

GONZALESINQUIRER.COM • **F** /GONZALESINQUIRER ESTABLISHED IN 1853 GONZALES, TEXAS: HOME OF JUSTIN JOHNSON

# Gonzales **County man** arrested for cattle theft

### **SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER**

Texas & Southwestern Cattle **Raisers Association Special** Ranger Robert Fields arrested



Joshua Webb in Gonzales for the theft of two cowcalf pairs. Webb was charged with theft of livestock, a thirddegree felony, and possession of a controlled

substance.

In September 2024, Special Ranger Fields took a report from an individual reporting two cowcalf pairs that went missing from a property in DeWitt County. The cattle were last seen earlier that month.

See CATTLE, page 13

### Haynes found competent to stand trial in 2020 slayings



### LEW K. COHN

Gonzales ISD

through fourth

demonstrating

game.

¡Cuando estas estudiando pero estas bailando!

Gonzales ISD students shine in inaugural Ballet Folklórico performance

### **BY LEW K. COHN**

Inquirer Publisher

Seventy-five Gonzales ISD students from grades pre-K through fourth showed off their new dancing skills during the inaugural GISD Ballet Folklórico performance Friday, Oct. 18, at Apache Field. The students had been taking instruction in dance

### **BY LEW K. COHN**

Inquirer Publisher

A Caldwell County jury in Lockhart has found 38-year-old Bryan Haynes competent to stand trial for the 2020 shooting deaths of a volunteer firefighter and his cousin near Luling, Caldwell County District Attorney Fred Weber said.

After three days of testimony, a jury of seven men and five

See TRIAL, page 14

### Parents speak at **GISD** meeting on volleyball spitting incident

### **BY VANDY VAN EPPS**

Gonzales Inquirer

Two volleyball parents expressed their concerns to the GISD school board Monday, Oct. 21 regarding an alleged spitting incident involving the team.

Robin Clack and Marina Melgar spoke to the board during public comments about volleyball varsity players spitting their teammates' water and the water

See GISD, page 14



### BURROWS HONORED

LEW K. COHN

Bishop George Sampleton, left, presents a plaque of appreciation honoring longtime Gonzales High School principal Thomas E. Burrows for his support of Sampleton to Maggie Vega Holub, administrative assistant to Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda, on Thursday, Oct. 17. Sampleton said Burrows never gave up on him and his guidance helped lead Sampleton to a fulfilling life. Burrows, who passed away in 2017, was principal at GHS for 22 years, during which his input helped in the building of the current high school as well as the development of what became the T.E. Burrows baseball field.

**BY VANDY VAN EPPS** 

The Smiley City Coun-

scheduled meeting Wednes-

cil met for their regularly

**Gonzales** Inquirer

## Nixon council authorizes block grant application, **RV** park variances

City declares October 'Domestic Violence Prevention Month'

**BY LEW K. COHN** Inquirer Publisher

Nixon City Council members voted unanimously Monday, Oct. 21, to authorize the city to submit an

application for a \$750,000 Texas Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to perform water line and street repair work on South Parker Street.

Interim City Manager Darryl Becker and Finance Director Melissa Pompa said the grant would require a match of just \$37,500, or just

See NIXON, page 13

### **Gonzales City Council fails to** increase council compensation

### **BY VANDY VAN EPPS**

Inquirer Publisher

The Gonzales City Council met for their regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, Oct. 17 at city hall.

One of the main topics was regarding city council compensation.

Councilman Lorenzo

Hernandez brought up this agenda item to the council and felt the council should get compensation, he said.

City Security Kristina Vega said the last time the council had an increase in compensation was either in 2015 or 2016.

See GONZALES, page 14

# Smiley City Council asked to step into parking lot dispute

### day, Oct. 16 at the municipal building.

One of the main topics of the meeting was regarding a parking lot dispute between Nations Christian Fellowship Church and Mama Luz Tacos.

Nations Pastor Jason Montoya was not present at the meeting last Wednesday, but sent out an email to be read out by City Secretary Scott

Iewett.

"I come to you today with a concern/issue that I believe you as the City Council could

# Pilot Club honors Mayor Sucher, Superintendent Dr. A



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO BY LORRELL WRIGHT/PILOT CLUB OF GONZALES

Pilot Club of Gonzales President Megan Perkin (left) gives a honorary Pilot Club membership to Gonzales Mayor Steve Sucher (right) at their Monday, Sept. 9 meeting.

### **STAFF REPORT**

The Pilot Club of Gonzales named Mayor Steve Sucher and Gonzales ISD Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda as honorary members recently.

Sucher was honored at the Monday, Sept. 9 Pilot Club meeting at the Riverside Center; the club president gave Sucher a certificate of honorarium.

The Pilot Club also came to the Monday, Oct. 21 GISD meeting to give Dr. Avellaneda his certificate as an honorary member.

Pilot Club International is a 102-year-old community service organization focused on serving those with traumatic brain injuries and their caregivers and teaching kids how to keep their brain safe for life through various programs.

The Pilot Club of Gonzales was formed in 1973; 10 years later the Anchor Club of Gonzales was formed at the high school.

"To summarize our code of ethics: Embracing the Pilot motto, "True Course Ever," we commit to working diligently, ethically, and with a positive spirit. We will strive for continuous improvement and self development, maintain high standards, and work each day at that which is before us seriously, vigorously, calmly, and cheerily," said Pilot Club president-elect Lorrell Wright.



The Pilot Club of Gonzales at the Monday, Oct. 21 Gonzales ISD meeting to recognize Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda as an honorary member of the Pilot Club.



The Pilot Club of Gonzales president-elect Lorrell Wright (middle right) hands Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda (middle left) his honorary Pilot Club membership Certificate Monday, Oct. 21. Left to Right: project coordinators Isaac Anzaldua and Kena May, Dr. Avellaneda, Wright, Gonzales Anchor president-elect Reyna Rhodes and fundraising coordinator Karen Phillips.

VANDY VAN EPPS

## Come and Take It Dance presents its third annual Halloween Showcase Oct. 27

### **SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER**

Come and Take It Dance will hold its third annual Halloween Showcase at 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27. It's a night you won't want to miss. Get ready for a night of spooky fun and incredible talent this weekend at the studio, located at 418 Saint Andrew St., Gonzales.

The dancers have been working hard, and they're excited to bring you a night filled with fun, talent, and spooky surprises! Plus, join them for the afterparty at San Antonio Distillery LLC to keep the celebration going!

This is a free, family-friendly event, so come out to support your talented friends, family, and community as they take the stage!

If you're interested in dance lessons, this is a fantastic opportunity to check out the studio and see what they offer!

Performers for the evening include:



### Noon Lions commit to pillars of service

### **SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER**

On Monday October 14th, Gonzales Noon Lions Club (GNLC) members planted trees around the community of Gonzales. The Lions have five pillars of service. With a focus on environment, their goal is to provide a healthier community and more sustainable environment!

Trees were planted at Edwards Association, Miracle and Deliverance Pictured from left to right are Melba Washington; Victoria Ostiguin; Pam Jackson; Cynthia Green, Darrell Haug; a Victoria College employee; Carla Faltisek; John Coale; Charlie Gray and Rafe Jackson.

Folklórico Group: Ida McGarity, Jessica Rivas, Monica Atkinson

Ballroom Couples: Amanda Hammond & Gary Franco, Jessica & Nicky McKinney, Samantha & Michael Garcia

Ballet Group: Alexandra Rivas, Audrey Raley, Gabriela Rivas, Hannah Atkinson, Katelyn Evans, Natalia Moncada, Shaila Zuniga

Hip-Hop Group: Angel Falks, Anastasia Falks, Draco Means, KayLauni Falks, Leah Tuch, Liberty Gallegos, Nikoli Falks, Nora Falks

Pre-Ballet: Amelia Tucker, Anna Hardcastle, Eisley Pontoja, Imrie Pontoja, Mackenzie Newlin

Anticipate a fantastic night filled with talent and joy as the dancers showcase their skills. It promises to be a memorable celebration of the community's creativity and fun!

### Library set for Halloween Costume Contest

### **SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER**

The ninth annual Greatest Halloween Costume Contest Ever will be held at the Robert Lee Brothers Jr. Memorial Library between 9 a.m and 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31. The library is located at 301 Saint Joseph St. All children 18 and under are invited to come by th Library in full costume to have their picture taken. The Teen Action Group (TAG) will be judging the entries the following Friday. The top three costumes chosen will win a prize.

### Gonzales police investigating American Legion vandalism

### **FROM STAFF REPORTS**

Gonzales police are investigating vandalism at the American Legion Post No. 40 Hall that took place sometime before the weekend of Oct. 19-20.

American Legion commander Albert G. Rodriguez Jr. told the Inquirer that unknown persons cut down the American flag from the pole, broke the water faucet on the side of the building (causing a leak) and broke the security lights outside of the post building at 1612 Robertson, Gonzales.

Anyone with information about this incident is urged to contact the Gonzales Police Department at 830-672-8686 or the post at (830) 263-3082 lege, all in Gonzales.

COURTESY/GNLC

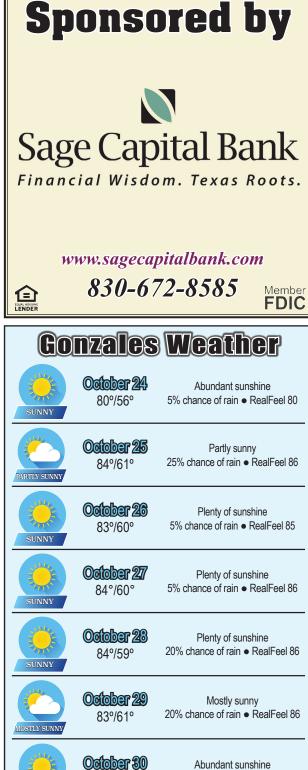
# American Legion to hold benefit plate sale

### **FROM STAFF REPORTS**

The American Legion Post No. 40 will have a benefit plate sale this Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Legion Hall, 1612 Robertson St., Gonzales.

Chicken and sausage will be served with sides at \$13 per plate from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please come out and support the American Legion.

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Weather



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#### f/GonzalesInquirer



Q. I have a Texas red oak that was diagnosed with having a sun scald on the west side of the trunk. Is it worth trying to keep it alive? What will I have to do to treat it?

A. To keep it alive you just need to water it regularly once per month and prevent additional sun scald damage on the trunk by covering the wound area with a burlap cover. It is likely to live but will not grow at the same rate as an uninjured tree.

### Q. What are some shrubs that the deer won't eat?

A. Consider Texas mountain laurel, viburnum, dwarf Chinese holly, standard yaupon holly, dwarf yaupon holly, Texas sage, nandina, poinciana, and primrose jasmine. Spray all new plantings with Liquid Fence once per week for six weeks even if the deer do not usually eat them. Plants directly from the nursery have a diluted chemistry situation and deer are also curious and inclined to taste everything that is newly planted.

Q, Which of the winter vegetables do best in containers in full sun on a patio? I want the plants to be attractive, productive and nutritious.

A, My favorites would include

kale, leaf lettuce and "Bright Lights" Swiss chard, All of them have colorful foliage and grow well in a 5 gallon or larger container fertilized with Osmocote. Parsley, beets, carrots, and onions also meet your demands for color, nutrition, and production. If you use parsley watch out for the black swallowtail butterflies, they lay their eggs on parsley, fennel, and dill, and they eat the foliage fast! Pull the caterpillars off by hand.

Q. My wife and I love primula for winter blooms in the shade but have trouble with slugs and snails eating them. What are our options for protecting them? Are there organic slug and snail baits?

A. There are organic slug and snail baits, and most local nurseries offer at least one organic option. Follow the label instructions. Another thing that works, especially if you are trying to grow the primula in the garden or large diameter containers is to use a beer trap. Sink a plastic cup in the soil every 18 inches, so the top is level with the soil surface and half fill it with an inexpensive beer. The slugs and snails will fill up the containers and reduce the pressure on the primula.

### **GREEN CLOVER 4-H CLUB MEETS**

GONZALESINQUIRER.COM • THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024





The Green Clover 4-H Club met for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 8. They discussed old and new business, celebrated October birthdays, and played a fun cup game. They also welcomed guest speaker Kari Breitschopf, director of the Gonzales County Senior Citizens Association. Ms. Breitschopf spoke to them about their Meals on Wheels program which delivers meals to homebound individuals in need. For their community service project they made 47 layered dry soup mix packets for them with a can of tomatoes to include when cooking soup. Pictured are their group members putting on gloves, measuring ingredients, and counting bags of soup, as well as Ms. Breitschopf accepting the donation. The Green Clover 4-H Club meets every second Tuesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. at the Memorial Heights Baptist Fellowship Hall. They hope to see you next month!

CONTRIBUTED/GREEN CLOVER 4-H



#### GONZALES LIVESTOCK MARKET October 19th, 2024 Cattle – 1349 Compared to our last sale: Number 1 choice calves and

yearlings sold steady to very active market. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer cows and bulls sold steady.

Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 310-450; 300-400 lbs., 260-315; 400-500 lbs., 255-277; 500-600 lbs., 220-265; 600-700 lbs., 210-241; 700-800 lbs., 207-223. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 155-190. Stocker-feeder heifers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 275-375; 300-400 lbs., 230-287; 400-500 lbs., 221-235; 500-600 lbs., 205-237; 600-700 lbs., 197-210. Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 105-118; Cutters, 117-122; Canners, 85-108; High yielding fat cows, 106-118. Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 132-144; Light weights and medium quality bulls. 125-130. Stocker Cows: \$900 to \$1,800. Pairs: \$1,500 to \$2,700. NIXON LIVESTOCK October 21st, 2024 Cattle - 1376 Steers: 200-300 lbs - \$240-320 300-400 lbs - \$219-249 400-500 lbs - \$210-320 500-600 lbs - \$200-238 600-700 lbs - \$197-227 700-800 lbs - \$186-218 Heifers: 200-300 lbs - \$228-275 300-400 lbs - \$186-265

### LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

400-500 lbs - \$203-258 500-600 lbs - \$202-243 600-700 lbs - \$197-240 700-800 lbs - \$196-243 Slaughter Cows - \$96-117 Slaughter Bulls - \$110-141 Stocker Cows - \$1,000-1,950 Pairs: \$1700-2100

HALLETTSVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC. Sale date: October 15th Cattle on hand: 2056 Packer Cows: High Dressing: \$118-130 Medium Dressing: \$112-122 mixed. Heavier weight calves continued steady/strong light weight calves were a little lower due to less grazing demand. Average of all calves sold was #2 lower dry pastures hurting both buyers and sellers. Packer cows and bulls sold steady to \$1 lower on a supply of 175 head.

### SEGUIN CATTLE CO.

October 16TH Stocker cattle 5-7 off with packer cows and bulls remain steady. Wooled Bucks – 1.00-1.75 Lambs – 1.70-2.40 Barb. Bucks –175-360

#### CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET October 18, 2024 Number of Head: 2,029 There were 281 cows and 19 bulls. Packer market on cows and bulls was weaker after last week's rise. Tops on packer bulls were down while tops on cows were the same as a week ago. The calf market showed fluctuation this

week. Lighter weight cattle sold

lower while heavy weights sold

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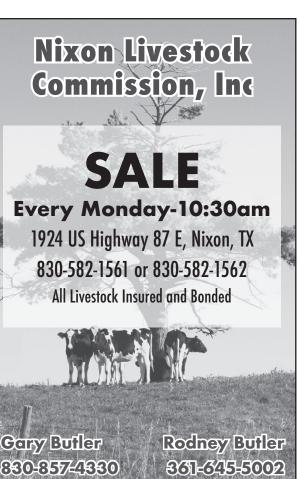
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Low Dressing: \$98-110 Poor/Weak Cows: \$80-95 Packer Bulls: High Dressing: \$152-160 Medium Dressing: \$136-150 Low Dressing: \$120-133 Stocker Cows: Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: \$2000-2300 Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$1300-1875 Good Cow & Calf Pairs: None Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: None Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings: Number 1 steer & bull calves: Under 200 lbs.: \$390-490 200-300 lbs.: \$280-405 300-400 lbs.: \$270-320 400-500 lbs.: \$255-315 500-600 lbs.: \$225-275 600-700 lbs.: \$215-246 700-800 lbs.: \$190-236 Number 1 heifer calves: Under 200 lbs.: \$360-460 200-300 lbs.: \$265-335 300-400 lbs.: \$240-305 400-500 lbs.: \$230-285 500-600 lbs.: \$210-255 600-700 lbs.: \$200-222.50 700-800 lbs.: \$190-221 **Replacement Heifers:** 350-700 lbs.: \$250-327.50 The calf market this week was

Cattle - 592 Sheep & goats - 989 Medium & large frame #1 Steers: 200-300 lb. 1.15-2.22-3.45 300-400 lb. 1.10-2.40-3.15 400-500 lb. 1.15- 2.27-2.61 500-600 lb. 1.05-2.15-2.45 600-700 lb. 115-2.03-2.33 700-850 lb. 1.10-1.89-2.17 Medium & large frame #1 Heifers: 200-300 lb. 1.50-2.47-2.95 300-400 lb. 1.45-2.37-2.80 400-500 lb. .50-2.14-2.40 500-600 lb. 1.82-2.10-2.42 600-750 lb. 1.68-1.97-2.20 Cows: Utility & commercial - .88-1.07-1.18 Cutters - .80-.89-.98 Canners. -.75-.83-.90 Palpated cows - 700-1875 Cow/Calf Pairs - 1950-2250 Bulls: Heavy High Yielding - 1.31-1.49 Light & Low Yielding – 1.05-1.30 Sheep & Goats: Nannies - 45-250 Kid Goats (Fat) - 2.20-3.50 Wethers -1.60-3.50 Billies - 1.20-2.62 Dorp. Ewes - 75-155 Dorp. Lambs (Fat) - 2.00-2.75 Wooled Ewes - 90-120

steady. The dry conditions continue to affect both buyers and sellers. We truly appreciate our sellers and buyers. Packer bulls: 127.00-160.00 Packer cows: canners & cutters 87.00-125.00 poor & weak 41.00-79.00 Palpated: 22 bred \$1250-2,000 PAIRS: None Steer/Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH) Under 200 lbs. 300.00-435.00 200-250 lbs 225.00-400.00 250-299 lbs 262.00-315.00 300-350 lbs. 220.00-300.00 350-400 lbs. 237.00-282.00 400-450 lbs. 233.00-362.00 450-500 lbs. 229.00-280.00 500-550 lbs 230.00-280.00 550-600 lbs. 219.00-276.00 600-700 lbs 206.00-250.00 700-800 lbs 197.00-230.00 (AVG-HIGH) Heifer Calves: Under 250lbs 4 hd 233.00-266.00 200-250 lbs. 250-300 lbs. 246.00-285.00 300-350 lbs. 230.00-272.00 350-400 lbs. 221.00-270.00 400-450 lbs. 218.00-260.00 450-500 lbs. 214.00-250.00 500-550 lbs. 205.00-234.00 550-600 lbs. 203.00-254.00 600-700 lbs 195.00-240.00 Over 700 lbs. 134.00-216.00



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# **OPINION**

# Stop and think before you remove that traffic sign!

### **BY TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Stealing or vandalizing road signs might seem like a harmless prank but it can have serious legal consequences and pose a significant safety risk to the traveling public.

Missing stop signs and other traffic advisory signs mean that a motorist can miss a cue to stop, detour, turn, or slow down on a particularly sharp curve. The removal of these signs can lead to accidents, injuries, and even fatalities.

Traffic signs let the driver know needed information about the specific roadway on which they are traveling. When someone steals or vandalizes one of those signs, safety can be compromised causing major issues for the traveling public.

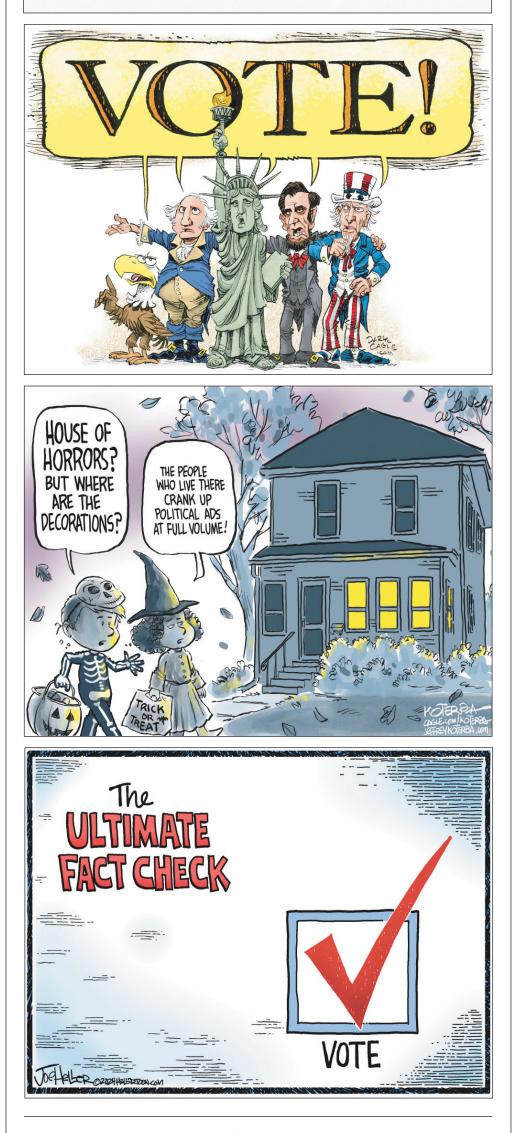
Vandalism of highway traffic signs costs Texas taxpayers millions annually, according to TxDOT officials. If you are caught stealing signs it can cost you both a fine and jail time.

In Texas, damaging, destroying or stealing state property or state traffic control devices including road signs is a Class C misdemeanor if the damage is less than \$100; a Class B misdemeanor if the damage is between \$100 and \$750; a Class A misdemeanor if the damage is between \$750 and \$2500. The Class A crime is punishable by up to \$4,000 in fines and up to 1 year in jail. If the damage is between \$2,500 and \$20,000, the crime is a state jail felony and is punishable by up to \$10,000 in fines and between 180 days and two years in state jail.

Drivers are encouraged to report missing signs so they can be replaced as soon as possible. In the Yoakum District drivers can contact the Public Information Office at 361-293-4436.



The Light at the END of the Hamas TUNNELS





# Intersections of life...

ames of luminaries met at intersections along our pathway keep popping up as corner posts in life's fence row.

They are not remembered as being Republican or Democrat, rural or urban, liberal or conservative. Each, however, has two characteristics in common -- notable public service and unquestioned Christian commitment.

A friend of some half-century, the late Everett J. (Ebb) Grindstaff was known as "Mr. Lion." In 1982, he was elected to the presidency of Lions International, an organization spanning the globe in more than 200 countries with 46.000 clubs and some 1.5 million members. He and his late father were well-known attorneys in Ballinger, TX, for almost a century. Ebb's dad was District Attorney and Ebb later was City Attorney for more than 50 years. Now, the new Texas Lions' Museum in Kerrville is dedicated to his memory.

Ebb challenged his children as they entered high school: "The most important thing your mother and I can give you is a good name. Take good care of it." Ebb died in 2019 at age 88; his widow, Jay, 93, attended the museum dedication, along with other family and friends, mostly roaring Lions....

Coach Grant Teaff led Baylor University from the football wilderness during his 21 years there. A high school sports star in Snyder and college at McMurry University, Teaff has reached age 90. Recently, Snyder Public Schools named its football stadium in his honor. (It was a delight for me to have a two-hour visit with Grant and his wife Donnell in Waco. Their "getalongs" have slowed, but they remain sprightly in spirit and outlook.)

Also this fall, Highland Park changed its stadium name to honor Randy Allen, their coach of 26 years who has won 23 district titles, more than 400 games and four state championships. This year, the former SMU football player won the coveted Tom Landry Award for excellence in high school football coaching.

Highlander Stadium now has three

### Letters to the Editor Policy

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

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

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

- Confusing or unclear points.
- Crude language Poor taste

Disrespectful comments regarding a group's or individual's ethnicity, gender, religion, culture, sexual orientation or race.

Other incendiary language or remarks.

Endorsements for or complaints about individually named commercial products or services.

Poetry

Personal attacks.

'Thank You" letters that go beyond general thanks to the community; attempt to serve as an advertisement for a company, individual or political party; or is submitted in lieu of a paid 'Thank You" advertisement.

During periods ahead of an election, The Inquirer does not accept letters to the editor urging voters to vote for or against candidates in local elections. Endorsements should be displayed in political advertising. In light of this policy, we reserve the right to reject or edit letters for references to candidates and whether or not they should be elected. The Inquirer will accept letters expressing views on bond measures, constitutional amendments and other such issues. Letters will not be accepted once early voting has begun.

The Inquirer will not knowingly publish factually incorrect information.

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

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

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

#### Please send Letters to the Editor:

Email: publisher@gonzalesinguirer.com U.S. Mail: The Inquirer, P.O. Box 616,

Gonzales, Texas, 78629

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

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

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**STAFF WRITER** 

Vandy Van Epps

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additional words--Randy Allen Field. Now 74, he failed at retirement six years ago. After a few months, he "unretired" and was reinstated, pledging to coach until he can't ....

Still another shining star was the late James M. Hamilton, who lost a lengthy and valiant battle with cancer earlier this year. He was 60 years of age, making a strong Christian impact during his life, most of which was spent in education.

I met him in 1986 upon being named president of Howard Payne University. He was Student Body President, taking seriously the confidences with which he was entrusted.

A community leader, he was greatly admired by the masses in his hometown of Weatherford, TX, where his memorial service was held recently ....

The service was unique in several ways. It was held on August 14 on what would have been his 61st birthday. The Weatherford City Council, which he had served as a member, declared it to be "James Hamilton Day." At the reception following the service, strawberry cake--his favorite--was served. Yes, James--like Grindstaff, Teaff and Allen-- deserves "corner post" status.

