

Council discusses special recall election for District 4

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales City Council met for its regularly scheduled meeting to kick off 2025 for the city Thursday, Jan. 16.

One of the hot topics from last Thursday meeting was the discussion to an order special called recall election for district 4.

Councilwoman of District 2, Mariah Jordan voted to discuss more on the petition that was presented in the Nov. 14 meeting about this topic and seconded by Councilman of District 3, Lorenzo Hernandez.

“When this was presented to council, I personally don’t feel like that it is

a valid petition, Now legal has given their opinion. I read the charter over and over. I have consulted with other attorneys; it is not clear enough to me.”

See **GONZALES**, page 14

Filing period begins for municipal, school board elections

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The election filing period has begun for those wishing to serve on city councils and school boards in Gonzales County and to run in the Saturday, May 3, election.

State law allows for a 30-day window of opportunity for interested parties to submit an application to run for council or school board. This year, that period of time begins Wednesday, Jan. 15, and will continue to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14.

In order to run for office, according to Texas Election Code Section 141.01, an individual must be a citizen

See **ELECTION**, page 12

City of Nixon renames property next to City Hall as ‘Central Park’

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

What does Nixon, Texas, now have in common with New York, New York?

Both have a Central Park.

The Nixon City Council voted unanimously Monday, Jan. 13, to rename the area between Nixon City Hall, 302 E. Central Ave., and Family Dollar, 408 E. Central Ave., the City of Nixon Central Park.

This is the first step towards developing the property into a full park featuring four permanent 20x20 pavilions, an accessible concrete bridge crossing to City Hall, paved parking for 15 cars, concrete sidewalks, a stone monument and flag poles, 12 picnic tables, four play sets, eight benches, stone signage, oak trees and

See **PARK**, page 13



SNOW DAY IN GONZALES

Gonzales County experienced a winter wonderland Tuesday, Jan. 21. Residents in Gonzales, Nixon, Smiley and Waelder woke up to the sight of snow for the first time since 2021. For more photos, see page 14.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



EDWARDS ASSOCIATION MLK DAY CELEBRATION



“I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.” – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. For more photos from the event, see page 14.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS BY DAVID TUCY

City Council discusses changing time of meetings

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Smiley City Council met for its regularly scheduled meeting Wednesday, Jan. 15 at the Smiley Municipal Building.

One of the agenda items that was discussed at the meeting was considering changing the time of the regularly scheduled meeting from 4 p.m. to noon.

See **SMILEY**, page 12

Commissioners agree to take down Randle-Rather Building scaffold

Structure will be replaced by safety tunnel until work can be done

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

For now, work by Gonzales County on the outside of the Randle-Rather Building has stopped because of concerns about the building’s historical status and a bigger priority on renovating the Gonzales County Annex on Sarah DeWitt Drive.

As a result, commissioners voted unanimously Monday, Jan. 13, to take down the scaffolding they put up last month, but to erect a temporary structure that would create a tunnel to safely allow people to walk past or into the building in case there is another incident of pieces of exterior

See **SCAFFOLD**, page 13

Chamber gala to be held Feb. 6 at JB Wells

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales Chamber Excellence Gala & Awards Ceremony 2025 will be held Thursday, Feb. 6, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at JB Wells Expo Center, 2301 County Road 197, Gonzales.

To help celebrate the bicentennial of Gonzales’ founding in 1825, this year’s theme is “Legacy of Freedom.” A theme that reflects the rich history and the enduring spirit of Gonzales, “Legacy of Freedom” also celebrates the foundation that should the community’s procurement of current and future prosperity.

The Gala of Excellence Awards Ceremony is a cornerstone event that celebrates

See **CHAMBER**, page 12

SYNERGOS FACILITY GROUNDBREAKING



A ceremonial shovel of dirt is turned to celebrate the groundbreaking for the new Synergos facility that will be built on Stieren Road in Gonzales and bring up to 140 new jobs to the community. Present were ex-pats Tom, Mune and Masa; Jeff Rogers, vice president of expansion for Synergos; Hideki Fujisawa-san, director and primary executive officer of Asahi Kasei Homes; Kensuke Sakai-san, CFO of Asahi Kasei Homes; Mayor Steve Sucher; Fumitoshi Kawabata-san, CEO of Asahi Kasei Homes; County Judge Pat Davis; Ryan Lee, president of the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation; Joey Evans, TNW director of business support & development; Kristi Herbst, chief strategy officer of Synergos; City Manager Tim Crow; and Susan Sankey, GEDC executive director.

LEW K. COHN

Shiner celebrates Catholic Schools Week Jan. 26-31

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Shiner Catholic School will join in the National Celebration of Catholic Schools Week beginning Sunday, January 26th through January 31st.

Catholic Schools Week will commence with Mass on Sunday, January 26th. Coffee and sweet treats will be available for families and friends in attendance after both the 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses. The 9:30 a.m. Mass will be the designated Shiner Catholic School Mass. All are welcome to attend!

A Scholastic Book Fair will be available each day this week. It will be open from 7:30-9:30 a.m., 11:00-12:30 p.m., and 3:00-4:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. On Thursday, the book fair will be open from 7:30-9:30 a.m., 11:00-12:30 p.m., and 3:00-5:30 p.m. We invite parents to bring their students in the mornings before school to visit the book fair and enjoy a warm drink and sweet treat in the school library. All proceeds directly benefit our SCS library!

The Shiner Catholic School PTC is sponsoring a teacher appreciation luncheon for staff on Monday, January 27th. Students in 7th through 12th grades will also participate in Eucharistic Adoration.

On Tuesday, January 29th, students in preK3-8th grade will enjoy Kona Ice treats. The



CONTRIBUTED

Top row (from left): Blaise B., Jhett W., Fallon B., Brinley B., Brynn P., Gemma I., and Emmy B. Bottom row (from left): Carter M., Sam P., Tripp P., Theresa R., J.W. K., and Maddox M.

high school students will enjoy a trip to the movies. The SCS Day of Giving begins at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday and ends at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday. This event allows those who love and appreciate Catholic education to support the school. All monetary donations will go directly to the faculty and

staff in the form of a bonus to thank them for all they do for the school and students. The goal is \$25,000. Thank you in advance for blessing our teachers and staff as they continue to bless us daily! You can drop off a check in the front office or donate online at [https://shinercatholicsschool.org/day-](https://shinercatholicsschool.org/day-of-giving)

of-giving.

A pancake breakfast will be held on Wednesday, January 29th, from 7:00-8:00 a.m. for SCS families in the dining hall. Parents are encouraged to walk their student(s) to class after breakfast. Plates are \$5 for students in preK-4th grade and \$7 for adults and students in

5th grade and above. The funds raised from this event will go directly to the cafeteria fund.

Thursday, January 30th, will be an eventful day, beginning with Mass at 8:10 a.m. and ending with the annual school Talent Show and chicken noodle soup supper. Noodle soup and chicken salad sandwiches will be available in the dining hall from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Soup, sandwich, dessert, and drink can be purchased for \$12, and a quart of soup can be purchased for \$5; To-go items are available in the dining hall during this time as well. The to-go options we will offer are: a quart of soup for \$5, a gallon of soup for \$20, a pint of chicken salad for \$8, and a chicken salad sandwich for \$5.

A drive through option will also be available this year at the Shiner KC Hall from 4:00-5:15 p.m. Only the to-go items will be available at this location. All proceeds from this chicken noodle soup dinner fundraiser will directly benefit our SCS operating budget. Thank you in advance for your support!

The Talent Show will feature performances from preK3 through 12th grade classes starting at 6:00 p.m. in the SCS gym. The theme is Hee Haw and the show will be a wonderful experience to watch!

We kindly welcome you to join our celebrations as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. God Bless You, always!

Breitschopf-Cooper Realty to become Heritage Oak Realty

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

After 52 years in the real estate industry, Breitschopf-Cooper Realty will transition to Heritage Oak Realty, effective Feb. 1, 2025.

Breitschopf-Cooper Realty has deep roots in the community beginning with Shirley's father, Louis Spitzenberger. Shirley began her career with her father who had previously been in the business about 25 years.

Lynnette Cooper partnered with Shirley around 35 years ago and their partnership remains solid to this day. So with an accumulation of about 75 years in the business, Breitschopf-Cooper Realty will merge to Heritage Oak Realty.

Breitschopf-Cooper Realty has strong ties and active participation in the community. Over the years, many things have changed in the business but the commitment to their clients and their community has remained a priority. Clients become like family as many of them have relied on the expertise and knowledge of Breitschopf-Cooper Realty to handle multiple transactions for them. That same commitment

of service and professionalism will follow them to Heritage Oak Realty.

Both Shirley and Lynnette, along with agents Carol Hardcastle, and Sherri Schellenberg will transfer their license to Heritage Oak Realty. Rebekah Morgan, who joined Breitschopf-Cooper Realty in 2017 will take the reins as Broker/Owner of Heritage Oak Realty. Together, these ladies have almost 150 years in the real estate industry.

Shirley and Lynnette have enjoyed their many years in the business and wish to thank their clients for all the support and trust over the years.

At Heritage Oak Realty, we will specialize in a wide range of Texas real estate options, from residential to farm and ranch as well as commercial and investment properties. We look forward to representing you! At the heart of everything we do, our love for people comes first.

Come see us at Heritage Oak Realty which will be temporarily located in the office of Breitschopf-Cooper Realty at 1331 St. Joseph in Gonzales. Here, we will celebrate new beginnings while we embrace our past heritage. Our phone number will remain 830-672-2522.

VETERANS MEMORIAL DONATION



Ellen Johnson made a donation to the Gonzales County Veterans Memorial Association Friday, Jan. 17, in memory of her late father, Fletcher Johnson, who was a major in the Texas National Guard. Pictured are, from left, Bill Kessler, Ellen Johnson, Larry Mercer and Glenda Kessler.

