



The Gonzales Inquirer

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Lynn Theatre back on market; buyers back out

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

The Lynn Theatre is back on the market, nearly four months after the Gonzales City Council narrowly had voted to sell the historic movie theater to the

partnership of Sydney Allen and Devon Warzecha.

Gonzales Economic Development Corporation president Ken Morrow confirmed Monday, May 15, that he had received a brief email from Christi Ortman Fullilove, who

represents Allen and Warzecha, stating the couple no longer wished to purchase the theater building from the GEDC and the city.

Efforts behind the scenes to try to salvage the sale were unsuccessful, so the property,

located at 510 Saint Paul St., is again available for purchase, Morrow told the Inquirer.

"We're disappointed that Sydney Allen and Devon Warzecha did not complete the contract for whatever reasons they had," Morrow said. "The

property is now listed as active for sale by Lisa Grove with Phyllis Browning Co."

Grove updated her listing online at 11 a.m. Monday to reflect the 11,684-square-foot

See **LYNN**, page 17



VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Justice of the Peace Deidra Voigt swears in new Gonzales Council member Lorenzo Hernandez of District 3 Thursday, May 11.

O'Neal says goodbye to City Council

Lorenzo Hernandez sworn in to Dist. 3

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales City Council says goodbye to one of its longest serving members at the Thursday, May 11 regular council meeting.

Bobby O'Neal served the city council in two different districts (as part of District 4 from 1994 to 1996 and District 3 from 2017 to 2023) and was Gonzales' mayor from 1996 to 2012.

Mayor Steve Sucher read a proclamation honoring O'Neal's service to the community of Gonzales.

"Bobby O'Neal has generously used his talents,

expertise and judgment while conducting business with the city of Gonzales with the utmost integrity to implement projects and programs necessary for the well-being of the city and its citizens," Sucher said.

O'Neal has been part of the major decision in helping the city that includes maintain-

See **COUNCIL**, page 17

J.B. Wells Arena gets ready for TJHRA Finals

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The crew of the J.B. Wells Arena and the city of Gonzales are putting the final touches on preparations for the Texas Junior High Rodeo Association Finals.

Five hundred and twenty-

one state finalists from across the Lone Star state will be arriving in Gonzales this weekend as they compete in the TJHRA Finals.

Amanda Garza, J.B. Wells facility manager, said J.B. Wells has set up 880 stalls for

See **RODEO**, page 16



VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda presents a plaque to outgoing school board member Glenn Menking for his 21 years of service on the school board. Menking served with six superintendents and more than 15 school board members during his 21 years on the board.

GISD certifies two school board members

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales ISD Board of Trustees held a special meeting Thursday, May 11 to canvass the May 6 GISD school board election.

Two new school board

members — District 3's D'Anna Robinson and District 6's Ashley Molina— were sworn in alongside Ross Henderson III, who was unopposed in the District 5 race.

As the new school board

See **GISD**, page 18

GISD announces Brooks as new police chief



Brooks

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales ISD announced the hiring Thursday, May 11, of Gregory Brooks as the district's new chief of police.

Chief Brooks brings seven years of law enforcement experience in a

school setting and 31 years of experience in law enforcement, including working as a sergeant, patrol, sex crimes, narcotics, motorcycle unit, and commercial vehicle enforcement unit.

See **BROOKS**, page 17

Come and Take It Dance bringing 'The Sleeping Beauty' to life

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Fresh off a successful first performance of the Nutcracker back in January, Come and Take It Dance is again bringing professional talent to Gonzales, this time with three performances of "The Sleeping Beauty" in June.

See **PERFORMANCE**, page 18



WAEOLDER STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT ALCOHOL IMPAIRMENT

Waelder High School students shot a basketball with special impairment goggles that simulate what it's like to be under the influence of alcohol Thursday, May 4. WHS students were shown the Watch UR Bac Alcohol and Drug Awareness Program by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

VANDY VAN EPPS



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China Basket named Main Street Business of Month

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The China Basket, located at 617 Saint Joseph St., has been named the Main Street Business of the Month for May 2023.

Tammy Hillman opened the business in May 1983 and has been in the same location ever since. The name "China Basket" came from a combination of carrying china/dinnerware for their bridal registry and making gift baskets.

Tammy and her team love to see what the new colors, styles, and trends will be each year. They are always looking for new and unique gift items. They try to find unique products that other shops don't carry in order to offer more variety.

If they don't have what a customer is looking for, they will try to direct them to another local shop. Not only do they promote their own business, but they always try to let out-of-town visitors know about other shops and points of interest. Small town customer service is very important.

They offer a bridal registry and a baby registry. They also invite gradu-

ates to register for graduation. They have a wide variety of candles and other home fragrances, home décor, Jon Hart products, Gourmet food items, tabletop linens, Tervis Beekman, rugs, Beatriz Ball, lots of Come and Take it Merchandise and much more! While they do not have an online store, they try to update their Facebook page regularly to keep customers informed of what is new.

They have seen Gonzales grow and change a lot in the 40 years that they have been open. Gonzales now has enough points of interest, restaurants, shops, and great places to stay for people to come and enjoy themselves for several days.

Tammy believes that if we all work together and promote our beautiful town, we will continue to see it grow and thrive. They are proud to be a family-owned small business and are humbled and deeply thankful for the overwhelming support and friendships throughout the years.

Watch for specials and sales in the coming months to celebrate 40 YEARS of business in Downtown Gonzales.



China Basket was named the May 2023 Main Street Business of the Month. Tammy Hillman opened the business in May 1983 at 617 Saint Joseph St. in Gonzales and has been in the same location ever since.

VANDY VAN EPPS



CONTRIBUTED

Gonzales Main Street had so much fun putting together a Rum Run last year that they have put together the Main Street Roundup for Thursday, May 25. The event encourages those in town for the rodeo as well as locals to explore shopping and dining specials at downtown businesses while also enjoying a tasty beverage in a refillable cup, plus have a chance to win some prizes. Tickets are on sale now for \$25 each.

GCSO deputies searching for truck occupants after pursuit

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's deputies spent Friday, May 12 looking for several unknown suspects who bailed out of a pickup truck involved in a traffic stop.

According to the GCSO, at about 11:52 a.m. Friday, a Gonzales County Sheriff's deputy initiated a traffic stop on a gray Ford F-150 at mile post 649 eastbound on Interstate 10. The vehicle, which appeared to have about four or five occupants, failed to stop and the deputy began a pursuit.

The vehicle exited off I-10 and the deputy lost sight of the vehicle once it went into some brush. The truck was found later off Farm-to-Market 2814 but all of the occupants had fled the scene.

Law enforcement began a search for the individuals around the area of FM 2814 and County Road 420 in the Waelder area. However, despite developing a positive identification of at least one suspect, none of the subjects were apprehended. It is believed that the individuals left the area.

Incidents such as this could be a possible example of human trafficking. Law enforcement is advising anyone who may have seen anything suspicious or who may have knowledge of the whereabouts of the truck's occupants to contact the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office at 830-672-6524.

Main Street Roundup event offers shopping, specials, and drink samples

MAIN STREET ROUNDUP

Thursday, May 25th

11:00am - 4:00pm

Tickets on sale now



Ticket includes:
T-shirt,
refillable
beverage cup,
punch card
raffle ticket, and
exclusive
shopping sales

Join us on a Main Street!

Sample drinks, shop sales, and explore dining

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Want to wet your whistle while taking in the shopping and dining that downtown Gonzales offers? Why not take part in the Main Street Roundup, Gonzales Main Street's newest event, which will be held Thursday, May 25.

Set the week of the Texas Junior High Rodeo Association finals in Gonzales, this event aims to encourage rodeo families and locals alike to explore all the Gonzales Main Street District has to offer. Come check out downtown businesses and enjoy a cold beverage while doing it — this is the event for you! An event fee of \$25

sets you on the route to fun with a T-shirt, punch card, raffle ticket and refillable beverage cup. Locations along the way will have exclusive sales and dining specials for participants. The fun is for ages 21 and up and will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, May 25.

The event is similar to last year's Rum Run crawl, which also was hosted by Gonzales Main Street.

For more details, contact Main Street Director Tiffany Hutchison-Padilla at tpadilla@gonzales.texas.gov or to purchase your tickets, visit <https://www.eventeny.com/events/mainstreetroundup-5833/>.

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Gonzales County drought free for first time in two years

BY CLAYTON KELLEY
For the Inquirer

For the first time since 2021, Gonzales County has been drought free. The Gonzales Underground Water Conservation District checked water quality wells for 2023 and announced at the May 9 meeting that water quality is within normal range.

"The dedicated water quality wells that we regularly check are all within normal range of what those wells produce," GUVCD General

Manager Laura Martin said. "We check parameters such as conductivity, sulfates, and pH. It's exactly where we all expected it to be."

The GUVCD also amended their compliance and enforcement policy.

"It's pretty standard, it lays out the time frame and the steps necessary if it is not complied with the rules," Martin said.

Although Gonzales is drought free, the GUVCD wants to remind others to continue to conserve water.

Celebrations

Birthdays

May 18th Dillon Brown Kalli Glass Jennifer Ruddock Suzanne Vega	May 21st Aaron Villareal Judy Wright	May 23rd Kassandra Nesbitt Casey Pinckard Suzie Remmers Kirstie Saur
May 19th Bo Filip Katie Jo Staton	May 22nd Ashley Arriaga Leslie Bird	May 24th Don Cartwright Patricia Davis Karen Jacobs
May 20th Naomi Casares Tamra DuBose	May 21st Devin Rangel Devin Rickman Destiny Voigt	May 24th Beverly Munson Janice Ruddock Diann Taylor

Anniversary

May 19th
Kenneth & Donna Kuchynka

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Gonzales Weather

	May 18 82°/67°	Cloudy with a thunderstorm 55% chance of rain • RealFeel 90
	May 19 84°/67°	Humid with a stray t-storm 40% chance of rain • RealFeel 96
	May 20 81°/66°	Cloudy with a stray t-storm 41% chance of rain • RealFeel 96
	May 21 80°/66°	Clouds giving way to some sun 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 83
	May 22 85°/68°	Partly sunny 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 92
	May 23 86°/69°	Partly sunny 8% chance of rain • RealFeel 93
	May 24 88°/70°	Mostly sunny 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 93

Upcoming Events at J.B. Wells Park in Gonzales

May 18th – 27th
TJHRA Rodeo

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GREEN CLOVER 4-H



The Gonzales County 4-H Duds to Dazzle Junior Division team placed first in the Accessory Category. Members are Arriyanna Martinez, Jamesley Hilt, Karsyn Rathmann, and Teresa Cunningham. Coaches are Evelyn Clark and Fayerene Smith. Green Clover 4-H fashion groups participated at District contests in Fredericksburg. Right: Teresa Cunningham placed second in Buying-Dressy Category and Reese Holton placed fifth in Buying-Ensemble Category.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Garden Q&A with CALVIN FINCH



Q. We have a small lawn area that has shallow soil and no grass yet. It is mostly sunny but has some shade and we want to use zoysia grass. How much soil should we invest in? I know in San Antonio they require 4 inches for lawns on new houses.

A Based-on research results from new lawns in years past it is worth the investment to have 6 inches of soil under the lawn, you save money on your water bills and the lawn performance is so much better it makes it a good investment.

Q. Our snapdragons regrew after the freeze and looked great up to now, but they are quitting their blooming and have a red fungus on the foliage. Is there something we can apply to protect the rest of the bed?

A. You are describing rust which is a fungus that ends the snap-

dragon bloom in early summer once the hot weather arrives. I have not found an effective treatment and just replace the snaps with zinnias or vinca. Zinnias make great cut flowers and are a favorite butterfly nectar source. Vinca also grows in full sun and the deer do not eat them.

Q. How do I tell if our okra pods are past their prime?

A. If the pods crisply break or are cut off the stalk, they are in prime shape for recipes and eating. Oscar okra is my favorite because of the relatively short plants and long crispy stage. If there is a question of whether the pods are not crispy enough to use, toss the old pods in the compost pile so the plant can produce some new ones.

Q. We are mowing our winter weeds and they look good. Can we toss the cuttings in the

compost pile, or will that encourage more weeds?

A. It is best if you cut the lawn weeds before they set seed and drop it on the lawn, but even plants with seed heads make good compost.

Q. We love the birds in this area and are trying to attract more by planting small trees for cover and food. Do you have any suggestions?

A. Anaqua is one of my favorites. It has berries right now, blooms in the spring, and is a dense evergreen. Texas persimmon produces its berries a little later in the summer. Mexican plum also produces blooms, fruit and cover. In early spring it is hard to beat mulberry as a fruit producer. In the summer hackberry and Chinese pistache do well. In the winter the standard Burford and yaupon hollies provide cover and berries. There are lots more to select from!

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK

May 13
Cattle: 373
Compared to our last sale: Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold steady. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold steady to 2.00 higher. Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 250-270; 300-400 lbs., 265-270; 400-500 lbs., 237-261; 500-600 lbs., 215-231; 600-700 lbs., 205-211; 700-800 lbs., 172-188. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 80-115. Stocker-feeder Heifers: Medium and large from No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 235-260; 300-400 lbs., 215-230; 400-500 lbs., 201-10 500-600 lbs., 198-2100; 600-700 lbs., 175-95. Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 73-86; Cutters, 92-97; Canners, 52-77; High yielding fat cows, 82-92. Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 105-117; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 975-00. Stockers Cows: \$750 to \$1,700. Pairs: \$1,100 to \$1,900.

