

Gonzales teen dies as a result of shooting

Four people were arrested

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A Gonzales family is mourning the loss of a 16-year-old male after he died Tuesday, Feb. 4, from a gunshot wound to the head he suffered

late Saturday night at a local motel. A Facebook post by Ashley Marie Cantu at 3:33 p.m. Tuesday announced the death of her son, Johnny Cantu, who passed away at Ascension Seton Hays Hospital in Kyle. “It is with a broken heart to inform you that our beloved son

unfortunately did not make it, but it with proudness to inform you all that although he has lost this physical battle that not only will his memories live on in our words of stories but he will have the great pleasure of living on physically by helping others to survive many more days through organ dona-

tion,” the post read. We greatly appreciate all the thoughts and prayers, kind gestures and words. Information on funeral arrangements will come at a later date.” Four individuals who were arrested on aggravated assault



See SHOOTING, page 11 Johnny Cantu

Gonzales ISD hires Lyndon Hamilton as new athletic director

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales ISD announced Tuesday, Feb. 4, the hire of Coach Lyndon Hamilton as the new Athletic Director and Head Football Coach for Gonzales High School. Hamilton will oversee the school’s athletic programs, working to enhance student-athlete experiences, promote physical fitness, and ensure the continued success of the Apache sports teams.



Hamilton

responsible for the betterment of all student-athletes under his influence, boys and girls. Coach Hamilton has been a part of numerous district championships and playoff experiences. He’s ready to impact the Gonzales community at every level.

Hamilton compiled a record of 66-26 in eight years at the helm at Reagan, making the playoffs every year and winning three district championships. Prior to serving as head coach, Hamilton was the defensive coordinator for four years under Coach Dave Wetzel before he left for Baylor.

“We are thrilled to welcome Coach Hamilton to our team,” said Amanda Smith, Acting Superintendent. “His enthusiasm, experience, and structure, along with his deep understanding of the importance of athletics in student life, bring us confidence he will continue to elevate our programs and help our athletes achieve their full

See COACH, page 12

HITTING THE TRAIL



The Texas Trail Riders Association rode through Gonzales Monday, Feb. 3, on their way to the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo for the 71st year in a row. Billed as the “granddaddy of the them all,” the Texas Trail Riders Association is the oldest trail ride affiliated with the stock show and is held each year as a way for horseback enthusiasts to enjoy each other’s company as they make their historic way to the rodeo along South Texas’ highways and byways.

PHOTOS BY DAVID LEIST AND COURTNEY WILLIAMS



Gonzales County receives nearly \$2.5M in mitigation funds for water improvements

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Texas Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D., announced the Texas General Land Office (GLO) approved \$107,839,660 in new regional mitigation funds to improve roads, water detention, drainage, and water and wastewater systems in the counties of Aransas, Bastrop, Bee, Caldwell, Calhoun, Gonzales, Lavaca, San Patricio, Walker, and Washington.

The funds will also fund mitigation projects in the cities of Alvin, Anderson, Alice, Bay City, Carmine, Ellinger, Fayetteville, Goliad, Jewett, Karnes City, Kingsville, Lake Jackson, Luling, Marquez, Moulton, Nordheim, Pearsall, and Wharton. The GLO enabled local prioritization through the Regional Mitigation Program, providing critical improvements for communities across multiple regions. “The GLO is committed to building a stronger, more resilient Texas by investing in the infrastructure to protect our communities,” said Commissioner Buckingham. “These GLO mitigation funds represent hope and security for Texans. By prioritizing local needs and cutting through bureaucratic delays, we ensure these projects will directly impact families, businesses, and livelihoods in meaningful ways. Together, we are

paving the way for safer and more prepared communities across the state.”

GONZALES COUNTY WATERLINE IMPROVEMENTS — \$2,459,200

Gonzales County will acquire land, install waterline, valves, pipe, and system connections, repair driveways, and complete associated appurtenances. The Texas General Land Office (GLO) allocated \$1,166,997,000 in Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Regional Mitigation Program to reduce the risks and impacts of future natural disasters. Each Council of Government (COG) with HUD-designated eligible counties developed a

See WATER, page 11

Gonzales County sees modest decrease in unemployment rate

BY BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

Unemployment in Gonzales County increased to 3.3 percent in December 2024, down 0.4 percent from the 3.7 percent recorded for November 2024, with the county continuing to place the third-highest of all seven counties which comprise the Golden Crescent Workforce Development Area, according to state Labor Market Information (LMI) figures released by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

For the entire Golden Crescent Workforce Development Area, the unemployment rate for December 2024 was at 3.4 percent, lower than the state average of 3.7 percent. This represented a total of 3,138 residents in Gonzales, Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson, Lavaca and

See UNEMPLOYMENT, page 12

WPA urges better efforts to preseve groundwater

BY TED BORIACK
Special to the Inquirer

A groundwater rules workshop was held at the Gonzales County Under-ground Water Conservation District (GCUWCD) office Saturday, Jan. 18. The workshop was attended by GCU-WCD board members, landowners, and representatives of the groundwater transporters. Also in attendance was state Rep. Mr. Alan Schoolcraft, who represents District 44, which includes Gonzales and Guadalupe Counties.

The transporters include various wa-ter entities such as San Antonio Water System, Guadalupe-Blanco River Au-thority, Canyon Regional Water Author-ity, Schertz-Seguin Local Government Corporation and Alliance Regional Water Authority. Landowners of family farms and ranches raised concern about the goundwater district rules and the massive pumping and export of ground-water from Gonzales County to outside cities.

The GCUWCD had a groundwa-ter study prepared by a groundwater consultant (Daniel B. Stephens & Associates) to evaluate the impacts of pumping at the amounts granted by GCUWCD permits. The consultant presented the results of the study at the workshop. The results showed ground-water pumping at the amounts already granted by the GCUWCD permits cause the Carrizo Aquifer to go below the “De-sired Future Conditions – DFC.”

The DFC definition is a bit complicat-ed, but in general is used as a limit for allowable reduction of the aquifer, and per Texas Water Code, is supposed to be considered by the groundwater districts for planning and granting of permits. The consultant report states the DFC for the Carrizo-Wilcox aquifer is that 75 percent of the saturated thickness of the outcrop at the end of year 2012 remains in year 2080.

The “outcrop” of an aquifer refers to the area where the geological forma-tion that contains the aquifer is exposed at the earth’s surface, allowing direct access to the groundwater without drill-ing, and where the aquifer has direct contact with rainwater for refill (re-charge) of the aquifer underground.

The GCUWCD has already permitted 97,716 acre-feet/year from the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer, according to the consul-tant’s report. This is a massive amount of water and far in excess of the amount the Texas Water Development Board shows would be necessary to meet the DFC (47,584 acre-feet/year in year 2020; 61,365 acre-feet/year in year 2030) for the Carrizo aquifer.

These amounts are the “Modeled Available Groundwater” (MAG), which is defined by the Texas Water Code as “the amount of water that the execu-tive administrator determines may be produced on an average annual basis to achieve a desired future condition established under Section 36.108.”

The vast majority of the groundwater permits approved by the Groundwater District (over 77 percent) are for export-ing the ground water out of the Ground-water District, with only a small portion (less than 23 percent) for use by our own towns, agriculture and businesses.

Groundwater districts in Texas are required by law (Texas Water Code Section 36.1131(d)) to “...consider the desired future conditions adopted un-der Section 36.108 when issuing permits or developing management plans.” Groundwater permits are managed by the GCUWCD which includes most of Gonzales County and a southeast por-tion of Caldwell County where the two counties meet.

Obviously the GCUWCD has permit-ted far in excess of the MAG values by granting numerous hefty permits to transporters. In addition, another transporter (GBRA) has filed a permit amendment asking for another 9,000 acre-feet/year of Carrizo water in ad-dition to its already permitted 15,000 acre-feet/year.

The GCUWCD is currently revising the groundwater rules that it applies to the permitting of wells and exporting of water. It’s important that our civic lead-ers and landholders get involved and submit their concerns to the GCUWCD about excessive pumping and transport of groundwater outside the district.

It’s time the GCUWCD stopped ap-proving permits for transporters and started protecting our aquifers and our local stakeholders and water rights. The GCUWCD has a monthly board meet-ing every second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the GCUWCD office, the public is encouraged to attend and voice concerns. Let’s not go the way of California by destroying our most pre-cious asset (our water resources), leav-ing our own towns, farms and ranches in distress.

The Water Protection Association (WPA) was established in 2006 by vol-unteer officers and members to protect the groundwater and surface water resources and the rights of the people of Gonzales County. WPA donations can be mailed to PO Box 122, Gonzales TX 78629.

Ted Boriack is a Gonzales County resi-dent and member of the WPA.

Seguin resident claims \$1M scratch ticket prize

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

A Seguin resident claimed a top prize winning ticket worth \$1 million in the Texas Lottery® scratch ticket game Million Dollar Loteria.

