

The Gonzales Inquirer

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Cattle Country Music Festival kicks off Friday in Gonzales

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The long wait is over for country music fans as the inaugural Cattle Country Music Festival begins this Friday, April 12, at The Boot in Gonzales. The festival features headliners Eric Church, Whiskey Myers and Koe Wetzel with support from more than 30 plus artists including Chase Rice, Randy Rogers Band, Tanya Tucker, Shane Smith & The Saints, The Red Clay Strays, The War And Treaty, Colbie Caillat, Tracy Lawrence, Tyler Braden, William Clark Green and more.

See **FESTIVAL**, page 19

Commissioners deny request to extend tower project bid date

Heated discussion highlights ongoing rift between court members

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

After a very heated discussion, Gonzales County Commissioners Court voted 3-2 on Monday, April 8 to

deny a three-week extension request by Motorola to submit a bid on the emergency communications tower project.

The county had originally set a bid opening date of 2 p.m. Monday, April 15 for the project, which is being paid for through a \$6,071,588.57 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the General Land Office Mitigation Funding cycle as a result of the devastation caused by Hurricane Harvey in 2017.

Gonzales County initially proposed to add a trunked four-site, four-channel simulcast system with four VHF radio channels at each site. One radio channel at each site would be dedicated to the control channel, leaving three other channels open for voice calls.

The Gonzales County Sheriff's Office would see the addition of a

See **TOWER**, page 6

CLOUDS ECLIPSE THE BIG EVENT



WANDY VAN EPPS
The solar eclipse in a crescent shape behind a cloudy day in San Antonio Monday, April 8.

There was a solar eclipse party held at the Pollard RV Park and Texas Elks Children's Services Inc., 1963 Farm-to-Market Road 1586, in Ottine on Monday, April 8. While the clouds didn't cooperate to make the celestial show visible to those who attended, it was a time of camaraderie and fun with folks present from not only Gonzales County, but also Baytown, Coldspring, New Braunfels, Houston and other communities in Texas.

LEW K. COHN

Early voting in municipal, school elections begins Monday, April 22

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Early voting in the Saturday, May 4, municipal and school board elections begins on Monday, April 22 and will continue through Tuesday, April 30.

Polls will be open in the early voting election room at the Randle-Rather Building, 427 Saint George St., Gonzales, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 22-26 and April 29-30 for the City of Gonzales and Gonzales ISD elections.

They will be open the same days and hours at Nixon City Hall, 302 E. Central Ave., Nixon for City of Smiley and City of Nixon elections and at Waelder City Hall, 300 Hwy 90 W., Waelder for City of Waelder and Waelder ISD elections.

GONZALES CITY COUNCIL

District 2 incumbent Councilmember

See **VOTING**, page 19

GISD celebrates Torres' 40 years of service with district

Gonzales ISD Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda, left, presents the Legacy Lifetime Achievement Award to Trustee Gloria Torres, who has served on the GISD Board of Trustees for 40 years. The award will bear her name and recognizes her dedication to the school district.

CONTRIBUTED/GISD



BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales ISD school board held its regularly scheduled meeting Monday, April 8 at the GISD Administration building.

The board celebrated one of their own at meeting; school board member Gloria Torres was recognized for her dedication to the school

district as she has been on the board for 40 years.

"She's an advocate for students, educators and community progress. Her belief in progress and her commitment to creating a brighter educational landscape has remained the focus of her leadership," said Veronica Johannsen, chief of communications for GISD.

See **TORRES**, page 19

CRUISIN' THROUGH THE PAST



PHOTOS COURTESY MARGUERITE WILLS

Downtown Gonzales looked like a view back in time as the Poor Boy Tour brought their Model A cars to Gonzales on Friday, April 5 and Saturday, April 6. The Poor Boy Tour is a 50-year-old springtime gathering of Model As in South Texas from the Alamo As Model A Ford Club.

Gonzales County Historical Commission to host DeWitt Colony bicentennial luncheon

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The Gonzales County Historical Commission will host a luncheon in May to honor the upcoming bicentennial of Green DeWitt's Colony and the Gonzales County Commissioners Court pledged Monday, April 8 to co-host the event and provide \$1,500 to help fund it.

The May 16 luncheon will take place at the classrooms

building at the old Edwards High School campus and will include a program featuring Doug Kubicek of the Lavaca County Historical Commission and singer-songwriter and Texas historian Fletcher Clark.

Gonzales County Historical Commission Chair Glenda Gordon said the county judges and historical commission chairs from

See **DEWITT**, page 20

Commissioners vote to keep county payroll within auditor's office

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Gonzales County commissioners voted unanimously

to keep payroll functions within County Auditor Becky Weston's office at their Monday, April 8 meeting instead of consolidating them with

the newly created human resources (HR) department.

Last month, the court voted unanimously to move HR out from Weston's office as a sep-

arate department that would answer to the commissioners due to concerns raised by

See **PAYROLL**, page 20



Floyd & Kintz PC, CPAs named Gonzales Main Street Business of the Month

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

In recognition of their steadfast commitment to serving the community, Floyd & Kintz PC, CPAs has been honored as the Gonzales Main Street Business of the Month for April. This accolade celebrates their nearly four decades of providing exemplary CPA services to the Gonzales community.

Jerry Floyd, a pillar of the community, has been offering CPA services in Gonzales for close to 40 years. Situated at 421 Saint James St. since 1986, the firm has a rich history, formerly known as Floyd & Gindler CPAs. However, following Bruce Gindler's retirement in 2020, Jerry Floyd joined forces with Alison Kintz to establish Floyd & Kintz PC, CPAs.

Specializing in accounting, tax returns, and bookkeeping, Floyd & Kintz serves as a vital resource for the community. Boasting a team of four employees, including two experienced

CPAs and several dedicated clerical staff, the firm embodies professionalism and expertise.

Jerry Floyd's roots run deep in Gonzales, with his family tracing back to the 1830s, and his great-great-grandfather having fought at the historic Alamo. Alison Kintz relocated to Gonzales 14 years ago to be closer to family. Both Floyd and Kintz embarked on their careers in major firms in Houston and Austin before returning to Gonzales, drawn by the charm of small-town life.

Their dedication to their clients goes beyond mere transactions, as they strive to build meaningful relationships within the community. With no retirement plans in sight for either Jerry or Alison, Floyd & Kintz remains committed to welcoming new clients and providing top-tier services.

While the firm's name may undergo a change in the future, due to Kintz's forthcoming nuptials and adoption of her husband's surname, their unwav-



CONTRIBUTED

Floyd & Kintz PC, CPAs was named the Gonzales Main Street Business of the Month for April. The firm was honored for providing more than 40 years of exemplary accounting services to the Gonzales community.

ering commitment to excellence will undoubtedly endure.

Floyd & Kintz PC, CPAs stands as a beacon of professionalism and community engagement in Gonzales, Texas, offering a comprehensive suite of CPA services tailored to meet the diverse

needs of their clients.

For more information about Floyd & Kintz PC, CPAs, and how they can assist with tax preparation, planning, bookkeeping, and accounting needs, please visit their office at 421 Saint James St. or contact them at 830-672-2824.



CONTRIBUTED

Frankie Diaz and Aubree Tovar

Tovar, Diaz qualify for UIL State Theatrical Design competition

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales High School Theatre Arts Department is proud to announce that two of its students have qualified for state in UIL Theatrical Design.

Aubree Tovar, a sophomore, and Frankie Diaz, a junior, both qualified with their marketing designs of the musical, "Hadestown."

The prompt UIL gave them was "We will produce the musical, Hadestown, Book, Music & Lyrics by Anaïs Mitchell. After a careful study of the musical, Hadestown by Anaïs Mitchell, designers must select a theme and create a thematic statement that will drive all design decisions and be evident throughout all their design choices and supported with textual or music lyric references."

Aubree and Frankie set to work and submitted their designs on Feb. 17. After waiting for a month, word came from UIL state office that they had made it!

"I'm very glad I've been given the opportunity

to showcase my project at State. I am excited to express my idea of a songbird," Tovar said.

Diaz had a similar reaction — "Super excited to have this opportunity to be able to show my ideas and designs. I'm excited to express my visual ideas of trust and love's transformative power."

Theatre Arts teachers Leslie Buesing and Madison Pope are very proud of these students. In all, five students submitted work, which also included Ainsley Pope, Estrella Zavala (last year's state qualifier in set design), and River VanKirk.

"We had five students submit work in different categories," Buesing said. "It is a tough contest with a lot of work required of them, but these students stayed steady and submitted their work. The theatrical design contest grew this year to 1,150 participants in the entire state. This is a significant accomplishment for these students."

The students will head to the state contest at the Austin Performing Arts Center on May 10-11.

GHS earns Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital Award



SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales Healthcare Systems announced it has been recognized as a 2024 Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital by The Chartis Center for Rural Health.

Chartis' annual Top 100 award program recognizes outstanding performance among the nation's rural hospitals based on the results of the Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX®.

Brandon Anzaldua, the chief executive officer at Gonzales Healthcare Systems, is proud of this accomplishment.

"As we celebrate this achievement, I would like to thank the physicians, clinicians, staff, and board for their unwavering commitment to providing quality healthcare to the patients in our facility," Anzaldua said.

"During an era of profound uncertainty for rural healthcare, the Top 100 rural hospitals continue to provide a unique lens through which we can identify innovation and inspiration for how to deliver high quality care to increasingly vulnerable populations," said Michael Topchik, national leader, The Chartis Center for Rural Health.

"We're delighted to be able to recognize all this year's Top 100 but especially the more than 40 first-time recipients across both categories.



FILE PHOTO

Gonzales Healthcare Systems' current facility has been serving the community since 1978 and continues a tradition of care begun by the Holmes Hospital in 1921.

It's wonderful to see so many new facilities join the ranks of our Top 100 alumni."

Now in its 14th year, the INDEX is the industry's most comprehensive and objective assessment of rural hospital performance. Featuring a methodology utilizing publicly available data, the INDEX is leveraged nationwide by rural hospitals, health systems with rural affiliates, hospital associations, and state offices of rural health to measure and monitor performance across a variety of areas impacting hospital operations and finance.

Gonzales Healthcare Systems is made up of a number of entities, but at the core is Memorial Hospital, a general acute-care facility offering 33 beds for patient care. The current facility, built in 1978, follows a tradition of community service begun by the Holmes Hospital, which

opened in 1921.

Whether entering the system through the GHS Emergency Room, with its Trauma Level IV designation, or as a direct admit from a primary care physician's office, patients coming to

Memorial Hospital can access state-of-the-art diagnostic and therapeutic services.

Additional services provided by Gonzales Healthcare Systems include three rural health clinics, surgical clinic, laboratory, radiology, occupational health services, and physical, occupational, and speech therapies.

The hospital facility includes medical/surgical floor, labor & delivery, surgery, and emergency department. GHS also offers THRIVE Healthplex for your fitness needs.

Detailed information about Gonzales Healthcare Systems may be found online at www.gonzaleshealthcare.com.

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Gonzales Weather

	April 11 79°/55°	Less humid with intervals of clouds and sunshine 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 78
	April 12 81°/54°	Partly sunny 2% chance of rain • RealFeel 80
	April 13 79°/54°	Partly sunny 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 84
	April 14 81°/60°	Sun and areas of high clouds 5% chance of rain • RealFeel 80
	April 15 79°/60°	Cloudy with a thunderstorm in spots 40% chance of rain • RealFeel 84
	April 16 85°/62°	Plenty of sunshine 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 84
	April 17 82°/64°	Partly sunny 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 84

Celebrations

Birthdays

April 11th Kellie Connell Kelsie Forester Liz Hernandez Timberley Mobbs Jordan Mueller Katie Pfuhl Murphy Philip Smith	Will Irle Loni Yates Tommy Schurig
April 12th Brandon Avant Crystal Ehrig Julie Lester Devin Warzecha Travis West	April 14th John Ramos Anna Ruddock Paula Gay Sutton
April 13th Zane DuBose	April 15th Liz Davis Ronda Miller
	April 17th Anita Dement Becky Lowery Roosevelt Merriweather Jr. Sadie Ybarbo

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Ag Commissioner extends Young Farmer Grant application deadline

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller extended the Young Farmer Grant Program applications through April 17, 2024. This extension aims to provide additional support and assistance to young farmers facing challenges from the Panhandle wildfires.

In addition to the State of Texas Agriculture Relief (STAR) Fund, farmers interested in enhancing their operations through expansion, better land management, increased technology utilization, or other improvements should review this grant opportunity. Examples of previous projects include expanding and improving traditional cattle, pork, and sheep operations, diversifying poultry lines, and starting new floral and food processing businesses.

“The Texas Department of Agriculture supports production agriculture, whether it involves hooves, feathers, or flowers,” Commissioner Miller said. “As the average age of our Texas farmers and ranchers continues to increase, we are determined to do all we can to nurture a rising generation of agricultural producers coming up in a challenging economic environment.”

According to USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service's Ag Census data, one-third of the United States' 3.4 million farmers are over 65. In Texas, nearly 40 percent of producers are nearing retirement age.

Young Farmer Grant program awards can significantly help with starting or improving a ranching or farming operation. Awards can be used to purchase livestock and

small equipment, land and equipment leasing costs, and hiring and training expenses, among other expenditures. Applicants must be able to provide dollar-for-dollar matching funds.

“Supporting the next generation of farmers and ranchers is vital to future prosperity in Texas,” said Commissioner Miller. “These grants will put young producers on the path to success and make sure Texas agriculture remains a robust economic engine.”

The Young Farmer grant awards are part of a larger effort to promote and sustain the Lone Star State's position as an agricultural powerhouse by supporting younger agricultural producers. By helping young farmers and ranchers, the Texas Department of Agriculture aims to maintain a vital agriculture industry for generations to come.

Garden Q&A

with CALVIN FINCH



Q. What is the best way to both manage water use efficiently and to retain the freedom to garden without undo restrictions?

A. Based on the experiences we have had in the Central Texas area you want to insist on the participation of water resource entities, local elected officials, gardeners, environmental groups, volunteers such as the Master Gardeners, garden clubs, and the landscaping industry to compromise on water use rules that actually save the water you must to meet the supply available. Everyone participates in the decisions and everyone commits to compliance.

Q. What is that vine weed that is browning now with a sticky seed that sticks to everything, especially the pets? What can we do to combat it?

A. I believe you are describing bedstraw. At the stage it is in now take short-toothed rake and rake the weed vines into a bundle which can be placed in the compost pile or garbage. The vines respond well to raking them

into tight bundles. Next fall about Sept 1 apply a preemergent herbicide like Crew, Barricade, or Dimension to the area that the bedstraw was growing to prevent its germination for another year. Follow label instructions.

Q. I know Monarch Butterflies will only lay their eggs on milkweed. What are some other area butterflies that have similar preferences?

A. Queen butterflies also lay their eggs on milkweed. Black swallowtails prefer fennel, parsley, and dill. Giant swallowtails select citrus plants like satsumas, grapefruit and lemons. Passion vines are used for egg-laying by quite a few species of butterflies but in our area are dominated by the gulf fritillaries. Of course the cabbage loopers lay their eggs on cabbage, collards, broccoli and other greens. Sunflowers in my neighborhood host the bordered patch butterfly. Cannas are the plants that Brazilian skippers lay their eggs on.

Q. When is it time to plant okra?

A. Plant okra seeds now.

Gonzales ICA to meet April 23

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales Chapter of the Independent Cattlemen's Association (ICA) Of Texas will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 23, at 3302 Harwood Road, Gonzales.

The speaker and sponsor for the meeting will be Harrison Smith and the topic of the program will be mineral supplementation.

A meal and beverages will be provided and there will be door prize giveaways.

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET

April 6th, 2024
Cattle – 1105

Compared to our last sale: Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold steady with a softer undertone. Less quality calves and yearlings sold softer. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold softer.

Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 325-410; 300-400 lbs., 285-400; 400-500 lbs., 225-315; 500-600 lbs., 228-280; 600-700 lbs., 195-250; 700-800 lbs., 188-231. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 90-155.

Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 325-375; 300-400 lbs., 300-355; 400-500 lbs., 275-295; 500-600 lbs., 195-285; 600-700 lbs., 201-223.

Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 109-121; Cutters, 126-138; Canners, 85-92; High yielding fat cows, 120-128.

Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 141-155; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 124-138.

Stocker Cows: \$900 to \$2,100. Pairs: \$1,400 to \$2,550.

NIXON LIVESTOCK

April 8th, 2024
Cattle – 1425

Steers: 200-300 lbs - \$281-380
300-400 lbs - \$284-395
400-500 lbs - \$254-340
500-600 lbs - \$236-293
600-700 lbs - \$216-260
700-800 lbs - \$203-235

Heifers: 200-300 lbs - \$263-310
300-400 lbs - \$245-390

400-500 lbs - \$227-350
500-600 lbs - \$234-260
600-700 lbs - \$205-229
700-800 lbs - \$209-230
Slaughter Cows - \$98-140
Slaughter Bulls - \$108-158
Stocker Cows - \$980-1520
Pairs: \$2350

HALLETTVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.

Sale date: April 2nd
Cattle on hand: 1091

Packer Cows: High Dressing: \$122-149
Medium Dressing: \$108-126
Low Dressing: \$92-106
Poor/Weak Cows: \$75-90

Packer Bulls: High Dressing Bulls: \$148-163
Medium Dressing Bulls: \$125-147

Low Dressing Bulls: \$102-125

Stocker Cows:

Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: \$1550-2100
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1100-1500
Good Cow & Calf Pairs: 4 PAIR \$2200-2500
Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: NONE

Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:

Number 1 steer & bull calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$340-425
200-300 lbs.: \$330-415
300-400 lbs.: \$320-405
400-500 lbs.: \$290-380
500-600 lbs.: \$265-310
600-700 lbs.: \$230-280
700-800 lbs.: \$215-265

Number 1 heifer calves:

Under 200 lbs.: \$320-400
200-300 lbs.: \$275-375
300-400 lbs.: \$275-340
400-500 lbs.: \$260-330
500-600 lbs.: \$240-290
600-700 lbs.: \$220-270
700-800 lbs.: \$195-245

Replacement Heifers:

350-700 lbs.: \$280-325
Number 1 calves in all weight brackets sold mostly steady. Demand continues very good. Fleshy new crop calves seeing some pressure selling mostly \$3 to \$5 lower. Average of all calves sold was \$3 lower. Packer cows & bulls sold \$3 to \$6 higher again on 200 head total.

