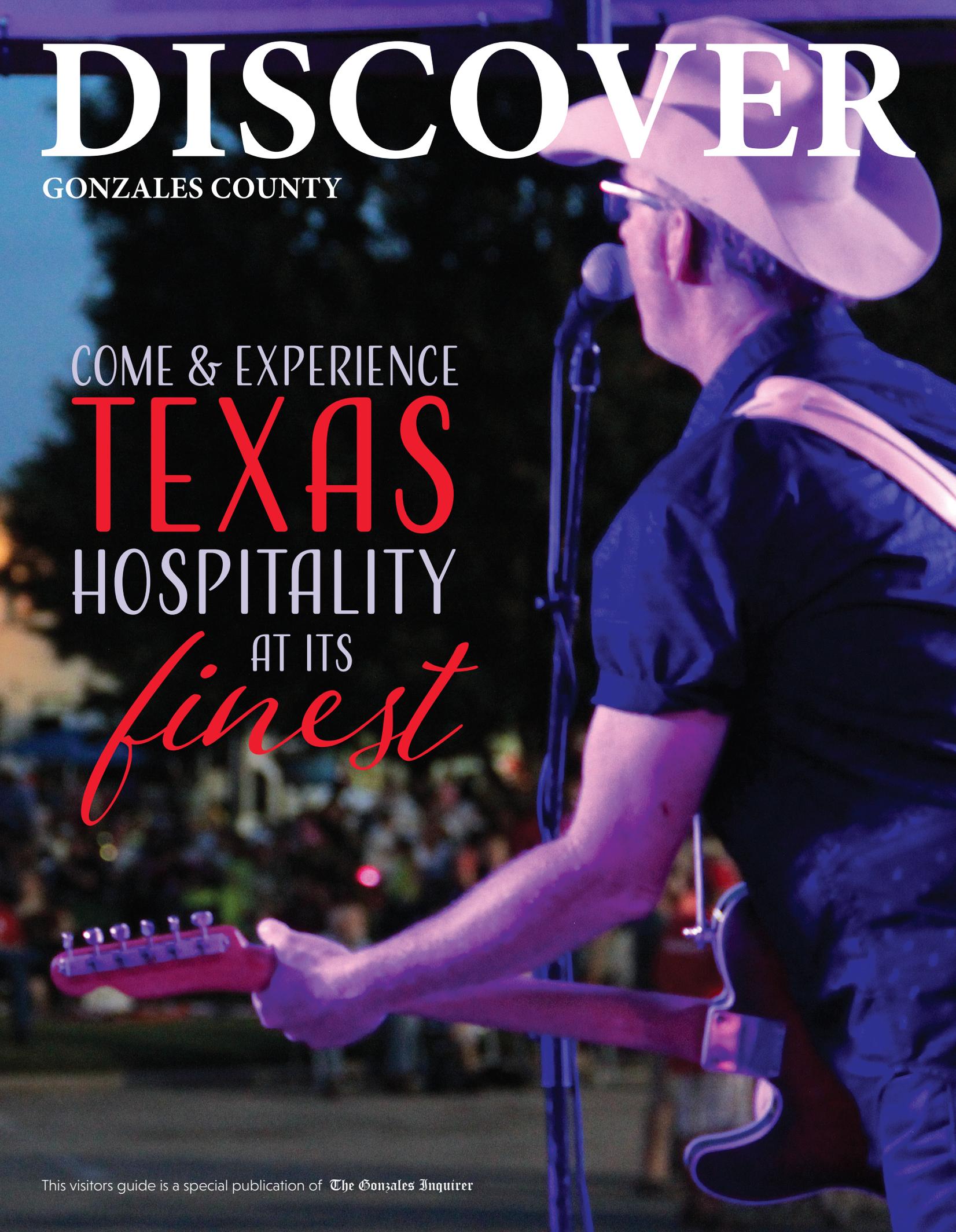


DISCOVER

A musician wearing a cowboy hat and a dark shirt is shown in profile, playing a red electric guitar on a stage. The background is dark with some blurred lights, suggesting an outdoor concert setting at night.

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WELCOME

Gonzales — It's where you want to be

Gonzales — it's the place you want to be. Whether you come for our history, our hospitality, our fun events or decide to open your own business here, Gonzales is just the place for you.

Located minutes off of US I-10, Gonzales has a quaint small-town charm yet is close enough to the big cities of Texas to have all the amenities of city life. We are centrally located one hour south of Austin, one hour east of San Antonio and just under two hours west of Houston. We have the perfect location for you to visit or to Come and Stay.

If it's history you're after, we have it. We are the Come and Take It city, the place where the first shot for Texas Independence was fired. In addition to our Texas history, we have grand and glorious old homes and mansions by the score that add nostalgic charm and grace to our local culture. Come and See It for yourself.

Gonzales is also a community teeming with fun events and community involvement.

Whether it's the Come and Take It celebration in October, or the Come and Taste It Craft Beer, Wine and Art festival in late April, Gonzales is a fun place to be. And don't forget our Summer Concert Series that fills our town square every week in June. Plus, there is a PBR Rodeo, Go Texan celebration, Casino Night for schools and more livestock shows than you can shake a stick at.

And if it's business you want, well Gonzales is home to a number of major businesses and industries because of our proud, diverse and hard-working local population. Our local economic development corporation, tourism bureau, Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture and nationally renown Main Street Program are ready to welcome you with open arms if you want to relocate or open a business here.

So what are you waiting for? Make the simple decision — Come and See Us. You will be glad you did.



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MAYOR'S LETTER

Welcome to Gonzales, home of Come and Take It

On behalf of the Office of the Mayor, it is my honor to welcome you to Gonzales, the home of “Come and Take It!”

Gonzales was established in 1825 and served as the capital of Empresario Green Dewitt's Colony. The town was named in honor of Don Rafael Gonzales, provisional Governor of Coahuila, Mexico and Texas. In 1831, The Mexican government sent Gonzales a cannon as protection against the Indians. Under General Santa Anna's dictatorship, one of his first moves was to disarm the citizens. Santa Anna tried to fight the signs of rebellion, but he was unprepared for the confrontation he met in Texas where many of the citizens were colonist who considered the right to keep and bear arms not only necessary and wise, but a God given right. Santa Anna's army sent a detachment of one-hundred dragoons from San Antonio de Bexar arriving in Gonzales on Sept. 29, 1835 to discover settlers had removed the ferry and all boats from the Guadalupe River. On the other side of the swiftly moving river waited eighteen Texans, “The Old Eighteen,” informing soldiers they could not cross. Santa Anna's army made camp three-hundred yards from the river crossing at the highest point which we now know as Santa Anna's Mound.

Over the next two days, Sarah DeWitt and her daughter created the “Come & Take It” flag. During the night of Oct. 1, 1835 168 men forded the river and on the morning of Oct. 2, 1835, the first shot for Texas Independence was fired! Col. William Barrett Travis sent out a desperate call from the Alamo for reinforcements. The only men answering the call were the “Immortal 32” who departed from Gonzales on Feb. 29, 1836. They, along with nine other Gonzales



Connie L. Kacir

men all died at the Alamo.

Alamo survivor Susanna Dickenson returned to Gonzales bringing Sam Houston the news all defenders of the Alamo perished. General Sam Houston was camped at the Braches House under the giant live oak tree known today as the Sam Houston Oak with his army when hearing Santa Anna left the Alamo headed east. With this news, Houston ordered the town of Gonzales burned as a battlefield strategy leading to the Runaway Scrape. Houston and his army defeated Santa Anna in an open field in a surprise attack on the San Jacinto River on April 21, 1836.

The City of Gonzales is rich in Texas History and southern hospitality. Our charming historic downtown has much to offer with a variety of restaurants, antique shops, dress boutiques, museums, theaters, live entertainment and so much more! Home to the only Texas History Museum District, you will want to visit all the Texas history sites we have to offer. Also note,

our Gonzales Main Street was recognized as a 2018 Main Street America Accredited Program. We are proud of Gonzales being a Film Friendly Texas Certified Community where we recently hosted the filming location for actor Pierce Brosnan. There are many things to entertain you such as our scenic nine-hole golf course located on the banks of the Guadalupe River, paddling trails, J.B. Wells Park home to the Santa Anna Mound, walking trails, youth rodeos, and PBR Bull Riding.