Still another who sought no recognition, fame or fortune, was the late Cecil Holman, as good a friend and valued mentor as I have ever had, particularly during my student years in college. An African American grocer/undertaker in Brownwood, he was not privileged to attend high school. Yet, he was as wise as any person I've ever known.

It was "Uncle Cecil"--the name his many friends called him--who once offered me this valuable advice: "Mr. Berries (the name he always called me), try to remember that throughout life, you'll face far more 'hallelujahs' than 'doolalujahs." He got this right, as he did virtually everything else.

A tip of the hat to some of my corner posts! Most of us, in various shapes and sizes, are ordinary posts in life's fence rows. Corner posts, however, hold up far more than their share of the load. I salute them...

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president. continues to speak and write. The Idle American, begun in 2003, is one of the nation's longest-running syndicated columns. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@ speakerdoc.com. Website: www.speakerdoc. com.

# **Apaches fail to finish off Panthers, fall 34-23 at home**

### BY LEW K. COHN Inquirer Publisher

The Gonzales Apaches were behind in a 26-23 catfight with the Navarro Panthers through more than three quarters Friday, Oct. 18, and appeared poised to take a lead. The team had the ball with a second and three from the six-yard line when disaster struck.

A mishandled snap exchange was fortunately covered up, but led to a loss of 12 yards. Another five yards for false start placed the ball on the 23-yard line. A pitch from quarterback Tyler Hoffman to running back David Clack III was supposed to turn into a halfback pass, but Clack instead lost four more yards.

The chance to tie the game was placed on the shoulders of kicker Brandon Duenez, who tried to split the uprights from 44 yards out, but ended up wide right, which gave the ball back to the Panthers on downs with 7:46 left in the game. Navarro then drove 73 yards, taking off all but 27 seconds of the remaining time and sticking a fork in any plans Gonzales had of a comeback. To top things off, the Panthers converted a two-point conversion because they could and won, 34-23.

The loss by Gonzales drops the Apaches' overall record to 3-4 and their district mark to 1-2 as they have lost two straight following a three-week winning streak.

"It's a tough one to swallow," head coach Joey Rivera said. "And you know, we'll go back and watch the film. It'll be four or five plays that changed the aftermath of the game. We especially had some plays could have made in the first half."

Gonzales jumped out to the lead to start the game, driving 60 yards for the first points of the game on a Clack three-yard TD run. The PAT by Duenez was good and made it 7-0. Navarro then showed its ability to ground and pound the ball as they slowly bullied their way to the Apache 4. The school scored on its first play of the second quarter and the PAT kick tied it at 7-7.

The Apaches got the ball back and relied on short screen passes from Hoffman to his brother, Brayden Hoffman, and to Clack as well as timely runs by Tyler Hoffman, Clack and Ayden Ramirez, a freshman who would score from two-yard out with 6:51 left in the second. The PAT kick was no good, so it was 13-7 in favor of the Apaches.

The next drive saw Navarro feeding the rock to their big backs, who often got huge chunks of yardage after contact before the Apaches could get them tackled. With 2:36 left in the first half, the Panthers had a 20-yard TD run. The PAT kick was no good, leaving the score at 13-13.

Gonzales would close out the first half with a drive to the Navarro seven-yard line before stalling. With just 15 seconds left in the half, Duenez hit a 24-yard field goal to create the 16-13 advantage the Apaches would take with them into the lockerroom at intermission.

In the third quarter, the two offenses would swap big plays that excited their fan bases.





The Panthers retook the lead with 9:48 remaining in the third quarter after a 65-yard TD run. The PAT was good this time, making the score 20-16. But just a little over two clock minutes later, Gonzales would get a TD pass from Tyler Hoffman to speedy Damion Hunt, who broke some Panther ankles as he turned on the jets and took it in from 49 yards out. The kick made it 23-20 with 7:27 to go in the third quarter.

**SPORTS** 

But like a bad penny or taxes from the IRS, Navarro kept showing up where Gonzales least wanted them to be — the end zone. Navarro would get another three-yard TD run to go ahead 26-23.

Rivera said his team now must focus its sights on what could be a monumental task stopping the Wimberley Texans juggernaut on the road at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25

After starting the season 2-2 with blowout wins over Canyon Lake and Fredericksburg but losing at Austin LBJ and Lampasas, the Texans have been feasting on teams in District 13-4A-2, recording three straight wins over Navarro, Salado and Jarrell.

The Apaches have a 2-1 overall record against the Texans. In 2011, Wimberley won, 40-14, Above: Travis Malveaux III carries the ball around the left end on a reverse that picked up 10 yards and helped move the Apaches down the field on a scoring drive in the second quarter against the Navarro Panthers. Left: The Apache defense brings down a Navarro ballcarrier after just a short gain Friday, Oct. 18.

LEW K. COHN

but Gonzales got the better of them in 1994 (24-8) and 1995 (32-8).

"That (Wimberley) is a tough one to bounce back up on, but hey, we gotta play what's on the schedule," Rivera said. "We'll be ready to go. And that's what I'e been talking to our kids about, getting right back up and getting ready to get better."

Rivera acknowledged his team is not out of the playoff hunt, but must win at least two of the next three to have a shot at playing in the second season.

After Wimberley, the Apaches will face Salado on Senior Night at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, and then will travel to Jarrell for the regular season finale at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8. The Apaches beat Jarrell in 2021 and 2020 in the only two meetings between the schools, while this will be the first time ever the Salado Eagles have faced Gonzales.



### Gonzales cross country competes at regional

### STAFF REPORT

#### the meet; Crkistofer Ramos, Homero Ruiz, Carlos Pedraza and Cain Cardonza finished in

top 25, Yaritza Angel finished in the top 50, and Sophia Castro, Jaelyn Ramos, Khloe Granados finished in the top 100. The Gonzales Cross Country teams will be back in Fall 2025.

VANDY VAN EPPS Lady Apaches freshman Lyndie Blackwell (11) jumps in the air for an offensive play for Gonzales in the district match against San Antonio JFK.

# Lady Apaches playoff bound after JFK win

### **BY VANDY VAN EPPS**

Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Lady Apaches played their final home match of their 2024 volleyball season against the San Antonio JFK Lady Rockets Tuesday, Oct. 22.

The Lady Apaches clinched their third straight playoff appearance since 2022 in the season series sweep of the Lady Rockets (25-21, 25-22, 25-20).

Gonzales rallied in the first and second, trailing more than seven points in the sets; the Lady Apaches kept their composure despite trailing against JFK.

"I feel like we just talked to ourselves. We kept each other up, and we just inspired each other to keep going and not worry about your mess-ups," sophomore outside hitter Alaina Valle said.

"We all had positive mindsets. We were all okay, and we just maybe had a little too much confidence, and they're having too much fun. But then we brought it all together in the third set, and everything was good," junior middle hitter Isabella Ikard said.

Valle and Ikard were part of the playoff team last season together and both are excited to keep the postseason streak alive.

"I'm excited to see how far we could go with this team, and I just wish for the best for everybody," Ikard said.

"I feel like we've been working really, really hard this season, and I feel like all of our practices and everything have gone and it has prepared us for what we need to do in the playoffs," Valle said.

The Lady Apache closes out the regular season on the road against the San Antonio Memorial Minute Women Tuesday, Oct. 29; Gonzales can clinch third place in district for the second year in a row with a win over Memorial.

"We're just going to practice our best during these next few practices and come home with a win," Valle said.

"Just have confidence, believe in the team, believe in everybody, and just work hard, and then we'll win," Ikard said.

The San Antonio Memorial match starts at 6:15 p.m.

The Gonzales cross country teams traveled to the regional meet Monday, Oct. 21 in Corpus Christi, Texas.

The varsity Apaches finished 10th overall out of 22 teams at

the top 100 at the meet.

The varsity Lady Apaches finished 12th place out of 24 teams at the regional meet; Jordyn Gonzales finished in





The Gonzales Lady Apaches varsity cross country team at the regional meet in Corpus Christi Monday, Oct. 21. The Lady Apaches finished 12th overall at the meet.

### RESULTS

#### VARSITY APACHES:

Crkistofer Ramos: 48th – 18:55.37 Homero Ruiz: 51st – 19:05.58 Carlos Pedraza: 59th – 19:15.12 Diego Leon: 89th – 20:05.71 Cain Cardoza: 74th – 19:40.15 Chris Gonzalez:116th – 20:51.13 Alex Martinez: 148th – 22:39.44

#### VARSITY LADY APACHES:

Jordyn Gonzales: 24th – 13:45.57 Yaritza Angel: 42nd – 14:12.88 Sophia Castro: 89th – 15:32.90 Jaelyn Ramos: 91st – 15:38.88 Khloe Granados: 97th – 15:49.12 Viviana Barirentos: 111st – 16:22.62 Kylee Bairrington: 141st – 17:15.90

Apaches junior Ckristofer Ramos ahead of three other cross country runners at the regional meet in Corpus Christi Monday, Oct. 21. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



The Gonzales Apaches varsity cross country team at the regional meet in Corpus Christi Monday, Oct. 21. The Lady Apaches finished 10th overall at the meet.

### **Cuero sweeps season series from Lady Apaches**

### **STAFF REPORT**

The Gonzales Lady Apaches traveled to Cuero to take on the Cuero Lady Gobblers for their last rivalry match of the 2024 volleyball season Friday, Oct. 18.

The Lady Apaches fell to the Lady Gobblers in three sets (9-25, 15-25, 12-25) and were swept for the 2024 volleyball season in their pair of matches.

The Lady Apaches returned home Tuesday, Oct. 22 for the final home match against the San Antonio JFK Rocket, and if the Lady Apaches win their match against JFK, they are in the playoffs for the third consecutive year. Gonzales will go on the road one last time against the San Antonio Memorial Minute Women Tuesday, Oct. 25; and if the Lady Apaches beat Memorial they'll secure third place in the district and will either take on Floresville or Devine in the first round.

The Memorial games start at 6:15 p.m. in San Antonio.



Senior corner back Tristen Mikesh (right) with Mustangs head coach Paul Kirby (left) in San Antonio for the announcement San Antonio Sports All-Star Team. Mikesh is the first Nixon-Smiley football to receive an invitation to the all-star game.

# Mustangs' Tristen **Mikesh** headed to All-Star game

#### **BY VANDY VAN EPPS Gonzales** Inquirer

The San Antonio All-Star Football game is set to return in January and one Nixon-Smiley Mustang made history for the football program.

Senior cornerback Tristen Mikesh received an invitation to the annual all-star game in San Antonio at the Alamodome Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025; Mikesh is the first Nixon-Smiley football to receive an invitation and was happy about receiving such an honor.

"It feels amazing. I'm just going on, putting on for my town, my small town, not many people's been there. So I just want to go out, show out, and show everybody what I can do," Mikesh said.

Mikesh added his heart sang with excitement when his coach made the announcement.

Mustangs head football coach Paul Kirby is no stranger to the game; Kirby played in the all-star game

"It means something very special, especially being that, as a young man, because he is, he does so much right. He does right all the time. He's a great leader. He's a great leader in the classroom. He's a great student, first and foremost, and he's a great football player, and he's somebody that we trust, and I'm so proud of him. Can't tell you enough how big of a deal it is to make that game," Kirby said.

"It's been going on for 45-plus years. The fact it's the first time we got one is a big deal. It's a strenuous process. It's a lot of writing to get those guys nominated. It's a lot of stats you have to go dig deep for. He got picked, and that's a big deal for the community, for the school. For us, him and his family. It's a blessing so I'm excited to see what's going to happen from it," Kirby added.

Mikesh's message to all future Mustangs that are hoping to make the All-Star game in the future: "Show

### Mustangs' defense seals win over Lions

### **BY VANDY VAN EPPS**

Gonzales Inquirer

The Nixon-Smiley Mustangs extended their winning to two games with their 21-19 win over the YMLA Lions at Alamo Stadium Friday, Oct. 18.

The Mustangs got scoring from three different players: Garet Gonzales. Julian Amava and Eric Rodriguez.

"It started off from the line getting their blocks and our backs doing what they do best, and running the ball down their throat," Amaya said.

The Mustangs offensive line helped their running backs get key first downs and kill the clock against YMLA.

"The offensive line did absolutely amazing. I feel like we came off the ball hard. We did our jobs, and even though there were some misplaced, we still won the game," offense linemen Gavino Moreno said.

Running back Joe White said his team's offense stepped up against the Lions and did what they had to do to get the win.

The defense forced multiple turnovers, getting three inter-

#### STATS

#### OFFENSE:

Passing: E. Rodriguez: 2/2 for 39 yards passing Rushing: G. Gonzales: 14 carries for 133 yards and one touchdown J. White: 11 carries for 56 yards. J. Amaya: 11 carries for 50 yards. E. Rodriguez: eight carries for seven yards **Receiving:** T. Mikesh: one reception for 33 yards.

