



The Gonzales Inquirer

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Rivas elected GHS vice chief of staff

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Gonzales Healthcare Systems has a newly elected vice chief of staff after pediatrician Dr. Humberto J. Rivas was elected by his peers to the position last week. Rivas succeeds Dr. Kathleen

Koerner, a general surgeon who was elevated to the role of interim chief of staff after family medicine Dr. Commie Hisey stepped down as chief of staff in August. Hospital bylaws indicate when there is a vacancy for the unpaid position chief of staff, the vice chief

of staff must take over until the next election period for the position. The next election for chief of staff will formally occur next year, when Hisey's current term would have come to an end. Rivas' practice, Docs 4 Kids Pediatrics, is located in the Siev-

ers Medical Clinic at 1110 N. Sarah DeWitt Drive. It has been operating in Gonzales since 2006, when he moved to the community with his family. A fully committed pediatric specialist, Rivas has been practicing



See RIVAS, page 17

Rivas

Waelder man free after four years in jail

Ruiz pleads guilty to aggravated assault of public servant, receives four-year sentence

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A Waelder man who was accused of firing shots at deputies during a September 2019 pursuit was sentenced last month to four years in prison with time served, effectively leading to his immediate release.

Jose Manuel Ruiz, 44, plead guilty to aggravated assault of a

See RUIZ, page 17

Suspect in murder has bond reduced

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A Gonzales County man who shot and killed another during a deadly argument near Nixon had his bond reduced last month by 25th District Judge William Old III.

Samuel Garcia-Mendiola faces a charge of murder in connection with the shooting death of Jose Robles Quintana on Sunday, May 28. Old

See SUSPECT, page 18

Unemployment holds at 4.0 percent in Gonzales County

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Unemployment in Gonzales County remained level at 4.0 percent in August 2023, according to state Labor Market Information (LMI) figures released by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

See JOBS, page 18



Contestants compete to be No. 1 with a mullet

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Prepare for business in front and a party in the back as the highly anticipated second annual Come and Take It Mullet Contest flexes its tresses in downtown Gonzales this Saturday, Oct. 7, at 5 p.m., sponsored by Gonzales Main Street.

Winners in four divisions (ages 0-5, 6-12, 13-18 and 19 and older) will compete for a coveted custom Come and Take It Mullet belt buckle and the right to be called a champion, while there will also be prizes awarded to the reserve champion in each age group. It's not so much Come and Take It at this event as it is Come and Grow It and Show It.

The entry fee for this epic follicular fray is \$20 per mullet. While pre-

registration ended Oct. 3, do not fret as it is only necessary for those who wished to be considered for the People's Choice Award. You can still walk up and register between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Gonzales Main Street booth, located on the west sidewalk between the jail museum and the courthouse. Judging then begins promptly at 5 p.m. in front of the main stage. Contestants will individually walk in front of the stage for judging and then judges will tabulate their scores to determine the winners.

Fake hair, wigs, extensions and artificial hair are not kosher for this competition; mullets must be homegrown by the participants themselves. Showmanship is taken into account, so dress to impress, express and for success!



Pride of Texas Shows operates Come and Take It carnival

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Pride of Texas Shows Carnival, the premier carnival in the Midwest, based out of Elm Mott, Texas, returns to the Come and Take It Celebration this week. The carnival will be available Friday, Oct. 6 through Sunday, Oct. 8.

Bracelets for the carnival, which allow patrons to ride all rides, are \$30 per person per day for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Otherwise, tickets are \$1 each and rides can take

See CARNIVAL, page 17



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



Residents enjoyed activities, refreshments, live music and meeting with local first responders at the National Night Out held Tuesday, Oct. 3, at the Edward Association campus on Fly Street in Gonzales. This year marked the 40th anniversary of National Night Out in Texas.

JUSTIN JIMENEZ/FOR THE INQUIRER



VANDY VAN EPPS

The Texas Ranger Memorial Cross next to Matthew "Old Paint" Caldwell's grave.

Texas Rangers unveil memorial cross for Caldwell

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

Area law enforcement, historians, Gonzales residents and many more gathered at the Gonzales Memorial Cemetery Thursday, Sept. 28 for a special ceremony to honor a former Texas Ranger who also was a Texas Revolution hero.

See CALDWELL, page 18



GISD launches Superintendent Leadership Council

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales Independent School District is proud to announce the launch of the first Superintendent Leadership Council, a group of 13 students who will work closely with the superintendent on topics that matter to students and GISD. The purpose of the student leadership council is to allow students to have a voice when making tough decisions that affect them and their future.

The Superintendent Leadership Council was created by Dr. Elmer "Dr. A" Avellaneda, the superintendent of Gonzales ISD, who selected the students based on their leadership potential and their positive impact on their campus. The students represent different grade levels, from first to twelfth, and different schools within the district.

"I am excited to work with the student leadership council and hear their perspectives on how to improve Gonzales ISD," said Dr. A. "I have always said, 'Let's keep the main thing, the main thing' and that's our stu-



Dr. Elmer Avellaneda, superintendent of GISD, with members of the Superintendent Leadership Council for the 2023-2024 school year

CONTRIBUTED

dents. They deserve to be heard and empowered."

The student leadership council will meet every three weeks

with Dr. A to discuss issues such as academic achievement, school climate, student engagement, and community involve-

ment and more. The students will also have the opportunity to develop their communication skills by focusing on public

speaking, take field trips to the state capital where they will have discussions with their representatives, and learn community advocacy.

The 13 students who are part of the Superintendent Leadership Council for the 2023-2024 school year are:

- Maverick Lester, 1st grade
- Brandon Jackson, 2nd grade
- Carolina Avellaneda, 3rd grade
- Olivia Husk, 4th grade
- Jaxson Hill, 6th grade
- Jaliyah Jackson, 7th grade
- Carsyn Carrizales, 8th grade
- Aubrey Lindemann, 10th grade
- Bella Agüero, 11th grade
- Kilee Schwausch, 11th grade
- Kayleigh Fridrich, 11th grade
- Ainsley Holub, 12th grade
- Dakota DuBose, 12th grade

Gonzales ISD congratulates these students for being selected for this multi-year prestigious and rewarding program and looks forward to seeing their growth and contributions as leaders.

Waelder ISD bond issue FAQs

BY WAELDER ISD
Special to the Inquirer

The following are frequently asked questions about the Nov. 7 Waelder ISD bond proposal. All registered voters in the school district are encouraged to vote in this election.

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 exemp-

See WAELDER, page 7

CORRECTION

A story about the Gonzales ISD bond issue erroneously stated Proposition A for the CTE Building included \$35 million in soft costs. The correct amount is \$3.5 million as a decimal was misplaced. The Inquirer regrets the error.

HISTORIC SIGNS REFURBISHED



CONTRIBUTED/BRUCE HARBORTH

The historic Gonzales 1825 signs that can be seen as people enter the community on US 90-A and on Saint Joseph Street were recently repainted and refurbished by James McMains of McMains Construction with an assist from Bruce Harborth of San Antonio Distillery LLC. The work was done just in time for another Come and Take It Celebration in Gonzales before visitors come to the city to celebrate the Lexington of Texas.

County flood maps finalized

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

New flood maps have been finalized and will become effective on March 27, 2024, for Gonzales County, Texas.

During the next six months, a FEMA compliance specialist will work with the community to update each floodplain ordinance and adopt these new flood maps.

Residents are encouraged to examine the maps to determine if they are in a low-to-moderate or high-risk flood zone. The current and future Flood Insurance Rate Map can be viewed on FEMA's Flood Map Changes Viewer at <https://msc.fema.gov/fmxcv>.

By understanding flood risks, individuals can decide which insurance option is best for their situation. Community leaders can use these maps to make informed decisions about building standards and development that will make the community more resilient and lessen the impacts of a flooding event.

Anyone without flood insurance risks uninsured losses to their home, personal property and business. Flood

insurance is available either through a private policy or through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) for those in communities who participate in the NFIP. Residents with federally backed mortgages must have flood insurance if their structures are in the Special Flood Hazard Area.

Contact your local floodplain administrator (FPA) to review the new flood maps and learn more about your risk of flooding. A FEMA Map Specialist can help identify your community FPA and answer questions about the maps as well. Contact them by phone or online chat.

- To use the chat service, visit floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/fmx_main.html (just click on the "Live Chat" icon).

- To contact a FEMA Map Specialist, call 877-FEMA MAP (877-336-2627) or send an email to FEMA at FMIX@fema.dhs.gov.

There are cost-saving options available for those newly mapped into a high-risk flood zone. Learn more about your flood insurance options by talking with your insurance agent or visiting floodsmart.gov.

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Celebrations

Birthdays

October 5th
Charlene Avant
Caleigh Boscamp
Andre Cooper
Jessica Gerold
Abigail Johnson
Connie Kelley
Kymber Martinez
Patsy McMains
Hunter Noack
Patsy Stamport
Mickey Thompson
Megan Torres

October 6th
Brenna Baker
Carol Farek
Robin Finch
Chance Freeman
Shelly Opiela
Kerri Simmons
Adam Staton
Brady Stewart
Lauren Strickland
Jacey Trammell
Allison Trent

October 7th
DeAnn Atkinson
Ocean Wayne Helms
Johnny Ross Hunt
Cindy Munson
Irma Nunez
Sarah Rodgers
Travis Schauer
Dorothy Simpson
Mary Velasquez

October 8th
Mark Hastings
Matthew Havel
Kimberly Michelle Ibarra
Mayah Avery Irle
Justin Johnson
Savannah Kidd
Cody Walleck

October 9th
Charli Siegel
Loni Soefje

October 10th
Jeff Dolezal
Karli Jo Downey
Regan Gray
Scooter Law
Marla Malatek
Fannie Miller
David Patek
Ron Pekar
Anne Rubak
Eva Smith
Patty K. Stewart
Randall Tomas
Molly Weathers
Megan Williamson

October 11th
Mary Lee Brzozowski
Bob Davis
Jamie Holden
Tracy Kocian
Taylor Mills
Sammie Pate
George Perez
Anna Elisha Velasquez
Karen Weathers

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Gonzales Weather

	October 5 86°/67°	Mostly cloudy and humid 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 90
	October 6 89°/66°	Overcast with a couple of thunderstorms 58% chance of rain • RealFeel 90
	October 7 83°/65°	Cloudy; morning thunderstorms followed by rain and a thunderstorm in the afternoon 74% chance of rain • RealFeel 80
	October 8 82°/70°	Mostly cloudy with a couple of showers 55% chance of rain • RealFeel 91
	October 9 86°/69°	Rather cloudy with a couple of thunderstorms 59% chance of rain • RealFeel 87
	October 10 84°/70°	Cloudy most of the time 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 84
	October 11 85°/69°	Mostly sunny 20% chance of rain • RealFeel 88

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Little things mean a lot: Gonzales' role in Texas, U.S. history

The following column was originally printed in the *Gonzales Cannon* on Dec. 4, 2007.

BY BOB BURCHARD
Special to the Inquirer

In history, and in life, sometimes little things mean a lot. There was a song written by that title a few years ago, well, actually it has been many years ago; little things mean a lot. To paraphrase, may I say that something that starts out to be rather insignificant may ultimately have an impact of huge proportion.

Such could be said about the start of the Texas Revolution here in Gonzales, compared with the eventual result of the battle.

The facts surrounding this initial military action in the Texas Revolution are well known — the fight was precipitated by the demand issued by the Mexican Government to the town of Gonzales for the return of a small cannon earlier given to the town as a defense against the Indians.

Political unrest had been building among the citizens of Gonzales and Green DeWitt's Colony during the spring and summer of 1835 due to the unfair treatment by the Republic of Mexico. The officials of the Mexican government in San Antonio were sensitive to this mood of hostility evidenced by the Texans, and thought it wise to ask for the return of the cannon.

This seemed to be the issue the citizens of Gonzales wanted — an actual confrontation with troops of the Mexican Government. Word went out from Gonzales telling of the situation, and in a day or two some 15 or so Texans had gathered in Gonzales to defend the taking of the cannon.

The Texans were ready for a fight, and so on, the morning of October 2, 1835, marched out to the area west of Gonzales where the Mexican troops were camped, and started the Texas Revolution by firing their long rifles and the cannon at the enemy.

The fight lasted only a few minutes at most. The Mexican troops made a rapid retreat to San Antonio. There were no Texan casualties. Reports vary of the Mexican losses. Possibly two or three soldiers killed. It probably did not do much damage.

"The people who remained in Gonzales that morning said they could hear the roar of that first cannon shot. So, not a whole lot of damage was done in the battle; it lasted just a few minutes; a Texas force of approximately 160 men; the Mexican troops numbered 100 or so. On the surface, it was a small skirmish — a little thing, if you will, but, did it mean a lot.

