

Beryl rolls past, avoiding Gonzales County

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Despite receiving plenty of hype, Hurricane Beryl barely made a dent in Gonzales County as the storm turned eastward in the Gulf of Mexico before

making landfall at about 4 a.m. Monday, July 8, in Matagorda. Initially, U.S. National Weather Service forecasters did not know where the storm would make landfall in the Lone Star State after it battered the Yucatan Peninsula Friday.

Projections had Beryl intensifying from a tropical storm back to a possible Category 2 hurricane when it re-entered the Gulf of Mexico and the storm track had it touching Texas shoreline anywhere from the mouth of the Rio Grande near

Brownsville to past Victoria near Seadrift. Instead, fueled by hot Gulf air, the storm shifted eastward towards the middle Texas coast by Saturday, which removed Gonzales County from flood, tropical storm and hurricane

watch lists, though neighboring DeWitt, Lavaca and Fayette counties all remained in the flood watch, while DeWitt and Lavaca counties were placed under tropical storm warnings.

See **BERYL**, page 10

County receives update on GLO tower project

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Some 27 planholders have registered on CivCast and downloaded plans for the proposed Gonzales County Radio Communications System Improvements project, a representative from an engineering firm told Gonzales County commissioners during an update Monday, July 8.

Anna Aldridge, Hanson Professional services vice president and senior project manager, told commissioners she is pleased with the number of people who have shown interest in the project, which has been rebid by the county. She called it “a pretty decent number.”

“We sent out notices as required and recommended, including to a number of historically underutilized businesses,” Aldridge said. “Motorola has

See **TOWER**, page 10

All-inclusive playscape placement approved

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Final preparations are being made to make the dream of a new, all inclusive, playscape for children become a reality!

Payton Newton, playground specialist, met with members of the Gonzales Noon Lions Playscape Committee, Gonzales Noon Lions Club Foundation, and the City of Gonzales employees to confirm the final details.

The placement location has

See **PLAYSCAPE**, page 11



FIREWORKS & FESTIVITIES



Below: Cristina Ramon holds her three-week-old daughter while waiting for the Nixon fireworks show to begin on Friday, July 5. Ramon and her family also watched the Gonzales fireworks on July 4. Above: Fireworks shooting off above the Nixon-Smiley athletic fields look like green fairies in the sky on Friday, July 5. The 15-minute show was sponsored by Nixon Lions Club and Mr. B's Fireworks and was put on by the Nixon Fire Department.

Above: Adelynn Earp shows off her red, white and blue spirit in Texas Independence Square for the VFW Post 4817's Patriotic Bike Parade Thursday, July 4. Below: Fireworks light up the night sky for the annual Main Street Star Spangled Spectacular Thursday, July 4 for the Fourth of July holiday. For more photos, see page 12.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



GISD approves 2024-25 Comprehensive Plan, discusses CTE building plans

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales ISD School Board met for their regularly scheduled meeting Monday, July 8 at the GISD Administration building.

One of the big items that was discussed was the 2024-25 Comprehensive Plan for

GISD employees.

Keith McLemore of the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) spoke to the board about the pay study review that they conducted for the district.

The board approved unanimously option two, which is a two-percent increase

See **GISD**, page 12

County hears update on annex, courthouse elevator work

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

On Monday, July 8, Gonzales County Judge Pat Davis updated members of the Gonzales County Commissioners Court on the status of the Courthouse elevator — which has been down for two months — as well as the Courthouse Annex, which has been vacant since last December due to structural concerns.

Davis said the county has a contract with TK Elevator Corporation, formerly known as Thyssenkrupp Elevator Manufacturing Inc., to perform maintenance and repairs on the Courthouse elevator, but they have not been able to get anyone to respond.

See **COUNTY**, page 11

GVEC holds 2024 annual membership meeting

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

GVEC's 2024 Annual Meeting took place on June 28 at the Gonzales High School Special Events Center. In all, 1,393 members participated: 168 in person and 1,225 by proxy.

Registration began at 5:30 p.m., with GVEC Board President Gary E. Birdwell calling the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Board Vice President Henry “Bubba” Schmidt Jr. delivered the invocation.

Before the business meeting began, members registered to vote and for prize drawings, enjoyed the traditional chili dog meal and browsed exhibits featuring GVEC products and services.

See **GVEC**, page 11

Texas Football magazine predicts Gonzales, Nixon-Smiley's seasons

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

We're less than a month away from the start of the

2024 Texas high school football season in Gonzales and the surrounding area. Two-a-day practices are expected to begin Monday,

Aug. 5.

Dave Campbell's Texas Football released its 2024 football magazine previewing where all Texas high school

teams will finish in their respective districts. These are projections only.

See **FOOTBALL**, page 10

Main Street names NAPA Auto as Business of the Month



Gonzales Main Street names NAPA Auto Parts at the Main Street Business of the Month for July 2024. Open as Kessler's Auto in 1990, the auto shop has been serving the community of Gonzales for 34 years.

VANDY VAN EPPS

SPECIAL TO INQUIRER

Started in 1990 as Kessler's Auto Supply by Cathy Kessler, this small-town NAPA Auto Parts has always been known by its big attitude and unusual mostly all-women crew.

Cathy created a loyal customer base by having an unrivaled knowledge of parts and a tenacity like no other. Crystal Irle joined the crew in 2010 and soon worked her way to becoming Cathy's right-hand woman.

Crystal spent the next five years soaking up everything thrown at her. Coupled with Cathy's strong, independent character and business savvy mentorship, Crystal strove to be the best parts woman and parts store around. Crystal became partner over in 2015.

From there, the business took off. Crystal's husband and right-hand man Brad, spent much of his free time answering parts and mechanical questions to feed her huge curiosity in everything auto and truck related. Brad helped with the heavy lifting, paper-

work and anything else he could do.

In January 2020, the husband-wife duo celebrated Cathy's retirement after 30 years in business and the small-town favorite auto parts became Irle Auto and Truck Parts. Without the loyal, customers and community, this family-owned small business wouldn't still be here. The Irles give their thanks, love and support to the longtime and loyal employees who stand with them every day to give their customers the best care and supply that they can. Irle's crew is comprised of SueAnn, a proud Navy veteran with 12 years on the sea; Brittney, seven years with Irle Auto and always smiling, bright personality; Dawn, Crystal's own sister with five years on the team.

The team specializes in agricultural, truck and heavy-duty supplies. The all-girl crew can knock out your hydraulic hoses, hard to find parts, odd questions, and everything in between.

Thank you to our customers who are as much our friends as they have become our family.

Lower Colorado River Authority accepting applications in July for community grants

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Lower Colorado River Authority will accept applications in July for community grants of up to \$50,000. Eligible projects include improvements to fire stations, community centers, sports fields, libraries and other facilities, as well as providing updated gear and equipment for emergency responders.

LCRA awards Community Development Partnership Program grants twice a year to nonprofits such as volunteer fire departments, emergency responders, local governments, schools, libraries, civic groups, museums and other tax-exempt nonprofit organizations. The grants are not available to individuals, for-profit entities, professional associations,

social service projects or limited-use facilities.

Applications for the next round of grants will be online at lcra.org/cdpp beginning July 1 and must be submitted by midnight July 31. Most grants are for \$25,000 or less, but several grants of up to \$50,000 are awarded every grant cycle.

Applicants requesting more than \$5,000 in grant funding must supply matching funds of at least 20 percent of the total project cost. The projects must benefit or be available to an entire community and improve the value of a capital asset through building, renovating or purchasing equipment.

Organizations in all or part of the following counties are eligible for CDPP grants: Aransas, Austin, Bandera, Bastrop, Blanco, Brown, Bureson, Burnet, Caldwell, Cal-

lahan, Cameron, Coke, Coleman, Colorado, Comal, Concho, Coryell, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, DeWitt, Dimmit, Eastland, Ector, Edwards, Fayette, Gillespie, Goliad, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hamilton, Harris, Hays, Hidalgo, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, Lampasas, Lavaca, Lee, Llano, Mason, Matagorda, Maverick, McCulloch, Medina, Menard, Midland, Mills, Nolan, Nueces, Pecos, Real, San Patricio, San Saba, Schleicher, Starr, Sterling, Sutton, Taylor, Terrell, Tom Green, Travis, Upton, Uvalde, Val Verde, Waller, Washington, Wharton, Williamson and Zavala.

Visit lcra.org/cdpp for information on eligibility requirements and to submit an application. For more information, email grants@lcra.org or call 800-776-5272, ext. 3140 or ext. 1627.

HHA DONATES TO EDWARDS SCHOOL RESTORATION



LEW K. COHN

Summertime is not usually when we think of twinkly lights and homes all decked out in their Christmas finery, but because of the hard work of the Historic Homes Association members, docents, volunteers and homeowners, summertime is when we see the results of all their efforts. The home tour has been presented every year since 1996 and funds from those tours have funded many projects to preserve and beautify our city and its architecturally rich historic structures. This year, one of the projects the HHA is helping to fund is the restoration of the Edwards School campus, a historic treasure in Gonzales. Presenting the check are Vicki Frenzel, left, a founding member of the HHA, and Dee Sengelmann, right, HHA member. Accepting the check on behalf of the Edwards Association is David Tucs, president.

Hallettsville Workforce Center relocated

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Workforce Solutions Golden Crescent has a new home in Hallettsville. They invite you to come by and visit the new Workforce Center conveniently located at 205 E. First Street, Suite A, right across from Glen's Meat Market.

