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Vol. 172, No. 10





gonzaleshealthcare.com

Thursday, August 1, 2024



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Commissioners approve emergency design services for annex repair

BY LEW K. COHN

Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County commissioners will be using \$212,125 in fund balance to pay for emergency design services to repair the Courthouse Annex on Sarah DeWitt Drive after a Monday, July 29 meeting.

Commissioners heard a presentation from Tere O'Connell of O'Connell Architecture LLC and Rob Berman of Wiss Janney Elstner (WJE) Engineering regarding their findings about whether any of the 25,200-square-foot building could be saved or whether it would have to be torn down completely to the foundation and rebuilt entirely.

"I believe that the bottom line is that the foundation and the structural steel can be reused in the building, so the next step is to figure out how to best to move forward and rehabilitate the building," O'Connell told commissioners.

'The understanding is we're going to be removing the exterior walls and then coming back in and designing a new structural framing system to go around the outside of the building

See ANNEX, page 6

2024 Come and Take It music lineup announced

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Country music, Tejano and arena rock fans will love the music lineup for the Come and Take It Celebration, which will be held Oct. 4-6 at Independence Square in downtown Gonzales.

This free event — the largest annual gathering in Gonzales — brings the community together for a weekend of unforgettable music, fun and camaraderie.

See MUSIC, page 14

CITY OF GONZALES

City Council approves additional position for tourism

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales City Council met for a special called meeting and budget workshop Wednesday, July 24 at Gonzales City Hall.

One of the major agenda items was the publicity tourism agreement with the Chamber of Commerce for the hosting and operations of the Gonzales Visitor Information Center.

See TOURISM, page 6

1 SECTION 14 PAGES





HEADING BACK TO SCHOOL



Providence Missionary Baptist Church held their second annual Back to School Bash at the church, 1020 St Andrew St., Gonzales, on Saturday, July 27. There was face painting, water slides and games, hot dogs and hamburgers, popcorn, lemonade by the Shelton Boys and even a first aid/nursing station. Donna Smith said community businesses donated a number of items to help make this a successful, free event for the community.

PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN





Back to School Bash returns to **Independence Square on Aug. 3**

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

The new school year is just a few weeks away for many around the state of Texas and the Gonzales YMCA will be celebrating with a bash.

The Back to School Bash returns to Independence Square this Saturday, Aug. 3 with many activities both students and parents can enjoy.

See BASH, page 6

Special Rangers uncover widespread South Texas livestock theft scheme

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

A complex livestock theft scheme spanning six counties, including Gonzales County, was broken open recently by Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association Special Ranger Matt Sigur. Sigur led a widespread investigation

See LIVESTOCK, page 6

County willing to help seal coat Apache Field parking lots

BY LEW K. COHN

Inquirer Publisher

The Gonzales County Commissioners Court indicated Monday, July 29, they would be willing to donate the labor to seal coat the parking lots at Apache Field if the city of Gonzales and Gonzales Independent School District pay for the materials necessary to do the job.

GISD and city officials, including Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda, Mayor Steve Sucher and Gonzales EDC executive director Susan Sankey met with the court to discuss joining forces to improve the parking situation at the high school stadium, which sits on property owned by the city.

See **PARKING**, page 13

HOW'D THAT GET THERE?



It may not be one, but it sure looks like someone placed a portable toilet on top of Gonzales High School. Speculation about the purpose of the red, white and blue structure has ranged from it being put there for workers to answer the call of nature while performing roofing repairs at the building to it possibly being a cover for a commercial HVAC

Gonzales County chosen to receive Courthouse planning grant

BY LEW K. COHN

Inquirer Publisher

The Texas Historical Commission's Quarterly Architecture Committee meeting in Tyler on Friday, July 26, brought mixed news for Gonzales County.

While Gonzales County was not named one of the four recipients of full Round XIII Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program restoration grants, the committee did award a \$1,095,429 planning grant to the county — the only planning grant awarded Friday. Planning grants can be used to develop construction documents for the full restoration of a historic court-

Commissioners discussed the planning grant at their Monday, July 29 meeting. Accepting the grant to develop construc-

See COURTHOUSE, page 13

Main Street teams with GISD for Junior Main Street Board

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Main Street Board met for its regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, July 18 at the Gonzales Main Street office.

One of the big agenda items was an interlocal agreement with Gonzales Independent School District for the creation of a Junior Main Street Board. This item was discussed at the last Main Street meeting.

"At our last meeting, the board approved the bylaws for the creation of the additional boards in order to form the Junior Main Street board. But upon further exploration with the city attorney, it was discovered that this can be accomplished through an interlocal

agreement with Gonzales Independent School District, so we don't have to change our bylaws," Main Street Director Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla

Padilla added that with the interlocal agreement it puts "responsibility and accountability back onto the school."

"We are just, in a sense, helping with a club that will be developed by the school, so all manners of insurance and things like that is on the school, not on the city," Hutchinson-Padilla said.

The main focus is to have students engage in small businesses within the Main Street

"We'd like to pair them with some of our Main Street businesses so that they can get

some hands-on experience with some of our entrepreneurial people, that they can also help support them with marketing," Hutchinson-Padilla

The board approved the interlocal agreement unani-

The next Main Street board meeting is set for Tuesday, Aug.

Post office employees warn of 'smishing' scam involving texts, calls

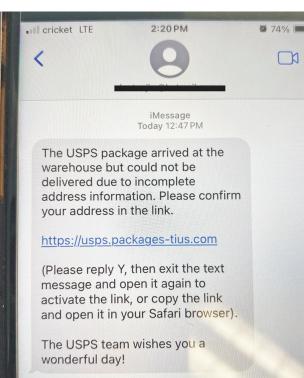
FROM STAFF REPORTS

Employees at the United States Post Office in Gonzales are warning Gonzales County residents not to fall for the latest scam involving unsolicited text messages or calls and a strange web link involving a USPS delivery.

Scammers are trying to get customers to click on the link by stating in the message that delivery of a package cannot be completed due to incomplete information. However, this type of text message scam is known as smishing.

"They want your information and all they need is a name and address and they can steal a lot of information from you," said one post office employee. "Now they are also calling customers and pretending to be the post office. We've already had five people come in today. It's bad. We will never send you a text message like that about a package with a link; it's not something we would

According to the USPS, smishing is a form of phishing that involves a text message or phone number. Victims will typically receive a deceptive text message that is intended to lure the recipient into providing their personal or financial information. These scammers often attempt to disguise themselves as a government agency,



bank, or other company to lend legitimacy to their claims. USPS utilizes the five-digit short codes to send and receive SMS to and from mobile phones.

The criminals want to receive personally identifiable information (PII) about the victim such as: account usernames and passwords, Social Security number, date of birth, credit and debit card numbers, personal identification numbers (PINs), or other sensitive information. This information is used to carry out other crimes, such as financial fraud.

The Postal Service offers free tools to track specific packages, but customers are required to either register online,

or initiate a text message, and provide a tracking number. USPS does not charge for these services.

USPS will not send customers text messages or e-mails without a customer first requesting the service with a tracking number, and it will not contain a link. So, if you did not initiate the tracking request for a specific package directly from USPS and it contains a link: don't click the link!

If you suspect the text message you have received is suspicious but are expecting a parcel please do not click on any links. Rather, report it and visit USPS.com from your mobile device or computer for tracking and additional resources.

HOW TO REPORT USPS-RELATED SMISHING

To report USPS-related smishing, send an email to spam@uspis.gov.

- Without clicking on the web link, copy the body of the suspicious text message and paste into a new email.
- Provide your name in the email, and also attach a screenshot of the text message showing the phone number of the sender and the date sent.
- Include any relevant details in your email, for example: if you clicked the link, if you lost money, if you provided any personal information, or if you experienced any impacts to your credit or person.
- The Postal Inspection Service will contact you if more information is needed.
- Forward the smishing/text message to 7726 (this will assist with reporting the scam phone number).

Complaints of non-USPS related smishing can also be sent to any of the following law enforcement partners of the U.S. Postal Inspection

- Forward to 7726 (this will assist with reporting the scam phone number).
- Report fraud to the Federal Trade Commis-
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI), Internet Crime Complaint Center (ic3)

Texas Sales Tax Holiday is Aug. 9-11, marks 25th year

mously.

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar is reminding shoppers they can save money on clothes and school supplies during the state's sales tax holiday on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 9-11. This will be the 25th year of Texas' oldest sales tax holiday.

State law exempts sales tax on qualified items such as clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks — priced below \$100, saving shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. The dates of the sales tax holiday and list of taxexempt items are set by the Texas Legislature.

"For a quarter of a century, Texans have saved more than \$1.8 billion on everything from blue jeans to ballpoint pens in preparation for the back-to-school bell," said Hegar of the sales tax holiday weekend, an annual event since 1999. "As the father of three, I know firsthand how these expenses add up over the years, and this weekend is the perfect time for folks to save some of their hard-earned cash on items they need."

The Comptroller's office estimates that shoppers will save \$143.4 million in state and local sales tax during this year's sales tax holiday.

Apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax free are listed on the Comptroller's website at TexasTaxHoliday.org.

During the annual sales tax holiday, qualifying items can be purchased tax free in person or by any other means including over the internet, by telephone, or by mail. Purchases are exempt

- the item is both delivered to, and paid for by, the customer during the exemption period;
- the customer orders and pays for the item, and the seller accepts the order during the exemption period for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the exemption period ends.

Smiley marshal seeks man who broke City Hall window



A screenshot from a video shows an unidentified man, possibly a Hispanic male with tattoos, breaking out a window at City Hall.

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Smiley Marshal's Office is requesting public assistance to find the person responsible for breaking out a window at Smiley City Hall last month.

Smiley Marshal Jason Torres received a report of criminal mischief at the Smiley City Hall, 207 Steele St. The incident happened on July 20, 2024, at approximately 05:41 a.m. (The time stamp pictured is off by one hour). The video shows one male, possibly Hispanic, with tattoos on his back, breaking a window out of City Hall.

If you have information on the identity of the suspect, please contact the Greater **Gonzales County Crime** Stoppers at 830-672-TIPS (830-672-8477), Marshal Jason Torres at 830-313-9767 or the Smiley Marshal Office at 830-587-6304.