Here are the events that were put in motion by the first shot being fired here in Gonzales on October 2, 1835.

- The Texas Revolution was started, which prompted the Declaration of Independence to be adopted on March 2, 1836;

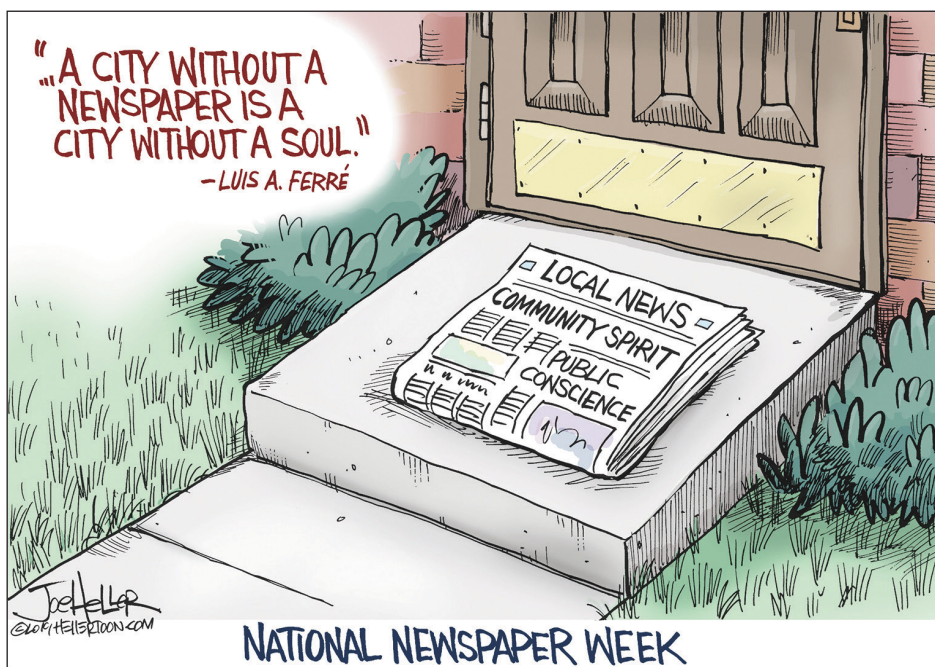
- Which was followed by the victory at San Jacinto on April 21, of 1836, thus resulting in the formation of the Republic of Texas, which led to statehood in the United States in 1845 when Texas was admitted to the Union as the 28th state.

History tells us that even after the victory at San Jacinto in 1836, Texas continued to be at war with Mexico until and including the time in 1845 when Texas acquired statehood. Apparently, Mexico refused to give up its claim on Texas.

So, when Texas became a state, the war ceased to be a fight between Mexico and Texas, and became a fight between Mexico and the United States of America, which then of course ended soon thereafter in favor of the United States.

There was a treaty signed after the war with Mexico in 1848 between the United States and Mexico at the town in Mexico called Guadalupe-Hidalgo. This treaty contained three main agreements:

- Mexico gave up all claim to Texas;
- Mexico recognized the Rio



This week, and every week, newspapers are for you

BY DEAN RIDINGS
Special to the Inquirer

Americans have more media options than ever. We are inundated with stories, memes, videos and promotions 24 hours a day. Most of us are on social media, which is built to provide an endless feed of content to keep us glued to our screens. And unfortunately, misinformation is prevalent and much of that content isn't fact-checked, verified or professionally produced. The result is that we're not always shown what we need to know, or the information that is most likely to impact our lives. That's where local newspapers come in. Your local newspaper takes a different approach.

National Newspaper Week is a good opportunity to recognize the commitment that local newspapers make to the communities they serve. Your local newspaper is just that — local. It hires reporters who are trained to provide reliable information about the issues

that matter most. Whether it's the latest happening from the local school board, changes in real estate zoning, high school football scores or a review of that new restaurant you've been wanting to try, newspapers deliver what's important to you.

Your local newspaper is far more than just print. In the ever-changing media landscape, local newspapers have evolved to true multi-channel content providers. From websites to apps, emails, newsletters, video and podcasts, local newspapers are delivering news in innovative ways. As a reader, you get to choose when and where to get the news you need, and no matter the method, can always be assured what you're reading is credible and reliable.

Although the format or device readers use to connect with their local newspaper might vary, it's clear that newspapers are relied on as the source for local news. A recent national study

See **NEWSPAPERS**, page 7

GONZALES CO. HISTORY

- | | |
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| <p>1800 — Coahuila Texas was sparsely settled and its people suffered from Indian depredations.</p> <p>1821 — Coahuila Texas had a smaller Hispanic population than it did twenty years earlier.</p> <p>1824 — October 24, Green DeWitt obtained his contract with the State of Coahuila Texas to locate 400 families within the designated boundaries known as DeWitt Colony.</p> <p>1834 — Santa Anna's Centralist Party won the election everywhere but Coahuila Texas, and Zacatecas. Zacatecas was plundered, taxes were levied, and then the Mexican troops were sent to Texas.</p> <p>1835 — October 2, first shot fired in Texas Revolution after colonists refuse to surrender cannon saying, "Come and take it".</p> <p>— October 11, Stephen F. Austin arrived and took command of "Texas Republican Army".</p> <p>— October 12, army left Gonzales for San Antonio.</p> <p>— October 13, Halley's comet visible in Texas.</p> <p>1840 — October, City Council ordered that rocks, stones, and dirt in the public domain be reserved for the "use of the citizens forever".</p> <p>— City Council ordained that width of sidewalks in town of Gonzales be six feet wide and that pecan trees over eight inches in diameter be</p> | <p>reserved for use of the town.</p> <p>1871 — October 10-12, first Gonzales County Fair, held north of town between North Avenue and College Streets. A race track was very popular with horse owners and enthusiasts. Later the fair grounds were located at south end of Fair Street.</p> <p>1889 — October 3, Dr. Kate Howe's office is still in the Keyser House.</p> <p>— October 3, the Aransas Pass train ran off the track twice in one day recently coming from Luling.</p> <p>— October 24, Cavett-Maurin Building built of rock, completed at 520 St. Paul Street; Cavet was first tinner in area. (This building was known for many years as Boothe & Lewis Hardware Store. Boothe & Lewis moved into the building in 1896 and remained for decades).</p> <p>1928 — October 4, Gonzales High School had apparently adopted the name "Apaches", as they were called Apaches in a sports article in the Inquirer on this date. (This was the earliest date found. No mention has yet been found of when the name was selected.)</p> <p>— October 4, over 20,000 attend the county fair on the first day.</p> <p>— October 11, it is estimated that 50,000 attended the fair.</p> <p>1956 — October 4, first "Come & Take It" celebration held.</p> |
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DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

The shape we're in...

Uncle Mort, my aged uncle down in The Thicket, has heard the expression since childhood. He's used it repeatedly since about the time he thinks he became an adult.

"We're in pretty good shape for the shape we're in."

The rancid saying may have warranted a grin or two back when. Nowadays, there's little evidence that our world is in "pretty good shape," even if viewed from various angles through lenses of rosiest tint. "Anything goes" seems to prevail in the overall scheme of things, and there are far too many schemes. There's little to smile about in a world whose axis grows evermore wobbly....

Thankfully, Mort still tries to find reasons to smile. He pretty much relies on "horse sense" (he calls it "stable thinking") and visits to the general store nearby to eavesdrop and/or take his seat at the domino table. "Flatland tourists" stop by for gas and snacks or to ask directions. They are amused that Mort and his friends have a lively "42" game underway next to the day-old bread rack.

"We have friendly arguments that usually lead to laughter. None of us would make it with computers. I'm afraid we'd jump right into the 'pool of the opinionated,' so we simply quibble among ourselves."

Anyway, Mort and his bunch cringe at the general state of anger and frustration that permeates our culture....

Concerning governmental quagmires in both Washington, DC, and Austin, he is flummoxed by the "flailing away" of political figures that resembles participants in "Whack-a-mole" games. (When one mole is "whacked" down, another one appears.)

"Truth, ethics, courage, conviction and statesmanship historically marked our government leaders," Mort claims. Today, not so true....

He says a recent general store visitor brought "news" of a new health issue purported to be raging in DC and Austin.

It was passed along to him by a guy at a gasoline pump who heard it from the second cousin of a man who married the daughter of his junior high school baseball coach.

The affliction seems to be limited to index fingers of governmental leaders of both parties, and so far is nameless.... Symptoms in Austin and Washington include reddened, chafed index fingers.

"One doctor claims the condition is inevitable when too many moistened index fingers are hoisted skyward to determine which way the wind blows," the visitor said.

Mort wonders what they'll wind up naming this ailment, but he figures it will include broad-brush descriptions of "good government, patriotism, motherhood and/or apple pie." It seems probable that this condition should be named "get-re-elected-itis," or something closely akin thereto....

Long a man of prayer, Mort remembers the country church of his youth. It was comprised largely of farmers who saved money by pooling their orders for new overalls. They always requested double-layered denim in the knees, with quadruple layers in the seat. "We are a praying bunch, so we need double strength fabric for our knees," a deacon explained. "Unfortunately, we do twice as much back-sliding as we do praying, thus the need for four-layered seat fabric."

Rank and file Americans need to "think denim," at least the two-layered kind....

As Mort motored toward home on his golf cart, he was refreshed by cool air accompanying the recently-arrived fall season. Reflective and prayerful, remembrance of Alfred Lord Tennyson's famous quote came to mind: "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

Mort prayed that the love of money—the root of all evil—might lose its stranglehold on the world.

"We maintained for years that money talks," he thinks. "That's no longer true. Today, it screams..."

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, continues to write weekly and speak throughout the state. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com . Facebook: Don Newbury

See **HISTORY**, page 10



Quality healthcare, close to home.



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Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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RAINBOW POWER!



Eat a rainbow and win!
What's the prize? Energy!
Healthy good looks!

Kid Scoop thanks the Produce for Better Health Foundation for the ideas and information on today's page.

Total the number of fruits and vegetables you will eat, by color, today. Can you eat at least one in each of the five color groups?

EAT A RAINBOW EVERY DAY

Eating a variety of fruits and vegetables that are brightly colored is an easy way to get the mix of vitamins, minerals and other nutrients that you need from your food. Pick foods that are brightly colored inside and out.

Here are some examples of foods that make up the food rainbow!

Red	Yellow/Orange	White/Brown	Green	Blue/Purple
Tomatoes	Oranges	Garlic	Lettuce	Blueberries
Watermelon	Apricots	Onions	Kiwi	Blackberries
Cherries	Cantaloupe	Bananas	Green grapes	Plums
Red grapes	Carrots	Turnips	Avocados	Raisins
Cranberries	Lemons	Pears	Artichokes	Eggplant
Strawberries	Pineapples	Potatoes	Spinach	Purple grapes
Red cabbage	Sweet corn	Jicama	Celery	Prunes
Raspberries	Mangos	Cauliflower	Cucumbers	Elderberries



Follow the maze to place each fruit or vegetable on the plate. Color each item and its path the correct color of the rainbow.



PUT A RAINBOW ON YOUR PLATE

Cut out these fruits and vegetables. Then paste them on the plate to create a clown face using the different foods as eyes, mouth, nose, hair, etc.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.



	RED	YELLOW/ORANGE	WHITE/BROWN	GREEN	BLUE/PURPLE
SUNDAY	Tomato	Corn	Banana	Peas	Raisins
MONDAY					
TUESDAY					
WEDNESDAY					
THURSDAY					
FRIDAY					
SATURDAY					

Make a chart like the one above. Then fill in which fruits and vegetables you eat, by color, each day. Can you eat at least one in each of the five colors every day?

Standards Link: Health: Make healthy food choices; group food choices in many different ways.

Extra! Extra!

Health Food on the Go

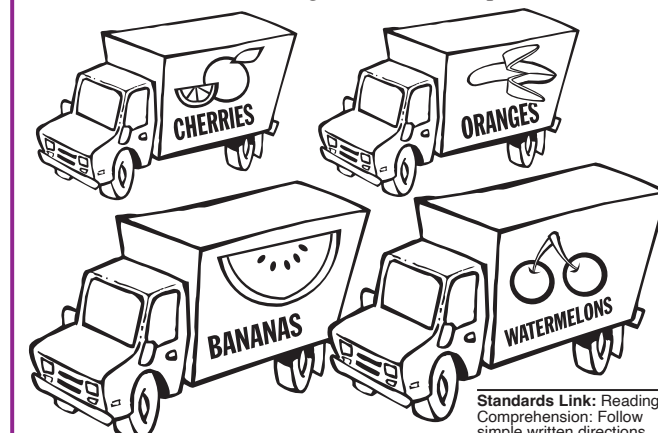
Look through the newspaper for photos or drawings of different fruits and vegetables. Cut out these pictures. Paste them into the shape of a truck or a car.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to access content curriculum.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

MIXED-UP FRUIT

Who switched these names on the fruit trucks? Draw lines to show where each label belongs. Then color the picture!



