

Commissioners approve updated tower bid specs

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County commissioners approved updated bid specifications for the Gonzales County Radio Communications System Improvements project at a special called meeting Monday, June 17.

The county will run notices for bids in the June 20 and June 27 editions of the Gonzales Inquirer and on CivCast, giving potential bidders up to 12 weeks to submit bids for the county's new emergency radio tower system to County Judge Pat Davis' office at the Courthouse. The deadline for bids will be 2 p.m. Sept. 12, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office Tower site, 202 FM 532, Gonzales, at 11 a.m. July 16.

At first, Precinct 2 Commissioner Donnie Brzozowski expressed concern in Monday's meeting that if potential vendors had not had a chance to see the draft specs prior to bids being submitted, they might complain about what is contained in the specs and again file a protest.

See **TOWER**, page 16

Gonzales City Council discusses changes to industrial zoning

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales City Council met for their regular meeting Thursday, June 13 at City Hall.

One of the big topics that was brought up in last Thursday's meeting was the zoning of properties, which was discussed in the ordinance section of the agenda, with public hearings held.

One Gonzales resident indicated she was concerned about the current zones that are set as light industrial and proposed to be rezoned as heavy industrial.

See **COUNCIL**, page 7



CONTRIBUTED/CAMP SHAKESPEARE
Crystal Theatre alum Julia Barecky, left, helps Luca, 15, an Austin resident, go over lines for the part of Oberon in Camp Shakespeare's production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Barecky is the first Crystal Theatre Shakespeare Ninja to serve as an intern at the two-week camp, held in Winedale. Campers will have their debut performance this Friday, June 21, at the Crystal at 3 p.m.

Camp Shakespeare returns to Crystal Theatre stage this week

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

For the past 12 years, Camp Shakespeare at Winedale campers have taken pains to be perfect on the stage at The Crystal Theatre as part of a partnership between the two organizations.

Camp Shakespeare will again tread the boards of the venerable downtown venue when they perform "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at 3 p.m. Friday, June 21. And,

See **SHAKESPEARE**, page 16



Above: Gospel songs of praise and celebration were a highlight at the Edwards Association's annual Gonzales Juneteenth celebration, held Saturday, June 15, at the old Edwards High School gym. The celebration returned to the Edwards campus after being held downtown for several years. Left: A watermelon eating contest was another fun event at the Gonzales Juneteenth celebration at the Edwards campus. There were vendors, food, fun and later a parade of lighted slingshot motorcycles. For more photos see page 5.
PHOTOS BY FLASHES BY LOR (LORRELL WRIGHT)

Below: Rena White speaks at the podium and goes over the history of Juneteenth for the third annual celebration in Nixon Saturday, June 15.

VANDY VAN EPPS

LOCAL CITIES CELEBRATE

Juneteenth

Nixon hosts third annual celebration

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

Twenty-five families gathered at the Nixon Community Center for the third annual Juneteenth celebration Saturday, June 15.

One hundred and five attendees all traveled from Hondo, Gillett, Leesville, Karnes City, LaVernia, Seguin, Gonzales and even right there in Nixon.

At the celebration Rena White of Gillette was

See **JUNETEENTH**, page 7



Cattle Country gives Gonzales sales tax bump as expected

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The inaugural Cattle Country Music Festival, held in April, definitely had an impact on sales tax allocations for Gonzales, which received its biggest-ever June check this month.

Sales tax allocations were up in both of Gonzales County's two largest municipalities for June, but dropped in the county's two smallest cities, according to figures released by Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar's office.

Hegar announced he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1.1

See **TAX**, page 15

Nixon council names new mayor pro tem, reimburses tourism efforts

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The Nixon City Council named a new mayor pro tem and agreed to pay \$5,200 in budgeted funds to the Rancho-Nixon Historic Association during its regular meeting Monday, June 17, at City Hall.

Newly elected City Councilmember Jack

See **NIXON**, page 15

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Missing teen runaways found in Gonzales

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Missing Gonzales teens Jordyn Angel Gobar, 14, Mariah Ramos, 14, and Alina Banda, 15, were reunited with their

See **RUNAWAYS**, page 7



Gobar



Banda



Ramos

Gonzales Main Street hosts annual Star-Spangled Spectacular

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Let freedom ring on Thursday, July 4, when Gonzales Main Street presents its annual Star-Spangled Spectacular Fourth of July from 5 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at Independence

Square downtown. There will be food trucks, live music and a fireworks show that will make you swear you see the “rockets red glare” when they’re “bursting in air.” Children’s activities include a patriotic bike decorating

contest and parade sponsored by VFW Post 4817, balloon animals, water slides, a petting zoo and more. The music kicks off at 5 p.m. with DJ Buddy spinning the hits until 7 p.m., when John Brewer, a New Braunfels

singer-songwriter, will take the stage and perform until about 8:15 p.m. At 8:30 p.m., Dawson Debord of Yoakum, who is no stranger to Gonzales audiences, will entertain until 10 p.m. The fireworks show begins at dark. And you can get your

drink on with your favorites from the 5D Travelin’ Tavern. Other sponsors include GVEC, City of Gonzales, BYK, H-E-B, TXGN Railway, CREW Men’s Store, DuBose Insurance, Energy Waste Rentals and your Gonzales Inquirer.

Pilot Club holds officer installation

BY LORRELL WRIGHT
Special to the Inquirer

On June 12, 2024, the Pilot Club of Gonzales Inc. met for their monthly business meeting and annual installation ceremony of the 2024-2025 club officers.

The Pilot motto of “Friendship & Service” is exemplified by its new slate of officers. Club officers are Megan Perkins, President; Lorrell Wright, President-Elect & Media/PR Coordinator; Liz Massey, Secretary; Kulah Grant, Treasurer; Cheryl Atkinson, Director & Anchor Coordinator; Linda Vaclavik, Director; and Martha Jimenez, Director & Membership Coordinator.

Other club Coordinators are Isaac Anzuldúa & Kena May, Projects; and Karen Phillips, Fundraising. Sheila Wright, Past President, was the installing officer. The installation theme was “Chart your Course to Making a Difference.”

The officers and coordinators are excited about the plans of work for the coming year. The club plans to continue doing performances of their BrainMinders Puppet show teaching kids about brain health and safety, raising money for their Anchor Club and Nursing Scholarships, being part of the Friends of the Library community and working with the Gonzales Lion’s Club as a partner for the adaptive playground at Lion’s Park, just to name a few.

The club’s signature project is working with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) survivors and supporting their families. They support people locally as well as through the Texas District Pilot International TBI camps.

Incoming President Megan is continuing a family legacy of leadership within the club. This will be her second term as president, the first having been from 1985-1986. She is a third generation Pilot as well as second generation Pilot President as the daughter of Past President & Charter member Sheila Wright and granddaughter of Charter member Hazel Wright, as well as the sister of Past President Melanie Wright.

“We get asked why the



PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS
The new Gonzales Pilot Club officers: Front row left to right: Liz Massey, Megan Perkins, Lorrell Wright and Kulah Grant. Back row left to right: Karen Phillips, Kena May, Isaac Anzuldúa, Cheryl Atkinson and Linda Vaclavik. Not pictured: Martha Jimenez.



Megan Perkins picks up a rose as she gets sworn in as the president of the Pilot Club of Gonzales in the Riverside Community Center Wednesday, June 12.



Gonzales graduate Macey Pena (middle) receives a \$500 scholarship by the Pilot Club of Gonzales. The check was presented by Cheryl Atkinson (left) and Linda Vaclavik (right).

name ‘Pilot’ and about planes, but we are actually named for Riverboat Pilots and our themes are wrapped in the compass, keeping the course, and the friendship and camaraderie that came from it. I am touched that my club voted for me to lead us this next year. I look forward to working with the community on the projects for the year as I continue in the family tradition of service.”

Incoming President-Elect Lorrell is a fourth generation Pilot Club member. As a charter member of the Gonzales Jr. High Anchor Club and an officer in the Gonzales Anchor Club, she is excited for this next step of her journey through Pilot.

At the June meeting, the club was excited to hear about the success of Project Graduation which they brought to the community over 20 years ago. They are grateful to the parents and community

members who ensure its planning and execution each year.

It continues to remain a fun and safe environment for the graduating seniors and their guests. While a full project report is still being finalized, the event was able to hand out \$18,950 to 105 graduates thanks to the generous support of our community!

The Pilot Club of Gonzales was also pleased to present outgoing Gonzales Anchor President Macy Pena with a scholarship for \$500. Macy is going to the University of Texas at Austin to study Public Relations.

The Pilot Club of Gonzales begins its new year on July 1, 2024. They meet each month at Riverside Community Center. For more information you may email them at gonzalespilot@gmail.com or find them on Facebook by searching Pilot International Club of Gonzales.

SMILEY NATIVE EARNS PROMOTION



Smiley native James Mendiola was promoted to the rank of Master Gunnery Sergeant/E9 on June 3, 2024, at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, where he serves as a motor transport chief in the 3d Radio Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group. Mendiola is a 2000 graduate of Nixon-Smiley High School and has been active-duty as a member of the United States Marine Corps since October 2000.

CONTRIBUTED

Schmidt completes National Sheriffs’ Institute Leadership Development Course

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Sheriff Keith Schmidt of the Gonzales County Sheriff’s Office completed participation in the 122nd session of the National Sheriffs’ Institute Leadership Development Course held in Quantico, Va., May 6-10, 2024.

This no-cost program is provided by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC), U.S. Department of Justice, in collaboration with the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA).

Sheriff Schmidt was nominated to join 28 other sheriffs from across the country for training on effective leadership within the Sheriff’s Office, the local criminal justice system, and their community. The NSI is the only executive leadership training program designed specifically for sheriffs to prepare them for all matters that impact the Office of Sheriff.

The NSI was first developed and presented in the early 1970s in response to a need by sheriffs to meet the evolving



demands of the office. The NSI has gone through many iterations throughout its history. Since 1993, the NSI has been housed in the NIC Jails Division. The NSI currently

has two courses of study—the NSI Leadership Development course which prepares first-term sheriffs for success in office and strengthens the leadership skills of elected sheriffs; and the NSI Jail Administration course which enhances the sheriffs’ knowledge of their responsibilities in leading the operations of a correctional facility.

For more information visit <https://info.nicic.gov/nsi/>.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION RECEIVE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



CONTRIBUTED

The Gonzales County Historical Commission received a Distinguished Service Award (DSA) from the Texas Historical Commission for their outstanding work in 2023. They were honored by the Gonzales County Commissioners Court during the June 10 regular meeting.

