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citizen

VOLUME 7
ISSUE SIX
JUNE 2018

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Vegetation Terror at Tube Chute | Scavenger Hunt Winners

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for the NB/SM Metroplex!

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Right and Left agree:
POTUS is a tool.

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TX CITIZEN

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1ST WORD

A Noxious Sunday at the Tube Chute

See this thing? This is the Mill Pond. This is where all the loose vegetation ("weed mats") from the Comal Springs, Landa Lake and the run from the lake to the Wurstfest grounds collects. It's vile stuff. Look, it's got all kinds of actual garbage in there with the organics. Cans and bags and ducks. Ew.

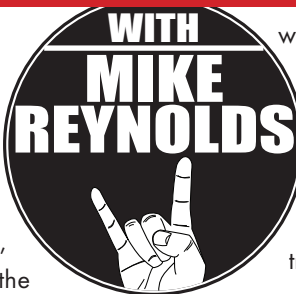


"You know, it would be real easy to clean this up right here, but let's create a problem with it instead."

Once a week, the City or NBU or whomever opens the pond gates and releases this muck into the otherwise clean and clear Comal river, rendering said river awful until the weeds and garbage pass, the speed of which is determined by whatever the flow is at the time. Could be a little while, could be longer.

These releases normally occur during the early-to-mid morning hours of a mid-week day. In other words, at a time when nobody is yet recreating on the river. The weed mats are then channeled down the river to a location that we locals do not concern ourselves with, a place called "Away".

These mid-week releases are no surprise to anybody, mainly because nobody's on the river when they happen. It was a surprise, however, when the bottom of the tube chute



was transformed into a watery, weedy, trashy heck-hole, smack dab in the middle of Memorial Day weekend. And I mean right in the middle of it. Sunday afternoon around 3pm. High traffic. It looked like this:



"Hold my beer. I think I'm going to be sick."

Now, if we published anywhere else, we wouldn't give this much thought. We'd automatically consider it the result of a scheduling snafu, an accidental push of a button ("I said LUNCH not LAUNCH!") or an emergency evacuation of the system. But this is New Braunfels, and in New Braunfels, the rivers are political, and screwing with tourists is sport for a certain unsavory element among our populace.

So while we can't say it was done on purpose - yet - we likewise can't go handing out the benefit of the doubt all willy-nilly. No sir, we cannot. T'wouldn't be proper.

We'll just wait this one out... see how things go the first week of July. Heh.

\m/

Mike Reynolds
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

Postscript: For those of you that have enjoyed our coverage of District Attorney Jennifer Tharp, go ahead and pick up the current issue of Texas Monthly. She's finally getting the attention we think she deserves.

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soundcheck

YOUR LIVE MUSIC GUIDE

Fri 6.1

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Al Mesa
5pm
Soul Sessions
9pm

POWERPLANT

Derek Vera
7pm

Riley's TAVERN

Big John Mills
9pm



Drew Moreland & Neon Hustle
8pm

Adobe Verde

Don Reiley
6:30pm

Gruene Hall

Midland
8pm

Happy Cow

The Revs
8pm

Old River City Café

Shawn Hart
6:30pm

River Road Ice House

Mike Ryan
8pm

Sat 6.2



Kim & Her Bad Habits
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Dollface, Hunter Rd Trio, Drive
On Mak
9pm

POWERPLANT

Broken Arrowz
7pm

Riley's TAVERN

Rochelle & The Sidewinders
9pm



Meyer Anderson Band
9pm

Adobe Verde

Little Duo
6:30pm

Billy's Ice House

Clever Name Band
8pm

Gruene Hall

Whitey Johnson
1pm
Bob Schneider
9pm

Happy Cow

Armadillo Road
9pm

Moonshine & Ale

Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Old River City Café

J Abrams
6:30pm

Sun 6.3



BareFax Band
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Jeffrey Ryan Vaughn
3pm
Lucas Taylor
7pm