Casey Chavarria

Bob Erickson

Roland Martinez

James Schellenberg

Jeff Simper

Tommy Wilson

Rachel Zamora

August 7th

Beverly Pekar Bond

Julie Burek

Patricia Camarillo

Elizabeth Cook

Edward Cuvelier

D'Laine Easley

Donnie Glass

Sascha Kardosz

Christie Krueger

Ashley Pirkle

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Gonzales Weather

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Eastside Baptist Church hosts Community School Supply Drive

STAFF REPORT

School is near back in session and Eastside **Baptist Church is doing** their part helping students in need of school supplies.

Eastside will be hosting the Gonzales Community School Supply Drive and Giveaway Saturday, Aug. 3 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the church on 701 Seydler St.

School supplies needed include composition

books, crayons, notebook paper, map colors, pencils and folders.

Local businesses and community can get involved by adopting a classroom, and with the donation, a teacher will receive a \$50 gift card to purchase school supplies for their classroom.

There are various drop off locations located at Walmart, Holly Jeanne Boutique Victoria College, Crew, Next Concept, and Person's Flower Shop.

delebrations (1984)

Koi Baros Shirley Carroll Bo Davis Janet Mendez Ronald Ramos Glenna Reese Rudy Rodriguez

August 1st

William Soefje August 2nd Brandon Absher Cordova

Christina Ramos Jymmy Kay Cox Elsie Martinez Colbey Ramos Chasity Rodriguez Jennifer Tate

August 3rd Baylee Decker Stefanie Gonzales Andrew Rodriguez Brandon Ramirez-Sirildo

Birthdays

Chelsey Trevors

August 4th Kim Avant Greg Grier Alice Hermann Elizabeth Hillman

Elijah Mathis DeEtte Mills Donald Pearson Tia Williams

August 5th James Posey Alford Julie Marie Alford Ruth Guerra

Peggy Janota Daphne Koerm **Boyd Lawing** Vivian Nesloney Melda Rios

August 6th Janet Baker Lara Bastin

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96°/74°

5% chance of rain • RealFeel 101

Gonzales Inquirer.com

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LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET July 27th, 2024 Cattle - 481 Compared to our last sale: Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold steady to very active. Less quality calves and vearlings sold steady. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold steady.

Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 325-450; 300-400 lbs., 275-325; 400-500 lbs., 255-360; 500-600 lbs., 245-295; 600-700 lbs., 245-270; 700-800 lbs., 225-249. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 145-

Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 315-375; 300-400 lbs., 285-335; 400-500 lbs., 255-305; 500-600 lbs., 215-240; 600-700 lbs., 230-250.

Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 125-133; Cutters. 135-141; Canners, 100-121; High yielding fat cows, 125-140. Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 155-163; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 131-147. Stocker Cows: \$900 to \$2,250. Pairs: \$1,800 to \$3,200.

NIXON LIVESTOCK NO RESULTS AVAILABLE BY PRESS TIME

HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK

COMMISSION CO., INC. Sale date: July 23rd Cattle on hand: 1050 **Packer Cows:** High Dressing: \$130-148 Medium Dressing: \$120-138 Low Dressing: \$110-124

Poor/Weak Cows: \$90-110 Packer Bulls: High Dressing: \$150-172 Medium Dressing: \$132-155 Low Dressing: \$115-130 Stocker Cows: Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: None

Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1200-1600 Good Cow & Calf Pairs: None Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: \$2100-2800

Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:

Number 1 steer & bull calves: Under 200 lbs.: \$360-490 200-300 lbs.: \$340-410 300-400 lbs.: \$320-385 400-500 lbs.: \$290-355 500-600 lbs.: \$255-290 600-700 lbs.: \$240-278 700-800 lbs.: \$220-257 Number 1 heifer calves: Under 200 lbs: \$320-410 200-300 lbs.: \$290-360 300-400 lbs.: \$285-355 400-500 lbs.: \$265-345 500-600 lbs.: \$245-278 600-700 lbs.: \$225-260

700-800 lbs: \$190-245

Replacement Heifers:

350-700 lbs.: \$280-410 The calf market this week was fully steady and strong. Demand continues very good. Area has received good rainfall which has pastures much improved over last 2 years of draught. Packer cows sold fully steady and

strong on a supply of 160 head. Top bull 172; top cow, 148. SEGUIN CATTLE CO.

July 24th Market Trend: Quality overall all very good. Stocker cattle steady with packer cows & bulls steady. Cattle - 444 Sheep & goats - 868 Medium & large frame #1 Steers: 200-300 lb. 1.15-2.98-3.85 300-400 lb. .85-2.79-3.95 400-500 lb. .50 2.70-3.55 500-600 lb. 1.05-2.40-3.00 600-700 lb. 1.25-2.22-2.62 700-850 lb. 1.15-1.98-2.46

Medium & large frame #1 Heifers: 200-300 lb. 1.75-2.54-3.30 300-400 lb. 1.70-2.80-3.35 400-500 lb. 1.15-2.59-3.45 500-600 lb. 1.40-2.45-2.90

600-750 lb. 1.45-2.12-2.95 Cows: Utility & commercial - .90-1.31-1.45 Cutters - 1.11-1.21-1.30 Canners. - 1.00-1.07-1.15 Palpated cows - 1100-2300 Cow/Calf Pairs - 1475

Heavy High Yielding - 1.50-1.72 Light & Low Yielding - 1.25-1.49 Sheep & Goats: Nannies - 60-205 Kid Goats (Fat) - 2.50-3.25 Wethers -1.80-2.50 Billies - 1.30-2.70 Dorp. Ewes - 40-165 Dorp. Lambs (Fat) - 2.10-2.80 Wooled Ewes - 90-120 Wooled Bucks - 1.10-1.55 Lambs - 2.10-2.80

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET July 26th, 2024

Barb. Bucks - 250-460

Number of Head: 536 There were 50 cows and 8 bulls. There was a limited supply of packer animals due to all the rain in the area. It was not much of a market test, but what was here sold at high levels consistent with the last several weeks. Tops on packer bulls was at \$172/cwt, while tops on cows was \$147/cwt. The calf market was much stronger than last week. Strong demand continues at a higher level. Calves were 14.8 pounds heavier and \$5.58/ cwt higher, resulting in almost \$86 more per head. RECORD HIGH PRICES!!!

Packer bulls:

Packer

155.00-174.00

cows:

canners & cutters 95.00-149.00 75.00-92.00 poor & weak Palpated: 2 bred \$1550-1675 PAIRS: n o n e Steer/Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH) Under 200 lbs. None 353.00-410.00 200-250 lbs 354.00-415.00 250-299 lbs 300-350 lbs. 355.00-400.00 350-400 lbs. 316.00-370.00 400-450 lbs. 305.00-342.00 290.00-318.00 500-550 lbs 278.00-304.00 550-600 lbs. 274.00-300.00 600-700 lbs 245.00-275.00 700-800 lbs 227.00-248.00 Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH) Under 250lbs None 200-250 lbs. None 327.00-355.00 250-300 lbs. 300-350 lbs. 322.00-332.00 350-400 lbs. 318.00-350.00 400-450 lbs. 302.00-322.00 450-500 lbs. 284.00-340.00* 500-550 lbs. 259.00-294.00 550-600 lbs. 246.00-276.00 600-700 lbs 225.00-248.00 Over 700 lbs. 190.00-235.00

*Replacement Heifer

Master Gardeners accepting applications for fall class

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales Master Gardeners are currently accepting applications for this fall's Master Gardener training class. Classes are scheduled every other Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 10, 2024 and will run through May 6, 2025.

In order to accommodate holidays and spring break, a slight variance in class scheduling may occur. Classes will be held at PACE: Plantatarium A Center for Exploration located at 623 N. Fair Street in Gonzales.

The Texas Master Gardener program is a program of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension designed to teach a broad fundamental background in horticulture. Classes give students a solid scientific foundation as well as a lot of practical and applied training. Subjects include not only botany and plant fertilizers but also other topics such as how to start and grow plants and cuttings, prepare soil mixtures and install and maintain irrigation in the most water efficient manner.

In exchange for their training, persons who become Master Gardeners contribute time as volunteers, working through the Texas AgriLife Extension Office to provide horticulture-related information to the community. The Gonzales association conducts the training classes under the supervision of County Extension Agent Dwight

The fee for the class is \$185 which includes the costs of a textbook, a soil sample test, entrance fees for class field trips, and a state required background

See CLASS, page 11

In the vegetable garden the eggplant, peppers, and okra should be producing well. To maintain okra production keep harvesting the pods. Pull and toss any pods that are beyond eating so production will continue. If you want to save some for seed wait awhile or designate a plant where the pods will be allowed to mature. If fire ants are infesting the okra plants rinse them off before you try to harvest . It works best to control them in the garden with an insecticide labeled for such use. It also works well to treat around the outside of the garden with an insecticide for fire ants but not labeled for use in the vegetable gardens.

If you have fall tomatoes give them another dose of fertilizer-19-05-09 works well for plants in the garden .Half of its nitrogen is released quickly. Modern tomato varieties are heavy nutrient users if they are to produce up to their full potential. Apply a cup as a side-dres ing 12 inches or more from the plant base. For container plants a soluble fertilizer such as Miracid or Miracle Gro work well, follow label instructions. Osmocote works well as the fertilizer for container plants before the planting but is slow release. Most of the organic fertilizers are also slow release and may not release their nitrogen fast enough to contribute to the tomato's production.

Provide the birds with water in a bird bath to cope with our normally hot, dry August. Recirculating apparatus fueled by sun or electricity are inexpensive and

effective at making the water source even more attractive to the birds. Find bird baths and the recirculating apparatus at your favorite nursery or on the

Keep the lawn mowed and the weeds in control in the shrub border so you can apply a preemergent at the end of the month to prevent the type of winter weed growth we had last year. Consider using Crew or Dimension to control the bedstraw, henbit, chickweed, beggars' lice. and thistle that was such a problem.