Gonzales is home to many festivals and events including our famous Come and Take It Celebration the 1st full weekend of October which celebrates the first shot for Texas Independence in a three day festival, Main Street Lighted Christmas Parade, Historic Home Tours, Santa's Market and Breakfast with Santa all the first weekend in December, Main Street Concert Series every Friday night in June on our historic downtown square, Star Spangled Spectacular held on July 4th and the Gonzales Inquirer's Come and Taste It Craft Beer, Wine and Art Festival held the fourth Saturday in April to name a few! Stay the weekend at one of our many Bed and Breakfast historic homes restored to their original glory and filled with fine antiques and furnishings creating an elegant stay away from home or one of our many lovely hotels with comfortable rooms and a pool for the family.

For more information about Gonzales where the Texas Revolution began and plan your next trip to “Come and Take It,” please visit our Gonzales Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center website at www.gonzalestexas.com.

Connie L. Kacir
Mayor, City of Gonzales



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DISCOVER

A special publication of *The Gonzales Inquirer*

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COME & TASTE IT

Craft beer, wine and art festival coming to Gonzales

The *Gonzales Inquirer*, in conjunction with the Gonzales Main Street program, is going to host the inaugural Come & Taste It Craft Beer, Wine and Art Festival on April 27 and 28 on the Confederate Square in downtown Gonzales, Texas. The Festival will feature craft beer vendors and breweries from all over Texas and the United States, Texas wineries, starving artists, food vendors and even a classic car show. The Craft Beer portion of the event is presented by Shiner Beer, who will host a special VIP night on Friday night April 27, 2018, with the main event on Confederate Square on Saturday, April 28, 2018.

The festival will feature a beer tent and stage set up for craft beer enthusiasts on the east side of the square, while booths will be available for starving artists of all types and genres, local food vendors and Texas wineries on the outside and walkways of Confederate Square. A classic car show will be running at the same time on St. Paul Street. Craft beer enthusiasts will be able to partake in the full line of Shiner beers, Goliad, Revolver, Blue Moon, Bells Brewery, Seguin Brewing Company, and a host of other craft beers. Becker Winery will also be in the main tent.

“It’s thrilling to be able to promote the arts, the Gonzales area and all the wonderful wine and beer that is Texas,” said Genora Young,



Gonzales Economic Development Executive Director. “This will be a fun event, and hopefully will fill our hotels that weekend and bring new business to our downtown retail establishments.”

The festival begins on Friday, April 27 with a VIP reception in the Craft Beer Festival tent. The reception will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and will be open to anyone who purchases a VIP pass. Attendees will be given special merchandise from Shiner Beer and the Craft Beer Festival, with beer, wine and food available for free.

The festival swings into high gear on Saturday, April 28 with a full-fledged Craft Beer tasting event, Starving Artist show, Texas Winery event and local food booths. Booths for the wineries, Starving Artists and Food vendors will open at 9 a.m. and will be on Confederate Square until 8 p.m.

At the Craft Beer tent, VIP ticket holders

will be allowed into the tent for an exclusive showing from 11 a.m. to noon, and then the Craft Beer Festival will run from noon until 8 p.m. From 2 to 3:30 p.m. Derek Vera will perform on the Stewart Trucking Stage, and from 4 to 6 p.m. recording artist Andrea Marie and the Magnolias out of Austin will perform. Area restaurants like the Running M, Come and Take It and the Long Branch Saloon will all have special bands or karaoke on Saturday evening at the conclusion of the festival.

Throughout the day, there will also be a classic car show.

Persons interested in renting vendor space for food, wine, or art, should contact Main Street Executive Director Barbara Friedrich at 672-2815. Vendors interested in Craft Beer booths or sponsorship should contact *Gonzales Inquirer* Publisher Terry Fitzwater at 672-2861.

“It’s thrilling to be able to promote the arts, the Gonzales area and all the wonderful wine and beer that is Texas. This will be a fun event, and hopefully will fill our hotels that weekend and bring new business to our downtown retail establishments.”

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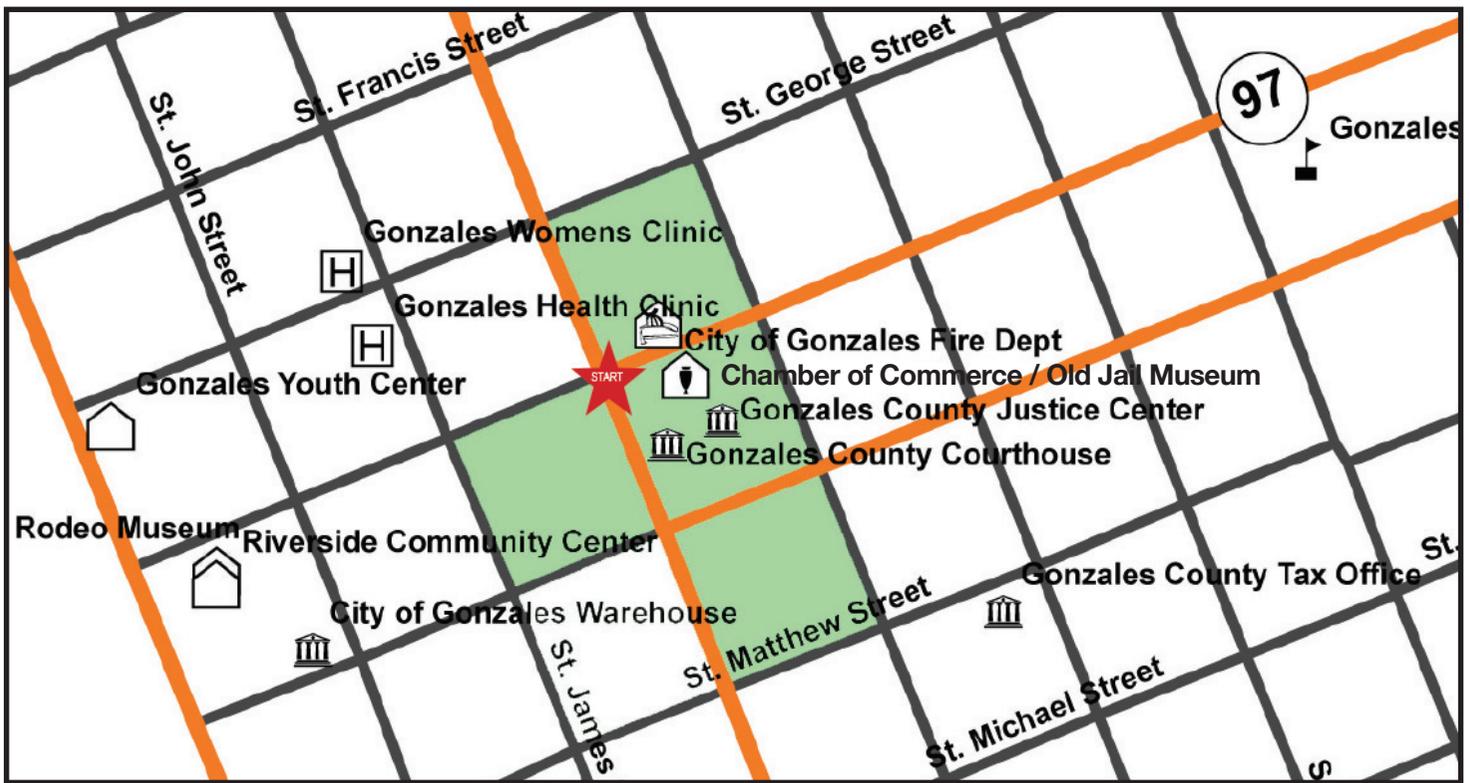
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WALKING TOUR



Park your car at the Old Jail Museum at the corner of St. Joseph and St. Lawrence for this 1.3 mile walking tour.

1 Old Jail Museum, 1887, 414 St. Lawrence*
Used as the county jail until 1975, cells and gallows occupy second floor, law-and-order artifacts on first floor.

2 Fire Station and T41 Steer weather vane
The T41 weather vane represents one rancher's brand and his desire to advertise his occupation.

3 Gonzales County Courthouse, 1895*
Designed in form of Greek cross by renowned Texas architect J. Riely Gordon, Romanesque Revival courthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Visitors may walk through the historic building.

4 Church Square*
First United Methodist Church, 1900
First Baptist Church, 1903
426 St. Paul and 422 St. Paul, respectively. Part of the public lands grant for the City of Gonzales, now permanently leased to First Baptist and First United Methodist Churches. (Gothic

Revival)
5 Edward Lewis House, 1910
605 St. Louis – Mrs. Lewis' grandfather, Andrew Ponton, was Alcalde (mayor) of Gonzales in 1835.

