

GLO to Gonzales County: Rebid tower project

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County commissioners voted unanimously Monday, June 10, to reject the sole bid they received for a radio communications tower project after being advised to do so by the Texas General Land Office. Commissioners are expected to authorize rebidding the project at a special called meeting either Monday, June 17 or Tuesday, June 18, after changes are made to the bid specifications so that the project can be advertised in the June 20 and June 27 edition of the Gonzales Inquirer as required by law. On May 28, the court had voted 3-2 to send a letter from Hanson Professional Services and Langford Community Management Services to the GLO — signed by Commissioners K.O. “Dell” Whiddon,

See **TOWER**, page 14

Commissioners authorize purchase of GIS software, license

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County commissioners authorized the startup of a new GIS program for the county during their regular meeting on Monday, June 10.

Jimmy Harless, who wears multiple hats as the county’s emergency management coordinator, fire marshal and permitting director, told commissioners that using

See **COUNTY**, page 13



CONTRIBUTED/JOHN COALE
Dancers of varying ages from Come and Take It Dance studio in Gonzales perform the ports de bras (movement of the arms) during “Valse des Cygnes,” or waltz of the little swans, at the end Act II of Swan Lake at The Crystal Theatre. The ballet is one of the most famous of all time and, like The Nutcracker, features the music of Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky.



GRAND OPENING!

Don’t fear the Beaver! Buc-ee’s celebrated the grand opening of the world’s largest travel center in Luling on Monday, June 10 with a ribbon cutting by Buc-ee’s CEO Arch “Beaver” Aplin III and Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, who toured the store and spoke with employees and visitors. The new 75,000-square-foot center has 120 pumps and all the familiar sights, sounds and smells inside, including those world-famous Beaver nuggets and super-clean restrooms. For more photos, see page 7.

PHOTOS BY FLASHES BY LOR (LORRELL WRIGHT)

Gonzales Chamber of Commerce, GEDC in talks to realign organizational structure

GEDC’s executive director Sankey could be tasked with overseeing both entities

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture, the City of Gonzales and the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation have been in talks that could result in a “new, unique role” for GEDC executive director Susan Sankey. Chamber vice president

See **CHAMBER**, page 6

County gets ready for Juneteenth observances

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
The Inquirer

Preparations for 2024 Juneteenth celebrations are under way for both Gonzales and Nixon as both will be held Saturday, June 15.

See **JUNETEENTH**, page 13

TEXAS WATER SAFARI



Above: Veronica Sosa “Soul-O-Surfer,” of Austin, drags her kayak to the launch area at the Gonzales checkpoint for the 2024 Texas Water Safari Saturday, June 8. Left: Team Soggy Bottom Boys’ Russell Peterson (front) and Patrick Edward, of Austin, walk down with their canoe to be launched into Guadalupe River for the 2024 Texas Water Safari Saturday, June 8.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS.

Vine & Bloom Counseling opens Gonzales location at Thrive Healthplex

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

Access to mental health care has become easier for Gonzales residents as Vine & Bloom Counseling opened its second location at the Gonzales Healthcare Systems’ Thrive Healthplex Tuesday, June 11. Vine & Bloom, which already had a location in Shiner, provides cognitive behavior therapy, solution-focused brief therapy, dialectal behavior therapy, child-centered play therapy and Christian counseling. Casie Ehrig, a licensed professional counselor and founder of Vine & Bloom, said having these services was needed in the area. “There previously has been a lack of resources in our area, so to have this support is really increasing the mental health resources here and increasing the aware-

See **COUNSELING**, page 14



South Texas Poultry Supply named Main Street Business of the Month

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

For more than five decades, South Texas Poultry Supply has been an integral part of the Gonzales community, providing essential services to the poultry industry and beyond. Located at 822 Saint Paul St., this family-owned business has become synonymous with quality, reliability, and personalized service.

Lisa Kotzebue and family have been in the poultry house business for generations. In 2020, when the opportunity arose to take over South Texas Poultry, Lisa and her family saw it as a natural progression. With a deep-rooted connection to the community and a commitment to delivering top-notch products and customer service, they embraced the challenge wholeheartedly.

“We love the tight-knit community that this industry brings and that we know pretty much all of our customers personally.

Which makes us happily feel like we are one big family,” says Lisa Kotzebue. “It fits right in with our vision for providing quality equipment and service to our customers while having that ‘hometown’ feel.”

Central to the success of South Texas Poultry is its dedicated team. Mike Lawler, the Vice President, is hailed as the right-hand man, ensuring smooth operations day in and day out. Bobby Manning, with 12 years at South Texas Poultry Supply, serves as the Manager, while Nancy Hernandez, a veteran of 13 years, holds the fort at the front counter. Their expertise and loyalty have facilitated a seamless transition in ownership, cementing their status as indispensable members of the South Texas Poultry family.

Located in Gonzales, known as one of the top three poultry producing counties in Texas, South Texas Poultry Supply offers a comprehensive range of

products and services tailored to the needs of the poultry industry. From equipment and supplies to new house construction and retrofitting, they are authorized dealers for leading brands such as Big Dutchman, Roxell, and Val-Co, among others.

Beyond poultry, South Texas Poultry caters to a diverse clientele, servicing the agricultural sector and beyond. As Lisa Kotzebue notes, “We supply equipment for the agriculture and poultry industry. Everything from outside to inside the poultry houses, we have the parts for it.” Their reach extends across Texas, with customers not just clients but friends, reflecting the strong bonds forged over decades of service.

The historic building housing South Texas Poultry, affectionately known as the “Scheske building,” adds to the business’s charm. With a colorful past that includes rooftop dances, it stands as a testa-



VANDY VAN EPPS

The Gonzales Main Street Board names South Texas Poultry (located 822 Saint Paul St.) as the Main Street Business of the Month. South Texas Poultry has been serving the community for five decades.

ment to the enduring spirit of community and commerce in Gonzales.

As South Texas Poultry Supply basks in the honor of being named “Business of the Month,” they express gratitude to the community for their unwavering support. In a

region renowned for its poultry and agriculture production, South Texas Poultry stands as a beacon of excellence, ready to meet the needs of customers old and new, with the same warmth and dedication that have defined them for over half a century.



CONTRIBUTED

San Antonio man arrested after driving off from traffic stop

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

A San Antonio man allegedly made a decision on Tuesday, May 28 to drive off during a traffic stop — an unwise gamble that would later earn him guest accommodations at the Gonzales County Jail on multiple charges, including evading arrest.

At 7:48 p.m. Tuesday, May 28, a Gonzales County Sheriff’s deputy observed a white Audi sedan traveling north on US 183 near Ottine. The deputy noticed the vehicle had no front license plate — a violation of Texas law — and initiated a stop approximately one mile north of Farm-to-Market Road 1586.

Upon approaching the vehicle, the deputy smelled a strong odor of marijuana emanating from the car. The driver, later identified as 29-year-old Jerald Logan Smith, stated to the deputy there was nothing in the vehicle, so the deputy asked him to exit the vehicle so a probable cause search could be performed. That’s when Smith told the deputy there was marijuana present in the car.

The deputy observed a plastic bag with marijuana, along with a small plastic container with yellow wax, which the deputy recognized as being THC — neither of which are legal to possess in Texas. As the deputy began to place Smith in custody, the latter began to resist. Smith got back

into his vehicle before the deputy could get him handcuffed, ignored the deputy’s commands and drove off, fleeing from the deputy.

The deputy initiated a pursuit in an attempt to stop Smith, whose vehicle traveled northbound on US 183, refusing to stop as he drove at speeds of greater than 100 miles per hour in a dangerous manner, disregarding a no passing zone while passing other vehicles and running the two red lights by Buc-ee’s at the intersection of US 183 and I-10.

Smith turned left and headed westbound on I-10, again at speeds up to 100 miles per hour. The suspect continued westbound, hitting the exit sign at the 625 exit, but continued evading law enforcement. Smith began to slow down near the 619 exit, which leads to the Guadalupe County rest area, where he came to a stop and was taken into custody with the assistance of Luling Police Department and the Guadalupe County Sheriff’s Office.

A full search of Smith’s vehicle resulted in the confiscation of multiple bags of marijuana and a THC vape pen. Smith was charged with evading arrest and detention with a vehicle, possession of a controlled substance Penalty Group 2 <1G, possession of marijuana >4oz <=5lbs, and resisting arrest, search or transport. He is being held in lieu of \$34,000 bond.