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

RAINBOW
RAISINS
COLORS
FRUIT
MOUTH
CHERRIES
CUCUMBERS
FACE
JICAMA
GAMES
DOTS
BROWN
GARLIC
SPINACH
PRODUCE

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

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

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

Banana NICE Cream

With an adult's help, you can make this frozen, healthy treat!



STUFF YOU'LL NEED:

- 4 cups frozen banana slices (about two bananas)
- 2-4 tablespoons unsweetened almond or another kind of milk

MAKE IT!

1. Place frozen banana slices and 2 tablespoons of unsweetened milk into a food processor or blender.
2. Blend on high for 1 to 2 minutes.
3. If blender is having a hard time blending, add a little more milk a little at a time.
4. Once well mixed, your banana NICE cream will be like a soft serve ice cream. Enjoy it that way or put into a bread pan and freeze for 1 to 2 hours.

For more fun recipes, visit: kidscoop.com/recipes

FREE DOWNLOAD: Kid Scoop Teacher Activity Pack!

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The Gonzales Inquirer
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SHINER ST. PAUL CELEBRATES HOMECOMING



PHOTO BY LORI RAABE

Brooke Cerny was named the 2023 St. Paul High School Homecoming Queen and Nate Boedeker was named the Homecoming King at Friday's game versus the Brentwood Christian Bears. After an intense game, the Cardinals got the win by one point. Congratulations to Brooke and Nate.



The St. Paul High School cheerleaders chose two football beaus this year. Pictured from lefts are cheerleaders Sally Machacek, Karis Barta, Gracie Malinovsky, Petra Koch, Faith Machart, Stefany Pokluda, Brooke Cerny, football beaus Zane Barta and Nate Boedeker, cheerleaders Julia Barecky, Tori Walker, Frances Filip, Tatum Walker, Dallyn Pesek, Faith Brown, and Eden Rodriguez.



The St. Paul High School football players selected two young ladies to be this year's football sweethearts. Senior football players, pictured from left, Tate Anders, Charlie Pilat, Zane Barta, Football sweethearts Maurin Knesek and Faith Machart, seniors Nate Boedeker, Nathan Timmons, Alex Brown, and Carter Novak.

PROCLAMATION



CONTRIBUTED

The Gonzales County Commissioners Court proclaimed Thursday, Sept. 28, to be "Matthew 'Old Paint' Caldwell Day" in Gonzales as the former Texas Ranger and hero of the Texas Revolution, who is buried in Gonzales City Cemetery, will have a Ranger Cross dedication ceremony that day.



YOUNG TEXIANS PERFORM

Members of the Young Texans group of the Gonzales Crystal Theatre performed at the Sons of the Republic of Texas program on Sept. 29 honoring the members of the Old 18, who stood up to the Mexican Army and refused to turn over their cannon on Oct. 2, 1835. This defiant act led to the Texas Revolution. Young Texans will also be performed in front of the Old Jail Museum this Saturday, Oct. 7, as part of the Come and Take It Celebration.

CONTRIBUTED

Congressman Michael Cloud in town for Come and Take It

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

U.S. Congressman Michael Cloud, R-Victoria, will visit Gonzales during the Come and Take It celebration.

He will participate in the parade Saturday, Oct. 7, and plans to hold an impromptu "Town Meet-

ing" at 2 p.m. Saturday afternoon at the Alcalde Hotel. In the interim, everyone is invited to come and enjoy an "All American Dinner" of hot dogs and lemonade at the hotel.

During lunch, you will have the opportunity to meet, and speak, with Rep. Cloud. The lunch begins at 1 p.m. and is

sponsored by the Gonzales County Republican Party. There is no charge for the lunch, but contributions would be appreciated.

Come and hear the latest news from Washington as Congressman Cloud shares his efforts to improve life, not only for all Texans, but for all Americans, as well.

Just a Reminder, Fehner & Son Grain and Fehner Firearms will be closed Saturday, October 7 for Come & Take It. 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

THE REAL TEXAS GUN SHOW

GONZALES, TX
J.B. Wells Expo Building
 2301 Co. Rd. 197
OCTOBER 7TH & 8TH
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FOR INFO 713-724-8881
 Aubrey Sanders Jr. • Promoter



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Bring this ad in for \$1.00 off admission

On a national level, the Community News and Small Business Support Act (HR 4756) has recently been introduced in Congress. This bill would provide local newspapers with financial support for their newsroom employees, and would go a long way to providing your newspaper with support for the reporters and photographers that are sorely needed.

NEWSPAPERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

conducted by the independent research firm Coda Ventures shows that 79% of Americans use local newspapers to stay informed about their communities and depend on them to feel connected and to decide where they stand on local issues and to find places and things to do. Further, six out of 10 American adults use newspaper advertising to help them decide what brands, products and local services to buy. It's clear that local newspapers are vital to healthy communities.

In spite of the new ways to connect with your local newspaper, it's true that the newspaper industry is facing significant challenges. Rising costs, national competitors and the impact of Big Tech companies using newspapers' content without compensation have all impacted your local newspaper. Now, more than ever, we need their commitment to journalism's core values. As we recognize National Newspaper Week, let's focus on the vital role that newspapers play, and consider how we can support them. Subscribing or advertising

in your local newspaper not only supports the newspaper but is also an investment in your community.

On a national level, the Community News and Small Business Support Act (HR 4756) has recently been introduced in Congress. This bill would provide local newspapers with financial support for their newsroom employees, and would go a long way to providing your newspaper with support for the reporters and photographers that are sorely needed. Encourage your members of Congress to support this bill!

Whether you access the content from your local newspaper in print or online, remember that it is produced for you. And behind the articles, columns, and images your newspaper produces is a team of local residents who are committed to making your community stronger! Join me in thanking your local newspaper - during National Newspaper Week - for the good work it does to keep your community informed.

Dean Ridings is the CEO of America's Newspapers.

WAEOLDER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tions 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 Nov. 7 state election. (Proposition 4).

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?

Proposition 4 is expected to pass, and this will provide all homeowners with a \$100,000 homestead exemption. This will mean that homeowners in Waelder ISD will pay less school taxes than they did last year even if the Waelder ISD Bond Issue passes. Some examples:

If your home has an appraised value of \$100,000 you will pay \$557 less than last year.

If your home has an appraised value of \$200,000 you will pay \$503 less than last year.

If your home has an appraised value of \$300,000 you will pay \$448 less than last year.

If your home has an appraised value of \$400,000 you will pay \$394 less than last year.

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 Nov. 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 Nov. 7, 2023. Early voting will begin Oct. 23 and will end on Nov. 3. 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.

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

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.

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 make its recommendations to Waelder ISD?

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



Gonzales Healthcare Systems'

17th Annual DRIVE-THRU Flu Shot Clinic

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Now more than ever, we want you and your family to stay healthy!

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It's That Easy!



Wednesday, October 18th

Time: 7:00 am - 6:00 pm

Place: Gonzales Healthcare Systems' Parking Lot
1110 Sarah DeWitt Drive • Gonzales, TX

Cost: \$35 Quadrivalent (3 years and older)
\$70 High-Dose (65 years and older)
Cash/check/credit card accepted.

Medicare will be accepted with cards presented at time of service.

For more information, contact

Karina Longoria

830.672.8757

Must be 3 years old and older to receive drive-thru vaccination. Other restrictions may apply.

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

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

ERRORS

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

CALL TODAY

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All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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Para solicitar un apartamento favor llamar a manager al siguiente número 830-582-1343. Para solicitar una adaptación o modificación razonable, favor llamar manager al siguiente número 830-582-1343.

Personas que hablan español y requieren un intérprete, favor llamar a manager al siguiente número 830-582-1343.

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Part-time ITV/WebEx Proctors needed to teach at Victoria College's Gonzales Center. For more information and to apply go to www.victoriacollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC. Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

VICTORIA COLLEGE Est. 1925

Part-time Instructor needed for CDL Truck Driving Course to be held at the VC Gonzales Center.

In partnership with HCC

For details contact Melissa Robinson at (361) 573-3291, ext. 3461.

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS WORK!
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Instructor needed to teach Certified Pharmacy Technician course at the Gonzales facility. Classes begin in August 2022. Prefer minimum of one year experience. For more information call (361) 572-6446 or email HealthCareers@VictoriaCollege.edu. An Equal-Opportunity Institution

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For more information go to www.victoriacollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC. Equal-Opportunity Institution

VICTORIA COLLEGE Est. 1925

The Division of Allied Health is hiring part-time Adjunct Instructors for the for the clinical setting of the ADN and VN Nursing Programs. Adjunct Instructors are needed at our Victoria campus as well as in the Gonzales, Cuero, and Hallettsville locations. For more information and to apply go to www.victoriacollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC.

Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

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The Gonzales Inquirer

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Driver needed to distribute papers to Post Offices and Vendors.

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Must be able to lift 25 lbs.

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES **950 PUBLIC NOTICES** **950 PUBLIC NOTICES** **950 PUBLIC NOTICES**

NOTICE REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR BANKING SERVICES DISTRICT DEPOSITORY

The Gonzales Central Appraisal District is seeking sealed bids from all qualifying banking institutions in Gonzales County to act as the depository for the district. Bid specifications and instructions may be obtained from the Appraisal District office free of charge. Bids must be addressed to the Board of Directors, Gonzales Central Appraisal District, P.O. Box 867, 1709 E. Sarah Dewitt Drive, Unit B, Gonzales, Texas 78629 and received at the Appraisal District office no later than 5:00 p.m. Thursday, October 19, 2023. All bids must be sealed and clearly marked on the outside of the envelope "Depository Bid". The sealed bids will be opened at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, October 19, 2023 at the Appraisal District office located at 1709 E. Sarah Dewitt Drive, Unit B, in Gonzales, Texas. The Board of Directors will consider award of the contract following opening of the sealed bids. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids received.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The governing board of Austin County Farmer's Mutual Fire Insurance Association, Inc. pursuant to the bylaws, calls an annual meeting of the membership of the Association to be held Saturday, October 14, 2023 beginning at 8:00 A.M. at the home office of the association located at 16836 Fordtran Blvd., Industry, Tx. The membership meeting is called for the purpose of electing commissioners for the auxiliaries whose terms have or will expire within one year from the date of the annual meeting.

NOTICE REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR A COMPUTER SYSTEM LEASE/LICENSE AGREEMENT

The Gonzales Central Appraisal District is seeking sealed bids for a Computer System Lease/License Agreement. Bid specifications and instructions may be obtained from the Appraisal District office free of charge. Bids must be addressed to the Board of Directors, Gonzales Central Appraisal District, P.O. Box 867, 1709 E. Sarah Dewitt Drive, Unit B, Gonzales, Texas 78629 and received at the Appraisal District office no later than 5:00 p.m. Thursday, October 19, 2023. All bids must be sealed and clearly marked on the outside of the envelope "Mass Appraisal Software and Hardware Proposal". The sealed bids will be opened at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, October 19, 2023 at the Appraisal District office located at 1709 E. Sarah Dewitt Drive, Unit B, in Gonzales, Texas. The Board of Directors will consider award of the contract following opening of the sealed bids. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids received.

Find what you are looking for in the Inquirer!

The Gonzales Inquirer

September 28 Puzzle Answers

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PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF REFERRAL PERIOD*
 Public Notice
 Nixon-Smilely CISD is now accepting referrals for students who may need Gifted/Talented Services for the school year 2023-2024. This program is designed for students who exhibit intellectual and creative thinking abilities at an extraordinary level not normally served in the regular classroom. Services are provided only upon identification of education needs of the student. Anyone wishing to refer a student attending Nixon-Smilely CISD in kindergarten through twelfth grade this school year is asked to go by the student's campus office and request a copy of the referral form. This form must be returned to the school by December 19, 2023. Those unable to go by the school should call 830-582-1536 ext. 103 to request a form.

ANUNCIO PÚBLICO DEL PERÍODO DE REFERENCIA *
 Noticia pública
 Nixon-Smilely CISD ahora está aceptando referencias para estudiantes que puedan necesitar Servicios para Dotados / Talentosos para el año escolar 2023-2024. Este programa está diseñado para estudiantes que exhiben habilidades de pensamiento intelectual y creativo a un nivel extraordinario que normalmente no se ofrece en el aula regular. Los servicios se brindan solo cuando se identifican las necesidades educativas del estudiante. Cualquier persona que desee referir a un estudiante que asiste a Nixon-Smilely CISD desde el jardín de infantes hasta el duodécimo grado este año escolar debe ir a la oficina del campus del estudiante y solicitar una copia del formulario de recomendación. Este formulario debe devolverse a la escuela antes del 19 de diciembre de 2023. Aquellos que no puedan pasar por la escuela deben llamar al 830-582-1536 ext. 103 para solicitar un formulario.