The ticket was purchased at Stripes Store 40564H, located at 204 Loop 337, in New Braunfels.

The claimant elected to remain anonymous.

This was the fourth of 10 top prizes worth \$1 million to be claimed in this game. Million Dollar Loteria offers more than \$384 million in total prizes. Over-all odds of winning any prize in the game are one in 3.29, includ-ing break-even prizes.

Gonzales Primary named H-E-B Excellence in Education finalist

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

H-E-B has announced five early childhood facilities — including one in Gonzales — five public school boards, and eight school districts throughout Texas as finalists in the 2025 H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards pro-gram.

This year, H-E-B will award \$90,000 to the 18 finalists (\$5,000 each). All finalists will go on to compete for even greater prizes at the statewide level in May. To determine the winners, a panel of judges will tour each finalist’s campus to engage with administra-tion, staff, parents, and community members. Winners will be announced at the H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards ceremony on Sunday, May 4 at the Hilton Austin.

If selected, one early childhood facility will receive \$25,000; one or more school boards will receive up to \$25,000; one large school district will receive \$100,000; and one small school district will receive \$50,000.

Additionally, 50 Texas teacher, counselor, and principal finalists will be announced between January and March during a series of surprise visits to schools and classrooms across the state.

The 2025 early childhood facility, school board, and school district final-ists are:

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FACILITIES

- Calvin Vincent Early Childhood Center (Texas City ISD, Texas City)
- Dr. Sarah K. Jandrucko Early Learners Academy (Mansfield ISD,

- Arlington)
- Early Childhood Development Center (Corpus Christi ISD, Corpus Christi)
- Gonzales Primary Academy (Gon-zales ISD, Gonzales)
- Wylie Early Childhood Center (Wylie ISD, Abilene)

SCHOOL BOARDS

- Clear Creek ISD
- Gregory-Portland ISD
- Lamar CISD
- New Braunfels ISD
- Plano ISD

LARGE SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- Mansfield ISD
- Midlothian ISD
- Prosper ISD
- Spring Branch ISD
- Tomball ISD

SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- Lubbock-Cooper ISD
- Medina Valley ISD
- Montgomery ISD

CALL FOR 2026 H-E-B EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the 2026 H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards are now open to all state-certified public school professionals currently work-ing in Texas. Teachers, counselors, principals, early childhood centers, school boards, and districts can win cash prizes for their outstanding work. Nominations will close on September 28, 2025. Nominate your favorite Texas educator at heblovesteachers.com/ nominate.

GCRPC seeking volunteer ombudsmen

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission’s Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is seek-ing volunteers in Calhoun, Dewitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Jackson, Lavaca, and Victoria counties to serve as advocates for residents living in long-term care facilities such as nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Advocates provide empower-

ment for residents in long-term care facilities throughout the Golden Crescent region. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and complete a free, 36-hour training course that includes classroom, self-study, and in-facility training. No prior experi-ence is required. Hours are flexible and determined by each volunteer. Registration is required.

Ombudsmen duties include:

- Visiting residents.

- identify and investigate com-plaints; and
- educate residents, families, and facility staff on protecting the health, safety, welfare, and rights of individuals living in long-term care.

Ombudsman services are free and confidential. Please contact Christina Guajardo, Managing Local Ombudsman, at 361-578-1587, ext. 217, 361-920-1400 or email christi-nag@gcrpc.org.

Hail damage to your home or car? What to do next.

File an insurance claim as soon as you can if hail or strong winds damaged your home or car.

For insurance company phone numbers, find your company online or call the Texas Department of Insurance at 800-252-3439.

If you have wind and hail coverage on your home policy or comprehensive coverage on your auto policy, your insurance company should pay for your hail damage.

- 1. Claim tips**
 - **Take pictures and video of the damage.** Also, make a list of the damage inside and outside your house or car. Don't throw any damaged items away until your insurance company tells you.
 - **Prevent more damage.** Remove standing water. Cover broken windows and holes to keep rain out. Save all receipts. Your policy may pay for temporary repairs.
 - **Be available for the adjuster visit.** You can make sure they see everything.
 - **Keep a list of everyone you talk to at your insurance company.** Be ready to answer questions about the damage.
 - **Ask about living expenses.** If you can't stay in your house after a storm, most policies will cover some related costs. Keep your receipts.
- 2. Avoid fraud**
 - **Get more than one bid or repair estimate.** That will help you decide which offers are too high or too good to be true.
 - **Check references and phone numbers.** Call the Better Business Bureau to see if a contractor or body shop has complaints.
 - **Don't pay in full up front.** And don't make your final payment until work is done.
 - **Avoid contractors who offer to waive your deductible.** It's illegal to waive a homeowners deductible under state law. Your insurance company may ask for proof that you paid your deductible.
 - **Never sign a contract that has blank spaces.**

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FARM&RANCH / ANNUITIES / MEDSUP



Celebrations

Birthdays

February 6th
Mike Darilek
David Floyd
John Klapuch
Mary Jane Leal
Mary Sampleton

February 10th
Jacob Absher
Janet Jacobs Absher
Whitney Haynes
Kamren Leal
Athena Malatek

February 7th
Kinsley Aldaco
Wendy Logan Hileman

February 8th
Adolph Gonzales
James Molnoskey

February 9th
Jordan Buckley
Lori DuPree
Robert Valenta
Dee Zavadi

February 11th
Randy Berger
Alfred Brown
Christian Henderson
Tony Joel Martinez
Ashley Spring
Heather Stampert

February 12th
Joel Johnson
David Kuntschik
Zack Miles
Bobby O'Neal
Zoe Purcell

Anniversary
February 10th
Tommy & Pat Schurig

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Gonzales Weather

**February 6**
82°/62°
SHOWERS


A little rain in the morning; otherwise, clouds giving way to some sun and remaining very warm
55% chance of rain • RealFeel 84

**February 7**
71°/46°
SHOWERS


A morning shower in spots; otherwise, not as warm with partial sunshine
40% chance of rain • RealFeel 71

**February 8**
57°/41°
SHOWERS


A morning shower in spots; otherwise, cooler with clouds and breaks of sun
40% chance of rain • RealFeel 57

**February 9**
55°/42°
LOW CLOUDS


Low clouds with a couple of showers in the afternoon
57% chance of rain • RealFeel 49

**February 10**
56°/49°
LOW CLOUDS

Low clouds with a passing shower in the afternoon
55% chance of rain • RealFeel 53

**February 11**
63°/54°
CLOUDY

A passing shower; otherwise, rather cloudy and warmer
57% chance of rain • RealFeel 66

**February 12**
70°/54°
MOSTLY CLOUDY

Mostly cloudy
3% chance of rain • RealFeel 68

Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

February 7th – 9th
Region 6 Rodeo

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GREEN CLOVER 4-H CLUB



The Green Clover 4-H Club met for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025. Everyone was happy to see each other and ready to kick off the new year. They welcomed their guest speaker Mr. Vince Ortiz, Victoria College Gonzales Center manager. Ortiz spoke to the club about all the programs and opportunities that the local center has to offer. The Green Clover 4-H Club meets every second Tuesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. at the Memorial Heights Baptist Fellowship Hall. They hope your new year is off to a great start!

CONTRIBUTED

Garden Q&A

with
CALVIN FINCH



Q. I did not cover my cyclamen or primula before the last freeze. The primula blooms and foliage still look good, but all the cyclamen blooms were frozen back. The leaves on the cyclamen look good though, does that mean they will re establish blooms like the snapdragons do?

A. Unfortunately no. If the existing flowers and the flower buds under the leaves were frozen, the cyclamen will not reestablish a bloom this winter. Check under the leaves to see if the buds survived. Another option is to move some of the plants inside where the plants will have enough time and moderate conditions to reestablish blooms for next winter.

Q. I planted my potatoes on February 1 as advised but I forgot to let them dry a few days before I planted the cut pieces! Will they rot? Should I pull them out of the ground for a while?

A. It is not necessary. The short drying is recommended but most gardeners, including quite often me, don't do it and the potatoes still grow and produce successfully.

Q. We listen to your radio show and wonder about the free Butterfly and Milkweed Classes that are scheduled in San Antonio and New Braunfels. Are they open to those of us in this area? If so, how would we reserve one of the seats? Could we also receive the seeded Milkweed plants?

A. The classes are scheduled in March and April and, yes, you are welcome to attend. Obtain the specific locations and dates by visiting the Milberger's nursery website or send me a text message requesting the information at 210 382 4455. Attendees that receive the milkweed plants must agree to monitor germination, growth rate, transplant success, and butterfly use.

Q What are the fastest growing high quality shade trees in our area?

A. The speed of the species' growth depends on its genetics but also the quality of the soil in the planting area and the availability of water over the long term. I think generally the fastest growing species would be Mexican sycamore, Texas red oak, and Montezuma cypress.

