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Thursday, May 23, 2024



GONZALESINQUIRER.COM • FI /GONZALESINQUIRER • ESTABLISHED IN 1853 • GONZALES, TEXAS: HOME OF FLORENCE BAKER



Jaxon Beck, 13, lassos his rope on his horse for the team roping

Four native Gonzales residents will compete in May 25 TJHRA Finals

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

The Texas Junior High Rodeo Finals are coming back to Gonzales with opening ceremonies to be held this Saturday, May 25. Four Gonzales residents will represent their hometown in the finals.

Jaxon Beck, 13, Dyllon Richardson, 14, Emme Albert, 12, and Rhett Richter. 10, all of Gonzales, have qualified for the TJHRA Finals; Albert returns for the second year in a row.

All four are excited to be in the finals.

"It's pretty cool. Its what I've been working for for a year or two now and I'm glad that I've accomplished that goal," Beck

"It feels really good and I'm thankful I have a really good horse," Albert said. All four have been do-

ing rodeo since they were young and are glad to continue it.

"Both sides of my family always rodeoed. I've been around it since I was little bitty. And it just, there's something about it that feels right," Beck said.

Richardson has been showing goats for seven years and has been around all over Texas and he decided to join the rodeo as well, he said.

Albert's father and

See RODEO, page 7

GISD approves \$498,000 **Apache Field makeover**

BY LEW K. COHN

Inquirer Publisher

Apache Field is getting a summer makeover that should be finished in time for the 2024 football season.

At a special meeting Monday,

May 20, the Gonzales ISD Board of Trustees voted to approve contracting with Texas Multi-Chem — also known as TMC Sports Turf — to renovate the stadium's natural grass field at a cost of \$498,400. The money to pay for the project is to come

from the district's fund balance, which currently stands at about \$17 million.

Executive director of operations Gene Kridler told board members there were two options

See FIELD, page 15

THEY DID IT! NIXON-SMILEY CLASS OF 2024 GRADUATES





Left: Nixon-Smiley CISD board members celebrate as salutatorian Claudia Garcia and valedictorian Emmersyn Stone cut the ribbon for the grand opening of the new turf at Mustang Stadium on Friday, May 17. Graduation was the first event held on the new surface. Above: The Nixon-Smiley High School Class of 2024 throw their caps into the air at the end of their commencement exercises on Friday, May 17, at Mustang Stadium. Fifty-nine students received their diplomas. For more photos see page 12.

PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN

Explosion kills one at plant near Westhoff

FROM STAFF, WIRE REPORTS

An explosion at an Advantek Waste Management Services LLC oilfield saltwater disposal plant near Westhoff on Friday, May 17, claimed the life of an employee, according to the DeWitt County Sheriff's Office.

The explosion took place at the plant, located at 14009 Hwy. 87 N, at about 2:50 p.m. Friday and prompted emergency officials to evacuate residents in the Westhoff area for a period of time to ensure

See EXPLOSION, page 15





Judge Gary J. Schroeder swears in Smiley Mayor Lisa Benavidez for a second term Thursday, May 16.

Smiley agrees to turn over all VFD assets to ESD 2

Fire departments in Nixon, Smiley eventually to form Gonzales County South

BY LEW K. COHN

Inquirer Publisher

The City of Smiley officially released the Smiley Volunteer Fire Department and all its assets to Gonzales County **Emergency Services District**

No. 2 on Tuesday, May 21 — an important step towards the eventual creation of a consolidated Gonzales County South Fire Department.

The decision comes almost

See VFD, page 16

Nixon hears report on how high winds knocked out water wells

BY BETTY COHN

Gonzales Inquirer

The severe storm and high winds which hit Nixon on Monday, May 13, not only knocked out electricity at City Hall, but took down three water wells, Interim City Manager Darryl Becker told

the Nixon City Council during their regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 20.

The city is currently in the midst of installing generators at its water wells and wastewater treatment plant through a General Land

See NIXON, page 7

Experience the magic of 'Swan Lake' with Come and Take It Dance

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Prepare to be transported into a world of grace, elegance, and enchantment as Come and Take It Dance proudly presents "Swan Lake"

See DANCE, page 15

GISD announces new principals for GJH, North Avenue

Gonzales ISD has named two new principals to lead the Gonzales Junior High and Gonzales North Avenue campuses for the 2024-25 school year.

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Current Gonzales North Avenue Principal Vanessa Gibson will move to Gonzales Junior High to take over as the top administrator on that campus, while Tamela Baker, who is currently an assistant principal at Gonzales Elementary School, will move to Gonzales North Avenue to head up that campus. The two women will officially assume their new roles on June 3.

GIBSON

Vanessa Gibson has been





serving as principal at North Avenue since the 2022-23 school year and is known for her leadership and building strong bonds with her students and staff. During the 2022-2023 school year, Gibson led the Gonzales North Avenue campus to achieve recognition from Summit K-12's founder and CEO, earning the Texas Top 10 ESL District of the Year for the Writing Domain.

Gonzales North Avenue emerged as a shining example and secured an impressive 10th place among 4,000 Texas schools during the same year in that domain.

Gibson is returning to her roots working with students in the junior high age group, where she spent nine years as a junior high teacher and four years as an assistant principal.

"My time at North Avenue has been some of the best years of my career, getting the opportunity to help shape the lives of our youngest learners," said Vanessa Gibson. "I am so excited for this next chapter and the opportunity to join the Gonzales Junior High team. I look forward to serving the students and community in this new capacity."

Gibson holds a Master's degree in Education Administration from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

Tamela Baker is Gonzales native and graduate of Gonzales High School. She makes a return to a campus she remembers fondly serving.

"Serving the students and teachers of grades three through five is where I spent most of my GISD career. To return as the leader of Gonzales North Avenue is an honor,

privilege and a goal I had always hoped to achieve," said Tamela Baker. "I appreciate this opportunity and am excited to see what 2024-25 holds for us."

Baker taught for 21 years and focused on fourth grade Reading Language Arts (RLA) and self contained education. She served as the team lead for 16 years, one year a reading interventionist and three years as an instructional coach. Baker also served on two TEA teams reviewing STAAR questions and passages.

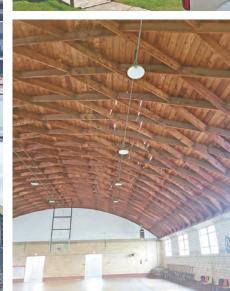
Baker has a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Texas-Tyler and earned a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies from University of Houston-Victoria.

CEILING SAVED











CONTRIBUTED/EDWARDS ASSOCIATION

The "Save The Ceiling Campaign for the old Edwards High School "Gem" is complete. It has been decades since any type of repairs has been made on the roof. The evidence was in the leaks and the double layer of asphalt shingles that were removed. When the shingles were removed the contractor was marveled at the well preserved condition of the decking that was underneath. The "Gem" was built in 1949 and apparently the same quality material as that of the "Lamella" ceiling was used. We are very excited to see this project come to fruition, and it certainly could not have been done without the loving kindness of the Lord and the extreme generosity of this loving commUNITY. From the bottom of our hearts, The Edwards Association says, "Thank you."

Association to hold Memorial Day Service

Veterans Memorial

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales County Veterans Memorial Association will be holding a Memorial Day Service in conjunction with Main Street on Monday, May 27, starting at 7:30 a.m. at the Gonzales County Veterans Memorial site, at 430 Moore St. (next door to DAR house).

This will be the first event to be held at the site. Refreshments will be served by DAR ladies, (water and coffee). Handicap-accessible parking will be available on Moore St. (southside entrance). You may want to bring a lawn chair.

Workforce Solutions Golden Crescent is moving

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The last day for in-person services at the Workforce Center Golden Crescent in Gonzales will be Friday, May 24, 2024.

The Center is vacating its current facility at East Sarah DeWitt Drive, and a new location will be announced soon. The Workforce on Wheels Mobile Unit will be parked at the Gonzales Public Library on June 10 from 9 a.m. till noon to provide in-person services. A formal schedule will be released at another time. You may still call 830-672-2146 for assistance.

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LEY CITY COUNCIL SWORN



Councilman Ellis Villasana shakes Judge Gary J. Schroeder's hand after getting sworn in for another term with the Smiley City Council Wednesday, May 15.

Melva Childress is sworn in by Judge Gary J. Schroeder to serve another term on the Smiley City Council Wednesday,



delebrations

Birthdays

May 23rd Kassaundra Nesbitt Casey Pinckard Suzie Remmers Kirstie Saur

May 24th Don Cartwright Patricia Davis Karen Jacobs

Beverly Munson Janice Ruddock Diann Taylor

May 25th Kacie Brzozowski Henke

Peggy Iley Cassandra Kistler Erin McCray Ayden Ramirez

May 26th Ashley Garcia Martha Jo Guerra Donna Handley Michelle West

May 27th Halie Arriaga Misty Cook Sarah Farrar

Krystal Kelly Becky LaFleur Tiffany Lester Kenna Lucas Trent Marrou Roy Staton

May 28th Charlie Campion Matt Koncaba

Lucille Torres

May 29th Gladys Campion Barbara Friedrich Ruby Hamilton

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Gonzales Weather



May 23 91°/75°

Less humid with times of clouds and sun 6% chance of rain • RealFeel 91



May 24 95°/74°

Mostly sunny and very warm 6% chance of rain • RealFeel 96



May 25 94°/78°

Mostly cloudy and very warm 1% chance of rain • RealFeel 97



May 26

Hot with sunshine and patchy clouds 4% chance of rain ● RealFeel 101



May 27

Mostly cloudy and hot 2% chance of rain • RealFeel 99





Very warm with a blend of



9% chance of rain • RealFeel 99

sun and clouds



May 29 90°/70°

Intervals of clouds and sunshine 20% chance of rain • RealFeel 91

May 27th-June 1st **TJHRA** Finals

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¶/GonzalesInquirer

GONZALESINQUIRER.COM • THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024

BUC DAYS FOOD CHALLENGE





On Saturday, May 11, Gonzales County 4-H Food Challenge Teams placed at the Buc Days Food Challenge contest in Corpus Christi. The Sizzling Sisters Team of Arri Martinez, Ellie Kuehn and Emily Fogle place fourth in the junior division and won \$300. The Come & Cook it Team of Libby Molnoskey, Brenley Massie, and Ava Cook placed fourth in the intermediate division and won \$300. The contest is similar to the television show Chopped. The teams have 40 minutes to create a dish from a secret ingredient and then prepare a five-minute speech full of nutrition facts, USDA MyPlate information, and food safety knowledge. Contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office at 830-672-8531 if you are interested in joining a team.

CONTRIBUTED

O. What annual flowers in the summertime are not eaten by the deer?

A. The most dependably deer proof annual flower in the summer is vinca. Use the Cora vinca where possible because it is not only deer proof, but it is resistant to the fungal disease that melted the foliage and stems in contact with moisture in years past. Some gardeners also list zinnias as deer proof, but they seem to be eaten in some neighborhoods.

Q. The tropical milkweed is a favorite nectar source and egg laying site for Monarch butterflies. Why do some horticulturists recommend that we not use it in our landscapes because it is a non-native milkweed? The native milkweeds are so hard to grow and unattractive.

A. Some researchers recommend that we not use Tropical milkweed because it stays actively growing late into the growing season and may discourage migrating Monarchs from finishing their migration into Mexico. Researchers also suspect that the long growing season

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

may encourage development of micro-organisms that threaten the well being of the butterflies. The feared results are not proven yet.

Q. Is there still time to fertilize our Bermuda grass lawn if it is just now greening up and needs mowing?

A. Yes, go ahead and use a fertilizer such as the slow release 19-5-9 lawn fertilizer where half of the nitrogen is released immediately after it receives rain or irrigation and then the rest is released over the first 4 months of the sum-

Q. We thought our two Mexican lime trees were killed by the freeze last winter but now they are regrowing from the roots in their whiskey barrels. They are only one year old; will they produce fruit this year?

A. They are probably on their own roots so they will eventually produce limes but not this year. Keep them watered and fertilize them with Osmocote now to help them recover. Be ready to protect them from any more freezes next winter.

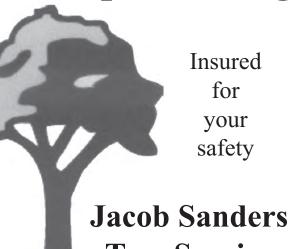
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GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET May 18th, 2024 Cattle - 801

Compared to our last sale: Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold steady to very active. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold

Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 325-525; 300-400 lbs., 265-320; 400-500 lbs., 255-350; 500-600 lbs., 230-290; 600-700 lbs., 195-216; 700-800 lbs., 231-245. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs.,

Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 285-375; 300-400 lbs., 265-330; 400-500 lbs., 245-295: 500-600 lbs., 210-280; 600-700 lbs., 205-237.

Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 119-127; Cutters, 129-140; Canners, 95-110; High yielding fat cows,

Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 145-157; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 124-141.

Stocker Cows: \$900 to \$3,000. Pairs: \$1,800 to \$3,400.

NIXON LIVESTOCK May 20th, 2024

Cattle - 1021 Steers:

200-300 lbs - \$302-395

Heifers: 200-300 lbs - \$285-380

300-400 lbs - \$312-420 400-500 lbs - \$306-380 500-600 lbs - \$266-355

600-700 lbs - \$243-298 700-800 lbs - \$228-257

300-400 lbs - \$288-365

600-700 lbs - \$220-256 700-800 lbs - \$187-224 Slaughter Cows - \$89-138 Slaughter Bulls - \$100-151 Stocker Cows - \$860-1100 Pairs: \$1010-2250

500-600 lbs - \$241-310

HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC. Sale date: May 14th Cattle on hand: 1071 **Packer Cows:**

High Dressing: \$123-140 Medium Dressing: \$114-128 Low Dressing: \$102-118 Poor/Weak Cows: \$85-100 Packer Bulls: High Dressing Bulls: \$148-164

Medium Dressing Bulls: \$123-Low Dressing Bulls: \$105-122

Stocker Cows: Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: \$1750-2550 Medium Stocker Cows &

Heifers: \$1250-1750 Good Cow & Calf Pairs: \$2550-

Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: \$1450-2250 Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:

Number 1 steer & bull calves: Under 200 lbs.: \$330-400 200-300 lbs.: \$310-425 300-400 lbs.: \$300-375 400-500 lbs.: \$285-345 500-600 lbs.: \$252-310 600-700 lbs.: \$230-270 700-800 lbs.: \$210-252 Number 1 heifer calves: Under 200 lbs: \$310-400 200-300 lbs.: \$280-360 300-400 lbs.: \$270-345 400-500 lbs.: \$255-320 500-600 lbs.: \$235-290

600-700 lbs.: \$210-260

700-800 lbs: \$185-235

Replacement Heifers:

The calf market was stronger this week. No. 1 quality calves sold \$3 to \$8 higher in all weight brackets. Extremely fleshy calves held steady. Average of all calves sold was \$5 higher. Packer cows and bulls sold \$2 to \$3 higher on a supply of 175 head. Stocker cows and pairs sold extremely good on a supply of 225 head.