The Center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. till 5 p.m. Residents and businesses in Lavaca and Gonzales counties are welcome.

CAMP SHAKESPEARE GEARS UP FOR PRODUCTION OF 'THE TEMPEST'



CONTRIBUTED

Lena Marie Salazar of Gonzales (orange shirt) is one of the Camp Shakespeare players who will appear in a production of "The Tempest" this Friday, July 12 at 3 p.m. at The Crystal Theatre in Gonzales. Admission is \$10 and children 12 and under are admitted free. For tickets and reservations, go to <https://gonzalescrystaltheatre.org>.

CZECH PRESIDENT, FIRST LADY TO VISIT LA GRANGE



CONTRIBUTED

President Petr Pavel and First Lady Eva Pavlová of the Czech Republic (Czechia) will make a public appearance in La Grange on their historic visit to Texas. The President and First Lady will visit the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center on Saturday, July 13. The public is invited to the Welcoming Ceremony outside, in front of the TCHCC Main Building from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. to hear the President's remarks and his show of dedication to the people of the Texas Czech community. The group will then receive a private tour of the TCHCC complex. This historic visit will be the first to La Grange from a president of the Czech Republic and the first of any head of state since President Lyndon Johnson in 1969.

Celebrations Birthdays

July 11th Penci Petty	July 15th Sandra Crabb Derrick Davis Colton Filip Carli Sky Harkey Jenna Philips Lamb Jeremy T. Philips
July 12th Daryl Brown Darrell Malik Tammy Zella	
July 13th Charlene Alvarado Kristen Cook Michael Iakopo Logan Machacek Wanda Simmons Tara Straub	July 16th Jaxon Lester Brenda Petru Trisha Storey
July 14th Wendy Allen Kristina Falany Longoria	July 17th Susie Bernd Sally O'Dell Diana Vargas

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Gonzales Weather

 MOSTLY SUNNY	July 11 96°/74°	Very warm with sunshine and some clouds 23% chance of rain • RealFeel 106
 PARTLY SUNNY	July 12 88°/74°	Times of clouds and sun with a thunderstorm in spots in the afternoon 39% chance of rain • RealFeel 96
 SUNNY	July 13 90°/76°	Plenty of sunshine 3% chance of rain • RealFeel 97
 MOSTLY SUNNY	July 14 91°/76°	Mostly sunny 1% chance of rain • RealFeel 98
 PARTLY SUNNY	July 15 93°/76°	Partly sunny 3% chance of rain • RealFeel 100
 THUNDERSTORM	July 16 95°/77°	Clouds and sun with a couple of thunderstorms, especially late in the day 71% chance of rain • RealFeel 102
 PARTLY SUNNY	July 17 94°/75°	Partly sunny with a couple of thunderstorms, especially late in the day 66% chance of rain • RealFeel 98

July 11th – South Texas Tour
July 12th-13th – Gonzales Play
Day Association
July 14th – South Texas Tour

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The DAR unit works in partnership with the Texas Division of Emergency Management, part of The Texas A&M University System. DAR is part of The Texas A&M

Six DAR agents, working under the lead of the Texas Division of Emergency

With a presence in all 254 Texas counties, AgriLife Extension embeds local disaster response teams built from the communities it serves. This layered, comprehensive AgriLife Extension network positions DAR to offer one of the most unique and effective disaster

"DAR is uniquely positioned to provide significant manpower, supplies and assist in distribution of supplies to the hard-hit areas," Dozier said. "We stand ready to serve Texans in this capacity at all times and are mobilized to respond to areas impacted by Tropical Storm Beryl."

The Texas Division of Emergency Management encourages individuals to report losses through the Individual State of Texas Assessment Tool, iSTAT, reporting tool. The tool assists emergency management officials in assessing damages through iSTAT Damage Surveys. These help state officials identify resource needs and determine whether Texas qualifies for federal disaster aid.

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Brenley, daughter of Brian and Rayeder Massie, is a member of the American Kennel Club and the Miniature American Shepherd Club. Brenley showed her miniature shepherds in state and at nationals this year. She was Best Junior at all four shows and the National Specialty. That qualifies her for Westminster in New York, the most prestigious dog show in the country. Brenley is a member of the Green Clover 4-H Club in Gonzales County. She plans to share her love for dogs and knowledge with others.



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Garden
Q&A with
CALVIN FINCH



Q. My neighbor and his young son collect Texas mountain laurel seed. I have always heard that they were poisonous and told him that even though his son does not seem to swallow them it is not worth the gamble in case he gets the urge.

A. I agree with you that the berries are poisonous. It appears that the real threat comes if the berries are crushed or soaked. It appears that in most cases that an intact mature Texas mountain laurel berry if consumed will not cause a problem, but keep giving your neighbor the advice to discourage his son from collecting the berries.

Q. When should we plant our tomato plants for the fall, I see that the transplants are already in the nursery?

A. Pull your summer plants now and put them in the compost pile. If they have spider mites place the plants and the mites in a garbage sack and put them in the garbage. Select tomato varieties such as Celebrity, Tycoon, Amelia, Thunderbird that are semi-determinate so they will produce a crop fast before the cold weather arrives. Plant the transplants now.

Q. We planted "Porter weed" based on its reputation as a favorite nectar source for pollinators. That has turned out to be true. It is visited steadily by hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies. The plant is also very decorative with the small red flowers on weeping stems. I have been warned however that it is cold sensitive. Can we protect it over the winter?

A. Porter weed is very cold sensitive. Once the temps fall to 40 degrees it will start to decline. Some gardeners have had success in placing it in a greenhouse over the winter or even covering it with a box and leaves in a sheltered spot.

Q. We like to plant zinnias by seeds. Would we have time to plant another crop of California Giants before the cold weather arrives?

A. Yes, I believe if you planted them this month you would get blooms before the winter arrived, usually Thanksgiving.

Problems require solutions, not complaints

BY BRYAN GOLDEN

Is complaining an effective strategy for solving problems? Will complaining improve your situation? Do others enjoy listening to you complain? The answer to all three questions is no. Then why do people complain?

There are a number of reasons a person complains. He or she may be looking for sympathy, assistance, support, or just letting off steam. There are also people who are habitual whiners who are never satisfied or content.

In the case of sympathy, there is an erroneous assumption that if enough other people feel sorry for them, it will somehow improve the complainer's situation. All that will be accomplished is that others will grow tired of their moaning and give them a wide berth. Everyone has their own problems and very few people want to spend their discretionary time listening to the tales of woe of others.

Sympathy seekers tend to dwell on their problems rather than seeking solutions. When potential solutions are presented, they invariably find fault with and summarily dismiss them. These complainers seek attention and monopolize conversations. They look for opportunities to show how their plight is worse than everyone else's.

Spending time with sympathy seekers can be draining. They are consumed with their own situation and show little or no interest in other people. Regardless of how good you may feel, a gripe session with a sympathy seeker will depress your mood.

Some complainers are looking for assistance in solving a problem. In this case they are interested in advice that will lead to a solution. The danger here is that they will indiscriminately seek guidance from anyone. In their attempt to overcome an obstacle, they will try virtually any remedy offered without considering the qualifications of the source.

Following bad advice can exacerbate a problem. Advice seekers that jump from one bad suggestion to another will become frustrated as they fail to solve their problem. The result is the erroneous conclusion that their situation has no solution.

Complainers in search of advice must be very selective in whom they approach. Only those who have successfully solved similar problems or who have appropriate expertise should be sought out. When the right person is identified, they should be asked for advice directly rather than complaining to them.

Perhaps a complainer is looking for support. They may be overwhelmed by unexpected events or overloaded with responsibilities. This type of complainer is likely looking for help rather than advice. If you are so inclined, offer to lend a hand.