LEW K. COHN



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VFD RECEIVES DONATION



CONTRIBUTED

On December 19, 2024, Gonzales RVOS Lidice Lodge 90 presented \$400 donations to Gonzales Volunteer Fire Department, Belmont Volunteer Fire Department and Ottine Volunteer Fire Department. Pictured are Donnie Grauke, Debbie Pavliska incoming RVOS Secretary/Treasurer, Wade Zella, Georgia Pavliska outgoing RVOS Secretary/Treasurer, Brian Schaurer and Steve Sucher new RVOS president.v Additional \$400 donations were made to the Texas Czech Heritage Cultural Center, and in memory of the RVOS past president Lillie Kocian to the Gonzales County Senior Citizens Association.

Celebrations

Birthdays

January 23rd
Mitchell Friedrich
Kristin Matias
Leslie Petrek
Sherri Schellenberg

January 24th
Shiann Bowers
Amber Cowan
Chris Espinosa
Patricia Govett
Ian McLain
Mary Miller
Brandi Vinklarek
Devin Vinklarek

January 25th
Kathleen Allen
Thomas Castillo

January 26th
Debbie Bickle

January 27th
Emily Eckols
Bubba Ehrig
Steve Faulkner
Regina Mills
Justin Schwausch
Rylan Tieken

January 28th
Bryan Glass
Christina Jahns
Lauren Siegel

January 29th
Carol Staton Payne

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Gonzales Weather




January 23
53°/30°

Cloudy with times of rain
61% chance of rain • RealFeel 46




January 24
55°/31°

Cloudy with steady rain becoming
intermittent
80% chance of rain • RealFeel 49




January 25
59°/37°

Mostly sunny
3% chance of rain • RealFeel 63




January 26
66°/43°

Plenty of sunshine
0% chance of rain • RealFeel 65




January 27
63°/45°

Times of sun and clouds
1% chance of rain • RealFeel 60



January 28
58°/45°

Mostly cloudy; a little morning rain
followed by a shower in spots
in the afternoon
55% chance of rain • RealFeel 61



January 29
63°/41°

Turning cloudy
0% chance of rain • RealFeel 65

Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

January 23rd – South Texas Tour

January 24th-26th – TYRA Benefit

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3

Garden Q&A with CALVIN FINCH



Q. We visited a friend's house in San Antonio and his neighbor had two trees that had beautiful red foliage. They were large trees with a short 3-foot diameter trunk with a large crown. Half the leaves had fallen but the remaining leaves were still attractive. Do you know what kind of trees they might be? It looked like some kind of an oak.

A. Yes, it is probably a Texas red oak. They grow at a fast rate, are drought tolerant, and have colorful leaves. They are a good shade tree for our whole area.

Q. How do you react to the recommendation that we quit feeding the birds to cut down the chance that attracting large numbers of birds to the feeders may contribute to the spread of bird flu?

A. As a devoted bird feeder, I am not going to respond to such a recommendation until we have more data clarifying if the birds at the feeders

pose a threat.

Q. My Porter weed has been a great source of nectar for the pollinators, but I didn't expect the limited cold weather we had to knock off all the leaves. Will the plant refoliate in the spring?

A. No, probably not. Porter weed is a cold sensitive tropical plant that would have to have been sheltered in a heated greenhouse to survive freezing temperatures.

Q. When can we plant tomatoes again?

A. You need to wait until after March 15 to plant tomatoes in the garden, but it works well to "pot up" desirable selections like the "Rodeo Tomatoes" in February to give them a fast start. Plant them in a container fertilized with Osmocote, and then place them in the sun out of the wind until it is warm enough to put them in the garden. Shelter the potted plants in the house if temperatures drop below 40 degrees.



JANUARY GARDENING CALENDAR



February is a good time to plant shade trees. Among the recommended varieties for the San Antonio area are live oak, Texas red oak, Mexican white oak, cedar elm, Mexican sycamore, Montezuma cypress, bur oak, chinquapin oak, and anacua. Plant trees at least 15 feet away from the house. Shade trees have the most impact in reducing air conditioning costs if they are planted on the west or south side of your home. Start the planting process by digging the planting hole and filling it with water to confirm that the soil around the hole is well drained enough to disperse the water within 4 hours. The hole should also be filled with water just before the tree is planted to help it get established.

If your soil is hard to dig up for the planting, consider a smaller transplant tree or rely on some mounding to reduce the depth you need to dig. Smaller transplants often become established more quickly than larger specimens and grow faster so there are more advantages than just not having a more difficult dig experience.

Use the soil you remove from the hole to cover the root ball and then add 4 inches of mulch on top of the root area. Surround the mulch with a ridge that will allow you to pool water in the area. Plan on watering once per week after planting unless it rains for the first growing season. Wait to fertilize until next fall or spring.

Two other important issues are to keep string mowers and other sharp tools away from the trunk to prevent wounds that will slow the tree's growth. It is also important to protect the newly planted tree from damage by deer browsing or

antler rubbing. Use fencing reinforced by posts or square fence pieces far enough away from the tree that the deer can't reach it.

In the vegetable garden it is time to plant potatoes, and you can still plant broccoli transplants if you do it early in the month. English peas, carrots, leaf lettuce, and turnips can also be planted by seed. Keep your greens and other vegetables side-dressed every 4 weeks with 19-05-09 fertilizer and harvest as you can use them. Use the extra onions in the rows for green onions to give an onion every foot the space to reach full size. They will mature in June.

It is too early to plant tomatoes in the garden but if you want a fast start for your plants, you can pot them up in February and transplant them into the garden in late March.

We had some cool weather in January, but the winter annuals fared pretty well. Take advantage of the snapdragons, calendula, sweet peas, and stocks for cut flowers. We could still receive some freezing temps in February so be ready to protect your cyclamen with agricultural fiber. The winter flowers should last until the end of May. If temps are forecast to be under 28 degrees for any length of time you may have to include a heat source within the fabric covers to protect the citrus.

On the lawn consider aerating and applying one half inch of compost to address soil compaction, oxygen access and water efficiency. Either hire the process done by a lawn company or rent an aerator from a big box store. The compost penetrates the aeration holes and has a major positive impact on the lawn.

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK

January 18, 2025

Cattle – 1345

Compared to our last sale: Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold very active to higher. Less quality calves and yearlings sold very active. Packer cows and bulls sold 2.00-3.00 higher. **Stocker-feeder Steers:** Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 400-560; 300-400 lbs., 325-445; 400-500 lbs., 285-425; 500-600 lbs., 265-355; 600-700 lbs., 255-300; 700-800 lbs., 235-271. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 175-215. **Stocker-feeder heifers:** Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 320-415; 300-400 lbs., 285-370; 400-500 lbs., 285-365; 500-600 lbs., 245-315; 600-700 lbs., 245-275. **Packer Cows:** Good lean utility and commercial, 110-121; Cutters, 124-133; Canners, 75-90; High yielding fat cows, 114-124. **Packer Bulls:** Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 138-157; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 126-136. **Stocker Cows:** \$900 to \$3,000. Pairs: \$1,500 to \$3,200.

NIXON LIVESTOCK

January 20, 2025

Cattle – 423

Steers: 200-300 lbs - \$335-400 300-400 lbs - \$342-380 400-500 lbs - \$329-385 500-600 lbs - \$282-335 600-700 lbs - \$257-300 700-800 lbs - \$231-260 **Heifers:** 200-300 lbs - \$317-350 300-400 lbs - \$303-375 400-500 lbs - \$271-355 500-600 lbs - \$249-283 600-700 lbs - \$232-055 700-800 lbs - \$213-245 **Slaughter Cows** - \$86-138

Slaughter Bulls - \$106-145
Stocker Cows - \$1000-1800
Pairs: None

HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.

Sale date: January 14th

Cattle on hand: 1968

Packer Cows: Canner and Cutter Cows: \$115-136 Utility & Fat Cows: \$107-120 Light Weight Canner Cows: \$94-110 Pair/Weak: \$75-92 **Packer Bulls:** Heavyweight Bulls: \$154-167 Utility & Cutter Bulls: \$128-152 Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$115-128 **Stocker Cows:** Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: None Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1350-2300 Good Cow & Calf Pairs: None Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: \$1850-2550 **Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:** Number 1 steer & bull calves: Under 200 lbs.: \$380-530 200-300 lbs.: \$360-490 300-400 lbs.: \$360-430 400-500 lbs.: \$335-470 500-600 lbs.: \$285-385 600-700 lbs.: \$265-315 700-800 lbs.: \$235-275 **Number 1 heifer calves:** Under 200 lbs: \$360-510 200-300 lbs.: \$320-445 300-400 lbs.: \$335-415 400-500 lbs.: \$290-395 500-600 lbs.: \$265-340 600-700 lbs.: \$235-275 700-800 lbs: \$210-245 **Replacement Heifers:** \$310-350 The calf market was once again much higher. Most classes sold \$10 to \$30 higher with instances of \$40 higher. Demand is on fire! Packer cows and bulls sold \$6 to \$8 higher on a supply of

200 head.

