.

Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. for Easter Sunday, March 31, followed by Easter Sunday services at 10 a.m.

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Leesville Baptist Church E. of Highway 80 on CR 121	CHURCHES OF GOD Community Church of God 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales	Smiley Methodist Church 1 blk. S. of Hwy. 87, Smiley	PRESBYTERIAN Pilgrim Presbyterian Church CR 210 off FM 1116
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LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office
02/18/24 – 02/24/24

02/18/24

• Filip, Krystal Lynn, 03/1981, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Poss CS PG 1>+4G<200G, Requires \$25,000 Bond; Local Warrant – Poss CS PG 1<1G, 1 Bond all Counts; Remains in Custody

02/20/24

• Ayala, Aaron, 02/1988, Sugarland: Warrantless/On-view – Theft, Released – Order to appear WMC

02/22/24

• Gomez-Quintanilla, Jose Angel, 01/2002, Houston: Local Warrant – Driving while Intoxicated, Requires \$1,500 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Immigration Detainer, Remains in Custody

02/23/24

• Fullilove, Jonathan Bobby, 03/2000, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Poss Marij <2oz, Released – Weekender

• Riojas, Coty John, 06/1987, Nixon: Commitment/Sentence – Criminal Mischief >=\$100 <\$750, Released – Weekender

• Hernandez, Isabel Marie, 05/1985, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Theft Prop >=\$2,500 <\$30k, Released – Weekender

• Balderas, Jose Adam, 02/1977, Austin: Local Warrant – Unauth use of Vehicle, Requires \$15,000 Bond; Local Warrant – Bail Jumping and Fail to Appear Felony, Requires \$50,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

• Cannan, Amanda Marie, 09/1991, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Poss CS PG 1<1G, Released – Weekender

• Ramirez, Kimberly Elida, 02/1986, Nixon: Other Agency Hold – Parole Violation, Remains in Custody

02/24/24

• Blackshear, Valquette Taylor, 05/1968, Katy: Other Agency Hold – Fraud Use/Poss Identifying Info #Items 5<10, Requires \$15,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Fraud Use/Poss Identifying Info #Items 5<10, 1 Bond all Counts; Other Agency Hold – Theft Prop >=\$2,500 <\$30K, 1 Bond all Counts; Other Agency Hold – Money Laundering >=\$2,500 <\$30k, Released – \$15,000 Bond

• Abdiel, Santiago Fernando, 03/1997, Seguin: Warrantless/On-View – Traffic Offense, Order to Appear JP1, Other Agency Hold – Immigration Detainer, Released – Picked up by ICE

• Gentry, Fredrick Lean,

06/1970, Austin: Other Agency Hold – Parole Violation, Remains in Custody

• Morgan, Andrea Dawn, 06/1987, Maxwell: Warrantless/On-View – Public Intoxication, Released – Order to Appear JP1

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

GCSO	13
DPS	03
GPD	02
WPD	00
NPD	02
GISD	01
SMO	00
Constable 1	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	21

02/25/24 – 03/02/24

02/25/24

• Stevenson, Linda Kay, 12/1970, Waelder: Warrantless/On-View – Tamper/Fabricate Phys Evid W/Intent to Impair, Released - \$5,000 Bond

02/26/24

• Carballea-Prieto, Marlon Michel, 01/2001, Austin: Local Warrant – Viol of Motor Fuel Tax Requirements, Requires \$50,000 Bond; Local Warrant – Viol of Motor Fuel Tax Requirements, 1 bond all counts; Released – Transfer to Burleson Co.

• Porter, Derek Dale, 09/1979, Cost: Warrantless/On-View – Assault Int/Reck Breath/Circ Fam Mem Prev Conv, Requires Bond \$250,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Parole Violation, Remains in Custody

02/28/24

• McDowell, Rochelle Dinai, 02/1971, Austin: Warrantless/On-View – Poss CS PG 1/1-B>=1G <4G, Released \$6,500 Bond

03/01/24

• Fullilove, Jonathan Bobby, 03/200, Gonzales:

Commitment/Sentence – Poss Marij <2oz, Released – Weekend

• Riojas, Coty John, 06/1987, Nixon: Commitment/Sentence – Criminal Mischief >=\$100<\$750, Released – Weekender

• Hernandez, Isabel Marie, 05/1985, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Theft Prop >=\$2,500 <\$30K, Released – Weekender

• Cannan, Amanda Marie, 09/1991, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Poss CS PG 1 <1G, Released – Weekender

• Almaguer, Manuel, Jr., 08/1982, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Arson Intend Damage Habitat/Place of Worship, Commitment/Sentence - Arson Intend Damage Habitat/Place of Worship, Released – Weekender

• Rivas, John Lee, 08/1980, Mathis: Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1<1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1<1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

• Rivas, Daisy Maria, 08/1984, Mathis: Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS

PG 1<1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond, Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1 <1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1 >=1G<4G, Requires \$10,000 Bond, Remains in Custody

• Silva, Marcus Anthony, 07/1988, Mathis: Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1<1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1<1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond, Remains in Custody

• Baker, Jason Scott, 10/1962, Lake City: Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1>=4G<200G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1>=4G<200G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Released – Transfer San Patricio Co.