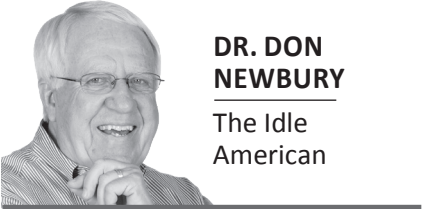
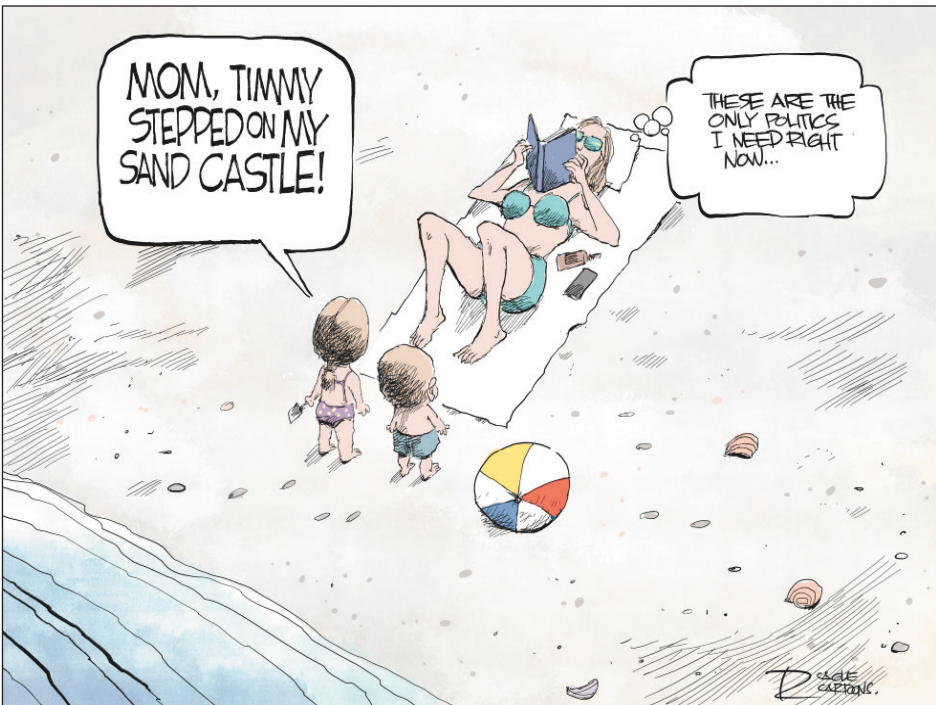
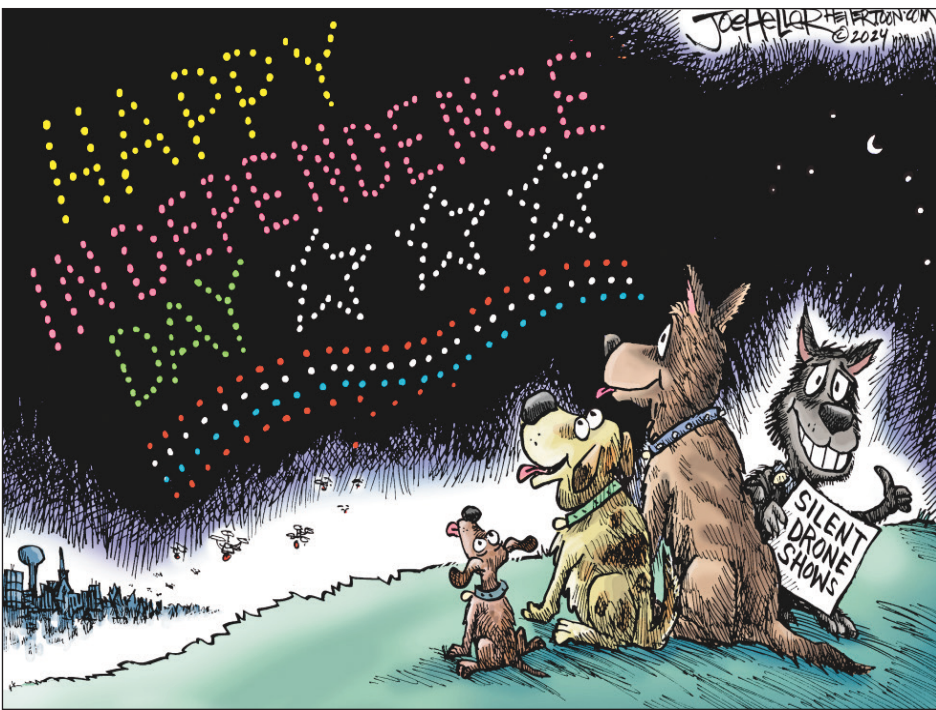
Even when they are helped out, some complainers always wind up in another crisis situation. Helping them out again will only improve their situation temporarily. Without a change in strategy, they will soon become immersed in another crisis.

Complainers who are incessant whiners find fault with virtually everything. They complain about their lives, other people's lives, the weather, politics, religion, society, etc. Everything they comment on is flawed. All of life is tainted. Their glass is always half empty and probably leaking. These people are not happy unless they are unhappy.

Whiners will never be satisfied. They don't want sympathy, solutions, or help. They just want to complain. These people will never change and their minds are closed to new ideas. Your only option is to limit exposure to their griping.

Complaining is unproductive and destructive. If you have problems, find solutions. If you need help, ask. Occasional complaining to seek understanding or let off steam is ok. But don't make it a way of life or a topic of every conversation.

Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at Bryan@columnist.com or visit www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com Copyright 2024 Bryan Golden



Oh, woe is us...

Walt Kelly is most remembered for his comic strip published more than a half-century ago. Its central figure, Pogo--campaigning to fight world pollution--made an incisive statement that still rings true.

You remember it: "We have met the enemy and he is us." It's about money. The golden rule has become twisted, however. Now, "them" who have the gold rule.

Coach Jim Schlossnagle's leaving Texas A&M to head the baseball program at the University of Texas provides additional supporting data, but most of the financial implications concerning his move are far beyond salary implications....

Hurt to the core minutes after playing for the national baseball championship, he committed two colossal errors in a news conference. They were the kind resulting in "bench banishment" if his players had made such goofs.

He shouldn't have accused a sportswriter of being selfish, and it would have been the better part of wisdom if he had omitted his passionate "heart and soul" description of his efforts.

Millions of others are equally committed without \$1.35 million annual compensation. (To be fair, at his first UT news conference, his first order of business was to offer an apology to the reporter he had offended earlier.)....

That said, he is a great coach--proven, committed, successful--and yes, well compensated. But additional "wants" projected for the future at A&M already are in place at UT. Perhaps most importantly, his long friendship with the UT athletic director--with whom he worked during his 17-year tenure at TCU--is immensely important.

Texas A&M is a great university, and most Aggies are good folks. Understandably, many feel stunned and left out to dry by Schlossnagle's departure. (As my Uncle Mort said the other day, they're probably designing a "bubble-head" doll of Schlossnagle, perhaps complete with a needle for Aggie fans given to voodoo activity. He points out that bubbles can float skyward when the Aggies score, but can sometimes wander aimlessly off course.)....

Now, back to Pogo. We are the enemy, because we have shown TV giants that we have insatiable sports appetites.

TV has responded accordingly. It calls the shots, the NCAA carries them out and the public buys in.

We should not blame Schlossnagle. His decision--untimely as it was--simply focuses on what big-time sports have become. When we hear, "It's not the money, it's the principle of the thing," we can be sure of this: Mostly, it's the money, whether salary, facilities or equipment....

Big-time college sports are out of control. It's a mess. Trustees and regents should work toward the re-establishment of sports being an integral part of education. For the real "biggies" in college sports, let them go their way. The rest could then get on with what intercollegiate athletics should be about.

But they won't.

Back to Schlossnagle. Stefan Stevenson wrote a definitive piece for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Schlossnagle clears up many details, most of which are believable and understandable....

I fondly recall when sports were integral parts of the educational process, long before the current "tail-wagging-dog" approach favored at many schools.

Two of my all-time favorites were Baylor's Grant Teaff and Texas A&M's R. C. Slocum, both football coaching legends. The former spent 21 years at Baylor, signing on for \$25,000 and receiving \$50,000 in his final year. I once asked Slocum about his agent. His response was sharp, "I never had an agent!" That was then, and this is now. The Aggies are grimacing, devoid in national championships in football, basketball or baseball since 1939....

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Loss of a Spouse Seminar

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Grieving the death of a spouse? Do you know someone who is? If you have experienced the loss of a spouse, your life has changed forever. And whether the death is sudden or follows a lengthy illness, the loss can be devastating.

GriefShare’s Loss of a Spouse seminar can help. The seminar, which is a two-hour program, features video interviews with counselors, grief experts, and widowed men and women. They will offer helpful insights on what to expect in the days to come, how to deal with loneliness, what to do with your spouse’s belongings, why it won’t always hurt this much, and other practical help.

Everyone who attends will receive a valuable guide which offers practical strategies, exercises and encouraging words to help work through the effects and challenges of grief in a healthy way.

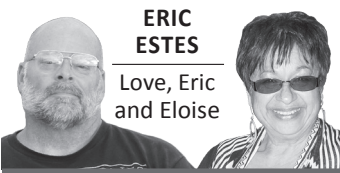
Abiding Word Lutheran Church, who currently hosts the regular 13-week GriefShare program and support group for people who have lost a loved one, will be offering the Loss of a Spouse seminar on Saturday, Aug. 3 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Abiding Word is located at 1020 St. Louis St., Gonzales. Light refreshments will be served, and the seminar is free and open to the public. For more information or to register for the Loss of a Spouse seminar, call 830-857-3855. For information on the regular 13-week GriefShare program and support group, go to www.griefshare.org/findagroup.

Hello everyone. I hope you had a great 4th of July and that all of your fingers are still intact, as fireworks have been known to occasionally have a mind of their own. Fortunately, in all my years I’ve never had a serious firework related injury, but how dangerous are sparklers and pop rocks really? I mean, besides a couple of blisters on my fingers and tongue causing a slight (hardly noticeable) lisp, I’ve faired pretty well for a guy who taunts life by living on the edge...expired milk anyone?

It seems to me that today’s title sure has been finding its way into many recent conversations lately. One of life’s simple truths that most of us can relate to more often than we’d like. Whether you’re a student, employee or business owner constantly trying to problem solve or meet deadlines, a parent raising infants to teenagers, or just someone trying to somehow make it through another week, it seems that, excluding the brief interludes in between, unexpected problems (minute to catastrophic), seem to just pop up out of nowhere. Just a part of life I guess, but they’re rarely enjoyable and always inconvenient, but on the positive side, always keep us on our toes, waiting for the next shoe to drop. However, it’s how we handle these wrenches that are thrown into the gears of our otherwise

well oiled lives that count, and there’s always ample opportunity for practice. And you know what they say...practice makes perfect. But even that’s problematic, as we all know, nothing makes “perfect”!

