

The Gonzales Inquirer

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Hisey steps down from GHS position

Koerner named successor, touts coming innovations

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales Healthcare Systems has a new chief of staff after Dr. Commie Hisey voluntarily

stepped down from the position earlier this month.

Dr. Kathleen Koerner, a general surgeon, is the new chief of staff for the hospital. Hisey, a family practitioner, will remain on medical staff and continue to see patients through Sievers Medical Clinic.

Hisey told the Inquirer the move was not a demotion.

"After 30 years of practice I've opted to step down to spend more time with family," Hisey said "I'm still an active member of the medical staff and will continue to be here to work at the hospital."

"This position is voted on by staff. The hospital does not employ the position, nor direct, who is or is not in that position."



Dr. Commie Hisey



Dr. Kathleen Koerner

See HISEY, page A17

Waelder ISD will make 4th attempt to pass bond measures

FROM STAFF REPORTS

For the fourth time in less than two years, Waelder ISD will attempt to pass a bond issue to make improvements to its school facilities to better serve its student population.

The Waelder ISD Board of Trustees has approved a Nov. 7 bond election. On the ballot will be two propositions totaling just under \$7 million — more than \$3.3 million less than the district sought in its last failed attempt in May. Voters can approve both, either or none of the two measures, which were recommended by a Citizens Facilities Advisory Committee.

"Most residents know that Waelder ISD has been trying to pass a bond issue for several

See WAELDER, page A6

Jobless rate now at 4.0 percent in Gonzales Co.

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Unemployment in Gonzales County rose by another three-tenths of a percent in July 2023, according to state Labor Market Information (LMI) figures released by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

Unemployment in the county went up from 3.7 percent in June to 4.0 percent in July; however,

Gonzales County did not have either the lowest or highest jobless rate of the seven counties which comprise the Golden Crescent Workforce Development Area.

For the entire Golden Crescent Workforce Development Area, the unemployment rate for July 2023 was 4.2 percent, an increase of three-tenths of

See JOBS, page A6

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS



Friday, Aug. 25 marked the return of regular season high school football for Gonzales County's two teams: the Gonzales Apaches and the Nixon-Smilely Mustangs. The teams played under the bright stadium lights in their respective season openers with support from cheerleaders, bands and fans. For more sports, see pages A14-16.

PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN AND VANDY VAN EPPS



GISD communication department introduces internship program

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

Gonzales High School students will be getting a shot to pursue and experience the communications career field

on campus.

The GISD Communications Department introduced a communications internship program for those high

See INTERNSHIP, page A17

Nixon-Smilely CISD board adopts new budget, tax rate

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Nixon-Smilely Consolidated ISD Board of Trustees adopted a combined \$24,408,021 budget for fiscal year 2023-24 and adopted a tax rate of \$1.1146 per \$100

valuation — a decrease of 3.54 cents overall from last year's rate of \$1.15.

"The board continues to do an outstanding job of supporting the students and staff of Nixon-Smilely CISD," said Superintendent Jeff VanA-

uken. "Throughout the bond process, the board pledged to the voters that they would not increase the tax rate to finance the \$38 million bond. Last night the board actually lowered the tax rate by 3%. This shows that the board will

continue to try to provide the best resources available to our students and staff while trying to minimize the burden on our taxpayers!"

Last year, the district had

See BUDGET, page A18



Confederate Railroad

Trio of country hitmakers to headline Come & Take It

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

What do Little Texas, Confederate Railroad and Doug Stone all have in common?

Not only are they three legendary musical acts that ruled the Billboard Hot Country music charts for the year 1993 — but all three will be performing at the 2023 Come and Take It Celebration in Gonzales Oct. 6-8 with no admission charge!

See HEADLINERS, page A18

Guadalupe GOP censures Kuempel after lengthy meeting

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

State Rep. John Kuempel, R-Seguin, who represents Gonzales County in the Texas Legislature, was formally censured by his home county's Republican party following a lengthy deliberation Monday, Aug. 28, a former State Republican Executive Committee (SREC) member told the Inquirer.

Terry Harper, a member of the Guadalupe County Republican Party's Legislative Priorities Committee, said Kuempel was censured under GOP Censure Rule 44 after three and a half hours of deliberation Monday night.

"Republican Party Censure Rule 44 was



Rep. John Kuempel

See CENSURE, page A6



GHS to hold public hearing on proposed tax rate

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Gonzales Healthcare Systems Board of Directors will hold a public hearing on the proposed tax rate for fiscal year 2023 at 5:15 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5, at the Thrive Healthplex, 1300 Captain Albert Martin Trail, Gonzales. The board voted 7-2 to propose a tax rate of 30.5 cents per \$100 valuation — a decrease of 1.5 cents from last year's

adopted tax rate of 32 cents. The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue rate of 25.89 cents per \$100 valuation, but lower than the voter-approval tax rate of 31.46 cents. The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2023 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for GHS from the same properties in both the 2022 tax year and the 2023 tax year. The voter-approval rate is the

highest tax rate GHS could adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate. While the tax rate is expected to drop by 4.69 percent, the average homestead value has increased from \$139,153 to \$151,365, an increase of \$12,212, or 8.78 percent. As a result, the tax on the average homestead is expected to increase from \$445.29 last year to \$461.66 this year, an increase of \$16.37, or 3.68

percent. The total tax levy is expected to increase by \$2,447,147, or 18.80 percent, from \$13,015,209 last year to \$15,462,356 this year. Board members Kenneth Gottwald, Tim Markham, Stephanie Kodack, Lisa Gindler, Sascha Kardosz, Kerry Morgan and Gene Reed voted in favor of the proposed tax rate, while Greg Tieken and Wayne South voted against it.

WATER RESCUE TRAINING



Belmont VFD, Gonzales ESD Rescue, Ottine VFD and Nixon FD firefighters attended a Swift Water Rescue Technician class this past weekend in Gonzales. While the currents at this time on the Guadalupe River may not be as strong as during a real swift water event, instructor Jesse McGraw made sure trainees saw as much action and learned as many skills as they can.

CONTRIBUTED

Pre-trial hearing reset in Storey Jewelers theft case

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A pre-trial hearing for a woman accused of stealing thousands of dollars in merchandise from a local jewelry store has been reset for Sept. 27. Christina Martinez Melchor, 45, was indicted by a Gonzales County grand jury on two charges of felony theft of property greater than or equal to \$2,500 but less than \$30,000. She was formally arrested on May 23. On July 20, 2022, a report was made to the Gonzales Police Department by

the owner of Storey Jewelers in Gonzales regarding theft by a former employee, later identified as Melchor. An investigation was conducted regarding the complaint and turned over to the Gonzales County Attorney's Office, according to a statement by GPD. The case was then presented to a grand jury, which found probable cause to issue an indictment against Melchor. A pre-trial hearing had originally been scheduled for Aug. 14 before 2nd 25th District Judge Jessica R. Crawford.

SWEET CHAOS RIBBON CUTTING



LEW K. COHN

Sweet Chaos Shaved Ice and the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture celebrated Wednesday, Aug. 23, with a ribbon cutting ceremony at the business, which is located at 113 E. Hwy 90-A, Gonzales.

Chamber says goodbye to Martha Jimenez



SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture said goodbye Friday, Aug. 25, to member and marketing specialist Martha Jimenez, who is leaving the organization for a position at Gonzales Independent School District. Meanwhile, Laurie Cook has joined the Chamber as interim operations coordinator and spent the week

working with Jimenez to learn daily office procedures. The Chamber is taking applications for Jimenez' full-time replacement through Thursday, Aug. 31. Meanwhile, Chamber president Wayne Baker said the organization would be conducting first-round interviews for the tourism position this week, while applications for the executive director position were being accepted through Tuesday, Aug. 29.

Weather Sponsored by



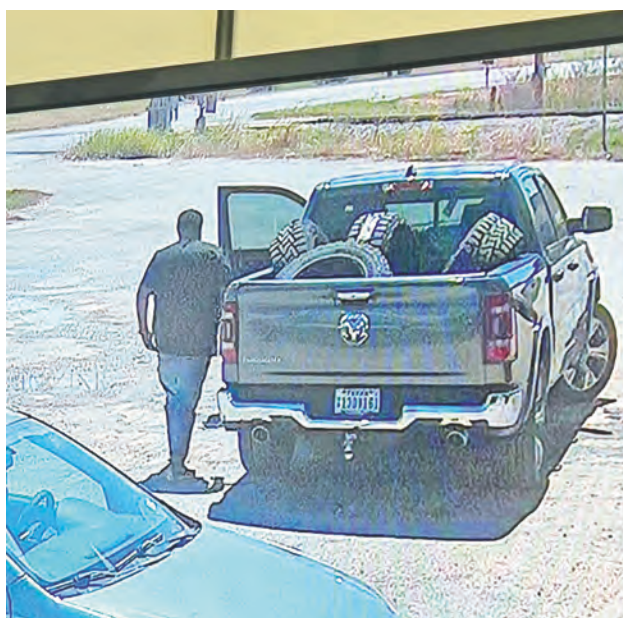
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POLICE SEEK SUSPECT



Texas Tire and Auto reported a theft of \$2,100 in merchandise from their store last week by a man in a Dodge pickup truck. The individual may have been identified and is being sought by Gonzales police in connection with the theft.

CONTRIBUTED

Celebrations

Birthdays

August 31st Lisa Brown Virgie Brown Sequoya Janacek Jeremy Lewis Sammy Villa Ferd West Jr. Donis Wilson	Dagan Pfuhl Ray Raley Jr. James Wright	September 5th Fancy Brown Linda Denker Destiny Hunt David Potter Garen Reese
September 1st Patsi Avant Margie Ayres Buttons Brown Britney Caka Patsy Eckols Dalyn Iley Brandy Jones Khalil Smith	September 3rd Parker Clay Shaneesha Green Alyssa Pfuhl Rachel Simper	September 6th Richard Dawson Lindsey Durrett Priscilla Finch Christie Fullilove Clayton Gregory Blake McCracken Johnny Nelson Beth Neuse
September 2nd Billy Mikesh	September 4th Royce Farrar Rhonda Farrar Hodges Laura Mayers Monica Miller Carolyn Morrow Shelly Nesloney Matt Tenberg	

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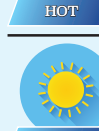


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Gonzales Inquirer

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Gonzales Weather

	August 31 100°/73°	Hot with plenty of sun 5% chance of rain • RealFeel 104
	September 1 100°/72°	Hot with plenty of sun 5% chance of rain • RealFeel 100
	September 2 99°/74°	Mostly sunny and very warm 20% chance of rain • RealFeel 103
	September 3 100°/76°	Very warm with plenty of sunshine 20% chance of rain • RealFeel 104
	September 4 100°/75°	Very warm with plenty of sunshine 20% chance of rain • RealFeel 106
	September 5 99°/76°	Sunshine and very warm 5% chance of rain • RealFeel 104
	September 6 99°/75°	Mostly sunny, very warm and humid 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 104

Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

August 31st – South Texas Tour

September 2nd-3rd
S. Productions

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VFT awarded Small Business Grant by USDA

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Visionary Fiber Technologies Inc. of Lockhart has received a \$165,538 Small Business grant for 2023 from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the pretreatment of animal and vegetable waste fats for renewable fuels processing.

The grant is part of an investment of over \$12.5 million as part of the USDA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs. The Phase I awards will support 76 small businesses conducting high-quality research that addresses critical scientific challenges and opportunities in agriculture.

Renewable fuels offer an opportunity to reduce carbon emissions generated by heavy transportation industries such as trucking and aviation. A major issue hindering the ability for renewable fuel producers to reach desired production rates is the lack of abundance in usable feedstocks. Renewable feedstock oils must meet certain criteria on impurities levels before hydrotreating to protect from destruction of expensive catalyst beds.

VFT proposes the use of its proprietary Fiber Reactor technology protected by a global patent portfolio (including patents specific to the desired application) for the efficient and economical valorization of low CI score waste fats and oils as feedstocks to produce renewable fuels which

does not require centrifuge or bleaching clays. VFT's technology provides 10x surface area of traditional mixing technologies at a fraction of the size. VFT enables highly efficient immiscible phase mixing with fiber media internals to drive mass transfer of molecules from one immiscible phase to the other. The elimination of chaotic mechanical mixing prevents or significantly minimizes emulsion formation so that the bi-phasic streams exiting the Fiber Reactor are cleanly separated.

"The Biden-Harris Administration is committed to investing, growing and supporting small businesses through increased market opportunities that also strengthen the food system nationally and locally," said Chief Scientist and Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young. "Science-based innovations from federally funded research, often developed through public-private partnerships, create products and services that increase productivity and enhance global competitiveness for the U.S. agriculture sector."

"Small businesses play a key role driving innovation in the food and agriculture sectors," said USDA NIFA Director Dr. Manjit K. Misra. "By partnering with research institutions, these small businesses are bridging an important gap between where science is conducted and how it is made available to the public."

Garden
Q&A
with CALVIN FINCH



The key to lawn recovery is water

Q. Our neighborhood has lots of large shade trees, especially live oaks. It is a bit scary this year with all the limb breakage. Some of the live oak trunks and limbs have even fallen. Is it my imagination or are my conclusions about the number of limbs breaking accurate? What can we do about it?

A. Yes, I think your observations about more limb breakage are accurate. It is normal for pecans, mulberries, Arizona ash, Chinaberry, and hackberry to experience breakage but I also think you are right about the problem with oaks, which is unusual. It appears that the hot weather, drought, and even the unusual freezes we have had over the last few years have made all tree branches and other parts more susceptible to structural stress. Diseases and our shallow poor soil also contribute to the problems. If you can provide your trees with some extra water, it will help them. It is also important that you have an area certified arborist examine trees that look damaged, are a special threat to your home and other possessions or are of high value as part of your landscape.

Q. I know that September is the beginning of the winter gardening season in the Central Texas region. What can we plant first? Will this record heat slow us down?

A. Yes, the heat will slow us down. If you have tomatoes and peppers planted, you have probably noticed that they are growing upright like miniature Christmas trees with very narrow leaves. Once the low temps at night fall to below 75 degrees they will take a few extra days and perk up. Your broccoli, radishes, and turnips will sprout and survive but the taste will be stronger than most of us will like until the temps cool. Lettuce seed won't want to germinate and of course spinach and onions do best when planted in November.

Q. When will we be able to plant snapdragons for the winter? What about the iris that we are thinning out? Can we replant them right away.

A. Snapdragons will soon be on the market but will do best if planted at the end of the month or even in October whenever the temperatures cool. Yes, the iris can be planted in full sun right away or stored for a while. Remember to plant them so that the top of the rhizome is level with the soil surface.

Q. Will it help my lawn to recover if we fertilize it now?

A. The key to lawn recovery is water. Wait to fertilize this fall after the rains restart and the lawn greens up. Be patient. Fertilizer will not be useful until the water is available again.

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales Livestock Market August 26th
Cattle – 1543
Compared to our last sale: Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold steady to very active market. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold steady.

Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 345-340; 300-400 lbs., 305-330; 400-500 lbs., 265-290; 500-600 lbs., 249-260; 600-700 lbs., 225-240; 700-800 lbs., 212-221.
Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 110-195.

Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 225-275; 300-400 lbs., 247-275; 400-500 lbs., 227-240; 500-600 lbs., 223-225; 600-700 lbs., 195-215.

Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 88-100; Cutters, 102-110; Canners, 64-81; High yielding fat cows, 98-117.

Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 120-126; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 100-117.

Stocker Cows: \$750 to \$1,700. Pairs: \$1,100 to \$1,800.

Nixon Livestock August 28th
Cattle – 1479
Steers:
200-300 lbs - \$200-210-340
300-400 lbs - \$224-234-355
400-500 lbs - \$216-226-320
500-600 lbs - \$210-220-262
600-700 lbs - \$205-215-237
700-800 lbs - \$194-204-225
Heifers:
200-300 lbs - \$193-203-290
300-400 lbs - \$213-223-295
400-500 lbs - \$205-215-275
500-600 lbs - \$202-212-290
600-700 lbs - \$191-192-216

700-800 lbs - \$187-197-207
Slaughter Cows - \$95-105
Slaughter Bulls - \$98-127
Stocker Cows - \$600-1150
Pairs: \$645-1575
WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY, SEPT. 4, 2023.

Hallettsville Livestock Commission Co., Inc.
Sale date: August 22nd
Cattle on hand: 2410
Packer Cows:
Canner and Cutter Cows: \$82-110
Utility & Fat Cows: \$81-105
Light Weight Canner Cows: \$55-80
Poor/Weak: \$45-57
Packer Bulls:
Heavyweight Bulls: \$117-125
Utility & Cutter Bulls: \$105-120
Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$94-108

Stocker Cows:
Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: \$1200-1550
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$975-1000
Good Cow & Calf Pairs: NONE
Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: \$1150-1600
Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:
Number 1 steer & bull calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$255-315
200-300 lbs.: \$254-335
300-400 lbs.: \$258-355
400-500 lbs.: \$240-320
500-600 lbs.: \$225-265
600-700 lbs.: \$210-255
700-800 lbs.: \$195-230

Number 1 heifer calves:
Under 200 lbs: \$230-285
200-300 lbs.: \$220-285
300-400 lbs.: \$225-280
400-500 lbs.: \$215-265
500-600 lbs.: \$205-255
600-700 lbs.: \$190-225
700-800 lbs.: \$175-218
Replacement Heifers:
350-700 lbs.: \$235-285

The calf market continues fully steady & strong on #1 quality kinds. #2 and plainer kinds were a little lower. Demand remains very good in all areas. Packer cows & bulls sold steady on a total supply of approx. .375 head. WE WILL HAVE A SALE TUESDAY SEPT. 5TH!!

Seguin Cattle Co. Market Report August 23rd
Quality of cattle very good. Market steady on all cattle with packer cows & bulls steady.

Cattle - 794
Sheep & goats - 777
Medium & large frame #1 Steers:
200-300 lb. 1.10-1.55-2.65
300-400 lb. .60-2.08-3.13
400-500 lb. .40-2.05-2.85
500-600 lb. .55-1.96-2.50
600-700 lb. .70-1.71-2.30
700-850 lb. .78-1.81-2.25

Medium & large frame #1 Heifers:
200-300 lb. 1.10-1.92-2.70
300-400 lb. .35-1.88-2.92
400-500 lb. .45-1.84-2.66
500-600 lb. .65-1.92-2.81
600-750 lb. .60-1.80-2.30

Cows:
Utility & commercial - .65-.91-1.08
Cutters - .59-.72-.85
Canners - .50-.60-.70
Palpated cows - 500-1200
Bull/Calf Pairs - NONE

Bulls:
Heavy High Yielding - 1.15-1.27
Light & Low Yielding - .71-1.10
Sheep & Goats:
Nannies - 75-270
Kid Goats (Fat) - 2.35-3.30
Wethers - 1.45-3.60
Billies - 1.40-2.60
Dorp. Ewes - 40-120
Dorp. Lambs (Fat) - 1.85-2.35
Wooled Ewes - 90-110
Wooled Bucks - .92-1.65
Lambs - 1.15-1.90

Barb. Bucks - NONE

Cuero Livestock Market Report on August 25, 2023
Number of head 2,116

There were 256 cows and 28 bulls. It was another solid market on cows and bulls being consistent with last several weeks. Dry conditions continue to force more to market. Top packer bull was at \$125/cwt while tops on packer cows was at \$108.00/cwt.

The calf market was steady with calves weighing 19 pounds more with \$8/cwt less price resulting in the same value as calves last week. Quality made a big difference as orders were same. All in all another solid day of strong demand across the board.

Packer bulls: 108.00-125.00
Packer cows:
canners & cutters 94.00-108.00
poor & weak 35.00-60.00
Palpated: 43 BRED 107.00-123.00
PAIRS: one \$1,100
Steer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
Under 200 lbs. NONE
200-249 lbs. 202.00-270.00
250-299 lbs. 247.00-312.00
300-350 lbs. 277.00-324.00
350-400 lbs. 249.00-317.50
400-450 lbs. 239.00-300.00
450-500 lbs. 231.00-269.00
500-550 lbs. 228.00-266.00
550-600 lbs. 220.00-252.00
600-700 lbs. 219.00-231.00
700-800 lbs. 201.00-221.00
Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
Under 250lbs 252.00-300.00
250-300 lbs. 266.00-328.00
300-350 lbs. 257.00-322.00
350-400 lbs. 241.00-335.00
400-450 lbs. 236.00-300.00
450-500 lbs. 224.00-270.00
500-550 lbs. 223.00-246.00
550-600 lbs. 215.00-250.00
600-700 lbs. 211.00-228.00
Over 700 lbs. 193.00-222.00

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2024 UTP makes investment in Texas road infrastructure

BY J. BRUCE BUGG, JR.

