



The Gonzales Inquirer

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Smiley city secretary quits, citing harassment

By LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Smiley City Secretary Rebecca Mejia turned in her resignation during the Tuesday, March 22, special city council meeting after telling council members she had been harassed and even stalked by a member of the Smiley Volunteer Fire Department.

Mejia said her last day as city secretary will be April 13 because she feels she is in an unsafe work environ-

ment and that some members of the council as well as members of the VFD were spreading falsehoods about her job performance and her character.

"There has been so much emotional stress on me and now I feel like I am being stalked," Mejia said. "Someone from our volunteer fire department knows everything that I do ... the time I'm here, the time I'm gone, where I'm at. I have proof.

See SMILEY, page 16

Gonzales names new Main Street director

By LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The city of Gonzales has a new Main Street director who has experience working in the hospitality and tourism industry locally for the past five-plus years.

Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla, who — with her husband Alex — owns Come and Crepe It and the Dilworth Inn in downtown Gonzales, was hired to the paid position and began her first day of



Hutchinson-Padilla

work for the city on Monday, March 14.

"It is my great honor to accept the position as Main Street director for the city of Gonzales. I have had the pleasure of working in the hospitality and tourism industry in Gonzales since moving here in 2016," Hutchinson-Padilla said.

"Moving to Gonzales completely changed my life and allowed me to live in a way

See DIRECTOR, page 17

Tejano music stars coming to Gonzales for 'Baile Grande II'

By LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

While this weekend's big dance may be called "Baile Grande II," it is really "take two" for a dance on New Year's Eve that had to be canceled due to COVID-19.

"We had band members from two bands who got COVID and we had to postpone," said Jim Luna of Quartermoon Productions, which is putting on the event. "This is the remake of that event.

"For that reason, we are going to be making it free general admission from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for anyone ages 21 and up. After 8 p.m., general admission will be \$20."

See MUSIC, page 17



The Meyers family of New Braunfels drove about an hour to Gonzales on a Sunday to check out the Real Texas Gun Show at JB Wells Expo Center. Gun show organizer Aubrey Sanders Jr. said he tries to promote a family friendly atmosphere that includes respect for gun safety.

BETTY COHN

Gun show offers family-friendly fun

By BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

Walking into The Real Texas Gun Show at JB Wells Expo Center this past Saturday and

Sunday, March 19-20, the family friendly atmosphere became immediately evident.

With a Gonzales off-duty police officer at the entrance to secure all open carry and

concealed weapons and no ammo allowed on the show floor, safety and having fun were paramount in the atmo-

See GUNS, page 16

Be seen for a good cause at Bingo, Bags & Badges event

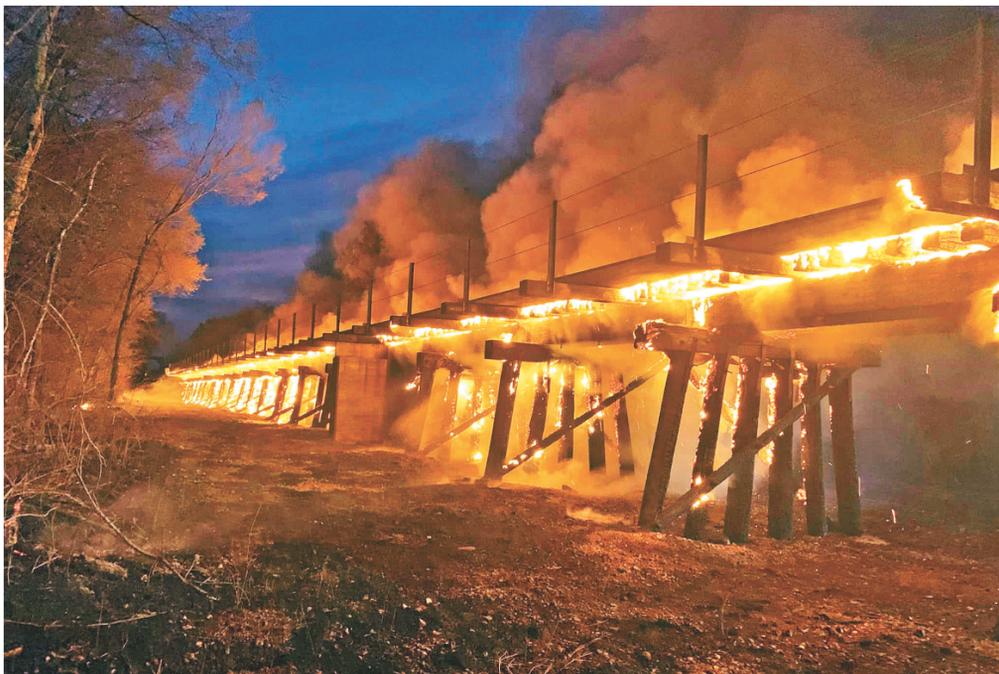
By BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Regional Children's Advocacy Center — better known as Norma's House — serves Gonzales and Lavaca counties and is proud to announce their upcoming event, Bingo, Bags & Badges. This is an event that will allow you to not only ask, "Officer, may I see your badge?" but also "Officer, can I see that fabulous designer bag?"

The annual event will be held at JB Wells Expo Center, 2301 County Road 197, Gonzales, on Friday, April 8, 2022, from 6 p.m.

See EVENT, page 17

TRAIN BRIDGE ABLAZE



CONTRIBUTED/WADE ZELLA

Fire crews from Waelder, Gonzales and Flatonia responded at about 6:40 p.m. Sunday, March 20, to a grass fire on top of a bridge on the Union Pacific railroad. However, before crews could get to the scene, a Union Pacific train came through the ignited patch, which subsequently ignited the entire bridge, Gonzales County Emergency Coordinator Jimmy Harless said. Crews spent some five hours attempting to put out the fire and were hampered by the creosote-soaked timber trestles, which were extremely flammable. At 12:15 a.m., Union Pacific had crews on scene to assess the bridge damage and begin repairs. As this was a main line for Union Pacific, train traffic had to be rerouted and the bridge was repaired and reopened on Tuesday, March 22. Harless said he is not expecting the origin of the fire to be a result of foul play, but at this time, the cause is undetermined.

For those about to run: They'll salute you!

Texas Independence Relay returns to Gonzales

By LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

Don't be surprised if you live near the Gonzales Memorial Muse-

um and hear repeated loud booms and smell gun smoke throughout the day Saturday, March 26. It isn't the second coming of the Battle of Gonzales.

The sound of cannon fire will fill the air for the Texas Independence Relay, which returns to the "birthplace of the Texas Revolution" for

its starting point and will continue some 200 miles before ending in downtown Houston.

Teams of up to 12 runners will be announced by their chosen theme song and a cannon blast during staggered starts beginning

See RUN, page 17

County unemployment rate increases to 3.6 percent

By BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

Unemployment in Gonzales County increased from 3.2 percent in December 2021 to 3.6 percent

in January 2022, the lowest rate of all seven counties which comprise the Golden Crescent Workforce Development Area, according to state Labor Market Information (LMI) figures released by the Texas

Workforce Commission (TWC).

For the entire Golden Crescent Workforce Development Area, the unemployment rate for January

See JOBS, page 16



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Former Nixon PD building to get new life as museum site

By LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The former Nixon Police Department at 106 W. Third St. will get new life as a potential museum site after the Nixon City Council signed a 10-year lease with the Rancho/Nixon Historic Association Inc. on Monday, March 14.

Donald Hoffman and Pablo Aguirre represent the Rancho/Nixon Historic Association and are seeking to turn the building into a museum chronicling the history of Nixon and its predecessor, the Rancho Community, which existed about a mile or so north of present-day Nixon until its post office closed in 1911. City Secretary Deborah Bus-

tamente told the Inquirer she has located historical documents from the city dating back as far as 1923 that could be placed into the care of the association for preservation and use in demonstrating what life was like for Nixon residents nearly a century ago.

There will be some need for renovations at the old police department, including removing some interior walls and creating another exit door, but the cost for renovating the building has not been fully discussed yet.

Due to the involvement of a city-owned building, Mayor Dorothy Riojas asked that a research committee of two aldermen be formed to work with Hoffman on the new museum and both Rene

Amaya and Justin La Fleur volunteered to be on the committee.

Councilmembers also discussed the possible renovation of the former Nixon City Jail, which has not been in use for a long time, Bustamente said. The jail is located next close to the city water tower behind NAPA Auto Parts.

"The last time it was used that I can remember was when municipal judge Darryl Becker (who is also the Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace) was a DPS trooper and would use it to hold people he had arrested until his shift was nearly over so he could then transport them to the Gonzales County Jail," Bustamente said. Action on the former jail was

tabled until next month, Bustamente said.

The council also approved a peddlers permit for Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Romero to open a mobile car service and tire shop to operate in the Nixon city limits. The business may be open between the hours of 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. and cannot get called out after that time, Bustamente said.

Council members renewed and signed a new deposit contract with their depository, Third Coast Bank, and also signed a contract between the city of Nixon, the Nixon Fire Department and the Gonzales County Emergency Service District No. 2.

The council also discussed the possibility of planting trees on the

open lot recently acquired by the city adjacent to City Hall. Former mayor Gladys Finch has said she would be willing to donate two red oaks to be planted on the lot. Mayor Riojas and City Manager Harold Rice will work to determine the best placement of any donated trees.

A pair of city employees (Olalde and Garza Jr.) were recognized for completing class hours towards a water system operator license and the city discussed the ongoing work that needs to be completed at the new Nixon City Hall. Rice also spoke about the new H2O Analytics system for water meters that should make reading meters more efficient for both the city and its customers.



FIRE ON CARTWHEEL DRIVE

Gonzales Fire Department personnel responded to a fire reported in the former Cartwheel Nursing Home complex located in the 1800 block of Cartwheel Drive on Monday, March 21. Despite high winds, firefighters were able to extinguish the fire quickly and prevent it from spreading. The site is known for being a hideout for Gonzales High School students wanting to smoke during their lunch break and also as a place frequented by vagrants. The cause of the blaze is still under investigation.

LEW K. COHN



Get ready to fire up the fun at Shiner VFD Cook Off, Car Show

By BETTY COHN
Gonzales Inquirer

The Shiner Volunteer Fire Department Cook Off & Car Show is driving into Green Dickson Park April 8-9, 2022.

There will be multiple activities and fun for all during the two days of events. Included in these events are a BBQ Camp on Friday (check in at 3:30 p.m.) and BBQ awards at 5 p.m. Saturday.

There will be a helicopter landing zone and tours Saturday at noon, with the car show being held from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday and judging taking place after noon.

A mini-tractor pull takes place Saturday from 1 p.m.

to 4 p.m., with a washer tournament (check in at 1:30 p.m. Saturday) as well as a kids fishing tournament Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The Shiner Hobo Band will perform Saturday from noon to 2 p.m. and vendor booths are available all day Saturday. There are limited RV hookups on site at \$25 per night — please check in with Shiner VFD personnel to pay for both the cookoff & RV slot entry fees starting Friday after noon.

BBQ contest entries will include jackpot pinto beans, pork spare ribs, brisket, and chicken, to name a few, with further details for this event available on the Shiner VFD Facebook page.

Celebrations Birthdays

<p>March 24th Shane Malatek Shawn Malatek Tenley Matias Ernestine Sutherland Julie Winton</p> <p>March 25th Todd Bright Lydia Hope Burleson Randy Harkey Jr. Sandra Ara Johnston Tommy Dale Schellenberg Ronnie Zella</p> <p>March 26th Charles Aleman Barbara Crozier Skyler Head Carolyn Pfuhl Pauler Kobe Schwausch</p> <p>March 27th Bubba Akers Christa Benitez</p>	<p>Trevor Joseph Michael Meyer Jennifer Roberts Natalie Tatsch</p> <p>March 28th Dorothy DeBerry Kennon Harkey Henry Milligan Kenneth Moore</p> <p>March 29th Betty Fehner Tracey Jones Michael McCaskill Garrett Muelker Brandi Pish David Williamson</p> <p>March 30th Betty Lou Harris Amber Palmarez Brianna Rickman Sophia Silbas Betty Spahn</p>
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Samantha Camarillo (left) was the winner of the Dublin for a Dollar Raffle and was presented her prize by GHS Foundation board president Carolyn Orts (center) and GHS Foundation executive director Kelly A. Lindner. Samantha, a home health nurse with Gonzales Healthcare Systems, had her ticket plucked from more than 15,000 tickets by Orts. This fundraiser will allow the foundation to purchase a new defibrillator for the hospital. Lindner thanks everyone who participated in the raffle and hopes to have another one soon.

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Gonzales Weather

	March 24 77°/37°	Nice with plenty of sunshine 2% chance of rain • RealFeel 77
	March 25 85°/44°	Sunny and very warm 0% chance of rain • RealFeel 86
	March 26 85°/48°	Sunny and very warm 1% chance of rain • RealFeel 88
	March 27 82°/54°	Partly sunny 4% chance of rain • RealFeel 780
	March 28 83°/57°	Windy with high clouds 1% chance of rain • RealFeel 78
	March 29 84°/53°	Cloudy with a shower possible 30% chance of rain • RealFeel 82
	March 30 79°/49°	Considerable cloudiness 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 76

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LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales Livestock Market

March 19

Cattle 918

Compared to our last sale: Number 1 quality calves and yearlings sold 2.00-4.00 higher. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer bulls sold steady while packer cows sold 2.00-3.00 higher.

Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 232-245; 300-400 lbs., 215-228; 400-500 lbs., 182-200; 500-600 lbs., 162-169; 600-700 lbs., 145-159; 700-800 lbs., 134-139.

Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 80-95.

Stocker-feeder Heifers: Medium and large from No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 190-180; 300-400 lbs., 170-187; 400-500 lbs., 158-165; 500-600 lbs., 145-154; 600-700 lbs., 130-140.

Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 69-88; Cutters, 88-100; Canners, 34-52; High yielding fat cows, 84-90.

Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 101-117; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 87-97.

Stockers Cows: \$600 to \$1,100. Pairs: \$750 to \$1,300.

Nixon Livestock

March 21

Cattle - 809

Steers:

200-300 lbs - \$158-168-230
300-400 lbs - \$151-161-217
400-500 lbs - \$145-155-210
500-600 lbs - \$128-138-174
600-700 lbs - \$121-131-155
700-800 lbs - \$115-125-144

Heifers:

200-300 lbs - \$109-119-230
300-400 lbs - \$128-138-180
400-500 lbs - \$129-139-161
500-600 lbs - \$122-132-170
600-700 lbs - \$113-123-144
700-800 lbs - None to test market
Slaughter Cows - \$35-101
Slaughter Bulls - \$90-114
Stocker Cows - \$650-1100
Pairs: \$870-1090

Hallettsville Livestock

Commission Co., Inc.

Sale date: March 15

Cattle on hand: 1222

Packer Cows:

Canner and Cutter Cows: \$58-98
Utility & Fat Cows: \$57-90
Low Dressing Canner Cows: \$40-58
Pair/Weak: \$25-40

Packer Bulls:

Heavyweight Bulls: \$103-118
Utility & Cutter Bulls: \$90-102
Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$78-90

Stocker Cows:

Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: None
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$750-1100
Good Cow & Calf Pairs: None
Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: None

Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:

Number 1 steer & bull calves:

Under 200 lbs.: \$180-240
200-300 lbs.: \$170-230
300-400 lbs.: \$170-240
400-500 lbs.: \$160-232.50
500-600 lbs.: \$140-192.50
600-700 lbs.: \$136-165
700-800 lbs.: \$120-147.50

Number 1 heifer calves:

Under 200 lbs.: \$170-225
200-300 lbs.: \$140-210
300-400 lbs.: \$140-187.50
400-500 lbs.: \$132-170
500-600 lbs.: \$130-165
600-700 lbs.: \$125-145
700-800 lbs.: \$110-132.50

Replacement Heifers:

350-700 lbs.: None
The market this week was much higher. No. 1 kinds sold steady to \$6. Higher on the heavier weights and \$6 to \$10 higher on the lighter weights with instances of \$15 higher in the light weight steer classes. No. 2 and plainer kinds sold a little better but discounted.
Packer cows and bulls sold \$2 to \$4 higher on approx. 175 hd. total.

Seguin Cattle Co. Market Report

March 16, 2022

Stocker cattle steady with packer cows

and bulls 2-3 better.