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January 15th

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CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET

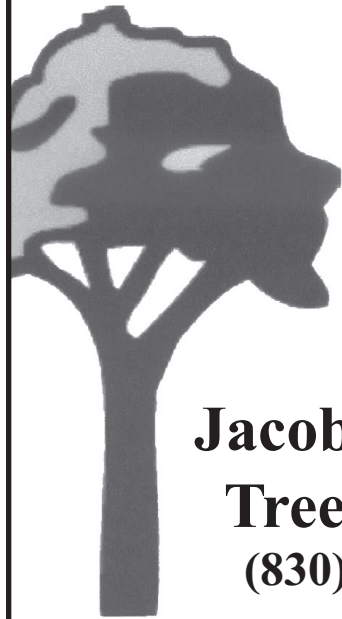
January 17, 2025

Number of Head: 1826 There were 222 cows, 26 bulls and 7 horses sold. The packer

cow and bull market remain in strong demand consistent with last week with bulls \$6/cwt higher. The demand for feeder calves continues to reach new all-time highs each week in the averages/average highs categories. We set another all-time high for Cuero Livestock with the average cost per calf at \$1456.13 with an average weight of 594 lbs. This market is incredible! PLEASE NOTE: Some cattle auctions in the area and across the state are not having a sale this upcoming week due to the severe cold weather. WE WILL HAVE A SALE ON FRIDAY, 1/24/2025 as we get back to normal temperatures. We will host the 40th Annual DeWitt County All Breeds Bull and Female Sale on January 25, 2025. Please see our Facebook page for pictures and videos very soon.

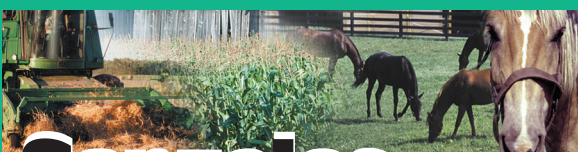
Packer bulls: 130.00-166.00
Packer cows: Canners & Cutters 113.00-146.00 Poor & Weak 65.00-115.00 Palpated: 23 Bred \$1600- \$2300 Pairs: two @ \$2300 **Steer/Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)** 200-250 lbs 408.00-455.00 250-299 lbs 395.00-455.00 300-350 lbs 388.00-450.00 350-400 lbs 372.00-448.00 400-450 lbs 348.00-445.00 445-500 lbs 317.00-405.00 500-550 lbs 300.00-350.00 550-600 lbs 295.00-370.00 600-700 lbs 278.00-324.00 700-800 lbs 246.00-270.00 **Heifer Calves:(AVG-HIGH)** 200-250 lbs 371.00-435.00 250-300 lbs 330.00-430.00 300-350 lbs 335.00-402.00 350-400 lbs 330.00-400.00 400-450 lbs 309.00-405.00 450-500 lbs 288.00-350.00 500-550 lbs 272.00-310.00 550-600 lbs 258.00-316.00 600-700 lbs 234.00-290.00 Over 700 lbs 214.00-235.00

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SPORTS

Gonzales Powerlift Teams compete in Kenedy

STAFF REPORT

Gonzales powerlifting stood tall with some awesome performances Saturday, Jan. 18 in Kenedy, Texas. Team-wise, the Apaches were at the top of the mountain, taking first place in the standings while the Lady Apaches finished second.

The Apaches secured their team championship with individual first place finishes by Omar Borjon (308 weight class), Isaiah Balderas (275 weight class), Gary Lewis III (242 weight class), and Jesus Maldonado (114 weight class). Other medalists included Charles Haufler (2nd place, 308 weight class), Kevin Veliz (5th place, 242 weight class), Pedro Borjon (5th place, 165 weight class), and Martin Cantu (3rd place, 148 weight class). The Gonzales boys outlasted the Kenedy Lions by one point.

On the Lady Apaches side, there were also a lot of gold medals won, with Madison Sampleton, Alize Miller, Jazlin Juarez, and Mariah Mendoza winning their respective weight classes (220, 165, 242, & 105). Teigan Jefferson and Maritza Perez added to the medal count, winning second and third place, both in the 148 weight class.

Lady Apaches Head Coach Saul Hinojosa remarked, “It was a good day. It was great to see the girls challenging themselves. Some had to overcome a little bit of adversity early on, but we finished the day strong. We want to build off of this meet, and move forward into next week in (Geronimo) Navarro.”

Apache Head Coach Keith Cubit



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Gonzales Apaches and Lady Apaches powerlift teams at the Kenedy High School powerlifting meet Saturday, Jan. 18. The Apaches kicked off their powerlifting season winning the Kenedy meet.

said, “We are so proud of each and everyone of our lifters this past weekend. Being our first meet of the year the boys came out and exceeded our expectations by Winning the First Place Trophy as a team. Not only that we took 10 lifters and 8 of the 10 were medalist in their weight class. As long as the team keeps

putting in work good results will follow.”

Overall, it was a strong day for both Apaches and Lady Apaches powerlifting. They hope to keep that momentum going as they prepare for the seventh Annual Navarro Panther Invitational Powerlifting Meet Saturday, January 25th.

OFFICIAL RESULTS

Boys	Girls
Jesus Maldonado-1st (114)	Mariah Mendoza-1st (105)
Martin Cantu-3rd (148)	Teigan Jefferson-2nd (148)
Kevin Garcia-10th (148)	Maritza Perez-3rd (148)
Isaak Ibarra-12th (148)	Sophia Palacios-8th (148)
Pedro Borjon-5th (165)	Rachel Reyes-11th (148)
Gary Lewis III-1st (242)	Alize Miller-1st (165)
Kevin Veliz-5th (242)	Marilyn Ramirez-6th (165)
Isaiah Balderas-1st (275)	Midaya Cantu-7th (165)
Omar Borjon-1st (308)	Madison Sampleton-1st (220)
Charles Haufler-2nd (308)	Jazlin Juarez-1st (242)



VANDY VAN EPPS
Lady Apaches junior Isabella Ikard (15) defends a Calhoun player early this season. The Gonzales Lady Apaches will take on Cuero on the road Friday, Jan. 24.

Lady Apaches beat Memorial at home

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Lady Apaches hosted the San Antonio Memorial Minutewomen Friday, Jan. 17 and conclude the first half of district.

The Lady Apaches beat Memorial to close out the first half of district play with a 2-2 record.

Gonzales can clinch a playoff berth with either wins against San Antonio JFK and Memorial in the second half of district play;

and to finish the season third in district is to season sweep of both San Antonio schools.

The Lady Apaches hit the road Wednesday, Jan. 22 for a game against the La Vernia Lady Bears; the game was scheduled for Tuesday but was pushed back due to winter weather.

The Lady Apaches will take on Cuero Friday, Jan. 24 for their final game against the Lady Gobblers.

The Cuero game tips off at 6:30 p.m.



VANDY VAN EPPS
Lady Apaches senior Kilee Schwausch (5) on the sideline for Gonzales' next offensive possession.



VANDY VAN EPPS
Apaches sophomore forward Brealien Jones (5) defends a La Vernia player Friday, Jan. 10.



Above: Apaches senior center Jermane Upshaw (0) at the free throw line against La Vernia Friday, Jan. 10. Left: Jzyah Melancon (3) and Damion Hunt (2) in the La Vernia game.

PHOTO BY VANDY VAN EPPS



Apaches earn first district victory over JFK

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches traveled to San Antonio Friday, Jan. 17 for a game against the JFK Rockets.

The Apaches earned their first district win of the season with a, 56-44, win over the Rockets and improved 1-2 in district play.

Gonzales will close out the first half of district play at home against the San Antonio Minutemen Friday, Jan. 24.

The Apaches will open up the second half of district on the road against the La Vernia Bears Tuesday, Jan. 28.

The La Vernia game tips off at 6:30 p.m.

The Gonzales Apaches battle the La Vernia Bears in the district opener Friday, Jan. 10.

VANDY VAN EPPS

Nixon-Smiley Powerlift Teams compete in Jourdanton

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Powerlifting teams traveled to Jourdanton Wednesday, Jan. 15 for their second meet of the season.

The Mustangs took home first place in the boys division and the Lady Mustangs finished third place overall in the girls division.

The Mustangs and Lady Mustangs combined for 18 medals and senior Zulema Rodriguez, of the Lady Mustangs, was named Lifter of the Meet.

The Nixon-Smiley Powerlifting teams will hit back on the road Saturday, Feb.1 to Somerset High School for their third meet of the season.

OFFICIAL RESULTS

—MUSTANGS—	—LADY MUSTANGS—
Cesar Vasquez: first place	Olivia Jackson: first place
Jayven Robles: second places	Kendall Hemier: second place
Cash Ramirez: third place	Piper Keen: fourth place
Waylon Croft: third place	Kendra Savole: third place
John Garza: fourth place	Z. Rodriguez: first place
Eric Rodriguez: second place	Frida Casas: second place
Layne Stewart: fourth place	Wendy Rodriguez: third place
Adolfo Vazquez: second place	Kaelynn Mendiola: second place
Jaydin Munoz: third place	Jenna Bustos: fourth place
Garet Gonzales: second place	
Davian Ramos: first place	
Noah Jenks: second place	



The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs and Lady Mustangs teams show off their hardware from the Jourdanton meet Wednesday, Jan. 15. Eighteen Nixon-Smiley powerlifters received a medal in first, second or third place.



Lady Mustangs sophomore guard Grace Gomez (10) dribbles the ball down court for Nixon-Smiley.

Lady Mustangs fall to Lady Pirates at home

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs hosted the Poth Lady Pirates for the kickoff of the second half of district Monday, Jan. 20.

The Lady Mustangs' two game win streak was snapped by Poth in a, 57-19, loss.

Nixon-Smiley dropped to 2-4 of the season.

Poth season sweeps the Lady Mustangs for the 2024-25 basketball season.

The Lady Mustangs will hit the road Friday, Jan. 24 for a game against the Goliad Lady Tigers and will return home for a game against Stockdale Tuesday, Jan. 28.

The Goliad game tips off at 5 p.m. and the Stockdale game tips off at 6:30 p.m.



Lady Mustangs senior Madison Yanes (0) on defense for Nixon-Smiley in the game against Luling.

Mustangs fall to Pirates at home

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs hosted the Poth Pirates at home Monday, Jan. 20 for second to last game of the first half of district.

The game was scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 21 but was moved earlier due to winter weather hitting across Texas.

The Mustangs fell to the Pirates, 58-26, and dropped to 1-3 in

district play.