SEGUIN CATTLE CO.

April 3rd
Market Trend: Quality not very deep. Stocker cattle softer.

Packer cows and bulls another 2-3 better.
Cattle – 628
Sheep & goats – 586
Medium & large frame #1
Steers:

200-300 lb. 1.60-3.03-3.60
300-400 lb. 1.15-2.94-3.90
400-500 lb. 1.15-2.63-3.25
500-600 lb. 1.00-2.17-3.02
600-700 lb. .80-2.03-2.55
700-850 lb. 1.45-2.09-2.42
Medium & large frame #1
Heifers:

200-300 lb. 1.35-2.49-3.60
300-400 lb. 1.25-2.47-3.23
400-500 lb. 1.15-2.42-3.05
500-600 lb. 1.00-2.18-2.80

600-750 lb. .85-2.14-2.38

Cows:

Utility & commercial – 1.20-1.33-1.47
Cutters – 1.13-1.18-1.21
Cannors. - NONE
Palpated cows – 1250-2050
Cow/Calf Pairs – 2650

Bulls:

Heavy High Yielding – 1.45-1.63
Light & Low Yielding – 1.10-1.44
Sheep & Goats:
Nannies – 70-200
Kid Goats (Fat) – 2.40-3.00
Wethers -2.40-2.67
Billies – 1.30-2.15

Dorp. Ewes - 70-215
Dorp. Lambs (Fat) – 2.30-3.10
Woolled Ewes – 90-120
Woolled Bucks – 1.30-1.60
Lambs – 1.30-1.80
Barb. Bucks – 425

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT

on April 5, 2024

Number of head 1,716

There were 256 cows and 46 bulls. Once again, prices continue to rise each week as the packer bulls were up \$7/cwt to \$167, while cows were up another \$5/cwt to \$147/cwt. Each week sees new all-time highs as demand continues to be very strong.

The calf market was very active, but at a lower level. Negative impact of the bird flu in dairy cattle had a negative psychological effect on the board. As a result, calf values were about 5% less than the last sale. Packer bulls: All Weights 110.00-167.00

Packer cows:

cannors & cutters 92.00-147.00
poor & weak 30.00-57.00
Palpated: 32 bred \$1350-\$1725
PAIRS: 13 \$1,950-\$2,450

Stocker Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

Under 200 lbs. NONE
250-299 lbs 327.50-402.50
300-350 lbs. 352.00-395.00
350-400 lbs. 292.00-370.00
400-450 lbs. 298.00-342.00
450-500 lbs. 285.00-330.00
500-550 lbs. 264.00-314.00
550-600 lbs. 256.00-312.00
600-700 lbs 231.00-292.00
700-800 lbs 216.00-254.00

Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

Under 250lbs 315.00-380.00
250-300 lbs. 330.00-382.00
300-350 lbs. 329.00-395.00
350-400 lbs. 299.00-380.00
400-450 lbs. 292.00-342.00
450-500 lbs. 287.00-328.00
500-550 lbs. 276.00-318.00
550-600 lbs. 255.00-286.00
600-700 lbs 238.00-275.00
Over 700 lbs. 206.00-268.00

Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

under 200 lbs. 333.00-400.00
200-250 lbs. 292.00-350.00
250-300 lbs. 274.00-345.00
300-350 lbs. 281.00-346.00
350-400 lbs. 269.00-342.00
400-450 lbs. 259.00-320.00
450-500 lbs 250.00-310.00
500-550 lbs 250.00-311.00
550-600 lbs 235.00-288.00
600-700 lbs. 221.00-262.00
Over 700 lbs 198.00-246.00

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And that was then ...

Lynn, Crystal were special part of Gonzales' community

BY BOB BURCHARD
Special to the Inquirer

Have you heard? The Lynn Theater is re-opening in Gonzales. What fun that is going to be! Speaking of movies...What is the lowest admission price that you remember paying to go see a movie? Or as we used to call it, a picture show. For me, it was 9 cents at The Crystal Theater here in Gonzales and at the same price at The Lynn, also in Gonzales. Later, I remember paying 15 cents for a child's ticket. The grown-ups paid 35 cents, and it went up to 50 cents when I was in High School in the early to mid 1950's. The Lynn Theater, which opened in September of 1948, was the place to go on a Saturday night date in Gonzales.

The Lynn, Crystal, and also the Pix Theaters were owned and operated by Lynn Smith, Sr., and Lynn Smith, Jr. People used to arrive at the picture show at whatever time they desired, buy a ticket, go in, and sit down. It did not matter that the feature had been playing for 30 minutes or an hour or so. You just went in and sat down. And all the through the movie people would get up and leave saying, "This is where we came in." Or someone would say "Let's stay and see it to the end, again. I want to see the cartoon one more time."

And The Lynn would have movies at midnight - I mean scary movies. They would scare the living daylights out of you. I was so scared of coming out of those movies when I was a kid. I would walk home in the middle of the street. Who am I kidding....I ran down the middle of the street all the way home.

The Lynn and Crystal would have cartoon specials on Saturday morning for the kids for 25 cents. They would show nothing but cartoons. And here was the real attraction...the popcorn was free! All you could eat. That's right - cartoons and free popcorn, all for 25 cents. Was that a good deal or what?

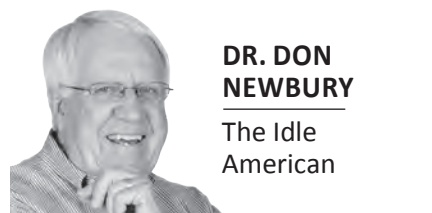
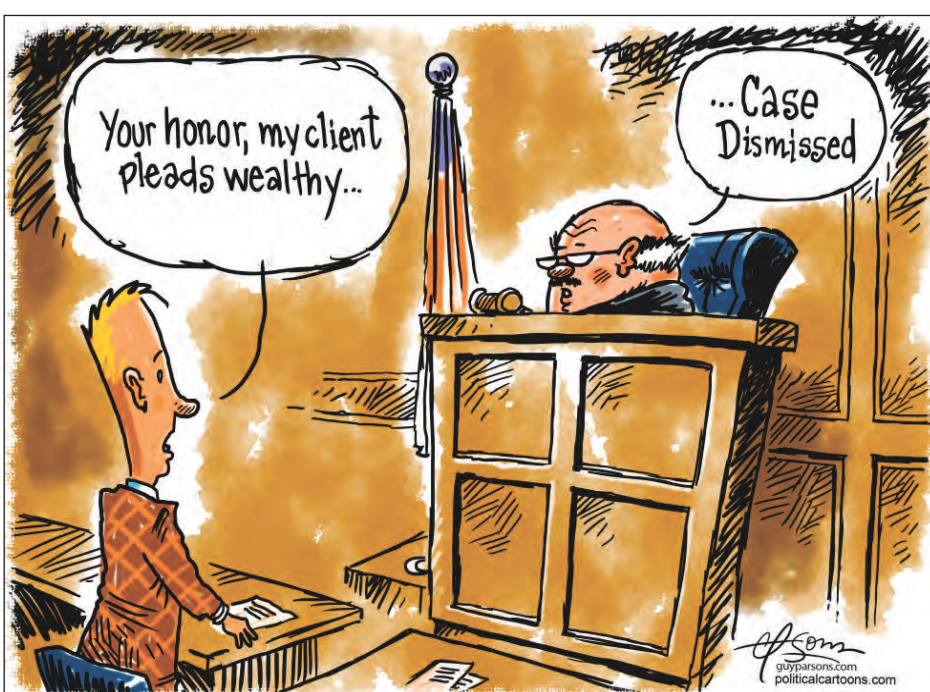
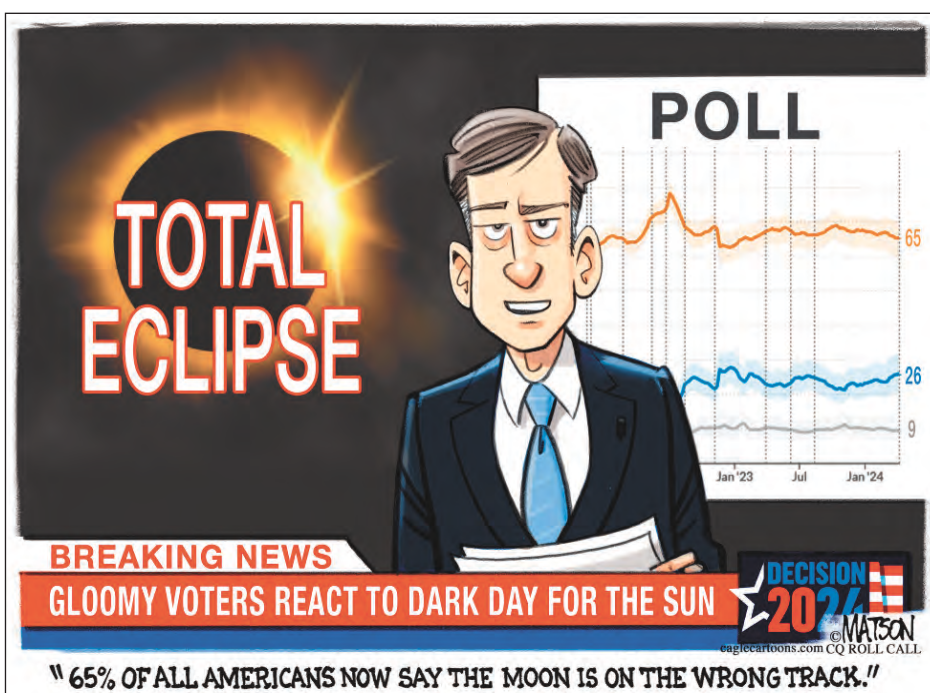
But, I'll tell you something that made me feel like Mighty Joe Young. My junior year at Gonzales High School we won the District Championship in Football - that was the Fall of 1953. To reward the team, Mr. Lynn Smith, Sr., and Lynn Smith, Jr., gave free admission to the movies to all football team members and their dates. Man, that was pretty heavy stuff for a 16-year-old kid. Free movies. Could you want anything else? Could life ever be as sweet?

As younger kids we went to the picture show every Saturday afternoon. They showed mostly westerns at the Crystal. I remember seeing Johnny Mack Brown, Lash Larue, Hopalong Cassidy, The Durango Kid (He wore a mask as I recall) And, the ultimate masked man, old Kemosabe, himself - The Lone Ranger. Roy Rogers and Dale Evans - they sang lots of songs. The Sons of the Pioneers sang with Roy. And Gene Autry. Do you remember the name of Gene Autry's horse? Was it Champ or Champion? Something like that. Roy Roger's horse was named Trigger. Roy had Gabby Hayes as his sidekick.

The Crystal Theater is still in operation presenting spectacular stage productions and serving as the home for the Gonzales Shakespeare Ninjas theater group.

The Lynn Theater still stands in Downtown Gonzales, under new ownership, ready to show movies to a new generation. But that is where many of us grew up - first dates; seeing the world as shown to us by the World News Roundup; seeing sports highlights. But also seeing skinny kids without enough food; countries at war; not quite understanding how those events affected us; not understanding the world that awaited us, the world we viewed from our comfortable seat at the Lynn Theater in downtown Gonzales.

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



DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

The Blackwood name lives on...

The name "Blackwood" has been as closely linked to Southern Gospel Music as ham and eggs to diners, Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz to TV, and Tarzan and Jane to jungle movies. The family has endeared itself to a grateful nation for their renditions of gospel music for some 125 years.



RW Blackwood Jr.

It began when the family started singing in churches in 1934, when the Great Depression had the country in a death grip. In the original group were Roy, his oldest son R.W. and his two brothers, James and Doyle. (Actually, Blackwood music first came from the fiddle of Emmett Blackwood--Roy's dad--in the 1890s.)

There have been many names, including Blackwood Brothers, Blackwood Family and Blackwood Singers. They've all had songs in their hearts, commitment in their souls and remarkable energy as pioneers in Southern Gospel Music. "Southern" is worthy of note; the USA is devoid of Eastern, Northern and Western Gospel Music....

In Branson recently, I chatted with R.W. Blackwood, Jr., who has sung at Pigeon Forge and Branson venues since 1990. He was a lad when his dad and uncles started gaining national renown in the 1940s.

He took leave of his Branson "gig" in November and has been battling COVID and lung trouble. "I've been singing full-time, mostly on the road, for 60 years," he said. "Isn't it time for a sabbatical?..."

Thankfully, his lung x-rays show improvement. He credits medical science and heavy-duty prayers at his church and beyond.

Alongside is Donna, his wife of 58 years. (Donna, R.W. Jr. and his brother Ron and wife Sandra, were members of the Blackwood Singers.)

During leave time, R.W. and Donna are greatly enjoying their two children, 11 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren, with two more expected soon....

A book about the Blackwoods would require multiple volumes. They've sung throughout the nation and beyond, appearing before both handful-sized groups and others that would fill largest cathedrals. R.W. cites many reasons for his family's preeminence.

First-generation Blackwoods traveled on horse-drawn conveyances, long before the family criss-crossed the nation in Cadillacs. Then, they had the first-ever customized "tour bus," followed by a twin-engine plane whose pilot was R.W. Sr. Tragically, he and Bill Lyles, another group member and also a pilot, were killed in an Alabama plane crash in 1954.

The funeral for R.W. Blackwood, Sr. was attended by thousands of friends and fans, among whom was a close family friend, Elvis Presley. (An even larger Memphis funeral was held 23 years later when Elvis died.)....

Presley and the Blackwoods visited often. Elvis always chose to sing gospel songs only, leaving his rock-and-roll performances for other places. Enamored by the Blackwoods' tour bus, he had a similar one customized for himself.

R.W. Jr. fondly remembers his childhood, playing games with the Everly Brothers when they were children.

He cherishes memorabilia of the family, many of whom branched out to join other groups after getting started....

Discovering the Blackwoods were Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scout Show and Ted Mack's Amateur Hour. Then, singing in Shenandoah, Iowa, on KMA Radio--a 50,000-watt station covering much of the nation--helped greatly. Later, they sang at many Billy Graham Crusades.

The Blackwoods have won every award for gospel music, including eight Grammys and seven Dove Awards. His favorite is the Memphis Music Award. They've recorded numerous albums and sold millions

The Gonzales Inquirer

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Take a hike — in Gonzales and other Texas locales

BY BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

Gonzales was named among the best places to hike in Texas by World Atlas in "11 Best Hikes in Texas."

While we all know everything is bigger (and better!) in Texas, sometimes being on the "short list" of great things is a very big honor, and accomplishment.

These eleven (11) hikes that are recommended in Texas (listed below) include the best places in Texas to take a walk, or more serious hike, and enjoy a full day exploring, learning, and adventuring.

Texas borders several other diverse US states (Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, and New Mexico), as well another country, namely Mexico. It's, therefore, far from surprising that the state offers a vast variety of regions to explore.

Among other things our great state offers forests, prairies, deserts, wetlands, coastlines and other areas of prime interest. Hiking in Texas is spectacularly unique and beautiful, and is deserving of not just a visit, but several.

The other ten locations mentioned include South Rim Trail in Big Bend National Park, located in southwest Texas. A beautiful location, including a gorgeous desert park with a higher biodiversity than any other singular park in the US. Home to thousands of plant species, as well as hundreds of bird, mammal, reptile,



Palmetto State Park

amphibian and fish species, as well as over 3000 species of insects.

The view from the top, however, is what draws visitors to the dramatic cliff edge at the summit, highlighting a panoramic view of surrounding mountains, canyons, deserts and areas across the border in Mexico.

Next listed on the list of must-sees is the LBJ Grasslands Red Train in the Lyndon B. Johnson National Grasslands. These wide open grasslands are the vista expected when visitors imagine those open plains glorified in the cinema. However, when hiking this area it becomes clear that the beautiful and

vast ecosystem, mostly underappreciated, is the real reason to visit this charming locale. This park is found in the Northeast part of the state, an hour north of Fort Worth. Visit the over 20,000 acres of protected land and 75 miles of almost completely flat trails on foot or horseback.

Want to see 100 million year old rocks while being transformed to yesteryear among visible rock layers that tell our state story? Visit Fate Bell Pictograph walking tour in Seminole Canyon State Park. Visit this hauntingly beautiful part of Texas history and be touched by the magic of our natural resources. For any individual eager,

and brave enough, for a more remote adventure further hikes, traveling higher, are available in an eight hour Presa Canyon tour, which visits pictograph sites normally not accessible by the general public. This park is located in Comstock, Texas, located in Val Verde county.

Lighthouse Trail, in Palo Duro Canyon State Park is considered an oasis, located in the Texas panhandle. Often referred to as the "Grand Canyon of Texas", the park has a huge expectation to match, in visitors eyes. Most consider it met while visiting the multicolored layers of rock that expand downwards hundreds of feet, as well as a canyon that lends itself to exploration with its length of hundreds of feet. The canyon is home to an over abundance of desert flora and fauna, and the park also has incredible trails, with Lighthouse trail considered to be iconic due to its lighthouse shaped rock formation which rises quite dramatically from a valley surrounded with red, pink and orange hued cliff sides. Visitors are advised to remember the desert climate of this locale and to pack plenty of adequate supplies, such as water and snacks.

The next on the list is Padre Island National Seashore, in Padre Islands along the gulf of Mexico at the Texas southern coastline. This location is actually more aptly a walk, rather than a hike, yet it still should be on the list to visit, as it is so lovely, offering a unique mainland to explore, including an island parallel to the mainland (called a barrier island). Come and see dolphins, and sea turtles if you are among the lucky frequent visitors to this bay area.

Guadalupe Peak, in Guadalupe Mountains

National Park is the next on this list. Listed as the hike to the "top of Texas", at 8,751 feet this trek is not for all hikers, but those who can handle the 3,000 foot of gain in elevation, in a roughly 6-8 hour period, proclaim the view more than worth the effort. Found in West Texas, about 90 miles east of El Paso this hiking destination if considered a must see for avid adventurers Remember your hiking boots, for comfort and safety, as well as your backcountry camping permit, and spend the night, or several, among the stars, then wake up and experience a beautiful sunrise.

The next trail is actually a long-distance trail, both suitable for long and short adventures, with 130 mile point to point trail located in East Texas. This trail is the Lonestar Trail, in Sam Houston National Forest. Enjoy that East Texas charm, as well as the diversity of plant and tree species found along this trail. Near the town of Richards, just south of Huntsville and north of North Cleveland the hike offers solitude and multiple opportunities to view wildlife in their natural habitat.