Cattle - 821

Sheep & goats - 612

Medium & large frame #1 Steers:

200-300 lb. 1.22-2.05
300-400 lb. 1.45-2.10
400-500 lb. 1.52-2.00
500-600 lb. 1.39-1.75
600-700 lb. 1.28-1.55
700-850 lb. 1.30-1.49

Medium & large frame #1 Heifers:

200-300 lb. 1.10-1.52
300-400 lb. 1.26-1.73
400-500 lb. 1.38-1.66
500-600 lb. 1.22-1.64
600-750 lb. 1.05-1.41

Cows:

Utility & commercial - 78-97
Cutters - 60-77
Canners - 45-59
Palpated cows (young) - 750-1050
(Middle Aged) - 325-700
Cow/Calf Pairs - 800-925

Bulls:

Heavy High Yielding - 1.00-1.20
Light & Low Yielding - 70-99
Feeder Bulls - None

Sheep & Goats:

Nannies (Young) - 250-295
(Thin & Old) - 110-190
Kid Goats (Fat) - 3.60-4.20
(Small & thin) - 2.80-3.50
Wethers - 1.50-2.92
Billies - 1.80-2.40
Barb. Ewes (Young) - 150-225
(Small & Old Ewes) - 80-140
Barb. Lambs (Fat) - 3.50-3.90
(Small & Thin) - 2.80-3.40
Wooled Ewes - None
Wooled Bucks - 1.50-2.10
Lambs - 1.70-2.20
Barb. Bucks - 250-550

Cuero Livestock Market Report on March 18, 2022

Number of head 1,086

There were 167 cows and 24 bulls. This market was again strong continuing to gather strength as we go into spring. Qualities were good. Top packer cow was \$95/cwt while Pairs: None the top bull on hand went for a record \$119/cwt.

The calf market was much better and appears to have turned the corner with the war in Europe and corn prices escalated. A trading range was established and as a result calves were \$7.77/cwt higher on 13.3 pounds less weight for an increase in average value of over \$18.50 per head. A FEEL GOOD DAY!

Packer Bulls: 90.00-119.00

Packer cows:
canners & cutters 80.00-95.00
poor & weak 55.00-73.00
Palpated: 4 bred was a cow
bred 7 months \$1,025

PAIRS: one \$1,500

Steer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

Under 200 lbs. 193.00-250.00
200-249 lbs. NONE
250-299 lbs. 175.00-228.00
300-350 lbs. 187.00-212.00
350-400 lbs. 164.00-184.00
400-450 lbs. 161.00-184.00
450-500 lbs. 150.00-180.00
500-550 lbs. 153.00-180.00
550-600 lbs. 141.00-176.00
600-700 lbs. 141.00-157.00
700-800 lbs. 124.00-145.00

Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

Under 250lbs 145.00-170.00
250-300 lbs. 199.00-226.00
300-350 lbs. 190.00-216.00
350-400 lbs. 162.00-187.00
400-450 lbs. 166.00-190.00
450-500 lbs. 156.00-180.00
500-550 lbs. 153.00-174.00
550-600 lbs. 150.00-170.00
600-700 lbs. 141.00-152.00
Over 700 lbs. 116.00-143.00

Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)

under 200 lbs. 178.00-207.50
200-250 lbs. 150.00-195.00
250-300 lbs. 158.00-181.00
300-350 lbs. 144.00-176.00
350-400 lbs. 147.00-171.00
400-450 lbs. 142.00-171.00
450-500 lbs. 145.00-160.00
500-550 lbs. 141.00-158.00
550-600 lbs. 133.00-156.00
600-700 lbs. 127.00-152.00
Over 700 lbs. 117.00-135.00

Aerator and compost application can restore compacted lawn

Garden Q&A

Q. We just purchased a new house. The soil under the lawn is compacted because the last owners had several large dogs. Is it to late in the year to correct the problem by aerating and top dressing?

A. No, rent an aerator from a big box store or rental store and after you aerate apply one half inch of compost to the lawn. The compost will penetrate the aeration holes and bring the organic material into the roots and improve gas exchange, water storage, nutrient access, and the compaction situation. If you would prefer you could hire a landscape company to do the work.

Q. What is the problem with my wildflowers this spring? The bluebonnets and larkspur are not very

numerous and all the plants that do exist are spindly.

A. I believe the problem is the lack of rain. If it is not possible to provide some irrigation you will just have to put up with slim pickings. If even a few plants bloom and drop seed the lushier plantings may return next year if it rains before the next crop.

Q. My grandchildren and I planted some navel oranges by seeds 2 years ago. They germinated awhile back. When can we expect them to produce some fruit? Will the fruit be any good?

A. It will take at least 5 years for the plants to produce fruit. Yes, the fruit will be the same as the seed source. It sounds like you are doing a good job of keeping the seeding and plant

growth in everyone's attention. It may help to keep everyone involved if you grow some potatoes, tatum, and fruit from a transplant to add to the learning and entertainment.

Q. You were talking about a cut flower garden on your radio show last week. We missed the list of plants that you recommended to grow this summer.

A. In the sun zinnias are my favorite flowers for the cut flower garden. Obtain some Dreamland transplants from your favorite nursery and/or plant some California Giant seeds. Gladiolas are also easy to grow and make good cut flowers.

Q. What is the fastest growing high quality shade tree. I am not getting any younger but need more shade to enjoy my landscape.

A. Texas red oak, Mexican white oak, and Mexican sycamore are all fast-growing high quality shade trees.



It seemed like spring would never arrive between the cold weather and the lack of moisture everything is dreary and un-springlike. In the flower garden the snapdragons were hit hard by the latest February freezes and because of the dry cool weather have been slow to kick into the spring bloom flush. Sometime in April the flowers will recover but another choice for gardeners will be to move directly into the warm weather annuals. Nurseries already have zinnia and begonia transplants for the sun and shade respectively. Also keep your eyes open and watch for the begonia Whoppers, they performed exceptionally in the challenging weather over the summer and fall and I am counting on them to do well again this year.

Bluebonnets seem to be following a parallel course as the snapdragons. They have produced some "king blooms" but require rain to make a more serious bloom performance. Irrigate your bluebonnets if it is practical and it continues to be dry. Larkspur, blue curl, and poppies are also on the verge of blooming and would benefit from some rain. Along with milkweed, zinnias, and mist flower the wildflowers listed are important nectar sources for the Monarch butterflies that will be visiting San Antonio on their migration trek from Mexico to Canada in April. If there are good nectar supplies and plenty of milkweed foliage, they could begin the production of the first generation of caterpillars for the year.

Fertilize your lawn with a slow-release lawn fertil-

izer such as 19-05-09 after it has been mowed twice which usually turns out to be towards the end of April. If you have trouble with sandburs in the lawn, apply a preemergent herbicide as quickly as you can. In the past I would have recommended the products "Amaze" or "XL" as my favorite sand bur and crabgrass prevention products. They have different names but are the same products but in different size packaging. It appears however that both products were manufactured in China at the same factory, a factory that was destroyed in an explosion and so far, no replacement manufacturing site has been organized.

To replace the "XL" and "Amaze" you may want to consider "Dimension", another product that prevents the germination of weedy grasses such as sand bur. Follow the instructions on the label which in addition to other requirements, will direct you to apply the product to the target lawn right now and then again later in the summer. The two-time application is because of the tolerance for sand bur seeds (the stickers) to germinate over a long period

even if the weather is hot.

There is also a new product on the retail herbicide market called "Crew". "Crew" includes "Dimension" as an active ingredient and like "Amaze" and "XL" it also includes active ingredients that will prevent germination of many of the broadleaf weeds that we experience in the summer in addition to sand burs and other grassy weeds. Review the labels and see which of the available preemergent herbicides will best meet your needs.

In the vegetable garden it is time to plant tomatoes and peppers. Try the new Rodeo tomato STM 2255. It was recognized as superior in the Rodeo testing program and its producers state that it is a top performer in the taste category. If you have nematodes in your soil use Valley Cat, Celebrity, Tycoon or BHN 958 for tomato production. You can also plant summer squash, green beans, and cucumbers now. If you have had trouble with squash vine borers in your plantings of summer squash, try using tatum plants. They are easy to grow, taste the same in many recipes, and can resist the borer.

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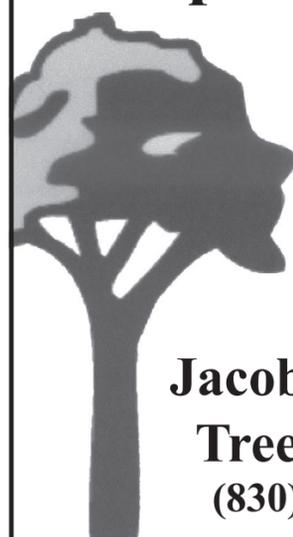
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Husband, wife living 'separate lives'

Dear Violet,

My husband and I are living separate lives. He has his work, his friends, even his own apartment, and I have mine. We have lived this way for over 15 years and it has worked, somewhat, but I find as I get older (we are both 39), I want someone who I can talk to at night, a best friend and not a passing acquaintance for my marriage.

How do I approach my husband about this desire, because every time I try to bring it up, he changes the subject?

—Lonely in marriage

Dear Lonely,

What's in a name? Loneliness is in yours, and in your life. Often times what we need when we are 24 is a very different thing than what we need nearing our middle age years. We are no longer the same people and what we need in another person changes, as well. Often this leads to divorce, if the two individuals can not grow the same direction or with the same needs.

In your situation you made an agreement years ago for a certain type of relationship dynamic. Your needs have changed, from your husband's reaction his needs are the same, distance and a casual marriage. Though it's unfortunate it is where your situation has grown, in separate directions.

I suggest you ask your husband for counseling and be direct and open about your needs. If he does not want the same ideal of marriage it's time to wish your husband the best and move on with your own life and needs.

—Violet

Dear Violet is a relationship advice column, covering both domestic relationships and familial relationships, as well as friendships, that will run semi-monthly in the *Gonzales Inquirer*. If you have something you want to get advice about, write in and get a third party, no ax to grind perspective. Welcome to Violet's world. Send questions, comments or concerns attention: Ask Violet c/o Gonzales Inquirer at publisher@gonzalesinquirer.com.

U.S. BILL OF RIGHTS

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

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

Amendment VII

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII

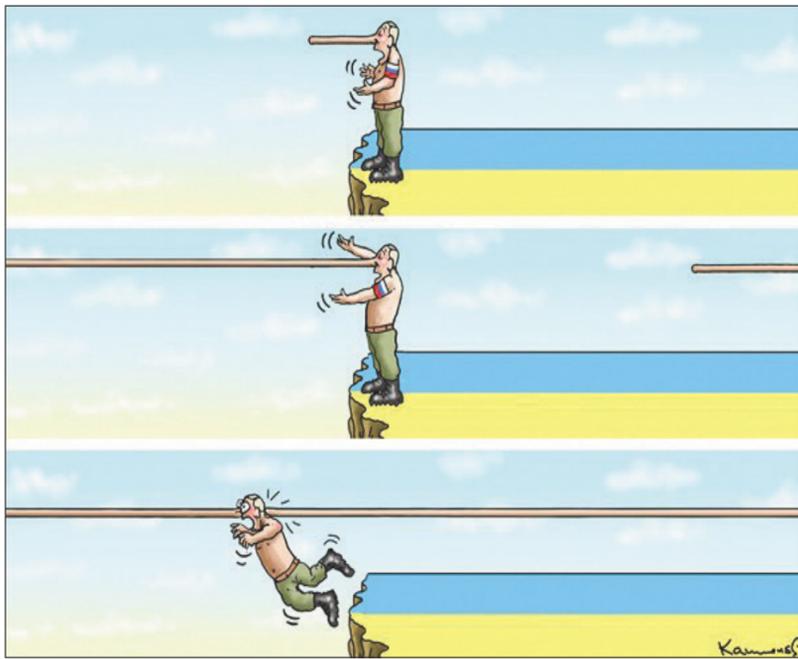
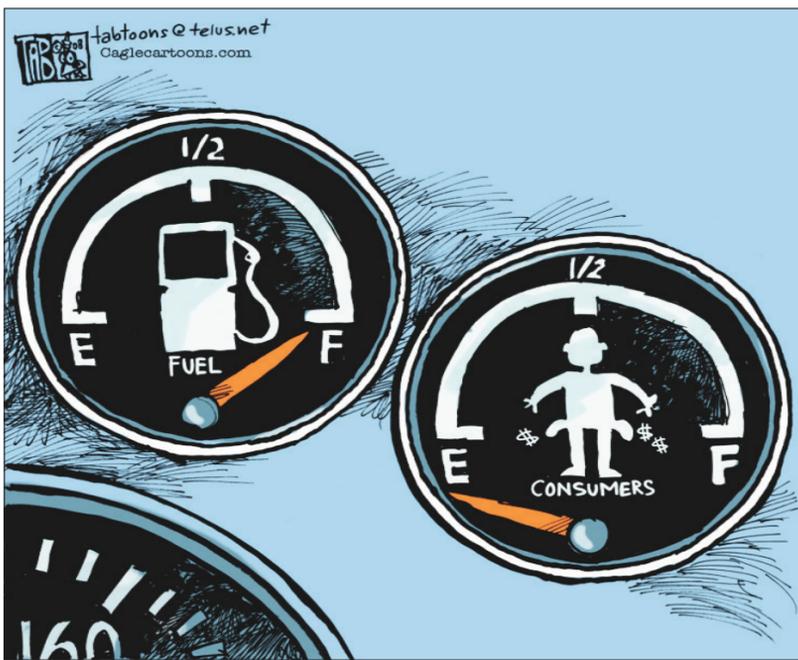
Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX

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

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.



Letters to the Editor Policy

It is the policy of The Inquirer to encourage reader participation on its Opinion page. Diverse and varied opinions are welcomed. Because of space limitations, we must limit all contributors to one letter per person per month. Letters of 400 words or less will be published unless they contain language or content that the editors feel is inappropriate. Letters must either be about Gonzales County, from a resident of Gonzales County, or in response to a story that appears in print or online in The Inquirer.

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

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

During periods ahead of an election, The Inquirer does not accept letters to the editor urging voters to vote for or against candidates in local elections. Endorsements should be displayed in political advertising. In light of

this policy, we reserve the right to reject or edit letters for references to candidates and whether or not they should be elected. The Inquirer will accept letters expressing views on bond measures, constitutional amendments and other such issues. Letters will not be accepted once early voting has begun.

The Inquirer will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information.

Only letters written exclusively to the newspaper will be published. Letters to a third party or those written to more than one newspaper are not accepted. "Wallpaper" – submissions that are in large part copied-and-pasted from another author or organization – will not be published.

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

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

Please send Letters to the Editor:

- Email: publisher@gonzalesinquirer.com
- U.S. Mail: The Inquirer, P.O. Box 616, Gonzales, Texas, 78629
- In person: The Inquirer, 622 St. Paul Street, Gonzales, Texas, 78629 (Please bring in a digital format, if possible).

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

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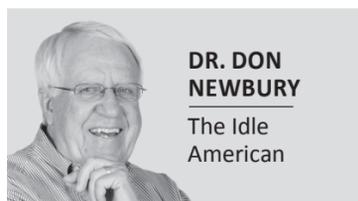
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DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

Life from the Left..

What a downer this piece will be for those who might mistakenly expect exposure to views of leftist politics and/or liberal leanings. It's none of those.

Instead, I spotlight a group long surrendered to "dim lights," largely because we are greatly outnumbered. Unlike the brave Ukrainians, we give in to the world's "right-handers," 88% strong, often without whimpering.

We "left-handers," never full recipients of equal treatment on life's highway, accept less. We groan about only 12% of the world being on the port side of things....

There is evidence that the percentage of left-handed folks is growing, but ever so slowly. Few of us will be around to celebrate increasing to 13%.

Pessimists among us contend that even if this is true, there's still a long way to go.

Indeed, we are usually afterthoughts. We have learned that sometimes maneuvering awkwardly to fit in is both easier and safer than making noise for equality....

Until recent years, some teachers of five and six-year-olds had denounced left-handedness, believing they could get youngsters on the right track if they were forced to write with their right hands.

In extreme cases, they tied left hands behind youngsters' backs!