Riley's TAVERN

Sean Gasaway
4pm

Geronimo VFW #8456

Sam Bently
3pm

Gruene Hall

Peterson Brothers
12pm
Bob Livingston
5pm

Old River City Café

Ryan Waguespack
6:30pm

Mon 6.4

Gruene Hall

Rusty Martin
6pm

Tues 6.5

Riley's TAVERN

Troy Stone Band
8pm

Billy's Ice House

Reed Brothers
8pm

Geronimo VFW #8456

Jam Session
3pm

Gruene Hall

Two Ton Tuesday
8pm

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Wed 6.6

**THE PHOENIX
SALOON**

Open Mic w/Billy Roy
8:30pm

**Riley's
TAVERN**

Manzy Lowry
8pm

Gruene Hall
The Georges
7pm

Old River City Café
Monte Good
6:30pm

Thu 6.7

**THE PHOENIX
SALOON**

Shawn Hart
5pm

POWERPLANT

Deep Eddie
6pm



Emmerson Biggins
8pm

Adobe Verde
Josh Holden
6:30pm

Gruene Hall
The Bacon Brothers
8pm

Fri 6.8



MC & the Mystyx
6pm

**THE PHOENIX
SALOON**

Junior Nash
6pm
Selfless Lovers
9pm

POWERPLANT

HardCover
7pm

**Riley's
TAVERN**

Billy Dee Band
6pm
Miss Lavelle White
9pm



Wyzer
8pm

Adobe Verde
Doug & Glenn
6:30pm

Gruene Hall
Zack Walther Band
8pm

Happy Cow
Eddie Saenz Band
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Sat 6.9



Jamie Krueger Group
6pm

**THE PHOENIX
SALOON**

Jarrold Birmingham, Steven
Marshal
9pm

POWERPLANT

Carol Cochran & Two Way Street
7pm

**Riley's
TAVERN**

John Evans Band
9pm



Jeremy Egg Band
9pm

Gruene Hall

Beat Root Revival
1pm
Kyle Park
8pm

Happy Cow
Shaker Hymns
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Old River City Café
Lisa Crawford
6:30pm

River Road Ice House
Steve Wariner
8pm

Sun 6.10



Vagabonds Trio
6pm

**THE PHOENIX
SALOON**

Nate Guthrie
3pm
Lucas Taylor
7pm

**Riley's
TAVERN**

Danny Brooks
4pm

Adobe Verde
Fallon Franklin
6:30pm

Geronimo VFW #8456
Tom Teboe & River City Ramblers
3pm

Gruene Hall
Bret Graham
12pm
Railhouse Band
5pm

Old River City Café
Ryan Waguespack
6:30pm

Mon 6.11

Gruene Hall
Chris Ruest Band
6pm

Tue 6.12

Billy's Ice House
Austin Gilliam
8pm

Gruene Hall
Two Ton Tuesday
8pm

Wed 6.13

**THE PHOENIX
SALOON**

Open Mic w/Billy Roy
8:30pm

Gruene Hall
Mitch Webb & The Swindles
7pm

Old River City Café
Monte Good
6:30pm

Thu 6.14

**THE PHOENIX
SALOON**

Daniel Furman
5pm

POWERPLANT

John Boyd
6pm



County Line Band
8pm

Adobe Verde
JJ Garrett Duo
6:30pm

Billy's Ice House
Austin English
8pm

Gruene Hall
Hot Texas Swing Band
7pm

Moonshine & Ale
Live Band Karaoke
8pm

Vino en Verde
Brett Cline
8pm

Fri 6.15



The Hot Attacks
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Larry Dial
5pm
Wayward Jones
9pm

POWERPLANT

Jody Bateman
7pm

Riley's TAVERN

Pepper's Blues
6pm
Bonnie Montgomery
9pm



3 Man Front
8pm

Adobe Verde
Trace Owen Jr
6:30pm

Gruene Hall
Larry Joe Taylor
8pm

Happy Cow
Matt & The Herdsmen
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Old River City Café
Natalie Rose
6:30pm

Sat 6.16



Lesti Huff Band
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

El Rocker
9pm

POWERPLANT

TBA
7pm

Riley's TAVERN

Jolie & The Jackalopes
9pm



Tequila Black
9pm

Adobe Verde

Traveling Trees
6:30pm

Gruene Hall

Gus Samuelson & Swampadelic
1pm
Josh Weathers
9pm

Happy Cow

Highway Hypnosis
9pm

Moonshine & Ale

Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Sun 6.17



Li'l Henry & The Laveers
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Jeffrey Ryan Vaughn
3pm
Lucas Taylor
7pm

Riley's TAVERN

Tommy Elskes
4pm

Adobe Verde

JJ Garrett Duo
6:30pm

Geronimo VFW #8456

Countrymen
3pm

Gruene Hall

Jonathan Byrd & the Pickup
Cowboys
12pm

Old River City Café

Ryan Waguespack
6:30pm

Mon 6.18

Gruene Hall

Tom Gillam
7pm

Tue 6.19

Riley's TAVERN

Troy Stone Band
8pm

Billy's Ice House

JJ Garrett Band
8pm

Comal Country Music Show

KC Hall
Ronnie Mason, Jack Phillips,
Rennie Guenther
7:30pm

Gruene Hall

Two Ton Tuesday
8pm

Wed 6.20

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Open Mic w/ Billy Roy
8:30pm