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Celebrations Birthdays

June 20th Christi Cooney Basquez Terry Chrismon Pamela Hamilton Cameron Horton Twila Huber Curtis Parsley Allison Raley	Pam Lester Lauren Miller
June 21st Sally Filip Brittany Hill Michelle Lavendar Zac Singleton Dustynia Stewart Travis Vega	Brenda Hodge Kellie Kutac Kim Martinez Preston Richter Laurie Simmons Norma Turk
June 22nd Mike Iakopo Jr	Pat Bautista Jesse Campion Tzitz Dixon
June 23rd Dottie Cuvelier Randy Harkey Sr	Robert Bennett V J “Bubba” Brzozowski Craig Hines Shari Tate

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Gonzales Weather



June 20
88°/75°

Mostly sunny with a shower
60% chance of rain • RealFeel 91



June 21
97°/76°

Mostly sunny and warmer
2% chance of rain • RealFeel 97



June 22
95°/75°

Mostly cloudy
1% chance of rain • RealFeel 95



June 23
96°/78°

Very warm with variable cloudiness;
a couple of showers in the afternoon
56% chance of rain • RealFeel 100



June 24
96°/76°

Cloudy and very warm; a morning
shower in spots followed by a
thunderstorm in spots in the afternoon
43% chance of rain • RealFeel 102



June 25
97°/77°

Partly sunny and remaining very
warm with a thunderstorm in spots
39% chance of rain • RealFeel 104



June 26
93°/73°

Mostly sunny
10% chance of rain • RealFeel 97

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LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET

June 15th, 2024
Cattle – 701
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 steady.
Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 325-475; 300-400 lbs., 275-375; 400-500 lbs., 255-350; 500-600 lbs., 245-312; 600-700 lbs., 225-285; 700-800 lbs., 225-257.
Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 115-175.
Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 315-375; 300-400 lbs., 285-325; 400-500 lbs., 255-312; 500-600 lbs., 210-285; 600-700 lbs., 223-238.
Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 119-129; Cutters, 131-143; Cannerns, 95-110; High yielding fat cows, 125-137.
Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 145-158; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 129-143.
Stocker Cows: \$900 to \$2,250. Pairs: \$1,800 to \$3,200.

NIXON LIVESTOCK
REPORT UNAVAILABLE AT PRESS TIME

HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.
Sale date: June 11th
Cattle on hand: 1913
Packer Cows:
High Dressing: \$125-145
Medium Dressing: \$116-131
Low Dressing: \$110-121

Poor/Weak Cows: \$85-110
Packer Bulls:
High Dressing Bulls: \$148-163
Medium Dressing Bulls: \$125-150
Low Dressing Bulls: \$105-125
Stocker Cows:
Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: \$1600-2100
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1250-1600
Good Cow & Calf Pairs: \$2550-3200
Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: \$1800-2500
Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:
Number 1 steer & bull calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$340-420
200-300 lbs.: \$320-415
300-400 lbs.: \$315-415
400-500 lbs.: \$285-360
500-600 lbs.: \$255-305
600-700 lbs.: \$230-290
700-800 lbs.: \$215-257.50
Number 1 heifer calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$320-400
200-300 lbs.: \$275-380
300-400 lbs.: \$280-365
400-500 lbs.: \$260-340
500-600 lbs.: \$240-290
600-700 lbs.: \$215-265
700-800 lbs.: \$190-245
Replacement Heifers:
350-700 lbs.: \$285-335
The calf market was again very strong. Average of all calves sold was \$3 higher than last weeks strong sale. Demand remains very good in all areas. Packer cows and bulls sold steady/strong on a supply of 200 head.

SEGUIN CATTLE CO.
June 12th
Market Trend: Market continues to be steady. Packer cows and bulls steady.

Cattle – 599
Sheep & goats – 1221
Medium & large frame #1 Steers: 200-300 lb. 1.25-2.50-3.80
300-400 lb. .50-2.58-3.90
400-500 lb. .50 2.58-3.70
500-600 lb. 1.20-2.46-3.10
600-700 lb. 1.28-2.20-2.55
700-850 lb. 1.80-2.15-2.41
Medium & large frame #1 Heifers: 200-300 lb. .90-1.60-2.50
300-400 lb. .80-2.35-3.15
400-500 lb. .65-2.35-3.15
500-600 lb. 1.05-2.24-2.74
600-750 lb. 1.60-2.17-2.40
Cows:
Utility & commercial – 1.14-1.26-1.39
Cutters – 1.14-1.18-1.23
Cannerns. – .90-1.00-1.10
Palpated cows – 1550-2250
Cow/Calf Pairs – 800-1125
Bulls:
Heavy High Yielding – 1.40-1.61
Light & Low Yielding – 1.10-1.39
Sheep & Goats:
Nannies – 40-310
Kid Goats (Fat) – 2.00-3.60
Wethers -2.12-3.55
Billies – 1.40-2.70
Dorp. Ewes - 60-200
Dorp. Lambs (Fat) – 2.00-2.70
Woolled Ewes – 90-110
Woolled Bucks – 1.40-1.85
Lambs – NONE
Barb. Bucks – 200-375

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET
June 14th , 2024
Number of head 1,261
There were 159 cows and 14 bulls. Packer cows and bulls sold to another week of strong demand. Tops on packer bulls was at \$165, while top cow was at \$150. Each week continues to see prices at or near all-time highs. Demand continues to be very strong.
The calf market was once again higher as demand is growing. All classes of calves are in high demand and were stronger. The average calf value was almost \$4/hd higher despite 24 pounds less weight.
Packer bulls:
All Weights 90.00-165.00
Packer cows:
cannerns & cutters 85.00-150.00
poor & weak 30.00-80.00
Palpated: 3 bred 150-160
PAIRS: NONE
Steer/Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
Under 200 lbs. 301.00-400.00
200-250 lbs. 378.00-400.00
250-299 lbs 345.00-405.00
300-350 lbs. 338.00-400.00
350-400 lbs. 331.00-385.00
400-450 lbs. 310.00-350.00
450-500 lbs. 294.00-350.00
500-550 lbs 281.00-334.00
550-600 lbs. 266.00-310.00
600-700 lbs 229.00-298.00
700-800 lbs 237.00-259.00
Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
under 200 lbs. 365.00-410.00
200-250 lbs 280.00-334.00
250-300 lbs 299.00-337.50
300-350 lbs. 312.00-375.00
350-400 lbs. 288.00-350.00
400-450 lbs. 272.00-352.00
450-500 lbs 268.00-310.00
500-550 lbs 252.00-314.00
550-600 lbs 346.00-296.00
600-700 lbs 226.00-264.00
Over 700 lbs 212.00-237.00

Garden Q&A

with
CALVIN FINCH



Q. What are the milkweed species that you and your volunteers are working with that you describe as native to our Central Texas area? I know that you conduct classes in various parts of the area throughout the year. How would we find out where the next classes are being held and would we be welcome to attend?

A. The native varieties we are working with include showy, swamp, antelope horn, butterfly weed, green, and zizote milkweeds. We also work with tropical milkweed. We currently hold classes in New Braunfels and several locations in San Antonio every year. Gardeners from throughout the region are welcome and attend the classes. To widen participation from across the Region we will try providing more scheduling data to the local newspapers I write for, and it would probably work to offer the classes in new locations each year. So far this summer we are scheduled to offer classes at Milbergers in September, the Education Resource Center at Medical Center in August, and the Comal County AgriLife Headquarters in October and April.

The specific dates and registration instructions will be provided later.

Q. The penta flowers are beautiful but I am having trouble figuring out how much sun they require. The plant label says full sun but the ones I planted in full sun got fried. What advice do you have on their sun needs?

A. You are right about the label and

the fact that full sun is too much for the pentas to tolerate. I have good response when I plant them in morning sun or even 2 to 3 hours of afternoon sun. The blooms last until Thanksgiving.

Q. What are the trees that just finished with the yellow berries? The crown is dense and appears to be evergreen. It was alive with birds such as mockingbirds, blue jays, cardinals, thrashers, and doves feeding on the berries.

A. It sounds like you are describing the native anagua tree. It is also called sandpaper leaf tree and is a valuable wildlife plant that also makes a slow growing but attractive shade tree for a landscape. For those of you who are CPS Energy customers it is on their rebate program.

Q. Why is it so hard to keep my containers of tomatoes, peppers, squash, and cucumbers from drying out now that the temperatures are so high? They are in large (20 gallon) black plastic tubs. I have to water them every day.

A. Plastic containers in full sun are prone to heat up so much that the roots cant survive and utilize all the space in the container, in my experience this is a special problem if you rely on a purely organic potting soil that is dominated by materials that have not decomposed. Try mixing in some sand and regular soil. When you water don't churn up the potting mix. It also sometime works to place neat shade boards to reduce some of the direct sun against the black plastic.



JULY GARDENING CALENDAR

In the vegetable garden it is time to harvest all full-size tomatoes and then pull up the plants so the fall tomatoes can be planted. Let the tomatoes ripen in the house.

If the old plants have spider mites carefully collect the plants and discard them in a garbage can. It is important that the spider mite population be as low as possible for the benefit of the new crop so also pull and collect any weeds surrounding the infected plants.

As you pull the old plants watch for nematodes as well and eliminate the susceptibility of the tomatoes to the disease by using

resistant varieties such as Celebrity, Tycoon, Valley Cat, or BHN 968 in future plantings at the site.

The eggplant, okra, summer squash, peppers, and cucumbers should be maturing their crops. If the squash vine borers destroyed your summer squash plants, consider using tatum squash in the future. It is easy to grow, very productive and works for most summer squash recipes.

The heat and high humidity have been tough on large zinnias such as "Dreamland." If you are looking for a zinnia less sensitive to the weather and fungal diseases try "Profusion." It does especially well when planted in containers.

Use pentas for color in morning sun or even 2 to 3 hours of afternoon sun (but not both). The flower clusters of red, white, violet, and pink are attractive and a favorite source of nectar for hummingbirds and other pollinators.

The "Cora" vinca selection can handle the full sun heat of July and is not eaten

by deer. In the shade try the "Whopper" begonia. It looks lush and frail but is drought tolerant and capable of surviving even the hot temperatures we expect this month. Another unexpected top performer for me has been the "Ruby Slipper" coleus. We usually limit coleus to use in shade but this month try the "Ruby Slipper" in a bed in full sun.

San Antonio area gardeners are participating in a program to expand the planting of milkweed to give Monarch butterflies more sites to lay their eggs. We have had good success with the native milkweeds antelope horns, green, showy, and zizoti. Watch for classes this month and the rest of the summer that would allow you to join the Monarch restoration effort and receive these plants. Also join the team if you have had success or want to tackle the challenge of planting and growing swamp milkweed and butterfly weed, which are important native milkweeds that we have not figured out how to manage.

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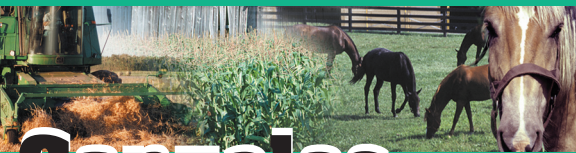
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The rest is history

Gonzales’ own Mexican folk hero

123 years ago, Gregorio Cortez killed Karnes County Sheriff W.T. (Brack) Morris and would go on to become a folk hero to many Mexican-Americans. This is a reprint of a column by our late beloved Louis Decker about the man whose story was turned into a corrido and eventually a movie filmed in Gonzales in the 1980s.

BY LOUIS DECKER
(1977-2022)

When we hear Cinco de Mayo, we think either, erroneously, Mexican Independence (that’s Diez y Seis) or the Battle of Puebla (the correct answer, when Mexico defeated France). But today, we’re going to look at another Mexican folk hero who had ties to Gonzales County. I’m talking about Gregorio Cortez.

A famous quote from The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance, a John Wayne movie goes like this, “When the Legend becomes Fact, print the Legend.” We’ll be taking a look at both fact and legend today, and try to stick to “just the facts,” as Joe Friday would put it.

What we do know, is this – Gregorio Cortez was born June 22, 1875, in the state of Tamaulipas, Mexico. He is known to have killed one lawman and was accused of killing two others. After doing so, he went on the run and evaded the Texas Rangers for 13 days before he was eventually captured. And for his daring evasion of arguably the greatest law enforcement organization and for his impassioned testimony during his trials, he became a Mexican-American folk hero whose story was turned into a corrido (border ballad) sung in cantinas along the Rio Grande, as well as an in-depth book, a movie filmed right here in Gonzales, starring Edward James Olmos, and, most recently, a concept album by a Mexican rock band.