Gonzales Municipal Pool opens for summer

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The City of Gonzales Municipal Pool at Independence Park opened for the 2024 summer season on Tuesday, June 11. The pool will be open from noon to 6 p.m. every Tuesday through Sunday through Aug. 4. Admission to the pool is \$3 per person.

The pool can be reserved with a \$25 reservation deposit. A reservation with lifeguards for 1-50 swimmers is \$125, while 51-75 swimmers is \$150 and 76 to 100 is \$175.

CITY OF GONZALES POOL RULES

Always follow the lifeguard’s/pool manager’s instructions. They are professionally trained and are there to ensure your safety.

- Children under eight years of age MUST be accompanied and supervised by an adult of eighteen years or older.
- Children under three years of age MUST wear a swim diaper.
- No swimming unless two lifeguards are present.
- Do not engage with the lifeguards while they are on duty.
- Take a shower prior to entering the pool.
- Swimmers must demonstrate proficiency to swim in deep areas.
- Acceptable swim wear only.
- No inflatable floatation devices allowed.
- Do not leave valuables unattended.
- No horseplay allowed (dunking, chicken fights,

pushing or shoving).

- No running in the pool area (on decks or in building).
- No somersaults or back dives from the edge of the pool.
- No bicycle, skateboards, skates, etc. allowed in the fenced area of the swimming pool.
- No food, drinks, or electrical equipment allowed in the fenced area of the swimming pool.
- No diving in shallow areas.
- No diving off of, hanging or playing on the ladders.
- No public display of affection.
- No profanity.
- No chewing gum while in the fenced area of the swimming pool.
- No glass containers of any type in the fenced area of the swimming pool.
- Leave safety equipment alone and in proper place.
- No animals or pets in the fenced area of the swimming pool.
- No non-swimmers wearing clothing allowed in the fenced area of the swimming pool except for individuals accompanying and supervising children less than ten years of age.
- Persons under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be allowed in or around the swimming pool area.
- No smoking or any tobacco products within the fenced area of the swimming pool.
- No one will be allowed in the swimming pool area with open wounds suspected of being infected with any

transmissible conditions of communicable disease.

- No one will be allowed to enter the swimming pool after it reaches its maximum capacity of 100 swimmers.

SLIDE RULES

- Only one person at a time on the slide.
- Wait until splash area is clear.
- Slide down feet first.

The City of Gonzales Parks and Recreation Department would like to remind patrons of the current Swim Attire Requirements for the Gonzales Independence Park Pool.

The current requirements are as follows:

- All persons on the pool deck and/or swimming in the pool must have on proper swim attire.
- All children under

3 must wear swimmer diapers and proper swimwear.

- Clean cotton t-shirts and sarongs are allowed on the pool deck; however, patrons must have on proper swim attire underneath.

The following attire is NOT allowed in the pool:

- Revealing swim wear, cut-off jeans, jeans, skirts, shorts, sport bras, leotards, leggings, drift wear, compression shorts and compression shirts are prohibited. Underwear and undergarments are not allowed to be worn in the pool.

OTHER RULES

No food, drinks, or electrical equipment will be allowed within the fenced in area of the swimming pool. Please clean up any mess or trash that you make. No piñatas are allowed.

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Celebrations

Birthdays

June 14th Leslie Bowden Ethan Edwards Darlene Fortune Connie Kacir Dean Wyman	June 17th Brandi Behlen Roland Escobedo Donna Damon Martin Laura Pesek Janice Walleck
June 15th Kacey Lindemann Butler Jeff Loomis Melissa Torres Candice Witzkoske	June 18th Ashtyn Kardosz Margaret Ramos
June 16th Mimi Holt-Petrek Steve Leazer Joshua Manuel James McMains Ronda Richter-Underwood	June 19th Sherry Callaway Sandy Hendricks Robbie Laredo Jacie Opiela Lizzie Pezoli Madison Stampert

Anniversaries

June 15th Robert & Elizabeth Bennett	June 18th Dean & Brandi Vinklarek
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Gonzales Weather

 SUNNY	June 13 96°/75°	Very warm with sunshine 1% chance of rain • RealFeel 99
 MOSTLY SUNNY	June 14 95°/72°	Mostly sunny 1% chance of rain • RealFeel 98
 MOSTLY SUNNY	June 15 98°/73°	Mostly sunny and hot 4% chance of rain • RealFeel 99
 SUNNY	June 16 96°/77°	Very warm with plenty of sunshine 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 99
 PARTLY SUNNY	June 17 94°/76°	A thunderstorm in spots in the morning; otherwise, partly sunny 40% chance of rain • RealFeel 96
 MOSTLY SUNNY	June 18 92°/77°	Sunshine and patchy clouds 1% chance of rain • RealFeel 96
 MOSTLY SUNNY	June 19 94°/73°	Mostly sunny 10% chance of rain • RealFeel 99

June 13th South Texas Tour
June 14th-2 Dumb Blondes
June 15th – 16th – South Texas Tour
June 16th – Happy Father’s Day!

(Founding) Fathers of Texas

BY U.S. SENATOR
JOHN CORNYN, R-TEXAS
Special to the Inquirer

As we leave the flowers of May behind, summer fun and Father’s Day lie ahead. In the Lone Star State, this day gives us an opportunity to honor our fathers and the legacy of some of those who laid the groundwork for Texas’ rich history.

While the history of Father’s Day didn’t start in Texas, a Texan in the White House helped ensure it would continue. The first Father’s Day originated thanks to Sonora Dodd, the daughter of a Civil War veteran from Washington state, whose father raised her and her five siblings after their mother died in childbirth. Thinking of her father’s many sacrifices, she circulated a petition around town and on June 19, 1910, Protestant churches in Spokane observed the first Father’s Day, the same month as her father’s birthday.

Over the next few years, Father’s Day gained widespread support. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson honored Father’s Day from the White House. Then, President Calvin Coolidge urged state governments to observe it, and during World War II, supporters celebrated Father’s Day to honor American troops and support dads in the war. However, it wasn’t until the 1960s that our fellow Texan, President Lyndon B. Johnson, proclaimed the third Sunday of June as Father’s Day. President Nixon finally made it official with a resolution in 1972.

