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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024

133 YEARS, NO. 46

GONZALES



LOCAL TRIBUTE Family and friends gather around the "Hometown Heroes" sign of Henry Joseph Violini, celebrating his service and dedication to the nation at the Gonzales Hometown Heroes event Nov. 6.

Honoring heroes

CITY CELEBRATES VETERANS WITH 'HOMETOWN HEROES' CEREMONY

BY RYAN CRONK
MANAGING EDITOR

In a heartfelt tribute, the City of Gonzales honored 28 local veterans and active-duty service members during a special Hometown Heroes ceremony last week at Central Park.

The Nov. 6 event, held in partnership with the American Legion Post 81 and the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 81, included a brief program and the unveiling of "Hometown Heroes" signs featuring each service member's photo, name and branch of service.

"Today in Gonzales, the community unveiled beautiful and fitting tributes to their veterans just ahead of Veterans Day," said Monterey County Supervisor Chris Lopez, who was in attendance.

→ See VETERANS, A10

ELECTION 2024

Voters approve school bonds

MEASURES PASS TO FINANCE FACILITY UPGRADES; CITY TAX PROPOSALS FACE OPPOSITION

BY RYAN CRONK
MANAGING EDITOR

SALINAS VALLEY — Voters in South Monterey County have shaped the future of both local schools and city infrastructure in the Nov. 5 Presidential General Election, with mixed results across the measures.

All school district bond measures are currently passing, set to fund essential facility upgrades and safety improvements, while two proposed tax measures in Gonzales and King City are seeing less favorable outcomes, as of Friday's latest results.

Education bond measures pass

Each of the school bond measures on the ballot, requiring 55% approval to pass, has achieved sufficient support, enabling various districts to address critical facility needs:

- Measure E (Soledad Unified School District) is passing with 1,862 votes (61.15%) in favor, allowing for \$42 million in bonds to improve ADA compliance, repair school facilities, and build a new track at Soledad High School.

→ See MEASURES, A10

SOLEDAD

Second annual Day of the Dead event commemorates loved ones

BY RYAN CRONK
MANAGING EDITOR

SOLEDAD — City of Soledad hosted its second annual Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Celebration last Saturday afternoon at the Soledad Community Center.

The Nov. 2 event invited families and community members of all backgrounds to honor loved ones who have passed and to celebrate the cherished Mexican tradition through live performances, food and interactive activities.

Soledad Parks and Recreation Director Jessica Potts expressed her excitement for this year's "heartfelt celebration" that was filled with art, music and shared stories.



→ See EVENT, A10 Catrina contest participants gather at the Día de los Muertos event.

School board, council races unfold across South County

BY RYAN CRONK
MANAGING EDITOR

SALINAS VALLEY — In the Nov. 5 Presidential General Election, the latest results on Friday showed strong competition for seats on South Monterey County school boards, the Soledad Community Health Care District, and city councils in Greenfield and King City.

Voter turnout so far reached 49.24%, or 105,798 votes out of 214,883 registered voters in Monterey County.

Additional results are expected to be released Wednesday by Monterey County Elections, which is still processing more than 40,000 ballots.

→ See RACES, A10

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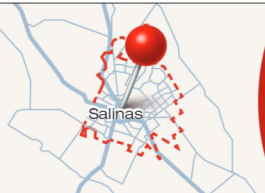
Partly Sunny
Tonight will be mostly clear
Thursday will be sunny
Today's high: 70
Today's low: 38
→ Forecast on page A2



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The Farmers Insurance logo is positioned in the top right corner of the advertisement. It features a circular emblem with a red heart and the words "FARMERS" and "INSURANCE" in blue and red text. Below the logo, a man and a young girl are walking together in a sunlit field, suggesting a family-oriented and active lifestyle.



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