6 Paul Levysen House, 1877
612 St. Louis – Greek Revival/ Symmetrical Victorian

7 Randle House, 1898
624 St. Louis – Built by architect W.A. King. Former home of James Polk Randle, prominent Gonzales merchant. (Victorian)

8 J.B. Kennard House, 1895
621 St. Louis – Designed by J. Riely Gordon, this late Victorian residence is one of a few of its type remaining in Texas. Glass and pottery chip mosaics in gables. Queen Anne/Shingle Style. National Register of Historic Places Marker.

9 Episcopal Church of the Messiah, 1881*
721 St. Louis – The oldest public building still in use for its original purpose. Pulpit and altar are of Guadalupe Walnut.

(Gothic Revival)
10 Episcopal Rectory, 1890
721 St. Louis – Rectory and church are on the site of Cemetery Square, as designated in 1832 Mexican survey.

11 Gonzales Junior High School 1940/41
400 N. College – The gym, auditorium and school buildings were a WPS project. The vocational building was built one year before.

12 Gonzales College, 1851*
820 St. Louis – One of the first women's colleges in Texas, it was built with stone from Maurin quarry 10 miles away. It has been restored as a private residence. (Greek Revival/ Victorian)

13 Rather House, 1892*
828 St. Louis – Built during the "Cotton was King" era for C.T. Rather, cotton planter and banker. (Greek Revival/ Victorian)

14 Charles Hoskins House, 1911*
Architect was Atlee B. Ayres,

designer of the San Antonio Municipal Auditorium and Randolph Air Force Base Tower. (Classical Revival)

15 Sam H. Hopkins House, 1911
912 St. Louis – A.B. Ayres designed this house for Hopkins, an attorney. (Classical Revival/ Prairie School influence)

16 Frank Vrazel House, circa 1910
1006 St. Louis – The Vrazel gin was located next door to the house. (Prairie School)

17 P.R.I.D.E., 1890
1034 St. Louis – Residence converted into a daycare center. (Victorian)

18 Guadalupe Apts., 1920*
1118 St. Louis – Built as a hospital by Dr. George Holmes, converted to apartment building in 1978.

19 Memorial Museum, 1936*
414 Smith – Built to commemorate "The Immortal 32" and those who died in service to the Republic of Texas. Houses the iconic Come & Take It

cannon. Murals on the wall by James Buchanan Winn. Hours: 10 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m.

20 Midkiff House, 1905*
1222 St. Louis (Prairie School)

21 Eggleston House, circa 1845
1300 block of St. Louis – Oldest standing structure in the city. Built by H. Eggleston on the Guadalupe River, it now sits on City Park. (Dog-run log cabin)

22 DAR House, circa 1930.
Behind the Eggleston House. Mrs. Murphy had the structure built for Boy Scouts by relief workers under the direction of State Park Supervisor Louis H. Scholl. It was later turned over to the Daughters of the American Revolution.

23 Edward Sweeney House, 1926
1109 St. Lawrence – Surrounded by spectacular oaks, this house was built by Edward Sweeney, descendant of J.C. Dilworth, early Texas banker. (Cotswald Cottage or English Tudor)

CITY OF Gonzales Parks and Recreation

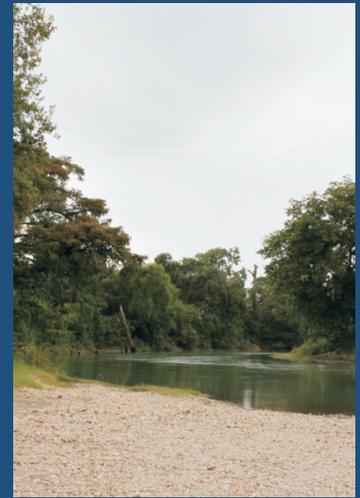
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Eggleston House



IMMORTAL 32

The "Immortal 32" reasons to visit

Gonzales played a vital role in the fight for Texas Independence. On October 2, 1835, the first shot for Texas Independence was fired near Gonzales which eventually led to the winning of independence near Houston. Gonzales was the only community who answered the call for aide by the Alamo. 32 brave Texians left their families and made the march to the Alamo where they gave their lives for freedom. They are revered in history as the "Immortal 32".

Tourists will find Gonzales rich in history and can explore opportunities to learn even more. The Gonzales Memorial Museum is home to the cannon fired on that pivotal day in 1835. Gonzales is home to the only Texas Museum History District as designated by both the house and senate. Other museums include the Old Jail Museum, Pioneer Museum at the Riverside School, Eggleston House, JB Wells House Museum and Pioneer Village Living History Center. Historical architecture abounds throughout the city including the courthouse and residences designed by noted architects such as J Riley Gordon and Atley Ayers.

Gonzales boasts over 500 modern hotel rooms including some of the finest bed and breakfast accommodations in Texas. You can choose from a variety of over 39 eateries ranging from fast food to fine dining. Shopping is abundant with a wide number of antique stores, specialty shops and boutiques. Choices for evening entertainment are plentiful from the historic Lynn Theater showing first run movies to venues including a popular sports bar and other local clubs regularly offering live entertainment.

If health and fitness is your game, Gonzales is home to Thrive Healthplex which is a 49,000 + square foot state of the art complex dedicated to fitness, therapy and total body wellness including a spa offering an array of the latest health and beauty related services. Swimming pools, sports courts, weights and aerobic machines are among the many amenities you will find.

Gonzales has over 700 acres of parks including a golf course, hiking/biking trails, disc golf, splash pad and numerous sports facilities. JB Wells Park includes a modern

covered rodeo facility which has hosted events almost every weekend since being built over 15 years ago. Also included is a state of the art Expo Center with over 15,550 square feet of air-conditioned space perfect for corporate events, trade shows, business meetings, fundraisers and banquets just to name a few.

Being just below the convergence of the San Marcos and Guadalupe Rivers, the Gonzales area is part of the Texas Paddling Trails System. Just a few miles north of town is Palmetto State Park offering camping, hiking, birding and canoeing.

Gonzales is home to numerous festivals and celebrations throughout the year. Favorites are the Summer Concert Series every Friday night in June and the 4th of July, Come and Take It Celebration first weekend in October and Winterfest the first weekend in December which includes many activities including a lighted parade and historic homes tour.

Gonzales, not just another small town, THE small town with big things to offer. A great place to visit and even a better place to call home!



WELCOME TO
GONZALES

★

🔫

COME AND TAKE IT

PIONEER VILLAGE LIVING HISTORY CENTER



From blacksmithing to butter churning, Gonzales' Pioneer Village Living History Center is a place where folks of all ages can go to learn about life in the late 19th Century.

Known locally as "The Village," the center is an outdoor museum featuring a collection of 1800s houses, outbuildings and businesses. It is located north of the intersection of Business U.S. Highway 183 and U.S. Highway 90A.

Pioneer Village stands as a monument of history with its collection of buildings on a 12-acre tract which is part of the original Spanish cross design for the town of Gonzales. The project started as a way to save endangered historic structures in Gonzales County and has gradually evolved into a living history museum where school children from all over South Texas tour to learn about their heritage.

"It's a place to go and see how people lived

at the turn of the century," Frenzel said. "There are few places where you can see a log cabin like the one we have. There's also a ranch house that was built in 1850 by the Gates family."

The 10 buildings restored at Pioneer Village include houses ranging from an 1830s split-log house to an 1890s Greek Revival House, as well as businesses where a blacksmith and broom maker ply their trade on special days. Because all of the buildings that have been brought in and restored are from inside the county only, they are a showcase for the architectural history of this area.

"The village is doing better than it ever has," Frenzel said. "We recently got three frame buildings — the church, school and Metzler house — new windows and painted them."

On special occasions the village serves as a backdrop for costumed historical re-enactments and skill demonstrations.

"We have things like a blacksmith, dutch

oven and a place where people can learn to churn their own butter," Frenzel said. "It's great on popcorn!"

Some of the special events that take place at the village are the Dutch Oven Cook-off and Melodrama, First Shot Battle Re-creation and Stars in the Village.

"It's great that people of today can sort of time travel and see how people lived back then," Frenzel said. "We try to stress the fact that at that time, every family had to work to survive," "Pulling together. And that's really what a family is."

The First Shot Battle Re-creation takes place during Come & Take It weekend on 3 p.m. that first Saturday. Meanwhile, the Stars in the Village celebration is held during the first weekends of December.

Pioneer Village is open 1-5 p.m. every day except Monday. Adult admission is \$5, children 4 to 12 is \$3, and children under 3 get in for free.

GONZALES MAIN STREET

Gonzales, known for its late 19th and early 20th Century commercial and institutional buildings in the downtown area, was awarded Official Main Street status in 1988. Through the revitalization and restoration efforts of the community, Historic Downtown Gonzales has become a great place to Shop, Dine, Play and Stay.