• Ruiz, Crystal, 12/1982, Mathis: Other Agency Hold Man Del CS PG 1>=1G<4G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1>=1G<4G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

• Coronado, Jesus Rodriguez, 06/1966, Mathis: Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1<1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Assault Peace Officer/Judge, Requires \$50,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

• Guerra, Gaspar, 09/1968, Mathis: Other

Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1<1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1<1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

• Bernal, Bernardo, Jr, 10/1987, Mathis: Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1<1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Man Del CS PG 1<1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Poss CS PG1>=4G<200G, Remains in Custody

03/02/24

• Hayes, Michael Ray, Jr, 05/1977, Harwood: Other Agency Hold – Fail to ID Fugitive Frm Justice Rescue to Give, Remains in Custody

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

GCSO	18
DPS	03
GPD	01
WPD	01
NPD	06
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	29

OBITUARY

CARMEN OLMOS



FORT WORTH, TEXAS — Carmen Olmos, 80, passed away on Thursday, February 29, 2024.

Rosary: 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, 2024, in Mount Olivet Chapel.

Funeral: 11 a.m. Thursday, March 14, 2024, at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church.

Interment: Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Carmen was born in Nueva Rosita, Coahuila, Mexico, on November 9, 1943. She was the fifth of 10 children born to Juan and Elena Zertuche. When Carmen was 9 years old the family immigrated back to Gonzales, Texas where her parents had met and married before settling in Mexico where her father owned land with his brothers. Carmen entered North Avenue Elementary speaking little or no English. She excelled in school and was soon a top student in her class consistently recognized for her academic prowess and being a model student. In high school she participated and was an officer in the school's pep squad and the girls' athletics association. She achieved recognition as a National Honor Society member for her academic achievements. As a teenager she loved to dance. She and her cousin, Cosmito knew or could work out all the latest steps and taught their friends. Carmen was quite the fashionista and seamstress as well. During her teen years she made many of her own clothes and outfitted herself and younger sisters with prom formals. Being the first in her family to graduate from high school in 1964, Carmen set a high bar for her siblings. They credit her for paving the way for them to succeed in school as well. Always a top student in the school's secretarial training program and being bilingual in Spanish and English, she was offered a coveted secretarial position with a local attorney immediately upon graduation in 1964. She worked there until getting married in 1968 to Cleofas (J.R.) Olmos Jr., of Fort Worth, Texas. He allegedly "swept her off her feet" with his dancing skills. They were both excellent dancers and a cool couple to watch in the Tejano dance halls around Ft. Worth and Gonzales. After moving to Fort Worth in 1968, she worked as a legal assistant for Fort Worth attorney Robert Doby Jr., until her retirement in 2019.

Apart from raising her family, Carmen was always a patron of the arts. She loved literature, especially Latino authors like Isabelle Allende and Victor Villaseñor. She also loved music, especially female vocalists. Carmen was also a huge fan of mariachi music. She loved all the great mariachi female vocalists, Lola Beltran, Flor Silvestre, Rocio Durcal, and especially Linda Ronstadt who was more contemporary to her life experience. As her children entered school, she always emphasized the value of education and played a vital part in bringing mariachi to J.P. Elder Middle School in Fort Worth ISD. Carmen was fondly referred to as a "mariachi mama" by many kids in the program. She then continued to support the mariachi programs in the schools even after her kids graduated. When her son Jay played baseball, she learned how to complete an official score book to track his stats. In her retirement, she enjoyed crossword puzzles, cross-stitching, and keeping up with her flower gardens. She spent time with her grandkids teaching them how to properly plant and care for her flowers. Her grandkids were her pride and joy and she enjoyed watching them participate in all their favorite activities. She watched every game of the 2023 Texas Rangers season. Scolding J.R. if he tried to change the TV during any of the games - she was so happy to witness them finally win the World Series.