SEGUIN CATTLE CO. May 15th

Market Trend: Receipts lower due to local rain. Market remains steady on all classes. Packer cows & bulls 2-3 better.. Cattle - 460 Sheep & goats - 760

Medium & large frame #1 Steers: 200-300 lb. 1.10-2.55-3.50 300-400 lb. 1.05-2.80-3.75 400-500 lb. .55- 2.50-3.65 500-600 lb. .75-2.08-2.95 600-700 lb. 1.00-2.08-2.57 700-850 lb. 1.70-2.12-2.37 Medium & large frame #1

200-300 lb. 1.10-2.10-3.20 300-400 lb. .85-2.30-3.12 400-500 lb. .80-2.20-2.80 500-600 lb. .80-1.95-2.47 600-750 lb. 1.00-1.92-2.35

Cows: Utility & commercial - .90-1.30-

1.42 Cutters - .94-1.16-1.36 Canners. - 1.06-1.09-1.12 Palpated cows - 900-1900 Cow/Calf Pairs - 1250-2200

Bulls: Heavy High Yielding - 1.42-1.56 Light & Low Yielding - 1.16-1.41 Sheep & Goats: Nannies - 55-220 Kid Goats (Fat) - 2.00-3.47

Wethers -2.05-3.55 Billies - 1.70-2.70 Dorp. Ewes - 60-140 Dorp. Lambs (Fat) - 2.00-2.85 Wooled Ewes - NONE Wooled Bucks - 1.20-1.60 Lambs - 1.40-2.92 Barb. Bucks - 325-610

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET May 17, 2024

Number of head 1,182 There were 191 cows and 25 bulls. Packer cows were up \$3/ cwt to \$165, while the top cow was up \$3/cwt to \$140. Another solid week with strong demand. The calf market was higher across the board. Calves averaged \$10/cwt higher on 10 lbs less weight, adding over \$30 more per head. It was a strong

and active market. Packer bulls: All Weights 115.00-165.00

Packer cows: canners & cutters 85.00-140.00 poor & weak 30.00-57.00 Palpated: 6 bred \$1,150-\$1,800 PAIRS: 6 \$2,050 - \$2,600 Steer/Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH) 322.50-422.50 Under 200 lbs.

200-250 lbs. one-327.50 250-299 lbs 338.50-410.00 300-350 lbs. 360.00-385.00 350-400 lbs. 315.00-370.00 400-450 lbs. 292.00-340.00 450-500 lbs. 279.00-330.00 500-550 lbs 265.00-299.00 550-600 lbs. 259.00-288.00 600-700 lbs 237.00-266.00 700-800 lbs 217.00-249.00

Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH) under 200 lbs. 371.00-405.00 200-250 lbs 318.00-380.00 250-300 lbs 328.00-390.00 300-350 lbs. 303.00-336.00 350-400 lbs. 292.00-332.00

400-450 lbs. 280.00-332.00 450-500 lbs 500-550 lbs 550-600 lbs 600-700 lbs.

266.00-296.00 251.00-298.00 238.00-270.00 206.00-264.00 Over 700 lbs 203.00-230.00

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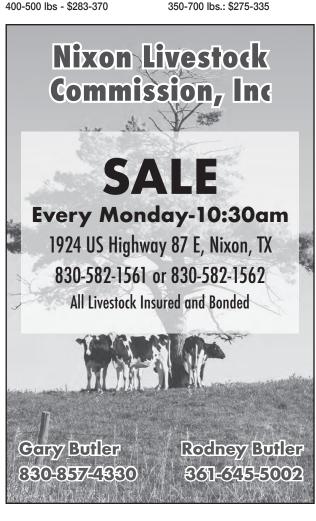
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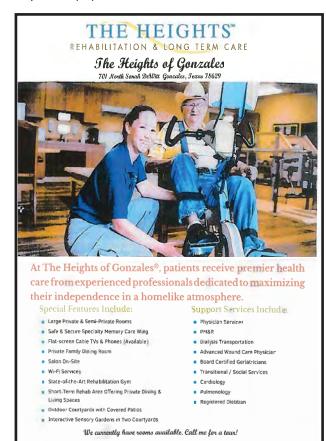
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OPINION

Sales tax holidays for water-efficient, Energy Star® products set for May 25-27

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar is reminding families and businesses that they can save on the purchase of certain products during the state's Water-Efficient Products and EN-ERGY STAR® sales tax holidays.

Created by the Texas Legislature, both holidays take place Saturday, May 25, through Monday, May 27. The Texas Comptroller's office estimates shoppers will save \$15 million in state and local sales tax.

"If you have lived through a Texas summer, you know that triple-digit temperatures, outdated water systems and inefficient appliances can put a strain on our water supplies and power grids," Hegar said. "By taking advantage of these sales tax holidays, Texans can make upgrades that will help alleviate those pressures and lower their utility bills — while saving money on state and local sales taxes."

This is the ninth year for the Water-Efficient Products Sales Tax Holiday. Products displaying a WaterSense® label or logo can be purchased tax free for personal or business use. These include showerheads, bathroom sink faucets and accessories, toilets, urinals and landscape irrigation controls.

The sales tax holiday also applies to lawn and garden products that help conserve water outdoors. Items qualifying for the exemption include soaker or drip-irrigation hoses; moisture controls for sprinkler or irrigation systems; mulch; and plants, trees and grasses. These items can be purchased tax free for residential use only.

There's no limit to the number of water-efficient or water-conserving products you can purchase tax free. For more information on the Water-Efficient Products Sales Tax Holiday, risit the Comptroller's website.

During the ENERGY STAR Sales Tax Holiday, certain energy-efficient products displaying the ENERGY STAR logo can be purchased tax free, including air conditioners priced at \$6,000 or less, refrigerators priced at \$2,000 or less, ceiling fans, fluorescent light bulbs, dishwashers, dehumidifiers and clothes washers.

Visit the Comptroller's website for more details about the ENERGY STAR Sales Tax Holiday.

Texas faith, environmental groups hopeful about new EPA methane rule

BY FREDA ROSS

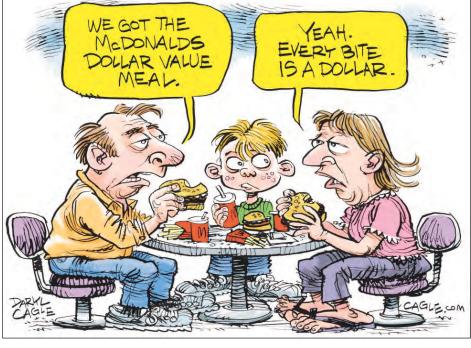
Texas News Service Special to the Inquirer

Oil and gas companies have until 2025 to reduce the emissions they release into the air through the practices known as venting and flaring.

You may have seen a large plume of fire coming from smokestacks at oil-producing sites but you may not have considered how it is affecting your life. Oil and gas producers use venting and flaring to burn off excess gas. The process releases methane into the air, and environmental groups pointed out it is not

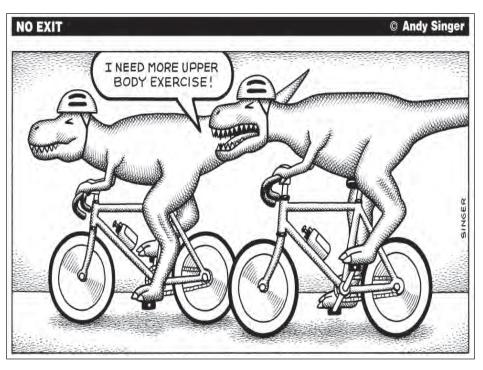
only wasteful, but dangerous. Becca Edwards, climate action fellow for the advocacy group Texas Impact and the United Methodist General Board of Church and Society, said the practice has two major

negative effects. "Releasing methane creates air pollution that harms people who are vulnerable," Edwards noted. "The second impact that methane









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DR. DON **NEWBURY** The Idle

American

A Texan's view of **'Touchdown** Jesus'

his is a backstory of "Touchdown Jesus" on the 50th anniversary of Notre Dame's football faithful making the massive Hesburgh Library's south wall mural better known than the building itself. Ever heard of the Hesburgh Library, or does "Touchdown Jesus" sound more familiar? I thought so.

The artist properly majored on the depiction of Jesus, His arms raised as if to commend the work of teachers, theologians and doctors gathered around Him.

In 1964--one year later--Coach Ara Parseghian's Fighting Irish rose to national prominence. With the famous mural looming at 134-feet tall behind the north end zone, fans saw it regularly, framed by goal posts, when touchdowns were scored. Almost immediately, the term "Touchdown Jesus" was born....

In the early 1990s, Notre Dame brain trusts opted to build the library and then expand the nearby stadium, creating "campus crossroads" and earmarking \$400 million for the joint

Part of the "price of progress" was a shortened vertical view of the mural from the stadium. When 4,000 seats were installed above the top rim--increasing stadium seating to 62,000--the horizontal view of Jesus was limited to His waist up.

My brother, Dr. Fred Newbury--the true academician in our family--visited the historic stadium a few years back, returning home with a classic line of his very own. (Okay, so I'm jealous! I, and many others, respect his many contributions to higher education. He has taught economics for more than 50 years at Dallas College and is still at it. Author of several textbooks, he's been elected numerous times to lead Dallas College faculty associations and the Texas Community College Teachers Association.) I fear that he may overshadow my efforts in the "humor business." But, I want to be charitable. His observation at a Notre Dame Stadium game deserves attention in this space in boldface type....

He appears to be highly academic--think hound's tooth jacket, pipe in clenched teeth and shaggy hair. He often gazes toward the horizon, as if struggling to express thoughts that even I--and other subordinates--might understand.

Down deep, though, he's as country as I am. However, he has traveled worldwide, including his stadium visit after renovation. When the Irish scored, all eyes turned toward "Touchdown Jesus."

Digression aside and preamble explained, his comment upon seeing the mural showing Jesus from the "waist up"--His arms clearly raised--deserves to be archived in Notre Dame football lore. Here are his words: "After stadium renovation, Jesus' touchdown signal remains intact, but His signal for pass incompletions can't be seen." Now I've shared his line, including words that can easily be pilfered. (I once attended a conference at Notre Dame and was awed by the mural which was funded to the tune of \$200,000 for the work of art.)....

Not so well known is another spiritual symbol in Brownwood, Texas.

Prominently stationed near the Best Western Plus Riata Hotel's entrance is a five-foot-tall granite monument bearing important biblical instructions. Bigger than most tombstones, it weighs almost one ton.

See **NEWBURY**, page 7



See **METHANE**, page XX

SPORTS



LEFT to RIGHT: Seniors Jesus Espino, Cole Duty, Landon Holub and Cade Dixon together representing Nixon-Smiley and Gonzales on the East All-Star Football team in Floresville Saturday, May 18.

Gonzales and Nixon-Smiley athletes compete in All-Star games

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

High school senior athletes across South Texas showcased their talents one last time at Floresville High School for the South Texas Coaches Association All-Star Games Saturday, May 18 — including seven Gonzales County athletes.

The Gonzales Apaches had Macy Sample (volleyball), Haley Cantu (basketball), Cole Duty (football), and Landon Holub (football); and the Nixon Mustangs had Jesus Espino (football), Kade Dixon (basketball and football) and Carl White (basketball) all competed in the games.

All of the Gonzales County athletes were on the East teams representing their schools and towns and wearing their own

The games kicked off with the annual volleyball contest with Sample on the East team, and she was excited to get the opportunity to be part of the day's events.

"It was just really fun getting to play. A lot of people usually have the whole preseason and all that but we just had a couple of days of practice. It was fun to play with all new girls and find some chemistry," Sample said.

The East team fell to the West team in a five-set thriller.

The All-Star games continued with the All-Star boys and girls basketball games with Cantu on the girls team and White and Dixon on the boys team.

White said it was amazing to get an opportunity to show his skills on the East team.

Dixon was the other Nixon-Smiley player on the all-star basketball team and he was proud to be part of it as well.

"It felt pretty good. I'm glad to have the opportunity to do it. Just a great opportunity with guys that I've never got to play with before and be on the same team togeth-

er," Dixon said. Dixon received a \$1,000 scholarship from the STCA after the football game.

Cantu played for the East on the girls basketball team and said she





Above: Lady Apaches senior Macy Sample sets up a play for the East team for the South Texas Coaches Association All-Star Volleyball game Saturday, May 18. Left: Lady Apaches senior Haley Cantu shoot pre-game shots for the East All-Star Girls Basketball team Saturday, May 18. PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales in the All-Star game and loved getting a shot to play one last time.

'Glad I've come back out here with my best friend Landon to play one more snap," Duty said.

Duty played in the second half and connected to Dixon for positive yards.

"It was just nice to have different faces around and get to learn here about new people and talk to people. It's cool," Duty said.

Holub played center for most of the game and was glad to represent Gonzales one last time.

"It feels great to rep orange and black one last time, you know, along with all these guys meeting all these people, especially how the game ended was amazing," Holub said.

Holub has a message for the juniors who want to be part of the

game next year. "Just play the way that I know they can. I mean, they're a bunch of talented guys over there. And just in general, don't maintain the bar that we've set, raise it." Holub said.

The East team won the game, 27-25, with a four-minute drive to a game-winning field goal.

SENIORS ON PARADE



The Gonzales High School Class of 2024 participated in the senior parade Sunday, May 19. The senior decorated their vehicles to show off their senior Apaches spirit all across St. Joseph Street towards Apache Field. The seniors will walk across the stage Friday, May 24 on Apache Field and receive their high school diplomas



















"I thank them for giving me the opportunity to be a part of it and give me one more opportunity to

career is over.

show what I have," Cantu said. The All-Star games concluded with the annual football game with Duty, Holub, Espino and Dixon representing their schools

on the East team. Espino said it was great playing with the All-Star team and playing along side with players from Gonzales.

Espino has a message for the incoming juniors who can possibly have a shot in playing in the All-Star games.

"Give it your all and raise the bar. You can continue to do everything that your coaches tell you to do and perform your best ability," Espino said.

Duty and Holub represented

POWDER PUFF FOOTBALL



PHOTO BY VANDY VAN EPPS

CELEBRATING PROM!



River Van Kirk, Bella Aguero, Anthony Castro, Sarah Padilla, Kaylie Ramirez, Jes'lynn Vigil, Oscar, Emily Hull, Francisco



Nixon-Smiley Carl White and Ayanna



Gonzales HS Sarah Padilla



Nixon-Smiley senior Kendall Amaya held by cousins Julian Amaya Ryan Paez and JR Paez

RIBBON CUTTING



Next Concept Motorsports opens a new location in Gonzales on 1839 St Lawrence St Friday, May 10. Next Concept is a family owned business specializing in insurance claims, auto collision, auto glass repair, and specializes in classic and antique auto motives. Business hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and closed on Saturday and Sunday for family time. Next Concept is looking forward to serve the community and excited to be in Gonzales.

PHOTO BY VANDY VAN EPPS

GVTC Communications appoints Josh Pettiette as new president & CEO

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

GVTC Communications announced today that Josh Pettiette has been appointed the company's new President and CEO. A 14-year GVTC executive, Pettiette will assume responsibilities on July 1, 2024, following the retirement of current President & CEO Ritchie Sorrells.