NIXON LIVESTOCK
May 15
Cattle - 124
Steers:
200-300 lbs - 1 head @ \$270
300-400 lbs - \$217-227-250
400-500 lbs - \$192-202-225
500-600 lbs - \$198-208-233
600-700 lbs - \$134-174-203
700-800 lbs - \$137-147-190
Heifers:
200-300 lbs - \$204-214-275
300-400 lbs - \$206-216-265
400-500 lbs - \$193-203-235
500-600 lbs - \$187-197-215
600-700 lbs - \$162-172-193
700-800 lbs - \$132- 142-161
Slaughter Cows - \$75-102

Slaughter Bulls - \$100-125
Stocker Cows - NONE
Pairs: \$1260-1525
We will be closed on Memorial Day, May 29, 2023!!!

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET

May 12, 2023
Number of head 515
There were 66 cows and only 4 bulls. The packer market on cows and bulls was slightly higher on what was here. The number was low due to wet conditions. What was here sold well for what they were. The calf market was significantly higher on middle weights on up. Average price was over \$15/cwt higher with the average at 17 pounds less. This resulted in almost \$45/head more value!

Packer bulls: 118.00-125.00
Packer cows:
canners & cutters 80.00-98.00
poor & weak 30.00-50.00
Palpated: 4 bred 95.00-103.00
PAIRS: 3 \$1,500-\$1,575
Steer Calves (AVG-HIGH)
Under 200 lbs. 235.00-264.00
200-249 lbs. 256.00&277.50
250-299 lbs. 272.00-280.00
300-350 lbs. 252.00-298.00
350-400 lbs. 221.00-242.00
400-450 lbs. 232.00-260.00
450-500 lbs. 226.00-257.00
500-550 lbs. 222.00-237.00
550-600 lbs. 214.00-230.00
600-700 lbs. 203.00-226.00
700-800 lbs. 180.00-210.00

Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
Under 250lbs 278.00-306.00
250-300 lbs. 253.00-278.00
300-350 lbs. 245.00-276.00
350-400 lbs. 256.00-280.00
400-450 lbs. 228.00-268.00
450-500 lbs. 227.00-256.00
500-550 lbs. 220.00-242.00
550-600 lbs. 207.00-233.00
600-700 lbs 199.00-220.00
Over 700 lbs. 186.00-196.00

Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
under 200 lbs. one 270.00
200-250 lbs. 254.00-278.00
250-300 lbs 244.00-270.00
300-350 lbs. 219.00-242.00
350-400 lbs. 218.00-240.00
400-450 lbs. 217.00-235.00
450-500 lbs. 209.00-252.00
500-550 lbs 199.00-226.00
550-600 lbs. 202.00-230.00
600-700 lbs. 200.00-214.00
Over 700 lbs 190.00-208.00

HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.

Sale date: May 9
Cattle on hand: 1469
Packer Cows:
Canner & Cutter Cows: \$72-101
Utility & Fat Cows: \$68-96
Low dressing canner cows: \$50-70
Poor/Weak: \$45-55
Packer Bulls:
Heavyweight Bulls: \$115-127
Utility & Cutter Bulls: \$102-115
Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$92-104
Stocker Cows:
Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: \$1350-1725
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$950-1300
Good Cow & Calf Pairs: 1 PAIR - \$2000
Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: 2 PAIR - \$1375
Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:
Number 1 steer & bull calves:
Under 200 lbs.: \$230-305
200-300 lbs.: \$230-295
300-400 lbs.: \$220-285
400-500 lbs.: \$210-260
500-600 lbs.: \$195-240
600-700 lbs.: \$185-225
700-800 lbs.: \$170-202.50
Number 1 heifer calves:
Under 200 lbs: \$210-290
200-300 lbs.: \$185-285
300-400 lbs.: \$210-265
400-500 lbs.: \$185-255
500-600 lbs.: \$182-230

600-700 lbs.: \$175-205
700-800 lbs: \$158-190
Replacement Heifers:
350-750 lbs.: \$200-160
The calf market continues to be very strong. Demand for all classes and weights is super good. Pastures are mending fast following the God rains. Packer cows & bulls sold steady & strong on a total supply of 300 head.

SEGUIN CATTLE CO.

May 10
Light run due to weather. Market steady on all classes with packer cows and bulls steady.
Cattle - 308
Sheep & goats - 1651
Medium & large frame #1 Steers: 200-300 lb. 1.15-1.78-2.62
300-400 lb. .70-1.76-2.60
400-500 lb. .65-1.96-2.64
500-600 lb. .70-1.60-2.36
600-700 lb. .40-1.51-2.09
700-850 lb. .70-1.50-1.92
Medium & large frame #1 Heifers: 200-300 lb. .95-1.39-2.02
300-400 lb. .65-1.76-2.40
400-500 lb. .75-1.71-2.45
500-600 lb. .80-1.77-2.74
600-750 lb. .70-1.58-2.02
Cows:
Utility & commercial - 68-82-97
Cutters - 73-82-91
Canners - 57-68-80
Palpated cow - NONE
Cow/Calf Pairs - 1075-1600
Bulls:
Heavy High Yielding - 1.07-1.21
Light & Low Yielding - 90-106
Sheep & Goats:
Nannies - 120-250
Kid Goats (Fat) - 2.20-3.00
Wethers -1.55-3.15
Billies - 1.70-2.65
Dorp. Ewes - 90-165
Dorp. Lambs (Fat) - 2.00-2.42
Woolled Ewes - 90-120
Woolled Bucks - 1.02-2.00
Lambs - 1.20-1.40
Barb. Bucks - 350

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Rodney Butler
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We currently have rooms available. Call me for a tour!

Baby "Sonja" Mares (830) 672-4530

A home for the homeless

BY SHERRY POE
Special to the Inquirer

"Mrs. Poe, I will be leaving the halfway house on June 10. Will I still be able to come to Stella's Refuge to stay?"

I received this letter a few days ago from a woman with whom we have corresponded for nearly a year. She was in what is called SAFE-P, a court ordered prison for women who have drug charges and other legal issues.

You may ask, why did she get in touch with me? Our non-profit group, Bethany Community of Hope, has operated a women's transition home here in Gonzales since 2016. Many of you have never heard of it, and rightly so as we have been sensitive to the safety and privacy of the women who become residents there.

Our transition home has offered residential placement to women recovering from drug or alcohol problems, legal issues, domestic violence, sexual abuse, etc. We are not a rehab, but rather a place where the women can heal and re-establish their lives so they then are able to become fully functional members of society.

Stella's Refuge is here because we believe God has called us to such a ministry. It hasn't been easy and many times our hearts have been broken for these ones whom society has cast aside.

We have many stories of women who have done just that. Sadly, we also have stories of those who just weren't ready to do what it takes to move on, and they go back to their destructive lives. We still pray for them.

You see, Stella's Refuge is here because

we believe God has called us to such a ministry. It hasn't been easy and many times our hearts have been broken for these ones whom society has cast aside. In talking with probation officers and mental health providers in our area, we know these types of homes are few and far between.

Most of our referrals come from probation departments, the mental health centers, and domestic violence shelters. As a Christ-centered facility, we have never taken any state or federal funding as we do not want to be hindered as we proclaim Jesus is the way out of the darkness the women have found themselves in. So, since its inception, we have operated solely from private donations.

Why do I write this column today? Because we are in need of a home so we can continue to operate. Our building where we have been for the past 2 1/2 years is being sold and we will need to move to another place.

I realize most of you in Gonzales have never heard of our transition home, but as we prayed on Monday at our community Bible study, it was the consensus among the women that I make our need public. So, that being said, if you want more information about our ministry, or if you know of a home that is suitable for four or so residents, please give me a call at 830-857-4960.

We have been "homeless" before and God has always provided for those whom he calls, "his beloved daughters." We trust that He will do so again.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear editor,
Have you seen it? Did you see it? You should see it. You need to see it.

The first bloom on one of the six trees planted by Gonzales Main Street on the Square in downtown Gonzales.

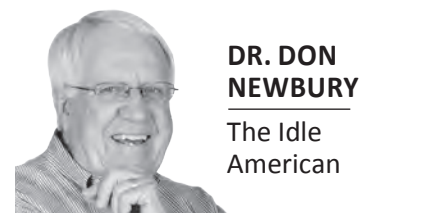
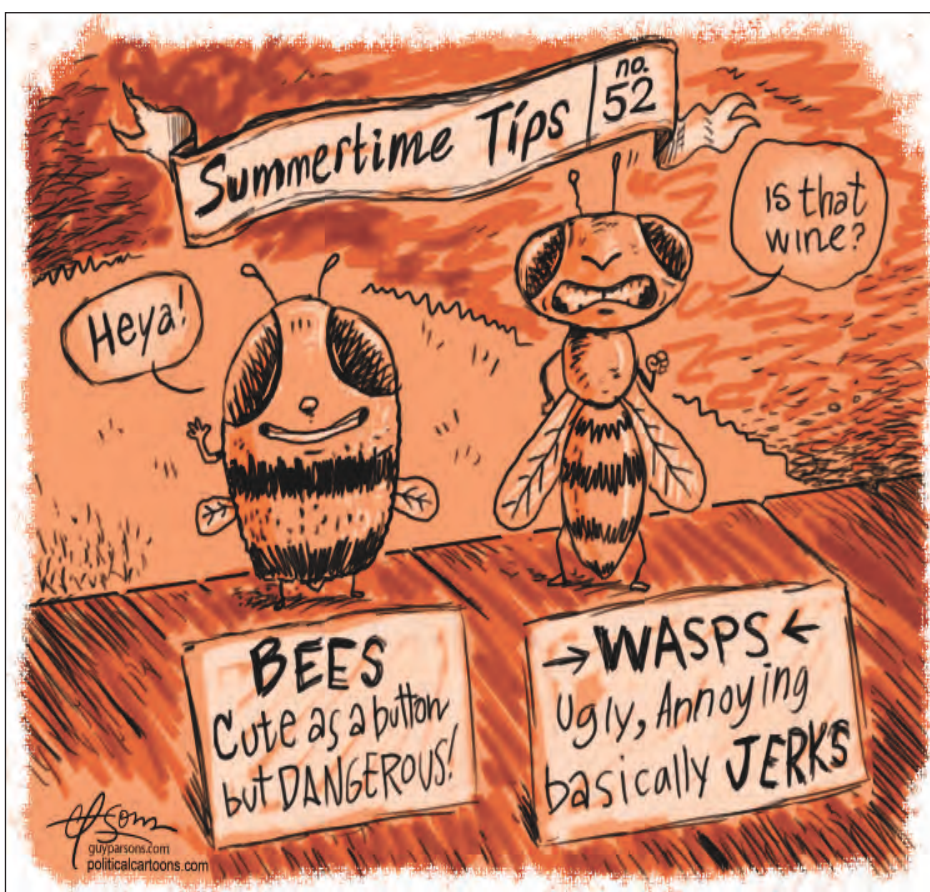
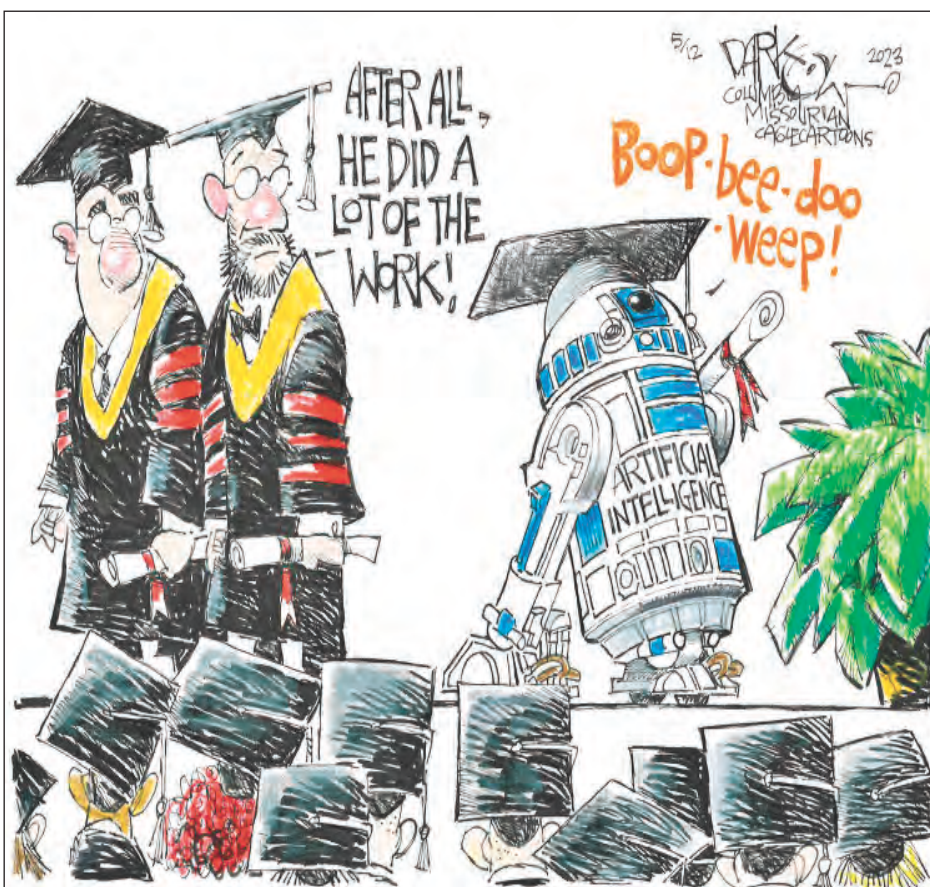
The new trees are on the east side of the 500 block of Saint Joseph Street.