Carmen was preceded in death by her parents Juan and Elena Zertuche, and sister Juanita Zertuche.

Survivors: Loving husband, Cleofas (J.R.) Olmos Jr.; children, Juan "John" Luis Olmos and wife Mariza Saenz Olmos, Rachel Olmos Rueda and husband, Roberto Rueda Jr., Cleofas "Jay" Olmos III and wife Barbra Olmos; grandchildren, Alexis Elena Olmos, Jasmy Celeste Olmos, Gabriella Danielle Olmos, Roberto Rueda III and Rosa Elena Rueda; and her siblings, Teresa Deleon, Elvira Luera, Maria Louisa Colunga, Lupe Martinez, Rose Rodriguez, Frances Hardaway, and Juan Zertuche.

Carmen's passing leaves a deep void for all her family. They remember one of her favorite inspirational quotes "Querer es Poder" as they move forward to continue her legacy.

To plant Memorial Trees in memory of Carmen Olmos, please click here to visit our Sympathy Store.

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E bcaka@txfb-ins.com

FARM&RANCH / ANNUITIES / MEDSUP

Gonzales Healthcare Systems

March 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
Austin MFM	Dr. Echols	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	Amy Trost Dr. Miller
Austin MFM Dr. Malik Dr. Desai	Dr. Echols Dr. Quintero	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Twitero	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	Dr. Bui
Austin MFM	Dr. Echols	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller	Dr. Ryan Dr. Malik Dr. Echols	
Austin MFM	Dr. Echols	Dr. Quebedeaux	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols Dr. Kirchner	

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

Chiropractic
Jeff Echols, DC
512-799-6811

Dermatology
Vicente Quintero, MD
830-626-5551

Nephrology
Azhar M. Malik, MD
361-576-0011
Yong Du, MD
361-576-0011

Obstetrics
Alyson Kirchner, MD, OBGYN
830-379-1500

Pain Management
Eric Miller, MD
830-272-7746

Urology
Robert Ryan, III, MD
830-379-8491

Ophthalmology
Joseph Kavanagh, MD
830-379-3937

Orthopedics
Trent Twitero, MD
830-625-0009

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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BISHOP HONORED



LEW K. COHN

Bishop George C. Sampleton of Inspiration Pentecostal Church of the Apostolic Faith in Bastrop was recently honored by the City of Bastrop and Mayor Lyle Nelson "for his tireless service to his church and community" as the city celebrated Black History Month in February 2024. Sampleton is a Gonzales native who graduated from Gonzales High School not long after the high school integrated in the 1960s. He is a published author, with his book "Don't Give Up Keep the Faith" in the collection of more than 45 university libraries.

BINGO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

April 19. The night will be filled with fun, fashion, music, and, hopefully, the generosity of the community as everyone comes together to celebrate and raise funds for Norma's House, The Gonzales Regional Advocacy Center serving Gonzales, Lavaca and DeWitt counties.

The event will be held from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Expo Center, 2301 County Road 197, Gonzales. Corporate tables were made available for \$500 with reserved seating for eight, plus eight bingo cards, finger foods and two bottles of wine. Meanwhile, individual tickets were \$50 per person (including admission, one bingo card and finger foods). This event has been sold out, at this time, per the Norma's House official website (normashouse.net).

A favorite for many in Gonzales County, this fundraiser features multiple rounds of bingo played for high-end designer purses which are first "modeled" by local first responders — firefighters, police officers, EMTs and others who strut their stuff down the runway to entice attendees to tip them extra dollars that are collected for the Gonzales Regional Children's Advocacy Center, better known as Norma's House.

There are also door prizes, a silent auction and a beer and wine cash bar— with a live emcee to keep things lively and fun.

Prior year's events have raised more than \$55,000 per event for Norma's House, a record amount, according to executive director Deane Parsley-Novosad, who has sent out a request for local businesses and individuals to donate the following items to help make the event successful:

- designer purses and "bling" jewelry items for Bingo or silent auction items.
- silent auction and door prizes
- monetary donations for refreshments and other expenses
- bottled water
- bottles of wine

Norma's House has been serving Gonzales County for 26 years and is one of 70 children's advocacy centers in the state. It is a place where children and families affected by sexual and physical abuse can come for help and hope, tell their stories and receive services to start them on the road to recovery and justice.

For more information about how to help donate or to help Norma's House, call 830-672-1278.

FIRE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Kyle Miller said last week.

Miller, a graduate of Gonzales High School, has witnessed firsthand in Canadian the devastation caused by the Smokehouse Creek fire, which has consumed more than 1 million acres, destroyed some 500 buildings, killed scores of livestock and other animals and claimed several lives.

