

The Gonzales Inquirer

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Gonzales ISD voters split on bond issue

Prop A passes by 22 votes;
Prop B fails by 560 votes

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales ISD voters narrowly approved one of two bond propositions

on the Tuesday, Nov. 7, while soundly rejecting a second that would have built new athletic facilities for the school district in complete but unofficial returns.

Voters approved Proposition A by a 1,203-1,181 vote — a winning margin of just 22 votes. The \$50.6 million measure includes renovations and upgrades, especially for safety and security as well

as infrastructure improvements, at all five school campuses, the administration building, maintenance and transportation and the construction of a new CTE building and Ag barn on land the district owns on Stieren Road.

However, by a 1,475-915 margin, district voters said no to Proposition B, which would call for issuing \$44.48

million to fund a new athletic complex featuring a 7,000-seat lighted artificial turf football and soccer stadium as well as new facilities for tennis, baseball, softball and track and field, concessions and ADA-compliant bleachers, partial locker rooms, restrooms, parking and

See BOND, page A14

Cattle Country Music Fest will turn Gonzales into sensory cathedral

Eric Church, Whiskey Myers, Koe Wetzel headline first-time fiesta featuring elite food, beverage and camping offerings

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The organizers of the inaugural Cattle Country Music Festival want to take thousands of country music fans to Church with a side of Whiskey and Koe next April.

The triumvirate of Eric Church, Whiskey Myers and Koe Wetzel will headline the first Cattle Country Music Festival on April 12-14, 2024, in an event that will combine music, wine, spirits and culi-



nary excellence bar none on a beautiful ranch just outside Gonzales, birthplace of the Texas Revolution.

Joining them will be a lineup of heavy hitters in Red Dirt,

See MUSIC, page A14



GONZALES GETS ALL FIRED UP

Gonzales ISD held its first community bonfire Monday, Nov. 6 near County Road 239 in celebration of the school district's extracurriculars from band, Apaches football, cross-country, Lady Apaches volleyball and more. For more photos from the bonfire, see page A13.

Waelder ISD bond issue fails for fourth time

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

For the fourth time, the Waelder Independent School District went to voters asking

for approval of a pair of bond propositions and were turned down in complete but unofficial returns on Tuesday, Nov. 7.

WISD was seeking passage of just under \$7 million

in bonds — more than \$3.3 million less than the district sought in its last failed attempt in May.

"We are disappointed of course in the bond election

results," Superintendent Ron Lilie said. "Given that Texas has a large budget surplus and is implementing one

See WAELDER, page A13

Voters pass 13 of 14 constitutional amendments statewide

Measures passing will raise homestead exemption, give retired teachers cost of living adjustment

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Voters statewide approved 13 of the 14 constitutional amendments on the Tuesday, Nov. 7 election ballot, including Proposition 4 that will raise the homestead exemption for homeowners from \$40,000 to \$100,000, in complete but unofficial returns.

The lone amendment which failed was Proposition 13, which would have raised the mandatory retirement age for judges and state justices. With 99 percent of precincts counted, voters rejected that measure by a 62.69 percent to 37.31 percent margin.

Prop 13 would have allowed state judges to retire at 79 rather than the current mandatory retirement age of 75, and would have increased the minimum retirement age from 70 to 75 for state judges.

Proposition 4, which voters approved by an 83.43 percent

See AMENDMENTS, page A10

Filing period opens Saturday for March 5 primaries

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The first day of the filing period for the March 5, 2024 Democratic and Republican primaries in Gonzales County will be this Saturday, Nov. 11. Candidates can file for a spot on the ballots with the county precinct chair until 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11.

Spots on the ballot, along with the name of the incumbent office holder, include:

- U.S. Rep District 27 (Michael Cloud)
- State Rep. District 44 (John Kuempel)
- 25th District Judge (Bill Old III)

See PRIMARIES, page A13

FIRST RESPONDERS ON THE SCENE



Gonzales County first responders were called to an accident on State Highway 304 at the Interstate 10 West 642 ramp Thursday, Nov. 2. No further information was reported at press time.

Stars in the Village will align in December

FROM STAFF REPORTS

It's getting cooler and the leaves are changing colors, so that must mean it is almost

time to welcome in the holiday season like our forebears did.

Experience pioneer life during the happiest time of year at the Gonzales Pioneer

Village Living History Center annual Stars in the Village event, which is offered on

See STARS, page A14



Waelder ISD earns perfect FIRST score

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Waelder Independent School District received a perfect score of 100 for an “A” or Superior Achievement rating on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST), Superintendent Ron Lilie announced. “I am happy to report that

Waelder ISD has received an ‘A’ rating for Superior Achievement in the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas,” Lilie said. “This is a testament to the careful stewardship of our school board, staff, and administrators. We understand that it is important to use taxpayer funds conservatively and wisely, and this rating is confirma-

tion of that process at Waelder ISD.”

This year marked the 21st year the Texas Education Agency has used the FIRST ratings to determine the financial accountability for school districts throughout the state. Data from this year’s ranking came from the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

City of Nixon announces ‘Miracle on Main Street’ scheduled for Dec. 9

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The City of Nixon, in partnership with Nations Christian Fellowship, presents “Miracle on Main Street,” Saturday, Dec. 9, beginning at 6:30 p.m., with activities at the Nixon Community Center, 302 E. Central Ave., as well as along Main Street in Nixon.

A community lighted Christmas parade will begin at 6:30 p.m., with community participation encouraged. There will be a town Christmas with fun, activities, vendors, live music, photos with Santa, food and so much more after the parade ends to 10 p.m. at the Nixon Community Center.

Sign up to have an entry in the lighted parade, set up a booth and give away goodies to the community, or simply bring the whole family out to enjoy the holiday event. Last year, there were more than 40 parade entries. Businesses, churches, organizations and individuals are encouraged to participate and spread the joy of the season.

Parade entry forms can be found on the City of Nixon Facebook page. Mail completed forms to City of Nixon, Attn: Parade Entry, 302 E. Central Ave., Nixon, TX 78140; fax to 830-582-1136 Attn: Parade Entry; or email to citymanager@nixon.texas.gov Attn: Parade Entry. If you have any questions, call 830-582-1924.

If you are a community member, local business, church, or



organization and would like to promote/market by setting up a booth or sponsor an activity

please contact Jason Montoya at 830-534-8569 or montoya.jason@yahoo.com.



GPD seeking leads on concession stand vandalism

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales police are looking for the person or persons responsible for damaging the Gonzales Little League concession stand at Independence Park.

On Wednesday, Nov. 1, while doing routine checks, an employee with the City of Gonzales Parks Department observed that a roll-up window on the concession stand building had significant damage. At

that time, the Gonzales Police Department was contacted and responded to the location.

The president for the Gonzales Little League was contacted and came out to the location to advise that it did not appear that anything was taken. The total damage is estimated at \$1,117.

If anyone has any information regarding this incident, they are encouraged to call the Gonzales Police Department at (830)672-8686 ask to speak to Investigator Philip Smith.

Gonzales County wins grant to assist with hazard mitigation planning

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales County was successful in obtaining a General Land Office (GLO) Local Hazard Mitigation Plans Program (LHMPP) assistance grant to update the Gonzales County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Gonzales County Judge Patrick C. Davis explained that the multi-jurisdictional plan will offer practical approaches and examples so that Gonzales communities can engage in effective planning to reduce long-term risk from natural hazards and disasters.

Along with Gonzales County, the plan will include the incorporated cities of Gonzales, Waelder, and Smiley. The independent school districts will also be invited

to participate in the plan development, along with the Gonzales County Sheriff’s Department, and other identified stakeholders.

According to FEMA, “Mitigation is an investment in the community’s future safety and sustainability. Its critical importance includes protecting public safety and preventing loss of life, reducing harm to existing and future development, and minimizing damage to a community’s unique economic, cultural, and environmental assets.”

The possible effects of a natural disaster often impact every aspect of the community with devastating consequences.

Judge Davis shared that though the project is being funded through GLO, the goal is to submit the final plan to FEMA for

approval. The county has hired Langford Community Management Services Inc. (LCMS) to help guide the process and submit the plan to FEMA. Langford is committed to building the plan based on FEMA’s standards.

“The local hazard mitigation focus is based on a broad set of threats and how those compare with community vulnerabilities. We will be looking at everything from flood events to hurricanes, tropical storms, severe storms, tornados, hail, lightning, drought, wildfire, extreme heat, lightning strikes, and winter storms,” said Judy Langford, LCMS president.

The required plan includes a CORE Planning team from within Gonzales County, including the City of Gonzales and the City of Nixon, plus other participating jurisdictions.

Local stakeholders will also be invited to help develop specific mitigation strategies unique to each community.

Once the CORE and stakeholder teams are established, online surveys and public outreach meetings will take place to identify residents’ top concerns. The survey will also be accessible to the public on the County’s website and at places such as libraries, city halls, and the Gonzales County Courthouse.

Hazard mitigation planning will include a review of County-wide capabilities, conducting a risk assessment, and identifying mitigation actions and goals while gaining public input.

Once FEMA has approved the Gonzales County Hazard Mitigation Plan, important projects

and life-saving equipment will be identified to improve resilience. Furthermore, the county and

participating jurisdictions will be eligible to apply for FEMA funding as it becomes available.

Nixon-Smiley Wild Hog Cook Off to be held Friday, Saturday

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The 35th annual Nixon Smiley Livestock Show Wild Hog Cook Off will be held Friday and Saturday, Nov. 10-11 at the Nixon Smiley Livestock Show Barn & Arena. Admission is \$10 for adults, with kids 12 and under free.

No outside food will be allowed into the event. The cookoff events will include salsa and margaritas at 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., respectively, on Friday. Saturday will feature 9 a.m. dutch oven dessert, followed at 9:30 a.m. by chili, 10 a.m. beans, 11 a.m. pork (other than ribs), 11:30 a.m. pork ribs, and noon for chicken, followed by brisket at 1:30 p.m. The BBQ Cook off

will have cash payout and prizes awarded.

Other activities going on this weekend include the El Perro Loco Hog Bay, which will hold puppy, one-dog novice, old and young, two-dog novice, one-dog open and two-dog open competitions. For more information about the El Perro Loco Hog Bay, call Slade Trammell at 830-534-3251.

Saturday schedule for the Hog Cookoff includes a wild hog bay at 9 a.m. Saturday, silent auction at noon and ‘slick & sleazy’ pig races at 2 p.m. The Ranch Rodeo Calcutta begins at 5 p.m. with the Ranch Rodeo, Calf Scramble and Boot Races starting at 6 p.m.

Celebrations

Birthdays

November 9th John Davis Damaris Izaguirre Karlee Krum Bryan Tuch Melanie Vega	Juli Clay Brenda Grauke Curt Metzler	Chase Simmons Jeffery Wishert
November 10th Ashlynn Clack Mary Martha Ehrig Jerry Gipson Benji Hill Joe Logan Dora Soefje Chris Tatsch	November 12th Paul Carroll Tracey Griffin Michael Kuck Jeff Lookabill Jo Ann Low Jeremiah Martinez	November 14th Kathy Burrier Jeanette Carter Kalazah Medina Gail Moody Danny Wayne Pekar Swann Reid
November 11th Joanna Bernea Alisa Clack	November 13th Tamara Anderson Olivia Arellano Tyler Filla Jade Finch Kim Hahn William Hahn	November 15th Ryan Barborak Susie Cerny Rhonda Hand Julian Martinez Julius Mican Layne Miller Frank Oliver Brooke Schroeder

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Gonzales Weather

	November 9 82°/58°	Cloudy 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 84
	November 10 66°/47°	Cooler with rain at times 60% chance of rain • RealFeel 62
	November 11 59°/53°	Considerable cloudiness with a passing shower in the afternoon 57% chance of rain • RealFeel 57
	November 12 65°/49°	Rain 76% chance of rain • RealFeel 61
	November 13 74°/56°	Partly sunny and warmer 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 74
	November 14 76°/56°	Plenty of sunshine 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 78
	November 15 67°/49°	Partly sunny 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 71

Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

**November 10th-12th
Region 6 Rodeo**

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Texas GLO posts 2021 Winter Storms Action Plan for public comment

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Texas General Land Office (GLO) posted the State of Texas 2021 Winter Storms Action Plan for \$43,632,000 in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds for public comment.

These funds were allocated to Texas by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for disaster recovery for areas affected by the 2021 Winter Storms (DR-4586) from Feb. 11-21, 2021. Additionally, the GLO will field public comments at a virtual public hearing on Thursday, Nov. 16 at 6 p.m. Central Time (CT). The deadline to submit public comments is Dec. 6, 2023, by 5 p.m. Central Time.

The GLO's action plan proposes distributing the funds through the following programs:

- The 2021 Winter Storms (21WS) HUD MID Counties Program (\$30,459,000) — Provides funding for infrastructure improvements and/or the rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction of affordable multifamily housing within the HUD MID counties. This program will allow for specific projects in the HUD designated "most impacted and distressed" counties of Dallas, Harris, and Tarrant. Included in these program funds are the Mitigation Set-aside funds (\$5.691 million) HUD provides for CDBG-DR grantees to

mitigate against future similar disasters in the affected areas.

- The 2021 Winter Storms (21WS) Fire Facilities and Protective Measures (FFPM) Program (\$7,500,000) — Provides funding for disaster relief, long-term recovery, and restoration of fire protection facilities for the remaining 251 Secondary MID counties impacted by the 2021 Winter Storms. The program will allow for the recovery of fire protection facilities and allow for improvements and equipment, while also allowing for permanently affixed power generator public facility needs that are essential during winter storm events.

The action plan is available for review at recovery.texas.gov/public-notices. Per federal requirements, the GLO will consider and respond to all public comments before the final action plan is sent to HUD. Public comments may be emailed to the GLO at cdr@recovery.texas.gov, mailed to P.O. Box 12873, Austin, TX 78711-2873, or faxed to 512-475-5150.

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING VIA ZOOM:

- Date: Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023 from 6 p.m. (CT)
- Join Zoom Meeting: <https://txglo.zoom.us/j/86722234406?pwd=VEk4T29aeWFnd3ZVeG0ySUJ2amtUdz09>
- Meeting ID: 867 2223 4406

See WINTER, page A7

Garden Q&A

with CALVIN FINCH



Most wildflowers will still do well if planted now

Q. What is the deal with all the acorns being produced? I would expect with the drought and hot weather we have had that the acorn production would be very light.