Riley's TAVERN

Mike Ethan Messick
8pm

Gruene Hall

The Georges
7pm

Old River City Café

Monte Good
6:30pm

Thu 6.21

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Shawn Hart
5pm

POWERPLANT

Jimmy T
6pm



Rick Reyna Band
8pm

Adobe Verde

Tony Taylor
6:30pm

Gruene Hall

Walt Wilkins
7pm

Moonshine & Ale

Live Band Karaoke
8pm

Vino en Verde

Brett Cline
8pm

Fri 6.22



Highway Hypnosis
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Junior Nash
5pm
TBA
8:30pm



PHOENIX SALOON JUNE EVENTS

Friday 6/1

Al Mesa 5pm
Soul Sessions 9pm

Saturday 6/2

Dollface, Hunter Rd Trio,
Drive On Mak 9pm

Friday 6/8

Junior Nash 6pm
Selfless Lovers 9pm

Saturday 6/9

Jarrod Birmingham,
Steven Marshal 9pm

Friday 6/15

Larry Dial 5pm
Wayward Jones 9pm

Saturday 6/16

El Rocker 9pm

Friday 6/22

Junior Nash 5pm

Saturday 6/23

Steven James & The Jaded
9pm

Friday 6/29

Larry Dial 5pm
Brian Christopher &
The Wild Oats 9pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

FRIDAY 6/1
BIG JOHN MILLS 9PM

SATURDAY 6/2
ROCHELLE & THE SIDEWINDERS 9PM

FRIDAY 6/8
MISS LAVELLE WHITE 9PM

SATURDAY 6/9
JOHN EVANS BAND 9PM

FRIDAY 6/15
BONNIE MONTGOMERY 9PM

SATURDAY 6/16
JOLIE & THE JACKALOPES 9PM

FRIDAY 6/22
AUDREY MALONE 9PM

SATURDAY 6/23
THE BLONDETTES 9PM

FRIDAY 6/29
BRI BAGWELL 9PM

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POWERPLANT

Ben Farius
7pm

Riley's
TAVERN

Audrey Malone
9pm



Jesse Stratton Band
8pm

Adobe Verde
Don Reiley
6:30pm

Gruene Hall
Kelly Willis
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Old River City Café
Brian Milson
6:30pm

Sat 6.23



Chris Duarte
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Steven James & The Jaded
9pm

POWERPLANT

Carol Cochran & Two Way Street
7pm

Riley's
TAVERN

The Blondettes
9pm



Knotty Grove
9pm

Adobe Verde
Bru Erdman
6:30pm

Gruene Hall
Garrett LeBeau
1pm
Old 97's
8pm

Happy Cow
AC & The Bad Billy's
9pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Sun 6.24



James Pardo
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

All Mixed Up
3pm
Lucas Taylor
7pm

Riley's
TAVERN

Ace Pepper
4pm

Adobe Verde
JJ Garrett Duo
6:30pm

Billy's Ice House
Copper Chief
8pm

Geronimo VFW #8456
Glen Collins & Alibi
3pm

Gruene Hall
Slim Bawb
12pm
Paul Oscher
5pm

Tue 6.26

Gruene Hall
Two Ton Tuesday
8pm

Wed 6.27

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Open Mic w/Billy Roy
8:30pm

Gruene Hall
Aaron Einhouse
6pm

Thu 6.28

THE PHOENIX SALOON

TBA
5pm

POWERPLANT

Jeff Wood
6pm



Meyer Anderson Band
8pm

Adobe Verde
Josh Holden
6:30pm

Gruene Hall
Sophia Johnson Band
8pm

Vino en Verde
Brett Cline
8pm

Fri 6.29



Melissa Ludwig Band
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Larry Dial
5pm
Brian Christopher & The Wild
Oats
9pm

POWERPLANT

HardCover
7pm

Riley's
TAVERN

Mark Jungers
6pm
Bri Bagwell
9pm



Brandon Michael & True Country
9pm

Adobe Verde
Traveling Trees
6:30pm

Gruene Hall
Ray Wylie Hubbard
8pm

Old River City Café
Slim Bawb
6:30pm



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This time around, it's not so much as a "month in review" as it is a preview of the upcoming NBA Finals and my take on the LBJ/MJ debate so let's get to it...