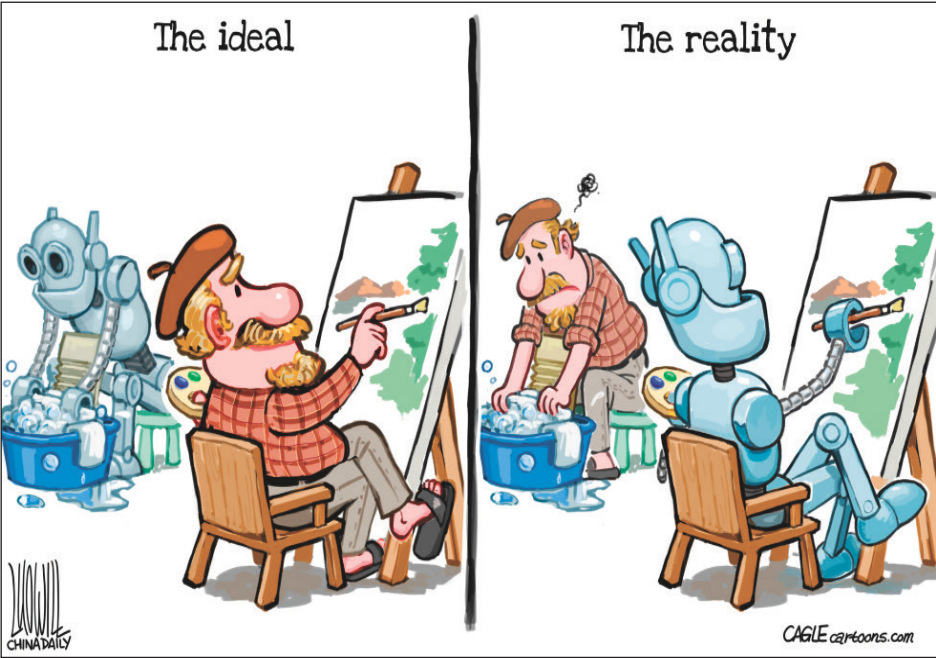
Little is known of Cortez’s early life. His family moved to Manor, Texas, around 1887 and two years later, at the age of 14, Cortez joined his older brother, Romaldo, as a seasonal worker on rancheros in and around Karnes and Gonzales Counties. At age 16, Cortez married Leonor Diaz and the couple had their first child. Gregorio and Romaldo worked as hired ranch hands for 11 years until they decided to settle down in Karnes County around 1900, renting land from a local rancher.

A year later, on June 14, 1901, Sheriff W.T. (Brack) Morris came to the Cortez residence to investigate a horse theft. Allegedly, Cortez had traded for a horse, but the deputy who was handling the translation misunderstood when Cortez responded, in Spanish, that he had traded for a mare. Words were exchanged between the lawmen and the Cortez brothers and, despite having evidence that the brothers were unarmed, the Sheriff drew first and killed Romaldo. Gregorio responded by killing Sheriff Morris in self-defense and fled the scene with Romaldo, badly injured, to the nearest town – Kenedy, 10 miles away.

Knowing the authorities would assume that Cortez would head south to the border, he took his chances and rode 55 miles north to Belmont, where he stayed with a friend Martin Robledo for a couple days before authorities discovered his whereabouts.

Gonzales Sheriff Robert Glover, a close friend of Sheriff Morris, was in Cuero on the day Morris was shot. He and a deputy rode to Kenedy where they learned about the fatal shooting. Glover pressured a Cortez family member of his whereabouts, took a train to Ottine and rode to Belmont to apprehend Cortez.

According to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, Glover attempted to sneak around to the back of the house to ambush Cortez. Testimony at trial stated both sides fired first but more evidence leads to Cortez and Robledo’s son Bonifacio actually firing first, killing Glover. The San Antonio Express-News in its coverage of the shootout praised the bravery of the officers and of desperation on the part of ‘the Mexicans.’ More likely, however, according to author Americo Paredes, who wrote the book With His Pistol in His Hand, chronicling the story of Cortez, was



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DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

Graduates in the real world...

For the most part, handshakes, backslaps, hugs and teardrops--some joyously wept from grateful souls who achieved much, and some from others who barely sneaked by to graduate--now are part of history.

In bygone years, school superintendents and university presidents considered graduation events to be successful if everyone left venues in the same state of health and well-being as when they entered. (Nowadays, with some commencement exercises canceled or altered greatly because of safety concerns, most leaders would settle for the “mild stuff”--even squirrels running amok on stages in the berserk manner described in the novelty song about the First Self-Righteous Church of Pascagoula.)

It should be noted that there are far more places for exercises to go wrong now. Long ago, most schools had just one “warm-up” for graduation, it being from elementary to high school. Nowadays, youngsters graduate from kindergarten to first grade, then elementary to junior high or middle school, then to high school and the “biggie” at senior year’s end. I wouldn’t be surprised, up the way, if ceremonies mark progression from diapers to underwear, and/or nursery school to kindergarten....

One superintendent of my acquaintance says he hopes his commencement-induced “tummy knots” will loosen soon. I understand, but like most other folks, wonder what lies ahead. Civility seems threatened.

I asked him if anything at this year’s graduation program caused him to smile on the way home.

“As a matter of fact, there was,” he answered, seemingly eager to share remarks by one of his school’s brightest graduates. (I am choosing not to reveal his name, nor his school’s, nor the graduate’s.)....

By way of background, much seemed to be predictable. Some 800 seniors “pumped and circumstanced” their way into the stadium, and several thousand relatives and friends showed up, hoping the graduates would take seriously both the “rights and responsibilities” printed on their diplomas.

It was a long ceremony, of course--what with all graduates receiving a dozen seconds each in the spotlight crossing the stage. There were many speeches, of course.

Were there ever speeches! Students who achieved greatly academically--as well as heads of student organizations--were granted a few minutes each to share their thoughts, most of which centered on gratitude to teachers, coaches, band directors, counselors, and, of course, parents and other relatives. Most, my friend said, were well-chosen words. (I cautioned that I’ve been congratulated for a few “well-chosen words,” both words in print and expressed verbally. Sadly, though, there were addendums, something about the few “well-chosen words” interspersed randomly with several hundred that weren’t!)....

I hasten on, because my friend’s face brightened as he described the young man whose remarks “took the cake,” earning the evening’s most thunderous applause.

“He had ‘Paul Harvey kind’ of timing, obviously spending hours deciding precisely what he wanted to convey,” the superintendent said.

“The graduate was unhurried, quickly establishing eye-contact with the throng to create an appearance of serious intent and spirit of thanksgiving. I wish I could remember his exact words, but generally, here’s what the lad said.”....

“I would like to begin my remarks this evening by especially thanking my mother, even though she’s no longer with us.”

Swiveling to survey the crowd, the graduate seemed to “drink in” the audible sighs from the audience, all seeming to share the tender moment.

Several seconds passed before he loosed the bombshell retort that immediately turned a moment of sadness into laughter that bordered on side-splitting.

“Yeah, she left several minutes ago, probably out of sheer boredom.”....



The annual Gonzales Juneteenth celebration was truly a day that was “Wonderful” “Spectacular” and “Awesome,” as summed up so succinctly by Edwards Association President David Tucey, who said those were the “power words” for the day. Attendees enjoyed Gospel music, a guest speaker, fun games, good food and more on Saturday, June 15.

PHOTOS BY FLASHES BY LOR (LORRELL WRIGHT)



LOCAL CITIES CELEBRATE

Juneteenth



Cheryle Steen, of Gonzales, works the booth as people enter the Nixon Community Center for third annual Juneteenth celebration Saturday, June 15.



Kelly Robert-Cooper (right) and Rena White (middle) talk to Chris Thompson at the Juneteenth in Nixon. The yellow ribbons worn represent Gillette Strong.



Sam Moore III (left) with DJ Trek for the 2024 Nixon Juneteenth celebration Sunday, June 15 at the Nixon Community Center.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



Above: Twenty-Five families (105 people total) gather at multiple tables for the third annual Juneteenth celebration in Nixon. Left: Ivan Clemons wins a t-shirt in a raffle give away at the third annual Juneteenth celebration at the Nixon Community Center.

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Thursday, July 4, 2024

in observance of Independence Day.

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The Gonzales Inquirer staff!*

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G-Town Striders sending 7 to AAU Region 19 Meet



Clockwise from top, Logan Valdez wins the shot put at the South Texas AAU Track and Field 2024 Central District and Club Championships to qualify for the AAU Region 19 Qualifying Meet. He also finished second in discus; La’Niyah Miller takes first in the turbo javelin throw to make the Region 19 meet. She would also take second in the shot put; Amara Behrendt heaves the shot put on her way to winning the pentathlon. She would also finish third in the 100-meter hurdles and qualify for the 100-meter dash; and Carolina Avellaneda takes third in the turbo javelin and won first place in the 1500-meter run.

CONTRIBUTED

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The G-Town Striders competed in the South Texas AAU Track and Field 2024 Central District and Club Championships at D.W. Rutledge Stadium in Converse on June 13-14.

Seven team members qualified for the AAU Region 19 Qualifying Meet on June 28-30 at the same stadium. Athletes must have a current AAU membership and qualify in the top 16 at the district level.

JUNE 13 RESULTS (DAY 1)

Thirteen-year-old Avionna Houston took second place in the shot put with a toss of 9.01 meters and took second place discus with a toss of 24.54 meters.

Nine-year-old Lawson Powell finished third in the turbo javelin with a throw of 10.74 meters and qualified in the 400-meter run with a time of 1:26.85.

Thirteen-year-old Logan Valdez took first place in the shot put with a throw of 12.78 meters and second place in the discus with a throw of 35.5 meters.

Also competing were seven-year-old Camilla Johnson in the 200-meter dash and 14-year-old Devlynn Cubit in the 200-meter dash.

JUNE 14 RESULTS (DAY 2)

Ten-year-old La’Niyah Miller took first place in the turbo javelin with a throw of 17.62 meters and second place in the shot put with a toss of 6.29 meters.

Ten-year-old Carolina Avellaneda won first place in the 1500-meter run with a time of 7:15.22 and third place in the turbo javelin with a throw of 8.7 meters.

Thirteen-year-old Amara Behrendt finished third in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 19.86 and also qualified for the 100-meter dash with a time of 14.72.

Six-year-old Gideon Sanders qualified in the shot put with a toss of 2.65 meters and the turbo javelin with a throw of 6.84 meters.

On Sunday, June 16, Amara Behrendt won the 13-year-old girls pentathlon and qualified for the Junior Olympics to be held July 27-28 at North Carolina A&T - Marcus T. Johnson Track at Truist Stadium in Greensboro, N.C.

UIL approves two division playoffs for remaining sports

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The University Interscholastic League Legislative Council met Tuesday, June 11 to make decisions on proposed rule changes in UIL academics, athletics, music and policy.

Additionally, the Legislative Council passed an amendment for split divisions in the postseason for volleyball, basketball, soccer, softball and baseball. This change to the current playoff structure in some sports would allow for split divisions in the postseason for 2A-6A volleyball, softball and baseball, 4A-6A soccer, and 1A-6A basketball.

This change would create two state championship brackets for teams to advance through the postseason for these conferences in volleyball, softball, baseball, soccer and basketball. This amendment would follow the format used for the current 6A football championship structure.