A. The relationship between acorn production and tree stress is one where the tree produces a bounty of nuts when the trees survival is challenged because of the stress but the reaction is based on a longer-term stress, usually 5 years is mentioned. If there are several years of challenging weather the trees produce enough acorns to make sure some will be available for new trees if the existing trees die.

Q. The temperature in the cold wave last week was not supposed to have fallen below 38 degrees but there was damage that looked like freeze damage. How is that explained?

A. Not all plants require temps to fall below freezing for damage to occur. Many of the tropical plants such as porter weed, and bougainvillea are damaged by temps below 40 degrees. That being said, other plants are sensitive to wind damage. Angelonia, coral vine, penta, and vinca reflected wind damage depending on their position in the landscape and the degree of weather stress they had been sub-

jected too.

Q. Is it too late to plant wildflower seeds or does it depend on the variety?

A. There is some variation on planting time tolerance, but most selections will do well if planted now. It is certainly better to plant the seeds now than to forget them for the next 3 or 4 years. Spread the seed on a site where they will make contact with the soil. It doesn't work well if the seed lands on sod or mulch. The seed does not need to be buried. Place wildflower seeds respond to full sun sites but a few such as *Salvia coccinea* and blue curls (*Phacelia*) will germinate in the shade.

Q. Do you still recommend that we give our newly planted trees and shrubs a continuing generous water treatment or have we escaped the drought?

A. It is still necessary to be generous with the water if we want our new trees and shrubs to have a better chance of surviving. Water when the soil over the root ball dries to 2 inches. Also be alert to any wilting that occurs even on one- to two-year-old plantings. Most of our well adapted plants can become stressed due to lack of water and wilt but they will recover if you water them.

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET

November 4th
Cattle - 1179
Compared to our last sale:

Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold fully steady to 4.00-8.00 higher, lighter ones sold \$10.00 higher. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold steady to 3.00 higher.

Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 345-350; 300-400 lbs., 315-335; 400-500 lbs., 260-295; 500-600 lbs., 250-255; 600-700 lbs., 225-245; 700-800 lbs., 185-200. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 90-155.

Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 320-325; 300-400 lbs., 242-310; 400-500 lbs., 230-238; 500-600 lbs., 222-225; 600-700 lbs., 200-215.

Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 72-88; Cutters, 90-102; Canners, 52-78; High yielding fat cows, 90-95.

Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 110-114; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 100-108.

Stocker Cows: \$750 to \$1,250. Pairs: \$1,100 to \$1,650.

NIXON LIVESTOCK

November 6th
Cattle - 1083

Steers:
200-300 lbs - \$272-282-365
300-400 lbs - \$256-266-335
400-500 lbs - \$229-239-320
500-600 lbs - \$208-218-273
600-700 lbs - \$189-198-245
700-800 lbs - \$187-197-221

Heifers:
200-300 lbs - \$224-234-285
300-400 lbs - \$233-243-335
400-500 lbs - \$220-230-290
500-600 lbs - \$203-213-300

600-700 lbs - \$190-200-212
700-800 lbs - \$150-160-198
Slaughter Cows - \$45-101
Slaughter Bulls - \$72-102
Stocker Cows - \$750-1275
Pairs: \$1200-1490

HALLETTVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.

Sale date: October 31st
Cattle on hand: 1444

Packer Cows:
Canner and Cutter Cows: \$78-105
Utility & Fat Cows: \$76-100

Light Weight Canner Cows: \$52-75
Poor/Weak: \$35-52

Packer Bulls:
Heavyweight Bulls: \$110-122
Utility & Cutter Bulls: \$100-112

Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$88-100
Stocker Cows:
Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: NONE

Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1000-1450
Good Cow & Calf Pairs: NONE
Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: \$1525-1600

Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:
Number 1 steer & bull calves:

Under 200 lbs.: \$210-310
200-300 lbs.: \$220-305
300-400 lbs.: \$225-300
400-500 lbs.: \$225-285
500-600 lbs.: \$215-252.50
600-700 lbs.: \$210-245
700-800 lbs.: \$200-225

Number 1 heifer calves:
Under 200 lbs: \$190-270
200-300 lbs.: \$220-265
300-400 lbs.: \$230-265
400-500 lbs.: \$210-260
500-600 lbs.: \$205-247.50
600-700 lbs.: \$190-222.50
700-800 lbs: \$180-212

Replacement Heifers:
350-700 lbs.: \$230-280
A little cold weather but thankful for the rains. The calf market was steady overall. Ranges from

\$2 higher to \$2 lower. Demand continues good with market very active. Packer cows & bulls sold \$1 to \$2 higher on a total supply of 200 head.

SEGUIN CATTLE CO.

November 1st

Lower receipts due to local rain. Market active on all classes with everything steady.

Cattle - 304
Sheep & goats - 393

Medium & large frame #1 Steers:
200-300 lb. .70-1.66-3.10
300-400 lb. .20-1.34-3.40
400-500 lb. .05-1.10-2.68
500-600 lb. .35-1.61-2.45
600-700 lb. .60-1.70-2.30
700-850 lb. .70-1.69-2.20

Medium & large frame #1 Heifers:
200-300 lb. 1.20-2.17-3.10
300-400 lb. .35-1.36-2.70
400-500 lb. .20-1.34-2.53
500-600 lb. .45-1.31-2.28
600-750 lb. .52-.95-2.00

Utility & commercial - 48-77-96
Cutters - .58-.66-.73
Cannors - .40-.50-.60
Palpated cows - NONE
Cow/Calf Pairs - NONE

Bulls:
Heavy High Yielding - 1.05-1.14
Light & Low Yielding - .90-1.04

Sheep & Goats:
Nannies - 65-185
Kid Goats (Fat) - 2.40-3.30
Wethers - 1.40-3.22
Billies - 1.30-2.45

Dorp. Ewes - 45-130
Dorp. Lambs (Fat) - 1.80-3.10
Wooled Ewes - 90-110
Wooled Bucks - 1.10-1.85
Lambs - 1.90-2.03
Barb. Bucks - NONE

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET
November 3, 2023
Number of head 1,541
There were 221 cows and 10 bulls. Top packer bull was up to \$116/cwt while tops on packer

cows was up at \$101/cwt. A good supply sold well in light of heavy marketings on packer cattle this time of year.

The calf market was higher especially on heavier weights and all heifer classes. Overall the market was over \$5/cwt higher on over 22 more pounds of weight resulting in the average value of a calf being over \$74 higher.

Packer bulls: 98.00-116.00
Packer cows:
canners & cutters 81.00-100.00
poor & weak 30.00-57.00
Palpated: 11 BRED 95.00-130.00

PAIRS: NONE
Steer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
Under 200 lbs. NONE
200-249 lbs. 263.00-310.00
250-299 lbs. 166.00-250.00
300-350 lbs. 249.00-300.00
350-400 lbs. 245.00-308.00
400-450 lbs. 251.00-310.00
450-500 lbs. 236.00-262.00
500-550 lbs. 235.00-265.00

Cows:
550-600 lbs. 230.00-256.00
600-700 lbs. 219.00-254.00
700-800 lbs. 208.00-224.00
Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
Under 250lbs 232.00-320.00
250-300 lbs. 247.00-310.00
300-350 lbs. 252.00-320.00
350-400 lbs. 246.00-321.00
400-450 lbs. 249.00-295.00
450-500 lbs. 237.00-275.00
500-550 lbs. 234.00-256.00
550-600 lbs. 222.00-252.00
600-700 lbs. 209.00-244.00
Over 700 lbs. 194.00-224.00

Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
under 200 lbs. 194.00-202.00
200-250 lbs. 185.00-265.00
250-300 lbs. 218.00-320.00
300-350 lbs. 220.00-320.00
350-400 lbs. 230.00-315.00
400-450 lbs. 224.00-305.00
450-500 lbs. 221.00-257.00
500-550 lbs. 215.00-253.00
550-600 lbs. 211.00-250.00
600-700 lbs. 206.00-228.00
Over 700 lbs. 186.00-219.00

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear editor,
I would like to find out what happened to the veterans' bricks or money that was already paid. I would like to see it before I die, or my money returned. All I hear is that they are not in charge of that any more.

**Tony Ramirez
Gonzales**



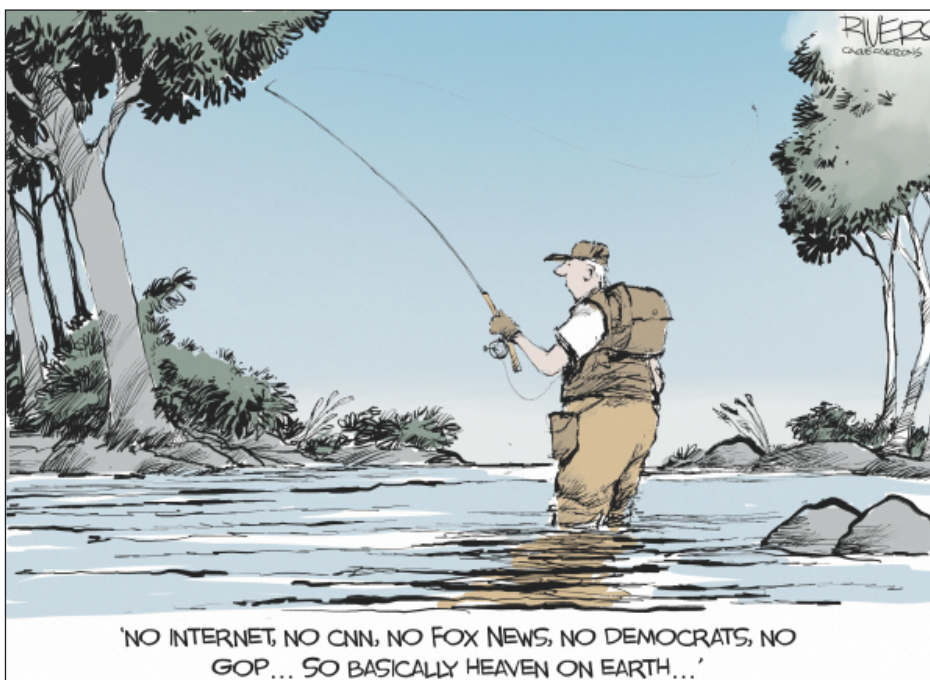
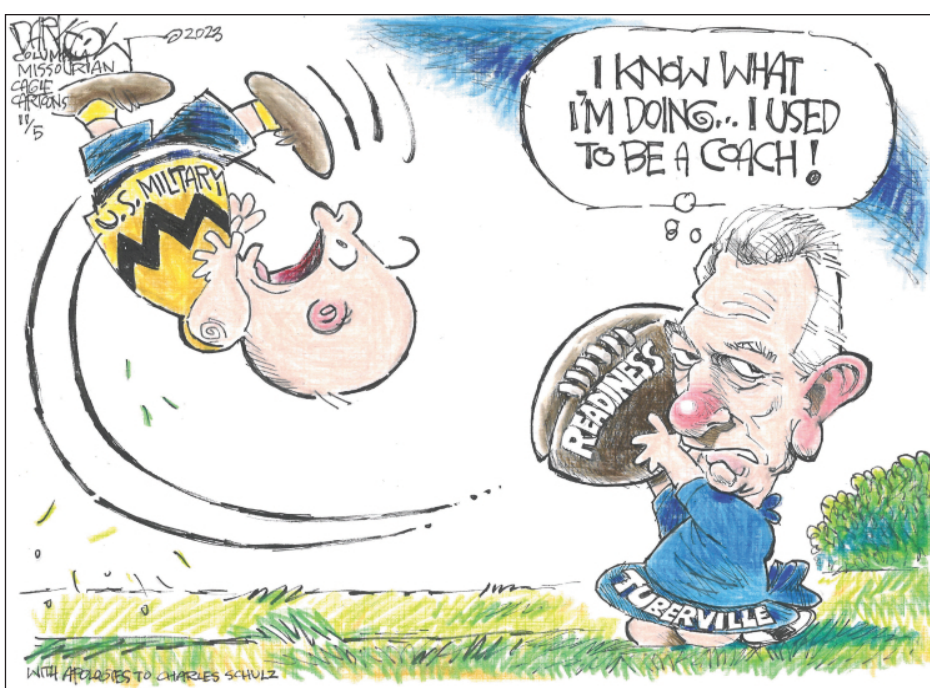
Heroes in our midst

Dear editor,
We see them every day, we shake their hands and say, "Thank you for your service." We see the caps and bumper stickers that they proudly wear and display, but do we realize the sacrifices that they have made for our country?

Many of them are combat war veterans who want nothing more to do but to go on with their lives and leave the past behind them. Many, as I, have never tasted the bitterness of war, but sacrifice none the less. The truth is that there are heroes in our midst that we never know about. They walk among us every day with the bitterness and the horrors of war still embedded in their minds that will never go away.

As the Veterans County Service Officer, I had the privilege of listening to some heartbreaking accounts of war from some of our local war veterans and even shedding a tear with them. The truth is that there are heroes in our midst. Their DD214s reflects the medals of very high esteem. Medals like the Silver Cross, the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and others indicate that they fought under extreme hostile conditions and emerge heroes for their acts of bravery and gallantry. One may not realize it just by looking at their caps and bumper stickers, but as you gaze upon a veteran on Veterans Day and every day and say, "Thank you for your service," please be mindful that there are heroes in our midst.

Respectfully,
**David B. Tucz MSG (R)
Gonzales Veterans County
Service Officer**



**DR. DON
NEWBURY**
The Idle
American

'Waisting' away...

A woman described her middle-aged hubby thusly: "He's 44 inches around the waist, size seven and a half around the head, 95 around the golf course and a nuisance around the house."

Clever, of course, this play on phrases, but under the thin veneer of humor is a rock-hard truth about waistlines. Many men, as well as women, face ongoing warfare in the battle of bulges, and they're losing.

Merchandisers of pills, pushers of exercise equipment and calorie-counting doo-dads are showing up at every turn. Yes, tons of adults are going to great heights to avoid great widths. They are tearful when stepping on "guess your weight scales," only to hear a recorded voice sternly command: "One of you will have to get off..."