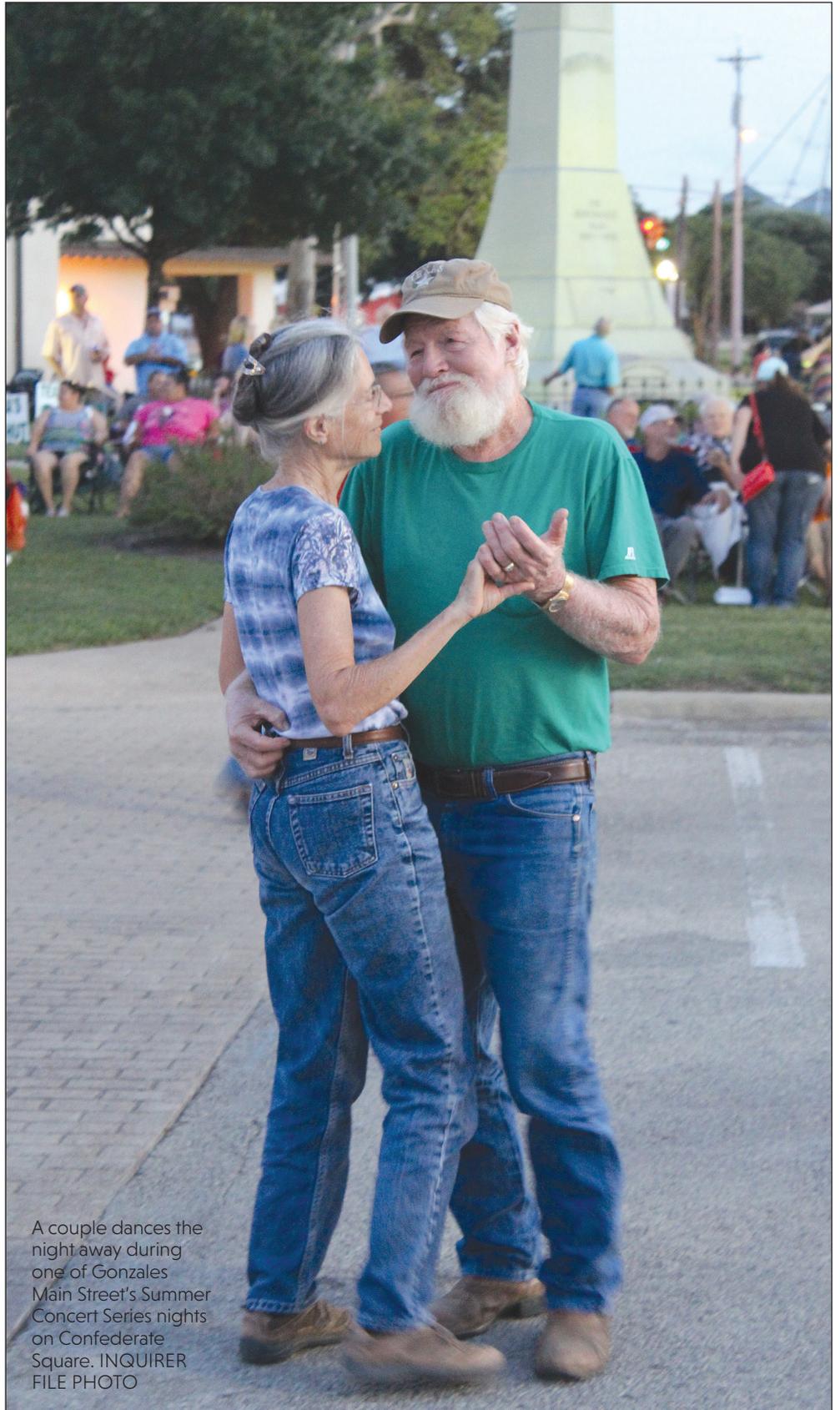
Visit Gonzales and stay at one of our historic hotels and bed and breakfast in the heart of downtown or in one of our approximately 550 hotel rooms located throughout the community. Stroll through the many antique shops and specialties shops. Enjoy a delicious meal at one of our fine restaurants. Enjoy live entertainment and fine dining at the Running M Bar and Grill. The Come & Take It Sports Bar is the place to watch your favorite sport on one of the big screen TVs while enjoying a drink or a fine meal. Watch a first-run movie at the Lynn Theater. Take the walking or self-driving tour and relive the history of Gonzales.

Gonzales Main Street sponsors the Main Street Concert Series every Friday night in June. From 6-10 p.m. enjoy great outdoor entertainment on Confederate Square. This free event has great music, arts and craft show, food and is just good ol' family entertainment. The concert series ends with the Star Spangled Spectacular held at 6 p.m. July 4th on Confederate Square. The show ends with a spectacular fireworks display that can be seen throughout the city.

During the Christmas season, downtown shines with lights outlining the buildings and stars adding a holiday sparkle to this historic area of Gonzales. The Christmas season kicks off with a lighted Christmas parade the first Saturday in December. Other activities for the Winterfest weekend include Breakfast with Santa, arts and crafts show, Historic Homes Tour, Stars in the Village and much more.

Visit Historic Downtown Gonzales and have a great experience. Shop! Dine! Stay! And Play!

For information, contact the city at 830-672-2815 or MainStreet@gonzales.texas.gov



A couple dances the night away during one of Gonzales Main Street's Summer Concert Series nights on Confederate Square. INQUIRER FILE PHOTO

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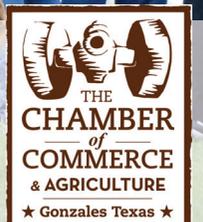
COME AND TAKE IT
CELEBRATION

Oct. 6, 7 & 8

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HISTORY OF COME AND TAKE IT



Historical reenactors fight the “Battle of Gonzales” each year as part of the Come and Take It celebration on the first weekend in October. Many visitors are surprised to learn that the Texans suffered no significant injuries in the encounter with the Mexican Army.

Under the leadership of General Santa Anna, the government of Mexico was transformed into a military dictatorship, ignoring the Constitution of 1824, which had cost many lives and had secured liberties not previously enjoyed by the people. The state of Coahuila did not cooperate with Santa Anna’s plans, and the state of Zacatecas rebelled, but was brutally crushed by the military. One of Santa Anna’s “reforms” was to reduce the number of the militia to one soldier for every five-hundred inhabitants, and to disarm the remainder. This arbitrary decree was a sufficient justification of Texas for her subsequent acts. Every one who knows the Texans, or who has heard of them, would naturally conclude that they never would submit to be disarmed. Any government that would attempt to disarm its people is despotic; and

any people that would submit to it deserves to be slaves!

Stephen F. Austin was jailed in Mexico City, accused of fomenting revolution. In early 1835 Santa Anna reopened the Customs House at Anahuac. He again slapped duties on the colonists. He sent a new man, Captain Antonio Tenorio, to Anahuac to see that the Texans paid up.

The local legislature at Monclova was gone — closed down by Santa Anna after it tried to raise money by selling four hundred leagues of Texas land to hungry U.S. speculators. Most Texans were opposed to this step too — and no one liked being governed from Monclova — but Santa Anna’s solution left them even worse off. They now had no government at all, and their representatives were under arrest.

Along the coast Mexican garrisons stepped up their campaign to stop smuggling and collect

customs duties. At Galveston they seized the Texas schooner Martha, loaded with supplies for the colonists. A message taken from a careless Mexican courier hinted that even more troops were on the way. Angriily the settlers burned some lumber ordered by Captain Tenorio at Anahuac.

William B. Travis had a better idea. Late in June he raised a company of twenty-five men and marched on Tenorio’s headquarters. He dramatically gave the Mexicans fifteen minutes to surrender or be ‘put to the sword.’ Tenorio quickly capitulated.

The colonists couldn’t adjust that easily. They were shocked at Travis’ audacity. This wasn’t merely a case of smuggling, dodging customs collectors, or playing a practical joke on Colonel Bradburn. This was throwing out the garrison

continued on page 18

commander. Practically open rebellion. Few were ready to go that far.

Apologies...regrets...stern words for Travis. Repudiated, he lapsed into one of his moody spells. He published a note in the Texas Republican asking people to 'reserve judgment.' He morosely wrote a friend that he felt ashamed.

At this point, Santa Anna overplayed his hand. Deeming Travis' setback a sign of weakness, he decided that this was the time to finish off his enemies. During August he poured more troops into Texas and told his brother-in-law, General Martin Perfecto de Cos, to take personal command. Cos ordered the arrest of Travis and several other Texas troublemakers.