As long as they are watered regularly the annual summer flowers such as zinnias, vinca, and moss roses in the sun, and begonias, coleus, and caladiums in the shade should perform well through the month. Use pentas on planting sites where they only receive 2or three hours

There is still time to plant blooming zinnias, lantana, salvia, porter weed, tropical milkweed or other nectar providing plants for the Monarch Butterflies to use when they pass through Central Texas on their way to the Mexican wintering grounds in September and October.

If you have zoysia grass or Bermuda and your water bill gets too high, or the drought restrictions get to strict you can let it go dormant until the rains return. St Augustine does not have the same capacity for dormancy but survived when watered every two weeks in a research project in San Antonio.

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Q. What is the weed that has sprouted everywhere after the rains. It looks like a combination of a grass and bulb plant and is difficult to pull. Is there an easy treatment to control it?

A. It sounds like you are describing nutsedge. It is difficult to control but two of the products on the market for this purpose are Image and Sedgehammer. You spray the foliage like you would a grassy weed and then wait for the herbicide to penetrate. Follow the label instructions.

Q. Tell me about that plant Malabar Spinach. Is it nutritious, tasty and easy to grow?

A, yes, to all three characteristics. Plant it in full sun in a container or the garden. Fertilize it generously with a soluble fertilizer like Miracle Grow if it is a container or use a fertilizer such as 19-5-9 slowrelease lawn fertilizer if it is growing in the garden, Harvest the leaves like you would regular spinach and use them in the same salad and cooked recipes. The plant is attractive and does well in a hanging basket. Malabar Spinach will be produced until the cold weather arrives, usually Thanksgiving.

Q. Can we prune our Whopper Begonia? If so, any hints how to do it?

A. Yes you can definitely shape up your Whopper Begonias. Set a desirable height and width and then prune off the branches that are taller or beyond the desired width then your goals. You could make each plant as a separate specimen, but the plant is pretty undisciplined to begin with and I think the bed looks best with some uniformity. If you choose to you can plant the stems that you cut off and most will root.

Q. You talk a lot about Monarch Butterflies and their need for milkweeds, but what are some of

OPINION

GONZALES CO. HISTORY

- 1883 August 27, Boothe & Son have had a water trough built on the square in front of their store for the convenience of their customers.
 - -August 27, several large bulls have been seen roaming the streets early in the morning. They are frightening to the women who are out early and the Inquirer wonders if the City could arrange to have these bulls captured and confined until their owners may be found and fined.
- 1902 August, Guadalupe River Bridge at Santa Anna ford collapsed during flood, a new bridge that had cost \$10,000. A pontoon bridge was built to replace it.
- 1912 August 22, Mr. C.E. Dilworth has let the contract for the building of a fine two-story brick home to be built on the site of his present home at 222 Saint Peter Street. His current residence (the G.W. Littlefield House, built in 1885) has been purchased by T.F. Harwood and will be moved to the vacant lot at 510 Saint Matthew Street.
- 1928 August 9, the two huge alligators that made their home in the large cement tank at the Cotton Mill have been sent to the happy hunting ground as the Cotton Mill manager requested that Marshal N.D. Cone shoot them. They have been escaping too often and were a menace to the community. One weighed over 600 pounds and they were each about seven feet long. -August 16, T41 weathervane moved to top of fire station which also housed "City Hall". It had originally been on the top of the R.A. Houston House, placed there in the 1880's when the house was completed. Houston died and the house became the Arlington Hotel. When it was razed circa 1926, the weathervane was placed on top of the Randle-Rather Building. W.B. Houston then gave it to family friend, John DuBose and he presented it to the City.

Letters to the Editor

It is the policy of The Inquirer to encourage reader participation on its Opinion page. Diverse and varied opinions are welcomed. Because of space limitations. we must limit all contributors to one letter per person per month. Letters of 400 words or less will be published unless they contain language or content that the editors feel is inappropriate.

Letters must either be about Gonzales County, from a resident of Gonzales County, or in response to a story that appears in print or online in The Inquirer.

Examples of content that will cause letters to be rejected include the following:

- Confusing or unclear points.
- Crude language. Poor taste.
- · Disrespectful comments regarding
- a group's or individual's ethnicity, gender, religion, culture, sexual orientation or race.
- Other incendiary language or remarks. Endorsements for or complaints about
- individually named commercial products or services
- Poetry.
- Personal attacks.
- "Thank You" letters that go beyond general thanks to the community; attempt to serve as an advertisement for a company, individual or political party; or is submitted in lieu of a paid "Thank You" advertisement.

During periods ahead of an election, The Inquirer does not accept letters to the editor urging voters to vote for or against candidates in local elections. Endorsements should be displayed in political advertising. In light of this policy, we reserve the right to reject or edit letters for references to candidates and whether or not they should be elected. The Inquirer will accept letters expressing views on bond measures, constitutional amendments and other such issues. Letters will not be accepted once early voting has begun.

The Inquirer will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information.

Only letters written exclusively to the newspaper will be published. Letters to a third party or those written to more than one newspaper are not accepted. "Wallpaper" - submissions that are in large part copied-and-pasted from another author or organization - will not be published.

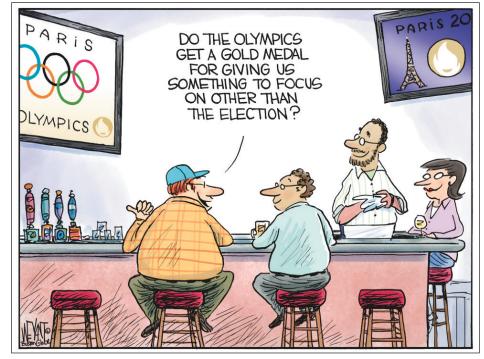
Letters written in response to other letter writers should address the issue at hand. Discourse should be civil and people should be referred to in a respectful manner. Letters referring to news stories should also mention the headline and date of publication.

All letters must be signed and include the writer's street address or route address telephone number, which will be used for verification purposes only.

Please send Letters to the Editor:

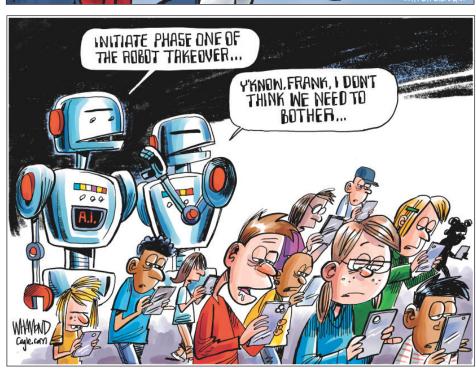
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Staff

PUBLISHER Lew Cohn

STAFF WRITER Vandy Van Epps **CONTRIBUTING** Betty Cohn

BOOKKEEPER Sanya Simmons

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Lessons in holding on...

DR. DON **NEWBURY**



m not sure who the TV weather guy was, which city he served or exactly what he said, but if his observation passed down through the ages is even close to accurate, it still has

wide application today.

The man must have had his news antenna aimed far beyond the weather. He was a philosopher as well. This Ohioan not only predicted the

weather, but also included an account of the colorful president of Ohio University. And, it was during flood conditions, for crying out loud.... President Roger Alden, unquestion-

ably an icon in both education and business, called on his remarkable conciliatory skills when students went on a rampage about the university cafeteria. He calmed them; order was quickly restored. But wait! Cafeteria personnel were

miffed that students were critical of their food, so they threatened to strike. Again, President Alden quickly "charmed" them, and once again reigned supreme.

Hours later, campus was crippled by flood waters that all but engulfed university buildings before subsiding....

Here's what the weather guy allegedly said: "Earlier this week, students protested the Ohio University food service, and President Alden quickly allayed their concerns. Then, cafeteria workers balked, but again, President Alden was equal to the situation."

the flood, perhaps rubbing right up against verbatim. "Today, God tried to close Ohio

Then came his classic line about

University, and President Alden is holding his own."... Stories abound about folks "hold-

ing their own," and this holds true throughout the world. Fingernail prints are everywhere, left by folks trying to hang on. To sharpen our focus, the com-

munity of Branson, MO, has dreamed big, even when staring straight into the squinty eyes of adversity. Case in point: Opening of its world-class, multi-million-dollar aquarium coincided with COVID's arrival. So much for a grand opening.

It held on, as have dozens of other venues in this vacation destination that is gradually regaining a foothold following the pandemic....

Thankfully, much about Branson is predictable. Folks at the more than 100 shows and attractions are as happy to see visitors as Minnie Pearl was in her weekly half-century comedy routine at The Grand Ole Opry: "I'm just so proud to be here."

Shows are top quality, clean, patriotic and generally "priced right."

We landed at the Pierce Arrow Theater on a recent visit. Three takeaways: Producer Dan Britton can really hit the low notes, now included in the Guinness Book of Records. Baritone Michael Cole is an absolute phenom, springboarding to fame 15 years ago with a high finish in network TV's America's Got Talent. And, comedian James Sibley remains one of the funniest guys on the planet....

It is noteworthy that Cole can't remember when he wasn't singing, having busted loose at age four in his church choir in rural New York State. A five-sport star in high school, he chose music, or maybe it was chosen for him.

"I don't remember ever going anywhere in the car without the radio blaring music, and I sang along with the artists." He, his brother and sister were "back seat harmonizers" later to be recognized on national TV.

He joined Pierce Arrow three years ago and loves life in Branson with his wife and two sons, ages 12 and 3. His mom and dad have moved their ministry to nearby Hollister, his brother is in marketing for Silver Dollar City and his sister is an area realtor....

Sibley, appearing in overalls that may have been custom-made by the Acme Tent and Awning Company, is a humor genius.

Most of his comic jabs are selfinflicted. One great story revealed a lie he told his grandchildren. He said that when the ice cream truck came by playing music, it meant they were out of ice cream. He admits to being one year younger, since his parents held him back one year!

Long live Branson! May it ever hold on!

Dr. Newbury, longtime public speaker and university president, continues to speak and write. His column, begun in 2003, is Texas longest in syndication. Contact: 817-447-3832. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Website: www.speakerdoc.com.

VC honors 21 GED graduates during July 13 ceremony

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College recognized 21 adult education graduates for earning their GEDs on Saturday, July 13 at VC's Leo J. Welder Center for the Performing Arts.