If a true confession truly is good for the soul, then mine is ship shape.

It's an absolute fact that I spent a full decade, from ages 15-25, trying to expand my waistline from 30 to 32 inches. I ate whatever I liked; taking seconds from the dessert tray was likely. (Okay, I'd sometimes grab a third dessert, but out of politeness, usually left a bite or two on the saucer.)

My, how things have changed. I've been challenged for three decades to rein in my belt length to 42 inches, sometimes feeling tummy-numbing pressure even after belt-loosening to the very last notch....

Fitness thoughts invaded my World Series preoccupation in the first inning of the first game. Traipsing across the TV screen was a guy dressed as Santa Claus. He was nimble and quick, this old St. Nick, sprightly dancing for Capital One credit cards. The bearded geezer was well into rug-cutting, swinging and swaying to the beat of "Staying Alive."

I leaned forward in my chair, realizing that under that beard, cap and Christmas gear was John Travolta, the guy who made the song famous a full FOUR DECADES AGO! I know what you're thinking. He may have a gut usually associated with a guy approaching 70 years of age, but he was moving like someone half as old....

In 1974, the great Elvis Presley came to Fort Worth, appearing before a full house at the convention center.

Since my wife would have underwritten a fan club to cop a closer seat, I decided it was worth it to secure stage-side seats. She swears that she caught several drops of "Elvis sweat."

That explains why she didn't bathe for a week....

Anyway, his writhing, contorting, twisting and turning at age 39 seemed to be every bit as crisply executed as when he exploded on stages worldwide almost two decades earlier.

Sure as shootin', though, he was developing a definite waistline bulge that defines many men approaching age 40. It took more than careful wardrobing to hide it. I'm guessing Travolta has worked harder at remaining trim than Elvis did.

My old daddy never cared much for Presley. He said that when his hound dogs commenced wiggling like Elvis did, he'd give 'em worm medicine....

In baseball, one of the most heralded rookies in history is Texas Rangers' phenom Evan Carter. A major leaguer since August, the 21-year-old is setting records right and left, and his stats probably indicate a waistline under 30 inches.

Proving that Christian faith and athletic success can go hand in hand, he boldly wears "Jesus Won" t-shirts during warm-ups, and several thousand have been sold. Word has it that his proceeds are going to his favorite organization: The Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

This young man seemingly has it all together, worthy of all the adulation piling up at his feet. Youth is not wasted on this young 'un they call "the whippet," an apt nickname for a trim athlete on the front end of greatness....

A longtime university president, Dr. Newbury continues to speak regularly and write weekly. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com.

Letters to the Editor Policy

It is the policy of The Inquirer to encourage reader participation on its Opinion page.

Letters must either be about Gonzales County, from a resident of Gonzales County, or in response to a story that appears in print or online in The Inquirer.

Examples of content that will cause letters to be rejected include the following:

- Confusing or unclear points.
- Crude language.
- Poor taste.
- Disrespectful comments regarding a group's or individual's ethnicity, gender, religion, culture, sexual orientation or race.
- Other incendiary language or remarks.
- Endorsements for or complaints about individually named commercial products or services.
- Poetry.
- Personal attacks.
- "Thank You" letters that go beyond general thanks to the community; attempt to serve as an advertisement for a company, individual or political party; or is submitted in lieu of a paid "Thank You" advertisement.

The Inquirer will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information.

Only letters written exclusively to the newspaper will be published. Letters to a third party or those written to more than one newspaper are not accepted.

Letters written in response to other letter writers should address the issue at hand. Discourse should be civil and people should be referred to in a respectful manner. Letters referring to news stories should also mention the headline and date of publication.

All letters must be signed and include the writer's street address or route address telephone number, which will be used for verification purposes only.

Please send Letters to the Editor:
Email: publisher@gonzalesinquirer.com
U.S. Mail: The Inquirer, P.O. Box 616, Gonzales, Texas, 78629

In person: The Inquirer, 622 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629 (Please bring in a digital format, if possible).

Further questions may be directed to Publisher Lew Cohn, 830-672-2861.

The Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Inquirer, 622 St. Paul, Gonzales, TX 78629 is a periodical postage paid at Gonzales, Texas and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: For change of address, notify The Gonzales Inquirer, P.O. Box 616, Gonzales, TX 78629-0616

Mail Subscription Rates

Payable in advance	
In county	
One year	\$48
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Affiliations:
National Newspaper Association

South Texas Press Association

Texas Gulf Coast Press Association

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The Gonzales Inquirer is published every Thursday by Guadalupe Valley Publishing Co. USPS 221-740 • ISSN 1059-7158 • 622 St. Paul St., P.O. Box 616 • Gonzales, TX 78629



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World Kindness Day!

November 13 is World Kindness Day! Join people around the world on this day and commit random acts of kindness!

The Lion and the Mouse

This famous Aesop fable tells of the importance of kindness.

Late one night in the jungle ...

Gotcha!

Please don't eat me, sir!

And why not?

If you'll be so kind as to set me free, I'll pay you back by helping you some day!

YOU? Help ME? HA! HA! Haaaa-ha HAaha!

LATER

HELP! HELP! Someone PLEASE help me!

It's you! Oh my gosh! Hunters tied me up! They'll be back any minute!

Don't you worry! I'll chew through those ropes in no time!

Thanks, little buddy!

Discuss these questions:

1. What unexpected acts of kindness did the lion and the mouse each do?
2. How did acts of kindness change both their lives?

Standards Link: Civics: Know character traits that contribute to the health of American democracy.

Celebrate World Kindness Day!

There are many simple ways to celebrate World Kindness Day. Read the list below. Choose one thing you could do. Draw a picture or write a sentence about the action you pick.

- Be generous with your smile!
- Give 10 hugs in one day!
- Start a conversation with a new student or someone who looks lonely.
- Smile at people who look sad.
- Write a nice note to someone having a bad day.

Standards Link: Social Studies: Students understand the importance of individual action and character.

Extra! Extra!

Kindness Acrostic

Find a word or phrase in the newspaper that begins with each letter in the word **KINDNESS**. Use these to create an acrostic poem.

K _____

I _____

N _____

D _____

N _____

E _____

S _____

S _____

Standards Link: Writing applications: Write in a variety of genres.

Random Rocks of Kindness

Read the news story below. Fill in the missing words on each blank line using the words in the word box.

In 2018, Tiffany Lester of Regina, Saskatchewan in Canada wanted to do something kind for _____ in her community. She and some friends started painting rocks and _____ them around the community.

People in the community _____ going outdoors to _____ for the rocks. Some started painting more rocks and hiding those. When people find a rock, they are asked to post the _____ on social media.

What do they do with the rocks? Most of them _____ them again, to keep the fun going.

Children are _____ off their digital devices and spending more time _____ trying to find the rocks.

Gather some friends and paint and hide kindness rocks. That would be an act of kindness for your community!

OUTDOORS	HUNT
PEOPLE	ENJOYED
HID	TURNING
LOCATION	HIDE

You can visit the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation at randomactsofkindness.org

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Missing Vowels

The vowels are missing from this famous quote about kindness. Can you replace them all?

A=☺ E=★ I=🌸 O=♥ U=☾

“H _ m _ n _ k _ ndn _ ss h _ s _ n _ v _ r _ w _ k _ n _ d _
 th _ st _ m _ n _ _ r _ s _ ft _ n _ d _ th _ f _ b _ r _ f _
 _ fr _ p _ pl _ . A n _ t _ n _ d _ s _ n _ th _ v _
 t _ b _ cr _ l _ t _ b _ t _ gh .”

—Franklin D. Roosevelt
 32nd President of the United States

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

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

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

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

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Write On!

World Kindness Day

List three ways you will celebrate World Kindness Day.

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Rivas to receive Inspire Community Leadership Award

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Gonzales pediatrician Dr. Humberto J. Rivas has been awarded an Inspire Community Leadership award by the Braination Foundation.

Rivas, who has been the medical provider for children at Legacy Ranch for the past nine years, will receive the award during a luncheon to be held at Legacy Ranch Inspire Academy, 13326 US 183, at 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, Nov. 9.

The event will honor Rivas and other Inspire award recipients while also kicking off a Legacy Ranch School Playground Campaign.

The Braination Foundation Community Leadership Award recognizes individuals who have championed or led specific initiatives or efforts and whose ideas and actions have inspired and helped improve the quality of life for the communities they serve.

In addition to serving the children at Legacy Ranch, Rivas currently serves as vice chief of staff at Gonzales Memorial Hospital. He has been president of the Gonzales County Medical Society; a member of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) House of Delegates, where he represents Gonzales County; a member of the Executive and Credentialing Committee at Gonzales Memorial Hospital and a member of the boards of directors for both Gonzales County Health Foundation (GCHF) and the Gonzales County Housing Authority.

Rivas also maintains admitting privileges at Dell's Children's Hospital, Seton and St. David's Hospitals in Austin. Rivas' practice, Docs 4 Kids Pediatrics, is located in the Sievers 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 medicine for 30 years.

After studying medicine at Escuela Autonomma 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.

After studying medicine at Escuela Autonomma 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.



Pictured, front row from left, are Eden Rodriguez, Sloane Kocian, Maurin Knesek, Gabrielle Rodriguez, Julia Barecky, and Clara Kinney. Back row from left are Thomas Klozik, Hunter Zella, Andrew Decou, Erica Hunke, Annslie Callais, Sally Machacek, Petra Koch, Gracie Malinovsky, Nora Koch, and Karis Barta. Not pictured is One Act Play director, Mrs. Angie Decou.

St. Paul High School One Act Play advances to state

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The high school theatre department's One Act Play came in first at the District competition and will

now advance to state.

The school put on the show "The Last Night of Ballyhoo" and did an outstanding job. Awards went to Annslie Callais, All-Star Crew;

Andrew Decou, Maurin Knesek, and Julia Barecky, All-Star Cast Honorable Mention; Hunter Zella, Sally Machacek, and Gabrielle Rodriguez, All-Star Cast.

Sesame Club learns about common-sense dog training

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The local chapter of the Sesame Club, a strong supporter of the Robert Brothers Jr. Library, met there in October and were treated to a very special program, featuring speaker Megan Dueck, dog trainer from 'Common Sense Dog Training.'

Megan brought newly trained 'Hoss,' a 2.5-year-old mixed pit bull, to show how dogs can be trained and then adopted as pets into the community. She explained how the goal of the company's style of dog training is to keep the dog out of animal shelters.

As a trainer she goes into a home and teaches the human how to handle their dog better using positive reinforcement. The dog retains the information better and can recall it better if the training is fun and positive.

Megan explained about "markers," which are a word, sound, or noise (like a clicker) or a hand signal that's used



CONTRIBUTED
Megan Dueck demonstrates dog training to the Sesame Club with "Hoss."

to tell a dog or cat the exact moment they did something that earns them a reinforcer (like a treat). Eventually, after she repeatedly marks a behavior during the learning process, a cue can be added.

Megan showed the

Sesame Club members how this process works by teaching Hoss how to shake hands.

He was a fast learner. She emphasized that each time you use a marker that you follow up with a reinforcer such as a treat, immediately.

Megan ended her presentation with a question-and-answer period.

Come & Bake It returns

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

In the fall of 2022, Jennifer Kincaid approached Main Street Director Tiffany Padilla asking if Main Street would consider hosting a "Come and Bake It" competition in Gonzales.

After presenting the idea to the Main Street Board, they soon realized that it was not a "new" event to Gonzales. Since the early 1980s Gonzales has been the host to a county wide Pecan Show and baking competition put on by the County Agent Office.

"We used to enter every single category" says Linda Brown, committee chair and owner of Peach Creek Antiques. "Then around 1997 it all just stopped. No Pecan show, no competition, nothing."

It's unclear why the event was discontinued, but the committee suspects that the number of volunteers and organizers dwindled, and it was no longer sustainable.

The Main Street Board and Come & Bake It Committee are thrilled to be partnering with generous sponsors such as: Adams Extract & Spice, ARA Pecans, Peach Creek Antiques, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, and Come & Crepe It in order to bring back the "Come & Bake It" portion of the Pecan Show & Sale to Gonzales.

The event will take place on Friday, Nov. 17 in the lobby of the Randle Rather building. Pre-registered contestants will bring their product to the lobby between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. Judging will begin at 9 a.m. Winners will be announced, and awards given at 12:15 p.m.

Once the awards are handed out, the silent auction will begin. Any monies raised from the sale and auction of the products will be distributed with the contestant receiving 70 percent and the remaining 30 percent contributed to Gonzales Main Street 501(c)(3). Make plans to join in the fun by bidding on the entries and taking home some delicious products.

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CELEBRATING A CENTURY



CONTRIBUTED
Friends and family celebrated the birthday of Marilyn (Pat) Thompson on Oct. 25 at the Romberg House. Wishing her many more birthdays!

Vega inducted into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Emma Vega, of Gonzales, Texas, was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Vega was initiated at Texas State University.

Vega is among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation

only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership.

Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of

undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 325 campuses in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

Saturn Cemetery Association elections announced

Saturn Cemetery Association will hold a general meeting on Sunday, Nov. 12, 2023 at 6 p.m. at the Saturn Community Center.

Items on the agenda include general business and elections.