While getting ready for my bi-monthly grocery run yesterday morning, I couldn’t help but feel that I may be in for one of those nasty little surprises. After a quick prayer I started my pilgrimage to HEB. While there I acquired two banana trees for my front yard (on sale + a 10% coupon), met and talked to several nice people, one of which was a woman and her dog which I petted for a bit, and after loading up everything I’d need for the next few weeks, I headed back home. As I entered my rather long driveway, I couldn’t help but think that my earlier concerns were just a loose marble rolling around in my head. Then bang! A sound like I was grinding a small herd of cats started coming from under the hood (poor cats). After being able to back into my usual parking spot, I popped the hood to find a destroyed pulley and frayed drive belt. Overall, not an overly expensive or difficult repair. The good news, I made it back home without breaking down on the road and wouldn’t need to use the car again right away. I, of course, proceeded to thank God for answered prayers (yet again), as



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

things could’ve turned out much worse. And yep, I’ve experienced this way too many times to count over the years, and fully appreciate God’s faithfulness throughout the journey.

I realize that some folks think that praying to God is ridiculous, but I totally beg to differ. Thirty three years ago this week, I said my first honest prayer, and it went something like this: God, if you even exist, heal me or I’ll have to take care of it myself, one way or another! You see, I was struggling with what seemed to be an insurmountable case of alcoholism that I’d been trying to escape from for seventeen years with no luck. What I didn’t realize is that it wasn’t “luck” I needed, but instead, the divine power of the “Almighty” himself. I’m very happy to celebrate my thirty third year of sobriety, something I never thought would happen... Thank You, Lord!

Romans 1:20 tells us that God’s power and nature are exhibited through his creation, so that we’ll have no excuse for not knowing him...food for thought.

Love you guys, Eric.

T-Electric

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

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Who Encourage All of Us To Attend Worship Services:

PLACES OF WORSHIP			
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD Gateway Fellowship Church 320 St. Andrew First Assembly of God 509 E. 3rd St., Nixon	Providence Missionary Baptist Church 1020 St. Andrew, Gonzales Stratton Primitive Baptist FM 1447, 9 miles east of Cuero	EVANGELICAL La Vos del Evangelio, Mision Capilla del Pueblo W. Central at Hwy. 87, Nixon FULL GOSPEL Camp Valley Full Gospel Hwy 80, 7 mi. north of Nixon Full Gospel Church 1426 Fisher, Gonzales	Cowboy Church of Gonzales County J.B. Wells Show Barn El Centro Cristiano “Agua Viva” 403 Highway 90 W, Waelder Emmanuel Fellowship 1817 St. Lawrence, Gonzales Encouraging Word Christian Fellowship Highway 80, Leesville Lighthouse Church of Our Lord 1805 Weimar, Gonzales New Life Temple for Jesus Christ 16214 US 90 W, Harwood River of Life Christian Fellowship 207 Steele St., Smiley Thompsonville Community Church CR 423, Thompsonville Between Harwood & Waelder off old Hwy. 90 Two Rivers Bible Church 1600 Sarah DeWitt Dr., Suite 210, Gonzales
BAPTIST Clark Baptist Church FM 794, Gonzales Country Baptist Church Highway 87, Smiley Eastside Baptist Church Seydler Street, Gonzales	St. James Baptist Church Hwy 80, north of Belmont. St. Paul Baptist Church SE 2nd Street, Waelder Shiner Baptist Church Union Lea Baptist Church St. Andrew St., Gonzales Union Valley Baptist Church FM 1681, NW of Nixon	JEWISH Adat Haderech, a Messianic shul HashemYeshua1 @yahoo.com LUTHERAN First Evangelical Lutheran 1206 St. Joseph, Gonzales Abiding Word Lutheran Church LCMS 1020 St. Louis St., Gonzales METHODIST Belmont Methodist Highway 90A, Belmont Dewville United Methodist West of FM 1117 on CR 121 First Methodist 426 St. Paul, Gonzales First United Methodist 410 N. Franklin, Nixon Flatonia United Methodist Harris Chapel United Methodist S. Liberty St., Nixon Harwood Methodist Church Harwood Henson Chapel United Methodist 1113 St. Andrew, Gonzales Monthalia Methodist CR 112 off Highway 97 Smiley Methodist Church 1 blk. S. of Hwy. 87, Smiley Webster Chapel A.M.E. 1027 Church St., Gonzales	INTER-DENOMINATIONAL Faith Family Church 1812 Cartwheel Dr., Gonzales Living Waters Fellowship 306 St. Paul, Gonzales PENTECOSTAL Faith Temple Hwy. 80 (N. Nixon Ave.), Nixon Holy Temple of Jesus Christ No. 2 1515 Dallas, Gonzales Iglesia Pentecostes Filadelfia 893 S. Magnolia Ave., Luling Temple Bethel Pentecostal 1104 S. Paul, Gonzales Life Changing Church of Gonzales 3.3 miles north on Hwy 183, right on CR 235, then right on CR 236 PRESBYTERIAN Pilgrim Presbyterian Church CR 210 off FM 1116 Presbyterian Church of Gonzales 414 St. Louis, Gonzales Cheapside Presbyterian Church, Cuero
Elmo Iglesia Bautista Highway 87, Smiley Elm Grove Baptist Church 4337 FM 1115 Waelder, TX, 78959 First Baptist Church 422 St. Paul, Gonzales First Baptist Church 403 N. Texas, Nixon First Baptist Church Highway 108 N., Smiley First Baptist Church 406 N. Avenue E, Waelder Greater Palestine Baptist Church S. of 90A (sign on Hwy 80) Greater Rising Star Baptist Church Harwood Baptist Church North of Post Office, Harwood Iglesia Bautista Macedonia 201 S. Congress, Nixon Iglesia Bautista Memorial Highway 97, Waelder Leesville Baptist Church E. of Highway 80 on CR 121 Memorial Heights Baptist Church 1330 N. College, Gonzales Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church 100 Capes, Gonzales Oak Valley Baptist Church Highway 97, Bebe Old Moulton Baptist Church 1121 N. College, Gonzales	CATHOLIC St. James Catholic Church 417 N. College, Gonzales CHRISTIAN First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 712 Crockett, Luling CHURCHES OF CHRIST Church of Christ 1323 Seydler St., Gonzales Church of Christ (Iglesia de Cristo) 201 E. Second St. Nixon Church of Christ E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon Church of Christ, Belmont CHURCHES OF GOD Community Church of God 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales Gonzales Memorial Church of God in Christ 1113 Hastings, Gonzales New Beginnings 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales Episcopal Episcopal Church of the Messiah 721 S. Louis, Gonzales	NON-DENOMINATIONAL Agape Ministries 512 St. James, Gonzales Bread of Life Ministries 613 St. Joseph, Gonzales Christ the King Church 1262 U.S. Highway 77 South Hallettsville	

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The Gonzales Inquirer is responsible for the first incorrect insertion of an ad only. Call (830) 672-2861 to notify of a needed correction.

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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 cita-tion thereof, the same being the Monday, the 12th day of August, 2024 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: Foreclosure of heirs’/defendants’ fee simple interest in the property at 1520 Gardien Street, Gon-zales, TX, said property having a legal description of Lots 8-14, Block 11, River-crest Place Addition, Gonzales County, Texas.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gonzales Texas this 25th day of June, 2024

Attorney for Plaintiff or Plaintiff:
J. Milton Chapman
Anderson Smith Null & Stofer LLP
4611 E Airline, Ste. 202
Victoria, TX 77902
361-573-9191

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

By: *Georgia M. Sutton* Deputy

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Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

July 4 Puzzle Answers

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

Last Puzzle Solution

S-1696

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AUCTION

Auto Shop Auction - Coleman & Patterson Auctioneers will sell Adonis Mechanic Shop assets online, colemanandpatterson.com. Bidding opens July 12th, closes July 17th. Preview July 16th. Loadout: 1908 110th St, Grand Prairie, TX.

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NOTICE OF SURPLUS AUCTION

Gonzales County will be selling by auction the item listed below. This item will be sold by public auction at Coleman & Patterson Auctioneers on July 26, 2024 at 1711 Water Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, at 10:00 a.m.

1989 Kenworth Tractor Truck

Request for Proposals

The Golden Crescent Workforce Development Board (GCWDB) is seeking office space to house its Gonzales Workforce Center. The leased space needs to be between 1,200 – 1,800 square feet, have ample parking, and meet ADA requirements. This is an open-ended request until a suitable facility is secured. For more information, call (361)576-5872 or visit the web at gcworkforce.org/doing-business-with-us.

GCWDB Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with section 118.025(g) of the Texas Local Government Code the Gonzales County Commissioner's Court will conduct a public hearing on Monday, July 29, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom of the Gonzales County Courthouse, Gonzales, Texas at which time the Court will consider approval of the County Clerk's Records Archive Plan, for funding the preservation and restoration of the County Clerk's records.

Attention
Private Non-Profit Schools

You may be eligible to participate in services through Federal Programs. Please contact your local school district regarding participation in the planning and receipt of services through Federal Programs. We would like to hear from you no later than July 22, 2024.

For more information, please contact: Jeff VanAuken, Nixon-Smiley CISD Superintendent of Schools, at 830.582.1536, extension 102.