Near Austin there is another great hiking opportunity. The Great Escape Trail, in the Mule-shoe Bend Recreation Area. Located about an hour away, on the Colorado River, the prime spot offers 540 acres of trails, picnic areas, bike paths, as well as a close up view of oaks, and meadows, with bluebonnets as far as the eye can see. The path gets its name from the mule shoe-shaped bend in the river.

Next is Gorman Falls Trail in Colorado Bend State Park, located several hours northwest of Austin. This park highlights the natural water resources

in our State, with rivers, creeks, springs and falls all around the area. There are also sinkholes and underground caves along the 3.8 mile out and back trail lying amidst beautiful forests with moss covered rocks all around. Over millions of years the falls have widened to 650 feet wide and 60 feet thick, creating a must see destination for all proud Texas natives, as well as out of state visitors.

East Trail in the Lost Maples State Natural area is next on the list, highlighting the season Texans often believe to not exist in our state, fall. For those who long for that autumn time, filled with multicolored oak, cypress, maple and sycamore trees, as well as the warm beverages that accompany such viewings, ideally, look no farther. Located around 70 miles northwest of San Antonio this area encompasses the Edwards Plateau, with an open forest, and caves that provide habitation areas to many species. Which enhances the sightings of many species of wildlife, including the largest bat colonies in the world! There are several trails to explore, however, the East Trail is a wondrous three miles of scenery, including spring fed rivers, sheer rock faces and hill country views that are incredible and must be seen to be believed.

Last, but naturally first in the view of Gonzales locals, is Palmetto State Park. A vista that is almost primordial, straight from the Jurassic age, the vast greenery, swamps, humid air and a multitude of Dwarf Palmettos (of a small palm species) is a marvel to behold, with this beautiful park being named for these small palm plants, and being famous for the beautiful hikes offered within.

This paradise like area offers eight trails, which range from the briefer 15 minutes, to the more detailed and adventurous 1.5 hours, visitors can put their own hikes together, allowing for areas which suit individual schedules, abilities, and the search for different unique animals along various paths, including armadillos and regal Crested Caracaras.

No matter where you prefer to spend time among hiking trails of Texas (though Palmetto is still the best, in my very humble opinion) remember that all are part of the Texas geography that we are so proud to call home. Visit Texas and you are home, forever; if lucky enough to be born in Texas take your blessed self down to these wonderful places of adventure and see what all that Texas pride and fuss is about.

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TOWER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

master site and simulcast prime site along with a co-located radio frequency (RF) site with a four-channel P25 expandable site subsystem (ESS) for future growth as well as a new antenna assembly and a new 300-foot guyed tower.

There would be an additional simulcast remote RF site with four-channel trunked ESS and a new 300-foot guyed tower in Belmont and another simulcast remote RF site with four-channel trunked ESS in Waelder.

The project was advertised for bids in the March 21, 2024 Gonzales Inquirer, but specifications had been changed from a VHF simulcast system to "a P25 Phase 2 standards-based 700/800 MHz trunked radio system to provide greater county-wide communications coverage and message capacity. Components include: 3 new towers, 2 new shelters and 3 emergency backup generators, trunked radio network with geographically-redundant central control systems, interface with, or replacement of existing dispatch console equipment, and redundant IP-based microwave backhaul."

There are two primary contractors expected to bid on the project — Motorola through their authorized dealer, Victoria Communications Services (VCS), and the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) through Dailey Wells. These are the same contractors who were considered when the county was purchasing radios for first responders a few years ago.

A pre-bid conference was held at the GCSO tower site at 202 FM 523, Gonzales, at 11 a.m. March 26.

There is an error in the advertisement as the copy (printed directly from the source material received by the Inquirer) states the project can be found on CivCastUSA's website under the city/county, which is listed as Fulton/Aransas County instead of being listed under Gonzales/Gonzales County.

During Monday's meeting, County Judge Pat

Davis said Anna Aldridge, the vice president and senior project manager for Hanson Professional Services, the engineering firm overseeing the project, had asked for a three-week extension of the bid as Motorola had indicated that "due to the complexity of this RFP and the amount of civil work involved." He said Aldridge had indicated bid extensions are not uncommon and are typically granted in most bid processes to make sure contractors are able to comply with bidding requirements and to make sure the process does generate competitive bids.

Precinct 3 Commissioner Kevin La Fleur said he didn't understand why Motorola needed an extension and was requesting one very early in the process.

"When we were fixing the RFP deal up, before it even came out they were asking for an extension," La Fleur said. "They were asking for an extension before we ever went out for bids or right there at the same time. It's like I'm telling you, 'I'm want this job done in a month,' and before you ever get started, they're telling you, 'I'm going to need a month more.'"

"Some of the stuff that was said (by Motorola representatives) is that the changes (made to the RFP by commissioners) would benefit one company over another," Davis replied. "According to the people I've talked to, it does."

"That RFP that Anna pasted and printed to us was a Motorola spreadsheet," La Fleur said. "The specs she came out with were strictly Motorola. That's why we changed it. All I'm saying is that there was changes for both to where it was a 700/800 deal. Anna's original deal had simulcast in it."

"Because the initial deal started out as Motorola until you got involved and LCRA came in on it," Davis said. "I think your RFP should give the ability for any company that wants to bid on it and if they need an extension, I don't know why you wouldn't want to allow that exten-

sion. It's really funny that this all started out as one deal, and when LCRA came in on it, everything was benefitting them."

Davis said he went to the pre-bid conference and "it was just nothing but LCRA. Very few of anybody else out there. It's obvious that it's one sided. (Motorola) were there, but it is obvious that everything has been decided already to benefit one company than the other."

La Fleur said he, Precinct 1 Commissioner Dell Whiddon and Precinct 2 Commissioner Donnie Brzozowski changed bid specs because "we're sitting here trying to get the best bang for our buck. We went out for bids."

Davis also brought out a stack of emails he said he had received from county officials in Comal and Kerr counties that indicated La Fleur's son, Justin La Fleur — who serves on the Nixon City Council — was lobbying to have those counties consider purchasing systems from LCRA and/or Dailey Wells instead of Motorola.

Copies of the emails obtained by the Inquirer show they were sent by Justin La Fleur to Comal County Commissioner Jen Crownover and Kerr County Judge Rob Kelly, with Crownover forwarding her email to Comal County Sheriff Mark Reynolds for help responding to the younger La Fleur.

"I can go back to when we started incept on this, and what blows my mind is that we are supposed to be concerned about Gonzales County, but this initially started as the system what it was, and then you and your son got involved in it and things changed," Davis said. "It blows my mind that I have emails from other counties, including Comal and Kerr County ... and when I am told that you and your son are advocating for the LCRA system over there and I don't understand why you are worried about another county other than just Gonzales."

"You didn't include Wilson County because I also talked to them over there,"

La Fleur responded. "I was shopping and there is a difference between shopping and just going with what one person says."

Brzozowski defended La Fleur, stating he was "gathering information to help us and I appreciate that intent, because I don't understand a lot of this stuff and I don't think a lot of people understand this high-tech stuff."

Davis also said neither he nor Precinct 4 Commissione Collie Boatright get included in a lot of communications and information that is exchanged between La Fleur, Whiddon and Brzozowski and it looks like they are making decisions on their own without including their colleagues.

"I think Boatright and I have been left out a lot. I didn't say anything when you changed all the RFPs and just let everything roll as it is, but it's obvious when I get emails from people where precincts 1, 2 and 3 have already talked about it, but (Boatright) knows nothing about it and I know nothing about it," Davis said.

Davis produced an email between Carly Russell, the road and bridge secretary for Precincts 1, 2 and 3, and Aldridge — a copy of which was obtained by the Inquirer through a Texas Open Records Act request.

In the email, Aldridge said she is working on answers to contractor questions about the project asked Russell, "Regarding a possible extension, it's my understanding that you've spoken with the Commissioners for Precincts 1, 2 & 3 and they're not in favor of extending the bid date? I'm hoping to get an answer our soon."

Russell's email reply states, "No ma'am I spoke to them regarding it and then called you to get the clarification on why they were needing the exten-

sion. How does Judge Davis feel about getting the extension?"

"Nobody has talked to me about anything. Carly hasn't said anything. You do what you want to, I know that you're going to do what you want," Davis said.

Brzozowski responded that Russell is the secretary for he, Whiddon and La Fleur and that Boatright was given the opportunity to have her work for him as well, but he refused.

"The day we hired a secretary, he told us he didn't need a secretary and didn't want to be involved," Brzozowski said.

"At the time, I did not need a secretary because I am in Nixon every day and not in Gonzales," Boatright said.

"So we didn't exclude you, did we?" Brzozowski asked.

"I am excluded from the communication. I don't get cc'ed on email. Were all together in the same boat but I'm in a different location. I don't need the secretary but I need to communication to be included in the loop," Boatright said.

"I'm confused. You want to be part of the group but you don't want to have a secretary?" Brzozowski asked.

"The flow of the information needs to be amongst all of the court," Boatright said.

"Then you need to contribute a little cash towards the secretary so you can get some," Brzozowski said.

"I don't need a secretary. I don't want her to work for me. I just want to be included in the information and have some communication. That's what our problem has always been — a communication issue."

Davis also told the court that Hanson had recommended putting together a hybrid system that would include VHF as

well as 700/800 and that Sheriff Keith Schmidt had told the court "he would be bulletproof if he had both of those systems. One system goes down, you still have the other system."

The judge also decreed that he believed Gonzales County would be giving "a somewhat state entity, LCRA, an \$8 million project that they're going to come in and have these four towers and it's going to strengthen their radio system undodly. They're going to bank off Gonzales taxpayer dollars because all these radios they have on it, 35,000 or 40,000, and we're still going to have to pay them \$20 per month per radio."

"We're going to give them an \$8 million system and then we're at liberty to them," Davis added. "We're at their mercy if say a little while from now they're going to go to \$25 per radio per month. I don't know how many radios we have, but divide that by \$8 million and you get 160 years. We should have free radio because everyone who comes through here is going to use that system and (LCRA) is going to get paid for it and what does the county get?"

Brzozowski said Motorola would "charge the dickens out of us for maintenance" on a Motorola-built system, to which Davis said the maintenance fee could be whatever the county decided it wanted to pay for maintenance.

He noted that "we've had a system for 32 years in place and didn't pay for any maintenance except to put a couple of repeaters on it and it worked just fine. It's just outdated."

Brzozowski later made a motion not to extend the bid date and he, Whiddon and La Fleur voted in favor of that motion. Boatright and Davis voted against the motion to keep the bid date the same.

NEWBURY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

of records. They also collaborated with Dallas' Stamps-Baxter Music Company to produce thousands of song books.

Back home in Ackerman, MS, is the Blackwood Brothers Parkway....

Just 11 years of age when his dad died, R.W. had to grow up quickly.

He's grateful for God's many blessings. In recent weeks, he has enjoyed attending Branson theaters instead of singing

in them. His son Robbie is a drummer for the popular Clay Cooper Show. Grandson Joey is a singer/dancer in the Cooper Show and a singer in the theater's Elvis Show.

May the Blackwoods continue to brighten our lives.....

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, continues to write weekly and speak throughout Texas. Contact: 817-446-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com.



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Individuals with a disability wishing to request a reasonable accommodation to complete the application process should contact the apartment manager at 830-582-1343.
Para solicitar un apartamento favor llamar a manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343. Para solicitar una adaptacion o modificacion razonable, favor llamar manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343.
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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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CAL MAINE FOODS Inc. Happy Hen location is looking for Shipping and Receiving, Palletizer. Benefits include: Vacation, Sick leave, Hosp. Ins., Dental, Vision, 401K, ESOP. Apply in person: Cal-Maine Foods Inc., 1974 CR 283 W, Harwood, Tx 78632. Monday-Friday 7-4.

CAL - MAINE FOODS INC. is hiring for Plant Palletizers & Cleanup positions. Benefits include: Vacation, Sick Leave, Hosp. Ins., Dental, Vision, 401K, ESOP. Apply in person. Cal-Maine Foods Inc. 1680 CR 431 Waelder, TX 78959. Mon-Fri 7-4. 830-540-4205 or 830-540-4684.

VICTORIA COLLEGE
Est. 1925
Part-time ITV/WebEx Proctors needed to teach at Victoria College's Gonzales Center. For more information and to apply go to www.victoriacollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC. Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

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Est. 1925
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Welding Instructor
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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION FOR OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS (AVISO DE ELECCIÓN GENERAL PARA OTRAS SUBDIVISIONES POLÍTICAS)

To the registered voters of the County of Gonzales, Texas:
(A los votantes registrados del Condado de Gonzales, Texas)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., 05/04/2024 for voting in a general election to elect School Board Trustee for Three Year Term.
(Notifíquese por la presente, que los sitios de votación citados abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 05/04/2024 para votar en la elección general para elegir Para Conselo De Administradores Por Un Termino De Tres Anos.)

On Election Day, voters must vote in the precinct where registered to vote, unless the countywide polling place program is being used in the election.
(El Dia de Elección, los votantes deberán votar en el precinto donde estan inscritos para votar, a manos que el programa de sitios de votación del condado se está utilizando en la elección.)

Location of Election Day Polling Places
Include Name of Building and Address
(Sitios de votación el Dia de Elección)
(Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)

Waelder Community Center, 311 Hwy 90W, Waelder, TX 78959
During early voting, a voter may vote at any of the locations listed below:
(Durante Votación Adelantada, los votantes podrán votar en cualquiera de los sitios de votación nombradas abajo.)

Location of Main Early Voting Polling Place
Include Name of Building and Address
(Sitio principal de votación adelantada)
(Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)

Waelder City Hall
Locations for Branch Early Voting Polling Places
Include Name of Building and Address
(Sitios sucursal de votación adelantada)
(Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)

Waelder City Hall
Days and Hours of Operation
Dias y Horas Hábiles
Monday, April 22, 2024 through Friday, April 26, 2024
8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Monday, April 29, 2024 through Tuesday, April 30, 2024
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Early voting locations: subject to change

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán enviarse a:)

Gwen Schaefer/Gonzales County Elections Administrator
(Name of Early Voting Clerk)
(Nombre del Secretario/a de la Votación Adelantada)
P.O. Box 1753
(Address) (Dirección)
Gonzales, Texas 78629
(City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Codigo Postal)
830-519-4054
Telephone Number (Número de teléfono)
ea@co.gonzales.tx.us
Email Address (Dirección de Correo Electrónico)
https://www.co.gonzales.tx.us/page/gonzales.elections.admin
Early Voting Clerk's Website (Sitio web del Secretario/a de Votación Adelantada)

Applications for Ballots by Mail (ABBMs) must be received no later than the close of business on:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán recibirse no más tardar de las horas de negocio el:)
04/23/2024

Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) must be received no later than the close of business on:
(La Tarjeta Federal Postal de Solicitud deberán recibirse no más tardar de las horas de negocio el:)
04/23/2024

Issued this 26th day of February, 2024
(Emitida este dia 26th de Febrero, 2024)

Dona Noyola
Signature of Presiding Officer (Firma del Dirigente que Preside)

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Lynnette Cooper: (830) 857-1364
Kristein Kolzbeue: (830) 203-4550
Carol Hardcastle: (830) 857-3517
Rebekah Morgan: (830) 857-5664
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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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2nd 25th Judicial District OFFICE/BUSINESS MANAGER – Intermediate Sanction Facility – Gonzales, Texas

The 2nd 25th Judicial District, Serving Colorado, Gonzales and Lavaca Counties is seeking to hire an Office/Business Manager for the Intermediate Sanction Facility (ISF) located in Gonzales, Texas. The ISF is a 60-bed male residential facility for offenders on felony and misdemeanor probation.

All interested applicants are required to submit an Application for Employment which can be found at 2nd25thprobation.com and a resume with cover letter to the attention of: Traci Darilek, Director at tdarilek@gonzales-county.net; in person at the Lavaca CSCD office located at 412 North Texana, Hallettsville, Texas 77964 or via U.S. Mail to the 2nd 25th Judicial District, P.O. Box 330, Hallettsville, Texas 77964 by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 3, 2024.

Salary will be based on qualifications and experience. Minimum starting salary of \$43,000 with 3 years' experience in bookkeeping and accounting is preferred. High school diploma or the equivalent is required.

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

CITY OF GONZALES GONZALES, TEXAS 2024 STREET IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Separate sealed bids addressed to the City of Gonzales (OWNER) clearly labeled "2024 STREET IMPROVEMENT PLANS, ATTN: CITY SECRETARY" will be received at Gonzales City Hall, 820 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, until 2:00 o'clock p.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2024 and then publicly opened and read aloud immediately.

This project includes installation of approximately 11,670 SY of Two Course Surface Treatment over 6-inch reclaim of existing streets and the replacement of approximately 762 LF of curb & gutter and 233 LF of Valley Gutter. The bid also includes an alternate of 1-1/2-inches of HMAC in Lieu of the Two Course Surface Treatment.

The Contract Documents, consisting of Advertisement for Bids, Information for Bidders, Bid Proposal, Bid Bond, Agreement, Performance and Payment Bonds, General Conditions, Special Conditions, Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, Technical Specifications and Plans, together with any Addenda are available at Doucet & Associates, Inc., 829 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, (512) 583-2672. Plans, Specifications, and Contract Documents may be examined and purchased for a non-refundable fee of \$50.00 at this location or may be received via email at no charge. Email kschauer@kleinfelder.com if interested in bidding the project.

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

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

There will not be a pre-bid conference. Contractors shall make their own individual site inspections and/or investigations to make themselves aware of existing conditions/issues. Failure to make adequate observations, investigations and/or ask questions prior to bidding shall not be grounds for requesting additional work or services. Questions shall be forwarded to J. Keith Schauer, P.E., 829 St. Joseph Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629, kschauer@kleinfelder.com, (512) 583-2672, by 5:00 o'clock p.m., Monday, April 29, 2024.

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NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION FOR OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS (AVISO DE ELECCIÓN GENERAL PARA OTRAS SUBDIVISIONES POLÍTICAS)

To the registered voters of the County of Gonzales Independent School District, Gonzales, Texas:
(A los votantes registrados del Condado de Distrito escolar independiente de Gonzales, Gonzales, Texas)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., May 4, 2024 for voting in a general election to elect school district trustees for (3) terms for single-member district 4 & 7.
(Notifíquese por la presente, que los sitios de votación citadas abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el Mayo 4, 2024 para votar en la elección general para elegir.)