CRYSTAL THEATRE YOUTH PERFORMANCE



CONTRIBUTED
Gonzales Crystal Theatre Young Program players Gabbi Rodriguez, left, and Julia Barecky will perform at the Crystal Theatre at 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, along with the other members of the Shiner St. Paul One Act Play Troupe, who will be headed to state competition. The performance is free and open to the public.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Report 10/22/23 - 10/28/23

10/22/23
Zuniga, Eduardo JR, 04/1998, Gonzales: Local Warrant - Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family Member, Released- \$1,500 Bond

10/23/23
Garcia, Luis Baldemar Guzman, 10/1986, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence - Agg Assault w/ Deadly Weapon, Released - Work Release
Holiday, Elijah Yohance, 08/2002, Gonzales: Local Warrant - Tamper.Fabricate Phys Evid w/Inten to Impair, Requires \$75,000 Bond, Remains in Custody
Heckert, Rachel Marie, 07/1986, Bebe: Local Warrant - Injury Child/Elderly/Disable w/Int Bodily Inj, Released - \$30,000 Bond

10/24/23
Garity, Quinton Tyler, 04/2000, Harwood: Local Warrant - Poss Marij <2 oz, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Local Bond - Evading Arrest Det w/Veh Requires \$15,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

10/25/23
• Marin, Carlos Javier, 02/1993, Nixon: Commitment/Sentence - Injury Child/Elderly/Disable w/Int Bodily Inj, Released- Work Release
• Mejia-Estrada, Hector Cristobal, 10/1982, Houston: Warrantless/On-View - Traffic Offense, Released - Order to Appear JP3; Warrantless/On-View - Immigration Detainer, Released - Picked up by ICE
• Groom, Amber Ray, 06/1984, Uvalde: Warrantless/On-View - Poss CS PG 2 >=4G<400G, Requires \$15,000 Bond; Warrantless/On-View - Theft of Firearm, Requires \$7,500 Bond; Remains in Custody
• Trevino, Oscar Gonzales, 11/1976, Uvalde: Warrantless/On-View - Smuggling of Persons, Requires \$10,000 Bond; Warrantless/On-View - Driving w/Lic Inv w/Prev Conv/Susp/w/o Fin Res, Requires \$1,500 Bond; Warrantless/On-View - Poss Dangerous Drug, Requires \$3,500 Bond; Remains in Custody

10/26/23
Yoder, David, 08/1984, Nixon: Local/Warrant - Injury Child/Elderly/Disable w/Int Bodily Inj, Released - \$20,000 Bond
Howard, Alfred JR, 09/1975, Denver: Local Warrant - Indecency w/ Child Sexual Contact, Local Warrant- Sex Abuse of Child Continuous Victim under 14; Local Warrant - Sex Abuse of Child Continuous Victim under 14; Remains in Custody

10/27/23
Goolsbee, Christopher Edmond, 11/1982, Houston: Commitment/Sentence - Driving While Intoxicated, Released - Weekender
White, Shelton Lamar, 12/1974, Gonzales: Commitment Sentence-Poss Marij <2 oz, Released - Weekender
Bosquez, Conrad Xavier, 02/1989, Yoakum: Local Warrant - Poss Marij 1>=1G<4G, Released - \$15,000 Bond

• Oden, Wesley Alan, 08/1985, Brenham: Commitment/Sentence - Agg Sexual Assault Child, Released - Weekender
• Gonzalez, Rosendo Memchaca, 09/1989, San Antonio: Warrantless/On-View - Poss Marij <2 oz, Requires \$500 Bond; Other Agency Hold - Man Del CS PG 1>=4G<200G, Requires \$100,000 Bond; Remains in Custody
• Garza, Lisa, 06/1979, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence - Fals Report Statement Officer/Agent HMO, Released - Weekender

10/28/23
• Sanchez, Damian Erick, 04/2006, Gonzales: Warrantless/On-View - Poss CS PG 2<1G, Released - \$3,500 Bond

Total Arrest, Court Commitments, other agency arrest and processings:	
GCSO	18
DPS	01
GPD	02
WPD	00
NPD	01
GISD	00
SMO	00
Constable 1	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	22

WINTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A3

For those who wish to call-in rather than utilize the Zoom link, please use the following information:

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To provide public comment during the event, participants must register at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/21WS_Public_Hearing. Comments during the hearing will be limited to three (3) minutes, though additional comments can be submitted in writing as well. Translation services are available upon request for this hearing, provided that requests are made at least 48 hours in advance.

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The GLO will provide reasonable accommodations for persons attending the virtual public hearing. The public hearing will be conducted in English and requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs must be made at least 48 hours prior to the virtual public hearing. Please call 512-463-5139 or toll free at 844-893-8937 or email cdr@recovery.texas.gov to request specific reasonable accommodations.

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

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Est. 1925

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Starting earned monthly salary for the twelve-month position is \$4,944.89.

For more information and to complete an online application, please go to www.VictoriaCollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC. EEOE

850 HELP WANTED

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Est. 1925

Victoria College's Workforce & Continuing Education Department is hiring for the following part-time positions:

Electrical Instructor
Welding Instructor

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

850 HELP WANTED

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

Request for Proposals

The Golden Crescent Workforce Development Board (GCWDB) is seeking office space to house its Gonzales Workforce Center. The leased space needs to be between 1,500 - 2,000 square feet, have ample parking, and meet ADA requirements. Proposals will be accepted until 9:00 AM, November 20, 2023. For more information, call (361)576-5872 or visit our website at www.gcworkforce.org.

GCWDB Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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GCWDB Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

November 2

Puzzle Answers

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

Last Puzzle Solution

BANE ABAN TOPO MULL ATEA SEDSNAKE SAS ERNIEBANKS TIS GALA GOTDEM BEWARE VOTE TROY NO ASAIHORNETS PEAT INK PRESSERS TOSS TREE NACOGDOCHES COODY RON EMOUT SUNNY TE ERR ACRES ARE YES SET

S-1661

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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.

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CLASSIFIEDS

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Gonzales ISD is seeking E-Rate services for Funding Year 2024 (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025). All interested vendors please see RFP240002468 at: <https://erate.esc12.net/R12/>. To view the Form 470, please visit: <https://portal.usac.org/suite/Form 470 #:240002468>.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Private Network Enterprises proposes to build a 300-foot Self-Support Communications Tower at the approx. vicinity of 7215 N Hwy 80, Nixon, Gonzales County, Texas 78140. Lat: [29-22-25.46] Long: [-97-44-59.77]. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp. Cate Wiggins, c.wiggins@trileaf.com, 2550 S IH 35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704. 512.519.9388*.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF JESSE ANTONIO ROMO, JR. as Independent Executor of the estate of MARGARITA JIMENEZ VALDEZ, also known as, MARGARITA J. VALDEZ, Deceased (hereinafter, the "Estate").

Pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, in Matters of Probate, Cause No. PW23-0295.

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ABOVE ESTATE:

WHEREAS, on the 31st day of October 2023, in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, JESSE ANTONIO ROMO, JR. duly qualified as the Independent Executor of the Estate.

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate were granted to JESSE ANTONIO ROMO, JR. on October 31, 2023, and this notice is to notify all persons having claims against the Estate to present same to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Any person indebted to the Estate is hereby notified to pay same to the undersigned, to wit:

JESSE ANTONIO ROMO, JR., as Independent Executor of the estate of MARGARITA JIMENEZ VALDEZ, also known as, MARGARITA J. VALDEZ, Deceased.

c/o: **Michael S. Browning, P. C.**
12350 Autumn Vista Street, Suite 200
San Antonio, Texas 78249

DATED the 3rd day of November 2023.

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AUCTION

San Angelo Luxury Home, Foreman's Home & Acreage. • 2401 Reece Rd – Luxurious 4BR 3.5BA 5,779+/-sf on 230.75+/- ac. • 2335 Reece Rd – 3BR 2BA 1,900+/-sf foreman's home on 142.05+/- ac. • 144+/- ac, San Angelo, TX 76904, vacant land. View: 1-4 p.m. Sun., Nov. 5 & 12. Auctions: 12 p.m. CT Thur., Nov. 30 at 2401 Reece Rd or bid online at auctionnetwork.com. 800-801-8003, LuxuryGroupAuctions.com.

WORLD'S LARGEST GUN SHOW – November 11 & 12 - Tulsa, OK Fairgrounds. Saturday 8-6, Sunday 8-4. **WANENMACHER'S TULSA ARMS SHOW.** Free appraisals. Bring your guns! www.TulsaArmsShow.com.

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We buy oil, gas & mineral rights. Both non-producing and producing including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI). Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation. Call today: 806-620-1422. Lobo Minerals, LLC, PO Box 1800, Lubbock, TX 79408-1800, LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com.

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF SALE

STATE OF TEXAS §
 GONZALES COUNTY §
 §

BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE
 DATED NOVEMBER 6, 2023

and issued pursuant to judgment decree(s) of the District Court of Gonzales County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date, in the hereinafter numbered and styled suit(s) and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff or Constable of said County, I have on November 6, 2023, seized, levied upon, and will, on the first Tuesday in December 2023, the same being the 5th day of said month, outside the Gonzales County Tax Office front door of the Randle Rather Building, located at 427 St. George, Gonzales, between the hours of 10 o'clock a.m. and 4 o'clock p.m. on said day, beginning at 11:00 AM, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit(s) in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Gonzales and the State of Texas, to-wit:

6923 Account No(s). R10232, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. ROOSEVELT ALLEN, ET AL., 1.00 acre, Eli Mitchell ¼ League, Abstract 337, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 445, Page 774, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$38,910.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$16,990.17;

7081, Account No(s). R14444, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. MARK SPENCER, INDIVIDUALLY AND DOING BUSINESS AS POWER TO ASSIST MINISTRIES, ET AL., Lot 10, Block 36, town of Nixon, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 1241, Page 612, Official Record of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$22,600.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$11,334.28;

7152, Account No(s). R24235, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. JOHN RIOS, ET AL., Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, Block 5, Colley's Second Addition, Town of Smiley, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 482, Page 247, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$47,470.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$2,444.11;

7264, Account No(s). R23043, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. ROBERT J. PENA, ET AL., Lots 5 and 6, Bock 6, V.B. Colley's 2nd addition, Town of Smiley, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 570, Page 614; and Volume 574, Page 792, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$49,920.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$11,782.78;

(any volume and page references, unless otherwise indicated, being to the Deed Records, Gonzales County, Texas, to which instruments reference may be made for a more complete description of each respective tract.) or, upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion of the property described above shall be sold to satisfy said judgment(s), interest, penalties, and cost; and any property sold shall be subject to the right of redemption of the defendants or any person having an interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, within the time and in the manner provided by law, and shall be subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment(s) rendered in the above styled and numbered cause(s), together with interest, penalties, and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sales to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

Dated at Gonzales, Texas, November 6, 2023

Keith D. Schmidt
 Sheriff Keith Schmidt
 Gonzales County, Texas

By *[Signature]* #1103
 Deputy

Notes:
 The Minimum Bid is the lesser of the amount awarded in the judgment plus interest and costs or the adjudged value. However, the Minimum Bid for a person owning an interest in the property or for a person who is a party to the suit (other than a taxing unit), is the aggregate amount of the judgments against the property plus all costs of suit and sale. ALL SALES SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION WITHOUT NOTICE. THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL TAXES DUE ON THE PROPERTY WHICH HAVE BEEN ASSESSED SINCE THE DATE OF THE JUDGMENT. For more information, contact your attorney or LINEBARGER GOGGAN BLAIR & SAMPSON, LLP, attorney for plaintiffs, at (512) 634-3709.

The Gonzales Inquirer
 SERVING GONZALES COUNTY SINCE 1853

will be closed November 23 in observance of

Thanksgiving

Deadline for all advertising in November 23rd issue is Friday, November 17 at Noon

We will also close at Noon on Friday, November 24.

Best Wishes to all for a Happy Thanksgiving!

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- ENVIRONMENT:** Readers trust the newspaper to regularly deliver relevant news and information. People still love to read their names of names of people they know, or see their pictures in the local newspaper.
- RELIED UPON:** Newspaper advertising is a valuable commodity to consumers. Newspapers outdistanced other media in terms of: shopping plans, comparing prices.
- RESULTS:** Consistent newspaper campaigns have been very effective in building Brand recognition, delivering Merchandising messages and motivating customers with attractive "Call-to-Action" limited opportunities.

Apaches get ready for Gatesville in bi-district round

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches return to the playoffs for the first time since 2019, and head coach Joey Rivera is prepping his team for their bi-district showdown against Gatesville this Friday night in Hutto.

That Gatesville Hornets finished third with a 2-2 district record and 6-4 overall in District 11-4A-2, and Rivera knows his team will be facing a tough team.

“Offensively, they are smash-mouth football and very similar to what we saw in Giddings. Defensively they are very aggressive and have great team speed,” Rivera said.

The last time the Apaches were in the playoffs, they went to the second round, and Rivera defines what it means to be in the playoffs.

“Met Expectations. That is our expectation as a goal every year to be playing in the playoffs. For our program, this is where we want to set the standard, the goal is to play as long as we can,” Rivera said.

Rivera and the Apaches have had a great week of practice, he said, and he added at this point in the season, they cut back on “fundamental” periods and focus more on group work and installing against your opponent.”

“We used Monday as a recovery day and went lighter than normal, but had a really good Tuesday and are expecting to have a crisp, zip pop Wednesday,” Rivera said.

Gonzales finished second with a 4-1 district record in District 12-4A-2 with a 6-3 overall record, and the community came out in full force to the Giddings game.

“The community has been awesome, as they have been since I’ve been here. It really all came to fruition for me when Jessiah Barr forced the fumble in overtime and Jermane Upshaw scooped and scored. I just sat back and took it all in while he was going for the touchdown and to see the excitement of our kids and fans almost brought a tear to my eye,” Rivera said.

The Apaches defense have been getting stronger each week, and Rivera knows his defensive coordinator Keith Cubit will have his defense ready for Gatesville.

“Coach Cubit has done a great job prepping the defense this week. Gatesville has many formations and half the battle is making sure we are lined up right. Coach has spent a lot of time making sure our guys are in the right spot and understand their assignment. Half the battle is lining up,” Rivera said.

Apaches offensive coordinator David Tannreuther has been prepping the offense against Gatesville, especially their no quit mentality.

“We have a few wrinkles that will continue to improve our run game and offense. We have spent time focusing on our scout team to give us a really good look this week as well and they have done a great job,” Rivera said.

The Apaches kick off their playoff run Friday, Nov. 10 at Hutto Memorial Stadium against Gatesville, and Rivera is looking forward coaching his players in the postseason.

“Just getting to enjoy coaching this group of kids for another week. This has been a great senior group and we enjoy the opportunity to get to coach this group on a daily basis,” Rivera said.

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



PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Apaches senior wide receiver Davonte Smith rushes through Giddings' defense for the first down. The Apaches stunned the Buffaloes on the road in a 44-38 overtime win to secure second place in 4A DII District 12.

Apaches stun Buffaloes in 44-38 overtime win

Gonzales clinches second in District 12-4A-2 in Rivera's second season

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches flipped the script on the Giddings Buffaloes on the road in a wild 44-38 overtime win Friday, Nov. 3 to close out the regular season.

The game had a lot in stake in regards to playoff seeding; the winner would take on Gatesville, the third-place team from District 11, and the loser would face Madisonville, that district's second-place squad.