J. White: one reception for five yards. DEFENSE:

#### Tackles:

T. McGlothine: 13 total tackles D. Ramos, R. Paez and K Rhodes: 10 total tackles J. Amaya and John Garza: nine total tackles Jalyun Rodriguez: eight total tackles G. Gonzales: seven total tackles N. Martinez: five total tackles E. Rodriguez and Khali Jantes: four total tackles A. Zamora: three total tackles Mystik Swenson: two total tackles Jaydin Munoz, Henry Benavediz and Noe Hernandez: one total tackle

#### Tackles for a Loss: D. Ramos: two tackles for a loss R. Paez and J. Garza: one tackle for a loss

**OB hurries:** J. Garza: one quarterback hurries Interception: A. Zamora, G. Gonzales and T. Mikesh: one interception



Mustangs freshman running back Joe White (17) runs through Lions defenders at Alamo Stadium Friday, Oct. 18.

ceptions by Gonzales, Adrian Zamora and the game-sealing turnover by Tristen Mikesh and fumble recovery by Nicholas Martinez.

'Coach got on us at halftime. We picked it up. We came together as a team. We ended up pulling it off at the end," Mikesh said.

Mustangs Timothy McGlothine, Daivian Ramos, Ray Paez and Carson Rhodes all recorded double-digit tackles against YMLA.

Mustangs head football coach Paul Kirby was really proud of how the team performed in a tight, close game against the Lions, especially how the defense sealed the win.

"Coach McElroy is my dude. I can't tell you enough how amazing he is each week. He works his butt off harder and harder. He gets these guys ready to go, adjusting. They adjust well and they understand the game a lot better than they ever have, so it's a big deal," Kirby said.

Kirby gave credit to Coach Tony Green and his YMLA coaching staff for playing a hardfought game to the end and said they have a bright future.



"I really expected a dog fight tonight. Offensively, they were definitely holding the ball a lot longer than I expected it; the same with us. I mean, that's one of our staples is to control the clock. So it was dogfight, and it was a fun game. So it was really good to see a true end of the game, watching our defense just hold down and keep them from scoring at the end," Kirby said.

The Mustangs will be taking on a familiar team in the Dilley Wolves; Nixon-Smiley is 9-7 overall against the Wolves since 1997.

"I think we are going to have another tough war of attrition against them. It's probably going to go down the wire, and he's really need to make sure we control the ball, no mistakes. If we can get that perfect game that we're striving for, it's usually unattainable, but the perfect game is what we're working for. We talk about enthusiasm, excitement and execution leads to excellence, and that's something that every week is getting better and better we're excited," Kirby said.

The Dilley game kicks off at Mustang Stadium at 7 p.m.

> Mustangs head football coach Paul Kirby goes over the next play on the sideline with offensive linemen Gavino Moreno (70), Alan Espino (62), Noah Jenks (75) and Cash Davis (75) in the game against YMLA

in 2005 with Roosevelt High School.

up, and if you put your mind to it,, you can do anything."

Fumble recovery: N. Martinez: one fumble recovery

### **GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS**



CONTRIBUTED

The winning team from the Oct. 16 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Sam Morrow, Tanner Walker, Kyle Day, Bill Kessler and Ricky Walker.



CONTRIBUTED

The second-place teams from the Oct. 16 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Ryan Watkins, Gary Schroeder, Tim Cleveland, Spencer Breitschopf, David Hernandez

# Waelder's Lady Wildcats win first district match since 2020

### **STAFF REPORT**

The Waelder Lady Wildcats traveled on the road Friday, Oct. 18 to take on the Prairie Lea Indians.

The Lady Wildcats won their first district match of the season in a three-set sweep of Prairie Lea (25-18, 28-26,

25-23). Waelder snapped a 19-match district losing streak, dating back to the 2020 season; the last time the Ladv Wildcats won a district match was a four-set win over Runge at home on Thursday, Oct. 29, 2020. Waelder sit in third

place in District 28-A: if the Wildcats sweep the series from Prairie Lea, they'll clinch a playoff berth.

The Wildcats will go on the road for their final two road matches against Fayetteville (Tuesday, Oct. 22) and Round Top Carmine (Friday, Oct. 25).

### Lady Mustangs fall to Karnes City for second time in district play

### **STAFF REPORT**

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs traveled to Karnes City for their second district match against the Lady Badgers for the 2024 season Tuesday, Oct. 22.

The Lady Mustangs dropped to 0-8 in district play in the three-set sweep loss to Karnes City (20-25, 24-26, 17-25)

sets in close games; Nixon-Smiley dropped the second set in extra points, 26-24.

The Lady Mustangs have two more matches in the 2024 volleyball season.

Nixon-Smiley will host the Stockdale Lady Brahmas for the final home match Friday, Oct 25 and will close the season on the road against the Goliad Lady Tigers Tuesday, Oct. 29.

The Stockdale match kicks off at 5 p.m. at home.

The Lady Mustangs lost all three

### Lady Mustangs fall to Luling in five sets

### **STAFF REPORT**

The Nixon-Smiley Lady Mustangs traveled to Luling for a district volleyball match against the Lady Eagles Friday, Oct. 18.

The Lady Mustangs fell to the Lady Eagles in

five sets (21-25, 18-25, 25-19, 25-23, 16-18). Nixon-Smiley rallied in sets three and four; and forced the match into five sets.

The Lady Mustangs would lose the fifth set in extra points, 18-16, to the Lady Eagles.

Nixon-Smiley drops to 0-7 in district for its 2024 season.

Nixon-Smiley has two more games left in the season against Stockdale (Friday, Oct. 25) and at Goliad (Tuesday, Oct. 29). The Stockdale game kicks off at 5 p.m.





















### FOLKLÓRICO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for nine weeks from Yvonne M. De La Rosa, executive director for Teatro De Artes De Juan Seguin and artistic director in residency for Gonzales ISD.

"It was incredibly rewarding to see the students' hard work pay off during the performance, especially with such enthusiastic participation from everyone involved," said Brandi Bell, GISD executive director of recruitment, leadership and professional development, who serves as GISD's administrative liaison and program coordinator for the Ballet Folklórico.

"I'm truly grateful for the opportunity to support the program and witness the dedication and effort from all stakeholders. Seeing it all come together was an amazing experience for the students."

"Teatro De Artes De Juan Seguin is proud of have been part of the inaugural Ballet Folklórico Artistic Director in Residency program and looks forward to returning," added Dr. De La Rosa. "This group of dancers puts Gonzales, Texas, on the map for their willingness to engage their youth using the performing arts through Folklórico.

"Right now there is a movement towards making Ballet Folklórico a UIL event and this young group is showing the state how vital this form of dance is in Texas."

The Gonzales ISD Board of Trustees and GISD Superintendent Dr. Elmer Avellaneda initiated the artist in residency program at three campuses — Gonzales Primary Academy, Gonzales Elementary and North Avenue Intermediate — after witnessing what a success it has been at nearby Seguin ISD for nearly 40 years.

The Seguin ISD program was first established in the mid-1980s by Teatro De Artes De Juan Seguin co-founder Vickie De La Rosa, the late mother of Dr. De La Rosa.

Teatro De Artes De Juan Seguin is a 42-year-old non-profit arts organization whose mission is to promote a better understanding of the Mexican American culture and its people through the teaching, study, practice and performance of the arts and humanities.

Dr. De La Rosa knew the enormous impact a Ballet Folklórico program would have on the youth of Gonzales, their families and the community, so she jumped at











### PIONEERS OF GONZALES ISD BALLET FOLKLÓRICO

#### GONZALES PRIMARY ACADEMY

Emma Alamzan Mia Aurora Alamzan Alejandro Diaz Natalia Flores Aurora Gamez Alex Nava Garcia Guillermo Orduna Sophia Vianey Pecina Castillo Angela Pizano Diego Rubio Juan Antonio Romero Morales Jostin Ventura Jonalyn Vera

#### GONZALES ELEMENTARY

D'Laine Acevedo Hannah Briones Rodriguez

**Royalty Cantu** Francisco Diaz III **Olivia Freer** Esmeralda Garcia Maria Garcia Abundiz Natalia Gonzalez Moncada Camila Granados Villegas Lyla Kelly Malillany Manzano Hernandez Abigail Martinez Avery Molina **Jiselle Molina** Manuel Nava Aguilera **Bray'le Nichols** Vida Palomera Samuel Perry David Pineda Villanueva **Dalila Rarnos Cindy Riojas Rylie Trammell** 

#### **NORTH AVENUE A GROUP**

Cesar Abundiz David Araujo Julian Barajas Kaleb Botello Monserrat Camacho **Dominick Cardenas Regina Cardenas** Sophia Davila Petra Fernandez Cielo Garcia Shostan Garcia Abundiz Jonathan Granados Isabella Hernandez Isabella McIntosh Nadia Martinez Aribella Moss Mauricio Nava Antonio Ramos Blandy Reyna Isabella Santos **April Torres** 

#### **NORTH AVENUE B GROUP**

Carolina Avellaneda **Melanie Barnes** Camila Camacho Khloe Camarillo Camila Hernandez Sofia Hernandez Alveiro Jimenez **Evelyn Martinez** Yisel Mondragon Mia Ontiveros Alcides Pecina Leslie Ramos Rafael Tellez **Daniel Vallecillo** Cataleya Washington Marianna Zuniga Shaila Zuniga

the opportunity to start a residency program at Gonzales ISD.

"She knew there was great value in youth participating in a program such as what Gonzales ISD students did," Dr. De La Rosa said of her mother, Vickie. "The artist in residency program showed educators students not only learned how to do footwork and faldeo work, but also learned about the different states and regions in Mexico.

"Also witnessed through this program was seeing the program build self esteem, self awareness, self confidence, along with self and community pride! It also unveiled how it encouraged creativity and innovation. Through this program schools witnessed an increase in school attendance, civic engagement and comprehension in their classes."

On the Apache Field grass Friday, students from the three school campuses "did a phenomenal job of interpreting dances from Veracruz, Jalisco and Sinaloa," Dr. De La Rosa said. GPA students demonstrated "La Raspa," while GE students stepped to "Los Machetes." GNA Group B took on "El Coyote" and GNA Group A made "La Culebra" look easy.

"Their confidence and smiles were all you needed to see on the field to understand the amount of hard work they put in to provide a toe-tapping performance," De La Rosa said. "Their families who filled the stands were beaming with pride and you could feel it all the way into the middle of the Apache football field."

The vestuario, or wardrobe coordinator, for the program was Sulema Silva. Pre-K students from GPA were under the leadership of principal Dr. Ariana Hernandez and instructional aide Elisa Padilla. Second grade students from GE were under the leadership of principal Shannon Leal and instructional aide Martha Espinoza. The fourth grade — which had the largest number of participants was broken down into two groups with both under leadership of principal Tamela Baker and instructional aide Mindy Castillo.

# LASSIFIEDS

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|--|--|
| PARKEW<br>DARKEW<br>DARKEW<br>HIA West<br>Nixon, TX<br>OFFICE HOURS: Tuesd<br>Thursdays – 9:00a<br>HONE: 830-6<br>ABR Apartment<br>Rates Based o<br>Rental Assistance For Qualifi<br>Jow, and moderate in<br>CENTRAL HE<br>ENERGY EFI<br>LAUNDRY<br>WATER, SEWER & C<br>HANDICAP ACCES<br>Individuals with a disability wishing to ret<br>to complete the application are assisted<br>HANDICAP ACCES<br>Individuals with a disability wishing to ret<br>to complete the application are assisted<br>CARTER, SEWER & C<br>HANDICAP ACCES<br>Individuals with a disability wishing to ret<br>to complete the application are assisted<br>assisted are assisted are assisted are assisted<br>assisted are assisted are assisted are assisted<br>assisted are assisted are assisted are assisted<br>anaager al siguienter wo | IDTH<br>TRANS<br>TOTH<br>TRANS<br>TOTH<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS<br>TRANS |
| 850<br>HELP WANTED   | 850<br>HELP WANTED   |
| CARECO<br>In a bind? FEMA ma<br>you, but we will. RN (<br>and wife available to p<br>companionship and<br>ranch in exchange f  | y not be there for<br>30 yrs experience)<br>provide assistance,<br>security on your  |



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### CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