I saw the first bloom, actually a white flower, on Sunday afternoon. I said, "Welcome to Gonzales. The birthplace of your Texas freedom." I think the flower understood because it moved one of its petals.

Thanks to Gonzales Main Street for helping our town look more attractive. Main Street also planted 36 shrubs in the same location.

Thanks!

Bob Burchard
Gonzales



DR. DON NEWBURY
The Idle American

Sounds from another day...

Dilemma horns seemed to gore when I contemplated this week's piece. I could have ridden (written?) off in either direction and still wound up with words to spare.

Would I write about what I miss most — sights or sounds — that now seem permanently closeted in yesteryear?

I yearn to ask readers for directions to a place where fireflies still fly on summer nights, as if celebrating the setting of the sun. I'd burn a few gallons of gas to get there, remembering such times when such bliss was taken for granted. Recalled are moments of serenity and reflection, putting aside the probability that mosquitos chose the same night to seek their prey....

But, no. I'm going to expound a bit about sounds, thanks largely to a call from my brother, Dr. Fred Newbury, who is seven years my junior. Only lately has he admitted to joining the ranks of us who lament a lot.

I'd been thinking about old sounds, only a few of which I'll mention. Some would find neither rhythm nor comfort in again hearing the clacking of manual typewriters in a newsroom. I'd love to hear such sounds again.

The same is true of roosters' crowing to help us start our days, sometimes much earlier than we'd planned. Similarly, the clucks of hens are missed. Their clucking usually meant that their daily mission of laying one egg each had been accomplished. Sometimes, their clucks also summoned chicks fittering about the barnyard. Too often now in our digital world, sounds have grown silent, replaced by cursors darting silently across computer screens. It is a different day....

My brother wasn't breathless, but he was borderline gleeful that his memory of playful childhood sounds had been refreshed. He has a friend who has one of those electric Tesla automobiles. It has several features that are absolute "jaw-droppers."

We who can't converse intelligently about either computers and apps — or autos and features — simply can't wrap our brains around one of the Tesla features.

Simply stated, Fred claims that his friend finds great delight in activating the "whoopie cushion" that is factory-imbedded in his auto's passenger seat. No, it doesn't emit any sound associated with a passenger's "plopping down," but does so when the driver presses the activation button. The driver has the option of summoning all types of sounds — Fred says — including bass or treble that may be short or protracted....

It has been decades since thoughts of joke-playing with "whoopie cushions" crossed my mind, but recollection now makes me smile. They were often the hit of birthday parties, early days of first grade or even opening moments of vacation Bible school....

Researching the topic just a tad reveals that we're all "Johnny-Come-Latelys." Roman Emperor Elagabalus (History "fuzzies up" concerning his date of birth, either 203 or 204 AD) enjoyed placing similar cushions in chairs of pompous guests.

Perhaps it was his court jester who learned that inflating animal bladders could result in unlikely sounds upon the application of pressure.

Anyways, I can provide contact information for my brother if you have a friend who owns a Tesla. Maybe his — or hers — doesn't have this feature.

If you mention the topic to him, he'll burst out laughing before responding. I've had still another hearty chuckle this week. It was provided by my friend, longtime journalist Danny Andrews, whose long tenure at the Plainview Daily Herald was measured as they estimate the ages of stalagmites and stalactites in the caverns. Among the many typos he remembers is an obituary claiming a woman to be survived by "three sins."

Luckily, the survivors seemed to understand. Years later, he ran across a man who said he was "one of the three sins." Andrews replied, "Say no more!..."

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, has written weekly since 2003, and continues to speak regularly. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Facebook: Don Newbury.

The Gonzales Inquirer

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PORCUPINES

A porcupine is a peaceful and pokey animal. The word pokey has two meanings. It can mean slow. Or it can mean something sharp that can poke or jab.



Porcupines have sharp, pokey quills. These are how a porcupine protects itself from predators. They can also make a porcupine look larger and more scary.

Use the code to discover what the word porcupine means.

	= G		= O
	= H		= P
	= I		= R
	= N		= T

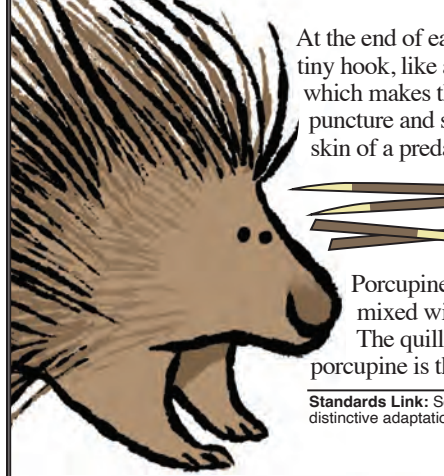
Making a Point

Write down the numbers you find along the correct path through the maze to learn how many quills there are on a porcupine.



Don't Stick Around!

If a porcupine is attacked, its prickly quills come out and poke into the face or body of the attacker. Porcupines do not shoot their quills like arrows. But the quills come out easily when touched.



At the end of each quill is a tiny hook, like a fishhook, which makes the quill puncture and stick into skin of a predator.



Porcupines have soft fur mixed with sharp quills. The quills lie flat until a porcupine is threatened.



The Tree Life

Porcupines eat leaves, twigs and fruit. No _____ many live in trees!

They have long tails that they can _____ around branches to help them _____ up trees. But if they can't find a good sleeping spot in a tree, they will sleep on the ground or in a _____ log.

Porcupines are _____. This means they like to sleep during the day and stay up at night.

That's the Tooth

A porcupine's teeth keep growing every day, so they need to gnaw and gnaw on things to keep their teeth from getting too big. Circle every other letter to reveal a surprising fact about porcupine teeth.

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

TH _____



Porcupines can have up to _____ quills!

Whoa, Baby!

Baby porcupines are called **porcupettes**. They are born covered in soft, bendable quills that harden a few days after they are born.

When attacked, a porcupine rolls up into a ball. Imagine a spiky ball!

Extra! Extra!

Newspaper Fact and Opinion Search

Look through today's newspaper and find and circle five facts. Then, find and underline five opinions.

Standards Link: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Porcupines by the Numbers

Porcupines weigh anywhere from _____ to _____ pounds.

$6 + 6 = 41 - 6$

They can grow to be _____ to _____ feet in length.

$10 - 7 = 7 - 3$

Porcupines live to about _____ years old.

$9 + 9$

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences.

Double Double Word Search

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

S	L	L	O	R	R	N	I	K	S
G	N	H	F	T	T	R	L	E	X
I	K	U	I	A	H	E	A	N	B
W	R	U	L	Q	T	K	N	I	A
T	R	F	R	U	E	O	R	P	K
F	N	P	T	I	E	P	U	U	H
B	A	B	Y	L	T	H	T	C	E
Q	O	A	G	L	H	O	C	R	E
G	N	A	W	S	I	O	O	R	
X	I	L	H	R	X	K	N	P	T

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

Kid Scoop Together

Porcupine Facts and Opinions

Read each statement to a family member. Ask them to decide if each statement is a **FACT** or an **OPINION**. Then, do the math under each statement. If the answer is an even number, it is a **FACT**. If it is an odd number, it's an **OPINION**.

Porcupines are mammals.
 FACT OPINION
 $18 + 2 =$

Porcupines can climb trees.
 FACT OPINION
 $12 + 12 =$

Porcupines are cute.
 FACT OPINION
 $6 + 3 =$

Porcupines are members of the rodent family.
 FACT OPINION
 $11 + 5 =$

Porcupines are scary.
 FACT OPINION
 $14 + 7 =$

Draw a Porcupine!

-
-
-
-

Write On!

Signs of Spring

What are three signs of spring in your community? Write about how they make you feel.

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Gonzales athletes earn season-end awards at banquet

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Gonzales Apaches and Lady Apaches athletes closed out the 2022-2023 sports season with their annual banquet.

The Apaches and Lady Apaches were honored for all their hard work from cross-country, football, volleyball, basketball, soccer, track & field, tennis, golf, softball and baseball.

—AWARDS and MVPS—

CROSS-COUNTRY:

MVPs: Miguel Ramos and Marinelly Martinez
Runners of the Year: Yaritza Angel and Ckristopher Ramos

Winners Act Right (WAR) recipient: Natalia Martinez and Ezequial Reyna

VOLLEYBALL:

MVP: Kristyn Baker
Offensive Player of the Year: McKenzie Hodges
Defensive Player of the Year: Sydney McCray
WAR Recipient: Hannah Avant

FOOTBALL:

MVP: Jarren Johnson
Offensive Player of the Year: Derek Garza
Defensive Player of the Year: Jermame Upshaw
WAR recipient: Mason Navejar

LADY APACHES BASKETBALL:

MVP: Madison York
Offensive Player of the Year: Bella Agüero
Defensive Player of the Year: Kilee Schwausch
WAR Recipients: Carlee Ramos and Haley Bairrington

APACHES BASKETBALL:

MVP: Angel Martinez
Offensive Player of the Year: Gavin Lakgega
Defensive Player of the Year: Crisean White
WAR Recipient: John Rivera

POWERLIFTING:

Lifters of the Year: Jessiah Barr and Madison Sampleton
WAR Recipient: Layne Theile

LADY APACHES FC:

MVP: Yaritza Angel
Offensive Player of the Year: Abigail Reyna
Defensive Player of the Year: Brenda Gonzalez
WAR Recipient: Carlee Ramos

APACHES FC:

MVP: Emiliano Lopez
Offensive Player of the Year: Jose Velasquez
Defensive Player of the Year: Ezekiel Reyna
WAR Recipient: Clemente Govea

LADY APACHES TRACK & FIELD:

MVP: Tianna Smith
Field Event Participant of the Year: Macy Sample
Runner of the Year: Yaritza Angel
WAR Recipient: Macey Pena

APACHES TRACK & FIELD:

MVP: Bryce Brown
Field Event Participant of the Year: Rocky Gallegos
Runner of the Year: Daevien Pitts
WAR Recipient: Davonte Smith

TENNIS:

Tennis Player of the Year: Miguel Moreno
WAR Recipients: Maddison York, Marissa Trice, and Anahi Cardona

GOLF:

Golfer of the Year: Hannah Avant

SOFTBALL:

MVP: Kamrynn Zella
Offensive Player of the Year: Kelly Breitschopf
Defensive Player of the Year: Ava Carrizales
WAR Recipient: Kylee Watson

BASEBALL:

MVP: Jarren Johnson
Offensive Player of the Year: Joe Canales Jr.
Defensive Player of the Year: Mason Navejar
WAR Recipient: Aiden Camarillo and Kason Tiekens

Clara Nell Snyder Heart and Courage Award recipients: John Rivera and Hailey Bairrington

Erwin Kdore Award recipients: Josh Esparza and Carlee Ramos

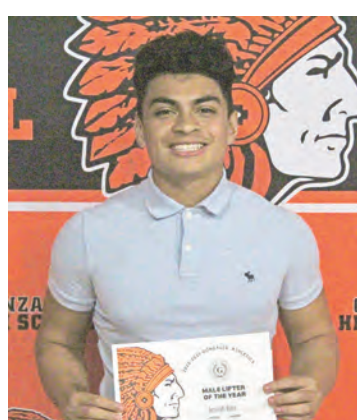
Most Valuable Athlete recipients: Jarren Johnson and Madison York



JARREN JOHNSON



ANGEL MARTINEZ



JESSIAH BARR



HANNAH AVANT



BRYCE BROWN



JARREN JOHNSON



MADDY YORK



KAMRYNN ZELLA



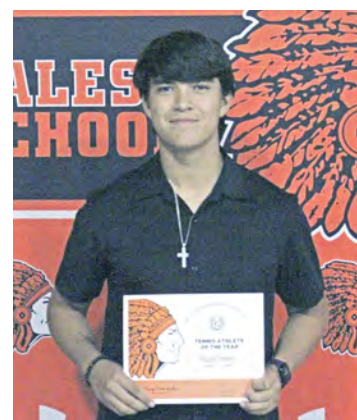
MADISON SAMPLETON



YARITZA ANGEL



TIANNA SMITH



MIGUEL MORENO



JON RIVERA AND HALEY BAIRRINGTON



MADDY YORK AND JARREN JOHNSON



JOSH ESPARZA AND CARLEE RAMOS



KRISTYN BAKER



GONZALES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS: Amaya Rodriguez (front), Joe Canales Jr. (back), Kamrynn Zella, Mckenzie Hodges, Jason Sanchez, Josh Esparza (back), Carlee Ramos (front), Kristyn Baker (back) and Haley Bairrington (front)



YARITZA ANGEL AND CKRISTOPHER RAMOS



MARINELLY MARTINEZ



MIGUEL RAMOS



EMILIANO LOPEZ

GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The winning team from the May 10 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Jackie Waldrip, Donnie Janicek, Chuck Emmick, Bones Williams and Brad Metting.



The second-place team from the May 10 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Matt Deluna, Jeremy Rocha, Derrick Grahmann, Kenny Hernandez and San Juan Garcia.

Gonzales Main Street named Main Street America affiliate

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Gonzales Main Street has been designated as an Affiliate Main Street America™ program for meeting rigorous performance standards. Each year, Main Street America and its partners announce the list of Affiliate programs to recognize their commitment to create meaningful improvements to their downtowns using preservation-based economic development and community revitalization through the Main Street Approach™.