Nixon-Smiley will hit the road Friday, Jan. 24 for its final road game of the first half of district against the Goliad Tigers.

The Mustangs open up the second half of district against the Stockdale Brahmas Tuesday, Jan. 28 at home.

The Goliad game tips off at 6:15 p.m. The Stockdale game tips off at 8 p.m.



Mustangs senior Ryan Paez (23) with offensive possession of the basketball for Nixon-Smiley.

Gonzales Cheer team ends season as state finalists

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales High School cheer team ended their historic season in the state UIL competition in Fort Worth Friday, Jan. 17.

The Gonzales cheer team finished in the top 20 as state finalists with a 20th finish

overall in 4A Division II.

Gonzales ran into familiar teams during the 2024 football season at the state competition; that includes district teams Lago Vista, Salado and former district rival Cuero.

The Gonzales cheer team will return for Fall 2025.





Ottine Mineral Springs – Gonzales County’s newest wellness resort – is looking for talented individuals to join our staff in the following areas:

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VC EMS Program one of first in state to offer driving simulator



CONTRIBUTED

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College has implemented a state-of-the-art driving simulator to enhance its Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Program, providing students with valuable hands-on experience before entering the field.

Previously, the program's training on the use of emergency vehicles primarily focused on classroom instruction about the rules of the road and emergency vehicle operations. Recognizing that EMTs spend a significant portion of their time driving ambulances, the program sought to

improve its training by adding another hands-on component with the new simulator.

"With the support of the Johnson Foundation, we were able to acquire an EMS Driving Simulator, making Victoria College one of the few programs in the state to offer this advanced training," said Amy Mundy, Executive Director of Advancement and the VC Foundation.

The simulator allows students to practice driving maneuvers in both routine and emergency situations, including evasive steering, in a safe and controlled environment. Students experience realistic sce-

narios, such as encountering unexpected obstacles like pedestrians or cyclists, emphasizing the importance of situational awareness and defensive driving techniques.

"This simulator is a valuable addition to our EMS Program," said Susie Jechow, VC's EMS Program Coordinator/Associate Professor. "It provides our students with crucial real-world experience and better prepares them for the challenges they will face as emergency medical professionals."

For more information on the EMS Program at VC, visit VictoriaCollege.edu/PublicService.

Knibbe appointed to GVTC Board of Directors

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

GVTC Communications is pleased to announce that Chad Knibbe has been appointed to its Board of Directors as the representative for District II. A lifelong resident of the GVTC service area, Mr. Knibbe officially joined the board in December 2024. He will apply his extensive leadership expertise to the Governance and Safety & Security committees, contributing to GVTC's vision of innovation and service excellence.

With more than two decades of leadership in the commercial real estate industry, Chad Knibbe brings a proven track record of strategic vision and growth. As Principal and Co-Owner of Foresite Commercial Real Estate, one of South Texas's largest brokerages, he has been recognized with accolades such as CoStar Power Broker and San Antonio



Knibbe

Business Journal Heavy Hitter. These accomplishments highlight his entrepreneurial spirit and ability to drive progress — qualities that will benefit GVTC's mission of delivering exceptional communication services.

In addition to leading successful brokerage initiatives, Mr. Knibbe has co-founded multiple companies specializing in syndication, development, and property management. His career began by managing a joint venture between Knibbe Ranch and Marriott Corporation, building a foundation of excellence that aligns with GVTC's values.

Chad Knibbe's deep ties to the GVTC community reflect his lifelong commitment to local progress. A resident of Spring Branch, where he lives with his wife and four children, he embodies the values of hard work and commu-

nity service. A Baylor University graduate with a degree in Finance, Mr. Knibbe actively supports the next generation of leaders by mentoring young professionals and engaging with programs at UTSA, Trinity University, and Foresite's CRE Launch.

"I'm truly honored to join the GVTC Board of Directors," said Mr. Knibbe. "GVTC's focus on advancing technology and creating meaningful community impact has made a profound difference in the lives of its members, including my own family. I look forward to contributing to its mission of delivering top-tier communication services and fostering meaningful connections."

GVTC Communications warmly welcomes Chad Knibbe to the Board of Directors. His strategic expertise, entrepreneurial spirit, and deep community roots are a valuable addition as GVTC continues to enhance its services and enrich lives through cutting-edge communication technologies.

SUSPECT SOUGHT



The Gonzales Police Department is seeking public assistance to identify this man, a suspect in a theft at Walmart. If anyone has any information, you are asked to contact Greater Gonzales County Crime Stoppers! You will remain anonymous if you call our tip line! You will also be eligible for a cash reward for his arrest. You can call Crimestoppers at 830-672-8477 or download the P3 app. You can also call the Gonzales Police Department at 830-672-8686.

GISD Board seeks input in search for new superintendent

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales ISD Board of Trustees is asking citizens for input in identifying perceived strengths/challenges of the district, and the skills/characteristics of a new school district superintendent.

Please complete a brief seven question survey. The survey is prepared and collected by an external service provider and will be available for input through Jan. 31, 2025.

To complete the survey, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/>.

Taxpayers affected by Beryl have until Feb. 3 to file

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Internal Revenue Service reminded disaster-area taxpayers who received extensions to file their 2023 returns that, depending upon their location, their returns are due by Feb. 3 or May 1, 2025.

Currently:

- Taxpayers in the entire states of Louisiana and Vermont, all of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands and parts of Arizona, Connecticut, Illinois, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New York, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas and Washington state have until Feb. 3, 2025, to file their 2023 returns.

This includes individuals and businesses in 67 Texas counties, affected by Hurricane Beryl that began on July 5, 2024. Taxpayers in the following counties now have

until Feb. 3, 2025, to file various federal individual and business tax returns and make tax payments: Anderson, Angelina, Aransas, Austin, Bowie, Brazoria, Brazos, Burleson Calhoun, Cameron, Camp, Cass, Chambers, Cherokee, Colorado, Dewitt, Fayette, Fort Bend, Freestone, Galveston, Goliad, Gregg, Grimes, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Hidalgo, Houston, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Kenedy, Kleberg, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Marion, Matagorda, Milam, Montgomery, Morris, Nacogdoches, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Panola, Polk, Refugio, Robertson, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Shelby, Trinity, Tyler, Upshur, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Washington, Webb, Wharton and Willacy.

- Taxpayers in the entire states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North

Carolina and South Carolina, and parts of Alaska, New Mexico, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia will have until May 1, 2025, to file their 2023 returns. For these taxpayers, May 1 will also be the deadline for filing their 2024 returns and paying any tax due.

Eligible taxpayers are individuals and businesses affected by various disasters that occurred during the late spring through the end of 2024. For extension filers, payments on the 2023 tax year returns are not eligible for the additional time because they were originally due last spring before any of these disasters occurred.

The IRS normally provides relief, including postponing various tax filing and payment deadlines, for any area designated by the Federal Emergency Manage-

ment Agency (FEMA). As long as their address of record is in a disaster-area locality, individual and business taxpayers automatically get the extra time, without having to ask for it. The current list of eligible localities is always available on the disaster relief page on IRS.gov.

In addition, the IRS will work with any taxpayer who lives outside the disaster area but whose records necessary to meet a deadline occurring during the postponement period are located in the affected area. Taxpayers qualifying for relief who live outside the disaster area should contact the IRS at 866-562-5227. This also includes workers who assisted with relief activities who are affiliated with a recognized government or philanthropic organization.

Taxpayers who live or have a business in Israel, Gaza or the West Bank, and certain other taxpayers affected by the terrorist attacks in the State of Israel have until Sept. 30, 2025, to file and pay. This includes all 2023 and 2024 returns.

Nixon-Smiley's Camarion Rodriguez named to ATSSB All-State Band

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

On Saturday, Jan. 11, Nixon-Smiley High School student Camarion Rodriguez participated in ATSSB Area South Auditions in Corpus Christi, facing tough competition from the best musicians in South Texas.

The district is excited to announce that Camarion placed first in Alto Saxophone, and has earned a spot among the best musicians in the state of Texas in the ATSSB 3A All-State Band! This is no small achievement, as only about 100 3A students from across the state are selected for this honor. This marks the first time in school history for a band student to be selected for state honors multiple times. Congratulations Camarion!! We are so proud of you!!!

Camarion will be performing at the Texas Music Educators Association Convention on Feb. 15 at the Henry B Gonzalez Convention Center. Admission is free, so come out and support Camarion on his amazing achievement!

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Fehner Firearms is closed on Mondays

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS	
Gonzales County Sheriff's Office	Other Agency Hold – Poss CS PF
12/29/24 – 01/04/25	1/1-B>=1G<4G, Remains in Custody
12/30/24	Total Arrest, Court Commitments, other agency arrest and processing's:
Serpico, Amber Lynn, 26, Conroe:	GCSO 03
Other Agency Hold – Interfere w/public	DPS 05
Duties, Requires \$4,000 Bond; Other	GPD 09
Agency Hold – Theft Prop >\$100<\$750,	WPD 01
Requires \$12,000 Bond; Released	NPD 02
12/31/24	GISD 00
Pabst, Kimberly Faith, 47, San	SMO 00
Antonio: Local Warrant – Assault Causes	Constable 1 00
Bodily Injury Family Member, Requires	Constable 3 00
\$1,500 Bond; Local Warrant – Unlawful	Constable 4 00
Restraint, 1 Bond all Counts; Local	DWCSO 00
Warrant – Interfere w/Emergency Req for	DEA 00
Assistance, 1 Bond all Counts; Released	TPW 00
01/03/25	GCAI 00
Phillips, James Wesley, 28, Marvel:	Rangers 00
	Other 00
	Total 20

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

The deadline to place an ad in the paper is Tuesday by Noon.