The Apaches struggled in the game as Giddings led the majority of it, but Gonzales kept its spirits up entering the second half.

Senior running back Rocky Gallegos carried the ball 16 times for 130 yards and scored the last three Apaches touchdowns as well as the game-tying two-point conversion to send the game to overtime at 38-38.

“I had all the heart, and I knew it wasn't over,” Gallegos said. “Even though we're down by touchdowns, we kept fighting. I knew we could win the game.”

The Apaches capped off the overtime win with a 93-yard fumble return by junior defensive end Jermane Upshaw. The ball was knocked out by



Gonzales Apaches head football coach Joey Rivera speaks to players in the 44-38 overtime win over the Giddings Buffaloes. Rivera in his second season with the team went from 2-3 in district his first season to 4-1 his second year.

senior outside linebacker Jessiah Barr.

Last year, Giddings knocked out the Apaches from the playoffs at home; while Giddings will still be in this year's playoff, Gonzales was able to get payback in Giddings.

“This is personal; like Rocky said, they beat us last year. It was our time to get our revenge and that's what we did,” Upshaw said.

Apaches head football coach Joey Rivera wondered how his team was going to pull off the win after being down at halftime.

“I never really felt like we were going to lose this game. At halftime, we were down, and I told the guys ‘hey, we're on the road, things are gonna be against us. Come together as a team and stay positive.’ And I was just like, ‘we're gonna figure out a way to win

this game’ and we did — it was amazing,” Rivera said.

The Apaches went from missing the playoffs last year to finishing in second place in 12-4A-2 behind Cuero.

Rivera said he's never been more proud of this group of players this season.

“Second place, last place, wherever we're at this. This is a great group of kids and like I said last week, we're not done coaching them. We're going to do everything we can to coach them for another week after that and we're gonna fight each each week to play one more week, because it's a special group,” Rivera said.

The Apaches will be traveling to Hutto for their bi-district match against the Gatesville Hornets Friday, Nov. 10.

Rivera said they are very similar to Giddings with a big front.

STATS

—OFFENSE—

PASSING:
Cole Duty: 8/15 for 72 yards passing
RUSHING:
Rocky Gallegos: 16 carries for 130 yards and three touchdowns
C. Duty: 16 carries for 92 yards and one touchdown
Davonte Smith: 10 carries for 58 yards
David Clack III: five carries for 25 yards
RECEIVING:
D. Smith: four receptions for 45 yards
Weston Ruddock: two receptions for 16 yards
R. Gallegos for one reception for 10 yards
Blake Wright: one reception for one yard

—DEFENSE—

TACKLES:
Rafael Rodriguez: eight total tackles
B. Wright and Omar Borjon: seven total tackles
Kamren Leal and D. Clack III: six total tackles
J. Upshaw, Travis Malveaux III, R. Gallegos, Isaac Gonzales, and J. Barr: four total tackles
Kaden Deleon, Dakota DuBose, and Dylan Hunt: two total tackles
Brandon DuBose, D. Smith, John Izaguirre, and W. Ruddock: one total tackle
TACKLE FOR LOSS:
J. Barr: one tackle for a loss.
INTERCEPTION:
D. Clack III: one interception
CAUSE FUMBLE:
J. Barr: one cause fumble
FUMBLE RECOVERY:
J. Upshaw, K. Leal, and I. Gonzales
DEFENSIVE TOUCHDOWN:
J. Upshaw: one fumble return for a touchdown for 83 yards.

—SPECIAL TEAMS—

Brandon Duenez: 3/3 for field goals

“They had an extra week to prepare for us that last week was their bye week. So I think they were you know, they're obviously here because either one of us were their opponents. So they got a good look at us and we're just going to do what we continue to do and play as hard as we can and coaches will come up with plan and play for each other and go.”

The Apaches kick off their playoff run this Friday at Hutto Memorial Stadium. Kick off is set for 7:30 p.m.

Lady Apaches win home opener over Smithville

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches hosted the Smithville Lady Tigers in the home opener at the Apache Gym Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Gonzales beat the Lady Tigers, 50-48, in overtime and earned their first win of the season.

The Lady Apaches struggled early in the game against the Lady Tigers, but Gonzales kept fighting in the second half, forcing the game into overtime with a buzzer beater three by sophomore Amiyah Ibarra.

Lady Apaches head basketball Coach Mark Belford said it's always been a sight to get the win in the home opener and know there's going to be growing pains with new faces on the team.

“One of the big things coming into the season, we got a lot of young kids. I think we only have three returners back and so everybody else is



Lady Apaches junior shooting guard Kilee Schwausch (5) dribbles the ball between Smithville's Avery Bezner (4) and Monica Lewis (24) in the home opener for Gonzales Tuesday, Nov. 7.

kind of brand new to varsity,” Belford said. “So, we know there's gonna be a lot of growing pains and we're just trying to build. We understand it's a process and so tonight was a good step in the right direction that we just wanted to keep working.”

Sophomore Isabella Ikard and junior Bella Aguero con-

tributed the final eight points in overtime; Aguero went four for four in free throws and Ikard scored four points, one of them being off an offensive rebound.

Aguero knew her team had to fight to the end, even if it had to go into overtime.

“We were getting bullied on the inside a little bit, so we

had to come out and make changes to that. But we knew we couldn't stop. We knew it was a close game. We beat them last year. So we knew we had the same mentality going into this game and we just scrapped to the end,” Aguero said.

Belford praised his starting point guard Aguero on her performance against Smithville and helping her team make opportunities on offense and defense.

“Bella did a great job tonight. She just does not let us lose. She was just flying around, giving us an opportunity and the rest of our team, as soon as they got opportunities, they were able to make plays,” Belford said.

The Lady Apaches will host Bastrop this Friday, Nov. 10, and Belford said the main goal is to get ready for district.

“Everything we're doing right now just builds up for district. So, we approach practice every day the same way,” Belford said.

Lady Apaches receive all-district honors

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Lady Apaches varsity volleyball team capped off their historic season as bi-district finalists with an 8-4 third place district record, and earned all-district recognition.

Seniors Hannah Avant and Macy Sample and sophomore Isabella Ikard

earned first team all-district from District 28-4A; Ikard was named the 2023 newcomer of the year by the district.

Seniors Kelly Breitschopf and Dakota Schmidt were named second team all-district.

Senior Mallory Clack, sophomore Joelee Lester, sophomore Aubrey Lindemann, senior Sydney McCray,

senior Samantha Baker, senior Tara Lester and freshman Alaina Valle were named all-district honorable mentions.

Avant, Sample, T. Lester, J. Lester, McCray, Clack, Valle, Ikard, Breitschopf, Lindemann, Schmidt and Valle were named in the all-district academic team.

Gonzales cross-country team earns all-district honors

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales varsity cross-country teams capped off their successful season with all-district recognition from 4A District 28.

LADY APACHES

- Yaritza Angel - Academic All District, 1st Team All District
- Marianelly Martinez - Academic All District, 1st Team All District
- Jordan Gonzales - Academic All District, 1st Team All District
- Kaylie Ramirez - Academic All District, 1st Team All District
- Cassandra Mendez - Academic All District - Honorable Mention
- Tianna Smith - Academic All District, All District Honorable Mention
- Natalia Martinez - Academic All District

APACHES

- District MVP - Ckristofer Ramos, Academic All District
- Youahi Huerta - 1st Team All district
- Carlos Pedraza - 1st Team All district, Academic All District
- Christofer Gonzalez - 2nd Team All district, Academic All District
- Jesus Huerta - 2nd Team All district
- Kevin Reyna - All district Honorable Mention
- Miguel Moreno - Academic All District

Lady Mustangs release All-District team

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon Smiley Lady Mustangs released their all-district recognition Friday, Nov. 3 for the 2023 season.

Senior Kendall Amaya was named first team all district in District 26-3A; junior Hailee Houseton was named second team all-district; and senior Ariel Villanueva was named honorable mention.

The following players made the all-district academic team: K. Amaya, Houseton, Villanueva, Deanna Amaya, Brooke Crisp, Emily Granados, Kyleigh McKissack, Jaylee Bustos, Skylie Kitchens, and Nichole Ivey.

UNDEFEATED!



The Gonzales Apaches 8A football team clinched the district title with an undefeated season with a win over Goodnight Middle School Wednesday, Nov. 1.

BASKETBALL SCHEDULES

Nixon-Smiley High School
Lady Mustangs Basketball Schedule
2023-2024

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TEAM	TIME
11/7	TUESDAY	YORKTOWN	HOME	JV/V	5:00/6:15
11/11	SATURDAY	NATALIA	HOME	JV/V	11:00/12:30
11/14	TUESDAY	FALLS CITY	AWAY	JV/V	5:00/6:15
11/16-18		SKIDMORE TOURN	AWAY	V	TBA
11/20	MONDAY	PRAIRIE LEA	HOME	V	12:00
11/21	TUESDAY	BLANCO	AWAY	JV/V	12:00/1:15
11/28	TUESDAY	SKIDMORE-TYNAN	HOME	JV/V	5:00/6:15
11/30-12/2		KARNES CITY TOURN	AWAY	V	TBA
12/5	TUESDAY	KENEDY	HOME	JV/V	5:00/6:15
12/8	FRIDAY	POTEET	HOME	JV/V	5:00/6:15
12/15	FRIDAY	LYTLE	HOME	JV/V	5:00/6:15
12/19	TUESDAY	WEST CAMPUS	AWAY	JV/V	5:00/6:30
12/21	THURSDAY	GEORGE WEST	HOME	JV/V	11:00/12:30
12/28-29		NIXON-SMILEY TOURN	HOME	V	TBA
DISTRICT GAMES					
01/05	FRIDAY	* LULING	HOME	JV/V	5:00/6:15
01/09	TUESDAY	* RANDOLPH	AWAY	JV/V	5:00/6:15
01/12	FRIDAY	* MARION	HOME	JV/V	5:00/6:15
01/16	TUESDAY	* COLE	HOME	JV/V	5:00/6:15
01/19	FRIDAY	* G.H.N.O.	AWAY	JV/V	5:00/6:15
01/23	TUESDAY	* LULING	AWAY	JV/V	5:00/6:15
01/26	FRIDAY	* RANDOLPH	HOME	JV/V	5:00/6:15
01/30	TUESDAY	* MARION	AWAY	JV/V	5:00/6:15
02/02	FRIDAY	* COLE	AWAY	JV/V	5:00/6:15
02/06	TUESDAY	* G.H.N.O. (Parents Night)	HOME	JV/V	5:00/6:15

*DENOTES DISTRICT GAMES

Head Coach: Trevor Johnson
Assistant Coach: Jordan Acevedo
High School Principal: Maria Jimenez
Athletic Director: Carlton McKinney
Superintendent: Jeff VanAuken

Nixon-Smiley Mustang High School
Basketball Schedule
2023-2024

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TEAM	TIME
11/17	FRIDAY	LA VERNIA	AWAY	F/JV/V	12:30
11/20	MONDAY	PRAIRIE LEA	HOME	JV/V	12:00/1:00
11/21	TUESDAY	HONDO	AWAY	F/JV/V	10:00/11:30
11/28	TUESDAY	GONZALES	HOME	F/JV/V	5:00/6:15/8:00
11/30-12/2		K.C. TOURN	AWAY	V	TBA
12/5	TUESDAY	STOCKDALE	HOME	F/JV/V	5:00/6:15/8:00
12/7-9		MOULTON TOURN	AWAY	V	TBA
12/12	TUESDAY	POTH	AWAY	JV/V	5:00/6:30
12/15	FRIDAY	ST JOSEPH	AWAY	F/JV/V	5:00/6:15/7:30
12/28-29		NS TOURN	HOME	V	TBA
DISTRICT GAMES					
01/02		*OPEN			
01/05		*OPEN			
01/09		*OPEN			
01/12	FRIDAY	*MARION	HOME	F/JV/V	5:00/6:15/8:00
01/16	TUESDAY	*COLE	HOME	F/JV/V	5:00/6:15/8:00
01/19	FRIDAY	*G.H.N.O	AWAY	JV/V	5:00/8:00
01/23	TUESDAY	*LULING	AWAY	F/JV/V	5:00/6:15/8:00
01/26	FRIDAY	*RANDOLPH	HOME	F/JV/V	5:00/6:15/8:00
01/30	TUESDAY	*MARION	AWAY	F/JV/V	5:00/6:15/8:00
02/02	FRIDAY	*COLE	AWAY	F/JV/V	5:00/6:15/8:00
02/06	TUESDAY	*G.H.N.O	HOME	F/JV/V	5:00/8:00
02/09	FRIDAY	*LULING (Parents Night)	HOME	F/JV/V	5:00/6:15/7:30
02/13	TUESDAY	*RANDOLPH	AWAY	F/JV/V	5:00/6:15/7:30

**DISTRICT CERTIFICATION: FEBRUARY 17th

*DENOTES DISTRICT GAMES

Superintendent: Jeff VanAuken
High School Principal: Maria Jimenez
Head Coach: Carlton McKinney
Assistants: Jordan VanAuken & Jonathan Carlos

Nixon-Smiley Mustang Middle School
Boys
Basketball Schedule
2023-2024

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
11/09	Randolph	Away	5:00
11/16	Marion	Home	5:00
11/29	Stockdale	Away	5:00
12/02	8th Grade Lion's Club Tournament	Home	TBA
12/04	Cole	Away	5:00
12/11	Luling	Home	5:00
12/18	Randolph	Home	5:00
01/11	Marion	Away	5:00
01/13	7th Grade Lion's Club Tournament	Home	TBA
01/18	Stockdale	Home	5:00
01/25	Cole	Home	5:00
01/29	Luling	Away	5:00

*Game Order: 7B, 8B, 7A, 8A

Coaches: Jonathan Miller
Daniel Pierce
Robert Mejia

Superintendent: Jeff VanAuken
Athletic Director: Carlton McKinney
Principal: Brittany Rogers

Nixon-Smiley Mustang Middle School
Girls
Basketball Schedule
2023-2024

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
11/09	Randolph	Home	5:00
11/16	Marion	Away	5:00
11/29	Stockdale	Home	5:00
12/02	8th Grade Lion's Club Tournament	Home	TBA
12/04	Cole	Home	5:00
12/11	Luling	Away	5:00
12/18	Randolph	Away	5:00
01/11	Marion	Home	5:00
01/13	7th Grade Lion's Club Tournament	Home	TBA
01/18	Stockdale	Away	5:00
01/25	Cole	Away	5:00
01/29	Luling	Home	5:00

*Game Order: 7B, 8B, 7A, 8A

Coaches: Douglas Boatright
Tai Apiza
Katarina Leal

Superintendent: Jeff VanAuken
Athletic Director: Carlton McKinney
Principal: Brittany Rogers

BRING ON THE BONFIRE



Members of the Gonzales community gathered for a community bonfire set by Gonzales ISD Monday, Nov. 6. The district recognized the hard work from GISD students in extracurricular activities from the Mighty Apache Band's area bound season, Apaches football 4-1 second-place district record, the Lady Apaches 8-4 third-place district record and more.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



Water conservation district meeting slated for Nov. 14

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Water Protection Association is urging every landowner in Gonzales County to be at the Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District's Meeting on the Proposed Additions and Amendments to the Districts Management Plan.

The meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 14, at the GCUWCD office, 522 Saint Mathew St., Gonzales.

The management plan and agenda can be reviewed on the GCUWCD's website at gcuwcd.org. Landowners are urged to get involved to protect their water rights.

For questions about the Water Protection Association, please email ldunbar@dunbarlawtx.com.

“The bond's failure does not change the fact that we have a cafeteria that is too small with leaking windows, with many students eating outside. It does not change the fact that we have a middle school that has mold issues, asbestos, and leaking windows that need to be replaced. It also does not change the fact that we need more classrooms. We will be meeting soon to determine a way forward, and we will consider all options.”

— Superintendent Ron Lilie

WAELDER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

of the largest property tax reductions in recent history, we had hoped for a different outcome, especially since even with the bond passing most taxpayers would end up paying considerably less than last year. One can only guess at the motivation for that, although given the voter turnout, complacency did play a part in it. We did not do a good job in getting people to the polls.”

Proposition A, which would have called for the issuance of \$5.826 million, failed by a vote of 220-135. The measure had four main components:

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

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

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

- High school upgrades that include replacing

13-year-old carpet, provide an entrance safety vestibule, more efficient lighting, and interior and exterior painting, and other building improvements.

Proposition B, for \$1.1 million, was turned down by a margin of 224-129. It called for renovating the open pavilion into a climate-controlled gymnasium that will serve as many as 14 different student groups that utilize gym facilities in the district. Total cost of the project is \$2.1 million, and the district would have used current tax maintenance notes to pay \$1 million toward the project.

The results are unofficial until they are canvassed by the Board of Trustees. That must happen no earlier than the third day after the election and no later than the 11th day after the polls closed.

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

“As far as moving forward, we will evaluate options,” Lilie said. “Schools are taxpayer funded. Waelder ISD does a good job of managing public funds, as

indicated by our Superior Achievement rating with the state of Texas. Everything that a school has to spend to operate or maintain facilities will come from the taxpayers, either directly through a bond, or through funds provided by the state.

“The bond's failure does not change the fact that we have a cafeteria that is too small with leaking windows, with many students eating outside. It does not change the fact that we have a middle school that has mold issues, asbestos, and leaking windows that need to be replaced. It also does not change the fact that we need more classrooms. We will be meeting soon to determine a way forward, and we will consider all options.”

In May 2023, Waelder ISD tried to get voters to approve a \$10.3 million bond package that would have allowed the district \$7.1 million to make improvements to district facilities — including for safety and security — as well as \$3.2 million to refund principal and/or interest on previously issued maintenance tax notes.

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

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

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PRIMARIES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

- 2nd 25th District Judge (Jessica Crawford)
- County Attorney (Paul Watkins)
- County Tax Assessor-Collector (Crystal Cedillo)
- County Sheriff (Keith Schmidt)
- Precinct 1 Commissioner (Dell Whiddon)
- Precinct 3 Commissioner (Kevin La Fleur)
- Precinct 1 Constable (Johnnie Hall)
- Precinct 3 Constable (Derek Johnson)
- Precinct 4 Constable (John Moreno)

The last day to register to vote to be eligible for the March 5 joint primary election is Feb. 5, 2024.

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The Gonzales Inquirer

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Friday

MUSIC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Americana, soul, rock and other musical genres, including such luminaries as the Randy Rogers Band, Country Music Hall of Fame legend Tanya Tucker, Tracy Lawrence, Shane Smith & The Saints, Sublime with Rome, Chase Rice, KALEO and Colbie Caillat.

Others on the bill include Hailey Whitters, William Clark Green, Southall, Blackhawk, Red Clay Strays, William Beckmann, Tanner Usrey, Breland, The War and Treaty, Austin Snell, ZZ Ward, Treaty Oak Revival, The Glorious Sons, Drake White, Tyler Braden, The Weathered Souls, Matt Koziol, Kyler Weston, Derek Austin and Angel White.

The festival will take place on a 400-acre ranch known as “The Boot” for its unique landscape shaped like country music’s favorite footwear. Not only does The Boot provide a perfect backdrop for a unique music festival, but it offers opportunities for camping and glamping, swimming, wine and spirits tasting and more.

The Come and Take It Lounge will be a signature element of the festival, an “upscale oasis” where festival goers can sample some of the best Texas and international wines, craft cocktails and bespoke culinary offerings curated by an assortment of Texas chefs plus more.

Named for the famous cry raised by the Old 18 at the



Battle of Gonzales, the event which sparked the Texas Revolution, the Come and Take It Lounge will also have big-screen TVs showing sports and yard games like cornhole and horseshoes — a place to relax and recharge between musical acts, set along the beautiful Guadalupe River.

Tickets are now on sale at www.CattleCountryFest.com. Single day General Admis-

sion tickets start at \$125, with multi-night packages ranging from \$199-\$799. Premium VIP and glamping packages feature a range of offerings including early load-in, exclusive lounge and front-of-stage viewing pit access, and more.

With more than 20 ticketing tiers and experience packages available, fans have a wide variety of options to experience Cattle Country.



We greatly appreciate the tremendous effort our Board of Trustees, community, staff members, administrators, and students put into this bond election and thank each and every voter who took the time to let their voice be heard.”

—Gonzales Independent School District

BOND

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

scoreboards, all to be built on the land off Stieren Road as well.

“We greatly appreciate the tremendous effort our Board of Trustees, community, staff members, administrators, and students put into this bond election and thank each and every voter who took the time to let their voice be heard,” the district said in a Facebook post announcing the passage of Proposition A.

The results are unofficial until they are canvassed by the Board of Trustees. That must happen no earlier than the third day after the election and no later than the 11th day after the polls closed.

GISD officials had tried to woo voters to their side by touting that the annual tax impact on a homeowner with an assessed value of \$175,000 would be \$114.50 per year, or about \$9.50 extra per month, based upon an understanding that a proposed constitutional amendment raising the state’s homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000 also would be approved by voters on the Nov. 7 ballot.

That measure appeared headed towards passage with 83.8 percent of state voters supporting the proposed amendment.

According to district officials, under Proposition A, a new 26,000 square foot facility would be built at what is a potential future new high school site on property the district owns on County Road 239, also known as Stieren Road. The facility would

house the district’s welding, auto technology and culinary classrooms. An adjacent Ag barn would include 10 covered pens and 10 exterior pens to allow FFA students living in the community who don’t have their own facilities to house projects at the school site.

Currently, 95 percent of enrolled high school students are taking at least one CTE class, while 75 percent are enrolled in two or more.

Renovations at all six campuses, including the administration building, also would be included in Prop A, especially at the high school, which was built in the 1960s, and at Gonzales Junior High. The average age of buildings in the district is about 40 years old, according to administrators.

Some of the biggest areas of need include the old gymnasium at the high school, which lacks ADA accessibility for those in wheelchairs, as well as the tar and rock high school roof, which was last addressed in 1994 — 29 years ago.

Prop A would also be used to renovate a portion of the old East Avenue campus (now currently the administration facility) to create a district alternative education campus so the district no longer has to pay to bus students who misbehave to Nixon-Smilely CISD.

Passage of the total bond package would have increased the proposed 2023 tax rate by 15.27 cents in 2024 using current property values.

STARS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

three separate dates to give all community members and visitors a chance to join in the fun.

The event will be offered Saturday, Dec. 2; Friday, Dec. 8; and Saturday, Dec. 9, from 6-9 p.m. This event is hosted by and held at the Gonzales Pioneer Village, 2122 N. Saint Joseph St. On Dec. 9, there will be music featuring Bill Finch

with The Bucksnot Boogie Band in the old church.

The event will have candle making, churning butter, spinning, ornament making, corn shuck dolls, popping popcorn around the campfire, hot chocolate, wassail and holiday cookies, as well as roasting marshmallows around the campfire. Plus, the blacksmith will return to work

with the live forge and Saint Nick himself will be there to ask the kiddos what they want for Christmas.

The event will be offered for both adults and children, with tickets at \$8 for adults, and \$5 for kids under 12 years of age.

For further information on this Stars in the Village event, go to the Pioneer Village Living History Center Facebook page.

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THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 9, 2023
GONZALESINQUIRER.COM

B
SECTION



Honoring those who served & sacrificed

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|---|---|--|---|
|  <p>Jonathan Aguayo
Specialist
U.S. Army
2005-2013</p> |  <p>Frank Atkinson
Chief Petty Officer,
diver,
Navy
Vietnam</p> |  <p>Vic Baker
U.S. Army
WWII</p> |  <p>David N Behlen
Gonzales
SGT
Army
2 years</p> |  <p>Landon Ray Blackwell
Feb. 2020 to present
U.S. Navy</p> |  <p>Timothy Bonds
Gonzales
Sergeant 1st Class,
Army
Aug. 1989 – Sept. 2011
Gulf War (Desert
Storm, Desert Shield)
Operation Iraqi
Freedom
Operation Enduring
Freedom</p> |  <p>Terry D. Bowman
Gonzales
Tech Sergeant
USAF Ret.
1956 to 1976
Korea & Vietnam</p> |  <p>Vonnishia Branch
PV2
Army</p> |  <p>Gordon Brandenburg
U.S. Army
Master Sergeant</p> |  <p>Billy Breitschopf
Gonzales
Private 1st Class
U.S. Army
1963 to 1970
141st Infantry</p> |
|  <p>Nathan Washington
Brelsford
PVT
U.S. Army
2 years</p> |  <p>Anthony Burns
U.S. Marines
CPL</p> |  <p>Simon P. Brzozowski, Jr.
Sergeant
U.S. Army
1943-1952</p> |  <p>Pete Camarillo
Smiley
SSG Army
24 years
Vietnam</p> |  <p>Ruben Camarillo
SP4, U.S. Army
1971-1974
Fort Richardson, Alaska
1970 Gonzales
graduate</p> |  <p>Dominic Carabajal
SSG
U.S. Army</p> |  <p>Josh Carabajal
SSG
U.S. Army</p> |  <p>Cecil F. "Kit" Carson
MSGT. Retired USAF
U.S. Army, 1937-1959
World War II</p> |  <p>SFC Ervin Carter
US Army (RET.)
1954-1978</p> | |
|  <p>Jesus Casares III
Unites States Marine
Corp.
2001-2005
Operation Iraqi
Freedom</p> |  <p>Jesus Casares Jr.
U.S. Army</p> |  <p>Christopher M. Cerda
PFC, U.S. Army
70th Engineer
Battalion, 1979-1998
Fort Riley, Kansas</p> |  <p>Paul V. Cerda
Gonzales
Spec. 4 Army, Purple
Heart & Bronze Star
Pacific Ocean
1940-45</p> |  <p>Tommy Max Childers
Waelder
Spec 4, Army
1971-1973
Vietnam</p> |  <p>Cayetano Cimental
PO3
U.S. Navy
1960-1964</p> |  <p>Francisco Cimental
Texas Army National
Guard
1954-1960, 1979-1989
U.S. Navy 1960-1964</p> |  <p>Raul Cimental
SGT
U.S. Army
1967-1970</p> |  <p>Gary Lynn Clack
Sgt.
Vietnam veteran</p> |  <p>David G. Cole
Pilot, Senior Master
Sergeant
U.S. Army Air Force
1942-1962</p> |
|  <p>Gary A Combs
1SGT, Army
Glasgow, Ken.
1968-2000
Vietnam</p> |  <p>Donald Cuvelier
Private, U.S. Army
1953-1955
16 months in Korea
Active member of local
VFW and American
Legion</p> |  <p>Major Bryan J. Darilek
U.S. Army Apache
Helicopter Pilot
Iraq - Afghanistan -
Kuwait - Germany
HQ for Aviation North
& South
24 year career - Retired</p> |  <p>J.L. "Doc" Darilek
Captain
Texas National Guard
USAR
Retired</p> |  <p>AM2(AW) Matthew
Davis
Gonzales
E-5, Navy
Iraqi Freedom
2004 Gonzales
graduate</p> |  <p>Robert De La Garza
U.S. Navy
1944-1946</p> |  <p>Jack DeBerry
Second Class Petty
Officer - E5, U.S. Navy
He served aboard the
USS Reuben James out
of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
1997 Gonzales
graduate</p> |  <p>Pfc. Henry Deschner
U. S. Army
1918-1919</p> |  <p>Sergeant Henry W.
Deschner
USMC
1943-46 & 1951-52</p> |  <p>Reinhart P. Deschner
USN
1944-45</p> |



Celebrating OUR VETERANS



Sergeant Arlye W. Deschner
USMC
1949-53



Francisco Diaz Jr
E-4 Specialist
Army
Fort Bliss



Jenna Dominguez
Gonzales
PVT
U.S. Army
Enlisted in 2014



Lewis J. Downey
Gonzales
Fireman FN E-3, U.S.
Navy
Nov. 1968 – Aug. 1970
National Defense
Service medal
Vietnam Service medal



Dennis Droupy
U.S. Navy



Donald DuBose
Sergeant E4
Air Force, Vietnam
1966-1970



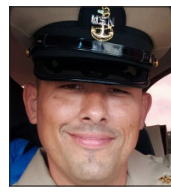
Irvin Mac DuBose
Staff Sergeant
Army-Air Force
World War II, 1942-
1945