“We are very proud to acknowledge this year’s 412 Affiliate Main Street America programs, and their steadfast dedication to nurture economically and culturally vibrant downtown districts,” said Hannah White, Interim President &

CEO of Main Street America.

“The increase in the size and impact of our network speaks volumes to the power of the Main Street movement to respond to the needs of local communities and drive innovative solutions.”

In 2022, Main Street America programs generated \$6.2 billion in local reinvestment, helped open 7,657 net new businesses, facilitated the creation of 29,174 net new jobs, catalyzed the rehabilitation of 10,688 historic buildings, and leveraged 1,528,535 volunteer hours. On average, for every dollar that a Main Street program spent to support their operations, it generated \$24.07 of new investment back into their downtown communities.

Collectively, 2 million people live or work within the boundaries of designat-

ed Main Street America districts. An estimated workforce of 1.1 million people contribute their skills and expertise to advancing the missions of these historic downtowns and commercial corridors.

The Gonzales Main Street’s performance is annually evaluated by The Texas Historical Commission and Texas Main Street Program, which works in partnership with Main Street America to identify the local programs that are committed to comprehensive, place-based revitalization efforts and achieving meaningful community outcomes.

Throughout 2022 Gonzales Main Street approved over \$172,000 in small business reinvestment grants, revitalized Main Street gardens and public spaces, hosted 10 community events on Main Street, and volunteers put in over

650 volunteer hours on various events and projects.

Looking forward, the Gonzales Main Street Program will continue to focus on:

- 1) Economic Vitality with a focus on assisting new and existing Main Street businesses,
- 2) Organization by creating and maintaining a strong foundation for sustainable revitalization efforts in our downtown area,
- 3) Design in supporting community transformation by enhancing the physical and visual assets of our Main Street area.
- 4) Promotion in positioning the downtown district as the center of the community and hub of economic activity.

NEW OFFICER SWORN IN



Gonzales Mayor Steve Sucher swears in new Gonzales Police Officer Alejandro Silvestre at the Thursday, May 11 meeting. WANDY VAN EPPS

Precinct 3 Constable seeks diesel thief

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Gonzales County Precinct 3 Constable’s Office is investigating the theft of 30 gallons of diesel fuel from a county road maintainer at the Precinct 2 Road and Bridge Department that occurred sometime during the night of May 2.

The office received a report from Precinct 2 Road and Bridge on May 3 that a unknown person or persons had siphoned the fuel from a maintainer while it was parked overnight in the area of Farm-to-Market Road 532

and County Road 397.

Anyone with information about this case is asked to please contact deputy constable Allen Taylor at 830-857-1764 or the Greater Gonzales County Crime Stoppers at 830-672-8477(TIPS) if you would like to remain anonymous.

On April 18, the Lavaca County Sheriff’s Office also received a report from Lavaca County Road and Bridge of fuel theft from their equipment while parked overnight in Lavaca County off of FM532 at CR 265. This Lavaca County case may possibly be related to Taylor’s case.

GVTC Foundation awards Sexton with Sorrells Scholarship

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The GVTC Foundation has been committed to connecting the community to opportunities through its five key areas of giving, which includes education.

The foundation firmly believes education is the key to building stronger and more empowered communities. One of the most rewarding contributions that the foundation makes to the community is through its scholarships.

The GVTC Foundation awarded \$47,500 in scholarships this year to three graduating seniors in GVTC’s service area. The scholarships included the \$25,000 Ritchie T. Sorrells Leadership Scholarship, the \$15,000 Ola Armstrong Volunteer Scholarship, and the \$7,500 Vocational/Technical Scholarship.

These scholarships aim to invest in students’ futures in the community and support their academic endeavors. The scholarship recipients were selected from a vast pool of applicants with the help of the New Braunfels Community Foundation (NBCF). The competition was extensive, and each chosen candidate had outstanding accomplishments. The GVTC Foundation Scholarship Committee surprised each student with a Zoom call that included their counselors, and the students’ reactions were priceless.

Savay Sexton was the recipient of the \$25,000



Savay Sexton, left, received the \$25,000 GVTC Foundation Ritchie T. Sorrells Scholarship for Leaders this year. A 2023 Gonzales High School graduate, Sexton will attend Texas A&M University and major in Agriculture Leadership and Development with a minor in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Sciences. CONTRIBUTED

Ritchie T. Sorrells Scholarship for Leaders. She demonstrated her extraordinary leadership skills through multiple roles within 4-H, Gonzales Robert Lee Brothers Memorial Library Teen Action Group, and Gonzales Bucket Calf Program.

Savay will attend Texas A&M University and major in Agriculture Leadership and Development with a minor in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Sciences. Her career goal is to work in international agritourism coordinating tours in Europe and the United States showcasing agriculture entities and how the effects of policy, culture, technology, history, and legacies weave together.

Riley Edmondson received the \$15,000 Ola Armstrong Scholarship for Volunteerism. She showed incredible community involvement through several organizations, including Leo Club, CoAPT, HOSA, National Honor Society, FCCLA, and Spanish Club.

Riley will attend UT-San Antonio this fall to pursue a nursing degree. After graduation, she plans to transfer to UT-

Arlington to continue her education and obtain a nurse practitioner degree. After college, Riley would like to open her own dermatology practice.

Carson Soens was the recipient of the \$7,500 Vocational/Technical Scholarship. In the fall, he will attend Auguste Escoffier School of Culinary Arts in Austin, Texas, to learn more about the culinary industry and expand his skill set. After college, Carson hopes to open his own restaurant and give back to the community through his love of food.

In 2023, GVTC and The GVTC Foundation will distribute over \$235,000 to high school seniors in our service area! We understand and value the meaning of being local, and with each contribution made, we hope to enhance students’ futures in our communities.

The GVTC Foundation is excited to see a new wave of determination and hope in its scholarship recipients and each generation to follow. Congratulations and good luck to all the scholarship recipients in their much-deserved success and future endeavors.

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TEXAN NURSING AND Rehab of Gonzales is now hiring for the following position:

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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.



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

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Diesel Mechanic Wanted

Location: ButlerWood Inc - 12527 FM 466, Seguin, TX 78155

Pay: \$20 to \$30 per hour. Benefits offered.
Schedule: Monday to Friday with 8 am to 5 pm (flexible start and end times)

Duties and Responsibilities:
-Semi trucks: Volvo, Kenworth, Mack 2019-2021
-Caterpillar heavy equipment: dozers, excavators, wheel loaders, skidsteers
-Forklifts and tractors
-Identifying, sourcing, and purchasing of necessary parts
-Perform routine vehicle maintenance
-Use diagnostic tools to test vehicle components

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Woodyard Worker Wanted
Location: ButlerWood Inc - 12527 FM 466, Seguin, TX 78155
Salary: \$15.00 - \$18.00 per hour
Shift: 10 hour shift, Day shift
Weekly day range: Monday to Friday, Weekend availability
Duties and Responsibilities: Splitting wood with a wood splitter, Operating a forklift to load and unload trailers, Chainsaw trees, Stack wood on pallets and in racks, Valid social security number.

VICTORIA COLLEGE
Part-time Instructor needed for CDL Truck Driving Course to be held at the VC Gonzales Center.
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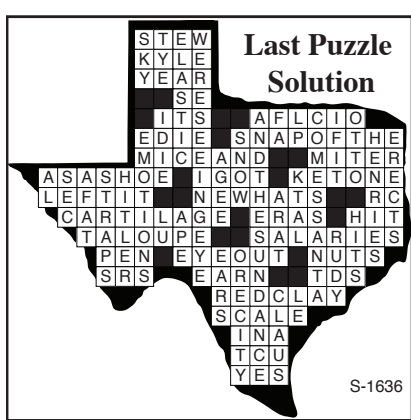
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 Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

May 11 Puzzle Answers

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

Last Puzzle Solution



S-1636

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

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SCHMIDT & SONS, INC.
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JOB DESCRIPTION
 Job Title: Night Fuel Customer Service & Auditor
 Hours Required: 12:00 AM – 9:00 A.M.
 Location: Main Office – Gonzales, TX
 Hourly Rate: \$16.00
Objective: The Schmidt & Sons Night Fuel's primary goal is to facilitate efficient completion of delivery routes and accurate and timely billing of all lubricants/fueling transactions while interacting positively with customers by responding promptly to their needs.
In the performance of their respective tasks and duties all employees are expected to conform to the following:
 • Perform quality work within deadlines with or without direct supervision.
 • Interact professionally with other employees, customers, and suppliers.
 • Work independently while understanding the necessity for communicating with and coordinating work efforts with other departments and employees within the organization.
Duties:
Dispatch:
 • Track deliveries in progress and assist drivers in the completion of their routes.
 • Determine and assign fuel pull points as necessary to drivers on duty to ensure greatest profit margin and minimum travel time. (Rack Assignment)
 • Assign additional deliveries as received to appropriate drivers on duty.
 • Contact drivers for known route discrepancies and document for billing purposes.
 • Communicate with drivers on known discrepancies as they arrive (bypasses & gallon discrepancies).
 • Answer driver questions and assist with route complications
 Flats / Breakdowns / Fuel loading / Accidents / Spills (within scope of knowledge & training)
 • Direct driver questions and complications beyond scope of training to appropriate Site Manager.
 • Inform Site Managers, Invoicing Team on duty of any unresolved issues regarding routes completed during shift.
 • Generate incident reports for significant driver errors and accidents and forward to appropriate site manager for assistance or corrective action.
Customer Service:
 • Answer customer calls & emails concerning Night Fuel routes.
 • Assist customers with placing orders and scheduling additional deliveries.
 • Communicate missed or delayed deliveries to appropriate customer contacts.
 • Receive and document customer orders for future dates and communicate to next Dispatcher on duty.
 • Answer customer inquiries regarding pricing, invoice copies, billing errors, & A/R.
Auditor:
 • Ensure required paperwork & data is received at the end of driver's shift. (Drivers will require confirmation of information received from Dispatch to end shift).
 • Ensure driver recaps are complete & decipherable.
 • Verify BOLs are matched and validated with recaps.
 • Forward all fueling information to respective departments for final billing once completed.
 • Communicate with Inventory personnel & Billing Department at end of shift to ensure timely and accurate billing.

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF WAELDER
TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (TxCDBG) CONTRACT CLOSE-OUT
 TxCDBG CONTRACT NUMBER: #7220489
NOTICE OF TxCDBG CLOSE-OUT PUBLIC HEARING
 The City of Waelder is planning to conduct a close-out public hearing to request citizen comments on its TxCDBG program performance and project implementation. The City is in the process of completing all TxCDBG activities and is in the final stages of conducting a contract close-out. As part of the citizen participation plan requirements, the City of Waelder requests assistance from its citizens in the review of the program performance of the 2019/2020(PY) Texas Community Development Block Grant Program.

A public hearing will be held at the City of Waelder, City Hall - 300 Highway 90 West, Waelder, TX 78959-0427 at 5:15 p.m., on Wednesday, May 24, 2023. The following items will be discussed at this meeting:

- Review of the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program – Wastewater Treatment Plant System Improvements (TxCDBG #7220489) performed within the City of Waelder, Texas
- Review of Program Performance/Project Implementation of the 2019/2020(PY) Texas Community Development Block Grant Program
- Assessment of citizen comments(s)
- Discussion of any action taken in response to the comment(s)

All interested parties, groups or individuals are encouraged to attend this public hearing and participate in the discussion of the project close-out of this Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) project. City Hall is wheelchair accessible and wheelchair accessible parking spaces are available. A request for accommodations and interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting. For more information please contact the City of Waelder: Office of the Mayor at (830) 788-7331.

CIUDAD DE WAELDER
PROGRAMA DE BECAS DE BLOQUE DE DESARROLLO COMUNITARIO DE TEXAS (TxCDBG) CIERRE DE CONTRATO
 TxCDBG CONTRATO NUMERO: #7220489

AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA DE CLAUSURA DE TxCDBG

La Ciudad de Waelder está planeando llevar a cabo una audiencia pública de cierre para solicitar comentarios de los ciudadanos sobre el desempeño del programa TxCDBG y la implementación del proyecto. La Ciudad está en el proceso de completar todas las actividades de TxCDBG y está en las etapas finales de llevar a cabo un cierre de contrato. Como parte de los requisitos del plan de participación ciudadana, la Ciudad de Waelder solicita la asistencia de sus ciudadanos en la revisión del desempeño del programa 2019/2020(PY) Programa de Subsidios Globales para el Desarrollo Comunitario de Texas.

Una audiencia pública se llevará a cabo en la Ciudad de Waelder, City Hall - 300 Highway 90 West, Waelder, TX 78959-0427 las 5:15 p.m., miércoles, 24 de mayo de 2023. Los siguientes temas se tratarán en esta reunión:

- Revisión del Programa de Subsidios Globales para el Desarrollo Comunitario de Texas - Mejoras del sistema de la planta de tratamiento de aguas residuales (TxCDBG #7220489) en la Ciudad de Waelder, Texas
- Revisión del desempeño del programa/implementación del proyecto del Programa de Subvenciones Globales para el Desarrollo de la Comunidad de Texas 2019/2020(PY)
- Evaluación de los comentarios de los ciudadanos.
- Discusión de cualquier acción tomada en respuesta a los comentarios.