On Election Day, voters must vote in the precinct where registered to vote, unless the countywide polling place program is being used in the election.
(El Día de Elección, los votantes deberán votar en el precinto donde estan inscritos para votar, a menos que el programa de sitios de votación del condado se está utilizando en la elección.)

Location of Election Day Polling Places Include Name of Building and Address (Sitios de votación el Día de Elección) (Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)	Precinct Number(s) (Numero de precinto)
---	--

Randle Rather Bldg., 427 St. George Street, Ste 100,
Gonzales, Tx. 78629

During early voting, a voter may vote at any of the locations listed below:
(Durante Votación Adelantada, los votantes podrán votar en cualquiera de los sitios de votación nombradas abajo.)

Location of Main Early Voting Polling Place Include Name of Building and Address (Sitio principal de votación adelantada) (Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)	Days and Hours of Operation Días y Horas Hábiles
Randle Rather Bldg., 427 St. George, Ste. 100, Gonzales, TX 78629	April 22, April 26th, April 29th & 30th 8:00am-5:00pm

Locations for Branch Early Voting Polling Places Include Name of Building and Address (Sitios sucursal de votación adelantada) (Incluir Nombre del Edificio y Dirección)	Days and Hours of Operation Días y Horas Hábiles
---	---

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán enviarse a:)

Gwen Schaefer
(Name of Early Voting Clerk)
(Nombre del Secretario/a de la Votación Adelantada)

P.O. Box 1753
(Address) (Dirección)

Gonzales, Texas 78629
(City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Codigo Postal)

830-519-4054
Telephone Number (Número de teléfono)

ea@co.gonzales.tx.us
Email Address (Dirección de Correo Electrónico)

https://www.co.gonzales.tx.us/page/gonzales.elections.admin
Early Voting Clerk's Website (Sitio web del Secretario/a de Votación Adelantada)

Applications for Ballots by Mail (ABBMs) must be received no later than the close of business on:
(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán recibirse no más tardar de las horas de negocio el:)
04/23/2024

Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) must be received no later than the close of business on:
(La Tarjeta Federal Postal de Solicitud deberán recibirse no más tardar de las horas de negocio el:)
04/23/2024

Issued this 12th day of February, 2024
(Emitida este día 12th de Febrero, 2024)


Signature of Presiding Officer (Firma del Dirigente que Preside)

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WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP: A small amount of water can lead to major damage to your home. Our trusted professionals dry out the wet area and do repairs to protect your family and your home's value! If you have water in your home that needs to be dried, call 24/7: 1-877-727-3027. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!
- WANTED**
Need Extra Cash - I Buy RVs & Mobile Homes - Travel Trailers, 5th Wheels, Goosenecks, Bumper Pulls. In Any Area, Any Condition - Old/New, Dirty or Clean! I PAY CASH. No Title - No Problem, we can apply for one. We go anywhere in Texas. ANR Enterprises, 956-466-7001.

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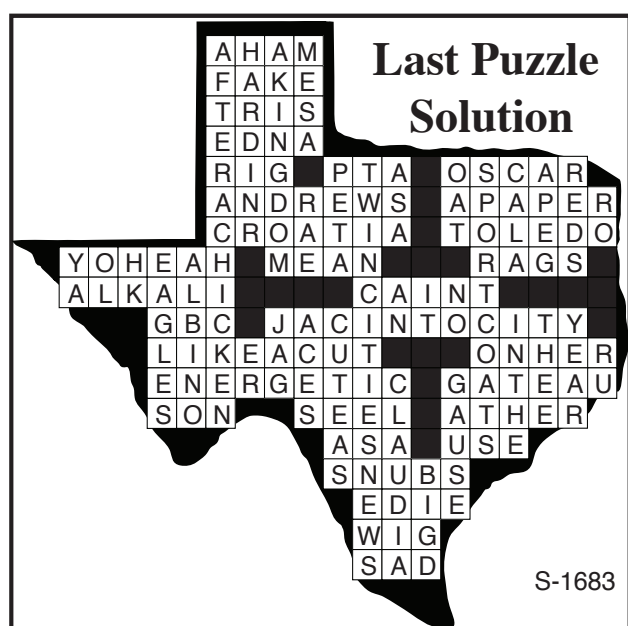
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April 4 Puzzle Answers

Last Puzzle Solution



S-1683

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

NOTICE OF SALE

STATE OF TEXAS § BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE
GONZALES COUNTY § DATED APRIL 04, 2024
§

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 April 4, 2024, seized, levied upon, and will, on the first Tuesday in May 2024, the same being the 7th day of said month, The steps outside the Gonzales County Tax Office in 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:

7001 Account No(s). R10450, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. CITIBANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR BY ACQUISITION OF HOME SAVING ASSOCIATION, ET AL., Lot 37, Glen Heights Addition, City of Nixon, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 506, Page 24, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$27,020.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$27,020.00;

7090, Account No(s). R26168, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. WILLIAM STEUBING, ET AL., Lots 1, Block 4, H.C. Forester Addition, Town of Nixon, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 248, Page 248, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$26,540.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$15,727.49;

7164, Account No(s). R12895, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. FELIX CASARES, ET AL., Lot 6, Block 3, Norwood Heights Addition, Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 779, Page 898, Official Records of Gonzales County, Texas, SAVE & EXCEPT that 0.129 acre portion of Lot 6, Range 6, East of Water Street in the Original Outer Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 585, Page 739, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$52,580.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$10,219.09;

7185, Account No(s). R23820, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. CLEMENTE RAMOS, ET AL., 0.22 acre, more or less, being Part of Lot 2, Range 1, East of Water Street, in the Original Outer Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 232, Page 347, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$61,420.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$28,020.15;

7209, Account No(s). N340256, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. CHARLES LEE JACKSON, LEASE #0085717 BARNHART (EF) D W#1H-8H (MARATHON OIL EF LLC) R1 0.001064 ABSTRACT 247, A W HILL, RRC 17171, GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS, with an adjudged value of \$2,970.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$1,518.06;

7209, Account No(s). N340257, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. CHARLES LEE JACKSON, LEASE #0085733 BARNHART (EF) K W#1H-3H 5-10H (MARATHON OIL EF LLC) R1 0.000763 ABSTRACT 247, A W HILL, RRC 17273, GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS, with an adjudged value of \$1,210.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$1,210.00;

7233, Account No(s). R26520, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. LUCENIA TAYLOR ARKADIE, ET AL, 7.20 acres, more or less, A.B. Williams League, A-79, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 246, Page 27, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$111,100.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$21,236.30;

7277, Account No(s). R21132, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. OLD STONE CONSUMER FINANCE CORPORATION, FORMERLY KOWN AS DIXIE ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION, ET AL., Lot 8, Block 1, Ewings, Second Addition, Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 373, Page 11, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$42,850.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$23,607.25;

7284, Account No(s). R313910, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. PAMELA KAY ANDERSON, An undivided 16.666% interest in Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Block 70; Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 75; Lots 1 and 2, Block 88; and Lots 1 and 2, Block 89, Town of Harwood, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 550, Page 649, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$28,260.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$11,456.18;

7332, Account No(s). R12874, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. MIGUEL ALMAZAN, ET AL., Lots 3 and 4, Block 72, Town of Waelder, Gonzales County, Texas, described in Volume 870, Page 245, Official Records of Gonzales County, Texas, together with a manufactured home situated thereon, with an adjudged value of \$23,610.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$8,006.60;

7359, Account No(s). R28241, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JULIA WILLIAMS., Lot 9, Block 77, Kelley Addition, an addition to the City of Waelder, Gonzales County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 217, Pages 481 and 482, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$2,330.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$2,330.00;

7383, Account No(s). R76567, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. LUCIANO RODRIGUEZ, AKA LUCIANO RODRIGUEZ MARTINEZ, ET AL., 0.747 acre, more or less out of Lot 4, Block 16, Range 1, West of Water Street, Original Outer Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, as described in deed dated July 13, 2018, from Angelina Rodriguez to Luciano Rodriguez, in Volume 1289, Page 765, Official Records of Gonzales County, Texas, including Mobile Home, Label no. GEO0837243., with an adjudged value of \$38,960.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$4,230.31;

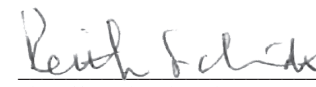
7387, Account No(s). R24027, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. CATHERINE REYNA, 0.1291 acre, more or less, out of Lot 3, Block 3, Norwood Heights Addition, an addition to the City of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, as described in deed dated June 30, 1986, from Jesus Casarez etux to Catherine Reyna, in Volume 585, Page 739, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$124,250.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$15,785.78;

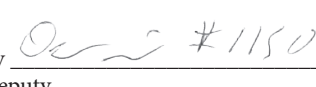
7394, Account No(s). R28031, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. L.V. STEVENS, JR., ET AL, Lot 5, Block 2, Ewing's Second Addition, an addition to the City of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 105, Page 260, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$19,300.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$5,163.53;

7421, Account No(s). R19881, GONZALES COUNTY, ET AL VS. ELIZABETH LEE, ET AL, Lot 1, Block 5, Davis Addition, an addition to the Town of Gonzales, Gonzales County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 123, Page 428-431, Deed Records of Gonzales County, Texas, with an adjudged value of \$1,780.00, and an Estimated minimum opening bid of \$1,780.00;

(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, April 4, 2024.


Sheriff Keith Schmidt
Gonzales County, Texas

By  #1150
Deputy

Notes:
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NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE REQUEST

AEP Texas Inc. (AEP Texas) publishes this notice that on February 29, 2024, AEP Texas filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) its Petition and Statement of Intent to Change Rates (the Petition), a copy of which is kept at AEP Texas' office at 400 W. 15th Street, Suite 1500, Austin, Texas, 78701. The Petition has been assigned Docket No. 56165. This notice is being published in accordance with 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 22.51(a)(1).

AEP Texas' Petition is based on the system-wide financial results for a 12-month test year ending on September 30, 2023, adjusted for known and measurable changes. Related to its distribution cost of service, the Company requests a rate increase of approximately \$100.4 million over its adjusted test year revenues. This net change is a 13.1% increase over net present distribution revenues. When expected annualized Transmission Cost Recovery Factor revenues are included in the comparison to present revenues, the net increase to distribution cost-of-service is 8.4%. Related to its transmission cost of service, the Company requests a rate increase of \$63.1 million above its adjusted test year revenues, an increase of 9.29%.

In addition to new rates, AEP Texas requests a prudence determination on all capital investment made to its system for the period from January 1, 2019, through September 30, 2023.

AEP Texas' Petition requests Commission approval to continue its offering of facilities rental services, as described in tariff schedules 6.1.2.3.6, 6.1.3.3.6, and 6.1.4.3.6, and a good-cause exception to the Commission's rule requiring AEP Texas to obtain the Commission's approval to provide these services every three years. If approved, the requested good-cause exception will allow the Company to extend the effective date of its existing tariff schedules through the effective date of the tariffs approved in its next comprehensive rate case.

Finally, AEP Texas requests recovery of its reasonable rate-case expenses associated with this proceeding and certain prior rate proceedings, including those expenses paid to reimburse municipalities for their participation.

If approved, the increased rates will be charged to AEP Texas' direct customers, all retail electric providers (REPs) in AEP Texas' service area, as well as the retail electric customers of those REPs. The extent to which the REPs pass along to their customers the increased retail rates is a function of the competitive market. In addition, AEP Texas' petition affects customers taking service under the Company's wholesale transmission rates.

AEP Texas has requested its proposed rate change become effective 35 days after the filing its Petition.

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings, in Docket No. 56165, *Application of AEP Texas Inc. for Authority to Change Rates*, should notify the Commission as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline will be imposed. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136. The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is 45 days after the date the Petition was filed with the Commission.

AVISO DE MODIFICACIÓN DE TARIFA

AEP Texas Inc. (AEP Texas) publica este aviso de que el 29 de febrero de 2024, AEP Texas presentó ante la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas (Comisión) su Petición y Declaración de Intención de Cambiar las Tarifas (la Petición), una copia de la cual se encuentra en la oficina de AEP Texas en 400 W. 15th Street, Suite 1500, Austin, Texas, 78701. A la Petición se le ha asignado el Número de Expediente 56165. Este aviso se publica de conformidad con 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 22.51(a)(1).

La Petición de AEP Texas se basa en los resultados financieros de todo el sistema para un año de prueba de 12 meses que finaliza el 30 de septiembre de 2023, ajustados por cambios conocidos y medibles. En relación con su coste de servicio de distribución, la Compañía solicita un aumento de tarifas de aproximadamente \$100.4 millones de dólares sobre sus ingresos ajustados del año de prueba. Este cambio neto supone un incremento del 13.1% sobre los ingresos netos actuales de distribución. Si se incluyen los ingresos anualizados previstos del Factor de Recuperación de Costes de Transmisión en la comparación con los ingresos actuales, el aumento neto del coste del servicio de distribución es del 8,4%. En relación con el coste del servicio de transporte, la Compañía solicita una subida de tarifas de 63,1 millones de dólares por encima de los ingresos ajustados del año de referencia, lo que supone un incremento del 9,29%.

Además de las nuevas tarifas, AEP Texas solicita una determinación de prudencia sobre toda la inversión de capital realizada en su sistema para el período comprendido entre el 1 de enero de 2019 y el 30 de septiembre de 2023.

La Petición de AEP Texas solicita la aprobación de la Comisión para continuar con su oferta de servicios de alquiler de instalaciones, tal y como se describe en los programas de tarifas 6.1.2.3.6, 6.1.3.3.6 y 6.1.4.3.6, y una excepción de causa justificada a la norma de la Comisión que exige a AEP Texas obtener la aprobación de la Comisión para prestar estos servicios cada tres años. Si se aprueba, la excepción de causa justificada solicitada permitirá a la Compañía ampliar la fecha de entrada en vigor de sus programas de tarifas existentes hasta la fecha de entrada en vigor de las tarifas aprobadas en su próximo caso tarifario global.

Por último, AEP Texas solicita la recuperación de sus gastos razonables relacionados con este procedimiento y algunos procedimientos tarifarios anteriores, incluidos los gastos pagados para reembolsar a los municipios por su participación.

Si se aprueban, las tarifas incrementadas se cobrarán a los clientes directos de AEP Texas, a todos los proveedores minoristas de electricidad (REP) en el área de servicio de AEP Texas, así como a los clientes minoristas de electricidad de esos REP. La medida en que los REP repercutan a sus clientes el aumento de las tarifas minoristas depende del mercado competitivo. Además, la petición de AEP Texas afecta a los clientes que contratan el servicio según las tarifas de transmisión al por mayor de la empresa.

AEP Texas ha solicitado que el cambio de tarifa propuesta entre en vigor 35 días después de la presentación de su Petición.

Las personas que deseen intervenir o hacer comentarios sobre este procedimiento, en el expediente N° 56165, *Aplicación de AEP Texas Inc. de Autoridad para Cambiar las Tarifas*, deben notificarlo a la Comisión lo antes posible, ya que se impondrá un plazo de intervención. Las solicitudes de intervención o de información adicional deben enviarse por correo a Public Utility Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. También puede obtenerse más información llamando a la Comisión al (512) 936-7120 o al (888) 782-8477. Las personas con discapacidad auditiva o del habla que dispongan de teléfonos de texto (TTY) pueden ponerse en contacto con la Comisión en el número (512) 936-7136. El plazo para intervenir en el procedimiento es de 45 días a partir de la fecha de presentación de la petición a la Comisión.

GOLF SCRAMBLE



CONTRIBUTED

The winning team from the April 3 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Kyle Day, Ronnie Dubose, Tanner Walker, Mason Richter and Cameron Mileham.



CONTRIBUTED

The second-place team from the April 3 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Weldon Holub, Lane Mills, Brant Philippus, Bones Williams, Danny Williams and Dee Tiller.

PoetKen Jones to lead creative writing, poetry event April 22

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Robert Lee Brothers Jr. Gonzales Public Library will hold an educational event in honor of National Poetry Month on Monday, April 22, between the hours of 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

This event is family friendly and designed to introduce interested persons, and especially young people, to the joys and value of poetry and creative writing.

PoetKen Jones, a former Professor at the Art Institute of Houston, who has published more than a dozen poetry collections, will conduct a discussion, host a reading and open mike. Jones will share prompts and exercises to help people of all ages access their talents during this afternoon of creative fun.

This date, both Earth Day and Passover this year, allows a unique opportunity to explore how words can illuminate environmental, spiritual, and religious healing traditions. Persons of all ages, faiths, and walks of life are invited to participate.

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Crossroads Community Band, Crossroads Strings to host concert on April 30

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Crossroads Community Band, in collaboration with Crossroads Strings, will host a concert, "Lights, Camera, Music! A Musical Tribute to Cinema," at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, at Victoria College's Leo J. Welder Center for the Performing Arts.

The free event will showcase members of the Crossroads Community Band and Crossroads Strings as they perform a selection of music featuring songs from the movies Star Wars, Harry Potter and others.

VC students who perform in the Crossroads Community Band or Crossroads Strings are able to earn college credit.

The Welder Center is located at 214 N Main St. in downtown Victoria.

For more information, contact Melissa Balli at (361) 573-3291 or Melissa.Balli@VictoriaCollege.edu.

Plan B and C



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

Hey there y'all, hope all is well. Today's title refers to a couple of different things, 1) as we're continuing on with our fitness journey, today I'll be getting into my current back (B) and chest (C) routines and, 2) in any given situation it's always good to have more than one backup plan in place (plan B & C).

Recently I've noticed a lot of chatter on the topic of Texas seceding from the United States. While this sounds like it might be a good idea, is it really? Yes, Texas is large, populated, has good production capabilities in certain areas, and at present has a robust economy. However, with the US government funding nearly a third of our income and economy, how will that loss of income be recovered? In the beginning, much higher taxes would be the most logical. Many big businesses have relocated here due to low taxes, so it just makes sense many could move away as profit is their main priority, and people tend to go where the jobs are. Rebuilding would take considerable time, if even possible, and in the meantime, there went our robust economy. We'd not only have to establish ourselves as a world trade contender, but also being a weaker military force with even more borders to guard, and with the realistic possibility of a civil war, not to mention other potential

invaders on the horizon, this generation could be in for far more hardship than they bargained for. As humanity's lust for power and profit (in the name of freedom) marches on, it's important to remember the myriad of countries, governments and civilizations that have risen and fallen over the course of our existence. With little but (questionable) temporary gain to show for it, eventually falling through the cracks, and barely remembered as a final result. It seems to me that before we go off half cocked and shoot ourselves in the foot, much more intelligent thought and earnest prayer is needed, as potential poverty and the bloodshed of our family and neighbors may not be worth whatever temporary gain could possibly come out of it...just sayin'.