ERRORS

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

CALL TODAY

830-672-2861

010 ANNOUNCEMENTS	010 ANNOUNCEMENTS	670 APARTMENTS FOR RENT OR LEASE	670 APARTMENTS FOR RENT OR LEASE	850 HELP WANTED	850 HELP WANTED	950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Nixon-Smiley CISD will hold a public hearing at 7:00 pm, Monday, February 10, 2025, at Nixon-Smiley HS Library
800 N. Rancho Road, Nixon, Texas
to discuss Nixon-Smiley CISD Texas Academic Performance Report

PUBLIC NOTICE

ON JANUARY 14, 2025, THE CITY OF WAELDER CITY COUNCIL PASSED AND APPROVED AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WAELDER, TEXAS ADOPTING EXTENDED HOURS FOR SALE OF BEER AND WINE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY AS A CLASS C MISDEMEANOR AND A FINE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500.00; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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Shiner Catholic School Honor Roll - Second Quarter

(High Honors-All grades 94 and above; Honors-All grades 85 and above)

ST PAUL HIGH SCHOOL

SENIORS

High Honors: Kennedy Dodson, Jessica Fikac, Blaine Humes, Dallyn Pesek, Erica Hunke, Emerson Linn, Petra Koch
Honors: Emily Moeller, Holden Jacobs, Gus Collins, Samantha Moeller, Cody Malinovsky, Avery Pesek, Joseph Peters, Ezekiel Rodriguez, Gage Anders

JUNIORS

High Honors: Karis Barta, Presley Tuch, Kristin Cerny, Jenna Stock
Honors: Riley Mozisek, Nora Koch, Sally Machacek, Annslie Callais, Audrey Thibodeaux, Gracie Malinovsky

SOPHOMORES

High Honors: Gabe Darilek, Tatum Walker, Sloane Kocian, Gabriela Rivas, Jack Ehrig, Faith Brown, Clara Kinney, Addison Matias, Frances Filip
Honors: Kylie Kelso, Eden Rodriguez, Carter Chilek, Michael DeSarro, Jack Leonard, Jacob Arriola, Skylar Mozisek, Addison Putska, Evan Rother, Rylan Jalufka

FRESHMEN

High Honors: Noah Bonorden, Clay Reed Watkins
Honors: Reese Chilek, Lana Lucas, Annie Werner, Jace Matias, Rebecca Brown, Levi Morkovsky, August Dodson, Lexie Ulcak, Celestine Filip

ST LUDMILA ELEMENTARY

EIGHTH GRADE

High Honors: Reese Patek, Ashlin DeSarro, McKinley Jacobs
Honors: Hayden Rother, Eli Barton, Presley Rother, Emori Rodriguez, Annabelle Collins, B. Jane Davis, Ian Kennedy

SEVENTH GRADE

High Honors: Evangeline Chilek, Hannah

Machacek, Jude Boedeker
Honors: Matt Mozisek, Arley Applegate, Ellie Bargmann, Jacey Picha, Emma Sanchez, Gabe Werner

SIXTH GRADE

High Honors: Anna Boedecker, Harper Patek
Honors: Ryan Bays, Maggie Watkins, Matthew DeSarro, Wren Chilek, Paul Filip, Jake Good, Luke Barton

FIFTH GRADE

High Honors: Kylie Schaefer, Brooke Hermann, Ricardo Gonzalez Moncada, Emma Bargmann
Honors: Bowen Davis, Elena Basquez, Jesslyn Garrett, Fallon Foxell, Hank Janacek, Alexis Dodson, Claire Coon, Hudsyn Parker, Wyatt Decker, Wyatt Lake

FOURTH GRADE

High Honors: Andrew Machacek, Alexandra Rivas, Eli Bays, Adella Davis
Honors: Sonney Tuch, Ainsley McCord, Tate Kutzer, Gage Janak, Dario Lekgegaj, Brody Blaschke, Grady Hurt, Evelyn Picha, Hazel Meischen, Clay Wyant, Phinn Ince, Brunes Davis, Keeli Henke, Ezra Rodriguez, Avielle Anderson, J.J. Leal

THIRD GRADE

High Honors: Becka Schaefer, Avery Knesek, Peyton Natho, Claudia Jones, Adaline Appelt, Piper Otto, Baylee Decker, Hallie Matias, Kimber Fehner, Autney Marshall, Chase Brown, Briggs Gindler
Honors: Diego Sanchez, Heidi Mraz, Camlyn Kleypas, Bridgette Woods, Kinley Nollkamper, Teagan Wagner, Luke Nunez, Graham Broussard, Eli Rother, Charlotte Werner, Madison Haynes, Samuel Werner, Kyhlee Garza, Cade Halliburton, Avery Markham

Heritage Quilters learn art of hand quilting

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Shiner Heritage Quilters Debby Novosad and Darcy Curtin demonstrated the art of hand quilting at the Jan. 14 guild meeting. Forty-two members eagerly took part in practicing this traditional method. Margo Henderson handed out the “Block of the Month” information. She reported that the guild won third place in the Yoakum Heritage Annual Christmas Tree Forest exhibit. Quilts for Norma’s House and area nursing homes were collected. The popular “Show and Tell” followed. Hostesses who provided refreshments and door prizes were Debbie Novosad, Annette Meyer, Linda Parr, Karin Filipp, and Darcy Curtin. The Feb. 3 meeting will feature a special “Show and Tell”. To learn about the guild log onto www.shinerheritagequilters.org and be sure to click on “newsletters” to get current information.



CONTRIBUTED
Pictured are Shiner Heritage Quilters Debby Novosad (left) and Darcy Curtin, who demonstrated the art of hand quilting at the Jan. 14 guild meeting.

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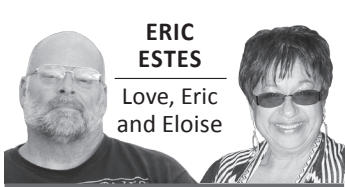
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Somewhere in the middle

Hey there y'all, pray you're doing well. It seems that wherever I go everyone is talking about being sick this year. Stuffy noses and coughs that linger are all the rage this season. Some have even suffered a second round, making it a tough winter for many and also thrown a wrench into the holiday festivities as well. Fortunately, winter is halfway over and the warm breezes of spring are not too far down the road. Yep, it'll be nice to leave nose pud-ding season in the rear view mirror!

Outside of surviving the last bit of our short (and mostly mild) frozen tundra months, things in the Estes household are back to normal. My new kitten is now five months old and growing by the day. She's still a full fledged spaz, but is calming down some and becoming more affectionate by the day. However, I did wake up one morning to find her trying to bury my head in kitty litter, but just took it as a sign that it was probably time to get up and brush my teeth. She still gets wound up and likes to attack, I assume she's just perfecting her instincts and hunting skills. More than glad to help her out, but I do fear the downside, which is... she'll only learn how to hunt old caucasian men. So, if you see a white cat with gray spots with a wild look in her golden eyes...RUN!

Last week I wrote how



barometric pressure, humidity and temperature can affect our physical bodies, but it seems that it doesn't end there. I read an interesting article in Neuroscience News about how indoor temperature can affect cognitive function in older adults. A recent year-long study in adults sixty-five years old and up, revealed that an indoor air temperature of between sixty-eight and seventy-five degrees fahrenheit is the optimal range for reducing attention related difficulties. With a shift of only seven degrees up or down, difficulties can double, wreaking havoc on our well-being. Is it chilly in here? Now wait, what was I saying, let me turn the heat up...oh yeah, that doesn't sound right to me, but maybe there is something to it. I guess it's possible that I've set my thermostat incorrectly, as I'm always keeping my finger pointing straight ahead (like a rifle in a video game) when searching for something, as a reminder that I'm in search mode. It actually does help more often than not. And as an added benefit, it's much easier to find my finger!

The article recommended using today's smart technol-

ogy thermostats, eliminating having to manually set it ourselves. Great, now we have to use AI to remind us that we're not as smart as computers. Seems like we're being dumbed down by our own invention. Yep, just as we were once again patting ourselves on the back for being so highly intelligent, a bunch of silicone and transistors want to prove us wrong, and around the mountain we go. Don't get too carried away there little magic box, we (at least for now) still know how to pull the plug. Maybe the smart thing to do is to bite the bullet, buy a robot, and teach my cat to attack it, at least us old caucasian guys might stand a chance.

Yep, the worlds-a-changin'. God has definitely dropped me on a very interesting area of the timeline. I've been around to see the invention of color TV (technicolor), gone from the Goodyear blimp to drones, from corded telephones to video chatting on handheld computers, from Mighty Mouse to Terminator: Rise of the Machines. At least one thing hasn't changed, as God's remained the same yesterday, today and into whatever the future may hold, and that's something man and technology will never be able to change!

Until next time, love you guys, Eric.

Larry DeLawter family to minister at Emmanuel

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Emmanuel Fellowship is happy to announce Larry DeLawter and Family will be conducting the morning service at Emmanuel on January 26, beginning at 10:30 am. In 1987, Larry began in gospel music when he formed the Dixie Melody Boys quartet, and he has not stopped since then. He has received many rewards from associations connected with gospel music, and is especially well-known for his outstanding skill in playing the harmonica. His wife, Sara, is a significant partner in his ministry, and they are joined by their daughter, Faith. Larry is also well-known for his imitation of Barney Fife, and has been featured in a show at Branson, Missouri, as well as on many TV shows and a few movies. Barney frequently shows up when Larry is ministering, too. Emmanuel is located at 1817 St. Lawrence Street in Gonzales. Services begin at 10:30 a.m., with a fellowship time from 9:45-10:15. Everyone is invited, and there is a nursery for children up to the age of 6 years.