Se alienta a todas las partes interesadas, grupos o individuos a asistir a esta audiencia pública y participar en la discusión del cierre del proyecto de este proyecto del Programa de Subvenciones en Bloque del Desarrollo Comunitario de Texas (TxCDBG). El ayuntamiento es accesible para sillas de ruedas y hay plazas de aparcamiento accesibles para sillas de ruedas. La solicitud de alojamiento y servicios interpretativos debe realizarse 48 horas antes de la reunión. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con la Ciudad de Waelder: Oficina del Alcalde al (830) 788-7331.

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Guardrail damage ahead



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

Hey there folks. I was going to say that I hope the grass is greener on your side of the fence, but after all of the rain we've had lately, I'm pretty sure it's greener on every side of the fence. Fortunately, between the rains of late April and early May, and after a bit of mower repair, I was able to whip things back into shape before being overtaken. Life's like that sometimes, both uncooperative and unpredictable.

How many times have you encountered "Guardrail damage ahead" signs while driving. Guardrails are put in place to keep us from veering off the road at particularly dangerous spots like creeks and drop offs along mountainous highways. While they are much needed and very effective, they are still often damaged from the impact of out of control vehicles, and tree limbs floating in raging flood waters, something I'm sure you're very familiar with in these parts. They can also be used to direct our path during road construction, helping to keep traffic flowing at a reasonable pace while averting unnecessary mishaps. Kinda like when in Psalm 32:8, the Lord says that he will guide us along the best path for our life, advising us and watching over us. Yep, thank you Lord. It seems we need all of the help we can get, as it's way too easy to

occasionally misjudge our trajectory along the path of life.

Speaking of which, after weeks of porch repairs, I just finished installing new railing around my front porch, as the old ones had significantly deteriorated due to weather. I had used cattle panels on my back porch and they're still in great shape, so I did the same up front. Seeing as how my grand kids may come for a visit this summer and the porch is four feet off the ground, I realize that parents tend to get a little freaked out when their babies end up face down in the front lawn. No worries though, they're still young, flexible, and have a lot of bounce yet...just sayin'. Get up kids, and let's blow some more bubbles!

Last week we left off of my dad's flight training story with him being a commercial fish spotter in Miami. When that gig came to a close, and with the airlines still saturated with applicants, he decided to re-enlist in the Army, taking full advantage of their flight training programs in Fort Wolters (Texas), Fort Benning (Georgia), and Fort Rucker (Alabama). During the summer between my second and third

grade school years, our family left Florida and moved to Mineral Wells, TX. Most of my memories are of the barren/sandy property surrounding our temporary housing, and the staggering dry heat, which was much different from the daily rain and humidity of Miami. However, I did enjoy our short time there as there were two huge Mimosa trees, covered with flowers, feeding dozens of hummingbirds at any given time, something totally new and foreign to me.

However, the highlight for me (being a critter guy), was the abundance of Texas Horned Toads all over the property, another first. Unfortunately today they're in short supply due to habitat loss, pesticides and fire ants, which saddens me as they were way too cool!

Throughout the years, and especially as of late, I've thanked God many times for allowing me to live a great life. While it hasn't always been easy, it's sure been awesome. I believe that to live a happy

and fulfilling life, appreciation is the key ingredient. It's all too easy to get caught up in complaining when things aren't going the way we'd like, but it's proven to be much more meaningful and rewarding to enjoy and truly appreciate the special people, places and things that make life worth living.

Until next time, may God bless you with a fantastic week.

Love you guys, Eric.



Norma's House received a check for \$5,000 from the Raba Kistner Charitable Foundation Tuesday, May 9. LEFT TO RIGHT: Debra Wilson, Ashley Schurig, Emily Cook, Deane Novosad, Ashley Jimenez, Laisha Rangel, Erika Anderson, and Barbara Stevenson.

PHOTO BY VANDY VAN EPPS

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Kapavik's first mass takes place in Shiner

BY BOBBY HORECKA
Special to the Inquirer

Ryan Kapavik did something that no Shiner St. Paul graduate has ever done before when he became the school's first to accept the Catholic Rites of Ordination—the final step becoming a priest—in a special mass that took place at the Our Lady of Victory Cathedral in Victoria on Saturday, May 13.

To those not of the Catholic faith, that's a mighty big deal. In fact, it's one of seven sacraments a Catholic will undertake take over the course of an entire lifetime, on par with the Rites of Matrimony, for indeed, Kapavik officially enjoined himself with the church on Saturday.

While Shiner has, in fact, produced many a priest through the years — 12 priests so far — Kapavik is the first to hold a diploma from St. Paul High School in Shiner, which officially opened in the early 1960s, separating itself from the St. Ludmilla Academy, whose origins predate Shiner. It remains today as an institution dedicated to educating the parish's youngest Catholics.

What better way to ring in this special time than to celebrate his first mass as Father Ryan Kapavik, right here at his home parish in Shiner, where both his spiritual journey — indeed his life's journey — began and flourished.

That mass took place Saturday, May 13 — the day before Mother's Day — at Sts.

Cyril and Methodius Catholic in Shiner.

Fittingly, we chatted with Kapavik's own mom and dad, Trish and David Kapavik of Shiner, in the days leading up to his momentous occasion. While both couldn't be prouder of their son's accomplishment, both are quick to say they are equally humbled by it.

Kapavik grew in his faith, they said, rooted largely by his attendance at the local Catholic schools. "As our children learned more about our faith in their religion classes, we soon found that our kids were teaching us, a lot more so than the other way around," David said.

Even still, the notion that one of their children might seek the religious life seemed a bit remote.

In fact, as a much younger Ryan first expressed interest in attending the seminary as he neared graduation from Shiner St. Paul, Trish admitted to urging her son to make sure he investigated other options for himself as well.

"It took a lot of faith, on all our parts," she said, something their local congregation, and Father Bryan Heyer in particular, helped them both with tremendously. In fact, both couldn't say enough about how much the local priest's friendship has meant to them and, most especially, their son, Ryan.

Still, it will no doubt require a few adjustments, both parents agreed. After all, it's not every parent who one day goes to addressing their son as "Father."

But on Saturday, it all paid off.

After his first mass here in Shiner, the newly ordained Father Ryan will accept his new role as parochial vicar over at Holy Family Parish and as chaplain of the Victoria Police Department. Holy Family is a rather large and very active congregation in Victoria.

Holy Family, in turns out, was one of the last parishes where Father Dan Morales served, and Father Dan, it turns out, was the priest responsible for recruiting young Ryan into the priesthood more than a decade ago. The soon-to-be Father Ryan, in fact, was Father Dan's final recruit before his own passing not long ago from complications with cancer.

Also, Father Ryan begins his priestly journey with a chalice that no matter where his priestly journey may take him, forever entwines him to the Shiner parish. This chalice was bequeathed to Sts. Cyril and Methodius by Father John Hanacek, who left it to be given to the next priest from Shiner.

And as David Kapavik shared last week, his parents also got him a portable altar, ensuring their son will be always equipped for mass, wherever his priestly journey leads.

"We can't thank everyone in our parish enough for all the prayers and support they have shown in Ryan's journey to becoming a priest," Ryan's mother Trish Kapavik said. "It has meant so much, both to Ryan and to us, his parents."



MICHELLE PRICE, LAVACA COUNTY TODAY

Dad David agreed, especially as they look to the future, knowing full well that their son will soon take on his role as priest, becoming a shepherd of sorts—a protective and guiding "Father," in many figurative senses of that word—to the many in his flock.

"Several have asked us about how we felt about losing a son to the priesthood," he said. "The fact is, the priesthood is a such a brotherhood, in its truest sense, and Ryan has actually expanded our family exponentially with his many new-found brothers. So, we're far from losing a son by any stretch. In fact, we gained so many more sons."

For those who were unable to attend the mass Saturday, the newly ordained Father Ryan has one more Shiner appearance in store, his mother said. He'll concelebrate the last Shiner Catholic School mass on Tuesday, May 23.

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Country Baptist Church Highway 87, Smiley	St. Paul Baptist Church SE 2nd Street, Waelder	JEWISH Adat Haderech, a Messianic shul HashemYeshua1 @yahoo.com
Eastside Baptist Church Seydler Street, Gonzales	Shiner Baptist Church	LUTHERAN First Evangelical Lutheran 1206 St. Joseph, Gonzales
Efeso Iglesia Bautista Highway 87, Smiley	Union Lea Baptist Church St. Andrew St., Gonzales	River of Life Christian Fellowship 207 Steele St., Smiley
Elm Grove Baptist Church 4337 FM 1115 Waelder, TX, 78959	Union Valley Baptist Church FM 1681, NW of Nixon	Thompsonville Community Church CR 423, Thompsonville Between Harwood & Waelder off old Hwy. 90
First Baptist Church 422 St. Paul, Gonzales	CATHOLIC St. James Catholic Church 417 N. College, Gonzales	Two Rivers Bible Church 1600 Sarah DeWitt Dr., Suite 210, Gonzales
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First Baptist Church 406 N. Avenue E, Waelder	St. Patrick Catholic Church Waelder	PENTECOSTAL Faith Temple Hwy. 80 (N. Nixon Ave.), Nixon
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Iglesia Bautista Macedonia 201 S. Congress, Nixon	Church of Christ (Iglesia de Cristo) 201 E. Second St. Nixon	Life Changing Church of Gonzales 3.3 miles north on Hwy 183, right on CR 235, then right on CR 236
Iglesia Bautista Memorial Highway 97, Waelder	Church of Christ E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon	PRESBYTERIAN Pilgrim Presbyterian Church CR 210 off FM 1116
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Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church 100 Capes, Gonzales	Gonzales Memorial Church of God in Christ 1113 Hastings, Gonzales	
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OBITUARIES

HOOT C. FAIRCHILD



Fairchild, L. M. "Mac" Fairchild and James M. "Jimmy" Fairchild; and grandson Marshall Allen Fairchild.

Hoot began his working career as a roughneck in the oil fields around Luling before devoting all his time to farming and ranching. Hoot was the consummate "Cowboy"! He grew up riding horseback, had great roping and tracking skills and understood cattle and knew how to handle them. For a time, Hoot worked as a "cowboy" for some of the ranches in the area. He and his brothers, Mac and Jimmy, raised cattle and were blessed to develop a fine family ranching operation. Hoot knew his cows up until very near the end and enjoyed nothing more than visiting the pastures and keeping an eye on his cattle. Even in the years when he was unable to work his cattle, he continued to tell the "Boys" how to take care of things on the ranch. In 2011 Hoot was awarded Outstanding Conservation Rancher of the year by the Gonzales Soil and Water Conservation District.

For many years Hoot farmed watermelons and had the Grand Champion

Melon several times at the Luling Watermelon Thump. He was well known among the watermelon farmers in the area and over the years shipped many trailer-truck loads of melons out to other parts of the country.

As long as his health allowed, Hoot was an active member of Harwood Baptist Church.

Pallbearers: J. M. Fairchild, III, Duke Fairchild, Jason Fairchild, Travis Fairchild, Randy Eardley and Ryan Eardley. Honorary Pallbearers: Alex Fairchild, James Short, Bobby Oliver, Ross Hendershot, Steve Hendershot, Ross Cheatham, James Westbrook, Dean Seitz, Mitch Fairchild, Leonard Martin, Rusty Martin, Randy Martin, Scotty Martin, Bubba Damon, Beverly Johnson, Johnny Johnson, Butch Gilkey, Ronnie Gilkey, Gary and Robin Hendershot, Jessie Lee and Dwayne Zumwalt, Johnny Halliburton, Barney and Edward Perry, Keith, Glenn, Ryan, and Lane Zumwalt, Wayne Holstein, Bubba Baker, Dougie Fullilove and the many "Boys" that worked harvesting watermelons for Hoot.

Visitation will be Friday, May 19th from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home Gonzales. Services will be Saturday, May 20th, 10:00 a.m. at Harwood Baptist Church with Rev. Todd Craven officiating. Internment Harwood Cemetery.

Donations in Hoot's memory can be made to Harwood Community Center, P. O. Box 80, Harwood Cemetery Association, P. O. Box 70, Harwood Baptist Church, P. O. Box 93, Harwood 78632. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home in Gonzales.

STEWART FREDERICK FRAZIER SR.



Our beloved husband, father, and Papa, Stewart Frederick "Fred" Frazier Sr., 85, passed away peacefully in his home on Sunday, May 14, 2023 after a long, courageous battle with cancer and lung disease.

Fred was born on November 28, 1937 in Beeville, Texas. He was preceded in death by his parents, Marshall Sr. and Gail Frazier, and his brothers, Marshall Jr., Cope, David, and George. He is survived by his loving wife and soulmate of 62 years, Barbara Kay (Barnick) Frazier, his children Stewart "Freddy" (Lynda) Frazier Jr., Sharon Frazier, and John David "J.D." (Angela) Frazier, his 9 grandchildren Manda Leal (Jacob), Stewart "Rick" Frazier III, Laura Hoffmann (Jordan), Kathryn DeLeonardis, John DeLeonardis, Jacob Frazier, Joshua Frazier, Ella Frazier, and Joseph Frazier. And his 5 great-grandchildren, Lyndon Leal, Lincoln Leal, Lynnox Leal, Elynna Leal, and Ava Hoffmann. Along with his sister-in-law, Marsha (Cope) Frazier and numerous nieces and nephews.

Fred graduated from Luling High School in 1956, where he played football for four years and was captain for one year. He played baseball for four years and was captain for one year and all-tournament for four years.