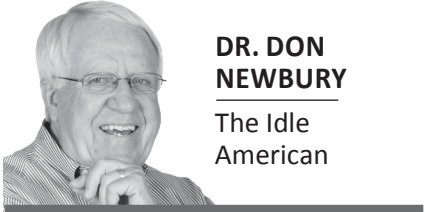
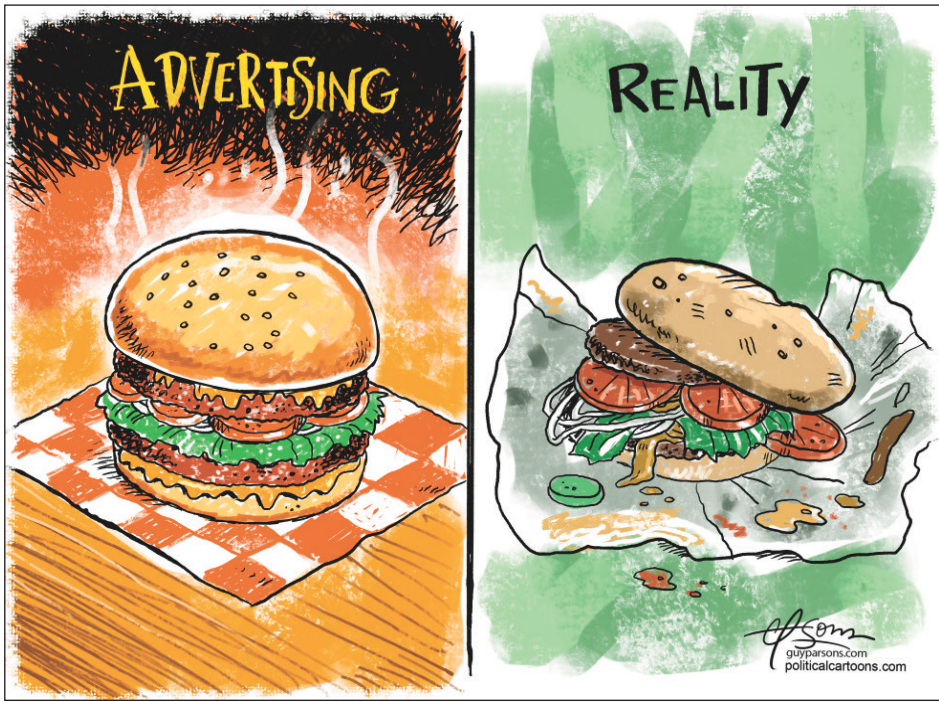
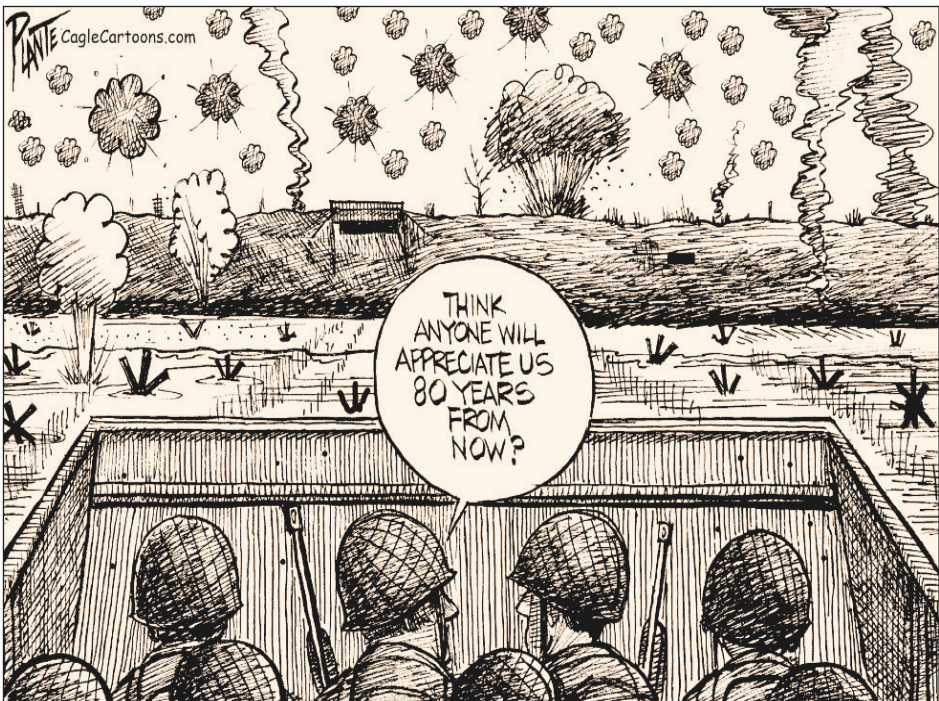
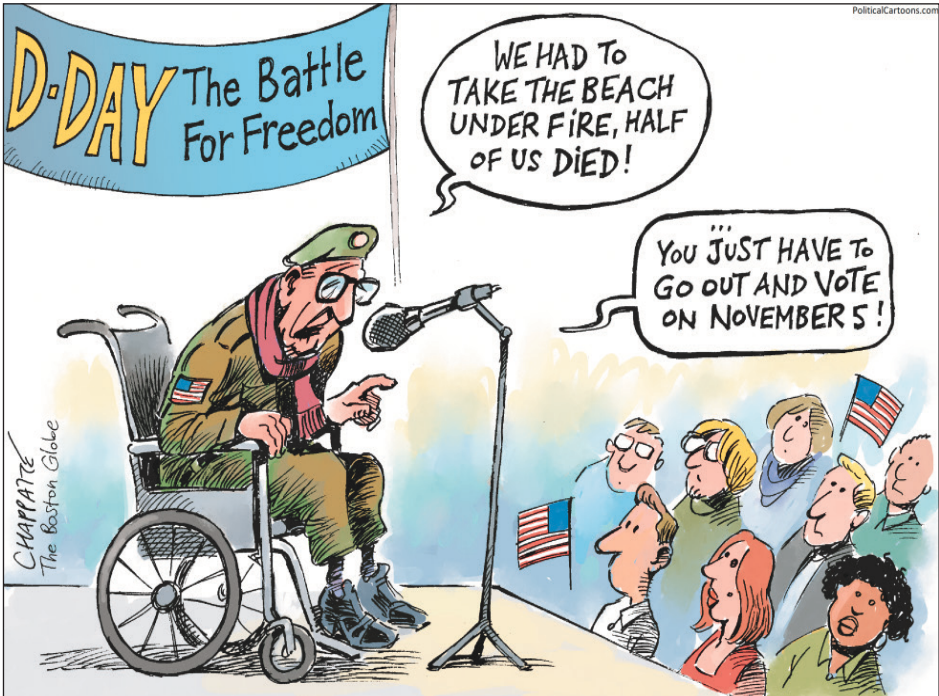
In Texas, Father’s Day also gives us the chance to remember Stephen F. Austin, widely known as the “Father of Texas.” Austin was instrumental in the colonization of Texas and helped bring more than 1,500 families to the region, which was then part of Mexico. Famed for his impressive negotiating skills, Austin recruited settlers from all across the United States and lobbied heavily to boost the farming industry, strengthen the economy, and establish competitive markets within the Mexican territory.

Austin’s leadership and dedication to these settlers served as a beacon of hope for many who supported becoming independent from Mexico, which ultimately led to him joining the revolution and becoming the first commander of the Texas Volunteer Army. Although Austin did not live to see his dream become a reality for the Republic of Texas, his legacy continues to inspire the pioneering fathers of Texas today.

Other founding fathers of Texas include Sam Houston, who led the Texian army to victory at the Battle of San Jacinto, James Bowie, who famously helped defend the Alamo, and William B. Travis, whose impassioned letter for reinforcements became a rallying cry for the Texian cause. These heroes and others helped secure Texas’ independence from Mexico and will forever be revered in history.

The legacy of Texas’ founding fathers reminds us of the trailblazing spirits of our dads today, who strive to protect and provide for their families and chart a path of adventure and hope for their kids’ futures. As we celebrate Father’s Day in 2024, we recognize the profound impact of both our own fathers and the historical figures who came before them and take time to show them the heartfelt appreciation and love they deserve.

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



DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

Old folks at home?

Family reunions are dwindling, going the way of the wild goose. Some, however, will hold annual gatherings soon. Littering nearby, though, are limbs of family trees that are no more.

Most of us who have seen the snow of many winters remember reunion trivia from years long since gone from the calendar. Many recollections make us smile.

Our bunch still remembers Aunt Gertie whose final trimming of the wick occurred in the 20th century. Everyone loved her almost as deeply as they detested her cooking. (Flies in her kitchen looked for holes in the window screen to get out.) We kids noticed where she placed her “covered dish,” praying that it would remain covered. I don’t think she ever noticed that during the final years of her life, she was asked to bring paper towels to the next reunion....

Has there ever been a stranger week in the world of professional golf? Separated by a single week and about 900 miles was the bungled arrest of the world’s number one golfer and a promising upcoming links star who took his own life. Scottie Scheffler was in Louisville, KY, at the PGA Tournament when he was arrested for a traffic violation. A week later in Fort Worth, Grayson Murray withdrew from his second round at Colonial, complaining of feeling poorly. He took his life hours later.

Scheffler’s story became laughable about what may have been the most over-blown “teapot tempest” in sports history. Scheffler, age 27 and considered affable by everyone, took everything in stride when arrested, handcuffed and jailed over what was later described as a “big misunderstanding.” One wag said that Scheffler might have hoped for a hole-in-one. Instead, he was “one in a hole.” (It should be noted that all charges were dropped, and both the officer and golfer issued a joint positive statement. It remains to be seen, however, whether Scheffler will seek an alternate route when future travels otherwise might call for driving through Louisville.)

Murray, age 30, won his only major tournament earlier this year in Honolulu and was engaged to be married. Who knows the potholes he dealt with on life’s highway? How heart-breaking this must be for his family. His decision, not to be understood, underscores the problem of suicides in America....

On a lighter note, my friend Nancy Esters continues to be an incurable optimist, though her view of life’s goings-on sometimes resembles a gyroscope that’s a bit off its “wobble.” She’s handy with a pen, often offering “one-liners” worthy of remembering and repeating.

Nancy recently claimed to be celebrating her 1,001st birthday. I kidded her about exaggeration, suggesting that her calculations suggest that she has already outlived Methuselah by 32 years and is still “vertical and ventilating.” She quickly responded to a response she anticipated. “Oh, him, he observed his birthdays annually, and I choose to light my birthday candles monthly.”...