Miller's sister and brother-in-law, Kelly and Ricky Lester, as well as his niece Loni Kay Yates, have spearheaded the relief efforts in Gonzales County. The Lesters, who own a Gonzales County ranch, not only donated goods but also the use of their truck and trailer, which has taken two truck loads of items such as water, vet supplies, fencing supplies, animal feed and even monetary donations.

"In short, I cannot tell you how overwhelmed with gratitude the people of Canadian are for the supplies and support that Gonzales County has gathered and transported up here," Miller said. "I cannot thank Ricky, Kelly and Loni enough for what they have done for Hemphill County. We have already distributed most of the feed that arrived Sunday, and the fencing material will be put into use shortly. The feed and vet supplies are going out almost as fast as they come in. The water donations were a tremendous help.

"One cannot imagine the impact that a delivery such as this has on the morale of those on the receiving end. In the midst of what is certainly the worst moments in the lives of so many here, the thought that someone nine hours away cares enough to send supplies is humbling and gratifying. Sometimes living in the Panhandle feels like living at the end of the Earth. To know that so many people contributed to the relief effort here is overwhelming."

Now called the largest wildfire in Texas history, it is believed the Smokehouse Creek fire began on Feb. 26 near Stinnett in Hutchinson County when a power line that was on a decaying Xcel Energy pole fell into a grassy area and ignited sparks, according to a report from a Texas A&M Forest Service investigator.

High winds helped spread the blaze until it burned 1,058,482 acres. It was reportedly 89 percent contained as of Tuesday, March 12. A second fire, the Windy Deuce, appeared to have started the

same day as the Smokehouse Creek fire at an oil field in Moore County when a power line made contact with tree limbs, causing a spark that fell into the grass below. It was unclear which company owned that power line.

The Windy Deuce fire had burned 144,045 acres and was 94 percent contained as of March 12. A third fire, the Grape Vine Creek fire, burned 34,883 acres from its origin point in Gray County and was fully contained as of March 11.

Miller called the devastation in the Panhandle "incredible" and drew upon a historical reference to explain what he has seen.

"One is reminded of pictures from the Dresden bombing campaign in World War II," Miller said. "So many animals were unable to avoid the flames, and the suffering endured by those animals is simply horrific. Many ranchers ran out of ammunition to put burned animals down. At least 40 families no longer have homes, and escaped with the clothes on their backs and little else.

"Imagine the illusion of security and safety that one normally feels in one's home suddenly being shattered, the lifetime of stored memorabilia and comforts that people surround themselves with wiped out almost in an instant. It illustrates a very harsh truth: nothing in this world is meant to last, and nothing one has or owns cannot be taken away by forces beyond comprehension."

Miller said many families are having to struggle not only with the grief of losing all of their belongings, which have to and yet can't all be replaced, as well as the realization they must find a new place to call home.

"The next few months are going to be incredibly difficult for these families," Miller said. "We are so far from any major metropolitan area or major population center that rebuilding is a challenge. There are few builders up here, and fewer still who can make money building something 100 miles away from the nearest Home Depot. The housing situation will be an ongoing crisis here for some time."

Miller noted there was more than enough available fuel for the fire due to a perfect storm of conditions: overgrown acreage and dry weather which increased the flammability of the Panhandle prairies.

"A lot of the issue had to do with a very good rainfall year for us two years ago, and having a drought summer this year," Miller said. "Ranchers for years have benefitted from CRP land programs that require them to allow their acreage to grow wild, but this creates an almost unimaginable danger. It is an unappreciated danger, especially unappreciated by government officials in Austin or Washington who cannot find Canadian on a map. There was so much dry grass and sagebrush that fire had plenty of raw fuel.

"There are also environmental differences between the Texas Panhandle and Central Texas that exacerbate fire conditions. Having grown up in Gonzales, 70+mph winds aren't really an issue down there. Certainly a 40-foot high wall of flame being pushed at the speed of the wind is rare in Central Texas, fortunately. One has no idea how fast fire can move in these conditions until one has experienced it, and that is not something I recommend to anyone. Suffice to say; when authorities give the order to evacuate, one should listen."

The experience has been both horrific and humbling, Miller added.

"We saw firsthand how amazing our Lord is," he said. "Despite over a million acres of land burned, over 40 homes lost, and thousands of livestock animals killed; the loss of human life was zero in Hemphill County. The outpouring of support from around the country has been amazing. The Texas A&M Agriculture and Extension agents from around the state have done incredible work, and I strongly suggest that Aggies be placed in charge of relief efforts any time a disaster strikes in the world. They truly responded above and beyond the call of duty.