All schools in the conference would remain in their assigned district per the 2024-26 alignment. The Standing Committee on Athletics moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2024, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

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COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“I’m very concerned about the town. With this impending change from wanting industrial to heavy industrial, I’m urging the council to vote against this zoning change or at least table it because there’s a lot to consider. There are a lot of residents that live in that area that will be impacted and they are not aware of the impending change,” Devonias Ploeger said.

Ploeger was concerned about how the change will impact the land, air and water by the changing the zoning area, she said.

“Mainly please consider the watershed. There are creeks that run through town. From there, there are many environmental hazards that accompany even change to heavy industrial,” Ploeger added.

Ploeger added there are claims that nothing hazardous would be allowed when zoning changes, but “although the intention of the change might seem harmless now, as time passes, it could prove to be a huge mistake.”

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was doing an investigation in the Gonzales area seven years ago, according to Ploeger, and she suggested the council to look into that investigation.

“We have been told that the zoning change is to correct a mistake that was made with prior zoning. Let me say two wrongs don’t make a right,” Ploeger added.

Mayor Steve Sucher asked Ploeger to pinpoint when the investigation happened as it would be useful information to have for the city.

Sucher asked City Secretary Kristina Vega if postponing the agenda item would have a negative impact on pending agreements or negotiations.

“If it was postponed, then it could potentially be discussed at the next meeting, you would just have to state at the meeting it’s discussed; however, if it’s postponed, there may be some development that would also be postponed if we don’t take action at this meeting,” Vega said.

Susan Sankey, executive director of the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation (GEDC), said accurately zoning these properties isn’t going to change the reality of what already exists.

“With all due respect, I want to be very respectful of the environment. And we all should be, but we also have a responsibility to correctly zone these, regardless of what happened in the past, so I think what’s prudent here is the correct zoning

of these businesses,” Sankey said.

Vega added the majority of the properties within the industrial park are already operating as heavy industrial and the city is not changing for those already in operation, but are zoning them correctly so they can continue operating and expand if they wish.

“I would just like to add that the environmental concerns are well stated. And I think we should understand that, in developing the city, we pay attention to the activities that we bring in. My belief is that there’s pretty strong state and federal environmental guidelines that we would need to follow in forming any of these businesses and that we would have ample opportunities to tell them to go take a hike if it came to that,” Sucher said.

In other businesses, the council approved the following agenda items:

- Approved Acknowledging Receipt and Presentation of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the Fiscal Year ending Sept. 30, 2023.
- Approved Joseph Kridler as Mayor Pro Tem
- Approved Amending City of Gonzales’ Future Land Use Map within the Gonzales Comprehensive Plan changing the designation from “Commercial” to “Single-Family Residential” on the property located at 1607 St. Joseph Street.
- Amending the City of Gonzales’ Future Land Use Map within the Gonzales Comprehensive Plan changing the designation from “Commercial” to “Single-Family Residential” on the property located at 1007 St. Andrew Street.
- Amending the Official Zoning Map by Zoning Property 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 District
- approved Amending the Official Zoning Map by Zoning Property 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, 21561, 21562, 21829, 21873, 24451, 24462, 24519, 26061, 26062, 26063,26064, 26207, 26746, 26865, 27078, 27079, 17119, 17131, 22305, and 22306, said properties being currently zoned as LI-Light Industrial and proposed to be rezoned to HI, Heavy Industrial.
- Amending the Official Zoning Map by Zoning Properties located at 2004 Church Street (property IDs 872 and 17048) from LI, Light Industrial District to Planned Development District (PDD).



STANDING TALL

Some of the tallest sunflowers we have ever seen can be found in the 2900 block of US 90-A just east of Shiner in Lavaca County. They are taller than a basketball goal, appearing to reach nearly 12 feet in height! The tallest sunflowers ever recorded grew to 30 feet in Germany!

LEW K. COHN

JUNETEENTH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the guest speaker and read the history of Juneteenth.

“The Emancipation Proclamation was issued by the United States President Abraham Lincoln on Jan. 1, 1863, that freed the slaves of the Confederate States in rebellion against the Union. It took two years but the news of the proclamation to reach to slaves in the distant state of Texas,” White said.

The Union troops arrived into Galveston, Texas, to free 250,000 people that were held in bondage, White added.

“The arrival of Major General Gordon Granger and his troops said that the federal government would not slack until the last enslaved people in America were free,” White said.

In 2021, Juneteenth was made a federal holiday in the United States and 2024 marks the third year as a federal holiday.

“These celebrations began with church picnics, barbecues, prayer service, music, band, dances, games and other activities. And as black people migrated from Texas to other parts of the country, the Juneteenth Celebration began to

spread,” White said.

Greater Joy Temple SGOIC of San Antonio catered the celebration at the community center.

The Juneteenth celebration had many awards, from oldest to youngest attendee; traveled farthest distant; and biggest family:

Traveled the farthest: Sherrika Pryor;

Oldest female: Christine Applewhite, 81;

Oldest male: Calvin Martin, 85;

Youngest: Raiden Zaine Hall, three years old;

Biggest family: The Butler family of Nixon.

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MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO THE GVEC Annual Meeting

Friday, June 28, 2024

Gonzales High School Special Events Center

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Registration: 5:30 p.m.

Business Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

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RUNAWAYS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

families Tuesday, June 18 — more than a day and a half after they first ran away from home together.

The teens were found around 6:40 p.m. Tuesday at a vacant residence in the 1500 block of College Street and were held in place by other teens until Gonzales police officers could secure the three so they could be returned to their parents.

Two separate groups had offered reward money for information leading to finding Gobar, Ramos and Banda, who first went missing in the early hours of Monday, June 17.

A family member said the three were reportedly spotted behind the HEB in Gonzales at about 9 p.m. Monday, hours after they were reported missing and posters were put up online and in store windows in Gonzales. The HEB is not far from where they were eventually found.

An online post from Wilma Arizpe — which also included Connie Banda, Ana Medel, Rebecca Ramos and Monica Matamoros — indicated the family was offering an \$800 reward for information leading to finding the teens and that family members had planned to begin searching at 6 p.m. at Independence Square.

Former Gonzales Mayor Connie Kacir also contacted the Gonzales Police Department and the Gonzales Inquirer to say that a separate \$1,000 reward was being offered by her as well for information which helped find Gobar, Ramos and Banda.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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

950
PUBLIC NOTICES

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The County of Gonzales will receive bids for Gonzales County Radio
Communications System Improvements GLO Contract No. 22-085-052-D305
until **2:00 pm on September 12, 2024**, at the **County Judge's Office, 414 St.
Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629**. Bids must be addressed to: The **Gonzales
County Commissioners Court**. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud
on September 12, 2024, at 2:00 pm at **414 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629**.

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

Bid and Contract documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications
are on file and available for inspection at the County Judge's Office, 414 St. Joseph
Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629. A pre-bid conference will be held on **July 16, 2024**,
at the Gonzales Sheriff's Office Tower Site at **11:00 am** at 202 FM 532, Gonzales
Texas 78629. The pre-bid conference is not mandatory.

Electronic copies of the Bid/Contract documents including drawings and
technical specifications may be obtained at no charge via the internet at:
<http://www.civcastusa.com/>. The project can be located on [civcastusa.com](http://www.civcastusa.com) by
the bid date, the state (Texas) or the County (Gonzales County). Bidders will be
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A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety
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The project to be constructed will be financed with assistance from the General
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The County of Gonzales reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive
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Honorable Patrick C. Davis, Gonzales County Judge June 10, 2024

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Solution
S-1693

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

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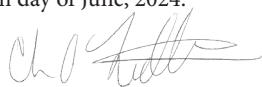
Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Executrix for the Estate of LILLIE MAE KOCIAN, Deceased, were issued on June 13, 2024, in Cause No. PW24-0344 pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: CAROLYN KOCIAN, Independent Executrix of the Estate of LILLIE MAE KOCIAN.

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.

CAROLYN KOCIAN,
Independent Executrix, Estate of LILLIE MAE KOCIAN, Deceased
c/o CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE
403 St. George
Gonzales, Texas 78629

Dated the 17th day of June, 2024.



CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE
Ortmann Fullilove Law, PLLC
Attorney for: CAROLYN KOCIAN
Independent Executrix, Estate of LILLIE MAE KOCIAN Deceased
State Bar No.: 24084171
403 St. George
Gonzales, Texas 78629
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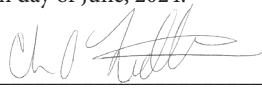
Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Executrix for the Estate of JOE EDWARD MATEJCEK, Deceased, were issued on June 13, 2024, in Cause No. PW24-0346 pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: TAMMY HILLMAN, Independent Executrix of the Estate of JOE EDWARD MATEJCEK.

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.

TAMMY HILLMAN,
Independent Executrix, Estate of JOE EDWARD MATEJCEK, Deceased
c/o CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE
403 St. George
Gonzales, Texas 78629

Dated the 17th day of June, 2024.



CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE
Ortmann Fullilove Law, PLLC
Attorney for: TAMMY HILLMAN
Independent Executrix, Estate of JOE EDWARD MATEJCEK Deceased
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice to hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DAVID TOD GEASLIN, Deceased, were issued on June 10, 2024, in Cause No. PW24-0347, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: Mary Jane Geaslin.

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 Jennifer Rother Machacek
Machacek & Appelt, PLLC
P.O. BOX 1216
SHINER, TX 77984

DATED the 10th day of June, 2024.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - TRC 109 & 114

THE STATE OF TEXAS: Cause No. 28,509

SouthStar Bank, S.S.B IN THE DISTRICT COURT

vs 2nd 25th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Marvin Rowland, Jr., Et Al GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: HANNAH ROWLAND, and any potential Unknown Heirs of Marvin L. Rowland, Jr., Deceased, other than Jessica Leigh Rowland
Defendant: GREETING

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." In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at Texaslawhelp.org" Tex. R. Civ. P. 99


You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Original Petition for Judicial Foreclosure 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 Judicial Foreclosure was filed in said court on 03/14/2023 in the above-entitled cause.


A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: seeks Monetary Relief as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gonzales Texas this 17th day of June, 2024

Attorney for Plaintiff or Plaintiffs:
J. Milton Chapman
Anderson Smith Null & Stofer LLP
4611 E Airline, Suite 202
P.O. Box 1969
Victoria, TX 77902
361-573-9191


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



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Texas A&M University-Kingsville has released the names of the students who made the President's List, Dean's List and Honor Roll for the spring 2024 semester.

The President's List requires a grade point average of 4.00 on all work attempted for a particular semester, with a minimum of 15 semester undergraduate hours completed, exclusive of credit only (CR) courses.

The Dean's List requires a grade point average of 3.65 on all work attempted for a particular semester, with a minimum of 13 semester undergraduate hours completed, exclusive of credit only (CR) courses.

The Honor Roll requires a grade point average of 3.5 on all work attempted for a particular semester, with a minimum of 12 semester undergraduate hours, exclusive of credit only (CR) courses.

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Michael Jeff Robbins

IN-STATE DEAN'S LIST SPRING 2024 CUERO

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SHINER
Tyler Wayne Bishop
Samantha Deann Hardin
Randy Tyler Palmer
YOAKUM
Blake Rylie Gordon

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Trinity Liv Aguero
Brayden Cole Davis
LULING
Dalton Wade Pape
SEGUIN
Margarita Martinez
Kyra Elise Nunez

GOLF SCRAMBLE



CONTRIBUTED

The winning team from the June 12 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Clay Harrison, Brian Jackson, Trent Rabke and baby, Butch Jackson and Joey Gamez.