I'm forever grateful that Lora Everage, perhaps the sweetest first-grade teacher in all of history, allowed me to scrawl with my left hand, no matter the contortions associated therewith....

I dared to research "left-handedness," but quickly become weary of so much negativity. Whichever "handed" you are, avoid researching the topic. Terrible biases have abounded across several centuries, including allegations of warped views on religion, evil nature and even biblical condemnation. (One researcher notes that the Bible makes 100 references about the right hand, all positive, with 25 for the left, 100% negative.)

In rare cases, we are viewed positively. As early as 750 BC, the Celts worshiped "lefties." Ancient tribes associated the left with "the source of life," as well as possessors of magical and healing abilities.

Let's laugh and go on, thankful for baseballer Yogi Berra's slaughter of the English language. It was he--referring to Mickey Mantle's batting from both sides of the plate--who labeled the star as being "amphibious"....

I often experience subtle reminders of being a "lefty." Recently, I bought a new popcorn scoop. It has a wooden handle, perfect for right-handed scoopers. I was able to remove the handle and clumsily attach it to the left side. It looks stupid, but it works.

I may be "left-legged" and "left-footed" as well.

I have tried, awkwardly, to aim my right leg into my trousers first (and the same is true of putting on socks). It simply doesn't feel right. My world wobbled in a manner not unlike the day my mother sent me to school with my hair parted down the other side....

Worsened heart conditions scream at me to accept realities, however stark. My new pacemaker is exhibit one.

I am never--note the firmness of this directive--to place my smart phone in my left-hand shirt pocket--thus saith my doctor.

When I do, the phone's magnet can play havoc with my heart contraption. Perhaps I didn't hear the instruction earlier, but I have readily accepted the directive to find another pocket....

The doctor spewed "thou shalt not's" (interspersed with ever-so-rare "thou shalt's"). I intend to heed the former, even when if lowered to suggestion status. "If you use the phone regularly with your left hand to your left ear, it may still be too close to your pacemaker," he warned. "So, try using your right hand."

This may be a "new dog trick" for one who isn't. So far, I'm not doing well, clumsily holding the phone against my right ear and dropping more than calls. Maybe I'll suggest to my doctor that he consider performing medical procedures with his other hand. More likely, I'll ask a grandchild how to use the speaker phone....

Dr. Newbury, a longtime university president, writes weekly and continues to speak throughout Texas. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Facebook: Don Newbury. Twitter: @donnewbury.



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Kid Scoop

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REPORTER'S CORNER

Choose a story about a person in this newspaper. Write or paste the headline in this box.

WHO is this story about?

What questions did the reporter ask to find out all about this person?

What other questions would you ask this person?

Standards Link: Reading/Writing: Draw evidence from informational text.

KID SCOOP'S MISSION

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For more information about our literacy non-profit, visit kidscoopnews.org

Write On!

Good Leadership

What are the qualities of a good leader? Who do you know that is a good leader? Why do you think of that person?

Trailblazer: Dorothy Butler Gilliam

Imagine being told you couldn't do something just because of the color of your skin. That's what happened to Dorothy Butler Gilliam.

Dorothy wanted to be a reporter at a major daily newspaper. When she first applied, she wasn't hired. But that didn't stop her from trying again.

In 1961, she became a trailblazer as the first African-American woman to work as a reporter at *The Washington Post*, one of the largest newspapers in the United States.



Photo: Harry Holtzman/Washington Post

HARD WORK Reciting a Famous Poem

When Dorothy was a young girl, she memorized and recited the entire poem *'Twas The Night Before Christmas* at a church service. It took both the ability to read and hard work to accomplish that.

1942
- 1936

Dorothy was born in 1936. She recited the poem in church in 1942. How old was she then?

INFORMED A Newspaper in the Home

Dorothy's father believed in being informed about the community and the world. He read two newspapers every day.

Fill in the missing vowels in this quote by Dorothy:

"My _w_r_ness of the n_wsp_p_r, through h_ving it in our h_m_, was one of the th_ngs that g_ve m_the c_r_ge to _pply for a secretarial j_b at a n_wsp_p_r."

Dorothy's father became ill when she was 14. Their family moved to a small house in the country with no running water.

She was determined to go to school. She walked a half mile to catch a bus to a school for black children. Schools in Kentucky were segregated—they did not allow white and black students to attend the same school.

START Find the way to Dorothy's school.

Extra! Extra! Character Counts

For each of the following character traits, find a person in the newspaper who shows that trait.

- Hard Work
- Courage
- Perseverance
- Commitment

Standards Link: Understand the importance of character in a community.

SECRET CODE

- = D
- = E
- = F
- = I
- = L
- = M
- = N
- = O
- = R
- = S
- = U
- = V

DETERMINATION

Newspaper Delivery

At 9 years old, Dorothy sold and delivered the local newspaper to people in her Kentucky neighborhood. Years later, when she began to attend Ursuline College, she got a job as a secretary at the same newspaper. Use the code to discover the paper's name.



Number these lines in order to read the paragraph.

COURAGE

Career Start

- what she needed to succeed.
- to write some stories. With no courage and hard work to learn
- secretary, the editor asked her
- experience as a reporter, it took
- in her career as a journalist.
- A few weeks after starting as a
- It would be the first step

ADVENTURE

Stories of Africa

After graduating from Columbia University Dorothy received a scholarship to travel to Africa. An editor at *The Washington Post*, was interested in her trip. Few Americans, black or white, had ever traveled to Africa. He asked Dorothy to write articles about her experience. Because her articles were interesting and well written, she was offered a full-time job at the newspaper.

PERSEVERANCE

Opening the Front Door

Replace the missing words.

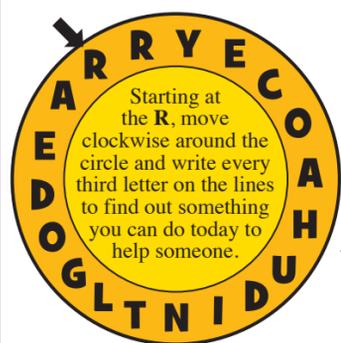
- REPORTER
- ENTER
- FIRST
- AWARDED
- HOME

The Washington Press Club _____ Dorothy with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010. Being the _____ black woman reporter at *The Washington Post* wasn't easy. When Dorothy arrived at a wealthy Washington woman's _____ to report on her 100th birthday party, the doorman told her she couldn't _____ through the front door. "The maid's entrance is around the back," he said.

"I am not a maid, I am a _____ for *The Washington Post*," she replied.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

What's a great way you can help someone today?



Starting at the R, move clockwise around the circle and write every third letter on the lines to find out something you can do today to help someone.

R _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _

Double Double Word Search

- JOURNALIST
- NEWSPAPER
- REPORTER
- DOROTHY
- ABILITY
- AFRICA
- TRAITS
- CHURCH
- WRITE
- HARD
- WORK
- MAID
- TRIP
- BUS
- JOB

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



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

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Camp House Concerts sing your song this weekend

By **BETTY COHN**
Gonzales Inquirer

The Camp House Concerts in Nixon on Saturday, March 26, will have headliners Tina Wilkins and Ron Flynt showcasing their unique and awesome set at the stage, located at 926 FM 1681, Nixon.

The headliners will take the stage after the recent winner of a Waco songwriting event, Alex Coba, who will show the crowd why he was selected the victor. On the same stage for this event will be Camp House newcomers Tyler

McCollum — a band from Austin, Texas — and Stac3y Bell and the Wretched Exes.

In an exciting additional bonus, Emmy winning journalist Lindsay Liepman will be at the event filming and conducting interviews for her TV show, “Texas Voices.”

Sponsors of the momentous event, which starts at 5 p.m., include Tuberville Land & Ranch Services, Lutz Auction Services, Jacobra Energy Services, B & S Contracting, Texas Bottle Haus and Texas Outfitters, All Tucked Inn and Richard Hayden Real Estate.

Every ticket purchased included “hot-off-the-pit brisket” prepared by Cody Tuberville of Tuberville Land & Ranch Services. Ticket prices are listed on the website, as well as outlined at the bottom of this article, with part of every ticket price and all the profits being donated to the local Education Foundation, the Lions club and the Chamber of Commerce.

Only 150 spots are available, tables are picnic tables and cement outdoor tables, with some patio tables available, depending on access/tickets.

How to buy tickets

Select the package you prefer and text Bud at 210-275-7558 with table choice immediately so it can be reserved for you. First-come, first-serve basis. You may also follow up with an email to bbox@reagan.com. Rain or shine, this event will go on, and this is a BYOB event; absolutely no minors may consume alcohol on premises.

VIP package is \$300 (a meal for four, four \$10 Merchandise vouchers, two concert posters, snack trays, ice at the table, and

close parking just over the cattle guard close to the restrooms. VIP for two people is \$150 and for six people is \$450 with all above VIP perks reduced or increased per numbers, accordingly.

General admission, which all includes meals, is \$95 for a table for two; \$180 for a table for four; \$265 for a table for six (cement tables, picnic tables & metal tables); or \$350 for a table for eight (picnic table). Parking for these general admission packages will be outside the gate behind the restrooms.



Janet Ferguson of Shiner is pictured with the grand prize donation quilt, “Summer Wedding,” at the 2022 Shiner Heritage Quilters “Spring into Quilting” show. CONTRIBUTED

Shiner quilt show winners announced

Special to the Inquirer

The drawing for the grand prize donation quilt, “Summer Wedding” was one of the highlights at the 2022 Shiner Heritage Quilters “Spring into Quilting” show. The lucky winner was Janet Ferguson from Shiner.

Additional winners are:

- Regina Williamson — Christmas Quilt, donated by Janet Ferguson
- Debbie Baker — Blue/White Baby Quilt, donated by Bernadette Kresta

- Bernadette Lytle — Story Book Pillow, donated by Annette Meyer
- Patsy Zamkal — Easter Wall Hanging, donated by Marilyn and Carolyn Schroeder
- Vlasta Brewer — Embroidered Santa, donated by Beverly Svetlik
- Debra Chandler — Mickey & Minnie Pillow Cases, donated by Gladys Muehlstein
- Yvonne Garrett — Busy Bee Apron, donated by Rhonda Orsak
- Susan Ward — Our Nest Apron,

donated by Rhonda Orsak

- Vlasta Brewer — Love More Kitchen Towel, donated by Rhonda Orsak
- Arleen Werner — Kitty Kat Kitchen Towel, donated by Gladys Muehlstein
- Butch Darilek — Lady Bug Kitchen Towel, donated by Gladys Muehlstein
- Valentine Perez — Blue Bonnet Kitchen Towel, donated by Gladys Muehlstein

A message of salvation

I have lived here in Gonzales all my life. There are many of you that know me and knew my parents. They were good parents, brought me up in a Christian home. My father, as many of you know, ran the Alcalde hotel for many years. (That was the place you got those good old-fashioned homemade rolls).

You could visit there in the 60s and 70s and get a good dose of what's going on in Gonzales and the Nation. They would argue back and forth. I remember working there for years as a young boy, serving coffee and listening to all those stormy discussions of what's going to happen. A lot of those people that visited in there are deceased now.

I remember faces but not names. I have visited some rest homes here and have seen some people that I used to see. I have some fond memories of the past. But I am not too concerned with the past but I am concerned about the people here in Gonzales this present day. I love all you people here in Gonzales, and appreciate you.

The reason I'm writing this letter is because I care about what happens to you now and I care what happens to you eternally. That is why I ask you to read this letter as though your life depends on it. Because it does...

Listen to how specifically Jesus spoke of what will be required of us: HE said, “Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” HE said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father, but through Me.” HE said, “He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

Listen to some things Jesus did not say: Jesus did not say being a nice person is all that is really necessary. If that were true, we would not need a Savior. But God says, “All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.” All of us have failed to live up to God's law and therefore stand guilty before Him. Jesus did not say being reli-

gious and going to the right Church is what really counts. The need to be “born again” was originally presented not to a criminal off the street, but to Nicodemus, a sincere, respected religious leader of his day. A man who prayed and kept the commandments. To such a man Jesus said, “You must be born again.” And He says the same thing to you and me. Jesus did not say if you just live by the Golden Rule, you'll make it. God does expect us to live by the Golden Rule, but good works can never be the basis of salvation. The Bible says of born-again Christians, “you have been saved through faith; not as a result of works.”

Jesus did not say a loving God would never condemn anyone to hell. God is perfect love. But He's also perfectly just. And that justice makes it impossible for Him to allow our sinfulness to go unpunished. “The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” When Jesus died on the cross, He paid the penalty for the sins of people like you and me in order to forgive us. The Bible says, “God demonstrates His own love towards us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” What we need to do to be born again is to turn from our sins and wholeheartedly put our faith and trust in Jesus.

I am not talking about a religion or denomination but a personal relationship with the living God who “so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

What does this mean? Well, God so loved us that He sent His Son Jesus to leave the throne room of heaven to come down to earth to live as a man and walk here on earth for 33 ½ years. The religious people didn't like Him healing the people, raising the dead, casting out demons, so they crucified Him. They beat Him with cords of rawhide and rocks until He was unrecognizable by man. His head swelled twice the size from

the beatings. His blood was shed for our sins. He took stripes on His back for our sicknesses and diseases. After three days the Holy Spirit raised Him from the dead and He is now seated at the right hand of God in heaven. Jesus is our substitutionary sacrifice.

Jesus is God's gift to us. But we have to believe in Him and receive Him by faith into our hearts. The Bible says that if man confesses with his mouth that Jesus is the Son of God and believes in his heart that God has raised Him from the dead, thou shall be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made into salvation. (Romans 10:9-10)

In Revelation 3:20, Jesus says, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him.” He is offering you that opportunity right now. If you would like to open the door of your life to Jesus, here is what you do. Accept Him now by faith and pray this prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, I know that I am a sinner and need your forgiveness. I believe that you died for my sins. I want to turn from my sins. I confess you as my Lord and Savior. You said in Your Word, “Whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved.” I now invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust you as Savior and follow you as Lord of my life. Thank you for forgiving me and giving me eternal life. In Jesus name, Amen.

I have no way of knowing what is going on in your heart right now. I only know that this message is important enough for me to risk offending you by writing this letter! My hope and prayer is that you will make this commitment, if you haven't already done so, and that God will do for you what He has done for me. Now you can see, that your life does depend upon eternal life with Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. In Him, Dennis Droupy. * * *

Bible verses quoted: John 3:3, John 14:6, John 3:36, Romans 3:23, John 3:7, Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 6:23, Romans 5:8, John 3:16



The inspiration behind John Ford's “The Searchers”

“The Searchers” is a 1956 western, considered by many critics as the greatest western of all-time, directed by legendary filmmaker John Ford. Based on the novel of the same name, by Alan Le May, it tells the story of a former Confederate soldier, Ethan Edwards, played by John Wayne, who, along with his nephew, played by Jeffrey Hunter, go out in search of Ethan's niece.

Both the movie and the book are based on a significant event in Texas history, the abduction, and subsequent rescue, of Cynthia Ann Parker. Parker was just nine years old when her family relocated from Illinois to what is now known as Limestone County, between present day Mexia and Groesbeck.

On May 19, 1836, a group of anywhere from 100 to 600 Comanche warriors raided Fort Parker and the surrounding community. John Parker, Cynthia's grandfather, and his men were unaware of the Comanches' fighting prowess and were caught out in the open, vulnerable to the speed and fierceness of the raiding party. The men were able to provide cover long enough for everyone to retreat into the fort, but the Comanches quickly attacked and overpowered the outnumbered settlers. Cynthia, along with four other captives, were taken from the fort.

A rescue party was quickly formed and gave pursuit. One of the captives, a young teenage girl, was able to escape, and all of the other hostages were eventually released over the years as ransom was paid out, all except Cynthia Ann.

Parker would end up living with the Comanche for nearly 25 years. She married a chief of the tribe, named Peta Nocona, and had three children with him, Topusana (which means “prairie flower”), Pecos (pecan), and the famed Comanche chieftain Quanah, who was the last free chief of the Comanche tribe. Cynthia, herself, was given a new name by the Comanche — Naduah, which means “someone found.” It was reported that Peta loved Naduah so much that, despite tribal customs which allowed multiple wives, he never married anyone else.

As in Ford's movie, the family spent a lot of time and money searching for Parker, all to no avail. That is, until 1860, the Texas Rangers, led by Lawrence Sullivan “Sul” Ross, discovered a band of Comanche deep in Comanche territory, near the Pease River, in northern Texas, near present-day Vernon. The Rangers led a surprise attack, which caused the Comanche to flee.