A total of 57 adult education students received their GEDs during the 2023-24 school

GED graduate Fatima Blair was the ceremony's guest speaker, and Melissa Garcia-Gonzalez was recognized as the Adult Education Scholarship recipient.

The graduates honored during the ceremony were Sabrina Aldis, Fatima Blair, Ashley Brackett, Samara Carillo, Jacob Cartee, Ajah Casiano, Jadelyn Garcia, Melissa Garcia-Gonzalez, Jewel Guerrero, Raymond Knetig, Alexis Krogsgaard, Michelle



Twenty-one adult education graduates were honored by Victoria College for receiving their GEDs.

Merrick, Chelsea Peterson, Joyce Reyes, Anita Trapp, Shyanna Tucker, Gloria Valdez, Taosha Westbrook, David Williams and Lashanda Wolfe. Adult Basic Education

courses at Victoria College cover basic academic subjects to help adult students improve their skills in preparation to take the GED and reach a college-ready level. Obtaining a GED and enhancing basic skills help ensure working adults are able to remain in the workforce and improve individual earning potential.

Victoria College Adult Education offers both inperson and virtual classes. A distance learning option is also offered at VC that allows students to complete coursework using internet from home on their own time.

Services are offered in the Golden Crescent area including Victoria, Gonzales, Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson and Lavaca counties.

For more information on Adult Basic Education courses at Victoria College, call (361) 573-7323 or email AdultEducation@ VictoriaCollege.edu.

TEXAS 4-H COUNCIL



Congratulations to the 2024-2025 Texas 4-H Council officers, including President: Augustus Sexton of Cost. Other members include 1st Vice President: Ansley Kubecka; 2nd Vice President: Isabelle Parkey; Secretary: Cora Ford; Public Relations Officer: Harper Mau; and Health and Safety Officer: Cooper Smith.

Deputies looking for stolen truck

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales County Sheriff's deputies are searching for a stolen truck.

On the evening of July 18,, a report was made regarding the theft of a vehicle that occurred between July 16 and July 18 from private property on County Road 230 in Gonzales County. The stolen vehicle was a 1991 Dodge Ram D-350 with an exterior white color and red interior, bearing license plate number 1RE404.

The owner is offering a \$1,000 reward for any information that may lead to



the location of the vehicle. If you have any information regarding the theft or the whereabouts of the vehicle,

please contact the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office or the Gonzales County Crime Stoppers at 830-672-8477.

Cloud to hold meet and greet at Alcalde Hotel in Gonzales

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

U.S. Congressman Michael Cloud (R-Victoria) will hold a meet and greet at The Alcalde Hotel, 614 St. Paul St., from 9

a.m. to 10 a.m. on Tuesday,

Constituents can come discuss local issues and share their thoughts and have a coffee with Rep. Cloud.

Kolkhorst selected to special hurricane preparedness committee

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

State Senator Lois W. Kolkhorst will serve on the new Senate Special Committee on Hurricane and Tropical Storm Preparedness, Recovery, and Electricity.

On Wednesday, July 17, Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick appointed Kolkhorst to this role, when he announced this committee to examine current practices and provide recommendations in preparing for

and recovering from hurricanes and tropical storms. The committee will place a particular focus on electric utility companies and steps that can be taken to ensure Texans have a more resilient electric distribution system.

"I stand ready and grateful to serve on the newly-created Senate Special Committee on **Hurricane and Tropical Storm** Preparedness, Recovery, and

See KOLKHORST, page 12

GVEC PARTICIPATES IN LINEMAN RODEO





GVEC employees took part in the The Texas Lineman's Rodeo Association lineman rodeo and barbecue cookoff competition at the Nolte Island Park facilities in Seguin on July 18-20. This annual event allows journeyman and apprentice linemen the opportunity to compete for professional recognition, attend training sessions and practice essential skills.

COURTESY/GVEC





For your Firearms needs contact Brandon or Stenhanie Fehner Firearms is closed on Mondays

BASH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

One of the event organizers, Adriane Hastings, said there will be water slides, bounce houses, dunking booths, and they will also have the Gonzales Police Department and Gonzales Sheriffs Office will talk to the students about safety, she said.

Hastings added they will be taking donations for school supplies for the Stuff the Bus campaign for students in need of school supplies.

This is the time of the year when Hastings' team gets phone calls from organizations asking if the event will be help those in need of financial help or if they need school supplies.

"I see a lot of grandparents that that are basically on fixed incomes that are raising their grandchildren. They don't have that extra funding to purchase all of these school supplies, and their school clothes, their shoes. And the way the economy is now, even more so, they just can't afford it," Hastings said.

Hastings said it takes teamwork to get an event like this going and the goal of the event is for the children.

"It's all about our children, and they're our future, you know, and to take care of them and to let them know that they're loved. They're supported, you know, and that's all that matters and that is why we do it," Hastings said.

The school supplies will not only help students but all teachers as well.

'We're here to help the teachers with Expo markers and construction paper, but also all the different types of school supplies, from scissors to crayons, spiral notebooks, composition, folders, I see a lot of grandparents that that are basically on fixed incomes that are raising their grandchildren. They don't have that extra funding to purchase all of these school supplies, and their school clothes, their shoes. And the way the economy is now, even more so, they just can't afford it."

> Adriane Hastings. Back to School Bash organizer

and markers," Hastings said.

The remaining school supplies will be sent to the Gonzales ISD Central

The event is from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Independence Square.

ANNEX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

keeping the existing roof, the existing foundation and the interior intact, and then working together to coordinate the new appearance of the outside and then the use of the space on the interior," Berman added.

Berman told commissioners WJE did a "limited amount of non destructive testing" which included evaluating the concrete, steel, roof, framing and the foundation and noted the county's maintenance crew had also dug a test pit beside one of the corners that helped them get a better look at the foundation at a lower depth.

"We didn't see any cracks," Berman said. "There was some space underneath that perimeter like great beams on what look like drill piers or copper piles, but no issues underneath that corner of the foundation."

Berman said all the perimeter walls will have to come out. To do so, shoring walls would be put in to hold up the existing roof and the roof would be disconnected from the existing walls, which would then come down and new steel framing would be put up around the perimeter to graft the existing roof with new columns.

While the existing roof, which was just replaced in 2018, can be saved for the most part, the degradation of the concrete makes it a must to take down the walls, Berman said.

"How long would they last? It's tough to tell. It could be a couple of months or maybe a couple of years," Berman said of the existing concrete walls. "I think they're all in various states of disrepair that doing nothing is not a prudent choice.

"There's falling debris on the inte-

rior and the exterior. The connection between the roof and those walls that's an area where if there's some spalls or corrosion that occurs up at that location, you start losing connections between not just the roof joists, but the joist girders that are up there which could lead to a more catastrophic failure.

"Really the focus has been on reusing the steel and the foundation and we kind of went into it with the idea we're not even going to try and save the walls," Berman added. "The short story is the concrete walls are going to be removed and a lighter system will go up. It really will have less of an effect on the existing foundation, because it's going to be a significantly lighter system."

Berman said he believes the county could reasonably expect to get "another 20 to 40 years" of life out of the building when it is completed.

'We're not targeting to design this as a temporary facility," Berman said. "We'll be rehabbing it up to like essentially a new building."

O'Connell said she recognized the pressure that the court has "on yourselves and on this building to sustain all of the people who have moved over here," so she and WJE submitted a proposal for emergency design services that would have new plans and specs in place within a very fast eight week timeframe that would make them ready to go out for bids on the work.

"It is not a fantasy proposal, it's not doing a lot of analysis or anything, it's just straightforward," O'Connell "Let's get a floor plan. Let's get it over to the engineers. Let's get with Wiss Janney to design the connection between the roof and the walls,

because that's their forte. We've got the best skill sets for each team member to operate most efficiently for you and get a full set of plans and specs in eight weeks, which is crazy in some ways."

O'Connell called the price for the emergency design, \$212,125, "bare bones if you consider construction costs on a building of this size will be somewhere between \$5 million and \$7 million for construction.

"These fees are just two to four percent of that total project cost, which is not typical for architectural and engineering fees," she said. "We're just trying to help you guys out."

It is unknown how much rehabbing the building as suggested by WJE will cost as there has not been an estimate performed. However, O'Connell said local sources tell her commercial construction costs from brand new in Gonzales run at about \$300 per square foot on the average.

"If that is the case, for this building, that would be \$7.5 million (for new)," O'Connell said. "But, of course, we're starting with the slab and starting with steel, so it'll hopefully be less than that. If it's \$200 a square foot for the renovation, that would be \$5,040,000. It could be less expensive, but we have not done a cost analysis, so I really don't know."

O'Connell said all electrical work will need to be replaced in the building as it dates back to the its original 1978 construction, which predates current building codes. She also said restrooms would have to be replaced, including all fixtures, in order to make them meet the Americans with Disabilities Act standards and be accessible to the public.

TOURISM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The chamber is looking at adding a position. And in the agreement, they weren't thinking of changing employee to employees. And this is a request from the chamber, for an additional tourism person willing to help facilitate planning with the upcoming bicentennial celebration, which that position would come at time we're in need of it," City Manager Tim Crow said.

Gonzales Economic Development Director Susan Sankey, who is also overseeing the Chamber through an agreement with the city, spoke to the council about the reason why the Chamber wants the tourism coordinator to be held by two people versus a singular position, as it has been in

'I believe that in Gonzales has a lot more to offer than one person can simply coordinate and deliver to a level of quality. And that's with all respect to all the previous tourism coordinators as we roll into a bicentennial year that we celebrate our 200th birthday for the city. I think that warrants a little bit more than what we've done in the past," Sankey said.

By dividing the position in two, the chamber can focus on two specific areas: events and agritourism; and coordinating with the bicentennial, Sankey said.

"We're very strongly in ag community and that's a very strong driver of our economy. And we have to pay attention to that because it's a workforce, but it's also a force within itself that has a lot to deliver for our community in the region," Sankey said.

Mayor Steven Sucher brought up the interviewing process for the position at the Chamber and he said they had two candidates who were really superior and both hiring panels recommended both.

Sucher asked about the funding for the salaries and if there is a plan in place.