Nixon-Smiley Ministerial Alliance invites all to Hope Gathering

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

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Scheduled performers include Clifton Jansky on Sunday; Pete Bustamante on Monday; Zac Clifton on Tuesday and Glory Road leading Praise and Worship. This is more than an event — it's a time to come together as a community to embrace the love, grace, and hope found in Jesus Christ. No matter where you are in life, you are welcome here. The Nixon-Smiley Ministerial Alliance looks forward to seeing you and sharing this special time together. Let's gather, worship, and grow in hope!

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BAPTIST Clark Baptist Church FM 794, Gonzales	St. James Baptist Church Hwy 80, north of Belmont.	Full Gospel Church 1426 Fisher, Gonzales	Emmanuel Fellowship 1817 St. Lawrence, Gonzales
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Leesville Baptist Church E. of Highway 80 on CR 121	CHURCHES OF GOD Community Church of God 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales	NON-DENOMINATIONAL Agape Ministries 512 St. James, Gonzales Bread of Life Ministries 613 St. Joseph, Gonzales	PRESBYTERIAN Pilgrim Presbyterian Church CR 210 off FM 1116
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OBITUARIES

JERRY VICTOR VARA SR.

Jerry Victor Vara, Sr., 58, of Austin, passed away after his battle with cancer on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, where he was surrounded by his loved ones. He was born here in Gonzales, on May 02, 1966, to Helen Marie Cantu and Jesse Ramos Vara, Jr. Jerry graduated from Gonzales High School in 1985.

Jerry shared 41 wonderful years of marriage with his wife Maria Elena. Together, they raised their family of 5 daughters, 2 sons, 18 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. He was the best father, grandfather and great grandfather; he was always present for their school functions, forever showing his love and support. Jerry looked forward to every family function, anytime he could barbeque, enjoy his quality time and listen to his favorite tunes he was happy to do it.

Barbequing was one of his favorite hobbies, he was also a dedicated Dallas Cowboys and Texas Longhorns fan and attended many of their games. In his younger years, Jerry and Maria attended many rock concerts, they'd watch their favorite heavy metal bands in person, making the best memories they could. He had a large



collection of vinyl records and CDs, and he shared his passion of rock n' roll music with his children. Jerry also saved every ticket to every concert and game he went to, he had a photo album to prove it.

Family trips to Port Aransas and Rockport brought him so much joy, he loved to fish and teach his kids and grandkids to fish. Jerry was also quite the handyman, he fixed many things and he loved helping people; he would drive across town just to fix a doorknob for you. His heart was full of love and faith. He fought valiantly until the end, and his family remembers the physical sacrifice he made to stay as long as he could.

He is survived by his wife Maria Elena Vara, his daughters Jennifer Vara (Trinidad), Jeralyn Vara (Adalid), Monica Vara (David Arriaga), Felicia Rivera, and Diana Vara,

his sons Albert Camarillo and Jerry Vara, Jr. He is also survived by his mother Helen Marie Cantu, his sisters Jeanette Contreras (Fidel), Lisa Vara (Anthony) and Lucinda Vara (Claudio). And his most precious 18 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his father Jesse Ramos Vara, Jr.

A visitation will take place for Jerry Victor Vara, Sr., on Sunday, January 19, 2025, at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home from 5:00pm to 7:00 pm, with a rosary being recited at 7:00pm. A mass of the resurrection will take place on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 10:00am. Interment will follow at St. James Catholic Cemetery.

Pallbearers include Trinidad Escamilla, David Arriaga, Adalid Suarez, Albert Jr. Camarillo, Aiden Camarillo, Tristan Arriaga, Jeremiah Arriaga and Trinidad Jr. Escamilla. Honorary pallbearers include Jiovanni Suarez, Zalanie Arriaga, David Vara and Anthony Alvares, Jr.

Friends and family may leave their condolences online by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com

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

JOSEPHINE LOPEZ CONTRERAS



Josephine Lopez Contreras, age 72, was called home by her Lord Jesus Christ on January 10, 2025, in Freeport, Texas. She was born on October 14, 1952 in Port Lavaca, Texas to Conrad and Virginia Lopez of Victoria, Texas.

She is survived by her beloved husband of 48 years, Florencio (KC) Contreras of Gonzales, Texas now residing in Freeport, Texas. Beloved children: Phillip Contreras of Freeport, Texas, Mark (Christina) Contreras of Houston, Texas; Kevin (Crystal) Contreras of Freeport, Texas; eight grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren including her favorite pups: Charlie, PD, Bella, Tuve. She is also survived by sisters; Isabel (Espiridion) Castillo of Victoria, Texas, Amanda (Frank) Perez of Marion, Texas, and Ginger Lopez Martinez of San Antonio, Texas.

She is preceded in death by parents Conrad and Virginia Lopez of Victoria, Texas and brothers: Antonio and Robert Lopez.

It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye to Josephine "Jo or Josie", whose warmth, kindness, and infectious joy will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew her.

Born and raised in Texas, Josie's adventurous spirit led her on a career path in magazine sales, traveling across the U.S. before settling into a fulfilling position with Southwestern Bell (now AT&T). Her love story with her high school sweetheart, re-kindled years later, was a testament to the enduring power of love. Together, they built a beautiful life in Freeport, Texas, where they shared laughter, love, and dreams with their family.

A proud mother and grandmother, Josie cherished her family above all else. Her sons were her greatest joy, and she dedicated herself to raising them with love and care. She also found immense happiness in her grandchildren and was famously crowned the "UNO Champion" in spirited family games. A

lover of fashion, Josie had an impeccable eye for bargains, and her passion for denim, jewelry, and shoes made shopping an adventure she embraced with enthusiasm. Josie also had a deep love for her dogs, treating them with the same affection she gave her family.

Josie's faith was central to her life, and she was an active, devoted member of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Freeport, where she was baptized in 2008. Her legacy of love, faith, kindness, and laughter, will live on in her family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing her. Josie's radiant smile and warm spirit will be deeply missed, but her memory will endure, forever lighting the lives of those who loved her. Rest in peace, Josie—your love, kindness, and beautiful smile will never be forgotten.

Burial took place at 10 am, Friday, January 17, 2025 at the Angleton Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy maybe sent to the family at www.palmsfuneralhome.com

To order memorial trees or send flowers to the family in memory of Josephine Lopez Contreras, please visit our flower store.



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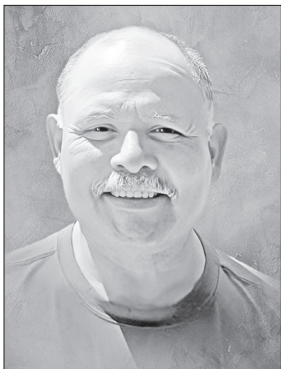
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MAXIMINO LOPEZ MAYORGA



Maximino Lopez Mayorga, 67, of Gonzales passed away Sunday, January 12, 2025. He was born January 8, 1958 in San Luis Potosi, Mexico the son of Odosio and Ciprana Lopez Mayorga. He worked with J Bar B Foods for many years and was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

He was a hardworking man that would give all he had if it meant to help someone. He never turned his back on anyone. He was an amazing friend, always kind and was never known for having altercations with anyone.

He was a very accepting person, he did not care about backgrounds, always accepting anyone no matter what. He loved his horse, ponies, dogs and rabbit. If the animals only knew what a soft spot he had for them. Little did they know they gave him purpose.

Most of all, he treasured his family. He enjoyed his grandchildren, saying that coming home and hearing them laughing was a daily peaceful welcome that he enjoyed very much. He was an amazing father, al-

ways there for his children no matter the situation. If they needed him, he dropped what he was doing even if it was just to make sure they were ok. He had a very calming voice and was a gem to everyone's life.

He is survived by his father Odosio Mayorga of Mexico; daughter Rebecca Guadalupe Villareal and husband Rudy of Gonzales; son Gabriel Anthony Mayorga and wife Gabriella of Gonzales; grandchildren Zaiden Villareal, Gabriel Anthony Mayorga Jr., Adrian Jacob Mayorga, Kaloeb Coey Mayorga, Damian Devvin Mayorga, Daniel Ramos, Ryan Ramos, Mason Dakota Mayorga and Gabriel Anthony "Junees" Mayorga; sisters Locha Chavez,

Sofia Mayorga and Maria Mayorga; brothers Basilio Mayorga, Genaro Mayorga, Tavo Mayorga and Victor Mayorga. Also surviving are numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother, wife Mary Jane Mayorga and brother Nato Mayorga.

Visitation will be held Thursday, January 16, 2025 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home. The Holy Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. The Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated 10 a.m. Friday, January 17, 2025 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Reverend Jason Martini officiating. Interment will follow At the St. James Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers include Eluid Chavez Mayorga, Damian Solis, Cristan Mayorga, Cirilo Moreno, Alejandro Mayorga and Joaquin Roman.

Friends may sign the guestbook and leave condolences by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com

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

NEWBURY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

With a "Rambo" nickname, he'd have been a crowd favorite. In 1970, the team counted greatly on catchers Mike Ryan and Tim McCarver, who sustained broken hands in the same game. Enter young Compton to catch during most of the remaining games. Once, he literally "ripped his britches," quickly donning another pair found in the club house. Turns out, they were Philly star Johnny Callison's pants, a "fun fact" that didn't make the stats.

Mike was in professional baseball for 44 years, but injuries—including 14 surgeries—ended his playing career after nine seasons. With the Phillies for 34 years, he filled numerous off-the-field roles before retiring in 2015. A highlight of the Comptons' lives has been helping dozens of Latino players learn English as a second language, with many of them earning GEDs....

I've known Mike and Jeanie--both campus favorites--since their college years. Mike was catcher for the vaunted Lobo baseballers who played at historic Kokernot Field, as did the Detroit Tigers' Norm Cash, the only other Sul Ross graduate with a career in the majors.

As Sul Ross PR director, I was on the trip when the Lobos toppled nationally-ranked Arizona State University in Tempe in 1964. It was a David and Goliath day!