During his tenure as the Vice President Product, Business Development, and Strategic Planning for GVTC, Pettiette has been instrumental in shaping the organization's corporate strategy, priorities, and objectives. His 25 years in the telecommunications industry have



Pettiette

provided a breadth of knowledge in all aspects of GVTC and will serve him well in his new role as President and CEO.

"We view Josh as a solid choice to bridge the success we've enjoyed the past 20 years with a future committed to ensuring the long-term viability of GVTC," said Clint Swindall, chairman of the GVTC Board of Directors. "His passion for GVTC and proven results in corporate strategy, financial growth, and product evolution make him a great choice to lead the cooperative."

The appointment follows a meticulous CEO search process conducted by the Board of Directors since January of this year. The board was committed to finding a next-generation leader with a strategic and culture-first mindset to ensure GVTC remains at the forefront of innovation in the telecommunications industry.

"Josh's strategic mindset and understanding of GVTC's history and culture made him stand out among the myriad of impressive candidates we considered," Swindall said. "As an integral part of our current culture, Josh understands the importance of the work that's been done to build us into the broadband-centric company we've become, and we are confident he will preserve the culture necessary to deliver exceptional services to our members and the communities we serve."

In addition to his work at GVTC, Pettiette is also the founder and chairman of the Bulverde/Spring Branch Economic Development Foundation.



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emissions has is climate change. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas in the atmosphere. It traps heat, contributing to climate change."

Texas is the largest producer of gas in the nation, and a new study showed the emissions are being underreported. Researchers used remote sensing for the study and estimated methane released into the atmosphere contributes to about \$7.4 billion in health damages annually.

The Environmental Protection Agency issued a ruling last year aimed at sharply reducing emissions of methane and other air pollutants from oil and gas operations. For the first time, the regulations include existing well sites instead of only new ones. Edwards emphasized Texas Impact supports the new standards.

"We represent people of faith in Texas, and as people of faith, we feel that advocating for a healthy and

safe environment is a moral obligation," Edwards stressed. "Those regulations are expected to reduce

methane emissions significantly." Oil and gas companies have two years to comply but it appears they are gearing up for a fight. The Railroad Commission of Texas, which regulates oil and gas production, opposes the restrictions and has petitioned the Attorney General to challenge the EPA's new rule in court.

Bridal Registry

Morgan Vinklarek & McLane Kolacny



The following graduates have made selections

Hannah Avant Hannah Baker Morgan Boothe Kelly Breitschopf Grace Frederick

Aubrey Hernandez

Ainsley Holub Landon Holub Allison Jahns Tara Lester Weston Ruddock

Dakota Schmidt Emily Stamport Parker Storey Chelsea Whiddon

The China Basket

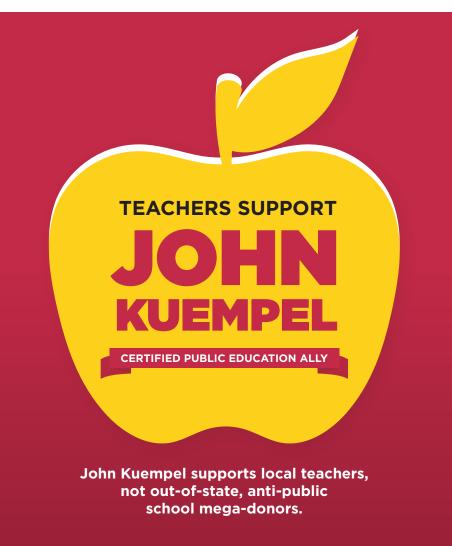
Macy Sample

617 St. Joseph • 672-8013









Pol. Ad. Paid for by ATPE Direct.

NIXON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Office grant, but the city has yet to receive necessary transfer switches that will allow the generators to switch on automatically when there is a loss of power. However, Becker said he has been told the parts should arrive this month. The wells are back up and

running already.

Becker also discussed the citywide clean up and noted there was a larger number of participants, plus a larger amount of brush that appeared to come from fiber optics crews installing cable and trimming trees as well as regular brush and brush from the high winds. He said he had met with a Republic representative regarding the game plan moving forward for continued brush cleanup.

The city has hired a seasoned parttime code enforcement officer, who began work on May 20. She will work 20 hours per week for now until the city holds its budget hearings for fiscal year 2025.

Becker also discussed having met with TxDOT regarding a plan to use summer help in the efforts to clean up the intersection of Texas 80 and US 87. This location has been recently restriped, with the next project planned being the crosswalk, as well as the planter boxes on the four corners, which will be cleaned up and filled with granite to beautify the area.

Mayor Ellie Dominguez announced that all upcoming city council meetings will be held at 6 p.m., moving forward, to allow for transition time for those who are at work until 5 p.m.

Fire Chief Mark Mendez who reported 10 calls this month, making 46 for the year. The department had recently responded to the salt water disposal (SWD) tank explosion in Westhoff, which resulted in one fatality, with the fire itself being caused by an overheated truck.

Police Chief Miguel Cantu reported 26 calls, down from 27 last month, as well as commenting on the new graphics on the patrol vehicles and thanking the city council for these appropriations. Cantu also commended the fire department, and in particular

Mendez, in his handling of the fire in Westhoff, commenting on how Mendez showed up and "took command over an event that was chaotic with no clear organization, helping to both control and expedite assistance to this event, noting how that speaks directly to his character."

Public works director Jeremy Bustos told the council that two summer help employees were starting to assist with special projects and also spoke about new equipment purchased to assist with downed trees, for \$3,500. There was reportedly very timely and effective pickup of this brush, with council members thanking public works for the fast response.

A building variance for the address of 102 S Roosevelt was approved after brief discussion and clarification of their being no adverse impact on the community, nor direct impact on any other property aside from the aforementioned address.

A request to approve the Upper Room Awakening Ministry's usage of city property was approved for a tent revival after brief discussion.

The board approved Crystal Cedillo, Tax Assessor Collector, as the individual to calculate and prepare the 2024 No-New Revenue and Voter Approval Tax rates for the City of Nixon.

A request to use Municipal Court Technology Funds in the purchase of a Dell computer for the Municipal Court was approved, with the estimate of this being \$1,487.

An approval was made regarding the extension deadline on the Wagner property on South of Rancho Road, which was established for one year.

An approval was given for a commercial lease agreement on a record retention facility, allowing cataloging of city documents in bid for compliance while continuing normal city function without interference of daily activities or community service. The lease is for a building to separate records and improve current outdated documentation currently awaiting upload. The building lease agreement will be between the city and Morris Harvey.

RODEO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

brother have been doing rodeo, and she said that inspired her to join the rodeo

Richter said he goes out there and practices and he enjoys the rodeo a lot.

The four rodeo finalists will be competing in several events throughout the week; Beck is competing in team roping, Richardson in chute dogging, Albert in goat tying and Richter in the junior breakaway and tie down.

"The hardest thing about it [team roping] is probably the score which is given the steer of the appropriate head start. You have to hold your horse just at the right amount of time and at the same time, you have to set it up yourself in that half a second for the rest of the run," Beck said.

"My favorite thing about that event is when I actually throw my head loop. It just feels like everything is coming together for the rest of the run," Beck added.

Richardson described his experience in the chute dogging competition.

"It's pretty much exactly steer wrestling but without the horse. You're sitting in the chute. You have one arm around the steer and there's a 10 foot line that you have to pass and there's a whistle blown. You hook up to the steer and then you throw it. As soon as you throw it there's a flag drops and your time," Richardson said.

Albert competed in the goat tying in last year's finals and she described her event.

"You have to run down there, hang and get off and run and flag the goat and tie it and whenever you put your hands up, the time stops." Albert said.

The one thing that these four have in common is having the home advantage versus the other finalists.

"It feels great mainly because I can sleep in my own bed, but it's feels cool that I can get to represent Gonzales



VANDY VAN FPPS

Emme Albert, Jaxon Beck, Rhett Richter and Dyllon Richardson will represent their home town in the Texas Junior High Rodeo Finals in Gonzales.

from Gonzales," Beck said.

"We get a hometown advantage. We get to sleep in a little bit later. Instead of having to go up there, wake up super early and do all this. You have hometown advantage; you know what you're doing in your arena," Richarson said.

"It feels really good to be able to compete in my hometown and to be able to know everybody and have a crowd cheering for you," Albert said.

Richter said it feels really good to have finals in his hometown and he doesn't

have to travel far for the finals.

The finals start May 25 through Saturday, June 1 and all four are excited to be

in the finals.

"I'm looking forward to kind of prove myself. I've started pretty much to make it to this event and I just look at looking forward to being able to prove myself and see if I fit in with the rest of the kids

in the state and just have fun," Beck said.
"I'm ready to go to finals to try and
make it to Nationals and just do as good
as I can this year," Richardson said.

"I'm ready to go to finals to try to make it to Nationals. And see all my friends and hopefully everybody does good," Albert said.

Richter said he is looking to have fun in the finals and rope very well.

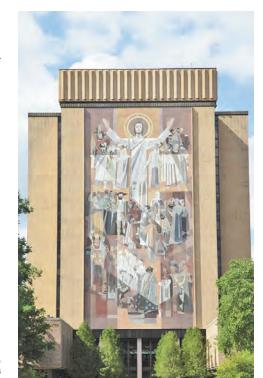
NEWBURY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Inscribed are words from the Holy Bible's TEN COMMANDMENTS, from both Exodus 20:2-17 and Deuteronomy 5:6-12....

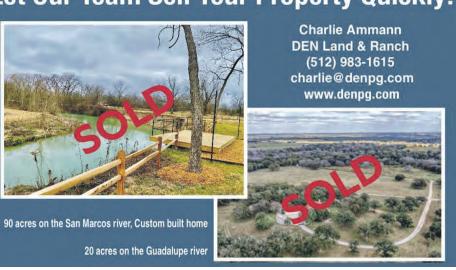
Manager there for four years, Henry has long dealt with the public. She feels that most people are friendly, honest and civil. She has operated a food truck, managed concession stands and served in numerous hotel roles before being named manager. Understandably, she's mighty proud of the hotel's 900-plus point rating for the past two years, since 1,000 is a perfect score. Perfection is rarely reached, of course, but like obeyance of the Ten Commandments, she's coming close!...

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, writes weekly and speaks regularly. Now in its 23rd year, The Idle American is Texas' longest-running syndicated column.



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MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBER AND HONOR

Gonzalez Inquirer

will be closed on Monday, May 27, 2024 in observance of

Memorial Day

Honoring Their Sacrifice. Remembering Their Lives. Celebrating Their Memory.

Notice of Public Hearing on Gonzales Central Appraisal District Budget

The Gonzales Central Appraisal District will hold a public hearing on a proposed budget for the 2025 fiscal year.

The public hearing will be held on June 6, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at the appraisal district office, 301 Saint Joseph St., Suite A, Gonzales, Texas.

A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

The total amount of the proposed budget.

\$2,357,801.00

The total amount of increase

from the current year's budget.

\$ 362,076.00

The number of employees compensated under the proposed budget.

14

The number of employees compensated under the current budget.

14

The appraisal district is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the appraisal district.

If approved by the appraisal district board of directors at the public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities and towns served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the office of each of those governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at the appraisal district office.

GONZALES CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT 301 Saint Joseph St., Suite A P.O. Box 867 GONZALES, TEXAS 78629 (830) 672-2879

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540-4684.

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any adver-tising 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 cal HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION

CAUSE NO. AD24-0339 IN THE ESTATE OF KAREN JEAN NIEDORF, DECEASED

TO ALL UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF KAREN JEAN NIEDORF, DECEASED Randy B. Niedorf, in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on April 9,

2024 an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION in the estate of Karen Jean Niedorf Deceased, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of Karen Jean Niedorf, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in said estate, and appoint Randy B. Niedorf to serve as the Independent Administrator 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, Commissioners Courtroom, Gonzales, Texas, 78629 in Gonzales, Texas.

You are hereby cited to appear before this 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

Given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in Gonzales, Texas, May

Gonzales County, Texas 427 Saint George St., STE 200 Gonzales, Texas 78629

Lona Ackman, COUNTY CLERK

MArgie Lypoth Margie Žapata, Deputy

Plaintiff(s) Attorney; Rebecca Jaroszewski 19311 FM 2252 San Antonio, TX 78266

Email: rjaroszewski@voellerlaw.com

Telephone: 210-651-3851



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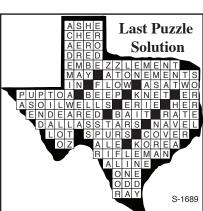
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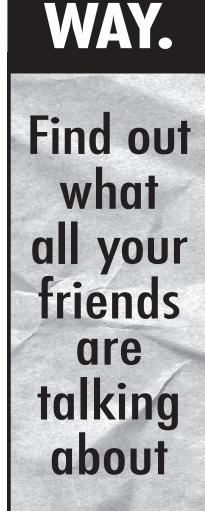
Application has been made the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit (P) which will authorize the sale of distilled spirits, wine & malt beverages for off-premises consumption **Eula's** Crossvine Market & BBQ LLC dba Crossvine, to be located at 419 W. US Highway 90, Waelder, TX 78959; located in Gonzales County Texas. The limited liability corporation is owned and member-managed by Robbie L. Lewis.

May 16 Puzzle Answers



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





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Request for Proposals

The Golden Crescent Workforce Development Board (GCWDB) is seeking office space to house its Gonzales Workforce Center. The leased space needs to be between 1,200 – 1,800 square feet, have ample parking, and meet ADA requirements. Proposals will be accepted until 10:00 AM, June 14, 2024. For more information, call (361)576-5872 or visit the web at gcworkforce.org/doing-business-with-us.

GCWDB Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Carolyn J. Perry, Deceased, were issued on May 14, 2024, in Cause No. PW24-0343, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: Colin G.

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 15th day of May, 2024.

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

CITY OF GONZALES PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION & CITY COUNCIL

The City of Gonzales, by this instrument, notifies the public of PUBLIC HEARINGS on the following projects:

1) An amendment to the Official Zoning Map of the City of Gonzales for the property commonly known as 1007 St. Andrew Street, said property being currently zoned as C-1, Light Commercial District and seeking to be rezoned SF-6, Single Family 6

PROPERTY OWNER: **LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS:** PT 1 RANGE III PARCEL:

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

Felipe & Lupe Silva 12331

1007 St. Andrew Street

An amendment to the Official Zoning Map of the City of Gonzales for the property commonly known as 1607 St. Joseph Street, said property being currently zoned as C-1, Light Commercial District and seeking to be rezoned SF-6, Single Family 6 District.

PROPERTY OWNER: LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS: 4 Juengermann **PARCELS: PROPERTY ADDRESS:**

Gary and Amiee Casper 12961

1607 St. Joseph Street

3) An amendment to the Official Zoning Map of the City of Gonzales for the property commonly known as 802 Seydler Street, said property being currently zoned as C-2, Heavy Commercial District and seeking to be rezoned SF-6, Single Family 6 District.

PROPERTY OWNER: **LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS:** PT 1 Range VII **PARCELS:** PROPERTY ADDRESS:

Charles "Curt" Pish 12483 802 Seydler Street

4) Proposal to rezone the properties listed below from LI, Light Industrial to HI, Heavy Industrial.