CONTRIBUTED

The second-place team from the June 12 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Ryan Watkins, Randall Dupree, Frank Ingram, Tim Cleveland and Robert Young.

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K.I.S.S.

Howdy folks, I hope you’re staying cool, dry, and comfortable. I know it’s much easier said than done while living through our south Texas summers, but do what you can and try to enjoy the ride as much as possible. Just compare it to the cowboys of old, moseying across the plains on a smelly horse with sweat filled chaps and boots, and you’ll feel a bit cooler immediately.

It seems as though, even with modern conveniences like air conditioned cars and trucks, houses, and work spaces, we still seem to sweat the small things in life more than we should, myself included. I try to remember not to sweat the petty stuff, and not to pet the sweaty stuff, but fail all too often, causing myself undue stress along the way. Yep, our mind can be either our best friend or worst enemy, depending on what we let it get away with. Sometimes we just have to switch our brains “on”, which apparently for humans is a full time job and takes a lot of consistent practice.



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

Seeing as how any of us can get caught up in the movie (part reality, part fantasy, and part programed reactions and thoughts) between our ears, I try to remember the acronym K.I.S.S., which translates to...Keep It Simple, Stupid! I recently ran across a GQ article about habituation, which is the phenomenon of how we tend to respond to things less and less that are constant, or change very slowly. It reported that studies have shown that our olfactory (sense of smell) neurons will stop responding to odors that don’t change (i.e., fresh baked bread, freshly brewed coffee etc.) within about twenty minutes or so. This phenomenon of habituation includes both the good and bad things we encounter, and is considered a survival adaptation, as animals experience this

also. This scenario is a double sided coin, as it can help us deal with personal loss and the necessary healing required, but also help to motivate us to carry on in spite of the loss.

While the saying that “Time heals all wounds” may not be completely accurate in all cases, it does seem to help minimize the pain we experience from these unavoidable losses over a period of time. I’ve experienced this first hand after the unexpected loss of Eloise, as while still very painful, it’s not as debilitating as it was in the early years. From surviving what felt like a never ending tornado of barbed wire to an occasional storm these days, I’m left with the strong belief that this is truly one of God’s greatest gifts, and I appreciate it to the fullest... Thank you, Lord!

I’ve noticed, not only in myself, but in many people I’ve known along the way, that if we’re not careful and don’t constantly stay “mindful”, our thoughts can easily lead us astray. We all too often get caught up in the

vast sea of confusion our inner minds sometime produce, then momentum seems to take over, slowly increasing as we unknowingly drift off course, occasionally leaving some of us “lost at sea”. This paradox can gain traction in any area of life, and have devastating effects if not caught early enough. Scripture says to “Take our thoughts captive” and to paraphrase Romans 12:2, we shouldn’t be conformed to this world with its superficial values, but progressively transformed by the renewing of our minds, focusing on God’s values instead, so that we’ll know what his perfect will is for the plans and purpose he has for us are.

Yep, sometimes we’re our own biggest speed bump. It seems to me that keeping God first in the mix, and not being afraid to give our minds a big K.I.S.S. when necessary, will help keep us afloat until we can get our feet on solid ground again...just sayin’. Love you guys, Eric.

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and her election of Teacher of the Year. Performances are Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 19-21, 26-28 and Aug. 2-4. A Wednesday performance is July 24. All are in the evening except for Sundays, which are matinees. Regular tickets go on sale Monday, June 26. Please call 361-594-2079 between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. on weekdays to reserve. All tickets must be reserved. No children under 4 please. For further information go to www.shinergaslight.org.

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PLACES OF WORSHIP

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD Gateway Fellowship Church 320 St. Andrew	Providence Missionary Baptist Church 1020 St. Andrew, Gonzales	EVANGELICAL La Vos del Evangelio, Mision Capilla del Pueblo W. Central at Hwy. 87, Nixon	Cowboy Church of Gonzales County J.B. Wells Show Barn
First Assembly of God 509 E. 3rd St., Nixon	Stratton Primitive Baptist FM 1447, 9 miles east of Cuero	FULL GOSPEL Camp Valley Full Gospel Hwy 80, 7 mi. north of Nixon	El Centro Cristiano “Agua Viva” 403 Highway 90 W, Waelder
BAPTIST Clark Baptist Church FM 794, Gonzales	St. James Baptist Church Hwy 80, north of Belmont.	Full Gospel Church 1426 Fisher, Gonzales	Emmanuel Fellowship 1817 St. Lawrence, Gonzales
Country Baptist Church Highway 87, Smiley	St. Paul Baptist Church SE 2nd Street, Waelder	JEWISH Adat Haderech, a Messianic shul HashemYeshua1@yahoo.com	Encouraging Word Christian Fellowship Highway 80, Leesville
Eastside Baptist Church Seydler Street, Gonzales	Shiner Baptist Church	LUTHERAN First Evangelical Lutheran 1206 St. Joseph, Gonzales	Lighthouse Church of Our Lord 1805 Weimar, Gonzales
Efeso Iglesia Bautista Highway 87, Smiley	Union Lea Baptist Church St. Andrew St., Gonzales	Abiding Word Lutheran Church LCMS 1020 St. Louis St., Gonzales	New Life Temple for Jesus Christ 16214 US 90 W, Harwood
Elm Grove Baptist Church 4337 FM 1115 Waelder, TX, 78959	Union Valley Baptist Church FM 1681, NW of Nixon	Dewville United Methodist West of FM 1117 on CR 121	River of Life Christian Fellowship 207 Steele St., Smiley
First Baptist Church 422 St. Paul, Gonzales	CATHOLIC St. James Catholic Church 417 N. College, Gonzales	First Methodist 426 St. Paul, Gonzales	Thompsonville Community Church CR 423, Thompsonville Between Harwood & Waelder off old Hwy. 90
First Baptist Church 403 N. Texas, Nixon	St. Joseph Catholic Church 207 S. Washington, Nixon	First United Methodist 410 N. Franklin, Nixon	Two Rivers Bible Church 1600 Sarah DeWitt Dr., Suite 210, Gonzales
First Baptist Church Highway 108 N., Smiley	St. Patrick Catholic Church Waelder	Flatonia United Methodist	INTER-DENOMINATIONAL Faith Family Church 1812 Cartwheel Dr., Gonzales
First Baptist Church 406 N. Avenue E, Waelder	St. Phillip Catholic Church Highway 87, Smiley	Harris Chapel United Methodist S. Liberty St., Nixon	Living Waters Fellowship 306 St. Paul, Gonzales
Greater Palestine Baptist Church S. of 90A (sign on Hwy 80)	CHRISTIAN First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 712 Crockett, Luling	Harwood Methodist Church Harwood	PENTECOSTAL Faith Temple Hwy. 80 (N. Nixon Ave.), Nixon
Greater Rising Star Baptist Church	CHURCHES OF CHRIST Church of Christ 1323 Seydler St., Gonzales	Henson Chapel United Methodist 1113 St. Andrew, Gonzales	Holy Temple of Jesus Christ No. 2 1515 Dallas, Gonzales
Harwood Baptist Church North of Post Office, Harwood	Church of Christ (Iglesia de Cristo) 201 E. Second St. Nixon	Monthalia Methodist CR 112 off Highway 97	Iglesia Pentecostes Filadelfia 893 S. Magnolia Ave., Luling
Iglesia Bautista Macedonia 201 S. Congress, Nixon	Church of Christ E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon	Smiley Methodist Church 1 blk. S. of Hwy. 87, Smiley	Temple Bethel Pentecostal 1104 S. Paul, Gonzales
Iglesia Bautista Memorial Highway 97, Waelder	Church of Christ, Belmont	Webster Chapel A.M.E. 1027 Church St., Gonzales	Life Changing Church of Gonzales 3.3 miles north on Hwy 183, right on CR 235, then right on CR 236
Leesville Baptist Church E. of Highway 80 on CR 121	CHURCHES OF GOD Community Church of God 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales	NON-DENOMINATIONAL Agape Ministries 512 St. James, Gonzales Bread of Life Ministries 613 St. Joseph, Gonzales	PRESBYTERIAN Pilgrim Presbyterian Church CR 210 off FM 1116
Memorial Heights Baptist Church 1330 N. College, Gonzales	Gonzales Memorial Church of God in Christ 1113 Hastings, Gonzales	Christ the King Church 1262 U.S. Highway 77 South Hallettsville	Presbyterian Church of Gonzales 414 St. Louis, Gonzales
Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church 100 Capes, Gonzales	New Beginnings 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales	Cheapside Presbyterian Church, Cuero	
Oak Valley Baptist Church Highway 97, Bebe	Episcopal Episcopal Church of the Messiah 721 S. Louis, Gonzales		

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TOMMY CHENAULT & KENNY MCGINTY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



The Community Foundation of the Gonzales Area proudly announces the Tommy Chenault & Kenny McGinty Memorial Scholarship recipients from Gonzales High School. Shown are CFGA presenter Dee Schieberle, Legacy recipient Parker Storey, Eva Frost, Dakota DuBose, Morgan Boothe, and CFGA presenter Daisy Scheske Freeman.

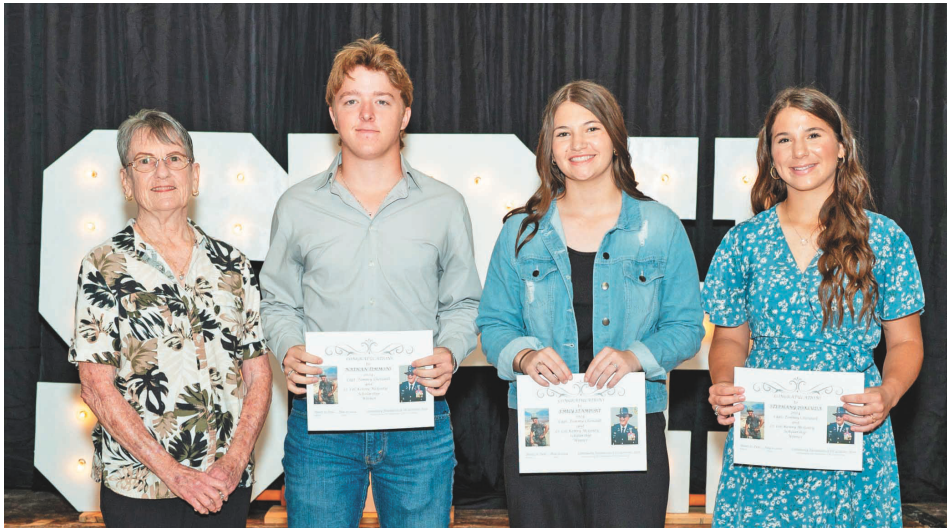


PHOTO BY LORI RAABE

The Community Foundation of the Gonzales Area proudly announces the Tommy Chenault & Kenny McGinty Memorial Scholarship recipients from Shiner St. Paul High School. Shown are CFGA presenter Dee Schieberle, Nathan Timmons, Emily Stampert, and Stephany Pokluda.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Community Foundation of the Gonzales Area proudly announces the Tommy Chenault & Kenny McGinty Memorial Scholarship recipients from Shiner High School are Cale Shows, Clayton Baker, and Emma Davis shown with the CFGA presenter Dee Schieberle.