Chairman, Texas Transportation Commission

The star on the Texas flag somehow seems to shine a little brighter every year as more and more people move to Texas to find a thriving economy and a better quality of life. While that growth is wonderful to see, it does bring challenges to our transportation system.

Thanks to the leadership of Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Legislature, the Texas Transportation Commission is up to the task with the adoption on August 16, 2023 of a historic \$142.3 billion investment in building Texas roads and bridges, including a \$100.6 billion 10-year Unified Transportation Program (UTP), \$34.2 billion in development costs and \$7.5 billion in routine maintenance contracts. This plan supports a world-class transportation system focused on safety and congestion relief. With projects across the state, this plan is dedicated to improving safety, addressing congestion and connectivity, and preserving roadways for Texas drivers.

Texans have shown overwhelming support for “turning dirt” on new and better roadways and bridges, and thanks in large part to voter-approved legislation (Proposition 1 in 2014, Proposition 7 in 2015), this total transportation plan is \$26 billion more than last year. It provides a significant investment in congestion relief bringing over \$67 billion of funding for projects completed, under construction, or planned for construction as part of the Texas Clear Lanes initiative, dedicating funding for projects on Texas’ 100 Most Congested Roadways list.

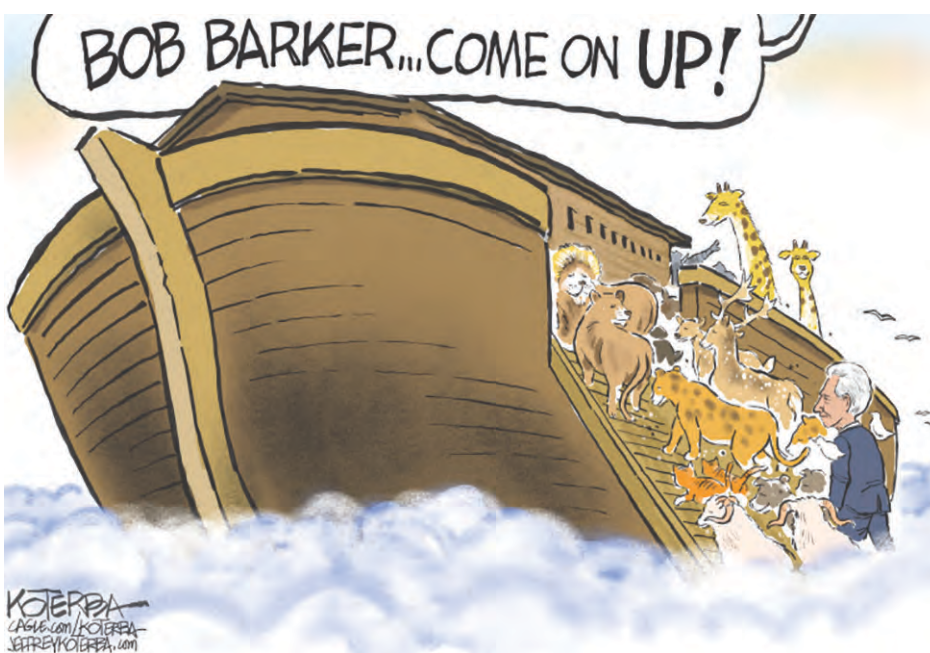
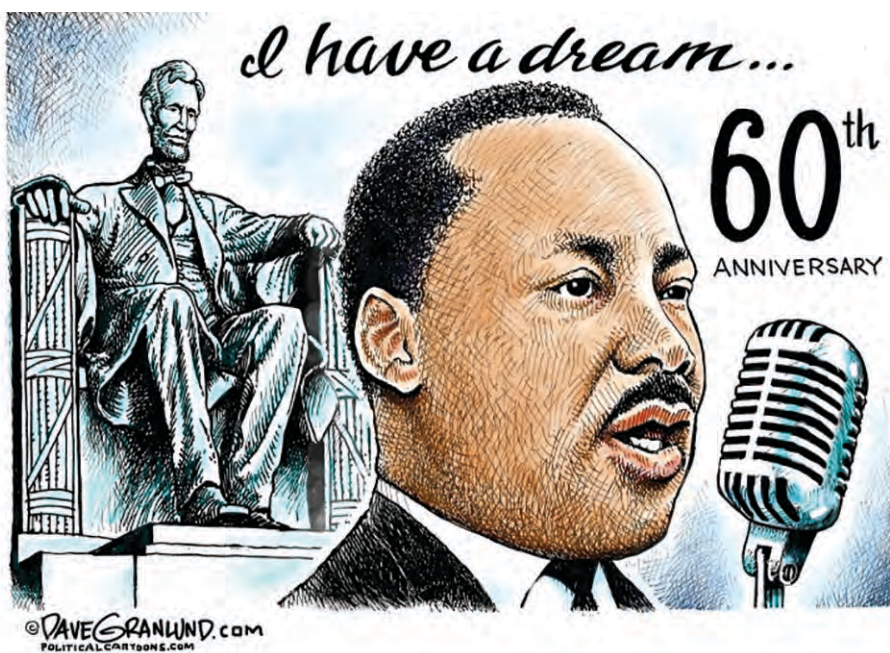
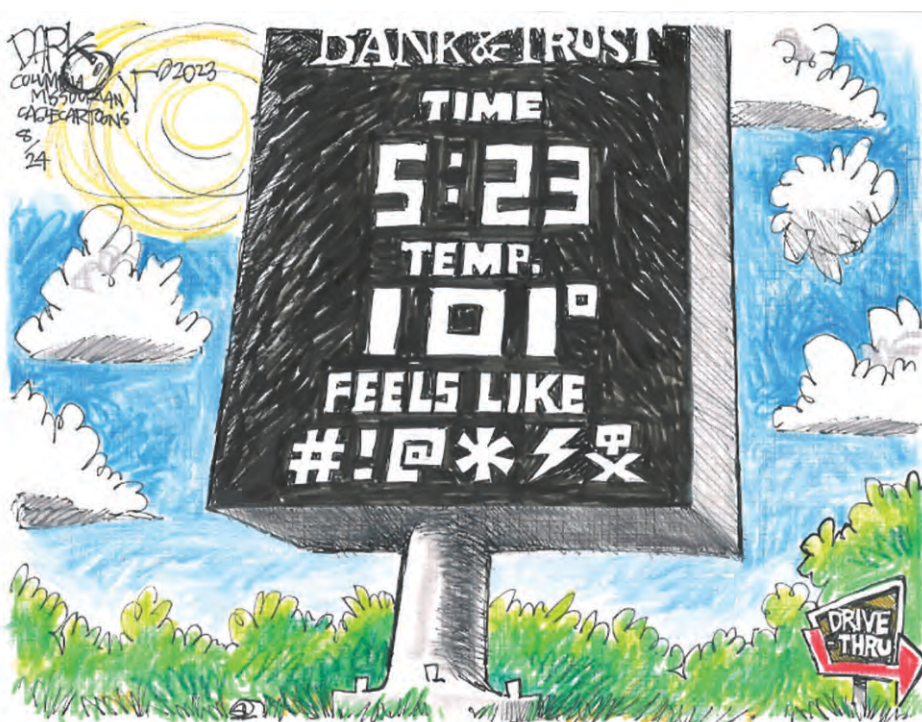
To help connect the rural parts of our state, the plan also includes an unprecedented \$19.2 billion rural investment. That’s a major increase over the past few years compared to \$2.2 billion in the 2016 UTP.

For businesses relocating to Texas, a reliable transportation system is crucial in helping to consistently move products to markets across the country and the world. TxDOT has planned, and will continue to plan, for the challenges of a fast-growing population and complex freight movements, and the 2024 UTP will play a critical role in providing the needed infrastructure to efficiently move people and products.

With historic levels of funding, TxDOT stands ready to fulfill my policy as Chairman to “execute, execute, execute”, which means build the roads and bridges Texans need and want as soon as possible. Responding to new Texas taxpayer approved sources of funding, we have put this money to work by improving our project delivery efforts for greater flexibility and it has been paying off. In fiscal year 2023, we had our largest award of construction contracts ever, with more than \$12 billion in new highway improvement contracts, which is double the amount of contract awards just eight years ago. TxDOT is meeting the moment to deliver the safety, mobility and connectivity improvements that Texans expect and deserve.

Of course, safety is TxDOT’s top priority, and we are staying vigilant in the effort to increase safety to help the people who work and drive on our roadways get home safe to their families. The UTP includes billions of dollars for safety projects, but every project we build has a safety component. Adding all that up, TxDOT is investing \$17 billion for new safety initiatives.

Texans deserve the best transportation system in the world, and they can rest assured that Governor Abbott and Texas transportation leaders are fulfilling our promise to provide them with a safe and reliable transportation system.



A Call to Texans: Preserving Our Rich History

BY J.P. BRYAN

Texan

Texans, our state is rich with tales of valor, triumph, and resilience. A history that is, in my opinion, the greatest and most fascinating in the Western world. The stories and endeavors of Texans are, without a doubt, some of the most important to our nation’s westward expansion.

I believe that our Texas history was, in large measure, lived by exceptional people living in extraordinary times. Today, many seek to tell a revisionist view of those formative times in our history.

Fortunately, there are Texans who will stand up to these revisionists and academics by ensuring the public understands and has access to the whole picture of our history.

The Bryan Museum in Galveston, which I have founded and nurtured, stands as a testament to our state’s vibrant and diverse history. There we showcase artifacts and breathe life into stories that may otherwise be forgotten. And I’ve always believed that each relic, document, or painting is not only a static object but a window into our collective Texan past.

At the museum, we showcase a wide range of exhibits that shine light on some lesser-known narratives of Texas history. We showcase the tales of trail drivers from the Deep South, alongside narratives of the valiant Buffalo soldiers stationed at Fort Davis. An entire section is dedicated to the Jewish immigrants who made their way through Galveston, and another celebrates influential black politicians who rose to prominence post the Emancipation Proclamation.

Our mission goes beyond merely displaying these artifacts. We strive to give them personality and reverence. This ambition is reflected in how we present each exhibit. Rather than just seeing a gun or a silver cup, visitors get to understand its history, its significance, and the personalities behind these objects.

A more critical means of ensuring our Texas history is well-told and inclusive of all views, not just the revisionists, is the Texas State Historical Association.

I have been a long-standing part of the Texas State Historical Association (TSHA), an organization that publishes several items relating the history of our great state. The dedication of the TSHA to the history of Texas closely mirrors the mission of the Bryan Museum, which is to tell the stories of brave Texans who paved the way for all of us.

This is why I urge every Texan reading this to join and support the TSHA. By rallying behind this esteemed association, we’re not just supporting an institution; we’re preserving our legacy.

I’ve seen firsthand the challenges faced in presenting an inclusive and diverse portrayal of our history. Resources, both in terms of financial backing and community support, can be hard to come by. Passion alone cannot sustain this mission. History, when known, understood, and appreciated, has the power to change lives.

In recent years, however, there has been a notable and concerning shift in the TSHA’s leadership approach regarding the composition of the organization’s board of directors and the makeup of its committee structure which adopts themes and publishes papers.

While yes, it’s disturbing when the TSHA’s Chief Historian says the Alamo was really not a significant battle, it should be deeply concerning to all Texans that we are ignoring the gradual takeover of our Texas story by liberal elites and academics.

The courageous and exceptional actions of the men who died at the Alamo ignited and inspired Texans – and Americans – to pursue liberty for all. Were those men perfect? No, not by any means, but they were certainly not villainous, either.

Since its inception, the Texas State Historical Association board’s bylaws have clearly articulated the need for a strict balance between academic and non-academic members. This balance ensures a comprehensive representation of Texas history, and multiple

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U.S. BILL OF RIGHTS

The following text is a transcription of the enrolled original of the Joint Resolution of Congress proposing the Bill of Rights, which is on permanent display in the Rotunda at the National Archives Museum. The spelling and punctuation reflects the original.

Amendments IX-X

Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

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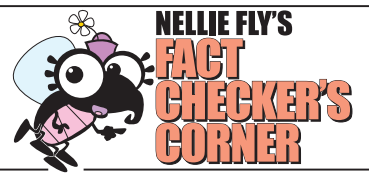
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Kid Scoop

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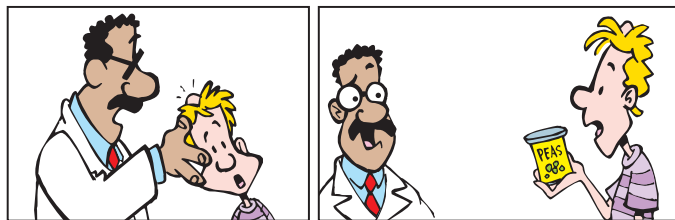


SMILE POWER

Smile and the world smiles with you! Smiles have the power to make people happy. Maybe that is why millions of people use the smile emoji when sending messages. And with a smile, people from different countries who speak different languages can communicate.

Just What the Doctor Ordered

Doctors even tell us that laughter can help sick people heal more quickly. All in all, a smile is very powerful.



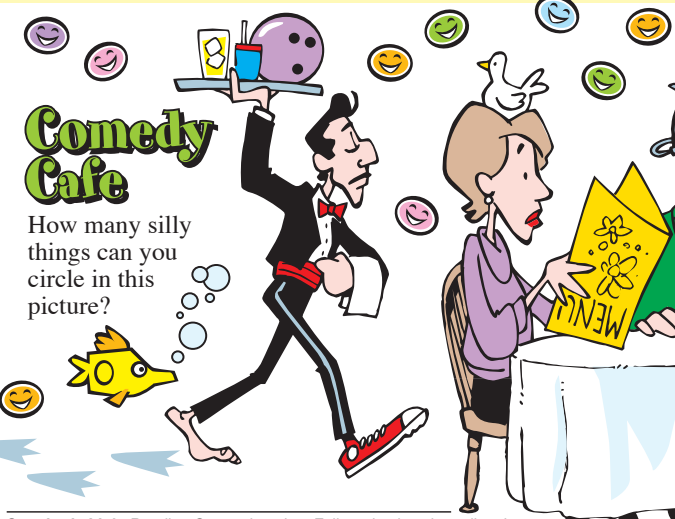
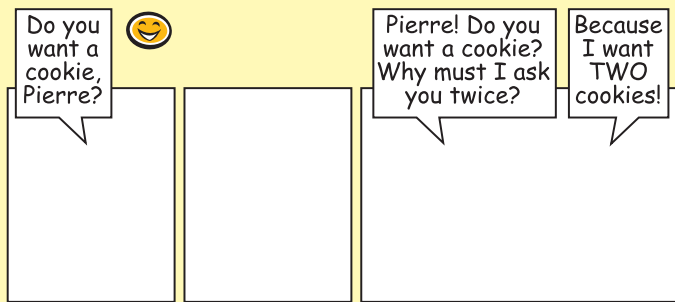
Cut out the word balloons below and paste them in the correct order on the comic strip above.



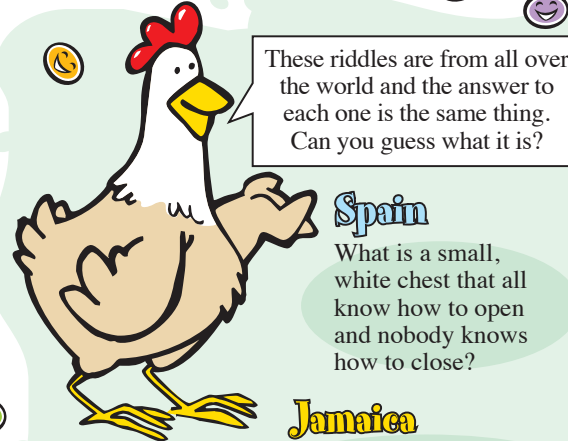
Standards Link: Health: Identify activities and actions that promote or enhance emotional health.

Laughter! The Universal Language!

There are jokes from all over the world. What can you learn about people by reading their jokes? Draw your own comic strip using this joke from Martinique.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.



These riddles are from all over the world and the answer to each one is the same thing. Can you guess what it is?

Spain

What is a small, white chest that all know how to open and nobody knows how to close?

Jamaica

What is more useful when it is broken?

Peru

In a pot there are two kinds of food. What is it?

Zambia

What is an entire little house without a door?

Malawi

I have built my house without any door. What is it?

Afghanistan

In a bowl of china fixed, two liquids with colors unmixed. What is it?

Have you figured out the answer? If not, color all the boxes with odd numbers. Read the letters that are left and you will know the answer.

2	7	9	6	5	8	4	3	2
A	H	T	N	W	E	G	P	G

Standards Link: Social Science: Compare life in different places and recognize that some aspects of cultures are similar.

How many smiles can you find on this page?

Standards Link: Vocabulary Development: Understand comparative and superlative case.

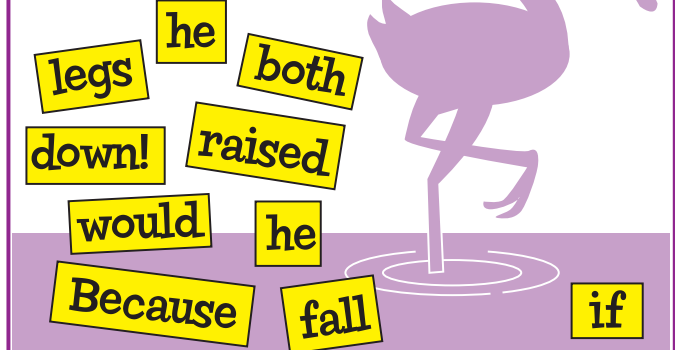
Superlative Fun

Look through the newspaper for three happy pictures. Label one "Happy," one "Happier," and one "Happiest." Repeat this game with other words.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Why does a crane raise one leg when he stands in the water?

Put the words in the right order to discover the answer to this joke from Poland.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

- OPEN
- COMIC
- SMILE
- LAUGHTER
- FOOD
- JOKES
- WORLD
- QUICKLY
- GUESS
- ORDER
- PEOPLE
- SILLY
- BOWL
- LEARN

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

W	O	D	O	O	F	E	R	A	W
Y	C	P	T	V	L	L	W	O	B
L	O	Q	E	I	A	O	E	C	N
K	R	M	M	N	U	Y	L	I	R
C	D	S	P	S	G	L	P	M	A
I	E	A	S	Z	H	L	O	O	E
U	R	E	W	C	T	I	E	C	L
Q	U	J	O	K	E	S	P	U	U
G	B	F	D	L	R	O	W	F	Q

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

With so much information available in print, on TV and online every day, it is important to know that some information is **true** and some is **false** or misleading.

Sometimes news reports make a mistake. Good journalists will let readers and viewers know of the error as soon as possible. Other times, false information is designed on purpose to make you feel a certain way.

How do you tell the difference between fact and fiction?

1. Read beyond the story's headline. Headlines can't tell the whole story.
2. Do some research! Go to the library and look up more information. Your librarian can help you.
3. Look for more information online. Be sure to check more than one online site as some sites simply repeat false information.
4. Make sure the publications and websites you use to check facts are trustworthy.
5. Ask a parent or family member to help you understand more about the story.

FACT CHECKER CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

One of these statements is true and one is false. Do the research and find out. Then share what you learned with your friends and family!

Smiling makes us feel happier.

TRUE FALSE

Smiling is contagious.

TRUE FALSE

Was it easy or difficult to find out if the above statements were true or false? It's not always easy being a News Fact Checker. But it's important to always try to get the **whole** story!

Standards Link: Research: Locate and check information about a given topic using multiple resources.

Write On!

What makes you smile?

Write a paragraph about what makes you smile. Give at least three details about this.

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JOBS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

a percent but still lower than the state average of 4.5 percent. This represented a total of 3,914 residents in Gonzales, Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson, Lavaca and Victoria counties seeking employment out of a total workforce of 93,509 people.

The counties in the Golden Crescent with the lowest unemployment rate were DeWitt and Calhoun counties at 3.7 percent, followed by Lavaca at 3.9 percent, Gonzales and Jackson counties each at 4.0 percent, Goliad County at 4.1 percent and Victoria County bringing up the rear at 4.6 percent.

For July 2023, there were 388 individuals in Gonzales County seeking employment out of a workforce of 9,4587 with 9,199 reported as employed.

Unemployment rates since January for Gonzales County are:

- 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.

CENSURE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

followed to the letter," Harper said. "Kuempel was censured on multiple violations of party principles and legislative priorities. Mr Kuempel failed to appear in his defense as requested."