The Rangers pursued, whom they thought was the leader, accompanied by a woman holding a child over her head. They surrounded the woman while Ross and a few others pursued the man. Ross shot and knocked the man off his horse, but did not kill him. He was later identified as Nocona by Ross' cook. The man believed to be Nocona refused to surrender and was subsequently killed. However, there is dispute as to if the man was actually Peta Nocona or another tribesman entirely.

Ross sent Parker to Camp Cooper and sent word to her uncle, Colonel Isaac Parker. During questioning, the Colonel mentioned he had a niece named Cynthia, Parker slapped her chest and said “Me Cincee Ann.” The Colonel then sent her to live with family in Van Zandt county.

Unlike “The Searchers,” the true story doesn't have a happy ending. Cynthia struggled to adjust to life away from the Comanches and her new-found status as a national celebrity. In 1861, the Texas State Legislature passed a resolution to grant her a league of land (about 4400 acres) and a yearly stipend of \$100 for the next five years.

Parker remained with family members the rest of her life, but dearly missed her sons and her adopted Comanche family. The death of her daughter, Topusana, in 1864, proved to be the final tragic event. Parker began refusing food and water, eventually passing away from a self-imposed hunger strike in 1871.

In her memory, both the City of Crowell, Texas, and the City of Groesbeck, Texas, hold events in her honor. There have been several books, both fiction and nonfiction, as well as other movie portrayals and a television miniseries about her.

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CONTRIBUTED

All congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses across the world — including those in Gonzales County — are being encouraged to begin holding in-person meetings during the week of April 1.

Jehovah's Witnesses resuming in-person meetings

Special to the Inquirer

All congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses across the world are being encouraged to begin holding in-person meetings during the week of April 1.

This includes the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 1919 Harwood Road, Gonzales, which was built in February 1993. There are currently one English-speaking and on Spanish-speaking congregation in Gonzales among the 119,297 congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses located around the world.

For most of the last two years, buildings for worship have remained closed globally due to the risks associated with meeting in person. Jehovah's Witnesses in the U.S. also suspended their public ministry on March 20, 2020. Since then, they have carried on their ministry through letters and phone calls while holding twice-weekly meetings in a virtual format. Average attendance at these meetings exceeded 1.5 mil-

lion each week in the U.S., even though there are fewer than 1.3 million Jehovah's Witnesses in some 13,000 congregations.

"There is a collective shout of joy among Jehovah's Witnesses around the world right now," said Robert Hendriks, U.S. Spokesman for Jehovah's Witnesses. "While we have prospered in many ways as individuals and congregations using technology to bring us together, nothing can adequately replace being together in person. We have longed for this moment for the better part of two years." The move back to in-person meetings coincides with two global events being held in all 120,000 congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses. The first is a special lecture scheduled in most congregations for April 10, 2022, entitled, "Where Can You Find Real Hope?"

Additionally, the annual commemoration of the death of Jesus Christ will be held on April 15, 2022, the very day he sacrificed his life 1,989 years ago. Both gatherings will be held in person

at local Kingdom Halls with live speakers. No collections are ever taken.

"The timing of resuming in-person meetings could not be better," said Hendriks. "Bringing everyone back together for these special events will have a powerful effect on the worldwide congregation."

Guidelines for holding "hybrid" meetings have been sent to all congregations in the United States. Over the past six months, many Kingdom Halls have been equipped with the required technology to hold a productive meeting that allows for in-person and remote attendees, all of whom can participate in the discussions. A pilot program was held in October and November in countries around the world to assess how this could be done most effectively. The lessons learned in these pilot meetings have helped form the plan for moving forward with re-opening all Kingdom Halls, where the law permits.

"It has been heartwarming to

see the peace and unity among Jehovah's Witnesses during this very divisive time," said Hendriks. "We know resuming in-person meetings will bring us even closer together. We're anxious to see one another again."

As of now, Jehovah's Witnesses have no plans to resume their public ministry, though their "alternative" ministry continues. In fact, since the start of the pandemic through November 2021 in the U.S. alone, Jehovah's Witnesses spent more than 400 million hours in virtual Bible studies, writing letters of comfort to their neighbors and making phone calls. They have released 77 new language translations of the Bible and held two global virtual conventions in more than 500 languages.

"No time was wasted in the past two years," said Hendriks. "Our congregants have been busy and productive helping each other and their neighbors through this most challenging time. That's what love and unity are all about."

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office
03/13/22 - 03/19/22

03/13/22

• Wyatt, Coltin Kincaid, 07/1993, Gonzales; Aggravated Assault Date/Family/Household w/Weapon; Released on \$25,000 Bond

03/14/22

• Beene, Clegg Tolbert, 02/1991, Gonzales; Local Warrant - Burglary Habitation intend Other Felony; Local Warrant - Burglary of Habitation; Local Warrant - Assault Family/Household Member impede Breathing/Circulation, Requires \$150,000 Bond; Burglary Habitation intend Other Felony, Requires \$20,000 Bond; Violate Bond/Protective Order, Requires \$50,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

03/16/22

• Garcia, Erasmo Eric, 06/2002, Yoakum; Possession Controlled Substance PG 2 <1G, Released on \$3,500 Bond; Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Released on \$500 Bond

• Bennett, Russell Ashley, Jr., 06/1999, Galena Park; Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Released on \$1,000 Bond

• Olvera, Erik Ryan, 07/2001, Houston; Harris County Warrant - Possession Controlled Substance PG 3 <28 G; Released on \$500 Bond

03/18/22

Greene, Aundre Jamell, 04/1994, Luling; Local Warrant - Possession of Controlled Substance PG 1 <1G; Released on \$20,000 Bond

Total Arrest, Court Commitments, other agency arrest and processings:

GCSO	06
DPS	05
GPD	10
WPD	00
NPD	04
GISD	00
SMO	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCOS	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	25

Saturn Spring Social set for April 9

Special to the Inquirer

Saturn Cemetery Association will have its Spring Social on April 9, 2022 from 5-7 p.m. at the Saturn Community Building. Hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Members are encouraged to bring chips or a dessert. An Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 5:30 pm for the children in attendance.

Please RSVP to kputka@gmail.com.



Victoria Master Gardeners hosting a plant sale on April 2

Special to the Inquirer

Take a stroll to Victoria Educational Gardens in Victoria on Saturday, April 2, and enjoy a day with family and friends at the 2022 Victoria County Master Gardener Association Spring Plant Sale.

The event, which is open the public, will be held at VEG and the VCMGA Pavilion, 283 Bachelor Drive, across from the Victoria Regional Airport control tower. Activities will begin at 8 a.m.

VCMGA will provide maps of VEG to aid the public in locating the activity sites.

Most of all, the event

is for homeowners and gardeners. Hundreds of plants will be offered at reasonable prices. Daylilies, evergreen shrubs, the newly popular Fire Espepanza, along with color bowls of begonias, coleus, red pentas, blue mist salvia and gold lantana will brighten VEG pathways.

Master gardeners will be on hand to help browsers make selections, and to answer gardening questions.

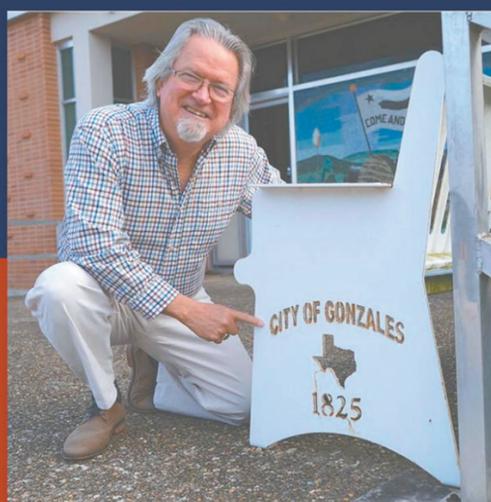
There will be a country store featuring garden art, pots, homemade goodies, the VCMGA bookbook, home décor, costume jewelry and gently used garden tools.

Children will be able to

create their own fairy gardens to take home beginning a 10:30 a.m. Participation in the workshop will cost \$10 per garden. Each participant will select a bag with materials needed to build the garden with small figurines, plants and rocks. Supplies are limited so the kits are available on a first come, first served basis.

Also, there will be face painting and a unique Easter egg game. Eggs will be scattered throughout one area of the garden. A limited amount of eggs will contain a slip of paper with a number which may be turned in for a prize. Each winner will be limited to one prize.

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★ EARLY VOTING APRIL 25- MAY 3 ★ ELECTION DAY MAY 7

OBITUARIES

JOHN “JACK” FREDERICK LLOYD



John “Jack” Frederick Lloyd, 89, of Gonzales, died Sunday, March 13, 2022 at Gonzales Healthcare in Gonzales. A long-time resident of Gonzales, Jack was a retired high school football coach after many faithful years with Dobie High School. Jack proudly served his country in The United States Army.

Jack could be found working in his garden almost year round, and was always eager to share any tips or harvest with visitors. If you were especially lucky, you got a jar of pickles. He was a devoted son, brother, father, uncle and grandfather. He was a loving friend and his impact on those who knew him will live on. Jack’s quick wit was on full display at coffee time, where he loved telling or hearing a great story. Jack enjoyed hunting and fishing with his friends and family, and was most content outdoors.

Jack was a faithful member of St. James Catholic Church. He attended weekly and found great joy and comfort in his faith and Catholic community.

A Mass of Christian Burial was Celebrated at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 18th, at St. James Catholic Church in Gonzales, burial followed at St. James Catholic Cemetery in Gonzales. A Gathering of Family and Friends was held from 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. with a Rosary recited at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, March 18th, at St.

James Catholic Church in Gonzales.

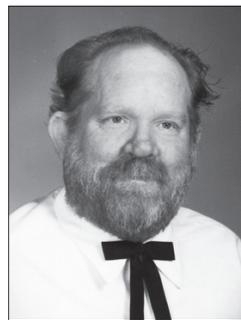
Jack was preceded in death by his loving wife Bonnie Mae Carney Lloyd, parents, Charles and Anna Lloyd, brother, Charles Lloyd, sister Laura Wilson.

Jack is survived by his daughter, Ann Reay and her husband Bill of San Felipe, TX., brother, Jimmy Lloyd and his wife Barbara of Shiner, sisters, Mary Jean Geaslin and her husband David of Gonzales, Catherine Boelter and her husband Oscar of Seguin, TX., Judy Bell and her husband Mack of Houston, Connie Dolezal and her husband Sonny of Gonzales, and his granddaughter, Bonnie Reay Knott and her husband Frank of Houston and many nieces and nephews.

Jack will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Services were under the direction of Buffington Funeral Home.

EARL RAY FLOYD



Earl Ray Floyd, 82, of Dripping Springs, accepted his invitation to Glory, Thursday, March 17, 2022. Earl Ray was born November 27, 1939 in Gonzales to Edwin A Floyd and Alma Cowey Floyd. He married Sybil Lowry August 26, 1967 in Wrightsboro, Texas.

Earl Ray graduated from Gonzales High School and attended Durham Radio and TV College. He worked for General Telephone Company for 35 years. After retiring he started his own company, E.R. Floyd Telephone, and continued to work for another 20 years.

Earl Ray loved to hunt, fish, and tinker with cars. He enjoyed being a Ham operator in his earlier years. He was a man with a devout Christian faith. He enjoyed conversations and preferred warm hugs over handshakes. He loved unconditionally and treasured his wife, son, and grandchildren. He was a loving family man

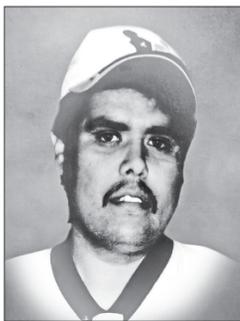
and joyfully loved to play Santa Claus for children.

Earl Ray is survived by his adoring wife of 54 years, Sybil Floyd of Dripping Springs, loving family, son and daughter-in-law, Dustin Ray and Tina Floyd of Wrightsboro, grandchildren, Riece K. Floyd, Caden Ray Floyd, Kody William Floyd and Kasey Earl Floyd and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father Edwin A Floyd and adoptive mother, Mazie Dupree Floyd, sisters, Betty Floyd Cuvelier and Jeannie Hull Neitch.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 pm Sunday, March 20, 2022 in Seydler-Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 10 a. Monday, March 21, 2022 in Seydler-Hill Funeral Home with Rev. David Smith officiating. Interment will follow in the Gonzales Masonic Cemetery. Pallbearers include J.D. Quintanilla, Caden Floyd, Johnny Hudson, Terry Gieselman, David Sullivan, and Ben Metcalf. Honorary pallbearers Scott Cuvelier, Johnny Floyd, David Floyd, Rick Simmons, Robert Kennedy, Dale Schellenberg, and Glen Rasbury. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Gonzales Masonic Cemetery. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com. Services are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.

FOR ADDITIONAL OBITUARIES, PLEASE SEE PAGE 13

LOUIS CONTRERAS



Louis Contreras, 53, of Gonzales, passed away Tuesday, March 15, 2022. He was born February 25, 1969 in Gonzales the son of Fidel and Martina Ramirez Contreras. He was a self-employed contractor for many years. He enjoyed fishing, watching his favorite Houston Texans football team and playing the Texas Lottery.

He treasured time with his grandchildren, playing with his dog Mia, spending time with Mom and working with Debbie.

He is survived by his mother Martina Contreras of Gonzales; daughters Kayla and Courtney Contreras both of Gonzales; grandchildren Christopher Reyes, Kyndall Reyes, Kayleigh Reyes, Karley Reyes, Alyas Dominguez and Aliza Martinez; sisters Norma

Ramirez.

Visitation will be held from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday, March 17, 2022 at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will be 3 p.m. Friday, March 18, 2022 at the funeral home with Reverend Harry White, Sr. officiating. Interment will follow at St. James Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers include: Christopher Reyes, Alyas Dominguez, Fidel Contreras, Jr., Angel Contreras, Nino Reyes, Alyas Ramirez, Jaime Zamora, Ayden Ramirez and Tyler Gonzales.

Friends may sign the guestbook and leave condolences by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home, 906 St. Paul, Gonzales.

Contreras, Nora Matias and Leticia Ramirez all of Gonzales, Jamie Torres of Dothan, Alabama, and Amanda Ramirez of Waelder; brothers Fidel Contreras, Jr. and Manuel Almaguer both of Gonzales and step-brother Robert Mata of Rosenberg. He was preceded in death by his father, brother Ruben Contreras and maternal grandparents Pilar Ramirez and Luis

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CARMEN HARE (HORTENSE SEPULVEDA)

Jesus Christ called Our beloved mother, Carmen Hare (Hortense Sepulveda), daughter of Fernando & Micaela Sepulveda, home to Heaven to receive her Wings on March 3, 2022.

Celebration services will be held, Thursday, March 24, at 1:30 pm, in Magnolia Cemetery in Magnolia, Tx. Always Loved, Never Forgotten.

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7 Austin MFM	8 Dr Echols Dr Quintero	9 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Twitero	10 Dr Ryan	11 Amy Trost Dr White Dr Echols
14 Austin MFM Dr Malik Dr Desai	15 Dr Echols	16 Dr Quebedeaux	17 Dr Ryan Dr Malik	18 Dr Bui Dr Echols
21 Austin MFM	22 Dr Echols	23 Dr Quebedeaux	24 Dr Ryan Dr Kirchner	25 Dr Echols
28 Austin MFM	29 Dr Echols	30 Dr Quebedeaux	31 Dr Ryan	

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Amy Trost, Hearing Specialist
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Jeff Echols, DC
(512)799-6811

Dermatology
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(830) 626-5551
Dr Desai
(713) 864-2659

Nephrology
Azhar M. Malik, M.D.
(361)-576-0011
George Osuchukwu, MD
(361)576-0011
Yong Du, MD
(361)576-0011

Obstetrics
Alyson Kirchner, M.D.-OBGYN
(830) 379 - 1500

Urology
Robert Ryan, III, M.D.
(830) 379-8491

Ophthalmology
Joseph Kavanagh, M.D.
(830) 379-3937

Orthopedics
Trent Twitero, M.D.
(830) 625-0009

Podiatry
Terri Quebedeaux, D.P.M., P.A.
(830) 303-0005
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ERRORS

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

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020 SPECIAL NOTICES

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MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE. 617 St. Peter, Saturday, 7am-1pm. Appliances, furniture, & much, much more.