John DuBose
Chief Petty Officer
Navy, 15 years service



SCPO John Dubose III
US Navy Retired



Joseph Dunahoo
Chief Petty Officer, E-7
2000 graduate of
Gonzales High School
Joined United States
Navy in 2004



Hugo P Ehrig
Gonzales
T/ Sergeant, U.S. Army
1940-1945, Africa
& Italy
Wounded in Italy 1944



Raymond H. Ehrig
Gonzales
Staff Sergeant, U.S.
Army
1940-1943, Africa &
Italy, Killed in action in
Salerno, Italy 1943



Pat Eichhorn
Staff Sergeant
U.S. Army
1975-1995



Brandon Elkins
Logan, WV, Sergeant
E-5
Army, 101st Airborne
Iraq 3/03-4/04 and
Iraq 7/05-9/06



Michael E. English
Master Sergeant
U.S. Air Force
22 years of service



Brandon Elkins
Logan, WV, Sergeant
E-5
Army, 101st Airborne
Iraq 3/03-4/04 and Iraq
7/05-9/06



Mia Escobedo
PFC U.S. Army
Combat Medic
2021-Present



James M. Fairchild, Sr.
Harwood
U.S. Navy, WWII
Pacific Theater
Korean War
USS Haven
Hospital Ship



L.M. "Mac" Fairchild
Harwood
S/Sgt. Army Air Corp –
WWII Philippines
U.S. Air Force –
Korean War



Monroe Stump
Fairchild
Harwood
U.S. Navy
Seaman First Class -
WWII



Sam Scrap Fairchild
Harwood
U.S. Army PFC – WWII
Bataan POW
Died as POW,
May 20, 1942



Henry F. Ferrell
Gonzales
Corporal
U.S. Army
1953-1955
Korea



Sgt. William John Fink
III Army Division
Korea – 1953-54
Combat Infantry Badge
Korean War Service
Medal



Byron Freeman
US Army



Fletcher King Garner IV
Gonzales
Staff Sergeant, U.S. Air
Force, 1 tour Iraq, 2
tours Afghanistan
2009 Gonzales
graduate



Nicholas Grey Gaytan
SSG
Army National Guard



Chris Gescheidle
Gonzales
Master Sergeant
Air Force, 1979-1985
active
1987-1993 reserves,
Desert Storm 1991
in the United Arab
Emirates



Patrick E. Gilkey, Sr.
Sergeant
U.S. Army
1944-1949, 1953
11th Airborne
Paratrooper
WWII and Korea



Brian Kent Good
Captain
U.S. Army
1985-1995



Norwood H
Gottwald Jr
Corporal
U.S. Army
Korean War 1952-54



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Warren D. Green Gonzales Sergeant Major U.S. Army, 1962-1992 30 years service during Vietnam & Desert Storm eras 1957 Edwards High School graduate	Johnnie D. Hall Sr. Sergeant U.S. Army 1967-1969 Vietnam Vet	Odie M. Hahn Gonzales Sgt. U.S. Army 1953-1955 Action seen, if any: Korean conflict	Robert Walker Harless Major 16th Corps/9th Army Battle of the Bulge WWII Years served: 1941-1946	Bradley S. Harlow U.S. Army 2007-2015 82nd Airborne	Dexter E. Hoover Harwood Carpenter's Mate Second Class, Navy Served 3.5 years from 1942-1945 in the South Pacific in WWII where his unit was bombed during the war.	Harry A. Horstman Radarsman First class Destroyers & PT Boats Navy 20 years served Korean & Vietnam wars	Otis Hunter Sgt., U.S.M.C.	Capt. Ralph Hunter WWII Normandy vet KIA Korea 1951	Lucas Hurt Staff Sergeant U.S. Air Force 2013-Present
									
Hartwell Kennard Jr. 1st Lieutenant - Army Air Corps WWII - 1942-1945 B-26 Martin Marauder Bomber Pilot Completed 66 missions - Italy and North Africa Awarded Air Medal 12 times and Presidential Citation two times	Hartwell Kennard Sr. Lieutenant Colonel - United States Army WWI - Served 1917-1919 WWII - Served 1942-1945 US Army Reserves - Served 1946-1954	Jimmie Kepler T/Sgt Served in World War II in Germany in US Army Air Corps Served in Vietnam in US Air Force	Paul Kessler MM2(SW) US Navy 2006-12	Leland Bryan Kidd U.S. Army, Staff Sergeant 2001-2005 (U.S. Coast Guard) 2006-2010 (U.S. Army) Iraq War	Adolph S. Klein Private U.S. Army 1917 to 1918	Dale E. Klein Lieutenant Colonel U.S. Army 1974-2004	Lawrence A. Klein Staff Sergeant U.S. Army 1944 to 1951	James Knox Specialist 4 1977-1981 Fort Knox, Kentucky Fort Benning, Georgia Wildflecken, Germany	Fred Koricanek Gonzales Sgt. U.S. Army, 1953-1955 38th Parallel * Korea
									
Raymond Kuchynka United States Army Vietnam Vet	Christopher Kuenzler Airman U.S. Air Force 2008 6 yrs.	Richard E. Kuenzler Private U.S. Army 1966 3 yrs.	Richard E. Kuenzler, Jr. Airman U.S. Air Force 1985 6 yrs.	Milton Lackey Gonzales SSG E-6, Army 12 years Vietnam 1969-70	SPC3 Donald K. Leifste Hanford Atomic Weapons Plant, 1953-54 Battery B, 501st AAA Battery, Camp Hanford, WA	Tony Lesak Tech. Sgt. Flight Engineer, Mechanic U.S. Air Force 1953 to 1975 Korean War Veteran	Roberto Limones Jr. SSG U.S. Marines	John M. Longoria Marine Corporal	Arnoldo Lopez Jr. CPL U.S. Marines 2009-2013
									
Claude E. (Gene) Low Denton Creek, Gonzales Co. Tech Sergeant US Army 9th Infantry, 2nd Division, Company C Indian Head Division, Army Rangers, 5.5 years National Guard, 3 years U.S. Army. Action seen: Normandy, Omaha Beach, Northern France, Rhineland Ardennes Forrest (Battle of the Bulge)	Curtis Floyd Mahaffey Decatur Quarter Master Chief (QMC), Navy 24 years Guantanamo Bay, Cuba 2012-13	Darrell Malik Gonzales Sergeant First Class Army 20 years Iraq	Dred Woodley Martin II Gonzales Army Lt. Col. WWII, Korea, Vietnam	David Martinez USMC - Sargent 1970-74 Vietnam 1971-72 2 purple hearts	Roland R. Martinez USAF 1968-1976 Vietnam Veteran Honorable Discharge as SSGT	Billy Gene Massie Gonzales PhM2c V-6, Navy 11-23-42 to 2-17-46 South Pacific	William Scott Massie Gonzales AQ3, E4, Navy 8-22-74 to 10-78 USS Enterprise	James Lee "Jim" McDaniel Sr. Airman US Navy 1957 - 1959	Parker McMickle Gonzales PFC, Army/Air Force 1942-1946, WWII, Luzon & Philippines
									
Julius Mican U.S. Navy Enlisted in 1943 Served in Alameda, California Assisted in bringing in sea planes	Michael E. Mikes Sergeant U.S. Air Force 1975-1980	William J. Miller Jr. Captain U.S. Air Force 1962-1967	Susan Michelle Miller U.S. Air Force Colonel 1996-2000 Active Duty 2000-2017 Reserve	Tim Mitchell Petty Officer 3rd Class U.S. Navy 1966-1969	Col. (Ret) John "Buster" Mohrmann 82nd Air Borne DDay WWII	Dan Nelson Sgt. E-5 USMC 1967-1970 Vietnam 1968	Elbert L Nelson Jr Marlin Heights, WVA Col, Chaplin U.S. Army, 33 years Korea	Christopher Nesbitt E-4 Specialist U.S. Army 1996-2000	
									
J.L. Norwood April 2, 1833 - Oct. 17, 1896 CSA Hood's Brigade Photo not available	John L. Norwood Private, U.S. Army 141st Infantry, 36th Division WWI	A.C. "June" O'Neal Cpl US Army 1948 - 1951	Lupe Ornales SP-E4 U.S. Army, 1965-1967 16 years in the Army National Guard	Hiram Turman Parr Waelder U.S. Air Force, WWII European Theater	Jerome F. Pavliska Gonzales E5, U.S. Army, 1959-1968 Korea 13 months	Margaret "Peggy" Peck-Baros Yeoman 1st Class U.S. Navy Waves, 1943-1945	William M. Peeler Sergeant U.S. Army 1953-1955	William Pekar Sweethome Army Staff Sergeant 1942-1946, WWII	Ronald Pfuhl United States Marines E-2

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Gilbert Charles Philippus U.S. Air Force Security Service 1956-1960 High Speed Intercept Radio Operator International Morse Code Japan	Curtis St. Pierre SFC U.S. Army 1997-2015	Thomas A. Pirkle Private First Class U.S. Army 1944 to 1945	Allison Poteet Sra. U.S. Air Force, 1989-1993 Physical Therapy Technician Randolph AFB	Steve Poteet US Navy (Active & Reserve) 1986-1993, Petty Officer 3rd Class USS Theodore Roosevelt	Bart Priest Sergeant First Class 1987-2007 Resident of Nixon, Texas	Don Rainey Sonarman 2nd Class U.S. Navy 1954-1958 Korean Vet	Estevan Ramirez 1970-1976 U.S. Army SP/5	Inez O. Ramirez Sergeant U.S. Army Served in Vietnam War	Patrick Ramirez Gonzales Private, U.S. Army Reserves Joined July 2014
Antonio (Tony) Ramos Gonzales Sgt. Army, National Guard, Served 20 years, Vietnam, Purple Heart	Bill Reaves Gonzales Seaman, US Navy 1962-1966	Horace Redd Belmont Sergeant, WWII Oct. 1942 – Feb. 1946	Margarito Rezzilla Army Aircorp 1942	Scott Rhodes, Sr. E4 Hospital Corpsman US Navy 1986-1990	Paul D. Riojas Gonzales Private First Class U.S. Army, 1966-68, Vietnam	Cpl Yesenia Martinez-Rivera (left) and Cpl Albert Rivera (right) CLR-15-BOTH, 4 years -USMC-BOTH, Afghanistan-Tour-BOTH	Keith Roberts 2001-2005, Navy E-4 Rank aboard the U.S.S. George Washington	Charles Rochester Sgt. U.S. Army 1969-1971 Korea	Andrew Rodriguez Served 1979-2000 U.S. Army Recruiter in Dallas, TX
Jacob Rodriguez SSG US Army	Jeremy Rodriguez Senior Chief Petty Officer Navy Years of Service: 24	Roderica Rodriguez Gonzales Sp., Army, 1997-2003 National Guard 2008-11	Genaro Saldana Specialist E-4 U.S. Army, 1963-1966 Communications in Germany during Vietnam War	Carl W. Sample WWII 1944-466 Army, Pacific Division, Japan	Horace Layton Sample Private, U.S. Army, Purple Heart Enlisted Nov. 25, 1942	Lt. Col Robert Scheske USAFR 1968-1995	Kevin James Schields Colonel, U.S. Air Force 1989-2016	Howard Schwausch Gonzales Army Sergeant, Enlisted in 2003 Action: Iraq & Afghanistan	Scott Schwausch Gonzales Firefighter, Navy Enlisted in 1994 Desert Storm
					<p>VETERANS DAY THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE</p>				
Walter Simmons Sr. United States Marine Corp, Sgt. E-4, 1953-1961, Korea & Japan 4 Medals	David G. Staton Sergeant U.S. Army 1980-1987	Matthew J. Staton Captain U.S. Army 2001-Present	Roy E. Staton Private U.S. Army 1940-1945	John Stehle Monthalia, Texas					

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US Marines - WWII
1944-1946

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In America, Veterans Day is the day in which we reflect and honor the sacrifice, service, and dedication of the men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. November 11 is a time to appreciate and honor all who served in the military—whether serving here at home or overseas.

This day serves as a reminder of the true meaning of the phrase, service before self. To commit to service in the military is to pledge oneself to a cause greater than an individual. To serve is to set aside one's personal motivations for the betterment of all.

Veterans Day originates from Armistice Day, World War I, Nov. 11, 1918. From those who fought to create our great nation, to those who are currently deployed, we owe a permanent debt of gratitude.

The Lone Star State is home to more veterans than any other state. The Texas Veterans Commission is here to ensure veterans receive the benefits they have earned and connect with services and resources they may need.

May we always remember veterans' selflessness, commitment to duty, and service to all Americans. Showing appreciation can be as simple as saying thank you for your service.

Laura Koerner

*Texas Veterans Commission
Chairwoman and U.S. Navy Veteran*

Well hey there folks. I pray things are going well, and since we've survived our first cold snap, I'll assume they are. Not a big fan of cold weather myself, having survived more than a dozen Chicago winters. I figure that since God created us and dropped us in the Garden of Eden (naked) and not the frozen tundra, that's where we're supposed to be. Maybe I'm just spoiled by our hot Texas summers and generally mild winters, but running around in shorts most of the year sure beats the layers of clothing I've been wearing lately...yep, God bless Texas!

I always put out my plastic cat boxes just before cool weather strikes, lined with memory foam and old blankets to keep my little buddies warm, upgrading to a full two man tent for the harsher weather to come. It helped them survive the winter storm of 2021, keeping both snow and ice off of their furry little heads as they slumbered beneath pile of blankets inside. Warm kitty, happy kitty... purr, purr, purr.

I don't know if I'm just getting wimpier in my old age or what, but I do like being reasonably comfortable as well as having a fairly consistent routine to follow. As younger folks we seem to have abundant energy and recuperative abilities to explore our natural curiosity, seeking whatever

A Story to Tell



ERIC ESTES

Love, Eric and Eloise

new and exciting mysteries life has to offer. The one thing we don't realize as younger folks is that life is tough, and definitely takes a toll on us as we age. There's the saying that "Curiosity killed the cat" (hey, is that a rattle snake?), and could be taken from the earlier saying "Care killed a cat", meaning that excess worry can lead to harm. It seems that either way life, and the things we did or didn't do, catches up to us at some point. It's like they say — if I'd realized I'd last this long, I would've taken better care of myself.