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NOTICE OF SALE

STATE OF TEXAS §
GONZALES COUNTY §
§

BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE
DATED JULY 03, 2024

and issued pursuant to judgment decree(s) of the District Court of Gonzales County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date, in the hereinafter numbered and styled suit(s) and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff or Constable of said County, I have on July 3, 2024, seized, levied upon, and will, on the first Tuesday in August 2024, the same being the 6th day of said month, The steps outside the Gonzales County Tax Office in the Randle Rather Building, located at 427 St. George, Gonzales, between the hours of 10 o'clock a.m. and 4 o'clock p.m. on said day, beginning at 11:00 AM, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit(s) in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Gonzales and the State of Texas, to-wit:

7050 Account No(s). R74962, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. ROSA LINDA GARCIA, 0.071 acres, more or less, being a part of Lot 1, Block 7, City of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, as described in Volume 774, Page 637, Official Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$20,750.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$14,797.45;situs

7321, Account No(s). R19221, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. CORRINE MARIE KETTS, 3.034 acres, more or less, Byrd Lockhart League, A-38, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 425, Page 10, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$84,220.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$19,959.35;situs

7392, Account No(s). R17933, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. LILLIE MAE PLUMMER, ET AL., Lots 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26, Block 45, City of Waelder, Gonzales County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Slide 48-A, Plat Records of Gonzales, with an adjudged value of \$58,210.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$20,652.46;situs

7424, Account No(s). R14539, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. LILLIAN SMITH, AKA LILLIAN HUTCHINS SMITH, ET AL., 1.00 acre, more or less, situated in the Margaret P. Hallett Labor Survey, Abstract 255, Gonzales County, Texas, as described in deed dated September 10, 2003, from John H. Donaldson to Lillian Smith in Volume 890, Page 460, Official Public Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$198,290.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$26,319.80;situs
Sale Notes:

7424, Account No(s). R15160, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. LILLIAN SMITH, AKA LILLIAN HUTCHINS SMITH, ET AL., Part of Lots 3 and 4, Block 7, Badger's Addition, an addition to the Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, as described in Volume 936, Page 247, Official Public Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$142,450.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$4,147.13;situs
Sale Notes:

7424, Account No(s). R12400, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. LILLIAN SMITH, AKA LILLIAN HUTCHINS SMITH, ET AL., Part of Lot 127 and all of Lots 128 and 129, King's Sixth Addition, an addition to the Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume Z-2, Page 552, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$35,530.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$1,923.60;situs
Sale Notes:

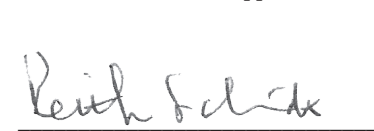
7443, Account No(s). R16179, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. SOUTHWEST SALTWATER, INC, 3.40 acres, more or less, situated in the Sarah Seely Survey, Abstract 60 and in the Jonathan Cottle Survey, Abstract 10, Gonzales County, Texas, as described as Tracts 1 and 2, in deed dated January 25, 2019, from Permian Water Solutions to Southwest Saltwater, Inc. in Volume 1304, Page 468, Official Public Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$818,720.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$82,170.05;situs
Sale Notes:

7457, Account No(s), RC94182, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. NORBERTO RODRIGUEZ, All that certain tract of land containing 4.179 acres, more or less, situated in the William Small Survey, Abstract 425, Gonzales County, Texas, described as follows:
a. that certain 2.969 acres as described in deed dated September 20, 2012, from Edwin F. Parker to Norberto Rodriguez, in Volume 1102, Page 176, Official Public Records of Gonzales County, Texas; and
b. that certain 1.21 acre as described in deed dated March 24, 2017, from Donald Schoenfeld to Norberto Rodriguez, in Volume 1251, Page 849, Official Public Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$140,630.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$5,422.26;situs
Sale Notes:

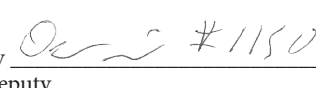
7461, Account No(s), R14042, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. BRYAN CRENSHAW, AKA BRYAN JAMES CRENSHAW, ET AL, 5.515 acres, more or less, situated in the Ezekiel W. Cullen Survey, Abstract 148, Gonzales County, Texas, as described in deed dated August 11, 2015, from McLeroy Partners, LLC to Bryan Crenshaw, etux, in Volume 1204, Page 391, Official Public Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$162,510.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$15,598.04;situs
Sale Notes:

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

Dated at Gonzales, Texas, July 3, 2024.



Sheriff Keith Schmidt
Gonzales County, Texas

By  \$1150
Deputy

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



10 REALLY

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YOUTH QUILTING CLASSES

Seven students attended the annual beginner/intermediate Youth Quilting Classes sponsored by the Shiner Heritage Quilters Guild on June 24-27. Students pictured from the left are Rena Pierce, Anna Lowe, Alma Lowe with their “Disappearing Nine-Patch” quilts and Allison Joiner, Marie Daniel, and Carter Gipson with their “Rail Fence” quilts. Student Hattie Cinadr is not pictured. Guild members who assisted are in the back row from the left: Kathleen Schacherl, Irene Cerny, Rosemary Havlik, Wilma Williams, Debbie Novosad, Beni Gerdes, Tara Raskob, Annette Meyer, Mary Shafer, Sandy Lynskey and Janet Zabransky. RaeNell Janak, Nola Bohuslav, Karen Filipp and Theresa Belicek are not pictured. The Guild recognizes the Shiner Methodist Church for the use of the Fellowship Hall, The Square Quilter for assisting with supplies and South Star Bank of Shiner for donating bags that the members decorated with quilt blocks.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED GENE CERNY



The winning team from the July 3 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Randy Young, Vincent Segura, David & Truitt Schauttet, Manuel Maganallez and Robert Young.

CONTRIBUTED

GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS



The winning team from the June 26 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Miguel Cruz, Trent Rabke, Jake Barnick, Kameron Craft, Cody Jeter and Joey Gamez.

CONTRIBUTED



The second-place team from the July 3 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Kyle Day, Sam Morrow, Mike Turk, Raul Contreras and Tanner Walker.

CONTRIBUTED



The second-place team from the June 26 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Jarrid Boehm, John Hahn, Billy Hyman, Roy Staton and Jack Ehrig.

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OBITUARIES

DEBORAH DARLENE DeCOLA

Deborah Darlene (Hahn) DeCola was born in Gonzales County on January 30, 1949. Debbie, as she was known, completed her heavenly race on June 22, 2024, in Guadalupe County, Texas.

Debbie began her heavenly race just hours before the coldest temperature in this area’s recorded history was set. From that bitter, record setting cold snap in 1949, grew a warm, special woman devoted to her faith and family. She spread warmth and love not only within the church but also within her own family. Those around her were blessed by her nurturing nature, guidance, and unconditional love. Debbie has been described by many who knew her as “one of the nicest people they have ever known”.

Debbie grew up in Gonzales, graduating from Gonzales High School in 1967. The summer after graduation she met the love of her life at a local Dairy Queen. She married Jim DeCola on December 15, 1967, and they spent the next 55 wonderful years together. Aside from a few months in Providence, Rhode Island and a few years in Austin, they built their home in Gonzales County. Together they raised three sons Dale, Ray, and Jarrett, with faith and hard work as the foundation to build upon. Debbie spent the biggest part of her career as a clerical assistant for Dr Gloria Haug and Dr Janice Weinman. She greatly respected and enjoyed working with Dr Gloria and Dr Janice. When she was not working or taking care of her family, you would find her at First Baptist Church in Gonzales. Debbie had an unshakable faith and devoted an incredible amount of time and energy to FBC. In addition to 55+ years of regular attendance she also led the Girls Auxiliary (GA) group, participated in WMU, helped support various missionaries, taught decades of vacation bible schoolers, and happily volunteered for any number of jobs that needed to be done.

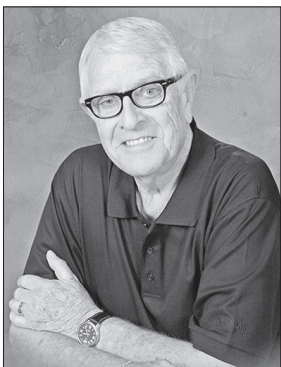
Debbie was preceded in death by her husband Vincent James “Jim” DeCola, parents Stanley Hahn, Sr and Mildred (Jones) Hahn, brother Stanley Hahn, Jr, and her son Vincent Dale DeCola. She is survived by son Ray DeCola, his wife Kimberly, and their children Jack and Mary, son Jarrett DeCola and his daughter Lillian, daughter-in-law Annette DeCola and her children Patrick, Erin, and Anthony, and brother William Ray Hahn. Debbie will be greatly missed by her family and friends, but we can celebrate that she has rejoined Jim and is no longer subject to the confusion, pain, and fragility that invaded her life.

A visitation took place on Friday, July 5, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Seydler – Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services were held on Saturday, July 6, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., at the First Baptist Church in Gonzales officiated by Dr. Josh Breslaw. Interment followed at Belmont Cemetery. Pallbearers included John Hahn, Luke Hahn, Greg Carlile, Brett Jahns, Frank Wallace and Tony DeCola.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made out to the First Baptist Church of Gonzales. Friends and family may leave their condolences online by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com All services are under the care and direction of Seydler – Hill Funeral Home.