GREGORY'S GIGANTIC ESTATE/MOVING Sale! March 25th & 26th and April 1st & 2nd. 8am till -?. 834 Mitchell Street. All indoor/outdoor furniture, bedding, bath & kitchen linens, kitchenware, cast iron cookware, propane fryer, rugs, tools and appliances. Designer ladies clothing, Double D and men's clothing. Catering food servers, hundreds of glassware & large floral arrangement vases. Antique glassware, silver, Waterford, Baccarat, Faberge, Swarovski, and gold/silver frames. Artwork including signed Windberg and etched marble pictures. Antique wardrobes, Boone hoosier, icebox, hall tree, dining tables, buffets, canopy bed, 4 poster bed, armoires and china cabinets. Christmas trees and decorations. Items from B&B business. Two other families bringing 3 storage buildings of items! (830)263-1751

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430 FIREWOOD

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FREE DOGS: DAUGHTER moved and left all her dogs. Please take one FREE. Call or text 361-484-6927.

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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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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.

TEXAN NURSING AND Rehab of Gonzales is now hiring for the following position: Full Time: C.N.A., all shifts; LVN, all shifts, full-time, with a \$1000 Sign On and Referral Bonus. Individual should be multi-task oriented, self-motivated, and must enjoy working around the elderly. Please apply in person: Texan Nursing and Rehab of Gonzales, 3428 Moulton Rd., Gonzales, Texas 78629. EOE

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.



670 APARTMENTS FOR RENT OR LEASE

PARKWOOD APARTMENTS
114 West 10th
Nixon, TX 78140
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PHONE: 830-582-1343

Rates Based on Income

Rental Assistance For Qualified Families of very-low, low, and moderate income applicants.

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HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE UNITS

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Gonzales County Election's Office is requesting applications for the position of Deputy Elections Clerk. High School Graduation is required. This position requires the clerk to work well under pressure in a high-volume multi-task office. Must work closely with others and maintain confidentiality in the performance of duties. The candidate must have general office skills, phone etiquette, data entry skills, knowledge of basic mathematical principal and the ability to deal with the public. Election experience is preferred. There will also be lifting of election machines over 50lbs and election boxes over 40lbs. During the election cycles extended hours and weekend hours will be required for various aspects of this position.

The Election Office is required to be completely neutral to any and all elections/candidates.

Applications may be obtained at the Gonzales County Election's Office located at 427 St. George, Suite 306, Gonzales, Texas, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:45 P.M. or on the web at www.co.gonzales.tx.us. Only complete applications will be considered. Applications must be received by April 1, 2022. A drug and alcohol test and physical will be required. Gonzales County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age and handicap status in employment or the provision of services.

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- Landscaping of main facility and RV Park: mowing of grass, spreading of mulch, weed eating, tree trimming, etc.
- Interior and exterior painting as needed.
- Pick up debris on the grounds and emptying exterior trash cans receptacles as needed.
- Weekly walk through of main facility, RV Park Rally Room and RV Park bathroom shower room noting any issues, leaks in plumbing or other issues which need to be addressed.
- Light electrical work to include replacement of light fixtures, replacement of light bulbs and periodic check of circuit breakers.
- Removal and replacement of air conditioner filters. A/C maintenance logs are to be kept up to date.
- Light appliance repair and maintenance: washing machines, dryers and other equipment in the facility.
- Upkeep of sprinkler system, adjusting sprinklers to ensure they are watering appropriate areas, adjust system timing and days, and replacement of sprinkler heads and other parts as needed.
- Removal and replacement of window glass as needed.
- Draining and refilling hot water heater in the basement laundry area at least once every six months. Hot water heater maintenance log is to be kept up to date.
- Monthly checks of fire extinguishers and fire alarm systems. Fire extinguisher and fire alarm system maintenance logs are to be kept up to date.
- Placement of tables, chairs and other materials for meetings, building rentals and other events as needed.
- Run errands to town for supplies and materials as directed by executive director.

Email resume to lorettas@gvec.net subject Part Time Maintenance Job


NURSING POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT GONZALES HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

- Med/Surg RN: PRN positions available for all shifts.
- ER RN: Full-time position for 7PM-7AM shift; PRN positions available for all shifts. \$5,000 Sign-On Bonus for full-time positions.

Current Texas licensure or certification, and BLS certification required for all positions. Competitive salary and benefits packages; weekend and evening differentials will apply.

We invite you to join our team in providing high quality services to the residents of Gonzales and the surrounding communities. For more information, please visit our website at www.gonzaleshealthcare.com or call Human Resources at 830-519-9100.

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361-217-3798


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


Gonzales Healthcare Systems has immediate openings in the Dietary Department for the following positions:

- Cook: High school diploma or equivalent preferred; previous experience in an industrial kitchen setting preferred. Full-time, part-time and weekend positions available.
- Dishwasher: High school diploma or equivalent preferred; full-time position available.

We invite you to join our team in providing high quality services to the residents of Gonzales and the surrounding communities. For more information, please visit our website at gonzaleshealthcare.com or call Human Resources at 830-519-9100.

Wanted: Flatonia Feed Mill Utility driver needed to haul soy from rail spur to Flatonia feed mill daily. (Hours 6-3 M-F normally) When one of our feed delivery drivers is out you will be asked to fill in for that position for those days. May be required to help in the mill when needed. Must be able to lift 50 pounds. CDL required.

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Gonzales Healthcare Systems has an immediate opening in the Therapy Services Department for the position of Physical Therapist. Current Texas licensure and BLS required; previous outpatient experience preferred. Full-time position with competitive salary and benefits.

We invite you to join our team in providing high quality services to the residents of Gonzales and the surrounding communities.

For more information, please visit our website at gonzaleshealthcare.com or call Human Resources at 830-519-9100.

850 HELP WANTED



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400 S. Colorado St.
Flatonia TX, 78941

For more information contact, (361) 865-3304

850 HELP WANTED



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850 HELP WANTED



Gonzales Healthcare Systems has immediate openings at Memorial Hospital Home Health Agency for the position of Registered Nurse Case Manager. Current Texas licensure, BLS certification and valid Texas driver's license required. Minimum of one year of nursing experience recommended; previous experience in a home health setting preferred. Part-time positions available with flexible schedule.

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

Invitation to Proposers

Sealed proposals addressed to **Gonzales Independent School District** for: **Gonzales High School Practice Field Turf and Lighting Project, Gonzales Independent School District, Attn: Chief Financial Officer**, will be received at Gonzales ISD Administration Building, 1615 St. Louis Street, Gonzales, Texas 78629 until **2:00 p.m. (local time), Tuesday, April 5, 2022** after which time all proposals will be opened and read aloud. Proposals received after closing time will be returned.

Proposal Documents are available on the Gonzales ISD website, at: www.gonzalesisd.net/Page/171.

All interested parties acknowledge the right of Gonzales ISD to reject any or all of the Proposals and to waive any informality or irregularity in any Proposal received.

850 HELP WANTED



Gonzales Healthcare Systems has an immediate opening for the position of Therapy Services Records Technician. High school diploma or equivalent preferred; previous experience in a health care front office setting preferred. Full-time position with competitive salary and benefits.

We invite you to join our team in providing high quality services to the residents of Gonzales and the surrounding communities.

Applications are available from Human Resources at Gonzales Healthcare Systems, or visit our website at gonzaleshealthcare.com. For more information, please call Human Resources at 830-519-9100.

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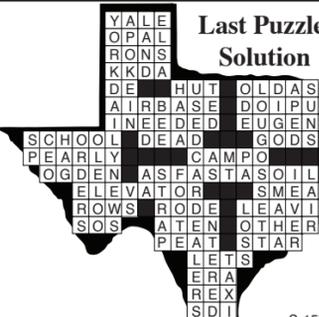
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Last Puzzle Solution

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

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ORETHA ELLEN ANTHONY PENNOCK, Deceased, were issued on March 3, 2022, in Cause No. PW22-0183, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to: DEBRA JOYCE FOUGERAT.

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

DEBRA JOYCE FOUGERAT
c/o Norman L. Burns
Attorney at Law
1606 N. Sarah DeWitt Drive
Gonzales, TX 78629

Dated the 21st day of March, 2022.



NORMAN L. BURNS
Attorney for DEBRA JOYCE FOUGERAT
State Bar No.: 03448500
P.O. Box 827
GONZALES, TX 78629
Telephone: (830) 672-9511
Facsimile: (830) 672-7638
E-mail: nburns@munsonburns.com

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Tillman Infrastructure LLC proposes to build a 330-foot self-support Communications Tower at the approx. vicinity of 6850 CR 155, Leesville, Gonzales County, Texas 78122. Lat: [29-24-10.536] Long: [-97-43-40.763]. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Alexis, a.humphrey@trileaf.com, 2550 S IH 35, Suite 200 Austin, TX 78704 - 512.519.9388.*

GRANT ENGINEERING SERVICES PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Nixon is soliciting proposals from a State of Texas-registered engineering firm to assist with *post-award* engineering services. Services will include final design plans, bid documentation, construction contracting, and necessary interim and final inspections as required by the City for its funded HMGP DR 4332-0063 emergency generator project.

Please submit three (3) copies and one (1) electronic copy of your proposal of services, a statement of qualifications, resumes of key personnel, references and a list of jobs performed under this or similar programs to:

Harold Rice
City Manager, City of Nixon
302 E. Central Ave
Nixon, Texas 78140-2555

Proposals must be received by the City of Nixon no later than **3:00pm** on **April 4th, 2022** to be considered. The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all engineers/engineering firms that submit proposals, per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards.

The City of Nixon is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and strives to attain goals for Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) as amended.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION – TRC 109 & 114

THE STATE OF TEXAS Cause No. 28,172

Sandra K. Goodman IN THE DISTRICT COURT

V 25TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Benjamin N. Goodman, et al GONZALES COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: Benjamin N. Goodman, Deceased, Gerald W. Goodman, Casper Louis Goodman, Velma Palmer Goodman, Deceased, Caroline Goodman, Deceased, William Goodman, Deceased, Ruth E. Clements Goodman, Deceased, Robert W. Goodman, Albert Gene Goodman, Carolyn Blackburn Goodman, Debra Goodman, Keith Goodman, Carol Goodman, Donald Goodman, Virgil Goodman and their respective unknown heirs, Defendants;

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: **“You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you.”**

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Original Petition for Sale Pursuant to Chapter 23A Texas Property Code at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation before the Honorable District Court of Gonzales County, at the Courthouse in said County in Gonzales, Tex-as. Said Plaintiff's Original Petition for Sale Pursuant to Chapter 23A Texas Property Code was filed in said court 01/19/2022 in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Original Petition for Sale Pursuant to Chapter 23A Texas Property Code on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gonzales, Texas, this 22nd day of February, 2022.

Attorney for Plaintiff
Christie Ortman Fullilove
403 St. George
Gonzales, TX 78629
830-672-9535



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

By K. Alarcon Deputy

Waelder advances in OAP contest

Special to the Inquirer

Waelder Theatre advances from District 30-1A One Act Play competition on March 8 with "10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse."

Wildcats earning All Star Cast honors include Maely Bracamontes, Laly Hernandez, Elizabeth Ramos and Zay McGlouthlin. Honorable Mention All Star Cast: were Makayla Medina, Vanity Hernandez, Courdasia Vanderbilt and Dillan Kelley-Herd. Tech award for lights goes to Ryan Valdez.



CONTRIBUTED

Members of the Waelder Theatre troupe include, front row from left, Elizabeth Ramos, Madison Hadnot, Yesica Ramos, Courdasia Vanderbilt, Zay McGlouthlin, Johnny Gutierrez, Luz Ramos, Maely Bracamontes, Cheryl Handy (director) Vanity Hernandez, Laly Hernandez, Makayla Medina, Marijose Hernandez, Velinda Zamora, Carlos Mendez. Back row are Alfred Vargas, Ryan Valdez, Susana Yanez, Jaime Zamora, Michael Rosas, Sarah Rangel, Jasmine Godinez, Dillan Kelley-Herd.



EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

The Shiner Gaslight Board of Directors is proud to announce the 2021 award winners for exceptional service. Pictured from the left are: Meredith Hairell, Best Adult Debut for her performance as "Clairee" in Steel Magnolias; Rhonda Powell, Lamplighter Out-Front Award for the Outstanding Person (non-acting volunteer working in any other capacity at the theatre); Elaine Berkovsky, Lamplighter Backstage Award for the Outstanding Backstage Person (not an actor, actress or director); Jodi Adamek, Sister Michelle Excellence Award For Outstanding Personality of the Year for her performance as "Annelle" in Steel Magnolias; Josh Kaspar,; Joe Patek Public Spirit Award for the Outstanding Supportive Person of the Year; Craig Hughes, award presenter. Brianna Sofka (not pictured) received the Best Youth Debut for her performance as "Pedrolina" (the fool) in "Pinocchio Comedia." The awards were given at the Patron Appreciation Party on March 20. Everyone enjoyed a delicious, colorful assortment of appetizers creatively prepared by Rhonda Powell, Gaslight Office Manager.

CONTRIBUTED/GENE CERNY

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Hey there ya'll, hope you're enjoying these beautiful spring days. Wild flowers are blooming, birds are starting to build their nests, and the critters are making their way out of hibernation to enjoy some warmer weather, and so should we. So, take a walk in the park, slide down a slide or jump from a swing (not you grandpa, oh no, ahh...splat). Oh well, an old, frail, wrinkly body housing a mind that has you convinced you're still 18 is a dangerous combination, but what the heck, we only live once. Besides, I'm pretty sure I'll be ok after the swelling goes down!

Well, I have a bit of good news to share this week. My daughter-in-law was pregnant with my second grandchild, due in April. A few days ago I got a text saying that they were in route to the hospital after her water broke weeks early. Yep, time for prayer. Her doctor, concerned that the baby was too small and might have a hard time with natural birth, was in surgery when they arrived. Labor was induced and roughly six hours later, her doctor was able to deliver a 4 1/2 pound baby boy at 34 weeks and six days. Some things were discovered during birth that could've put both mother and baby in danger if the pregnancy had gone full term,

but all went well. Gods perfect timing? Absolutely! He's now in NICU and doing well, thank you Lord! I was later informed (to my great surprise) that they had named him after me. I was so shocked, honored and humbled that the tears began to flow with reckless abandon. What else can I say. I was so proud of both of them and thankful for God's faithfulness that it literally left me speechless, and that ain't easy to do! As God reminds us in Isaiah 55:9 "For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts."

In last week's article I quoted 1 Thessalonians urging us to rejoice always, never stop praying, and be thankful in all circumstances, and this just goes to show what can happen when we do. After being a little bummed out over current world events lately, this good news lifted my spirits and filled my hope tank. Price at the pump? Faith with a side order of prayer, what a deal!

In these uncertain times, I find that my faith has absolutely helped me to overcome and survive the many hurdles I've faced over the last few years. Trying to stay focused on the positive side of things, keeping the negatives



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

to a minimum, and not taking one moment (even when difficult) for granted, helps keep my hope tank topped off, and who doesn't need that these days? Lately I've developed a sincere sympathy for the news media. With so many hidden agendas and corporations now calling the shots, these people get to go to work mad and frustrated every day. Sure, they get paid well monetarily, but what's it costing them in physical, mental and emotional health? I've seen a few I was sure would blow a gasket along the way before stepping down or being forced out, so I keep them in prayer as not to implode due to rising stress levels.

So, how do you handle extreme anxiety? One way (quoted from the movie Kung Pow) would be to "Let your anger be a monkey in a pinata, hiding amongst the candy, hoping the kids don't break through with the stick"! As for me, as unrealistic as it may sound (also from Kung Pow)...I want happy feelings all of the time, but at this point, I'll take what I can get, and so should you.

Until next time, love you guys, Eric.

Free English and family history classes offered in Gonzales

Special to the Inquirer

Two new community services have been launched in Gonzales in conjunction with the recent arrival of Elder John D. Bell and Sister Rhonda A. Bell, missionaries for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Elder and Sister Bell are helping local members of the Church offer "English Connect" and "Family History Connect" classes as a community service to residents in the area.

