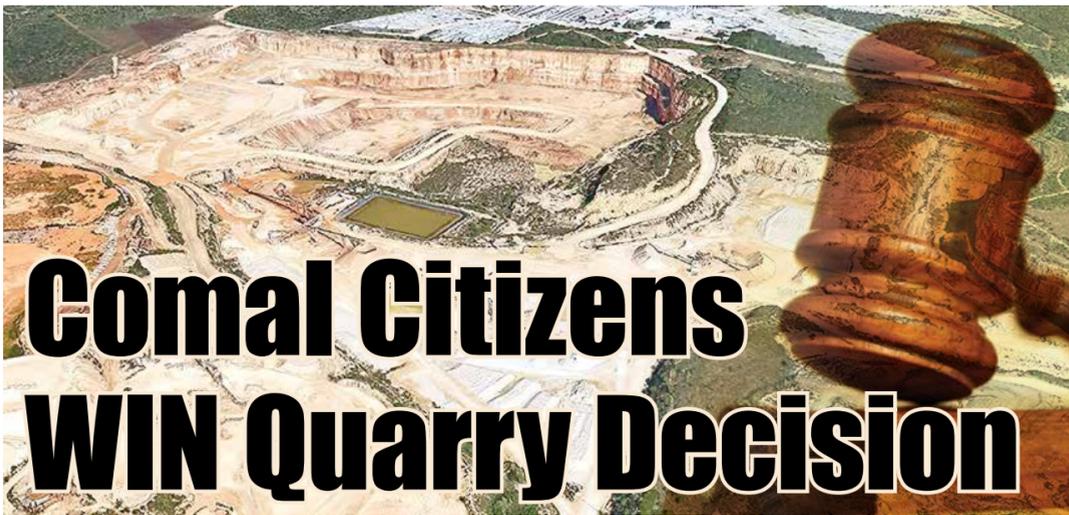




Just the Facts

INSIDE ▶ To help with inclusion and transparency The Weekly supplies support documents and time line for the personnel matter regarding fired Police Officer. Page 5



Comal Citizens WIN Quarry Decision

Comal Citizens Triumph Over TCEQ and Vulcan Quarry in District Court

The determined alliance of Comal County citizens, community groups, and Comal ISD prevailed on Friday in a monumental victory over the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Vulcan Construction Materials, LLC. Judge Maya Guerra Gamble, 459th District Court, Travis County, ruled overwhelmingly in favor of the plaintiffs, who have, since 2017, been fighting a proposed 1500-acre limestone quarry between New Braunfels and Bulverde.

In November 2019, TCEQ commissioners granted an air permit to Alabama-based Vulcan Materials for the planned quarry. Friday's district court decision in Friends of Dry Comal Creek and Stop 3009 Vulcan Quarry v. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality reverses and vacates TCEQ's approval of the Vulcan air permit.

Vulcan's proposed open-pit limestone mining operation in the Texas Hill Country would stretch across nearly three miles of the environmentally sensitive Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone (primary water supply for over two million people, including the cities of San Antonio and New Braunfels). Neighbors are concerned about air pollution, water supply and quality, truck traffic, destruction of caves, and decreased property values that could result from the location of this heavy industrial facility in

a residential area populated by over 12,000 people.

This lawsuit, essentially an administrative appeal filed in February 2020, was the latest step taken by area residents and groups who have been actively opposing the project for almost four years.

Judge Guerra Gamble ruled for the citizens' groups on several key points:

- TCEQ's assertion that the quarry would not harm human health or welfare was not supported by evidence.
- Vulcan's emissions calculations were not representative and not supported by substantial evidence.
- Vulcan's air quality analysis did not account for cumulative impacts or emissions from the quarry and roads.
- Vulcan's choice of background concentration was arbitrary or capricious.
- In the contested case hearing, the SOAH judge erred in allowing Vulcan to hide behind "trade secret" claims.
- Plaintiffs were denied due process when the SOAH judge allowed Vulcan to conceal data using the "trade secret" excuse and did not allow plaintiffs to cross-examine Vulcan.

The permit, struck down by the court, allowed Vulcan's rock crusher to emit over 95,000 pounds of particulate matter, nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and VOCs into the air annually. But without a

full accounting of the facts, the actual amount of pollution this facility would produce could be much higher than the permit allows. Attorneys for Friends of Dry Comal Creek and Stop 3009 Vulcan Quarry will now draft a final order. TCEQ and Vulcan have the option to appeal the decision, to the Third Court of Appeals.

Milann Guckian, president of Stop 3009 Vulcan Quarry and Preserve Our Hill Country Environment, stated, "We are extremely pleased with Judge Guerra Gamble's decision. This is a win for Comal County residents, our beautiful Hill Country, and the entire state of Texas. It is a positive step forward in the process we have undertaken to preserve quality of life and our natural resources."

"We are very grateful that after considering the evidence of our case, the court issued a rare reversal of TCEQ's unjust and unfounded decision to grant the Vulcan Materials air permit in Comal County," said David Drewa, director of communications for Stop 3009 Vulcan Quarry. Drewa says that the citizens groups will continue to advocate for common sense oversight of quarries and APOs—at both the local and legislative levels. Stay informed by visiting www.stop3009vulcanquarry.com and following our Facebook page for news updates.

MARCH 8 MEETING VIA ZOOM

Commissioners COURT



Local government and businesses' plan for Governor Greg Abbott lifting COVID mandates

COVID update and Lily Ranch denied approval

Christina Ryrholm
Hill Country Weekly

COVID UPDATE

The three hour commissioners court was held on Monday, March 8 via zoom with almost 60 participants (staff, persons involved in specific agenda items and interested citizens). County Judge Darrel Lux conducted the meeting from the courtroom while Christina Bergmann, Richard Elkins, Richard Chapman and Don Durden attended from their offices.

Last week Governor Greg Abbott issued an executive order that took effect yesterday at 12:01a.m. basically stating that Texas businesses could be open 100% (or full capacity) without any official state mandates about wearing masks (social distancing and hand washing did not even rate a mention).

With the legal opinion that the courthouse can be considered a business, Lux declared that for now, and until further notice, the courthouse will continue to abide by the protocols that are already in place - the taking of temperatures (pass or fail) upon entering the premises, the wearing of masks in all public areas and practicing social distancing. He also "strongly suggests that everyone use safe practices, be thoughtful and considerate of others". District Judge Kirsten Cohoon and Emergency Management Director Jeff Fincke stated that their departments would fully comply. Frieda Pressler, Justice of the Peace Precinct 4 also noted her office would follow current guidelines.

Fincke also informed the court that locally Home Depot, HEB and WalMart indicated that they would require or strongly encourage their customers wear masks. He reported that over 7000 county residents have received their first dose and at least half of them have had the second dose.

As the county and city have agreed to "speak as one voice and have one list" the city of Boerne's website will be the place to go to get your name on the wait list or instructions about when to get your name added. There are plans being considered to get the homebound individuals vaccinated also.

See COMMISSIONERS, page 8



COVID-19 Registration List

City of Boerne/Kendall County to launch COVID-19 vaccine registration waitlist

After two successful COVID-19 public vaccination events, the city of Boerne and Kendall County are expanding our sign-up options for people seeking a COVID-19 vaccine.

"When we began this process back in January, there were so few vaccine available," Mayor Tim Handren stated. "With vaccine capacity expanding, and our community receiving consistent, albeit modest, shipments from the state we believe now is the right time to further expand our services."

Though our community only received 1,100 vaccine shipments for the entire month of February, we

know many thousands more tried to secure appointments, so the city's new registration waitlist will have a capacity of 10,000 people. Once the list is filled, we will temporarily suspend registration until additional slots are available.

For those who sign up, they will be placed on a wait list and be notified via email when an appointment is available. We are also going to attempt to accommodate which vaccine choice a resident would like but are not able to make any guarantees because it is dependent upon which vaccine the state of Texas sends us. If

someone declines an appointment, or does not confirm their appointment within 24 hours, they will not be removed from the list, but we cannot make any assurance when they will receive another appointment.

We are also asking our community to understand signing up for a future appointment does not promise when one will become available. The city and county are reliant upon the state to continue sending vaccine shipments that we can make available to residents. We also continue

See REGISTRATION, page 8

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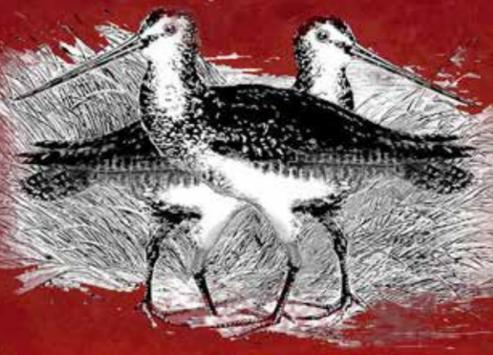
Kendall County added 47 new COVID cases since March 3
According to the State of Texas there have been 65 deaths in the county
Let's face it most look better with a mask



AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING
March 13, 11:00 AM
The Boerne Bookshop



Hunting Snipes
 + four



"...mesmerizing and powerful"
 - Midwest Book Review

From the author of *The Last Good Horse*
David Martin Anderson
 a novella anthology

CODE RED

FOR City Council hears Code Red process

Connie McFall Clark
 Hill Country Weekly

The Fair Oaks Ranch (FOR) City Council met March 4 via Zoom. Joanna Merrill, Director of Human Resources and Communications, presented a Five Year Service Award to Officer Allan Paz. Officer Paz was awarded three Life Saving Awards during his time at FOR. Christina Picioccio, City Secretary, walked the Councilmembers through the new agenda process on the City's website.

Due to the recent weather issues, Councilmember Snehal Patel asked for an overview of the Code RED process. City Manager Tobin Maples answered her questions.

- What is Code Red and what are terms of city's contract/terms of use? It is an emergency notification service.
- How long we have had it in place? Since 2012 and it renews every year on October 1 for a cost of \$6K annually.

- How is it different from Notify Me? Code RED is used for emergencies only.
 - How many of our residents are on it (before and after the event)? There are 5,700 residents signed up now. A previous number wasn't available.
 - How does it work in outreach to citizens during emergency situations? Code RED is available for citizens to sign up for the alerts via land line, cell phone, text and/or emails.
 - Under what situations is Code RED activated? Only select City Staff and the Mayor have the authorization to determine when to use Code RED in an emergency situation. That includes the Police Department.
- Michael Del Toro of ABIP presented the findings for accepting the FY 2019-2020 Audit. The entire audited comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) can

be found on the City's website on the Finance Departmental Page: <https://www.fairoaksranchtx.org/127/Finance>. The audit resulted in an unmodified ("clean") audit opinion and Councilmembers approved it.

The January 2021 Quarterly Financial Report was given by Sarah Bucklewe, Director of Finance. General Fund Highlights include the following notes:

- 93.8% of Budgeted Ad Valorem Tax levy collected through January.
- 55% of Budgeted Sales Tax Revenue collected through December sales.
- Sales Tax collections are \$97,917 higher this year from the same time last year.