Harper said the county party had notified Kuempel by certified mail return receipt requested and had been "offered the opportunity to respond in person to address the grievances. At this time, no response has been received or expected."

Kuempel defended his record in a statement to the Inquirer Wednesday, Aug. 30.

"The last two legislative sessions have seen the biggest victories for conservative values in Texas history. I'm very proud of my record ushering through the passage of 'Constitutional Carry,' the pro-life Heartbeat Bill, and the Trigger Ban that effectively outlawed abortion after the overturning of Roe v. Wade," Kuempel

said. "Most recently, we passed the largest border security investment in state history - \$5.1 Billion to finish the wall and shut the border down to criminals. And we just cut property taxes by \$18 billion - which is now on record as the largest state tax cut in American history. With this cut, the average priced Texas home will see a tax cut of \$1,250.

"These conservative priorities are what my Republican neighbors and I have been fighting for together. I'm proud to seek re-election so we can get even more results and double-down on Texas's record as the beacon of conservative values in America."

Harper said 80 percent of the county's precinct chairs were present for the executive session meeting although the rules only require that a majority (one more than 50 percent) must attend. The censure was passed overwhelmingly, Harper said, as

more than 80 percent voted in favor of the motion — despite rules only requiring no less than two-thirds (67 percent) to support the motion.

"The censure will move forward to the State Republican Party. It will be reviewed by the Resolutions Committee for accuracy," Harper said. "If it passes the scrutiny of the committee, it will go to the 62-member body for possible amendment and concurrence. Should it pass there, penalties can be imposed asking Kuempel to not take part in the primary, along with a portion of party funding being used to inform constituents as to the reason for censure."

In addition, Harper said a "group of concerned conservatives" have chosen "a highly qualified primary opponent" to face off against Kuempel if he should run in this race. Harper said an official candidacy statement will be made at a later date after required election rule filings are met.

WAELDER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

years," WISD Superintendent Ron Lilie said. "Three previous bond attempts have failed, and it would be easy for district personnel and the Board of Trustees to give up, but we can't. Our students, our faculty, our staff, and the importance of their work, are too important for us to quit. That is why we are seeking school facilities that support good teaching and learning and an overall quality educational experience for all students.

"People will ask, 'How is this bond issue different?' The Board of Trustees has reduced the amount of money for this bond issue compared to previous attempts, while maintaining a focus on academic facilities and facilities that will support physical needs of students as well. No bond money is being requested for administration purposes, which is different than some previous bond attempts, and the school district is linking multiple program challenges with a single facility project for greater efficiency and cost savings."

Proposition A, which would call for the issuance of \$5.826 million, would have four main components:

- Remodeling the existing old gym, which cannot be used as a gym and is currently being used as storage, into a cafeteria that would seat all students in two lunch periods, provide a stage for the district for fine arts and theatre arts, and an auditorium for school and community functions.

- Renovations and improvements to the Middle School that includes replacement of 17-year-old carpet, replacing leaking windows, providing a monitored fire alarm system, and other renovations

and improvements.

- Classrooms for fifth and sixth grade students that would provide permanent classrooms, eliminate portable buildings, and save the district the annual cost of renting portable buildings, a savings of \$76,222 per year.

- High school upgrades that include replacing 13-year-old carpet, provide an entrance safety vestibule, more efficient lighting, and interior and exterior painting, and other building improvements.

"An example of multiple challenges being addressed by one facility project would be remodeling an existing building to build a cafeterium," Lilie said. "The existing cafeteria is small, and four lunch periods are needed to feed all students. This reduces the number of academic courses that could be offered if there were only two lunch periods. A cafeterium could serve all students with two lunch periods and would provide a stage to support fine arts and theatre arts classes (the school does not have a stage).

"By moving furniture in the cafeterium the facility could be used as an auditorium that would provide a setting for both school and community events. An additional benefit to having a cafeteria that is large enough for all students is the elimination of many students currently having to eat their lunch outside under the pavilion. While the pavilion is covered, it still subjects students to the weather - heat, cold, blowing rain, etc."

Proposition B, for \$1.1 million, calls for renovating the open pavilion into a climate-controlled gymnasium that will serve as many as 14 different student groups that

utilize gym facilities in the district. Total cost of the project is \$2.1 million, with the district using current tax maintenance notes to pay \$1 million toward the project.

The Citizens Advisory Committee, comprised of citizens from throughout the school district, met several times during the summer before making their project recommendations to the Waelder ISD Board of Trustees on Aug. 10. Four days later, on Aug. 14, the Waelder ISD Board of Trustees formally called for an election.

The total school tax rate is estimated to increase — if both measures are approved — by approximately 5.42 cents from a fiscal 2023 proposed rate of 92.89 cents per \$100 valuation to a fiscal year 2024 rate of 98.31 cents. While the debt service rate is expected to increase from 7.43 cents to 20.5 cents, the maintenance and operations rate is expected to drop from 85.46 cents to 77.81 cents.

However, homeowners could see further tax relief from a measure on the Nov. 7 constitutional amendment ballot that would increase the homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000. The legislature approved the higher homestead exemption amount, but Texas voters must approve the change at the ballot box before it takes effect.

If the higher homestead exemption is approved, then a home with an appraised value of \$100,000 or less would not be subject to taxation by the school district — a savings of up to \$557.34. Homes appraised for more than \$100,000 would see their taxable value decreased by \$100,000 instead of

just \$40,000 and could see savings of between \$340.54 to \$543.79 per year, depending on their total taxable value.

"The cafeterium is just one of five projects that would greatly enhance the learning experience for our children and voters will have the unique opportunity to approve the bond issue and pay less school taxes than last year due to the state legislature passing HJR 2 this summer," Lilie said. "Proposition 4 will be on the ballot this Nov. 7 and when passed, will lower school taxes by raising the homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000."

Early voting for the Waelder bond election will begin Oct. 23 and will end on Nov. 3. To vote in the Nov. 7 Waelder ISD bond election, a qualified

voter must be registered no later than 30 days prior to the election. A voter registration form may be acquired from the county elections clerk. The last day to register to vote is Oct. 10.

"During the next several weeks I hope to be given the opportunity to describe all five projects that comprise this bond issue proposal," Lilie said. "Thank you for your time and thanks to the newspaper for providing information to the community. If anyone has specific questions they would like for the school district to answer, please send an email to erin-suhr@waelderisd.org."

In May, Waelder ISD was trying to get voters to approve a \$10.3 million bond package that would have allowed the district \$7.1 million to make

improvements to district facilities — including for safety and security — as well as \$3.2 million to refund principal and/or interest on previously issued maintenance tax notes.

However, voters rejected Proposition A, the one for \$7.1 million, by a 185-155 margin, while shooting down Proposition B, the one for \$3.2 million, by a vote of 187-149.

Waelder ISD has held bond measure proposals in May 2022, November 2022 and May 2023 without success on any of them. Only 263 people voted on the measure in May 2022, which failed by a 165-98 margin, while 554 voters cast ballots in a November 2022 election that saw Prop A fall by a 289-261 margin and Prop B by a 315-239 tally.

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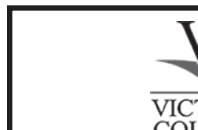
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INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids will be received by County Auditor Becky Weston, at 427 St. George Street, Suite 302, Gonzales, Texas 78629, until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, September 19, 2023, for the purchase of Flexible Base Materials, Bid #24-3570 for Precinct 1, Precinct 2, Precinct 3, and Precinct 4.

The bids will be publicly opened in the third floor conference room of the Randle Rather Building, 427 St. George Street at 10:00 a.m. on September 19, 2023. This is a one year contract, the term is October 1, 2023 until September 30, 2024. All bids must be in a sealed envelope clearly marked with Bid Name and Opening Date in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope.

Specifications may be obtained from the County Auditor's Office and on the county's web site at www.co.gonzales.tx.us. Bids received after the time and date specified in the specifications will not be considered.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Gonzales Independent School District requests qualifications from qualified design professionals to provide Architectural/Engineering and Construction Administration Services for GISD's Possible November 2023 Bond Construction Program. GISD has called for a bond election for the following Program, which consists of: (1) Proposition A, Career & Technology Education Center, Ag Barn, and District-Wide Safety & Security, Accessibility, Maintenance Projects; and (2) Proposition B, Athletic Complex. If the Program passes, in whole or in part, and the Owner elects to proceed with the Architect's services for all or part of the projects in the Program, the Architect would proceed with the services. Gonzales ISD's Request for Qualifications, which includes requirements and instructions for the submission of qualifications and other important information, can be obtained at the Gonzales ISD's offices at 1615 Saint Louis Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, on the district's website <https://www.gonzalesisd.net/Page/171> and by contacting the Chief Financial Officer at amanda.smith@gonzalesisd.net. Submissions will be accepted by the District until Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. All submissions are to be sent to Gonzales ISD, Attn: Chief Financial Officer, at the address shown above. No faxed or emailed submissions will be accepted. Gonzales ISD reserves the right to reject any or all submissions.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION – TRC 109 & 114

THE STATE OF TEXAS	Cause No. 28,007
Richard Hollas, Et Al,	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
Vs	2nd 25TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Oscar Crawford and the Known and Unknown Heirs, Assigns and Devisees of Oscar Crawford, Deceased and Sylvester Crawford, Jr and the Known and Unknown Heirs, Assigns and Devisees of Sylvester Crawford, Jr.	GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: the Estate of Oral Lee Crawford, Deceased, Alan Eugene Williams, Sandra Joyce Smith, Sam Smith, Jr., Pat May, Jermaine N. Smith, Da'Mon Juprell Smith, Valerie Crawford, Sheila E. Crawford, unknown heirs of Sylvester Crawford, Jr.

Defendant – GREETING

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: **“You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you.” In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be requested to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at Texaslawhelp.org.”** Tex. R. Civ. P 99.

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Original Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation before the Honorable District Court of Gonzales County, at the Courthouse in said County in Gonzales, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Original Petition was filed in said court on 06/01/2021 in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Partition Suit as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gonzales, Texas, this 8th day of August, 2023.

Attorney for Plaintiff or Plaintiff:
NOEL HENRY REESE
P.O. Box 887
417 St. George St., 2nd Floor
Gonzales, TX 78629
830-857-1023



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

By: *Georgia M. [Signature]*



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Waelder ISD November 2023 Bond Issue Preguntas frecuentes

Qué es una elección de bonos de distrito escolar?

Los distritos escolares celebran elecciones de bonos para buscar la aprobación de los votantes para vender bonos con el fin de generar ingresos. Los ingresos de los bonos solo se pueden utilizar para nuevas construcciones, renovaciones de instalaciones existentes, adquisición de terrenos, equipos, tecnología y otros elementos aprobados asociados con la provisión de instalaciones del distrito escolar.

Se pueden gastar los ingresos de la venta de bonos en personal u otros costos operativos del distrito?

No. La ley estatal no permite que los ingresos de las ventas de bonos se gasten en costos de personal o operativos, como facturas de servicios públicos, suministros, combustible, materiales educativos u otros costos asociados con las operaciones diarias del distrito. Por lo tanto, los posibles aumentos salariales, los recursos para instrucción y todos los demás gastos del presupuesto de Mantenimiento y Operación no se ven afectados por los ingresos y la deuda de los bonos.

Las viviendas están gravadas por el valor tasado total de la vivienda menos la exención estatal de viviendas? Me han dicho que la exención estatal de vivienda ha aumentado de \$40,000 a \$100,000. ¿Es eso correcto?

Las propiedades en Waelder ISD no pagan impuestos por el valor total de tasación. Las propiedades se gravan según el valor de tasación menos la exención estatal de propiedades y otras exenciones que puedan aplicarse (como una exención agrícola). La exención estatal de vivienda es actualmente de \$40,000 y los votantes en Texas decidirán si esa cantidad se aumentará a \$100,000 en las elecciones del 7 de noviembre. (Se espera que se apruebe la exención más alta).

Ejemplo: Una casa con un valor tasado de \$200,000 menos una exención estatal de propiedad familiar de \$100,000, significa que la propiedad tributaria se grava con base en \$100,000. No es el valor tasado total de 200.000 dólares.

Cuál será el impacto fiscal para un propietario de vivienda si se aprueba la emisión de bonos?

El distrito escolar determina la tasa impositiva del distrito escolar y se estima que la tasa impositiva escolar total aumentará aproximadamente 5 ½ centavos si se aprueban ambas propuestas. Sin embargo, la cantidad de impuestos escolares pagados por los propietarios disminuirá para la mayoría de los propietarios respecto del año pasado debido a que la legislatura aumentó la exención de vivienda de \$40,000 a \$100,000 en la pasada sesión legislativa. Por ejemplo:

Si su casa tiene un valor tasado de \$100,000 y se aprueba la emisión de bonos, pagará \$557 menos en impuestos escolares de lo que pagó el año pasado. (Para obtener una lista completa de los valores tasados de las viviendas, consulte el documento "Impacto fiscal de la emisión de bonos para los propietarios de viviendas".

Ayudará el estado al distrito escolar si se aprueba una emisión de bonos?

Las emisiones de bonos de distritos escolares que son aprobadas por el estado están garantizadas por el Estado de Texas con el Fondo Escolar Permanente. Esto ayuda a los contribuyentes locales y distritales, ya que la garantía estatal da como resultado una tasa de interés más baja para las ventas de bonos.

Qué se propone en la elección de bonos escolares de Waelder ISD del 7 de noviembre?

El Comité Asesor de Instalaciones Ciudadanas recomendó que se envíen los siguientes proyectos a los votantes y la Junta Escolar organizó los proyectos en dos propuestas. Las propuestas y los proyectos son los siguientes:

Proposición A

- Remodelar el antiguo gimnasio existente, que no se puede utilizar como gimnasio y actualmente se utiliza como almacén, para convertirlo en una cafetería. La cafetería acomodaría a todos los estudiantes en dos períodos de almuerzo, proporcionaría un escenario para el distrito para bellas artes y artes teatrales, y un auditorio para funciones escolares y comunitarias.
- Renovaciones y mejoras a la escuela secundaria que incluyen el reemplazo de alfombras de 17 años, el reemplazo de ventanas con goteras, el suministro de un sistema de alarma contra incendios monitoreado y otras renovaciones y mejoras.
- Aulas para estudiantes de 5.º y 6.º grado que proporcionarían aulas permanentes, eliminarían los edificios portátiles y ahorrarían al distrito el costo anual de alquilar edificios portátiles, un ahorro de \$76,222 por año.
- Mejoras a la escuela secundaria que incluyen el reemplazo de alfombras de 13 años, un vestíbulo de seguridad en la entrada, iluminación más eficiente y pintura interior y exterior, y otras mejoras al edificio.

El costo total de la Proposición A es de \$5,826 millones.

Proposición B

- Renovar el pabellón abierto para convertirlo en un gimnasio con clima controlado que atenderá hasta 14 grupos de estudiantes diferentes que utilizan las instalaciones del

gimnasio en el distrito. El costo total del proyecto es de \$2.1 millones y el distrito utiliza notas de mantenimiento de impuestos actuales para pagar \$1 millón para el proyecto. El costo total del bono de este proyecto es de \$1,1 millones.

Cuándo se llevará a cabo la elección de bonos de Waelder ISD? ¿Quién puede votar en una elección de bonos escolares?

La fecha de las elecciones generales será el 7 de noviembre de 2023. La votación anticipada comenzará el 23 de octubre y finalizará el 3 de noviembre de 2023. El distrito escolar reconoce la importancia de la elección del bono para todas las partes interesadas del distrito y alienta a todos los votantes registrados que residen en el distrito escolar para votar. (Para obtener información adicional sobre la votación, consulte el documento "Información para el votante" en el sitio web del distrito).

No estoy registrado para votar. ¿Es demasiado tarde para registrarme si quiero votar en la Elección de Bonos del 7 de noviembre?

Para votar en la Elección de Bonos de Waelder ISD del 7 de noviembre, un votante calificado debe estar registrado a más tardar 30 días antes de la elección. Se puede obtener un formulario de registro de votantes del secretario electoral del condado. El último día para registrarse para votar es el 10 de octubre.

El distrito escolar buscó la opinión de la comunidad antes de identificar los proyectos de bonos que se solicitaban?

Sí. Un Comité Asesor de Ciudadanos, compuesto por ciudadanos de todo el distrito escolar, se reunió varias veces durante el verano antes de hacer recomendaciones de proyectos a la Junta Directiva de Waelder ISD. El distrito ha considerado proyectos de instalaciones durante varios años.

Cuándo hizo el Comité Asesor de Ciudadanos (CAC) sus recomendaciones a Waelder ISD?

El Comité Asesor de Instalaciones Ciudadanas finalizó sus recomendaciones en la reunión del CAC del 10 de agosto de 2023 y la Junta Directiva de Waelder ISD actuó según la recomendación el 14 de agosto. La Junta Directiva convocó formalmente a una elección en la reunión de la junta esa misma noche.

Si los votantes aprueban la emisión de bonos, ¿cuándo se venderán los bonos?

Los bonos se venderán con el enfoque más rentable necesario para pagar la construcción y renovación de los proyectos de bonos. Una vez aprobados, los bonos solo se venderán según un cronograma de ventas necesario para pagar el trabajo completado de cada proyecto y se venderán en las cantidades necesarias para generar un cronograma de ventas rentable.

Tendrán los votantes la oportunidad de recibir información y hacer preguntas sobre la emisión de bonos antes de las elecciones?

Sí. El distrito escolar está buscando oportunidades para responder a las preguntas de la comunidad y programará una serie de reuniones informativas para el público. La función del distrito escolar es proporcionar información y queremos que todos en la comunidad sepan lo que se propone y brindarles a las personas la oportunidad de hacer preguntas. Si pertenece a un grupo, club o iglesia que desea recibir información del distrito escolar sobre la emisión de bonos, comuníquese con el distrito escolar.

Me han dicho que la tasa impositiva para respaldar la emisión de bonos es diferente de la tasa impositiva que respalda las operaciones diarias del distrito escolar. Por favor explica esto.

La tasa impositiva de un distrito escolar se compone de un impuesto que respalda las operaciones diarias del distrito escolar y que se denomina impuesto de Mantenimiento y Operaciones (M&O). El impuesto que paga el servicio de la deuda del distrito se llama impuesto al fondo de amortización e intereses (I&S). La combinación de las tasas impositivas M&O e I&S equivale a la tasa impositiva total del distrito escolar. Esta combinación de impuestos es común a todos los distritos escolares de Texas.

Leí que la tasa impositiva que respalda la deuda de bonos en los distritos escolares puede reducirse a medida que aumenta el valor general de un distrito escolar. ¿Cómo funciona?

El valor de la propiedad generalmente aumenta con el tiempo y el valor general de la propiedad en un distrito escolar no es una excepción. A medida que aumentan los valores de las propiedades cuando se completan nuevos proyectos industriales y nuevas viviendas, aumentan los ingresos generados para pagar la deuda de los bonos, por lo que la tasa del impuesto I&S puede reducirse ya que la cantidad de dinero para pagar la deuda cada año es una cantidad fija. Los distritos escolares no pueden prometer que los valores futuros aumentarán cada año, por lo que Waelder ISD no puede prometer una reducción futura en la tasa impositiva; sin embargo, con el tiempo, los valores del distrito escolar generalmente tienden a subir, lo que puede permitir al distrito escolar reducir la tasa impositiva asociada con el bono. emitir el pago de la deuda.

Si se aprueba la emisión de bonos, ¿aumentarán los impuestos escolares para nuestras personas mayores?

No. Los contribuyentes que tienen 65 años o más y han presentado la exención del impuesto sobre la vivienda correspondiente no verán un aumento en los impuestos escolares que pagan por su vivienda. La exención "congela" la cantidad de impuestos escolares que pagan en el momento en que se presenta la exención.

Si tengo preguntas sobre la emisión de bonos, ¿a quién debo comunicarme?

Comuníquese con Erin Suhr y ella dirigirá su pregunta a la persona adecuada. Su número de teléfono es 830-239-5600 y su dirección de correo electrónico es erinsuhr@waelderisd.org.

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Public Notice

Waelder ISD is accepting sealed bids to sell to the highest bidder a used commercial cookstove, LP Gas, 8 burner. To be sold as is, no warranty. Stove is in working order, but WISD provides no warranty or implication that stove is suitable for any proposed use.

Sealed bids are due by 3:30pm, CST, September 15, 2023. Bids will be opened at the regular board meeting at 6:00pm on September 18th, 2023 at the Waelder ISD cafeteria. Funds must accompany bid in the form of cashier's check or money order.