"I am sure there will be forthcoming words of thanks from the leaders in our community. For myself, I cannot tell you how blessed I am to have the family that I have. I am so thankful to them for helping this community with relief supplies and prayer, and so thankful that my hometown thought enough of people nine hours away to send aid in a time like this. Again, thank you all so much. Words honestly cannot express what all of this means to the people in Hemphill County."



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ACROSS

- 1 home to giant catfish in east Texas: "Lake _ _ Pines"
- 5 TXism: " _ like I was chewed up and spit out"
- 6 TXism: "sounds like a dry _ (bad singer)"
- 7 TXism: "useless as panty _ on a pig"
- 8 TX Charley Pride's "Then Who _"
- 9 a question in 1991 College Bowl won by Rice: "vexillology" (study _ _)
- 16 a Texas pond
- 18 refuses to follow accepted doctrine
- 21 great TCU lineman Charles " _ " Aldrich
- 22 Texas or Nevada town
- 23 "The Turtle Lady," TX Loetscher
- 24 building face
- 30 O. Henry story: "A Fog _ _"
- 34 TXism: "chompin' _ the bit" (eager)
- 35 Ranger Juan was _ in 1999
- 36 big party at the governor's mansion
- 37 TXism: "wipe the slate clean"
- 39 once a source of gold in Texas (2 wds.)
- 43 TXism: "knocked my _ off (amazed me)"

- 44 event at Luling's "Watermelon Thump": seed _ _
- 45 Texas soda: _ Pepper
- 46 ERA to TX Nolan Ryan
- 47 in Upshur County on U.S. 259 (2 wds.)
- 49 a fancy speech
- 52 TX Cassidy ("Lurch") of "The Addams Family"
- 53 TXism: " _ could strut sitting down" (big ego)

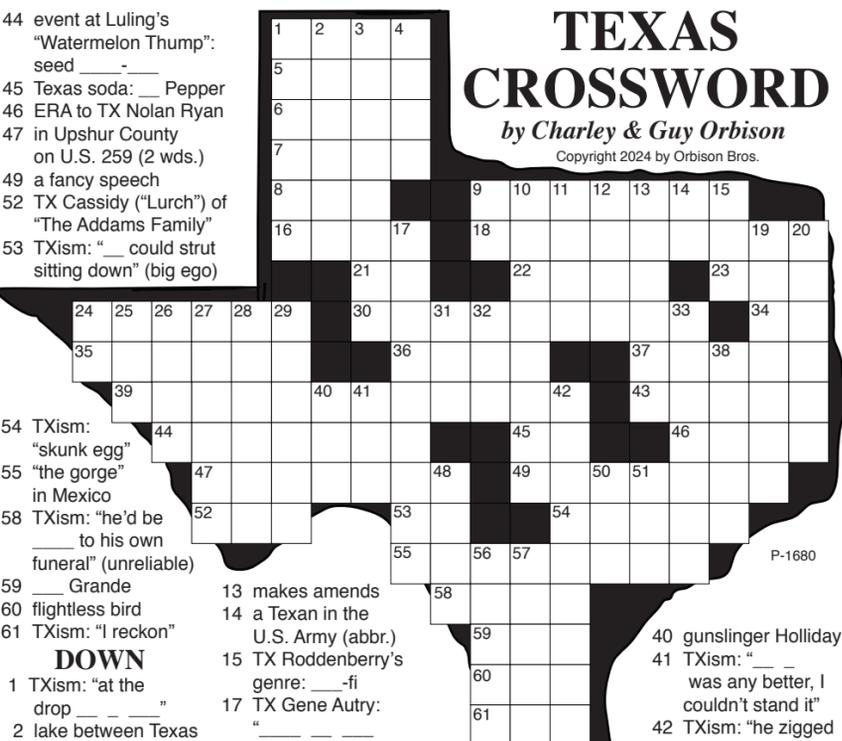
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- 36 _ _
- 37 _ _
- 38 _ _
- 39 _ _
- 40 _ _
- 41 _ _
- 42 _ _
- 43 _ _
- 44 TXism: "skunk egg"
- 45 "the gorge" in Mexico
- 47 _ _
- 48 _ _
- 49 _ _
- 50 _ _
- 51 _ _
- 52 TXism: "he'd be _ to his own funeral" (unreliable)
- 53 _ _
- 54 _ _
- 55 _ _
- 56 _ _
- 57 _ _
- 58 _ _
- 59 _ Grande
- 60 flightless bird
- 61 TXism: "I reckon"