On a more positive note, here is a rundown of my current back and chest exercise routine. Since chest is basically for pushing and back is for pulling, exercising both helps considerably with our everyday activities. After some stretching and warmups, I start off with flat bench presses. Doing sets of 15 to 20 reps, I'll begin with just the bar,

moving slowly as to get up and running without strain. Adding 30 lbs. per set until I reach my workout weight of 125 lbs., I'll then do three sets of as many as possible. Following that with two sets of incline bench presses for upper chest, then onto two sets of pec-deck flies for inner chest, my chest work is now complete. I'll normally perform the movements at a slow to medium pace, cutting off about 10% at the highest and lowest range in order to save these old joints from excessive stress.

Then it's onto back. I do basically the same routine, starting with lat pulldowns (mimicking pullups) to a working weight of 140 lbs. for three sets of 20-30, giving the back a nice V taper. Next is seated cable rows at 110 lbs. for two sets, hitting the mid interior back muscles, responsible in assisting lifting almost anything in everyday activities. Finishing off with one set of bent over barbell rows (on smith machine), and one set of stiff legged deadlifts (bending at waist and back up), concludes my back routine. Adding just the one set of the deadlifts has kept me from needing a chiropractor for over two years and is highly recommended for anyone with lower back issues. That's about it for this week, next it's on to shoulders and arms, so stay tuned.

Love you guys, Eric.

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ERIN SAMPLE MCCRAY

Lady Apaches Sarah Paddilla (7) runs towards first base with Ava Carrizales (2) and Sydney McCray (3) to celebrate Dixie Rae Lester's game winning RBI single in the bottom of the eighth.

Lady Apaches sweeps Memorial in 2024 season

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches extended their win streak to two with a 16-1 win over the San Antonio Memorial Minutewomen in four innings on Friday, April 5.

The Lady Apaches completed the season sweep of San Antonio Memorial and secured their second sweep of a district opponent this season.

Gonzales started off the game with a bang with a home run by sophomore Gyzelle Guevara to get the Lady Apaches' offense rolling; she hit two home runs and went 2-for-3 at bat.

"I was really surprised that I even hit two home runs because the game before that I went 0 for 3 [at bat] And then my last at bat I hit a home run too. So I was really surprised. I didn't think I was going to hit two more," Guevara said.

After back-to-back season sweeps of La Vernia and Memorial for Gonzales, Lady Apaches head softball coach Michelle Uribe said it felt awesome getting those big district wins.

"The feeling this year is so great. These kids really want to be successful and win. That's what we're doing," Uribe said.

The Lady Apaches recorded 13 hits and earned 10 RBIs in the win over the Minutewomen and Uribe was happy for Guevara getting the offense going for her team.

"It feels amazing. Gyzelle hitting the ball really gets us going, so we know that when she's hitting, everybody can hit and that always is the fire that gets us started," Uribe said.

The Lady Apaches hosted the Navarro Lady Panthers in Tuesday, April 9 and early in the season Gonzales fell to them, 4-3, on the road in a walk-off. This is a game Uribe and her players have circled.

"We're hungry for that win. We want to beat them. We know we're better and we want to beat them at our place," Uribe said.

The Lady Apaches will go on the road Friday, April 12 for their final meeting with the Cuero Lady Gobblers and a chance at revenge for an earlier loss.

First pitch is set for 7 p.m.

Lady Apaches beat Navarro in extra innings

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Lady Apaches completed the greatest comeback in the program's history with a 16-15 win over the Navarro Lady Panthers in extra innings Tuesday, April 9.

The Lady Apaches trailed throughout the match, allowing Navarro to take a 9-1 lead entering the third inning.

In the first meeting between the two teams, the Lady Apaches fell to Navarro, 4-3, in a walk-off.

Trailing 15-5 in the bottom of the sixth inning, senior outfielder Kelly Breitschopf kicked off the rally with solo home run that sparked the team to score eight more runs to cut the lead to just one, 15-14.

Gonzales forced the game

See **SOFTBALL**, page 15



ERIN SAMPLE MCCRAY

Lady Apaches senior Dakota Schmidt (15) runs for home plate for the score in the district match against Navarro Tuesday, April 9.



PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Lady Apaches Gyzelle Guevara (11) runs around the bases for a solo home run against San Antonio Memorial Friday, Guevara recorded two home runs in the, 16-1, win over Memorial Friday, April 5.

Lady Mustangs blow out Randolph in five innings

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs extended their win streak to three with their 15-4 victory over the Randolph Lady Robbers Friday, April 5 at home.

The Lady Mustangs improved to 4-1 in district and are tied with Marion for the district lead.

Nixon-Smiley hosted the Marion Lady Bulldogs Tuesday, April 9 with the district title on the line.

The Lady Mustangs will conclude their season with back-to-back road games against Cole (Friday, April 12) and Luling (Tuesday, April 16).

First pitch for the Cole game is set for 7 p.m.

Marion sweeps season series from Lady Mustangs

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs hosted the Marion Lady Bulldogs for the last time in the 2024 season Tuesday, April 9.

The Lady Mustangs fell to Marion, 14-10, and Nixon-Smiley's streak as district champions has now come to an end.

Nixon-Smiley and Marion battled and scored equally in four of the first five innings, but the Lady Bulldogs scored four runs in the top of the sixth to hand the Lady Mustangs the season sweep.

The Lady Mustangs will close the regular season with back-to-back road games against Cole (Friday, April 12) and

Luling (Tuesday, April 16) and a chance to finish second in district on the line.

Nixon-Smiley is 4-2 in district play, while Luling is 4-1 and must still play both Marion and the Lady Mustangs, who won the first game in the series against the Lady Eagles, 11-10.

First pitch for the Cole game starts at 7 p.m.



Lady Apaches freshman Alexzis Hernandez (8) runs towards second base for a steal in the district match against Memorial.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Left to Right: Serenity Smith (district runner-up), Macy Clack (district champion) and Malory Clack (third place) on the podium at the district meet in Cuero with their medals in the discus event; all three clinched a spot in the area meet at Canyon Lake High School Wednesday, April 10.

Senior Tiana Smith took home the district title in the triple jump at the Cuero meet and will compete in the area meet at Canyon Lake High School.



Gonzales track team finishes strong in district meet

RESULTS

110 meter dash:
Apaches: Travis Malveaux (fifth place)

100 meter dash:
Apaches: Davonte Smith (first place, district champion)
Lady Apaches: Tianna Smith (second place, district runner-up)

200 meter dash:
Apaches: David Clack (fifth place)
Lady Apaches: T. Smith (second place, district runner-up)

400 meter dash:
Lady Apaches: Jayda Glass (first place, district champion)

800 meter run:
Apaches: Erinque Reyna (seventh place), Youahi Huerta (ninth place) and Kevin Reyna (10th place)

Lady Apaches: Kilee Schwausch (second place, district runner-up), J. Gonzales (third place) and Kaitlynn Griffin (ninth place)

1600 meter run:
Apaches: Y. Huerta (third place)

and Kristopher Ramos (fourth place)

Lady Apaches: Jordyn Gonzales (third place), Yaritza Angel (fourth place), and Kaitlynn Griffin (11th place).

3200 meter run:
Apaches: C. Ramos (first place, district champion) and Y. Huerta (second place, district runner-up)

Lady Apaches: Jordyn Gonzales (fourth place) and Yaritza Angel (ninth place)

100 meter hurdles:
Lady Apaches: Macey Pena (second place, district runner-up), Hailey Camarillo (fourth place) and Aubrey Lindemann (sixth place)

300 meter hurdles:
Apaches: T. Malveaux (second place, district runner-up)

Lady Apaches: A. Valle (fourth place), A. Lindemann (fifth place) and H. Camarillo (sixth place)

4x100 relay:
Lady Apaches: Kaylyn Gonzales,

Jayda Glass, Macey Pena, and Tiana Smith (second place, district runner-up)

4x200 relay:
Apaches: D. Smith, D. Clack, Rocky Gallegos, Damion Hunt (third place)

Lady Apaches: Malaiyah Mayo, Kaylie Ramirez, M. Pena, and Alaina Valle (third place)

4x400 relay:
Apaches: D. Clack, River VanKirk, D. Hunt and March Izaguirre (fifth place)

Lady Apaches: Kaylie Ramirez, Kaylyn Gonzales, K. Schwausch and A. Lindemann (second place)

Long jump:
Apaches: D. Clack (11th place), Tavarus Ornales (15th place) and Daevien Pitts (16th place)

Lady Apaches: T. Smith (fourth place), A. Valle (ninth place) and M. Pena (13th place)

Shot put:
Apaches: Dylan Hunt (third place), Jermaine Upshaw (sixth

place) and Rafael Rodriguez (seventh place)

Lady Apaches: Malory Clack (first place, district champion), Macy Sample (second place, district runner-up) and Serenity Smith (seventh place)

Discus:
Apaches: J. Upshaw (first place, district champion), Omar Borjon (sixth place) and Dylan Hunt (fifth place)

Lady Apaches: M. Sample (first place, district champion), S. Smith (second place, district runner-up) and M. Clack (third place)

Triple jump:
Apaches: Rocky Gallegos (third place) and T. Malveaux (fifth place)

Lady Apaches: T. Smith (first place, district champion) and J. Glass (seventh place)

Pole Vault:
Apaches: R. VanKirk (sixth place)
Lady Apaches: H. Camarillo (sixth place)

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches and Lady Apaches track teams traveled to Cuero for the district track meet Wednesday, April 3.

The Apaches finished fourth with 95 points and the Lady Apaches finished second with 177 points.

Several Gonzales athletes took district titles in their respective events and clinched a spot in the area meet: Jayda Glass, Kristopher Ramos, Davonte Smith, Tiana Smith, Macy Sample, Malory Clack, and Jermaine Upshaw.

Travis Malveaux,

See **TRACK**, page 15



Apaches senior second basemen Weston Ruddock (2) slides into second base in the district match against San Antonio Memorial Tuesday, April 9.

VANDY VAN EPPS

Apaches season sweeps Memoiral

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches traveled to San Antonio for the series finale with the San Antonio Memorial Minutemen Tuesday, April 9.

The Apaches completed the season sweep of the Minutemen in an 8-3 win in six innings; the teams did not finish the seventh inning due to severe storms entering in the area, although Gonzales did score six additional runs in that inning.

Gonzales head baseball coach Gary Beveridge knew this was a must-win series for his team and gave credit to Memorial for giving them a good battle in the series.

"We needed that one. That was a must-win even this early in the season, so it's good to have it done especially as hairy as it got there. And that team right there deserves all the credit. That's an unbelievable turnaround from where they were last year," Beveridge said.

The Apaches held Memorial to one hit in the game and pitcher Dakota DuBose struck out multiple Memorial batters.

"Defense was good pitching was good. Like I said, that we can make sure that we throw strikes and keep people off bases, we give ourselves a better chance to give them those free passes and that's big," Beveridge said.

The Apaches will face their toughest series of the season against La Vernia on the road Friday, April 12, and Beveridge knows his team has to limit the number of players



PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

Top: Apaches senior pitcher Dakota DuBose (8) throws a pitch in series finale against the San Antonio Memorial Minutemen Tuesday, April 9 on the road. Left: Apaches Zane Whitehead (9) between first and second base in the district match against San Antonio Memorial Tuesday, April 9. Right: Apaches freshman catcher James Sanchez (6) walks to the pitchers mound in the San Memorial match Tuesday, April 9.

on base for their opponent.

"We have such a young team, we're gonna have to get turned around in a hurry and try to fix a lot of our mistakes, right now baserunning was our enemy. And that's gonna

be our biggest thing is to not run ourselves out of innings. We gotta give ourselves a chance. And so we have some things that we need to work on, but for a group like this, that's a good thing. We're

not so much focused on La Vernia; we're focused on how we can get ourselves better," Beveridge said.

First pitch for game one of the La Vernia series is set for 7 p.m.

Apaches beat Memorial, 9-8, at home to kick off series

STAFF REPORT

The Gonzales Apaches hosted the San Antonio Memorial Minutemen for game one of a two-game district series Friday, April 5.

The Apaches and the Minutemen went scoreless through four innings until the bats came alive in the fifth and sixth inning.

Gonzales scored the game-winning run in the

bottom of the sixth to secure its second district win of the season.

The Apaches concluded the series with the Minutemen in game two in San Antonio Tuesday, April 9.

The Apaches will travel to La Vernia Friday, April 12 for game one against the Bears and game two is set in Gonzales Tuesday, April 16.

First pitch for both games are set for 7 p.m.

Nixon-Smilely track teams compete in district meet

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smilely Mustangs and Lady Mustangs traveled to San Antonio for the district track meet at Randolph High School Wednesday, April 3.

Several Nixon-Smilely athletes punched their golden ticket to the Area meet at Rice Consolidated High School Thursday, April 11. Janaelyn White, Hailee Houseton, Skyllie Kitchens, Madison Yanes, Mariela Castillo-Limon, Janice White, N. Ivey-4th place-1:57.60, 300m Hurdles- Kourtney Johnson- 6th place- 56.14

** Indicates Area Qualifiers**

Girls Varsity

- **4x100 Relay- Janaelyn White, Hailee Houseton, Skyllie Kitchens, Madison Yanes- 4th place- 53.66
- 100m Hurdles- Kourtney Johnson- 6th place- 19:47
- 100m Dash- Hailee Houseton- 6th place- 13.31
- **4x200m Relay- Madison Yanes, Mariela Castillo-Limon, Janice White, N. Ivey-4th place- 1:57.60
- 300m Hurdles- Kourtney Johnson- 6th place- 56.14
- **200m Dash- Hailee Houseton- 4th place- 28.11
- 1600m Ran- Yizel Galvan- 11th place- 6:50
- Triple Jump- Hailee Houseton- 10th place- 28-11.50
- Triple Jump- Skyllie Kitchens- 11th place-

District Track Meet Results

- 27-06.75
 - Triple Jump- Sadie Walden- 12th place- 24.09.00
 - **Shot Put- Janaelyn White- 3rd place- 27-11.25
 - Shot Put- Juliana Kendrick- 5th place- 26-01.00
 - Long Jump- Madison Yanez- 7th place- 13-11.00
 - **Discus- Janaelyn White- 4th place- 79-08
 - Discus- Janice White- 7th place- 66-00
- Boys Varsity**
- **4x100m Relay- A. Flores, AJ Zamora, Luke Moses, Abdiel Benitez- 4th place- 46.48
 - **110m Hurdles- Carl White- 3rd place- 16.52
 - **110m Hurdles- Luke Moses- 4th place- 16.57

- **4x200m Relay- Abdiel Benitez, AJ Zamora, Luke Moses, Tristen Mikes- 4th place- 1:35.53
- 400m Dash- Tristen Mikes- 5th place- 53.63
- **4x400m Relay- Abdiel Benitez, AJ Zamora, A. Flores, T. Mikes- 3rd place- 3:38.20
- 300m Hurdles- Carl White- 5th place- 43.96
- Long Jump- Tristen Mikes- 8th place- 20.04.00
- Long Jump- Luke Moses- 10th place- 19-09.00
- Discus Throw- Jaylon Rodriguez- 8th place- 101-04
- Triple Jump- Tristen Mikes- 6th place- 38-11.00
- Triple Jump- Carl White- 11th place- 36-06.75
- Shot Put- Jaylon Rodriguez- 10th place- 34-06.25

Mustangs fall to Bulldogs at home

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smilely Mustangs hosted the Marion Bulldogs for a district match Tuesday, April 9.

The Mustangs fell to the Bulldogs, 14-1, and were handed the season sweep for the 2024 season.

Nixon-Smilely was handed their fifth consecutive double-digit loss; the Mustangs are on a six-game losing streak in district play.

The Mustangs have three games left in the 2024 season; they'll take on Cole (Friday, April 12) and Luling (Tuesday, April 16) on the road and will host Great Hearts Northern Oaks (Friday, April 19).

First pitch for the Cole match is set for 7 p.m.

Mustangs fall to Randolph on the road

STAFF REPORT

The Nixon-Smilely Mustangs went on the road to San Antonio Friday, April 5 for a district match against the Randolph Ro-Hawks.

The Mustangs fell to Randolph, 11-1, and extended their losing streak to five in district play.

This is the fourth game in a row where the Mustangs fell in double digits.

Nixon-Smilely has four games remaining in its 2024 season and they hosted the Marion Bulldogs Tuesday, April 9 and will have back-to-back road games against Cole (Friday, April 12) and Luling (Tuesday, April 16).

First pitch for the Cole game is set for 7 p.m.

SOFTBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

into extra innings with a RBI sacrifice by freshman first baseman Alexzis Hernandez in the bottom of the seventh.

The Lady Apaches completed the comeback with a RBI single by freshman pitcher Dixie Rae Lester, with senior catcher Sydney McCray scoring the game winner in the bottom of the eighth.

Gonzales improves to 6-2 in district and are tied for second place with Navarro in District 28-4A.

The Lady Apaches will face the Cuero Friday, April 12 for the final road game off the season and will host the JFK Lady Rockets for the regular season finale Tuesday, April 16. Gonzales will be looking to avenge an earlier loss to Cuero this season.

First pitch for both games is set at 7 p.m.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ckristopher Ramos (4, district champion) and Youahi Huerta (7, district runner-up) at the podium with their medals and clinched a spot in the area meet in 3200m run.

TRACK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Alaina Valle, Kilee Schwausch, Damion Hunt, David Clack, Kaylyn Gonzales, Jordyn Gonzales, Youahi Huerta, Malaiyah Mayo, Kaylie Ramirez, Yaritza Angel Macey Pena, Rocky Gallegos, and Hailey Camarillo all finished in the top four in their respective events and are heading to area meet in Canyon Lake High School Wednesday, April 10.