The Mexican leaders completely misinterpreted the situation. The Texans' real goal was to build a secure future without outside interference. They rebuked Travis because he seemed to be inviting a fight. Now they saw an infinitely greater threat — martial law, military occupation, the arrest of good friends. Almost overnight the pendulum swung the other way, and the people of Texas turned violently against Santa Anna.

Committees of Safety sprang up in every town. The highly influential Telegraph and Texas Register hammered away for liberty and freedom. Travis discarded his moody gloom; his letters now sang of 'the hour that will try men's souls.' Then on September 1 came an electrifying development — Stephen F. Austin suddenly reappeared from Mexico.

Next week a thousand people jammed the banquet given in his honor in Brazoria. The Room fell silent as the trusted leader rose to speak. He had always preached moderation; after a year in Mexican jails, how did he feel?

He left little doubt. Santa Anna was destroying the people's rights.... And on the question of Mexican troops in Texas, Austin was even more specific. The people had a strong moral sense that "would not unite with any armed force sent against this country; on the contrary, it would resist and repel it, and ought to do so."

A week later General Cos landed at Copano with 400 men. 'War is our only recourse,' thundered a broadside from Austin. Unfazed, Cos headed for San Antonio. Here the garrison commander Colonel Ugartechea had his hands full, confiscating weapons, searching houses, disbanding suspicious groups that re-formed as fast as he broke them up. Mexican policy was to seize arms and military stores in Texan hands before real trouble started.

Word had just come of a serious problem at Gonzales. The colonists there were shining up a small cannon given them years ago to



The fog lifted suddenly as a curtain, showing both forces drawn up on an open prairie. With the Come and Take It flag flying, the Gonzales cannon fired, and Captain Castaneda immediately requested a parley, asking why he was being attacked.

ward off Indians. Ugartechea, acting under the decree disarming citizens, sent a file of cavalymen riding to Gonzales with an order for the surrender of the gun. Andrew Ponton, the Gonzales alcalde, received the order and stalled for time. He sent a message stating he was absent. He demanded an order from the political chief of the Department of the Brazos before releasing it. The noncommissioned officer in charge of the Mexican cavalry left his men camped at Gonzales and rode back to San Antonio de Bexar for further instructions from Colonel Ugartechea. Meanwhile, Ponton buried the cannon in a peach orchard and sent runners to the surrounding area for armed assistance.

Not long after, the Texans shed all pretense of ever surrendering the cannon. Joseph D. Clements delivered the message to the Mexican army: "I cannot, nor do I desire to deliver up the cannon...and only through force will we yield."

Meanwhile, word was spreading that the Texans at Gonzales needed help.

The 18 men in Gonzales, willing and able to conduct an organized fight, removed all boats from the Guadalupe River, and hid the ferry in a bayou north of town. Next they captured the handful of Mexican soldiers waiting near town — but one man escaped, and rode hallooing back to Bexar.

Meanwhile, volunteers responding to the call to arms rushed to the scene, and the little Texan force of 18 mushroomed to 150 on September 30...167 on Oct. 1.

Also at this time, Sara Seely DeWitt and her daughter Evaline made the flag, back then referred to as the Old Cannon Flag, now called the Come and Take It flag. Depicted on a white cloth was a cannon with a lone star above it, and the words "come and take it" beneath the cannon. It was Texas' first battle flag, and first Lone Star flag.

On Oct. 1, 1835, Capt. Francisco Castaneda arrived from San Antonio with something less than two hundred men. Ugartechea intended a show of force. Castaneda, blocked by the Guadalupe, demanded the ferry be restored, and the cannon handed over. There was some parleying, a demonstration by the Mexican cavalry near the town, and considerable yelling and taunting by the Texans, who dared the Mexicans to "come and take it!"; echoing the

words emblazoned on their newly created flag flying in the breeze.

That night the Texans silently slipped across the Guadalupe and formed a defensive square.

After an inspiring address from Rev. William P. Smith, the Texans resumed their advance toward the Mexican camp in the fog shrouded dawn of Oct. 2. They were sure Castaneda planned to attack this day; they might as well hit him first. Quietly, very quietly, they edged through the fog. With them was the cannon, dug up from the peach orchard where Albert Martin had buried it. It was loaded with chains and scraps of iron.

The Texan militia blundered into the Mexican pickets, but in the dark and fog there could be no war. Everyone drew back and waited until daybreak.

The fog lifted suddenly as a curtain, showing both forces drawn up on an open prairie. With the Come and Take It flag flying, the Gonzales cannon fired, and Captain Castaneda immediately requested a parley, asking why he was being attacked.

Colonel Moore, commander of the Texans, explained that the Captain had demanded a cannon given to the Texans for 'the defense of themselves and the constitution and the laws of the country,' while he, Castaneda, 'was acting under orders of the tyrant Santa Anna, who had broken and trampled underfoot all the state and federal constitutions of Mexico, except that of Texas,' which last the Texans were prepared to defend.

Castaneda answered that 'he was himself a republican, as were two-thirds of the Mexican nation, but he was a professional officer of the government,' and while that government had indeed undergone certain surprising changes, it was the government, and the people of Texas were bound to submit to it.

Moore then suggested to the Captain, if he were a republican, he should join the revolution against tyranny by surrendering his command, and join them in the fight. Captain Castaneda replied stiffly that he would obey his orders. At this, Moore returned to his own lines and ordered the Texans to open fire. There was a brief skirmish, and the Mexican force immediately abandoned the field and rode back toward San Antonio.



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gyoung@gonzales.texas.gov



GEDC secures largest project in history of Gonzales County

What a difference \$50,000,000 makes, in the lottery and in economic development. Just ask Gonzales and BYK USA Inc., one of the top 10 employers in Gonzales County. Thanks to due diligence and the support of many, Gonzales bested Lewisville, Kentucky, China, and Germany to win the bid for BYK USA Inc.'s \$50,000,000 expansion. From May through November of 2017, the City of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Gonzales Healthcare Systems, the Gonzales Independent School District, and local BYK representatives joined forces to support efforts led by the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation to secure the largest economic development project in the community's history.

Some very savvy Gonzales community leaders, rolled up their sleeves and competed on a worldwide stage to retain the existing business, 140+ jobs, and an \$8,000,000 annual payroll. Through this unprecedented alliance, leadership achieved success that will ultimately provide a stronger, richer tax base and economic stability for the future.

BYK USA Inc. is one of the world's leading suppliers in the field of additives. When used in small quantities, these additives improve product properties such as scratch resistance or surface gloss. The addition of additives also optimizes some manufacturing processes. Specific to the expansion in Gonzales is Garamite, a powdered rheology additive used in a broad spectrum of products from paints, to plastics, to petroleum products and more.

Agriculture is BIG business in this area and the majority of the agricultural income comes from poultry and beef cattle. According to Texas AgriLife Extension and Texas A&M, Gonzales County ranks in the top five counties in the state for poultry



production and volume of beef cows. An impressive list of existing businesses who call Gonzales home includes Tyson Foods, Cal Maine Foods, Nest Fresh Eggs, Happy Hens, Holmes Foods, Graham Feed Yards, Kitchen Pride Mushroom Farm, Adams Extract and Spice, Aspen Beverage, Purina Mills, and Wrangler Trucking, to list a few.

Oil and gas production is another major contributor to the Gonzales County economy. According to a March 4, 2018 report by ShaleExperts.com, EOG Resources, Penn Virginia Corp., and Earthstone Energy, Inc. were the top operators in Gonzales County, TX in the previous twelve months.

Another existing business, tremendous asset and outstanding corporate partner in Gonzales County is TXGN/TNW Short Line Rail. TXGN operates freight service from a connection with Union Pacific (UP) at Harwood, TX to Gonzales, TX, approximately 12.3 miles. Freight and traffic consists of crude oil, grain and animal feed meals, clay, and metal

products. TNW operates the Eagle Ford Logistics Center, a 400+ acre facility midway between Harwood and Gonzales. Services provided at the Center are the coordination of arrivals and departures of unit trains, 3,000+ railcar storage and lay down space, hosting transload operations, product storage options, State-certified weight scale services, and available tenant sites for lease or build-to-suit warehousing and commercial development. Eagle Ford offers a distinct competitive advantage because it is conveniently located near U.S. Interstate Highway 10, which connects to San Antonio and Houston.

Gonzales' existing industry landscape is quite diverse. Each business provides a service, a place of employment, a source of income and revenue adding to the quality of place and quality of life in Gonzales. The diversity of industry helps with the recruitment of new industry. Every business, small or large, retail or industrial, agricultural or petroleum, every business stimulates and sustains the economy.