English Connect is an English instruction class for non-native speakers. The curriculum is developed by professional language experts and is adaptable for individuals of any experience, including those with little to no mastery of English. Classes meet every Thursday evening from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Texian Heritage Conference Center, 608 St. Paul St., Gonzales.

Family History Connect provides personal consultation to help individuals access billions of genealogical records and publications from over 100 countries using the free FamilySearch.org website and app. Consultants help participants start their family tree, research names and other vital information

about their ancestors, and connect with their family heritage and stories. Visitors are welcome every Thursday evening from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., also at the Texian.

Sister and Elder Bell are from Provo, Utah, where they lived for more than 30 years with a six-year detour to La'ie Hawai'i. Sister Bell is an expert at genealogical research with a degree in Family History from Brigham Young University and twenty years of experience in professional and volunteer genealogical research and consultation/teaching. Her specialty is the Southern States, including a substantial background with Texas.

Elder Bell's background is in university education. He has served as an instructor and/or academic administrator at three universities (University of Virginia, Brigham Young University, and Brigham Young University—Hawaii). He has over forty years of teaching experience in diverse subjects, including language learning, science, mathematics, and literature.

No registration or previous experience is necessary to participate in these programs. All are welcome. Questions may be directed to john.bell@missionary.org.

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Waelder

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CHRISTIAN
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
712 Crockett, Luling

CHURCHES OF CHRIST
Church of Christ
1323 Seydler St., Gonzales

Church of Christ (Iglesia de Cristo)
201 E. Second St. Nixon

Church of Christ
E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon

Church of Christ, Belmont

CHURCHES OF GOD
Community Church of God
1020 St. Louis, Gonzales

Gonzales Memorial Church of God in Christ
1113 Hastings, Gonzales

New Beginnings
1020 St. Louis, Gonzales

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

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

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

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

Full Gospel Church
1426 Fisher, Gonzales

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

LUTHERAN
First Evangelical Lutheran
1206 St. Joseph, Gonzales

Abiding Word Lutheran Church LCMS
1020 St. Louis St., Gonzales

METHODIST
Belmont United Methodist
Highway 90A, Belmont

Dewville United Methodist
West of FM 1117
on CR 121

First United Methodist
426 St. Paul, Gonzales

First United Methodist
410 N. Franklin, Nixon

Flatonia United Methodist

Harris Chapel United Methodist
S. Liberty St., Nixon

Harwood Methodist Church
Harwood

Henson Chapel United Methodist
1113 St. Andrew, Gonzales

Monthalia United Methodist
CR 112 off Highway 97

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

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

NON-DENOMINATIONAL
Agape Ministries
512 St. James, Gonzales
Bread of Life Ministries
613 St. Joseph, Gonzales

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

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

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

Emmanuel Fellowship
1817 St. Lawrence,
Gonzales

Encouraging Word Christian Fellowship
Highway 80, Leesville

Lighthouse Church of Our Lord
1805 Weimar, Gonzales

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

River of Life Christian Fellowship
207 Steele St., Smiley

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

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

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

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

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

Iglesia Pentecostes Filadelfia
893 S. Magnolia Ave.,
Luling

Temple Bethel Pentecostal
1104 S. Paul, Gonzales

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

PRESBYTERIAN
Pilgrim Presbyterian Church
CR 210 off FM 1116

Presbyterian Church of Gonzales
414 St. Louis, Gonzales

Cheapside Presbyterian Church,
Cuero

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OBITUARY

MARY GEORGE PERRIMAN



Mary George Perriman, 93, peacefully passed away after suffering from a stroke, March 17, 2022, at Guadalupe Regional Medical Center, Seguin, TX.

Mary was born February 18, 1929, in Union Valley, TX, the daughter of predeceased parents, Otis Walton Pattillo and Ruth Spear Pattillo. Her husband of 59 years, Eulane Grant "Jack" Perriman, is predeceased, as well as her brother, Otis Scott Pattillo (Erna) and sister, John Hensley Beard (Forest).

Graduating from Nixon High School in 1945, Mary attended business school and then worked as a telephone operator in San Antonio, TX. As in post-WWII fashion, Mary met Jack at a USO event, and they were married on November 30, 1945. In San Antonio, they began their family and are survived by daughters, Marilane Dendy (Len), Dripping Springs, TX, and Scottie Beth Baker (Michael), Cost, TX, and their son, Jeffrey Walton Perriman (Adriane), Nixon, TX.

From San Antonio, Mary and Jack moved to Garland, TX and contributed many years of support and generosity to the Garland community, family events, and school activities. Mary's quick wit, compassionate service, and humor added much joy for all those who were fortunate enough to

know her. She especially enjoyed sports (Cowboys) and Garland Owls Friday night games. They attended Axe Memorial Methodist Church.

After retirement, Mary and Jack returned to her childhood beginnings, creating their last home together in Nixon, TX, and what the family affectionately calls, "The Old Red Hill." While there, Mary served as Union Valley Homecoming Treasurer, as well as a committee member for the Union Valley Cemetery Association. Her life came full circle as she resided with her daughter and son-in-law, Scottie and Mike Baker, in Cost, TX.

Mary gave 100% devotion and love to her family. She is survived by grandchildren: *Andrew Thomas Bryan, Ontario, CA, *Jennifer Lane Tucker (Jeremy), Cody, Wyoming, *Mary DeShane Fintoni (Laurent), Bologna, Italy, *Jay Michael Kniffen (Heather), Joshua, TX, *Melody Ruth Anderson, NYC, NY, *Kyle Alan Anderson,

San Antonio, TX, *Erin Bowen (Brad), Buda, TX, *Shannon Spencer (Wes), McKinney, TX, *Bianca Lovano (Alex), Nixon, TX. She is survived by great-grandchildren: Brett Gordon, Brooke Baker (Mark), Wyatt Kniffen, Chase Bowen, Maggie Bowen, Kira Spencer, and Leah Marie Vasquez. She is survived by great-great grandchild, Mark Baker, Jr. Aside from being survived by numerous nieces and nephews, Mary is survived by sisters-in-law: Doris Alizalde, and Joyce Fly.

Visitation will be Monday, March 21, 2022, 5:00pm-7:00pm at Finch Funeral Chapel in Nixon, TX. A Service of Remembrance will be held Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 10:00am, also at Finch Funeral Chapel. Burial will follow at Union Valley Cemetery. Reverend Marvin Miles will officiate the services.

You are welcome to sign the online guestbook at www.finchfuneralchapels.com.

Those who wish to remember Mary in a special way may, also, make contributions in honor of her grandson, Andrew Thomas Bryan, who resides at Salem Christian Home which helps adults with disabilities and their families.

<https://www.ablegifting.com//CA/WHkQKEm,SalemChristianHomes.com>.

FOR ADDITIONAL OBITUARIES, PLEASE SEE PAGE 8

CORN CHAMP



CONTRIBUTED

Brian Fink of Cost won first place in strip-till non-irrigated corn for the state of Texas in the National Corn Growers Association's (NCGA) National Corn Yield Contest (NCYC) with a yield of 197.4779 bushels per acre. He was awarded with a free trip to the 2022 Commodity Classic, held in New Orleans, Louisiana.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORT

03/14/2022 – 03/20/2022

Arrests:
03/15/2022 Rocky Flores, 43 yoa, from Gonzales, Texas, Possession Controlled Substance, Abandon/Endanger Child Criminal Negligence
03/16/2022 Kristina Marie Contreras, 30 yoa, from Gonzales, Texas, Felony Warrant
03/17/2022 Bryan James Mayfield, 46 yoa, from Gonzales, Texas, Warrant
03/17/2022 Aaron Dwayne Hunt, 35 yoa, Gonzales, Texas, Warrant
03/17/2022 Marcus A. Sampayo IV, 24 yoa, from Gonzales, Texas, No Drivers License
03/18/2022 Joesph Eleby, 17 yoa, from Gonzales,

Texas, Possession Controlled Substance
03/19/2022 Avery Crispin Almaguer, 18 yoa, from Gonzales, Texas, Possession Controlled Substance Penalty Group 2, Possession of Marijuana
03/19/2022 Jeremiah Luis Martinez, 19 yoa, Gonzales, Texas, Possession of Marijuana
03/19/2022 Luis Maldonado, 18 yoa, from Gonzales, Texas, Possession of Marijuana
03/20/2022 Dyllon Ray Garcia, 19 yoa, from Gonzales, Texas, Possession of Controlled Substance Penalty Group 2
03/20/2022 Fernanda Cotez Mata, 22 yoa, from Bay City, Texas, Possession of Controlled Substance

Penalty Group 1, Possession Controlled Substance Penalty Group 3 and Possession of Marijuana
03/20/2022 Derrick Taylor Galvan, 27 yoa, from Blessing, Texas, Possession of Controlled Substance Penalty Group 3, Warrant
337 Calls for Service Cases:
2 Forgery
1 Criminal Mischief
1 Burglary of A Building
2 Possession of Marijuana
3 Possession of Controlled Substance
1 Abandon/Endanger Child Criminal Negligence
1 Criminal Trespass
1 No Driver's License
1 Burglary of Habitation
1 Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle

Constable's office investigating building burglary from October

Special to the Inquirer

The Gonzales County Precinct 3 Constable's Office continues to investigate a burglary of a building which happened last October, Deputy Constable Allen Taylor said.

On Oct. 17, 2021 the Precinct 3 Constable's Office was notified by a family

member about a reported burglary of a building on the Bean Ranch in Thompsonville.

Taylor was assigned as lead investigator.

Evidence was gathered during the investigation and, with the assistance of the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office, the Waelder

Police Department, and the Moulton Police Department, the Precinct 3 Constable's Office was able to identify the suspects involved in the burglary.

The Kawasaki Mule UTV that was stolen from the ranch was recovered and returned to the family on Dec. 30, 2021.

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by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

1 this McEntire was Ma Tex in "North"

5 boot aroma

6 432 is Andrews code

7 UNT or TWU bldg.

8 "Mission _____ Valero" (Alamo)

17 TXism: "she could sell _____ cubes to Eskimos"

18 TX Larry Hagman 1972 film: "Getting _____ All"

21 in AL, he bats for the pitcher (abbr.)

22 TXism: "have to prime my mouth to _____" (thirsty)

23 TXism: "_____ chance as a steer in a packing plant"

24 TX rancher Chuck Norris 1979 film: "_____ Of One"

29 "good" south of the border

30 Mule _____, TX

31 Marlin High class

32 TXism: "vicinity"

34 TXism: "hit me like _____ of bricks"

35 cable news net.

36 "mad" TX Harrell _____ "Eddie" Chiles

37 TXism: "run up a white _____"

38 "how" south of the border

39 steak house thick bread (2 wds.)

41 TX rancher Norris' "An Eye _____ Eye"

42 TXism: "his facts _____ elastic" (liar)

43 TXism: "he'll kick you _____ a funeral home" (mean horse)

44 TXism: "cold enough _____ cows give ice cream"

45 Exxon product

46 meadow

47 _____ Falls, TX

48 TXism: "Sin City" (2 wds.)

50 TXism: "happy as a dog with two _____"

51 TX summer

52 Grand _____ Opry

53 traipse around

DOWN

1 TX used these to track migration of killer bees (2 wds.)

2 controversial WTSU resident in 1990 (2 wds.)

3 town near Cascade Caverns

4 Austin potted-meat event: "Spam _____"

9 neck backs

10 Dallas Stars came to TX from Minnesota's _____ Cities

11 horse morsel

12 home of Astros Yankee foe (abbr.)

13 TXism: "_____ had wings he'd be an eagle"

14 noted filmmaker, Welles

15 Astros' first arena had this roof type

16 flightless Australian bird

19 TX Kenny Rogers' "Till _____ It On My Own"

20 TXism: "more _____ way to skin a cat"

22 TXism: "I can't _____ for that"

24 TX Wills: "_____ ha, take it away Leon"

25 Santa _____, TX

26 _____ City, TX

27 special sale marker (2 wds.)

28 tool used by 14-down

29 pre-bloom roses

30 ERA to Astro Justin Verlander

33 TXism: "fits like scales _____ fish"

34 in addition

35 a Texas snake

37 TXism for "overweight" (4 wds.)

38 hair grooming tools

40 "_____ a time"

41 TXism: "no hill _____ stepper"

44 baseball touches

47 nachos cheese

49 instrument in the Dallas Symphony

SUDOKU

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

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.



LOUIS DECKER

BIG COUNTRY SWINGS A BIG STICK – Jared Cook drives a double to the wall in a game earlier in the season. Cook had three hits, all doubles, in Tuesday night’s win over Manor New Tech. Gonzales continues its homestand Friday night against undefeated Brentwood Christian Academy.

Apaches handle clash with Titans

BY LOUIS DECKER
The Inquirer

The mark of a good team is the ability to put away an opponent when you have the opportunity. While they are still a work in progress, the Tribe responded when it needed to and bullied their way to a 13-3 run-rule victory over Manor New Tech on Tuesday night at T.E. Burrows Field.

“We just gotta continue to get better,” said Coach Beaux Gipson. “We’re not where we want to be. A win’s a great thing, but we still gotta continue to work every day.”

The Apaches (8-5) handed the ball to their senior starter Carson Gaytan who came within one out of a complete game, having to exit due to a pitch-count limit. Gaytan showed his dominance early in the game, recording strikeouts on five of the first six outs recorded. He would finish the night with 10 punchouts.

“He was on,” said Gipson. “Kinda got a little sluggish in the middle [innings] and wasn’t finishing his pitches like we wanted him to, but he kept going...and it seemed like he got stronger as the game went along.”

The Tribe had traffic on the basepaths all night, pounding out 10 hits – most of them in the later innings. It was patience at the plate that proved to be the key, as Gonzales had a dozen batters reach base via the free pass – 11 walks and one hit batter.

“The whole game could be, basically, spelled out by that first at-bat by Mucho [Joe Canales],” said Gipson. “It was a long at-bat, fouling off everything and getting the pitch count up. I think the guys did really well [at the plate].”

After loading the bases but coming up empty-handed in the first, the Apaches finally broke through in the bottom of the second. After three walks loaded

up the bases, a sacrifice ground-out by Canales, a wild pitch and a ringing double to right field by Jared Cook plated three runs. Two more crossed the plate in the third inning, courtesy of an error and another hit by Cook.

The Titans finally got to Gaytan in the top of the fourth, as the first five hitters reached base, via four singles and a hit batter. Gaytan righted the ship, but New Tech was able to plate three in the inning before the Apaches could escape.

The Titans made a pitching change in the fifth inning and the Apache bats finally came to life, as they pounded out seven hits, including three doubles, to plate six runs in the bottom of the fifth, and two more in the bottom of the sixth, to end the game early and send the home fans home happy. Jarren Johnson had the walk-off hit with a two-run double to right center.

Gaytan worked 5 2/3 innings to earn the victory. He surren-

dered three runs on eight hits and struck out 10 Titan batters. Johnson came on to pick up the final out in the sixth.

Cook led the way at the plate, going 3-for-4 with three doubles, two runs scored and two driven in. Johnson also had a multi-hit game, going 2-for-3 with two doubles, a run scored and two RBI. Gaytan, Canales, T.J. Riojas, Brady Barfield and Kason Tieken also recorded a hit in the game.

The Tribe is back in action on Friday, continuing their long homestand, when they take on Brentwood Christian Academy out of Austin. The Bears will enter the contest with an undefeated 10-0-1 record. “I didn’t want to come into this year and take things for granted,” Gipson said. I wanted to schedule some good competition. I know they’re going to give us a challenge and it’s up to us to meet that challenge...and handle things like we’re supposed to.”

Lady Apaches drop regular season finale, fall to fourth

BY LOUIS DECKER
The Inquirer

Down four players, the Gonzales Lady Apaches knew the going would be tough against a formidable Rockport-Fulton team. If they could pull off a key road win, though, Gonzales could lock up third place in District 28-4A play.

It wasn’t meant to be, however, as the Lady Apaches were stymied by the Lady Pirates’ defense in a 4-0 match on Monday night. With the loss, Gonzales finishes in fourth place and will face the Uvalde Lobos Friday night, at Burbank HS Sports Complex Field 2 in San Antonio.

The Lady Apaches expect to be at full strength for their bidistrict match.