GONZALES COUNTY LIVESTOCK RESULTS



Anson Wheels RC Junior Rabbit Showman



Aubrey Hernandez RC Senior Rabbit



Augustus Sexton GC Senior Beef Showman



Baylyne Evans Junior Top Hand



Baylyne Evans RC Intermediate Swine Showman



Teresa Cunningham GC Junior Goat Showman



Bryson Kuehn GC Intermediate Lamb Showman



Colson Boehm RC Intermediate Lamb Showman



Colt Richter GC Intermediate Beef Showman



Connor Pish GC Junior Swine Showman



Coy LaBuhn GC Senior Herdsman



Tyley Boulter GC Junior Beef Showman



Coy LaBuhn GC Senior Lamb Showman



Coy LaBuhn RC Senior Goat Showman



Dakota Schmidt GC Senior Goat Showman



Danni Lester GC Junior Broiler Showman



Deltin Pape GC Intermediate Goat Showman



Dyllon Richardson RC Intermediate Goat Showman



Elliot Hill GC Junior Rabbit Showman



Gavin Behrendt RC Intermediate Rabbit Showman



Hunter Williams RC Junior Swine



James Cotton Russell RC Junior Goat Showman



Weston Ruddock GC Senior Swine Showman



Jaxon Beck GC Intermediate Swine



Jaxon Beck RC Intermediate Herdsman



Jayla Dixon RC Intermediate Broiler Showman



Joelee Lester GC Senior Broiler Showman



Joseph Kluz GC Intermediate Rabbit Showman



Karsyn Rathmann RC Junior Beef Showman



Kenley Wyant GC Intermediate Broiler Showman



Kilee Schwausch GC Senior Rabbit Showman



Kooper Hardcastle GC Intermediate Herdsman



Kooper Hardcastle RC Intermediate Beef Showman



Laramie Mills GC Junior Herdsman



Luca Kluz RC Junior Lamb Showman



Maggie Tatsch RC Senior Broiler Showman



MaKenna Pish RC Senior Lamb Showman



Mike Brzozowski Senior Top Hand



Paige Kuntschik RC Senior Beef Showman



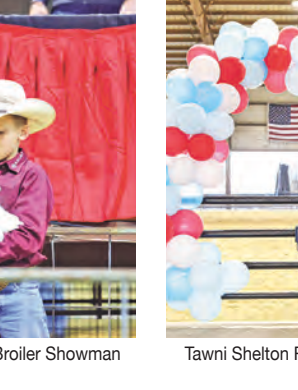
Rhett Richter GC Junior Lamb Showman



Rhett Richter RC Junior Herdsman



Riley Cannan RC Junior Broiler Showman



Tawni Shelton Reserve Champion Senior Herdsman

2024 GCYSA TOP HANDS

Senior Top Hand
MIKE BRZOZOWSKI
Junior Top Hand
BAYLYNE EVANS

2024 HERDSMAN CHAMPIONS

Senior Division
Grand Champion: COY LABUHN
Reserve Champion: TAWNIE SHELTON
Intermediate Division
Grand Champion: KOOPER HARDCASTLE
Reserve Champion: JAXON BECK
Junior Division
Grand Champion: LARAMIE MILLS
Reserve Champion: RHETT RICHTER

2024 BROILER SHOWMANSHIP CHAMPIONS

Senior Division
Grand Champion: JOELEE LESTER
Reserve Champion: MAGGIE TATSCH
Intermediate Division
Grand Champion: KENLEY WYANT
Reserve Champion: JAYLA DIXON
Junior Division
Grand Champion: DANNI LESTER
Reserve Champion: RILEY CANNAN

2024 RABBIT SHOWMANSHIP CHAMPIONS

Senior Division
Grand Champion: KILEE SCHWAUSCH
Reserve Champion: AUBREY HERNANDEZ
Intermediate Division
Grand Champion: JOSEPH KLUZ
Reserve Champion: GAVIN BEHRENDT
Junior Division
Grand Champion: ELLIOT HILL
Reserve Champion: ANSON WHEELS

2024 GOAT SHOWMANSHIP CHAMPIONS

Senior Division
Grand Champion: DAKOTA SCHMIDT
Reserve Champion: COY LABUHN
Intermediate Division
Grand Champion: DELTIN PAPE
Reserve Champion: DYLLON RICHARDSON
Junior Division
Grand Champion: TERESA CUNNINGHAM
Reserve Champion: JAMES "COTTON" RUSSELL

2024 LAMB SHOWMANSHIP CHAMPIONS

Senior Division
Grand Champion: COY LABUHN
Reserve Champion: MAKENNA PISH
Intermediate Division
Grand Champion: BRYSON KUEHN
Reserve Champion: COLSEN BOEHM
Junior Division
Grand Champion: RHETT RICHTER
Reserve Champion: LUCA KLUZ

2024 SWINE SHOWMANSHIP CHAMPIONS

Senior Division
Grand Champion: WESTON RUDDOCK
Intermediate Division
Grand Champion: JAXON BECK
Reserve Champion: BAYLYNE EVANS
Junior Division
Grand Champion: CONNOR PISH
Reserve Champion: HUNTER WILLIAMS

2024 BEEF SHOWMANSHIP CHAMPIONS

Senior Division
Grand Champion: AUGUSTUS SEXTON
Reserve Champion: PAIGE KUNTSCHIK
Intermediate Division
Grand Champion: COLT RICHTER
Reserve Champion: KOOPER HARDCASTLE
Junior Division
Grand Champion: TYLEY BOULTER
Reserve Champion: KARSYN RATHMANN

OBITUARIES

JOHNNY BRAZIL



Scripture: The earth is the LORD's and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that swell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart, who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Psalms 24:1-5

Johnny Brazil was born December 7, 1941 to Jack Brazil and Johnnie Lewis Brazil in Yoakum, Texas. He accepted Christ as his Savior at a very young age. He moved to Gonzales, Texas and was employed with the Gonzales Inde-

pendent School District as a Custodian. Mr. Brazil was loved by the staff and the students. He retired from the Gonzales School District after many years. He was kind and always had a smile on his face. John loved GOD, Christ and his family.

Johnny departed this life on Monday, April 1, 2024 at The Heights Nursing Home in Gonzales,

Texas. He was preceded in death by his Wife, Gladys Brazil, Daughter, Lisa Escamilla-Hunt, Brothers, Anderson Ellis, and Richmond Brazil. Sisters, Ada Marie Brazil-Bailey and Pearlie Jean Brazil.

He leaves to cherish his memory; Son; Ricky Escamilla, 3 Grandchildren, 2 sisters; Mary Louise Brazil-Tucker from Yoakum, Texas and a host of nieces, nephews and many friends

Services: Saturday, April 6, 2024
Viewing: 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Service Time: 11:00 a.m.
Location: Union Lea Baptist Church, 931 St. Andrew St, Gonzales
Services entrusted to Harris Funeral Home 127 Highway 90A, Gonzales, Texas 78629

LILLIE MAE LAMPRECHT KOCIAN



Lillie Mae Lamprecht Kocian, 89, of Gonzales, went to be with her Heavenly Lord on Wednesday, April 3, 2024. She was born December 18, 1934 in Gonzales, Texas to Edward and Wally Lamprecht. Lillie married Emil James Kocian on August 18, 1956 in the St. James Catholic Church in Gonzales. Lillie was a member of the St. James Catholic Church, the St. James Altar Society, and the Catholic Daughters of St. James.

Lillie's favorite past-times were various crafts like hand embroidery, creating greeting cards, trying new recipes, decorating delicious sugar cookies, and playing dominoes with her special dear friends. Lillie also enjoyed tending her plants and gardening.

Lillie loved life; she was a beautiful lady with a warm welcoming smile, she loved people and meeting new people whether at a function or in the grocery store. She found tremendous delight in conversation and as a magnificent hostess, she reveled in back yard parties, tea parties and all family gatherings. Lillie loved her family and treasured every moment

she could share in their company, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She loved to decorate her home for special holidays, especially Christmas. Her world revolved around her faith, family, and friends. In turn her family and friends celebrate Lillie reflecting on Proverbs 31:31 "Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate."

Lillie is survived by her adoring family, daughters, Carolyn Elizabeth Kocian (Steve Hendershot), Denise Marie Immenhauser (Roger), son, James Edward Kocian (Laurie), grandchildren, Hannah McGee (Chad), Kali Howden (Hunter) and Cole Immenhauser, great-grandchildren, Bryce and Barrett McGee, sisters, Bernice Heldarsen

and Jeanie Noack, in-laws, Frankin and Rose Kocian and numerous loving nieces, nephews, and friends. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, older sister, Esther Tichavsky and beloved in-laws.

The family will receive friends from 4:30 pm to 6 pm Friday, April 5, 2024 in Seydler-Hill Funeral Home with prayers of the Holy Rosary following at 6 pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 am Saturday, April 6, 2024 in the St. James Catholic Church with Fr. Paul Raaz as celebrant. Interment will follow in Denton Creek Cemetery. Pallbearers: Cole Immenhauser, Chad McGee, Hunter Howden, Kevin Noack, Bryan Milson, and Robbie Heldarsen. Honorary Pallbearers: Hannah McGee, Kali Howden, Steve Hendershot, Jared Hodges, and Reid Yackel. Memorials may be made to the St. James Altar Society or the Catholic Daughters of St. James. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydler-hillfuneralhome.com.

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

MARILYN CLAIRE (PAT) JOBE MORGAN THOMPSON



Marilyn Claire (Pat) Jobe Morgan Thompson was born October 25, 1923 in Harwood, Texas the daughter of Emerson Ray and Margaret (Maggie) Taylor Jobe, natives of Harwood and Guadalupe County, respectively.

She attended the Harwood schools graduating in the class of 1941. She attended Southwest Texas State Teachers College, graduating in 1944. She married Cena S. Morgan Jr. in 1944. Together they had two children: Jack Raymond Morgan and Janet Alicen Shiner. Cena preceded her in death in 1979. In 1987, she married Woodrow B. Thompson. He preceded her in death in 2007.

Pat taught school for 15 years in Lolita, Refugio, and Corpus Christi, Texas. She moved back to Gonzales County in 1965. In 1969, she opened the Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio in Gonzales, Texas, which was successful for many decades. She loved and studied music all her active life. She sang in choirs for over 50 years. She also played the

piano and organ for many church services.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Gonzales. She was a former member of the Music Study Club of Gonzales, the Wesleyan Circle and Chancel Choir of the First United Methodist Church of Gonzales and served as a volunteer in the Gonzales Memorial Hospital Auxiliary.

Pat enjoyed reading, traveling, genealogy, shopping, caring for her pets and plants, and visiting family members and friends. She loved her two children very much and enjoyed each grandchild as they arrived one by one. She felt very proud

to have six great-grandchildren to love and adore also.

Pat is survived by her adoring family, daughter, Pat Shiner, son, Jack Morgan (Mary Gayle), grandchildren, Leslie Dabney (David), Ray Morgan, (Heather), Alicen Kyser (Jason), Jayme Jecker (Scott), great-grandchildren, Arden and Tess Dabney, Cora and Charlie Morgan, and Beau and Katie Jecker. She was preceded in death by her husbands and parents.

Graveside services will be held at 2 pm Saturday, April 13, 2024 in the Harwood Cemetery with Dr. Matt Pennington officiating. Memorials may be made to the Romberg House in Gonzales, Texas or the Gonzales First Methodist Church. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydler-hillfuneralhome.com.

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

DANE ROBERT NICOLAY



Dane Robert Nicolay was born March 10, 1986 in Fort Worth, Texas, to parents Dana Eugene Nicolay and Betty Jean Harless Nicolay. In his life, laughter was among Robby's highest values. On March 26, 2024 Robby went to make God laugh, and to bring a smile to those who have gone before.

A visitation was held

on Friday, April 5th at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home (1700 Normal Park Drive). A celebration of Robby's life was Saturday, April 6th at First Christian Church of Huntsville (1800 Avenue R). He was laid to rest at Mayes Addition of Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial condolences to the family may be made at www.shmfh.com.

MANUELA G. MEDINA

Manuela G. Medina, 92, passed away peacefully on Monday, April 8, 2024. She was born October 7, 1931, in Nixon, Texas to the late Louis Garcia and Simona Valdez Garcia. Manuela spent her

spare time gardening, sewing, and watching Novellas. She will be truly missed by many.

Manuela is survived by her sons, Daniel Medina, Jr., Johnny Medina and Thomas Medina; 15 grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren; sisters, Esther Moreno, Esparanza Lara, Minnie Gonzalez, Linda Solis and Lillie Centeno; numerous other relatives and extended family. She is preceded in death by her parents; daughter Helen Medina; sisters Louisa

Trigo, Rosa Gonzalez and Victoria Trigo; brothers Augustine Garcia and Johnny Garcia.

Visitation with the family will be 1:00 pm Saturday, April 13, 2024, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Nixon, TX. At 1:30 pm a rosary will be recited. Funeral Mass will be 2:00 pm.

Interment immediately following at St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery.

An online guestbook may be signed at finchfuneralchapels.com.

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Gonzales Healthcare Systems
April 2024

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Austin MFM 8 Dr. Malik Dr. Desai	Dr. Echols Dr. Quintero 9	Dr. Quebedeaux 10	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols 11	Amy Trost Dr. Miller 12
Austin MFM 15	Dr. Echols 16	Dr. Quebedeaux Dr. Miller 17	Dr. Ryan Dr. Echols Dr. Malik 18	Dr. Bui 19
Austin MFM 22	Dr. Echols 23	Dr. Quebedeaux 24	Dr. Ryan Dr. Kirchner Dr. Echols 25	26
Austin MFM 29	Dr. Echols 30			

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Ophthalmology
Joseph Kavanagh, MD
830-379-3937

Orthopedics
Trent Twitero, MD
830-625-0009

Podiatry
Terri Quebedeaux, DPM, PA
830-303-0005
Charles White, DPM
830-303-0005

Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine
512-821-2540

Aggie Muster set for April 21 in Gonzales

Gonzales County A & M Club, Aggie Muster, will be held Sunday, April 21, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Hwy. 90A East, Gonzales, Texas.

Social time is 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. Meal \$20, dues for individual \$20 and for a couple \$35.

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Christmas in April Plant Sale coming to Victoria

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gardeners in those counties surrounding the Victoria vicinity will want to mark their calendars for the 2024 Victoria County Master Gardener Association Spring Plant Sale Saturday, April 20. Hundreds of plants will be on display at VEG Pavilion, 283 Bachelor Dr., located across from Victoria Regional Airport's control tower. This year the sale will include

a Garden Boutique where buyers can hunt for themselves or hunt for that special Mother's Day gift. The inventory will include handmade birdhouses, bird feeders, gardening books, plants, cookbooks, tea pots, teacups, plant pots and garden décor. Activities will run 8 a.m. until noon. Cash, credit cards and checks will be accepted. No sales tax will be included. As always, the public is urged to show up early since some

selections will sell quickly.

There will be the usual succulents and selections of popular flowers such as petunias, zinnias, wildflowers and various hibiscus. There also will be hanging baskets of mint, yarrow, ice plants, snapdragon vines and fairy gardens. VCMGA this year as obtained hybrid and heirloom tomatoes and peppers, along with a few All-America Selections (AAS) tomatoes and peppers. The

AAS varieties were selected for the AAS Winner Award following a full season of trials. Through propagation efforts at the VEG greenhouse and by sourcing Texas native plant facilities, VCMGA has been able to expand the different kinds of native plants. Plants include Indian Blankets, Black-Eyed Susans, Turk's Caps, Texas Lantana, Texas Rock Rose, Texas Purple Sage (Cenizo), Cregg's Mistflower, Pigeon Berry, Coral

Honey suckle and Texas Mountain Laurel. There also will be a few natives introduced with some very unusual names: Scorpion Tail, Skeleton leaf Goldeneye and Snapdragon Vine. VCMGA is a non-profit organization with membership in the seven county Victoria area. It is sponsored by the Victoria County office of the Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension Service.

April 15 is deadline for filing property tax renditions

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar reminds business owners that April 15 is the deadline to file property tax renditions with their county appraisal districts. Different deadlines apply for certain regulated property. A rendition is a list of the taxable inventory, furniture and fixtures, machinery, equipment and other property owned or managed as of Jan. 1 each year. The appraisal district may use the information to set property values.

A rendition allows property owners to record their opinion of their property's value and ensures that the appraisal district notifies property owners before changing a recorded value. Exempt property, such as church property and equipment used for farming, is not subject to rendition.

Owners whose property was damaged by storm, flood or fire last year may file a special decreased value report, which indicates the property's condition on Jan. 1, 2024. Filing the decreased value report could lower those owners' final tax bills for 2024.

Rendition forms and decreased value report forms are available from county appraisal district offices statewide and can be downloaded at the Comptroller's property tax forms webpage.

For more information about property rendition, deadlines, deadline extensions, penalties and rendition forms, taxpayers may contact the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at 800-252-9121 (press 3) or visit the division online.

Registration begins April 8 for VC's summer, fall classes

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Beginning April 8, new and returning students can enroll in Victoria College's traditional classes - those that lead to a degree, certificate, or university transfer - for the Summer Interim, Summer I and Summer II sessions as well as for the Fall 2024 semester.

Payment plans are available for students enrolling in the summer or fall semesters. Students can also apply for financial aid and scholarships.

Information on classes offered, registration dates, times, and payments can be viewed at VictoriaCollege.edu/ClassSchedule.

Eligible students can register online via the Pirate Portal any time registration is open.

Students can also schedule an in-person or virtual meeting with an advisor by visiting VictoriaCollege.edu/Advising.

Additionally, Victoria College has simplified the process for students who attend another institution and who wish to enroll in summer classes while home for the summer. Most admissions requirements are satisfied through partnership between the student's home institution and Victoria College.

Beginning the week of May 13, VC offices will be closed on Fridays as well as on May 27 (Memorial Day), June 19 (June-teenth), and July 4 (Independence Day).

For more information, visit VictoriaCollege.edu/ClassSchedule or call Victoria College at (361) 573-3291.

VC Info Night set for April 18

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College will host its annual VC Info Night from 4-6 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, at the Sports Center.

The free event will provide information on Victoria College's areas of study, transfer pathways, admissions, services, activities, organizations and student resources.

Assistance with the financial aid process will be available. A VC representative will help students fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application. For assistance with the FAFSA, attendees should bring their 2022 tax return and Social Security number as well as their parent's 2022 tax return, if applicable.

Attendees will have an opportunity to win a \$500 VC scholarship. The event will also include games, refreshments and door prizes.

Informational sessions are scheduled as follows:

- 4:30 p.m. - Physical Therapist Assistant Program
- 5 p.m. - Nursing Pathways
- 5:30 p.m. - Respiratory Care Program

Victoria College's Sports Center is located on the Main Campus at 2200 E. Red River Street. Due to construction, attendees are encouraged to use Entrance 1 off of Ben Jordan Street and look for event signs.