WILLIAM C. MEADOWS



William C. Meadows was born January 16, 1941 in the small coal mining/railroad town of Hinton, West Virginia. His father was a machinist on the C & O Railroad but went to fight the African Campaign in WWII in 1942 as a Navy Seaman. Bill’s family moved to Cuero, Texas in 1952, and then Victoria in 1954, while his dad worked at Union Carbide. Bill took piano lessons (and later, guitar), played sports, and was always active in the local Methodist church. As a teen, he also delivered the Victoria Advocate Newspaper and earned enough money to buy himself a car. He attended Victoria College, then Texas A&I Kingsville to pursue a degree in music. It was there he met and married Elizabeth McAlister. They married on June 2, 1962 in Carrizo Springs, Texas. After college, Bill and Liz lived in Dalhart and Freer, Texas, where he taught high school choir and Liz was a Kindergarten teacher. A son, Kirk, was born in 1964. Bill was offered a scholarship assistantship at Indiana University in 1967, so the family moved to Bloomington, Indiana. Bill graduated from I.U. with a master’s degree in psychology and a counseling certification. In September, they moved to Woodsboro, Texas, where Bill served as the high school counselor. They spent 6 years in Woodsboro, where Bill announced the football games and wrote sports for the local newspaper. In 1969, daughter Anne was born. In 1973, the family moved to Carrizo Springs, where they lived for 14 years. Kirk and Anne went to school there and were active in UIL – Kirk in theater, and Anne in academics and music. Bill served as a bilingual diagnostician, and later a high school counselor at Carrizo Springs High School. He also sponsored the student council and coached UIL Debate (going to regionals all four years). Bill, Liz and Anne played folk music at various venues as the “Carrizo Trio” until Anne went to college

in 1986. Bill and Liz moved to Gonzales in 1988. Bill was a bilingual school diagnostician, and Liz continued to teach school. Liz was diagnosed with cancer in February 1991 and passed away in September 1993. Bill continued to be active in the United Methodist Church community, playing music and being an active part of the Emmaus community, of which Bill worked over 40 Walks to Emmaus (Christian retreats), 5 Kairos (prison ministry retreats), and 5 Via de Cristos (Lutheran retreats). Bill married Cheryl Browning in December of 1994. He continued to work, until retirement in 2000. The first grandson was born in 2003, Paden William Boothe. In 2006, another grandson, Sawyer James Boothe, was born. Bill spent many happy hours with both grandsons, also helping with baseball team coaching, Cub Scout hikes, and attending all of their other activities. Bill continued to play music at church and lead Bible studies each week, until his health began to decline in 2024. He has played the piano in church for the last 28 years. He and Cheryl have been married for 29 years. Both have continued working in the Methodist Church in Gonzales, with United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, and other various ministries. Bill is

survived by his younger sister, Judy Meadows Billen, and her husband, Kelly; as well as younger brother, John Meadows, and his wife, JoLynn. He is also survived by loving wife, Cheryl, daughter, Anne, son, Kirk, and grandsons, Paden William and Sawyer Boothe. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Liz McAllister Meadows, his parents and son-in-law, John Boothe.

Bill has always been known as a loving husband and father, teller of recurring “dad jokes” (some were even funny!), insightful and thoughtful mentor, powerful witness to God, very competitive tennis player, giver of time and energy to helping others, consistent at saying grace at every meal, and doting on his grandsons. When diagnosed with cancer a little over a week ago, he calmly stated that he was “ready to go” and had no doubts about where he was going. His life has been well-lived, and his purpose fulfilled. We will miss him dearly.

The family received friends from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., Friday, July 5, 2024 in the First Methodist Church. Funeral services followed at 11 a.m. in the First Methodist Church with Dr. Matt Pennington officiating. Interment followed in Hermann Sons Cemetery. Pallbearers: Carroll Adcock, Bradley Koehl, Brian Fees, Thomas Pirkle, Ronnie Menking, Darwin Dieringer, Tim Koehl and Billy Boothe. Honorary pallbearers: Bryan Adcock, Kevin Kohl, Joe Pat Nance, Charlie Pankey, Pal Lester, Royce Towns, members of Bill’s Monday Night Bible Study Class, and his and Cheryl’s Home Communion Ministry.

Memorials may be made to the First Methodist Church Music Membership or the Building Fund. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com.

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

MISTIE ANN CLEVELAND



Mason Lopez and Matthew Guerrero III, paternal aunt, Linda Cleveland (John Craven), paternal aunt, Diane Sloan, paternal uncle, Mike Cleveland (Sherian), and numerous cousins and a host of friends. She was preceded in death by maternal grandfather, Sonny Ivey, paternal grandfather, George Cleveland, paternal grandmother, Bessie Cleveland, step-grandfather, Kenneth Stearns and uncle, Danny Sloan.

The family will receive friends from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Wednesday at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will follow at 11 a.m. with Michael Cowey officiating. Interment will take place in Gonzales Memorial Park. Pallbearers: Zack Lopez, Gary Schroeder, Garvin Mikes, Randall Mikes, Donald Brister, and Clayton Dudley Jr. Honorary pallbearers: Duane Tiekens, Paul Mikes, Mike Cleveland, Floyd Cook, Roger Gonzales, and Jonathan Cleveland.

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that donations be made to Seydler-Hill Funeral Home to cover the cost of expenses. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com.

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

On July 6, 2024, Mistie Ann Cleveland at age 41, went to sleep at home and woke up in the arms of Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior.

Mistie was born on November 26, 1982, to Debra and Timothy Cleveland in Gonzales, Texas. Mistie loved everyone and had the kindest heart. As a child, Mistie loved being around her big sissy and little bubba. She loved hanging out with Tim and his cute, flirty friends. She always looked up to her sissy, Christie, and loved playing in her room and getting into her makeup. By the time Mistie was able to drive, she was never home. She loved riding around, listening to music, shopping, watching movies, dancing, and visiting with family and friends. She had many best friends throughout her life, but no one compared to the friendship and bond she had with her mother and granny. Not a day went by that she didn’t see her mom and call her granny. Mistie never had any children but considered her nieces and nephews as her own. She made sure to be at every sporting event and milestone in their lives. She was one of their biggest cheerleaders and the best aunt ever. She was so proud of them. Mistie has a fur baby named Faith and they were inseparable. She spoiled Faith beyond measure.

Later in life, Mistie had a lot of health conditions that she battled



BRITNEY JONES CAKA

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Austin MFM Dr. Malik Dr. Desai 8	Dr. Echols Dr. Quintero 9	Dr. Quebedeaux 10	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols 11	Amy Trost Dr. Miller 12
Austin MFM 15	Dr. Echols 16	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller 17	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols Dr. Malik 18	Dr. Bui 19
Austin MFM 22	Dr. Echols 23	Dr. Quebedeaux 24	Dr. Ryan Dr. Kirchner Dr. Echols 25	26
Austin MFM 29	Dr. Echols 30	Dr. Quebedeaux 31		

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NEWBURY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

My mind flits back to a quarter-century ago, when there were moments that the Lone Star State’s TWO flagship universities sometimes cooperated. One example involved a valued friend, Dr. Kenneth Ashworth, former Commissioner of the Higher Education Coordinating Board. Upon retiring, he taught doctoral classes, once weekly, at both UT and A&M.

His business cards were printed in maroon on one side and burnt orange on the other....

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

BERYL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

At that time, the storm was still projected to dump between 3-6 inches of rain between Sunday night and Tuesday morning on Gonzales County. By Sunday morning, however, the storm track had shifted even more eastward, with the NWS projecting 1.5 to 3 inches of rain for the county. And by Sunday afternoon, the rain projections for the county had been backed down to 0.01 to 1.5 inches at most.

At 11 p.m. Sunday, Beryl had strengthened back into a Category 1 hurricane with maximum sustained winds near 75 mph. The northern eye wall moved on shore east of Port O’Connor by 2:20 a.m. Monday before the storm officially made landfall near Matagorda Bay. DeWitt County was removed from the flood watch and tropical storm warning.

By 8 a.m., only the slimmest of rain bands had advanced into Gonzales county, bringing a slight downpour to the area, as Beryl’s greatest force was aimed at the Houston metropolitan area.

“Initially, we thought it was going to be coming in west towards San Antonio, so we started gearing up and making some preparations (locally),” Gonzales County Emergency Management Director Jimmy Harless said. “And then, as I continued to have weather conferences with the National Weather Service, Beryl would continue to shift just about every time. It got to the point (Sunday) at my 11 a.m. conference that it was going to miss us pretty drastically to the east. Then, we unwound everything and hoped for the best and some rain, and we’re not even getting that.”

Harless said the county did take the opportunity to test its new HyperReach warning system with more than 850 people who signed up for alerts receiving one Sunday.

“We would have liked to have about 10,000 people receiving that alert, so we’re going to continue to push and promote it, but the tests looked really good and it was what we’d call a good practice,” Harless said. “What is it they say? Prepare for the worst, but hope for the best? Well, that’s what we pretty much got, except for not getting much of the rain that we really needed.”

Of more than 13.8 million customers on the ERCOT grid, there were still nearly 2.08 million without electrical power as of 2:56 p.m. Tuesday, July 9. None of the 15,221 electrical customers in Gonzales County was reported to have lost service, but 194 Wharton County Electrical Cooperative customers in far eastern Lavaca County were without service.

Also on Tuesday, Spectrum internet service went down statewide at about 12:30 p.m. The company put out a brief statement on the outage on its X (formerly Twitter) platform. Service was restored in Gonzales County by about 4:45 p.m. Tuesday, but intermittent outages continued until about 8 p.m. Tuesday.

While there were no fatalities reported in Gonzales County, there were four confirmed fatalities in the Houston area, including a city employee whose car was submerged under an overpass and another individual who reported died in a fire caused by lightning.

FOOTBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

GONZALES

The Gonzales Apaches are looking to improve from their 2023 season; the Apaches finished second in their district with a 4-1 record and were bi-district finalists under third year head coach Joey Rivera.