LOUIS DECKER

The Gonzales Lady Apaches start their march to the state title this Friday against the Uvalde Lobos at Burbank SAISD Sports Complex. The Lady Apaches closed out the regular season with a 4-0 loss to Rockport-Fulton.



LOUIS DECKER

Carson Gaytan bends a breaking ball in for a strike in an earlier game against the Shiner Comanches. Gaytan had 10 strikeouts on the bump in Tuesday night’s win over Manor New Tech.

Apaches drop warm-up to Leopards, face Pleasanton Friday

BY LOUIS DECKER
The Inquirer

The Gonzales Apaches and La Grange Leopards both qualified for the playoffs and had not reached their limit of games to be played, so the coaches agreed to an “unofficial warm-up game.” The teams met on Tuesday night

in La Grange, with the Leopards taking a 2-0 victory. For both teams, it was not so much adding a win to the record as much as it was to get back to action after not playing for a week. The Apaches used the match as an opportunity to move some players around to get experience and rest starters. Despite the moving

pieces, the defense was up to the challenge, holding the Leopards to nearly 1.5 goals below their season average.

The Apaches now turn their attention to the Pleasanton Eagles, their bidistrict opponent. The Eagles finished second in District 27-4A play with an overall record of 10-4-3. One of

those losses, however, was to the Tribe in the season opener.

The match will be Friday night in Floresville at Eschenburg Field, slated to start at 8pm. Tickets will be sold at the gate - \$5 for both students and adults. The winner of the match will advance to the area round to face either Boerne or Austin Achieve.

UIL releases biennial realignments for all sports

BY LOUIS DECKER
The Inquirer

Early February is known for two things – Groundhog Day and the release of the biennial realignment by the University Interscholastic League (UIL), the governing body for sports in the state of Texas.

Much like when Punxsutawney Phil doesn’t cast a shadow, all other coaches have to wait an addition six weeks to find out their fate. Phase two of the UIL Realignment was released last week and the teams of Gonzales County found out exactly who their opponents are in their respective sports.

For some, such as Waelder, the districts looks very similar to their basketball district. For all sports, except for volleyball, Waelder will be in District 30-A with district opponents Austwell-Tivoli, Moulton, Nordheim, Pettus, Prairie Lea and Runge. The only change is in the academic meets, where Rice Challenge Academy, located in Eagle Lake, joins the district.

Nixon-Smilely also saw very little change. Their basketball, volleyball, cross country and spring sports – golf, tennis and track – teams will compete in District 26-3A with Luling, Marion and four San Antonio area school – Great Hearts Monte Vista, Great Hearts Northern Oaks, Cole and Randolph.

Softball and baseball districts (also 26-3A) look very similar. In fact, the only change is Great Hearts Monte Vista is not in the district, because they don’t have a baseball or softball team. In academics, the Mustangs are also in 26-3A, but the district is a bit different. Nixon-Smilely will be joined by Memorial Early College High School and Hill Country College Prep, both from the New Braunfels area, Luling, Marion, and four San Antonio area schools – Brooks Academy of Science and Engineering, Brooks Collegiate Academy, Cole and Randolph.

Gonzales was the county school with the most changes. The Tribe’s cross country, spring sports and academic teams will be in District 28-4A, facing the same schools as the basketball and volleyball teams – Cuero, La Vernia, Young Men’s Leadership Academy, Young Women’s Leadership Academy, San Antonio Fox Tech, San Antonio Kennedy and San Antonio Memorial. IDEA Judson College Prep will also compete in the district in academic meets.

Baseball and softball will also compete in 28-4A with a couple minor changes. Joining the Apaches are familiar district foes Cuero, Geronimo Navarro and La Vernia, the Tribe’s opponents from the last two years, along with Kennedy and Memorial, out of San Antonio.

Team Tennis (also referred to as Fall Tennis) and soccer will compete in District 27-4A. In both sports, Class 4A is the lowest classification as most smaller schools don’t have teams. Teams that fall below the 5A classification are all placed in a district within Class 4A.

In Fall Tennis, Gonzales will be joined by Floresville, Geronimo Navarro, La Vernia, Pleasanton, Somerset, Karnes City and Potemet. Gonzales soccer teams will be in district with La Vernia, Young Women’s Leadership Academy (girls soccer only), Fox Tech, Kennedy, Memorial, Great Hearts Monte Vista and Yoakum.

The new districts go into effect for the 2022-23 school year and will remain the same, other than minor changes, through the 2023-24 school year.

Seguin co-sponsors disc golf fundraiser

Special to the Inquirer

As disc golf continues to gain popularity around the world, the Pecan City Disc Golf Shop is gearing up to host its first sanctioned disc golf tournament in Seguin.

Jericho Lomas, co-owner of the Pecan City Disc Golf Shop, is excited about the opportunity to bring this tournament to the city, while also giving back to a local non-profit.

“When we first dreamt of opening Pecan City Disc Golf Shop, one of our values we wanted to focus on was giving back to our community. This tournament is a great way to partner with our city and Humana to raise money for a local Veteran organization,” said Lomas.

Tournament proceeds will be donated to the Guadalupe County Field of Honor organization to support this year’s field of flags. The City of Seguin is a tournament co-sponsor and Humana is the title sponsor.

The Pecan City Classic will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on March 26-27 at the disc golf course in Max Starcke Park East. More than 160 disc golfers from across the U.S., including 2 professional disc golfers traveling across the world from Denmark, will play in the tournament.

The community is invited to watch the players compete during the 2-day tournament. Market Days will also be happening during the event. Over 25 local businesses and vendors will have booths under the Patricia K. Irvine-King Pavilion in Starcke Park East. Spectators can browse and shop from 10 am to 3 pm both days.

Sponsors for the Pecan City Classic are available. For sponsorship information, please email ernie.connie92@yahoo.com

“The Seguin Visitor Center has enjoyed working with the tournament organizers on bringing this event to Seguin,” said Kyle Kramm, Main Street & CVB Director. “Hosting these tournaments and events benefit Seguin in many ways, from increasing sales at restaurants to providing awareness about a growing sport in our community. It makes a tremendous impact on Seguin,” he said.

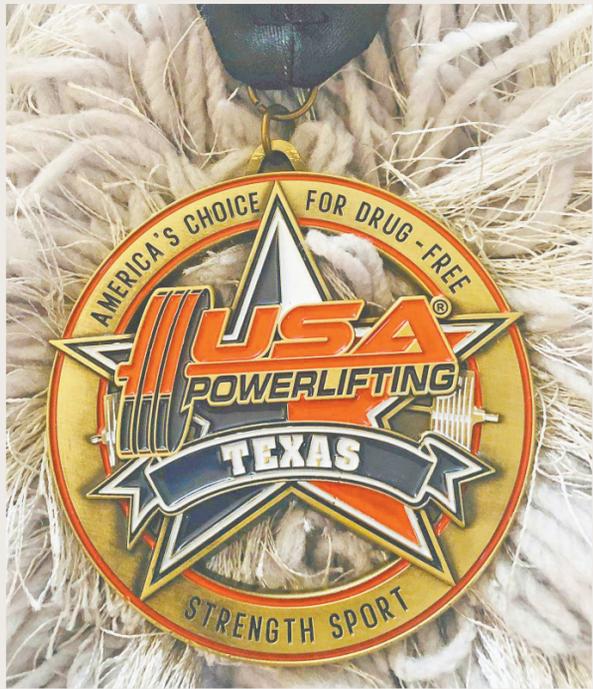
A small-scale Field of Honor flag display will be set up at the park during the tournament, and community members can purchase a flag for this year’s upcoming Field of Honor event.

“The Guadalupe County Field of Honor committee is very excited to partner with the Pecan City Disc Golf Shop and The City of Seguin to bring two amazing community events to Seguin,” said Connie Ramirez, local Field of Honor Chairperson. “This tournament will bring people from across Texas, the United States and across the Atlantic Ocean to play this fast growing sport,” she said.

Ramirez also encourages Guadalupe County residents to visit the Field of Honor display. “Guadalupe County has over 25,000 Veterans, service members and first responders. This makes us hopeful that each flag in our Field will be dedicated in honor of or in memory of a loved one,” she continued.

More than 1,000 U.S. flags will be on display at the 3rd Annual Guadalupe County Field of Honor July 2-9, 2022 at Faith Lutheran Church in Seguin, 1326 E. Cedar. Field of Honor volunteers organize and set up the display to honor and thank Veterans, military members (active and fallen), firefighters, police and emergency responders for their service and sacrifice. The flags and the poles can be taken home after the event.

POWERLIFTER BOUND FOR VEGAS MEET



Nixon-Smiley Middle School eighth grader Gavin Moreno, 13, competed in the TSS Rookie Powerlifting Meet in Houston Saturday, March 12, and took first place in his age division with a squat of 385 pounds, bench of 231 pounds and deadlift of 385 pounds for a combined total of 1,003lbs. He is now continuing his journey as he has earned a place in the USAPL National Youth Powerlifting Meet which will take place on June 7 in Las Vegas!

CONTRIBUTED



Lady Mustangs stay plenty busy over ‘Break’

BY LOUIS DECKER
The Inquirer

School might have been out last week, but the Lady Mustangs were “in session” as they hosted three games in three days during Spring Break and finished with a 1-2 record.

On Tuesday, March 15, the Navarro Panthers invaded Nixon and roughed up the Lady ‘Stangs in a game called early because of the mercy-rule, 20-7. Navarro scored in every inning, highlighted by back-to-back five-run outbursts in the third and fourth innings.

Nixon-Smiley (6-11) actually had a 3-1 lead after one inning of play before the game got away. The Lady Mustangs also put four runs across the plate in their half of the fourth, but the Panthers scored six runs over the final two innings to bring the game to an end in the sixth.

Mady Velasquez led the Lady ‘Stangs at the plate with two of the team’s six hits. Haile Houseton, Greenlee Houseton, Kendall Amaya and Mary Kate Garcia had the other hits in the game. Garcia also knocked in a team-high three RBI.

Velasquez started in the circle and was the pitcher of record, working 2 2/3 innings, giving up

nine runs on seven hits, striking out one. Amaya finished the game with 3 1/3 innings of work, allowing 11 runs on 11 hits.

On Wednesday, March 16, Southwest Dragons came to town and made the most of nine hits, as they scored three runs each in the first, second and seventh innings, along with a single run in the fifth inning, en route to a 10-2 victory.

The Lady Mustangs could only muster two hits in the game and scored both of their runs in the bottom of the sixth, when the game was already out of reach. H. Houseton and Amaya had the lone hits for the Lady ‘Stangs, while the runs were scored by Natalee Mendez and H. Houseton.

Amaya started in the circle and only worked the first two innings before giving way to Velasquez, who worked the final five. Amaya earned the loss, giving up six runs on six hits, while Velasquez surrendered four runs on three hits.

The homestand wrapped up last Thursday with the Lady Mustangs hosting San Antonio Pieper. Nixon-Smiley found their groove and picked up their sixth win of the year by downing the Warriors, 11-3.

The Lady ‘Stangs struck first with a run in the bottom half of

the first, but Pieper answered with a run in the top of the second to tie the game. Nixon-Smiley struck back with three runs in the bottom of the second and a big seven-run outburst in the bottom of the fourth. The Lady Mustangs had a chance to close out the game early, but Pieper was able to keep the game going with a pair of runs in the top of the fifth. The scoring was done, but the game wasn’t over until Pieper went scoreless in the top of the seventh.

Nixon-Smiley pounded out seven hits in the game and had nine others reached base via walks to aid the offensive attack. Velasquez and G. Houseton had the big bats in the win with two hits each. Among Velasquez’s two hits was a double and she drove in six. G. Houseton had three RBI and a homer with her two hits. H. Houseton also had two hits in the game, along with three runs scored. Carlee Cano had the other Lady Mustang hit.

Velasquez earned the start and the win, going 5 1/3 innings, allowing three runs on three hits and striking out 10 Warrior batters. Amaya came in for “mop-up duty,” going 1 2/3 scoreless innings, along with one strike out.

Lady ‘Stangs down rival Stockdale to open district

BY LOUIS DECKER
The Inquirer

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs and Stockdale Lady Brahmas have a prolific rivalry. On Tuesday night, in both teams’ District 26-3A opener, that was clearly evident as Stockdale rallied to tie the game in the top of the seventh, only for the Lady Mustangs to walk-off with a 4-3 victory.

Kendall Amaya got the start in the circle for the Lady ‘Stangs and worked six innings. The only blemish on her night was a single run allowed in the top of the third inning. The Lady Brahmas took that 1-0 lead into the bottom of the fifth. Nixon-Smiley took its first lead of the game by scoring three runs in the inning and that lead would hold until the top of the seventh.

The Lady Mustangs made a pitching change, substituting Mady Velasquez for Amaya. Stockdale was able to mount a rally against Velasquez and plated two runs to keep the game alive, set-



LOUIS DECKER

Madisen Yanes drives the ball back up the middle for a single in a game against Gonzales earlier from this season. The Lady Mustangs defeated Stockdale 4-3 for their first district win on Tuesday night.

ting up the dramatic finish where Nixon-Smiley was able to take the walk-off victory and pick up their first district win.

Velasquez earned the win in the circle and also helped the cause at the plate as she collected three hits for the Lady Mustangs (the

only hits for Nixon-Smiley) in the game. She also drove in three of the four runs for the Lady ‘Stangs.

Nixon-Smiley will continue its homestand on Friday night, as they host the Randolph Ro-Hawks in a district contest. The game is slated to begin at 7pm.

ABC not easy as 1-2-3 for Mustangs

BY LOUIS DECKER
The Inquirer

The undefeated Austin Brentwood Christian Bears jumped out to a quick lead and held on for a 9-3 non-district victory over the Nixon-Smiley Mustangs on Thursday afternoon. The road loss dropped the ‘Stangs to 2-10 overall.

The Bears grabbed the lead in the bottom of the second with a two-run single by Ben Copeland, and added four runs in their half of the second – two of those on a homer to left by Seth Taylor, the other two coming home on an error by the Mustangs.

Nixon-Smiley got two runs in the top of the fourth when Kris Kitchens singled on a fly ball to left. Orlando Flores and Brayden Martinez came around to score on the hit. But in the bottom of the fourth Brentwood came back to score three more runs on another single by Copeland and a balk.

The Mustangs closed out scoring in the top of the seventh. They loaded the bases with one out, and Mario Martinez was able to bring in one run with a walk, but the game ended with a strikeout.

Flores was tagged with the game loss, going all six innings. He surrenders nine runs (four earned) on 12 hits and struck out five. B. Martinez had two of the Mustangs’ four hits. Kitchens’ two-run single and Tyler Barillet’s single to lead off the seventh were the only other hits.

Mustangs even district record with latest win

BY LOUIS DECKER
The Inquirer

Down by three runs with only six outs left, the Nixon-Smiley Mustangs erupted for 11 runs in the final two innings to rally for a 15-7 victory over San Antonio Cole that evened their District 26-3A record to 1-1.

The ‘Stangs got the scoring underway quickly with a two-run single in the top of the first off the bat of Kris Kitchens. The Coogs quickly tied the game up in their half of the first on back-to-back singles, then plated two more runs in the bottom of the second, thanks to a pair of RBI singles.

The Mustangs were able to tie the game up in the third, taking advantage of shaky Cougar defense, but Cole quickly regained the lead with an RBI triple, a passed ball and an RBI single. The game then settled into a pitchers’ duel, with Cole taking the 7-4 lead into the top of the sixth.

That’s when the “Pony Express” recaptured the lead for good. Sending all nine batters to the plate, Nixon-Smiley plated five runs. Brayden Martinez got the scoring started with a bloop single to plate Jeremiah Munoz. Kitchens then cleared the bases with a triple to right field that gave the ‘Stangs the lead, and then scored on a single by Kevin Zavala.

Nixon-Smiley played “addon” in the top of the seventh, as 12 Mustangs came to the plate and six touched the pay-station.

Kitchens was the “big stick” for Nixon-Smiley. He collected three hits on the night, including a double and a triple, and drove in nine runners. Munoz, Flores and Zavala had multi-hit games with two hits each, and B. Martinez had the other hit for the Mustangs.

The ‘Stangs return to district action on Friday night, as they host the winless Luling Eagles. First pitch is slated for 7pm.