Complete background spreadsheets and charts for this and the Investment Report are part of the agenda packet found on the City's website.



Court Discusses Limitations on Discharging Firearms

Christina Ryrholm
 Hill Country Weekly

During the commissioners court on Monday the subject of firearms came up twice. Precinct 4 Commissioner Don Durden proposed a court order regulating the discharge of firearms in subdivisions. The authority to do this is granted to counties by the Texas State Legislature for tracts of ten acres or less in unincorporated areas.

This request is to prohibit the discharge of firearms on lots that are three acres or less in order to promote public safety and reduce the danger associated with such action. At this meeting the intent was to get public comments and direction from the court. This item will appear on a future agenda to take action.

In his opening comments Durden stated that he is a second amendment rights proponent and he hunts. He added, "I find it distasteful that we need to pass a court order to regulate an activity that should be - and for the most part is - governed by courtesy and common sense".

Six citizens spoke out and all supported the court order 100%. The common denominator was the safety issue and several examples were given citing the disconcerting sounds of weapons being discharged so close to residences.

Sheriff Al Auxier stated that law enforcement has been frustrated in being unable to actually do anything

in these instances and one individual said the Game Warden was also in the same position. Auxier said that the second amendment did not "allow for people to act irresponsibly".

The second time firearms was mentioned was by the Kendall County Sheriff Al Auxier during public comments. The second amendment, written in 1789, of the Constitution states, "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed".

He stated that he would soon be bringing to the court a request to declare Kendall County a 'second amendment sanctuary county'. What this implies is that locally no money would be spent to enforce gun control laws that are perceived as unconstitutional.

Even before Governor Greg Abbott stated that he believed Texas should be a sanctuary state in February of this year, Texas counties were taking a stand. Currently there are 78 Texas counties that have passed resolutions in support of the idea.

Auxier commented that he will be doing so as he as received many inquiries from "folks who just want reassurance that local government will not allow the federal government to over step" and reiterated that the second amendment does not mean individuals should be irresponsible.



CCCAC MEMBERS APPOINTED

Fair Oaks Ranch City Council interviewed nine applicants for the Citizens Code of Conduct Advisory Committee

Connie McFall Clark
 Hill Country Weekly

On February 9 and 10 the Fair Oaks Ranch (FOR) City Council interviewed nine applicants for the Citizens Code of Conduct Advisory Committee (CCCAC). The action is a result of the Council voting to form the CCCAC at the December 3 meeting. Council followed up on this action by adopting the Citizens Code of Conduct Advisory Committee Charter on January 7.

At the meeting on February 9, Christina Guerra, Pratap Khanwilkar, Joe duMenil, Mike Lyle, and John McCune were interviewed. The four individuals interviewed on February 10 were Al Schmidt, Linda Tom, Shane Stolarczyk, and Jane Burton.

A plan was for Council to discuss

the applicants in open session at the February 25 meeting. At that time, Councilwoman Snehal Patel gave her analysis of the applicants weighing criteria such as profession, background, experience and area of the City where they reside. The selection process was the same as used last year for commission/board/committee appointments. Each Council member voted for their five choices and the top five with the most votes will be appointed to the CCCAC.

Council voted to approve a Resolution appointing the following members to the CCCAC:

Joe duMenil received 6 votes; Mike Lyle received 5 votes; Jane Burton received 5 votes; John McCune received 4 votes; and Shane Stolarczyk received 4 votes.



County Conservation Partners Host Local Work Group Listening Session

When: Thursday, April 8, 2021
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Location:
 Old Waring Schoolhouse
 108 Avenue E • Waring, TX 78074

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Kendall County and the Kendall Soil and Water Conservation District cordially invite the public to attend their FY22 Local Working Group (LWG) Listening Session being held Thurs, April 8, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. To allow for COVID-19 social distancing recommendations the meeting will be held at the Old Waring Schoolhouse at 108 Ave E, Waring, TX.

The purpose of this annual LWG is to bring conservation stakeholders together to discuss conservation topics and issues relevant to helping Kendall

County landowners better conserve natural resources.

Ranchers, farmers, conservationists, and other interested parties are invited to participate by sharing concerns and ideas to help shape plans and priorities for future projects. Also, help identify where the best investments can be made to address natural resource issues, review the work that already been done and to share your vision for the how the county can benefit when these resource concerns have been addressed.

For more information, please contact Amanda Kirchner, District Conservationist, at (830)249-2821, Ext. 3. For persons with disabilities that require an accommodation, please notify the office at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

SAVE THE DATE!
 Monday,
 September 27, 2021

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INDUSTRY TRAVEL GAMES TELEVISION COMEDY

SPORTS

This and That

Compiled by Randy Schmidt

Consumers didn't let inclement weather put that big of a dent in their spending during the month of February, particularly when it came to shopping online.

U.S. retail sales increased 4.6% year-over-year, according to Mastercard Spending Pulse, which measures in store and online retail sales across all forms of payment.

Disney will shutter at least 60 stores in North America and a number of overseas locations as the company embarks on a plan to downsize its retail presence and focus on e-commerce. Disney operates around 300 stores worldwide.

The customer experience is crucial to generating sales — online and in-store.

That's according to The Verint Experience Index, from customer engagement company Verint, which is based on a benchmark survey of consumer satisfaction with leading retailers. Costco, Amazon and Apple ranked highest in customer satisfaction (CSAT) and have high Net Promoter Scores (NPS) out of the top 25 retailers.

Amazon currently pays between \$75 million and \$100 million to stream Thursday games, according to The Wall Street Journal.

Sinclair Broadcast Group is shrinking its workforce by 5%, letting go of several hundred employees as a result of the "profound impact" of the pandemic, the company said in a statement. The company employs more than 9,211 people, meaning that approximately 460 staffers were affected by the downsizing, Variety reports. Sinclair owns WOAI/News 4 NBC and KABB Fox 29 in San Antonio.

The February jobs report was a promising one in the labor market's long road to recovery. Despite only having 28 days to do it, US employers added 379,000 jobs last month, more than economists expected. The unemployment rate ticked down to 6.2%.

For the first time since 2007, preliminary data from the National Safety Council show that as many as 42,060 people are estimated to have died in motor vehicle crashes in 2020. That marks an 8% increase over 2019 in a year where people drove significantly less frequently because of the pandemic. The preliminary estimated rate of death on the roads last year spiked 24% over the previous 12-month period, despite miles driven dropping 13%. The increase in the rate of death is the highest estimated year-over-year jump that NSC has calculated since 1924 – 96 years. It underscores the nation's persistent failure to prioritize safety on the roads, which became emptier but far more deadly.

The US and EU agreed to suspend tariffs related to a long-running dispute over Airbus and Boeing. It represents a thawing in ice-cold trade relations.

And if that wasn't enough good news, the US suspended tariffs on UK goods, including Scotch whisky, as the two countries prepare to negotiate a broader trade deal.

John McAfee, the "eccentric" cyber security entrepreneur, was charged with securities fraud over a crypto pump-and-dump scheme.

Tesla stock closed below \$600 for the first time since December. The company's shares are down more than 30% from their January high.

Tim Wu, a Columbia law professor known for knocking Big Tech over antitrust issues, is joining the Biden administration to work on technology and competition policy.

Oil prices shot up more than 4% after OPEC countries and their allies decided against increasing output. Earlier this week, gas prices hit an average of \$2.71/gallon, their highest level since 2019.

The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage topped 3% for the first time since last July, Freddie Mac revealed yesterday. It might signal the end of a period of record-low borrowing costs, which contributed to a refinancing frenzy and house-buying boom.

Total mortgage application volume was essentially flat for the week, rising just 0.5% according to the Mortgage Bankers Association's seasonally adjusted index.

Former NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg gave \$150 million to Harvard for a program to train mayors to handle society's increasingly sophisticated problems.

US infrastructure earned a C- grade from the American Society of Civil Engineers. Hey, at least that's better than the D+ in 2017.

Alamo Drafthouse, the movie theater chain known for its dine-in service, filed for bankruptcy.

U.S. airlines lost more than \$35 billion, combined, last year and passenger counts dropped by more than 60% from 2019 to about 370 million, the fewest since 1984, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Flu shots available

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Russian intelligence agencies have mounted a campaign to undermine confidence in Western vaccines, using online publications as fronts to amplify false and misleading claims, The Wall Street Journal reports (subscription).

Why it matters: "The foreign efforts to sow doubts about the vaccine exploit deep-seated anxieties... already prevalent in some communities."

The White House is preparing to retaliate against Russia for the hacking of U.S. government agencies that officials discovered late last year.

At least 30,000 US organizations reportedly hacked by a Chinese espionage group exploiting a flaw in Microsoft's email servers; extent of damage unknown, victim list includes small businesses and local governments.

Get Rid of Your "Maybes"

Maybe retirement has snuck up on you.
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Lou Gehrig Day: MLB will hold its first annual Lou Gehrig Day on June 2, the day he died in 1941, to raise money and awareness for ALS.

The NBA's Minnesota Timberwolves have the worst winning percentage in the history of US sports, according to calculations from the Reddit. The Timberwolves winning percentage dropped to 0.393 this week, falling below the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (whose win-loss record is 278-429-1) as the most unsuccessful active sports franchise in the country.

"We're losing people to Tampa?"

NYC mayoral candidate Andrew Yang told Bloomberg he was depressed after learning that Goldman Sachs was opening up a branch down in Tampa. If it feels any better, Mr. Yang, Bill Belichick said the same thing last year.

This time last year, the National Basketball Association and Women's National Basketball Association never seemed like they needed an official cleaning sponsor. But they have one now in Clorox Co. Nearly a year into the COVID-19 pandemic, the NBA and WNBA last week announced a partnership with Clorox to supply disinfecting products for games and events.

50 years ago Monday, Joe Frazier defeated Muhammad Ali in 15 rounds by unanimous decision at Madison Square Garden.

Billed as the "Fight of the Century," it's widely regarded as the biggest boxing match in history and arguably the most anticipated and hyped sporting event ever.

Ali (31-0, 25 KOs) had become the face and voice of the left-wing, anti-war movement during his government-imposed exile from the ring, while Frazier (26-0, 23 KOs) had been adopted by the conservative, pro-war movement.

This was the first of a trilogy, followed by the rematch fights Super Fight II (1974) and Thrilla in Manila (1975), both won by Ali.

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth." Muhammad Ali

Thanks for reading the weekly!

Netflix Head of Global TV Bela Bajaria announced that the first \$5 million of a recently announced Creative Equity Fund will go towards programs that help to nurture, develop and uplift women in the entertainment industry globally.

The fund dedicates \$20 million annually over the next five years to setting under-represented communities up for success in the TV and film industries, as well as bespoke Netflix programs that will help us to identify, train and provide job placement for up-and-coming talent globally.

City governments hire ZenCity to monitor the mood of local residents on social media, and soon the company will add civic polling to its platform through its acquisition of Elucid.