He married Barbara on March 19, 1961 in Luling, TX. They had a long and happy marriage, and made a great team, in life as well as business.

Fred served in the National Guard for 6 years in the 1960s. He graduated from Southwest Texas State University in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and with a minor in Math. He worked for Professional Pharmaceuticals and Texas Pharmacals (Warner Lambert) in San

Antonio as a quality control supervisor. This position included developing a product that was sent with the astronauts on the first moon landing. The family moved to Kirby, TX in 1969. He co-founded Kirby State Bank and was a director. He was also a city councilman for the town. In 1977 he moved to Katy, TX when he bought a natural gas pipeline inspection company, Kooney X-Ray (KXR), Inc and ran it with his wife until he retired to Gonzales and remained on as a consultant and trainer. His "retirement" included co-ownership in Frazier Poultry Inc. and continuing consulting/training at KXR.

A great source of enjoyment for him was playing in The Moods beginning in 1958. He played rhythm guitar, sang vocals, along with a little trumpet. He didn't read music but could listen to a song a few times then play it. They played dance halls in the surrounding area traveling in their tour bus. One of his greatest accomplishments was acquiring his pilot's license without his wife's knowledge.

He was very smart in many areas and knew how to fix anything. Fred had a quick wit and a dry sense of humor. He was always tinkering with his tractors and mowers and could get anything up and running. He loved History and knew all kinds of historical facts. He made a point to

come to all of his great-grandchildren's activities until he no longer could, every baseball game, lunch at school, etc. he was there. He enjoyed his visits with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren peering through the outside window while he was in the hospital.

Fred did not care to be the center of the party, but always wanted family and friends around...always telling his children and grandkids to come visit him more. He would do whatever possible to help and always had a soft heart for those in need. He opened his home to anyone needing a roof over their head and was a father-figure to many in his company.

He was quiet and didn't like to boast, but he did many interesting things in his lifetime. He will be missed by his family and friends.

Our family would like to thank Dr. Eska and his team for their care.

Viewing and visitation will be held Thursday, May 18th from 5:00-7:00 pm at Seydler Hill Funeral Home in Gonzales, TX. The funeral service will be at 10 am Friday, May 19th at Seydler Hill Funeral Home with Rev. Robert Ramirez officiating. Interment will follow at the Denton Creek Cemetery. Pallbearers include Rick Frazier, John DeLeonardis, Jacob Frazier, Joshua Frazier, Jacob Leal, and Jordan Hoffmann. Honorary pallbearers include The Moods Band, Emmitt Currie, Manda Leal, Laura Hoffmann, Kathryn DeLeonardis, Ella Frazier, and Joseph Frazier.

Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com. Memorials can be made to www.pwsausa.org and tinyhero.org. Services are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.

DAVID LEE EHRIG



David Lee Ehrig, 79, passed away Tuesday, May 2nd in Mercy Hospice Care of Durango after a 5 year long battle of Stage 4 cancer.

Born September 20th, 1943 in Gonzales, Texas to Helmuth and Alma Ehrig, he was the oldest of three boys. Upon graduating from Southwest Texas State, Dave started his 21 year career in the Air Force, getting a master's degree in economics and serving as a missile launch officer, instructor at the Air Force Academy, and communications and electronic officer. With his wife, Glenda, he raised his two sons, Gregory and Daniel.

Upon retiring from the military, Dave became a financial planner and facilitated Financial Peace courses at his church.

In 1996, he and Glenda moved to Durango and began a new adventure in life raising and adopting a toddler nephew, Ryan, when his brother Ronnie, and wife passed away in an auto accident. Dave's true joy came from his family and faith in Jesus Christ. He loved giving to others both financially and by organizing groups like the Sitzmarkers (a children's ski club in Stuttgart Germany), and Promise Keepers accountability groups for men in Albuquerque and Durango. He cherished all the relationships he made through these groups. He enjoyed skiing, hiking, camping, kayaking, and especially traveling with beloved friends and family. As president of his high school class, he presided over class reunions every five years up to the sixtieth this past fall. He also served on the Credit Union of the Southwest board for many years.

Dave is survived by his wife of 55 years, Glenda, and sons Gregory and Ryan and grandsons Benjamin and Arthur of Durango, CO, son Daniel of Albuquerque, NM and step daughter Annette of Cottage Grove, OR. His brother, Kenny resides in Austin, TX with his family. A service will be held on Saturday, May 20th at 2 p.m. at Summit Church, 2917 Aspen Drive, Durango. Memorial contributions may be made to Sheppard Foundation of Hope, 5612 W. Gulch Dr, Elory, AZ 85131 or to Summit Church, Durango or to Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore KY.

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OBITUARIES

ELIZABETH NESBIT SCHOTT

Elizabeth Nesbit Schott, age 89, of Seguin, passed away on May 15, 2023. She was born in Gonzales, Texas on May 3, 1934 to Gibson and Ruby Nesbit.

Elizabeth (Beth) was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She was a successful businesswoman and entrepreneur. She also enjoyed antiques and remodeling older homes and historical buildings. Dancing and traveling were some of her pleasures in life.

Beth was preceded in death by her parents, husbands Dow Sherry and Claude Schott, siblings, James Nesbit and Jeanette Rone, daughter,



Sharon Ann Sherry, and grandson, Jonathon Francek.

She is survived by her sons, Buster Lee Sherry and Ronald Dow Sherry; brother, Gibson Nesbit Jr.; 3 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren; numerous nieces, nephews,

and other loving family members and friends.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, May 24, 2023 at Tres Hewell Mortuary Chapel at 5:00 pm. followed by funeral service at 6:00 pm with Chaplain Jimisu Stuckey officiating. Private interment will be held at a later date in the Devine Evergreen Cemetery.

Memorials may be given to the charity of choice.

You are invited to sign the guest book at www.treshewell.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Tres Hewell Mortuary, 165 Tor Dr., Seguin, Texas, 78155, 830-549-5912.

ASCENCION "JOHN" RODRIGUEZ, JR.

Ascencion "John" Rodriguez, Jr., 76, of Gonzales, passed away Monday, May 8, 2023. He was born June 15, 1946 in Gonzales, the son of Ascencion Rodriguez, Sr. and Vicenta Rodriguez. He was a general contractor doing remodeling, concrete work and bricklaying. He was a member of St. James Catholic Church. John was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 5090 and served for 50 years from 1973-2023.

John loved life, he loved his children and grandchildren with all his heart.

He is survived by his wife Maria Edith Rodriguez of Gonzales; daughter Linda Rodriguez of Victoria; sons Jesus Rodriguez of Victoria, Ascencion Rodriguez III of Gonzales and Daniel Renteria of Fort Worth; grandchildren Alyssa Molina, Elea Molina, Andre Molina, Jazlynn



Rodriguez, Vincente Rodriguez and Jace Rodriguez; great-grandchildren Kolby Gonzales and Kain Molina; sisters Mary Jane Vera-Whalley of Gonzales and Christine Elaine Rodriguez of League City; brother Robert L. Rodriguez of Gonzales.

He was preceded in death by his parents, daughter Lisa Maldonado, brother Richard Rodriguez and sister Delfina Schaeffer.

Visitation will be held

Thursday, May 11, 2023 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. with a Rosary being recited at 7 p.m. at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home. Funeral Mass will be celebrated 10 a.m. Friday, May 12, 2023 at St. James Catholic Church with Reverend Jason Martini officiating. Interment will follow at St. James Catholic Cemetery.

Pallbearers include: Andre Molina, Vicente Rodriguez, Kolby Gonzales, Tomas Banda, Rene Rodriguez and Martin Vera. Honorary pallbearers include Paul Cerda, Kian Molina, Jace Rodriguez and Donald Flowers, Sr.

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 St., Gonzales.

AUDREY ARLENE PERKOVICH



In Loving Memory of Audrey Arlene Perkovich 01-09-1935 — 05-06-2023

Audrey passed away on May 6 at home in Smiley, Texas. She was survived by Victoria and Jason Sanders, Timothy and Susan Perkovich, Charlotte and Jim McGrath, and John Perkovich, along with her

numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ronald B. Perkovich and children Ronda Ann Borrayo and Ronald Perkovich Jr., and niece Kristian Fox.

Funeral services to be held at St. Josephs Church in Nixon, TX May 15, 2023 at 10 a.m.

SGA ATTENDS STATE CONFERENCE



CONTRIBUTED

Members of Victoria College's Student Government Association attended the annual Texas Junior College SGA state conference in Dallas. Erik Perez, historian for VC's SGA, was elected to serve as the state historian on the 2023-24 TJCSGA State Executive Board. Pictured left to right are Hser Paw, SGA Treasurer; Sinai Mulamba, SGA Secretary; Dominic Vega, SGA President; and Perez.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office

05/07/23 – 05/13/23

05/07/23

• Scherer, Luke Wilson, 05/1999, Hallettsville: Driving while Intoxicated, Released on \$3,500 Bond

• Calixto, Edwin Douglas, 02/1979, Houston: Driving while Intoxicated 3rd or More IAT, Released on \$10,000 Bond

05/09/23

• Chavira, Abel Franco, 05/1994, Rusk: Local Warrant – Smuggling of Persons, Local Warrant – Evading Arrest Detention w/ Vehicle, TDCJ – Detainer; Remains in Custody

• Cantu, Joshua, 06/1986, Gonzales: Local Warrant – Driving while Intoxicated 2nd, Requires \$1,500 Bond; Remains in Custody

05/10/23

• Garcia, John Anthony, 02/1992, Seguin: Commitment/Sentence – Possession Controlled Substance PG 1 <1G, Midland County Warrant – Forgery Financial Instrument, Requires \$15,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

• Thompson, Jayvion Arthur, 07/2001, Waelder: Local Warrant – Criminal Mischief >\$100 <\$750, Released on \$800 Bond

• Beene, Judge Roy, 09/1979 Gonzales: Local Warrant – Possession Controlled Substance PG 1 <1G, Requires \$75,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

05/11/23

• Fields, Zyshawn, 02/2000 Victoria: Commitment/Sentence – Burglary of Habitation, Remains in Custody

• Limon, Erik Rosendo, 05/2003, Laredo: No Drivers License Issued; Released on Order to Appear

• Vargas Jr., Dimas, 09/1992, Waelder: Commitment/Sentence – Tamper/Fabricate Physical Evidence w/ Intent to Impair; Remains in Custody

05/12/23

• Zavala, Gabriela, 06/1978, Waelder: Commitment/Sentence – Theft Property <\$2,500 2/More Previous Convictions; Released – Weekender

• Smith, Tevin Vashaun, 08/1996, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Assault

Family/Household Member Impede Breathing/Circulation; Released – Weekender

• Hasting, Dustin Dewayne, 09/1989, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence – Manufacture Deliver Controlled Substance PG 1 >4G <200G; Released – Weekender

• Kirkland, Hope Alyssa, 11/2000, Austin: Local Warrant – Possession Controlled Substance PG 1 >1G <4G, Requires \$100,000 Bond; Local Warrant – Prohibited Substance/Item in Correctional Facility, Requires \$50,000 Bond; Remains in Custody

Total Arrest, Court Commitments, other agency arrest and processing's:	
GCSO	14
DPS	02
GPD	05
WPD	01
NPD	01
GISD	00
SMO	00
Constable 1	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	01
DWCSSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	24

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TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- worry
- TX McConaughey had a starring _____ in "A Time to Kill"
- large Texas ranch, spelled out
- flat-topped hill
- TX Larry McMurtry's "Lonesome Dove" was _____ novel"
- TX Bonnie & Clyde, e.g.
- in Kilgore: "East Texas _____"
- TXism: "_____ have to get better to die" (sick)
- TX-born Nimitz was the last to have the _____ of fleet admiral
- TXism: "got as much _____ as a steer in a packing plant"
- convulsions
- ill-mannered
- fashion designer: Christian _____
- TXism: "costs _____ arm and a leg"
- made by Texans and Cowboys in the NFL draft
- winter garment
- TXism: "_____ as dirt"
- name of Jay Gould private rail car in Jefferson, TX
- TXism: "esta _____ (good)"
- school kids often walk in single _____
- city on Redfish Bay (2 wds.)
- worked on fingernails
- corporation abbr.
- Latin for "nothing"
- San Angelo is the seat of Tom _____ County
- pronounce Lamesa "luh-____-suh"
- massive historic Panhandle ranch
- _____ Prairie, Texas
- TXism: "a day _____ a dollar short"
- TX Yale in NFL Hall of Fame
- retirement acct.
- zero
- TXism: "blister _____ (handle)"
- TXism: "strike while the iron _____"
- TXism: "_____ bout" (about)
- six-shooter
- in Hidalgo County on Mexico border
- TXism: "he could out _____ legged bobcat"
- finished
- position of Astro Jeremy Pena or Ranger Corey Seager (abbr.)
- TXism: "_____ shooter" (slingshot)
- Claudia _____ "Lady Bird" Johnson
- former Dallas Sidekicks leag.
- TXism: "keep your saddle _____ (be prepared)"
- TXism for "to fish" (3 wds.)
- villain
- this Gramm was a U.S. Senator
- former Vikings QB Tarkenton
- Pampa's county
- this Ford took over for Nixon in 1974
- TXism: "hot as road _____ July"

DOWN

- TX Nanci Griffith 1987 song (3 wds.)
- in Falls County on U.S. 77
- this Moreno killed 6 people in Houston area in 1983
- _____ toast
- TXism: "horny _____" (lizards)
- trigonometric function of an angle
- _____ hart, Texas
- TX Fawcett's only husband (init.)
- TX Adams, Medal of Honor recipient
- TXism: "_____ State Park"
- this Drayton owned the Houston Astros from 1992 to 2011
- in Fisher County on highway 70
- TXism: "_____ a bull give milk?" (no)
- fmr. immigr. agcy.