Bids will be accepted via mail:
Waelder ISD
Attn: Erin Suhr
P.O. Box 247
Waelder, TX 78959
830-239-5600

Or deliver in person:
Waelder ISD
Attn: Erin Suhr
201 U.S. Hwy 90 West
Waelder, TX 78959
830-239-5600

Public Notice Gonzales Economic Development Corporation

In accordance with the Development Corporation Act, Section 505.160 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Gonzales Economic Development Corporation, a Type B economic development corporation, is publishing this notice of the following project: provide economic development assistance to ButlerWood, Inc. for improvements to 820 Oilpatch Ln in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Seventy Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$270,000).

Small Taxing Unit Notice

The Gonzales Co. Underground Water Conservation District will hold a meeting at 5:30 PM on September 12, 2023 at 522 Saint Matthew, Gonzales, Texas to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2023.

The proposed tax rate is \$0.003174 per \$100 of value.

The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in Gonzales Co. Underground Water Conservation District by 8.14%.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Small Taxing Unit Notice

The CITY OF WAELDER will hold a meeting at 6:00 PM on September 12, 2023 at City Hall, 300 Hwy 90 W, Waelder, TX to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2023. The proposed tax rate is \$0.1608 per \$100 of value.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids will be received by County Auditor Becky Weston, at 427 St. George Street, Suite 302, Gonzales, Texas 78629, until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, September 19, 2023, for the purchase of Liquid Asphaltic Materials, Bid #24-3580 for Precinct 1, Precinct 2, Precinct 3, and Precinct 4.

The bids will be publicly opened in the third floor conference room of the Randle Rather Building, 427 St. George Street at 10:00 a.m. on September 19, 2023. This is a one year contract, the term is October 1, 2023 until September 30, 2024. All bids must be in a sealed envelope clearly marked with Bid Name and Opening Date in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope.

Specifications may be obtained from the County Auditor's Office and on the county's web site at www.co.gonzales.tx.us. Bids received after the time and date specified in the specifications will not be considered.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of J.D. Selman, Jr. were issued on the 22nd day of August, 2023, under Cause No. PW23-0287, pending in the Constitutional County Court, Sitting in Matters Probate of Gonzales County, Texas, to:

James Derward Selman, III and William Edward Selman

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate as follows:

KRISTEN QUINNEY PORTER, LLC
KRISTEN QUINNEY PORTER
State Bar No. 00795601
755 Loop 337, Suite A
New Braunfels, Texas 78130
Post Office Box 312643
New Braunfels, Texas 78131-2643
Telephone: 830-358-7632

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

DATED the 25th day of August, 2023.

James Derward Selman, III and William Edward Selman

KRISTEN QUINNEY PORTER, LLC
By: *Kristen Quinney Porter*
Kristen Quinney Porter
Attorney for Applicant

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Waelder ISD November 2023 Bond Issue Frequently Asked Questions

What is a school district bond election?

School districts hold bond elections to seek approval from voters to sell bonds for the purpose of generating revenue. Bond revenue can only be used for new construction, renovations to existing facilities, land acquisition, equipment, technology, and other approved items associated with providing school district facilities.

Can the revenue from selling bonds be spent on personnel or other district operational costs?

No. State law does not allow revenue from bond sales to be spent on personnel or operating costs such as utility bills, supplies, fuel, instructional materials, or other costs associated with daily operations of the district. Therefore, potential salary increases, resources for instruction and all other expenditures from the Maintenance & Operation budget are not affected by bond revenue and debt.

Are homesteads taxed by the total appraised value of the home minus the state homestead exemption? I have been told that the state homestead exemption has increased from \$40,000 to \$100,000. Is that correct?

Homesteads in Waelder ISD are not taxed at the full appraised value. Homesteads are taxed based on the appraised value minus the state homestead exemption and other exemptions which may apply (such as an agriculture exemption). The state homestead exemption is currently \$40,000 and voters in Texas will decide if that number will be increased to \$100,000 in the November 7 election. (The higher exemption is expected to pass.)

Example: A home with an appraised value of \$200,000 less a \$100,000 state homestead exemption, means that the homestead is taxed based on \$100,000. Not the full appraised value of \$200,000.

What will be the fiscal impact to a homeowner if the bond issue passes?

The school district determines the school district tax rate, and the total school tax rate is estimated to increase approximately 5 ½ cents if both propositions are approved. However, the amount of school taxes paid by homeowners will decrease for most homeowners from last year due to the legislature raising the homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000 this past legislative session. For example: If your home has an appraised value of \$100,000 and the bond issue passes, you will pay \$557 less in school taxes than you paid last year. (For a complete list of appraised home values please see the document "Fiscal Impact of Bond Issue to Homeowners.")

Will the state help the school district if a bond issue is passed?

School district bond issues that pass and are approved by the state, are guaranteed by the State of Texas with the Permanent School Fund. This helps the district and local taxpayers as the state guarantee results in a lower interest rate for bond sales.

What is being proposed in the November 7 Waelder ISD School Bond Election?

The Citizens Facilities Advisory Committee has recommended the following projects be sent to the voters and the School Board organized the projects into two propositions. The propositions and the projects are as follows:

Proposition A

1. Remodeling the existing old gym, which cannot be used as a gym and is currently being used as storage, into a cafetorium. The cafetorium would seat all students in two lunch periods, provide a stage for the district for fine arts and theatre arts, and an auditorium for school and community functions.
2. Renovations and improvements to the Middle School that includes replacement of 17-year-old carpet, replacing leaking windows, providing a monitored fire alarm system, and other renovations and improvements.
3. Classrooms for 5th and 6th grade students that would provide permanent classrooms, eliminate portable buildings, and save the district the annual cost of renting portable buildings, a savings of \$76,222 per year.
4. High school upgrades that include replacing 13-year-old carpet, provide an entrance safety vestibule, more efficient lighting, and interior and exterior painting, and other building improvements.

The total cost of Proposition A is \$5.826 million.

Proposition B

1. Renovate the open pavilion into a climate-controlled gymnasium that will serve as many as 14 different student groups that utilize gym facilities in the district. Total cost of the project is \$2.1 million with the district using current tax maintenance notes to pay

\$1 million toward the project.

The total bond cost of this project is \$1.1 million.

When will the Waelder ISD bond election be held? Who can vote in a school bond election?

The general election date will be November 7, 2023. Early voting will begin October 23 and will end on November 3, 2023. The school district recognizes the importance of the bond election to all stakeholders in the district and encourages all registered voters who reside in the school district to vote. (For additional voting information please see the document "Voter Information" on the district website).

I am not registered to vote. Is it too late to register if I want to vote in the November 7 Bond Election?

To vote in the November 7 Waelder ISD Bond Election a qualified voter must be registered no later than 30 days prior to the election. A voter registration form may be acquired from the county elections clerk. The last day to register to vote is October 10.

Did the school district seek community input before identifying the bond projects being requested?

Yes. A Citizens Advisory Committee, comprised of citizens from throughout the school district, met several times during the summer before making project recommendations to the Waelder ISD Board of Trustees. Facility projects have been considered by the district for several years.

When did the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) make its' recommendations to Waelder ISD?

The Citizens Facilities Advisory Committee finalized its recommendations at the August 10, 2023, CAC meeting and Waelder ISD Board of Trustees acted on the recommendation on August 14. The Board of Trustees formally called for an election at the board meeting that same evening.

If the voters pass the bond issue when will the bonds be sold?

Bonds will be sold with the most cost-effective approach needed to pay for the construction and renovation of the bond projects. Once approved, the bonds will only be sold based on a schedule of sales needed to pay for completed work for each project and will be sold in amounts needed to generate a cost-effective schedule of sales.

Will voters have an opportunity to receive information and to ask questions about the bond issue before the election?

Yes. The school district is seeking opportunities to respond to questions from the community and will be scheduling a series of information meetings for the public. The role of the school district is to provide information and we want everyone in the community to know what is being proposed and give individuals an opportunity to ask questions. If you belong to a group, club, or church that would like to receive information from the school district pertaining to the bond issue, please contact the school district.

I have been told that the tax rate to support the bond issue is different from the tax rate that supports daily operations of the school district. Please explain this.

A school district tax rate is comprised of a tax that supports the daily operations of the school district which is called the Maintenance & Operations (M&O) tax. The tax that repays district debt service is called the Interest & Sinking Fund (I&S) tax. The combination of M&O and I&S tax rates equals the total school district tax rate. This combination of taxes is common to all school districts in Texas.

I read that the tax rate that supports bond debt in school districts may be lowered as the overall value of a school district increases. How does that work?

The value of property usually increases over time and the overall value of property in a school district is no exception. As property values increase when new industrial projects and new homes are completed, the revenue generated to pay for bond debt increases, thus the I&S tax rate may be lowered as the amount of money to repay the debt each year is a fixed amount. School districts cannot promise that future values will increase each year, so Waelder ISD cannot promise a future reduction in the tax rate, however, over time, school district values usually trend higher which may allow the school district to lower the tax rate associated with bond issue debt repayment.

If the bond issue passes, will school taxes for our senior citizens be increased?

No. Taxpayers who are age 65 and older and have filed the appropriate homestead tax exemption will not see an increase in the school taxes they pay on their home. The exemption "freezes" the amount of school taxes they pay at the time the exemption is filed.

If I have questions concerning the bond issue, who should I contact?

Please contact Erin Suhr and she will direct your question to the appropriate individual. Her telephone number is 830-239-5600 and her email address is erinsuhr@waelderisd.org.

COOKING WITH PARIND

Cucumber yoghurt soup is silver lining during hellish summer

Hello everyone. My name is Parind Vora. I'm the chef owner of Gonzales Bistro. In this column we talk cooking, tricks to cooking, and sometimes eating.

We are hopefully getting out of this scorcher of a summer. It's not that it is miserable anymore, it is that we have already passed the miserable level adjective and now are into the hellishly oppressive category. Yet. We have air conditioning and cooling breezes so, after thanking God for those little things I will be celebrating this silver lining with a light, poached cucumber yoghurt soup with shrimp that has a little spice, sweetness, as well as some refreshing acidity. The dish's lightness helps lift this heavy weather by combining mint and cilantro in the mix and you get an exotic and enticing flavour combination you can not achieve with either spice alone.

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

Ingredients:

Chilled creamy cucumber and yoghurt soup with Gulf shrimp

- 8 pre-poached, chilled jumbo shrimp, ice cold
- 2-3 cucumbers
- 1 avocado (just ready)
- 1.5 tablespoon sugar or to taste
- Finely sliced 1 cherry belle or the common radish
- Finely diced 1/2 shallot or a small wedge of red onion
- Dry toast 1/4 teaspoon whole cumin seeds
- 1/4 - 1/2 cup plain Greek or homemade plain yoghurt

- 2 tablespoons champagne vinegar
- stemmed 1-2 serrano/jalapeño peppers (per personal preference)
- small handful of cilantro chopped
- 3 mint sprigs, leaves picked and thinly julienned (chiffonade)
- Salt & pepper to taste

Garnish of cucumber 'Pico':

Finely dice 1/4 of one of the cucumbers and mix with the sliced radish & shallot/red onion with some of the cilantro, salt, pepper, toasted cumin, lime juice to taste and set aside.

Chilled cucumber - Yoghurt Soup:

Cut the remaining cucumbers 1-2 inches thick and put into a blender with the avocado, yoghurt, champagne vinegar, sugar, mint, cilantro and hot peppers (if adding). If having issues blending then add a little ice water as needed.

Blend on low initially and then on high. Taste the soup and re-season as needed. Tip: when you are serving foods you must season a little more heavily as the temperature will

Toss the chilled cooked shrimps with the cucumber 'Pico'.

Layer this seasoned shrimp into pre-chilled bowls with the shrimp hidden to be discovered.

Pour the soup over the shrimp, top with mint leaves. Or garnish with a micro-salad.

I would enjoy this with any kind of dry to sweet bubbly. Personally, I would pour a Gruet Sauvage, a crisp, very dry sparkling from New Mexico.



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ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

Hey there folks, I hope life's treating you better than you probably deserve, and even better than it did yesterday. Somedays, that's as much as we can reasonably hope for, and personally, I am thrilled when it happens. I'm always saying that life's one weird puppy, cockeyed, one ear up - the other one down, drooling at times, inappropriately breaking wind at others, and can be counted on to embarrass us at any given moment. This seems to happen more frequently as we grow older, or maybe I'm just noticing it more.

After a recent bout of overwork, followed by fighting off a heavy duty sinus infection that kept threatening victory; and after much prayer, vitamins, aspirin and rest, and hope that my big boy pants still fit...I emerged victorious once again. They say that we are what we eat, and in the name of better health, including many salads, I can't help but wonder if I'll turn into a human head of lettuce, too hard in the middle, too soft on the outside, and dissolving into a fibrous gooey mess. Somedays, that's exactly how I feel. Life isn't the only weird puppy, I more often than not, fit that category myself. After recovering and getting back to my usual way of eating, and while out feeding my herd of raccoons, I inadvertently broke wind myself, scaring and

scattering the raccoons across the backyard. With dozens of glowing eyes staring at me from the darkness I could hear soft chatter and barely made out...you don't think that was dad's love pillow exploding do you?

I also try to encourage folks to adjust their mindset to fit whatever season of life they're in, as not to drive themselves crazy with unrealistic expectations and the frustration that can occur from them. Easier said than done. I sometimes feel that God has to be at least a little amused at the fact that as our bodies grow older and weaker, our mind hasn't apparently gotten the memo and tells us we can still do the things we did many years ago in the prime of our youth. Yep, sick joke if you ask me. As life has a tendency to throw us a curve ball when least expected, this morning was no different.

Waking up after just two hours of sleep last night, I tried everything to relax my mind; star gazing, playing guitar, watching TV, etc., finally falling back asleep towards daybreak. Much surprised at waking at 8:30

(unusually late for me), I hadn't taken two steps when a friend called asking if I could ride to Gonzales to help pick up a trailer full of fencing supplies. Of course I said yes, before being informed that he'd pick me up in ten minutes. After a quick three point stance, I darted off the starting block, brushing my teeth (both of them), getting dressed and feeding / watering animals, making it out the door just in time, albeit a little sweaty (natural old spice).

Long story short; after being complemented by a much younger man for being in decent shape for a guy my age, I thanked him and warned him to pace himself throughout his younger years, as life passes by much quicker than we realize. Psalm 90:10 reminds us that "our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away." The rest of the day was spent digging out trucks after sinking in soft sand while carrying too much weight, such is life. And when did 50 lbs. turn into 100 lbs.? In my youth I felt much like a bull in a china shop, now however, I'm feeling much more like...China in a Bull Shop. Yep, a man has to know his limitations (Dirty Harry)!

Love you guys, Eric.

HomeWord: A Community Bible Study from Home

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Have you ever wanted to study the Bible in the comfort of your own home? Well, now's your chance! Long-time resident Ralph McGarity will lead a class that you can attend remotely. Everyone is welcome, regardless of Bible knowledge or church background.

The purpose of the "Community HomeWord" class is to provide Gonzales with an in-depth study of the Bible. We will use a book series by Bible expert Warren Wiersbe. Before meeting each week, Ralph will send out a chapter summary from which he will base the week's lesson. During the session, we will study each Bible verse to extract from it God's message, guided by Wiersbe's insights. In today's culture, where many people think that "truth" is relative, it is comforting to know that there is an absolute truth, and it is found in God's Word. If He has been calling you to study His scripture, then you will find this class may be the answer.

Commitment: If you attend these one-hour weekly sessions, you will improve your understanding of the Bible. If you prepare in advance by reading the scripture and summary, you will gain more of God's wisdom.

Remote Format: The class will be held via Zoom. Anyone with a landline phone, smartphone, tablet, or computer will be able to participate. The other attendees will be your neighbors and friends in the Gonzales community.

Audience: Both those who are homebound and those who are not are encouraged to

See **HOMEWORD**, page 17

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BAPTIST Clark Baptist Church FM 794, Gonzales	St. James Baptist Church Hwy 80, north of Belmont.	Full Gospel Church 1426 Fisher, Gonzales
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Efeso Iglesia Bautista Highway 87, Smiley	Union Lea Baptist Church St. Andrew St., Gonzales	River of Life Christian Fellowship 207 Steele St., Smiley
Elm Grove Baptist Church 4337 FM 1115 Waelder, TX, 78959	Union Valley Baptist Church FM 1681, NW of Nixon	Thompsonville Community Church CR 423, Thompsonville Between Harwood & Waelder off old Hwy. 90
First Baptist Church 422 St. Paul, Gonzales	CATHOLIC St. James Catholic Church 417 N. College, Gonzales	Two Rivers Bible Church 1600 Sarah DeWitt Dr., Suite 210, Gonzales
First Baptist Church 403 N. Texas, Nixon	Sacred Heart Catholic Church St. John St., Gonzales	INTER-DENOMINATIONAL Faith Family Church 1812 Cartwheel Dr., Gonzales
First Baptist Church Highway 108 N., Smiley	St. Joseph Catholic Church 207 S. Washington, Nixon	Living Waters Fellowship 306 St. Paul, Gonzales
First Baptist Church 406 N. Avenue E, Waelder	St. Patrick Catholic Church Waelder	PENTECOSTAL Faith Temple Hwy. 80 (N. Nixon Ave.), Nixon
Greater Palestine Baptist Church S. of 90A (sign on Hwy 80)	St. Phillip Catholic Church Highway 87, Smiley	Holy Temple of Jesus Christ No. 2 1515 Dallas, Gonzales
Greater Rising Star Baptist Church	CHRISTIAN First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 712 Crockett, Luling	Iglesia Pentecostes Filadelfia 893 S. Magnolia Ave., Luling
Harwood Baptist Church North of Post Office, Harwood	CHURCHES OF CHRIST Church of Christ 1323 Seydler St., Gonzales	Temple Bethel Pentecostal 1104 S. Paul, Gonzales
Iglesia Bautista Macedonia 201 S. Congress, Nixon	Church of Christ (Iglesia de Cristo) 201 E. Second St. Nixon	Life Changing Church of Gonzales 3.3 miles north on Hwy 183, right on CR 235, then right on CR 236
Iglesia Bautista Memorial Highway 97, Waelder	Church of Christ E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon	PRESBYTERIAN Pilgrim Presbyterian Church CR 210 off FM 1116
Leesville Baptist Church E. of Highway 80 on CR 121	Church of Christ, Belmont	Presbyterian Church of Gonzales 414 St. Louis, Gonzales
Memorial Heights Baptist Church 1330 N. College, Gonzales	CHURCHES OF GOD Community Church of God 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales	Cheapside Presbyterian Church, Cuero
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OBITUARY



ELMER J. CARLEY

Elmer J. Carley, known to most as "Bud" Carley, passed away on August 17, 2023, while surrounded by his family. He was born on January 6, 1934, to George Webster and Addie Mae Kelley Carley, near Harwood, Gonzales County, Texas. He was 9 of 11 children.

Bud was raised on a farm. At age 17 he left the farm to pursue a career in the printing industry. He became a Master Printer and was a member of the Master Printers of America. He served as plant superintendent of Wilson Stationery and Printing Company of Houston for 20 years before starting his own company, Carley Printing Company. Bud Carley was a name well respected in the printing industry in Houston. He was a member and served on the boards of the Printing Industry of the Gulfcoast, the Houston Litho Club and the Houston Club of Printing House Craftsmen. He held a high standard for the content he would print.

Bud married June Rose Halliburton of Waelder, Texas on December 19, 1953, while raising his family, he loved to go camping, fishing and hunting. He was a member of the Memorial Heights Baptist Church for many years and was very strong in his faith. In 1994 he retired from the printing industry after 44 years. Bud moved back to the farm he grew up on, in the Harwood area, to raise cattle, to enjoy nature and the simple things of life.

He is survived by his wife June Rose and his four children Charlotte Sanders of Harwood, Texas, Jeffrey Carley (Kim) of Hockley, Texas, Phillip Carley (Vicky) of Canyon Lake, Texas and Sheila Spivey of Cypress, Texas. He is also survived by his seven grandchildren, Kimberly Lee (Chris), Christy Kubran (Adrian), Janelle Sanders, Jeffrey Carley, Joshua Carley, Ashley Spivey, Justin Spivey, eight great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services for Bud will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, you may make a donation in his name to the Memorial Heights Baptist Church.

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

Rise Up for Life Committee hosts Town Hall

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Rise Up for Life Committee presents a Town Hall program on Human Trafficking and Child Sexual Exploitation. Presentation will be at the St. Peter Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 101 N.