Keeping tabs on citizen's feedback and responses to government actions has become a key job for local leaders who are dealing with multiple crises brought on by the pandemic.

The companies say the combination will give cities, counties and law enforcement agencies a digital platform to track a community's opinions, reactions and needs in real time.

This will help local leaders address skepticism and misinformation related to measures to contain COVID-19, plus efforts to roll out vaccinations.

"City leaders are making life-changing decisions every day. They need to be able to see what's working and what's not," said Eyal Feder-Levy, CEO of ZenCity, which is based in Tel Aviv.

Elucid conducts smartphone polls of demographically representative populations, providing near-instant feedback.

The companies say they collectively work with more than 200 cities.

While plenty of people use social media and respond to smartphone polls, many people don't — and their voices will inevitably be left out.

The companies acknowledge this limitation, but say their methods are more inclusive than previous citizen engagement strategies — such as town hall meetings — that have high barriers for participation.

The Michaels Companies is being acquired in a deal that values the arts-and-crafts retailer at \$5 billion. Michaels said that it has entered into an agreement with private equity firm Apollo Global Management that will take the chain private. Michaels has more than 1,275 stores in North America.

Apparently autocorrect wants me to get my shirt together.

Former Google CEO Eric Schmidt said many future attacks on the U.S. from adversaries will come in the form of intentional misinformation campaigns, including ones enhanced by the use of artificial intelligence.

"I think the No. 1 [type of] attacks that our country will have will be precisely disinformation because the cost is so low and the value is so high," Schmidt told Ina in an interview this week.

Schmidt's comments came in an interview after the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence, which he chaired, finalized its report to Congress and the White House.

The tools to create disinformation are diffuse enough, Schmidt said, that they are likely to be adopted not only by large nation-states, but also by rogue actors or terrorists.

As one countermeasure, the report points to technologies that verify the origin of a piece of information — an approach already being developed for photos and video to deal with the emerging threat of deepfakes.

"You take people as far as they will go, not as far as you would like them to go."

- Jeannette Rankin, first female member of US House of Representatives (1917)

Depression advertisements overestimate my need to hike.

Kane Tanaka, the world's oldest living person at 118 years old, will carry the Olympic torch this May in Japan.

Tanaka was born in 1903, the same year the Wright brothers completed the world's first powered flight and just seven years after the first modern Olympic Games.

Tanaka's family will push her in a wheelchair for most of her leg, but she is determined to walk the final few steps.

Wild stat: In 2020, one in every 1,565 people in Japan was over 100 years old, with women making up 88% of them.

Biden was discussed on cable news for 1,836 minutes last month, according to the Stanford Cable TV News Analyzer. In February of Trump's first year, he commanded 4,669 minutes.

Nearly every big news site saw traffic decline in February, with politics dropping most.

Other stories — GameStop stock, vaccine developments — have garnered higher interest than they could in a Trump-centric world.

These dynamics could change if Trump re-inserts himself in the news cycle. 7 million people watched his CPAC speech last Sunday, nearing the number who saw the Golden Globes later that evening.



MARCH 9 MEETING VIA ZOOM

City Council

Council votes to delay implementation of the new UDC until July 28

Christina Ryrholm
Hill Country Weekly

Boerne City Council met on Tuesday, March 9 via zoom with Mayor Tim Handren conducting the meeting and Ty Wolosin, Nina Woolard, Quinten Scott, Bryce Boddie and Joe Macaluso attending from home.

There were nearly 40 participants that included staff and interested parties. One of the advantages of having meetings via zoom is that individuals may attend regardless of their location - one joined in from Alpine and another was out of town but did not specify where.

The four hour meeting began with an 80 minute executive session with no action being taken afterward. By far the most important (and lengthy topic) once again concerned the proposed zoning map and general uses table that tie into and are integral parts of the UDC (Unified Development Code). Two additional segments that have yet to be fully discussed are the seven Overlay Districts and the Engineering Design Manual.

In spite of two years of meetings and hearings almost all of the developers were caught by surprise when the new zoning map and general uses tables were placed of the city's website. Since then it has been acknowledged by staff that regardless of what efforts they made, there was a definite failure to communicate.

As a result of public outcry with calm and respectful comments from property owners and developers past, current and future presented at Planning and Zoning Commissioners meetings and at least two city councils it was decided last night to delay the effective date of all the components. The original date was to have been March 24. On the agenda it was being recommended to delay sixty days until May 26.

Several people spoke during public comments section and all had spoken at previous meetings. This time the message was just as strong in believing that the zoning and uses lacked clarity, were greatly different from current zoning and uses, that it was

not what they had been led to believe and all wanted an indefinite delay due to the importance and impact to the community as a whole.

A couple of the council members wanted to stay with the sixty day delay and others were in favor of a four month delay. Handren stated that there was a middle ground of 90 days but as he did not have a vote it was up to council. Macaluso motioned for a 90 day delay that was seconded by Wolosin and the vote was two for and three against. Then Scott motioned for 120 day delay for implementation with Macaluso making the second. The motion passed with four voting for the motion and Wolosin voting against.

For now everyone involved agrees that there is work to be done in order to get the details right and to respond to all the concerns that have been raised. At this time the effective date for the UDC, general uses table, new zoning map, overlay districts, signs and the engineering design manual has been put off until July 28.

In other council business -

*The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2020 was presented and accepted. Per Sandy Mattick, Finance Director, "the City of Boerne has a strong financial position with adequate resources to meet its ongoing obligations to its citizens and creditors".

*Speed limits on the newly annexed roads were set. Ranger Creek Road at 45 mph/portions of Upper Balcones Road at 45 mph and 30 mph/East Shooting Club Drive at 30 mph/Old San Antonio Road at 35 mph/Cascade Cavern Road at 40 mph.

*Amy Story, President and CEO of the Boerne Kendall County Economic Development Corporation (BKEDC), gave a semi-annual report.

*Community Services Director Danny Zincke gave a report on Boerne being a 2020 Tree City USA for the eleventh year. Last year 243 trees were planted in public spaces.



MARCH 8 MEETING

Rainfall, Wells & Rules

CCGCD directors discuss rulemaking documents

Connie McFall Clark
Hill Country Weekly

The Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District (CCGCD) met in its regularly scheduled meeting on March 8. Only 1.46 inches of rainfall was reported in February and 2.82 inches in 2021. The District is 29% behind normal amounts at this time of the year. The District will continue to be in Drought Stage 2. There were twelve well registrations in February and nine completed.

Shanel Ramirez of GRIT Co. presented information on one of its construction projects, Boerne Personal Warehouse, planned for State Highway 46 at Brandt Road (which dead-ends). The developer is working on an application for a Public Water Supply well to service the complex of five buildings and 35 units. The permit is subject to the District Manager and the CCGCD Board of Directors' approval. This commercial project is between two residential properties each with its own domestic and livestock well. TxDOT permits for access to SH46 are also pending. Expect more information in future CCGCD meetings.

The Directors continued discussion of the Rulemaking documents and called another workshop on March 22 at 4:00 p.m. It is open to the public and the goal is to finalize the rules on well construction and protection of groundwater recharge features. The next step is to conduct a Public Hearing on the rules before they can be adopted. However, a notice must be posted twenty days in advance of the date of a rule making hearing. The plan is to adopt the updated rules at the April meeting.

The next monthly meeting of the CCGCD will be held on April 12 at 6:00 p.m.

8	3	1	2	9	5	6	7	4
9	5	7	6	4	1	8	3	2
4	6	2	7	8	3	5	9	1
6	4	5	3	1	2	9	8	7
7	8	9	4	5	6	2	1	3
1	2	3	8	7	9	4	5	6
3	7	4	5	2	8	1	6	9
5	9	6	1	3	4	7	2	8
2	1	8	9	6	7	3	4	5

Answer

Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

CONTACT US

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Letters to the Editor
Submit online or through mail
Letters to the Editor are encouraged; we want to hear from you. Letters are subject to corrections and may be shortened. One subject per letter, 300 words or less. Letters signed without a name or physical address will not be published. Letters addressed to others, obvious attacks on others or blatantly offensive material will not be printed. The editor may use discretion. Please note: Letters to the Editor DO NOT reflect the opinion of the Hill Country Weekly.

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The answers for the **Sudoku** and **Crossword** puzzle on page 6 can be seen to the left.

Church Directory

Proverbs

26

It isn't proper to honor a foolish person. That's like having snow in the summer or rain at harvest time.

ANGLICAN
St. John's Anglican 7 Sisterdale Rd. • 249-3978 or 331-4001 Don Hughes, Minister

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Living Hope Church of Boerne 603 Frey St. • 249-2174 Pastor Jeremy Erickson • Sunday 10:45am
Templo Vida Nueva #11 Sisterdale Rd. • 249-7544

BAPTIST
Bible Baptist 113 Industrial St., Ste. 1 • Manuel Garcia, Jr., Minister
Comfort Baptist 104 Amber Dr., Comfort • 995-3638 • John Music, Pastor
Comfort Hispanic Baptist Mission 236 Broadway, Comfort • 995-3993 • Pedro Aguila Lopez, Minister
Currey Creek Baptist 35 Cascade Gaverns Rd. • 755-8806 • John Free, Minister
First Baptist Church Boerne 631 S. School St. • 249-2527 • fbcboerne.org • Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 am • Jason Smith, Pastor
First Baptist Church of Fair Oaks Ranch 31375 FM 3351 (Ralph Fair Rd.) • 438-8504, Eric Hightower, Pastor Worship Service: 10 am
Iglesia Bautista Emanuel 103 Chapel Hill • 537-4589
Leon Springs Baptist 24133 Boerne Stage Rd., San Antonio, 698-2880, Dan Allen, Minister • SS: 9:00 am • WS: 10:30 am
Waring Baptist Waring • 995-2652 • Harvey Davis

BIBLE
Boerne Bible 1026 E. Blanco Rd. • 249-2343, Sun. School: 9:45 am • Worship: 10:45 am, BoerneBibleChurch.org
Faith Bible Church of Boerne 1 Bergmann Road • 249-8448 Tim Ekno, Pastor • Worship: 8:30 & 10:40 am
Cross Community Fellowship 8770 Dietz Elkhorn Road, 830-331-9337 Gary McCarron, Pastor • Sunday School: 9:30 am Worship Service: 10:30 am

CATHOLIC
Sacred Heart Catholic 114 U.S. Hwy. 87, Comfort • 995-3708 Rev. Michael Peinemann
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic 8500 Cross Mountain Trl, San Antonio • 210-698-1941, Msgr. Conor McGrath • Mass: Sun 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am, 12:30 pm (Spanish), 7 pm
St. Joseph's Church - Honey Creek 25781 Hwy. 46 W., Spring Branch • 980-2268
St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church 202 W. Kronkosky St. • 816-2233 • Norman Ermis, Mass: Sat 5:30 pm, Sun 9 & 11 am, 12:30 pm (Mass in Spanish) • 6 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Each Wed 4:30-8 pm • First Fri 10:30 am-5 pm