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(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	141
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h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)	2050
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15h times 100)	90.85
	86.93

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a. Paid Electronic Copies	14	14
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	1683	1810
c. Total Free Distribution (Line 15e) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	1951	2089
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c x 100)	90.92	87.02

I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the 10/05/2023 issue of this publication. Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner
 Lew K. Cobb - Publisher
 Date: 09/28/23

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Come and Take It

**An original poem
by Lynn Wilson**

Everybody come and listen to the tale I have to tell;
It's the story of Gonzales and the men who there did dwell.
They were men who knew the meaning of some words that we have lost:
Words like 'liberty' and 'freedom' and 'willing to pay the cost.'
The territory of Texas was big and hard and rough.
To tame this wild and lusty land, a man needed to be tough.
The men who settled Gonzales were as tough as could be found, and the dangers and the hardships there simply could not hold them down.
They overcame the Indian raids, and the storms and floods and drought.
And the way they met each challenge of their courage left no doubt.
So when, in 1835, yet another thread arose,

the citizens from Gonzales were ready to meet their foes.
Santa Anna was a dictator way down in Mexico,
but he thought the gringos up in Texas should pack their things and go.
But the Texans were not bending to Santa Anna's demand.
So he decided to show them that he was in command.
"Go and get their weapons"
Take them all away.
That will make them realize I mean exactly what I say."
Now Gonzales had a cannon they used for their defense.
For Santa Anna to take it simply made no sense.
But Santa Anna's soldiers knew they must obey,
so they came to seize the cannon and then take it away.
As the Mexicans neared the Guadalupe, their scouts made them aware
the militia of Gonzales was waiting for them there.
The Captain of the Mexicans yelled across the river wide,
We've come to take your

cannon." "Come and take it," the men replied.
The skirmish was a short one, with just one casualty,
but when the firing stopped, the militia had the victory.
Gonzales kept their cannon, the Mexicans withdrew;
but the brave men of Gonzales knew Santa Anna wasn't through.
The winds of war were blowing, trouble lay ahead.
There would be more fighting and many others dead.
But that day in October when Gonzales men stood tall would be the spark that lighted freedom's siren call.
And Texans would respond to it, and follow Gonzales' lead.
"Come and take it" was the cry that stirred the courage they would need.
At San Jacinto "Come and take it" rang out loud and strong and Santa Anna realized he had read the Texans wrong.
He thought that he could rule and reign by causing men to fear, but he couldn't come and take it, for freedom is too dear.

HISTORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Grande River as the boundary between Texas and Mexico
• Mexico relinquished all claim and title to the area that today comprises the States of New Mexico - Nevada - Arizona - California - Utah and parts of Wyoming, Colorado and Oklahoma.
This huge area was added to the United States as a result of the war with Mexico. And the chain of events which so culminated was started in Gonzales by firing the first shot in the Texas Revolution.
Isn't that interesting? No. It's more than interesting. It's amazing; it's phenomenal. It is unbelievable to think that for example California is part of the United States because of what happened here in Gonzales on October 2, 1835. If you know someone in California, tell them you are really happy they are part of the United States and they may

thank Gonzales anytime they are ready.
There was more area added to the United States as a result of the first shot fired here in Gonzales than the area comprising the original 13 colonies, which initially formed the United States.
So, the area gained to the United States as a result of the Texas Revolution is greater than the area that formed the United States as a result of the American Revolution. Amazing. Simply amazing.
Yes, sometimes little things do mean a lot, and the role of Gonzales in the History of Texas and in the destiny of the United States means a lot. Thank you Gonzales. We're so proud of you. We are so very proud of you.
And that is part of our history. The history of Gonzales. Gonzales Texas, the Birthplace of your Texas Freedom.

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Pray, Breath, Relax

Hey there y'all. I don't know how this past week's been for you, but I'm praying that this coming one will be even better. I guess, depending on how things have been going, some of you will be getting closer to normal, while others will have even a greater week ahead. Either way, an uphill climb always trumps a downhill roll!

As for me, I'm excited to say that things are on the getting back to normal side. This summer was a bit of a weird one with something unexpected around every corner. Yep, sometimes life's just like that, so getting back into the routine swing of things is much appreciated, and a little overdue in my opinion. I guess the lesson here is to not take the mundane for granted, as it could be way better than the alternative. Besides temporary bouts of overwork, healing infections and injuries, I've had two family members spend some time (several months of in & out) in the hospital, both with Gods help, battling and overcoming some major challenges... thank you Lord! Philippians 4:6 says "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done." I try to always pray and thank him when things are going good, but like most, kick it into high gear when they're not. It seems like no matter how many times we've seen God's



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

faithfulness in the past, it's certainly not easy "not to worry" when those you love are experiencing hardship. After everything was said and done, and they were safely back home and out of the woods, I slumped down in my easy chair like a melted candle, as I felt the stress literally ooze from my body, leaving a sticky residue on the floor beneath. I just thought that God deserved a heartfelt and appreciative shout out and some major kudos for coming through, yet again...

Judging by the calendar, Autumn officially started on September 23rd. Maybe it's just me, but it seems that I can actually feel a change in the air. Coffee on the porch in the mornings has been significantly more pleasurable. Yep, hot coffee and a cool breeze while sitting with my racoons, and enjoying the hoard of hummingbirds at my feeders, powering up for their long flight south for the winter has never been sweeter. Enjoy the simple pleasures that life has to offer, as they also are a gift from God.

Seeing as how we're now in October, thought I'd throw in a few fun facts about this month. The word

October stems from the latin word "Octo", which means eight, because it was originally the eighth month of the early Roman calendar, but after adopting a twelve month calendar, the name stuck even though it became the tenth month of the year. This month's birthstone is the opal, while the flower is the marigold. Some of the fun holidays celebrated are: on the 2nd - national coffee and custodian day, so hit your janitor up with a fancy latte for a job well done, trying not to spill any, causing them more work; the 3rd is farm animal day, so kiss a cow on the lips; 4th - ships in a bottle, probably referencing Columbus day on the 9th. The 7th - world smile day; 11th - southern food heritage. Chicken and waffles anyone? The 12th - top spinning day; 15th - grouch day, lots to celebrate; 19th - evaluate your life day; 23rd - mother-in-law day, no need to celebrate twice if they were already celebrated on grouch day. The 29th - cat day, here kitty-kitty; 30th - candy corn day, yum-yum, and also Haunted Refrigerator day - time to throw out the unidentifiable fuzz balls in the back; and last but not least, the 31st is national knock-knock joke day. Knock-knock...who's there?...endathis...endathis who?.. endathis article!
Have a great week, love you guys, Eric.

TCCM Annual Reformation Celebration to be held in Moulton

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Annual Reformation Celebration sponsored by the Tri-County Cooperative Ministries (TCCM) will be hosted by Zion Lutheran Church in Moulton on Sunday, Oct. 29.

The celebration begins with a concert by the band Kist By Grace, starting at 4 p.m. Zion is located at 307 North Hackberry. Anyone may attend the event, but need to secure meal tickets ahead of time. A communion service follows the concert, along with a German meal of sausage, sauerkraut, potatoes and other side dishes and desserts.

TCCM, a cooperative ministry begun Jan. 1, 2003, serves communities and congregations in Lavaca, Fayette and Colorado Counties. TCCM's ministers are Pastors Herb Beyer and John Hunsicker, and Vicar Margaret Jackson.

Tickets are available at any one of the TCCM congregations — St. Peter Lutheran Church, West Point; Zion Lutheran Church, Moulton; Faith Lutheran Church, Weimar; Evangelical Lutheran Church, Witting; Zion Lutheran Church, Sublime or by contacting Pastor Herb Beyer (361-798-0155, beyerfam55@gmail.com) or Mimi Richter (979-877-4544, mimir1158@gmail.com or zionlc01@att.net).

See CELEBRATION, page 17

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OBITUARY

GARY THEODORE KAPPMAYER

Sunrise Beach — Gary Theodore Kappmeyer, aged 81, beloved husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather, passed away Sunday, October 1st, 2023. "Doc", "Gabby" and "Pow Pow", was born the middle child of Theodore Kappmeyer and Aileen Kappmeyer (Marbach) on July 14th, 1942, in San Antonio, Texas. He graduated from Southside High School in the Spring of 1960. Inspired by a Chiropractor who had treated Gary's high school football team, he eventually began premed courses at Texas Chiropractic College (TCC). It was during this time that he met a sweet girl from La Vernia who was pursuing a Liberal Arts degree at Incarnate Word. Gary married the love of his life, Irene Gutz, on April 30th, 1965. TCC relocated to Pasadena later that year, and the newlyweds soon found themselves moving along with the school so that Gary could continue his education.



of his career. Words like "Alumnus of the Year," "Chairman," "Board of Directors," and "President" reflect the praise and respect of his associates and fellow community members, however never overshadowed Dr. Kappmeyer's consistent commitment to positively impact the lives of others.

In the winter of 2005, Gary lost his beloved Irene to breast cancer. They were married for 40 years. In 2007, after Gary sold his practice and retired, he moved to his lake house on Lake LBJ where he and his family shared so many fond memories.

He spent time 'tooling' around in his workshop and touring the country in his travel trailer.

He met, and ultimately married, Marilyn Roche in a small civil service in 2008. They shared a love of travel, spending summers in Colorado and the Texas Valley.

Dr. Kappmeyer is survived by his sons Christopher and his wife Roxana, Matt and his wife Diane; his daughter Anne and her husband Marc; grandchildren Roxana, Cristina, and Ren; as well as numerous nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

A viewing will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, October 6 at Our Lady of the Lake in Sunrise Beach, 120 RM-2233, Sunrise Beach, TX 78643. It will be followed by a Funeral Mass with Father Uche Obikwelu officiating.

His final resting place will be next to Irene at Sandy Mountain Cemetery. Family and friends will be welcome at the family residence at 300 Beach Drive, Sunrise Beach, Texas 78643 for food and refreshment following the service.

Pallbearers include Larry Kappmeyer, Dr. Gary Gage, O.D., Sonny Meinhardt, Frank Aelvoet, Keith Kappmeyer, and Clayton Rakowitz.

Honorary pallbearers include Will Oliver, Kerry Morgan, and Gene Kridler.

Harrell Funeral Home of Kingsland is overseeing arrangements.

His first child, Christopher Scott was born in February of 1967 while Gary was feverishly trying to graduate from TCC.

Fifteen months later a second son, Matthew Todd, was welcomed into the world; and a new Chiropractor - Dr. Kappmeyer, D.C. - started to see his first patients.

He and Irene opened the Gonzales Chiropractic Center in October of 1970. His daughter Anne Celeste was born the following spring.

Gary was dedicated and worked hard to establish a small but reputable practice. His priority was always the health and well-being of his patients. Those lacking monetary resources could often barter whatever they could - baked-goods, services, an extra Bar-B-Q pit here, a horse-trailer there.

The list of Dr. Kappmeyer's professional and community activities is extensive. He was a member of the Texas Chiropractic Association, the Texas Chiropractic Board of Regents, the Texas Chiropractic Alumni Association, the Gonzales County Mental Retardation Inc., the Gonzales County Health Agency, the United Way, the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce, the Gonzales Crystal Theatre, the Gonzales Noon Lions Club, and Knights of Columbus.

With his involvement, came positions of office and awards which sparkle like gems across the fabric

Michelle Faith Memorial Scholarship BBQ lunch

The Michelle Faith Memorial Scholarship will be holding a BBQ plate sale on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Lions Pavilion at Independence Park. Plates will be comprised of chicken, sausage, potato salad and corn and will be \$10 per plate. For information, contact Benny Lewis at 830-857-5135.

Matejek Family Reunion set

The Matejek Family Reunion will be held Sunday, Oct. 29 at the Yorktown Fire Station Auditorium. Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. A potluck dish dinner will be served followed by a brief meeting. Live Auction only. If you have any questions, contact Lucy Matejek at 361-550-8011.



LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office

09/10/23 - 09/16/23

09/10/23
 • Riewe, Nicholas Randell, 05/1982, Gonzales: Local Warrant - Poss CS PG 1<1G, Requires \$25,000 Bond; Local Warrant - Tamper/Fabricate Phys Evid W/ Inten to Impair, Requires \$ 25,000 Bond; Local Warrant - Evading Arrest Detention, Requires a \$2,500 Bond; Remains in Custody

09/11/23
 • Longoria, Damian Jeremiah, 10/2003, Gonzales: Warrantless On-View - Poss Marij >4oz <=5Lbs., Release on \$5,000 Bond

09/12/23
 • Martinez, Jesus Gerardo, 06/1999, Gonzales: Warrantless/ On-View - Poss Marij <2oz, Release on \$200 Bond

09/12/23
 • Holstein, Franklin Wayne, 11/1966, Harwood: Other Agency Hold - Poss CS PG 1>=1G<4G,

Requires \$50,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold - Poss CG PG 1<1G, Requires \$30,000 Bond

09/14/23
 • Meza, Jesus Moses, 03/1985, Smiley: Local Warrant - AGG Robbery, Requires \$50,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold - Evading Arrest Det w/veh, Requires \$20,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold - Evading Arrest Det w/veh, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold - Resist Arrest Search or Transport, Requires \$6,000 Bond; Other Agency Hold - Terroristic Threat of Family/Household, 1 Bond all Counts; Other Agency Hold - Resist Arrest Search or Transport, Requires \$3,500 Bond; Other Agency Hold - Accident Involving Damage to Vehicle >=\$200, Requires \$2,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

09/15/23
 • Perez Arredondo, Eric David, 04/2000, Nixon: Commitment/ Sentence - Poss Marij <2oz, Released - Weekender
 • Ramos, John Wesley, 04/1997,

Luling: Commitment/Sentence - Agg Assault w/Deadly Weapon, Remains in Custody

09/16/23
 • Nino-Nino, Jose Mercedes, 04/1998, Waelder: Commitment/ Sentence - Injury Child/Elderly/ Disable w/Int Bodily Inj, Released-Weekender

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

GCSO	08
DPS	00
GPD	05
WPD	06
NPD	00
GISD	01
SMO	00
Constable 1	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	20

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office

09/17/23 - 09/23/23

09/17/23
 • Ramirez, Sotero Hector, IV, 08/1988, Luling: Warrantless/ On-View - Poss Marij <2oz, Released \$500.00 Bond

09/18/23
 • Sada, Raymond Robbie, 04/1981, San Antonio:Local Warrant - Fraud Use Poss of Identifying Info # items <5, Released \$10,000.00 Bond
 • Villarreal, Albert Lino, 09/1982, Seguin: Local Warrant- Theft from Person, Requires \$100,000.00; Remains in Custody

06/20/23
 • Feathers, Jonathan Michael, 05/1998, Kerrville: Local Warrant - Assault Peace Officer/Judge, Released \$100,00.00 Bond
 • Castillo, Jorge Armando, 10/1984, Gonzales: Local Warrant - Driving While Intoxicated 3rd or More, Released \$10,000.00 Bond

09/21/23
 • Ogg, Dustin Blaine, 05/1994, LaGrange: Local Warrant - Man

Del CS PG 1<1G, Local Warrant - Man Del CS PG 1>=1G<4G, Remains in Custody

• Garcia, Desiree Renee, 07/1999, Pharr: Local Warrant - Reckless Driving, Requires \$1,500.00 Bond, Remains in Custody
 • Herrera, Brisi Esmeralda, 05/1999, Donna: Local Warrant - Theft of Serv>=\$100<\$750, Requires \$1,500.00 Bond, Remains in Custody
 • Turbe, Sheku Emanuel, JR, 02/1999, Fresno: Local Warrant - Poss Marij <2oz, Requires \$10,000.00 Bond, Remains in Custody

09/22/23
 • Celestine, Dayvonn Dewayne, 08/1997, Buda: Warrantless on-View - Poss CS PG 2<1G, Released \$5,000.00 Bond; Warrantless On-View - Unl Carrying Weapon, Released \$ 2,500.00 Bond; Warrantless On-View - Unl Carrying Weapon, Released \$2,500.00 Bond
 • Perez Arredondo, Eric David, 04/2000, Nixon: Commitment/ Sentence - Poss Marij <2oz, Released - Weekender
 • Boling, Richard A, 07/1969,

Nixon: Warrantless/On-View - Poss CS PG 1/1-B>=4G<200G, Requires \$10,000.00 Bond, Remains in Custody

• Nino-Nino, Jose Mercedes, 04/1998, Waelder: Commitment/ Sentence - Injury Child/Elderly/ Disable w/int Bodily Inj, Released - Weekender
 • House, Shaina Kimberly, 05/1983, Austin: Commitment/ Sentence - Poss CS PG 1>=1G<4G, Remains in Custody

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

GCSO	12
DPS	04
GPD	05
WPD	03
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	24

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9 Dr Malik Dr Desai Austin MFM	10 Dr Echols Dr Quintero	11 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Twitero	12 Dr Ryan Dr Echols	13 Amy Trost Dr Miller
16 Austin MFM	17 Dr Echols	18 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Miller	19 Dr Ryan Dr Echols Dr Malik	20 Dr Bui
23 Austin MFM	24 Dr Echols	25 Dr Quebedeaux	26 Dr Ryan Dr Echols Dr Kirchner	27
30 Austin MFM	31 Dr Echols			

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- Chiropractic**
Jeff Echols, DC (512)799-6811
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Dr Desai (713) 864-2659
- Nephrology**
Azhar M. Malik, M.D. (361)-576-0011
George Osuchukwu, MD (361)576-0011
Yong Du, MD (361)576-0011
- Obstetrics**
Alyson Kirchner, M.D.-OBGYN (830) 379 - 1500
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Trent Twitero, M.D. (830) 625-0009
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VC President to speak at Fireside Chat

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College President Dr. Jennifer Kent will be the featured storyteller at the upcoming Innovation Collective's Fireside Chat at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 10. "Our monthly Fireside Chat gives attendees the opportunity to be inspired by the storytelling of entrepreneurs, civic leaders,

and other innovative minds," said Karissa Winters, Community Lead for Innovation Collective Victoria. "I really look forward to hearing Dr. Kent share her inspiring stories of trial and error." Kent served as the Senior Vice President at Ranger College for two years before becoming the sixth president of Victoria



Kent College in 2020. She previously worked in public education for 19 years, including 11 years as a secondary school district administrator. Kent was recently selected to participate in

the inaugural cohort of the Aspen Institute's Presidents Fellowship. She and the other fellows will work towards advancing strategies aimed at delivering excellent student outcomes for all students. The Fireside Chat will take place at 120 S. Main St. in downtown Victoria. The event is free and open to the public.

San Antonio volunteers launch global 'message of hope' campaign

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

At a time when the desire for better government is on the minds of people the world over, Jehovah's Witnesses have launched an international campaign to bring attention to a universal solution.

The Witnesses will feature a special edition of the Watchtower magazine, available in over 780 languages in print and online, with the theme "What Is God's Kingdom?"

Local volunteers from San Antonio distributed this special-edition magazine during the month of September.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Jehovah's Witnesses distributed millions of this special-edition magazine through letters, even sending copies to thousands of government officials worldwide. Now that they have returned to their door-to-door public ministry post pandemic, this will be the first in-person campaign where they will have the opportunity to discuss this important and very timely subject with their neighbors.

A free digital copy of the special issue of The Watchtower, as well as information about the activities of Jehovah's Witnesses, is available at jw.org. The Witnesses' site offers practical Bible-based content for people of all ages and beliefs in over 1,070 languages.



Dr. Jennifer Kent (third from left), President of Victoria College, showcases a plaque from the Institute for Evidence-Based Change along with current and past members of VC's Caring Campus Executive Committee (left to right): Kevin Madrid, Terri Kurtz, Sonia Herrera, Alisha Stearman, and Randy Marek.

VC recognized for advancing success through "Caring Campus" initiative

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College was recently recognized by the nonprofit Institute for Evidence-Based Change (IEBC) for its dedication to student success by improving students' sense of connectedness through the Caring Campus initiative. VC is one of five Texas colleges selected to begin implementing the Caring Campus program last fall through a grant awarded to IEBC by the Greater Texas Foundation.

With the support of IEBC coaching and guidance, VC established a Caring Campus Executive Committee and a larger working group that discussed ways to better connect with students - especially those who are less familiar with college - and support their educational goals.

Following the group's work, VC employees have begun to implement five behavioral commitments: wearing name tags; becoming more familiar with the roles of other departments; greeting individuals who come within a 10-foot radius; offering friendly referrals to other departments when needed; and expanding efforts to welcome students at the start of each semester.

"Our students consistently express a strong sense of belonging and support at Victoria College, and we take great pride in providing exceptional customer service," said Dr. Jennifer Kent, VC President. "We're delighted to be recognized as a Caring Campus, as our active involvement in this initiative will further strengthen our connection with students, ultimately contributing to their success."

More than 40 colleges, universities to have info booths at VC's College Fair

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College will host its annual College Fair on Tuesday, Oct. 10 from 9-11 a.m. in the Conference Education Center at VC's Emerging Technology Complex. Representatives from more than 40 institutions will answer questions and share information on admissions, financial aid, campus life, areas of study, and extracurricular activities. The event is free and open to the public.

Representatives from the following institutions are scheduled to be in attendance:

- Chamberlain University
- Coastal Bend College - Forensics
- Full Sail University
- Houston Christian University
- Howard Payne University
- Lincoln Tech
- Our Lady of the Lake University
- Sam Houston State University
- St. Mary's University
- Stephen F. Austin State University
- Tarleton State University
- Texas A&M Maritime Academy
- Texas A&M University
- Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi
- Texas A&M University at Galveston
- Texas A&M University - Kingsville
- Texas A&M University at McAllen
- Texas A&M University - RELLIS Campus
- Texas A&M University - San Antonio
- Texas Lutheran University
- Texas Southern University
- Texas State Technical College (TSTC)
- Texas State University
- Texas Tech University
- Texas Woman's University
- The University of Texas at Arlington
- The University of Texas at Austin
- The University of Texas at Dallas
- Troy University
- Tulsa Welding School
- University of Houston-Clear Lake
- University of Houston-Victoria
- University of Mary Hardin - Baylor
- University of North Texas
- University of St. Thomas - Houston
- University of the Incarnate Word
- University Technical Institute
- US Air Force & Space Force
- US Army
- US Navy
- Victoria College
- United States Military Academy - West Point
- Walden University
- Western Governors University
- Workforce Solutions
- Wyotech

VC's Emerging Technology Complex is located at 7403 Lone Tree Road in Victoria. For more information, contact Bailey Koebrick, VC Title V-Transfer Coordinator at (361)573-3291 or email Bailey.Koebrick@VictoriaCollege.edu.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. Flat tableland with steep edges
5. Byproduct of fire
10. Talked
12. Unique skill
14. Unembarrassed
16. Where teenagers go
18. Boxing's GOAT
19. Used to anoint
20. Reproductive structure found in rust fungi
22. Auburn great Newton
23. Some are for Christmas
25. Dried, split pulses
26. Self
27. Where to get your mail
28. High schoolers' test
30. Flightless bird
31. Expectorated
33. Practice of misrepresenting the truth
35. Type of patch
37. French river
38. Told on
40. Hillside
41. Peyton's little brother
42. Soviet Socialist Republic
44. Progressive country musician
45. Witness
48. Brews
50. Yellowish-brown

CLUES DOWN

1. Licensed for Wall Street
2. Partner to flow
3. A very large body of water
4. Accumulate on the surface of
5. Central cores of stems
6. Angry
7. Spanish stew: ___ podrida
8. Fastened with a pin
9. On your way: ___ route
10. Soviet labor camp system
11. Enmities
13. B complex vitamin
15. Go quickly
17. Toast
18. A team's best pitcher
21. Philly culinary specialty

52. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
53. Mexican agave
55. Type of "cast"
56. Popular breakfast food
57. Atomic #52
58. Position north or south of the equator
63. Gadget
65. Another recording
66. Irregular bulges in cell membranes
67. Dark brown

23. Small child
24. Unhappy
27. Trims away
29. Full of tears
32. Touch softly
34. Former OSS
35. A person's chest
36. Came from behind
39. Fall back
40. Nellie __, journalist
43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
44. Weather
46. Sports broadcaster Ian
47. Electroencephalograph
49. Phenyl salicylate
51. Web of Things
54. Ship goods as cargo
59. The bill in a restaurant
60. Young female
61. OJ trial judge
62. One's grandmother
64. West Siberian river

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

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.

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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.

Mustangs roll past Badgers for first win

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs won their first game of the season, 26-14, over the Karnes City Badgers on the road Friday, Sept. 29, snapping a five-game losing streak.

The Mustangs had their starting quarterback Luke Moses return to the field after suffering a concussion two weeks prior to the Karnes City game; Moses went 11-for-19 in pass completions for 168 yards and four touchdowns.