For more information about VC Info Night, call (361) 573-3291 or email Ida.Sanders@VictoriaCollege.edu.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office
03/31/24 - 04/06/24

03/31/24

• Quarles, Keagan
Andre, Age: 27, Houston: Warrantless/On-View - Driving w/Lic Inv w/Prev Conv/Susp/W/O Fin Res, Requires \$1,500 Bond; Warrantless/On-View - Poss Marij<2oz, Requires \$500 Bond; Released

• Quarles, Raven
Nicole, Age: 28, Houston: Warrantless/On-View - Poss CS PG 2>=1G<4G, Requires \$2,500 Bon; Warrantless/On-View - Poss Marij <2oz, Requires \$500 Bond; Released

• Cagle, Chelsea Mae, Age: 26 Leesville: Warrantless/On-View - False Alarm or Report, Requires \$1,500 Bond; Released

04/01/24

Siptak, Gianna Corryn, Age: 23, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence - Poss Marij <2oz, Released - Weekender

• Jones, Justin David, Age: 31, Houston: Commitment/Sentence - Driving while Intoxicated 3rd or more IAT, Remains in Custody

• Johnson, Jacob
Christian, Age: 17, Gonzales: Warrantless/On-View - Injury Child/Elderly/Disable w/Int Bodily Inj, Requires \$15,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

04/02/24

• Johnson, Kayla
Marissa, Age: 29, Gonzales: Other Agency Hold - Driving while Intoxicated BAC>=0.15, Released - \$6,000 Bond

04/04/24

• Sanchez, Paul Jeffery, Age: 45, Smiley: Local Warrant - Injury Child/Elderly/Disable w/Int Bodily Inj Released - \$50,000 Bond

• Sanchez, Farah Lynn
Age: 46, Smiley: Warrantless/On-View - Injury Child/Elderly/Disable w/Int SB/Mental, Released - \$75,000 Bond

04/05/24

Saucedo, Faustino
Estrada Age: 53, Houston: Warrantless/On-View - Driving while Intoxicated 3rd or more IAT, Released - Weekender

• Hodge, Rozaun
Demont, Age: 39, Cedar Creek: Local Warrant - Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family Member, Released - Weekender

• Flores, Raynaldo, III, Age: 28, Nixon: Local Warrant - Assault Causes Bodily Inj, Released - \$5,000 Bond

• Dilworth, Johnny Ray, Age: 39, Yoakum: Commitment/Sentence - Poss CS PG1>=1G<4G, Released - Weekender

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

GCSO	13
DPS	03
GPD	03
WPD	00
NPD	05
GISD	00
SMO	00
Constable 1	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	24



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ACROSS

- mammal found under Austin's Congress Bridge (2 wds.)
- TXism: "keeps his _____ polished" (do gooder)
- TXism: "eagle _____" (observant)
- Monte _____, Texas
- TXism: "_____ gut" (whiskey)
- feisty
- TX Buddy Holly's "_____ Love Ways"
- Friday night halftime performer (2 wds.)
- investment for a specified period (abbr.)
- TXism: "let _____" (leave alone)
- TX Howard Hughes dated this Gardner _____ turtles
- commotion
- many of these settled in Texas
- extra play for Texas pro teams (abbr.)
- coffin transport
- an overthrow of a government
- TXism: "pulled the wool over _____ eyes" (deceived)
- it often happens when a rich Texan dies (2 wds.)
- TXism: "that's a fine how do _____"
- Hill Country is one for white-tailed deer
- "Gig '____ Aggies!"
- _____ mouth, insert foot" (blunder)

- Galveston was once a main port for these plunderers
- contributed
- Texas-sized corporation
- _____ Soto, Texas
- TXism: "badge _____" (lawman)
- more obvious
- "fight toe _____"
- container for coffee or cremation

DOWN

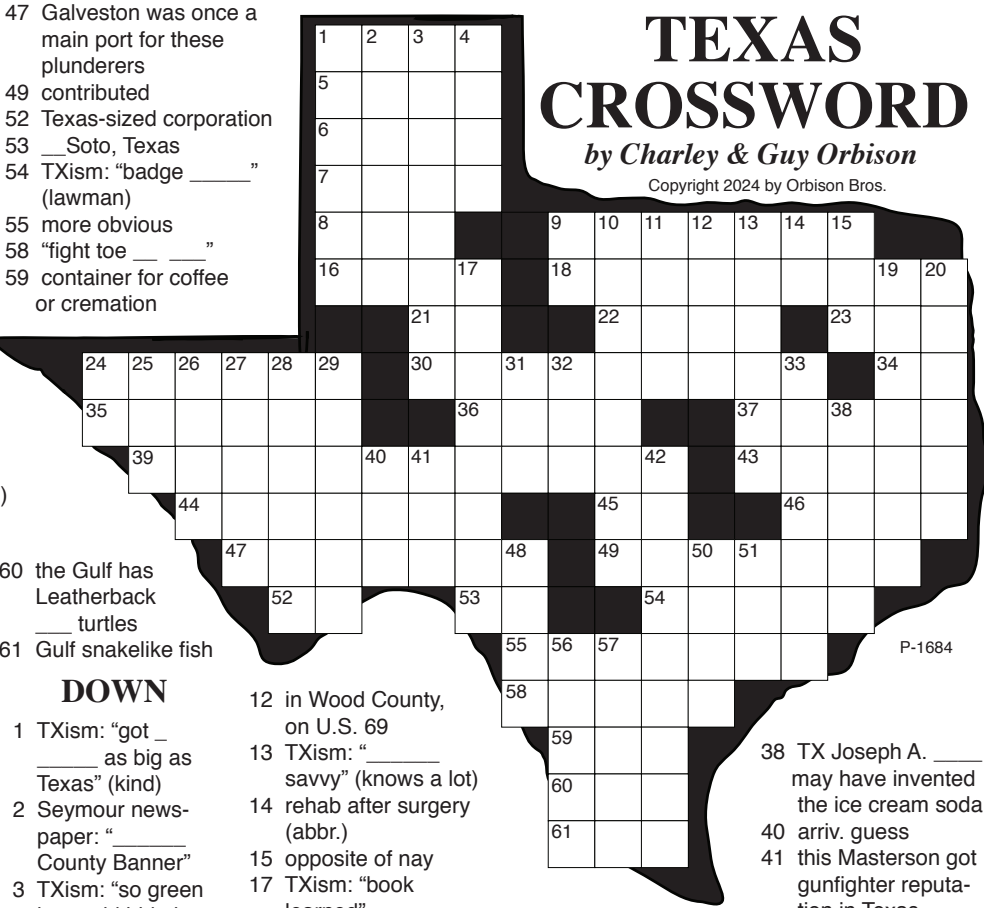
- TXism: "got _____ as big as Texas" (kind)
- Seymour newspaper: "_____ County Banner"
- TXism: "so green he could hide in _____ patch"
- like 24-across: "a big _____"
- TX Shelley of 1980 film "The Shining" (init.)
- _____ cow-boys (disabled)
- religious ceremony

- in Wood County, on U.S. 69
- TXism: "_____ savvy" (knows a lot)
- rehab after surgery (abbr.)
- opposite of nay
- TXism: "book learned"
- kept away from
- prison guard at the Patrick O'Daniel Unit near Gatesville
- Houston univer.
- Texas-filmed "_____ wee's Big Adventure"
- skin breakout
- "bottle _____"?

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test.

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers found in next week's Classifieds.

Gonzales Beautification Advisory Board: 'Thank you for volunteering!'

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales Beautification Advisory Board extends its appreciation for the selfless contributions of volunteers during National Volunteer Month, celebrated annually throughout April. Volunteers in Gonzales play a vital role

in various community initiatives, ranging from assisting the elderly to supporting local schools and environmental projects. Their unwavering dedication embodies the spirit of unity and compassion, enriching the lives of residents and strengthening the community's fabric. During National Volunteer Month,

the Gonzales Beautification Advisory Board joins organizations nationwide in acknowledging the invaluable role of volunteers. The success of projects like the Jim Price Clean-up service project in Gonzales is a testament to the commitment and impact of these volunteers, inspiring others to participate and

make a difference. As we commemorate National Volunteer Month, let us express our gratitude to the volunteers of Gonzales and beyond for their selflessness and dedication. Their acts of kindness serve as beacons of hope, guiding us toward a brighter, more compassionate future for all.

VOTING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sherri Koepp has a pair of challengers for her seat: Mariah Jordan and Johnnie Ross Hunt.

District 1 incumbent Councilmember Joseph "Poochy" Kridler was unopposed, so balloting for his precinct has been canceled.

Election Day voting will take place from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 4, at the Randle-Rather Building.

GONZALES ISD

Incumbent District 4 Gonzales ISD Trustee Josie Smith-Wright will be challenged by David Schautteet. District 7 Trustee Sandra Gorden, will face Naomi Brown on the ballot. Election Day voting will take place from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 4, at the Randle-Rather Building.

NIXON CITY COUNCIL

Two at-large seats are available on the Nixon City Council and on the ballot are Jack Rogers, Shannon Smith and Jessica Smith. Incumbent Maggie Gaytan did not seek re-election.

Incumbent City Councilmember Ellie Dominguez ran unopposed

for mayor as incumbent Dorothy Riojas did not seek another term. That race has been removed from the ballot.

Election Day voting will take place from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 4, at the Nixon City Hall.

SMILEY CITY COUNCIL

Incumbent Mayor Elizabeth "Lisa" Benavidez will be challenged by former Mayor Michael Mills, who lost to Benavidez in a hotly contested race in 2022.

There are two at-large seats available on the Smiley City Council and incumbents Ellis Villasana and Melva Childress have filed for re-election and they will be challenged by Michaela Mills and Elisa Douglass.

Election Day voting will take place from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Smiley Volunteer Fire Department, 208 N. FM 108, Smiley.

WAEOLDER CITY COUNCIL

The race for Waelder Mayor will be between incumbent Roy R. Tovar and Waelder City Councilmember Curtis Hadnot Jr.

Meanwhile, there are six candidates for two at-large positions on the Waelder City Council. They include incumbent Councilmember Peggy Blackmon, Mike Harris, Margie Olmos Benitez, Eric Mahler, Connie S. Blackwell and Sandra K. Dickerson. The other seat has remained vacant since the death of Councilmember Sam Ramirez.

Election Day voting will take place from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Waelder Community Center, 311 Hwy. 90, Waelder.

WAEOLDER ISD

Three spots are available at-large on the Waelder ISD Board of Trustees. Candidates are incumbent Trustee Adolph Gonzales, incumbent Trustee Jo Ann Ibarra, Donna Brown, Danna Kincaid and Don Kincaid. Election Day voting will take place from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Waelder Community Center, 311 Hwy. 90, Waelder.

Elections for Nixon-Smiley Consolidated ISD and Gonzales Healthcare Systems were canceled due to having only unopposed candidates.

TORRES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"She knows that education is the cornerstone of a thriving community, and she continues to champion that cause."

Torres received the Legacy Lifetime Achievement Award from the school district at the meeting.

In other board business, the board went over the proposed date for the 2024-2025 proposed budget and tax rate meeting.

The board approved Monday, Aug. 26 for the budget and tax rate meeting at 5:30 p.m.

GISD Police Chief Greg Brooks spoke to the board, seeking approval of two agenda items — a Justice Assistance Grant and Bullet-Resistant Grant for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

If awarded the Justice Grant, the funds from the grant will purchase four body-worn cameras and in-car cameras, along

with a video storage and upload system, Brooks said. This would allow GISD officers to video all students, parents, and citizens for accountability and evidence-gathering in criminal investigations, Brooks added.

If awarded the Bullet-Resistant Shield Grant, it will fund the purchase of bullet-resistant shields for district police officers.

"This would provide safety equipment for the officers to use during an active shooter threat on any of our campuses or school district facilities," Brookes said.

The board unanimously approved both agenda items.

The board also approved a resolution authorizing the sale of real property, including Possible Approval of the Purchase-Sales Agreement with C3 Investments, LLC.

FESTIVAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The diverse and stacked lineup from up-and-coming artists to chart-topping headliners span across three stages over the three-day festival, which goes through Sunday, April 14.

Marcus Federman, the founder of the Cattle Country Music Festival who was also behind the very successful 2022 Float Fest which was similarly held in Gonzales, credited the community and its support for helping make this event possible.

"The town of Gonzales has been so incredible to us in our first year and we're excited to bring people from all over the world to not only enjoy the music and Texas southern hospitality, but to also see how beautiful the backdrop of this festival truly is. It's going to be one heck of a memorable weekend and we can't wait for April 12," Federman said.

The festival kicks off with Sophia Scott on the Austin Hope Wines Stage 1 at 7 p.m. Friday, followed by Sublime with Rome at 8 p.m. and Koe Wetzel at 9:30 p.m. The festival expands to three stages Saturday,

with staggered performances by Derek Austin, Coleman Jennings, The Weathered Souls, Tyler Braden, The War and Treaty, Cameron Sacky, Colbie Caillat, Southall, Tanya Tucker, Kaleo, Randy Rogers Band, Whiskey Myers and Breland.

Finally, on Sunday, April 14, the staggered performances include Matt Koziol, Angel White, The Glorious Sons, Black Hawk, Kyler Weston, Tanner Usery, Austin Snell, William Clark Green, Hailey Whittiers, Tracy Lawrence, Red Clay Strays, Chase Rice, Shane Smith and the Saints and, closing out the festival, Eric Church.

The festival will take place in Gonzales on a sprawling 400-acre ranch dubbed "The Boot" along the Guadalupe River and includes the unique Come and Take It Lounge, a Texas camping oasis, mouthwatering eats, upscale beverages including crafted cocktails and wines and even a convenience store on site for all basic needs.

For more information or to get tickets, visit www.cattlecountryfest.com.

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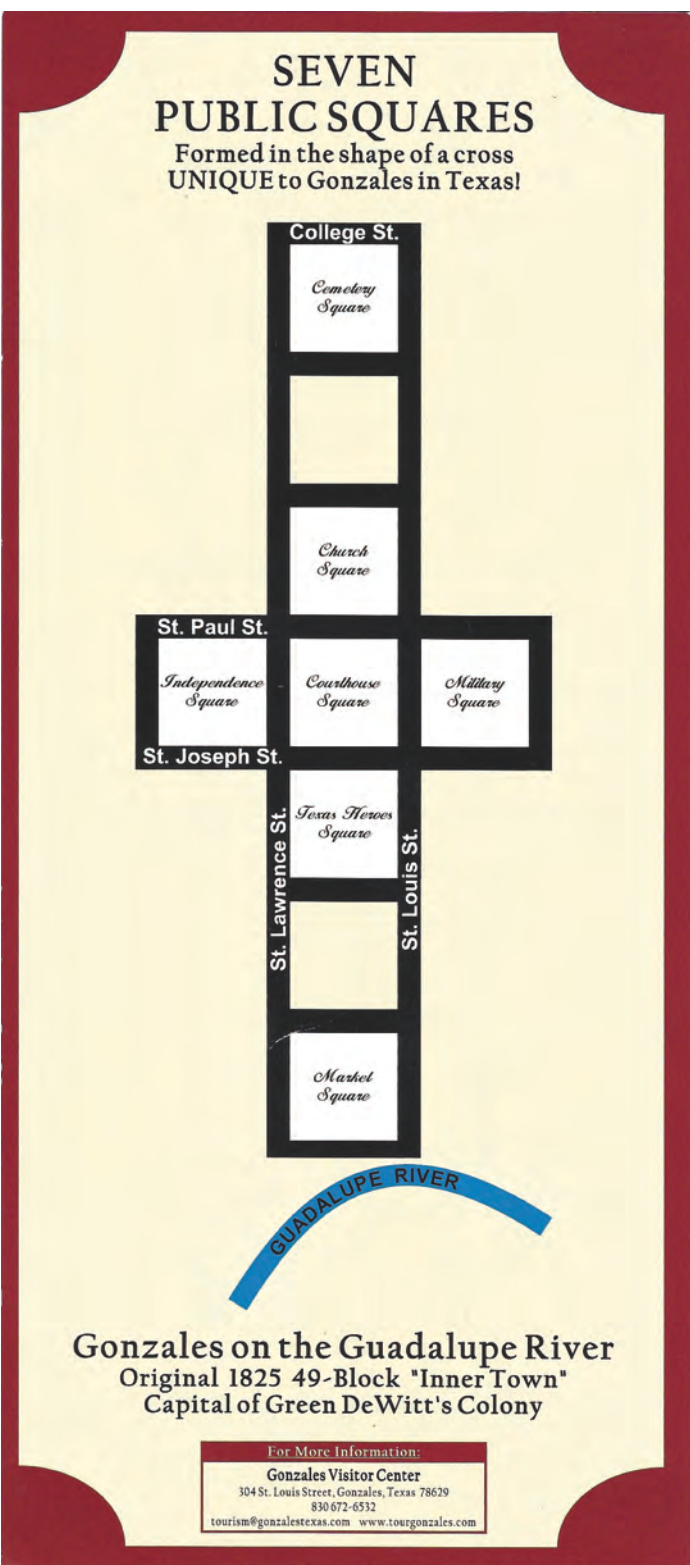
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DEWITT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

all six counties which were part of or contributed to the DeWitt Colony will take part in the luncheon.

“My whole purpose in all of this is to begin educating the population of Gonzales, the city of Gonzales, Gonzales County, and hence the world, as to ‘What was the DeWitt Colony?’ Gordon said. “What was happening here? What does it look like? That’s the umbrella focus of all of the activities that the county historical commission is participating in and doing the planning, and I’m very happy to be able to lead that group of historians.”

Empresario Green DeWitt was granted a contract in April 1825 to settle 400 Catholic families into South Texas in an area near the Guadalupe, Lavaca and San Marcos rivers.

DeWitt’s surveyor, James Kerr, placed the capital of the colony at the confluence of the Guadalupe and San Marcos rivers and named it Gonzales after Rafael Gonzales, provisional governor of Coahuila y Tejas, and the first settlers arrived in Gonzales in the summer of 1825.

Gordon noted the original town was designed in the shape of a Spanish cross (sometimes called a Greek cross) with seven public squares — the center being Courthouse Square bounded by Saint Joseph, Saint Paul, Saint Lawrence and Saint Louis streets.