CHRISTIAN
Christian Character Ministries 43360 IH-10 West • 537-5244, Walter H. Tracy, Jr. Christian Science Group Church & Sunday School; Wed. Testimony Meeting, For info call: 830-331-9779 • www.spirituality.com
Christian Spiritual Church of Unconditional Love 537-5467 • Elizabeth Paddon, Minister
Hill Country Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 20845 Hwy 46 W., Spring Branch, TX. 78070, 830-980-2019 www.tymychurch.com
Healing Place Church San Antonio Sunday at 10 A.M. • 28703 IH 10 W in Boerne

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Boerne Church of Christ 1 Upper Balcones Rd. • 249-2685
Church of Christ Southside 46 Old San Antonio Rd. 210-316-3824 • Howell Moore, Minister

EPISCOPAL
St. Boniface Episcopal 116 Hwy. 87 North, Comfort 995-3897 • The Rev Carol Blaine, Interim • Sundays 8:45 & 11 am
St. Helena's Episcopal 410 N. Main St. • 249-3228 Sundays 7:45, 9:00 & 11am

INTERDENOMINATIONAL
A Hill Country Chapel 886 Mountain View Lane • Pipe Creek, off Hwy. 46 • 510-4731 • hillcountrychapel.org Albert "Skip" Marks, Pastor • Melissa Morris, Youth Coordinator Sun. School, 9 am - all ages • Sun Worship 10 am • Eve Worship 6 pm • Wed Bible Study 7:00 pm - all ages. First Sun Eve of the Month - Family Night 6 pm
Cibolo Creek Community Church 30395 Ralph Fair Rd. Fair Oaks Ranch • 830-981-8989 • cibolocreek.com • Paul Wilson, Pastor • Janine Smithies, Executive Pastor Sundays - 9:15 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
City Hills Church Currently meeting at Starplex Cinema Boerne. • Sundays at 9:30 & 11 am • www.cityhillsstx.com
Cross Mountain 24891 Boerne Stage Rd. • Sundays at 9 & 11 am Randy Ayers & Jerry McNeil • www.crossmountain.org
His Hands • Meets Sundays, 10:30 am • 111 A Jennifer Dr., Pastors Ronnie and Jo Ann Squires • 830-230-5352
Journey Church - Leon Springs Dance Hall 24135 IH-10 W. • 210-877-9045 • Danny Jones, Minister Sunday 9:30-11:00 am • www.journeychurchsa.com
Kendall County Cowboy Church 605 FM 289, Comfort, 210-669-7819-Pastor Steve Gross-Fellowship at 9:30a.m. Service 10:30a.m. kendallcountycowboychurch.org
nineteen-ten church 130 FM 1376 • Sundays 8:30, 10, 11:30am Pastor Jason Brown • 830-249-1217 • 1910church.com

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS
Jehovah's Witness 304 N. School St. • 249-2452

116 N Plant Ave
Boerne, TX 78006
830-816-2811
glickinsurance.com

103 N. Saunders St.
Boerne, Texas
830-816-2131

Kiss the Cook Girls
113 E. Theissen St.
Boerne, Texas
830-249-3637

WHOLESALE: Gasoline • Diesel • Propane
303 S. Ebner • Boerne, TX 78006 • 830-249-2416

Dr. Joseph C. Arrieta, Optometrist
Primary Eyecare • Contact Lenses
Laser Vision Co-Management • Treatment of Eye Disease
125 Rosewood Avenue • Boerne • 830-249-8090

Print • Web • Digital Media
(830) 816-8238 Penguin Suits Advertising Agency

JEWISH
Jewish Community of The Hill Country 960 Barnett Street, Kerrville, 830-331-8941 • Fridays 6:30 pm at The Unitarian Universalist Church

LUTHERAN
Immanuel Lutheran 318 High St., Comfort • 995-3756 Shelly Simmon, Minister, Katie Rode, Vicar
Messiah Lutheran 9401 Dietz-Elkhorn Rd. • 830-755-4300
St. John Lutheran Church of Boerne - The NALC A Lutheran Congregation In Mission For Christ • 315 E. Rosewood, Traditional Worship: 8 & 10:30 am, Praise Worship 10:30 am SS: 9:15 am Pastors: Eric Waters & Mariola Bergquist www.stjohnlutheran.com
Our Savior Lutheran Community (ELC A) Boerne Hill Country YMCA • 820 Adler • Sun. Communion - 10:30 am • Pastor Steve Rode • 210-260-0317

METHODIST
First United Methodist 205 James St. • 249-2565, Dr. Ricky Burk, Dr. Russell Miller, fumc-boerne.org • Sun. 8:30 am & 11 am
Gaddis United Methodist 141 Hwy. 87, Comfort • 830-995-3813. Rev. Barbara Dyke • gaddischurch.org • Sunday Worship 10 am
Spring Creek United Methodist 2897 Old Fredericksburg Rd. 830-981-8331 • Rev. Stephen Sanders

MORMON
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints 203 Stonegate Road, Boerne, 830-249-7257, www.lds.org, Fair Oaks Ward - 9am to 12pm - Bishop Bryan Dunn, Leon Springs Ward - 11am to 2pm - Bishop Peter Roming, Boerne Ward - 1 to 4pm - Bishop Frank Mark Swensen, Balcones Branch (Spanish) 4:15 to 5:15pm - President Carlos Villarreal

PENTECOSTAL
Boerne United Pentecostal 235 Frey St. • 249-5993 Kerry Hammer, Minister • SS: 10 am • Wed 7:30 pm

PRESBYTERIAN
Christ of the Hills 635 Highway 46 East, Suite 204, Boerne • Rev. Pete Johnson • HY-BRID church (ZOOM or at the building) • 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday school • 11:00 a.m. Worship • www.christofthehills.org or 210-843-5366
Leon Springs Presbyterian 23943 IH-10 W. • Sunday School 9-10 am • Fellowship 10 Worship Service 10:30 am • Pastor Wayne Urbanowski, Jr. • 210-698-2325
Pipe Creek Presbyterian 8598 St. Hwy. 16 S. • Duane Manning, Minister • Sunday School 9:30 • Worship 10:30
St. Mark Presbyterian 208 W. Bandera Rd. • 816-3000 • 249-3232 • Rev. Dr. Joan H. Watson, Interim Pastor • Sunday Service 10:10 Streamed on you tube
Trinity Presbyterian (PC A) 8:00 Worship • 9:30 Sunday School, 10:10 Fellowship, 10:30 Worship • 31 Ammann Rd. www.trinityboerne.org

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
Laurel Heights Seventh-Day Adventist 703 W. Ashby Place, 210-732-6898

UNITY
Unity Church of Boerne 121 Scenic Loop Rd., Boerne, Sundays 11:00 am 380-755-5419 www.unityofboerne.org

OTHER
Boerne First Ward-Jesus Christ 203 Stonegate Rd. • 249-0016
Calvary Temple Church of Center Point & Comfort 4 miles west of Comfort on Hwy. 27 • 995-2459 David James, Minister
Centering Prayer 16 W. Highland Dr. • 210-286-4320
Community Bible Church 17 Old San Antonio Rd. B, Sun 10:30 am 210-896-2631 • cbcboerne.com • Pastor Terry Parks
Faith Harbor Church • 830-755-5205 • Sun. Prayer Service 2:30 pm • Tues.-Fri. Prayer 1-5 pm
Full Life Fellowship Nelson City Reception Hall • 825 Highway 289 (just down from Po-Po's restaurant) • Tony Nowak • Pastor www.full-lifefellowship.org • 210-560-3532
Have in the Hills Christian 809 N. Main, Boerne 830-249-3040 • Pastor Frank Autry
Jesus Name Full Gospel Church 402 E. Theissen, Boerne. Sun. at 10 am • 830-537-5060 • 210-699-0240, reachtheharvest.com
Kendalia Community Church 108 Arthur St., Kendalia, Pastor Reverend Roger Bryan Van Pelt • 209-781-0849
Sanctuary of Truth 28715 IH-10 West, Boerne • David Welch Worship Service 10 Sundays. Prayer meeting Thursday 7 pm.
Solid Rock Church 6656 Hwy. 27, Comfort • Pastor Larry Baker 830-739-4440
The Church at Boerne - Full Gospel Cowboy Fellowship Stone Creek Plaza, 1100 N. Main, Ste. 103, Boerne • Tues. 7:00 pm 210-414-8616
Touchstone Community Church See website for details, Touchstonecc.org, Reverend Billie Watts and Reverend Kerry Kirtley, 830-999-7100
Vida Nueva Boerne 11 FM #1376 • 249-1314



In early January of this year, I was contacted by several residents of Fair Oaks Ranch concerning a letter they had received in the mail. The seven page letter was regarding FOR Police Officer, Richard Davila, who had been fired.

The author stated they worked with Davila for ten years and was coming to his defense. Interestingly, the letter's return address was City Hall.

I read the letter, then put it away, hoping it would somehow just go away. It was difficult to believe this was going on in FOR. Heck, if only half of it were true...yuck.

After several calls and emails from the residents of FOR, Davila started sending me more and more information.

I was hoping another news outlet would pick up the story. Then I realized what I was doing, or not doing, to those that trusted The Weekly.

I have had dozens of conversations with Richard Davila. Throughout our conversations, he has never

told multiple versions of a story, has always expressed a deep concern for the FOR PD and the citizens of Fair Oaks Ranch.

City personnel, law enforcement and former employees of FOR PD have contributed to the decision to move forward with the story.

Of course, when the City sent out a press release and The Boerne Star came on board, the time frame was moved up.

To date, Rick Davila has not filed a lawsuit against the city. His attorney feels there's still an avenue for appeal.

The city gave him a general F5 form. A general discharge makes it hard to get another job as a Police Officer because an investigation was done.

This is a city, to save their own rear ends, that reviewed a grievance, conducted an internal investigation, hired an outside consultant and had that consultant meet with the police department personnel in a matter of weeks.

But when it comes to announcing to the citizens they are sworn to serve, about the abrupt retirement of a Police Chief that had been with the city for 20 plus years, they dragged their feet for months.

Check out the timeline, from October 4 when Rubin says adios, till November 22. Really, how could they pick November 22?

I had to smile when the press release came out from the city with the words inclusive and transparent. That's FOR city government speak for, 'we'll tell you what you need to know and when you need to know it.'

Over the next several weeks we will bring you an in depth picture of the FOR Police Department and how it operates.

If you have not received property returned that was part of an investigation, if you feel something was not investigated thoroughly or have any concerns about procedures at the FOR PD, please contact me.

Original Grievance

June 27, 2019

To: Mr. Tobin Maples

From: Detective Richard Davila

Ref: Promotional, City and Police Policy and Procedure Violations Grievance

This grievance is regarding City Policy 5.05 Promotions and Police Department Policy and Procedures 204 Promotions (Process for Promotion). First, pursuant to the Fair Oaks Ranch Police Department Policy 209 Grievance Procedure V. D. failure to be promoted is grievable when "the employee can show that established promotional policies or procedures were not followed or applied fairly." On May 30, 2019, I along with five (5) other officers participated in the department's promotion process for a vacant Sergeant's position. As per Police Department Policy 204, Promotions, the process for promotion was not followed. Per subpart B of Policy 204 the process for promotion is as follows:

1. Announcement of Position
2. Submit letter of intent
3. Pass Written examination
4. Pass assessment (if utilized)
5. Review Board
6. Review by the Chief of Police
7. Approval of promotion by the City Mayor.