DOWN

- 1 TXism: "at the drop _ _"
- 2 lake between Texas and Oklahoma
- 3 TX Browing won gold in diving in _ , Finland
- 4 Gen. Robert _
- 9 TX Roy Orbison's " _ Pretty Woman"
- 10 San _ Cathedral is oldest cathedral in Texas
- 11 worry
- 12 Carson successor
- 13 makes amends
- 14 a Texan in the U.S. Army (abbr.)
- 15 TX Roddenberry's genre: _-fi
- 17 TX Gene Autry: " _ _ Cowboys"
- 19 person from the biggest state by area up-to-date
- 20 _ _
- 24 _ Worth, TX (abbr.)
- 25 in Smith County on highway 135
- 26 ex-Cowboy Aikman once owned dealership that sold these
- 27 TXism: "hot as _ _ stove"

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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SUDOKU

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

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.

SALES TAX ALLOCATIONS

County	City	Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change	Payment YTD	Prior Year Payment YTD	% Change
Gonzales	Gonzales	1.500%	\$205,872.99	\$244,508.72	-15.80%	\$732,045.20	\$807,214.53	-9.31%
Gonzales	Nixon	1.500%	\$28,994.93	\$31,317.44	-7.41%	\$94,184.92	\$103,001.22	-8.55%
Gonzales	Smiley	1.000%	\$2,700.40	\$1,967.82	37.22%	\$10,222.83	\$9,029.01	13.22%
Gonzales	Waelder	1.500%	\$9,519.47	\$9,544.32	-0.26%	\$30,077.00	\$30,887.41	-2.62%

County	Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change	Payment YTD	Prior Year Payment YTD	% Change
Gonzales	0.500%	\$217,229.39	\$184,618.67	17.66%	\$984,912.42	\$656,315.50	50.06%

ALLOCATIONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

barely over the \$244,508.72 that Gonzales received by itself last March.

And it's not just Gonzales County that is feeling the pinch. Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced he sent cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$980.9 million in local sales tax allocations for March, 2.2 percent less than in March 2023.

These allocations are based on sales made in January by businesses that report tax monthly.

For the year, Gonzales County municipalities have received a combined total of \$866,529.95, down \$83,602.22 or 8.8 percent from the \$950,132.17 received as of this point last year.

Sales tax allocations for March 2024 for Gonzales, the largest city in the county which generates the lion's share of sales tax revenue, were just \$205,872, down 15.8

“It is concerning and something we are monitoring, but we don't feel like we are in a crisis right now. We will certainly pay attention to it and do what we can to make sure we stay within the confines of our budget.”

— Tim Crow, City Manager

percent or \$38,635.73 from the \$244,508.72 the city received last March.

It marked the worst March allocation for the city since March 2021, when the city received just \$186,048.48, and the worst month overall since October 2021, when the city only received \$199,162.74. For comparison, in March 2020, which is for sales from the January just before shutdowns caused by COVID-19, the city received \$236,744.15.

For the year, the city has received 732,045.20, down 9.31 percent or \$75,169.33 from the \$807,214.53 Gonzales had

received at this point in 2023.

“We are certainly paying attention to the sales tax,” City Manager Tim Crow said. “We have been trending downward this year and we are only about halfway through at this point. We can't predict the future economic outlook for the city, but it seems like with higher inflation, people are holding onto as much of their money for as long as possible.”

Crow noted the COVID-19 pandemic created a reduction in sales tax about three years ago but people had started to spend money again, which had led to an increase in sales tax

allocations in the past several years.

“I really believe that an increase in inflation has created some uncertainty for spending,” Crow said. “It is concerning and something we are monitoring, but we don't feel like we are in a crisis right now. We will certainly pay attention to it and do what we can to make sure we stay within the confines of our budget.”

Waelder received a total of \$9,519.47, down just \$24.85 or 0.26 percent from the \$9,544.32 received in March 2023. For the year, Waelder has received a total of \$30,077, or just \$810.41 less than the \$30,887.41 the city had received through this time last year.

Sales tax receipts for Nixon were \$28,994.93, down 7.41 percent or \$2,322.51 from the \$31,317.44 received in March 2023. For the year, the city has received \$94,184.92, 8.55 percent or \$8,816.30 less than the \$103,001.22 received through

this time last year.

Finally, Smiley's sales tax receipts were \$2,700.40, an increase of 37.22 percent or \$732.58 more than the \$1,967.82 received in March 2023. For the year, Smiley is the only city in the black, having received \$10,222.83, or 13.22 percent more than the \$9,029.01 received through the first three months of 2023.