The Apaches have six of their starters on offense back for 2024; and seven returning starters on defense.

Apaches senior defensive end Jermane Upshaw was named preseason defensive MVP for 4A-DII District 13; Upshaw recorded 71 tackles and 12 sacks in 2023.

Gonzales is projected to finish fourth in the district and make the playoffs, where they would play the first-place team in District 14.

NIXON-SMILEY

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs enters a new era under head coach Paul Kirby; Kirby was the offensive line coach for La Vernia in 2023 and was an assistant coach at Nixon-Smiley in 2022.

The Mustangs will have five starters on the offensive returning for 2024; and five defensive starters too.

Last season, the Mustangs finished with a 2-8 record and finished 2-4 in

their district.

Nixon-Smiley is projected to finish seventh in 3A-DII District 15, missing out on the playoffs.

SHINER

The Shiner Comanches finished their season as area finalist with a 4-2 district record.

The Comanches have seven offensive starters returning for the 2024; and eight defensive starters.

Shiner is predicted to finish first place in 2A-DII District 15; and linebacker Kyle Adamek was named preseason district MVP. Shiner would then face the District 16 fourth-place finisher in the playoffs.

SHINER ST. PAUL

In TAPPS Division IV-District 2, the Shiner St. Paul Cardinals are predicted to finish in fourth place in their district.

Last season, the Cardinals finished with a 5-6 record and finished their district 1-2; and they were knocked out of the first round of the playoffs.

The Cardinals will have seven offensive starters returning for 2024; and seven defensive starters.

CUERO

The Cuero Gobblers and the Gonzales Apaches will be in separate districts in 4A-Division II for the 2024 season.

The Gobblers will be in District 15 in the Corpus Christi area with Sinton, Rockport-Fulton, Ingleside and Robstown.

Cuero finished its 2023 campaign as regional semifinalists with a 5-0 district record and 12-1 overall.

Cuero has five returning starters on offense and seven starters on defensive returning for the 2024 season.

Cuero linebacker Jace Gamez is named preseason district defensive MVP for the 2024 season.

The Gobblers are projected to finish second place in their district behind Sinton and then face the District 16 third-place team in the playoffs.

STATE RANKED TEAMS

Cuero Gobblers: Ranked No. 12 in 4A Division II

Shiner Comanches: Ranked No. 3 in 2A Division II

Hallettsville Brahmas: Ranked No. 24 in 3A Division I

TOWER

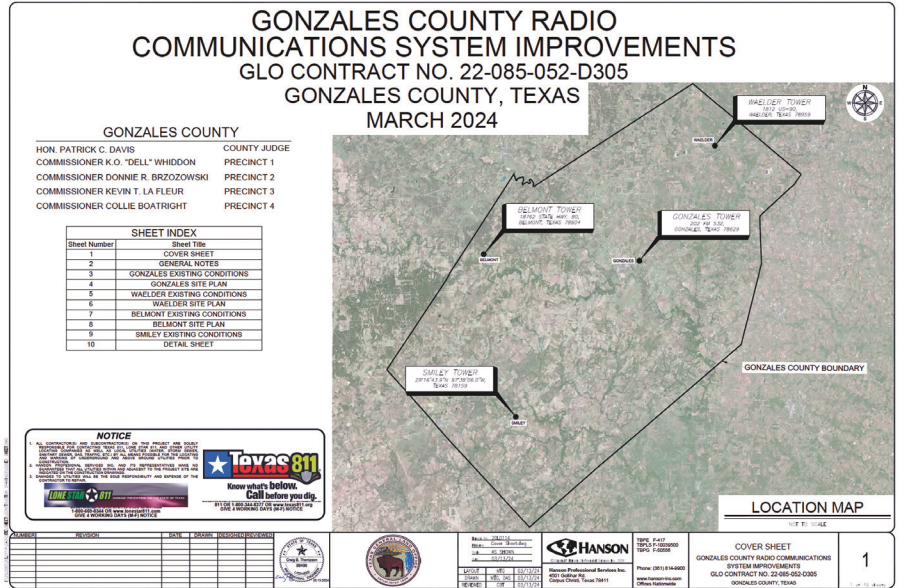
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

downloaded the plans. I haven’t seen that LCRA (Lower Colorado River Authority) has downloaded the plans yet, although they have downloaded and reviewed the addenda to the bid. We have not received any questions so far at this time, and until Motorola and LCRA start reviewing the bid plans, I don’t anticipate any questions for the next couple of weeks.”

The deadline for bids for the county’s new emergency radio tower system 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, although Aldridge said she did not know how many, if any, vendors will attend as a previous pre-bid conference was held earlier this year.

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 LCRA and two notices of intent to no-bid and protest from Motorola and Victoria Communications Systems (VCS). In June, the court voted to reject the LCRA bid after Aldridge had told commissioners GLO repre-



sentatives verified and clarified they would require the county to rebid the project since there was only one bid received.

The county ran 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.

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

documents, including drawings and technical specs, can be obtained at the judge’s office or on CivCastusa.com under Gonzales County.

Erin Thompson, director of programs for Langford Community Management Services, the grant administrator, asked commissioners if the county had reached out to the landowner where the Belmont tower site is to be built at 18762 N State Highway 80 — Brian Schauer, who is also the Belmont VFD fire chief. Thompson indicated Schauer will need to review a draft deed the title company has put together for the property.

She also said the county will need to submit an extension request to the GLO by the end of July as the amount of time originally given for the grant would have run out before bids are opened in September.



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ACROSS

- this Guthrie played at eight of TX Willie’s “Farm Aids”
- “ten” in Mexico
- Eden newspaper
- “_____ your keep”
- TXism: “lonely as a _____ day”
- Texas voted for this pres. four times
- Texas flag being flown upside down (2 wds.)
- “Oh, Pretty Woman” singer, TX Roy (init.)
- _____ burnett, TX in Wichita County
- Texas Rangers were first paid \$1.25 _____
- pecan pie is _____ dessert
- Texans must get this registration renewed each year
- Texas-filmed “Two _____ Together”
- hosp. nurse
- Mexico’s 9th month
- TXism: “ramrod”
- 24-across is even better _____ mode
- brother of Lee Harvey Oswald’s killer (2 wds.)
- venetian blind part
- con game: _____ flam
- TXism: “_____ shorts in a knot” (calm down)
- city where Pizza Hut is headquartered

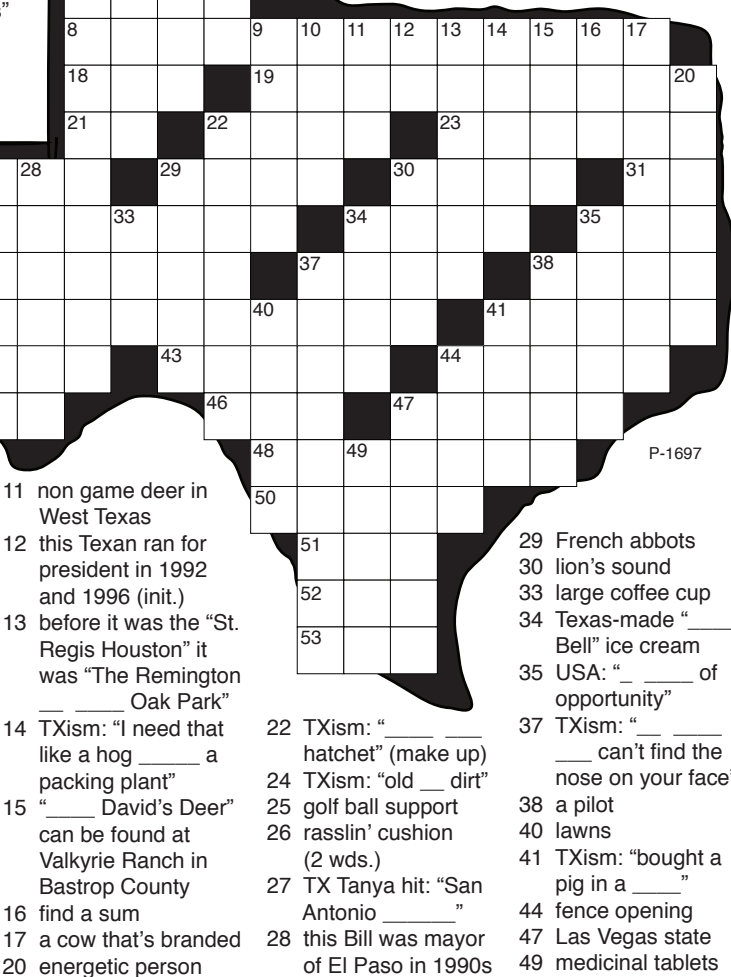
- Texan born between July 23 and August 22
- TXism: “big enough to _____ an elephant”
- TXism: “a _____ Jesse” (works good)
- TX Willard Robertson was in “Along Came Jones” with this Loretta (init.)
- Astro pitcher stat.
- TXism: “_____ as a jaybird”

DOWN

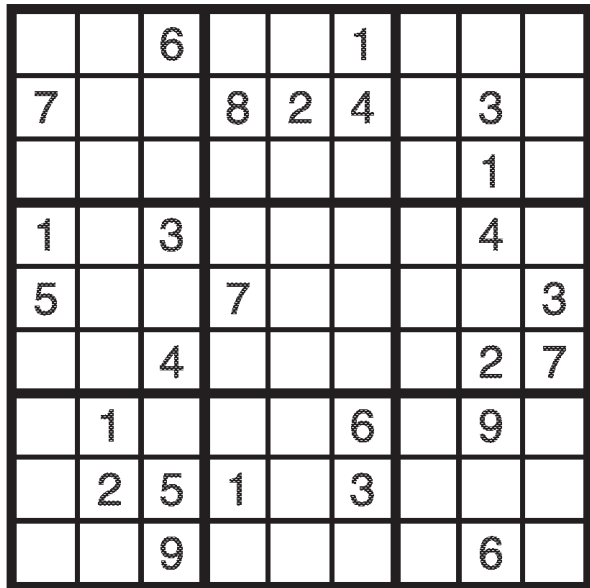
- you don’t need _____ fry chicken
- Lucy’s Ricky
- TX Jim who was a news anchor on PBS NewsHour
- seat of Crockett County
- rodeo bull riders come out of this
- Audie Murphy in WWII, e.g.