FIESTA GUACAMOLE

If you like guacamole, then you're sure to love Waelder's annual Fiesta Guacamole!

Every year hundreds of folks gather for a mix of live music, games and delicious guacamole at Waelder City Park. This year's installment — the town's 41st opens at noon Saturday, Sept. 1, and runs through midnight Sunday, Sept. 2. If you're new to Gonzales County and have never been to Fiesta Guacamole, you're in for a treat.

A volleyball tournament, which is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. Saturday, unofficially opens the two-day festival.

Music, food and, of course, guacamole are the highlights for the weekend celebration, sponsored by St. Patrick Church. Bingo will also be available throughout the weekend.

DJ music is always played throughout the festival, with live bands taking the stage each night.

Sunday's events begin with Mass-in-the-Park at 11:30 a.m. There'll barely be enough time to get a burger or the traditional Mexican plate before the parade sounds and sirens reach the park at 1 p.m. The Guacamole Mash — the fiesta's namesake —

takes place at 2 p.m. Sunday, followed by the auction at 3 p.m.

All fiesta activities take place at Waelder City Park with the exception of parade sign-in, which occurs at St. Patrick Church on U.S. 90. All fiesta proceeds go to maintain and support St. Patrick Mission in Waelder.

The food menu for the festival includes tamales, gorditas, fajitas, tacos and hamburgers.

The \$3 gate fee increases to \$6 after 6 p.m., and children under 12 years old are admitted free.



VICTORIA COLLEGE

Center plays vital role in higher education, training of local workforce

Victoria College's Gonzales Center, located at 424 E. Sarah DeWitt Drive in Gonzales, recently celebrated 10 years of training the local workforce and preparing students in Gonzales County and neighboring counties to take their higher education to the university level.

The Gonzales Center opened in May 2007 and offers day, night and online classes. Students can obtain college credits that can be used toward Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees and transfer to four-year universities.

"We are proud to be a part of the Gonzales Center," says Victoria College President Dr. David Hinds. "It serves approximately 380 credit students and over 300 noncredit stu-

dents per year. Many of those students would not pursue anything beyond high school if the Gonzales Center was not here."

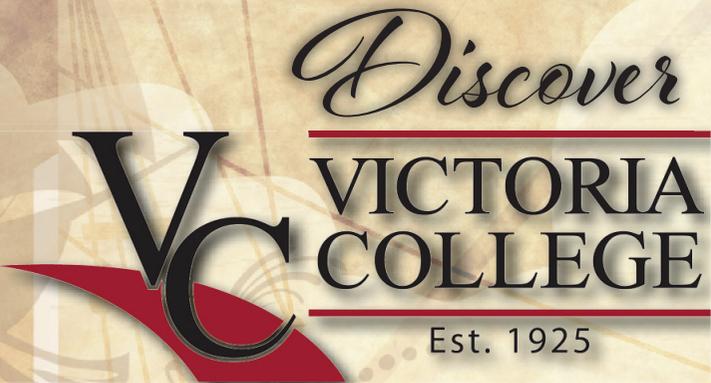
VC's Gonzales Center also offers a Vocational Nursing Program and training in truck driving, welding, HVAC, electrical trades and other industrial trades. Adult education, financial aid and advising services are also available.

"Gonzales ISD students have an amazing benefit through shared services offered by Victoria College's Gonzales Center," says Gonzales ISD Superintendent Kimberly Strozier. "The ability to gain both high school and college credits through a dual-credit program right in our hometown serves our students tremendously in preparation for their futures. Addi-

tionally, advanced vocational course opportunities in areas such as welding and nurse aide provide our students the ability to gain training for immediate job opportunities and garner additional certifications in specified areas. The partnership with VC's Gonzales Center is a gift for our students and this community."

VC's Gonzales Center recently unveiled its new Tutoring Resource Center and remodeled nursing skills lab. This fall, the Gonzales Center will begin offering Carpentry Level 1 and Plumbing Level 1 courses. A Drywall Level 1 course will begin in Spring 2019.

For more information about VC's Gonzales Center, call (830) 672-6251 or visit VictoriaCollege.edu/GonzalesCenter.



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THE RUNAWAY SCRAPE

The Alamo fell to Mexican forces under General Santa Anna 180 years ago. Following a series of losing battles, the Alamo's downfall must have felt like a wake for a republic that had just been born. Texas had declared its independence just five days before the worst defeat the Republic had yet suffered. The Goliad Massacre took place three weeks later and was an even worse defeat than the Alamo, leaving 342 soldiers dead. The odds were stacked against the Texans and their fledgling Republic.

Between the fall of the Alamo and the death of Colonel James Fannin and his men, Texas was defeated at the battles of Refugio and Coleto. Susanna Dickinson informed General Sam Houston of the Alamo's fall on March 11. She gave him the bad news before the defeats at Coleto and Refugio, and still Houston knew he couldn't defeat the Mexican army with the number of troops he had. After the fall of the Alamo, Houston had around 400 men against Santa Anna's 1,400 and felt they were not prepared for the kind of battle Santa Anna sought. The Mexican Army would form up in battle lines and fight in the European style. Houston was skeptical that his army would be able to stand toe-to-toe with the Mexican regulars.

Houston decided to retreat beyond the Colorado River, an easier position to defend than Gonzales. This was not just for his army, but civilians as well. Thus began the Runaway Scrape; a rearguard action that lasted for a month-and-a-half as Houston zigzagged across Texas until the army turned and fought at San Jacinto. But San Jacinto was more than a month away. The Runaway Scrape was devastating to the new Republic. The order of the day

for the Mexican Army was 'no quarter.' Rebellious Texans were treated with no mercy, and fled with reason.

Local historian Vicki Frenzel gave her own account of the events of the Runaway Scrape, with the most prominent account being that Sam Houston ordered the town to be burned.

"When an invading army is coming through, you don't want to leave them any shelter, supplies or anything they can use to help themselves," Frenzel said. "The men had to burn the town to stop the Mexican army from having any resources as they advanced."

"Margaret Darst, whose husband Jacob died at the Alamo, was on the runaway scrape," she said. "She wrote an account saying the people were already starting to drift out of town even before they heard the Alamo fell. They knew it was going to happen; it was just a matter of time."

Fleeing people eventually gathered at the McClure Cabin, where Sam Houston camped under one of the location's oak trees. During the journey Darst and her son David were riding horseback turned and looked back and saw the town burning. Meanwhile, Isaac Milsap's widow had taken her children down to the Guadalupe River bottom to hide. But when Houston learned of this, he sent riders down to retrieve the family. Many people walked from here to Sam Houston, and many died along the way. But there's no record of how many.

1835 featured one of the coldest and wettest springs in recorded history, with freezing overnight temperatures. This made the mass exodus even tougher.

"Parents had children who of course got sick from wet clothes and being exposed

to the elements," Frenzel said. "Once they got across the Brazos River it was worse because it was flooded. Their moccasins were drenched and they were up to their ankles in water, trudging."

Houston turned several times to escort groups of refugees, all the while the rank and file soldiers in Houston's army thirsted for revenge. All the while, Houston drilled as much as he could. Word of the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence filtered outward from Washington-on-the-Brazos slowly by word of mouth. When word reached the fleeing masses waiting for a ferry to cross the Brazos, many must have laughed with grim humor as they saw the smoke of their homes and ranches reach into the air. Any flight of refugees from war is attended by misery, tragedy and terror. There were hundreds of tales of heroism and self-reliance, as the women struggled over the muddy roads to the Sabine, without their men, abandoning their homes and the labor of years, with the smoke of the Mexican swathe of destruction rising behind them. Soon, there was hunger; fever and sickness spread — and babies began to die.

Santa Anna broke up his Army into columns, believing there were not many Texans remaining. He thought the Texans were crushed and that one swift stroke would chase the rest out of Mexican Texas. His campaign was a punishing one — spreading his army wide for maximum destruction. However, Santa Anna would eventually come to regret that decision at a place named for Saint Hyacinth. In the meantime, the dawning of the Republic seemed more like a twilight to be greeted with a hell of fire, smoke, disease and death.

“When an invading army is coming through, you don't want to leave them any shelter, supplies or anything they can use to help themselves. The men had to burn the town to stop the Mexican army from having any resources as they advanced.”