While expounding about birthdays, I figure a recent visit with my Uncle Mort is worth recounting.

He told about a precocious 10-year-old girl who lives in the thicket who posed an expansive question to her mother after blowing out birthday candles. “Mom, I’d like to know what it feels like to be the mother of the most beautiful, most talented, most mature and most lovable little girl in the world?”

Pausing, she lowered her daughter’s self-evaluation by a few notches. “I wouldn’t know, dear. You’ll have to ask your grandmother.”...

Mort closed out by sharing an account of his bus ride during his only visit to Chicago several decades ago.

He said that a college-age guy, packed into the standing-room-only bus, noticed a beautiful young lady nearby. He boldly asked for her phone number. “It’s in the phone book,” she answered. “Okay, what’s your name?” he requested. “Oh, my name is in there, too,” was her put-down.

A serious note to end this piece: I sorely miss phone books. I really, really do.

Dr. Newbury is a longtime public speaker and former university president who is Texas’ longest-running syndicated columnist, writing weekly since 2003.



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TEXAS WATER SAFARI

RETURNS TO GONZALES



Above: Supporters of the Team Witches of the 666 came and supported Kristen Gonzales and Dusty Kahl at the Gonzales launch point. The 666 is a reference of the last three digits of San Marcos' zip code (78666). Left: Team Slimy Rich's Preston Perkins (front) and Reid Skinner, of Galveston, drag their canoe to the Guadalupe River-Gonzales launch point for the 2024 Texas Water Safari.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



Teams Shipfaced, John Chaney and Thomas Fisher, launch into the Guadalupe River-Gonzales checkpoint for the 2024 Texas Water Safari.



John Chaney and Thomas Fisher, of Team Shipfaced, walk their canoe to the Guadalupe River-Gonzales checkpoint to continue their journey in the 260 mile race of the Texas Water Safari.



Russell Peterson, of Austin, in the Guadalupe River as he and teammate Patrick Edwards (not pictured) of Team Soggy Bottoms launch from the Gonzales checkpoint of the 2024 Texas Water Safari.



Pete Binion, team name "The Hunter", gets his solo kayak ready at the Guadalupe River-Gonzales launch point of the 2024 Texas Water Safari.



Team Soggy Bottom Boys' Russell Peterson (front) and Patrick Edward, of Austin, launch from the Guadalupe River-Gonzales checkpoint.



Patrick Edwards, of Team Soggy Bottoms, in the canoe at the launch point of the Guadalupe River-Gonzales checkpoint of the 2024 Texas Water Safari.



Texas Water Safari teams at the Gonzales checkpoint for the 2024 canoe/kayak races Saturday, June. 8.



Texas Water Safari racers taking a break at the Gonzales checkpoint of the 2024 race Saturday, June 8.



Tristan Jackson (front) and Dylan Grant (back), of Team Water Hammer, walk towards the Guadalupe River-Gonzales launch point. Jackson and Grant are members of the Houston Fire Department.



Team Water Hammer's Tristan Jackson (front) points to his supporters as his team Dylan Grant continue the 260 mile Texas Water Safari race.



The Gonzales Inquirer will be closed on
Thursday, July 4, 2024
in observance of Independence Day.

*Have a safe and happy holiday from
The Gonzales Inquirer staff!*

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Texas A&M extension launches mental health program for first responders

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) recently launched a program to support vital mental health programs for Texas first responders.

The federal grant of \$497,066 was championed by U.S. Congressman Troy Nehls (TX-22) as part of the Fiscal Year 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act and was awarded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Through this program, TEEX has developed “Support that Saves: A Guide to Building and Sustaining Peer Support.” In this three-day class, TEEX experts assess the peer-support mental health program needs of first responder agencies and departments and provide recommendations and assistance in developing mental health peer support teams of their own. In March, TEEX hosted the first delivery of this program for law enforcement, firefighters and dispatchers from first responder agencies in Fort Bend County, Texas.

“Every day, first responders put their lives on the line to serve and protect communities across the country,” said Congressman Nehls. “I am proud to have worked with TEEX on this project to support mental health programs for first responders in the great state of Texas.”

The grant funding will also be used to establish TEEX’s Wellness and Counseling Center in College Station. The center will provide first responders

with professional mental health counseling services using evidence-based practices to improve overall mental health and well-being. At the center, licensed counselors will also train other mental health professionals in providing trauma-informed care to first responders.

“Studies show that police officers and firefighters are more likely to die by suicide than in the line of duty, and that depression and post-traumatic stress disorder are up to five times more likely to occur in first responders,” said Alisa McDonald, TEEX Project Director. “Few programs train counselors to provide trauma-informed care to first responders. At TEEX, we want to train mental health experts to understand the mental health challenges and stresses associated with being a first responder.”

Finally, the program offers assistance during and after natural disasters or mass casualty incidents. During the recent wildfires in the Texas Panhandle, the TEEX first responder wellness team traveled to Amarillo to assess needs, identify resources and assist first responders.

“This work continues the A&M System’s long-standing commitment to first responders across Texas,” said Texas A&M University System Chancellor John Sharp. “With Congressman Nehls’ support, this funding will build upon TEEX’s mission to support, educate and train first responders through the establishment of mental health services tailored specifically for them.”



Tommy Schurig reminisced about the history of the Texas Water Safari with staffers at the Gonzales Inquirer last week and brought in the patch he and Eddie Halamiccek received for finishing sixth in the professional division (ninth overall) in the 1972 TWS, along with a copy of the Inquirer article about their accomplishment. They finished the 260-plus mile course in 61 hours and 19 minutes and won \$100 for their efforts.

GCRTA learns about Texas Ramp Project, Earth Angels

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The March program for the Gonzales County Retired Teachers Association was presented by representatives from the Texas Ramp Project.

Their motto is “Building Freedom for the Homebound.” Their brochure states: “Our organization is statewide, but our work is local!” Their website can be viewed at <http://www.texasramps.org>

It was a delight to look at old GCRTA scrapbooks and other memorabilia found in

archives. Browsing over several tables of these items and recognizing familiar faces brought back memories.

The May program was presented by Laura Kaspar from Earth Angels. She answered questions and showed several quilts of different sizes that the club has made and donate wrapped “In God’s Love” label.

Friendly Reminders: Please pay state/local dues by July 1 to maintain your membership. You are encouraged to share with Arline (830-857-0134) how to contact you — by text,



CONTRIBUTED

email or personal phone call. Post cards will no longer be sent. Don’t forget to bring books for GISD little libraries!

The July 16 meeting program will be a “Memorial Service.”

CHAMBER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lawren Kridler said the Chamber board has “had extensive discussions and held numerous meetings” with City Manager Tim Crow, Sankey, business members and others to “explore possible changes in the organizational structure of the Chamber.”

“Since last year, our board has seen dire need to bring stability to and strengthen our Chamber in order to accomplish its mission and purpose to serve its members and the community of Gonzales,” Kridler said. “We believe aligning the Chamber, Tourism and GEDC in working towards the common goals they share will maximize resources, unify vision, enhance collaboration, increase efficiency, deliver stability, strengthen advocacy, and improve service to our members, businesses and the community.”

The realigned organizational structure would

see Sankey not only overseeing the GEDC and its employees but also overseeing the Chamber and its employees, including tourism development when a new coordinator is hired. However, the governing boards of both the Chamber and EDC would remain in place and continue to operate as they have been, Kridler said.

Other cities, including New Braunfels, Brady and Terrell, have employed a similar organizational management and “experienced great success,” Kridler said.

Kridler said the Chamber board unanimously approved the restructuring plan at its April meeting, while the GEDC board has also voiced support for establish-

ing the new personnel framework.

Kridler said Crow discussed the Chamber’s and EDC’s approvals for this formation in a closed session at the May Gonzales City Council meeting (due to it being regarding personnel).

She said she has been reaching out to long-standing businesses within the community

asking them to send letters of support demonstrating the “exponential value” of the initiative to Mayor Steve Sucher, addressed to Sucher and Councilmembers Poochy Kridler, Naomi Brown, Ronda Miller and Lorenzo Hernandez so they can have them at the June 13 council meeting.

The council is not expected to necessar-

ily make a decision on the matter at their June 13 meeting, but could discuss the issue under action item 2.3 (discussion regarding the following job descriptions: Economic Development Director) or under executive session item 6.1(2), discussion regarding the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce Publicity and Tourism Agreement.