SBA relief still available from spring 2024 storms

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is reminding private non-profit (PNP) organizations in Texas of the Feb. 24, 2025 deadline to apply for low interest federal disaster loans to offset economic losses caused by severe storms, straight line winds, tornadoes and flooding that occurred April 26-June 5, 2024.

The disaster declaration covers the counties

of Anderson, Austin, Bailey, Baylor, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Bowie, Brown, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cass, Cherokee, Clay, Cochran, Coke, Coleman, Concho, Cooke, Coryell, Dallas, Delta, Eastland, Falls, Fannin, Freestone, Gonzales, Grimes, Hamilton, Hardin, Harris, Hays, Henderson, Hockley, Hopkins, Houston, Jasper, Kaufman, Lamar, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Limestone, Lynn, Madison, McCulloch, Milam, Mills, Montgomery,

Morris, Nacogdoches, Navarro, Newton, Panola, Polk, Rains, Red River, Robertson, Rockwall, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, San Saba, Shelby, Smith, Sterling, Terrell, Titus, Trinity, Tyler, Van Zandt, Walker, Waller and Washington.

Under the declaration, SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to PNPs that provide non-critical services of a governmental nature and suffered financial losses directly related to the disaster.

EIDLs are available for working capital needs caused by the disaster, even if the PNP did not suffer physical damage. The loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll,

accounts payable, and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster not occurred.

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with interest rates as low as 3.25%, with terms up to 30 years. Interest does not accrue, and payments are not due until 12 months from the date of the first loan disbursement.

For more information or to apply online visit [SBA.gov/disaster](https://www.sba.gov/disaster). Applicants may also call (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for information. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

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GONZALES LIVESTOCK

NO RESULTS AS OF PRESS TIME

NIXON LIVESTOCK

February 3, 2025

Cattle – 1134

Steers:

200-300 lbs - \$396-530

300-400 lbs - \$388-475

400-500 lbs - \$339-450

500-600 lbs - \$292-370

600-700 lbs - \$274-313

700-800 lbs - \$243-285

Heifers:

200-300 lbs - \$352-480

300-400 lbs - \$339-455

400-500 lbs - \$300-430

500-600 lbs - \$271-335

600-700 lbs - \$239-283

700-800 lbs - \$227-253

Slaughter Cows - \$95-142

Slaughter Bulls - \$100-163

Stocker Cows – \$1800-2200

Pairs: \$1950-2950

HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK

COMMISSION CO., INC.

Sale date: January 28th, 2025

Cattle on hand: 1251

Packer Cows:

High Dressing: \$118-138

Medium Dressing: \$110-122

Low Dressing: \$98-110

Poor/Weak Cows: \$75-97

Packer Bulls:

High Dressing Bulls: \$157-173

Medium Dressing Bulls: \$134-158

Low Dressing Bulls: \$120-135

Stocker Cows:

Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers:

NONE

Medium Stocker Cows &

Heifers: \$1350-1800

Good Cow & Calf Pairs: NONE

Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: 3 Pair

\$2200-2500

Stocker & Feeder Calves &

Yearlings:

Number 1 steer & bull calves:

Under 200 lbs.: \$390-510

200-300 lbs.: \$370-480

300-400 lbs.: \$380-470

400-500 lbs.: \$340-450

500-600 lbs.: \$290-385

600-700 lbs.: \$265-315

700-800 lbs.: \$245-270

Number 1 heifer calves:

Under 200 lbs: \$370-490

200-300 lbs.: \$330-440

300-400 lbs.: \$340-415

400-500 lbs.: \$290-395

500-600 lbs.: \$265-310

600-700 lbs.: \$235-272

700-800 lbs: \$210-245

Replacement Heifers:

350-700 lbs.: NONE

The calf market continued stronger again. Heavy weights sold

steady/strong. Light weights

sold \$10-\$20 higher. Grazing

demand is strongest in history.

Packer cows and bulls sold \$3

to \$5 higher on a supply of 125

head.

SEGUIN CATTLE CO.

January 29th, 2025

Quality deep again this week.

Stocker cattle another \$70.00

better. Packer cows & bulls

\$5.00 better..

Cattle – 506

Sheep & goats – 776

Medium & large frame #1

Steers:

200-300 lb. 3.00-3.78-4.50

300-400 lb. 1.60-3.82-4.75

400-500 lb. 1.50- 3.38-4.50

500-600 lb. 1.28-3.11-3.70

600-700 lb. 1.16-2.47-3.20

700-850 lb. 1.45-2.10-2.58

Medium & large frame #1

Heifers:

200-300 lb. 3.00-3.68-4.00

300-400 lb. 1.90-3.31-4.55

400-500 lb. 1.05-2.98-3.45

500-600 lb. 1.20-2.55-3.08

600-750 lb. 1.60-2.34-2.68

Cows:

Utility & commercial – .40-1.15-

1.30

Cutters – .76-.92-1.13

Canners – .84-.95-1.04

Palpated cows – 700-2500

Cow/Calf Pairs – None

Bulls:

Heavy High Yielding – 1.40-1.67

Light & Low Yielding –1.07-1.39

Sheep & Goats:

Nannies – 65-210

Kid Goats (Fat) – 2.40-3.20

Wethers -1.50-2.95

Billies – 1.35-2.10

Dorp. Ewes - 50-120

Dorp. Lambs (Fat) – 2.10-3.15

Woolled Ewes –None

Woolled Bucks – 1.05-1.50

Lambs – 1.15-1.80

Barb. Bucks – 250-500

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET

January 31, 2025

Number of Head: 728

There were 153 cows and 20

bulls. Packer bull prices sold

steady, and cows were \$5-7/cwt

higher from last week. The calf

market continues to break aver-

age record highs each week

with some averages \$5 to \$25/

cwt higher. This market contin-

ues to be unbelievable! We

appreciate our sellers and buy-

ers, and if we can help in any

way, give us a call. Thank you!

Packer bulls: 135.00-173.00

Packer cows:

Canners & Cutters 126.00-144.00

Poor & Weak 60.00-125.00

Palpated: 37 Bred \$1350- \$2600

Pairs: 22 pr \$1800-\$3000

Steer/Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

200-250 lbs 482.00-520.00

250-299 lbs 452.00-490.00

300-350 lbs 406.00-485.00

350-400 lbs 403.00-465.00

400-450 lbs 383.00-465.00

450-500 lbs 349.00-424.00

500-550 lbs 321.00-400.00

550-600 lbs 300.00-335.00

600-700 lbs 275.00-314.00

700-800 lbs 263.00-290.00

Over 800 lbs 225.00-250.00

Heifer Calves:(AVG-HIGH)

200-250 lbs 375.00-450.00

250-300 lbs 392.00-442.00

300-350 lbs 351.00-428.00

350-400 lbs 337.00-400.00

400-450 lbs 332.00-406.00

450-500 lbs 306.00-336.00

500-550 lbs 295.00-335.00

550-600 lbs 278.00-320.00

600-700 lbs 256.00-310.00

Over 700 lbs 223.00-250.00

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And That Was Then

Texas history could have been different without Sam Houston’s presence

BY BOB BUCHARD
Special to the Inquirer

Fate sometimes intersects the path of history, and the results may be dramatic and profound. Such was the case of the career of General Sam Houston. He was sent to Gonzales in March 1836 to take command of the Texas Army. He had been recently elected to the position of Commander-in-Chief of the Texas Army by the Constitutional Convention meeting at Washington on the Brazos. Houston and other elected delegates had, on March 2, 1836, adopted and signed the Texas Declaration of Independence stating the reasons for separation from the Republic of Mexico. But, curiously enough, Sam Houston almost was not even present as a delegate to the convention.

Here are some of the details of the story. As the Texans grew restless under the controls of the Republic of Mexico, the call went out for a convention to be held on March 1, 1836, at Washington-on-the Brazos to consider the possibility of declaring independence from the Republic of Mexico.

All the established communities in the state, except San Antonio, sent elected delegates to the Convention. Gonzales elected and sent two delegates, Matthew Caldwell and John Fisher. Caldwell is buried here in Gonzales in the City Cemetery. Fisher went back to Virginia after the Texas Revolution, and is buried there.

At the time delegates were being elected, Houston’s home town was Nacogdoches in east Texas. He was not very popular at the time, having a reputation for liking strong drink, fast horses, and women with similar characteristics. He was soundly defeated as a delegate from his home town, receiving less than 10 percent of the votes.

Houston was told that he might be elected as a delegate to the convention from Refugio, which was not heavily populated. Sam Houston went to Refugio and was in fact elected as a delegate from that community.

It is also interesting to note that the Texas Army, in which Houston served as an officer, could also elect and send delegates to the Convention. The Texas Army also rejected Houston as a delegate, and sent other parties to the convention.