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

### ERRORS

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

### CALL TODAY 830-672-2861

| 0 670<br>NTS FOR APARTMENTS<br>& LEASE RENT OR LEA  | HELP WANTED  | 850<br>HELP WANTED   | 950<br>Public Notices  | 950<br>Public Notices   | 950<br>Public Notices   | 950<br>Public Notices                       |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| PARKWOOD<br>APARTMENTS<br>114 West 10th<br>Nixon, TX 78140<br>CE HOURS: Tuesdays, Wednesdays &<br>Thursdays – 9:00am to 3:00pm<br>PHONE: 830-582-1343<br>3BR Apartments Available<br>Rates Based on Income<br>stance For Qualified Families of very-<br>and moderate income applicants.<br>CENTRAL HEAT & AIR<br>ENERGY EFFICIENT<br>LAUNDRY ROOM                       | CAL-MAINE<br>FOODS INC.,<br>Happy Hen loca-<br>tion is looking for<br>a Farm Super-<br>visor. Benefits<br>include: Vaca-<br>tion, Sick Leave,<br>Health Ins.,<br>Dental, Vison,<br>401K, ESOP. For<br>more informa-<br>tion please call: | FOODS INC. is<br>hiring for Plant<br>Palletizers &<br>Cleanup posi-<br>tions. Benefits<br>include: Vacation,<br>Sick Leave, Hosp.<br>Ins., Dental, Vi-<br>sion, 401K, ESOP.<br>Apply in person.<br>Cal-Maine Foods | THE STATE OF T<br>Pat Mosher<br>PLAINTIFF<br>V.<br>Kenneth Vester M<br>DEFENDANT   | \$<br>\$<br>\$<br>10sher, III \$<br>\$<br>\$  | No. 28,790<br>IN THE DIST<br>25TH JUDICI<br>GONZALES (                            | RICT COURT<br>IAL DISTRICT<br>COUNTY, TEXAS |
| ATER, SEWER & GARBAGE PAID<br>HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE UNITS<br>a disability wishing to request a reasonable accommos<br>application process should contact the apartment man<br>art 830-582-1333.   | (830)540-4488<br>or send your re-<br>sume to alopez@   | 431 Waelder, TX<br>78959. Mon-Fri  | TO SECTIO  | ETERMINATION OF<br>DN 23A.006 AND NO<br>O SECTION 23A.007   | TICE OF COTENAN   | T BUYOUT                                    |
| at 830-84-1943.<br>apartamento favor llamar a manager al siguiente nur<br>tra solicitor una adaptacion o modificacion razonable,<br>ar manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343.<br>hablan espanol y requieren un interprete, favor llama<br>ananger al siguiente numero 830-582-1343.<br>ution is an equal opportunity provider and <del>em</del> ployer. <sup>2</sup> | favor<br>GENERAL FARM<br>LABOR. Benefits   | 4684.  | market value of T<br>\$15,990.00, in acc   | EN TO THE PARTIES<br>TRACT 1 is \$163,500.0<br>ordance with Section 2<br>THER GIVEN TO TH   | 00, TRACT 2 is \$40,1<br>23A.006.   | 30.00, TRACT 3 is                           |
| 0 850<br>ANTED HELP WANT  | ED Ins., Dental, Vi-<br>sion, 401K, ESOP.<br>Apply in person:<br>Cal-Maine Foods<br>Inc., 1680 CR  | WORK!<br>CALL TODAY!   | cotenants, except<br>interest of the co<br>Section 23A.007 c<br>Attorney for Plain | a cotenant that reco<br>otenants that requeste<br>of the Texas Property C<br>tiff   | uested partition by<br>ed partition by sale in                                    | sale, may buy all                           |
| ? FEMA may not be there<br>we will. RN (30 yrs experier<br>available to provide assistant<br>onship and security on y<br>exchange for grazing for<br>pairs. Our references<br>. Call or email me. Let's sha<br>ffee, tell me your concerns  | are re a Part-time ITV/  |  | Christie Ortman I<br>403 St. George<br>Gonzales, Texas 7<br>830-672-9535           | 8629<br>Clerk of th<br>Janice Sut<br>414 St. Jos<br>Gonzales  |   |   |
| VICTORIA<br>VICTORIA<br>Est. 1925   | com<br>Gonzales Ce<br>information ar<br>www.victoriacol<br>on Jobs@VC. Vic<br>Equal Opport   | enter. For more<br>nd to apply go to<br>llege.edu and click<br>ctoria College is an<br>unity Institution.  | Bluebonnet Trails<br>Retardation Cent<br>Services (BTCS) i<br>of purchased no      | <b>UBLIC NOTIO</b><br>Community Mental I<br>er d/b/a Bluebonnet '<br>is requesting proposals<br>on-emergent schedule<br>duals with intellectual | Health and Mental<br>Trails Community<br>s for the provision<br>ed transportation | YOUR<br>News.                               |



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ryvillagesquare@vo www.voatx.org

ੰ

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.





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

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





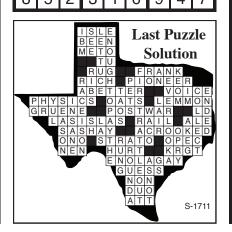
The Division of Allied Health is hiring part-time Adjunct Instructors for the for the clinical setting of the ADN and VN Nursing Programs. Adjunct Instructors are needed at our Victoria campus as well as in the Gonzales, Cuero, and Hallettsville locations. For more information and to apply go to www.victoriacollege.edu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

Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.



Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer's Off-Premise Permit (BQ) by 315 Gonzales Foodmart LLC dba Cool Corner Shop, to be located at 315 E Sarah Dewitt Dr, GONZALES, **GONZALES** COUNTY, TEXAS 78629. Officer of said Corporation is FIROZ NARSIDANI MANAGER.

#### **October 17 Puzzle Answers** 6 7 3 8 5 2 1 9 4 4 7 3 2 9 8 5 6 1 5 3 1 9 4 6 7 2 8 9 2 6 1 4 8 3 7 5 2 6 3 5 4 7 1 8 9 6 8 7 5 2 1 9 4 3 7 2 5 6 1 9 8 4 3 3 2 6 5 7 1 8 4 9 8 5 2 3 1 6 9 4 7



disabilities and mental health consumers residing Williamson, Bastrop, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Lee, Guadalupe, and Gonzales counties.

Proposals are due on December 6th by 3:00pm CT and need to be submitted electronically to Contracts@bbtrails.org. Please see our website for all RFP information https://bbtrails.org/contracting-2/.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

WEST MOTORS VSF # 0547154 1701 E. SARAH DEWITT DR. GONZALES, TX 78629 830-672-7323 westmotors.com

KIA OPTIMA (BURNT) No vin or license plate on car. DATE OF IMPOUND: 9/20/2024 @ 5:00AM PICKED UP ON FM 532 AUTHORIZED BY GONZALES COUNTY SHERIFF DEPT. **TOW TOTAL \$578.00** NOTIFICATION \$50.00 STORAGE \$22.00 (PLUS TAX) BEGINNING ON 09/20/24

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Karen Jean Niedorf, Deceased, were issued on September 18, 2024, Docket No. AD24-0339, pending in the County Court of Gonzales County, Texas, to Randy B. Niedorf.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:

Randy B. Niedorf, Independent Administrator of the Estate of Karen Jean Niedorf, Deceased c/o The Voeller Law Firm 19311 FM 2252 San Antonio, Texas 78266

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

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# **ARE YOU ADVERTISING?**

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# LASSIFIEDS



Advertising You Can Use



# Loneliness is for the Lonely

Howdy folks, I hope this last week's been a good one, and that this coming will be even better. As for me? Well, I'm gearing up for halloween and breaking out my old man costume. Whoops, never mind, already wearing it ...

Today is part two of my thoughts on "The things they don't tell you about living alone as an older person" Youtube video. The first point brought up was that now we are our own safety nets. While we still may have family and friends that can help out from time to time, they may not always be available when needed. As a result, we need to do what we can to have a plan B, and get our ducks in a row like never before. Having a list of contacts, and keeping our phone charged and handy is a good first step. Many choose to use a "Life Alert" system or something similar, just in case. You know the commercial: "Help, I've fallen and can't get up!" Or in my case: help, my hair has fallen out and won't grow back. Yep (at least in my mind), vanity crises can count as emotional emergencies also. I guess my batteries were dead, as no one responded to my plea for help. Time for plan B, my oversized afro wig. Aah, much better...sexiness has been restored!

Being realistic about our abili-



ties and limitations is also very important because, as many of us may have realized by now, as we age our strength, recovery abilities, and general mobility gradually decrease. What was easy ten or twenty years ago may be quite a bit harder now, or may not even be possible. A hard pill to swallow, for sure. I've spent much of this past year high on ladders, doing home repairs and repainting, and I can can assure you that these days, I am extremely mindful of every step I take, and every hand and foot position. Realizing that even though I still exercise and watch what I eat (most of the time), things just aren't the same as they used to be. Can't say I'm thrilled about it, but "It is, what it is", as they say. That's why I decided to tackle this project now, while I'm still able. There's no telling what tomorrow may bring, I might just be sitting in a corner wearing my old man clown costume and flicking my finger over my lips making weird noises. Well honestly. I already do at the end of a hard days work, and find it strangely kind of soothing?

Next on the list was something we've probably all experienced at one time or another, and that's loneliness. We can even feel this way while being surrounded by other people: a sense of being disconnected, isolated, or not feeling like we fit in. But while living alone, this literally means that you are without company or companionship. Growing up in a dysfunctional family and moving around a lot, I've been conditioned to being alone, and do well with it. However, it does occasionally dawn on me that the majority of my time these days is spent alone, still trying to figure out how I got here. But I'm ok with it as I have plenty of projects in the works, keeping me plenty busy. Keeping meaningfully busy is a great deterrent against feeling lonely, for most. On one hand, you'll get to know yourself better, building more confidence as you go. Of course visiting family and friends, along with social activities like church, attending sporting events or movies, joining exercise groups, or the occasional, but ever popular, river dance lesson can help dramatically. But actually we're never really alone as Deuteronomy 31:6 reminds us, "Do not fear, he (God) will not leave or forsake vou."

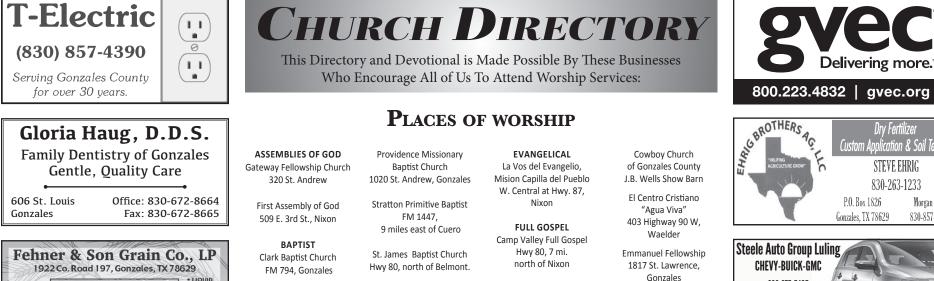
Stay tuned, more to come. Love you guys, Eric.

**INCOMING OFFICERS** 



From left to right The Sesame Study Club Officers 2024-2025 Lisa Trolinder Press Secretary Diana Foegelle Corresponding Secretary Lynn Gescheidle Parliamentarian-Critic Kimberly Strozier Vice President Celia Glass Recording Secretary Melinda Grady President Linda Arledge Treasurer Absent from photo Laura Kaspar Historian







Scott Dierlam, Agent 1212 E Sarah Dewitt Dr Gonzales, TX 78629 Bus: 830-672-9661 scott.dierlam.rhcp@statefarm.com State Farm® Providing Insurance and Financial Services • Home Office, Bloomington, IL 61710

St. Paul Baptist Church SE 2nd Street, Waelder

Shiner Baptist Church

Union Lea Baptist Church St. Andrew St., Gonzales

Union Valley Baptist Church FM 1681, NW of Nixon

CATHOLIC

St. James Catholic Church

417 N. College, Gonzales

Full Gospel Church 1426 Fisher, Gonzales

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

LUTHERAN First Evangelical Lutheran

Encouraging Word Christian Fellowship Highway 80, Leesville

Lighthouse Church of Our Lord 1805 Weimar, Gonzales

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



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Country Baptist Church

Highway 87, Smiley

Eastside Baptist Church

Seydler Street, Gonzales

Efeso Iglesia Bautista

Highway 87, Smiley

Elm Grove Baptist Church

First Baptist Church

Highway 108 N., Smiley

First Baptist Church

406 N. Avenue E, Waelder

**Greater Palestine** 

Baptist Church

S. of 90A (sign on Hwy 80)

Greater Rising Star

**Baptist Church** 

Harwood Baptist Church

North of Post Office,

Harwood

Iglesia Bautista Macedonia

201 S. Congress, Nixon

Iglesia Bautista Memorial

Highway 97, Waelder

Leesville Baptist Church

E. of Highway 80

on CR 121

Memorial Heights

**Baptist Church** 

1330 N. College, Gonzales

Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church

100 Capes, Gonzales

Oak Valley Baptist Church

Highway 97, Bebe

Old Moulton

Baptist Church

1121 N. College, Gonzales

First Baptist Church 422 St. Paul, Gonzales

Sacred Heart Catholic Church **First Baptist Church** St. John St., Gonzales 403 N. Texas. Nixon

> St. Joseph Catholic Church 207 S. Washington, Nixon

St. Patrick Catholic Church Waelder

St. Phillip Catholic Church Highway 87, Smiley

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

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

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

Church of Christ E. 3rd & Texas, Nixon

Church of Christ, Belmont

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

**Gonzales Memorial** Church of God in Christ 1113 Hastings, Gonzales

New Beginnings 1020 St. Louis, Gonzales

Episcopal Episcopal Church of the Messiah 721 S. Louis, Gonzales 1206 St. Joseph, Gonzales

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

METHODIST Belmont Methodist Highway 90A, Belmont

Dewville United Methodist West of FM 1117 on CR 121

> First Methodist 426 St. Paul, Gonzales

First United Methodist 410 N. Franklin, Nixon

Flatonia United Methodist Harris Chapel

> United Methodist S. Liberty St., Nixon

Harwood Methodist Church Harwood

Henson Chapel United Methodist 1113 St. Andrew, Gonzales

Monthalia Methodist CR 112 off Highway 97

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

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

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

613 St. Joseph, Gonzales

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

Hallettsville

672-8676

River of Life **Christian Fellowship** 207 Steele St., Smiley

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

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

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

Living Waters Fellowship 306 St. Paul. Gonzales

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

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

Iglesia Pentecostes Filadelfia 893 S. Magnolia Ave., Luling

Temple Bethel Pentecostal 1104 S. Paul, Gonzales

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

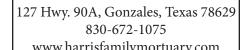
PRESBYTERIAN Pilgrim Presbyterian Church CR 210 off FM 1116

Presbyterian Church of Gonzales 414 St. Louis, Gonzales Cheapside Presbyterian

Church, Cuero

**Guadalupe Valley Veterinary Clinic** 

2004 Church St. · Gonzales, TX 78629







TO UPDATE OR CHANGE A CHURCH LISTING, CALL THE GONZALES INQUIRER AT 830-672-2861



### **OBITUARIES**

Anton Frank "Tony"

Lesak, Jr. was born on

September 24, 1932, in

on October 20, 2024, in

Gonzales, Texas and died

Gonzales at the age of 92.