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BUC-EE’S GRAND OPENING



Buc-ee's celebrated the grand opening of its new travel center in Luling on Monday, June 10. The new location is the 50th in corporate history and the largest ever opened now, bringing the title back to Texas. Gov. Greg Abbott was present to present a proclamation to Buc-ee's owner Arch "Beaver" Aplin III in honor of Buc-ee's having the world's largest travel center and tour the new store and meet with employees after a ribbon cutting. Luling Mayor C.J. Watts addressed the crowd, as did former Luling Mayor Mike Hendricks, who was in office when the original travel center opened in 2003. County Judge Hoppy Hayden discussed the planning process and thanked all involved.

PHOTOS BY FLASHES BY LOR (LORRELL WRIGHT)

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AUCTIONS

Bankruptcy Sale, Bid Deadline June 14, TwentyFour25, Galleria Office Building, 2425 W. Loop South, Houston, TX. 11-Story, 285,000± SF, Class A Building. Sale Subject to Stalking Horse Bid of \$18,600,000. Minimum Overbid: \$19,750,000. Ideal for office, hotel, residential or mixed-use. 855-755-2300, HilcoRealEstateSales.com.

Bankruptcy Sale – Bid Deadline June 27 – 23,500± SF Multipurpose Facility on 37± Acres, 11810 Lockwood Rd., Houston, TX. Well Maintained & Suitable for Various Uses. Potential uses include school, church, multifamily, office or industrial. Immediately south of Generation Park. 855-755-2300, HilcoRealEstateSales.com.

EVENTS

ICA's 50th Annual Convention & Trade Show, July 1-3, San Marcos, TX. Cattle producers don't want to miss this! Top industry speakers, BQA certification, 4-5 CEU credits for pesticide applicator license, live cattle handling, 50+ vendors, golf tournament, and more. 512-620-0162, ICATexas.com.

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION – TRC 109

THE STATE OF TEXAS: Cause No. 28,473
HOMER WILLIAMS, JANET IN THE DISTRICT COURT
ANTWINE, AND JOHNIE
RICHARDSON, ET AL
PLAINTIFFS

V 25TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
RACHEL BARFIELD, ET AL

GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF FAIR MARKET VALUE PURSUANT TO SECTION 23A.006 AND NOTICE OF COTENANT BUYOUT PURSUANT TO SECTION 23A.007 OF THE TEXAS PROPERTY CODE

NOTICE IS GIVEN TO THE PARTIES that the court determined that the fair market value of the Property based on appraisal is \$1,116,000.00 in accordance with Section 23A.006.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN TO THE PARTIES that any one or more of the cotenants, except a cotenant that requested partition by sale, may buy all interest of the cotenants that requested partition by sale in accordance with Section 23A.007 of the Texas Property Code.

Attorney for Plaintiff

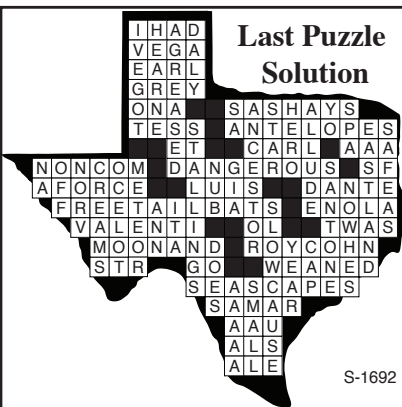
Christie Ortman Fullilove
403 St. George
Gonzales, Texas 78629
830-672-9535

Clerk of the Court:
Janice Sutton
414 St. Joseph St., Ste. 300
Gonzales County, Texas
By K. Alarcon Deputy

June 6 Puzzle Answers

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

Last Puzzle Solution



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OBITUARY

JEANNE CLARK THOMAS

Born Etta Jean Clark, known by her friends as Jeannie, more lovingly known as Grandma and the Ol Grandma; wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother passed from this life at the age of 94 years old, on June 6, 2024 in her beloved hometown of Gonzales, Texas. Jeannie was born in Gonzales, Texas on May 12, 1930 to William Leslie Clark and Grace Ruth Reid Clark. She attended Gonzales Schools from grade school through high school when she graduated in 1948. She married her high school sweetheart, Augustus “Lee” Thomas, Jr, on March 22, 1949 in Gonzales Texas. After marriage she traveled with her husband to Georgia while he served as a Lieutenant in the National Guard. She was a mother to 4 sons that she loved dearly. The boys were born in Gonzales TX, Anaheim CA and Denver CO as her husband worked in the oilfield industry for fifteen years before returning to Texas. Over the years, she, Lee and her sons lived in California, Wyoming, Colorado and Texas.

After returning to Texas in late 1960s, Jeannie lived in Austin, Texas and worked for the Internal Revenue Service for 20 years, retiring in June 1992. After retiring she returned to her home



town of Gonzales and moved back into her family home until her death. She loved Gonzales Texas, and told 100’s of stories of growing up here with her family, grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, and her cousins. She loved to tell stories of trips she made each summer with her boys as soon as school was out, where they traveled by car to Gonzales and stayed for the summer. Her grand-children loved listening to her talk about all the fun she had growing up in Gonzales. Especially her stories of sitting on the back porch with her grandfather, Big Daddy (Frank Cheatham Reid) while he churned butter, and listening to him tell her stories and reading the Bible from cover to cover.

Jeanne was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Augustus Lee Thomas, Jr; her sister, Rupert “Ann” Clark Andrews and brother, Leslie Reid Clark. She is survived by her

2 sons and spouses, Reid and DeLynn Thomas, Don and Lisa Thomas, and sons Bill Thomas and Jene Thomas; 12 grandchildren and spouses: Trina and Jaime Mata, Jeremy and Angie Thomas; Adam and Kayla Thomas, Rachel Brady, Micah and Amy Thomas, Brett and Jamie Thomas, Miranda and Michael Jacobson, Luke and Beth Thomas, Derek Thomas, Camron and Courtney Thomas, Tiffany and Dustin Alexander, and Zachary Thomas; and 26 great- grandchildren: Kayden, Taylor, Jaylee, Noah, Gracie, Madison, Kylee, Matthew, Colton, Luke, Abigail, Bailey, Allie, Micah, Jaxon, Cate, Fisher, Finley, Blaise, Aria Ford, Ethan, Cannon, Karoline, Kennedy and Julian, all bringing great joy and laughter to the “Ol Grandma.”

Graveside services will be held at 10:30 AM June 14, 2024 at their Family Cemetery on County Road 345, Gonzales, TX, with Jim McWhorter officiating.

Flowers, plants or cards may be sent to 8429 Hwy. 90A East, Gonzales, TX 78629 (832-499-6977).

A Celebration of Life Luncheon will be provided and served immediately following the Graveside Service at First Baptist Church Gonzales Fellowship Hall at 422 St. Paul, Gonzales, Texas 78629.

GMH Auxiliary accepts nominees for new officers

BY ELIZABETH BRELSFORD BENNETT, REPORTER
Special to the Inquirer

The Memorial Hospital Auxiliary met at 2 p.m. May 28, 2024 at Thrive. Nine members were present. President Betty Neubauer called the meeting to order. The minutes were read and approved. The Treasurer’s report was given. The Scholarship fund was given. The Gift Shop reported a credit card machine will soon be available for customers.

In old business, Betty Fink made the motion, seconded by Zilpha Dolezal, to accept the new officers nominees for the coming year.

New business: for the June luncheon, June 25 at 11:30 a.m. at Thrive, Chicken Fried Steak was voted in as the Main Course. A signup sheet will be posted in the Gift Shop. Members may call to the Gift Shop to register. New officers will be installed by Pilot Meagan Perkins.

The next meeting will be June 25 at 11:30 a.m. at Thrive. A motion to adjourn was made by Barbara Koricanek, seconded by Lois Williams. Motion passed.

A new year begins July 1, 2024 for the Shop. Many new things to bring joy to people you may know. Stop by to become acquainted with the Auxiliarians there. You may find something you “just have to have!” Bye for now.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff’s Office
06/02/24 - 06/08/24

06/02/24

• Ramirez, Matthew, Adam, Jr, Age: 22, Gonzales: Warrantless/ On-View – Poss CS PG 2 < 1G, Requires \$5,000 Bond, Released
• Hunter, Melissa Yvette, Age: 39, Houston: Other Agency Hold – Smuggling of Persons, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold - Smuggling of Persons, Released – Transfer Maverick Co.