Three cities in Gonzales County — Gonzales, Nixon and Waelder — collect a 1.5 percent sales tax rate, while Smiley collects a 1 percent sales tax.

Gonzales County itself also receives a 0.5 percent sales and use tax and for the month of March 2024, the county received \$217,229.39, 17.66 percent or \$32,610.72 more than the \$184,618.67 received in March 2023. For the year, the county has received \$984,912.42, 50.06 percent more than the \$656,315.50 received through this point last year.

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- Flag Day – June 14th,
- Independence Day – July 4th,
- Labor Day – the first Monday in September,
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- Veteran's Day – November 11th.

Your subscription helps the Knights of Columbus with charitable donations to organizations such as: High School Scholarships, Little League, Deaf Charities, Gonzales Livestock Show, Norma's House, and many others.

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UPCOMING ELKS LODGE #2413 EVENTS

- March 15 - Elk's Alvis Malatak Scholarship Fishing Tournament Sign Up - 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. @ Gonzales Elks Lodge
- March 16 - Elk's Alvis Malatak Scholarship Fishing Tournament Weigh in - 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. @ Gonzales Elks Lodge
- April 5 - Elk's Prime Rib Dinner (\$50 per meal) and Installation of Officers - 6 p.m. @ Gonzales Elks Lodge
- April 6 - Elk's Sweetheart Shrimp

- Boil (\$30 all you can eat) - 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. @ Gonzales Elks Lodge
- April 8 - Elk's National Foundation Drive-thru Meal Spaghetti (\$13) - 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. @ Gonzales Elks Lodge
- April 22 - Elk's Sweetheart Drive-thru Meal Rib Plate (\$15) - 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. @ Gonzales Elks Lodge
- May 4 - First Shot Cookoff - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. - @ Texas Elks Camp, Ottine, TX.

COOK-OFF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

First Shot Cook-Off was first held in September 2007 and was founded by Elks member Shirley Breitschopf, who oversaw 14 iterations of the event at the JB Wells Park and Expo Center through September 2020. Teams came from as far away as Harlingen and Houston to compete in the Cook-off with hundreds of local residents acting as judges and volunteers to make sure things ran smoothly. Unfortunately, COVID-19 and other factors led to the event being discontinued in 2021, 2022 and 2023, but the Elks Lodge moved the competition up from fall to spring this year and are looking forward to a return to the glory days of not so long ago.

The competition fee for each category is \$15, except for CASI chili, which is \$20. Teams entering all seven categories can get a \$20 savings and pay a total of \$90 to enter instead of \$110. Entry forms can be mailed to Texas Elks Children's Services, 1963 FM 1586, Gonzales, TX 78629, or turned in on the day of the cook-off in person. Registration/check-in and container pickup is from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Doyle Pollard RV Park Rally Room on Saturday, May 4.

All meats must be inspected before any trimming or marinating. Meat inspection must take place either from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. May 3 or from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. May 4. There will be a five-minute window for each turn in at the Doyle Pollard RV Park Rally Room.

Salsa turn-in is at 11 a.m. Salsa must be prepared from scratch, though the ingredients are the cook's choice. No canned or pre-cooked

salsa is allowed. One container of salsa per team may be entered and it must be turned in with the container provided.

Margarita turn-in 11:30 a.m. The margarita must be prepared from scratch, though the ingredients are the cook's choice. No pre-made margaritas allowed. One container of margarita per team may be entered and it must be turned in with the container provided.

Beef fajitas turn-in is at noon. Fajitas must be cooked on the grounds. Fajita division samples must be beef skirt or flank steak only with no pre-seasoned or marinated meat. All meat must be inspected prior to cooking. Do not include garnish of any kind in the sample container, which must be used for turn-in. Fajitas must be cut into strips a half-inch to one inch wide, enough for five judges.

Beans turn-in is at 1 p.m. They must be cooked from scratch, starting with uncooked beans. Canned beans are not allowed. One pot of beans per team may be entered and it must be turned in with the container provided. Nothing larger than the bean should be put in the turn-in cup. No whole jalapenos are allowed in the turn-in cup.

CASI Chili turn-in is at 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 may be entered and it must be turned in with the container provided.

Chicken Breast turn in is at 3 p.m. Chicken breast only! Meat must be in original packaging until inspected. No prior seasoning or injecting. Enough for five judges is required and one full breast for a showcase piece, no pulled or shredded allowed. No garnish allowed and it must be turned in with the container provided.