SUDOKU

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

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.

Prom time!

NIXON-SMILEY HIGH SCHOOL

Area students from Gonzales, Nixon-Smiley and Waelder high schools celebrate prom



Ayanna Corpus & Carl White Jr.



Cecilia Villasana & Sebastian Ortiz



Deanna Amaya



Hailee Houseton



Freshman Julian Amaya, Sophomore Ryan Paez, Junior Luke Moses, Junior Kendall Amaya, Junior Jaylee Bustos, Senior Madisyne Rice, Senior Preston Rice, Senior Haven Davis, Senior Kevin Zavala



Landon and Ainsley



Madeline Velasquez



Stasney Taylor and Dylon Riojas



Zechariah Munoz & Tyra Ortiz



Janice and Janaelyn White

WAELDER HIGH SCHOOL



Hilary Smith



Lorelei and Stephen Moreno



Makayla Medina

GONZALES HIGH SCHOOL



Christie Reyna, Grace Frederick, Alyson Jahns, Kelly Breitschopf, and Lily Escobedo



Hayden Hull and friends

GONZALES HIGH SCHOOL



Aubrey Hernandez



Alyson Urdiales and Devan Padilla



Alexandria Rodriguez and Miguel Ramos



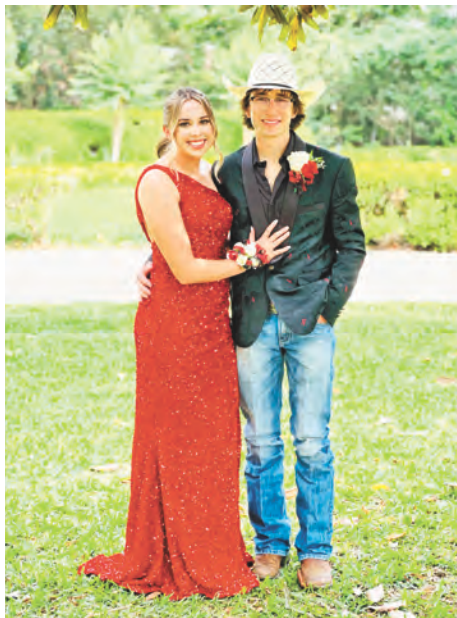
Trinity Smith



Dalton Pape



Gracen M and Katelyn F



Hannah Avant and Cooper LaBuhn



Hayden Hull plus one

Kason Tieken senior and Ainsley Holub junior; Jaydon Blackwell and Breanna Baker Senior and Freshman at Texas State



Hadley and Brody Borrer



Jacob Clack and Raven Cleveland



Jessiah Barr and Jasmine Ibarra



Jolie Heller and Dylan Krenmueller



Jonathan Weare



Sydney McCray and Blake Wright



Hannah Avant and Luke Avant



Lester sisters



McKenzie Hodges



Mikayla Vinklerek and Kelson Schoonover



Norma Zuniga senior and Christopher Ramirez



Santiago Almaguer junior and Yesi Melchor



Sianna Ramirez and Mariah Rios

ENJOYING THE SUNSHINE



LEW K. COHN

A lizard comes out to see what is going on at the Gonzales Post Office after rain gave way to sunshine last month.

Main Street director addresses council about conference

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

Gonzales Main Street Director Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla spoke to the Gonzales City Council on Thursday, May 11 about the Main Street Now conference in Boston, Mass.

Hutchinson-Padilla and Main Street Board president Britney Caka attended a leadership development course to understand the Main Street fundamentals and it proved “invaluable.”

“Their Main Street approach is centered around transformational strategies. A transformational strategy articulates a focused deliberate path to revitalizing and strengthening a downtown or commercial district economy,” Hutchinson-Padilla said. “The program’s work on transformational strategies should be organized around a four point approach ... those four points include economic vitality, design, promotion, and organization,” Hutchinson-Padilla added.

In the next three days of the conference, they would go over those four steps, and while Caka was attending sessions on attracting volunteers and funding Main Street programs, Hutchinson-Padilla spent time learning about “historic preservation and economic vitality.”

“The very top of the most impactful was the historic preservation that was at the heart of this learning experience. The first rule of authenticity is to protect and amplify your assets. And we have some awesome assets, especially in our downtown

Main Street area,” Hutchinson-Padilla said.

“Many of the studies and the examples that were used in the communities, they were much like ours, they have a history and they have a story to tell. Preserving that history is crucial in the existing buildings, where communities have adopted building codes from the International Existing Building Code,” Hutchinson-Padilla added.

Hutchinson-Padilla went over the International Existing Building Code (IEBC) with the council and how it’ll benefit Gonzales’ historical buildings on Main Street. The code covers repairs, alterations, additions and change of occupancy for existing and historic buildings, she said, and while “achieving appropriate levels of safety with requiring full compliance with new construction requirements that are in the International Building Code.”

“So architects and engineers have engaged in historic buildings nationwide and are committed to code improvements to remove the barriers in the existing code for historic buildings. These codes are intended to increase the usability of the International Building Code for historic buildings by clarifying procedures and aligning those with historic preservation practices,” Hutchinson-Padilla said.

Mayor Steve Sucher said he felt it was important to send the Main Street director and board president to the conference and was impressed by what they brought back and presented at Thursday’s meeting, adding he is looking forward to making the parts that Hutchinson-Padilla explained work.

TEXAS HEROES SQUARE FLAGPOLE DAMAGED



VANDY VAN EPPS

A visible landmark for the City of Gonzales, the 130-foot flagpole at Texas Heroes Square, has been damaged and is no longer flying a flag at this time. GEDC officials said the cable in the pole snapped sometime this weekend and they are working to get it repaired as quickly as possible.

RODEO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

animals and 441 spots for RVs; some have overflowed into Independence Park and all local hotels have been booked for the event.

“Right now, we are prepping the grounds, cleaning, getting the stock that comes in for the contestants; the stuff that they compete on, we’re getting those pens built. Due to the weather, we’ve come into some glitches. We’ve had some issues, but we’re getting through it. We will have over 3,000 people at the park,” Garza said.

Garza is excited to greet the children and watch them

compete in the finals with their families, seeing them coming from different parts of the state as well as from Louisiana and Oklahoma.

“Having that many kids from all over trying to compete for nationals, it’s a big deal in the rodeo world. And I feel that when you come into these bleachers and you sit and you see them cheering on their competitors or the kids in their region, it’s a feeling that is bigger than some of the college football games. It’s a big deal and it’s neat and I wish everybody would come out and see



VANDY VAN EPPS

Eight circus size tents are set around J.B. Wells Arena and Expo for the goats, steers and horses that the 521 TJHRA Finalist will be bringing for the Finals.

what it’s all about,” Garza said.

With the help from her crew of five and the city, Garza has a lot of assistance to make sure the finals goes smoothly as planned for next year.

“It takes the whole city to help get it ready and prepped

and we have everything, from EMS, the fire department, the police department, and the water department checking every RV spot, the street department comes out helps with the roads ... The county has helped me tremendously to get this done.

So it takes a village,” Garza said.

Gonzales has hosted the TJHRA finals since 2003 and are looking to bid for another five years to host the event.

“It’s a big impact on our town, our community. The city of Gonzales needs it. And I only look for bigger and better things to happen here,” Garza said.

The state finalists will begin arriving Saturday, May 20.

The event will be streamed on the official TJHRA website and the Expo will have a TV inside for those who want to watch the stream inside and will have many vendors at the event.

2023 TEXAS JUNIOR HIGH STATE FINALS RODEO	
Thursday, May 18	6:00PM - TJHRA/THSRA - Check in of JR High and High School Queen Contestants 6:00-9:00PM - TJHRA/THSRA Open Arena for Queen Contestants
Friday, May 19	8:00AM-7:00PM - Gates will be open from 8am till 7 PM for trailer and horses. They will close -At 7 PM gates will be closed until Saturday morning at 7:00 AM 9:00AM - TJHRA/THSRA - Horsemanship Contest - Indoor Arena 4:00PM - TJHRA Princess Contestant Test 5:00PM - TJHRA/THSRA Queen Social/Meet-N-Greet 7:00PM - GATES CLOSE UNTIL 7AM SATURDAY
Saturday, May 20	7:00 AM - Contestants can start arriving 24 hour check in 9:00 AM - TJHRA/THSRA - Queen Interviews 9:00 AM -4:00PM - Light Rifle Contestants NRA Light Rifle Contest in Memory of Mike Myers Check in at Rodeo Office - Light Rifle Competition begins. *Arrive 30 minutes before shooting times. 1:00 PM - TJHRA/THSRA Queen Luncheon (into/improptu/speech/modeling) 3:00 PM - LIGHT RIFLE SHORT GO WILL BEGIN AT 3PM 7:00 PM - Barrel and Pole Bending Exhibitions - Indoor arena - \$10 a run Contestants Only - stakes will be on different pattern
Sunday, May 21	HOOEY & KUBOTA TRACTORS SPONSORS OF THE DAY 9:00 AM - If needed conclusion of Light Rifle Contest City of Gonzales Firing Range - NEED TO ADD CHURCH SERVICE 9:00 AM - 12:00PM - CONTESTANT CHECK IN - EXPO 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM - Vendors Open at Expo 12:00 PM - ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BE CHECKED IN 12:30 PM - ROUGH STOCK EQUIPMENT CHECK - in the arena 1:30 PM - Regional State Qualifier Pictures - BEFORE meeting CONTESTANT’S MEETING - Arena - ALL CONTESTANTS MUST ATTEND. Contestants must be in dress code Introduction of Sponsors, Rodeo Officials, and Rodeo Personnel Crowning of 2023 Princess-Presentation of Bailee Ackerman Byler Spirit Award Trey Johnson Motivational Message 4:00 PM - Parent/Member Ribbon Roping Entries due in the office 4:45 PM - Grand Entry - All Regions (be lined up at 4:30pm) 5:00 PM - First Performance and Beginning of 1st Go Round 1st round BB Sunday PM

Monday, May 22	BOOT BARN, McCOY’S FARM & RANCH AND PRIEFERT SPONSORS OF THE DAY 7:15 AM - 7:45 AM - Bible Study in the Arena Stands w/Trey Johnson and Robert Till 8:15 AM - Grand Entry - All Regions (be lined up at 8:00am) 8:30 AM - Second Performance of 1st Go Round 2nd round BB Monday AM 10:00 AM-6:30 PM - Vendors Open at Expo 2:15 PM - Grand Entry - All Regions (be lined up at 2:00pm) 2:30 PM - Third Performance of 1st Go Round 1st round SB Monday PM 10:00 AM - 6:30 PM - Vendors Open at Expo 30 Min afternoon Perf - Volleyball Tournament 9:00 PM-12:00AM - Dance in front of Expo - Sponsored by City of Gonzales - Jackpot at Outdoor Arena - Pole & Barrel Exhibition - Indoor arena \$10 a run Contestants Only - stakes will be on different pattern
Tuesday, May 23	CLASSIC, & RATTLER ROPES SPONSORS OF THE DAY 7:15 AM - 7:45 AM - Bible Study in the Arena Stands w/Trey Johnson and Robert Till 8:15 AM - Grand Entry - All Regions (be lined up at 8:00am) 8:30 AM - Fourth Performance of 1st Go Round 2nd round SB Tuesday AM Vote for Student officer @ entrance of rodeo 10:00 AM-6:30 PM - Vendors Open at Expo 2:15 PM - Grand Entry - All Regions (be lined up at 2:00pm) 2:30 PM - Fifth Performance end of 1st Go Round Beginning Bulls 1st round Vote for Student officer @ entrance of rodeo After Rodeo - First Go Awards in the arena. After Awards - Rattler Rope Q&A Clinic with Justin Maas behind the Roping Chutes. 8:00 PM - Dog Races in the arena - - Jackpot at Outdoor Arena - Pole & Barrel Exhibition - Indoor arena \$10 a run Contestants (following dog races)
Wednesday, May 24	PURINA, WHATABURGER, & SAY WHOA SPONSORS OF THE DAY 7:15 AM - 7:45 AM - Bible Study in the Arena Stands w/Trey Johnson and Robert Till 8:15 AM - Grand Entry - All Regions (please be lined up at 8:00am) Announce 2023-24 Student Officers 8:30 AM - Sixth Performance beginning of 2nd Go Round - Cont. Bulls 1st round

Thursday, May 25	RESISTOL & DY WCRA SPONSORS OF THE DAY - PINK DAY 7:15 AM - 7:45 AM - Bible Study in the Arena Stands w/Trey Johnson and Robert Till 8:15 AM - Grand Entry - All Regions (please be lined up at 8:00am) 8:30 AM - Eighth Performance of 2nd Go Round Beginning of 2nd round of Bull Riding 10:00 AM-6:30 PM - Vendors Open at Expo 2:15 PM - Grand Entry - All Regions (please be lined up at 2:00pm) 2:30 PM - Ninth Performance of 2nd Go Round - Jackpot at Outdoor Arena - Pole & Barrel Exhibition - Indoor arena \$10 a run Contestants Only - stakes will be on different pattern 30 Min after Perf - Tug Of War
Friday, May 26	CH GRAPHICS TEXAS FARM BUREAU INSURANCE LONESTAR TRANSMISSION SPONSORS OF THE DAY 8:15 AM - Grand Entry - All Regions (be lined up at 8:00am) 8:30 AM - Tenth Performance end of 2nd Go Round After Rodeo - Second Go Awards in the arena 10:00 AM-4:00 PM - Vendors Open at Expo 30 MIN After Awards - TJHRA Board of Directors Meeting - Elks Lodge 9:00 PM-12:00AM - DJ - Sponsored by TJHRA - Jackpot at Outdoor Arena
Saturday, May 27	BILL FICK FORD & BLOOMER TRAILERS SPONSORS OF THE DAY 10:00 AM - Short Go Awards 10:45 AM - Grand Entry - All Region (be lined up at 10:30am) 11:00 AM - Short Go Performance 4:00 PM - Champions Dinner - 2023 National Team @ Expo State Champion Awards Mandatory Meeting & Sign Up for Nationals PLEASE NOTE - Due to unseen conflicts, this schedule is subject to change. Please check the OFFICIAL DAILY SCHEDULE posted outside the rodeo office. It is the responsibility of each contestant to be in the arena and ready when their respective event is underway.