06/03/24

• Martinez, Jose Guadalupe, Jr, Age: 39, San Antonio: Warrantless/ On- View – Man Del CS PG 1 >=4G<200G,

Requires \$40,000 Bond; Warrantless/On- View – Man Del CS PG 1 >=1G<4G, Requires \$30,000 Bond; Warrantless/On-View – Evading Arrest Det w/Veh, Requires \$20,000 Bond; Warrantless/On-View – Poss Marij >4oz<=5lbs, Requires \$15,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Terroristic Threat of Family/ Household, Requires \$15,000 Bond; Remains in Custody
• Vargas, Dimas, Jr, Age: 31, Waelder: Local Warrant – Tamper/ Fabricate Phys Evid w/ Inten to Impair, Requires \$100,000 Bond, Other Agency Hold – TDCJ Detainer, Remains in Custody

06/04/24

• Hernandez, Ashely Annette, Age: 38, Waelder: Warrantless/On-View – Tamper/Fabricate Phys Evid w/Inten to Impair, Requires \$5,000 Bond, Released
• Hawkins, Jakouis Dajuan, Age : 28, Lufkin: Local Warrant – Poss Marij <2oz, Requires \$1,000 Bond, Remains in Custody

06/06/24

• Colon Figueroa, Justin Antonio, Age: 31, Luling: Warrantless/ On-View – Poss CS PG 2>+1G<4G, Requires \$1,000 Bond, Released
• Barrett, Ronald Dean, Age: 48, Kerrville: Commitment/Sentence – Poss CS PG 1<1G, Remains in Custody

06/07/24

• Grant, Mark Dewayne, Age: 55, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Unl Poss Firearm by Felon, Released – Weekender
• Houston, Avery, Anthony, Age: 36, Luling:

Warrantless/On- View -Assault Fam/House mem Impede Breath/Circulat, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Warrantless/On-View – Proh Substance/Itemin Correctional Facility, Requires \$6,500 Bond; Warrantless/On-View – Poss CS PF 2>+1G<4G, Requires \$6,500 Bond; Warrantless/On-View – Injury Child/Elderly/ Disabled Reckless Bodily Inj, Requires \$8,000 Bond; Remains in Custody
• Polk, Beatrice Nicole, Age: 34, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Poss CS PG 1/1-B <1G, Remains in Custody
• Spells, Jamarein John, Age: 20, Waelder: Commitment/Sentence – Poss Marij <2oz, Released – Weekender
• Porter, Keanna Tashae, Age: 27, Gonzales: Commitment/ Sentence – Assault Causes bodily Injury Family Member, Remains in Custody
• Kearney, Trent Evan, Age: 26, Victoria: Commitment/Sentence – Proh Substance/Itemin Correctional Facility, Released – Weekender

Total Arrest, Court Commitments, other agency arrest and processing’s:	
GCSO	14
DPS	00
GPD	04
WPD	00
NPD	03
GISD	00
SMO	00
Constable 1	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	21

MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO THE GVEC Annual Meeting

Friday, June 28, 2024

Gonzales High School Special Events Center

1801 N. Sarah Dewitt Drive | Gonzales, TX 78629

Registration: 5:30 p.m.

Business Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

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Austin MFM 10 Dr. Malik Dr. Desai	Dr. Echols 11 Dr. Quintero	Dr. Quebedeaux 12	Dr. Ryan 13 Dr. Echols	Amy Trost 14 Dr. Miller
Austin MFM 17	Dr. Echols 18	Dr. Quebedeaux 19 Dr. Miller	Dr. Ryan 20 Dr. Echols Dr. Malik	Dr. Bui 21
Austin MFM 24	Dr. Echols 25	Dr. Quebedeaux 26	Dr. Ryan 27 Dr. Kirchner Dr. Echols	

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Dermatology
Alpesh Desai, DO
713-864-2659

Specialty Physician Outpatient Clinic

Audiology
Amy Trost
Hearing Specialist
830-372-2237

Chiropractic
Jeff Echols, DC
512-799-6811

Dermatology
Vicente Quintero, MD
830-626-5551

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

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

Pain Management
Eric Miller, MD
830-272-7746

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

Ophthalmology
Joseph Kavanagh, MD
830-379-3937

Orthopedics
Trent Twitero, MD
830-625-0009

Podiatry
Terri Quebedeaux, DPM, PA
830-303-0005
Charles White, DPM
830-303-0005

Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine
512-821-2540

Sam Houston State University honors Spring 2024 graduates

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The following area students received degrees during the 2024 Spring semester at Sam Houston State University at Huntsville, Texas:

Madelynn Hendershot of Gonzales, Texas, Bachelor of Science, Agricultural Business

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Victoria College announces Dean's List for Spring 2024 semester

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College has recognized the outstanding academic performance of 103 students by naming them to the Spring 2024 Dean's List.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn at least a 3.5 grade point average over a minimum of 12 academic credit hours within the semester and must not have any unsatisfactory grades in any classes.

Students named to VC's Spring 2024 Dean's List, grouped by their hometowns, are:

- Bloomington – Jason Lopez, Cynthia Resendez
- Cost – Betsy Roder
- Danevang – Alexis Barrera
- Edna – Dennis Block, Ethan McMullen, Christopher Rodriguez, Pacie Roe, Zoe Rojas, Santiago Villanueva, Melissa Wells
- Ganado – Chance Ladewig
- Goliad – Darren Blackmon
- Gonzales – Jose Hernandez Lopez, Amanda Longoria
- Hallettsville – Roberto Arellano, Cole Bujnoch, William Harper, Quade Henneke, Bowen Higgins, Hunter Laqua
- Inez – Esteban Cruz, Jesse

- Fuentes, Tyler Paul
- La Grange – Thomas Gunter
- Leesville – Sebastian Mendoza
- Lolita – Joshua Benavides, Dianet Hidalgo
- Lumberton – Connor Scragg
- Nixon – Yesenia Limon
- Nordheim – Ryan Schuennemann
- Nursery – Danielle Lonis
- Pettus – John Carrillo
- Placedo – Norma Trevino
- Port Lavaca – Cesar Blanco, Reed Cantu, Vivian Chiu, Brandon Garza, Gabriel Medina, Dar Moo, Hser Paw, Jaime Rios, Daniel Rodriguez, Miguel

- Santos
- Port O Connor – Kaleigh McCauley
- Tivoli – Alejandro Ruiz
- Victoria – Cameryn Amadorado, Caleb Bagnall, Carol Baik, Sarrah Beaver, Skyler Beck, Dylan Blough, Zachary Blundell, Nicholas Blundell, Ava Bolton, Bunnet Bou, Jordyn Carville, Jordyn Castillano, Arianna Castillo, Dominick Castejon, Madison Clark, Thomas Cox, Mikayla Davis, Andrew Davis, Jack Demmer, Brent Dunavant, Jaela Espindola, Zachary Ferran, Brandon Ferrell, Ty Foeh, Jehu Garcia, Kevin Holder, Mary Hormann,

- Hadley Hyle, Amanda Jones, Vitor Juarez, Daniella Jud, Hannah Kelley, Scott Leos, Michelle-Nicole Lopez, Christal Martinez, Lela McCaskill, Samuel Meyer, Michele Motley, Kelli Nguyen, Waheed Palmer, Hector Perez, Elijah Pickens, Hollyce Rhodes, Gracen Rodgers, Haylee Ruddick, Mallory Santana, Justin Schau, Heinz Stolz, Esperanza Trevino, Aries Vara, Hevin Young, Zachary Zamykal
- Whitehouse - Amanda Breeden
- Yoakum - Alicia Kuecker, Cameron Rice, Makayla Shimek, Dru Zinke

25TH DISTRICT COURT

SENTENCINGS

April 24

Conrad Bosquez, possession of a controlled substance, six years TDCJ-ID.

Johnny Obregon III, theft of property, 18 months state jail facility.

Kaleb Wagner, harassment of a public servant, eight years TDCJ-ID.

May 17

Danielle Gonzales, deadly conduct/discharge firearm, four years deferred adjudication plus \$250 fine, attorney fees and court costs.

Colton Johnson, tampering/fabricated evidence, four years deferred adjudication plus \$800 fine, attorney fees and court costs.

Carlos Morales, possession of a controlled substance, two years TDCJ-ID, probated for two years, 10 days in jail, OP held in obedience, \$1,000 fine, attorney fees and court costs.