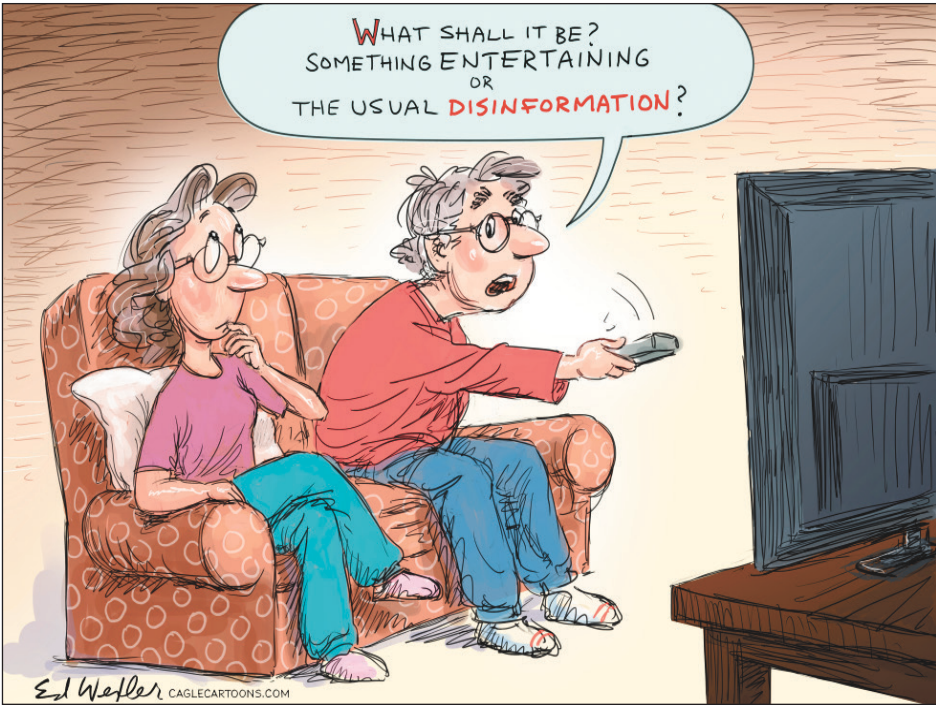
So, here is Sam Houston, spurned by first the people in his home town, those who knew him best, and second by those with whom he served in the Texas Army. He came to the convention through the back door, if you will, elected as a delegate by the thinly populated town of Refugio, by people who did not know him at all.

Were it not for the quirk of fate, Sam Houston’s career, and the history of Gonzales and Texas, might have been significantly different from the story we now know. Not only was he the victorious general at San Jacinto, but he was elected as the first President of the Republic of Texas; elected to the Congress of the Republic, elected again as President of the Republic; elected as a United States senator after Texas became a state — and was also elected as governor of the State of Texas. Not a bad list of accomplishments for a man who barely made it to the Constitutional Convention.

General Sam Houston arrived in Gonzales on March 11, 1836, to take charge of the Texas Army. On that same day, word came to Gonzales of the fall of the Alamo, and that all were killed. Sam Houston saw firsthand the cost of freedom. He saw the shock of the town, the pain of the women; he heard the shrieks of the widows, the screams of the children.

Yes, he saw vividly what freedom costs. The sacrifices freedom demands. But he also saw the courage of the people — the determination of the soldiers — that this was not the end, but rather a continuation of the fight for freedom that began here in Gonzales when the first shot of the Texas Revolution was fired just a few months earlier.

So, Sam Houston, rejected as a delegate by both his home town and the army, elected to the convention



GONZALES CO. HISTORY		
1836 — February 23, siege of the Alamo began	1887 — February 5, the new jail (Block 25) 414 St. Lawrence Street, was completed and approved by the commissioners court at a total cost of \$21,660.20.	
1840 — February 5, by act of the Republic of Texas a new Charter was issued to Victoria, Gonzales and Goliad in lieu of the San Antonio Charter, under which they had previously been chartered.	1901 — February 20, Oscar Schleyer, owner of Schleyer’s saloon, was killed in the saloon in a gun fight with Jim Robert Tinsley, Sr. Schleyer was the only witness to the gunfight in 1899.	
1876 — February, Telegraph office opened by John Olre, telegraph operator, who sent the first message from Gonzales on February 19.	1915 — February 3, Gonzales will have a “jitney” (taxi) service at a nickel or dime for a ride.	
1883 — February 10, Saturday, reportedly the weather had been unusually warm and sultry for several days. On Saturday morning at 7 a.m. the temperature was 72 degrees. At 10 a.m. a norther struck and by noon there was ice! At sundown the temperature was twenty degrees.	-February 13, Michelson Brothers purchased the Gonzales Bottling Works previously owned by Emil Schleyer.	
See HISTORY, page 9		

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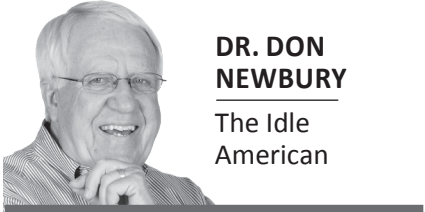
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DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

A hat that stays put...

My aged Uncle Mort admitted the other day that he feels like it’s time for him to re-enter the stock market, and this time, “brimming with confidence.”

He swore off trying to out-guess the market in the late 1990s.

Mort said he lumped all of his investments into “sweet chariot stocks.” I’d never heard of such, but his next sentence clarified: “When I bought ‘em, they swung low,” he cackled....

He feels certain that wide-brimmed hats for ladies are going to make a comeback after several decades in storage, with owners hoping to live long enough to see them make a comeback.

Many after-the-fact comments about the recent presidential inauguration concern Melania Trump’s hat, nearly as big as a covered wagon wheel and ample space to carve a turkey.

“Lots of women are on shopping sprees right now, trying to find hats like hers,” Mort said. “And they’re not finding available at the Dollar Store...”

It appears to me that her hat provided a personal “border wall,” allowing “cheek pecks” to reach within two inches of intended targets. I’m not sure how she’d make it flying coach on today’s airliners. (Duh, she wouldn’t be flying coach.) I guess she could take a middle seat, then buy seats on each side so she could leave her hat on.

The subject reminds me of my ingenious uncle who, as a lad, was usher at the local movie house. This was in the 1920s, before “talkies.” All they had were jumpy figures with captions.

He said the manager staged a contest among the ushers to see how the problem of women wearing huge hats could somehow be persuaded to remove them so folks behind them could see the screen....

Mort was creative even then. He made a printed sign and placed it at the entrance.

It read: “Ladies over age 40 need not remove their hats.” Problem solved; Mort won the contest....

Meanwhile, President 47 took time from signing executive orders to decree that the Gulf of Mexico will henceforth be named “Gulf of America.”

Such may have occurred to other folks, but I’ve never heard it mentioned. The decree begs numerous questions. First of all, who named it, and when? How much of the gulf is owned by the USofA? Finally, is it really a gulf?

Cursory research reveals that the gulf had no name until the 1540s, when most maps and documents referred to it as the “Golfo de Nueva Espanol,” from Greek mythology and its Sea of Atlas....

People who know far more than I about such say that it is not really a gulf, but more nearly a sea, in many cases larger than bodies of water that are called oceans and seas.

I dunno, but Mort might want to consider investing in map-making and/or t-shirt lettering.

Presses already are rolling.... “Loyalty” was a word frequently heard during the recent inauguration, and likely in all the ones before it. It’s a trait to be valued, but few have seen evidence “up close” to match Dr. Charles

Wade’s recollection. He was pastor of Arlington First Baptist Church for 23 years until 1999, when he became Executive Director of the Baptist General Convention.

In Arlington, he succeeded Dr. Henard E. East, on staff there for 53 years. Someone asked him about loyalty to Dr. Wade.

“Let me put it this way,” he said. “If Dr. Wade decides to paint the steeple pink, I’ll climb up there with him and hold the bucket...”

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.



Emmanuel Christian School Announces Honor Roll Students

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Emmanuel Christian School is pleased to announce the following students have qualified for honor roll status this quarter. The all A honor roll students are Jaxon Beck and Lauren Maulding. Students on the A and B honor roll are Kenzie Stamps and Eli Stern. Our school staff acknowledges the hard work and effort of these students and commends them for their achievement.

PoetKen Jones to celebrate Beatles anniversary

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Come celebrate the 61st anniversary of the Beatles coming to America with a special piano performance by PoetKen Jones at San Antonio Distillery, 715 St. Paul, Gonzales, Texas, Friday, Feb. 7: 2025 at 7 p.m. Hear again the immortal tunes of John, Paul, George, and Ringo while enjoying some Immortal 32 Rum distilled on premises, and dining on fine homemade Mexican cuisine. For more information contact Rosy: 820-263-1221.

Sam Houston State University announces Fall 2024 Dean’s List

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The students listed on the Dean’s List of Academic Honors at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, are undergraduates who have achieved a grade point average of at least 3.5 out of a perfect 4.0 in all work attempted while enrolled in not less than 12 semester hours. The university would like to recognize the following students for earning the honor for the Fall 2024 semester.