All six officers passed the written exam and all six officers were selected to proceed to Step 5 the Review Board. Steps 5 and 6 (Review Board and Review by Chief of Police, respectively) were combined when they should remain separate to prevent undue command influence by Chief on the Board Members as mandated. At step 5, initially the Review Board voted 3-2 to promote me to the vacant Sergeant position. Chief Ruben intervened with the Review Board's initial decision.

Based on recent events that have occurred during my time at the department, I believe the Chief intervened in the Review Board's deliberations due to complaints I filed with the Chief involving potential criminal violations committed by another officer. Toward the end of 2016 I was having medical issues that I believed would affect my performance in the Operations Commander Position. I announced to Chief Ruben that I wished to relinquish my position because it was in the best interest of the City and Police Department. My stepping down from this position and moving into a detective position was in no way the result of any disciplinary or performance issues, which can be confirmed by my Performance Evaluations in my personnel file. The City Manager, Tobin Maples, thanked me for my decision and for "taking one for the team."

In December 2016, during the inventory of evidence and property, I witnessed Detective [REDACTED] violate policy and procedures and criminal laws, Tampering with evidence and Falsifying Government Documents, by destroying evidence and victims property, giving evidence and victims property to the maintenance department, and falsifying the entries on the property sheet showing property was there when it wasn't. Any property destroyed must have a judges court order from the court. Property given away is against department policy and procedures and violates Texas Law as clearly stated. I stopped and walked into Chief Ruben's office and told him and Lieutenant Moring of the policy and procedure and criminal law violations I had witnessed. Both Chief and Lieutenant went to the evidence shed and performed an inspection as confirmed by the evidence/property building entry log. Nothing was done as a result of this inspection. [REDACTED] and I continued the inventory of which only 80% was performed. [REDACTED] said he had only done 80% of an inventory since he'd been assigned to CID. I gave a letter of this incident to Lieutenant Moring. I continued to report policy and procedure criminal law violations made by Detective [REDACTED] to Chief Ruben and Lieutenant Moring. [REDACTED] has been allowed to continue to violate policy and procedures that has potentially placed the city and police department in liable situations, and our criminal cases in jeopardy.

[REDACTED] committed law violations, Tampering with Evidence, by giving out drugs from the property room from current criminal cases to our canine officer for training. I gave a letter detailing this information to Lt. Moring to which he said no policy or procedure, or law was violated. I verbally and documented in another letter my concerns of liability to the city and police department to Lt. Moring and Chief Ruben regarding all the acts [REDACTED] committed. I suggested that the City Manager and Mayor be notified of the possible liability. I also advised that an outside agency conduct an unbiased investigation to show transparency. Other cities and counties that have had similar situations, have done what is right and separated themselves and have brought in the Texas Rangers to investigate. No action was taken back in December 2016, that could have preserved the integrity of all criminal cases.

In a separate incident, [REDACTED] had an emotional breakdown. During my talk with him he expressed how sick and stressed he felt with his job. He said he couldn't go back to patrol because he had two letters in his file stating he was unfit for patrol. After trying to deescalate the situation, he made suicidal comments. I verbally and in writing reported all of this to Lt. Moring and Chief Ruben. I specifically asked Chief why [REDACTED] was carrying a gun if there was documented proof that he was unfit for patrol, to which he did not respond. I was upset with Chief and asked him why he would allow [REDACTED] to continue to work where there is documented proof of his not being fit for duty. After my conversation with the Chief, [REDACTED] walked to [REDACTED] and continued to display signs of distress. [REDACTED] contacted me and told me that because of her incident with [REDACTED], she contacted a family member and let them know of her conversation in case something happened to her. [REDACTED] stressed she was concerned because [REDACTED] was carrying a gun. She submitted a letter to the Chief regarding this incident. When I asked Chief what was going to happen with [REDACTED], he said he was going to allow [REDACTED] to take more time off. Chief's solution was a violation of policy and procedure.

Towards the end of 2018 Sergeant Toussaint was assigned to CID by the Chief of Police to verify my documentation. After three days, Sgt. Toussaint informed the Chief that I was correct on all accounts to which the Chief ordered an internal investigation. After completion of the investigation, and discussion of our results with the Chief and Lt., [REDACTED] admitted to all my complaints, and was allowed to retire.

I believe that all these incidents regarding [REDACTED] are the primary reason Chief Ruben does not want me to serve in a supervisory position. If this is true, Chief Ruben's interference with the Review Board's decision-making process could amount to unlawful retaliation under the Texas Whistleblower's Act. I was issued Just Cause Gag Order on November 27, 2018. This was issued because the chief feared that I would report this. I was the only person issued this Gag Order.

In addition, I want to bring to your attention certain comments made by the Human Resources representative during this process. During the Review Board, the Human Resources representative made comments that her vision for the police department should include a leader who is new, fresh, has ideas, and will be at the department for a long time. Since she knows I'm 52, the perception was that the department needed someone young. If this is true, my age could have been a factor in the department's decision to overturn the Review Board's decision to initially promote me to Sergeant in violation of the City's anti-discrimination policies and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act. Lt. Moring told supervisors that I was never going to be a sergeant again with the department and that I am not in line with the vision of the Chief in reference to education. I confronted Lt. Moring about this statement, and he admitted to what he said.

The Sergeant's position demands someone with proven leadership ability and experience. I possess all the experience and prerequisite requirements for the Sergeant position. As per City Policy under Promotions, it states that "Advancement to a higher position requiring higher qualifications because it involves greater responsibility." A partial list of my credentials are as follows:

- Graduate of Bill Blackwood Leadership Command College, Class 81 (only 2% of Texas Peace Officers who apply are accepted)
- Bill Blackwood GMI management Skills Course
- FBI Command College/AALEA Course
- Effective Leadership/Training UT System Police Academy
- Command Staff Leadership Series Bill Blackwood LEMI continuing Chief's Training
- Master Peace Officer License

It is apparent that Chief Ruben's interference with the Review Board's adversely impacted the board's independent decision-making authority. As such, I respectfully request that you investigate this matter further to determine if department policy and or applicable laws were violated during the promotional process to Sergeant and to ensure that this behavior does not occur again in the future. If it is determined that policies and or laws were violated, I respectfully request to be placed in the position of Sergeant as initially recommended by the Review Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Detective Richard Davila

Timeline of Events

June 27, 2019 – Original grievance from Detective Richard Davila to City Manager Tobin Maples

August 6, 2019 – City Council authorizes the City Attorney to "engage a consultant to assist the City Attorney with performance assessment and information collection."

September 19, 2019 – City Council receives "legal advice from City Attorney and Consultant regarding performance assessment and information collection."

October 4, 2019 – A meeting is called where Chief Ruben announces, "I'm retiring, been nice working with you", and walks out the door.

October 7, 2019 – Tobin Maples calls a meeting to announce a search firm will be hired to find a new Chief.

November 1, 2019 – Council meeting agenda packet for November 7 meeting contains Life Saving Award certificate signed by "Tim Moring, Interim Chief of Police."

November 22, 2019 – City sends out News Flash "Chief Ruben's Retirement Announcement"

Press Release by Fair Oaks Ranch



7286 Dietz Elkhorn Fair Oaks Ranch, TX 78015

Bus: 210-698-0900 • fairoaksranchtx.org

Date: March 1, 2021

From: Department of Human Resources & Communications
Joanna Merrill, Director

Statement Regarding Personnel Update

Citizens of Fair Oaks Ranch we would like to continue with our strategic goal to be as inclusive and transparent with our communications and operations as possible. We would like to update you on a personnel matter that may be affecting our community soon.

The City of Fair Oaks Ranch recently terminated a police officer, and the separation is currently under contention. We are aware of what citizens may be hearing and the City stands firmly behind its decision to terminate this employee and our hope is that you will be patient with us while we handle this issue through the proper legal avenues and counsel.

Letter to Mr. Davila from Tobin Maples' lawyer

BRANSCOMB LAW

Keith B. Sieczkowski
ksieczkowski@branscomblaw.com
(361)886-3841

March 3, 2021

Richard Davila
C/O Adam Muery
Attorney and Counselor at Law
201 East Pecan Street
Hutto, Texas 78634

Via E-Mail adam@mueryfarrell.com

Mr. Richard Davila
C/O Karl B. Brock
Brock & Brock, P.C.
803 E. Mistletoe
San Antonio, Texas 78212

Via E-Mail karlb@brockcnbrock.com

Re: Tobin Maples

Dear Messrs. Davila, Muery, and Brock,

We represent Tobin Maples, City Manager of Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas. Last week, it was reported that you made statements to third parties, including the news media, that Mr. Maples gave instructions to Chief of Police Moring to destroy government records and documents subject to record retention schedules, which were purportedly in the desk drawers of the former Fair Oaks Ranch Chief of Police. Such conduct, if true, would be a crime subject to prosecution.

Your statements are false and defamatory per se. Under Texas law such defamatory statements are presumed to cause reputational harm and a defamation suit concerning same would require no proof that Mr. Maples suffered damage to his reputation or any monetary loss. Nevertheless, Mr. Maples would be entitled to recover from you presumed damages, actual damages, and punitive damages.

Pursuant to Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code Section 73.055, demand is hereby made that you immediately retract your defamatory statements in a writing, to each person, entity and/or agency to whom you or anyone at your direction has communicated such malicious defamation.

Please provide me with a copy of the written retraction as well as evidence that the retraction has been sent to each person to whom it was communicated.

Sincerely,
Keith B. Sieczkowski

Response from Mr. Davila's lawyer to lawyer for Tobin Maples

I refer you to The Texas Citizens Participation Act. The State of Texas doesn't permit the threat of legal action to dissuade citizens from shining light into the halls of government exposing what officials may prefer to be left hidden. If you attempt any legal proceedings against my client, without meeting the muster of Chapter 27 of the Civil Practice and Remedies Code, then your client will be paying my attorney's fees.