"I met with the executive committee of the Chamber before moving forward with this as a potential suggestion to make sure that the resources were there. And they agreed that it was and offered a range in which to work with that hiring process," Sankey said.

The council approved the agenda item,

In other business, the council went over the budget and changes from last year.

One of the topics was cutting a position at the fire department, the fire marshal and fire inspector, but quickly escalated into discussion that the topic is a personnel matter that needs to be discussed with Crow and Fire Chief Wade Zella, Sucher said.

The council approved the following agenda items:

- Approved authorizing the City Manager to execute an amended Exclusive Franchise Agreement with Frontier Access, LLC for the collection, hauling, recycling and disposal of Municipal Solid waste, construction and demolition waste and recyclable materials.
- Approved authorizing the City Manager or a designee to execute a rental agreement with National Bikers Roundup, Inc. for the National Bikers Rally to be held from July 28, 2025 to August 3, 2025.

LIVESTOCK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

resulting in the recent arrest of Mason Solis, a Wilson County man charged with felony theft of livestock. The charges come after Solis failed to pay for cattle from the Live Oak Livestock Auction.

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association was contacted in March 2024 by Live Oak Livestock Auction. The auction barn sold 35 head of cattle to but never received payment. The auction barn was given a hot check from Solis for the livestock, who took the cattle from the sale barn despite the failed payment.

Special Ranger Sigur promptly alerted other special rangers in the surrounding counties about the fraudulent scheme. Within weeks, Special Rangers Joe Aguilar Jr., Steve Martin, Robert Fields and Todd Jennings reported similar incidents from auction barns across South Texas.

Special rangers quickly assembled, securing court orders, documents and statements. As the investigation advanced, evidence indicated Solis executed the same scheme repeatedly stealing 251 head of cattle in total. Warrants were issued by Gillespie, Gonzales, Karnes, Lavaca, Live Oak and Starr Counties.

Efforts to locate and

arrest Solis initially failed when the special rangers discovered he had left his Wilson County home. However, thanks to the vigilance of the Wilson County Sheriff's Office, Solis was arrested June

Solis was charged with nine counts of felony theft, amounting to more than \$375,000.

Breanne Mosley, Solis' wife, was also arrested

Check out

for details!

and charged with one count of felony theft for her involvement in the scheme. This case is separate from Solis' charges and remains ongoing.

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association would like to thank the Wilson County Sheriff's Office and Detention Center for their joint efforts in this case and ensuring all warrants were served.

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COOKING WITH PARIND

Eating an Eaton Mess can bring lightness during wet weather

Hello everyone. My name is Parind Vora. I'm the chef owner of Gonzales Bistro. In this column we talk cooking, tricks to cooking, and sometimes eating. We are located at 320 Saint George Street in Downtown Gonzales. You can learn more at www.gonzalesbistro.com.

We had a surprisingly wet July this summer. It's not miserably hot yet as usual but it is a 'soggy bottom' type of weather.

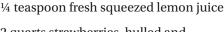
I had strawberries and cream at a friend's house yesterday and it was so simple and light. It reminded me of the classic English dessert 'Eton Mess' (pronounced eet-on meass). This dessert's lightness helps lift this heavy weather by combining fresh strawberries and cream while you get an exotic touch and enticing crunch as well as flavour combination by adding a classic merengue broken up (hence the mess).

So let us get started. This recipe makes you pay attention to the quality and the balance of the ingredients.

Eton Mess

Ingredients:

- 3 large egg whites
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons of granulated sugar
- 1/ too one on freely acree and leave a ini-
- 2 quarts strawberries, hulled and roughly chopped





½ quart heavy whipping cream

1 tbsp powdered sugar

Pre-heat oven to 240 degrees F and

line a large baking tray with parchment paper.

Whisk the egg whites in a stand or a hand-held mixer until they reach stiff

peaks, then add 1/3 of the granulated sugar. Whisk the sugared egg whites to stiff peaks again. Do this until all the sugar is used (two more times) while whisking the eggs to stiff peaks after each sugar addition. Spoon dollops of the merengue on parchment paper and cook in the preheated oven on the middle shelf for 1 hr + 15-20 minutes until the meringues are hard and slide off the paper easily. Leave to cool.

Blend 1/4 of the strawberries in a blender with two tablespoons of granulated sugar and a ¼ teaspoon of lemon juice to make a strawberry sauce. In a large bowl whisk the cream with the powdered sugar until it is at medium stiffness. Coarsely smush 3/4 of the meringues and mix with the strawberries. Mix the strawberry/merengue mixture with the whipped cream. Drizzle the strawberry sauce on this mixture and give a half mix. Dollop into bowls then crush the remaining meringues, sprinkling the pieces over the top. Top with mint leaves. Or garnish with freeze dried berries. You can enjoy this dish with a mix of berries or raspberries as I often do. Enjoy as a finale to al fresco supper

I would enjoy this with any kind of dry bubbly. Personally, I would pour a true French blanc de blanc champagne like Collet Blanc de Blancs Premier Cru. Other option is a Good Italian Lambrusco such as 2022 Cleto Chiarli Vecchia Modena Premium Lambrusco di Sorbara.

listening to Dave Brubeck quartet.

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

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850 **HELP WANTED**



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LEGAL NOTICE:

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's Permit (BG) by James Rice dba Diamond R Daiquiris, to be located at 804 North State Hwy 80, Nixon, Gonzales, Texas. Officer of said corporation is James Rice.



Gonzales Inquirer

www.gonzalesinquirer.com

830-672-2861

PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES

950

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Executor for the Estate of RAMONA LYNNE SAMPLE, Deceased, were issued on July 25, 2024, in Cause No. PW24-0352 pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: LAYTON E. SAMPLE, Independent Executor of the Estate of RAMONA LYNNE SAMPLE.

Notice to Creditors

950

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.

LAYTON E. SAMPLE, Independent Executor, Estate of RAMONA LYNNE SAMPLE, Deceased c/o CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE 403 St. George Gonzales, Texas 78629

Dated the 25th day of July, 2024.

CHRISTIE ORTMAN FULLILOVE Ortman Fullilove Law, PLLC Attorney for: LAYTON E. SAMPLE Independent Executor, Estate RAMONA LYNN SAMPLE, Deceased State Bar No.: 24084171 403 St. George

Gonzales, Texas 78629 Telephone: (830) 672-9535 Facsimile: (830) 672-8654

Media Release for Free and **Reduced-Price Meals Sample Form** Community Eligibility Provision 2024-2025 (CEP)

The Nixon-Smiley C.I.S.D. announced today it will continue its policy to operate the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program for the 2024-2025 school year. Schools qualifying to operate CEP serve breakfast and lunch to all children at no charge and eliminate the collection of meal applications for free, reduced-price, and paid student meals. This new approach reduces burdens for both families and school administrators and helps ensure that students receive nutritious meals.

For additional information please contact the following

Attention: Lora Torres/Child Nutrition Director 800 N. Rancho Rd Nixon, Texas 78140 830-582-1536 ext.211

torresl@nixonsmiley.net

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or

USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and

TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service

at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/ documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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DOROTHY I. BAKER, **DECEASED**

Notice is hereby given that the original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Dorothy I. Baker, Deceased, were issued on July 22, 2024, under Cause No. PW24-0353 pending in the Gonzales County Court, Texas, to Clinton Wayne Baker.

Notice to Creditors

CAUSE NO. PW24-0353

All persons having claims must present them in care of the following:

Clinton Wayne Baker, Independent Executor of the Estate of Dorothy I. Baker c/o Law Offices of Trent Nichols, PLLC Sara Anne Giddings 1309 N. Avenue E Shiner, Texas 77984

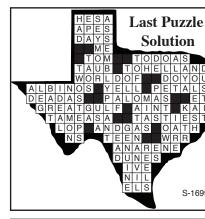
All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED July 24th, 2024.

LAW OFFICES OF TRENT NICHOLS, PLLC

July 25 **Puzzle Answers**

| 1 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 7 |
| 4 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 1 |
| 2 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 9 |
| 9 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 6 |
| 8 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 6 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 8 |
| 7 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 4 |
| ′ | _ | J | J | U | U | _ | U | _ |



Public Notification of Nondiscrimination

Gonzales ISD offers career and technical education programs in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources; Business, Management, and Administration, Education and Training; Health Science; Human Services; HVAC and Electrical Trades; Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics; Arts, Audio/Visual Technology and Digital Communications; and Hospitality and Tourism. Admission to these programs is based on student request and coursework prerequisites.

It is the policy of Gonzales ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

It is the policy of Gonzales ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Gonzales ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Brandi Bell, at 1615 St. Louis Street; Gonzales, Texas; brandi.bell@gonzalesisd.net; (830) 672-9551 and the Section 504 Coordinator, Erin Lindemann-LaBuhn, at 1615 St. Louis Street; Gonzales, Texas, erin.labuhn@gonzalesisd.net, (830) 672-9551.

Programas de Educación Técnica y Vocacional Notificación Publica de No Discriminación

Gonzales ISD ofrece programas de educación técnica y profesional en agricultura, alimentos y recursos naturales; Negocios, Gestión y Administración, Educación y Formación; Ciencia de la salud; Servicios Humanos; Comercios de HVAC y Electricidad; Transporte, Distribución y Logística; Artes, Tecnología Audiovisual y Comunicaciones Digitales; y Hotelería y Turismo. La admisión a estos programas se basa en la solicitud del estudiante y los requisitos previos del trabajo

Es norma de Gonzales ISD no discriminar en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Es norma de Gonzales ISD no discriminar en sus procedimientos de empleo por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, la ley de Discriminación por Edad, de 1975, según enmienda; y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Gonzales ISD tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso del inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimientos de quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Título IX en Brandi Bell, at 1615 St. Louis Street; Gonzales, Texas; brandi.bell@gonzalesisd.net; (830) 672-9551, y/o el Coordinador de la Sección 504 en Erin Lindemann-LaBuhn, at 1615 St. Louis Street; Gonzales, Texas, erin.labuhn@gonzalesisd.net, (830) 672-9551.

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3. DON'T ADVERTISE. Just assume everybody knows what

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8. DON'T ADVERTISE. Overlook the fact that advertising is an invesement in selling - not an expense.