Gonzales — Ashleigh Luensmann
Nixon — Preston Rice

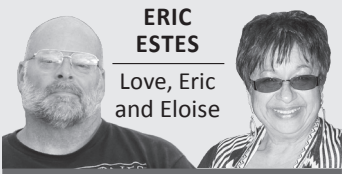
Sweet dreams

Well hello again, I hope you’ve had a great week. But if not, just hang in there, tomorrow’s a brand new day. As of this writing, we’re in the midst of an overcast, rainy and dreary week, but the sun’s due to come out soon with temperatures in the 70’s. Definitely my kind of February. My solar panel (bald head) is somewhat overdue for a full recharge, and a little sun sure couldn’t hurt my complexion, as I’m now so white I’m in danger of becoming opaque. I guess that’s not necessarily a bad thing, as everyone these days are desperately longing for full transparency.

It seems that as life is such a long and often complex learning curve, the majority of us have had moments of uncertainty, or just simply got lost in our selfish desires, causing us to veer off the path of the straight and narrow and enter into the land of the unknown in search of the ever elusive “feel good”. While no one in their right mind enjoys feeling bad, more often than not the search for pleasure leads us astray and has unforeseen consequences attached. Through many years of trial and error, I’ve come to the undeniable conclusion that cheap thrills can never hold a candle to true peace of mind, serenity and contentment. Unfortunately for most, early in the learning curve they may look like the same thing, but

as time reveals, cheap thrills are unfulfilling and soon loose their luster, while contentment is emotionally satiating. I’ve come to this conclusion because: after a serious bout of alcoholism and intermittent drug use over thirty years ago, along with a myriad of bad choices influenced by that lifestyle, and now thanks to divine intervention, I’ve come out the other side with at least a few healthy brain cells still intact... thank you Lord.

I’ve written lately on why a good night’s sleep is so important. It will allow us the energy to get through the following day, handling whatever challenges may arise. There are also health benefits such as stress reduction, lower blood pressure, and restoration, all which play an important role, not only in general well-being, but longevity as well. However, when you have a mind that works the way mine does (information overload coupled with fragmented thoughts), it does sometimes make sleeping more of an adventure than a restful experience. I often have dreams where I’m trying to figure things out, but with several different pieces of the puzzle coming together to form strange and unusual circumstances, leaving me to wake up wondering what the heck that was all about? Ever have one of those dreams (or maybe



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

I’m just weird) where you’re standing at your locker in high school naked, and the bell rings? I’m pretty sure it’d be less stressful if I had on clothes and all of the cheerleaders were naked instead, but I’ve never had that dream (sad emoji)...

Last night I dreamt that I was unexpectedly ushered into a stadium full of people, losing track of the ones I’d come with and no phone. Next thing I know, I’m swimming underwater in a pool filled with peeled boiled eggs. Yep, what the heck was that all about? Could it be that the alcohol & drugs did more damage than previously thought? 2Timothy 1:7 says that God hasn’t given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind. I’m very appreciative of that, ‘cause it’s probably the only thing holding it all together at this point. So whether it was my early bad decisions or an attack of the enemy, I know God’s got my back. One thing I’ve definitely learned is that it’s much easier to not start destructive habits than trying to correct them after they’ve taken hold. Yep, simple wisdom often comes at a high price!

Love you guys, Eric.

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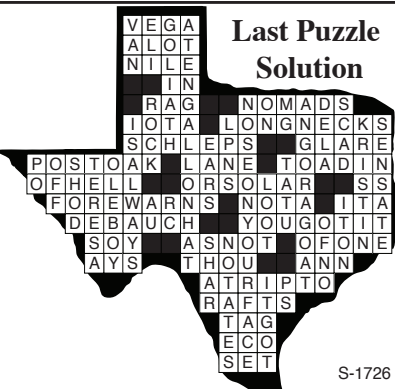
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**January 30
Puzzle Answers**

**Last Puzzle Solution**

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

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
CITY OF GONZALES
GONZALES, TEXAS
STIEREN ROAD WATER AND WASTEWATER PLAN

Separate sealed bids addressed to the City of Gonzales (OWNER) clearly labeled “**ATTENTION: CITY SECRETARY, STIEREN ROAD WATER AND WASTEWATER PLAN**” will be received at Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. N. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, until **2:00 o'clock p.m. on Thursday, February 20, 2025**, and then publicly opened and read aloud immediately.

This project includes the installation of approximately 2129 linear feet of 12-inch waterline, with fittings, fire hydrants, service taps and associated pavement repairs, trench safety, traffic control, and installation and removal of temporary erosion controls. This project also includes the installation of approximately 1046 linear feet of 12-inch wastewater line, 5 manholes, new wastewater services, and associated pavement repairs, trench safety, traffic control, and installation and removal of temporary erosion controls.

The Contract Documents, consisting of Advertisement for Bids, Information for Bidders, Bid Proposal, Bid Bond, Agreement, Performance and Payment Bonds, General Conditions, Special Conditions, Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, Technical Specifications and Plans, together with any Addenda are available at Doucet & Associates, Inc., 829 N. Saint Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, (512) 583-2672. Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents may be purchased for a non-refundable fee of \$100.00 or can be provided via e-mail at no charge. Send requests to kschauer@kleinfelder.com.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a cashier's check or certified check upon a national or state bank in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total actual bid price payable without recourse to the City of Gonzales, or a bid bond in the same amount from a reliable surety company as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract and execute required performance and payment bonds.

The contract shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder; however, the right is reserved, as the interests of the OWNER may require, to reject any and all bids, and to waive any informality or minor defects in bids received. Bids may be held by the OWNER for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of the opening for Bids for the purpose of reviewing the Bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders, prior to awarding of the Contract.

There will not be a pre-bid conference. Contractors shall make their own individual site inspections and/or investigations to make themselves aware of existing conditions/issues. Failure to make adequate observations, investigations and/or ask questions prior to bidding shall not be grounds for requesting additional work or services. Questions shall be forwarded to J. Keith Schauer, P.E., 829 N. Saint Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, (512) 583-2672, kschauer@kleinfelder.com by **5:00 o'clock p.m., Monday, February 17, 2025**.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
CITY OF GONZALES
GONZALES, TEXAS
2025 STREET IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Separate sealed bids addressed to the City of Gonzales (OWNER) clearly labeled “**ATTENTION: CITY SECRETARY, 2025 STREET IMPROVEMENT PLANS**” will be received at Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. N. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, until **2:00 o'clock p.m. on Thursday, February 20, 2025**, and then publicly opened and read aloud immediately.

This project includes approximately 3,455 SY of pavement milling, installation of approximately 10,480 SY of 2” HMAC over entire length and width of project streets (St. Lawrence Street) and replacement of approximately 4,000 LF of curb & gutter and 350 LF of valley gutter and driveway approaches, sidewalks and curb ramps along these streets.

The Contract Documents, consisting of Advertisement for Bids, Information for Bidders, Bid Proposal, Bid Bond, Agreement, Performance and Payment Bonds, General Conditions, Special Conditions, Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, Technical Specifications and Plans, together with any Addenda are available at Doucet & Associates, Inc., 829 N. Saint Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, (512) 583-2672. Plans, Specifications, and Contract Documents purchased for a non-refundable fee of \$100.00, or can be provided via e-mail at no charge. Send requests to kschauer@kleinfelder.com.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a cashier's check or certified check upon a national or state bank in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total actual bid price payable without recourse to the City of Gonzales, or a bid bond in the same amount from a reliable surety company as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract and execute required performance and payment bonds.

The contract shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder; however, the right is reserved, as the interests of the OWNER may require, to reject any and all bids, and to waive any informality or minor defects in bids received. Bids may be held by the OWNER for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of the opening for Bids for the purpose of reviewing the Bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders, prior to awarding of the Contract.

There will not be a pre-bid conference. Contractors shall make their own individual site inspections and/or investigations to make themselves aware of existing conditions/issues. Failure to make adequate observations, investigations and/or ask questions prior to bidding shall not be grounds for requesting additional work or services. Questions shall be forwarded to J. Keith Schauer, P.E., 829 N. Saint Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, (512) 583-2672, kschauer@kleinfelder.com by **5:00 o'clock p.m., Monday, February 17, 2025**.

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Waelder ISD house to be auctioned

House located at the corner of Hwy 90 and Avenue B.

Sealed bids due by 4 p.m. on February 17th. Bids to be opened at School Board meeting at 6 p.m. on February 17th, 2025.

Certified funds must be enclosed for entire bid amount - NO CASH.

House must be moved by 5 p.m. on May 1, 2025 or all funds will be forfeited.

Bids accepted at 201 US Hwy 90 West Waelder, TX 78959 - Central Office.