PLACES OF WORSHIP

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

**Gonzales Family Church
Assembly of God**
320 St. Andrew

First Assembly of God
509 E. 3rd St., Nixon

New Life Assembly of God
Corner of Church St. &
Jessie Smith St., Gonzales

BAPTIST

Clark Baptist Church
FM 794, Gonzales

Country Baptist Church
Highway 87, Smiley

Eastside Baptist Church
Seydler Street, Gonzales

Efeso Iglesia Bautista
Highway 87, Smiley

Elm Grove Baptist Church
4337 FM 1115
Waelder, TX, 78959

First Baptist Church
422 St. Paul, Gonzales

First Baptist Church
403 N. Texas, Nixon

First Baptist Church
Highway 108 N., Smiley

First Baptist Church
406 N. Avenue E, Waelder

Greater Palestine Baptist Church
S. of 90A (sign on Hwy 80)

Greater Rising Star Baptist Church

Harwood Baptist Church

North of Post Office, Harwood

Iglesia Bautista Macedonia

201 S. Congress, Nixon

Iglesia Bautista Memorial

Highway 97, Waelder

Leesville Baptist Church

E. of Highway 80 on CR 121

Memorial Heights Baptist Church

1330 N. College, Gonzales

Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church

100 Capes, Gonzales

Oak Valley Baptist Church

Highway 97, Bebe

Old Moulton Baptist Church

1121 N. College, Gonzales

Providence Missionary Baptist Church

1020 St. Andrew, Gonzales

Stratton Primitive Baptist

FM 1447, 9 miles east of Cuero

St. James Baptist Church

Hwy 80, north of Belmont.

St. Paul Baptist Church

SE 2nd Street, Waelder

Shiner Baptist Church

Union Lea Baptist Church

St. Andrew St., Gonzales

Union Valley Baptist Church

FM 1681, NW of Nixon

CATHOLIC

St. James Catholic Church

417 N. College, Gonzales

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

St. John St., Gonzales

St. Joseph Catholic Church

207 S. Washington, Nixon

St. Patrick Catholic Church

Waelder

St. Phillip Catholic Church

Highway 87, Smiley

CHRISTIAN

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

712 Crockett, Luling

CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Church of Christ

1323 Seydler St., Gonzales

Church of Christ (Iglesia de Cristo)

201 E. Second St. Nixon

Church of Christ

E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon

Church of Christ, Belmont

CHURCHES OF GOD

Community Church of God

1020 St. Louis, Gonzales

Gonzales Memorial

Church of God in Christ

1113 Hastings, Gonzales

New Beginnings

1020 St. Louis, Gonzales

PLACES OF WORSHIP

New Way Church of God in Christ
514 St. Andrew, Gonzales

EPISCOPAL
Episcopal Church of the Messiah
721 S. Louis, Gonzales

EVANGELICAL
La Vos del Evangelio,
Mision Capilla del Pueblo
W. Central at Hwy. 87, Nixon

FULL GOSPEL
Camp Valley Full Gospel
Hwy 80, 7 mi. north of Nixon

Full Gospel Church
1426 Fisher, Gonzales

JEWISH
Adat Haderech, a Messianic shul
HashemYeshua1@yahoo.com

LUTHERAN
First Evangelical Lutheran
1206 St. Joseph, Gonzales

Abiding Word Lutheran
Church LCMS
1310 St. Louis, Gonzales

METHODIST
Belmont United Methodist
Highway 90A, Belmont

Dewville United Methodist
West of FM 1117 on CR 121

First United Methodist
426 St. Paul, Gonzales

First United Methodist
410 N. Franklin, Nixon

Harris Chapel United Methodist
S. Liberty St., Nixon

Harwood Methodist Church
Harwood

Henson Chapel United Methodist
1113 St. Andrew, Gonzales

Monthalia United Methodist
CR 112 off Highway 97

Smiley United Methodist
1 blk. S. of Hwy. 87, Smiley

Webster Chapel A.M.E.
1027 Church St., Gonzales

NON-DENOMINATIONAL
Agape Ministries
512 St. James, Gonzales

Bread of Life Ministries
613 St. Joseph, Gonzales

Christ the King Church
1262 U.S. Highway 77, South
Hallettsville

Cowboy Church of Gonzales County
J.B. Wells Show Barn

El Centro Cristiano "Agua Viva"
403 Highway 90 W, Waelder

Emmanuel Fellowship
1817 St. Lawrence, Gonzales

Encouraging Word Christian
Fellowship
Highway 80, Leesville

Lighthouse Church of Our Lord
1805 Weimar, Gonzales

New Life Temple for Jesus Christ
16214 US 90 W, Harwood

River of Life Christian Fellowship
207 Steele St., Smiley

Two Rivers Bible Church
1600 Sarah DeWitt Dr., Suite 210,
Gonzales

INTER-DENOMINATIONAL
Faith Family Church
1812 Cartwheel Dr., Gonzales

PENTECOSTAL
Faith Temple
Hwy. 80 (N. Nixon Ave.), Nixon

Holy Temple of Jesus Christ No. 2
1515 Dallas, Gonzales

Iglesia Pentecostes Filadelfia
893 S. Magnolia Ave., Luling

Temple Bethel Pentecostal
1104 S. Paul, Gonzales

Thompsonville Community Church
CR 423, Thompsonville Between
Harwood & Waelder off old Hwy.
90

Life Changing Church of Gonzales
3.3 miles north on Hwy 183, right on
CR 235, then right on CR 236

PRESBYTERIAN
Pilgrim Presbyterian Church
CR 210 off FM 1116

Presbyterian Church of Gonzales
414 St. Louis, Gonzales

Cheapside Presbyterian Church,
Cuero

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103 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales

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1404 Sarah DeWitt Drive, Gonzales

Cow Palace Restaurant

342 US-90A, Gonzales

The Rodeo Restaurant

107 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales

Guerra's Grill & Catering

1303 St. Lawrence Street, Gonzales

Toni's Food Store

209 St. Lawrence Street, Gonzales

La Bella Tavola Gonzales

601 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales

Kloesel's Steak House & Bar

101 Moore Avenue, Moulton

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Running M Bar and Grill

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605 Sarah DeWitt Drive, Gonzales

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The Gonzales Inquirer



The Gonzales Inquirer, circa 1945



The Gonzales Inquirer, today

For 165 years, the Gonzales Inquirer has been a vital part of life in our county. Whether it has been our coverage of local politics, news, sports, births or obituaries, we have been the chronicler of life and history in this wonderful community for 165 continuous years, making us one of the oldest newspapers in all of Texas.

We are proud of our history, just like we are proud of the glorious history of Gonzales in helping shape the formation of the great state of Texas. From the first shot fired to the Immortal 32, we are honored to be a part of this historic town. As we enter into our 166th year of continuous operation, we have rededicated ourselves to providing the best and most comprehensive news, sports and feature coverage ever provided to our community.

Whether it's entertainment, community events, high school sports, or local news coverage, the Gonzales Inquirer is your indispensable source of news, information and business advertising for Gonzales County. See for yourself by subscribing, or follow us online at www.GonzalesInquirer.com or like us on Facebook to stay abreast of everything that is happening in our charming community.

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We are proud to be the community newspaper of Gonzales County. Come and Grow with us.

Terry Fitzwater
Publisher

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GONZALES ISD



Gonzales ISD committed to excellence

BY **DR. KIM STROZIER** | SUPERINTENDENT

In Gonzales ISD we are committed to a “spirit” of excellence for all.

We are a district of six campuses serving nearly 2,900 students. Our newest campus,

Gonzales Primary Academy (GPA), opened in 2016. This amazing campus houses pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students in a state of the art facility. Architectural details

highlight color, space and light offering a prime environment for learning. We are beyond excited to welcome our youngest students to the Primary Academy.



Current additions to Gonzales High School include a brilliant student center designed conceptually like a college campus center. Students will have access to WiFi throughout the space which is set up to provide small group, individual and large group meeting learning areas. The new front office at GHS adds a beautiful and secure entry for wonderful parents, community, and visitors.

North Avenue Intermediate campus has also undergone renovation, additions and expansions. The new kitchen and cafeteria space complete with an internet café provide an upbeat and current lunch room. Supportive, encouraging and

motivational signage hangs throughout the room where students can choose their favorite sitting areas at the tables or new booth areas.

The new classroom wing will offer much needed space for learning and blends perfectly with the existing structure. An ornate façade dating from one of the original North Avenue buildings was delicately moved from another location to greet us in the front of the new building. Additionally, the new band hall is an excellent addition to the campus offering students a key structure for the introduction to music and instruments. It will serve students for many years to come

in building the GISD band program.