That being said, young 'uns, don't discount old folks and the wisdom they've acquired over the years, as we've fought hard to get here, and you'll eventually become one too. Yep, hate to break the news, but you too will walk funny, talk funny, smell and dress weird, and be somewhat discounted by society also. The good news: you'll no longer care about what others think, because you'll have realized that they're preoccupied thinking about themselves, just like we were. There's definitely something liberating about getting

out from under our self-imposed societal expectations. The secret...enjoy life at whatever stage you're in, as it's all God's gift to you. In the book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon reminds us to remember our creator in the excitement of our youth, before we grow old and the excitement fades away, and that at the end of it all, to serve God and follow his commandments is the whole duty of man. This life is not the end of the story, but the beginning of even a bigger, better story. The one where we'll not only spend an eternity with God himself, but with all of those who chose to accept Christ before (and after) us. Should promises be interesting, to say the least!

Although life is busy and passes faster than we thought possible, I encourage you to collect pieces of your personal story as you go along, as we all have one, and have earned the right to share it with those we'll eventually leave behind. I've learned more about my dad and Eloise through their journals and memoirs than I would've otherwise, and am glad they took the time to leave them behind for the rest of us. We just never know how our experiences, the things we learned and our feelings and philosophies can help and encourage others along their journey. Yep, love lasts forever.

Until next time, love you guys, Eric.

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Elm Grove Baptist Church 4337 FM 1115 Waelder, TX, 78959	CATHOLIC St. James Catholic Church 417 N. College, Gonzales	METHODIST Belmont Methodist Highway 90A, Belmont	River of Life Christian Fellowship 207 Steele St., Smiley
First Baptist Church 422 St. Paul, Gonzales	Sacred Heart Catholic Church St. John St., Gonzales	Dewille United Methodist West of FM 1117 on CR 121	Thompsonville Community Church CR 423, Thompsonville Between Harwood & Waelder off old Hwy. 90
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Iglesia Bautista Macedonia 201 S. Congress, Nixon	Church of Christ E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon	Monthalia Methodist CR 112 off Highway 97	Temple Bethel Pentecostal 1104 S. Paul, Gonzales
Iglesia Bautista Memorial Highway 97, Waelder	Church of Christ, Belmont	Smiley United Methodist 1 blk. S. of Hwy. 87, Smiley	Life Changing Church of Gonzales 3.3 miles north on Hwy 183, right on CR 235, then right on CR 236
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SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Center for Mexican American Studies at Texas Lutheran University, the Mexican American Student Association at Texas Lutheran University, Jessica Anderson - Director of First-Year Experience & Student Transitions, and the local Veteran community are excited to present the First Annual Día de los Veteranos de TLU y Seguin.

This event is a celebration honoring all Veterans at TLU and the Seguin community, specifically the Mexican American/Latinx Veterans from Texas Lutheran University. Día de los Veteranos will be held on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m., on TLU campus in and around Langner Hall at 502 Prexy Dr, Seguin.

The event will host three (3) main attractions: a Lowrider and classic car show, a Proclamation event - officially declaring that the Saturday before Thanksgiving be "Día de los Veteranos" at Texas Lutheran University, and a formal dinner for ALL veterans of Texas Lutheran University.

Lowrider and Classic Car show, 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. in Langner Hall parking lot, 502 Prexy Dr, Seguin. Lowriders and classic cars from the local area will be on display for public viewing. There will be a DJ and a food truck

providing free food, while supplies last. If you would like to showcase your lowrider or classic car, please contact me at csilva@tlu.edu. This event is open to the public.

Proclamation of "Día de los Veteranos" at TLU, 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. in Langner Hall, 502 Prexy Dr, Seguin, Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS) - Room 110. Declares that the Saturday before Thanksgiving is officially "Día de los Veteranos" at TLU. Leading up to this event, we are respectfully asking Veterans to share some of their letters that they have written home from where they served. We will enlarge the letters and frame them to be on display in CMAS during the ceremony and to be kept for display until May 2024. If anyone is comfortable sharing a letter and/or reading a letter, please email me at csilva@tlu.edu or call me at 830.372.6073. This event is open to the public.

Formal Dinner for ALL veterans of Texas Lutheran University, 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m., Alumni Plaza (in front of Langner Hall), 502 Prexy Dr, Seguin. Formal dinner for ALL veterans of TLU with special focus on the Mexican American/Latinx Veterans of TLU. This dinner will celebrate the Veterano graduates of 2023-2024 at TLU. Graduates will formally receive their Veteran stole and a gift bag generously donated by an anonymous fellow Veteran. This is an event closed only to veterans from TLU and their family members.

We have gratefully received a lot of support from the TLU and surround-

ing community regarding this event and would really like for veterans to let us honor you and your families for your service and dedication. We look forward to the whole community coming out to help celebrate our Veterans from Texas Lutheran University and surrounding areas.

The Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS) at Texas Lutheran University was established in 1971 to create new opportunities for service to the Mexican American community and to promote a greater understanding of the Mexican American experience. The CMAS is used as the homebase for the Mexican American Students Association (MASA), a student group with an active, open-to-all membership, and for the Latino Alumni and Friends Association at TLU. The Office of First-Year and Student Transitions coordinates a wide range of programs focusing on support for specialized student populations and campus wide retention efforts on the first year and students in transition. The office is home to such programs as Peer Mentors, Parent & Family support, and academic and social initiatives for transfers, athletes, veterans, and first-generation students.

This production is funded in part by the Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS) at Texas Lutheran University, the Mexican American Students Association (MASA) at Texas Lutheran University, First-Year Experience & Student Transitions, and the local Veteran community.

VA awards GLO, VLB more than \$6.4 million for Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Texas Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham M.D., announced that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has awarded the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and the Texas Veterans Land Board (VLB) \$6,484,476 for the expansion and improvement of Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery in Corpus Christi.

This crucial funding will provide Texas Veterans with 10 years of plot availability by adding 3,130 pre-positioned crypts and 1,220 columbaria niches. Space Force recognition will also be added to the cemetery along with additional irrigation and landscaping.

The VLB will contribute another \$144,000 for off-site road improvement to allow for safe ingress and egress for construction traffic on the east side of the cemetery and motorized entry gates.

Construction is expected to last for 16 months and conclude in early Spring 2025.

The Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery serves more than 42,000 Veterans and their eligible family members. It was opened on December 14, 2011 and is the fourth Texas State Veterans Cemetery built and run by the VLB, under the GLO.

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 Kurt B. White Luling E6, Navy, 2 years, Lemoore Calif., Afghanistan	 William Whiteside PFC US Army Vietnam Harwood, Tx	 David Wood E-7 Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Navy, 1989-2011	 John L. Zavadi Gonzales, SGT E5 Army/National Guard 1956 - 1966 36th Infantry Division Honorable Discharge	 Zachery Earl Zella A1C U.S. Air Force 2019-Current



TWC kicks off statewide hiring event for veterans and their families

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) 12th annual Hiring Red, White & You! statewide hiring event, which provides opportunities for veterans, transitioning military members, and military spouses to connect with employers across Texas, continues through Nov. 17.

"Thank you to our Texas veterans who have served their nation proudly," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "We are honored to again present statewide hiring events to connect veterans, service members, and their spouses with opportunities to showcase their skillsets and create meaningful careers."

Since 2012, Hiring Red, White & You! has served more than 20,000 employers and connected more than 114,000 job seekers to meaningful job opportunities. The free hiring events organized through Hiring Red, White & You! have facilitated more than 3,000 same-day hires since the initiative was launched.

"Hiring Red, White & You! is a win-win situation as it connects Texas employers with our nations heroes and provides veterans an opportunity to continue their career with commitment and purpose after the military," said

TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Aaron Demerson.

"Texas employers that hire from the veteran community will gain a uniquely skilled leader who will be an asset to the company."

Employers are also invited to participate at no cost and are encouraged to contact their local Workforce Solutions Office for more information. Employers who hire veterans may be eligible for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, which allows employers to receive up to \$9,600 of federal business income or payroll tax benefits when they hire from certain qualified groups, including veterans.

"TWC is proud to support more than 22,000 uniformed service members and their families transition from active military duty to a civilian lifestyle in the Lone Star State each year," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Alberto Treviño III. "Our annual Hiring Red, White, and You! job fairs continue to help Texas veterans transition and join the strong civilian labor force."

Find information on how to participate in Hiring Red, White & You! hiring fairs at <https://www.twc.texas.gov/hiring-red-white-you>. For information on all veteran workforce services available in Texas, visit <https://www.twc.texas.gov/services/veterans>.



METRO CREATIVE GRAPHICS

Veterans Land Board votes to provide Texas State Veterans Cemetery Services to Texas military killed in line of duty

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Today, Veterans Land Board (VLB) Chairwoman and Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham M.D., along with fellow board members Judson Scott and James Rothfelder, voted to approve a policy that will provide Texas State Veterans Cemetery services to Texas Military Forces killed in the line of duty, free of charge.

"It is a profound honor to recognize those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the great State of Texas. The selflessness and bravery of our military men and women preserve the safety and security our families rely upon every day," said Commissioner Buckingham. "Unexpectedly laying a loved one to rest is not only an emotional task but also a financial strain. The Texas Veterans Land

Board is honored to be able to assist these heroes' grieving families with the cost associated with the burial and a dignified place to rest, where their families and fellow Texans can remember their legacies and lives."

On September 1, 2023, House Bill 90, the Bishop Evans Act, was enacted and has extended various services to those injured or killed in the line of duty while serving on state active duty, state training, and other duties.

Previously, the VLB approved such burials on a case-by-case basis. Under the new policy, the VLB will provide burial plot space, a headstone, and a flag for state service members eligible for benefits under the adopted Bishop Evans Act.

For more information about Texas Veteran benefits, call 1-800-252-8387, write to VLBinfo@glo.texas.gov, or visit vlb.texas.gov.

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VFW Foundation announces grants are open for application

Reprinted from Veterans of Foreign Wars website.

Standing as the pillars that both uphold thriving or uplift struggling communities, VFW Posts have carried this mission for more than 11 decades.

From building local playgrounds and memorials, to organizing military support events for active-duty troops and cushioning natural disasters with incessant relief efforts, VFW members at the grassroots level take pride in continuing a history of service.

In helping local efforts at the Post and District levels across the world, the VFW Foundation announced two new and innovative ways this year's grants can assist in enhancing service projects that will further impact communities.

The VFW Foundation is offering three grants operating on a reimbursement basis in order to help Posts, Districts and Auxiliaries achieve more.

"The VFW Foundation is excited to offer two new grants this year in the #StillServing Grant and Post Assistance Grant," VFW Foundation's Grants Manager Jason Couch said. "These programs are designed to help local VFW units to maximize the impact they have in their communities by mitigating some of the costs incurred while doing so."

Applications for the #StillServing Grant and Post Assistance Grant, as well as the Uniting to Combat Hunger Grant (UTCH), are now being provided to assist local projects set to help communities.

"VFW Posts, Districts and Auxiliaries do vital work in their communities that deserves both commendation and support," Couch said. "The VFW Foundation is proud to offer grant opportunities that allow them to enhance their critical community service efforts."

For more information, contact Couch

at JCouch@vfw.org.

Below is each grant's guidelines, info and application link:

#StillServing Grant - Applications available at vfw.org/Grants

The #StillServing Grant is offered exclusively to VFW Posts, Districts and Auxiliaries to offset expenses incurred while doing community service projects. Projects require direct involvement by the applying organization's members with members of their community to qualify. Both a VFW Post and its Auxiliary, and a District and its Auxiliary, can receive funding of up to \$1,500, but each applicant organization must have its own unique project. Applicants are limited to receiving a total of \$1,500 during the cycle.

Uniting to Combat Hunger Grant - Applications Available at vfw.org/UTCH

The Uniting to Combat Hunger Grant is a matching grant of up to \$1,500 available to VFW Posts and Auxiliaries for monetary and food donations to local food banks and pantries in their communities. The VFW Foundation will provide a \$1 match for every pound of food or dollar donated to food insecurity organizations. A Post or its Auxiliary may receive this grant but not both.

Post Assistance Grant - Application Available at vfw.org/Grants

The Post Assistance Grant is offered exclusively to VFW Posts to offset expenses incurred for building repairs and equipment that enhances or restores the applicant organization's ability to serve veterans and their community. Auxiliaries, Districts, Departments and other VFW subordinate organizations, etc., may not apply. VFW Posts may receive up to \$2,500 in reimbursement for qualifying projects. Applicants are limited to receiving this grant once every three years, with 2023-24 being the inaugural year.



METRO CREATIVE GRAPHICS

Gonzales Healthcare, City of Gonzales to hold Veterans Day celebration

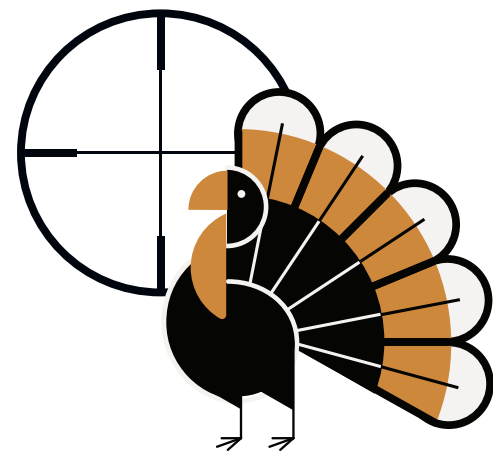
FROM STAFF REPORTS

Gonzales Healthcare Systems and the City of Gonzales will hold their 2023 Veterans Day celebration at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 10 at J.B. Wells Expo Center, 2301 FM 197, Gonzales.

The event will include Taps and a flag folding ceremony by the Gonzales High School ROTC, singing of the national anthem by Amanda

Frederick and door prizes for veterans. A complimentary lunch will be served to show appreciation to the dedication and service of our local veterans.


Event sponsors include Gonzales Healthcare Systems, the City of Gonzales, Baker Boys BBQ, H-E-B, Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative (GVEC), Gonzales Noon Lions Club and the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture.




Veterans Day Turkey Shoot set

The VFW Post 4817 will hold a Veterans Day weekend Turkey Shoot.

Come join the fun on Sunday, Nov. 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$3 per shell (Shells provided and will be handed out!) 12 gauge only. 3302 Harwood Road, Gonzales.



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