Other squares include Independence Square (directly north of Courthouse Square); Military Square (directly south of Courthouse Square); Texas Heroes Square (directly west of Court-

house Square); Church Square (directly east of Courthouse Square); Market Square (the area between U.S. 183 and Saint John Street) and Cemetery Square (between Hamilton Street and College Street).

“We are unique in Texas to have this early Spanish cross design,” Gordon said. “It is the center of our community and I think the Courthouse is the center of the cross. The symbolism there is truly for the people.”

The courthouse was designed so that each of the four doors is located in a separate precinct, so each of the four precincts has its own designated “door” in the building.

After Texas gained its independence in 1836, Gonzales County was established as one of the original 23 counties of the Republic of Texas.

DeWitt County was created in March 1846 from portions of Gonzales, Goliad and Victoria counties, while Lavaca County was formed one month later from parts of Gonzales, Colorado, Jackson and Victoria counties. In March 1848, Caldwell County was created from portions of Gonzales and Bastrop counties.

Two others counties which adjoin Gonzales, but were not created from the original DeWitt Colony, include Guadalupe County, created in March 1844 from Bexar County, and Wilson County, formed in 1860 from pieces of Bexar and Karnes counties.

The historical commission is planning to use \$1,100 of the county’s \$1,500 donation to have

a catered buffet for the 30 invited guests at the luncheon and the other \$400 will pay for the venue rental. The commission will spend \$500 on commemoratives and an information packet to be distributed to attendees, Gordon said.

“This is the first of many activities that we are beginning in 2024 to introduce the colony to the rest of the county and the rest of the state. On Sept. 28, we’re having a DeWitt’s Colony Bicentennial Symposium that is a big hoo-hah to come to and to tell about their contributions to Texas history from 1825 up to the Republic of Texas,” Gordon said.

The September event will feature the Edwards High School gymnasium as well as Pioneer Village, which Gordon said “is going to be the heart of the interpretation of the DeWitt Colony, as well it should be.” That event will be co-sponsored by the Green DeWitt’s Colony Association and Preservation Gonzales Inc.

This month, the entire Gonzales Junior High School seventh grade will take part in a tour of Pioneer Village as well as a history day at Kerr Creek to learn of the founding of the DeWitt Colony, Gordon said.

“I’m very excited about that, because telling our children about the history of our community is one way of making those connections last a little bit longer,” Gordon added. “Preservation is more than buildings and the restoring of those buildings. We are about preserving the history of our community.”

PAYROLL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

County Judge Pat Davis and County Attorney Paul Watkins about having HR in the same office as payroll.

On Monday, Davis told commissioners that action taken by the court in 2017, according to court minutes, had shown the court voted unanimously seven years ago to “implement a Department of Human Resources to include payroll, health insurance and employee benefits.”

“The way it’s written here, from my understanding, payroll will still be under HR at this time, so do you want to leave it (in the auditor’s office) or do you want to move it?” Davis asked. “Whatever the case may be, we would have to take some action.”

At some point after 2017, the HR department — which included payroll — and accounts receivable were moved into the auditor’s office, Weston told the court.

Precinct 3 Commis-

sioner Kevin La Fleur said he has concerns about moving both payroll and HR into the same office together out from under Weston’s oversight.

“When we had this like this before, without anybody overseeing and just one person, we ran into a bunch of problems,” La Fleur said. “There were no checks and balances and we ran into trouble ...we got this letter from the federal government on our withholding taxes and we ended up owing a bunch of money because there was nobody checking it.

“The last time we ran into this, yes, the auditor audited it, but it was six months later and it was screwed up when it was posted.”

“Your county attorney was very clear that HR and payroll should not be in the same department,” Weston said. “So the clarification is to you want to leave payroll to the auditor’s office or move it to the HR office.

I personally think payroll should always be under somebody who signs the checks, whether that’s myself or the treasurer.”

County Treasurer Sheryl Barborak said, in her 18 years as treasurer, “payroll has balanced and the bank accounts are fine. I mean, I just don’t understand why you would want to move it from a place where it’s working so well to another place.

“The auditor knows what she’s doing and she keeps everything balanced,” Barborak said. “If I ever have a problem with the payroll count, I go talk to her, she figures out what went wrong, and she fixes it. I’m just saying they know what they’re doing and it’s been working fine.”

Commissioners determined they want to keep payroll in the auditor’s office, but employee benefits and health insurance will be handled by HR director Misty Cook.

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2024 GONZALES COUNTY CHAMPIONS

LIVESTOCK SHOWS



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LIVESTOCK SHOW**

**GONZALES
LIVESTOCK SHOW**

**WAELDER
LIVESTOCK SHOW**

GONZALES CHAMPIONS



Grand Champion County Bred Gilt:
WESTON RUDDOCK



Grand Champion County Bred Heifer & Reserve Champion Breeding Heifer
ELLIE LESTER

2024 GONZALES COUNTY CHAMPIONS LIVESTOCK SHOWS

INSIDE

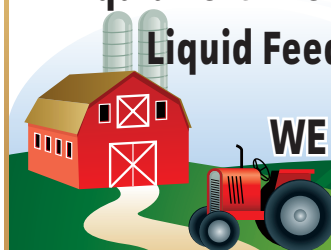
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Grand Champion Breeding Rabbit
BRODI RAMOS



Grand Champion County Bred Ewe:
MAKENNA PISH



Grand Champion County Bred Steer:
AUGUSTUS SEXTON



Grand Champion Steer
KADE AVANT



Grand Champion County Bred Breeding Goat:
DELTIN PAPE



Grand Champion Breeding Heifer
KOOPER HARDCASTLE

GONZALES CHAMPIONS



Grand Champion County Bred Marker Rabbit:
ISABELLE GONZALEZ



Grand Champion County Bred Commercial Heifers:
AVA COOK



Grand Champion County Bred Market Goat:
ADYSEN JANACEK



Reserve Champion Breeding Goat
DAKOTA SCHMIDT

*Congratulations to All Participants
and Volunteers, Job Well Done*



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GONZALES CHAMPIONS



Grand Champion Gilt
JAXON BECK



Reserve Champion Gilt
BAYLYNE EVANS

**Congratulations to everyone
who participated in the
2024 Livestock Shows!**

.....

**GONZALES LIVESTOCK
MARKET, INC.**

Working hard to ensure quality service for all our customers.

David Shelton Mike Brzozowski
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Reserve Champion Ewe
BRYSON KUEHN

GONZALES CHAMPIONS



Reserve Champion Senior Ag Mechanics:
ALEX CARMONA and ALEXIS VAZQUEZ



Grand Champion Ewe
MAKENNA PISH



Reserve Champion Junior Ag Mechanics:
HARRY WHITE, III



Grand Champion Commercial Heifers
KADE AVANT



Grand Champion Senior Baked Goods
ADDISON PUSTKA

GONZALES CHAMPIONS



Grand Champion Lamb
RHETT RICHTER



Grand Champion Goat
DYLLON RICHARDSON



Grand Champion Rabbit
GRACE FREDERICK



Grand Champion Broiler
MAGGIE TATSCH



Grand Champion Breeding Goat
DELTIN PAPE



Grand Champion Swine
JAXON BECK

GONZALES CHAMPIONS



Grand Champion Junior Baked Goods
TINSLEY BEHLEN



Grand Champion Senior Ag Mechanics
JUAN PIZANO, COY LABUHN and GAGE JENDRZEY



Grand Champion Junior Ag Mechanics
ADYSEN JANACEK



Reserve Champion Steer:
AUGUSTUS SEXTON

GONZALES CHAMPIONS



Reserve Champion Goat:
DELTIN PAPE



Reserve Champion Lamb:
SLAYDEN BOEHM



Reserve Champion Broiler:
WILL MILLER



Reserve Champion Commercial Heifers:
AVA COOK

GONZALES CHAMPIONS



Reserve Champion Senior Baked Goods:
ADDISON PUSTKA



Reserve Champion Junior Baked Goods:
JAYLA DIXON



Reserve Champion Rabbit:
KELLY BREITSCHOPF



Reserve Champion Swine:
CONNOR PISH

NIXON-SMILEY CHAMPIONS



MARK SHANNON
Grand Champion Market Steer, \$13,150.00



COLE TAYLOR
Reserve Champion Market Steer, \$10,000.00



SKYLIE KITCHENS
Grand Champion Local Bred Steer, \$10,000.00



WYATT MCKINNEY
Reserve Champion Local Bred Steer, \$7,000.00

Thank You

We would like to express our appreciation to the following people for their dedication to the youth of the community and support of the Gonzales County Youth Show



2024 BUYERS LIST

SPECIAL THANKS

AMANDA GARZA AND THE J.B. WELLS CREW • BENNY CONN • BLAKE PETREK • BRADY OAKES • CHARLIE CAMPION DAKOTA STAMPORT • DAVID SHELTON • DELL HARPER • DWIGHT SEXTON • DYLAN MILLS • E.F. EHRIG & SONS E-BARR FEEDS & SUPPLY • FRONTIER WASTE SOLUTIONS • GAYLE BLUDAU • GONZALES I.S.F. GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET • GUADALUPE VALLEY VET CLINIC • GVEC • JAXON BECK • JD SHELTON • JEFF LESTER JOHN HAHN • MALLORY PYSEN • MARISA PERUSQUIA • MELANIE SVOBODA • MICHAEL EHRIG • MIKE BRZOWSKI MIKE MILLER • MR. AND MRS. PAT DAVIS • PECAN GROVE VET CLINIC AND DR. JOHN WITHERS • PHIL KOEHLER REBECCA ST. JOHN • SAN ANTONIO RODEO COMMITTEE • SHELBY STAMPORT • SHELLY STAMPORT • STEVE EHRIG SUSIE BARFIELD • TOOTIE'S LIQUOR STORE • TRACTOR SUPPLY GONZALES • WAYNE LOW

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Friends of the Livestock • Fehner & Son Grain Co. • Holmes Foods • Beef Boosters • Attoyac Elstner Dozer Service, LLC • Sage Capital Bank • Lindemann Fertilizer Service, Inc. • JD Caraway • E.F. Ehrig and Sons

2024 TOP TEN COMMERCIAL HEIFER BUYERS

Fehner & Son Grain Co. • Janet Baker • E-Barr Feeds • Lance and Jennifer Benes • Mark Ploeger Gary Schroeder • Keith and Sheila Elstner • Ross and Kacey Butler • Tom Johnson • David Malaer

BEEF BOOSTERS

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We would like to Thank All of the buyers for their contributions! Without their support, the 2024 Stock Show wouldn't have been as much of a success as it was.



A-1 SHINER FIRE & SAFETY • AP BREITSCHOPF & SONS • APACHE SERVICE - RANDLE PIRKLE • ARROWHEAD RANCH, JULIE BOSCAMPT • BAKER BOYS BAR-B-QUE • JOHN & SUSIE BARFIELD • MAX & TRISTAN BARTA • COLLIE BOATRIGT - COMMISSIONER PCT 4 • BREITSCHOPF-COOPER REALTY • PHIL & JACKIE BREITSCHOPF • LOUIS H BRUNS & THOMAS H. BRUNS • TOMMY, THERESA & CODY BRUNS • DONNIE BRZOWSKI, COMMISSIONER PCT 2 • MIKE & TERESA BRZOWSKI • NORMAN & JEAN BURNS, ATTORNEY AT LAW • BYK USA, INC. • CAPITOL MONUMENT CO. - CULLEN & CANDIS KLESEL • CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA • RUSTY J. CLAMPIT, DVM • KYLE & DEBBIE CROZIER • D & G AUTOMOTIVE & DIESEL • BENNIE & DARDENELLA DAVIS • BRYAN & ELLEN DENMAN • DAVID & TONYA EPPRIGHT • M/M BOB ERICKSON • EWALD TRACTOR OF SEQUIN • KENNETH & KAREN FOUGERAT • FLOYD & KINTZ PC • DARREN & JANICE GLASS • R. D. GLASS FARMS • GRAY CATTLE COMPANY • JAY & DONNA GRAY • GUADALUPE VALLEY VETERINARY CLINIC • M/M TOMMY HUBER • BUDDY JANECKA & DELPHIN JANECKA • BRITT & LAURIE JOHNSON • KEVIN LAFLEUR, COMMISSIONER PCT #3 • LEPETIT MAISON BEAUTY SALON • BYRON & JULIE LESTER • S R (PAL) & BETHEL LESTER • JOHN & PAMELA LIFORD • TOM & LORI LINDEMANN • BOBBY LOGAN • ALLISON & ROWDY MARROW • GREG & KRIS MCLAIN • M/M JOHN MEADOR • MEATHEADS MEAT MARKET • JANICE MENKING, GLENN & SARAH MENKING & DAVID FLOYD • M/M LARRY MERCER • MICHAEL & JACKIE MIKESH • MICHAEL & THELMA ORTMAN • PAUL JORDAN EQUIPMENT • BARBARA & BILL QUINNEY • MIKE RAINEY • RUNNING M BAR & GRILL • CARL & BETTY SAMPLE • JOHN SAMPLE • SECURITY STORAGE - SHIRLEY HODGES • SHOPPA'S FARM SUPPLY - SHINER • LOY SMITH • WILLIAM SOEFJE & FAMILY • JOE & LANDRA SOLANSKY • STEELE AUTO GROUP - GONZALES • T ELECTRIC - TOMMY AVANT • TAYLOR RANCH • JAY & CARRIE TINSLEY • TINSLEY RANCH LLC • JOHN L. TINSLEY • TOOTIE'S LIQUOR STORE • TSG ARCHITECTS AIA • WEAVER & JACOBS CONSTRUCTORS, INC. • WEST MOTORS SERVICE CENTER • DALE WHIDDON - COMMISSIONER PCT #1 • M/M PLOWMAN WHIDDON

FRIENDS OF LIVESTOCK SHOW

NIXON-SMILEY CHAMPIONS



NICOLE IVEY
Grand Champion Market Hog, \$8,450.00



ELIAS VILLASANA
Grand Champion Layered Cake, \$600.00



SOLANA MARTINEZ
Reserve Champion Layered Cake, \$575.00

*Congratulations
to all participants!*



101 S. Liberty Ave. | Nixon, TX | 830-582-1551

NIXON-SMILEY CHAMPIONS



KYLEIGH MCKISSACK
Grand Champion Market Goat, \$10,000.00



KYLEIGH MCKISSACK
Grand Champion Breeder Goat



SKY'LEE PAPE
Reserve Champion Market Hog, \$6,000.00



COLTON KRUEGER
Reserve Champion Market Goat, \$9,000.00



KAILEY PARKS
Reserve Champion Breeder Goat



NICHOLE IVEY
Reserve Champion Breeder Hog

NIXON-SMILEY CHAMPIONS



DAKOTA FLORES
Reserve Champion Market Lamb, \$4,300.00



BRIGGS PATTESON
Grand Champion Market Lamb, \$10,000.00



SKY'LEE PAPE
Grand Champion Breeder Hog

Nixon Livestock Commission, Inc

SALE

Every Monday-10:30 am

1924 US Highway 87 E, Nixon, TX

830-582-1561 or 830-582-1562

All Livestock Insured and Bonded

Congrats to all stock show participants and volunteers!

Gary Butler
830-857-4330

Rodney Butler
361-645-5002

NIXON-SMILEY CHAMPIONS



PEYTON GARCIA
Grand Champion Market Rabbits, \$6,000.00



CASE MARTIN
Reserve Champion Market Rabbits, \$4,100.00



DAVIAN RAMOS
Grand Champion Turkey, \$3,000.00



BROOKE CRISP
Grand Champion Fryer Rabbit



EMMERSYN STONE
Reserve Champion Fryer Rabbit



EMALEE RIOJAS
Reserve Champion Turkey, \$2,700.00

NIXON-SMILEY CHAMPIONS



ANA GAMEZ
Reserve Champion Roaster
Reserve Champion Broilers, \$5,400.00



OSCAR GAMEZ
Grand Champion Broilers, \$6,000.00
Grand Champion Roaster

NIXON-SMILEY CHAMPIONS



JAY MENDEZ
Grand Champion Individual Ag Mechanics,
\$6,400.00



BOBBY JOE MENDEZ
Reserve Champion Individual Ag Mechanics,
\$5,760.00



JAYLEE BUSTOS
Grand Champion Craft, \$750.00



MATTIE CROFT-JOHNSTON
Reserve Champion Craft, \$725.00

CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL PARTICIPANTS
IN THE
2024 LIVESTOCK SHOW



BYK USA Inc.

1212 Church Street | Gonzales, Texas 78629
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NIXON-SMILEY CHAMPIONS



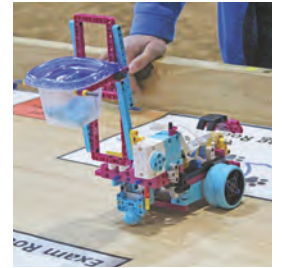
ADRIK RODRIGUEZ & MIGUEL VALERIO
Grand Champion Team Ag Mechanics, \$4,000.00



GRACEN MARTIN & TYLER BARRIENTEZ
Reserve Champion Team Ag Mechanics, \$3,000.00



SCENES FROM THE SHOW



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL 2024
LIVESTOCK SHOW
PARTICIPANTS!**

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WAELDER CHAMPIONS



Brother, sister combo Nina Vela and Nicco Jaimes combo dominate the rabbit category.



Isabella Nava with her prize winning heifer



First time exhibitors, Ariel Nunoz and Nina Vela



Jacob Tovar and his assistants show off his prize winning broilers

WAElder CHAMPIONS



Judging Jacqueline Rodriguez's lamb



Showing swine always gets crazy for Marijose Hernandez, Alicia Nichols and Adam Hernandez



2024 Waelder Stock Show participants

Waelder Livestock Show winners

BROILERS

Jacob Tovar- Grand Champion
Xavier Ford- Reserve Champion
Showmanship-Jacob Tovar

SWINE

Alicia Nichols- Grand Champion
Adam Hernandez-Reserve
Champion
Mari Hernandez-Showmanship

RABBITS

Nicco Jaimes-Grand Champion
Nina Vela- Reserve Champion
Dixon Powell- Showmanship

HEIFER

Isabella Nava-Grand Champion

LAMB

Jacqueline Rodriguez-Grand champion
Sariah Nichols- Reserve Champion

The
Gonzales Inquirer

would like to say

Congratulations

to all participants in the

2024 Stock Shows

Good Job Everyone!

622 St Paul, Gonzales, TX 78629

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