"Thank you to my receivers because none of those are perfect balls and they're just able to go up and make a play. And the offensive line, I'm telling screen, making a wide open hole," Moses said.

The Mustangs combined for 357 total yards on 75 plays on offense in the win over the Badgers.

Running back Aiden Flores led the team with five receptions for 50 yards and two touchdowns, and he was glad that his team snapped the five-game losing streak.

"It was great. It feels great. I'd say it starts here and only can go up from here now," Flores said.

The Mustangs' special teams shined in the game with two recoveries from a muffed punt and fumbled kickoff return by Karnes City.

"Things went our way tonight. We hadn't had that all season, you know, so you always need the ball to bounce your way to be successful. And like I said, Tonight, the ball bounced our way a couple times." head coach Troy Moses said.

The Mustangs defense allowed zero third down conversions in the win over the Badgers; junior Timothy McGlothline led the team with 12 total tackles.



Quarterback Luke Moses (2) stares down the Karnes City defense in a big district match. Moses threw for four touchdowns in the, 26-14, win over the Badgers.



The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs hold their helmets up for the playing of the school's alma mater in the 26-14 win over the Karnes City Badgers Friday, Sept. 29.

This is also the first district win of the season and the Mustangs are now 1-1 in district alongside Karnes City and Dilley.

Moses said this win was huge for them and puts them back into championship contention.

"This first win came a little later in the season that we were expecting. But we played well all year. While we hadn't had a lot of things go our way. Tonight, some things went our way and our kids performed. Having Luke back is huge,



Mustangs running back Aiden Flores runs through a Karnes City defender for positive yards for Nixon-Smiley. Flores recorded two receiving touchdowns in the, 26-14, win over the Badgers.

opens up our passing game a lot more. And he played really well tonight. So thankful for that," Moses said.

The Mustangs will have a huge matchup for the homecoming game against the Dilley

STATS

--OFFENSE--

PASSING:

L. Moses: 11/19 pass attempts for 168 yards and four touchdowns

RUSHING:

Garret Gonzales: 17 carries for 67 yards
Adrian Zamora: eight carries for 51 yards

A. Flores: 13 carries for 47 yards
John Garza: six carries for 36 yards
L. Moses: four carries for -12 yards

RECEIVING:

A. Flores: five receptions for 50 yards and two touchdowns

Nicholas Martinez: one reception for 43 yards and on touchdown

A. Zamora: three receptions for 33 yards

Tristen Mikesch: one reception for 22 yards and one touchdown.

Kade Dixon: one reception for 20 yards.

--DEFENSE--

TOTAL TACKLES:

T. McGlothline: 12 total tackles

Davian Ramos: 10 total tackles

Jaylun Rodriguez: seven total tackles

J. Garza and N. Martinez: six total tackles

Eric Rodriguez, Jesus Espino, and Carl White: five total tackles

A. Flores, Alan Espino, A. Zamora, Miguel Valerio, Adolfo Vasquez, and Ryan Paez: four total tackles

K. Dixon: three total tackles

Gavino Moreno: two total tackles

G. Gonzales: one total tackle

TACKLES FOR LOSS:

C. White: two tackles for losses

D. Ramos, J. Rodriguez, A. Espino, and R. Paez: one tackle for loss.

Wolves and Moses hopes the Karnes City win is the spark they need.

"Losing is not fun. It's tough. I'm 48 years old, and you can only imagine what it does for a 16-17 year old. I don't handle it very well. So the wins is going to be good. It'll be a good week of practice. And we're gonna give Dilley everything we got," Moses said.

The Mustangs play Dilley Friday, Oct. 6 at home. Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

VOLLEBYBALL

Lady Mustangs fall to Marion in four sets

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs kicked off their second half of district play with a four-set loss (25-20, 13-25, 13-25, 17-25) against the Marion Lady Bulldogs Tuesday, Oct. 3.

The Lady Mustangs started the game strong, taking set one, 25-20, but Marion would take the next three sets in a row to capture the victory.

Marion swept the series from the Lady Mustangs for the 2023 season.

The Lady Mustangs will host back-to-back home games against Cole (Friday, Oct. 6) and Monte Vista (Tuesday, Oct. 10).

Nixon-Smiley is currently 1-6 in district play.

Friday's game against Cole is homecoming for the Lady Mustangs.



Senior Samantha Baker (4) records a dig for the Gonzales Lady Apaches in the district match against La Vernia Tuesday, Oct. 3.

VANDY VAN EPPS

Lady Apaches fall to La Vernia at home

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches were handed a season sweep loss to the La Vernia Lady Bears in three sets (15-25, 16-25, 19-25) Tuesday, Oct. 3.

The Lady Apaches improved from their last meeting against La Vernia; Gonzales kicked off the match with a back-and-forth battle in opening set.

"We, as a team, have learned to come out fighting for every point from beginning to end and I think that's what we did," Lady Apaches head volleyball coach Jillian Gonzales said.

The Lady Apaches continued that mentality in the second and third sets, keep each contest closer against the Lady Bears.

"We went into the second set and we knew that we wanted to come out battling like that again and just get better and that's what we did. We got better with each set that we played them just battling with them," Gonzales said.

The Lady Apaches dropped to 4-3 in district, but will take on the San Antonio schools in the next four games after having swept Fox Tech, JFK, Young Women's Leadership Academy and Memorial.

Coach Gonzales said the goal this was to beat all the San Antonio schools in district.

"We know that it is to accomplish our goals as a team and this season are to accomplish those goals. We have to beat these four San Antonio teams again, and we are just mentally just trying to stay focus. We have a lot going on this week. Just mentally focusing on accomplishing our goals," Gonzales said.

The Lady Apaches will host San Antonio Fox Tech Friday, Oct. 6 and first they have to beat them.

"We did have a win against them the first go round but we are just preparing for them like we have never played them and get ready for whatever type of competition that they give us back," Gonzales said.



Lady Apaches junior libero Dakota Schmidt (20) sets up a serve for Gonzales against La Vernia.

VANDY VAN EPPS

Lady Mustangs fall to Randolph

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs closed out the first half of district with a 1-5 record and swept (13-25, 7-25, 5-25) by the Randolph Lady Ro-Hawks Friday, Sept. 28 at home.

The Lady Mustangs are now on a two-game losing streak in this 2023 season.

Nixon-Smiley opened of the second half of district play against the Marion Lady Bulldogs Tuesday, Oct. 3 at home.

The Lady Mustangs will host the Cole Lady Cougars Friday, Oct. 6, and will travel to San Antonio Tuesday, Oct. 10 to take on Monte Vista.

Cole game starts at 5 p.m.
Monte Vista starts at 6 p.m.

WAEOLDER HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY COMPETES



The Waelder High School varsity and JV boys cross country teams competed in the Shiner XC meet this past weekend. All nine runners received a medal for top 20 finishes in their division and the varsity placed first as a team in the 1A-2A division, athletic director Stephen Austin announced.

CONTRIBUTED

Gonzales cross country competes in Seguin meet

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales varsity, junior varsity and junior high cross country teams all traveled together for the Seguin meet Saturday, Sept. 30.

The varsity teams finished strong in their respective competitions; the Apaches finished third over all with 95 points and the Lady Apaches finished fourth place with 113 points.

The JV Apaches took home third place with 74 total points at the Se-

guin meet.

JV Lady Apaches' Jaelyn Ramos (second place) and Angie Palacios (fifth place) finished in the top five.

Seventh grade Apaches finished fourth place, seventh grade Lady Apaches fifth place and eighth grade Lady Apache fourth place.

Homer Ruiz (eighth) and Braydon Garcia (11th) finished in the top 15 in the eighth grade division. Eighth place: Homero Ruiz: (12:32.426) 11th: Braydon Garcia: (13:05.930)

STATS

Varsity Apaches:

Sixth place: Kristofer Ramos (18:21.7)
13th: Youhi Huerta (18:45.7)
19th: Carlos Pedraza (18:53.1)
30th: Christopher Gonzales (19:33.7)
41st: Kevin Reyna (20:08.9)
44th: Miguel Moreno (20:19.7)
46th: Diego Leon (20:34.2)
64th: B. Rubio (21:20.2)
Team finish: 3rd (95 points)

Varsity Lady Apaches:

15th: Yaritza Angel: (13:45.7)
16th: Jordyn Gonzales: (13:59.1)
17th: Marianelly Martinez: (13:59.7)
26th: Kaylie Ramirez (14:40.632)
42nd: Tianna Smith: (15:06.3)
43rd: Alaina Valle: (15:09.1)
46th: N. Martinez (15:19.5)
56th: Kilee Schwausch (15:54.6)
Team finish: 4th (113 points)

JV Lady Apaches:

Second place: Jaelyn Ramos (15:43.1)
Fifth place: Angie Palacios (16:09.5)
17th: J. Castillo (18:04.5)
21st: Eilleen Castillo (18:48.4)
Team finish: INC (0 points)

JV Apaches:

First place: J. Huerta (18:55.9)
14th: Cain Cardozo: (21:30.3)
17th: Miller Balfanz: (22:00.1)
22nd: Jude Hataway: (22:30.4)
28th: Alan Gudino: (23:41.3)
31st: Alex Martinez: (24:29.4)
3rd: Kevin Garcia: (24:38.4)
40: Oscar Toro: (25:51.5)
Team finish: 3rd (74 points)

JH Seventh Grade Apaches:

Sixth place: Nicholas Villa: (13:10.2)
31st: Dylan Moreno: (13:38.2)
61st: Conrad Canales: (14:25.8)
63rd: Dutch Zaitz: (16:32.9)
66th: J. Moreno (16:52.2)
74th: T. Buchans (17:16.3)
78th: G. Rodriguez (17:32.5)

108th: K. Garcia (19:20.1)

116th E. Angle (20:02.3)
135th: Daniel Olmedo (49:49.5)
Team finish: 4th (118 points)

JH Eighth Grade Apaches:

Eighth place: Homero Ruiz: (12:32.426)
11th: Braydon Garcia: (13:05.930)
Team finish: INC (0 points)

JHS Seventh Grade Lady Apaches:

Third place: Ellie Lester: (13:21.3)
15th: Maya Shoulders: (16:01.2)
51st: G. Mendez (18:57.1)
59th: J. DelaRosa (19:34.8)
60th: K. Vivas (20:01.9)
Team finish: 5th (167 points)

JH Eighth Lady Apaches:

19th: Mardines Suarez (16:45.8)
26th: Alexia Kuntschik (17:59.8)
27th: M. Ramos (18:01.3)
39th: A. Janeczek (20:11.3)
40th: A. Nanez (20:23.1)
Team finish: 4th (117 points)

GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS



The winning team from the Sept. 27 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Jake Barnick, Ryan Benes, Allison Poteet, Brent Poteet, Kameron Craft.

CONTRIBUTED



The second-place team from the Sept. 27 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Randy Reed, Zach Reed, Tanner Walker, Kyle Day, Kiley Allen, Sam Morrow.

CONTRIBUTED

CROSS COUNTRY Mustangs compete in Luling meet

STAFF REPORT

This past Saturday, Sept. 30 the Nixon-Smiley Mustangs cross country teams ran at the Luling Sandia City Invitational. Next up will be the district meet on Tuesday, Oct. 10 at Medina Valley HS.

HS Boys

Oscar Gamez- 23:27 (49th)
Gabriel Acosta- 24:24 (51st)
Julian Casas- 24:51 (52nd)

HS Girls

Olivia Jackson- 14:17 (16th)
Tyra Ortiz- 17:40 (35th)
Alize Davila- 18:55 (36th)
JH Boys (Placed 5th as a team)
Jedidiah Alvarez- 12:55 (11th)
Kyzick Jantes- 13:02 (14th)

Elias Villasana- 13:34 (21st)
Case Martin- 13:41 (23rd)
Reagan Ramirez- 15:28 (54th)
Emrick Rodriguez- 15:48 (60th)
Brayden Trigo- 16:19 (71st)
Jayden Avila- 16:28 (74th)
Corbin Dillard- 18:18 (82nd)
Waylon Croft- 19:05 (83rd)

JH Girls

Stephanie Avila- 16:15 (23rd)
Cali Smith- 17:09 (32nd)

HISTORY OF COME & TAKE IT

The Come and Take It Celebration commemorates the firing of the first shot of the Texas revolution on Oct. 2, 1835, which took place near Gonzales. Come and help us celebrate history with the firing of the first shot!

The town of Gonzales was established by Empresario Green DeWitt in 1825, two and one-half miles east of the confluence of the San Marcos and Guadalupe Rivers. It was the westernmost Anglo settlement until the close of the Texas Revolution and was named in honor of Don Rafael Gonzales, provisional governor of Coahuila, Mexico and Texas. The town was laid out in the shape

of a cross, with seven squares.