830-239-5600

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT of Sylvia Lopez as Independent Executrix of the Estate of Jarrel Dale Moore, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary on this Estate were issued on January 30, 2025, in Cause No. PW25-0389 pending in the County Court of Gonzales County Texas to: Sylvia Lopez Moore.

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. Any person indebted to said Estate is hereby notified to pay same to the undersigned.

DATED the 30th day of January, 2025

Sylvia Lopez Moore
Independent Executrix of
The Estate of Jarrell Dale Moore
c/o Thomas J. Lykos, Jr.
Attorney at Law
1218 Webster Street
Houston, Texas 77002
Attorney for Sylvia Gonzales Moore
State Bar No. 1218 Webster Street
Houston, Texas 77002
Telephone: (214) 529-4482
Facsimile: (713) 289-6226
E-mail: Tlykos@lykoslegal.com

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
FOR CITY ATTORNEY/LEGAL
SERVICES FOR THE
CITY OF GONZALES, TEXAS

NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Gonzales, Texas is soliciting Statements of Qualifications from experienced legal firms for the purpose of providing City Attorney/Legal Services to the City of Gonzales. The selected firm shall be licensed to practice law in the State of Texas and be in good standing with the Texas Bar. Experience working with Texas home rule municipalities and knowledge of municipal law including but not limited to municipal finance, land use and development/regulations, parliamentary procedure, personnel law, utility law, election law, and the Texas Open Meetings and Public Information Acts, are **required**.


The RFQ packet is available on the City's website at <https://www.gonzales.texas.gov/p/government/bidrfp>. All inquiries regarding the RFQ should be directed to City Manager, Timothy L. Crow via email at tcrow@gonzales.texas.gov or by telephone at (830)672-2815.

All submissions must be clearly marked "CITY ATTORNEY RFQ" and mailed/delivered to the City of Gonzales, City Manager, PO Box 547, 820 N. St. Joseph Street, TX 78629, by **Friday, February 14, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.** CST, at which time they will be publicly opened and acknowledged in the City Hall Council Chambers (820 N. St. Joseph Street, Texas 78629). No late statements will be accepted. The City of Gonzales reserves the right to reject any or all submissions and to waive any and all formalities, as deemed to be in the best interest of the City.

Interested firms should submit two copies of their sealed statement of qualifications to:

City of Gonzales, Texas
Timothy L. Crow, City Manager
820 Saint Joseph St., PO Box 547, Gonzales, TX 78629

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND
INTENT TO OBTAIN WATER QUALITY PERMIT
RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0010574002

APPLICATION. City of Smiley, PO Box 189, Smiley, Texas 79159, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0010574002 (EPA I.D. No. TX0069809) to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 42,000 gallons per day. The water treatment facility is located approximately 1250 feet west of the intersection of Farm-to-market Road 108 and US highway 87, near the city of Smiley, in Gonzales County, Texas 78159. The discharge route is from the plant site to a man-made ditch; thence to an unnamed tributary; thence to Sandies Creek; thence to Guadalupe River Below San Marcos River. TCEQ received this application on January 6, 2025. The permit application will be available for viewing and copying at Smiley City Hall, Front Desk, 207 West Highway 87 Smiley, in Gonzales County, Texas prior to the date this notice is published in the newspaper. The application, including any updates, and associated notices are available electronically at the following webpage: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/pending-permits/tpdes-applications>. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application.
<https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-97.638888,29.279444&level=18>

ADDITIONAL NOTICE. TCEQ's Executive Director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After technical review of the application is complete, the Executive Director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. **Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the countywide mailing list and to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the deadline for submitting public comments.**

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. **You may submit public comments or request a public meeting on this application.** The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments, and the Executive Director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period and, the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period.**

TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE. For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid. Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. All public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at <https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/>, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from City of Smiley at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Jerry Shepherd, PE, Southwest Engineers Inc. at 830-672-7546.

Issuance Date: January 23, 2025


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SPORTS

Apaches FC falls to La Vernia

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
The Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches FC showcased a strong defensive performance against the La Vernia Bears Friday, Jan. 31.

The Apaches defense shut down La Vernia all game, but in the final ten minutes, the Bears scored two goals to seal a 2-1 win over Gonzales.

“Ten more minutes and it’s our game. We’ve just got to take this and again, like I said at the beginning, it’s one game at a time,” Apaches head soccer coach Shea Seip said.

Seip was proud of how his defense handled La Vernia throughout the match.

“Everyone played fantastic from the top all the way to the bottom working together. That’s a

See **APACHES**, page 10



PHOTO BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Apaches sophomore mid fielder Christophor Gonzales Avila (11) battles a La Vernia player for possession of the ball in the district match.

Eagles season sweep Mustangs

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs traveled to Luling for their final district contest against the Luling Eagles Friday, Jan. 31.

The Mustangs were swept for the season by Luling with a 70-39 loss that dropped them to fifth place in the district standings.

The Mustangs took on the Karnes City Badgers Tuesday, Feb. 4 at home and will play their final road game against Poth Friday, Feb. 7.

Nixon-Smiley will conclude the regular season against the Goliad Tigers Tuesday, Feb. 11.

The Poth and Goliad games tip off at 8 p.m.

Apaches beat Gobblers in close contest

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches traveled to Cuero for their final game against the Gobblers for the 2024-25 basketball season Friday, Jan. 31.

The Apaches snapped a losing streak against the Gobblers with a 64-60 win and improved to 3-3 in the district, moving into second place.

Gonzales hosted the San Antonio JFK Rockets for the final home game Tuesday, Feb. 4 and will conclude the regular season against San Antonio Memorial Friday, Feb. 7. The Apaches are in line for a playoff berth against the third-place team in 27-4A, which would be either Floresville or Pearsall.

Lady Apaches FC fall in tough battle in La Vernia



PHOTO BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Lady Apaches Adriana Pop (12) battles several La Vernia players for control of the ball in the third district match.

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
The Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches FC traveled to La Vernia for their third district match of the season Friday, Jan. 31.

The Lady Apaches played hard against the Lady Bears in the match, exchanging goals back and forth in the first half.

The Lady Apaches defense held La Vernia to zero goals in the first 20 minutes of the second half; the Lady Bears would score

three unanswered goals however on Gonzales to seal the 6-3 win.

Lady Apaches head soccer coach Shantell Trimm was proud of how her team performed against La Vernia.

“The Lady Apaches have always come in strong. They’ve always given their best against this team. They know that La Vernia has always been one of our top rivals. We’re always right

See **SOCCER**, page 10

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OBITUARIES

ANTHONY RENE DELUNA (TOONE)

Anthony Rene DeLuna, 41, was born October 17, 1983, to Jane DeLuna Escobedo and Russ Flores in Gonzales, Texas. He passed away unexpectedly on January 15, 2025.

He attended Gonzales High School, where he played baseball. His family and teammates knew him as a very good pitcher. He could often be found on the baseball field with his friends when he had free time.

As an adult, his love of the game was still strong, but he enjoyed watching and sideline coaching. His favorite team was the



Atlanta Braves.

No matter what the situation Anthony always had a smile on his face and was ready to crack a joke.

He is survived by his mother, Jane Escobedo

(Mario), and Father Russ Flores. Son, Mark Navarro, daughter, Maddison, Analisa, and Addison DeLuna. Two beautiful granddaughters, Ivy and Elians Navarro. Brother, Russ Flores, Jr. and Cruz Flores. Sisters, Ruth Flores, Rochelle Fores, Miranda Alvarez, Tiffany Enriquez, and Reanna Flores, along with many nieces, nephews, cousins, and many friends. Anthony will be greatly missed by all of us.

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in Spirit. Psalm: 34:18

EMELIO GONZALES

Emelio Gonzales, 68, was born May 13, 1956, in Gonzales, Texas. He passed away Sunday, January 26, 2025, in San Antonio, Texas.

He attended school in Gonzales, Texas, and worked at Walker Plumbing Company for many years. He was dedicated and a hard worker.

Emelio was a loving father, and grandfather and always willing to help others.

He loved football. He was a die-hard Dallas Cowboys and Texas Longhorns fan.

He is survived by his only daughter Deadra Riojas (Donovan), and three grandchildren, Donovan, Jr., Darius, and Dallas. Three stepchildren, Destiny Tealer; Jimmy Rosas (Allison), and their five children, and Marisol Gonzales, and her five children. Other relatives and friends.

Viewing: Friday, February 7, 2025

Time: 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Location: Harris Funeral Home

Services Entrusted to

HARRIS FUNERAL HOME.

ELLA MAE FINCH

Ella Mae Finch, age 90 of Seguin, passed away on January 28, 2025. Ella Mae was born on January 22, 1935 in Gonzales, Texas to Norma (Gerold) and Joseph Wolff.