BROOKS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“We are excited to welcome Chief Brooks to the Gonzales ISD team and look forward to the changes and positive impact he will make in our schools and our community,” Dr. Elmer Avellaneda said. “Chief Brooks has experience in both law enforcement and running a school district police department, skills that are needed and will allow him to help to make decisions and find solutions that will help us towards our goal of keeping our students and staff safe.” Chief Brooks earned the

“ I am excited to join the Apache family and to have the opportunity to make Gonzales ISD the safest learning environment possible.”

—Gregory Brooks

district approximately \$500,000 in grants during his time with Floresville ISD. This included hiring an officer, a police vehicle,

safety shields, in-car and body cameras, and body armor. “I am excited to join the Apache family and to have the opportunity to make Gonzales ISD the safest learning environment possible,” Brooks said. “We are going to do great things, and I am ready to work alongside our teachers, administrators, and law enforcement partners.” A meet and greet will be scheduled in the near future to meet Chief Brooks. The public will be invited to attend. His official start date will be Tuesday, May 30.



Gonzales District 4 Councilwoman Ronda Miller takes the oath of office by Justice of the Peace Deidra Voigt Thursday, May 11. Miller went unopposed for the District 4 elections. PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS

COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ing a strong healthy financial condition, numerous street paving projects, authorizing purchases of lift safety equipment for the Gonzales Polices and Fire Department and advocating for all city employees. “The city council does further wish to express his sincere gratitude for the amicable attitude and working relationship with which Bobby O’Neal has tirelessly worked with his fellow council members, city staff, community leaders and most importantly the citizens of Gonzales.” Sucher said. O’Neal spoke to his fellow council members one last time before passing the torch to newly elected District 3 council member Lorenzo Hernandez.

“ We have good employees. As far as I’m concerned they’re the backbone of the entire city.”

—Bobby O’Neal



Out-going Councilmen of District 3 Bobby O’Neal says his goodbyes to the Gonzales City Council Thursday, May 11 that he served more than 20 years on as a councilman and mayor.

- Gonzales regular election.
- approved the certification of election and swearing in of the city of Gonzales council members: District 3 Lorenzo Hernandez and District 4 Ronda Miller.
 - approved of the annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2022.
 - approved accepting the proposals and awarding the contract for the 2022 Street Improvement Projects to Central Texas Site Prep, LLC.
 - approved the event application for funding to the Come & Take It Committee in the amount of \$25,000 in funding and authorizing the city manager to negotiate and execute an agreement with Gonzales Chamber of Commerce for funding the in-kind contributions from the City of Gonzales for the Come and Take It Celebration on Oct. 6-8, 2023.

LYNN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

building was back for sale with a listing price of \$499,000. Any new offers to purchase the building must be made through Grove or Teresa Weirich as the listing agents for the city.

“The theater is currently vacant and awaiting its new owners to make this vintage gem shine again!” the website touts.

Morrow said any potential buyer of the Lynn could also apply for a possible forgivable Main Street grant of up to \$50,000 for use in making the building operational as a theater. GEDC approved for fiscal year 2023 increasing its funding to Main Street from \$150,000 to \$250,000 for grants and “will try to carry that forward in subsequent years,” Morrow said.

“We had one recent grant recipient apply who agreed to provide four jobs for a period of four years. A theater alone would require at least four jobs to staff it,” Morrow said. “As a board, we are committed to making substantial improvements downtown. There are at least three people on the EDC board who all own buildings downtown and none of us have applied for these grants because we want everyone else to have a shot first and we are encouraging them to apply.”

Emails were sent by the Inquirer to both Allen and Fullilove to provide an opportunity to discuss the reason the sale will not go through as planned. Fullilove declined comment.

THREE PROPOSALS

Allen and Warzecha formed one of three consortiums that submitted proposals to purchase the theater in December 2022, along with a second group comprised of Doug and Dave Durham and Cathy Crowley, and a third involving Madelyn and Katie Abramite.

After hearing presentations from all three and going into executive session, the GEDC board would return and award the sale to Allen and Warzecha for a price of \$365,000, claiming they had “the highest and best local offer that maintains the historical integrity of the building and will be used as an entertainment venue.”

Other factors which played into the selection of the proposal by Allen and Warzecha was that they planned to have a theater (though first-run movies were not required) that would be open to the public and also would make the property mixed-use for comedy shows, band performances and a “dinner and a movie concept.” That plus the recent purchase of the nearby Running M Restaurant by

Allen and Warzecha were seen as positives for their bid.

One month later, in January 2023, the Gonzales City Council voted 3-2, with Mayor Steve Sucher serving as the tie-breaker vote, to sell the Lynn to Allen and Warzecha after Council members Ronda Miller and Joseph “Poochy” Kridler failed in an attempt to have the matter tabled to allow additional time to better study all of the proposals. Joining Sucher in voting to make the sale to Allen and Warzecha were Council members Sherri Koopp and Bobby O’Neal.

The motion to sell the theater to Allen and Warzecha did include language that restricted the property to being an entertainment venue and a stipulation that the marquee had to be preserved. It also gave GEDC the option to repurchase the property in the event that Allen and Warzecha did not start construction within 24 months of acquiring the property.

Allen and Warzecha put up \$1,000 in earnest money and a survey of the building was conducted as requested before the parties could execute the sales contract. However, that contract has not been signed.

ABOUT THE LYNN

The Lynn Theatre was built in 1948 as a single-stage theater with floor and balcony seating. However, after many years, it was modified to now include two separate theaters, a ticket counter at the entry, a marquee, four exterior displays, a concession area, multiple bathrooms on each level, two screening rooms, private offices, along with backstage preparation and storage rooms.

The GEDC took back over the theater in 2020 after the previous operator defaulted on a performance agreement and it has sat vacant for three years.

However, the GEDC and community have invested more than an estimated \$700,000 in the building, including having the entire building professionally cleaned; replacing the roof; working on signs, electrical, HVAC, plumbing and fire systems. That amount also includes utility bills, property insurance and pest control.

Both the GEDC and the city wish to see the property sold to a private entity in order to place it back on the tax rolls.

The listing for the Lynn can be seen at <https://www.phyllisbrowning.com/listing/1620531/510-saint-paul-street-gonzales-tx-78629>.

The Gonzales Inquirer
LEAVING GONZALES COUNTY SINCE 1848

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Fehner Firearms is closed on Mondays



VANDY VAN EPPS

Ashley Molina, D'Anna Robinson and Ross Hendershot III all take the oath of office as they get sworn in for the Gonzales ISD School Board Thursday, May 11.

GISD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

members were sworn in, another said his goodbyes after serving on the school district board for 21 years.

Outgoing District 3 Trustee Glenn Menking was recognized for his years of service with the school district.

Menking served with six differ-

ent superintendents and more than 15 school board members during his 21 years on the board.

"We've had a good time and the board is still in good hands with five school board of trustees I've served with for numerous years," Menking said. "We have two new young ladies

who'll do a good job and you just have to remember that you have to work together and individually you can't do anything so the day's going forward and we look forward to good things, thank you very much."

The board also recognized former GISD Superintendent

Dr. Kimberly Stozier for filling in for the vacant District 6 seat until a new school board member was elected.

In other school board business, the board returned from closed session and announced the hiring of a new police chief for the school district.

The district hired former Floresville ISD Police Chief Gregory Brooks as the new GISD police chief; Brooks has seven years of law enforcement in a school setting and 31 years in law enforcement, including working as a sergeant for the San Antonio Police Department.

PERFORMANCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Show times are at noon and 7 p.m. June 10 and 2 p.m. June 11 at the Crystal Theatre. Tickets can only be purchased online at comeandtakeitdance.com for \$30 per person and there will be assigned seating. The performances of the Nutcracker sold out, so an additional show was added due to expected sales for this new show.

"Our first Nutcracker performance was a tremendous success in our small city," said Guy Lahav, who runs the studio with his partner Gary Franco. "The audience was thrilled by the talented dancers, stunning costumes, and beautiful sets. The performance was sold out, and we received many positive reviews from attendees. "The entire cast and crew put in a tremendous amount of hard work, and their efforts paid off in a big way. It was a magical evening that left a lasting impression on everyone who attended. We have already started rehearsing for our next big performance and hope to continue to bring joy and entertainment to our community through the art of dance."

Like "The Nutcracker," "The Sleeping Beauty" was written by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky and is the second of his three ballets, with the first being "Swan Lake." The original ballet includes a prologue and three acts set to Tchaikovsky's Opus 66, completed in 1889. It originally premiered at the Marinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg in January 1890.

The Come and Take It Dance performance is pared down from the original ballet and is comprised of two acts. In Act I, King Florestan XIV and Queen celebrate the christening of their daughter, Princess Aurora, with fairies bestowing gifts. Evil fairy Carabosse arrives uninvited, curses Aurora to prick her finger and die on her sixteenth birthday.

Aurora turns 16 and dances with her four suitors. Carabosse appears as an old woman with a spindle, Aurora pricks her finger, and falls into a deep sleep. Lilac Fairy reminds everyone that Aurora is not dead, but sleeping for 100 years and casts a spell to shield the castle with an impenetrable forest.

Prince Désiré and his hunting party are in the forest. The Lilac Fairy appears before Prince Désiré and tells him of

Aurora, and they dance together. Désiré goes on a quest to find the Sleeping Beauty, slays the wicked Carabosse, awakens Aurora with a kiss, and they marry.

Act II is the wedding, in which the court assembles for the wedding of Princess Aurora and Prince Désiré. The invited guests include many fairy tale characters.

Three principal professional dancers will be taking part in the show. They include:

JENNA VALDEZ

(Princess Aurora)

Jenna is from Redlands, California and began her ballet training at age four at Inland Dance Academy under the direction of Evette Demarco Swinson and Diane Amendt. In 2011 she joined Los Angeles Ballet as a trainee and appeared in their production of Swan Lake. From 2012 to 2013 Jenna worked as a dancer at Disneyland Resort and Disney California Adventure. She performed the lead roles in Disney California Adventure's Rockin' Rollin' Dance Party

and was a Toy Factory Elf in Disneyland's A Christmas Fantasy Parade.

In 2013 Jenna moved to Mississippi where she accepted a trainee position with Ballet Magnificat. She toured with them all throughout the Southern states, Mexico, and Honduras. Jenna returned to California in 2018 where she accepted an apprentice position with Inland Pacific Ballet. She has performed in their productions of Some Enchanted Evening, The Nutcracker, and The Little Mermaid.

In 2019 Jenna was promoted to company member and in 2020 she also joined LA Dance Moves as a company dancer where she performed in their virtual world premieres of Beyond Limits and Pulse. In 2022 Jenna performed three original pieces with Ballet Project Orange County in their spring production Orange County Choreographic Collective. That year she also performed as the Sugarplum Fairy and Snow Queen in Inland Pacific Ballet's Nutcracker. Jenna is featured as the ballerina in Mexican music artist Kana-

les's music video for "El Barquito." She performed the role of Sugarplum Fairy in Come and Take It Dance's production of "The Nutcracker."

BRANDON FORREST

(Prince Desire)

Brandon Forrest was interestingly enough born at the same place as Master Gary. Brandon is a Colburn School/San Francisco Ballet School Alum, and former company member of Los Angeles Ballet. He has been guest starring with many distinguished ballet academies from Long Beach

Ballet to Carmel where he and Gary coincidentally shared the stage again. Brandon has also been featured in magazines such as Vogue/GQ for Ray Ban and M Stevens Dancewear. Brandon was in a season finale episode of Glee and strives to continue singing, percussion and composing to accompany a philosophical revamping of holistic entertainment.

MELANIE AX

(Lilac Fairy)

Born in New Jersey, Melanie began her ballet studies at the age of

5 with Madame Irene Fokine and Jeanette Hoffman and won her first scholarship program at the age of 9. She also studied under Leonid Kozlov, Mark Jelks and Priscilla Brownlee.

Melanie has performed throughout New Jersey, New York and Los Angeles in leading roles in such productions as The Nutcracker, Paquita, Who Cares?, Sleeping Beauty, Coppelia, La Bayadere, Swan Lake, Apollo and Stars and Stripes.

Melanie has also been teaching ballet to youth and adults for 15 years.



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