Angelica Hernandez, possession of a controlled substance, two years TDCJ-ID, probated for two years, 10 days in jail, OP held in obedience, \$1,000 fine, attorney fees and court costs.

Bill Mercer, assault on public servant, four years TDCJ-ID with 265 days credit.

Joshua Turrubiarte, evading arrest/enhanced (second count of evading arrest/enhanced still active)

DISMISSED

May 17

Joshua Turrubiarte, evading arrest/enhanced (second count of evading arrest/enhanced still active)

May 31

Angelica Marks, evading arrest with a vehicle.

2ND 25TH DISTRICT COURT

SENTENCINGS

May 8

Don Wesley Bivins, criminal mischief >=\$2,500 <\$30,000, 16 months state jail facility with 136 days credit.

Richard A Boling, possession of a controlled substance PG 1/1-B >=1G <4G, seven years TDCJ-ID with 230 days credit.

Richard A Boling, possession of a controlled substance PG 1/1-B >=4G <200G, seven years TDCJ-ID with 230 days credit.

Victoria Rodriguez Reyna, theft property <\$2,500 2 or more previous convictions, two years state jail facility with credit for time served.

Robert Anthony Soto, possession of a controlled substance PG 1/1-B >=4G <200G, tampering/fabricated evidence, four years TDCJ-ID with 230 days credit.

Clyde Douglas Staton, violation of bond/protective order two plus times within 12 months, 10 years TDCJ-ID.

Clyde Douglas Staton, stalking, 10 years TDCJ-ID.

Willie Andre Haynes, cockfighting causes or earns (two counts), four years deferred adjudication plus court costs and \$1,000 fine.

May 21

Jesus Moses Meza, aggravated robbery, 15 years TDCJ with credit.

Tommy McNeal Barnes, assault family/house member impeding breath/circulation, five years deferred adjudication plus court costs

June 4

Calvin Tyrone Beck, aggravated robbery and impersonating a public servant (one count dismissed, one count remains active).

Jose Rosario Rodriguez-Palomares, injury to a child/elderly/disabled with intent to cause bodily injury, six years deferred adjudication with court costs and \$1,500 fine.

Michael Dwaine Siptak, violation of bond/protective order two plus times within 12 months, three years deferred adjudication plus court costs and \$500 fine.

David Henry Kelley, unauthorized use of a vehicle.

DISMISSED

May 8

Calvin Tyrone Beck, aggravated robbery and impersonating a public servant (one count dismissed, one count remains active).

May 21

Calvin Tyrone Beck, aggravated robbery and impersonating a public servant (one count dismissed, one count remains active).

GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS



CONTRIBUTED

The winning team from the June 5 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Peter Castillo, Jake Barnick, Brian Sample, Kameron Craft, Will Ruddock and Robert Young.



CONTRIBUTED

The second-place team from the June 5 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Chris Law, Frank Ingram, Lance Lopez, Tim Cleveland, Manuel Magallanez and Cody Hollenbach.



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ACROSS

- 1 "____ Texas" by Jimmie Rogers
- 5 _____smith drummer Joey Kramer has lived in Texas
- 6 ABC affiliate in San Antonio
- 7 tall Italian volcano
- 8 TXism: "never _____ in the glow of a neon light"
- 17 Greenville road in Dallas, e.g. (abbr.)
- 18 actor/comedian in Texas-based 1992 "Sidekicks" (2 wds.)
- 21 TX Buddy Holly's "That'll ____ the Day"
- 22 Astros & Rangers get three an inning
- 23 TXism: "too lazy to _____ flies"
- 24 "____ Lake in Martin County
- 29 in Jasper County on U.S. 96
- 30 Texas-based insur. co. for the military
- 31 TX-born actress, Robin (init.)
- 32 a type of Texas tycoon (2 wds.)
- 34 TX Jordan Spieth won 2015 U.S. _____
- 35 dir. from Elgin to Yoakum
- 36 some RVs
- 37 "It's ____!"
- 38 "gotta _____ with the punches"
- 39 fix a mistake? (3 wds.)
- 41 defamation

DOWN

- 1 TXism: "____ _ _____ to rope him" (large man)
- 2 cheerful and jolly
- 3 easternmost city
- 4 in Fisher County on highway 70
- 9 TXism: "dainty as _____ bride"
- 10 TXism: "____ _ lick" (none)
- 11 TXism: "does a wet dog stink?"
- 12 this Tom was a Traveling Wilbury with TX Roy (init.)
- 42 OJ's judge, Lance
- 43 TXism: "wipe the _____ clean" (erase)
- 44 this TX-born Alvin was a noted dancer
- 45 Mavericks rival, the Pelicans (abbr.)
- 46 TXism: "windy"
- 47 stomach issue caused by stress
- 48 TXism: "she _____ him like a hot horseshoe"
- 50 window shelves
- 51 TXism: "fits like scales _____ fish"
- 52 TXism: "____ it be"
- 53 TXism: "red _____" (liquor)

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1693

13 TXism: "she threw a _____ fit"

14 TXism for "I declare" (2 wds.)

15 UT was 2015 _____ football champ

16 TXism: "____ half a mind to" (inclined)

17 "____, sage, rosemary & thyme"

18 TX "____ Twins" sang on Lawrence Welk show

19 TX Larry McMurtry was able to _____ many other authors

20 init. of Houston's Olajuwon before he was Hakeem

21 "put _____ shut up"

22 teacher labor union

23 instrument in the Dallas Symphony

24 TXism: "____ as a judge in court"

25 branch of an artery

26 TXism: "____ up" (very angry)

27 early Texas attacks: Indian _____

28 TXism: "walking dandruff"

29 Europe mountains

30 "night owl" (2 wds.)

31 in Young County on highway 79

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

Answers found in next week's Classifieds.

JUNETEENTH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

GONZALES

The Edwards Association will hold their annual Juneteenth celebration at Edwards High School campus and David Tucs, president of the Edwards Association, is excited for the upcoming event.

“The preparations for Juneteenth 2024 are going very well. A lot of effort is going into it to ensure that it is one of the best ever,” Tucs said.

Activities this year include the reading of General Order No. 3 that was issued by General Gordon Granger in Galveston, which informed the people of Texas that all enslaved people were now free; a guest speaker; a Gospel fest; children’s activities, a live DJ; vendors and a night slingshot lighted parade.

And with the recent refurbishing of the lamella roof at the Edwards High School gymnasium — which Tucs lovingly calls the “Gem” — the event will return to Edwards High School after being held at Texas Independence Square for the previous three years.

“The Edwards Association’s Juneteenth celebration had always been held on the campus of the old Edwards High School. Bringing it back provides an opportunity for the entire community of Gonzales to come view and share in its rich history and the history of Juneteenth,” Tucs said.

Tucs has a message regarding this year’s Juneteenth observance. “We’re all in this thing together. When we add diversity and inclusion to the equation, it make us all better human beings,” Tucs said. “Like Independence Day, an American holiday, Juneteenth, an American holiday, is a celebration of freedom. But we cannot be free unless we let go of the burdens that tend to be a yoke.”

The Gonzales Juneteenth celebration will run from 4 p.m. to midnight at Edwards High School, 1427 Fly Street, Gonzales.



juneteenth freedom day

NIXON

In Nixon, the Juneteenth celebration will be held at the Nixon Community Center Building, 302 E. Central Ave., and Kelly Roberts Cooper said organizers are better prepared this year.

“We are ready. We had a successful annual fundraiser in April, and special thanks to our donors and supporters, for without their contributions, our event could not succeed,” Cooper said.

Last year, the event was held outdoors, but due to anticipated hot weather, they requested at the October 2023 Nixon City Council meeting to hold the event in the community center on Saturday, June 15 from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. and the request was approved, Cooper said.

Cooper added it was very important to have the city’s approval and have the Juneteenth celebration inside. She said the hope is to surpass attendance numbers from last year.

Cooper recited a quote from the late Al Edwards, a former state representative who was a driving force for the creation of Juneteenth as a Texas state holiday, as the message for this year’s Juneteenth.

“Every year we must remind successive generations that this event triggered a series of events that, one by one, defines the challenges and responsibilities of successive generations,” Edwards once said.

COUNTY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

geographic information systems (GIS) will allow the county to analyze and display information that can be attached to or overlaid onto a unique location on a map. Harless was seeking the court’s permission to purchase a computer as well as the licensing software necessary to begin creating GIS mapping for the county.