She will be remembered as a Teacher's Aid for over twenty-five years with the Gonzales Independent School District. In retirement she always enjoyed helping her husband with his wood crafts. She always enjoyed working word puzzles in her spare time. Her most precious times were spent with her family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her loving husband of 54 years, Stayton W. Finch, her parents, son-in-law, Freddy Lewis, and brothers-in-law, Gene Garrison, and Ron-



nie Baker.

Survivors in include her loving daughters, Debbie Lewis and Robin Finch; her grandson who knew and loved her as "Granny", Brandon Finch; great-grandson, Carson Finch; sisters, Dorothy "Dottie" Garrison and Florence Baker; brothers, James "Buddy" Wolff and wife

Shirley, and Robert Lee "Bubba" Wolff and wife Sandra; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, other loving family members and a host of friends.

Visitation will begin on Saturday, February 15, 2025 at 12 noon at Tres Hewell Mortuary Chapel followed by a memorial service at 1 p.m. with the Reverend Tom Jones officiating. Private interment will be held at a later date.

A reception will be held following the memorial service at the First Lutheran Fellowship Hall , 1206 N. St. Joseph, Gonzales.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

You are invited to sign the guest book at www.treshewell.com

THOMAS LEROY WILSON

Thomas Leroy Wilson, passed away peacefully on November 18, 2024. He was born on October 10, 1935 to Hoyt and Lillie Wilson in Gonzales. He is survived by daughter, Jane Wilson Kifer,

grandson Kolby Kifer and great grandson Everett Kifer and sister Dottie Eckols. He was preceded in death by sister Laura Wilson Bivins, brother-in-law, Jerry Bivins and Howard Eckols.

HISTORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

1920 — February 7, Miss Daisy Humphries and Miss Rena Meisenhelder created H. & M. Toggery clothing store at 523 St. Joseph Street

1939 — February 1, Kleine Opera House, called the oldest mercantile business in Texas was sold to Iley and Sons who will use it for a poultry plant. The Kleine Mercantile/Furniture business had been owned by the Kleines since 1853 and was sold by Mrs. Walter Kleine. The building was erected in 1877 and had been in the possession of the family since that time. (This building was probably the two-story frame building in pictures of that time. Either it

burned or was razed and the brick building built in its place. v)

1956 — February 16, Major Audie Murphy came to Gonzales as a stop on his National Guard Inspection Tour

1960 — February 4, O.E. Monroe found a medal on his farm about five miles north of town on the Luling highway. It was found at a depth of about seven feet. It was a solid tin and in excellent condition. The mystery of how a memento of the treaty between France and Spain, signed on November 7, 1659, wound up on a farm in Gonzales County is a matter of great interest.

HOUSTON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

by the people who did not know him, drew courage from the citizens of Gonzales and their sacrifices. He resolved and determined that Texas must survive, and buttressed by what he gleaned from Gonzales, made the decisions that culminated in victory at San Jacinto, and ultimately, freedom for all Texans.

Isn't it interesting how a little quirk of fate may affect so many people. So, the next time you hear or read of Refugio, you might send a nod in their direction, maybe a gesture of thanks.

And that is part of our history, the history of Gonzales. Gonzales, Texas — the birthplace of your Texas Freedom.

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Lady Mustangs sweep season series from Lady Eagles in final road game

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs traveled for their final road game of the season against Luling Friday, Jan. 31.

The Lady Mustangs inched closer to a playoff berth with a 63-48 win over Luling and improved to 4-5 in district play. They swept the series from the Lady Eagles.

Nixon-Smiley hosted Karnes City for the final regular season game Tuesday, Feb. 4 in the Mustangs Gym. Playoff information will be revealed at a later time.



Above: Lady Apaches goal keeper Mia Guerra (00) punts the ball back into play for Gonzales in the district match against La Vernia. Far left: Lady Apaches Viviana Barrientos (11) battles a La Vernia player for possession of the soccer ball in the district match. Left: Lady Apaches Marely Romo (4) kicks the ball for a free kick against La Vernia in the district match Friday, Jan. 31.

PHOTOS BY WANDY VAN EPPS



PHOTO BY WANDY VAN EPPS

Apaches senior mid fielder Youahi Huerta (5) moves the ball down field in the La Vernia match.

APACHES

good team over there, but we’re coming after that title,” Seip said. The Apaches traveled to San Antonio for a match against the Memorial Minutemen Tuesday, Feb. 4. Seip and his team have their sights set on another tough opponent. “Just like we played for this game, we know they’re going to be tough. Go out there and win it,” Seip said. The Apaches will host the Yoakum Bulldogs Friday, Feb. 7 at Apache Field.



Senior goal keeper Andres Govea (0) protects the goal from La Vernia in the third district match.

PHOTO BY WANDY VAN EPPS

SOCCER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

up there with them in our district,” Trimm said. The Lady Apaches are the only team in the district to go a full 80 minutes against La Vernia and the first to score a goal on them; this season, the UIL added a mercy rule in soccer. Trimm talked about how the defense performed against La Vernia and was proud of the results

despite the loss. “We use a different tactic when we play certain teams, and so our defense was prepped for that. We’ve been practicing our game plan for this game, and it worked out beautifully for them especially in that first half. And created an opportunities for us to score,” Trimm said. The Lady Apaches took on San

Antonio Memorial on the road Tuesday, Feb. 4 and took on the Yoakum Lady Bulldogs at home Friday, Feb. 7. “There’s no better way to mentally prepare than taking on the number one team in our district and putting points on their board for the first time,” Trimm said. The Yoakum match kicks off at 5 p.m.

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Gonzales

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ACROSS

1 dog or cat (2 wds.)

5 Dallas ____ kicks (pro indoor soccer)

6 TXism: “let sleeping ____ lie”

7 small bills

8 TXism: “____ chaser” (early riser)

9 this can be acquired on So. Padre Island

12 TXism: “would jerk tears from a ____ eye” (very sad)

17 UT football team lost to this team twice in 2024

19 Mertzson’s county was named for Robert ____

21 removing wrinkles from clothes

22 TX King Vidor directed 1937 film “____ Dallas”

23 a director ____ actor for a scene

28 silly, foolish

29 “hungry enough to ____ horse”

30 TXism: “useless ____ on a bald eagle”

31 Zsa Zsa or Eva

35 Texas journalist and author, Catherine

36 highest waterfall in Texas (2 wds.)

42 TXism for “laughed hard” (3 wds.)

44 Texas actress Annette O’ ____

46 Guadalupe Mountains peak (2 wds.)

48 TXism: “silent as a ____ tomb”

49 female deer

50 major African river

51 most racehorses are descended from this breed

52 popular Bible translation (abbr.)

53 Allen of 1953 film “Down Laredo Way”

54 Denver ____, Texas

56 Tyler FM before KOYE

57 TXism: “dull as week- ____ soda pop”

58 “legal eagle” payment

DOWN

1 TXism: “hard ____ at ____ wedding”

2 newspaper: “Fort Stockton ____”

3 in Van Zandt County on U.S. 80

4 actress Harper in Texas-based 2007 film “No Country for Old Men”

9 Texas-based restaurant, “Friday’s” abbr.

10 TXism: “____ sense” (dumb)

11 TXism: “two-bit ____ (poor horse)

12 Texas makes more of this than any other state

13 lasting written works

14 “Hill Country Natural ____”

15 fine sand deposited as a sediment

16 pith helmet, aka ____ topee

18 a single-stranded molecule needed for life (abbr.)

20 Texas’ continent (abbr.)

23 21st governor: ____ Culberson

24 California’s oldest private univer.

25 TXism: “still wet behind the ____”

26 used a credit card

27 Danny of Texas-based film “Ruby”

32 TXism: “chompin’ ____ the bit”

33 TX Buddy Holly’s “That’ll ____ the Day”

34 “out ____ kilter”

36 NFL “salary ____”

37 TXism for “against”

38 Russian president

39 noted Texas folklorist, Alan

40 Bausch & ____ (eye products company)

41 Texas-born musician Stone

43 when repeated, goodbye in Britian

45 RB Emmitt (init.)

47 actor Brand of TV’s “Laredo” (1965-67)

48 St. ____ University in San Antonio

55 ocean movement

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1727

SUDOKU

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

VC awards degrees to 211 gradudates

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College awarded degrees and certificates to 211 graduates at the end of the Fall 2024 semester.

Following are the names of the Victoria College graduates grouped by their cities of residence, along with their degrees, certificates and honors listed.