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

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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.

COUNTY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“We have talked to another company that is out of San Antonio, but we’re stuck in this contract for 90 days for us to get out of it,” Davis said. “We are drafting a letter and have sent it to them due to the fact that they haven’t been keeping up with the logs and everything else on the elevator. Those are grounds for breach of contract.”

Davis said the county attorney’s office has not heard back from TK Elevator and “we will take it by their silence that they don’t want to do this contract.” The county has already paid the previous two months without service, so Davis said the county plans to pay one last month and use that as grounds to terminate the contract with 90 days payment made.

Davis said the other company, which he did not name, reportedly will service the elevator at a much lower rate than the current contract and should be more responsive.

On the Courthouse annex, Davis said WJE Engineering, a structural engineering company, has asked for permission to dig up sidewalk around one corner of the building so they can better assess the beam underneath the structure.

“They can see pretty much the rest of the beam around, but they want to take out 13 feet of sidewalk on each of the corners and dig down five feet to check that beam,” Davis said. “I think once they get that assessment on that, then they will be able to give us the remedy to go from there.”

Commissioners had asked O’Connell Architecture and WJE Engineering for recommendations to address structural failures at the annex building on Sarah DeWitt Drive while the two companies were also helping the county apply for funding from the Texas Historical Commission to renovate the Courthouse.

The 43-year-old annex building housed the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Gonzales Central Appraisal District, Adult and Juvenile Probation Departments, Texas Department of Public Safety and Texas Driver’s License office until October, when commissioners voted to vacate the building to address fears about its safety due to deterioration. Concerns about the building arose from large cracks in walls at the annex and missing pieces of concrete.

Commissioners also voted Monday to reject a resale bid for Lot 8, Block 1 in the Ewings Second Addition in Gonzales because the bid “does not conform with the uniform policy that’s in place by the county or the other taxing units, which is to not accept a bid that is less than 50 percent of the original opening bid for any property held in trust,” according to County Tax Assessor-Collector Crystal Cedillo.

The original opening bid on the property was \$23,607.25, so 50 percent would have been \$11,803.63.

“I will say this is the first bid that I’ve ever received that did not conform to policy and when I explained that to them, they did not come back with a bid that actually adheres to policy,” Cedillo said.

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Making final plans for the Lions Park Playscape are, from left, Payton Newton (Fab Playground Specialist) Britney Caka (GNLC Foundation Treasurer), Garen Reese (Lions Club Playground Committee Chair), Ralph Camarillo and David Cantu (City of Gonzales). Not pictured is Cindy Rodriguez (GNLC Foundation President)

CONTRIBUTED

PLAYSCAPE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

been approved, lighting is being evaluated, and the factory has been authorized to begin production of the playscape features. The “Old Playscape” will be removed in the next 8-10 weeks. Plans anticipate the new project will be finished this fall.

The community continues to support this project through generous donations. In addition to community donations, this project is made possible through the cooperation of Lions Clubs International Foundation, a major contributor.

It is not too late to add your contribution to this worthy project. Please contact Garen Reese 830.857.3114, Britney Caka 830.857.6269, or Cindy Rodriguez 830.263.5502 for more information or to make your donation.

GVEC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This year, three incumbent Directors were elected to a three-year term on the GVEC Board of Directors: Henry “Bubba” Schmidt Jr. was re-elected to serve another term as District 3 Director; Leo York was reelected to serve another term as District 6 Director; and Gary Birdwell was reelected to serve another term as District 9 Director.

The fourth Director-Candidate, Warren Seidel of Cuero, was elected to serve a three-year term as District 11 Director to succeed David Warzecha. Warzecha retired from his position as Director of District 11 after 39 years of combined service to GVEC and the DeWitt Electric Cooperative.

The annual meeting video, titled Outpacing the Ordinary, emphasized the Cooperative’s pioneering spirit and unique strengths needed to embrace changes in technology as well as growth in our area. After several years of challenges, GVEC finished 2023 with confidence and optimism for the future.

The members to be heard portion of the meeting allowed members the opportunity to participate in a general Q&A with the board president and general manager & CEO.

A special presentation of GVEC’s Public Service Awards (PSA) also took place during the evening. The tradition began in 1986 to recognize people, businesses and organizations who have delivered consistent, unselfish, and considerable service to people around them and their communities.

GVEC’s 2024 Individual PSA went to Dina Dillon of Seguin. Dillon, a Navy veteran, has dedicated herself to service through various roles, notably with the Young Marines program. Dillon’s commitment to service has earned her numerous accolades, including the Presidential Volunteer Service Award and



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The Edwards Association received the 2024 GVEC Public Service Award (PSA) for the organization’s substantial contributions to preserving the legacy of the African American experience in Gonzales. Presenting the award, in no particular order, are GVEC Board Secretary/Treasurer Morris Harvey, President Gary E. Birdwell, Vice President Henry “Bubba” Schmidt Jr., and GVEC General Manager and CEO Darren Schauer while Edwards Association President David Tucs showcases the plaque of recognition.



was a Lifetime Award qualifier with over 4,000 volunteer hours.

GVEC’s 2024 Organizational PSA went to the Edwards Association of Gonzales, which was formed during the Civil Rights era of the 1960s. Association

President David Tucs accepted the award on behalf of the Association. One of their most significant accomplishments to date in preserving the historic contributions of the African American community in Gon-

Seguin resident and community volunteer Dina Dillon received the 2024 GVEC Public Service Award (PSA) for her extensive service work and the impact she’s made in her community and beyond. From left: GVEC General Manager and CEO Darren Schauer, Dillon, GVEC Board President Gary E. Birdwell, Secretary/Treasurer Morris Harvey and Vice President Henry “Bubba” Schimdt Jr.

zales is the listing of Edwards High School on the National Register of Historic Places.

Members can view the Annual Report as well as the video presentation online at www.gvec.org.

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GONZALES, NIXON CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY



Gonzales showed their Fourth of July spirit at Texas Independence Square Thursday, July 4 with performances by the John Brewer Band and Dawson DeBord. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4817 held the Patriotic Bike Parade for the children of Gonzales and the event closed out with the annual fireworks show. Nixon had its own fireworks show sponsored by the Nixon Lions Club and Mr. B's Fireworks on Friday, July 5, with the Nixon Fire Department setting off the explosives for the 15-minute show at the Nixon-Smiley athletic fields. A number of local businesses and residents donated to help make the event possible. Those in attendance said they hope to see it become an annual event.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS & LEW K. COHN

GISD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

across the board with an adjustment for the district's hourly employees. "That has been a topic of discussion at every board meeting to make sure those employees are adjusted to where their experience is being paid," GISD Dr. Elmer Avellaneda said.

Avellaneda added he has heard from the current employees asking him why the new employees are getting paid more versus employees that have been working for the district for many years. "We talk about taking care of Gonzales, our staff and our students and our employees, and today would be a great showing in that," Avellaneda said.

Avellaneda added this is positive step forward in competing with other school districts.

In other business, the board discussed about the new CTE building for the high school and Michael Martinez and Christopher Moore presented the schematic design.

The CTE design that was presented at the Monday meeting shows a building which measured at 30,057 square feet; 4,000 more than than originally designed.

Several school board members brought up concerns of the design being over budget as originally planned and the possibly



The Gonzales Economic Development presented Gonzales ISD 2024 Workforce Excellence Award for the district's partnership with Victoria College.

of removing programs from the building.

The cosmetology and the auto tech programs were mentioned; if the board approved to keep it closer to the original square footage, there is the option to consider the removal of the cosmetology program from the new building.

If the board goes with full 30,057 square feet model, then the district cannot afford the auto tech addition within the bond budget; \$2 million from the operational funds will need to be committed if the board chooses this option.

School board member Gloria Torres said she has strong feeling to have both programs at the new CTE building.

"When we talked about the CTE building, we had cosmetology and we have auto tech. So how did we get to the point where we're saying, either or both or we're going to be

over budget if we go with both? That is confusing me," School board member Josie Smith-Wright said.

Casey Sledge of Sledge Industry answered Smith-Wright's question and said this is the phase on of the CTE building and what is going into the new building.

"I still think one day you would build more CTE than even this building eventually. Right? And so the real question is just what all we wanted in this phase as opposed to a future phase, because we'd love it all," Sledge said.

The board approved to table the item to have further discussion.

The board approved the following agenda items:

- approved on the Fuel, Lubricant, & Oil Contract.
- approved and signed the Gonzales ISD TEKS Certification Form.
- approved the Gonzales ISD Science Proclamation 2024-2025.



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