BETTY COHN

David and Barbara Luedecke of Gonzales display some of the rifles available to buy from them at the Real Texas Gun Show on Sunday, March 20, at JB Wells Expo Center.

GUNS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sphere. At the many vendor booths available showcasing guns, knives, jewelry, accessories and even children's books, shoppers enjoyed all that the show had to offer.

Owner and floor manager Aubrey Sanders Jr. was on hand to greet customers, talk with vendors and generally make everyone at the JB Wells Expo Center feel like valued family.

Sanders told the Inquirer about the varied and interesting things that can often be found at the shows, and the community service offered by the show.

"A lady brought in some late 17th, early 18th century flintlock muskets and she had no idea the value or anything else," Sanders said.

Sanders and his staff were able to help this customer identify the approximate dating of the item, as well as the value of her property (which varies depending upon the individual or individuals wanting to own said item).

With several shows across Texas



BETTY COHN

Yadira Diaz of Round Rock had her family with her as she checks out pistols and ammo from a vendor at the Real Texas Gun Show at JB Wells Expo Center in Gonzales on Sunday, March 20.

every year, for the last four years, including one or two in Gonzales, there is always a good time for Gonzales residents to check out the fun.

The love that Gonzales residents display for the gun show when it

rolls into town is fully reciprocated with Sanders stating that if he ever leaves his hometown, he is coming straight to Gonzales, as he loves the town, the people and the history.

The next show in Gonzales will be August 20-21, 2022.

JOBS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

2022 was 4.8 percent, or equal to the state average of 4.8 percent. This represented a total of 4,338 residents in Gonzales, Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson, Lavaca and Victoria counties seeking employment out of a total workforce of 90,537 people.

After Gonzales County, Lavaca & Dewitt Counties recorded the lowest unemployment at 4.0 percent, followed by Jackson County at 4.2 percent and then Calhoun County at 4.4 percent. Victoria County and Goliad County both logged in at 5.6 percent.

For January 2022, there were 343 individuals in Gonzales County seeking employment out of a workforce of 9,480, with 9,137 reported as employed. In December 2021, there were 306 people seeking work in Gonzales County out of an employment force of 9,419 for a total unemployment rate of 3.2 percent.

In December 2020, Gonzales County had an unemployment rate of 5.2 percent as 503 individuals were seeking work out of a labor force of 9,608.

The 3.2 percent unadjusted unemployment rate for December 2021 was the lowest seen in Gonzales County since it was just 2.8 percent in February 2020 — one month before the beginning of COVID-19 shutdowns in the state of Texas.

Unemployment rates since January 2020 for Gonzales County are:

- Jan. 2020, 3.0 percent.

- Feb. 2020, 2.8 percent.
- March 2020, 4.0 percent.
- April 2020, 6.7 percent.
- May 2020, 7.8 percent.
- June 2020, 7.1 percent.
- July 2020, 6.8 percent.
- Aug. 2020, 4.8 percent.
- Sept. 2020, 5.9 percent.
- Oct. 2020, 5.3 percent.
- Nov. 2020, 5.7 percent.
- Dec. 2020, 5.2 percent.
- Jan. 2021, 5.6 percent.
- Feb. 2021, 5.7 percent.
- March 2021, 5.4 percent.
- April 2021, 4.7 percent.
- May 2021, 4.5 percent.
- June 2021, 5.1 percent.
- July 2021, 4.3 percent.
- Aug. 2021, 3.9 percent.
- Sept. 2021, 3.8 percent.
- Oct. 2021, 3.6 percent.
- Nov. 2021, 3.5 percent.
- Dec. 2021, 3.2 percent.

The Workforce Solutions Golden Crescent Board serves as the governing board for the regional workforce system, a network of service providers and contractors that brings people and jobs together in the seven-county Golden Crescent region.

The Golden Crescent Region is less than two hours from the major cities of Houston, San Antonio, Austin and Corpus Christi and has a population of 183,000. Of the counties, Victoria County is the largest and has a population of 85,648 and is located in the center of the region. There are a total of eight One-Stop Workforce Centers in the Golden Crescent Region, serving the following counties: Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Jackson, Lavaca, and Victoria.

SMILEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

I'm bringing this to you, so you can take care of it. I'm done with the lies, and now, with the stalking, I don't feel safe anymore.

"You can laugh all you want, but this is serious, so as of today, I am putting in my resignation. I will have my letter in two weeks. We can bring it back (before the council), but this is not a safe environment for me. It's our own city council and volunteers who are causing this."

Mejia said a gossip mill around town and posts on Facebook chat groups like "What's Happening in Smiley" have accused her of wrongdoing, of misusing city funds and of being derelict in her duties as city secretary.

"We've discussed it in closed session and in open session one too many times," Mejia said. "There have been a lot of ... attacks, lies, slanderous remarks. Too many things have been said and done and I've come to y'all before

on more than one occasion and there has not been anything done about it.

"It's your choice to believe who you want to believe. I've been here long enough to know and understand how the city runs. I worked hard, long, tireless hours and put my family to the side. My character — it's everywhere right now with what everybody is saying. There's just so much that has been said that you can't take back. There has been so much posted that you can't take back.

"I've done a lot for the city for the citizens, not for you and me, for the citizens of Smiley," she continued. "That should be first and foremost priority — not what we can do for one or the other, but for the citizens as a whole. That's what I've done all these years.

"You wonder why our (council) meetings aren't run smoothly? The person who you should asking that question to is yourself because you are the



LEW K. COHN

Smiley City Secretary Rebecca Mejia, right, addresses the Smiley City Council as Mayor Michael Mills and City Councilwoman Diane Pena Moreno listen. Citing stress and an unsafe workplace, Mejia submitted her resignation Tuesday, March 22.

governing body. Instead of calling me, coming to the office and saying, 'Becca, what can we do? We want a park. We want a youth center,' it's requests to see where everything else is going like something is being done wrong. Each time, I give you what you need and there's nothing found wrong, but all this time and energy gets wasted."

She noted during her tenure, Smiley became the first

city in Gonzales County to receive AMR (automated meter reading) water meters, which were paid for through a \$275,000 Texas Community Block Grant from the Texas Department of Agriculture.

"Do you know how many times I heard, 'Don't do it. It takes too long,'" Mejia said. "I believe in what we can do together, it can be successful. We were the first city in our county to get water me-

ters and (the council) had wanted to go out for a loan.

"We don't have the kind of money other cities have. We are not in debt. There is a difference between not having money and being in debt. We don't have loans out there. Grants are free and we don't have to pay them back. If we have to pay anything, we only have to pay a percentage. We got \$275,000 for the water meters and we only had to pay \$13,000 out of public fund money. We paid half one year and half the other, and in two years, we got it paid."

One of the biggest rumors is that she has not allowed the fire department or the volunteers to get equipment they need.

"There was a \$500,000 grant I wanted the city to get for the two trucks the volunteer fire department was asking for. I heard it takes too long. That's all I've heard since I've been there," she said. "It does take long, but it's free money. It was only \$5,000 we would have to pay."

She said a purchase order was signed and delivered by the fire department

to a vendor that was not approved in advance by the city or by the city attorney and it nearly cost the city all of the remaining funds in the fire department fund.

"Yes, there was a time that they mayor and I both did not allow them to use any funds and it was due to the \$50,000 to \$80,000 the city was going to have to pay one way or another to cancel those trucks that weren't approved yet," Mejia said. "We didn't even have a lender yet and we didn't even know if they were approved. That was the only time we discussed and said no more purchases because that was all the money left in the fire department account, and if we had used all that money, how could we service the citizens of Smiley?"

"Thankfully, our attorney got a hold of them and they canceled it without any fees this one time. Since I've been here, we've spent over \$674,000 in equipment and accessories and that's not even including maintenance, electric bills, insurance, anything like that."

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MUSIC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Performing live at the JB Wells Expo Center, 2301 County Road 197, Gonzales, on Saturday, March 26, will be Jay Perez and Stevie D, both winners at the 41st Tejano Music Awards in 2021. Doors to the venue will open at 6 p.m. and the dance begins at 8 p.m.

VIP admission is \$70 and includes a collectible VIP badge, stage-front seating, a chair at a table, private restrooms, a private waitress, private bar and private dance floor. The size and layout of the expo center hall makes that possible, Luna said.

“I can segregate the VIP section completely like I do outdoors, with even private restrooms for the VIP,” Luna added. “I’m gonna have private restrooms, I’m gonna have a private waitress, a private bar, stage-front seating, and a private dance floor for the VIP.”

“The rest of the general public will be seated behind and they’ll have their own big, big dance floor and still have plenty of room, so it works out really well. It’s a great, great venue to be able to work with.”

Luna called Perez “an icon our industry” who has

won a whopping 30 Tejano Music Awards in his 28-year solo career and was recognized by as the male Tejano Artist of the Decade for the 2000s at the 30th annual TMAs.

Nicknamed both “La Voz (The Voice)” and “Hijo de San Antonio (Son of San Antonio),” Perez won in 2021 for Song of the Year for “Tu” and his album “El Maestro” became his first album to top the Latin Albums iTunes chart.

Meanwhile, Stevie D is “an up-and-coming artist who is taking the industry by storm,” Luna said. “He’s relatively new, but he already gets more airplay than some seasoned artists and has about four or five songs on rotation already as we speak.”

Stevie D has won four TMAs, including Male Vocalist of the Year in 2021 and Song of the Year in 2020 for “Tu Ahora Sigo Yo.”

VIP tickets are available at the Expo office and the Gonzales Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture as well as online at eventmania.com. For more information, call Luna at 979-665-1923.



Jay Perez



Stevie D



FILE PHOTO

In 2021, each of the 90 teams taking part in the Texas Independence Relay was sent off from Gonzales amid the sound of a cannon blast. This year’s TIR will be held Saturday, March 26, and will kick off at the Gonzales Memorial Museum.

RUN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

at 6 a.m. and continuing until 2 p.m. Saturday in this relay that was begun in 2008 by the husband-and-wife team of Jay and Joy Hilscher of Lone Star Relays LLC.

“We have 120 teams expected this year,” Jay Hilscher said. “It’s lighter than where we’ve been in the past, but I feel like our momentum is good and people are starting to come out of their shell a little more. We look forward to getting bigger and better in the coming years. We were affected a little by COVID still, because we didn’t market it as much this year since we didn’t know what to expect.”

Team members run together twice during the race — once in Gonzales at the beginning and once approaching the San Jacinto monument — but otherwise the 40 legs of the journey are assigned to individual runners and team vans shuttle team members to designated points for pickup and drop-off and the exchange of team wristbands. These legs vary by length and elevation.

Completing a Texas Independence Relay becomes not only a physical test for runners, but also a strategic test for team and race organizers as well. It is also not uncommon for residents in the towns along the way to come out to cheer on racers and show them some hospitality during their brief stops in their communities.

It takes the majority of teams between 27 to 32 hours to completely finish the Texas Independence Relay. The fastest teams — some comprised of collegiate runners — do not depart until after 1 p.m. Saturday, but will overtake the slower runners around Fulshear and may finish the race around 9 a.m. Sunday, while the

slowest teams may not finish until 4:30 p.m. or 5 p.m. Sunday.

The Texas Independence Relay is very similar to Oregon’s Hood to Coast Relay, which inspired the Hilschers.

“The basics are the same as that race,” Jay Hilscher said. “My wife and I wanted to do that one and kept trying to get friends to go with us, but that’s a big ask to get 10 people to spend that much money to go out to Oregon. We then thought, ‘Why doesn’t Texas have a race like this?’”

“We spent a good year and a half before the first Independence Relay marketing and talking about it. We were very slow in the beginning about what we did, like a frog in a pot. We were very slow to turn up the heat.”

The race itself traces the route Sam Houston and the Texian army took during the “Runaway Scrape” as they burned down and moved from Gonzales following the losses at the Alamo and Goliad and eventually ended up at the site of the Battle of San Jacinto, where the Texians surprised and routed the Mexican Army, captured Santa Anna and gained their independence.

Of course, the cannon blast is reminiscent of the scene in Gonzales from Oct. 1, 1835, when a ragtag group of Texians dared the Mexican Army to “come and take” their six-pound cast-iron swivel cannon used for defense.

Some 90 teams with 2,300 participants and spectators took part in the 2021 Texas Independence Relay — which had an abbreviated ending in Brenham due to COVID-19 — and as many or more are expected this weekend. Most of those are going

to be experienced runners, Hilscher said.

“When you are a newer runner, just getting into running itself, you’re going to be more interested in doing a 5K or marathon by yourself,” Jay Hilscher said. “This race may seem a little weird and has such a social aspect where a newcomer would not be connected as much in the running scene. Most of our runners have been running for a while. We do have a lot of teams who do this year after year and it is very common for most teams to have been doing it for their fifth or sixth year and we have five to 10 teams that have done it every year. In some aspects, it is very much like a family reunion.”

The city of Gonzales entered into a contract with Lone Star Relays LLC that allows use of the lawn at the Memorial Museum and permits the consumption of alcoholic beverages on March 25 during packet pickup for the racers and the closure of the 400 block of Smith Street on March 25-26 for the relay. The Gonzales Convention and Visitors Bureau also provided \$2,500 to Lone Star Relays LLC for advertising the event statewide.

“Gonzales has been a great partner for us,” Jay Hilscher said. “We joke about how we are waking up everyone by the cannon blast going off every few minutes. We actually don’t have the biggest cannons. It basically sounds like fireworks. It’s not the same as a big cannon you can feel from miles away. “That’s something the teams look forward to every year. They know exactly what we’re doing and how we do it every year and it is a blessing to have Gonzales be involved.”

“To be successful in this role I want to better understand our community, the people within it that help make decisions, and how to connect the right individuals together.”

— Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla, Main Street director

DIRECTOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that feels more authentic to my passion in hospitality and community involvement. I have served on both the Convention Visitor’s Bureau and Main Street Advisory Boards for several years. I love the people and the community of Gonzales and can’t think of a better place to live and serve.”

Hutchinson-Padilla sees the Main Street director position as one that “uniquely embraces a trifecta of my love of historic cultures, sense of community, and business background.”

“I have been inspired by the leadership and dedication of our previous Main Street directors, board members, and volunteers,” she said. “It has been my honor and privilege to work alongside them in various capacities throughout the years. They have worked tirelessly to preserve our history and embrace the future of Main Street.”

“Helping to blend them together is no simple task, but I have a passion for the people, our community and I love to watch the work unfold before our eyes. Gonzales is uniquely positioned to experience an influx of economic opportunities in our downtown and neighborhood commercial districts. I am excited to be a part of that.”

Hutchinson-Padilla said being successful in the role of Main Street director will require a true partnership with other Main Street business owners and volunteers to advance and advocate for Gonzales.

“To be successful in this role I want to better understand our community, the people within it that help make decisions, and how to connect the right individuals together,” she said. “Having faith in and believing in people of all backgrounds who want to accomplish something great, whether it’s a volunteer or an entrepreneur, is the only way our Main Street program can truly excel.”

“Valuing the people of Main Street and building

those relationships will be the key to meeting goals, advocating Main Street principles, and advancing historical preservation, community outreach and relationships. I am excited to be a part of this.”

Hutchinson-Padilla first moved to Gonzales with her family in 2016 and she and her husband, under their company Historic Hospitality Management LLC, worked with former Tourism Director Clint Hill at the Belle Oaks Inn. During that time, they also began to dream about opening a coffee shop to showcase their hospitality skills.

Then in 2020, they joined forces with Come and Take It Properties to assume operation of the Dilworth Inn, a 14-room boutique hotel which opened in February 2015 in the historic Dilworth building. Later in the year, they realized their dream by opening Come and Crepe It, which offers made-to-order omelets, crepes, and coffee as well as pastries made from scratch.

EVENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to 9 p.m. There will be a cash bar, silent auction, and a fashion show of designer bags modeled by local law enforcement officers.

Snacks will be provided, but you may also bring your own, but no outside drinks are allowed. Door prizes will be given away as well. Doors

open at 5 p.m.

This event will benefit Norma’s House and this engaging event has been known as the social event of the year by local residents in years past. Executive director Deane Novosad is the point person for questions.

Call 830-672-1278 for more information.

Visit normashouse.net for more info and tickets, which are available for \$40 in advance or \$50 at the door, with corporate tables available for \$450, which includes eight tickets & bingo cards. Attendees must be 18 or older.

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