Pork Ribs turn in is at 4 p.m. Pork spareribs only! Meat must be in original packaging until inspected. No prior seasoning or injecting. Meat must be cooked on site. Must be turned in with the container provided and enough for five judges required.

There are RV spaces available at the Doyle Pollard RV Park for \$25 per night on a first-come, first-served basis (Sorry, no reservations). There are 46 RV spaces and room for dry camping. Camping sites can be paid for upon arrival. Campers are welcome to come early and stay multiple days!

The RV Park is owned and operated by Texas Elks Children's Services Inc.

For more information about the event, contact Dustin Basquez at 512-644-4247. Entry forms can be found at https://www.facebook.com/events/958563089027380/?active_tab=discussion.

COUNTY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

HR to come under the auspices of County Judge Pat Davis, but the consensus in their last meeting was it should fall under the court. They agreed to pass on the item so it could be placed on the next agenda with the correct verbiage.

There was still some discussion among the court, however, about whether the court even should consider moving HR out from County Auditor Becky Weston's office before commissioners are scheduled to begin working on the next fiscal budget later this year.

"Are we sure we want to do this before budget time?" Precinct 2 Commissioner Donnie Brzozowski asked. "We're gonna hire another employee and it's probably going to cost us \$100,000 by the time we get through moving around and buying the stuff that we need. I haven't had any problems with human resources.

"If the commissioners wanted to make a decision, I think we need to go into an executive session to discuss what's going on because we can't make an informed decision, and all of a sudden, we want to jump up and move it out of the auditor's office and spend that much of the taxpayers' money at this time and we'd have to do a budget amendment. I don't think there's any way the commissioners can make an informed judgment on this unless we know the facts and why we're doing it."

Davis brought up moving HR under his office at the Feb. 26 meeting and both Davis and County Attorney Paul Watkins said other county employees have expressed concerns about interacting with HR when it is located under the same office (County Auditor) where payroll is done. Precinct 1 Commissioner K.O. "Dell" Whiddon told commissioners he thought HR should fall under the court as a whole, a sentiment that the rest of the court agreed with at that time.

Davis said Monday he would need to speak to Watkins to determine if an executive session could be held to discuss the HR position under the Texas Open Meetings Act and also expressed uneasiness talking about private matters that were confidentially told to both him and Watkins by employees.

"Well, how did you and Paul get the information, then, if it's supposed to be private?" Brzozowski asked.

"Paul is actually an attorney for the county and there's a thing called attorney-client relationship where you can't say anything," Davis replied.

"Now wait a minute — a lot of times I'll ask Paul for something and he'll say 'I can't answer that. It's not my expertise.' And he'll always

"I don't think there's any way the commissioners can make an informed judgment on this unless we know the facts and why we're doing it."

—Donnie Brzozowski, Precinct 2 Commissioner

remind me 'I am not the county's attorney,'" Brzozowski said.

"He's not the county's attorney but he is the legal advice for the county," Davis responded.

Brzozowski said he feels Watkins does not answer questions to the satisfaction of the court.

"Well, he dodges the questions a lot of time when I ask him and you've all heard the same thing," Brzozowski said. "It's kind of like, 'Yeah, it's all right if it's this way, but if I don't really like it, I don't have the expertise to handle it.'"

Davis defended Watkins, saying he will defer the county to someone with more experience answering particular questions "because it may be something that he doesn't utilize very often, so there's other people that we can go to for it."

"The majority of the questions or contracts or whatever the case may be, he's very good at answering. If he can't answer it, then he'll let us know that we probably need to look somewhere else," Davis said. "I don't have any problem visiting with Paul. I think he works really good with us."

Davis pledged to make sure the item appears correctly on the next agenda. He did indicate space had been found for the HR office in the basement of the Randle Rather building.

In other action, commissioners agreed to give county employees working outside their normal duties comp time at a rate of time and a half, even if those hours were worked during a holiday week, which would usually require working a full 40 hours outside the holiday before overtime would kick in.

The matter came up after several employees had to help the Elections Administration office during early voting on Friday, March 1, which was a county holiday (Texas Independence Day).

Commissioners at first expressed concern that it might impact the sheriff's office, which has its own way of handling pay during holiday shifts, but Sheriff Keith Schmidt assured them that if a county policy was made involving comp time instead of overtime, it would cause no impact to his deputies.

2024 Gonzales County Livestock Show Champions Keepsake Edition

Including photos, names of grand champions and reserve grand champions from Gonzales, Nixon & Waelder



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