Market Street, Hallettsville in Lavaca County, Saturday, Sept. 16 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Investigators from the Victoria office of Homeland Security, select speakers and local law enforcement will present information and address your questions.

Speakers will present information on federal and state investigations occurring in and around the area to bring awareness about the horrific child sex trafficking pandemic. Topics to include current child predator grooming trends and social

media security protocols. Please note that some of the subject matter may not be appropriate for children.

For further information contact Board member Steven Greenwell at steven.greenwell@sbglobal.net.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office
08/20/23 - 0/820/23

08/21/23

• Kent, Larry Michael, 05/1972, Nixon: Local Warrant - Fraud use Poss of Identifying info #items <5, Local Warrant - Fraud use Poss of Identifying info #items <5; Requires \$100,000 Bond
• Brunson, Dejuan Lee Anthony, 06/1993, New Braunfels: Local Warrant - Unl Carrying Weapon, Local Warrant - Poss Marij <2 oz; Released - \$1,500 Bond

08/22/23

• Landrus, James Francis, 01/1964, Hillsboro: Commitment Sentence - Accident involving injury; Remains in Custody

• Harden, Drafford Lee Dekendrick, 07/2001, Fort Worth: Local Warrant - Assault causes Bodily Inj, Other Agency Hold - Unauth use of Vehicle, Requires \$1,500 Bond; Remains in Custody

08/23/23

• Galvan, Anrico Adam, 09/1991, Gonzales: Local Warrant - Fraud use/Poss Ident info #items <5 Elderly, Remains in Custody
• Boyle, Albert George Jr, 11/1957, Gonzales: Local Warrant - Injury child/elderly/disable w/int bodily inj; Released \$25,000 Bond

08/26/23

• Manuel, Makayla Laurynn, 07/1999, Ottine: Warrantless/ On-View - Poss Marij <2 oz; Released \$1,000 Bond

• Obiefule, Jason Chinonso, 12/1995, Houston: Warrantless/ On-View - Driving while intoxicated; Released \$4,000 Bond
Total Arrest, Court Commitments, other agency arrest and processing's:

GCSO	8
DPS	02
GPD	07
WPD	01
NPD	03
GISD	00
SMO	00
Constable 1	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	27

Cuero Chamber to host 'Pizza, Puzzles & Pints mixer

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

To encourage networking for Chamber members, The Cuero Chamber of Commerce is hosting their next business mixer at Cuero Country Club on Wednesday, Sept. 20 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. with the theme "Pizza, Puzzles & Pints Chamber Mixer."

"These networking events have been very well attended and fun for our guests," said Angie Cuellar, Cuero Chamber Executive Director. "Plus, they offer relaxed networking with fun activities to encourage engagement and collaboration. Our attendees are sure to have fun, great networking, challenging puzzles to solve, as well as enjoy some cold pints and delicious pizza at the Cuero Country Club Grille."

Tickets are available at cuero.org or by calling the Cuero Chamber of Commerce at 361-275-2112. Tickets for Chamber members are \$25 each and \$30 for non-members.

Texas A&M Forest Service conducts baldcypress survey along Guadalupe River

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Texas A&M Forest Service conducted a survey of the health of baldcypress trees along a seven-mile stretch of the Guadalupe River this summer after a significant decrease in water levels over the last four years.

On May 14, 2019, the middle section of the hydroelectric dam on Lake Dunlap outside of New Braunfels collapsed, releasing a torrent of water that subsequently dropped the level of water in the lake and upstream

of the Guadalupe River by eight to 10 feet.

In the wider and shallower sections of the lake, as the water retreated from the shoreline toward the river channel, many baldcypress trees were left high and dry with sections of roots that were once underwater exposed to the air. These exposed roots left many shoreline property owners concerned about the health of their baldcypress trees.

Over four years later, in July of 2023, a replacement dam was completed and water levels are

slowly returning to normal.

"Baldcypress are ancient trees that have been around for millennia," said Jeff McFall, Texas A&M Forest Service Staff Forester. "In Central Texas, baldcypress are fortunately adapted to the recurrent periods of extremely dry weather."

During drought, or times with no water, the trees go into a semi-dormant state and appear as if they are dying, with leaves browning and falling. However,

See SURVEY, page A13

New Parkinson's support group to meet

A new support group for Parkinson's will be gathering on Sept. 7 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of the Presbyterian Church of Gonzales. All caregivers, spouses, and those with Parkinson's are welcome and encouraged to attend.

This will be an organizational meeting to set a definite meeting time and how many times monthly meetings are held.

There will be no fees to attend the meetings. Light refreshments will

be furnished.

Any questions can be answered by contacting either Joe Pat Nance (361-960-6794), Patti

Nance (361-960-0983) or Virginia Lockard (512-321-8370). Sponsored by Lone Star Parkinson Society.



BRITNEY JONES CAKA
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14 Austin MFM Dr Malik Dr Desai	15 Dr Echols	16 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Miller	17 Dr Ryan Dr Malik Dr Echols	18 Dr Bui
21 Austin MFM	22 Dr Echols	23 Dr Quebedeaux	24 Dr Ryan Dr Kirchner Dr Echols	25
28 Austin MFM	29 Dr Echols	30 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Miller	31 Dr Ryan Dr Echols	

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(830) 303-0005
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MEETING

CARAWAY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Caraway Cemetery Association will be held on Oct. 14, 2023. The date has been changed from the third Saturday in September because of the hot weather and other circumstances. The meeting is at the Cemetery and will begin at 10 a.m. This will be our first meeting since 2019 and your attendance and input is appreciated. For further information, call Mary Caraway, 830-203-0855.

Don't Miss a Beat



Subscribe to the **GONZALES INQUIRER** Today!

Nixon Lions Club to hold BBQ dinner, concert fundraiser

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Nixon Lions Club will hold their annual BBQ Dinner and Concert at Camp House in Nixon from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16. This is the Nixon Lions Club's largest fundraiser of the year and there will be a limited number of 150 tickets.

- Money raised will be to support the Lions Club activities such as:
- Offer vision screening for all Pre-K students in NSCISD
 - Often assists, financially, those students needing glasses
 - Furnish all hot dogs and chips for the annual Trunk or Treat event
 - Award 2-4 Scholarships to local seniors

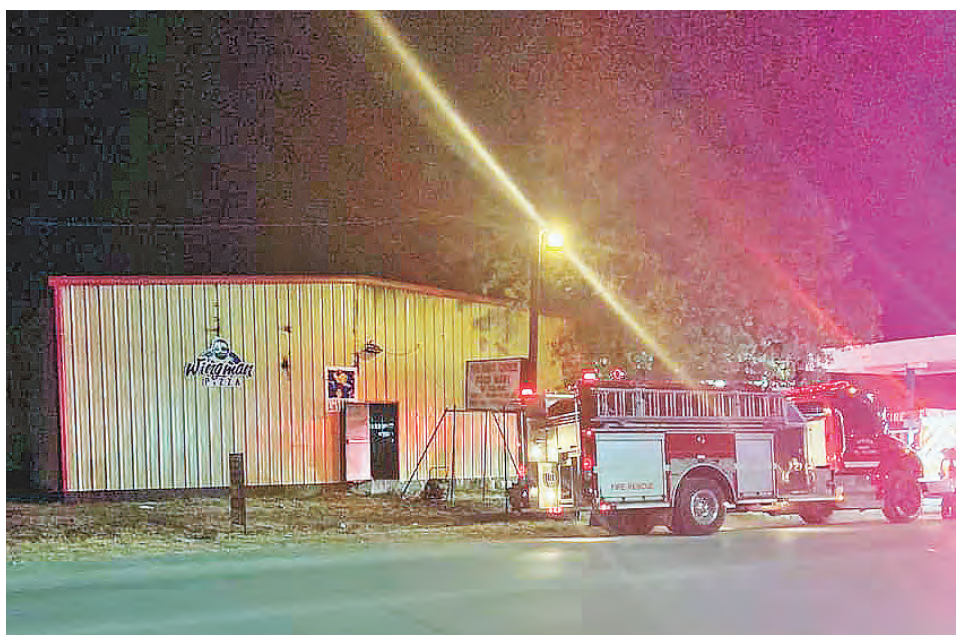
- Contribute to the buyer's pool for the NS Livestock Show
- Contribute to the Nixon Smiley Education Foundation
- Conduct Thanksgiving and Christmas food drives for families in need
- Contribute to other local events hosted by other organizations
- Conducts environmental activities

such as planting tree at City Hall

- Support Texas Lions Camp
- Support the local God's Storehouse

Tickets are \$50 each and include all the BBQ brisket and sides you care to eat plus five hours of live music. If you have questions, reach out to Bud at 210-275-7558 or contact any Lions Club Member!

WAEOLDER FOOD MART FIRE



The Waelder Food Mart was officially closed Wednesday, Aug. 30 due to an early morning fire. At approx 3:30 a.m., units were dispatched to the location. The fire is under investigation by County Fire Marshal Jimmy Harless.

CONTRIBUTED

Quilt Guild membership renewal time is now

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

It is membership renewal time for Shiner Heritage Quilters Guild and now is the perfect opportunity for you to join and participate in all the activities. Yearly dues (Sept. to August) are \$20. Our members, who come from Shiner and surrounding towns, are always eager to share creative knowledge about the beautiful quilting craft

Attend the Tuesday, Sept. 5 meeting at the Shiner Meth-

odist Church Fellowship Hall and see what fun we have! Members gather at 5:00 to socialize and enjoy light refreshments. The meeting begins at 5:30 and includes a program, show and tell and door prize drawings. At this meeting, member Sarah Collins will talk about chenille, a fabric that is very soft to the touch and comfortable.

To learn more log onto www.shinerheritagequilters.org or email info@shinerheritagequilters.org.

SURVEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12

the trees hold on to water internally. When rains or water returns many seemingly dead trees come out of dormancy and begin to leaf out again. The resiliency of baldcypress trees led foresters to wonder how many trees died during this window with low river levels. Of the 1,195 trees found in the stretch of the river from the IH-35N access bridge to the Lake Dunlap Dam, 88.3% were alive and 11.7% were determined to be dead.

"The tally of trees was conducted from the river by kayak," said McFall. "All baldcypress trees five inches in diameter at breast height and larger were tallied."

Additionally, the survey found there was no evidence of widespread disease or pest infestation in the trees. Although, wood borers were present in already dead-standing trees.

"Tree mortality can often be attributed to an accumulation of stressors over time," said McFall. "However, in this case, the most likely scenario is a significant departure from normal water availability, especially for trees directly along the shoreline with root systems adapted for constant contact

Based on this survey of baldcypress survival, the majority of baldcypress trees located on developed property on Lakes McQueeney and Placid should survive the dewater and dam rebuild process with just a normal amount of landscape water."

— Jeff McFall, Texas A&M Forest Service Staff Forester

with water."

Of the 159 dead trees, approximately 97% were located in clusters on undeveloped lots or farm and ranch lands that received no supplemental irrigation, and only five were found on property that received landscape irrigation, despite two drought-stricken years.

Texas A&M Forest Service has worked directly with landowners over the past four years developing irrigation techniques to keep trees alive.

"During dry times, we recommend watering baldcypress at a rate of 0.6 inches per week to simulate what is an approximate normal annual precipitation for the area," said McFall. "The goal is to keep the soil lightly moist six to eight inches deep throughout the critical root zone."

Plans are now underway to dewater downstream Lake McQueeney and Lake Placid in anticipation of construction to replace unsafe and aging dams. With a large number of baldcypress trees in the upcoming dewatered area, these survey results are a glimmer of hope.

"Based on this survey of baldcypress survival, the majority of baldcypress trees located on developed property on Lakes McQueeney and Placid should survive the dewater and dam rebuild process with just a normal amount of landscape water," said McFall.

For extra protection of trees that were once growing at the edge of water and now have exposed roots, McFall recommends covering newly exposed roots with mulch and keeping the mulch moist with a dripper hose or sprinkler in dry periods.

QUILT DONATION



Pictured from the left are Howard Schwausch with the Gonzales County Sheriff's office, J. D. Holt with the Gonzales Police Department and Brent Gindler with GCSO, holding quilts made by the members of the Shiner Heritage Quilters Guild. The quilts have been donated to Norma's House in Gonzales.

CONTRIBUTED

VC to offer Construction Site Safety course this fall

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College is offering a Construction Site Safety Technician (CSST) course Sept. 12-Dec. 7 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-10 p.m. at VC's Emerging Technology Complex.

The course is designed for industry safety professionals, company safety officers, current site safety coordinators, or foremen seeking to improve safety knowledge and

skills. Basic safety, field safety, and safety technology will be covered.

The registration fee is \$1,000, and all course materials, including textbooks, are provided. The deadline to register is Tuesday, Sept. 5 at noon.

For more information or to register, contact Victoria College's Workforce & Continuing Education Department at (361) 582-2528 or email WCE@VictoriaCollege.edu.

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ACROSS

1 TX JoBeth Williams 1980 comedy "___ Crazy"

5 poetic sea eagle

6 simplified "night"

7 TXism: "___ ___ hombre" (mean)

8 ___ of war

9 TXism: "fits like ugly on an ___"

12 apron, e.g. ___

17 spice up

19 TXism: "___ ___ hat and no cattle" (pretentious)

21 Fort Worth money plant uses magnetic 3-down inks to foil counter ___

22 the Alsatian ___ group founded Castroville, Texas

23 1924 slogan: "Me for ___ ___ Ain't Got a Durned Thing Against Pa"

28 TXism: "he ain't got both ___ in the water" (slow witted)

29 cowboy headgears

30 it was once Formosa

31 TXism: "___ pope Catholic?" (yes)

35 this Porter was in "True Blood" with TX Jim Parrack

36 1976 film starring TX Kristofferson and Streisand (4 wds.)

42 TXism: "___ ___ the wall and see if it sticks" (try it out)

44 "got ___ in the door"

46 Diego ___ is often credited with leading an early Spanish expedition

48 TXism: "in ___ age" (long time)

49 "don't have a ___ to stand on" (can't prove it)

50 "t" letters in 38-down

51 TX Martha Hyer film: "The ___ of Katie Elder"

52 pianist, TX Cliburn (init.)

53 Gulf shrimp catcher (2 wds.)

54 a fight between Texas clans

56 was victorious

57 he took title from TX Foreman in 1974

58 TXism: "rug ___" (child)

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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DOWN

1 TX John Cornyn is on the ___

2 "Jackson County Herald-___" (newspaper)

3 see 21-across

4 Texas film critic, Rex

9 to state or assert

10 TX George H.W.'s "Operations Desert Storm" (3 wds.)

11 TX Perot's first naval rank (abbr.)

12 TXism: "___ could talk the legs off an iron stove"

13 TXism: "give ___ ___ without the sizzle" (be brief)

14 workplace safety agcy.

15 TX Pride's "I Believe That You've Stopped Loving Me"

16 Frankston's KOYE, at its beginning

18 "give ___ rest"

20 TX Chiles (init.)

23 ___ Pleasant (abbr.)

24 Friona High class

25 HIV disease

26 "Wet ' ' ___" in Anthony, Texas

27 TX Wise, DT of the Kansas City Chiefs

32 a graduating high schooler (abbr.)

33 Texas semiconductor co.

34 Baptist university in Abilene (abbr. without the "U")

36 "I ___ to" (intend)

37 RBI for an Astro, e.g.

38 Hebrew bible

39 Baylor grad film Gulager 1979 film: "A Force ___"

40 "rules the ___"

41 "not" prefix

43 TXism: "would ___ a maggot" (tastes bad)

45 TXism: "dot the i's and cross the ___"

47 in Hill County on highway 171

48 TXism: "tear jerker" (___ movie)

55 military subdivision

SUDOKU

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

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.



PHOTOS BY LEW K. COHN

Left: Kaden Deleon (20) tackles a Cedar Creek ball carrier with help from a teammate during the first quarter on Friday, Aug. 25. Above: Quarterback Travis Malveaux III (12) had the poise of a senior behind fantastic blocking by his offensive line in the 55-17 win over the Eagles Friday night. Below: Senior Rocky Gallegos (21) stiff-arms one last defender before scoring on a 48-yard TD run in the third quarter of Friday's 55-17 win at Cedar Creek. Gallegos ran for 133 yards and scored three TDs.



Senior Weston Ruddock (2) jumps up to celebrate with fellow senior Davonte Smith after Smith caught a 40-yard TD pass from quarterback Travis Malveaux III in the first quarter of a 55-17 Apache victory over Cedar Creek.

Apaches open season by pummeling Cedar Creek

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

All throughout two-a-days, Gonzales Apaches coach Joey Rivera has encouraged his players to “leave your mark” by giving everything they have in their tanks in every game throughout the 2023 season.

The Apaches certainly left their mark in Bastrop, piling eight TDs on the scoreboard — six of them on the ground — to whallop the

Cedar Creek Eagles, 55-17, in the season opener for both teams Friday, Aug. 25.

Senior Rocky Gallegos, senior Davonte Smith and sophomore David Clack III each had more than 100 all-purpose yards while sophomore quarterback Travis Malveaux III, in his first varsity start, had 262 total yards — including 191 through the air — while throwing a pair of TD passes in a game where the Apaches never trailed as they compiled 539 yards

of total offense.

Meanwhile, a stingy Gonzales defense held the Eagles to minus-five yards rushing and just 88 yards passing in a game whose outcome was never in doubt.

“We kind of came out and got into a groove and got going,” Rivera said. “I think we’ve got a pretty good offense right now, even though, but we’ve got to be ready to go next week.”

See **APACHES**, page AA16

Lady Apaches compete in final tournament

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches played their final tournament Thursday, Aug. 24 through Saturday, Aug. 26.

The Lady Apaches competed against three tough teams in the first day tournament; they took on Corpus Christi Veterans Memorial, Rockport-Fulton and Banquete.

Gonzales fell to Veterans Memorial and Rockport, but beat Banquete to put them 1-2 in first day of the tournament.

Lady Apaches head volleyball coach Jill Gonzales said her team started slow in the first match against Veterans Memorial, but quickly turned it around against Banquete.

“Shout out to my defensive specialists in my libero Dakota [Schmidt] and Joelee Lester and Aubrey Lindemann and the freshmen Alaina Valle stepped up. And they weren’t letting much drop, even our middles where we tried to get a touch on every ball,” Gonzales said.

The Lady Apaches closed out day one of the tournament with a close and even match with the Rockport-Fulton Lady Pirates.

“Throughout the day, my girls have come back from behind and they fought from behind. And that’s really what I’ve been asking of them from the beginning of the season is fight for every point, no matter what the deficit is just keep on fighting. Rockport was a good match for us. We learned a lot from it as well,” Gonzales said.

See **VOLLEYBALL**, page A16



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Gonzales junior libero Dakota Schmidt records a dig against the Rockport-Fulton Lady Pirates in the Cuero Tournament. Gonzales seniors Sam Baker (4) and Mallory Clack (14) jump in the air for a block attempt against Banquete. Lady Apaches sophomore setter Aubrey Lindemann serves for Gonzales in the Rockport match of the Cuero Tournament.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Lions beat Mustangs in season opener for both squads

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs fell at home to the San Antonio Christian Lions, 49-20, in the season football opener for both squads.

The Mustangs struggled against the passing attack by the Lions, allowing 269 yards and five touchdowns.

Nixon-Smiley had to deal with multiple penalties in the first half of the game, and head coach Troy Moses said it all starts with themselves.

“We’ve got to fix us before we fix anything else. You know, we’ve got some good talent on this team. We’ve gotta get tougher mentally. We all need to learn how to work. We’ve got to learn the tangibles other than just playing football,” Moses said.

Moses added the first half penalties had nothing to do with them being good football players, and they have to get mentally and physically tough and not make those penalties.

The Mustangs manage to turned things around in the second half with long rushing touchdowns by senior running back Julian Amaya (87 yards) and quarterback Luke Moses (92 yards)

Nixon-Smiley’s rushing offense carried a combined 37 times for 309 yards and three touchdowns.

Amaya led the Mustangs with 110 yards on eight carries and is one of three players that scored a rushing touchdown.

The Mustangs will be traveling to Three Rivers this Friday to take on the state-ranked Bulldogs.

Moses knows what they will be facing on the road.

“They’re number nine in the state. They got talent, they got everybody back from last year. They only lost three games last year. They’re loaded, so we don’t have time to feel sorry for ourselves. We’ve got a good opponent coming up,” Moses said.

Last year, the Mustangs were up, 20-15, with 2:15 left to play but lost at home to Three Rivers, 31-20, after allowing two late TDs, including a game-sealing interception return for a TD.