The Community Foundation of the Gonzales Area (CFGA) is proud to announce the Tommy Chenault & Kenny McGinty Memorial Scholarship recipients from Waelder High School are Anna Ramos (above) and Julio Yanez (left).



Addison Pustka

Pustka recognized at State 4-H for photography

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales County 4-H member, Addison Pustka, was recognized at State 4-H Roundup for her photography. She won a blue ribbon for her Domestic Animal entry, red ribbons for photos in Wildlife, leading Lines, and the Shadow category. She also won a white ribbon in the Landscape category. Addison competed in the senior division, which includes members from ninth through 12th grade. There were 1,274 photos entered in 15 categories at the state level.

If you are interested in joining the 4-H photography project, contact Texas A&M AgriLife County Agent, Gayle Bludau at 830-672-8531 or come by the office at 623 North Fair St., Gonzales.

HISTORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

the posse arrived to being their attack and Cortez shot Glover who happened to cross in the line of fire. Cortez then hid in some brush while the others were eventually captured. A second lawman, Constable Henry Schnabel was killed by ‘friendly fire’ from the posse.

From June 15, until June 22, 1901, Cortez went on the run and headed southwest for Laredo, eventually stopping in Cotulla, where he virtually blended in with the population, right in the midst of the Texas Rangers’ search for him. He evaded a nearly 300 man search party by riding nearly 400 miles on four mares and walking 120 miles along the Texas-Mexico border.

Cortez endured six separate trials – in Gonzales, Karnes, Atascosa, Goliad, Wharton and Colorado Counties. He was convicted of murder twice, only to have the Court of Appeals reverse the decision. Cortez also had a horse thievery conviction overturned, had another murder case end in a hung jury and one acquittal before the Colorado County jury found him guilty of murdering Sheriff Glover. After serving eight years of a life sentence, Cortez was pardoned by Texas Governor Oscar Colquitt in 1913.

Cortez fought and was wounded in the Mexican Revolution before eventually moving with his sons to Anson, Texas, where he died in 1916 – more than 500 miles from the border where he was born.



GREGORIO COURTESY/EUGENE C BARKER COLLECTION AT THE DOLPH BRISCOE CENTER FOR AMERICAN HISTORY
Cortez (sitting in center) and his group of men.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The WAELDER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT will hold a public meeting at 5:30 PM, on Thursday, June 27, 2024 in Waelder ISD Cafeteria, 109 N Ave C, Waelder, TX. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district’s budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$0.6692/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.0898/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year’s Budget	
The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.	
Maintenance and operations	16.3% (increase) or ____% (decrease)
Debt service	13.0% (increase) or ____% (decrease)
Total expenditures	____% (increase) or ____% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)		
	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 1,061,181,366	\$ 612,686,920
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 5,078,220	\$ 39,354,370
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 341,322,944	\$ 393,605,698
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 4,432,759	\$ 39,294,030
* “Appraised value” is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8). ** “New property” is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17). *** “Taxable value” is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).		

Bonded Indebtedness	
Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness*	\$ 2,310,000
*Outstanding principal.	

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year’s Rates					
	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year’s Rate	\$.66920	\$.0672*	\$.7364	9,029	6,523
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$.70294	\$.09131*	\$.79425	7,630	7,961
Proposed Rate	\$.66920	\$.08980*	\$.7590	7,346	8,375
* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.					

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year’s Levy on Average Residence		
	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 133,121.82	\$ 151,446.09
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 19,683.69	\$ 65,116.59
Last Year’s Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 0.7364	\$ 0.7590
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 144.95	\$ 494.23
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 349.28
Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.		
Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is .7590. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of .7590.		

Fund Balances	
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:	
Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 3,651,249
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 197,807
A school district may not increase the district’s maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district’s debt service.	
Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.	
The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.	

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OBITUARIES

CAPTAIN JIM RANDLE

1-17-1928 to 6-9-2024
A retired U.S. Coast Guard officer originally from Gonzales, Texas, who rescued commercial fishing boats in winter storms in the North Atlantic, saved Cuban refugees in tropical waters, taught navigation to prospective officers, and helped plan President Kennedy's funeral in Washington, died of heart failure in Frederick, Maryland on June 9th. He was 96.

Captain Jim Randle, USCG (ret.), was born in Gonzales and graduated from Gonzales High School in 1945. Known as "Jimmy" by family and classmates, Randle said one of his proudest accomplishments was making first string on his high school football team. He explained to non-Texans that football is the state's unofficial "religion." Randle then enlisted in the Coast Guard and graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 1951. Cadet Randle helped sail the academy's tall ship Eagle on training voyages across the Atlantic. His station on the square-rigged sailing ship was out on t'gallant spar high up the 150-foot tall mainmast where cadet crew members "made sail" (hailed in or spread out the 1600-ton ship's massive square sails with muscle power). After graduation, Ensign Randle served on the USCGC Courier, a ship filled with transmitters and bristling with antennas to broadcast the Voice of America from international waters near Greece. Cold War tensions sparked concern that Soviet agents might attack or sabotage the ship, so the captain assigned Randle to devise a plan to "repel boarders" with small arms. Some family members accompanied the Courier crew on the voyage from the United States to its new home port in Rhodes, Greece. Jim's wife, Mrs. Jeanne Flanigan Randle, was among them. While on this overseas assignment she gave birth to the first of the couple's



three sons, James Polk Randle in 1952. Brothers Russell Vance Randle and Jonathan Bruce Randle were born after the family returned to the U.S. Back home, Randle served on ships based in Massachusetts, Florida, and North Carolina, starting with the very old 125-foot patrol ship Frederick Lee and ending with command of the 378-foot gas-turbine-powered Sherman, a fast, modern ship with a five-inch gun, torpedoes, and a flight deck for helicopters. He also had administrative assignments ashore, usually in Washington where he earned a master's degree in Public Administration from George Washington University. Captain Jim Randle retired from the Coast Guard after three decades of service in 1981. He became an administrator at the University of Maryland in College Park. As Bursar he helped streamline registration processes, and made it easier for students to use credit cards to pay school bills. After retiring from the university, Randle moved with his wife Jeanne, from Silver Spring Maryland (a suburb of Washington, DC) to Frederick Maryland (a smaller town) where he became active in civic affairs as president of a neighborhood civic association and often attended All Saints Episcopal Church. Jeanne died in 1995. Jim survived heart surgery in 1996. After his recovery, Jim married Carol Clark in 1997. Jim and Carol were active in civic and church affairs and traveled to Hawaii, Canada, San Francisco, and elsewhere.

Carol's three children and seven grandchildren often joined Jim's sons and five grandchildren on vacations and holidays. Carol died in 2013. Jim's older brother, Vance King Randle, was also a native of Gonzales, and a U.S. Coast Guard captain. Vance flew seaplanes, helicopters, and C-130 transports and commanded shore stations. He died in 1997 and was buried at sea in the Pacific. Vance and Jimmy are sons of Vance King Randle, who was the Gonzales county auditor and died in 1936. Their mom was the longtime high school librarian, Katherine "Katie" Reuter Randle, who died in 1968.

Late in his long life, Randle wrote a family history, where he describes the trauma of losing his father to a heart attack when Jimmy was just eight. The death during the turmoil of the depression put the family in serious financial difficulty that was managed with help from uncles, aunts, and others. He described Gonzales as a warm, supportive place where neighbors looked out for each other, phone numbers needed only three digits, and people rarely locked their doors. Randle had warm memories of 1930s and 40s Gonzales where he learned to shoot, ride a bike, went to school and church, and had Huck Finn adventures with good friends on nearby rivers. He also admired the spirit and history of the place and urged sons to take lessons from the decent and thoughtful people in his old hometown. Jim Randle will be buried in Frederick, Maryland. He is survived by sons Jim, Russell, and Jonathan, daughters-in-law Joyce and Julie, and five grandchildren. His stepchildren include Richard Clark, Carol Embry, and David Clark, their three spouses, and five children.

Expressions of sympathy may be offered to the family at www.staufferfuneralhome.com.

CONNIE ELIZABETH CROW

YOAKUM: Connie Elizabeth Crow, age 83 formerly of Houston, passed away Wednesday, June 12, 2024.

She was born October 10, 1940 in Houston to Herman and Mollie Jordan Wright.

She was a homemaker and an office manager for MTEC Mechanical Testing Services. She enjoyed oil painting, taking care of the cattle, camping, fishing and watching the deer in her backyard.

Survivors: husband, Donald Crow (formerly of Gonzales); daughter,



Dee Gee Johnson (Ross); brother, Alfred Wright (Vivan).

Preceded in death by her parents.
Funeral service 11:00

a.m. Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at Thiele-Cooper Funeral Home with Pastor Elvis Whaley officiating. Burial Yoakum Restland Cemetery.

Pallbearers: Ross Johnson, Pat Janecek, Joshua Janacek, Art Elliott, Joe Humphreys and Daniel Janecek.

Memorial contributions may be given to the Alzheimer's Association.

On-line guest book may be signed at www.thielecooper.com

Arrangements by Thiele-Cooper Funeral Home 361-293-5656.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office

06/09/24-06/15/24

06/10/24

• Woodrum-Verrell, Aaron Michael, Age: 30, Smiley: Warrantless/On-View- Fail to Identify giving False/Fictitious Info, Requires \$2,000 Bond, Remains in Custody

• Castillo, Yvette Alexandra, Age: 48, Gonzales: Commitment/sentence – Criminal Trespass, Remains in Custody

06/11/24

• Solis, Sebastian Eugen, Age: 20, Leesville: Commitment/Sentence – Assault Fam/House Mem Impede Breath/Circulat, Released

06/12/24

• Van Mersbergen, Barry Lee, Age: 22, Farmington: Local Warrant – Unauth Use of Vehicle, Requires \$10,000 Bond, Released

• Nease, Shelby Lynn, Age: 32, Gonzales: Warrantless/On- View – Assault causes bodily Injury Family Member, Requires \$4,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold – Fail to ID Fugitive frm Justice Refuse to Give, Remains in Custody

• Valdez – Garza, Margarito, Age: 61, Edinburg: Other Agency Hold – Immigration Detainer, Local Warrant –

Evading Arrest Det w/ Veh, Requires \$50,000 Bond, Remains in Custody

• Clack, David Lynn, JR, Age: 46

Gonzales: Local Warrant – Assault Fam/House Mem Impede breath Circulat, Requires \$100,000 Bond; Local Warrant – Assault Family/ Household Member w/ Prev Conv, 1 bond all Counts, Remains in Custody

• Castillo, Jorge Armando, Age: 39, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Driving While Intoxicated 3rd of more, Remains in Custody

06/13/24

• Oudems, Leniqua Andrea, Age: 29, Farmersville: Local Warrant – Poss CS PF 1/1-B<1G, Requires \$10,000 Bond, Remains in Custody

06/14/24

• Spells, Jamaren Kayjohn, Age: 20, Waelder: Commitment/Sentence – Poss Marij <2oz, Released – Weekender

• Kearney, Trent Evan, Age: 26, Victoria: Commitment/Sentence – Proh Substance/Item in Correctional Facility, Released – Weekender

• Ramirez, Marcos Daniel, Age: 45, Smiley: Commitment/Sentence – Man Del CS PG 1>=1G<4G, Released – Weekender

• King, Kody K, Age: 32, New Braunfels: Local Warrant – Poss CS PG 1<1G, Other Agency Hold – Detainer, Remains in Custody

• Salazar, Roman Nunez, Age: 42, Moulton: Commitment/Sentence – Driving while Intoxicated 3rd or More IAT, Released – Weekender

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

• Meraz, Dagoberto, JR, Age: 45, Luling: Warrantless/On-View – Poss CS PG 1/1-B>=4G<200G, Requires \$6,000 Bond; Warrantless/On-View – Poss Marij <2oz, Requires - \$200 Bond; Remains in Custody

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

GCSO	16
DPS	07
GPD	06
WPD	02
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	34

Local students named to ACU Dean's Honor Roll

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Local students were named to the Abilene

Christian University Dean's Honor Roll for the Spring 2024 semester. To earn Dean's Honor Roll recognition, students must achieve a 3.6 or higher GPA while enrolled in at least 12 credit hours.