County and one day while

he saw an aircraft fly over,

He grew up in Gonzales

attending Cost Schools,

it was at this time Tony

decided he was going to

work on aircrafts when

he grew up. In January of

1953, Tony joined the U.S.

Air Force, during his time

in the service, he received

Power Plant License. The

Air Force also presented

Anton with the opportu-

nity to earn his GED, an

accomplishment he was

Tony married the love

of his life Hattie Kuntschik

Hobizal in 1964. He took

on the role of becom-

ing a father and helped

raise his 4 stepchildren.

Together, Tony and Hattie

shared almost 39 years of

He served in the Korean

marriage before Hattie's

War as an Aircraft Me-

in South Korea during

his two terms of active

in the Reserves, he had

a total of 38 years in the

U.S. Air Force. He was also

Libya, Japan, Italy, Greece,

After his travels abroad,

he joined the Air Force Re-

serves based at Kelly Field

with 433rd Wing. He also

worked in Civil Service

as an aircraft mechanic

repairing many types of

C-119 and F-86 aircrafts

before his retirement.

aircrafts including C-130,

Tony's first job was in

Gonzales at the local Pig-

gly Wiggly. After his time

in the service he worked

at the Coca-Cola plant,

waters and also deliver-

ing to every store/busi-

He then worked at the

Goodyear service store

delivering appliances in

Gonzales for a short while

ness in Gonzales County.

bottling various soda

at Kelly Air Force Base

Turkey, Lebanon, Alaska,

Wyoming, San Antonio

and Miami.

stationed in Africa, Syria,

chanic, he was stationed

duty. Along with his time

passing in 2003.

very proud of.

a lifetime Aircraft and

Salem — Scott Fielding Goodwin, 62, passed away peacefully on October 13, 2024, in Salem, Oregon, after a life filled with laughter and love. Born on October 23, 1961, in Chula Vista, California. Scott spent his childhood in Gonzales, Texas, where his passion for sports first took root. His love for the game con-tinued throughout his life, with a special allegiance to the Dallas Cowboys-a team he cheered for with unwavering devotion.

Scott's journey led him across the major cities of Texas, as well as San Diego, Lake Tahoe, Spokane, and Riverside, before he found his way to McKinney, Texas, where he had lived in recent years. His career spanned two major industries: first in restaurant and bar management, and later in water sales. Regardless of his profession or location, Scott had a natural gift for making friends. He could connect with anyone, anywhere-whether he was in a city for two weeks or ten years-and was truly exceptional at maintaining those friendships across time and distance.

In 1993, while living in Lake Tahoe, Scott met Sta-

### SCOTT GOODWIN



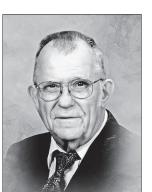
cey and her four-year-old daughter, Nikayla "Countree," and it wasn't long before he fell in love with them both. Scott and Stacey married in 1995, and in 1996, they welcomed Baylee, who became affectionately known by her father as "glasses, boxin, crab dancin, sick, burpin, pain in the butt" Goodwin. Nicknames were Scott's way of showing love, and deciphering the contacts in his phone has brought many smiles and laughs to his family.

Scott's greatest pride was his family. He was a devoted husband to Stacey for nearly 30 years, except for those years they were "on a break." He was a loving father to Nikayla and Baylee, a cherished brother to Lisa, a caring son-in-law to Grams, and a dear friend to countless others. Scott will be remembered for his gigantic heart, infectious sense of humor, and his ability to find joy in life's simplest moments. He was preceded in death by his parents, Dexter and Ruth, and stepmother Helen.

Please join his family in A Celebration of Life, that will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2024, at 1:00 PM at Rockfish Bar and Grill in McKinney, Texas, where loved ones will gather to honor Scott's memory and share stories of his remarkable life. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the family via Venmo (Venmo handle: @Stacey-Goodwin-2). The funds will help support Nikayla and Baylee who are missing work during this time, allow them to throw Scott one unforgettable going-away party, and benefit the **Gonzales High School** Boosters, a cause Scott deeply cared about.

Scott's legacy of love, kindness, and generosity will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. His laughter, warmth, and larger-than-life spirit will be deeply missed, but never forgotten.

### ANTON FRANK "TONY" LESAK JR.



drove Rural Route 17, and also assisted with driving the special needs and handicapped children, a job that really warmed his heart and attributed to his many involvements with the community of Gonzales.

He was actively involved with the VFW post where he participated in many fundraising events, barbeque cookoffs, and also drove fellow veterans to their VA doctor appointments. He was a lifetime member of the local American Legion. He was also a member of the Czech Heritage Society of Gonzales County and he also managed the local SPJST organization (Sovanska Podporujici Jednota Statu of Texas). He was a member of Saint James Catholic Church and Knights of Columbus in Gonzales, where he served as a life member of Council #3090. Tony faithfully attended the annual Veterans Day Celebrations, even in 2023 at the age of 91, he took pride in wearing his Air Force cap with all of its medals and pins.

Tony loved to play dominos and drink a few longnecks at local establishments. He could speak and understand English, Tex-Mex, and some Japanese. He was fluent in Czech, and he spoke Czech as often as possible. He was also very independent and took great care of himself at home with many caregivers helping out, up until he was 92. Tony also had a great appreciation for his family, he enjoyed family time, and really loved talking with his greatgreat-grandkids. Anton Frank "Tony" Lesak, Jr. is preceded in death by his parents Anton and Angelina Lesak, his beloved wife Hattie Kuntschik Hobizal Lesak, two stepchildren LaVerne

Hobizal Wagner and Judy Hobizal Weston with her husband Clint Weston, brother Albin Lesak and sister Julie Lesak, step grandchildren Shonda Wagner, Tanya Zella and Kreg Llewellyn.

He is survived by his stepchildren Margaret Hobizal Zella and James Hobizal, his seven step grandchildren Dwaine Wagner, Debbie Remschel (Todd), Sharon Nelson (Tim), Jill Philbrick (Michael), Krista Llewellyn, Kimberly Deming (Justin) and Randy Zella. His thirteen step great-grandchildren Samantha Pollard (Jesse) Gabriel Nelson (Megan), Alex Dickinson (Alfa), Lance Remschel (Corie), Garrett Remschel (Tracie), Haley Nelson, Josef Nelson, Mason Philbrick (Samantha), Dillon Zella, Hunter Zella, Payton Deming, Spencer Deming, and Liam Deming. His eleven great-great grandchildren Destiny Gordon, Serenity Gordon, Liana Dickinson, Darren Dickinson, Laci Joe Remschel, Cooper Remschel, Millie Remschel, Olivia Remschel, Brecken Remschel, Royce Marie Nelson and Sutton Hattie Remschel.

A visitation will be held at St. James Catholic Church on Saturday, October 26, 2024, from 9:00am to 9:30am, a holy rosary will be recited at 9:30am. A mass of the resurrection will begin at 10:00am. Interment will follow at St. James Catholic Cemetery.

Pallbearers will include his step great-grandsons Lance Remschel, Garrett Remschel, Josef Nelson, and Hunter Zella. Honorary pallbearers will include Mason Philbrick in the U.S. Army, Dillon Zella, Alex Dickinson in the U.S. Air Force, Payton Deming, Spencer Deming, Liam Deming and Gabriel Nelson.

In Lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. James Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, American Legion of Gonzales, and the VFW Post of Gonzales. Friends and family may leave their condolences online by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com All services are under the care and direction of Seydler – Hill Funeral Home of Gonzales, Texas.

### JEANNINE MARGARET HOOPINGARNER

Jeannine Hoopingarner, 88, of Temple, Texas died Monday, October 14, 2024. She was born June 4, 1936 to Otto and Olga Kuntshik the oldest of four children. She graduated from Gonzales High School in 1954. She married Albert Dwight (Sonny) Hoopingarner October 4, 1954.

In 1963 Jackie DuBose invited her to join Beta Sigma Phi. She moved to Temple in 1994 and then joined there in 1995. She served as President in each chapter throughout the years. Last serving as President in 2017. Had perfect attendance many years and received Woman of the Year more



the 5th president and Received the first pilot of the year award for her work on restoring Riverside Community Center and getting it ready for meetings and public use. When she and dad left Gonzales in 1994, she left Pilot club as they did not have a club in Temple. Over the years Jeannine was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother and homemaker. She was a business owner of Fashion Fabrics in Gonzales, she loved

traveling and making new friends.

She is survived by her children Donis Jackson (Bill), Robert Hoopingarner, Sunny Lee Fritsche (Ken).

Grandchildren: Kimberlea, Elissa and Blaine, Kristi and Jacob.

Great GrandChildren: Brolan, Kimber and Kamdyn, Bridgette, Addison and Kaliah and Tatum.

Sisters: Chris Cartwright and Carol Sweeney (Ken)

She also leaves behind a special loved one Lana Lindeman and her nephews Alan and Aaron Kuntscik and her much loved dog, Bear.

She is proceeded in death by her parents,

than once. She cherished the friendships of each sorority sister in both Gonzales and Temple.

She joined the Pîlot Club of Gonzales- Was a charter member beginning in 1973. Served as husband and 2 grand daughters Gabby and Lauren Hoopingarner, her brother Henry Kuntshik (Verlene), brother in law Donald Cartwright and nephew Ken Sweeney II and niece Shari Anderson. before his employment with Gonzales ISD. While working for the school district, he drove buses for various events: football games, basketball games, drama, band, UIL competitions and field trips. He



### VC receives grant to expand mental health services

### SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Victoria College has been awarded a \$294,254 grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to increase student awareness and access to mental health services.

Through the GLS Campus Suicide Prevention Grant, VC's Counseling Center projects to serve approximately 570 students between September 2024 and September 2027.

"Mental health is not talked about enough, and we're trying to change that," said Brittany Proctor, VC Counselor. "With this grant, we'll be able to provide an outlet for students who need counseling but have been made to feel or believe otherwise."

The grant, which supports 100 percent of project costs, will enable VC's Counseling Center to:

• Increase awareness and access of mental health services among students

• Increase the Counseling Center's capacity to positively impact the academic goals of students facing mental health challenges

Grant activities will include implementing a new Emotional Intelligence Curriculum for incoming students, increased outreach to male students, new mental health workshop and seminar topics, and training for VC employees.

"Providing our students with the tools to cope with any and all emotions they're experiencing, no matter the size, is what we're here for and one of our main initiatives in the Counseling Center," said Proctor. "There should be no stigma around simply asking for help."

For more information about VC's Counseling Center, visit VictoriaCollege.edu/CounselingServices or contact Proctor at (361) 582-2431.