The Mustangs travel to Three Rivers Friday, Sept. 1.

Kick off is set for 7:30 p.m.



Mustangs sophomore running back Julian Amaya stiff arms a San Antonio Christian player in the season opener. Amaya led the team with 110 rushing yards on eight carries and scored a 87 yard touchdown.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



Above left: Mustangs senior halfback Aiden Flores (3) rushes to the right side of the field with sophomore running Julian Amaya (22) against the San Antonio Christian Lions Friday, Aug. 25. Above right: The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs defense lines up against San Antonio Christian’s offensive line Friday, Aug. 25, in the season opener.



Nixon-Smiley senior Kyleigh McKissack blocks the ball in the air against Yoakum Tuesday, Aug. 29.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Lady Mustangs compete in Goliad, Cuero tournaments

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs competed in their final tournament of the season in Goliad and Cuero last week.

The Lady Mustangs fell to Goliad, 2-0, and played against Edna (no score recorded) and Bay City (no score) in the first day of the tournament Thursday, Aug. 24.

At the Cuero tournament, the Lady Mustangs beat the Rockport-Fulton Lady Pirates, 2-1, in three sets.

Nixon-Smiley will have two more non district games against Three Rivers on the road Friday, Sept 1, and host Shiner Tuesday, Sept. 5.

The Lady Mustangs will kick district play against Marion Friday, Sept. 8.

Three Rivers games start at 4:30 p.m. Shiner game starts at 7 p.m.

Lady Mustangs fall to Yoakum

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs lost their seventh match this season in a three-game sweep by the Yoakum Lady Bulldogs Tuesday, Aug. 29.

The Lady Mustangs started off slow, losing the first set, 25-9, but quickly turned it around in the second set.

The Lady Mustangs and Lady Bulldogs were tied, 21-21, with a back-and-forth lead change, but Yoakum took the win, 25-23.

Yoakum completed the sweep of the Lady Mustangs, 25-11, in the third set.

The Lady Mustangs have two more non-district matches left before they kick off district on the road against the Marion Lady Bulldogs Friday, Sept. 8.

Nixon-Smiley will travel to Three Rivers Tuesday, Sept. 1 and they’ll host the Shiner Lady Comanches Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Three Rivers match starts at 4:30 p.m. and the Shiner match starts at 7 p.m.



Above: Lady Mustangs head volleyball coach Loraine Yates speaks with her players in a timeout in the second set against Yoakum. Right: The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs congratulate the Yoakum Lady Bulldogs on their victory against them.

5th annual Come & Take It Memorial Golf Tournament scheduled for Oct. 7

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales High School Class of 1964 and the Community Foundation of the Gonzales Area (CFGA), a 501(c)(3) organization, will join forces once again to hold their golf tournament which honors the county's "Fallen but not Forgotten" Vietnam veterans and proudly presents scholarships to area students in the names of Tommy Chenault and Kenny McGinty.

The 2022 annual tournament was successful enough to raise funds to provide nine scholar-



ships to students in Gonzales, Waelder, and the two high schools in Shiner. This year, it is hoped that funds raised can provide even more academic and vocational scholarships.

Through the support of the many area sponsors — including the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture, the Class of 1964, and the tournament players, who generously give money and supplies to make the event enjoyable and a financial success — the CFGA can offer more opportunities to those in need of a little financial help to achieve their goals.

The GHS Class of 1964 and the CFGA look forward to holding the fifth annual tournament on Oct. 7, 2023, at the Gonzales Independence Golf Course. This tournament has grown

from its humble beginnings due to the tremendous support of the GHS Class of 64 and the people of Gonzales and surrounding areas.

The tournament is now an integral part of the Come & Take It celebration. Organizers look forward to continued support for this worthwhile event.

For any questions regarding entry forms, sponsorships, to make a donation, or to offer any form of support for the program, contact Bill McCaskill at 830-620-8767 or bill@bmc-caskill.com.



VANDY VAN EPPS

Lady Apaches freshman defensive specialist Alaina Valle (7) serves for Gonzales against Banquete in the Cuero Tournament Thursday, Aug. 24

VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A14

The Lady Apaches will have two more non-district games before their Friday, Sept 8 district opener against the La Vernia.

"Something that our team has been working on is communication, our defense and I think it's come a long way from from where we started the season. La Vernia will have a lot of the same qualities as the teams that we've been playing and I think that it's helping us," Gonzales said.

The Gonzales Lady Apaches will host Weimar Friday, Sept. 1 for their first home game of the season, and will host Bloomington Tuesday, Sept. 5.

APACHES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A14



LEW K. COHN

Dakota DuBose flashes a No. 1 sign as he scores his first TD of the year on a pass from Travis Malveaux III and races untouched into the end zone.

Gallegos rushed for a game-high 133 yards on 10 carries and three rushing TDs, including a 48-yard jaunt in the second half where he stiff-armed two defenders and left other sprawled out on the Bastrop ISD Memorial Stadium turf after failed tackle attempts. Malveaux rushed for 71 yards on 12 attempts and Clack shook off an early injury to rush for 52 yards on 10 attempts and two TDs. Junior River Vankirk added another 56 yards on 13 carries and tallied one last rushing TD for the Apaches.

Malveaux completed 12 passes, including four for 77 yards to Smith, including a 40-yard TD pass, and another pair to senior Dakota DuBose for 43 yards, including a 25-yard TD. Gallegos, Brandon DuBose and Weston Ruddock also

caught two passes each.

"Travis did an excellent job tonight at quarterback," Rivera said. "He got lots of snaps there at the end and played the whole game, which is very important for a sophomore to get all those snaps and that's gonna help us out down the way.

"What I love about him is he's always got a pleasant smile on his face as he's running down the sideline. I love the kid!"

Gonzales outscored Cedar Creek, 34-5, in the first half of the game and 21-12 in the second half. The Eagles did manage to score two points off a return of a failed point-after attempt by the Apaches and one TD on a punt return early in the second half, but their only offensive TD came well after the outcome of the game was a certainty.

"That's been one of our points of emphasis this offseason and early on is special teams," Rivera said. "They had a punt return for a touchdown, blocked an extra point and then we didn't field a couple of punts which flipped the field for us. We are kind of disappointed to see those things happen, but we're focused on them and that allows us to build on them for the next week."

APACHE FOOTBALL FANS!!

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM BRINGING INAPPROPRIATE AND OFFENSIVE POSTER BOARDS TO THE GAMES.

THANK YOU, A CONCERNED PARENT

GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS



CONTRIBUTED

The winning team from the Aug. 23 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Miguel Cruz, Ckody Burton, Jacob Bird, Eldon Farek, Mike Higginbotham and Kenny Hernandez.



CONTRIBUTED

The second-place team from the Aug. 23 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Chris Hauptman, Hector Sanchez, Randall Dupree, Ryan Bickham, and Kameron Craft.

NOTICE OF MEETING TO VOTE ON TAX RATE

A tax rate of \$0.0747 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of GONZALES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.0747 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.0747 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.0773 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2023 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for GONZALES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1 from the same properties in both the 2022 tax year and the 2023 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that GONZALES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1 may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that GONZALES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1 is not proposing to increase property taxes for the 2023 tax year.

A PUBLIC MEETING TO VOTE ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 11, 2023 AT 12:30 PM AT the District Administrative Offices, 1724 Hickston, Gonzales, TX.

The proposed tax rate is also not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, GONZALES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1 is not required to hold an election to seek voter approval of the rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Board of Commissioners of GONZALES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1 at their offices or by attending the public meeting mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal:	Rene de la Garza	Dr. Commie Hisey
	Linda Carter	Tony Stone
	Jacey Trammell	
AGAINST the proposal:	NONE	
PRESENT and not voting:	NONE	
ABSENT:	NONE	

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by GONZALES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1 last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by GONZALES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1 this year.

	2022	2023	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.0938	\$0.0747	decrease of -0.0191, or -20.36%
Average homestead taxable value	\$132,149	\$143,678	increase of 11,529, or 8.72%
Tax on average homestead	\$123.96	\$107.33	decrease of -16.63, or -13.42%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$4,529,380	\$4,562,183	increase of 32,803, or 0.72%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for GONZALES COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #1 at 830-672-2841 or tac@co.gonzales.tx.us, or visit www.co.gonzales.tx.us for more information.

HISEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

This is all among the medical staff. It is not a paid position.”

Holly Danz, director of marketing for Gonzales Healthcare Systems, said “Per our policy, we do not comment on personnel matters. There is no further comment at this time.”

Koerner has been with Gonzales Healthcare Systems for nearly 12 years and is board certified in general surgery. She received her medical degree from Midwestern University Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine and performed her residency with surgical training at Henry Ford Macomb Hospital Warren Campus in conjunction with Michigan State University and Henry Ford Hospital of Detroit.

“I’m so proud of our hospital and our clinical staff” Koener said in an open letter on the hospital’s website. “It has been exciting to be a part of the growth over these last few years. The hospital board along with our administration and medical staff has helped to develop services to meet the needs of our community and have weathered the difficult financial state that most hospitals face, as well as the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We are indeed thankful for a supportive community that has seen the value of good care as an investment

in our future economic well-being. The medical staff has grown to include many sub-specialties allowing people to receive care locally for a variety of healthcare issues. Each of our physicians strives to stay on the cutting edge of health care.”

Among the innovations Koerner indicated are on the horizon for the hospital is new electronic medical records software.

“This will allow our staff to see patients and have access to all their records – clinic, laboratory, radiology, and more. We will be able to help our patients in the most efficient, and effective, way possible when we are able to view all of their information in one centralized location,” she said.

Koerner also spoke of the upcoming construction of a new operating wing at the hospital.

“Operating suites with state of the art equipment will provide patients with the highest level of care provided by the friendly faces of our staff members that our community has come to know,” Koerner said. “This is a significant step not only for Gonzales Healthcare Systems, but for the whole Gonzales community. We strive to provide quality healthcare close to home, and this new construction will allow us to do just that.”

HISTORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A4

viewpoints of both academic and lay historians.

However, recent actions by the current president suggest an inclination toward having more academics on the board, disrupting this long-standing balance and swaying the views on Texas history. Such a change will lead to a limited perspective of Texas history, which may only partially honor the organization’s commitment to a diverse representation or serve the broad history of Texas.

In this divisive age, we must look to our history for unity, for understanding, and for the spirit of Texas. The TSHA offers an avenue for this, providing education, resources, and a platform to celebrate Texas in all its

glory – and examine its occasional shame.

How you can help? You can join this organization, and by joining the TSHA, you can contribute to the rich history of Texas that should be told and shared with everyone. Let’s champion our history. Let’s ensure future generations can look back with pride, understanding the struggles, achievements, and the profoundly unique Texan spirit that has shaped our great state.

Join the Texas State Historical Association. Together we can ensure that the tale of Texas, in all its richness and diversity, is never left untold.

www.tshaonline.org
www.thebryannmuseum.org

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

CITY OF GONZALES
CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Gonzales, by this instrument, notifies the public of a PUBLIC HEARING on the Proposed Rate Fee Schedule that has been presented to the City Council for their consideration.

PUBLIC HEARING for citizen input regarding the proposed Master Rate and Fee Schedule for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2024.

The City Council will hold a **Public Hearing on September 7, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the Gonzales Municipal Building, 820 N. Saint Joseph, Gonzales, Texas 78629**, to allow for public comment on the proposed Master Rate and Fee Schedule for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2024.

The City Council encourages citizens to participate in the public comment and public hearing stages of all City Council projects. Citizens unable to attend meetings may submit their views to Kristina Vega, City Secretary for the City of Gonzales, by mailing them to P. O. Drawer 547, Gonzales, Texas 78629. For additional information contact the City Secretary office at (830)-672-2815.

I certify that a copy of the September 7, 2023, Notice of Public Hearing was posted on the City Municipal Building bulletin board on the 17th day of August 2023, at 5:00 p.m. and remained posted continuously for at least 14 days prior to the scheduled time of the meeting.



Kristina Vega, City Secretary

HOMeward

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A11

attend.

Prerequisites and Participation: No prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary to benefit from this class. Your verbal participation is welcome but optional. So, if you are a shy person or you feel you do not know much about the Bible, don’t worry.

Technology requirements: If you know how to dial a phone, you can dial in and participate by listening and speaking. If

you want a more visually immersive experience, you can use Zoom. Ralph, a recently retired engineer, has many years of experience hosting Zoom meetings, and he will gladly help you with technical issues.

Meeting Time: The class will meet every Monday from 5:30-6:30 p.m., starting Monday, September 11, 2023.

Expenses: None.

Next step: If interested, please call or text 830-672-6721 or email ralph_

mcgarity@yahoo.com.

Dr. Warren W. Wiersbe (1929-2019) was an internationally known Bible teacher, author, and conference speaker. He served as the pastor of Moody Church in Chicago from 1971 to 1978. He wrote over 170 books, including the popular BE series, which has sold over four million copies. The Evangelical Christian Publishers Association (ECPA) awarded him the Gold Medallion Lifetime Achievement.

“

Take the chance. Don’t let fear keep you from learning something new. When I was younger, I was afraid of what people thought, and I was scared of failing and not meeting expectations. I wouldn’t be the proud chief of administration of our thriving district today if I hadn’t taken the leap of faith and taken a chance on myself. Take the chance.”

—Veronica Johannsen, GISD Chief of Administration, Communications, and Security

INTERNSHIP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

school students who are interested in the field.

GISD Chief of Administration, Communications, and Security Veronica Johannsen, who is in charge of the program, said students will be getting opportunity to “gain first-hand practical experience” in the communications field at GISD.

“One week, students will be able to focus on video and, the following week, website management. My goal is for our students to learn about real-world projects and to graduate feeling confident in their writing, video editing, digital marketing, website management, graphic design, podcasting, magazines, and more. The possibilities are endless,” Johannsen said.

The GISD Board of Trustees approved hiring eight student interns; four paid seniors and four unpaid students (freshmen to junior).

Johannsen has been in the communications field for many years as bilingual TV news reporter with skills that include script writing, video shooting, video editing and more.

“Throughout my career, I have learned a lot. I have learned to be comfortable in uncomfortable situations. In this field, every day is unique. One day, you could be working on a story about student success; the next minute, you could write and deliver a serious message. I attribute my successful journey in

communications to my past experiences. In this industry, you have to be adaptable and ready for what’s next. I hope our GISD students gain the confidence to find endless opportunities,” Johannsen said.

The high school students that are involved in the internship program are “extremely excited,” Johannsen said.

She added Brandy Low, the visual/graphic design teacher, has been a game changer in the program.

“She has been supportive since day one. Mrs. Low has encouraged her students to apply and pushes them to uncover the potential they sometimes don’t even realize they have. It took one teacher to change my life, and I am sure she is impacting students’ lives as mine was when someone invested their time in me,” Johannsen said.

Low wasn’t the only person who has impact on the start of the intern program; GISD’s Kimberly San Juan has joined “larger community of National School PR.”

“She has done a phenomenal job researching programs in other districts, and together, we have talked to several districts in the state of Texas and across the nation to learn about their experiences and challenges. Some have shared success stories of students gaining jobs in the communications field after high school and crediting the program as preparing them for the working world,” Johannsen said.

This is the first year

introducing the communication intern programs, and Johannsen is looking forward to the growth of the program.

“One of the goals in our strategic plan that I promised this community is to make a platform available for our students to have a voice. That opportunity is here, and we must maximize the learning experience to deliver top-quality work. Our idea list is lengthy, and I am lucky to have the support of our Superintendent, Dr. A (Elmer Avelaneda), the CTE team at the high school, and the comms team rooting for this program that will help our GISD students grow,” Johannsen said.

Johannsen has a message for incoming high school students who are interested in the program:

“Take the chance. Don’t let fear keep you from learning something new. When I was younger, I was afraid of what people thought, and I was scared of failing and not meeting expectations. I wouldn’t be the proud chief of administration of our thriving district today if I hadn’t taken the leap of faith and taken a chance on myself. Take the chance. Don’t let fear keep you from learning something new,” Johannsen said.

The requirements to be part of the program is students must have good standing grades and willing to learn and able to commit 15-20 hours per week during afternoon class periods and after school.

With the heat being unbearable, make sure that your livestock has plenty of water. At Fehner & Son Grain, we have different types of watering bowls.



Fehner Firearms and Fehner & Son Grain will be closed, Monday, September 4th for Labor Day! Have a safe and enjoyable weekend!



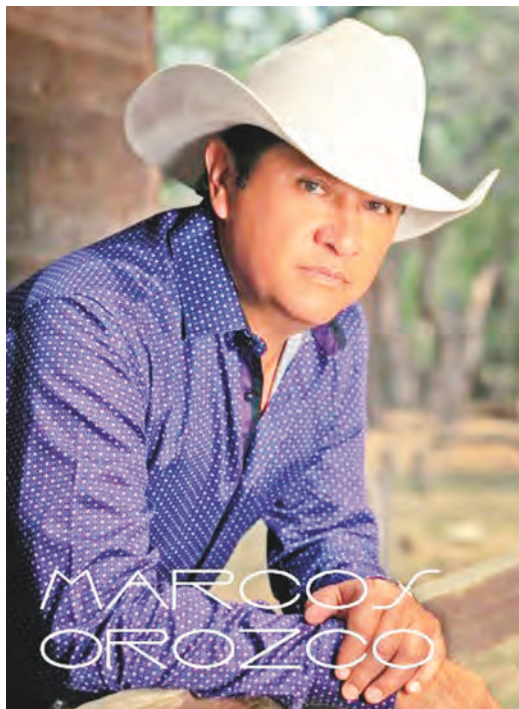
830-672-3710

1922 Co. Road 197, Gonzales, TX 78629

Hours: Mon – Fri. 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. / Sat. 7 a.m. – 1 p.m. / Closed Sunday

For your Firearms needs contact Brandon or Stephanie

Fehner Firearms is closed on Mondays



Headliners for the Come & Take It Celebration include (clockwise from top) Little Texas, Marcos Orozco, and Doug Stone.

CONTRIBUTED

HEADLINERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

And if that wasn't enough, they will be joined by Latin Grammy and Tejano Music Award winner Marcos Orozco y Grupo Rebelde as one of the headlining acts for the festival, which celebrates the Lexington of the Texas Revolution.

The Come and Take It Celebration Committee announced the musical lineup for this year's festival on Friday, Aug. 25. While it may have seemed that following up last year's headliners of Bart Crow and Neal McCoy with comparable talent would have been an impossible task — the committee delivered and then some. One could even say, "God Blessed Gonzales!"

Speaking of which, Little Texas will headline the Friday night street dance, supported by opening acts Nathan Colt Young and Lost Cause Band.

Little Texas has earned the moniker the "Hardest Working Band in Country Music" with 12 Top 20 singles and multiple Grammy, CMA and ACM nominations. Their music remains timely — Joe Jonas covered "God Blessed Texas" for a season 2 episode of HBO's "The Righteous Gemstones." Rightfully so, band members are proud they have written or co-written, recorded and played every note on every single they have released to date.

Expect them to play

such favorites as "What Might Have Been" and "My Love" as well as top 5 singles "Kick A Little" and "Amy's Back in Austin." The group currently is comprised of original band members Porter Howell (lead guitar and lead vocals), Dwayne O'Brien (rhythm guitar and vocals), Duane Propes (bass and vocals) and drummer Del Gray.

Confederate Railroad will be the first of three big acts taking the stage on Saturday night after daytime performances by Los Gavilanes and Taylor Branch & The Lone Star Ramblers.

Headed by founder and frontman Danny Shirley, Confederate Railroad was the backup band for both David Allan Coe and Johnny Paycheck before they got their big break by signing with Atlantic Records. What followed were hits including "She Took It Like A Man," "Jesus and Mama," "Queen of Memphis" and their signature song, "Trashy Women," which led to a Grammy nomination and being named ACM's Best New Group for 1993.

With 18 total charted hits and millions of albums sold, "The Railroad" never stops rolling. Shirley, the lead singer and vocalist, and his mates, Mark Dufresne on drums, Mo Thaxton on bass and vocals, Rusty Hendrix on lead guitar and Joey Recker on keyboards and vocals,

love meeting their fans on the road and playing their hits for appreciative audiences.

Following CRR will be country crooner Doug Stone & The Stone Age Band, who know a thing or two about perseverance and what it takes to get to the top.