• Bethany Haile, a sophomore Criminal Justice major from Gonzales

• Jacey Trammell, a sophomore Integrated Studies major from Gonzales

Abilene Christian University serves a diverse student population of about 6,000 with world-class teaching in a Christ-centered community. Founded in 1906, this national research university offers online and residential undergraduate and graduate programs. Students choose from 87 baccalaureate majors that include more than 171 areas of study, as well as 71 areas of study in master's degree and specialist programs and four doctoral programs. ACU's mission is to educate students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world. Learn more at acu.edu.

Gonzales Healthcare Systems

June 2024

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Austin MFM 3	Dr. Echols 4	Dr. Quebedeaux 5	Dr. Ryan 6 Dr. Echols	
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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Urology
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Ophthalmology
Joseph Kavanagh, MD
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Orthopedics
Trent Twitero, MD
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Podiatry
Terri Quebedeaux, DPM, PA
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Charles White, DPM
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Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine
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Langley earns Victoria College’s Distinguished Teaching Award

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

In the second year of her career as a Vocational Nursing Program Instructor at Victoria College, Amanda Langley earned the Distinguished Teaching Award.

The accolade was presented at the 2024 Commencement Ceremony last month by VC Foundation President Mike Rivet. The award honors excellence, promotes effective teaching and recognizes exceptional faculty for their contributions to student learning through classroom teaching.

“I was completely blown away and humbled I received this nomination,” she said.

Langley is a two-time VC nursing alum, having graduated from VC’s Vocational Nursing (VN) Program in 2001, then earning her Associate of Applied Science in nursing to become a registered nurse (RN) twenty years later.

“Before I got my RN, I was teaching at the Career & Technology Institute in the Certified Nursing Assistant Program,” she said. “I enjoyed that. I knew if I wanted to pursue teaching any further, I would need to get a bachelor’s degree. That pushed me to go back and get it.

“It’s cool because I am seeing some of the high school students I taught coming into the nursing program. I am teaching one of them right now. That’s icing on the cake. That’s what I am setting out to do, while they’re still getting to their dreams. It’s been awesome.”

While teaching full time and working part time in labor and delivery at Citizens Medical Center in Victoria, Langley has been working towards her Bachelor of Science in nursing from The University of Texas at Arlington online. She graduates next month.

“I have a lot going on, but I wouldn’t have it any other way,” she said. “I tell my husband I’m not going to get my master’s degree. I feel



From left, Victoria College Foundation President Mike Rivet; Amanda Langley, VC’s 2024 Distinguished Teaching Award recipient; VC President Dr. Jennifer Kent; and Amy Mundy, VC’s Executive Director of Advancement and the VC Foundation.

like I’ve been going to school forever. I need a bit of a break, but I don’t know. I have a feeling I’m going to keep going.”

VN Program Coordinator Katrina Heinold and VN Program Chair Rebekah Patterson nominated Langley for the Distinguished Teaching Award after witnessing her effectiveness in the classroom.

“Amanda teaches students how to connect with patients on a deeper level, emphasizing empathy, active learning and culturally sensitive communication,” Heinold said. “This holistic approach not only equips students with the clinical knowledge they need, but it also empowers them to provide compassionate and patient-centered care.”

Patterson said Langley goes above and beyond.

“She is constantly coming up with new and creative ways to deliver material to her students,” said Patterson.

“She makes learning fun.”

Langley looks forward to continuing to teach and still work in nursing. She especially enjoys being an instructor at VC, where she planted the seeds of her nursing career.

“I am pretty much born, bred, bled Victoria College,” she said. “The nursing program is rigorous. I know exactly what it takes to be a VC student, and what they’re going to be when they come out. I hold that bar very high. I don’t move the bar. I expect the students to rise to it. Most of them do.”

Langley said nursing and teaching go hand-in-hand because nurses educate their patients.

“I want to spread the knowledge that it’s not just treating a patient’s illness; you’re treating the patient as a whole,” she said. “Now, I get to merge my love of nursing and caring for other people and educating people. It’s been awesome.”

YMCA Corporate Cup Challenge returns to Barbara Bauer Briggs Family YMCA in Victoria

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Barbara Bauer Briggs Family YMCA in Victoria proudly announces the return of the YMCA Corporate Cup in 2024, marking a significant comeback after a short break.

Established in 1986, the Corporate Cup has been instrumental in promoting team spirit, health, and camaraderie among employees from various sectors, enhancing workplace



relationships and fostering a culture of fitness and wellness. This year, we celebrate the 33rd anniversary of this cherished community event.

The 2024 YMCA Corporate Cup offers a unique opportunity for local businesses and organizations to showcase their commitment to employee wellness and community health through various levels of sponsorship. From Major Sponsor to Volunteer Sponsor, each tier provides significant exposure and recognition, reflecting the sponsor’s dedication to fostering a healthy, vibrant community.

Corporate Cup events will unfold in September 2024, with an array of activities designed to engage and challenge teams in a friendly competitive spirit. Early registration is now open, featuring an exclusive offer of three-month free YMCA memberships for 30 team members, encouraging early participation and commitment to health and fitness.

Rosalinda Ramirez, Executive Director of the Barbara Bauer Briggs Family YMCA, emphasizes the importance of community involvement in making the Corporate Cup a success. “The YMCA Corporate Cup is not just an event; it’s a celebration of teamwork, health, and community spirit. We invite businesses of all sizes to join us in this exciting comeback year to make it an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.”

The YMCA extends a heartfelt invitation to companies across the region to participate in the 2024 Corporate Cup, contributing to a tradition that strengthens communities and promotes a culture of health and wellness.

For more details on the event, sponsorship opportunities, and registration, please contact Rosalinda Ramirez at (361) 220-0308 or rramirez@ymcavictoria.org. Join us in making the 2024 YMCA Corporate Cup a landmark event that celebrates the spirit of community and health.

For more information about the YMCA and its commitment to fostering a healthy, connected community, please visit www.ymcagoldencrescent.org.

Sam Houston State University announces Spring Dean’s List

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The students listed on the Dean’s List of Academic Honors at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, are undergraduates who have achieved a grade point average of at least 3.5 out of a perfect 4.0 in all work

attempted while enrolled in not less than 12 semester hours.

The university would like to recognize the following students for earning the honor for the Spring 2024 semester.

- Gonzales: Madelynn Hendershot
- Nixon: Preston Rice

NEWBURY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

I congratulate him for his creativity. I’ll throw in a bouquet to his mom, too, if she knew what he intended to do, and went along.

Okay, I’ll extend the gift to all the graduates of our land, prayerful that they’ll strive to make our world a better place.

My generation fell short of what we’d hoped. Maybe we all should re-read the words on our diplomas....

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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ACROSS

1 TX Tommy Lee film: “Eyes of Laura ____”

5 TXism: “chew ____ awhile” (ponder)

6 San Antonio “Road-runners” univ.

7 classic western: “High ____” (1952)

8 basic cable net.

9 “it don’t ____ up” (makes no sense)

12 seat of Callahan County on I-20

17 position of Texas legend Nolan Ryan

19 TXism: “got as much chance as ____ in a packing plant”

21 TXism: “____ a goose”

22 apprehended

23 popular TV dog

28 Monahans ____ hills

29 TX Joe Don Baker film: “Cape ____”

30 one name for the earliest country in Texas

31 Cowboys won ____ Bowl five times

35 TX-born Keyes book “Scarlett O’____ Younger Sister”

36 TXism: “three ____ wind” (drunk)

42 large hairy spider

44 Karmann ____ (old Volkswagens)

46 melons grown in the Rio Grande Valley

48 Cowboys hated foe

DOWN

1 seat of Titus County (2 wds.)

2 San ____, TX

3 Italian rice dishes

4 Marsh, creator of the “Cadillac Ranch,” for short

9 TXism: “active as a fox in ____ house”

10 TXism: “he was around when the ____ sick” (old)

11 physicians (abbr.)

12 legally prohibit

13 TXism: “nervous ____ frying pan”

14 TXism: “let ____ (leave it alone)”

15 singer McEntire from Texas’ northern neighbor

16 ____ Park, Texas

18 southern states gov. in Civil War ave. or st., e.g.

20 Chris ____Doux is in the “Texas Trail Hall of Fame”

24 Texas cosmetics founder Mary Kay

25 expectorated

26 ____ T. Hughes swore in LBJ on Air Force One in 1963

27 TXism: “get your ducks ____”

32 Austin univ.

33 Xbox competitor (abbr.)

34 martian? (abbr.)

36 pigpen

37 Paul Newman 1963 film about Texas

38 7-____ (Texas convenience store)

39 TXism: “____ the unvarnished truth”

40 Texas Southern sprinter Jim who won 1968 Gold

41 TXism: “____ high on the hog” (rich)

43 Rangers drafted this Robb in 1987

45 Jeremy Pena pos. with the Astros

47 this promotes the growth of muscles

48 TXism: “boring as a fishing trip with a ____ warden”

55 TX ZZ Top break-through album: “____Hombres”

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1694

SUDOKU

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

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.

TAX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

billion in local sales tax allocations for June, 6.8 percent more than in June 2023.

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

Combined sales tax allocations for the month of June 2024 for all four municipalities were \$312,053.23 — up \$15,251.07 or 5.14 percent above the \$296,802.16 received in June 2023.

For the year, Gonzales County municipalities have received a combined total of \$1,814,943.18, down \$59,608.65 or 3.12 percent from the \$1,874,551.83 received as of this point last year.

Sales tax allocations for June 2024 for Gonzales, the largest city in the county which generates the lion’s share of sales tax revenue, were \$267,448.81, up 7.52 percent or \$18,712.98 from the \$248,735.83 the city received last June.

It was the best sales tax allocation for June in Gonzales history, eclipsing the previous record of \$259,564.17 set in 2022 and appeared to a bump received in large part due to the music festival, which spanned the second weekend of April and brought thousands of people out to hear artists like Eric Church, Koe Wetzels, Whiskey Myers, Tanya Tucker and more.

For the year, the city has received \$1,537,195.55, still down 2.85 percent or \$45,252.68 from the \$1,582,448.23 Gonzales had received at this point in 2023.

Sales tax receipts were also up for Nixon, which received \$31,354.22, up \$281.14 or 0.9 percent

more than the \$31,073.08 received in June 2023. For the year, the city has received \$196,255.85, 2.05 percent or \$4,127.39 less than the \$200,383.24 received through this time last year.

Waelder received a total of \$10,848.44, a decrease of \$1,019.27, or 8.58 percent, below the \$11,867.71 received in June 2023.

For the year, Waelder has received a total of \$61,041.91, down 14.7 percent or \$10,527.17 less than the \$71,569.08 the city had received through this time last year — a year in which Waelder received an all-time high in sales tax allocations.

Finally, Smiley’s sales tax receipts were \$2,401.76, down \$2,723.78 or 53.14 percent from the \$5,125.54 received in June 2023.