9. DON'T ADVERTISE. Be sure not to provide an adequate advertising budget for your business.

10. DON'T ADVERTISE. Forget that you have to keep reminding your establised customers that you appreciate The Gonzales Inquirer their business.

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Hahn guest speaker at **Quilters Guild meeting**

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Sarah Hahn from the "Seams Like Home" quilt shop in Yorktown will be the guest speaker at the Shiner Heritage Quilters Guild meeting on Tuesday evening, Aug. 6, at the Shiner Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. She will demonstrate how to piece a quilt entitled "Trip Around the World."

Members gather at 5:30 p.m. to enjoy socializing and light refreshments. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. and includes show and tell and door prizes.

The newly elected officers for the guild will be installed. They are President-Linda Parr, 1st Vice President-Darcy Curtain, 2nd Vice-President-Annette Meyer, Secretary-Debbie Novosad, and Treasurer-Karin Filipp.

Visitors and new members are always welcome. For more information log onto www.shinerheritagequilters.org or email at info@shinerheritagequilters.org.

Casting call for play at the **Shiner Gaslight Theatre**

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at acting? Here is your chance!

You are invited to audition for "Arsenic and Old Lace," a hilarious play that is the fall production at the Shiner Gaslight Theatre, 207 W. 7th St. in downtown Shiner. Auditions are scheduled for Aug. 5-6, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the theatre. There is a need for actors, actresses, stage crew, lights, and sound crew. You don't have to have previous experience!

This is your opportunity to share your talent, make new life-long friends, and create special memories! There's no better feeling than knowing you have given people an experience to remember!

For more info contact Veronica Johnson (director) at 361 489-1087 and www.shinergaslight.org.

Whoops a Daisy

Hola compadres, I hope todo esta bien (everything's fine). Since I don't speak Spanish, or very good English for that matter, I had to google it. So, if I accidentally said that your mother-in-law's a hairy cockeved goat with offensive body odor and mud flaps for a rear end, I'll swallow my pride and apologize in advance. So, feel free to cut this slightly mentally challenged "white boy" some slack; thank you very much. Kinda sounds as though I'm somewhat racist against myself? Oh well, just happy to be in there somewhere, as I'm just trying to stay current with the times we're living in...

Apparently I'm not alone on the slightly mentally challenged issue. After this week's massive computer glitch by the cyber security company CrowdStrike (appropriately named), caused by some unnoticed bad code in an upgrade that when downloaded resulted in the terrifying "Blue Screen of Death" (insert skull and crossbones emoji), causing worldwide disruptions in heavily guarded Windows machines, I guess I shouldn't be too hard on myself. That being said, even though this brought the vulnerability of our reliance on technology to the forefront, and caused massive financial losses around the world and we're understandably upset about it, in all honesty, we all make mistakes. Some mistakes are just more devastating than others, and if



ESTES

ages to survive, I would bet on the fact that it surely won't happen again. The Merriam-Webster

dictionary defines the word mistake as "to make a wrong judgment of the character or ability of", and we've all been there way too often, or at least I have. I do try my best at thinking things through, looking at every angle I can think of, and while this does seem to help minimize the mistakes that I make, it surely is no guarantee against making a few along the way. Many people feel that making too many mistakes somehow diminishes our cognitive abilities, and is considered by most as failure. In reality, this is nothing more than the learning curve of life. Educated guesses are nothing more than that...guesses. As they say, we learn from our mistakes. I think Oprah Winfrey had a good point when she said "I don't believe in failure. It's not failure if you enjoyed the process." Or Taylor Swift's "Just because you made a good plan, doesn't mean that's what's

While mistakes (wrong choices) do happen, they're different than changing your mind while

gonna happen."

in route to a particular destination. Many times over the years Eloise or I would chose to try something that just didn't work out like we'd hoped, having to scrap that plan and head back to the drawing board. If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. After we were first married and redecorating our house, we painted the kitchen cabinets (at night) a color we were sure would look pretty spiffy. The next morning, still half asleep, as we rounded the corner into the kitchen, it was like getting punched in the eyeballs, so back to Home Depot

This week has been one of those moments for me. Now, two years after installing a small raised pond with fountain in front of my porch, which seemed like a great idea at the time, the sheer maintenance level has left me quite unenchanted with it. Between my racoons rinsing their feet, tons of bugs, and algae buildup causing the pump to need daily cleaning, no thanks. It's now being turned into a flower bed with solar lights and a three tier birdbath fountain. Time will tell, but I'll still have my water feature, hopefully without all of the headaches. I guess my racoons will have to wash their feet elsewhere, or just invest in new shoes. Hey, even flowers

Have a great week, love you guys, Eric.

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have a plan...Bee!

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LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office 07/21/24 - 07/27/24

07/21/24

• Isaac, Michael Deandre, Age: 30, Edna: Warrantless/On-View - Public Intoxication, Released - Order to Appear JP1

07/23/24

- Gutierrez, Jennifer Lynn, Age: 36. Edna: Other Agency Hold - Parole Violation, Remains in Custody
- Sanders, Sherrie Maxine, Age: 56, Edna: Other Agency Hold - Theft Prop >=\$2,500 <\$30K, Requires \$10,000 Bond, Released
- Mendez, Daniel Gomez, Age: 32, Waelder: Other Agency Hold - Poss CS PG1 <1G DFZ IAT, Requires \$5,000 Bond, Released

07/24/24

- Martinez Rodriguez, Noelvis, Age: 26, Waelder: Other Agency Hold -**Engaging in Organized Criminal** Activity, Requires \$500,000 Bond,
- Cangas-Perez, Roilandy, Age: 31, Waelder: Other Agency Hold -Engaging in organized Criminal Activity, Requires \$500,000 Bond, Released

07/25/24

• Deleon, Concepcion, Age: 31. Gonzales: Local Warrant - Driving While Intoxicated, Requires \$1,500 Bond; Other Agency Hold - Parole Violation, Remains in Custody

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

- Lijon, Jewel Toure, Age: 24, Seguin: Local Warrant - Poss Marij <2oz, Requires \$1,500 Bond, Remains in Custody
- Salazar, Roman Nunez, Age: 42, Moulton: Commitment/Sentence -Driving while Intoxicated 3rd or more IAT, Released - Weekender

- Meyer, Nicholas Lee, Age: 39, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence -Driving while Intoxicated w/Child under 15 YOA, Released
- San Miguel, Michael Ray, Age: 38, Gonzales: Local Warrant - Injury Child/ Elderly/Disabled, Other Agency Hold -Driving w/Lic Inv w/Prev Conv/Susp/ w/o Fin Res, Requires \$2,500 Bond, Remains in Custody

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

| tner agency ar | rest a |
|----------------|--------|
| GCSO | 12 |
| DPS | 01 |
| GPD | 03 |
| WPD | 00 |
| NPD | 02 |
| GISD | 00 |
| SMO | 00 |
| Constable 1 | 00 |
| Constable 3 | 00 |
| Constable 4 | 00 |
| DWCSO | 00 |
| DEA | 00 |
| TPW | 00 |
| GCAI | 00 |
| Rangers | 00 |
| Other | 00 |
| Total | 18 |

Wildlife in Focus expands unique photography contest

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Wildlife in Focus, a non-profit organization which targets wildlife and ecosystem conservation in Texas, recently expanded its popular biennial photography competition in order to reach more landowners and photographers across the state.

The expansion includes plans to encourage the owners of any and all privately owned land across the state to participate in the contest. In addition, the organization has added a new category that allows individual photographers to compete for separate prize purses without being part of a landowner/photographer team.

The competition, which has existed for 20 years, has three entry levels: landowner/photographer team, videographer, and individual photographer. The two photography contests

both span 50 categories and the videography contest has eight opportunities for entries. Total prize purse for all three contests, all categories,

is \$45,000.

The goal of the competitions is to promote conservationism and to create a visual story of the beauty of native Texas land and wildlife, from insects to sunsets, from borders to bayous. The prize-winning photos for each competition are then used to produce a coffee-table book as well as promoting the educational outreach program of the organization, Kritters 4 Kids, which targets school-age children grades K-8.

to share that our upcoming contests are now available for landowners anywhere in the entire state of Texas," said Miles Phillips, Wildlife in Focus photo contest director. "Photographers and videographers from anywhere and with all levels of skill and time now have additional

"We are very excited

entry options."

Registration for the competition is now open at the wildlifeinfocus.org website. Deadline for entry is Dec. 1, 2024.

The active window for photography is from Feb. 21, 2025 to May 31, 2025. Photographers and landowners can set up their own teams, or WiF will assist in pairing

The registration fee is \$500 for each participant on the landowner/photographer teams. The individual photographer entry fee is based on the number of categories and photos entered and includes entry into the videography competi-

The fee for entering the videography contest alone is \$100 each for landowner and videographer. Full rules for the contest, including equipment requirements, technology specifications, categories and prize purses, are available at wildlifeinfocus.org.

Any questions or concerns regarding the competition can be emailed to info@wildlifeinfocus.org or left in a voicemail at 361-342-

OBITUARIES

BARBARA ANN KEENER ATKINSON

Barbara Ann Keener Atkinson passed away peacefully at her home in Gonzales, Texas on the morning of Monday, July 29, 2024, with the love of her family surrounding her. Barbara was born in Amarillo, Texas on August 12, 1937, and, after a brief stay in Somerset, Texas, settled with her family in Waelder, located in Gonzales County. As a Waelder Wildcat who graduated in the Waelder High School Class of 1955, she excelled on the basketball and volleyball court as a player, and off the court as a cheerleader, cheering on the boy's basketball team. It was there she met the love of her life, Bobby Guy Atkinson to whom she was married for six months shy of 70 years.

Barbara held many roles throughout her life. She was a telephone operator and bank teller in San Antonio, a doctor's assistant in the Waelder and Gonzales medical clinics, receptionist at Ralston Purina and Tyson in Gonzales, part-time teacher at East Avenue Elementary, and bookkeeper for Southern Clay Products for more than 36 years. Her civic duties included work as the Waelder City Clerk and Librarian, and many happy years with the Gonzales Chapter of the Beta Sigma Phi sorority

Felipa C. Camarillo,

Texas. She was born on

was the devoted wife of

Jesse F. Camarillo, her

beloved husband of 60

with love, faith, and ser-

Texas WIC Program in

vice. She dedicated many

years and retired from the

Victoria, Texas, where she

found joy in serving her

community, especially

mothers and children.

