



New Braunfels rallies late to stun Judson 24-21 on Wenzel's game-winning kick

PAGE 8

Guadalupe deputy faces child sex charges

PAGE 3

FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 17, 2021 | HERALD-ZEITUNG.COM

NEW BRAUNFELS Herald-Zeitung

Reporting the life story of New Braunfels since 1852



Left to right, Children's Advocacy Center of Comal County staff members Executive Director Trendy Sharp, family advocate Zoila Garcia, Director of Outreach Shannon Dixon and CACCC Board President Michael Agnese stand in the former counseling area of the center which now houses the observation rooms and family meeting room, Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2021 at the Children's Advocacy Center of Comal County in New Braunfels. ALMA E. HERNANDEZ | Herald-Zeitung

Back in their house

Children's Advocacy Center renovated after winter storm damage

By Lisa Dreher
Herald-Zeitung

Children's Advocacy Center staff are happy to be back in their old office, which underwent full renovation due to flooding from the February freeze.

The winter storms caused pipes to burst in the two-story main office off Pride Drive, with water flooding from the second story down to the first.

For several months, staff worked at a satellite office in Seguin. They had to get creative with helping families and children, with employees visiting with families in the privacy of cars.

The Children's Advocacy Center of Comal County works with the state's Office of the Governor, the Department of Family Protective Services and other state agencies.

It provides counseling and conducts neutral, forensic interviews with child abuse and sex trafficking survivors in a relaxed environment to provide case information.



Family advocate Zoila Garcia, hugs a large teddy bear in the waiting area at the Children's Advocacy Center of Comal County Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2021 in New Braunfels.

Local organizations such as United Way of New Braunfels, the McKenna Foundation, Baptist Health System, the Najim Foundation and the Kronosky Charitable Foundation as well as locals donated money.

The Comal County Sheriff's Office even donated a giant, human-sized teddy bear which kids hug immediately after walking into the office.

CACCC executive director Trendy Sharp said interviews and case work never ceased despite the flood and the ongoing pandemic.

"We're super lucky to have the community support us, we never stopped providing services through COVID and losing half our staff," Sharp said. "However, it is great to be home."

A fresh start

The office went through complete renovations, costing hundreds of thousands of dollars, but luckily the organization is insured.

CACCC board president Michael Agnese said he is grateful that construction contractor Classen Winters took on the project.

"We were really lucky that we were able to find a contractor who had

See HOME, page 5

Arrest made in 1993 killing of pregnant teen

By Will Wright
The Herald-Zeitung

After almost three decades, the Comal County Sheriff's Office has announced an arrest in the 28-year-old homicide of San Antonio teenager Emily Jeanette Garcia.

The U.S. Marshals' Violent Offenders Fugitive Task Force arrested Thomas Ray Galindo, 50, at his home in Brazoria on Sept. 10.

He is charged with killing 15-year-old Garcia, whose body was dumped off North Cranes Mill Road in Canyon Lake on Feb. 25, 1993.

"It was my birthday and I

remember getting the call," said Sheriff Mark Reynolds, who was then among four detectives CCSO's criminal investigations division.

"There was very little in the way of identifying her — it took quite some time, even after the autopsy."

Reynolds said several families with missing children came by but the body remained unidentified until one year

See KILLING, page 6



Emily Jeanette Garcia

County remembers former sheriff Holder

By Ron Maloney
Special to the Herald-Zeitung

In just about every book or movie on the topic, there is a quintessential Texas lawman.

He stands as tall as Randolph Scott with the easy confidence of a Glenn Ford and he speaks with John Wayne's booming voice.

He is the man who wears the white hat and is responsible for protecting his neighbors and maintaining law and order under often extraordinary circumstances.

He is the elected local sheriff.

Thursday, New Braunfels and Comal County lost

such a man.

Retired Comal County Sheriff and Department of

Public Safety Sgt. Bob Holder's five-decade-long watch spent protecting the public ended when he

succumbed to a long illness Thursday morning.

He was 77 years old.

Thursday, local friends and officials remembered Holder as a boss, a mentor and a friend and expressed sadness at his passing.

Holder came from a

See HOLDER, page 5



Bob Holder

COVID cases climb, 2 deaths reported

By Steve Knight & Will Wright
The Herald-Zeitung

Comal County's COVID-19 death toll rose to 404 on Thursday, with officials reporting two additional deaths while the number of active cases reached a new high.

County health officials confirmed the deaths of two New Braunfels men, one in his 90s on Sept. 3 at home and the other in his 60s on Sept. 6 at an

Austin hospital.

More than 6,500 Texans have died of COVID-19 in the last month, putting the overall toll at 59,608.

County health officials reported 175 new cases and 140 recoveries on Thursday, bringing the number of active cases to 1,661, a fresh record, up 33 from the previous day and 495 from a week ago. The old record was 1,633 set earlier this week.

Of the new cases, 83

are confirmed and 92 are probable.

Sixty-seven of the new cases are people under 20, 14 are in their 20s, 58 are in their 30s and 40s, 27 are in their 50s and 60s and nine are older than 70.

Comal County hospitals reported caring for 44 COVID-19 patients on Thursday, down one from the previous day and 30 from a week ago, with

See COVID, page 6

Texas Rangers continuing investigation of suspect's shooting by NBPD officers

By Will Wright
The Herald-Zeitung

Texas Rangers are still investigating Wednesday's shooting of a suspect by New Braunfels police, which placed two officers on administrative leave and released additional details of the incident Thursday morning.

Aaron Arnaldo Gomez, 28, of New Braunfels is

hospitalized in critical condition after being shot by officers attempting to serve him with a warrant in the parking lot of a business in the 200 block of Business 35 South around 12:45 p.m. Wednesday.

David Ferguson, city communications coordinator, said officers were confronted by Gomez, who was ramming his vehicle into other parked

cars while trying to escape. Officers in the path of the vehicle fired at the car, injuring the suspect, who was taken to a nearby Level 1 Trauma Center where he remains in critical but stable condition.

Ferguson said Gomez was suspected in an aggravated kidnapping earlier Wednesday in which police

See SHOOTING, page 6

Abby No Abby Classifieds 9 Comics 7 Crosswords 7 Opinion 4 Obituaries 3 Stammisch 2 Sports 8 TV 3

97 71 Weather, 6 | @NewBraunfelsHZ | Vol. 168 | No. 235 | \$1.00

Now, more than ever: BE IN THE KNOW 830.625.9144 Herald-Zeitung Subscribe Today Just \$14⁰⁰/Month SAVE 54% OFF THE NEWSSTAND PRICE