NBA: So for the fourth year in a row, we get Cavs vs Warriors in the NBA Finals and a good chunk of hardcore followers are groaning about it as we've seen this story three times over while the casual fan seems to be okay with it since they don't have to reeducate themselves on the players and teams involved.

I'm torn about it. On one hand, the result seems inevitable (which was the case the last three years). On the other hand, Cleveland said to hell to with inevitability and pulled off the greatest Finals comeback ever, overcoming a 3-1 series deficit to beat the Warriors in 7 games in 2016. That stunning upset, as awesome as it was, led to Golden State's signing of Kevin Durant so thank you Cleveland, may the Browns go 3-13 for the next 40 years.

Let's get this out of the way: as Thanos-like as LeBron James can be, there's no way Golden State is losing this series. Admittedly, the Warriors have looked far more vulnerable this season than last when they swept their way through the West and lost just 1 game the entire postseason, a "meh" Game 4 loss in the Finals in Cleveland when Golden State held a 3-0 series lead. This year the Warriors have lost five playoff games already, getting pushed twice by the Chris Paul-less Rockets in Games 6 & 7 of the Conference Finals.

There's also the aforementioned destroyer of planets mentioned above, LeBron James, who already has seven 40 point games and three triple-doubles in the playoffs, two things that have NEVER been done in the same postseason in NBA history. He has dragged *this* Cavalier team to the Finals, a team whose second best player varies on the night. Usually, Kevin Love is Cleveland's 2nd best player but Love missed the final two games of the Conference Finals with a concussion, so the Cavs best option outside of LBJ in Cleveland's Game 7 win at Boston was freaking Jeff Green. JEFF GREEN ONCE PLAYED FOR SEATTLE.

Seriously, take 10 minutes out of your day and look up the Cavalier roster, it will blow your mind. The combined amount of All-Star appearances from the roster outside of LeBron is six and five of those belong to Love, the other being Kyle Korford (Go 2015 Hawks!). Even if you took away the combined 14 All-Star games between Steph Curry and Kevin Durant, the rest of the Warriors roster has played in 10 All-Star games collectively. Jordan Clarkson, George Hill, Tristan Thompson and Larry Nance Jr. are supposed to compete with that?

Maybe LeBron can will them to pull it off. Maybe the Warriors are starting to show some cracks in the foundation. Maybe Durant isn't such a great fit after all. I'm just not buying it. Prepared to be wowed by LeBron yet again but in only five games as the Warriors cruise to their second straight title and third in the last four years.

Assuming that does happen, it will mark the sixth finals loss in LeBron's career, dropping his Finals record to 3-6. The calls of "Michael Jordan never lost in the Finals, this is why LeBron will never be better than MJ" will come pouring in on sports talk shows and social media. You have my permission to shut both off and go outside instead because that argument is weak.

Look at the teams Jordan faced in the Finals: an over-the-hill Lakers team in '91, good-not-great Blazers and Suns teams in '92 & '93, a really good Sonics (R.I.P.) team in '96, and two very good Jazz teams in '97 & '98. Those teams all had great players, including Magic Johnson, James Worthy, Clyde Drexler, Terry Porter, Clifford Robinson, Gary Payton, Shawn Kemp, John Stockton, Karl Malone and Greg Ostertag*, but is that collection better than what LeBron has faced?

***Ostertag was not great**

In his first Finals in 2007, LeBron was nowhere near his prime and faced a far superior Spurs team with Tim Duncan, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili all in their primes. Dallas' 2011 team was really good, albeit arguably the only team LeBron shouldn't have lost to in the Finals. The 2014 Spurs were far better than anything Jordan faced and the 2015 & 2017 Warriors are in the conversation for some of the greatest teams

EVER. LeBron's Finals wins have come over an Oklahoma City team featuring three future MVPs, a Spurs team in 2013 that was identical to the one that beat him a year later, and the 2016 Warriors who won 73 @\$\$ing games.

Also consider what LeBron is doing in his 15th season while Jordan, in his 15th (and final) season was playing for a Washington Wizards team that finished 37-45. This is not to disparage the greatness of Jordan. No player, LeBron included, instilled more fear in opponents than Jordan did. Every time Jordan played against your team, you wondered what new way he would find to beat you. He was as cold-blooded of a player that we will ever see.

With LeBron, it's a different sense of awe, one that's hard to explain and one that I don't want to. I just want to enjoy watching him play while it lasts. It was tough watching Jordan put on that Wizards uniform and play for a below-average team to finish out his career. Could you imagine what it would be like if LeBron, say 5 years from now, was suiting up for the Kings in 2023 as they finished 30-52?