The following properties within an area generally bounded by Church Street on the west, E Sarah Dewitt Drive on the north, Robertson and Johnson Streets on the east, and approximately 1,200 feet north of Saint Andrew Street on the south:

Parcel IDs: 682, 762, 782, 783, 823, 870, 889, 913, 914, 918, 950, 951, 1005, 1012, 1020, 1034, 1091, 1229, 12416, 17027, 17036, 20031, 21558, 21559, 21561, 21562, 21829, 21873, 24451, 24462, 24519, 26061, 26062, 26063, 26064, 26207, 26746, 26865, 27078,

The following properties within an area generally bounded by FM 794 on the west, E Sarah Dewitt Drive on the south, the eastern boundary of the properties adjacent to and east of the railroad right-of-way on the east, and approximately 2,400 feet north of Delago Road on the north:

Parcel IDs: 17119, 17131, 22305, and 22306

5) A request to rezone two properties located at 2004 Church Street (property IDs 872 and 17048) from the LI, Light Industrial District to a Planned Development District (PDD).

The Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on June 3, 2024 at the Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph St. at 5:15 p.m., to allow public comment on a possible amendment to the Official Zoning Map of the City of Gonzales for the listed property. After consideration and St. Joseph St.

recommendation by Planning & Zoning Commission and Public Hearing, the amendments will be presented to City Council for a Public Hearing and possible approval on June 13, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gonzales City Hall, 820 The City Council encourages citizens to participate in the public comment and public hearing process for all applications for zoning or rezoning before the City Council.

Citizens unable to attend meetings may submit their views

to Kristina Vega, City Secretary for the City of Gonzales, by

mailing them to P.O. Drawer 547, Gonzales, TX 78629. For

additional information, contact the City Secretary office at

(830)-672-2815.



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Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Douglas W. Peterek, Deceased, were issued on May 14, 2024, in Cause No. PW24-0342, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: Marie Peterek.

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 15th day of May, 2024.

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

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - TRC 109 & 114

THE STATE OF TEXAS:

Cause No. 28,790

Pat Mosher

IN THE DISTRICT COURT 25TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Kenneth Vester Mosher, III

GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: Kenneth Vester Mosher, III and his respective unknown heirs

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

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Original Petition for Sale Pursuant to Chapter 23A Texas Property Code at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation before the Honorable District Court of Gonzales County, at the Courthouse in said County in Gonzales, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Original Petition for Sale Pursuant to Chapter 23A Texas Property Code was filed in said court on 04/23/2024 in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Sale Pursuant to Chapter 23A Texas Property Code as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Original Petition for Sale Pursuant to Chapter 23A Texas Property Code on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gonzales Texas this 2nd day of May, 2024.

Attorney for Plaintiff: Christie Ortman Fullilove 403 St. George Gonzales, Texas 78629 830-672-9535



Clerk of the Court: **Janice Sutton** 414 St. Joseph St., Ste. 300 Gonzales County, Texas

By K. alluran Deputy

NIXON-SMILEY C.I.S.D. SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM 2024

The Nixon-Smiley C.I.S.D. announces the sponsorship of the summer food

service program. Meals will be provided at the site listed. There will be no forms to fill out.

through 18 years of age.

Nixon-Smiley C.I.S.D. will serve breakfast and lunch free to all children age 1 year

The program will operate Monday-Friday from June 3, 2024, through July 19, 2024. No meals will be served from July 1, 2024, through July 5, 2024. Meals will resume on July 8, 2024.

Breakfast will be served from 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m.

Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

There will be only one serving site this year. Nixon CISD Cafetorium, 800 North Rancho Road, Nixon, Texas.

CHILDREN AGE 1 YEAR THROUGH 4 YEARS OF AGE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

Nineteen years and older can eat BREAKFAST - \$2.50 LUNCH - \$4.50/To-go meals not allowed.

If you have any questions, please call Lora Torres, FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR, at 582-1536 ext. 211 or the Nixon-Smiley CISD Central Office at 582-1536 ext. 102.

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prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint filing cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at US Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of

Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442or email at program.intake@usda.gov Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities and wish

Federal Relay Service at (800)-877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). Persons with disabilities who wish to file a program complaint, please see the information above on how to contact us by mail directly or by email. If you require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.), please contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600

to file either an EEO or program complaint, please contact USDA through the

(voice and TDD) USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

BRONZE AND SILVER





Diamond Gym competed in a Gymnastics meet on Saturday, April 20 in New Braunfels. They returned home with multiple ribbons and medals. Bronze team members are Kynsley Valdez, Bentlie Burnett, Avery Molina, Peyton Ontiveros and Immalynn Balderas. Silver team members are Harper Fullilove and Kimber Fehner.

GOLF SCRAMBLES



The winning team from the May 8 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Coach Daniels, Kyle Day and Ryan Lee.



CONTRIBUTED

The second-place team from the May 8 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Eric & Asher Linebrink, Alex Trevors, Billy Hyman, Derek Grahmann and John & Amelia Hahn.



The winning team from the May 15 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Miguel Cruz, Tim Cleveland, Randall Dupree, Frank Ingram, Kameron Craft and Jake Barnick.



DENNIS MRAZ

The second-place team from the May 15 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Gary Schroeder, Dane Needham, David Hernandez, Spencer Breitschopf, Mike Strauss and Astrit Lekgega.

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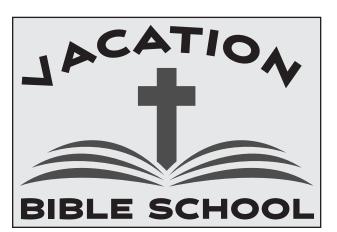


or email information to sanya.simmons@gonzalesinquirer.com.





Michael Durrett 830-857-4442



VBS at First Evangelical **Lutheran Church**

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Calling all children who are Kindergarten to sixth grade. Come be a part of a group of children who will be learning about the seashore (Breaker Rock Beach) and how God is there and with you.

The Vacation Bible School is sponsored by the Lutheran Church and the Gonzales Presbyterian Church. It will be held from 9 a.m. until noon on June 4-6, at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1206 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, next to North Avenue Middle School.

It is time to register to save you a seat on Breaker Rock Beach. Registration forms are available at both churches, and you can register by telephone at 830-672-2057 or 830-672-3521.

See you Tuesday, June 4, at 9 a.m. for fun, singing, and learning.

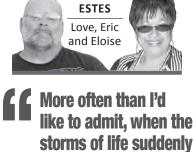


Fear or Faith?

Howdy folks, I hope all is well, but if you're reading this it means you've survived our bouts of severe weather this spring. So, just be happy that aunt Edna didn't blow away during the last one, but of course I guess that depends a lot on how you feel about aunt Edna? That quick little storm (or wet wind gust) we had a week and a half ago, left many temporarily without power, and having to deal with fallen trees for several days afterwards. On the positive side, I guess we could look at it as getting an early start on next year's firewood...

I feel it necessary to give a special shout out to the linemen who work for GVEC and other electric providers, as they're out there literally risking life and limb to provide us with the power to run not only our lights, refrigerators, TV's and mobile devices, but our life sustaining medical devices as well. It's one thing to have to wait to finish your movie or favorite show at a later date, while trying to swallow a whole cheesecake before it goes bad, and a completely different thing to quit breathing. It's crucial to remember to thank God and the skilled people he's put into place (first responders of all walks) who cover our backs in times of mild inconvenience, all the way through catastrophic

I try to keep all of these heroic people in my prayers, as their jobs are much tougher and more dangerous than most of ours,



appear and the hair on my neck stands straight up, I have to stop and ask myself, am I operating out of Fear or...Faith?

and petitioning the almighty to watch over and protect them is the least we can do, and all too often slips under our radar. Thanks Y'all, your sacrifice has not gone unnoticed and is much appreciated, even though we may not tell you often enough!

My electricity was down for about fifteen hours, but after hearing that trees were down from Nixon to Gonzales, I figured the job of getting us up and running may take longer than usual. But as always, with over twenty five years here, it was taken care of yet again. As I sat in the dark with my little crank powered emergency radio, I couldn't help wonder what things would be like in an extended power outage. Generators and propane would only work until fuel ran out. Emergency services would come to a halt and food sources would

dwindle. You can't seem to read or hear the news these days without some mention of our electrical grid failing at some point, whether from hacking by an adversary, an electromagnetic pulse generated by either an enemy or solar flare, or simply by lack of proper maintenance and upgrades. Scary to think about, guess we'll just keep our head in the sand and pray it doesn't happen. I did notice however that night time is considerably darker than daylight... who knew?

All I can say is thank you Lord, 'cause after sixty six years on planet earth, I've managed to survive several hurricanes in Florida, Alabama and Texas, many blizzards in Illinois, and an earthquake in California and am still here to tell you about it. While there are many things in life to inspire a deep sense of fear, I often think about what Jesus said as told in the book of Matthew. As Jesus and a few disciples headed out to sea, a windstorm caused large waves to swamp the boat and in fear they woke and pleaded with Jesus to save them. Jesus simply replied "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he rebuked the wind and waves, and it became completely calm. More often than I'd like to admit, when the storms of life suddenly appear and the hair on my neck



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First Assembly of God 509 E. 3rd St., Nixon

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Country Baptist Church

Highway 87, Smiley Eastside Baptist Church

Seydler Street, Gonzales Efeso Iglesia Bautista

Highway 87, Smiley

Elm Grove Baptist Church 4337 FM 1115 Waelder, TX, 78959

First Baptist Church 422 St. Paul, Gonzales

First Baptist Church

403 N. Texas, Nixon

First Baptist Church Highway 108 N., Smiley

First Baptist Church

406 N. Avenue E, Waelder

Greater Palestine Baptist Church S. of 90A (sign on Hwy 80)

> **Greater Rising Star Baptist Church**

Harwood Baptist Church

North of Post Office. Harwood

Iglesia Bautista Macedonia 201 S. Congress, Nixon

Iglesia Bautista Memorial

Highway 97, Waelder

Leesville Baptist Church

E. of Highway 80 on CR 121

Memorial Heights **Baptist Church**

1330 N. College, Gonzales Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church

100 Capes, Gonzales

Oak Valley Baptist Church Highway 97, Bebe

1121 N. College, Gonzales

Old Moulton **Baptist Church**

Providence Missionary Baptist Church 1020 St. Andrew, Gonzales

Stratton Primitive Baptist FM 1447, 9 miles east of Cuero

Hwy 80, north of Belmont. St. Paul Baptist Church

St. James Bantist Church

SE 2nd Street, Waelder

Shiner Baptist Church

Union Lea Baptist Church St. Andrew St., Gonzales

Union Valley Baptist Church FM 1681, NW of Nixon

CATHOLIC St. James Catholic Church 417 N. College, Gonzales

Sacred Heart Catholic Church St. John St., Gonzales

St. Joseph Catholic Church

207 S. Washington, Nixon St. Patrick Catholic Church

St. Phillip Catholic Church

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First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ) 712 Crockett, Luling

CHURCHES OF CHRIST Church of Christ 1323 Seydler St., Gonzales

Church of Christ (Iglesia de Cristo) 201 E. Second St. Nixon

Church of Christ E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon

Church of Christ, Belmont

CHURCHES OF GOD Community Church of God 1020 St. Louis. Gonzales

Gonzales Memorial Church of God in Christ

1113 Hastings, Gonzales **New Beginnings** 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales

> **Episcopal Episcopal Church** of the Messiah 721 S. Louis, Gonzales

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Mision Capilla del Pueblo W. Central at Hwv. 87. Nixon

FULL GOSPEL Camp Valley Full Gospel Hwy 80, 7 mi. north of Nixon

Full Gospel Church 1426 Fisher, Gonzales

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Adat Haderech, a Messianic shul HashemYeshua1 @yahoo.com

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First Evangelical Lutheran

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Belmont Methodist Highway 90A, Belmont

Dewville United Methodist West of FM 1117 on CR 121

> First Methodist 426 St. Paul, Gonzales

First United Methodist 410 N. Franklin, Nixon

Flatonia United Methodist

Harris Chapel

United Methodist S. Liberty St., Nixon

Monthalia Methodist

CR 112 off Highway 97 Smiley Methodist Church 1 blk. S. of Hwy. 87, Smiley

Webster Chapel A.M.E. 1027 Church St., Gonzales

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1262 U.S. Highway 77

Cowboy Church of Gonzales County J.B. Wells Show Barn

El Centro Cristiano "Agua Viva" 403 Highway 90 W, Waelder

Emmanuel Fellowship 1817 St. Lawrence, Gonzales

Encouraging Word Christian Fellowship Highway 80, Leesville

Lighthouse Church of Our Lord 1805 Weimar, Gonzales

New Life Temple for Jesus Christ 16214 US 90 W, Harwood

River of Life Christian Fellowship 207 Steele St., Smiley

Thompsonville Community Church CR 423, Thompsonville Between Harwood & Waelder off old Hwy. 90

Two Rivers Bible Church

1600 Sarah DeWitt Dr., Suite 210, Gonzales INTER-

DENOMINATIONAL Faith Family Church

1812 Cartwheel Dr... Gonzales Living Waters Fellowship

306 St. Paul, Gonzales PENTECOSTAL Faith Temple

Hwy. 80 (N. Nixon Ave.), Nixon Holy Temple of

Temple Bethel Pentecostal 1104 S. Paul, Gonzales

Church of Gonzales 3.3 miles north on Hwy 183, right on CR 236

CR 210 off FM 1116

Presbyterian Church of Gonzales

Church, Cuero

stands straight up, I have to stop and ask myself, am I operating out of Fear or...Faith? Love you guys, Eric.







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Congratulations to Nixon-Smiley's Class of 2024





Fifty-nine Nixon-Smiley High School seniors from the Class of 2024 received their diplomas Friday, May 17, as they walked for the last time on the Mustang Stadium field. However, they also will be forever known as the first class to hold graduation on the new turf surface. Emmersyn Stone gave the valedictory address, while Claudia Garcia gave the salutatory address. Luke Moses gave the welcome, while Malaina Torres led the invocation and Izak Saldana gave the farewell. The Senior Class song was "Around Forever" by Randall King, after which the students tossed their caps in the air.



































OBITUARIES

HAROLD TIEKEN

Harold Tieken, 87, of Gonzales, Texas, passed away on May 18, 2024. He was born March 4, 1937, to Otto and Annie Englebach Tieken and married Elizabeth "Betty" Malatek on November 8, 1958. He was a member of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Harold attended school in Gonzales until the eighth grade. He then took on the responsibility of helping his family, along with his 12 siblings, by working on the dairy farm where they lived. He continued on in the dairy business for many years. He was a hard-working man of many trades until finally retiring from Johnson Oil Company in 2012. Harold enjoyed a simple lifestyle. He enjoyed his cows and dogs, mowing grass, a cold beer, and polka music. Affectionately known as Popo, he also loved spending time with his family.

Harold is survived by



his wife of 65 years Elizabeth "Betty" Tieken, their son Bruce Tieken and wife Billie Jo, his brothers Donald Tieken of Gonzales and Dale (Martha) Tieken of San Antonio, sisters Lisetta (Larry) Tharp of Gonzales and Angela "Jeannie" Koenig of St. Hedwig, and sister-in-law Patsy Tieken of McKinney. He is also survived by his two grandchildren, David Ross Tieken and Shelby (Lynn) Meredith, two great grandsons, Hunter Tieken and Rhett Meredith, along with numerous nieces and nephews. He is

preceded in death by his parents, his twin brother, 3 sisters, and 4 brothers.