Her servant heart was

also shown through her

teacher (Catechist/CCD

teacher/Cursillista) in

Gonzales, Victoria, and

San Antonio, Texas; an

early life leader/volun-

Scouts, and her active

membership for the

Guadalupana Society

at Sacred Heart Church

in Gonzales, Texas, Our

Lady of Sorrows Church

Thomas Moore Church in

Felipa's kindness and

as a beloved wife, mother,

grandmother, sister, aunt,

sister, sister-in-law, and

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their independence in a homelike atmosphere.

love touched many lives

in Victoria, Tx. and St.

San Antonio, Texas.

teer for the Brownie-Girl

role as a Catholic doctrine

in death in 2013.

February 23, 1936, in



group. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Gonzales where she contributed to the development of the Methodist Youth Fellowship program and LOGOS. Somehow in the midst of it all, with four children in school and fully employed by Southern Clay and on the family poultry farm, during evenings, Barbara attended Texas Lutheran College in Seguin, Texas, maintaining a 4.0 grade point average and earning an accounting certificate to reinforce her book-

keeping skills. Of all her roles, however, wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother were the titles she held most high. As a mother, she modeled excellence for her children, not only in the way they were expected to behave, but how they should become and treat others along the way. The light and happiness she brought into the world for her family and anyone else she met shines on through the nature, music, sports, and the simple joy of discovering something new that she taught us to

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents Terry George and Mattie Bell Keener, and her four brothers: Don, Rondal (Pete), Waymond, and Max. She is survived by her husband Bobby Guy Atkinson, her four children George, John, Pam, and Albert, 10 grandchildren, and 12 great grandchildren.

A visitation will be held from 12:30 P.M. to 2:00 P.M. at the Seydler - Hill Funeral Home in Gonzales, Texas on August 6, 2024, followed by a funeral service at 2:00 P.M. at Seydler - Hill with interment following at the Thompsonville Community Cemetery in Thompsonville, Texas.

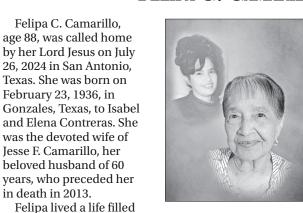
The family wishes to thank members of the St. Christus hospice care team, Craig Cardiovascular, and Dr. Terry Eska.

Family and friends may leave their condolences online by visiting www. seydlerhillfuneralhome. com

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Thompsonville Cemetery Association.

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

FELIPA C. CAMARILLO



friend. Known affectionately to her family as "Pierre," and "Felipita" to her friends, her captivating story telling was a true gift and brought joy and laughter to many. Her unwavering faith in God was central to her life and her spirituality, wisdom, and teachings left an indelible mark on family and friends.

She is survived by her sister Angela Garcia, sister Isabel (Carlos) Sandoval, brother Ray (Nancy) Contreras, and brother Florencio (Josie) Contreras. She leaves behind her children: Jacob (Carol) Camarillo, Carl (Kim) Camarillo, Victor (Rebecca) Camarillo, son August Camarillo, and her daughter Angela Camarillo; nine grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Felipa's legacy is one of

spirituality, prayer, and teaching. She was a pillar of faith for her family. Her beautiful smile, warm personality, and comforting presence will be deeply missed by all who knew her. Her life was a testament to faith, love, and service. A beautiful soul who is certain to have a place in heaven.

The family will receive friends on Friday, August 2, 2023 at Seydler Funeral home in Gonzales from 5 to 7 pm with prayers of the Holy Rosary following at 7pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 am, Saturday, August 3, 2024 at the Sacred Heart Church with Fr. Jim Kotara as celebrant. Interment will follow in St. James Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers: Jason Camarillo, Casey Camarillo, Carl Patrick Camarillo, Ethan Camarillo, Tristan Camarillo, and Jonathan Sikkema. Honorary Pallbearers: Alissa Camarillo, Victoria Camarillo, Lisetta Camarillo, Sophia Camarillo, Aubrie Camarillo,

and Brandon Camarillo. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com.

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

Are you prepared for a tornado? Here's how to protect your home

Texas gets more tornadoes than any other state. When a tornado is coming, your only priority should be to get to a safe place. But there are things you can do ahead of time to prepare your home for these dangerous storms

Broken limbs can put a hole in your roof and break windows, causing more damage inside your home

2. Know how to turn off utilities

Tornadoes can knock out electricity and cause gas and water leaks. Know where to shut off utilities outside and consider installing a home lightning surge protector

3. Avoid creating more flying objects

Use mulch in landscaping instead of rocks or gravel. Tie down sheds, patio furniture, toys, and grills, or move them indoors when not in

4. Strengthen the weak spots High winds can damage garage doors allowing air to rush in. Flying

debris can break windows. And large hail can beat-up an air-conditioner. Consider reinforcing garage doors, installing storm shutters on windows, and adding hail screens on outdoor AC units

5. Check gutters and down spouts

Make sure all gutter fasteners are tight. If you live in a hail prone area, consider upgrading your gutters to steel, which is more durable than vinyl or aluminum.

6. Keep your roof in good shape As shingles age, they are more likely to lift or let water in your home.

When it's time to replace your roof, use impact resistant shingles and make sure they are installed properly.

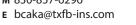


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Transitional / Social Services

■ Physician Services

■ Dialysis Transportation

■ PM&R

Cardiology





GARDEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

the other species that we can attract to our yards by planting their desired egg laying site species? A Citrus such as

grapefruit or Meyer lemons for Giant Swallowtails, fennel

or parsley for Black Swallowtails, sunflowers for Bordered Patch, passion vine for Gulf Fritillary, Brazilian Skipper lays its eggs on cannas and Painted Lady's use lantanas.

CLASS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

check. To obtain an application, visit gonzales. agrilife.org, call 830-672-8531, or go by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office located at 623 N. Fair Street in Gonzales.

The deadline to submit a completed application is Sept. 2. For more information, call Karen Bauer

Smith at 512-587-8856 or

Extension Office at 830-672-8531. The Gonzales Master

the Texas A&M AgriLife

Gardeners is an all-volunteer organization and a 501(c)(3) dedicated to advancing the mission of horticultural education under the direction of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension.

GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS



CONTRIBUTED

The winning team from the July 17 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Sam Morrow, Randall Dupree, Tanner Walker, Kyle Day and Robert Noble



The secondplace team from the July 17 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, John Hahn, Jarrid Boehm, Mike Turk, Dee Tiller and Blake Wright. CONTRIBUTED



The winning team from the July 24 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Kyle Day, Jake Barnick, Tim Cleveland, Raul Contreras and Tanner Walker.



The secondplace team from the July 24 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Robert Young, Randy Young, Ralph Aguirre, Chuck Emmick and Ryan Watkins.

CONTRIBUTED

DIAMOND GYMNASTICS COMPETES





Diamond Gymnastics competed Saturday, July 27 in New Braunfels coming back with 10 first place; six second Place; 10 third place and two fourth place finishes. Bronze Group consists of Kinsley Valdez; Bentlie Burnett, Peyton Ontiveros; and Sophia Juarez. The group also brought back two Silver All-Around and a Bronze plus second place team. The Silver Group consists of Grace Pennington; Harper Fullove and Kimber Fehner. Silver group had two Gold All-Around and a Bronze, also taking first place team.

KOLKHORST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Electricity as announced today by Lt. Governor Dan Patrick," said Senator Kolkhorst.

'Texans, especially those impacted by Hurricane Beryl, deserve answers and solutions so our state and the for-profit infrastructure companies are better prepared and fully equipped to take on the next hurricane. This is a serious challenge, especially given the failures we just witnessed by some of these for-profit infrastructure companies during Beryl. As a Gulf Coast state, it is not a question of if - but a question of when - the next storm hits us."

Accompanying Kolkhorst on this

Special Committee will be: Sen. Charles Schwertner, R-Georgetown, Chair; Sen. Phil King, R-Weatherford, Vice Chair; Sen. Carol Alvarado, D-Houston; Sen. Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston; Sen. Brandon Creighton, R-Conroe; Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, D-McAllen; Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston; Sen. Morgan LaMantia, D-Palm Valley; Sen. Mayes Middleton, R-Galveston; Sen. Borris Miles, D-Houston; Sen. Robert Nichols, R-Jacksonville; Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo.

The first meeting of this committee was held on Monday, July 29 at 10 a.m. at the Texas Capitol.



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by Charley & Guy Orbison

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ACROSS

- 1 book by TX game hunter Buck: "Bring Alive"
- (perfume) 6 on the Gulf 7 Fort Worth's Cullen

5 TXism: "liquid

- was found not guilty in death of this Farr 8 Heisman winner
- Brown from Dallas Kelvin Martin left Cowboys in 1993 for this Seattle team
- 17 hair cutting action 19 racetracks have to
- fees pay popular "emergency" TV show
- 22 this actor Busey was TX Buddy Holly
- TXism: "couldn't find hide hair of him" TX Charlie Dunn was
- first to put roses on boots publication: Texas Farm &
- Green Bay Packers' home state (abbr.)
- 35 TX Armstrong was stripped of his France titles 36 TX outlaw booty
- TXism: "counts his money with
- measure" (rich)
- TXism: ' as a coyote with
- a rubber chicken" 43 cheerleader cries

44 former U.S. Con-

gressman, Ortiz

- You Feelin' Again' 60 "red as a 61 April 15 agcy.
 - Corey Seager
 - **DOWN**

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 - 9 Oliver Hardy's

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out of

- 45 TXism: "let '__ rip!" 46 Valley_ vera plant 47 neither's sidekick 48 football rally 50 TX O'Connor: "Land does away, dollars do'
- 53 Bevo's school (abbr.) 54 TXism: "__ broke I couldn't change my mind" 55 TX Willie's "Turn Out the
- Lights the 56 a thing without equal
- 25 26 43 45 46 50 59 TX Orbison's 'That

you can"

'_ cream

- 62 pos. of Rangers'
- 2 state capital

- 4 Abilene FM radio

- 1 bomb explosions
- Texas-based Blue Bell products are
- "pardner" (init.) San Jacinto battle

- 18 flavor of 3-down:
 - 20 past winning Miami QB Bob 24 TXism: "keep_
 - under your hat" 26 former Astro out-

(1990-95)

27 fire crime

14 TX-born jockey

Shoemaker (init.)