Doug Stone made his debut on Epic Records when he was already in his 30s with the single, "'I'd Be Better Off (In a Pine Box)." After that came such hits as the Grammy nominated "In a Different Light," "A Jukebox and a Country Song," "Too Busy Being in Love," "Addicted to a Dollar," "Why Didn't I Think of That" and others — with a total 22 charted singles on Billboard's Hot Country Songs.

He battled through quadruple bypass surgery just as his third album, "From the Heart," was being released and has overcome obstacles such as a non-cancerous lump in his nostril, an ultralight plane crash that broke his ankle and cracked his rib and a long battle with alcoholism that brought him closer to God as he has now celebrated more than five years of sobriety.

The final headliner, Marcos Orozco y Grupo Rebelde, features a man who began his career as the lead vocalist for Los Fabulosos Cuatro in the early 1990s before joining David Lee Garza

y Los Musicales for a six-year stint that brought him enough recognition to go solo.

He has won numerous awards from the Texas Talent Musicians Association and BMI for his songs as well as two Grammys for his collaboration with Jimmy Gonzales on the CD "Forever Mazz" and for "Just Friends" with David Lee Garza. Orozco now has his own record label, Oromar Records.

BUDGET

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

a maintenance and operations tax rate of 86.46 cents per \$100 valuation and a debt service rate of 28.54 cents as the district had a total taxable value of nearly \$1.35 billion. Property values for the district increased to more than \$1.78 billion this current tax year. The average market value of residences in the district improved from \$110,708 to \$119,338.

Meanwhile, voters in the district in May approved a \$38 million bond package and the state Legislature approved a measure that goes before voters to authorize a homestead exemption increase from \$40,000 to \$100,000 in November. If approved, the average taxable value of a residence in the district will drop from \$41,300 to \$0 due to the \$60,000 homestead exemption increase and the average residence could see a decrease in their tax bill by \$474.95.

Because of these things, the district proposed a M&O tax rate of 67.92 cents and a debt service rate of 43.54 cents for a total tax rate of \$1.1146, which is still expected to generate \$20,808 in local revenue per student compared to the state contribution of \$693 per student.

The district expects to finish the year with unencumbered fund balances of \$3,625,761 in its M&O fund and \$2,119,224 in its debt service fund.

The general fund budget for 2023-24 will

include \$15,721,327 in expenditures, compared to \$1,238,400 in the child nutrition program and \$7,448,294 in the debt service budget.

In other action, Sledge Engineering and Region 13 Education Service Center presented the scoring matrices from the interviews conducted for the upcoming construction project, which will be funded by the 2023 bond. The board approved selecting Hellas Construction for the football field and track construction project while approving Weaver & Jacobs for the remaining 2023 bond construction projects. The board also authorized the superintendent to negotiate and enter into contract for these 2023 bond projects.

"We are extremely excited to start the construction process with Weaver & Jacobs as well as Hellas Construction and look forward to providing our students with the best facilities possible!" VanAuken said.

The board also approved a change in the local leave policy. As a result, the district will no longer charge the employee for use of their local leave days. There was also an increase approved in the rate of pay for the transportation department. The new rates for drivers are:

- Standard Driving Rate: \$20.00
- Full-Time Route Driver: \$20.50
- Tenured Full-Time Route Driver: \$21.00.



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

CITY OF GONZALES
CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Gonzales, by this instrument, notifies the public of a PUBLIC HEARING on the Proposed BUDGET that has been presented to the City Council for their consideration.

PUBLIC HEARING for citizen input regarding the use of City Funds for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2024.

This budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by \$26,497 or 1.50% and of that amount \$10,846 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

The City Council will hold a **Public Hearing on September 7, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the Gonzales Municipal Building, 820 N. Saint Joseph, Gonzales, Texas 78629**, to allow for public comment for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2024.

The City Council encourages citizens to participate in the public comment and public hearing stages of all City Council projects. Citizens unable to attend meetings may submit their views to Kristina Vega, City Secretary for the City of Gonzales, by mailing them to P. O. Drawer 547, Gonzales, Texas 78629. For additional information contact the City Secretary office at (830)-672-2815.

I certify that a copy of the September 7, 2023, Notice of Public Hearing was posted on the City Municipal Building bulletin board on the 17th day of August 2023, at 5:00 p.m. and remained posted continuously for at least 14 days prior to the scheduled time of the meeting.

Kristina Vega, City Secretary

The Gonzales Inquirer will be closed on

Labor Day - Sept. 4, 2023

to celebrate the holiday with family and friends.

*Have a safe and happy holiday from
The Gonzales Inquirer staff*

622 St. Paul St. • Gonzales, TX 78629
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www.gonzalesinquirer.com

FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

GONZALES APACHES • NIXON-SMILEY MUSTANGS • WAELDER WILDCATS • SHINER ST. PAUL CARDINALS



APACHES LOOKING FOR

postseason promised land

IN RIVERA'S SECOND YEAR

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches are back on the gridiron under second year head coach Joey Rivera and looking to improve upon last season's 4-6 record (2-3 in District 12-4A-2).

Rivera and the Apaches began their preparations for the new season after a disappointing season finale in 2022 against Giddings that eliminated them from the postseason contention.

"Preparations were under way from the time we walked off the field after that disappointing loss against Giddings last year," Rivera said. "Finally to get a full offseason with the most of our staff intact and stuff, it was very helpful."

"Our kids competed well in basketball; we have multiple sport athletes in basketball, baseball and track and then having a good summer turnout this year at our summer strength and conditioning has been very big and it's just been continuous."

Rivera compared year one to year two, and he said the difference is the continuity of his staff from last year and the new staff that are bringing in tons of experience.

"We've got a lot of coaching going on during our individual deals, and you see that individual coaching translate when it comes into group work and team. And you can see that tremendously. I think that's going to be a huge point internally as a staff with us," Rivera said.

The 21-14 loss to Giddings has been a motivator for the Apaches and Rivera said his players knew they were very close to making the playoffs.

"I think they saw the disappointment because they knew that they could have done more. And that's probably always a huge disappointment when something ends and you're like, 'Man, we probably could have done more to prevent this from happening.' And I think they don't want to let that happen this year. So that's been a big motivation for us," Rivera said.

The Apaches graduated 22 seniors last season and the team has been working on replacing those key contributors.

Rivera said they have to fill in losses at quarterback, running back and middle linebacker this season.

The Apaches will be running the spread offense and the 3-4 defense for the second year under Rivera.

Rivera will enter the season as the second-longest tenured head coach in the district despite it being only his second season at Gonzales.

Caldwell, La Grange and Giddings all will have new head coaches in the district. Gonzales, Cuero and Smithville will return their coaches this year.

Despite new coaches in the district, Rivera said it still is going to be a competitive district.

Cuero is still the team to beat in the district who everyone is trying to chase, including the Apaches, Rivera said.



Jermane Upshaw



David Clack III



Weston Ruddock



Daevien Pitts



Kamren Leal



Brandon DuBose



Isaac Gonzales



Dakota DuBose



Cole Duty



Davonte Smith



Travis Malveaux III



Sebastian Gallegos



Jessiah Barr



John Izaguirre



Kaden Deleon



Blake Wright



Luciano Sirilo



Hayden Lopez



Dylan Hunt



Rafael Rodriguez



Landon Holub



Nate Nichols



Drew Pennington



Adrian Orta



Rocky Gallegos



River Van Kirk



Jacob Clack



Gustavo Rodriguez



Omar Borjon



TJ Riojas

"The two, three, and four spot I think are really up for grabs and we're not leaving that one spot out of picture. We know where we want to be, and we know our ultimate goals. And we have one of the best measuring sticks in the state of Texas to measure ourselves up against," Rivera said.

The Apaches have Cedar Creek, Pleasanton, La Vernia, and Yoakum as their non-district opponents.

The seniors this season have been stepping up since they were juniors, Rivera said, and add they know what they need to do.

"Devonte Smith has been an unquestioned leader of being here every day. Raf Rodriguez on the offensive line is another one, we look at our attendance chart. Those guys probably hadn't missed more than twice here since we walked off the field [last season]," Rivera said.

Rivera mentioned Hayden Lopez, Rocky Gallegos, Cameron Leal, TJ Riojas, Weston Ruddock and Blake Wright as other key senior leaders of the 2023 team.

The biggest strengths of the 2023 Apaches looking forward is the offensive line, and Rivera said the only position they have to fill is the right tackle with four starters returning for this year.

Landon Harlow, Hayden Lopez, Jacob Clack and Rafael Rodriguez will be the returning starters from last year, and Rivera is looking forward to those who are competing for open spots.

"I'm so excited about that offensive line group and our skill kids — they're good. We've got a



2023 Gonzales Apaches Varsity Football

#	Name	Class	#	Name	Class
0	Jermaine Upshaw	11	20	Kaden Deleon	12
1	David Clack III	10	21	Rocky Gallegos	12
2	Weston Ruddock	12	22	Blake Wright	12
3	Daevien Pitts	10	42	Luciano Sirilo	12
4	Kamren Leal	12	50	Hayden Lopez	12
5	Brandon Dubose	10	51	Dylan Hunt	11
6	TJ Riojas	12	55	Rafael Rodriguez	12
7	Isaac Gonzales	11	56	Landon Holub	12
8	Dakota Dubose	12	58	Nate Nichols	12
9	Cole Duty	12	59	Riley Hood	12
11	Davonte Smith	12	60	Gary Lewis	10
12	Travis Malveaux III	10	64	Kevin Veliz	11
13	Sebastian Gallegos	11	65	Drew Pennington	12
14	Brandon Duenez	9	68	Jaydon Lampkin	11
15	River Van Kirk	11	71	Adrian Orta	11
16	Alan Orduna	12	72	Jacob Clack	12
18	Jessiah Barr	12	74	Gustavo Rodriguez	10
19	John Izaguirre	11	79	Omar Borjon	11

Coaching Staff

Athletic Director/Head Football: Joseph Rivera
Asst. Head Coach: Garry Beveridge
Defensive Coordinator: Keith Cubit
Offensive Coordinator: David Tannreuther
High School Staff:
Charles Harris, Saul Hinojosa, Mitchell Winchester, Dylan Cantu, Alex Matanic, Jeremiah Lopez, Burtram Knight
Junior High Staff: Dillon Kalina, Shea Seip, Jacob Cuellar

Support Staff

Superintendent: Dr. Elmer Avelledana
Principal: Jon Basha
Band Director: Ramon Parker
Athletic Trainers: Jeremy Phillips & Scott Zimmerman
Student Trainers:
Isabella Guerra, Jeilyn Vigil, Dakota Navejar, Midaya Cantu, Sandra Colchado, Madison Stewart, Denise Navarro, Karyme Loera, Luhana Wells, Adalina Moreno

GONZALES APACHES



2023/2024
Gonzales High School - Volleyball (F) Varsity
Lady Apaches

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 4	TBA	@ Flatonia Scrimmage	Flatonia High School	
Aug 5	3:00 PM	vs Alumni Game	Apache Gymnasium	
Aug 8	TBA	@ Yoakum/Shiner Dual		
Aug 11	TBA	@ Shiner Tournament		Tourney dates are 8/11 - 8/12
Aug 15	6:30 PM	@ Smithville	Smithville High School	
Aug 17	TBA	@ Schulenburg Tournament	Schulenburg Sports Complex	Tourney dates are 8/17 - 8/19
Aug 22	6:30 PM	@ Hallettsville	Hallettsville High School	
Aug 24	TBA	@ Cuero Tournament	Cuero High School	Tourney dates are 8/24 - 8/26
Aug 29	6:00 PM	@ Edna		
Sep 1	4:30 PM	vs Weimer	Apache Gymnasium	
Sep 5	6:00 PM	vs Bloomington	Apache Gymnasium	JH Night
Sep 8	6:30 PM	@ LaVernia	La Vernia High School	
Sep 12	6:30 PM	@ SA Fox Tech	SA Fox Tech	
Sep 15	7:30 PM	@ SAYWL	SA Fox Tech	
Sep 19	6:30 PM	vs SA Memorial	Apache Gymnasium	
Sep 22	6:30 PM	@ SA Kennedy		
Sep 26	6:30 PM	vs Cuero	Apache Gymnasium	
Sep 29	TBA	vs BYE		
Oct 3	6:30 PM	vs LaVernia	Apache Gymnasium	
Oct 6	5:30 PM	vs SA Fox Tech	Apache Gymnasium	
Oct 10	6:30 PM	vs SAYWL	Apache Gymnasium	Parent Night
Oct 13	7:30 PM	@ SA Memorial		



2023/2024
Gonzales High School - Football (M) Varsity
Apaches

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 11	TBA	vs Beeville	Apache Field	Scrimmage-Peaunt Butter Bowl
Aug 17	TBA	vs Poteet	Apache Field	Scrimmage- Laundry Bowl
Aug 25	7:00 PM	@ Cedar Creek	Bastrop Memorial Stadium	
Sep 1	7:00 PM	vs La Vernia	Apache Field	Youth Appreciation Night
Sep 8	7:00 PM	@ Marion	Marion High School	
Sep 15	7:00 PM	@ Pleasanton	Pleasanton High School	
Sep 22	7:00 PM	vs Yoakum	Apache Field	First Responder Night
Oct 6	7:30 PM	vs Caldwell	Apache Field	Homecoming
Oct 13	7:30 PM	vs Cuero	Apache Field	Cancer Awareness
Oct 20	7:30 PM	@ Smithville	Smithville High School	
Oct 27	7:30 PM	vs La Grange	Apache Field	Senior Night
Nov 3	7:30 PM	@ Giddings		

WAELDER WILDCATS

Lady Cats Volleyball Schedule 2023-2024

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
July 31st	2 A Days Start	Waelder HS	7 am and 1pm
August 8th	Runge	Runge HS	5:00 pm
August 10th and 12th	Yorktown Tourney	Yorktown HS	TBD
August 15th	Buckholts	Waelder HS	5:30 pm
August 18th	Runge	Waelder HS	5:30 pm
August 22nd	Luling	Luling HS	5:00 pm
August 25th			
August 29th	Austwell Tivoli	Austwell Tivoli HS	5:00 pm
Sept. 2nd	Runge Tournament	Runge HS	TBD
Sept. 5th	Schulenburg	Schulenburg HS	4:30 pm
Sept. 8th	Austwell Tivoli	Waelder HS	5:30 pm
Sept. 12th	Bartlett	Bartlett HS	5:30 pm
Sept. 15th	Dimebox	Waelder HS	6:30 pm
September 19th	Buckholts	Buckholts HS	6:30 pm
September 22nd		Bye	
September 26th	McDade	McDade HS	6:30 pm
September 29th	Fayetteville	Waelder HS	5:30 pm
October 3rd	RTC	Waelder HS	6:30 pm
October 6th	Prairie Lea	Waelder HS	5:30 pm
October 10th		Bye	
October 13th	McDade	Waelder HS	5:30 pm
October 17th	Fayetteville	Fayetteville HS	6:30 pm
October 20th	RTC	RTC HS	5:30 pm
October 24th	Prairie Lea	Prairie Lea HS	6:30 pm
November 2nd-4th	Area	TBD	TBD
November 6th-7th	Regional Quarterfinalists	TBD	TBD
November 10th-11th	Regional Tournament	TBD	TBD
November 15th-18th	State Tournament	TBD	TBD

Head Coach: Coach Brown
 Athletic Director: Coach Austin
 Principal: Mrs. Taylor and Mr. Johanningmeier
 Superintendent: Dr. Ron Lillie
 Waelder High School
 Phone: (830) 239-5600
 201 West US Hwy 90
 Waelder, TX 78959



2023/2024
Gonzales High School - Cross Country (C) Varsity
Apaches

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 12	8:00 AM	@ Victoria	Victoria Riverside Park	Park in the Riverside Stadium Parking lot
Aug 19	8:00 AM	@ Yoakum	Yoakum Golf Course	
Aug 31	5:00 PM	@ Schulenburg	Schulenburg Sports Complex	
Sep 9	8:00 AM	@ Seguin	Seguin - Starke Park	Hosted by NB Canyon High School
Sep 16	9:00 AM	@ Corpus Christi	TAMUCC Islander Splash	
Sep 23	8:00 AM	vs Gonzales		JB Wells
Sep 30	8:00 AM	@ Seguin	Seguin - Starke Park	Hosted by Seguin High School
Oct 11	8:00 AM	@ District	Seguin High School	District hosted by LV



2023/2024
Gonzales High School - Tennis (C) Varsity
Apaches

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Special Notes
Aug 23	4:00 PM	@ Somerset	Somerset High School	
Aug 30	4:00 PM	@ Navarro	Navarro High School	
Sep 13	4:00 PM	@ Pleasanton	Pleasanton High School	
Sep 20	4:00 PM	@ Floresville	Floresville High School	
Sep 27	4:00 PM	@ Karnes City	Karnes City High School	
Oct 4	4:00 PM	@ LaVernia	La Vernia High School	

NIXON-SMILEY MUSTANGS

2022 MUSTANG CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

DATE	SPONSOR	PLACE	DIVISION
Aug. 20	Kenedy Inv.	Kenedy, Texas	HS/MS
Sept. 3	S.A. FEAST Inv.	San Antonio, Texas	HS/MS
Sept. 10	Moulton Inv.	Moulton, Texas	HS & MS
Sept. 17	Shiner Inv.	Shiner, Texas	HS & MS
Oct. 1	Poth Inv.	Poth, Texas	HS & MS
Oct.	DISTRICT	TBA	HS & MS
Oct.	REGIONAL	TBA	HS
Nov.	STATE	TBA	HS

SUPERINTENDENT: JEFF VANAUKEN
 PRINCIPAL: JIM WEAVER
 ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: CARLTON MCKINNEY
 HEAD COACH: TBA

Nixon-Smiley Mustang Varsity Football Schedule

2023-2024

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
8/10	Thursday	Shiner St. Paul (scrimmage)	Nixon	6:00 pm
8/17	Thursday	Kenedy (scrimmage)	Kenedy	6:00 pm
8/25	Friday	SA Christian - Parents Night	Nixon	7:30 pm
9/1	Friday	Three Rivers	Three Rivers	7:30 pm
9/8	Friday	Flatonia	Flatonia	7:30 pm
9/15	Friday	Wallis Brazos	Nixon	7:30 pm
9/22	Friday	*Comfort	Nixon	7:30 pm
9/29	Friday	*Karnes City	Karnes City	7:30 pm
10/6	Friday	*Dilley - Homecoming	Nixon	7:30 pm
10/13	Friday	*Poth	Poth	7:30 pm
10/20	Friday	*SA West Campus - Senior Night	Nixon	7:30 pm
10/27	Friday	OPEN		
11/3	Friday	*Natalia	Natalia	7:30 pm

Junior Varsity Football Schedule

8/10	Thursday	Shiner St. Paul (scrimmage)	Nixon	5:00 pm
8/17	Thursday	Kenedy (scrimmage)	Kenedy	5:00 pm
8/24	Thursday	SA Christian	SA Christian	5:00 pm
8/31	Thursday	Three Rivers	Nixon	5:00 pm
9/7	Thursday	Flatonia	Nixon	5:00 pm
9/14	Thursday	Wallis Brazos	Wallis Brazos	5:30 pm
9/21	Thursday	*Comfort	Comfort	5:30 pm
9/28	Thursday	*Karnes City	Nixon	5:30 pm
10/5	Thursday	*Dilley	Dilley	5:30 pm
10/12	Thursday	*Poth	Nixon	5:30 pm
10/19	Thursday	*SA West Campus	SA West Campus	5:30 pm
10/26	Thursday	OPEN		
11/2	Thursday	*Natalia	Nixon	5:30 pm

Middle School Football Schedule

9/7	Thursday	Flatonia	Flatonia	5:00/6:15 pm
9/14	Thursday	Hallettsville	Nixon	5:00/6:15 pm
9/21	Thursday	* Comfort	Nixon	5:00/6:15 pm
9/28	Thursday	* Karnes City	Karnes City	5:00/6:15 pm
10/5	Thursday	* Dilley	Nixon	5:00/6:15 pm
10/12	Thursday	*Poth	Poth	5:00/6:15 pm
10/19	Thursday	OPEN		
10/26	Thursday	Goliad	Nixon	5:00/6:15 pm
11/2	Thursday	*Natalia	Natalia	5:00/6:15 pm

Superintendent: Jeff VanAuken
 Athletic Director: Carlton McKinney

Principal: Maria Jimenez
 Head Football Coach: Troy Moses

Lady Mustang Volleyball Schedule 2023

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIMES	TEAMS
08/04	Cuero Scrimage	Cuero	TBD	F/JV/V
08/08	Yorktown	Nixon	6/7 pm	JV/V
08/10-08/12	Yorktown Tournament	Yorktown	TBD	V
08/15	Falls City	Falls City	5/6/7 pm	F/JV/V
08/18 -08/19	Nixon-Smiley Tournament	Nixon	TBD	V
08/22	Stockdale	Nixon	5/6/7 pm	F/JV/V
08/24-08/26	Cuero Tournament	Cuero	TBD	V
08/29	Yoakum	Yoakum	5/6/7 pm	F/JV/V
09/01	OPEN			
09/05	Shiner	Nixon	5/6/7 pm	F/JV/V
09/08	Marion	Marion	5/6/7 pm	V/JV/F
09/12	Cole	Cole	5/6/7 pm	F/JV/V
09/15	Monte Vista	Nixon	5/6 pm	V/JV
09/19	OPEN			
09/22	Northern Oaks	Nixon	5/6/7 pm	V/JV/F
09/26	Luling	Luling	5/6/7 pm	F/JV/V
09/29	Randolph	Nixon	5/6/7 pm	V/JV/F
10/03	Marion (Pink Out)	Nixon	5/6/7 pm	F/JV/V
10/06	Cole (Homecoming)	Nixon	5/6/7 pm	V/JV/F
10/10	Monte Vista	Monte Vista	5/6 pm	JV/V
10/13	OPEN			
10/17	Northern Oaks	Northern Oaks	5/6/7 pm	F/JV/V
10/20	Luling (Parents Night)	Nixon	5/6/7 pm	V/JV/F
10/24	Randolph	Randolph	5/6/7 pm	F/JV/V

Head Coach: Lorraine Yates
 Superintendent: Jeff Van Auken
 Athletic Director: Carlton McKinney
 Principal: Maria Jimenez

New coach hopes to guide Lady Apaches to playoff berth

BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches volleyball team is back with a new but familiar face on the sidelines for the 2023 season.

