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## TOP STORIES

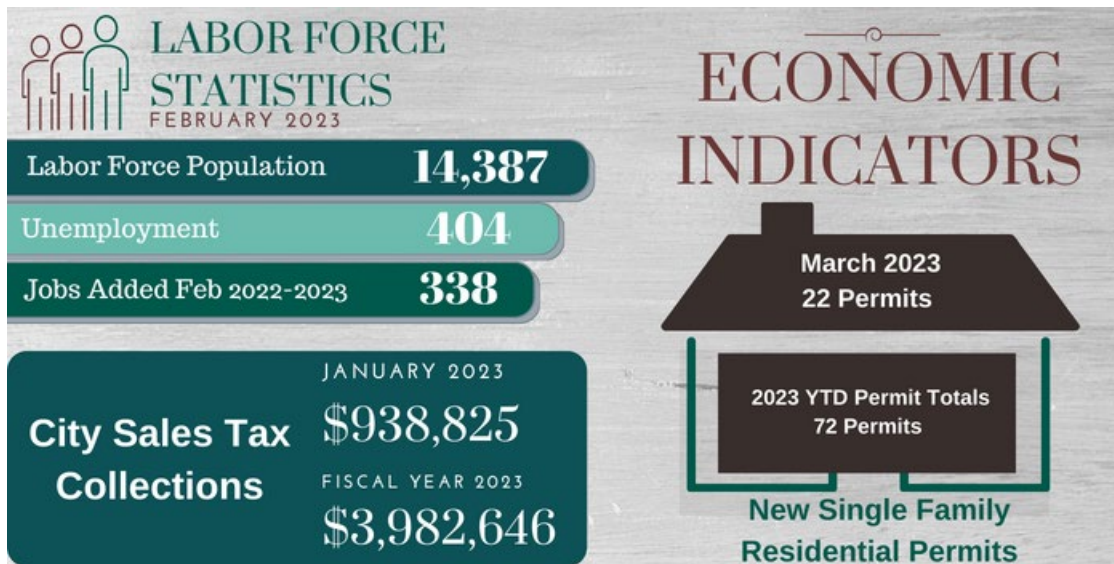
### **SERVANTES, KIRKLAND NAMED JAMES BEARD AWARD FINALISTS**



Photo credit: Dalondo Moultrie - The Seguin Gazette

A pair of local pit masters are etching their name in history as the best. After receiving good news earlier this year, the news got even better Wednesday for the Owners of Burnt Bean Co. in downtown Seguin as they learned they are finalists for Texas Chef of the Year in the prestigious James Beard Awards. [Read More](#)

## ECONOMIC INDICATORS



## LOCAL NEWS

### **STUDENTS GET LOOK AT CAREERS OFFERED BY LOCAL EMPLOYERS**

With definite plans for his future, Navarro High School senior Eric Solis benefited from attending Seguin Career Day at Seguin High School. The teen visited booths with representatives from military and law enforcement agencies because he hopes to one day join the Guadalupe County Sheriff's Office and the U.S. Border Patrol. [Read More](#)

### **NAVARRO SCHOOL BOARD NAMES COMAL ISD'S MANDY EPLEY AS LONE SUPERINTENDENT FINALIST**

(Seguin) — The Navarro ISD Board of Trustees has selected its lone finalist for superintendent of schools. Trustees late Wednesday night approved Mandy Epley as the lone finalist for the job. Epley currently serves as the assistant superintendent of strategic initiatives and programs for the Comal ISD in New Braunfels. [Read More](#)

### **NEW DEMOGRAPHICS STUDY HAS THE NAVARRO ISD DOUBLING IN SIZE**

(Geronimo) — The Navarro ISD is doing its part to create some much-needed elbow room at its elementary school. Interim Superintendent Dee Carter says the results of an updated demographic study have finally been released to the district. She says those results show a spike in the number of students that will be attending the local campus this upcoming school year. [Read More](#)

### **CITY PROVIDES UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

(Seguin) — Officials at Seguin City Hall are keeping a close eye on the current legislative session in Austin. City staff provided a legislative update during Tuesday's

meeting of the Seguin City Council. City Manager Steve Parker says there are several bills that could potentially impact cities across the state. He says there's a political struggle going on between the state and some much larger cities. He says some of the proposed changes could impact smaller cities like Seguin, which is why he said they wanted to discuss some of those bills. Many of the bills discussed by Parker dealt with local control, and how he believes that makes a difference for Seguin and many other communities across the state. [Read More](#)

## **HIGHER EDUCATION TOPS FOCUS FOR GUADALUPE COUNTY STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

About halfway through Texas' 88th Legislature's session, a Guadalupe County congressman said he is excited about some of the work he is doing for the state and the district he represents. District 44 Rep. John Kuempel (R) won appointment to two legislative committees, one of which he chairs. As chair of the Higher Education Committee, Kuempel said he took part in developing a bill beneficial for Texans. [Read More](#)

## **DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN NEARS COMPLETION**

(Seguin) — After a yearlong planning process, Seguin's Downtown Master Plan is nearing completion and is being prepared for adoption by the Seguin City Council. As the public has been highly involved in the process, there will be one final open house on April 19 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Seguin Public Library. [Read More](#)

## **GRMC RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY FOR EMERGENCY CARE**

(Seguin) – When it comes providing emergency care, GRMC is again officially ranked in the Top 9 percent of hospitals throughout the United States. For the second year in a row, Guadalupe Regional Medical Center (GRMC) has been named one of America's Best Hospitals for Emergency Care by the Women's Choice Award®. America's trusted referral source for the best in healthcare. [Read More](#)

## **REGION AND STATE NEWS**

## **MODEST GROWTH RESUMES IN TEXAS MANUFACTURING, BUT OUTLOOKS CONTINUE TO WORSEN**

Texas factory activity expanded slightly in March after contracting in February, according to business executives responding to the Texas Manufacturing Outlook Survey. The production index, a key measure of state manufacturing conditions, moved up from -2.8 to 2.5, a reading suggestive of a modest increase in output. [Read More](#)

## **SAN ANTONIO ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

In February, San Antonio experienced solid employment growth accompanied by falling wages. The unemployment rate rose as the labor force increased. Apartment rents ticked up in February, and office vacancy rates declined at the end of 2022. [Read More](#)

## **TEXAS ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT**

Texas continues to lead the nation in an economic resurgence and remains one of the strongest and most diverse economies in the nation. Click the following link for a snapshot of the state's economic status: [Texas Economic Snapshot](#)

### **SMALL BUSINESS**

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