Best Regards,
Adam Muery

Obituaries

John W. Douglas • April 28, 1944 - February 20, 2021



John W. Douglas, age 76, of Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas passed away on Saturday, February 20, 2021 at Methodist Hospital in San Antonio.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. John Douglas was born April 28, 1944 to Elmer and Agnes Douglas in Owensboro, Kentucky. He spent three years at Texas A&M College Station and finished his degree at St. Mary's University in San Antonio. He also did his graduate work at St. Mary's. Upon graduation, he was inducted into the U.S. Army and served with distinction for twenty-six years in the Army Reserves after finishing his active duty. John's civilian career began

with Travelers Insurance Company in 1968. He also briefly worked for Great Southern Insurance Company before joining USAA Life Insurance Company. He worked at USAA for twenty-eight years before retiring as a Senior Vice-President. John served San Antonio in many ways during his time at USAA. He served on many charity boards but he was proudest of being Chairman of the Board that oversaw the building of the Blood and Tissue bank that has gone on to save so many

lives. Because John's mother, Agnes was severely vision-impaired, it spurred his interest in a non-profit organization called Guide Dogs of Texas that raises and trains guide dogs for the visually impaired. John Douglas's life was geared to serving proudly and helping others. He was a husband, father, soldier, business executive, community volunteer and friend. He leaves behind an empty spot in many, many hearts. He is survived by his wife of 53 years Mary

Kay Douglas and his son James Douglas. Also surviving him are his beloved sisters - Eleanor and her husband Melvin Spitzberger and Alice Ann and her husband Robert Haas. Others who will miss him terribly are his sister-in-law Anne Ridgley and husband Wayne, nieces Krissy O'Brien, Lauren Williams and husband Travis, Kayla Williams and husband Blake, Cindy Spitzberger, as well as a host of grand nieces and nephews. Should anyone wish

to make a remembrance, John is still gladly accepting donations for his four-legged, tail wagging friends at Guide Dogs of Texas San Antonio. Arrangements are under the care and direction of the staff of Holt & Holt Funeral Home of Boerne. To share words of comfort with the family, please visit holtfh.com.



John Andrew (Andy) Ware • December 10, 1943 - March 6, 2021



John Andrew (Andy) Ware, 77, of Boerne, passed away on Saturday, March 6, 2021

at Methodist Specialty and Transplant Hospital in San Antonio. A graveside service was held on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. in the Boerne Cemetery. Andy was born December 10, 1943 to John Oliver Ware and Goldie (Jackson) Ware in Long Beach, California. Andy married Frances Bever on July 12, 1968 in Beaumont, California. They raised two sons, Jacob Nathan Ware and Daniel Jeremiah Ware.

Andy grew up in the Southern California town of Beaumont. He attended San Bernardino Valley College and the University of Arizona School of Pharmacy in Tucson, Arizona. Upon graduation he returned to Beaumont to begin his pharmacy career. He married Frances in 1968 and they lived in the Beaumont/Cherry Valley area for several years. They eventually moved to Upland, California where Andy

purchased Mountain Plaza Pharmacy, an independent pharmacy. After eight very busy years they made a big change and moved to Apopka, Florida where they purchased a wholesale greenhouse operation, New Nursery Inc. There they grew five acres of indoor tropical foliage (houseplants), shipping mainly up the East Coast. In 2008 they retired and moved to Boerne. Here Andy had time to pursue his interests in plants,

antique clocks, mechanical musical instruments and Model T Fords. Andy is survived by his wife, Frances; his son, Jacob and wife Alyse of Conifer, Colorado, and their children, Ian and Kora; his daughter-in-law Brandy Ware of Apple Valley, California and her daughter, Autumn; and his extended family. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Goldie (Jackson) Ware; and his son, Daniel Ware. In lieu of flowers,

donations may be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Arrangements are under the care and direction of the staff of Holt & Holt Funeral Home of Boerne. To share words of comfort with the family, please visit www.holtfh.com.



Please do not trespass

Animal drop off and parking changes due to certified letter

The Guarantee Title Company of Boerne ("Guarantee Title") sent a certified letter to the Hill Country Animal League ("HCAL") stating that our clients are trespassing on Guarantee Title's property. The vacant lot to the south of HCAL is owned by the Guarantee Title as shown below.

while visiting our clinic. We want to be a good neighbor, so moving forward we will not collect animals from cars parked on Guarantee Title's lot. Our neighbor to the north, Fritze's BBQ, continues to allow HCAL to use its parking lot as needed. If you are not already a loyal customer, please give them a try: they have delicious food.

Guarantee Title has suggested that HCAL lease the vacant lot for \$2000 a month. Our budget cannot support this expenditure, so we ask, instead, that you to help us be a good neighbor as we continue to support the needs of cats and dogs in our community. Thank you for your continued support.

Stephen Boyanowski, President, Board of Directors HCAL

Please do not trespass on Guarantee Title's property



Rainbow Senior Center at Kronkosky Place

*Call ahead to confirm meals are being served
830-249-2114 ~ 17 Old San Antonio Road

MARCH MENU

Friday March 12

Grilled Hamburgers w/ Fixings
Baked Beans • Cinnamon Peaches

Monday March 15

Chicken Fried Steak
Corn w/ Onions • Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Tuesday March 16

Chicken Pot Pie w/ Biscuit
Bread Pudding • Sautéed Spinach

Wednesday March 17

Bangers & Mash • Sausage
Mashed Potatoes w/ Onions • Gravy
Roasted Brussel Sprouts

Thursday March 18

Chicken & Waffles
Lima Beans w/ Dill • Mac & Cheese



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	1		9							5
5				3		7	2			
		4			8					9
		3	8							6
7		9			6	2				
	4			1						8
		2	7							1
	5		6	4						3
8					5	6				

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Nightwear, for short
- 4 Rm. coolers
- 7 Fable writer
- 12 Decay
- 18 Zilch
- 19 Berth places
- 20 Retain
- 22 Away from NNW
- 23 Roundish 'do
- 27 Writer Harper
- 29 Sitting room
- 31 Prepared apples for baking
- 34 Street punks
- 35 Uproar
- 37 Rotating part
- 38 A Great Lake
- 39 Actor Stephen
- 41 Dumbstruck
- 45 Striped equine
- 47 Hockey's Bobby
- 48 Performed to the end
- 52 Gun-lobby org.
- 53 Broadcaster
- 54 Code-

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14				
15				16			17					
18				19								
20			21		22				23	24	25	26
			27	28			29	30				
31	32	33					34					
35					36		37					
38					39	40			41	42	43	44
					45			46		47		
48	49	50	51							52		
53						54				55		
56						57				58		

- 9 Pigs' digs
- 10 Metal source
- 11 Group of whales
- 17 Get ready, briefly
- 21 West Point freshman
- 23 Bakery lure
- 24 "Alice" waitress
- 25 Scepter
- 26 Hosp. areas
- 28 College URL ender
- 30 "Eureka!"
- 31 "Evita" narra-
- tor
- 32 Owned by us
- 33 MLB stat
- 36 Raised
- 37 Tenor Enrico
- 40 Deep, lustrous black
- 42 Candymaker Willy
- 43 Goofed
- 44 Pulls
- 45 Goose egg
- 46 — impasse
- 48 Bit of butter
- 49 Fib
- 50 Branch
- 51 "Uh-huh"

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Assistance for damaged conservation practices



USDA NRCS offers technical, financial assistance in response to Texas winter storm damage

In response to the winter storms that hit Texas in February 2021, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is

offering farmers and ranchers technical and financial assistance to repair and replace certain damaged conservation practices.

NRCS is accepting applications for its Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) for the recovery measures listed below:

- Animal Mortality and Animal Mortality Facility
- High Tunnel Systems
- Irrigation System and Irrigation Pipeline
- Livestock Pipeline

- Obstruction Removal
- Pumping Plant
- Roofs and Covers
- Waste Storage Facility
- Water Well
- Watering facility

NRCS accepts conservation program applications year-round; however, applications for 2021 winter storm recovery funding must be submitted by one of three deadlines: March 5, March 19, or April 2, 2021. After each deadline, applications will be ranked and approved as soon as possible so conservation work can begin. Producers must submit a separate application by one of the ranking deadlines for this disaster sign-up to be considered.

Farmers and ranchers negatively impacted by winter weather are encouraged to contact their local NRCS office to seek assistance. The Boerne Field Office of NRCS is located at 136 Old San Antonio Rd, Suite 101, Boerne, TX, but due to COVID-19 restrictions, please call the office at (830)431-0955, Ext. 3 for an appointment.

Oak Tree Maintenance

Temporary Exception for Oak Tree Maintenance Due to Winter Storm

Due to the winter storm, the City has decided to issue a temporary exception for oak tree maintenance to include damage from the historical freeze.

We are asking that residents and/or contractors use the following

temporary exemption form for necessary projects. Projects completed by registered tree contractors AND property owners must have an exemption form on-file. Please try to complete all projects by April 30, 2021 and remember to

seal ALL oak tree wounds.

For Oak Tree Maintenance Exemption Form visit: <https://bit.ly/3br5xLU>

If you have any questions, please call the City's Environmental Project Manager at (210) 698-0900.

Letters to the Editor

Heroes

The Corona 19 virus appears to be coming under control. We should be thanking all those people who did the right thing; wearing masks, social distancing and avoiding crowds for helping to bring this crisis under control. The people who were concerned about their fellow man are the real heroes. Those of you who think this virus is a hoax and have fought any attempt of a united front in this fight owe these unsung heroes a big thanks.

– Richard Caldwell, Boerne

Campaign against Ted Cruz

To those who sent an unsigned letter and a postcard signed only as Jeanne telling me to “ask for [my] money back” from the Ted Cruz campaign. From the 2018 campaign? Really?

You said I should ask for my money back. I fail to be impressed by the poor penmanship in the handwritten anonymous letter. Nor am I impressed by the semi-anonymous postcard, postmarked “Saint Paul, MN”. By indicating that you know my name and where I live but not fully signing either document, you lead me to believe a couple of things about you. First, your courage of conviction is abysmal. If you had signed your full name, I would have felt you had some foundation for your views. Second, if remaining a “shadow” character was to intimidate or bully me, you failed miserably!

When someone has reached my age and lived the sort of life I have, it takes more than a childish implied “threat” to compel compliance. I’m old school. Rather than knuckle under and discontinue support for my candidate, I’m “reloading” Senator Cruz’ campaign, by increasing my 2021 donation over my 2018 donation. So, if I had planned a small or even no donation this year, your messages resulted in the exact opposite of your intent.

My hope is that anyone who has received such ridiculous instructions regarding contributions regarding a Republican or other candidate will respond in like manner.

– Elizabeth Rankin Williams



Oldest, continuous business in Boerne. Family owned and operated since 1882.

Can I Be Frank?

When a patient enters Hospice Care, at some point it is usually suggested by Hospice that the family visit with a funeral home and make the necessary arrangements. Hospice knows that it is much easier to make decisions before their loved one actually passes away. You need to make clear and financially sound decisions, and grief makes that hard to do. It is much easier on the family when they know their loved one's wishes and how they are going to pay for it versus the family that has never discussed death at all. Death is hard enough. Added stress over finances and wondering if you are doing what your loved one would have wanted is not necessary. Talk to your family now about your wishes. You're not being morbid, you're being realistic and thoughtful. They will be grateful when the time comes.