Unquestionably, this Tampa, FL, couple has "swung for the fences" in life, with many "grand slams." They look forward to their 60th wedding anniversary come September....

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, continues to speak and write. The Idle American, begun in 2003, is one of the longest-running syndicated columns. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Website: www.speakerdoc.com. (For more information about Historic Gloria Dei, call 215-645-2755, preserveoldswedes@gmail.com)

Gonzales Healthcare Systems

January 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	1 Happy New Year!	2 Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	3
6 Austin MFM	7 Dr. Echols Austin MFM	8 Dr. Quebedeaux Austin MFM	9 Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	10 Amy Trost Dr. Miller
13 Austin MFM Dr. Malik Dr. Desai	14 Dr. Echols Austin MFM Dr. Quintero	15 Dr. Quebedeaux Austin MFM Dr. Miller	16 Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols Dr. Malik	17 Dr. Ckodre
20 Austin MFM	21 Dr. Echols Austin MFM	22 Dr. Quebedeaux Austin MFM	23 Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols Dr. Kirchner	24
27 Austin MFM	28 Dr. Echols Austin MFM	29 Dr. Quebedeaux Austin MFM	30 Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols	31

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William Craig, MD
830-672-3845

Dermatology
Alpesh Desai, DO
713-864-2659

Specialty Physician
Outpatient Clinic

Audiology
Amy Trost
Hearing Specialist
830-372-2237

Chiropractic
Jeff Echols, DC
512-799-6811

Dermatology
Vicente Quintero, MD
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Nephrology
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Yong Du, MD
361-576-0011

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**Austin Maternal
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Podiatry
Terri Quebedeaux, DPM, PA
830-303-0005



SMILEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“The reason why this was brought up again was because we’re trying to work with everybody that works for the city as well. Our employees are not salary employees, they are hourly employees. So by speaking to residents and some

of the council members until a decision is resolved, they are comfortable with keeping the meetings for 4 p.m. We’ll leave it and if not, y’all say if you’re wanting to change it then we keep our hourly employees on the clock,” Smiley

Mayor Lisa Benavides said.
The council approved to keep the council meetings at 4 p.m.
The council tabled the agenda item regarding the Fire Station Proposition for the next meeting.

SYNERGOS OFFICIALS VISIT



Gonzales city, county and economic development officials met with representatives from Synergos and TXGN Railway Wednesday, Jan. 15, for a groundbreaking at the 28-acre site where a new structural building material operation will be built off Stieren Road. Honored visitors from Japan included Fumitoshi Kawabata-san, CEO of Asahi Kasei Homes; Kensuke Sakai-san, CFO of Asahi Kasei Homes; Hideki Fujisawa-san, director and primary executive officer of Asahi Kasei Homes; as well as five expatriate visitors who assisted with the visit. Gifts were exchanged with Kawabata-san, including Mayor Steve Sucher gifting him with a Come and Take It pin and County Judge Pat Davis giving him a Come and Take It flag that he will proudly fly at his corporate headquarters as Kawabata-san loves Texas history, especially the Alamo, citing the John Wayne film as one of his all-time favorites.

PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN



CHAMBER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the remarkable achievements of individuals and businesses who contribute to the growth and vitality of the community. This year, the gala will honor the Bicentennial of Gonzales. The gala will feature an array of silent and live auction items, dinner service, live music and an opportunity to socialize with others in attendance. It will also be an opportunity to recognize the recipients of the prestigious David B. Walshak Lifetime Achievement Award and the Community Service Award. The David B. Walshak Lifetime Achievement

Award is presented to a person who has proved worthy of distinction in the community. This Lifetime Achievement Award is appropriately named after a man who gave of himself unselfishly to his family, friends, church, and community. The Community Service Award is an annual award given to an individual, business, or organization for meritorious service in one or more of the categories below:

- Historic Preservation
- Promotion of the Arts
- Education
- Commerce/Industry
- Youth Motivation

• Volunteer Work Gold tables, which are \$650 each, offer premier seating for 10, a logo on the welcome banner and Chamber program, highlight on social media and a shoutout in the “Cannon Blast.” Silver tables, which are \$550, have reserved seating for 10 and come with a highlight on social media and a shoutout in the “Cannon Blast.” The silent auction is a critical component of the evening, serving as a major fundraiser to support the Chamber’s programs and initiatives. You are invited to contribute to this effort

by donating items such as gift certificates, products, services, or experiences. All donations will be prominently acknowledged in the Chamber program and on the Chamber website, showcasing your support for the community. Tickets are available at the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture, located at 304 St. Louis St., Gonzales. For more information about the Chamber banquet, contact the Chamber at 830-672-6532, email chamber@gonzalestexas.com or log onto gonzal-estexas.com.

ELECTIONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the United States; 18 years of age or older on the first day of the term to be filled at election; have not been determined mentally incompetent by a final judgment of a court; have not been finally convicted of a felony from which the person has not been pardoned or otherwise released from the disabilities; have resided continuously in the state for 12 months and in the territory as applicable for six months immediately preceding the deadline for filing an application for a place on the ballot. Candidates also must satisfy any other eligibility requirements prescribed by law for a particular office. The following are the positions up for grabs on the ballot with incumbents listed in parentheses:

GONZALES CITY

The only position on the ballot is that of mayor, which is currently held by Steve Sucher. Candidates must file for office at Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph St., Gonzales.

NIXON CITY

Seats available on the Nixon City Council include those held at-large by Justin LaFleur, Patsy Vigil Scherrer and Pat Dingler. Candidates must file for office at Nixon City Hall, 302 E. Central Ave., Nixon.

SMILEY CITY

Seats available on the Smiley City Council include three at-large seats held by Diane P. Moreno, Lori Price and Dionicio “Daniel” G. Benavidez. Candidates must file for office at Smiley City Hall, 207 Steele St., Smiley.

WAEOLDER CITY

Seats available on the Waelder City Council include at-large seats held by Martha Melchor, Marie Ibarra Almaraz and Rachel Vargas Martinez. Candidates must file for office at Waelder City Hall, 300 Hwy 90 West, Waelder.

GONZALES ISD

Seats available include District 1 (Gloria Torres) and District 2 (Justin Schwausch). Candidates must file for office at Gonzales ISD Administration, 1615 St Louis St., Gonzales.

NIXON-SMILEY CISD

Seats available include Place 1 (Mark Mendez), Place 5 (Lester Warzecha) and Place 7 (Jimmy Newman). Candidates must file for office at Nixon-Smiley CISD Administration, 800 N. Rancho Road, Nixon.

WAEOLDER ISD

Seats available are at-large seats of Troy Sullivan and Avery Williams. Candidates must file for office at Waelder ISD Administration, 201 US Hwy 90 W, Waelder.

The last day to register to vote in the May 3 election is Thursday, April 3. Early voting begins Monday, April 21 and continues through Tuesday, April 29.

Everything got you Puzzled?

We are looking to fill this space for a Sponsor for our Crosswords and Sudoku.
If you would like for your business to be listed here, call Sanya at Gonzales Inquirer at 830-672-2861 or email her at sanya.simmons@gonzalesinquirer.com.

ACROSS

1 San Marcos is seat of this county

5 Confederate general Robert ____

6 TXism: “flat as ____ handle prairie”

7 TXism: “old as ____”

8 TX Perot’s starting naval rank (abbr.)

9 TXism: “have to stand up twice to cast ____” (skinny)

16 Dallas arts area: “____ Ellum”

18 firmness

21 “Dallas ____ Medical Center” for veterans

22 TXism: “frisky ____ unsaddled horse”

23 foot digit

24 TXism: “plain as ____ line on an eye chart”

30 left the coast due to coming hurricane

34 elected Texas county prosecutor (abbr.)

35 where TX Bonnie Parker was born

36 ____while (former)

37 this Doug played for the Astros and managed the Rangers

39 HEB, ExxonMobil, or TI, e.g. (2 wds.)

43 Shaquille ____ went to high school in Texas

44 cracker

45 first state forest: “____ Siecke”

46 Archer ____, TX

47 hanging a rustler?

49 garbage

52 Texas-born “Star Trek” creator, Gene (init.)

53 this Tom wrote “Harper Valley PTA” sung by TX Jeannie C. Riley (init.)

54 Murchison Jr. who founded the Cowboys

55 “what ____ on?”

58 you can rent ____site at a Texas state park

59 “Honest ____” Lincoln

60 empty space in a subdivision: vacant ____

61 a Cowboy or an Astro, e.g.

DOWN

1 TXism: “chuckle-____” (idiot)

2 seat of Brewster County

3 party night: New ____

4 “____ him packing”

9 TXism: “sure ____ shootin’” (certain)

10 this Ernie was the first coach of the Dallas Texans

11 TXism: “____ grip like a snappin’ turtle”

12 Astro or Ranger lumber (2 wds.)

13 “money” in Mexico

14 “good ____ boy”

15 TXism: “have to study up to be a half ____”

17 TXism: “hot enough to buckle ____”

19 Texas capital murder defendant can be sentenced ____

20 annually

24 noted Texas historian ____ Fehrenbach

25 a Texas summer

26 female sheep

27 2023 comedy-drama “Accidental ____”

28 “just sat there like a bump ____ _”

29 a minister in charge of a church

31 in SE Smith County on highway 135

32 the south in the Civil War (abbr.)

33 boot scootin’

38 a believer in God

40 Texas pastor who compiled Scofield Ref. Bible (init.)

41 TXism: “chew ____ awhile” (ponder)

42 TXism: “don’t cross the river til ____ it”

48 former Volkswagen: Karmann ____

50 flashing light on a radar screen

51 trash receptacle

56 head skin

57 Eva of “It Started with a Kiss” with TX Debbie Reynolds

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1725

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

Answers found in next week's Classifieds.



