

# TOP 10 STORIES of 2015

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** What a year 2015 was for Seguin and Guadalupe County. From tragedy to triumph, the Seguin Gazette was there with you — sharing sorrow and celebrating victories.

The No. 6 story on our list is record setting. The long-awaited Switchback sets a record for steepest drop on a wooden roller coaster.

Not only did the Switchback make history, but so did the vote to turn tiny Kingsbury into a city.

It's not often that a community with the history of Kingsbury becomes a city — but residents spoke, casting their ballots in a landslide victory for the community.



# KINGSBURY BECOMES 1 OF TEXAS' NEW CITIES

## **GUADALUPE COUNTY'S NEWEST TOWN SETS UP ITS CITY GOVERNMENT INCLUDING MAYOR, COMMISSIONERS**

During 2015, Texas and Guadalupe County witnessed the birth of a new city.

County Commissioners voted unanimously on May 19 to declare the city of Kingsbury officially incorporated under the Texas Local Government Code.

The effort to incorporate Kingsbury was mounted in the wake of years of discussion that intensified after Seguin annexed land to extend its city limits to State Highway 130 and Interstate 10, bringing the reach of its

Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction out into the historical community along the railroad tracks.

"This has been the culmination of a lot of work by a lot of people who depended on a lot of support by everybody in Kingsbury," Mayor Shirley Nolen said. "For you to make it official today is something that's very exciting for all of us. This might be the newest city in Texas, but it is one with a long and storied past. My great-great





Jessica Kuhn - Seguin Gazette File

City of Kingsbury attorney, Sam Drugan, explains what type of municipality Kingsbury is on Nov. 21 during the city's inaugural commission meeting in the Fellowship Hall of the Kingsbury Baptist Church.

## KINGSBURY

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grandfather died in Kingsbury in 1875, and he's buried out there."

More than 50 people filed into the Fellowship Hall of the Kingsbury Baptist Church on Nov. 21 to witness the newly-incorporated city's inaugural meeting.

"The city of Kingsbury was created by you people in Kingsbury under the provisions of Texas Local Government chapter 8, and it is defined as a type C municipality," city attorney Sam Drugan said. "A type C municipality is created and defined by the legislature and is governed by a city commission rather than a city council."

Among those in attendance were multiple dignitaries, state Sen. Judith Zaffirini, a representative from Senator Donna Campbell's office, County Judge Kyle Kutscher and Precinct 1 Commissioner Greg Seidenberger.

"Everybody is gathered here today because a group of people in the community came together and worked hard, dedicated their time and persevered over some pretty big challenges," Kutscher said. "I just want

us all to take a minute and recognize that group by putting our hands together."

Seidenberger also expressed gratitude for the group of individuals that spearheaded the city becoming incorporated.

"I want to say congratulations, but I want to say thanks because to serve in any public office is a challenge," he said. "Sometimes it's not always the best thing in the world because you feel like you can't do enough for people or you get yelled at for something you have no control over. So really I say congratulations and thank you for serving."

Following the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Kutscher swore in Nolen as mayor, along with Alison Heinemeier and Janet Ignasiak as city commissioners before turning the floor over to Zaffirini.

"The key is to be true to your priorities, and those priorities must always be faith and family first, and then public service and then your business responsibilities," the lawmaker said. "That has truly been the key."

Most of the meeting's business centered on establishing procedures related to the commission's agendas and meetings as well as Nolen appointing people to the positions of city attorney, clerk and mayor pro tem.