Friends and family will gather for a visitation at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home on Friday May 24, 2024, from 10 am to 11 am. A funeral service will take place at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home at 11 am officiated by Pastor Ray Hagan. Interment will follow at Gonzales Memorial Park Cemetery. Pallbearers will include David Ross Tieken, Lynn Meredith, Gerald Tieken, Gary Malatek, Gene Tieken, and Duane Tieken. Honorary Pallbearers are Hunter Tieken and Rhett Meredith. Friends may leave their condolences and sign the guest book by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to charity of one's choice.

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

It is with heavy hearts and profound sorrow that we announce the passing of Guadalupe "Lupe" Chavez Gonzales. Born on April 20, 1972, in Austin, Texas, Lupe departed us on October 26, 2023, at the age of 51 in Live Oak, Texas. His life was a testament to love, kindness, and unwavering dedica-

Lupe was a cherished friend and confidant to many, always ready with a listening ear and a comforting presence. His warm heart and gentle soul touched the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing him. Lupe's genuine compassion and ability to bring joy to others will forever be etched in the memories of those who were fortunate enough to share in his life.

Left to mourn his loss are his beloved mother, Anita Gonzales, and his five siblings, Robin, Jessica, Ramiro, Ernesto, and Juan Gonzales. Lupe's

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passing also leaves behind

death by his father, Juan Gonzales Sr., and his stepfather, Margarito De La Cruz. Their spirits now find solace in the eternal embrace, leaving behind a legacy of love and cherished memories that will

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forever be treasured. In his professional life, Lupe excelled as an Agricial Vehicle Operator. His commitment to his work and unwavering dedi-

Beyond his professional pursuits, Lupe found solace and joy in moments of respite and allowed him to connect with loved ones over shared interests. His enthusiasm for these creating lasting memories and bonds that will

SIDNEY RAY WYNNE

Beloved husband, father, grandfather, son, brother and friend, Sidney Ray Wynne of Nixon, Texas, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, May 2, 2024. Sidney was born on May 1, 1936, to Oliver and Vernice Sewell Wynne in Columbia County, Arkansas.

Sidney will be dearly missed by his daughter Kim Pruski married to Frank Pruski of La Vernia, and daughter in law Ashley Wynne of Nixon; grandchildren, Nathan and Julie Pruski of Spring, Krista and Matthew Gorzell of Poth, Craig and Whitney Pruski of Stockdale, Cullen and Jaycie Pruski of Nixon, Seth Ray and Amanda Wynne of Nixon, and Jax Trip Wynne of Nixon; great-

with his grandsons. He

consistently shared in

myriad of events includ-

ing choral and instrumen-

tal music, theater, sports,

and awards ceremonies.

Together with his wife he

getaway dining in the very

spent many a weekend

best restaurants of New

Orleans. Sunday's meant

their lives through a



grandchildren, Michael Pruski, Parker Pruski, Matthew Gorzell Jr., Margaret Gorzell, Claire Gorzell, Henry Pruski, Case Pruski and one on the way; as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Sidney was preceded in death by his parents; wife Virginia Wynne; son Dirk Ray Wynne; siblings Billy

Thomas Wynne, Mildred Hall and Toy Lou Moore.

Sidney was a devout Christian belonging to the Nixon Methodist Church in Nixon, Texas. He was a rancher and served his country in the US Army. Sidney loved to spend time with all his family. He will be greatly missed by his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on May 18, 2024, 10:00am, at Nixon Methodist Church in Nixon, Texas.

As an alternative to flowers, donations to Nixon Methodist Church -God's Storehouse Expansion Project, P.O. Box 20, Nixon, Texas 78140, would be much appreciated.

GUADALUPE GONZALES

his devoted wife. Stefanie Baker-Gonzales and their two children, Noah and Zoey Gonzales. May they find solace in the love and cherished moments they shared with Lupe, as they navigate this difficult journey of grief. Lupe is preceded in

*Performance Tuning

*Bumpers

*Steps

*Grill Guards

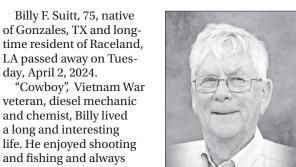
*Tonneau Covers

culture Supervisor, Heavy Equipment, and Commercation earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and peers.

simple pleasures. Playing cards, watching football, and soccer brought him hobbies was contagious, endure.

Lupe will forever be remembered as a loving son, devoted sibling, adoring husband, and nurturing father. His legacy of love, compassion, and unwavering kindness will continue to inspire and guide those whose lives he touched. May his soul find eternal peace, and may his memory be a source of comfort and strength for all who mourn his loss.

BILLY F. SUITT



family and a giant plate of sushi. And he never passed up a glass of good bourbon.

Billy is survived by his wife of 56 years, Murlene Suitt; son, Maxwell Suitt, beloved daughter-in-law Fumie; grandchildren,

Abigail Pellerin, Kei and Akira Suitt; siblings, Donirose Johnson, Sandra Gilkerson and Phil Suitt. He was preceded in death by his parents, Cecil and Mary Ann Suitt; son, Joseph Michael Suitt.

The family will receive friends from 5 pm to 7 pm, Wednesday, June 5, 2024 in Seydler-Hill Funeral Home. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www. seydlerhillfuneralhome. com. In lieu of flowers, donations to charity of one's choice.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.

WALLACE "GENE" GARRISON

Wallace "Gene" Garrison, 94, of College Station, Texas, passed away on May 11, 2024. He was preceded in death by his mother, Grace Evelyn Hedick Garrison, father, Wallace Floyd Garrison, sister, Joe Anne Garrison Flippin, her husband Rex Flippin and niece Beckey Wright Flippin. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Dorothy "Dottie" Louise Wolff Garrison. son Douglas Gene Garrison and wife Julie Gillig Garrison, son David Lee



Garrison and wife Lavonne Stewart Garrison, and daughter Carolyn Louise Garrison Kendall and husband John Michael Kendall. He also leaves behind five grandchildren, Rachel Garrison Scott and husband Taylor, Chase Steven Reeves and wife Katherine, Randall Gene Garrison and wife Lisa, Spencer Garrison Reeves and wife Amy, and Tanner Allen Kendall; seven great-grandchildren. Cullen, Landry, Sloane, Alex, Abby, Avery, and

Max and niece Rexanne McCauley and nephew Tony Flippin.

Gene was born in Sulphur Springs, Texas on December 14, 1929. He joined the Navy in 1945 and served four years. After his service to our country, he attended Texas A&M University and majored in Animal Husbandry. While at A&M he served as the C.O. of F Battery in the Corps of Cadets and was a proud member of the Class of '53. Upon graduation he worked for Purina at the Checkerboard store in Gonzales, Texas, where he met his life's love, Dottie Wolff. While there he served in the 36th Division of the Army National Guard. Shortly after marrying, the couple moved to Center, Texas where their three children were born. Gene left Purina and entered the banking industry where he spent the next 28 years. Gene always wanted to get back to College Station and be closer to his Fightin' Texas Aggies. Gene and Dottie moved to College Station in 1996 and in 2002 he went to work for the Texas A&M College of Medicine

Health Science Center from which he retired. Gene and Dottie enjoyed traveling stateside and abroad with one of his favorite places being Scotland. He was an avid hunter and fisherman and enjoyed doing so with his family and friends. His dream of having a boat for fishing on the Texas coast came to fruition and he named her the "Miss Dottie." He also loved the traditions of Texas A&M University and Aggie football being a season football ticket holder since 1974. Aggie football was always a family event.

Gene's faith in Jesus Christ sustained him through life and assured him his place in Heaven.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to Bethel Lutheran Church, Brazos Valley Hospice, or the charity of your choice.



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Gonzales Healthcare Systems May 2024

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
				Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller	1	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	2		3
Austin MFM	6	Dr. Echols	7	Dr. Quebedeaux	8	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	9	Amy Trost Dr. Miller	10
Austin MFM Dr. Malik Dr. Desai	13	Dr. Echols Dr. Quintero	.4	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller	15	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols Dr. Malik	16	Dr. Bui	17
Austin MFM	20	2 Dr. Echols	1	Dr. Quebedeaux	22	Dr. Ryan Dr. Kirchner Dr. Echols	23		24
HOLIDAY	27	2 Dr. Echols	8	Dr. Quebedeaux	29	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	30		31

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

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

Obstetrics Alyson Kirchner,

Nephrology

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



OBITUARY

JOHN VEGA

John Vega, 54, of Gonzales, TX went to be with the lord, Tuesday, May 14, 2024. John was born April 8, 1970 in Gonzales, TX to Pete and Janie Ramos Vega. On September 25, 1992 he married the love of his life Cynthia Rodriguez Vega, the two had been together since the age of 14. He enjoyed being around all his family and attending Two Rivers Bible Church where he was a popular greeter at worship services. He enjoyed spreading the word of God and listening to all types of music. He was a strong man of God and loved to talk about his faith and journey to everyone. He was a huge Dallas Cowboys fan as well.

John was committed to providing for his family, not just financially, but in providing an abundance of love. He treasured all things family and was diligent in sharing his walk with the Lord with his family, leading them in his

John is survived by his wife Cynthia Vega of Gonzales, TX. His daughter Jerika Huerta and son-in-law Alexis Huerta of Gonzales, TX. His two sons Connor Vega and Caiden Vega, as well as his two grandchildren Angel Huerta and Ivan Huerta. His mother Janie Vega and stepfather Michael Polk. His brother Gilbert Vega (Kristi), sisters Lisa Lopez (Roger), Marion Vega, Rebecca Castillo (Alvin), Michele Polk,

Beatrice Polk, and Rachel

SPECIAL TO THE

Shawna Ivev of Nixon.

Texas, has been named

to Southern New Hamp-

shire University's Winter

Full-time undergradu-

reporting term are named

2024 Dean's List. The

winter terms run from

ate students who have

grade-point average of

to the Dean's List. Full-

time status is achieved

over each 16-week term

by earning 12 credits

3.500 to 3.699 for the

earned a minimum

January to May.

INQUIRER



Cardoza (Mario). Grandmother Lydia Ramos and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, and uncles. He was preceded in death by his father Pete Hernadez Vega and twin brother Pete Vega Jr.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 pm Friday, May 17, 2024 in Seydler-Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services celebrating John's life will be held at 10 am Saturday, May 18, 2024 in the Two Rivers Bible Church with Pastor Jesse Elizondo officiating. Interment will follow in the Gonzales Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers: Alexis Huerta, Christopher Rodriguez, Vincent Rodriguez, Gilbert Vega, Frank Ramos, Alvin Costillo, Marshall "Gene" Cummings, and Jeremy Hernandez. Memorial contributions may be made to Two Rivers Bible Church. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydler-

hillfuneralhome.com. Services are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.

or paired 8-week terms

grouped in fall, winter/

Southern New Hamp-

shire University (SNHU)

spring, and summer.

is a private, nonprofit

institution with a 91-

ing traditional-aged

students and working

adults Now serving mo

worldwide, SNHU offers

credited undergraduate,

graduate and certificate programs, available on-

line and on its 300-acre

campus in Manchester,

than 225,000 learners

approximately 200 ac-

year history of educat-

Shawna Ivey named to SNHU Dean's List

SHINER HERITAGE QUILTERS DONATE LAP QUILTS



Shiner Heritage Quilters Guild has donated 10 lap quilts for the residents at the Shiner Nursing and Rehab Center. Pictured seated, left to right, are residents Genivieve Shedyak, Millie Migl, granddaughter Eliana Kaspar and Gertrude Vrazel. Back row: Irene Cerny, Laura Kaspar, and granddaughter Vivian Kaspar. The Guild is committed to sewing quilts to give to area nursing homes and Norma's House.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office

05/12/2024 through 05/18/2024

05/21/2024

Kearney, Trent Evan, 26, Victoria: Commitment/Sentence, Proh substance/item correctional facility, Weekender Time Not Complete

05/15/2024

Houston, Deric Dawayne, 38, Luling: Local Warrant, Poss of Marij <2oz, Time Served

05/12/2024

Hernandez, Juvencio Omar, 28: Warrantless On View, Driving While Intoxicated, Other Agency Hold Immigration Detainer, Remains in Custody

05/12/2024

Deegan, Jonathan Ernest, 59, Seabrook: Warrantless on View, Poss of Marij >2oz, Bonded out \$500.00

05/11/2024

Mendez, Daniel Gomez, 32,

TEXAS

CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

19

22

Copyright 2024 by Orbison Bros.

Waelder: Other Agency Hold, Poss CS PG 1/1-B<1G, Bonded out \$5000.00

05/17/2024

Morales, Carlos Renne, 20, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence, Poss CS PG 1/1-B < 1G, Still in Custody

05/16/2024

Chick, Deborah Lynn, 63, Helotes: Commitment/Sentence, Driving While Intoxicated 3rd or More IAT, Weekender Time Complete

05/7/2024

Hernandez, Angelica Lynn, 32, Dale: Commitment/Sentence, Poss CS PG 1 < 1G, Remains in Custody

05/16/2024

Jaquez, Tomas, Jr, 24, San Antonio: Local Warrant, Sexual Perf Child <14 Employ/Induce/ Authorize, Remains in Custody

05/17/2024

Juarez-Castruita, Gabriel, Ismael, 42, Harwood: Local

Warrant, Assault Fam/House Mem Impede Breatc/Circulat, Bail Jumping and Fail to Appear Felony, Remains in Custody

05/14/2024

GCSO

Fitzhugh, Marcus Anthoy, 26, Gonzales: Other Agency Hold, Indecency With a Child Exposes, Warrant Recalled Released 05/17/2024

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

12

DPS 01 **GPD** 06 **WPD** 01 **NPD** 02 **GISD** 00 **SMO** 00 Constable 1 00 Constable 3 00 Constable 4 00 **DWCSO** 00 DEA 00 **TPW** 00 **GCAI** 00 Rangers 00 Other 00 22 **Total**

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48 parsley family plants ACROSS TXism:

(Saturday) Eden newspaper 6 this Ratliff played a year for the San Antonio Spurs TXism: "horny

_cup 9 fed. agcy. before it was the FAA "it wasn't as I expected"

idental elections "behind the 21 containing iron TXism: "that bucket won't

(unacceptable) _laca (the Mexican pheasant, also in Texas)

TXism: "siestas" TX-born Robin Wright 1992 film with Robin Williams 30 profession

31 TXism:"he's wound tighter than an _-day clock"

35 Cameron is the seat of this county 36 hotel built in 1900 by the SMS brand for visitors (2 wds.) 42 this has been used

for cartel money laundering (2 wds.) this "Buck" was

born in Sherman TXism: "desirable

in hell"

an issue in pres-57 once the 58 TX-born Stone of

> 1 TXism: "you can that" (certain) 2 "I don't have

Astros third

base, Caminiti

the "Family Stone"

DOWN

in the matter" 3 TXism: doesn't fall far from the tree"

4 Granbury is the seat of this county 9 TXism: "build a

before you buy chickens" (plan) 10 Six Flags, Joyland,

and SeaWorld, e.g. (2 wds.) 11 early Native Ameri-

cans in east Texas

with aromatic seeds TX George H.W. nominated this Thomas for the Supreme Court (init.) 50 earlier call sign for KFCD in Sherman flower droop indicating academic perf. at Texas universities 53 snakelike Gulf fishes 54 TXism for "northerners" 56 oxidize

> 50 12 TX Mary Kay 13 SMU grad who won silver at 1992 Olympics (2 wds.) founded The Dallas Morning

News in 1885 15 this Bean won 1986 Byron Nelson Golf Classic in Texas 16 rattlesnake casas 18 gun group (abbr.)