Gonzales Junior High projects began last spring, adding classrooms and a cafeteria renovation in the near future. Our East Avenue Primary and Gonzales Elementary campus will experience new learning spaces as we open the new GPA and restructure grade levels at East Avenue and Gonzales Elementary. East Avenue will serve grades 1 and 2 and the elementary school will serve grades 3 and 4.

So many excited days are ahead! We are fortunate in GISD to have the drive for excellence and a community of support in meeting our goals.

GONZALES HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

Healthcare close to home

Gonzales Healthcare Systems is dedicated to serving our community with state-of-the-art services and equipment and meeting the needs of our growing community.

We as a healthcare system have evolved and have brought our community more services closer to home since opening the doors in 1978. There have been many new additions to our hospital over the years and in the future of Gonzales Healthcare Systems, there will continue to be updates to our facility, as well as bringing new services to the community. Some of the highlights over the years include a remodeled emergency room, expansion of the outpatient



area, remodeled inpatient rooms and nurses' station, expansion of Sievers Medical Clinic, creation of the Jane Johnson Women's Center and 3D mammography, construction of thrive Healthplex, and currently in the building phases: a new Waelder Medical Clinic.

Currently, Gonzales Healthcare Systems proudly offers these services to our community members: radiology, laboratory, pediatrics, family medicine, OB, an infusion center, occupational health, emergency room, surgery, home health, inpatient care, as well as thrive Healthplex which includes fitness, med spa, and therapy. The Surgical Clinic inside thrive houses our

general surgeon, orthopedic surgeon, and cardiologist.

Gonzales Healthcare Systems also features a Specialty Clinic that houses many types of specialty physicians throughout the month. While not only providing great care, we offer the convenience of having these services available to our residents so there is no need to drive out of town. Our Specialty Clinic currently offers Neurosurgery, Urology, Podiatry, Nephrology and so much more! The monthly specialty calendar is printed in each "Gonzales Inquirer" edition.

Gonzales Healthcare Systems is here to make sure all of your family healthcare needs are met. Visit us, and let us show you why we are THE choice for healthcare close to home.

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thrive Healthplex

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THE HEIGHTS

REHABILITATION & LONG TERM CARE

Of Gonzales

The Heights® is designed to resemble a typical home with a warm color palette, high-quality fixtures, and appealing furnishings so that elders feel comfortable, safe, and secure. The more intimate setting of The Heights® of Gonzales, with private living, dining, and family areas, promotes stronger social bonds among the elders, their families, and our team members.

Amenities include large private and semi-private rooms, day rooms, and Wi-Fi Internet as well as outdoor activity areas, walking tracks, and gardens. We also provide the latest in rehabilitation therapies and equipment so that elders can achieve the best results.

Special features of The Heights® of Gonzales include:

- Large private and semi-private rooms (Available)
- Private bathrooms and private showers (Available)
- Electric beds
- Flat-Screen TVs with satellite in every room
- Wi-Fi Internet services
- On-site beauty salon and barber
- Private family dining room
- State-of-the-art rehabilitation gym with customized modalities
- Beautiful courtyard, gazebo, and covered patios
- Transportation to and from appointments and activities

ACTIVITIES

The activity program at The Heights® of Gonzales is designed to enrich the physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being of every elder in our care. Our community activity director arranges daily and monthly activities, including individual and group activities, to create a sense of community through building relationships and encouraging participation. Our care team and volunteers are dedicated to helping elders continue to be a part of the Gonzales community and live life to the fullest extent possible with activities that include art, music, gardening, entertainment, outings, and trips to local shops.

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SERVICES

Skilled Nursing/Long Term Care

Skilled nurses with a strong background in current trends and practices are essential to quality care and successful outcomes. The Heights® of Gonzales Rehabilitation and Nursing Center's 24/7 nursing team is led daily by doctors and nurse practitioners experienced in various subspecialties.

Rehabilitation

The Heights® of Gonzales provides comprehensive rehabilitation services including speech, occupational and physical Therapies, available 7 days a week. Our Rehabilitation Team designs a customized program providing residents with the greatest opportunity to return to their prior level of function and living accommodations.

Support Services

Among our skilled nursing and rehabilitation services, we provide an array of support services within our community to ensure your loved one is receiving the quality and specialized care possible. It is our vision to be the dynamic network of premier health care communities devoted to excellence through quality and integrity.

Respite Care

At some point in our lives, many of us are charged with being primary caregivers for elderly family members. Our Respite Care program provides a safe, warm and family-like environment for loved ones while offering caregivers a break from the responsibilities of daily caregiving.

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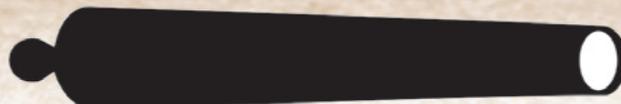
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Schedule of Events

Friday April 27, 2018

VIP Beer and Wine Tasting Event 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

\$50 includes free beer, wine and food, exclusive early admission to beer tent on Saturday, one complimentary beer stein from Shiner, one complimentary beer mug for Saturday, and 10 tickets for samples and pours on Saturday.

Saturday April 28th

Beer Tent

VIP Hours 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Open to Public 12:00 p.m. noon to 8:00 p.m.

\$25 admission to the beer tent, 10 tickets for samples and pours, and a complimentary beer mug .
Wine, sodas, water and other refreshments available.

Wine Festival

9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

\$20 includes commemorative wine glass, tote bag, corkscrew and tickets for 5 complimentary wine samplings

Starving Artist Festival

9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Free admission! Vendors will be displaying art from a wide variety of disciplines around the downtown square and in various businesses in the downtown area.

A special screen showing of multiple award winning "the RETRIEVAL" in the historic
Lynn Theater 1:00 p.m.

Film written and produced by local renowned artist Chris Eska www.theretrieval.com

Classic Car Show

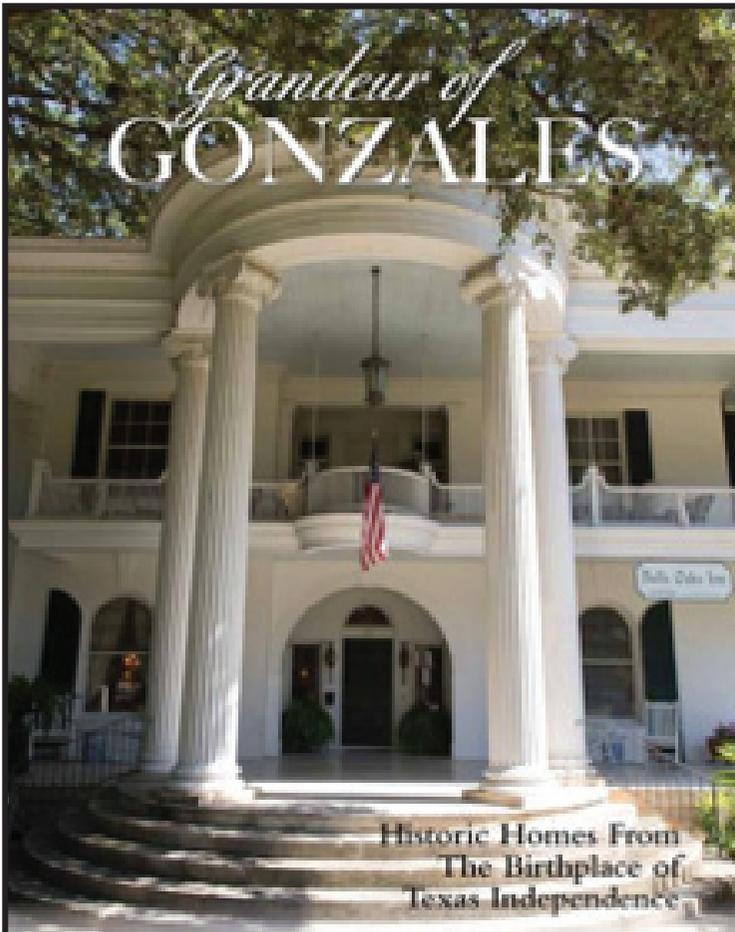
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Free admission! Proud car owners will be displaying their classic cars along the 600 block of
St Joseph Street



Following the festival, several downtown night clubs and restaurants will be featuring
special entertainment to round out the evening of fun!





Gonzales Historic Homes Association is proud to present

GRANDEUR OF GONZALES

A beautiful high-gloss, full color coffee table styled book showcasing the incredible architecture including a glimpse inside the historic mansions of the birthplace of Texas Independence. Also included is the history of Gonzales and photos of other points of interest.

Grandeur of Gonzales is a fundraiser benefitting the preservation and improvement of the City of Gonzales.

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