I had a text exchange with a friend recently about LeBron, and the sentiment between us was that we need to behold LBJ while we can and shame on anyone for questioning his career. One of the things that Jordan had going for him was that he played in an era without social media (god just imagine Twitter when he announced he was playing baseball) while LeBron has had a target on his back since he was in high school.

So my plea to you as you watch the upcoming NBA Finals is this: let's all just chill on all of the LeBron/MJ debates and be grateful that we've been able to witness both. If you're younger than 25 and didn't get to watch Jordan play, then go to YouTube but also punish yourself for not being born sooner by also watching clips of Greg Ostertag.

Until next month...

Brant Freeman is a seasoned local sportscaster, delivering the goods as a reporter for major pro and collegiate sporting events in the greater San Antonio area for over a decade.

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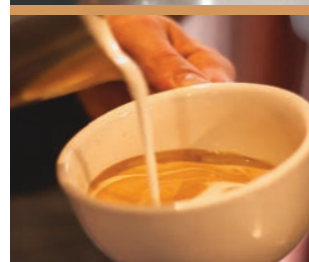
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Trump is a Tool

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I take a lot of flak for supporting Trump. Of course, the stinging on the left is nothing new, but Trump is hated by a good number of Republicans and libertarians, too. Heck, I even got banned from an ancap group recently—which seems wrong somehow.

That said, my response is always the same. Any type of demolition will require some form of appropriate tool. The bigger and more complete the desired destruction, the bigger the tool that's needed. Liberals are generally believers in building more and better government, but those on the right have argued for less government for years. Strangely, even when those who profess to hate big government are in charge, there doesn't seem to be much deconstruction (much less demolition) going on.

I hate to assume that some of our politicians are being

disingenuous to get elected. I prefer to give people the benefit of the doubt; perhaps they just don't have the proper tools available to them to get the job done. With that in mind, I and millions of other Americans gave the country, both Republican and Democrat, Trump.

Thank you.

Trump is the perfect tool for the eradication of out-of-control government kudzu. Following that metaphor, you might even call him Agent Orange. The past administration just loved the imperial "phone and pen" method of governing. Under normal circumstances this sort of problem would take a Republican administrations generation to correct. Every individual bit of legislation would be examined, found wanting, sent to committee for suggestions, run by the lawyers, sent back to committee, and finally voted on, where

several Republican senators would see to it that it narrowly fails to be repealed. Trump just grabs the flamethrower.

Now, granted, this has brought every liberal in the judiciary out of the woodwork in an effort to put out the fire, but we needed to know who these folks were anyway. What better way to determine who's really an activist in black robes than to allow Trump to act like he's Obama?

The point of this is that the Republican party needs to get on board or get run over by the train. They may find it's already too late. Midterms are coming. Trump has done a good job of taking things apart without any help at all, but he has the potential to do so much more. Liberals have every right to scream at Trump's actions, but if you really want less government, grab a crowbar.

My colleague is correct, Trump is a tool.

Trump is a power tool. He is the carbide circular saw slicing through American diplomacy. He is the jackhammer breaking up the common ground even the most differing Americans could once stand on together. He is the blowtorch igniting the flame of the Second American Civil War. He is the drill screwing us all against the wall he'll never really build.

Trump is a tool of the People. He's the tool the Ridiculous Right is using to dismantle its own self-interests and livelihood. He is a crowbar. He's the tool the Ludicrous Left is using to put their own failures in and carry off to the Trash Heap of Woe. He is a wheelbarrow.

Government needs to be reined in. You won't get any argument from me there. But it's not the parts of the government that make America great that need busting up—the parts of the government that provide social

and economic opportunities to all its citizens. The parts of the government that need to be eradicated are the parts that destroy whatever the hell remains of the American Dream—the parts that promote greed, the parts that ignore history, the parts that allow barely capable dolts like Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton to become the country's best options for leadership.

I agree, dear colleague, Trump has done a great job of taking things apart. But he has had help. He's had Mitch McConnell and HRC and Paul Ryan, and the hateful racists and the self-lauding regressive lefties living in our barely united states all taking hold of the sledgehammer that is Trump, and swinging it like a drunken Chip Gaines on demo day. Trump doesn't care what he breaks as long as its broken.

Trump is a tool alright. He is the nail gun America shot itself in the foot with and then used to shoot itself in the head.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary Anita Bueche, Deceased, were issued on May 29, 2018, in Cause No. 2018PCA0224, pending in the County Court of Comal County, Texas, to: Mark Ruben Bueche.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 29th day of May, 2018.

Frank B. Suhr

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