TX Buddy Holly's "It's __ Easy" 23 TV captioning (abbr.)

25 oil drilling equip-

ment (2 wds.)

TXism: "_ on the hoof" (hog)

(can't digest food) owner of the Houston Chronicle

32 TX George Strait's I Know Me" 33 TXism: "rarin' to

Astro or Ranger

four-bagger (abbr.)

36 female pig

37 "nip and 38 lots of rain creates 39 Dolly's " Always Love You" 40 bird casas

P-1690

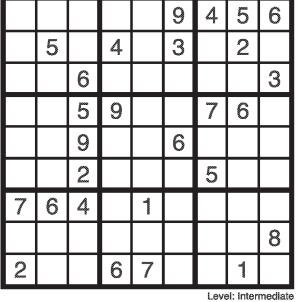
41 dir. from Eden to Baird 43 Santa's word

45 pos. of Rangers' Corey Seager historic

Episcopal building in Lockhart 48 Brewster is

Texas county

55 Snyder AM/FM



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

DANCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

as its annual summer performance. This year, the Crystal Theatre stage will come alive with the timeless tale of love, betrayal, and redemption.

Renowned guest artist Ariana Dewing will take on the dual role of both the delicate White Swan, Odette, and her cunning counterpart, the Black Swan, Odile. With her mesmerizing talent and captivating presence, Dewing promises to deliver a performance that will leave audiences spellbound. Alongside Dewing, the handsome and talented Brandon Forrest will grace the stage as Prince Siegfried.

Joining them are a cast of exceptional local dancers including Gary Franco, John Lushefski, Jonah Goodwin, Nicky McKinney, Jessica McKinney, Abigail Hornung, Alexandra Rivas, Gabriela Rivas, Hannah Atkinson, Jessica Rivas, Katelyn Evans, KayAuni Falks, Leah Tuch, Lizet Guerra, Monica Atkinson, Natalia Moncada, Rubi De Leon, and Shaila Zuniga. And let's not forget our youngest performers, the adorable pre-ballet dancers: Anna



CONTRIBUTED/COME AND TAKE IT DANCE

Seventeen swans a swimming! The beautiful Swan Lake swans have made a majestic stop at the reflection pool in front of Gonzales Memorial Museum, on their way to The Crystal Theatre! Don't miss the chance to experience the enchanting tale of "Swan Lake" live on June 8-9. Tickets are available at comeandtakeitdance.com.

Hardcastle, Audrey Raley, Cora Sultemeier, Delilah DeBerry, Esther Shcolic, and Liberty Gallegos.

Save the dates for this captivating event:

 Saturday, June 8: Shows at noon and 7 p.m. • Sunday, June 9: Matinee at

2 p.m. But that's not all! This year, Come and Take It Dance is

thrilled to introduce the "Meet the Swans" fundraising gala a glamorous addition to the

Swan Lake experience. Join us at the Belle Oaks Inn on Sunday, June 9, at 5 p.m. for an evening of celebration and sophistication.

During the gala, guests will have the opportunity to participate in an exciting raffle featuring fabulous prizes including SeaWorld tickets, Lake Travis Zipline tickets, a Kendra Scott necklace, a Consuela purse, BarkBox gift certificate, Jon Hart purse, hammock chairs, a bundle of books and

hair styling.

Tickets for the show, gala, and raffle can be conveniently purchased online at www. comeandtakeitdance.com or at the studio from Monday to Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Don't miss your chance to immerse vourself in the magic of "Swan Lake" with Come and Take It Dance. Join us for a weekend filled with enchantment and support our local dance community. See you at the Crystal Theatre!

EXPLOSION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

their safety, according to

The blast claimed the life of 41-year-old Advantek employee Larry Kevin Hendricks of Beeville. No other injuries were reported by officials. DeWitt County Justice of the Peace has ordered an autopsy be performed on Hendricks. The incident is under investigation by DCSO.

"This incident is a tragic case where an employee lost their life while doing their job," DeWitt County Sheriff Carl R. Bowen said in a statement to the press. "Our sympathies go out to the Hendricks family during this time of their tragic loss. The DeWitt County Sheriff's office will continue to investigate as to the cause of the explosion that resulted in a tragic loss of life."

Firefighters from Westhoff, Nixon, Smiley, Yorktown and Cuero worked several hours to extinguish the blaze and make sure it was safe for residents to return home.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

available from TMC Sports Turf, with the second, less-expensive option bearing a cost of \$348,000. However, there would have been a significant difference in the amount of work performed at the stadium.

"The only difference between the two is the amount of sod or the amount of dirt or topsoil that we put on that," Kridler said. "One of the options is to cover it from basically the fence on the south all the way to the fence on the north

side. The other one only covers probably about 10 feet from the end line, so that's a considerable amount of difference between the two options."

Kridler said the larger cost amount includes up to 3,000 tons of topsoil in order to cover a larger area outside the playing surface, while the smaller cost amount would only include up to 1,440 tons of topsoil.

Work proposed includes removing the existing grass and adding topsoil, regrading

the field to make it more level, installing a new irrigation system and then installing rolled sod over all of it.

"What they're going to do is they're going to roll down the grass so we don't have to grow it new," Kridler explained. "It's going to be rolled in big rolls and all they're going to do is roll it out, so it's going to be ready — we just have to start watering it."

Hybrid bermuda grass is chosen because it is able to withstand heavy

traffic, has excellent wear recovery, finer texture, favorable color and is more weed- and disease-resistant, according to TMC Sports Turf's website. The hybrid is also better able to handle extended periods of high temps and is more drought-resistant and can grown in many soil conditions. The grass itself comes from King Ranch Turfgrass, Kridler said.

Kridler said they could begin the project in June if approved by the board and have it completed in August before the Apaches play their first scrimmage. TMC Sports Turf is a vendor with the Texas Association of School Boards' Buy Board, which means the cost has already been competitively procured, streamlining the purchasing process.

GISD Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda said the district has a healthy fund balance that is "way more than we are required to have by the state," which would allow the district to pay the entire field renovation cost out of fund balance instead of using any of the money approved in the recent bond package.

Last November, district voters narrowly approved a \$50.6 million Proposition A measure which is paying for renovations and upgrades, especially for safety and security as well as infrastructure improvements, at all five school campuses, the administration building, maintenance and

transportation and the construction of a new CTE building and Ag barn on land the district owns on Stieren Road. However, voters said

no to using \$44.48 million in bond money to fund a new athletic complex featuring a 7,000-seat lighted artificial turf football and soccer stadium as well as new facilities for tennis, baseball, softball and track and field, concessions and ADA-compliant bleachers, partial locker rooms, restrooms, parking and scoreboards, all to be built on the land off Stieren Road as well.

On Monday, Board President Ross Hendershot said he was of the opinion that the larger amount should be paid because "we should fix it right." Trustee Josie Smith-Wright agreed with Hendershot's opinion and made the motion to approve the stadium field renovations. The motion passed by a 5-0 vote as two board members -Gloria Torres and D'Anna Culak Robinson — were unable to attend the meeting.

In other action, the board voted 5-0 to approve installing TEAapproved safety fencing from Foster Fencing on all campuses and around additional district facilities, including the fencing at Apache Field. Like the field project, this project was sourced through the TASB Buy Board.

The total cost will be \$876,260, of which approximately \$819,000 will come from the remain-

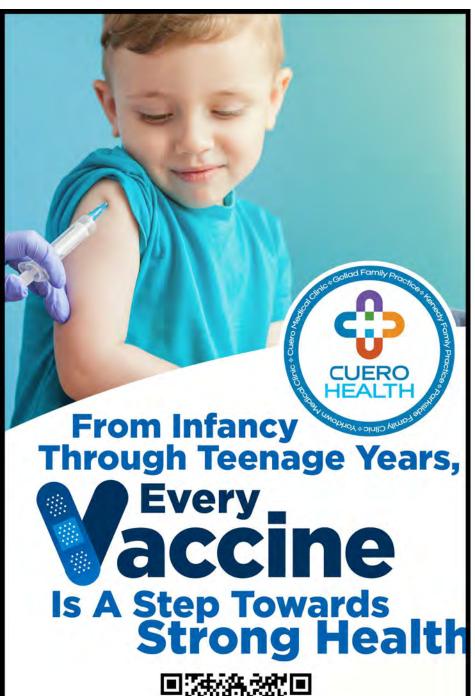
ing balance available from two Safety and **Facilities Enhancement** Grant (SAFE) grants the district received. The last \$57,163.18 will come from Proposition A bond proceeds, executive director of state and federal programs Erin Linde-

mann-LaBuhn said. "Fortunately, we did get approval this morning (from TEA) that we could use bond money to cover the difference in that fencing so that it would not have to come out of fund balance," Lindemann-LaBuhn said.

The district had received a total of \$956,741 in SAFE grants and had used some of the funds in March to have Victoria Communications install Wilson Cell Boosters on all campuses as well as the Administration Building to ensure reliable and accessible communication for first responders, staff, and

students. The fencing project will begin when school is out for the summer and should be completed before the start of the 2024-25 school year,

Lindemann-LaBuhn said. Trustees also voted 5-0 to approve the purchase of 40 new Promethean ActivPanels for Gonzales Junior High School, with panels to be installed prior to the start of the new school year, and trustees also voted to adopt updates to the district's policy regarding its tuition-supported Pre-Kindergarten program.





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NO COST SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS!

Waelder ISD will be serving meals June 3 through July 12, 2024. (Closed on July 4th) in the WISD Cafeteria located at 109 N Ave C, Waelder, TX

> **Monday-Friday** Breakfast: 7:30am-8:30am Lunch: 11:00am-12:30pm

No Cost for kids 18 and younger and enrolled students up to 21 with disabilities.

The Summer Meal programs are brought to you by the Texas Department of Agriculture, Commissioner Sid Miller.

> This product was funded by USDA. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

exactly one year to the date after ESD 2 announced they were trying to restructure the Smiley VFD in order to keep it operational due to a void of certified personnel on the department roster.

The new department would absorb both Nixon Fire and Rescue and the Smiley Volunteer Fire Department and create a single department. Station 4 would be what is currently the Nixon Fire Department station at 209 N. Congress in Nixon, while Station 5 would be the current Smiley Volunteer Fire Department building off Farm-to-Market Road 108 in Smiley, said Nixon Fire Chief Mark Mendez, who has also served as Smiley's interim chief for the past year.

Smiley City Council members voted unanimously to hand over to ESD 2 "the Smiley Volunteer Fire Department, all fire trucks, the Smiley VFD building, the real property from FM 108 to Pouncey Street, all funds that are currently in both accounts the money market account and operations account (minus any unpaid bills), all firefighting-related equipment and all firefighting equipment currently at the recycling center."

The city's only conditions in doing so were that it would retain real property that sits between Pouncey and Anglin streets and "the city would like to have it in writing from the ESD that the city can continue to host city-related events that benefit the community at the volunteer fire department building," said City Secretary Scott Jewett.

"They are afraid that when this transaction happens, you guys won't have a say so," Jewett explained to Mendez and Assistant Fire Chief Lester Warzecha.

"That is the only place we have in our city right now to be able to hold anything," Lori Price said, pointing out the property's past use by not only for a farmer's market, but also by the Smiley Bantam Activity Group (SBAG) and other nonprofit organizations.

"As long as we have anything to do with it, I don't see there being any problem," Warzecha said.

In April 2023, ESD 2 intervened because Smiley VFD did not have any "qualified, trained personnel" to take command when responding to calls, which violated the department's contract with ESD 2.

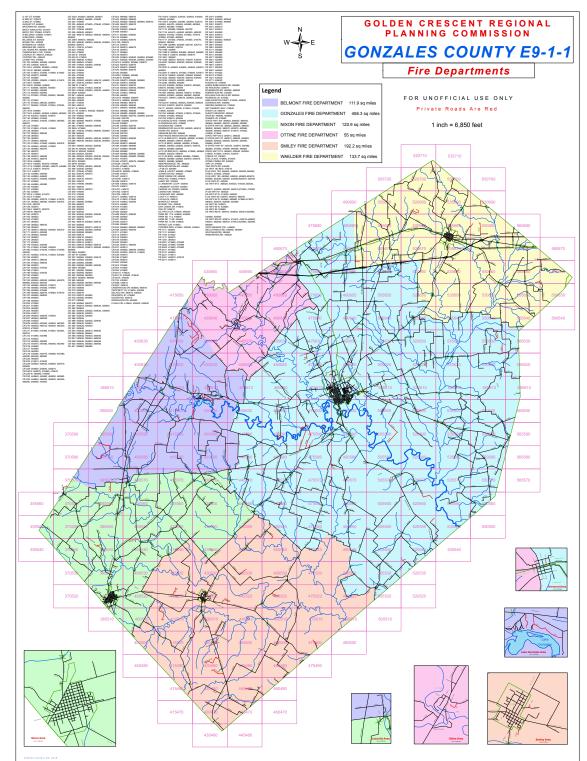
The problem was brought to light during an April 6, 2023, incident when a lightning strike caused a tank fire at a Westhoff SWD (salt water disposal) plant on US 87 and there were no certified Smiley firefighters on site — forcing Nixon to step in and assume command of the scene and expend thousands of dollars in foam and other

In order to keep the department active and able to be "toned out" to calls, the city of Smiley, at ESD 2's recommendation, named Mendez interim fire chief so he could help restructure the department and implement records management and training protocols. Smiley VFD was allowed to keep their equipment and was able to continue to receive money from the ESD to fund operations.

Eventually, it was decided that the best way to keep a firefighting presence in Smiley would be to combine the Nixon and Smiley departments into a single department with coverage responsibility for all of the south Gonzales County area already individually covered by the separate departments.

ESD 2 was scheduled to discuss the incorporation of the two departments into one at its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, May 22, at the Gonzales County Court-

Coincidentally, both departments responded under



Mendez' command on Friday, May 17, to an explosion at the Advantek Waste Management Services LLC saltwater disposal plant in Westhoff which killed one individual. The ensuing fire prompted emergency officials to evacuate residents in the Westhoff area for a period of time to ensure their safety.

In other action Tuesday, the

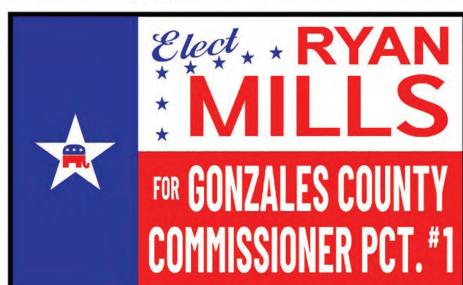
Smiley City Council indicated a desire to increase the city's general sales tax allocation by a half-cent from 1 percent to 1.5 percent. Currently, Smiley is the only city in Gonzales County that does not take a full 1.5 percent sales tax.