111 Rosewood Ave. • Boerne
(830) 249-2321 • Ebensberger-Fisher.com

Explore Comfort

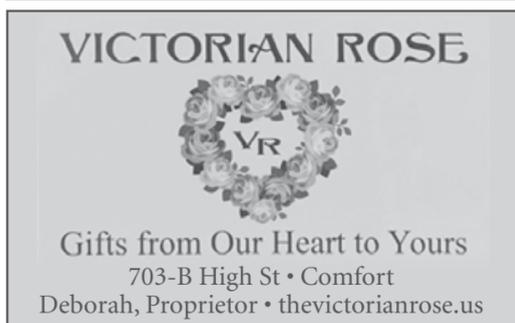
Building a Partnership

The Comfort Antique Mall was started at 734 High Street in Comfort in June of 1997. At the suggestion of Ann Willmann and Frances Willmann, Jeff Cadle and Bill Purdue began a partnership to start the Comfort Antique Mall. Two years later the building was enlarged to the size it is today. We started with about 12 dealers. Two of the dealers, Dianna and Bart Lucas, were brought on board because of their experience in running an antique store. They had owned the building from 1983 to 1989 and ran an antique store in it. They then sold the building and started setting up at the Turkey Barns until they came on board with the Comfort Antique Mall in 1996.

Twenty-two years later the Mall is still going strong with about 30 dealers from all over the hill country. The continued success of the Mall is due to the dealers who work tirelessly to shop for quality antiques from across the country, price their merchandise, and then display them. Many of the antique dealers have been with the Mall since its inception.

The antique dealers at the Mall take turns working at the Mall. In that way, customers have knowledgeable and courteous staff to wait on them. They make the Comfort Antique Mall one of the best antique malls you can shop.

We are open daily 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and until 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Our Mall is climate controlled with clean, proudly presented merchandise from colonial times to the 60's. Enjoy the great 50's music while you shop. The fridge is always stocked with sodas and water. Our public restroom is clean. We hope to see you soon! Another wonderful part of this business is meeting all the wonderful people who come through our door.



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Commissioners

Continued from page 1

Lily Ranch

Once again Lily Ranch, a proposed development at 22 Old Fredericksburg Road, was on the agenda. The first time was on September 28, 2020 (See The Weekly article in the

October 1 issue) when the developers asked for relief for minimum frontage, setbacks and density as well as dead end streets. This was denied.

At the February 12 Commissioners Court the agenda item to present a Master Plan was withdrawn.

This week a Master Plan

was submitted. Bill Ballard, General Counsel, took the unusual step to display a slide presentation with all the required elements that be included on a Master Plan that is before the commissioners to approve. One by one he would read the information needed and asked Mary Ellen Schulle, Kendall County

Development Engineer, if it was included.

Ten times the answer was yes. (These include such items as name of the development, contiguous landowners, boundary lines, phases, access to roads, school districts, flood plain, existing facilities and utility information.)

In conclusion it was stated that "Approval of the Master Plan shall not constitute or imply approval of the preliminary plat, final plat or any permit required for completion of the project."

If approved this master plan would then be grandfathered in, allowing the development to continue under the 2010 rules and regulations. These are an updated version of the 1997 set of rules and regulations and will be replaced by the anticipated updated document, hopefully this year.

During the commissioners discussion Chapman wanted to table the item until a discussion about density could occur and the future cost to the county could be ascertained. Durden wanted to know if they (commissioners court) were obligated to approve the master plan if all requirements had been met or if they would be obligated to accept a preliminary or final plat. Ballard replied thatchy did not have to approve the plan and that their vote would not be a "tacit approval" for future requested relief.

Lux stated that he was not there to vote his "personal opinion or preference" but to acknowledge that when a property is purchased the developer is entitled to try and

complete a project "as they see fit" and the master plan was administratively correct.

Buck Benson, representing the developer Ashton Woods, stated that they had reduced the number of homes from 500 down to around 350. They will be in the \$350-425 range, 2400 to 3600 square feet and similar to the Cielo Ranch/ Front Gate Development.

He indicated the unique character of the property is that it is located within the San Antonio ETJ (Extra Territorial Jurisdiction) and that SAWS (San Antonio Water System) is obligated to supply water and sewage services.

At least nine individuals, many of them property owners adjacent to the Lily Ranch area, spoke reiterating the main issues from the September commissioners court - water, traffic, flooding, environmental concerns and overall the huge negative impact to the area.

Elkins, whose precinct the property is located in, made the motion to not approve the master plan. Lux seconded and the motion to deny passed 4 to 0 (Bergmann had left the meeting earlier).

Other Business

- March was declared American Red Cross Month.
- Sales tax for December 2020 was \$436,045, up almost 15% from the same month last year.
- Richard Elkins presented an update on the resolution for the 87th Legislature. The survey has been removed from the county website after over 900 had responded. Seven of the eight questions received over 90% approval. The last question, with 84% approval, required that the voters grant the commissioners authority to make the necessary adjustments.



Registration

Continued from page 1

to stress that residents sign up for multiple vaccine opportunities at other sites. For those able to get the vaccine elsewhere we ask that they send an email to covid@boerne-tx.gov and let us know so we can remove them from the Boerne-Kendall County waitlist. For those who might be helping elderly family members seeking a COVID-19 vaccine, please consider helping them with this sign-up process.

Please note we will continue to follow state and federal guidelines regarding who is eligible to receive a vaccine shot. As with previous vaccine clinics, only those who register can receive a shot, there cannot be any switching of appointments and no on-site sign-ups will be allowed.

LINK: <https://www.ci.boerne.tx.us/2052/Join-the-Waitlist---1st-Dose>

Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Richard Foster Page, Sr., Deceased, were issued on March 4, 2021, in Cause No. 21-021-PR, pending in Kendall County, Texas, to Richard Foster Page, Jr.

The address of the Independent Executor for the purposes of presenting claims is:

Richard Foster Page, Jr., Independent Executor
c/o Nikki D. Miller, Attorney
616 E. Blanco Road, Suite 202B
Boerne, Texas 78006

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.

DATED the 4th day of March, 2021.

The Law Office of Nikki D. Miller
616 E. Blanco Rd, Ste 202B
Boerne, TX 78006-2012
Phone: (830) 331-9760 • Fax: (830) 584-0774
Email: nikki@nikkimillerlaw.com

Nikki D. Miller

Nikki D. Miller
State Bar No.: 24038548
Attorney for Independent Executor

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF SHARRON POSS JAY AS INDEPENDENT EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF ROY S. POSS, DECEASED

Pending in the County Court, Kendall County, Texas, Cause No. 21-011-PR

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ABOVE ESTATE:

WHEREAS, on the 5th day of February, 2021, in the County Court, Kendall County, Texas, the undersigned duly qualified as the Independent Executrix of the Estate of Roy S. Poss, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary on this estate were granted and this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law. Any person indebted to said estate is hereby notified to pay same to the undersigned:

Sharron Poss Jay, Independent Executrix of the Estate of Roy S. Poss, Deceased
Address: c/o Granstaff, Gaedke & Edgmon, P.C., Attorneys, Attn: Kelli Gohmert, 5535 Fredericksburg Road, Suite 110, San Antonio, Texas 78229.

Dated at San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, March 4, 2021.
Boerne, Texas 78006, 830-249-3050.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED



"We are building an exemplary Hill Country community by delivering high quality, customer focused essential services to all who live, work, and play in Boerne."

Service Worker I – Street Dept.

Job Summary

Assists with maintenance of city streets, sidewalks, curbs, and drainage systems, using light equipment and hand tools; maintains, plants, and trims grass, trees, and brush; performs traffic control at work sites; and assists with performing minor repairs on equipment.

The full job description, job announcement, & online application are available for review at www.governmentjobs.com/careers/boerne-tx.

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities:

- Knowledge of methods, practices, material, and equipment used in street and drainage system maintenance.
- Knowledge of use and care of tools and specialized equipment.
- Ability to understand and follow instructions.
- Ability to learn to operate standard maintenance equipment.
- Ability to apply safety standards to prevent hazards.
- Ability to tolerate outside working conditions, including exposure to adverse weather conditions.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers and the general public.
- Ability to move items up to 90 pounds.

Requirements:

- Sufficient education to read and write or any equivalent combination of experience and training that provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities.
- Valid Class A Texas driver's license.

Benefits:

- Medical • Dental • Vision • Group Life Insurance
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Salary: \$15.08 - \$22.89 Hourly DOQ

Closing Date: Until filled

Apply online at governmentjobs.com/careers/boerne-tx
The City of Boerne is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

Pursuant to Chapter 59 Texas Property Code, Access Storage will conduct a Public Sale of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Property of the following will be sold "as is" "where is" to highest bidder beginning on March 13, 2021 from 10 am to March 27, 2021 at 3 pm through StorageTreasures.com.

Balista Reyes Scott, Unit Number 538- Items from the unit appears to include: 2 drawer file cabinet, Christmas Tree's, Wood Bedroom Set, Rod Iron Glass Tables, Electric Christmas Train, Snow Village, 8' utility table, Printer, Wicker Side Table, 14" LED Nutcracker with Train, Black Barstool, Bamboo Basket, 2 large Picture frames.

Removal of all items by purchaser within 48 hours is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property from sale.

ACCESS STORAGE

105 Shooting Club Rd., Boerne, Texas 78006, 830-249-3050.

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

Pursuant to Chapter 59 Texas Property Code, Access Storage will conduct a Public Sale of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Property of the following will be sold "as is" "where is" to highest bidder beginning on March 13, 2021 from 10 am to March 27, 2021 at 3 pm through StorageTreasures.com.

Balista Reyes Scott, Unit Number 542- Items from the unit appears to include: Large Doll House, Tackle Box, Approximately 25 large totes, Dance Mat Piano, clothes, luggage, Linens, Children's Toys, Large Brown Rug.

Removal of all items by purchaser within 48 hours is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property from sale.

ACCESS STORAGE

105 Shooting Club Rd.
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Focus On The Family - *Releasing unresolved bitterness* - by Jim Daly

Q: My father hurt me deeply when I was a child. Friends tell me I need to forgive him in my heart, but I'm finding that very difficult to do. What would you say?

Jim: My heart goes out to you, and I understand how you feel. I struggled for years trying to forgive my alcoholic father who abandoned me when I was five, and also the

stepdad who left my four siblings and me to fend for ourselves when my mom died four years later. For a long time, I thought: Why should I?

But eventually, I had to come to grips with the fact that I could either forgive or slowly poison my own mind and heart. Holding on to unresolved bitterness will destroy you. You can't control your father's

actions and attitudes. But by God's grace – and with His help – you must learn to control your own. If you choose not to forgive, you'll only hurt yourself.

Of course, a very important piece of the puzzle is how your father hurt you. If there was sexual or physical abuse involved, it's critical that you work through that hurt and betrayal with people

you can trust; in fact, I'd strongly recommend working with a qualified counselor. Or perhaps you've "only" been scarred by years of rejection or emotional neglect. These are still serious and painful wounds that won't heal until you're able to forgive your father from the heart.