The Lady Apaches will have a new head volleyball coach for this season in Jillian Gonzales; Gonzales was the Gonzales Junior High School volleyball coach and is very familiar with the players.

"I've been coaching here at the junior high for nine years, so I've coached all of these girls, I know them, I know their family and other parents. For some of them, I'm coaching their siblings now," Gonzales said.

Coach Gonzales has seen many players go through the volleyball program at the junior high school and she said everything is falling back into place with getting to know players again at the high school level.

"We never lost touch. I always went to their games and tried to support them as much as I can, but yeah it's fun going back to them and getting to be their coach again," Gonzales said.

As the first year as the head coach the Lady Apaches, Gonzales said the biggest strength she has seen from the 2023 squad are



the seniors: Macy Sample, Kelly Breitschopf, Mallory Clack, Tara Lester, Hannah Avant, Sam Baker and Sidney McCray.

Gonzales has coached these seniors since the fifth grade with club volleyball with the Gonzales Revolution and she said the big strength is them knowing each other.

"Volleyball is a game of communication. They communicate well with each other, so that's a big strength that we have," Gonzales said.

When it comes to communication, the senior Lady Apaches will

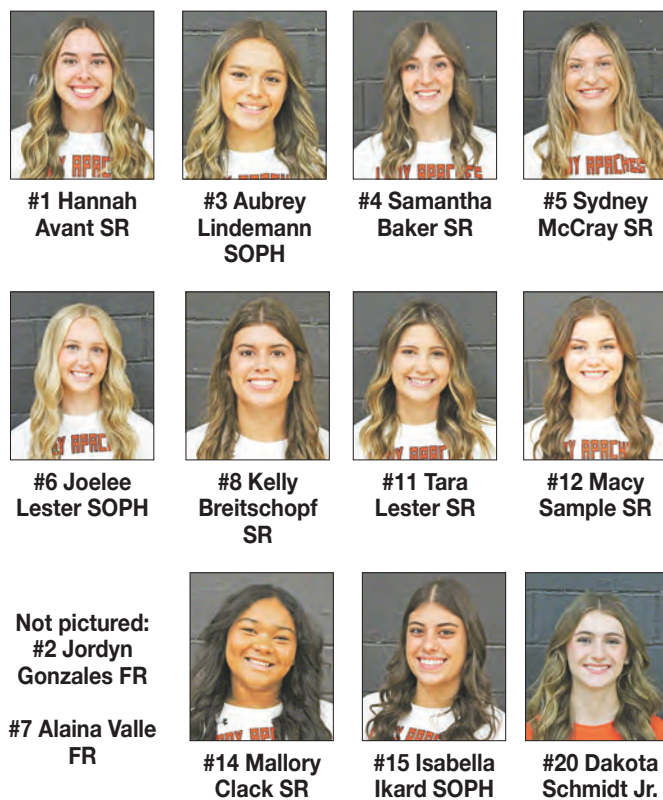
work on that with the underclassmen this season, Gonzales said.

The Lady Apaches will have height this season with Isabella Ikard, Clack, Baker and Lester, and Gonzales said that's a strength, too, with speed to go with that.

Gonzales talked about her seniors and how they'll set the example for the younger players and the future Lady Apaches volleyball players, leaving a legacy in the program.

"Them being leaders on the

See **VOLLEYBALL**, page B8



“I went to the games last year. They are a scrappy district, they don't let balls hit the floor without hitting the floor first and they're quick. We're preparing for that.”

—Coach Jillian Gonzales

FOOTBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

good crop of skill kids. It's just the ones that are really good on offense at the same exact school because they're really good on defense. So you know, you're going to see a lot of skill guys. Really a lot of our team go both ways this year — more than we had last year," Rivera said.

One of the main things Rivera is concerned for this year is the depth on team, and he said if one injury occurs, it becomes a domino effect.

"It's something we're paying attention to. And as coaches, as we go through practices, I told

our coaches, you know, we can't burn the steak too early. And we don't want to burn the steak at all," Rivera said.

"So we're watching the way we practice, watching some of the things in the drills we're doing in our approach to practice, the length of our practices and the understanding that yes, we've got to get in shape to play both ways, but we've also got to peak at the right time," Rivera added.

Rivera's expectations are the same as last year — to not host Thanksgiving dinner, but have prac-

tice on Thanksgiving.

"If you're practicing during that Thanksgiving week, there's a handful of teams left in the state of Texas and you're one of them. So that's always the expectation and the goal. But I expect our kids to just be strong workers and do well in the classroom and in our community. And doing things throughout the season that make the Gonzales community proud," Rivera said.

The Apaches won their season opener against Cedar Creek, and will host the La Vernia Bears this Friday, Sept. 1.



2023 Gonzales Apaches Junior Varsity Football

#	Name	Class	#	Name	Class
1	Dallas Navejar	10	34	Aiden McFaden	10
2	Deandre Francis	11	40	Christopher Cortez	11
3	Bill Greathouse	10	50	Gary Lewis III	10
6	Alex Cantu	10	55	Isaiah Balderas	10
8	Colt Robinson	10	56		10
10	Jadyn Gonzalez	10	58	Daniel Guzman	11
11	Hector Reyna	11	61	Kevin Veliz	11
22	Gabriel Moseley	10	62	Jayden Balderas	10
23	Carlos Almaguer	10	63	Marcus Lampkin	10
24	Christian Jurek	10	65	Dylan Rodriguez	11
25	Marcus Izaguirre	10	68	Jaydon Lampkin	11
33	Wyatt Withers	10	71	Pablo Torres	10
Coaching Staff			Support Staff		
Head JV: Charles Harris					
Defensive Coordinator: Charles Harris					
Offensive Coordinator: Alex Matanic					
Defensive Staff:					
Offensive Staff:					

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Raising the Bar

Mustangs building from success

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs shocked the district and the prognosticators last season with a second place finish in district behind state runner-up Poth.

The Mustangs are looking to raise the bar from last year's success under year three of the Troy Moses era.

"We had a great first week of practice! We've had a great turn out and the kids are motivated to 'Raise the Bar!' That's our team motto this year, we're looking to raise the standard here in Nixon and make winning the standard, not something that happens every few years," Moses said.

Moses is determined to build upon the success from last season when the Mustangs rang up a 5-1 district record with their lone loss against Poth on Homecoming.

"We are determined to make that the standard. Our students got a little taste of success last season and we are looking for more," Moses said.

The Mustangs will be filling in key

positions in tailback, halfback, free safety and outside linebacker with split players Bradyn Martinez and George Rodriguez having graduated in May.

Moses said they have several athletes that can replace those players from last year, and he added it won't be just one person filling those positions, but a team effort.

The Mustangs will be running the slot-T offense for the third year under Moses, and he knows his players, especially his offensive line, have been working to improve since day one.

"Just as any system, getting 'Bigger, Stronger, Faster' is the key. With it being year three and having several three year starters back, that puts us way ahead of where we've been. We have a good understanding of the offense now and that gives us the ability to open it up and do more with it," Moses said.

Nixon-Smiley and Poth will have targets on their backs being the only teams in District 15-3A-2 who went past the second round, and Moses said

See **MUSTANGS**, page B5



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Lady Mustangs want to extend playoff streak under Yates

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Nixon-Smilely Lady Mustangs have returned to the volleyball court for the 2023 season.

The Lady Mustangs are looking to rebound from their early playoff exit to state semifinalist Columbus and improve on their fourth-place finish last season.

Nixon-Smilely head volleyball coach Loraine Yates said this year's team has a "solid foundation" that they can build upon this season, and she added she has expressed to the team the importance of focusing on the fundamentals of volleyball.

"With only four returners, I have had the challenge of working our newcomers into the rotation and finding the best fit for our team. We have a very talented group. This year's team will be a little more versatile on the front row," Yates said.

The Lady Mustangs will have four starters returning from last season and three of them are seniors.

Seniors Kendall Amaya and



Ariel Villanueva are this year's captains of the team, and Yates knows they'll be helping with the new faces on the team.

"They know what it takes to be successful and are pushing the newcomers to reach their potential. They have been encouraging while also holding their teammates accountable," Yates said.

Marion and Randolph were the top two teams in District 26-3A last season, and Yates

expects district to be competitive.

"Marion and Randolph were the top two teams in our district last year, so I'm anticipating battling it out with them each time we meet in district," Yates said.

Yates said the biggest strength on this year's team is the "depth and versatility" on the bench.

"I can trust any player on our team to be ready to go in at a moment's notice. Many of our

players are capable of playing multiple positions," Yates added.

Yates said she and her team have been working on team chemistry, especially with the new faces on the team.

"Team chemistry off the court is great, and I love the bond that these young ladies have with one another," Yates said.

The Lady Mustangs' expectations for the 2023 season is to go out and compete all the

time, Yates said.

"My expectation is that our team goes into district play with the mindset of being a contender for one of the top spots. I'm excited to see what all this team can accomplish this year," Yates said.

The Nixon-Smilely Lady Mustangs completed their tournament season and took on Yoakum Tuesday, Aug. 29 and will travel to Three Rivers Friday, Sept. 1 to take on the Lady Bulldogs.

MUSTANGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

knows this district will be tough.

"I think it's going to be very competitive, just as it was last year. Poth has earned the title 'King of the Hill' and until someone can knock them off, they will remain there, but the rest of the district is up for grabs," Moses said.

Moses is looking forward to his team's defense being the main strength for the 2023 Mustangs, and he said they'll have

their best 11 players on the field and will rely on them to win games.

One of the weaknesses this year's team is working on is figuring out what works for this group of athletes this season, Moses said.

"Every year is different, and the key is getting the right combination on the field to be successful," Moses added.

Moses expectations for the 2023

Nixon-Smilely Mustangs is winning championships this season.

"We expect to win championships every year and that's our goal this year. 'Raise the Bar!' Our mission it to make winning championships the standard at

Nixon-Smilely," Moses said.

The Mustangs kicked off their season last Friday at home with a loss to San Antonio Christian, and will travel to Three Rivers Friday, Sept. 1 for their first road game.

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2023-2024 WAELDER VOLLEYBALL TEAM



Above: (From left) Jalissiah Thompson, Dallas Chavez, Julissa Martinez.
Below: Senior Jalissiah Thompson cheers on her team
Bottom left: Beautiful backset by Luz Ramos.
Top left: Block by Aerrieona McKnight.

CONTRIBUTED/WAELDER ISD



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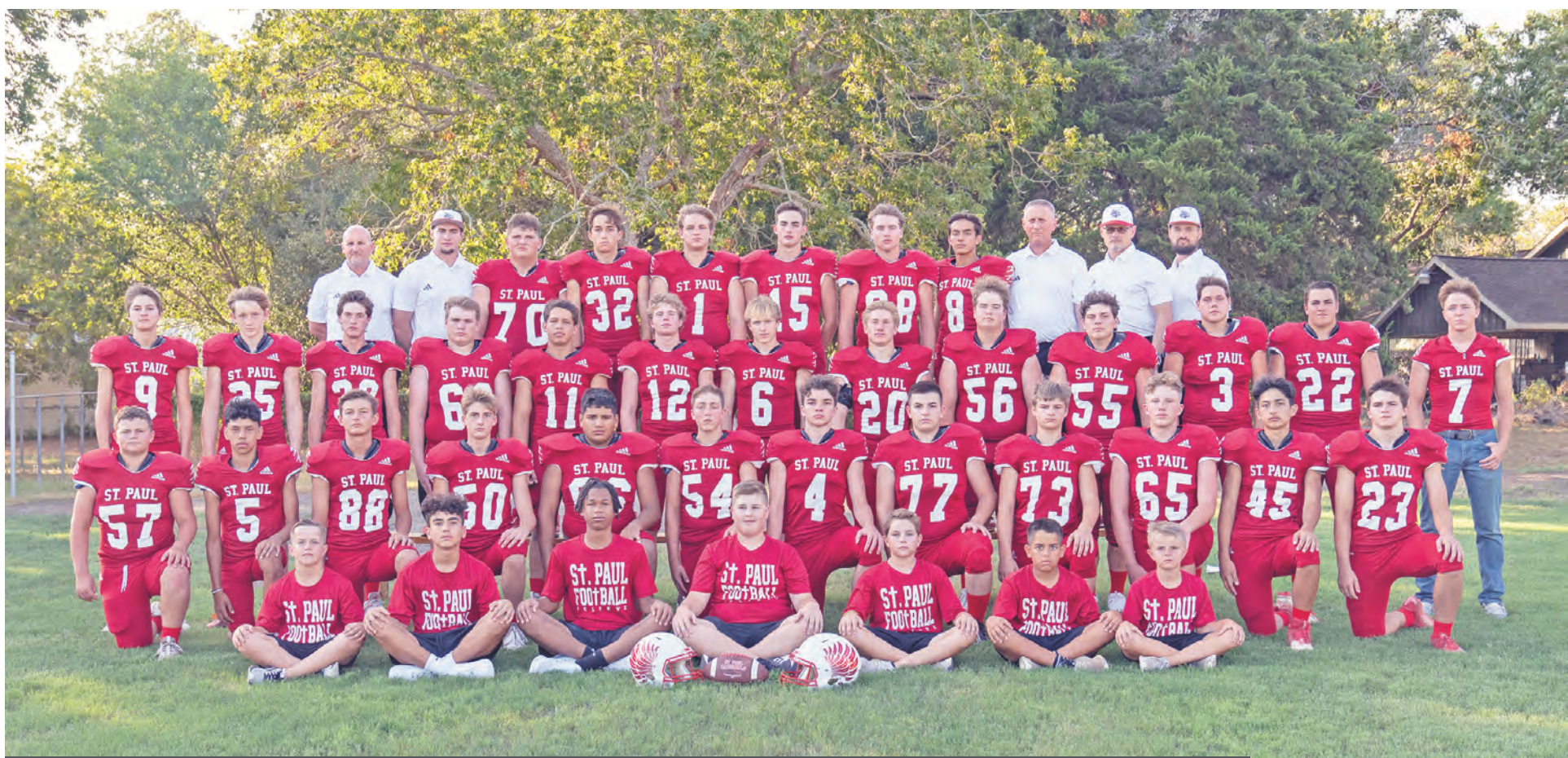
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2023-2024 SHINER ST. PAUL VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

Front row L to R: Junior High Helpers - Jude Boedeker, Jericho Jackson, Dylan Russell, Kash McNabb, Levi Morkovsky, Elijah Rodriguez, and Gabe Werner. 2nd row L to R: Evan Rother, Andrew Nunez, Jack Ehrig, Michael DeSarro, Ezekiel Basquez, Jack Leonard, Donnie Jones, Eldison Lekgegaj, Wyatt Matura, Rylan Jalufka, Jacob Arriola, and Gus Collins. 3rd row L to R: Cody Malinovsky, Carter Chilek, Holden Jacobs, Tate Anders, Sam Perez, Blaine Humes, Alex Brown, Zane Barta, Brodey Biehunko, Jackson Seibert, Joseph Peters, Nate Boedeker, and Nathan Timmons. Back row L to R: Head football coach Mike Jackson, Coach Ryan Geiger, Wyatt Siegel, Gabe Darilek, Charlie Pilat, Carter Novak, Gage Anders, Zeke Rodriguez, Coach Jake Wachsmuth, Athletic Trainer Ron Johnson, and Coach Charlie Meischen

Jackson returns to Shiner St. Paul sidelines as head coach

First stint brought Cardinals state title in 1992

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

A familiar face is returning to the sidelines of the Shiner St. Paul Cardinals for the 2023 football season.

Head football coach Mike Jackson returns to where his coaching career began with the Cardinals as he hopes to generate the same results he had when he last coached there 31 years ago.

Jackson has a record of 212-114-4 as a head football coach for both private and public schools (without ever having been an assistant coach). His public

MIKE JACKSON'S COACHING HISTORY

St. Paul (Shiner) 14-8-1 (2 Seasons) TAPPS 1A *State Championship 1992*
St. Pius X (Houston) 29-6-3 (3 Seasons) TAPPS 3A *State Championship 1993*
Robstown 4-14 (2 Seasons) UIL 4A
Charlotte 33-12 (4 Seasons) UIL 2A *Region IV Finals 1999*
Chavez 39-35 (7 Seasons) UIL 6A
La Marque 64-23 (7 Seasons) UIL 5A *Region III Finals 2011*
Grand Oaks 29-16 (5 Seasons) UIL 6A

school record is 169-100 over 25 seasons, while his private school record is an impressive 43-14-4 over five years.

Jackson coached the St. Paul Cardinals for two seasons, going 14-8-1 and winning the TAPPS Class A football title in 1992 and winning state titles in girls basketball and softball for the Lady Cardinals; he would go on to win back-to-

back championships with two different schools in football as he then guided St. Pius X in Houston to the 1993 state championship in TAPPS Class Super 3A.

In a 30-year coaching career, Jackson has led four different schools (St. Paul, St. Pius X, Charlotte and La Marque) to the fourth round of the state playoffs in public and private school competition.

The resume includes 21 playoff appearances, a Greater Houston Area Coaches Association Hall of Honor inductee (2017), 16 assistant coaches who accepted head coaching jobs and three players that joined the National Football League. He also worked for two years as a principal between his Charlotte and Chavez coaching gigs.

Jackson and his wife of 20 years, Tracey, have three children: Mariah (11th grade), Jericho (7th grade) and Maverick (first grade).



Mike Jackson

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2023-2024 SHINER ST. PAUL VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM

From left are Kristin Cerny, Riley Mozisek, Dallyn Pesek, Emily Moeller, Maurin Kneseck, Stefany Pokluda, Faith Machart, Tori Walker, Emily Stampert, Samantha Moeller, Avery Pesek, and Skylar Mozisek.



VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3

court and kind of showing the rest of the program how to run whenever they are gone. Just hold that legacy and make an impact on the programming ... Leave something better than how you found it," Gonzales said.

The Lady Apaches are in District 28-4A for volleyball and their opponents in district will be Cuero, Young Women's Leadership Academy, Fox Tech, JFK, La Vernia and San Antonio Memorial.

Coach Gonzales got a chance

to see those teams last year when watching the varsity play.

"I went to the games last year. They are a scrappy district, they don't let balls hit the floor without hitting the floor first and they're quick. We're preparing for that," Gonzales said.

Coach Gonzales's expectation for the 2023 season is for the team make the playoffs; the Lady Apaches got eliminated in the first round and Gonzales is looking to go further than last year.

"We want to go a step farther and not just make the playoffs. We want to go in a little bit deeper. Our goal is also just to not go in as a fourth place team, and go in a little bit higher than that, so that we can face some compatible competition and get a good playoff run," Gonzales said.

The Lady Apaches will host Weimar for their first home match of the season Friday, Sept. 1 and travel to La Vernia Friday Sept. 8 for the district opener.

Good luck to all of our Athletes!



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