In order to make that change, the city would have to call for an election by adopting an ordinance by a majority vote of its own members. next succeeding uniform election date not less than 30 days after the passage of the ordinance calling the election.

If Smiley were to hold an election on the next uniform election date — the same date as the November general election — it must pass an ordinance no later than 30 days prior to the Nov. 5, or by Oct. 6.



Ever Vote Counts!



YOUR COUNTY COMMISSIONER...

» Sets the County Property Tax Rate (you pay county taxes if you own property INSIDE or OUTSIDE the City Limits)

» Approves the County \$25+ MILLION Budget

» Approves County Expenditures (Includes Jail & County Offices)

» Oversees the Road/Bridge Crew

RUNOFF ELECTION DAY

May 28, 2024

RUNOFF EARLY VOTING

May 20th – May 24th

#itsmorethanjustroads

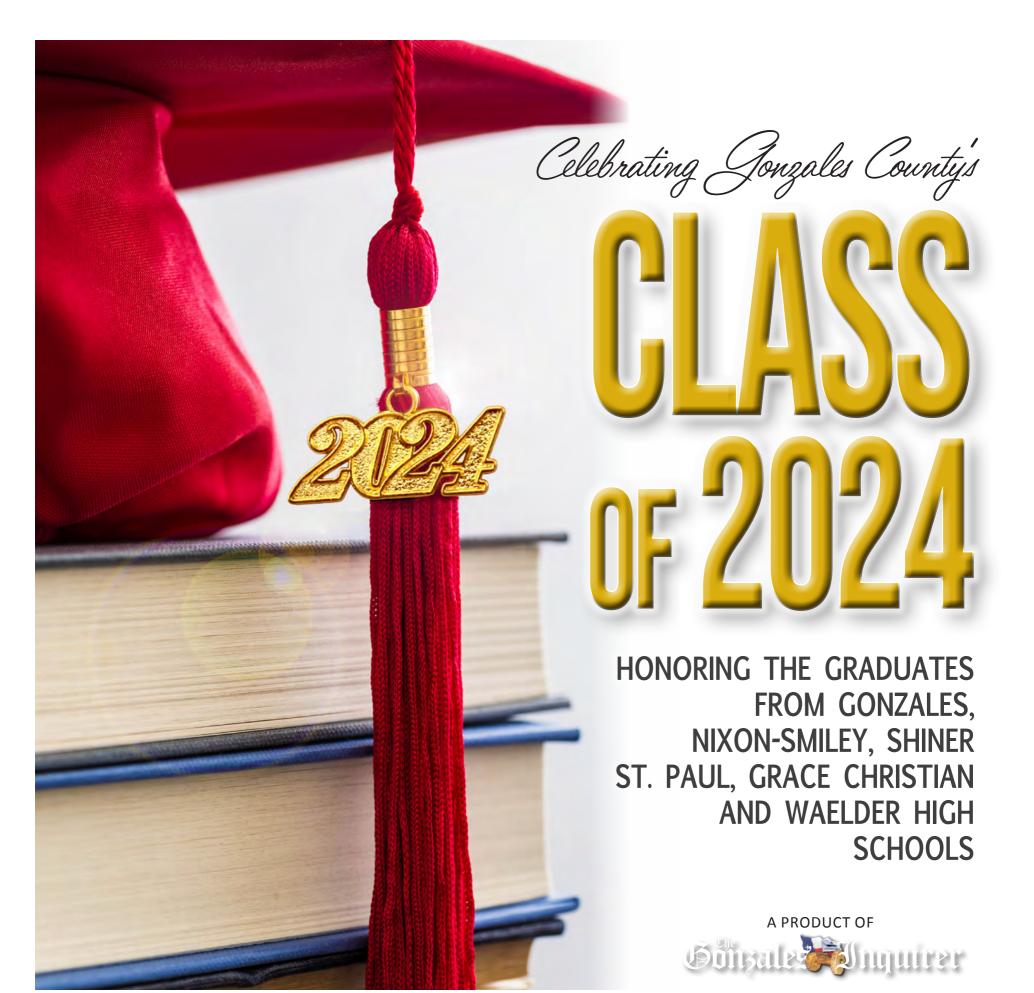


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Sabrina Bustos



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Alyssa Cantrell



Haley Cantu



Christopher Cardoza



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Carlos Garcia



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Cristian Hernandez



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Hayden Lopez



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Yuleisi Lucio



Alberto Martinez



Carlos Martinez



Lizeth Martinez



Natalia Martinez



Nadia Matehuala



Sydney McCray



Ryder McGehee



Gabriela Medel



Payton Moore



Eva Moreno



Miguel Moreno



Ybet Alvarez



Gonzales High School

You will forever be our baby girl. Mom & Dad love you so much and so proud of you. May the Lord Bless you and protect you always.

Always, Mom and Dad



Congratulations Haley you did it!!



Gonzales High School

Grandma and Grandpa are so very proud of you. We love you so much and can't wait to see what God has planned for you in the future.

Love, Grandma and Grandpa



Congratulations Class of 2024!

BYK

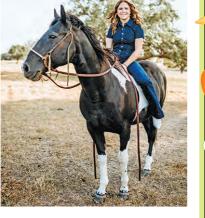
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Gonzales High School





Love, Dad, Mom, Brett, Evan, Maw & PeePaw





Lasley Davis eager to cap (and gown) academic journey as Victoria College commencement student speaker

Twenty years after graduating from high school, despite dropping out twice, Lasley Davis will drop knowledge as a student speaker at Victoria College's spring commencement ceremony.

Davis is graduating magna cum laude with an Associate of Science in business management at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Victoria Fine Arts Center. He is a general manager at Armstrong Warehouse & Transfer in Victoria.

"VC was not on my radar at all," he said. "My boss, Susan Cain, and her dad, Will Armstrong, approached me with the fabulous idea to go to school and pursue a degree in business management.

"Initially, I was apprehensive. I told them to give me a day or two to think it over. After talking about it with my family, I said, 'Why not? Let's go for it."

Because of his stellar academic achievements at VC, Davis, a Phi Theta Kappa member, was a finalist to speak at commencement. However, he needed another nudge from his boss to follow through.

"I was a bit timid, reserved about it," he said. "I just wanted to walk the stage and get it done. I've been in school for too long. Susan said, 'Les, if you don't even attempt it, you'll regret it for the rest of your life."

Davis interviewed remotely with pro-

fessor Chelsea Bradley and VC's Student Commencement Speaker Committee while on a work trip to Carmel-by-the-Sea, California.

"I conducted my interview sitting on the beach, with the water in the background, waves crashing," he said. "Professor Bradley and the rest of the committee said, 'Les, are you at the beach? Is that a fake background?' I said, 'No, there's nothing fake about it.' I found out a couple of days later that I was selected as one of the speakers."

After attending school in his hometown of Hallettsville through ninth grade, Davis moved to Victoria with his family. He dropped out of high school

From day one, I was about giving it my best and making the best grades possible, knowing where I had been in my high school days and how much I didn't care about school then. I wanted to go down a different route this time, apply myself and see what I'm truly capable of doing."

-Lasley Davis, Victoria College student

during his junior and senior years.

"Somewhere around Christmastime my senior year, a lightbulb went off, and I said, 'Hey, Les, get back to school," he said. "I went back and talked to some advisors, then went to Profit Magnet High School. I made up all of my missing credits in two months. I graduated and walked the stage with my 2004 class at Memorial High School."

Five years later, Davis landed a position at the Back Office, a sister company of Armstrong Warehouse and Transfer. He became a general manager three years ago. In November, he will celebrate his 15th year with the company. Davis enrolled at VC in Fall 2018.

"My grades are a reflection of my gratitude toward Susan and Will," he said. "They believed in me enough to offer me the opportunity to further my education. It would be the ultimate sign of disrespect if I didn't give it my absolute best when I went to these classes.

"From day one, I was about giving it my best and making the best grades possible, knowing where I had been in my high school days and how much I didn't care about school then. I wanted to go down a different route this time, apply myself and see what I'm truly capable of doing."

In addition to earning stellar grades, the information that Davis gained in VC's Business Management Program is paying dividends in his career.

"I am applying a lot of that knowledge to the business," he said. "It taught me how to view employees. They are your most

See SPEAKER, page 21

Texas Match The Promise Foundation helps save for college

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Texas Match the Promise Foundation encourages families to save for college by offering competitive matching scholarships and tuition grants to students who are beneficiaries of a Texas Tuition Promise Fund® account the state's prepaid college tuition plan.

Match the Promise scholarships help young Texans realize their dreams of a college education while also encouraging families to take steps now to prepare for their children's futures.

To apply for a scholarship, the Promise Fund beneficiary must be in grade three through nine and have a family income of \$100,000 or less. Students must write a career essay and meet residency and other requirements.

The Foundation accepts scholarship applications Sept. 1 through Dec. 31. Families also can enroll in the Promise Fund during the scholarship application period if they have not already done so.

Match the Promise is funded by generous contributions from citizens, building a stronger Texas for tomorrow.



New graduate and unsure about your future? Consider stenography

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Do you know a high school senior who is not sure about taking the college path for their future? Now is the perfect time for college bound students unsure about committing to a four-year traditional college to take advantage of the National Court Reporters Association's (NCRA) A to Z[®] Intro to Steno Machine Shorthand program, a free online six-week introductory course that lets participants see if a career in court reporting or captioning is a good choice for them. NCRA is the country's leading organization representing stenographic court reporters and captioners.

Registration opens May 20 for the next asynchronous A to Z session being held June 17-July 28.

Job placement is nearly immediate in the stenographic court reporting and captioning fields as there is a growing need for official court reporters in the

courtroom and deposition reporters as well as captioners to provide access to the spoken word through realtime captioning to members of the deaf and hardof-hearing communities.

The NCRA A to Z introductory program offers participants the opportunity to test drive a steno machine as well as get a glimpse into the places this unique skill can take them. The program is a hybrid course combining both live online instructor sessions with videos and dictation materials for self-paced practice. During the six-week program, experienced court reporters teach participants the alphabet in steno and how to write on a machine.

There is no charge to take the course, but participants are required to have access to a steno machine or an iPad they can use to download an iStenoPad app. The course is perfect for high school seniors who are still considering what career path to follow upon graduation in the spring.

People with good gaming skills, a love for the English language and linguistics, finger dexterity like those of musicians, a love of constant learning, and a determination and commitment to always improve one's capabilities make great candidates for this career

Michelle Soto, of Boise, Idaho, completed the NCRA A to Z program and is now enrolled in the Hardeman School of Court Reporting, an online program based in Florida. "I was driven by my own potential," she said, "and the ways in which I could provide such an integral service to the justice system and anyone who needed a verbatim record." Soon after enrolling she purchased her own machine.

She shared that what she loves about learning stenography is the fact that it's a learning process that makes your failures known in a way that allows you to

See STENOGRAPHY, page 21





Alexander Almaguer



Cole Duty



Talan Grant



Yareli Gonzalez



Denise Navarro



Dakota Navejar



Malorie Navejar



Nathaniel Nichols



Aiden Noyola



Brianna Olmedo



Diana Olmedo



Marisol Olmedo San Martin



Alan Orduna



Diana Orduna Zuniga



Ulices Orduna



Noah Orosco



Congratulations Aubrey!

We are all so proud of you and can't wait to see what your future holds!

Love You, Mom, Dad & Family





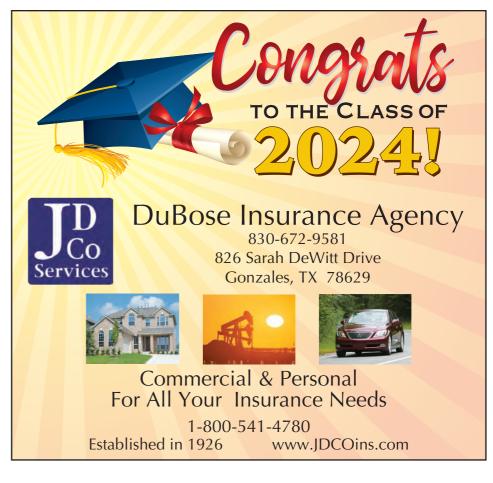
Kade Dixon on your Graduation! Nixon-Smiley High School

Kade Dixon was selected MVP basketball player, MVP Tennis player, Academic All District in Football and Basketball and will be playing in the STRC All STAR games in both sports.

He also received the Mustang Excellence Award for leadership. Thank you Kade for letting your light shine and being an example to others.

So very proud of you! Love, Mom Jeremiah 29:11







Macey Pena



Andrew Pennington



Brenda Perez



Hannah Perez



San Juan Perez



Serenity Perez



Christopher Ramirez



Sianna Ramirez



Edward Reyes



Christie Reyna



Tyler Riojas



Mariah Rios



Coy Roach



Jace Rodriguez



Rafael Rodriguez



Victoria Romero



Weston Ruddock



Lafayette Sampleton



Macy Sample



Damian Sanchez



Oswaldo Sanchez



Kynleigh Schroeder



Davonte Smith



Bryce Spies



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Cree Stowers



Ashley Taylor



Rubi Tellez



Taelynn Thwing



Breanna Torres



Meliza Vargas



Alexis Vazquez



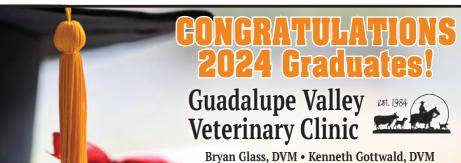


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Congratulations

Mikayla Vinklarek on your graduation!

We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments. We love you more than you will ever know!



Mommy, I am so proud of you and thank you for doing this for me! I love you so much mommy!!



Love, Sloan, Momma, Daddy, Miranda, Nana, Gampaw, Grandma, Papa and all of your Aunts, Uncles and Cousins







Connor Vega



Abbie Villanueva



Kevin Villagomez



Cassandra Villegas



Sara Vorheis



Jolie Whitted



Blake Wright



Abigail Zumwalt



Anayeli Zuniga Villegas



Madison Stewart



Marcos Vazquez



Javier Veliz

STUDENTS NOT PICTURED

Jonathan Almaguer, Fernando Almazan, Ybet Alvarez, Rianna Camarillo, Zaimy Cervantes, Jesus Dorantes, Chet Gold, Alyana Grifaldo, Jose Pizano, Fabian Herrera, Damaris Izaquirre, Jacob Johnson, Reliisha Jones, Kamren Leal, Robbie LIra, Ravyn Lookabill, Leland Martinez, Oriana Martinez, Petra Martinez, Ryder McGehee, Nohemi Mendoza, Connor Oeltjen, Samuel Oeltjen, Paisley Ploeger, Barbara Reyes, Raymond Roberts, Luciano Sirilo





SHINER ST. PAUL HIGH



Tate Anders



Julia Barecky



Zane Barta



Nate Boedeker



Alex Brown



Brooke Cerny



Joseph Davis



Thomas Klozik



Maurin Knesek



Vance Lucas



Faith Machart



Gracie Machart



Dylan Massey



Cartner Novak



Charlie Pilat



Stefany Pokluda



Gabrielle Rodriguez



Emily Stamport



Nathan Timmons



Tori Walker





Wishing This Year's Graduates Great Happiness & Success

Hats off to the students whose hard work and dedication have led them to this milestone achievement. May the classroom and life lessons you've learned from your peers, parents and teachers here guide you toward continued success as you take the next step.