### **Gonzales Healthcare Systems**

October 2024

| Monday                                      |    | Tuesday                                  |    | Wednesday                                  |    | Thursday                               |    | Friday                         |    |
|---|----|--|----|--|----|--|----|--------------------------------|----|
|   |    | Dr. Echols                               | 1  | Dr. Quebedeaux<br>Dr. Miller               | 2  | Dr. Ryan<br>Dr. Echols                 | 3  |                                | 4  |
| Austin MFM                                  | 7  | Dr. Echols<br>Dr. Quintero<br>Austin MFM | 8  | Dr. Quebedeaux<br>Austin MFM               | 9  | Dr. Ryan<br>Dr. Echols                 | 10 | <b>Amy Trost</b><br>Dr. Miller | 11 |
| <b>Austin MFM</b><br>Dr. Malik<br>Dr. Desai | 14 | Dr. Echols<br>Austin MFM                 | 15 | Dr. Quebedeaux<br>Dr. Miller<br>Austin MFM | 16 | Dr. Ryan<br>Dr. Echols<br>Dr. Malik    | 17 | Dr. Bui                        | 18 |
| Austin MFM                                  | 21 | Dr. Echols<br>Austin MFM                 | 22 | Dr. Quebedeaux<br>Austin MFM               | 23 | Dr. Ryan<br>Dr. Kirchner<br>Dr. Echols | 24 |                                | 25 |
| Austin MFM                                  | 28 | Dr. Echols<br>Austin MFM                 | 29 | Dr. Quebedeaux<br>Austin MFM               | 30 | Dr. Ryan<br>Dr. Echols                 | 31 |                                |    |

#### Located at THRIVE Healthplex

Orthopedics Gloria Box, MD 830-672-8497 Surgery Kathleen Koerner, DO, FACOS 830-672-8497



CardiologyDermatologyWilliam Craig, MDAlpesh Desai, DO830-672-3845713-864-2659

Specialty Physician Outpatient Clinic y Pain Management

**Audiology** Amy Trost Hearing Specialist 830-372-2237

**Chiropractic** Jeff Echols, DC 512-799-6811

**Dermatology** Vicente Quintero, MD 830-626-5551

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Nephrology
Azhar M. Malik, MD
361-576-0011
Yong Du, MD
361-576-0011
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**Obstetrics** Alyson Kirchner, MD, OBGYN 830-379-1500 830-272-7746 Urology

Eric Miller. MD

Robert Ryan, III, MD 830-379-8491

**Ophthalmology** Joseph Kavanagh, MD 830-379-3937

Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine 512-821-2540

**Podiatry** Terri Quebedeaux, DPM, PA 830-303-0005

### **OBITUARIES**

### **GLEN WINEGEART**

Tyler - Glen Avery Winegeart went to be with his Lord and Savior on Saturday, October 12, 2024. Glen was born on August 29, 1955, in Gonazales, Texas to Vearl and Glenna Winegeart. He was also welcomed by proud grandparents, Sion and Ethel Winegeart and Emmitt and Sallie Mills. Nearly four years later, Glen became a proud big brother to his sister, Phyllis.

Glen was happily involved in several school and community activities including theater, government, and football, graduating high school in 1973 on scholarship.

Glen chose to pursue the College of Pharmacy at UT Austin and was consistently named on the honor roll.

Glen married the love of his life, Ellen, on July 11, 1981, in Dallas, Texas. Glen, a pharmacist, and Ellen, a kindergarten teacher, began building their life and tight knit community together in Arlington. They welcomed the first son, Bryan in 1984 and Blake in 1987.

In the summer of 2000, Glen and the crew moved to Tyler, quickly building their community through Green Acres Baptist Church. Glen worked as a pharmacist for Good's Pharmacy and later for Brookshire's. He was respected for his sharp mind and knowledge of medicine but more than that, he was revered for his intentional care for people, including those working alongside him.

When not at work, Glen was often found joining his sons in whatever sports they were interested in or embarking on outdoor adventures together, doing yard work, and accompanying his wife, Ellen, to youth and college ministry events, trips, and service projects. They served in the church student area with folks who became their dearest friends-John Taff, Nat and Scarlett Hughes,



and Velvet "V" Potter. In 2011 and 2015, Jenna and Jenn joined the family as daughters-in-law, and in 2014, Glen and Ellen became grandparents, a title they both treasured immensely. They now have five grandchildren: Collins Piper, 10, Emma James, 8, Jude Grey, 7, Lincoln

Avery 6, and Landry Elizabeth, 2. In the last three and a half years of Glen's life, he and Ellen were largely supported by several amazing doctors, nurses, and caregivers, along with everyone at Kourage Health. We cannot thank you enough for your constant support.

Glen is survived by his wife, Ellen, his mother, Glenna, his sister, Phyllis and her husband, Mike Blackwell, Glen and Ellen's sons, Bryan and Blake, along with their wives, Jenn and Jenna, and their five grandchildren. He is deeply missed by us all, while we also celebrate his wholeness in heaven. Thank you, Jesus. You are always good.

Memorial services will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Green Acres Baptist Church Chapel in Tyler with Don Allensworth officiating. A coffee reception will follow the service. Arrangements by Stewart Family Funeral Home, Tyler.

In lieu of flowers, the Winegeart family asks for donations to be given in memory of Glen Winegeart to Kourage Health, P.O. Box 8257, Tyler, TX 75711 (Kouragehealth. org).

Comforted by family and surrounded in God's love, William Thomas (Bill) DeBerry II passed in peace on October 15, 2024, at the age of 90. Bill was born in Gonzales, Texas on August 26, 1934, to William Thomas (W.T.) and Lois DeBerry and was the second of 4 children. He was preceded in death by his "Love", wife Barbara Ann (Turek) DeBerry, parents, brother David Wayne DeBerry, and father and mother-in-law Otto and Bessie Turek.

He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Cindy and Tim Hubert and his son and daughterin-law, Tom and Cindy DeBerry. He was a devoted and fun "Bull" to his precious grandchildren Kyle DeBerry, Cole and Courtney DeBerry, and Alexandria (DeBerry) and Tyler Beede; and his greatgrandsons, Dawson Ryder DeBerry and Beaux Diesel Beede. He was a good and, sometimes mischievous, brother to sisters, Dorothy (DeBerry) and Billy Yager and Shirley (DeBerry) and H.D. McCarty, and sisterin-law, Judy DeBerry. He was always "DeBerry" to his brothers-in-law, Michael and Karen Turek, and Billy and Patty Turek. And he was "Uncle Bill" to so many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and greatnephews that loved being with him on family occasions.

### WILLIAM THOMAS "BILL" DEBERRY II

unparalleled; whenever

he was missing, Barbara

knew he could be found in

the pasture, either feeding

them or simply enjoying

His home was a wel-

coming haven for fam-

ily and friends. For the

grandkids, time spent

with "Bull" was filled with

precious memories: fish-

ing and hunting with Kyle

grandkids as they jumped

and Cole, "announcing"

over 1000 times off the

dolls and teaching her

to ride a horse, chores

that he made fun, host-

ing weenie roasts, and

always being a supportive

presence at football and

Bill was kind, a good

listener, and was a selfless

man who always pri-

oritized others, offering

a helping hand to family

and neighbors whenever

remarked on his unwaver-

ing support, noting that

he never sought help in

return. He was a pillar of

during times of loss. He

comfort and prayers

mattered, never seek-

strength, providing gentle

quietly did the things that

ing recognition or praise

and that has given him a

special place in so many

The DeBerry family

would like to thank the

caretakers in Daddy's

needed. Friends often

baseball games.

diving board, having tea

parties with Allie and her

the sight of new calves

with their mothers.



Bill was a man of service to his Lord, his family, and his friends. His deep faith was evident through his actions rather than words. He contributed to his church in countless ways, but his favorite aspect was worship through song. In his early years, he led the choir and congregational singing at Eastside Baptist Church, and later, he and Barbara joined the congregation in song and worship at the First Methodist Church. Bill knew every verse of every hymn by heart and was known to break into song during both happy and sad times.

He cherished his home, which was not just his place of work but his sanctuary. He and Barbara worked tirelessly on home improvement projects (her idea), and he enjoyed the peace and comfort of just "being at home". He lovingly raised kids, hogs, chickens, turkeys, and eventually cattle. His affection for his cows was

### SENTENCINGS

hearts.

cation assault with vehicle SBI, aggravated assault against public servant, dismissed.

ous violence against family, dismissed.

• Margarito Valdez-Garcia, evading arrest or detention with a vehicle, two years TDCJ-ID with 133 days credit.

life the last 3 years. Our special thanks to Laura Ramirez for being with us at home and the entire Heights of Gonzales staff and the ones that were there for us every minute of every day for two years: Flo, Sylvia, Yvonne, Alice, Stephani, Dorothy, Sheila, Maria, Barbara, Mandy, Cynthia, Melanie, Christy, Carla, Kylie, and Kayla. We thank you for your love, support, and respect. You made this time better for "our hero."

Graveside services to celebrate Bill's life will be at Denton Creek Cemetery in Gonzales at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, October 18, 2024, with Dr. Matt Pennington officiating. Pallbearers: Kyle De-Berry, Cole DeBerry, Tyler Beede, Michael Turek II, Larry Yager, John Yager, and Jene Allen Drever, Jr. Honorary pallbearers: Jene Allen Drever, Sr., Billy Yager, and James Tharp. A visitation and lunch to follow at the First Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the First United Methodist Church. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home, Gonzales, Texas. Thoughts and memories may be shared on the William T. DeBerry obituary page located through www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com.

years TDCJ-ID with credit for 193 days.

• Barry Van Mersbergen, unauthorized use of a vehicle, 232 days in state jail with 232 days credit.

#### <u>Oct. 15</u>

 Michael Villanueva, failure to register as a sex offender, assault family violence, cruelty to non-livestock animals/poison/kill, 20 years TDCJ-ID with 194 days credit.

 Phil Hartsell, stalking, violation bond/PO 2x in 12 months, pre-trial/ possession of a controlled substance, six years TDCJ-ID with

### 2ND 25TH DISTRICT COURT **SENTENCINGS**

#### Sept. 24

 Albert George Boyle Jr., injury child/elderly/disabled with intent to cause bodily injury, four years deferred adjudication, \$250 fine plus court costs.

 Beatrice Nicole Polk, possession of a controlled substance PG 1/1-B <1G, seven months state jail facility.

• Benjamin Stone Jr., possession of a controlled substance PG 1 >=1G <4G, two years TDCJ-ID with

· Pavel Antonio Ramirez, intoxi-

• James Dryan Shelton, continu-

 Adison Blake Underhill, possession of a controlled substance PG 1 <1G, two years state jail probated for four years, plus fine and court costs.



121 days credit

#### Oct. 8

 Priscilla Ann Avalos, possession of a controlled substance PG 1/1-B >=1G <4G, tampering/fabricating physical evidence with intent to impair, three years TDCJ\_ID with 95 days credit.

### **25TH DISTRICT COURT** SENTENCINGS

Oct. 2 Shawn Garrett, possession of a controlled substance, 12 months state jail with 317 days credit.

 Hector Sanchez, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, six

credit.

 Garrett Novosad, manufacture/ delivery of a controlled substance, 20 years TDCJ-ID with 44 days credit; pre-trial possession of a controlled substance, 10 years TDCJ-ID with 1 day credit; manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance, 20 years TDCJ with 5 days credit.



# **Unemployment rate falls to 3.7 percent in Gonzales County**

### **BY BETTY COHN**

Gonzales Inquirer

Unemployment in Gonzales County decreased to 3.7 percent in September 2024, down 0.4 percent from the 4.1 percent recorded for July 2024, with the county continuing to place the third-highest of all seven counties which comprise the Golden Crescent Workforce Development Area, according to state Labor Market Information (LMI) figures released by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

For the entire Golden Crescent Workforce Development Area, the unemployment rate for September 2024 was also at 3.7 percent, lower than the state average of 4.1 percent. This represented a total of 3,471 residents in Gonzales, Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson, Lavaca and Victoria counties seeking employment out of a total workforce of 93,126 people. This represents an increase of 315 people in the labor force and 330 fewer individuals claiming unemployment.

The counties reporting in lower than Gonzales County are Lavaca County, with the lowest unemployment rate at 3.1 percent, followed by Calhoun County at 3.2 percent; DeWitt County at 3.3 percent;

and Jackson County following at 3.6 percent. Next are Gonzales and Goliad counties each with 3.7 percent, while rounding out is Victoria County closing in the highest position at 4.1 percent.

For September 2024, there were 351 individuals in Gonzales County seeking employment out of a workforce of 9,512 with 9,161 reported as employed. In August 2024, there were 390 people seeking work in Gonzales County out of an employment force of 9,496 for a total unemployment rate of 4.1 percent. There were 9,106 people reported as employed. In September 2023, Gonzales

County had an unemployment rate of 3.4 percent as there were 326 individuals in Gonzales County seeking employment out of a workforce of 9,554 with 9,228 reported as employed. Unemployment has not been below 3 percent in Gonzales County since December 2022, when it was 2.7 percent. Unemployment rates since September 2022 for Gonzales County are:

• September 2022, 3.1 percent

- October 2022, 3.1 percent
- November 2022, 3.1 percent
- December 2022, 2.7 percent
- January 2023, 3.7 percent
- February 2023, 4.0 percent

- March 2023, 3.5 percent • April 2023, 3.2 percent
- May 2023, 3.5 percent
- June 2023, 3.7 percent
- July 2023, 4.0 percent
- August 2023, 4.0 percent
- September 2023, 3.5
- percent
  - October 2023, 3.3 percent
  - November 2023, 3.1 percent
  - January 2024, 3.7 percent
  - February 2024, 4.0 percent
  - March 2024, 3.7 percent • April 2024, 3.2 percent
  - May 2024, 3.5 percent
  - June 2024, 4.1 percent
  - July 2024, 4.0 percent
- August 2024, 4.1 percent
- September 2024, 3.7 percent

### NIXON CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

five percent, due to the city's population. The community grant application is due to the Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission by Dec. 9.

The highest scoring communities will be invited by the Texas Department of Agriculture to complete their project applications on Jan. 6 and will hold public hearings on the grant applications in February 2025. The final project application would be due in June 2025 and the grants would be awarded in fall 2025.