15 TXism for relatives

16 road equipment not

seen in South

Texas (2 wds.)

25 approving head bob

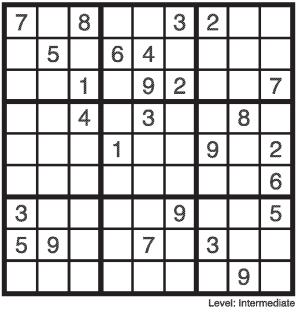
fielder, Gonzalez

- 61 62 28 in Lubbock County
- on U.S. 82 29 expel a foreigner
- from the country 31 state buildings
- are _ __-smoking 32 Bowie's Alamo bed 33 aircraft hard to

detect by radar

- P-1700 38 Goddess of Liberty atop Texas Capitol is aluminum 40 after lunch (abbr.)
 - 41 TX V.T. Hamlin's comic: Alley
 - 42 TXism: "got the '(clumsy)
 - 49 "cement pond"
 - 51 sarcastic insult 52 an "Achy Breaky" Cyrus (init.)
- noted 1960s UT linebacker. Tommy 58 Denton's historic hardware store

(now closed)



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.

COURTHOUSE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tion documents would require the county to come up with a 30 percent match of a little more than \$469,000, said Tere O'Connell from O'Connell Architecture LLC, who helped the county develop its master plan and submit a grant application to the THC. The county has 90 days from the date of the award to accept or decline the planning grant.

O'Connell said there was a lot of competition for THC grants, with 31 counties seeking a piece of the \$43 million available to be distributed by the commission.

"Of those 31 counties, six of them had shovel-ready plans ready to go to construction, but there wasn't enough money to go around to fund all those shovel-ready projects, so only four of them got funded," O'Connell said. "Several of the shovel-ready projects had funded their plans and specs themselves. Counties who are working with not quite as wonderful of a building as you are had to put out the money for the plans and specifications entirely out of their own pocket to qualify for this grant.

"You scored really high, because you've got a beautiful building, you have strong support for historic preservation and you have a good design program that was articulated in the master plan," O'Connell added. "The courthouse scored very high and was approved for a planning grant, so we are very excited."

O'Connell said she knew there would be a lot of competition for full restoration grants, which is why she included an option for the THC to give the county a planning grant as

"This really works I think in your benefit, because we've got to get the annex

July 2024 Awards

| Applicant | Grant Type | Award |
|-----------|------------------|-------------|
| Comanche | Full Restoration | \$9,071,939 |
| Kimble | Full Restoration | \$9,300,452 |
| Van Zandt | Full Restoration | \$9,576,427 |
| Willacy | Full Restoration | \$8,743,671 |
| Gonzales | Planning | \$1,095,429 |
| Refugio | Emergency | \$4,000,000 |
| Duval | Emergency | \$816,365 |

renovated, we have to get it able for people to move into meanwhile," O'Connell said. "One of the reasons I suggested such an aggressive schedule here for the annex is that once that work is done, then we can go in in earnest with the courthouse restoration plans and specifications, which will be substantial."

O'Connell said THC has very high standards for construction specs for courthouse restoration that could take as much as a year and a half to prepare in order to get the county ready for the next biennial funding cycle, which takes place in two

"So two years from today, hopefully, I'll be telling you that you got your restoration funding," she said.

There was some confusion among commissioners as to whether the \$469,000 being spent as a local match for the planning grant would mean the county would have to come up with less money on the

restoration grant. While the planning grant requires a 30 percent match, the restoration grant only requires a minimum match of 15 percent.

The full restoration grant originally being sought by the county called for \$10 million in THCPP funding with a county match of \$3.808 million, but that included money for construction plans, O'Connell said.

That could reduce the county's overall restoration grant match, but rising construction costs could mean the construction estimate included in the grant is no longer accurate in two years' time, which could require more match funding from the county, O'Connell

A grant orientation meeting with the THC has been set for Aug. 22. Prior to that, however, commissioners indicated a desire to have an attorney who specializes in construction look over everything to advise the best way for the county to proceed. Commissioners moved to

table acceptance of the grant.

In addition to restoration grants granted to Comanche, Kimble, Van Zandt and Willacy counties, the commission gave emergency grants to Refugio and Duval counties and will award grants in September to Donley County for emergency for a previously restored courthouse and Castro for a plan-

O'Connell said she believes there is support for continuing the courthouse renovation funding by the THC.

There was a lot of talk (at the THC meeting) about the rise in construction costs, the incredible burden and the costly effort it is to restore a historic courthouse and there was a lot of talk at the Commission about trying to justify a larger grant program in the next biennium," O'Connell said. "And projects like Gonzales are going to be poster children for why there needs to be more money and because you have such a great building."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The dirt-base parking lots at the stadium are especially difficult to traverse for persons in wheelchairs or those with mobility issues and present other safety issues. They are also not properly striped and what loose gravel there is can be a hazard, including for windshields if rocks are kicked up into the air by car tires.

Avellaneda told commissioners the one bid the district had received to perform the work was nearly \$800,000 — an amount he found to be too high.

Precinct 3 Commissioner Kevin La Fleur, whose precinct includes the stadium, provided city and school district officials with a pricing list for materials as well as soil stabilization, which he recommended. The most expensive option, which would include two coats of seal coating, adds up to about \$481,000, County Judge Pat Davis

said. The amount of material needed to seal coat the parking lots is the equivalent of recoating 12 miles of 20-foot-wide road, La Fleur added, saying the work could take about two weeks to perform once all materials are ready to go.

If the county performs the labor without charging the city or school district, that would add up to an estimated \$319,000 in savings, based on the bid Avellaneda previously mentioned.

"I just want to say thank you so much for considering it," Avellaneda said. "We want to work with all entities and for you to even consider helping us out, every little bit helps. We're trying to steer the ship with academics and renovations across all campuses. This just adds to what we're trying to do in GISD, so we just appreciate you looking at this and helping where

vou can. "I just appreciate the conversation, approaching with a three-prong approach. The district's all in, and it sounds like we're gonna get some help from the commissioners, and if the city comes in, that'd be a great way to work together and make things better

for the community." Sankey, who was present on behalf of City Manager Tim Crow, also thanked the court for putting together cost esti-

mates for the entities. "Now we need to figure out what the best cost is, what we can afford to do and how we can maybe work on that together collaboratively between the county, the city and the school," Sankey said. "I can't speak for the City Council — that's going to be a discussion for the

City Council. "I think it is a possibility to somehow work on this as a project if we can come together and figure out what the best numbers are. I just wanted to be here to hear what you had to say today and if we can have an opportunity to work together and how that can benefit us as a community."

Commissioners agreed to put the item on their next agenda to discuss in order to give the council and school district time to determine what option worked best for their budgets.







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1

HEADING BACK TO SCHOOL













PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN

More photos of members of Providence Missionary Baptist Church and community residents enjoying the second annual Back to School Bash at the church on St. Andrew Street on Saturday, July 27. Rev. Gary Clack helped cook hot dogs and hamburgers to keep everyone well fed and GISD trustee Josie Smith-Wright helped make sure everyone was having a good time.

MUSIC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Friday, Oct. 4 is Homecoming Night, during which the hometown Gonzales Apaches will be hosting the district rival Smithville Tigers at Apache Field at 7:30 p.m. in what could set the tone for a possible playoff run by the boys in black and orange.

Downtown, however, the weekend will get started with the Lost Cause Band on stage at 6 p.m., serving up a mix of classic and contemporary hits. The Standing Peppers return to Gonzales for an 8 pm. Set, covering a variety of genres to get people on their feet dancing.

At 10 p.m., after the football game, come downtown to relive the magic of Journey's greatest hits with Eclipse: A Tribute to Journey. This band tours regionally and has even opened for artists like Eddie Money, Foghat, Starship and others. From their opener of "Separate Ways" to their crowd sing along closer of "Don't Stop Believin," you'll be transported on a "journey" back to the golden years of FM radio.

Saturday, Oct. 5, is an all-day jam session.

Saturday, Oct. 5, is an all-day jam session that is packed with amazing performances that will keep you entertained from afternoon until midnight. It all starts off at 12:30 p.m. with Los Gavilanes, known for their vibrant Tejano rhythms, followed by Josh Calvin & The 183 South Band, a local favorite that will be sure to receive some hometown love.

Bill Pekar and The Rainey Brothers perform at 4:30 p.m., with Kin Faux, an up-and-coming artist you don't want to miss, taking the stage at 7 p.m.

The headliners at 8 p.m. are country legends BlackHawk, whose founding members Henry Paul and Dave Robbins have been putting out hit after hit since 1992. Songs like "Goodbye Says It All," "Every Once In a While," "I Sure Can Smell the Rain," "Down in Flames," "I'm Not Strong Enough to Say No," "Like There Ain't No Yesterday" and "There You Have It" all placed high in the Billboard Hot Country Singles & Tracks (now Hot Country Songs).

Closing out the night on Saturday at 11 p.m. will be David Lee Garza y los Musicales, a Tejano superstar in his own right, who has more than 30 albums including the Latin Grammywinning "Just Friends," a collaboration with 10 vocalists. Garza is responsible for helping launch the careers of Ram Herrera, Emilio Navaira, Oscar G., Jay Perez, Marcos Orozco, Mark Ledemsa and Ben Ozuna, among others. He also is known for collaborations with Grammywinning artists like the late Selena, Little Joe y La Familia, Jimmy Gonzales and La Firma as well as country artists like Kevin Fowler and the late Johnny Bush.

Sunday, Oct. 6 is always reserved for the Shiner Hobo Band, so grab your suspenders and your plungers to close out the weekend with a blast.