We're proud of your accomplishments, and we wish you all the best!





NIXON-SMILEY



Demia Acosta



Kristal Acosta



Oscar Acosta



Kendall Amaya



Daniel Arenas



Landon Atkins



Tyler Barillet



Antoni Barrientos



Julissa Brown



Jaylee Bustos



Anthony Caballero



Casarez Ashlynn



Raul Colorado



Gavin Croft



Kade Dixon



Emmanuel Dominguez



Jesus Espino



Katelyn Fernandez



Claudia Garcia



Destiny Garza



Victoria Gonzales



Daniel Gonzalez



Jose Gonzalez



Anna Hanson



Arian Hanson



Jose Hernandez



Nichole Ivey



Christopher Jantes

CLASS OF 2024 **NIXON-SMILEY**







Odalysa Lugo



Derek Maldonado



Gracen Martin



Kyleigh McKissack



Sebastian Medina



Jay Mendez



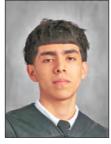
Valeria Mendoza



Omar Morales



Luke Moses



Cesar Ochoa



Dakota Oneal



Kailey Parks



Cason Pyatt



Adrik Rodriguez



Raul Romero



Izak Saldana



Tattiahna Sanchez



David Segundo



Lizbeth Serratos



Aubrey Squyres



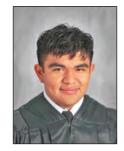
Emmersyn Stone



Betsy Torres



Malaina Torres



Miguel Valerio



Mikaela Valerio



Denise Vasquez



Osiel Vasquez



NIXON-SMILEY







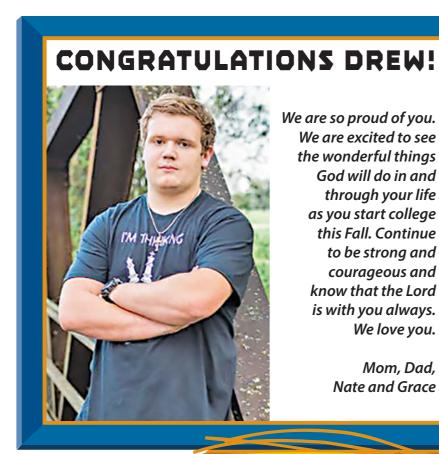
Ariel Villanueva



Carl White

INTRODUCING RECLASS 2024

CONGRATS, GRADS!





CLASS OF 2024

GRACE CHRISTIAN



Kade Thomas Avant



Nehemiah Christopher Elizondo



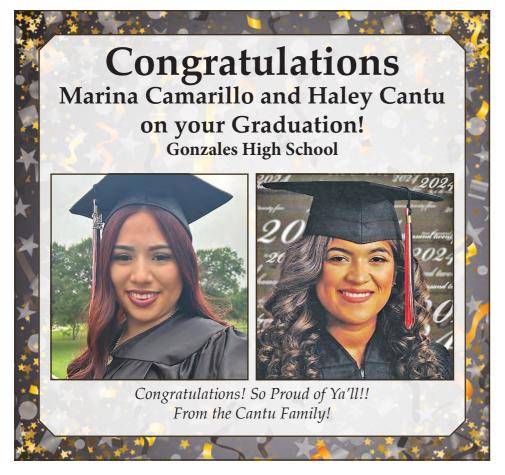
Jesse Leon Holden



Abigail Mayne Schurig











Victoria College honors Associate Degree Nursing graduates at Pinning Ceremony

Victoria College's Associate Degree Nursing Program honored 47 Spring 2024 graduates during a Pinning Ceremony on May 9 at VC's Leo J. Welder Center for the Performing Arts.

The graduates received their pins during the ceremony with family and friends in attendance.

Amber Marek of Goliad, Daniela Medrano of Bloomington, Misty Perkins of Victoria, and Alicia Huerta of Victoria were recognized for the highest GPAs.

Other graduates are Kalyn Watson of Berclair; Juana Bustos and Daniela Medrano of Bloomington; Kelsey Martin of Cuero; Renell Bledsoe of El Campo; Amber Marek of Goliad; Asia Adams of Gonzales; Miranda Hartl of Hallettsville; Elizabeth Sylvester of Inez; Samantha Brumley of Lolita; Jennifer Lopez of Palacios; Brittney Chavez, Ali Kalisek, Emilie Ramirez, Senon Sanchez, Bianca Zambrano, and Brittney Zamora of Port Lavaca; Sabrina Martin of Refugio; Victoria Uresti of Telferner; Rosanna Bermea of Vanderbilt; Mackenzie Borden, Audrey Boswell, Joann Bowie, Christopher Brown, Maryha Castillo, Jessica Garcia, Megan Garza, Leslie Hartman, Stephanie Hernandez, Alicia Huerta, Elias Mendez, Kelsey Mendoza, Citlalli Moreno, Brenda Netro Lopez, Jacquelyn Padron, Hayden Pass, Dana Ramirez, Zitlali Ramos, Serenity Razo, Valerie Ruiz, Alexis Valderamos, Samantha Valdez, Rebecca White, Cayori Williams, and Chloe

Young of Victoria; Aleisha Mangum of Wharton; and Jacarri Hights of Yoakum.

Victoria College's two-year Associate of Applied Science degree in nursing is fully approved by the Texas Board of Nursing and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

Successful completion of the ADN Program enables graduates to apply for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses. Satisfactory achievement on the exam qualifies graduates for licensure as a registered nurse.

For more information on Victoria College's nursing programs, call (361) 573-3291 or visit VictoriaCollege. edu/HealthCareers.

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Rosie Guzman



Juan Macias



Aerrieona McKnight



Stephen Moreno



Angeles Perez



Edgar Ramirez



Anna Ramos



Annie Reyes Salazar





Jalissiah Thompson



Roman Valdez



Julio Yanez





Velinda Zamora



Congratulations Hannah Baker on your Graduation! Gonzales High School



We are so proud of you! We can't wait for what your future holds. Continue shooting for the stars! Love, Mom, Gilbert, Ma, Pa, Nanny,

Uncle Bubba & Aunt Lisa



Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.

SPEAKER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

valuable assets, which is universal. That goes for any business, not just ours.

"The way I deal with and evaluate our employees daily is so much different, establishing practices and procedures and looking at our internal controls within the business. My whole vision for this business is totally different now."

Davis credits the support of his family and work family for his success as a college student working full-time over the last six-plus years.

"My wife, Vernice, has a doctorate; she's a professional student," he said. "My daughter, Jasmyn Shelton, is a college graduate, as well. They saw me through this whole process. They saw the late nights when I was trying to get homework done and assignments submitted. They've been my support system and backbone.

"It wasn't the easiest thing in the world. I'm always an employee first, then a student. There were a lot of times when my classes and work overlapped. My bosses were over-accommodating because they asked me to do this. Susan said, 'Whatever time you need, you go."

The faculty and staff at VC also helped Davis, who did a hybrid of online and in-person classes, stay

the course leading up to graduation on Saturday morning.

"The VC experience was amazing and like nothing I had experienced before," he said. "Everybody I came in contact with - whether professors, classmates, janitorial staff, landscapers, security guards or student workers in the Library, the Bookstore, the Student Center and the Tutoring Center - was a pleasure to be around. They were all so accommodating and willing to help.

"I wouldn't have made it through the Finite Math class without the help of the Tutoring Center. I established relationships at VC that will last a lifetime. VC has opened a lot of doors for me that wouldn't have been open otherwise."

Davis especially appreciates his academic road less travelled now that he's set to cross the finish line. His wife, daughter and parents will be on hand Saturday to share the end result of his hard work.

"I've kept in touch with a lot of my classmates," he said. "I am graduating with some of them who, like me, had to take the long road to completion. That's just the way it was. I never took more than two classes per semester. Now that we've finished, we're going to celebrate."

STENOGRAPHY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

analyze and diagnose them. "I also enjoy that it's a skill that is truly yours once you have mastered it. I look forward to the opportunities available to me after school that range from freelancing, where I can directly provide a service to the community. I'm also in for opportunities to travel. My ultimate goal is to become a captioner and continue to challenge myself," she added.

The NCRA A to Z program is taught by volunteer professionals working in the court reporting and captioning arenas. These program leaders also share insights into the many aspects of court reporting and captioning that make it a viable profession, including good salaries, flexibility, interesting venues, and the increasing demand for more reporters and captioners to meet the growing number of employment opportunities available in the field.

NCRA offers both live and asynchronous training at various intervals throughout the year. Visit DiscoverSteno.org to find out more about the latest offerings. Have more questions? Read the frequently asked questions or contact schools@ncra.org.

Court reporters and captioners rely on the latest in technology to use stenographic machines to capture the spoken word and translate it into written text in real time. These professionals work both in and out of the courtroom recording legal cases and depositions, providing live captioning of events, and assisting members of the deaf and hard-of-hearing communities with gaining access to information, entertainment, educational opportunities, and more.





Revealed: The most sought-after jobs in Texas

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

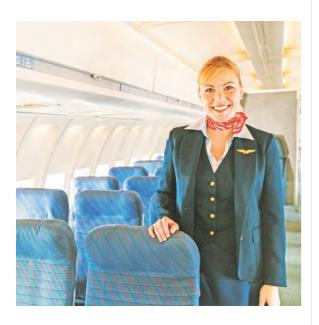
New research has discovered the most sought-after careers in Texas, with flight attendant taking the top spot.

The experts at online courses aggregator ClassCentral.com analyzed the average number of monthly Google searches for over 100 different job roles, including terms such as 'how to become a [job role]' and '[job role] salary', to determine the most wanted careers in Texas.

Dhawal Shah, founder of Class Central has commented: "It is fascinating to see such a diverse array of jobs in the ranking, reflecting the different skills, passions and ambitions of people in the state.

"This research highlights the boundless possibilities that exist in the professional landscape, and it will hopefully inspire people to pursue the best career for them."

This information was provided by Class Central, a search engine for online courses.



1. Flight Attendant

Terms related to a flight attendant career have an average monthly search volume of 26,298. With an average salary of around \$64,000 in the US, this job involves ensuring the safety, security and comfort of passengers on an aeroplane. It is possible to become a flight attendant with just a high school diploma, however, some airlines may have additional requirements, such as a college degree or fluency in another language for international flights.



2. Phlebotomist

The phlebotomy profession has an average monthly search volume of 26,079 in the state. People in this job role are responsible for drawing blood from patients or donors, earning just under \$40,000 per year on average. Becoming a phlebotomist requires gaining a high school diploma, followed by a qualification from an accredited phlebotomy program, and then a national certification.

3. Welder

The welder job role has 23,493 monthly Google searches. The average salary for welders in the US is around \$47,000. Typically, the qualifications required for this career are a high school diploma or equivalent, as well as technical and on-the-job training. The job involves working with metal, assembling pieces together and repairing damage using heavy machinery.





4. Data Analyst

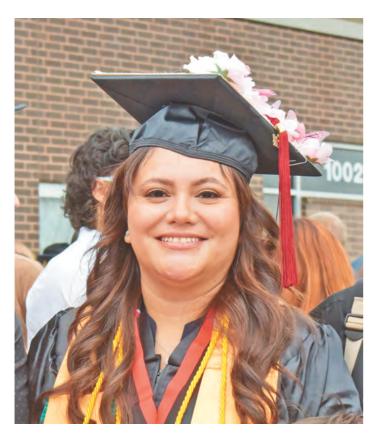
The data analyst job role is next, with an average monthly search volume of 17,113. The average salary in this profession varies, but is usually around \$60,000. They specialize in collecting, processing, and performing statistical analyses on large datasets.



5. Nurse

There are 15,652 average monthly Google searches for terms related to a career in nursing. Anybody wanting to become a nurse in the US must gain a nursing degree, pass the National Council Licensure Examination for registered nurses, and obtain a state licence. The average salary for this profession in the US is over \$80,000.

First-generation college student Rosalba Carrera gives invocation in Spanish, speaks at VC commencement



My younger sister, Adriana, started college and got a master's degree. She's been a big inspiration to me. I said, 'You know what, I can do this.""

-Rosalba Carrera, Victoria College student

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Rosalba Carrera's mother, Maria, never had an opportunity to attend any school while growing up in an underdeveloped, tiny mountain village in Mexico with just 100 residents and no running water. She and her husband, Pedro, made sure their three daughters would have plenty of access to education by coming to the United States.

Carrera graduated magna cum laude with an Associate of Science from Victoria College on May 11 at the Victoria Fine Arts Center. She also gave the invocation in Spanish and delivered a speech during VC's 99th annual commencement exercises.

"I didn't see college as something that would happen," she said. "My parents wanted to give me a better opportunity and more education, but they didn't have a lot of expectations.

"High school, for them, was enough. We had a one-income household. They didn't know about college scholarships or how to guide me. I felt I couldn't do it on my own."

After graduating from Edna High School in 2006, Carrera entered the workforce and became a mother. She and her husband, Beto, have three children — Donovan (14), Damian (7) and Desiree (10 months).

"My younger sister, Adriana, started college and got a master's degree," she said. "She's been a big inspiration to me. I said, 'You know what, I can do this."

When Carrera enrolled at VC in 2021, she wasn't sure which area to study. However, an anatomy and physiology class piqued her

interest in becoming a nurse.

"It made me feel like I could learn something I considered difficult," she said. "My plan is to pursue nursing in the Associate Degree Nursing Program."

The idea of attending college was difficult at first for Carrera, who works part-time in a local daycare facility.

"In high school, I was an insecure person without a lot of confidence," she said. "I always felt like I held back my full potential.

"When I decided to go back to college, I told myself I would be dedicated and do my best. I wasn't holding back anymore. I wanted to shift my thinking, work on my insecurity and build up confidence."

Carrera, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, has come a long way in a short time. Her husband, children, siblings (including her elder sister, Alma) and two nieces were there to help her celebrate on the big day and to hear her speak at the commencement ceremony.

"When I found out I might be one of the students giving a commencement speech, it was a little scary. Then I said, 'This is what I need to do.' College was probably easier than I expected. The classes weren't easy, but everybody at VC was so helpful."

Although Carrera took a nontraditional route to higher education, she is proud to have taken a leap of faith and followed through on her goals. And she's just getting started.

"I see all of the sacrifices my mom made," she said. "She left her home to try to give us better opportunities. It's exciting to say I earned a college degree."





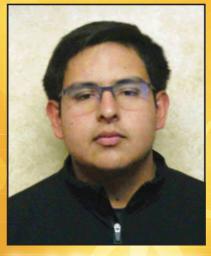
Congratulates the Class of 2024

We are especially proud of the accomplishments of our seniors and their families, and we support a bright future to all graduating seniors.

Gonzales High School



Clarissa Almaguer



Jose E. Pizano Guerrero



Diana Olmedo



Ulices Orduna



Marcos Vazquez



Kevin Villagomez