For the year, Smiley is the only city in the black, having received \$20,449.87, or 1.48 percent more than the \$20,151.28 received through the first six months of 2023.

Three cities in Gonzales County — Gonzales, Nixon and Waelder — collect a 1.5 percent sales tax rate, while Smiley collects a 1 percent sales tax, but is considering asking voters to adopt a 1.5 percent sales tax rate.

Gonzales County itself also receives a 0.5 percent sales and use tax and for the month of June 2024, the county received \$240,187.49, or 9.71 percent more than the \$218,923.50 received in June 2023. For the year, the county has received \$1,674,910.50, or 30.83 percent more than the \$1,280,192.55 received through this point last year.

NIXON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Rogers was selected unanimously by his colleagues to be the next mayor pro tem, succeeding Ellie Dominguez, who was elected mayor last month. Dominguez told Rogers not to worry as “I haven’t missed a meeting in the past two years,” meaning it would be unlikely he would have to preside in her absence — a comment that appeared to give Rogers some visible relief.

The council also heard a presentation from Donald Hoffman of the Rancho-Nixon Historic Association asking for the city to pay a batch of invoices from the organization for work performed in accordance with how the city previously required RNHA to get reimbursed for its efforts to promote history and tourism.

Hoffman told council members he wrote a book two years ago about history of the area which led to his taking part in budgeting with the council regarding historical markers in town, a museum, entrance monuments and several other items.

“To help me with these projects, the council during this budget workshop awarded me \$15,000 to work with and promote the history of Nixon, Texas, and this area,” Hoffman said. “I accepted those funds with the stipulation that the city wanted to be sure that I spent the money on history and history projects. Therefore they required me to submit an invoice to prove whatever I was doing was to preserve and present the history.”

Hoffman also got a \$10,000 grant from Gonzales County and got the salt water disposal company to give \$10,000 and he raised about “\$30,000 to \$40,000 from private individuals.” He said the council was a catalyst to promoting these projects.

“Everything went fine the first year,” Hoffman said. “I submitted invoices and was paid by the city for their part of it and the \$15,000 was spent.”

Hoffman said the second year, he asked the city for \$15,000 again and was granted the money. He submitted invoices again but at some point, they stopped being paid. He said the invoices submit-

ted included the installation and manufacturing of the entrance monuments that were constructed on the outskirts of town, as well as \$2,500 for a video on John Wesley Hardin, with the last \$5,200 remaining unpaid.

Interim City Manager Darryl Becker said his concern is that the monuments were built on private property that is not owned by the city.

“You have to understand these monuments are not in the city of Nixon. They are on private property,” Becker said. “If that is where you want to spend your tax dollars, that’s your choice. That’s what I am talking about being correct invoices.”

Hoffman suggested he could withdraw the monument invoice and instead submit one for repair of the roof at the old fire department building and ask that be paid instead.

Justin La Fleur said the original allocation of funds was from hotel and motel tax the city collects in order to promote tourism.

“If that’s the case, it’s not necessarily going to these itemized invoices he gave us,” La Fleur said. “It is going to his society to prosper and influence tourism. I tend to agree if it is itemized like this, it is hard to do it, but if we pull out of our hotel and motel to disburse those funds to the Rancho-Nixon Historic Association. Instead of approving itemized invoices it needs to be for an amount that he says promoted our tourism.”

La Fleur made the motion to reimburse the organization the \$5,200 as a result of promoting tourism rather than repaying the invoices. The money is not in a line item for hotel and motel tax, so it will have to come from the general fund, La Fleur said.

The motion was approved 4-1 with Councilmember Pat Dingler opposing it after bringing up that the city was not included among a list of sponsors for the entrance monuments, which she said was of concern to some of her constituents.

Council members also asked to table action on the use of the Lion’s Club conference room at the

Aphne Patillo Library as a screening room for the documentary on John Wesley Hardin and the use of a library employee to collect fees charged for those screenings. Concerns raised included making sure the Lion’s Club approved of the use of the room and concerns about having a city employee doing work for a private organization.

They also tabled an item regarding subleasing of the private land on which the entrance monuments sit until the city attorney could have a chance to review the matter and give an opinion on how the city should proceed.

Chad Emmel of BEFCO Engineering discussed bids the city received for a 2017 Hurricane Harvey General Land Office (GLO) project for channel improvements within the city limits.

Emmel said bids were sent via email to 77 construction companies, posted to CivCast and advertised in the Gonzales Inquirer. Bid documents were downloaded by 20 construction companies. The city received five bids that were opened Friday, May 24, with base bids ranging from \$518,517.40 to \$958,525.

Emmel said the lowest bidder was Staff Concrete Construction of Victoria and he encouraged the council to waive two informalities — a statement of materials and other charges as well as an incomplete non-collusion affidavit filled out but not notarized.

Emmel said the original planned scope of work created in 2017 included improvements to the library channel along Fifth Street and improvements to North Lee Avenue channel from East Tenth to East Fourth. The grant budget for construction was \$618,790, but was originally for more than just the base bid. By adding alternate bid A, which is an East Sixth Street culvert crossing, it brings the Staff Concrete bid to \$618,869.40, less than \$100 over the grant construction budget. Council members unanimously approved the bid.

Council members also agreed to allow a variance at 609 W. Holmes St. to Rosa Valerio and Felix Hernandez for a driveway entrance.





Check in with yourself.

Start breathing. Stay present.

Small steps can make a big difference when it comes to your mental health. Try this simple breathing exercise if you’re feeling anxious, overwhelmed or stressed.

FOUR STEPS FOR BOX BREATHING:

1

Start by placing one hand on your chest and the other on your stomach.

2

Breathe in through your nose for 4 seconds, feeling your stomach expand.

3

Hold that breath in for 4 seconds.

4

Exhale through your mouth for 4 seconds.

Repeat steps 2-4 until you feel more relaxed.

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TEXAS
Health and Human Services

turn to

TOWER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, Carleigh Russell, the secretary for Brzozowski and two of his colleagues — Precinct 1 Commissioner K.O. “Dell” Whiddon and Precinct 3 Commissioner Kevin La Fleur — said she had received a text in real time from Anna Aldridge, Hanson Professional services vice president and senior project manager, telling her the county could not give out the draft specs to vendors.

“They can put out a notice on CivCast that all changes are from the addenda that vendors have already seen on CivCast,” Russell said. “The only people who had issues with our bids were Motorola and VCS and they formally put in their objections. The only things that have been changed were things they said were vendor specific. She has had comments from vendors, but they echo the changes made by addenda.”

The advertisement states: “The project consists of a P25 Phase 2 standards-based 700/800 MHz trunked radio system to provide greater county-wide communications coverage and message capacity. Components include: 3 new towers, 2 new shelters and 2 emergency backup generators, trunked radio network with geographically- redundant central control systems, interface with, or replacement of existing dispatch console equipment, and redundant IP-based microwave backhaul.” Bid and contract documents, including drawings and technical specs, can be obtained at the judge’s office or on Civcastusa.com under Gonzales County.

Gonzales County originally 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 General Land Office Mitigation Funding cycle as a result of the devastation caused by Hurricane Harvey in 2017.

The county received just the one bid from the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) and two notices of intent to no-bid and protest from Motorola and Victoria Communications Systems (VCS). Last week, the court voted to reject the sole bid by LCRA after Aldridge told commissioners she had a discussion with GLO representatives and they verified and clarified that they would require the county to rebid the project since there was only one bid received.

In other action, commissioners approved several budget amendments, including one that adds \$55,000 from general fund balance to the line item for juvenile detention out of county due to unanticipated expenditures on out-of-county juvenile detention.

“In some years past, we’ve been good on our costs, but here lately, we’ve had to spend a lot of money housing juveniles,” Davis said. “Hopefully, that won’t continue. I’m thinking about addressing it in the budget for this next year and putting a little bit more in there just in case. It is an uncontrollable line item that you just never know what you will need.”

This year, Gonzales County Sheriff’s Office had to detain a 10-year-old suspected in the shooting death of Brandon O’Quinn Rasberry in Nixon in January 2022. The juvenile was just seven at the time he is believed to have shot Rasberry while the latter was sleeping in his RV. The case made national headlines because of the age of the alleged perpetrator.

BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY



LEW K. COHN

Beyond the Call of Duty brought its End of Watch touring memorial to Texas Heroes Square in Gonzales Tuesday, June 18. The stop in Gonzales was to remember Gonzales County Sheriff’s Office Sgt. Burke Hannibal, who passed away from COVID-19 complications in January 2022. Members of the law enforcement community were also thanked for putting their lives on the line daily and also on the minds of everyone present was the late Sheriff Robert Ynclan, who passed away from COVID-19 complications in September 2021. This was the 18th day of travel for the memorial, with 55 more days to go.



SHAKESPEARE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for the first time ever, a longtime member of the Crystal Theatre Young Program and Shakespeare Ninjas will be a UT staff intern involved in the production’s development.

Recent Shiner Catholic School graduate Julia Barecky was offered the intern position earlier this year and eagerly jumped at the chance to help infuse her energy and enthusiasm into the project. She credited the Crystal Theatre and its leadership for encouraging her to “try new things and grow as a person.”

“I’m so grateful to the Crystal Theatre,” Barecky said. “I have been a part of the Crystal Youth Workshop since I was nine and truly wouldn’t be who I am today without this program. The Crystal Theatre encouraged me to attend Camp Shakespeare, and without them I wouldn’t be a part of the staff this year!”

“Getting to be a part of the Camp Shakespeare staff has

been incredible. I loved coming as a camper because of the positive and magical environment they created, and it has been so special to share that with this years students while still learning from the amazing teaching staff around me. I’m so thankful for the Camp Shakespeare team and the opportunity they have given me!”

Barecky said this Friday will mark the debut performance for this year’s crop of Camp Shakespeare campers.

“The students and staff have been working so hard on this show, and I cannot wait for everyone to see their beautiful performance of A Midsummer Nights Dream on Friday for their debut performance!” Barecky said.

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream is an enchanting odyssey filled with playfulness and determination,” Camp Shakespeare director Robin Grace Soto said. “This

tale truly has something for everyone, and we are honored to watch these young Shakespearians bring it to life. This would not be possible without the steadfast dedication and boundless creativity of our Crystal Theatre Workshop students!”

Tickets are \$10 per person with youth 12 years of age and under free. For convenience, tickets are now available online at the Gonzalescrystaltheater.org, but walk-ins are always available at the door. Light refreshments and chance to visit with the cast and Winedale staff immediately follow the production.

Camp Shakespeare at Winedale only takes 14 campers per two-week session at a cost of \$1,700 per student. The youth stay at the Farmstead B&B in Round Top and spend their day working on lines and characterizations, going through physical and vocal exercises, working on scenes, doing journal writing,

relaxation exercises, making masks, taking part in problem solving, singing, dancing and even watching film sequences of Shakespeare’s plays. Everything is done as a community.

The Crystal Theatre has been hosting Camp Shakespeare since 2012 when two of the campers were some of the original Shakespeare Ninjas from Gonzales. Since then, Gonzales has always had at least one camper taking part in the program.

The Crystal Theatre Young Program may be the only one of its kind in Texas as it is dedicated to providing “arts-in-education opportunities for young people from all backgrounds” from the year-round Shakespeare Ninja Project to the Crystal Summer Youth Workshop as well as the Young Texians Troupe, which performs original Texas history ballads about the founding of Gonzales, the “Lexington of Texas.”



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