During the colonial period of 1825 to 1835, there were many problems with Comanche and Tonkawa Indians, but Gonzales flourished. It was the thriving capital of the DeWitt colony by 1833. In 1831 the Mexican government loaned the citizens of Gonzales a six-pound cannon for protection against the Indians.

In September of 1835, as political unrest grew, Mexican officials at San Antonio de Bexar demanded the cannon be returned. A corporal with five soldiers and an oxcart were first sent by Col. Ugartechea, Bexar military commander, to Gonzales. The corporal car-

ried a request that the small reinforced cannon, a bronze six-pounder, be returned to the Mexican Army. Andrew Ponton refused to relinquish it, stalling for time, and the little cannon was buried in George W. Davis' peach orchard, near the Guadalupe River.

Lieutenant Castaneda and 150 mounted soldiers were sent to "take" the cannon. When the soldiers appeared on the west bank of the Guadalupe River, there were only 18 men in Gonzales, but these 'Old Eighteen' stood at the river in defiance, denied the Mexicans a crossing by hiding the ferry and sent out a call for volunteers to assist them.

As the soldiers scouted the river for a place to cross, they moved upriver a short distance, near the present-day community of Cost and camped for the night. There, in the early-morning hours of Oct. 2, 1835, the colonists crossed the river with their cannon, surprising the troops and waving their hastily fashioned flag, which proclaimed "Come and Take It."

Almost immediately the cannon was fired, killing one of Castaneda's men and scattering the rest, forcing them to retreat to San Antonio de Bexar. Thus was fired the shot that set off the struggle for Texas independence from

Mexico.

When the smoke cleared, the Mexican troops had taken off. The Texas Revolution had begun. Gonzales became known as "The Lexington of Texas," where the first shot was fired, and where the first Texas Army of Volunteers gathered. A few months after the first shot, men and boys from the region would gather in Gonzales, sending the only reinforcements ever received at the Alamo.

Each October, on the first full weekend of October, the citizens of Gonzales gather to celebrate their Texas heritage in a three-day festival called "Come and Take It."



Come and Take It Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

6:00 am – 5:00 pm Arts & Crafts Vendors
8:00 am – 3:00 pm Visit the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center
10:00 am – 5:00 pm Visit the Memorial Museum
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Pioneer Village
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Art Show
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm Petting Zoo
6:00 pm – 11:30 pm Biergarten & Food Booths
6:00 pm – 11:00 pm Come & Take It Carnival
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm Live Music: Lost Cause Band
8:00 pm – 9:30 pm Live Music: Nathan Colt Young
10:00 pm – 11:30 pm Live Music: Little Texas

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

7:00 am – 11:00 am Come & Take It 5K Run/Walk
7:30 am – 12:30 pm Come & Take It Memorial Golf Tournament
9:00 am – 1:00 pm Biergarten & Food Booths
10:00 am – 4:00 pm Pioneer Village
10:30 am – 12:00 pm Come and Take It Parade
12:00 pm – 8:00 pm Petting Zoo
12:15 am – 11:00 pm Come & Take It Carnival
1:00 pm – 6:00 pm Art Show
1:00 pm – 1:30 pm Young Texian Performances
1:00 pm – 6:00 pm J.B. Wells Historic Home Tour
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Chicken Flying Contest
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Battle of Gonzales Reenactment
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Live Music: Los Gavilanes
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm Cornhole Tournament
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm Live Music: Taylor Branch & The Lone Star Ramblers
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Come and Take It Celebration Mullet Championship
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm Live Music: Confederate Railroad
9:00 pm – 10:30 pm Live Music: Doug Stone
11:00 pm – 12:30 am Live Music: Marcos Orozco

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

7:00 am – 4 pm Gonzales Noon Lions Club T-Bone, Chili & Bean Cook-Off 2023
9:00 am – 3:00 pm Gonzales Classic Cruisers Car Show
11:00 am – 5:00 pm Biergarten & Food Booths
12:00 pm – 5:00 pm Petting Zoo
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm Gonzales DRT Chapter's "Gonzales Day" Memorial Service
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Art Show
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Arts & Crafts Vendors
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Come & Take It Carnival
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Live Music: Shiner Hobo Band

Come and Take It Celebration Committee members

LEAD ON LOGISTICS:

Chairman: Daisy Scheske Freeman
Co-Chairman: Keith Schauer

OFFICERS

Secretary: Allison Davis
Treasurer: Naomi Brown
Food & Beverage Chair: Linda Menking
Entertainment Co-Chair: Britney Jones-Caka
Activities Chair: Kasey Condel Rhodes
Finance Chair: Darla Machacek
Marketing Chairman: Jessie Holt Campion
Grounds and Security Co-Chair: Kenny Hyden
Grounds and Security Co-Chair: Frank Wallace
Parade Chairman: Blanca Hernandez
Arts and Crafts: Chamber of Commerce staff

'Chicks' dig the Chicken Flying Contest at CTI

FROM STAFF REPORTS

One of the most popular events at the Come and Take It Celebration has to be the chicken flying contest. This year will be no different as this unique event starts at 2 p.m. at the intersection of Saint Joseph and Saint George streets.

The origin of the chicken flying contest dates back to the Fryer's Frolics, which took place in the 1970s around the same time as the celebration of the first shot of Texas Independence, which was Oct. 2.

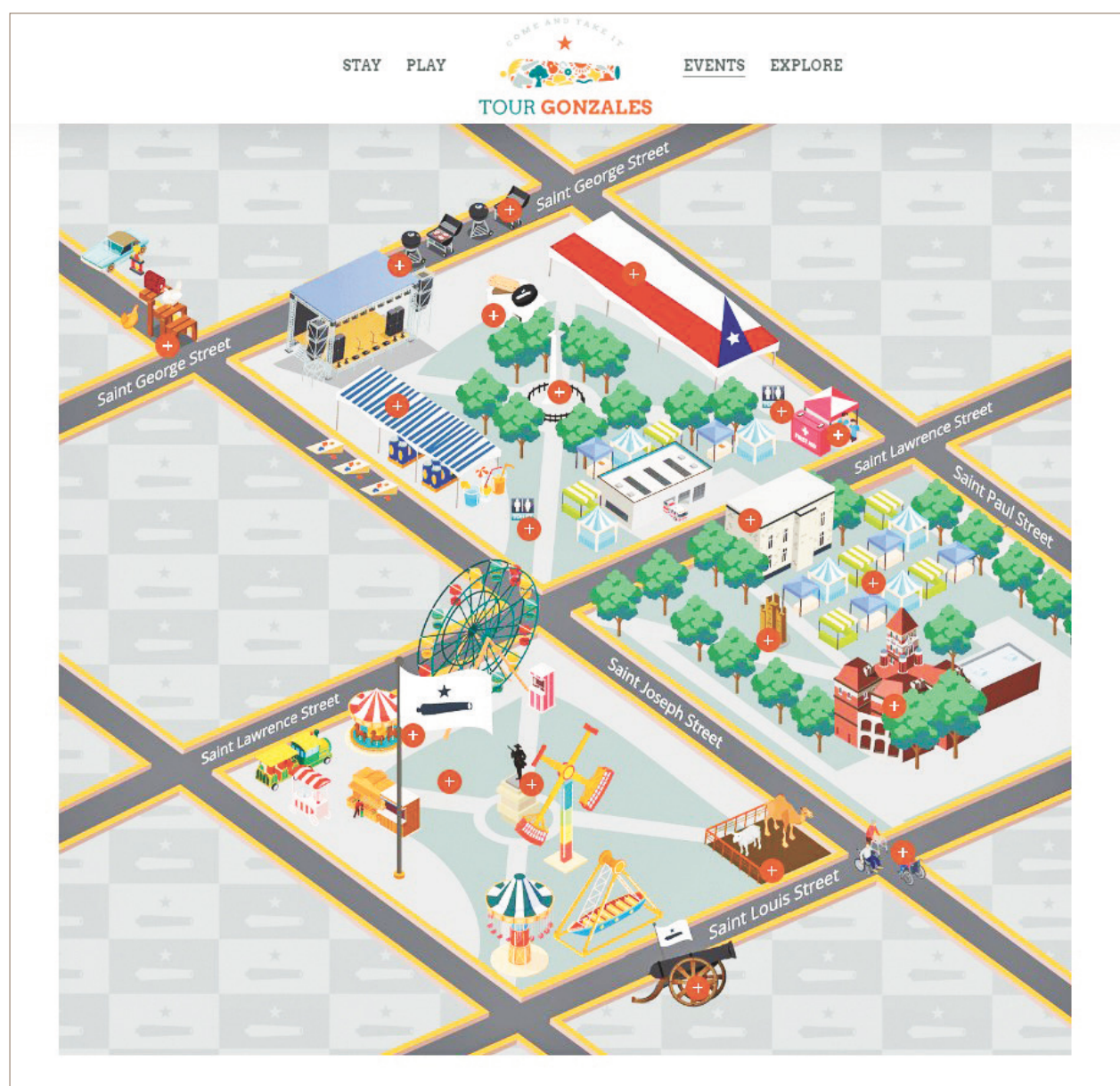
The contest is run by the Gonzales Rotary Club and helps raise money for the club's missions. Live chickens are placed inside a double-ended mailbox and "gently prodded" to exit one end, with the resultant flight measured to see which chicken flies the farthest.

Crowds line the sidewalks to watch and kids volunteer to catch



the flyaway fowl. Sometimes, watching the youngsters race to be the first to retrieve a chicken can be as entertaining as the "flights of fancy" of the bird-brained pullets.

Anyone can sign up to fly a chick. Don't have your own? There are rental biddies ready to do your bidding ... well, maybe, if you prove to be a real hen whisperer.



Noon Lions Club hosts annual CTI Cook-off

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Gonzales Noon Lions Club will hold their annual Come and Take It Celebration T-bone, Chili and Beans Cook-off on Sunday, Oct. 8, in downtown Gonzales in the 400 block of Saint George and the 600 block of Saint Paul streets.

Entry fees are T-bone \$60 (steak will be provided); Chili \$25; Beans \$25; Appetizer \$15; Kids Pork Chop \$10 (children under 13 only competing); and Cocktail \$25.

Prizes will be awarded to the top two in five of the categories (T-Bone, Chili, Beans, Pork Chop and Cocktail), while there will also be awards for appetizers, showmanship and T-bone presentation.

First place in T-Bone wins \$250, followed by



\$100 for second. Top prize in Chili, Cocktails and Beans wins \$100 each, with second receiving \$35. Kids Pork Chop will award \$60 for first place and \$25 for second place. The awards for Showmanship and Appetizers is \$50 each.

Set up begins at 6 a.m. and ends at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 8. There will be barricades downtown and contestants may

drive into the area at the intersection of Saint George and Saint Paul streets. All vehicles will have to be out of the area by 10 a.m. and may come back into the area at 4 p.m.

Team registration and check-in is from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the corner of Saint Paul and Saint George streets. All teams must check in and pick up appropriate contain-

ers and tickets.

The turn-in location will be announced during registration. Turn-in time for appetizers is 11 a.m. and for cocktails is 11:30 a.m. with T-Bone to be assigned beginning at noon. Chili turn-in time is 1 p.m., with Beans at 2 p.m. and Kids Pork Chop at 3 p.m.

Showmanship judging will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Showmanship judges will remain anonymous. Cook area can be decorated in any family friendly theme your team chooses. Showmanship will be judged on theme, costume and audience appeal.

Keep music to a reasonable volume; you may be asked to turn it down if it interferes with other celebration activities. No business promotion may take place without a paid sponsorship.

RUIZ

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

public servant and was sentenced by 25th District Judge William Old III to four years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice — Institutional Division with credit for 1,462 days of time served in the Gonzales County Jail, which works out to almost exactly four years incarceration.

Charges of driving while intoxicated and evading arrest with a vehicle against Ruiz were meanwhile dismissed by Old as part of the plea agreement the judge accepted on Ruiz' behalf during a Sept. 20 hearing at the Gonzales County Courthouse.

Exactly four years prior to the hearing date — on Sept. 20, 2019, at about 1 a.m., Gonzales County deputies were attempting to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle with an equipment violation at mile marker 645 on Interstate 10. However, before the deputies could make contact with the driver, later identified as Ruiz, he drove off and a pursuit was initiated.

During the pursuit, Ruiz reportedly fired several shots at the deputies' vehicles before exiting the interstate onto a county road, crashing into a tree and fleeing the scene on foot. Deputies pursued Ruiz to a residence on South Avenue A and South First Street in Waelder, where he was observed exiting the vehicle with two handguns before entering the residence

Law enforcement created a perimeter around the property and residents nearby had to be evacuated for their own safety. While barricaded in the house, Ruiz fired numerous shots directed at deputies during the standoff and was observed with a weapon in hand in the doorway of the residence.