“Starting up a GIS program is not the expensive part,” Harless said. “I have the money in my budget to do this; I’m just asking for the court’s approval to start that. It’s finding a person who has knowledge of GIS and how to set up the program that is the challenge.”

To that end, Harless introduced Gonzales resident Greg Webb, who started Guadalupe County’s GIS Mapping Department 18 years ago before recently retiring to the private sector as a contractor. Webb has offered to help the county get its GIS program going at no charge because “he lives here and he grew up here. You very seldom run across someone that has the knowledge to do this.”

“I started GIS in the road and bridge department (in Guadalupe County) to get a handle on what was a county road and what wasn’t,” Webb told commissioners. “The elections office soon realized it could help them with things, even with just finding

out in what precinct a house is located, so we provided them with maps they could use. Then we started helping the flood plain administrator — you can quickly drop a flood plain on a map and see a house that is being built or where it shouldn’t be built.

“Pretty soon, we were doing stuff for the sheriff and county attorney and helping produce exhibits for court and once you get started with something like this, it can expand pretty quickly.”

Guadalupe County now has a three-person mapping department that compiles GIS data for the county and maintains maps for city limits, precincts, flood plain, county lines, bodies of water, thoroughfare plans. They also have downloadable GIS data for 911 boundaries, addresses, county lines, parcels of water, parcel data and streets.

Webb said he was the one who, for the most part, drew up the county’s new precinct lines after the 2010 census, though the map had to be approved by an outside attorney who specialized in that type of work. That attorney’s office handled the 2020 census update and redraw of precinct lines.

Harless said many of the federal, state and local agencies he partners with use GIS, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Weather

Service and United States Geological Service (USGS).

“A lot of that stuff that is information they have and we aren’t able to get because we don’t have the program or the license,” Harless said.

Harless said the county can use the program to create an interactive map that can be put up on the county’s website “where folks can actually click on their property, like the Appraisal District does. They can turn on layers and see where the flood plain is or see what precinct they are in. It really is a benefit.”

“It is fairly inexpensive and we can help the cities on some of their stuff because they don’t have the ability to do that,” Harless added. “With all the information that we can take once it gets set up and all the different maps we can do with interactive stuff, it can help me with flood plains, subdivisions, weather events. Not only that, but it can help road and bridge, too. It’s not really just about emergency management. We would utilize it on a daily basis, but it would be countywide and be available to help out our cities if they need it.

“It would help us to locate where pipelines are in the county,” Harless added. “The National Weather Service has GIS files now. When we had that storm event that came through the north end of the county, we can show the exact path that storm progressed, what residences were affected and where the boundary lines are.”

Webb said when it comes to mapping, “you don’t really have to reinvent the wheel.”

“You can get a lot of what you need from FEMA or the state or lots of different sources,” Webb said. “Some things you have to do yourselves. You can get a street center line from Golden Crescent (Regional Planning Commission), but they don’t really know where a county road ends and becomes private. You can also create some things from scratch if necessary.”

“You could have overlays that show that two miles of a four-lane road were done in 2024 and the rest of it had been done last in 2013. If the rest of it gets done the next year, you can show it was done in 2025,” Webb added.

County Judge Pat Davis said GIS mapping would allow the county to replace the “black book in our office” which is a map and listing of all county roads because “it would be so much easier instead of just trying to always figure out where something is. This would be updated on a daily basis.”





MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
HOME HEALTH AGENCY
GONZALES HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

40TH

ANNIVERSARY

Celebration

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26TH
12PM – 2PM
Come & go; remarks at 12:30pm

YOUR PRESENCE ADDS TO
THE JOY OF THIS CELEBRATION!

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SUSPECTS SOUGHT



CONTRIBUTED/CRIME STOPPERS

On Sunday, April 14, a theft occurred at the Gonzales WalMart. Help is needed in identifying these two suspects and the vehicle. If you have information on the identity of the subjects, please contact Greater Gonzales County Crime Stoppers by either downloading the P3 app or calling 830-672-8477. By calling Greater Gonzales County Crime Stoppers, you may be eligible to receive a cash reward. Their tip line is 100% percent anonymous. You may also contact the Gonzales Police Department at 830-672-8686. Investigator Holt is the lead officer on this case.



VANDY VAN EPPS

Vine & Bloom Counseling opens in second location in Gonzales (first location in Shiner) at the Thrive Healthplex with a ribbon cutting ceremony Tuesday, June 11.

COUNSELING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ness in this community and ultimately providing more help for more people,” Ehrig said. “The location is at Thrive in what used to be the Sprout location and now we have Vine & Bloom and Sprout & Play Therapy here and we are

excited to have this space. We also have the playground as well and we’re so excited,” Ehrig added. Vine & Bloom provides therapy to adults, teens, couples and children, especially children’s play therapy. For more information, fol-

low Vine & Bloom Counseling, PLLC on Facebook and their website at <https://www.vineandbloom.org>. The Gonzales location is at 300 Captain Albert Martin Trail, Gonzales, and the Shiner location is at 707 1/2 N. Ave. E, Shiner.

TOWER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Donnie Brozowski and Kevin La Fleur — asking the government agency to allow the county to accept the sole bid received from the Lower Colorado River Authority. During that meeting, Judge Pat Davis and Commissioner Collie Boatright voted against sending the letter, stating they believed the county should rebid the project due to protests raised by potential bidders Motorola and Victoria Communications Systems about incorrect information within the bidding notice and a lack of time given to properly prepare tower specifications. At Monday’s meeting, Anna Aldridge, Hanson vice president and senior project manager, told commissioners she had a discussion with GLO representatives on Wednesday, June 5, and they verified and clarified that they would require the county to rebid the project since there was only one bid received. “The GLO said their regulations — and their funding — would be contingent on that,” Aldridge said. “You would need to reject all the bids and then authorize the county to rebid the project.” Gonzales County had opened bids Monday, April 15, for the tower project, which is being paid for through a \$6,071,588.57 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the GLO Mitigation Funding cycle as a result of the devastation caused by Hurricane Harvey in 2017. The county received just the one bid from LCRA and two notices of intent to no-bid and protest from Motorola and VCS. When asked how long the county should allow for new bids to be submitted, Aldridge told the court that the timeframe is up to them. However, she noted that “one of the comments received was that potential bidders didn’t feel they had enough time to respond.” The county only gave bidders 30 days to respond to the initial request that was published in the Inquirer and posted to

CiviCast. “They (the protesting bidders) suggested 8-12 weeks and my recommendation would be to go up to the 12-week timeframe and to the farthest point so that there would be no reason anyone would protest,” Aldridge said. When asked by Brzowski whether eight weeks or 12 weeks would be acceptable, Anita Scoggins of VCS told the court “If you want an additional bid, even from the other tower company, the 12 weeks is more reasonable.” “Let’s do the 12 weeks, then, so no one can come back and complain if they can’t get it done in 12 weeks,” Brzowski said. “We’ve already wasted enough time on this. Twelve weeks, no one can fuss and we can go right on down the road.” “I think they had close to four months to do this,” La Fleur said. “If they’re that anxious to get the job, they should have been working on this the whole time.” Boatright said he believes there are other vendors that may want to bid as well, including at least one local company, who also may not have felt there was enough time to get in a proper bid. Aldridge said there are changes that would have to be made to the specs having to do with references to specific radio displays that would need to be removed. The new bid specifications would then have to be authorized by the court. When reminded that the Inquirer’s advertising deadline is noon Tuesdays for a Thursday edition, the court agreed to hold a special called meeting next week in order to approve the specifications so the project could be rebid in time to make the June 20 edition. “Make sure it says Gonzales County on the bid as well,” Brzowski said, referring to a misprint in the original notice which referred to a different county and was another thing that was a subject of the protest by the non-bidding companies.

ANNUAL
JUNETEENTH
CELEBRATION

June 15, 2024
4:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.
Gonzales, Texas

Gospel Music Fest
Speaker
Games
Vendors
Food-Fun

Lighted
Sling-Shot
Parade
8:00pm
Music by
D.J. Lady T

EDWARDS COMMUNITY CENTER

Klein and Fly Streets – Gonzales, Texas – (830) 263-1611

Parade route:

Start at 9:00pm at
East Avenue Elementary

Travel west on
St Lawrence Street

Turn north on
St Paul Street

Turn east on
St Andrew Street

Turn north on
Klein Street

Turn east on Dallas Street

Turn south on Robertson

End @ Edwards
Community Center