To be honest, this won't happen without

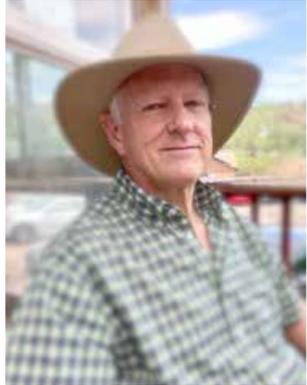
divine grace, and possibly the guidance of a professional therapist who can help you sort all this out in a healthy, non-threatening way. Focus on the Family's counselors would be pleased to discuss your concerns with you over the phone. I invite you to contact them at 855-771-HELP (4357).

This column sponsored by:

Texas Heritage Bank

Boerne (830) 249-3955
Leon Springs (210) 698-8100
Member FDIC

Local author to sign his books on Saturday



Hunting Snipes + four local author David Martin Anderson

Christina Ryrholm
Hill Country Weekly

On Saturday, March 13 local author David Martin Anderson can be found signing editions of his latest book, *Hunting Snipes + four*.

He will be at The Boerne Bookshop from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Released in January of this year the book is an anthology consisting of five novellas - *Hunting Snipes* (takes place in 2000 in southern Utah), *Orson Welles* and the *Lindsay Park Redemption* (takes place in 2020 in Brooklyn), *Runner Speaks* (takes place in 1867 in

West Texas), *Jessica Collector* (takes place in 2020 in Iowa) and *Collette and Cole* (takes place in 2020).

David was born in Hawaii in 1950 but while a toddler moved to Des Moines, Iowa where his father was raised. One of four children, he married his high school sweetheart, Mary, in 1971. They have a son and daughter and four grandchildren.

David and Mary went to SMU where he studied engineering and she majored in education. He founded and sold two telecommunications

companies and then began his writing career in his forties. Mary spent many years with Boerne ISD. The couple moved to Boerne in 1994.

David is waiting to hear if he will be the recipient of the Faulkner- Wisdom Literary competition whose goal is help writers improve their craft and to recognize a completed unpublished literary work. He has two works being considered this year and was also a finalist in 2011 for *The Last Good Horse* (takes place in Montana from the 1930's to early 2000's).

Being a curious individual and always seeking to improve his writing skills, David has applied to the University of Iowa's MFA Writer's Workshop where he will be the only one over 50 to take the course - if he is accepted.

Although *Hunting Snipes + four* was conceived as a book for young adults his adult audience is the largest segment of his readers. So, whether you are young or old (or somewhere in the middle) mosey on down to the Boerne Bookshop at 153 South Main Street on Saturday and meet David.

phpl: LIBRARY NEWS Patrick Heath Public Library

Celebrating Irish-American Heritage Month

March is Irish-American Heritage Month, a time to acknowledge the achievements and contributions of Irish immigrants and their descendants to our nation. Those with Irish roots have made a lasting impact on all facets of our society. There are, of course, the celebrated, those whose names we have come to know through their public service, the pages of their books, their paint-dubbed palettes, and the mark they left on pressed vinyl and the silver screen — Theodore Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, Eugene O'Neil, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Georgia O'Keefe, Gene Kelly, and Judy Garland, to name but a few. Standing in the shadow of these illuminaries are the unsung heroes — the farmers, policemen and firemen, the seamstresses, and clergy. They too gave of themselves to make our nation strong.

How best to honor our brethren of the Emerald Isle? Their journey here has not been without toil and tears, and yet throughout it all, there has been laughter and music, always music to tweak the frown into a grin and set the toes to tapping. **Inishfree School of Irish Dancing Drive-Thru! Friday, March 12, 6:00 p.m.**



The Inishfree School of Irish Dancing will perform at the library.

Get a bracing taste of the Emerald Isle at this rousing performance by these renowned dancers. Stay in the safety of your car and watch the dancers perform on our curbside. The Inishfree School is a competitive Irish dance school with locations throughout Texas, Mexico, New York, and Massachusetts.

Inishfree dancers have placed at the regional, national and world level. However, the objective of the school is not merely to produce champions, but to continue to pass on to its students of all ages the traditions and joy of Irish Dance. Inishfree dancers have performed with The Chieftains, the Spurs' half-time

performances, Good Day San Antonio, the Riverwalk, the San Antonio Highland Games, the San Antonio Folklife Festival, the Austin Celtic Festival, the North Texas Irish Fest and corporate events throughout the region.

Musical March! March is Music in Our

Schools Month (MIOSM), a time for schools across the nation to highlight the importance of music education. First celebrated in 1973, Music in Our Schools had grown from a statewide celebration of just one day to a nationwide one lasting all month long. According to the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), "The purpose of MIOSM is to raise awareness of the importance of music education for all children – and to remind citizens that school is where all children should have access to music."

Music in our Schools Month is a time for us all to acknowledge the many benefits of music education. As noted by the NAfME, music education promotes the development of language, reasoning, and memorization. Learning music also heightens coordination, auditory skills and pattern recognition. Studying music additionally engenders discipline. Children who study music are motivated to excel, thus gaining confidence as they learn. Furthermore, music instruction stimulates imagination, creativity and intellectual curiosity.

Hill Country Women in Business

Freedom, Family and Friends.

Franklin Park Boerne is committed to being recognized as Your Hill Country Assisted Living and Memory Care. Located just five minutes from historic downtown Boerne, and across the street from the Kronkosky Place Senior Center, every detail of the community has been designed and inspired by the Hill Country, offering an abundance of outdoor courtyards and natural light.

We are locally owned and operated; therefore our dedicated staff operates on the true mission of "Freedom, Family and Friends." Our slogan is not just a saying but it is active and alive at Franklin Park Boerne.

Franklin Park Boerne also offers licensed Alzheimer's care. Our Refreshing Waters Memory Care Program trains staff in understanding dementia-related diseases.

At Franklin Park we strive to find unique ways to bring respect and dignity to every resident by enriching their lives and caring for families. We are conveniently located to shopping at the Rim, Comfort, Fair Oaks Ranch, Kerrville and Fredericksburg. We are also active participants with the Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Association. Here at Franklin Park Boerne we provide dedication to every detail.

As the Director of Sales and Marketing, Angela Finley will over exceed your expectations by providing you with exceptional guidance and compassion through your journey to find the best Senior Living Community.

Contact Angela by phone at 830-816-5150 or visit her at 18 Old San Antonio Road in Boerne. Also, check out their website at franklinpark.org. You will be relieved that you did.

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Angela Finley
Director of Sales and Marketing

Brock Upham Yost, PLLC
Attorneys & Counselors at Law

616 E. Blanco, Suite 202B, Boerne

Katrina Hamrick Of Counsel
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Dr. Rachel Krajewski, RPh

Hill Country Happenings sponsored by Holt & Holt Funeral Home



1) The Boerne High School Boys Basketball Team won the Regional Semifinal Championship by beating Port Isabel. The Greyhounds will take on Somerset this week for the Regional Championship. 2) The Boerne High School Girls Basketball Team won the Region 4 Class 4-A Championship and advanced to the UIL Final Four where they will take on Hardin-Jefferson. The Greyhounds beat rival Fredericksburg, who had beaten BHS two times this season. 3) The Champion High School Girls Swimming 200 Meter Freestyle Relay won the Class 5-A State Championship: Paige Clark, Regan Garcia, Tess Ziemba, and Peyton Brehmer! The Chargers set a school record with a time of 1:36.92. The same four also won a bronze medal in the 400 Freestyle.



Sports & Academics



Geneva School of Boerne's varsity girls basketball team celebrates and area playoff win over The Woodlands Christian 40-34.

Eighth Grade Oratory Contest

The Eighth Grade Oratory Contest is a highlight of Geneva's Logic School experience. This competition began in 2007 and has become a tradition in which each student memorizes a piece from a selection of historic poems and speeches and delivers his prepared recitation in front of a panel of judges. It is a precursor to the Senior Thesis which students present at the culmination of their final year at Geneva School of Boerne.

After six weeks of practicing and honing their speaking skills, all 57 eighth graders presented either a historical speech or poem in front of their peers, parents, faculty and judges during the preliminary round of Geneva's Eighth Grade Oratory Contest. From this, the top 11 speakers advanced to the final round of competition which was held on Monday in Geneva's Lyceum.

First place was awarded to Kate Friesenhahn for her delivery of "A Woman's Right to Vote by Susan B. Anthony. Jake Roberson was second with his recitation of Robert F Kennedy's speech "A Tiny Ripple of Hope." Eli McClain earned third place for his delivery of a "You Do Your Worst, and We Will Do Our Best" from Winston Churchill. Other finalists were Victoria Allen, Jacob Goodman, Jack Walker Harden, Maegan Riebel, Hannah Reyes, Kailey

Stringfellow, Rachel Troyer and John Walter. "Ultimately, our hope is that memorization of these speeches and poems will plant great words in the minds of students so they can see the power of positive persuasive speaking, helping them grow as disciples of our Savior Jesus Christ. This process equips and empowers them to go out into the world prepared to speak boldly for the cause of His Kingdom," Logic School teacher Debbie Wheeler said.



(left to right) Kate Friesenhahn 2021 Eighth Grade Oratory Contest Champion, Jake Roberson second and Eli McClain third place, Geneva School of Boerne Logic School literature teacher Debbie Wheeler



A group of 17 local Democrats (and their canine companions) gathered along our new "Adopt-A-Highway" segment on FM 3351 on February 27 for our first litter pick-up event. We collected over 30 bags of trash!

BOERNE AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

The Art of Quilting

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY THE CIBOLO CREEK QUILTERS GUILD

Come and see the works of art created by the Cibolo Creek Quilters Guild and learn something new!

Some quilts from the BAHPS collection will be on display as well. We will also have regular tours running through all 3 historical buildings.

March 13 & 27 12 - 3 pm
Kuhlmann-King Historical Complex
402 E Blanco Rd Boerne, TX 78006

On Saturday March 13th and 27th, the Kuhlmann King Historic Complex is collaborating with the Cibolo Creek Quilters Guild, to put on an exhibit "The Art of Quilting". The museum's historic quilts will be on display as well as quilt art made by members of the guild. The guild will also be demonstrating aspects of quilt making while our regular tours are going on. The event is free and operating hours on both Saturdays will be noon to 3PM. The event promises to be colorful and vibrant, a spring display of colors and textures! For more information call 210-275-8301.

We are here when you need us.

Our phones are answered personally 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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Hochheim PRAIRIE INSURANCE

Grants Awarded

Each year the Local Branch 120 of Hochheim Prairie insurance meets and identifies local non-profit groups to assist by the awarding of grants. This year three outstanding organizations were awarded checks to help them further their wonderful causes. Matt Stackhouse, President of Branch 120 is joined by Patrice Davison, Boerne's local Hochheim Prairie agent in awarding checks to Brittany Thompson, CEO of The Retreat Home for Children, Dinah Johnson, Executive Director of The Comfort Golden Age Center and Christine Crowley, Executive Director for the Boerne Community Theatre.



Brittany Thompson, CEO of The Retreat Home for Children



Dinah Johnson, Executive Director of The Comfort Golden Age Center



Christine Crowley, Executive Director for the Boerne Community Theatre