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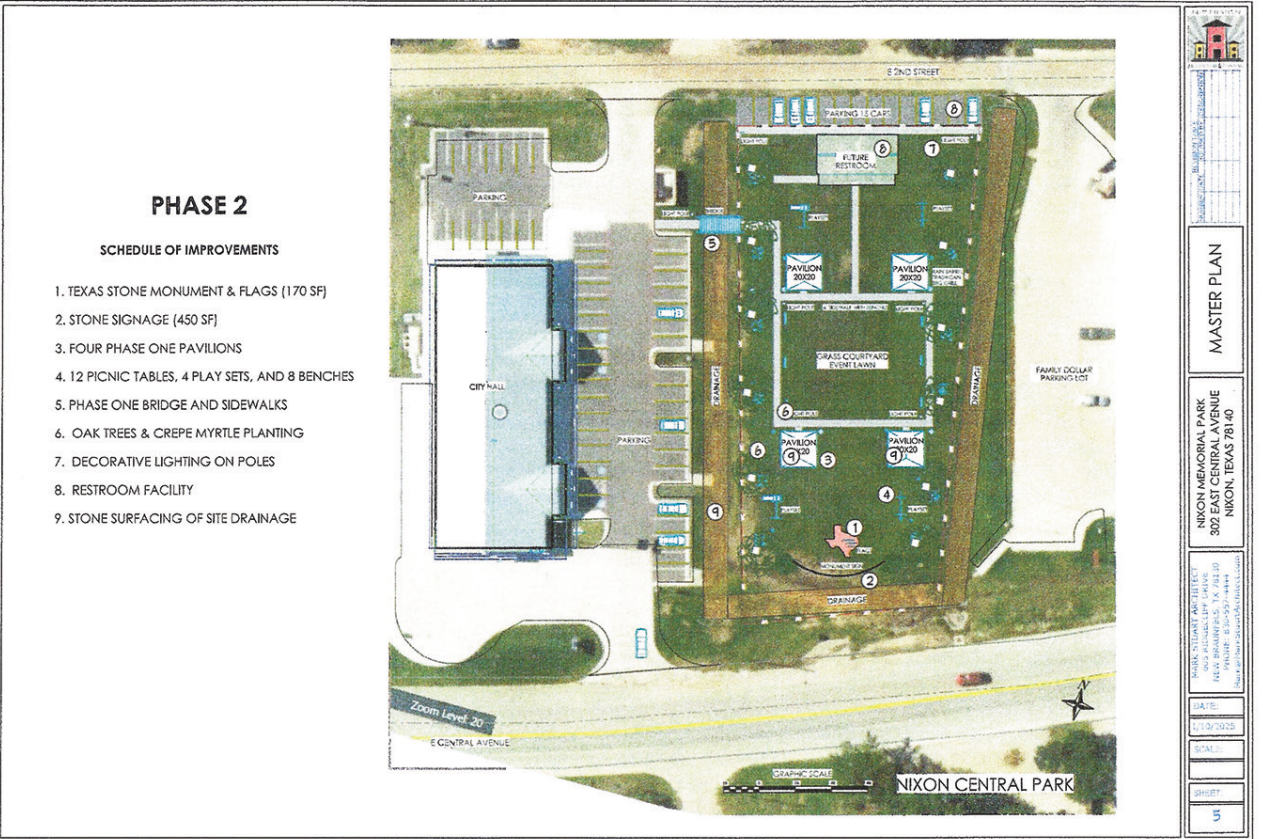
The property has already been used in the past for a number of city events, including Feather Fest, Cinco de Mayo, Miracle on Main and as the site for the official city Christmas tree.

LCRA gives out CDPP grants twice a year to “non-profits such as volunteer fire departments, emergency responders, local governments, schools, libraries, civic groups, museums and other tax-exempt nonprofit organizations. The grants are not available to individuals, for-profit entities, professional associations, social service projects or limited-use facilities.”

Becker presented a series of seven architectural sketches prepared by New Braunfels-based architect Mark Stuart. He said the name “Central Park” has a two-fold meaning: its location on Central Avenue and its central location within the city.

"It's not a guarantee, you know, whenever you apply for it," Becker reminded council. "We hope to apply for it every year and use the grants to help us get this built."

Dominick DeJesus of the Nixon Area Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture praised the project, saying



"We need something for our citizens to have a park or beautification," Hoffman said. "We're pretty hard looking, if you think about it, and this would certainly

At one time, the city had been looking to place a Nixon Memorial Park for veterans on the property and had renamed the property Freddy Aguirre Memorial Park, but later found out that the city did not actually have title to the property at that time. The idea of creating a veterans memorial is still ongoing for the city at a site to be determined.



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The Gonzales County Commissioners Court met for the first time with its newest members on Monday, Jan. 13. The court is now comprised of, from left, County Judge Pat Davis; Precinct 4 Commissioner Collie Boatright; Precinct 2 Commissioner Donnie Brzozowski; Precinct 3 Commissioner Roy Statton; and Precinct 1 Commissioner Tony Matias.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

crumbling and falling from the building's south-facing limestone façade.

"We're paying \$2,800 a month for the scaffolding and I don't know when we'll be able to get into the actual repair (of the building)," County Judge Pat Davis said. "I was thinking that if we did remove the scaffolding, then we could come back in for the amount that we would pay for one month and we could build a tunnel or something that would look a lot better with the building. It would look a lot nicer and that way it wouldn't be so bad until we could actually get to the project."

The judge said he believed the tunnel structure could be something with a flat roof so "that way it could catch anything that might fall off the building."

Davis said the county originally thought the Randle-Rather building's historical status had been invalidated by inside renovations done when the county bought the property. However, research by Tere O'Connell, the architect helping the county with its Courthouse renovation project, revealed the building is still considered by the Texas Historical Commission to have historical status.

"That scaffold looks terrible in front of the building," Davis said. "That walkway is probably going to be there at least a year or a year and a half until we can get to it and at least figure out all this historical stuff."

County maintenance employee Brian Kloesel said it would take about four or five days for the scaffolding company to take down the structure. He said the

county would need to be ready to put up the safety tunnel as soon as the scaffolding comes down.

In other action, commissioners made appointments to a number of boards and commissions for the new year. For Gonzales County Emergency Services District 2, which oversees fire departments in the county, the commissioners reappointed John Everett, Jason Whiddon and Brian Schauer. For ESD 1, which oversees EMS, the commissioners reappointed Linda Carter and Rene de la Garza and appointed Julie Fairchild of Harwood, which marks the first time someone from that area has been named to the board.

For the Gonzales County Historical Commission, the court agreed to appoint everyone who requested to be on the board and later schedule a joint meeting with the commission to see to the appointment of a chairman.

Appointed are Robert L. Wolff, Janell Duderstadt Majorka, Leslie Patteson, Glenda Gordon, Cindy Munson, Megan Thomas, Crystal Whitlatch, Sandra Wolff, Janet Currie, Elyze Davis, Quincy Johnson, Sandra Mauldin and James Kirkwood.

The court also appointed Craig Hines to the board of trustees of the Luling Foundation.

Commissioners received into the minutes the order by Judge William Old and Judge Jessica Crawford appointing Shauna Lehnert as the new County Auditor for the rest of an unexpired term. County Auditor Becky Weston retired at the end of December.

EDWARDS ASSOCIATION MLK DAY CELEBRATION



“Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve.... You only need a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love.” – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS BY DAVID TUCY



SNOW DAY IN GONZALES



Gonzales County residents showcase their love for the snow Tuesday, Jan. 21 with snow angels and snowmen.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



GONZALES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Hernandez said.

Hernandez added he doesn’t accept the letter of recall petition for District 4 as presented.

Jordan agreed with Hernandez and asked City Attorney Megan Santee for legal advice.

“I am more than happy to discuss this in closed session. The legal advice is not only for the council but for the governmental entity to protect it, so if you want to discuss...we still stand by our legal opinion that we provided,” Santee said.

Councilwoman of District 4 Ronda Miller brought her legal representative to discuss the petition that was presented in the November meeting, she said.

Mayor Steve Sucher said the matter before the council is to approve the May election date and not have a public forum on the merits of the case.

Jordan voted to reject the special called election and Henandez second; Miller recused herself from the vote and with the vote tied 2-2.

Sucher suggested to have a special called meeting before the Feb. 14 deadline for the May election to discuss more on this agenda, he said.

The council went into closed session to discuss more, and when they returned into open session no action was made.

The council approved the following agenda items:

- approved Authorizing Gonzales Jr. Main Street in Partnership with Gonzales Main Street, Inc the use of Independence Square, including the parking lot and designated street closures for the 2025 Summer Throwdown Event on May 31, 2025.
- approved authorizing the City Manager to solicit Requests for Qualifications for City Attorney/ Legal Services for the City of Gonzales, Texas



Gonzales Healthcare Systems’ construction project is well underway after an official groundbreaking last fall.

Expansion of our surgical area has taken off, as we’ve started creating a wing off the backside of the hospital next to the current ambulance bay. This expansion is adding 12,000 square feet to our current facility. The space will include three operating rooms with state-of-the-art equipment, including robot capabilities. A dedicated entrance will allow surgical patients to enter and leave easily and as comfortable as possible.

With this expansion, we hope to provide a wider array of surgical services on top of what we currently offer now. Our administration is actively working to recruit new surgical specialists, allowing our residents to receive their care right here in Gonzales. After all, we pride ourselves on providing quality healthcare close to home. This project will allow us to continue to do just that.

We are simultaneously remodeling our inpatient rooms. This remodel will allow for each inpatient room to have it’s own full ensuite bathroom, creating a more comfortable hospital stay. Patient care and satisfaction is our highest priority and these updated patient rooms will help enhance our patient’s overall experience with us.

You’ll see why our care is the best care!

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