Texas Department of Public Safety Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) and Special Response Team and Crisis Negotiation Team deployed officers to the scene to convince Ruiz to surrender. About four hours later, he exited the residence and was taken into custody without further incident. Fortunately, no officers were harmed during the incident.

Ruiz was initially charged with attempted capital member of a peace officer, but that charge was later lowered to aggravated assault of a peace officer. He remained in the Gonzales County Jail in lieu of \$1,040,000 total bond set by Judge Pat Davis until he pleaded guilty this year.

CARNIVAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

between four to six tickets on average.

Hours of operation are 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6; after the parade to 11 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 7, and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 8.

Pride of Texas Shows is a family owned and operated amusement company, providing rides, games, and food concessions to fairs, festivals, and events throughout the states of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska. It is owned and operated by Doug and Christopher Barton.

MAJOR RIDES

- **Alien Abduction:** Riders experience the feeling of weightlessness as they are pressed against the wall with the use of centrifugal force. As the space ship picks up speed, riders slowly lift off the ground before being safely returned to their feet as the space ship returns to Earth.

- **Cliff Hanger:** The Cliff Hanger gives riders the sensation of flying as riders lie on their stomach. As the ride begins to spin, it rises at a 45 degree angle.

- **Giant Expo Wheel 1 and 2:** Guests ride in spacious gondolas capable of seating 4-6 riders comfortably. Above this 50' tall Ferris wheel, guests will get a birds eye view of the surrounding area! At night, the wheel illuminates the midway with a spectacular LED light show, producing color patterns like no other and can be seen from miles away.

- **Kamikaze:** The Kamikaze takes riders for a giant 55" upside-down loop. Riders are secured in their seats using over-the-shoulder restraints to provide for a secure riding experience.

- **Sea Ray:** The Sea Ray is a giant swinging ship. The ship swings back and forth via a pendulum. The pendulum is supported by four large towers that give

the ride a sturdy base. Once at full speed, the ride gives the patrons a feeling of weightlessness.

- **The Storm:** The Storm is a spectacular ride that uses a combination of different motions to twirl riders in an array of circles.

- **Vertigo:** The Vertigo is an 80-foot tall swing tower that swings riders out and over the midway with their feet dangling below them. The height of the ride in combination with the wind blowing in your face will add to the thrill of the experience!

- **Zero Gravity:** The Zero Gravity is a remake of an all-time classic, the Round-Up. It is a family ride that holds up to 33 people. This version, however, has beautiful light package and scenery to match. The ride spins in a circular motion. Once it has reached maximum speed, the center of the ride lifts up producing a zero gravity feeling, hence, the name.

Also:
Aloha
The Sizzler
Super Shot
Triple Twist

FAMILY RIDES

- **The Carousel:** The Carousel features a variety of brightly painted horses and exotic animals. For those who do not wish to ride a horse, the carousel has a stationary chariot.

- **Dragon Wagon:** The Orient Express is a kiddie roller coaster that mom and dad can ride along too! Each of the adult size cars features a padded lap bar for safety. As the coaster goes down its first hill, the train enters a spiral loop and then makes a turn back to the station.

- **Merry Go Round:** The Merry Go Round features traditional horses with brightly painted colors.

- **Puppy Roll:** The Puppy Roll is a family ride. It has a double circular motion. The base of the ride spins the

four puppy tubs via electric motor. The puppies themselves spin through people power. There is a round wheel in the center that the riders turn to make the giant puppy tub turn. The faster they spin the wheel, the faster the tub goes.

- **Slide Walk:** The Slide Walk is a unique attraction that is a combination fun house with a giant spiral slide finish.

- **Super Slide:** The Super Slide is another favorite among children and adults on the midway. Guests ride down this 90 foot long fiberglass slide on felt sleds.

Also:
Toon Town

KIDDIE RIDES

- **The Baja Buggies** is a kids ride featuring a variety of brightly decorated, miniature 4x4 vehicles. Each vehicle is equipped with a steering wheel and horn!

- **El Paso Train:** All Aboard!! A favorite among young children is the El Paso Train!

- **Farm Tractors:** Kids love the opportunity to drive their very own tractor and be able to choose from one of many multi-colored, sparkly tractors to ride on.

- **Jeeps:** The Jeeps is a fun ride for junior drivers. It features a combination of brightly colored jeeps. It is a simple ride that spins in a continuous circle. The children love this ride because they can honk the horns on any of the vehicles.

- **Marvel Maze:** The Marvel Maze is a large scale, adventure obstacle course. Riders encounter punching bags, a cargo net, an inflatable slide, two suspension bridges, and a large see-through slide as they make their way through the attraction!

- **Red Baron:** Fighter Bi planes that raise and lower as it rotates

GAMES AND FOOD

Pride of Texas Shows games are designed with the

player in mind. Many games award a "prize every time" to kids, or let them play until they win. Games are designed to be fair, honest and fun and award the player with a quality prize.

The carnival also serves a selection of various food items to please any crowd such as cotton candy, popcorn, curly fries, corn dogs, pizza, funnel cakes, slushies and many other carnival favorites.

SAFETY

Every day, each attraction is inspected by the operator and the ride superintendent before any customer is allowed to ride.

The ride superintendent is a level three NAARSO inspector, which is one of the highest level of training certified by NAARSO in the country

In addition to daily inspections, the attractions also undergo a yearly inspection completed by a State of Texas ride inspector. A thorough yearly inspection is also completed by the insurance company, Haas & Wilkerson Insurance. The Barton family has been doing business with Haas & Wilkerson for four generations now.

AMUSEMENT RIDE RULES

Below is a list of general rules that can help make your day at any carnival, fair, or amusement park even safer.

- Keep hands, arms and legs inside ride at all times.
- Use safety equipment such as a seat belt, shoulder harness or lap bar when provided.
- Stay in ride until it comes to a complete stop.
- Read posted rules.
- Observe age, height and weight restrictions.
- Follow instructions of ride operator.

RIVAS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

medicine for 30 years.

After studying medicine at Escuela Autonomoma de Ciencias Medicas in Costa Rica, Rivas completed his internship and pediatric residency at Rutgers University Hospital Children's Hospital of New Jersey in 1992. He practiced initially in Austin, Texas, where he resided for 13 years before moving to Gonzales. He has extensive experience in hospital and ambulatory care, as well as in taking care of complicated and healthy newborns, premature infants, children and adolescents up to the age of 21.

Beyond taking care of the whole spectrum of pediatrics, Rivas has special interests in Dermatology, Asthma/Allergies, Infectious Diseases and critically ill newborns and infants.

He and his wife, Jessica, have two daughters, Gabriela and Alexandra.

WHERE HISTORY MEETS LUXURY
Pre-MLS Open House at the Old Gonzales College
Saturday 10/7 2-5PM
820 Saint Louis Street

Pre-MLS Open House



For Pricing and More Details:
Visit www.TheOldGonzalesCollege.com

NEW LISTING:
10489 FM 794 (Harwood Road)
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New Listing

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Visit www.TheGonzalesRanch.com

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Do I need insurance for a motorcycle or moped?

Yes. The state of Texas requires all drivers – including motorcyclists – to prove financial responsibility for any accidents they may cause.



1. How much do I need?
Motorcycles are considered the same as cars when it comes to registration, titling, and insurance requirements. The minimum liability limits are \$30,000 for each injured person, \$60,000 per accident, and \$25,000 for property damage per accident. This basic coverage is called 30/60/25 coverage.

2. What about a moped?
Even though mopeds and motor-driven cycles have smaller engines and operate at lower speeds, they still require the same amount of liability insurance as motorcycles.

3. What doesn't need it?
YAll-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, mini-bikes, and golf carts, which are not permitted to operate on public roads, are not required to have insurance.



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November

11

Mark Your Calendar

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Saturday, November 11, 11AM

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16th Annual Sale



PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Former and current law enforcement officers gather at Matthew "Old Paint" Caldwell's grave for Texas Ranger Memorial Cross Dedication Thursday, Sept. 28. Gonzales Police Department, Gonzales County Constables, Gonzales County Sheriffs Office, Caldwell County Sheriffs Office and retired Texas Rangers all attended the ceremony.

CALDWELL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Matthew "Old Paint" Caldwell (1798-1842) was honored by the former Texas Rangers Association with a memorial Ranger cross at his graveside. Caldwell also is the namesake for Caldwell County, of which Lockhart is the county seat.

"A pioneer hero, actually known as the Paul Revere of the Texas Revolution, because he rose from Gonzales to Bastrop to call men to run before the Battle of Gonzales in October of 1835," Gonzales County Judge Pat Davis said.

Davis read a proclamation before the start of the ceremony declaring Sept. 28 as Matthew "Old Paint" Caldwell day in Gonzales County.

The ceremony had many current and former law enforcement in attendance, including Caldwell County Sheriff's Office deputies.

"We have Caldwell County here, and you know that we came from the same mama, because when they divided Gonzales County up because it was so large, part of it became



Retired Texas Ranger Joe B. Davis speaks at the Texas Rangers Memorial Cross Dedication ceremony honoring Matthew "Old Paint" Caldwell at the Gonzales Memorial Cemetery Thursday, Sept. 28

Caldwell County. So we're brothers, sisters, whatever we are, we're close," Gonzales Jail House Museum Director Sandra Wolff said.

Retired Texas Ranger Joe B. Davis of the Former Texas Rangers Association went over what their organization does.

"Our association is made up of former Rangers and descendants of Rangers. So if your

grandfather or someone on the land was a Ranger, and you're eligible to join, we actually were founded as established in 1897, we just celebrated 125 years as an association," Davis said.

The organization's mission is to preserve the true history and heritage of the Texas Rangers, Davis said, and he added they have a museum, provide scholarship opportunities and have been doing the cross ceremony for several years now.

"There's a cemetery over in Center Point, Texas, which is located between Kerrville and Bandera, where 32 Rangers are buried; more buried than any other other cemetery and even the state cemetery," Davis said.

"So our association put up crosses at each grave site and had a big ceremony there. And that's the way it got started. And right now we have done over 800 cross ceremonies throughout the state," Davis said.

For more information about Former Texas Rangers Association, please got to www.trhc.org.

SUSPECT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

reduced his bond from \$750,000 to a \$500,000 cash/surety bond during a pre-trial hearing on Sept. 20 at the Gonzales County Courthouse. All other pretrial motions for Garcia-Mendiola, who is being represented by attorney Travis Hill, were reset for Oct. 18.

According to Gonzales County Sheriff's deputies, the GCSO received a call at 12:54 a.m. Sunday about shots being fired in the 100 block of County Road 168, which is off Texas Highway 80 near Clear Fork Creek, north of the Nixon-Smilely High School campus.

Upon arrival, deputies found the body of a gunshot

victim later identified as Robles Quintana. He was pronounced dead at the scene. A second individual who reportedly had been assaulted during an altercation with Robles Quintana — later identified as Garcia-Mendiola — was transported to Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) for treatment of injuries.

After determining that Garcia-Mendiola had shot and killed Robles Quintana, Gonzales County Sheriff's deputies and the Texas Rangers, who were investigating the incident, arrested Garcia-Mendiola and charged him with murder.

JOBS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Unemployment in the county also was at 4.0 percent in July; 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 August 2023 was 4.2 percent, the same as it was in July 2023 and lower than the state average of 4.5 percent.

This represented a total of 3,883 residents in Gonzales, Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson, Lavaca and Victoria counties seeking employment out of a total workforce of 93,209 people.

The counties in the Golden Crescent with the lowest unemployment rate were Calhoun counties at 3.5 percent, followed by Lavaca and DeWitt both 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 August 2023, there were August 2021 for Gonzales County are:

- Aug. 2021, 3.9 percent.
- Sept. 2021, 3.8 percent.
- Oct. 2021, 3.6 percent.
- Nov. 2021, 3.5 percent.
- Dec. 2021, 3.2 percent.
- Jan. 2022, 3.6 percent.
- Feb. 2022, 3.4 percent.
- March 2022, 2.7 percent.
- April 2022, 2.6 percent.
- May 2022, 2.9 percent.
- June 2022, 3.5 percent.
- July 2022, 3.2 percent.
- Aug. 2022, 3.2 percent.
- Sept. 2022, 3.1 percent.
- Oct. 2022, 3.1 percent.
- Nov. 2022, 3.1 percent.
- Dec. 2022, 2.7 percent.
- Jan. 2023, 3.7 percent.
- Feb. 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.
- Aug. 2023, 4.0 percent.

You deserve to be happy and healthy.

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Download a conversation guide

When you're stuck in a low place, it can feel isolating.

But no matter what you're going through, there's always something or someone you can turn to for support.