Nixon's most recent CDBG was for water system improvements in 2023, for which the city received \$350,000 and had a matching fund requirement of \$35.000.

In other action, the council also voted unanimously to approve variances for Oasis RV Park to install porches for RVs which meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and to install 5x8 sheds behind the RVs for storage.

The new owner of the park, Jesse Bell, appeared before council to discuss how this would improve the aesthetic appearance of the park while also helping better serve his customers.

"When I purchased this RV park six months ago, I had no idea the park was out of code and issues were not previously being enforced, but I understand the need for this," Bell said. "One of the goals of enforcing the city ordinances was to increase the safety and aesthetics of the parks. The variances I'm presenting tonight only add to these goals as they will also make the Oasis RV Park that much more desirable, allowing the park to fill up, ultimately increasing the overall value of the



Pictured from left are City Councilmembers Shannon Smith, Patsy Vigil Scherrer and Pat Dingler, Mayor Ellie Dominguez, Ashton Story from Thriving Hearts Crisis Center, and Councilmembers Jackie Rogers and Justin La Fleur.

Park to be a strong staple in the community of Nixon."

Bell said steps for RVs often lack for the platform and handrail.

"They are made to be ADA accessible, overall, more customizable, cheaper and safer, will be anchored down and will not need to be taken down during various weather conditions," Bell added.

"The minimum size of the platform that I'm proposing is to be a four by eight, no larger than a 10 by 15. It must use metal anchors to safely secure the deck during heavy weather conditions, easily removed if necessary and cannot be attached to the RV, so the RV can easily be moved when necessary."

The sheds being proposed would

would be positioned directly behind RVs and must meet setback requirements and would be secured to the ground by a metal anchor.

"This is a very affordable option for most people. And you know, again, it's helping to keep the park safe, secure, clean and esthetically pleasing," Bell said. "Other benefits of these sheds is guests can safely and quickly move their RV during harsh weather conditions, family emergencies, fires, etc. It prevents people from putting items under their RV, making the entire park safer. It's going to be a great way to prevent theft so people can't just go underneath an RV and take an item."

Council members also approved a proclamation declaring October to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Nixon. There will be a candlelight vigil at the Gladyne Finch Pocket Park on Thursday, Oct. 24 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to recognize and remember the 216 people who lost their lives to domestic violence in Texas in 2023. The park is located at 220 N. Nixon Ave., Nixon.

SMILEY **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

help out with our church-owned the property on 301 W. Fay Ave., across the street from the parking lot that is outside the old Smiley Grocery," Montoya wrote. "We have been in this building nearly six years, and just recently, a business, Mama Luz Tacos, explained that they purchased the property across the street."

"The owner, Mr. Barajas, had city officials contact me to tell me that we could not park there any longer. I was out of town at the time I was notified, and I immediately addressed our church leadership and advised them to make sure that no one parked on the property and to ensure that they were legally parked on the easement off the roadway," Montoya added.

Montoya added that Barajas allegedly made threats about towing vehicles because he could not enter the property in the area he wanted, which was not a designated driveway.

"He went as far as aggressively approaching one of our church members and yelling at them as they came out of church service. I was advised that Mr. Barajas contact the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office and Constable John Moreno regarding this issue. At that point, I contacted the Gonzales Sheriff's Department, the City Marshal Jason Torres and Constable John Moreno to clarify that where our congregants are parking is legal by state and local law," Montoya wrote.

All the law enforcement agencies contacted Barajas and advised him there is nothing that he could do about where the church members can park because it is public and legal parking, Montoya wrote.

The Gonzales County Sheriff's Office, onstable Moreno and Marshal Torres also discovered the property that Barajas is sitting on is not his property, Montoya said in the email, and also discovered that Mama Luz Tacos is operationg without running water, which is a state health and code violation. "I am all for local businesses succeeding, but they do need to comply with state law," Montova wrote. "The property where Mama Luz is setting up, if I understand correctly, belongs to the city of Smiley. I'm asking that the city consider having that portion of land surveyed so that it can resolve this issue. "And that the city can use that area how you see fit. A public parking lot or rest area would be great," Montoya added.

CONTRIBUTED/TANYA TORRES

Nixon City Council proclaimed October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

proper handrails and can be rickety with steps that do not reach the ground, so RVers end up using pallets or blocks to bridge the gap in an unsafe manner. He said the porches he will install at the park will have wooden steps

have to be uniform and meet minimum requirements for the city, including permitting for installation. They

property, which ultimately benefits the city financially. I want the Oasis RV

investigator about two suspects who

had sold cattle at a local sale barn.

firmed that Sept. 11, 2024, two cow-

and return them to their owner. Before the investigation concluded,

of the stolen livestock were consigned

it was learned that one of the suspects

had died. However, an arrest warrant

was issued for the second suspect,

Fields was able to recover both pairs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

by two individuals.

Jewett said it has been recommended the city not take any action until Barajas takes all the legal documents pertaining to the bill of sale for the property to the county courthouse.

The council approved to table to agenda item for a later time.

In other business, the council went into executive session to discuss City Financials; no action was taken when the council returned into open session.





CATTLE

During the investigation, Special Ranger Fields received information from a DeWitt County Sheriff's Office tial informant.

A Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association Market Inspector concalf pairs that matched the description

thank you to the DeWitt County Sheriff's Office, Gonzales County Sheriff's Office and Gonzales Police Department for their assistance in the case.

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association's special rangers are an elite group of law enforcement officers who have extensive knowledge of the cattle industry. While they primarily

investigate cattle theft and other agricultural crimes, they are well-trained in all facets of law enforcement.

In all, the association has 30 Special Rangers stationed throughout Texas and Oklahoma who are commissioned through the Texas Department of Public Safety or Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. The Special Rangers also oversee more than 80 market inspectors who collect data, such as brands and other identifying marks on about 5 million cattle sold at 100 Texas livestock markets each year.

That information is entered into the association's recording and retrieval system, which is a vital tool for law enforcement investigating theft cases.

On Oct. 3, Fields received a tip on Webb's whereabouts from a confiden-

Webb was located and arrested by the Gonzales Police Department. He was booked into the Gonzales County Jail on felony theft of livestock and possession of a controlled substance charges. Special Ranger Fields extends a

### GISD CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

reserved for another school's team. The students are not being named as the incident remains under investigation and minors are involved. It is also GISD policy not to name students involved during an incident.

"I feel like UIL policies and procedures are not being taken care of with (one student) because she was able to participate in sports at last Friday's game and she's still in athletics. I feel as if that if it were another student, it would have been taken care of in a different way," Clack said.

Clack suggested that the board follow UIL rules and hold up to code regarding the incident.

"If the child was on the street doing the thing that she did, it would have been handled in a different way. So I feel like the punishment is not fitting the promise right now that we have for this child, and it was actually two students. So if it was in the real world, both students would be punished, not just one," Clack said.

Melgar has a daughter on the team who drank from the tainted water and alleged that the coaches threatened the players to not speak of the incident, she said.

'You can't speak of it because you're gonna get kicked off the team, but you're allowed to spit in the water and not get kicked off the team. You know, make that make sense. I feel like because you're speaking on the truth of what happened - why still be on the team?," Melgar said.

Melgar added that one of the two athletes is considered to be in leadership among GISD students. Melgar said it was embarrassing that a leader would be involved in such an incident.

'You are supposed to be a leader, because that's what it is, leadership. So how are you gonna lead and set an example doing that? So you're being that leader? You're telling me it's okay, then my child can go and do it. Is that leadership skills? No, that's not. It's not leadership skills at all," Melgar said.

"I feel like because my daughter drank out of (the water jug) that was rude and disrespectful. So they have team dinners. I am now not allowing my daughter to go to the team dinners, because how are you going to sit at a table with someone that has done that to you - that's disrespectful," Melgar said.

Melgar and Clack asked the school board what will happen to these two athletes involved in the incident and what punishment will they receive.

"I feel like if we're really looking into the situation, we should actually find

GONZALES

out, like, what's actually going to happen to these students, because, I mean, if I was one of the children, I would be upset about the situation, knowing that my team is still participating in sports with us, and really the punishment should fit the crime," Clack said.

'The whole team should have been under investigation, so they should have pulled everybody in, not just that student herself, everybody, because they are a team, and that is what happened. It happened to the team. So that's just all I wanted to put out there," Melgar added.

Gonzales ISD released a statement regarding the incident:

"Gonzales ISD received an anonymous report notifying the district of the incident. GISD launched an investigation, and administrators were notified. The district does not comment on student disciplinary actions; however, we can share that the investigation is ongoing. Our unwavering commitment is to ensure that our learners and studentathletes feel safe in our learning environments — whether in the classroom or at a game. To ensure a safer learning environment, we are increasing the visibility of the Anonymous Reporting tool on our website. The GHS administrative team will follow the Student Code of Conduct to guide disciplinary determinations."

In other news, the board approved the following agenda items:

 approved an Interlocal Agreement with Bluebonnet Trails to Establish a Community-Based Counseling Program in Gonzales County and Associated Budget Amendment.

 approved a Memorandums of Understanding with Mid-Coast Family Services for Services Connected with the Prevention of Substance Abuse, Family Violence, and Homelessness.

• approved 2024-2025 District Improvement Plans and Campus Improvement Plan.

 approved the 2024-2025 Emergent **Bilingual Program** 

 approved an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Gonzales and Gonzales County Regarding Parking Lot Improvements at Apache Stadium, Related Purchases, and Budget Amendment.

 approved the 2024 Tax Roll Per Section 26.09 Texas Property Tax Code.

The board approved the following items upon returning from close session:

 approved to an Update to the Guardian Program

 approved the hire of Mary Lynn Ramirez as the new director of human resources for the school district.







Baby they were born to rum! Shoppers enjoyed liquid refreshment at downtown Gonzales stores on Saturday, Oct. 19, as part of the annual Rum Run. Local businesses offered exclusive drink tastings, great deals, and a whole lot of fun in this effort to revitalize and support Gonzales Main Street.

COURTESY/GONZALES MAIN STREET

### TRIAL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

women took two hours to determine Haynes could understand the severity of charges he was facing and that he has the mental capacity to assist in his own defense.

Haynes is accused in the June 9, 2020 slayings of Southeast Caldwell **County Volunteer Fire Department** firefighter Klayton Manning, 18, and his 16-year-old cousin Landin Robinson near the 4400 block of Tenney Creek Road in Tilmon.

Manning and Robinson reportedly were investigating signs of smoke when they happened upon an individual, later identified as Haynes, who opened fire on the young men, killing both.

According to published reports, including one from KVUE-TV, Haynes



Havnes

Robinson

claimed he was being chased by aliens and indicated that he had shot the "aliens" with his gun, emptying out a pair of 17-round magazines and a pair of 10-round magazines.

Haynes remains in the Caldwell County Jail in lieu of bond on capital murder charges after being arrested at a home in Bastrop County. Caldwell County applied for a grant and has hired Lisa Tanner, a former prosecutor with the Texas Attorney General's Office, to prosecute the case due to her extensive experience in capital murder trials.

Haynes' first capital murder trial could be held as soon as early 2025.



### When it comes to protecting

"I was able to track the date and that's the date that we have. Where it was adjusted was in 2015-16. I can go back and look at the exact date, but I do have the documentation where it was adjusted at that time.," Vega said.

The last increase the council got in their stipend was from \$250 per month to \$500 per month.

"I feel that with the amount of work that we do, that we should get a little bit more than what we're getting. I have a number in mind. I'm not asking for a whole bunch, but I think that it would make me feel a little better," Hernandez said.

"This past budget, we gave the employees a substantial amount of raise, and I just felt that we deserve to get a little bit too," Hernandez added.

Hernandez made the motion to increase the city council's monthly stipend from \$500 per month to \$1,000 per month and to increase the mayor's stipend from \$1,000 per month to \$1,500 per month, and to make optional insurance available to any elected officials.

The motion failed with a 3-2 vote; Hernandez and Councilmember Mariah Jordan voted for the increase, while Mayor Steve Sucher and Councilmembers Ronda Miller and Poochy Kridler voted against the increase.

In other news, the council approve

renaming the summer youth program in honor of Martha Belle Eckols "Moochie" Turk, who initiated the program.

"I've heard of Moochie Turk for years. Even you know, before Linda Kay and I moved here permanently, she was sort of an icon in the community. My understanding is she was the driving force behind the origination of the Summer Youth Program, which was roughly 40 vears ago, I believe. And we just, you know, the suggestion came forward, it'd be nice to name it in her honor and her memory," Sucher said.

The council approved unanimously renaming the summer youth program in honor of Turk.

The council approved the following agenda items:

• approved the amendments to scope of work for the Gonzales 2020 CDBG-MIT Tinsley Creek.

• approved the 1 Authorizing the Appointments to the Gonzales Beautification and Design Board and Gonzales **Economic Development Corporation** and Gonzales Golf Course Advisory Board.

• approved the Authorizing the Mayor to execute a Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Interlocal Agreement with Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool.



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