CUERO

- Stephanie Villa, AAS-Nursing

GONZALES

- Josue Almaguer, Vocational Nursing Certificate
- Travis Decker, Advanced EMT Certificate

- Haley Grantland, Vocational Nursing Certificate
- Taylor Hoch, Vocational Nursing Certificate
- Sebastian Mendoza, AAS-Instrumentation, Magna Cum Laude
- Krysten Zuniga, Vocational Nursing Certificate

HALLETTSVILLE

- Roberto Arellano, Instrumentation/Measurement Technician Certificate, Cum Laude
- William Harper, AAS-Instrumentation
- Quade Henneke, AAS-Instrumentation, Cum Laude
- Bowen Higgins, AAS-Instrumentation, Cum Laude
- Danyel Horton, AAS-Nursing

- Jessica Jetelina, Vocational Nursing Certificate
- Adam Loewe, Associate of Science
- Chalee Matula, AAS-Nursing
- Lauren Migl, AAS-Nursing
- Arianna Resendiz, Vocational Nursing Certificate
- Courtney Roberson, Vocational Nursing Certificate

NIXON

- Oscar Galicia, AAS-Instrumentation
- Destiny Rodriguez, Vocational Nursing Certificate

SHINER

- Emma Herman, Vocational Nursing Certificate
- Cade Murrile, Advanced EMT Certificate

SMILEY

- Kayla McGaha, AAS-Nursing

YOAKUM

- Venessa Castillo, Vocational Nursing Certificate
- Angelica Gomez, Associate of Science
- Ruth Herrera, Vocational Nursing Certificate
- Taylor Hlavac, Associate of Arts
- Jocelyne Moreno, Vocational Nursing Certificate
- Jared Mosher, AAS-Nursing
- Mallery Rosales, Associate of Science
- Shelby Stary, AAS-Nursing
- Yahir Tolentino, Instrumentation/Measurement Technician Certificate

SHOOTING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

charges late Saturday could face more serious charges now that Cantu has died as a result of his injuries.

Lt. Jason Montoya said officers with the Gonzales Police Department were dispatched at about 10:36 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, to the Cannon Inn, 3307 US 90A, regarding a large group of juveniles fighting. While the telecommunications officer was on the phone with the caller, she reportedly heard gunshots in the background. At that time 911 received multiple calls advising that a subject on the scene had been shot.

Upon arrival, officers observed multiple subjects on scene and discovered a male subject laying face down in a ditch. Officers on scene confirmed that the 16-year-old male subject, Cantu, had what appeared to be a gunshot wound to his head area.

Gonzales officers, with the assistance of Texas Department of Public Safety troopers, provided first aid until an ambulance from the Gonzales County Emergency Service District No. 1 arrived. The victim was transported to the Gonzales Memorial Hospital to be treated and was then transferred to Seton Hays Hospital in Kyle, where he remains in critical condition.

Also assisting GPD and DPS were deputies from the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office. While on scene officers obtained information that the shooter had departed in a Chevrolet Impala that was last seen traveling on 90A traveling towards Gonzales. A DPS trooper spotted a vehicle matching the description and was able to stop the vehicle with four subjects inside. The four subjects were arrested, transported to the Gonzales County Jail and all charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, a second-degree felony.

Those arrested included Jairo Eli Salzar, 22, of Houston, Texas; Jose Enrique Romero, 18, of Houston; Joley Elizabeth Rodriguez, 24, of Gonzales; and Mariah Lynn Castillo, 18, of Gonzales.

The investigation is still ongoing, and more arrests are expected pending the outcome of the investigation. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Gonzales Police Department at 830-672-8686.

Retired school personnel meeting set

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Hallettsville High School Ag students will discuss current research topics in agriculture at the Lavaca County Retired School Personnel meeting at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 206 S. Dowling, Hallettsville. Come to hear our youth and support them as they give their presentations about

new findings in agriculture. The Lavaca County chapter invites all retired school employees (teachers, administrators, clerical, support staff, health, food service, custodial/maintenance, transportation, etc.) and guests to attend the Feb. 11 meeting. They are a friendly group of retired school personnel who offer you opportunities to participate in TRTA activities in this area.

SENTENCINGS

25th Judicial District Court sentencings

Jan. 15

- Brayan Lopez Guevara, possession of a controlled substance, six months state jail with 98 days credit.
- Elvir Mehic, theft of a firearm, 10 days jail weekends, four years deferred adjudication, \$1,500 fine and court costs.
- Ambery Andruss, abandon/endanger a child, nine months 2state jail with 269 days credit.
- Leonel Chavez Martinez, sexual assault, seven years TDCJ-ID with 465 days credit.
- Makayla Manuel, tamper/fabricated evidence, six years deferred adjudication, \$400 fine, court costs and attorney fees.
- Leniqua Oudems, possession of a controlled substance, \$1,000 fine, attorney fees and court costs.

2nd 25th District Court sentencings

Jan. 22

- Steven Kyle Barnes, unauthorized use of a vehicle, four years deferred adjudication, \$1,500 fine, attorney fees and court costs.
- Daniel Lee Leal, continuous violence against family, assault fam/house member impede breath/circulation, six years deferred adjudication, \$2,000 fine, attorney fees and court costs.

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February is American Heart Month.

February is recognized as American Heart Month. During this month, we raise awareness about heart disease and in turn, encourage healthy lifestyle choices that support heart health.

What can you do?

Talk to your doctor. Discuss heart disease prevention, and learn ways to keep this disease at bay.

Eat healthier. Work towards a balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins,

Exercise. Commit to regular physical activity daily. Physical activity is also a great way to help manage stress.

Regular Screenings. Get regular health check-ups to monitor blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and other key health markers.

We encourage you to take care of your ticker so it continues to take care of you!

1110 N. Sarah Dewitt Drive
Gonzales, Texas 78629

830.672.7581
GonzalesHealthcare.com

WATER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

method of distribution (MOD) for allocation of funds to units of local governments. Each COG developed their MOD through extensive public participation.

HUD defines mitigation as activities that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters. HUD requires that at least 50% of total funds must be used for activities benefiting low-to moderate-income (LMI) individuals. For more information, please visit recovery.texas.gov/mitigation.

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COURTESY PHOTOS

Lyndon Hamilton will join the Gonzales Apaches as their new head football coach and athletic director after spending the past 12 years at San Antonio Reagan, eight of those as head coach. During his tenure at Reagan, Hamilton never failed to make the playoffs and won three district championships. He went 66-26 overall. A Luling native, Hamilton's arrival in Gonzales has been met with great excitement.



COACH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

potential.” Hamilton is equally enthusiastic about joining the Apache Nation. “I am honored and excited to take on this role and be part of such an outstanding school community,” said Lyndon Hamilton. “I look forward to working closely with our student-athletes, coaches, faculty, and families to continue building a culture of disciplined excellence, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Gonzales ISD is the destination spot for myself and my family.” As Athletic Director, Hamilton will focus on promoting sportsmanship behavior, alignment, academic success, and a strong sense of community among all athletes. He also aims to further enhance the school's athletic programs, ensuring that Gonzales ISD remains a competitive and dynamic force in all sports.

“ I look forward to working closely with our student-athletes, coaches, faculty, and families to continue building a culture of disciplined excellence, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Gonzales ISD is the destination spot for myself and my family.” —Lyndon Hamilton, GISD Athletic Director

UNEMPLOYMENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Victoria counties seeking employment out of a total workforce of 92,698 people. This represents a decrease of 428 people in the labor force and 507 fewer individuals claiming unemployment.

The counties reporting in lower than Gonzales County are Calhoun and Lavaca counties, with the lowest unemployment rate at 2.9 percent, followed by DeWitt County at 3.1 percent, and Jackson County following at 3.2 percent. Next are Gonzales County at 3.3 percent while rounding out are Goliad County and Victoria County tied in the highest position at 3.7 percent.

For December 2024, there were 312 individuals in Gonzales County seeking employment out of a workforce of 9,444 with 9,132 reported as employed. In November 2024, there were 356 people seeking work in Gonzales County out of an employment force of 9,502 for a total unemployment rate of 3.7 percent. There were 9,146 people reported as employed.

In December 2023, Gonzales County had an unemployment rate of 3.0 percent as there were 280 individuals in Gonzales County seeking employment out of a workforce of 9,224 with 8,944 reported as employed. Unemployment has not been below 3 percent in Gonzales County since December 2022, when it was 2.7 percent. Unemployment rates since December 2022 for Gonzales County are:

- December 2022, 2.7 percent
- January 2023, 3.7 percent
- February 2023, 4.0 percent
- March 2023, 3.5 percent
- April 2023, 3.2 percent
- May 2023, 3.5 percent
- June 2023, 3.7 percent
- July 2023, 4.0 percent
- August 2023, 4.0 percent
- September 2023, 3.5 percent
- October 2023, 3.3 percent
- November 2023, 3.1 percent
- January 2024, 3.7 percent
- February 2024, 4.0 percent
- March 2024, 3.7 percent
- April 2024, 3.2 percent
- May 2024, 3.5 percent
- June 2024, 4.1 percent
- July 2024, 4.0 percent
- August 2024, 4.1 percent
- September 2024, 3.7 percent
- October 2024, 3.8 percent
- November 2024, 3.7 percent
- December 2024, 3.3 percent

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Health and Human Services

turn to

For more resources and support, visit TurnToSupportsTX.org