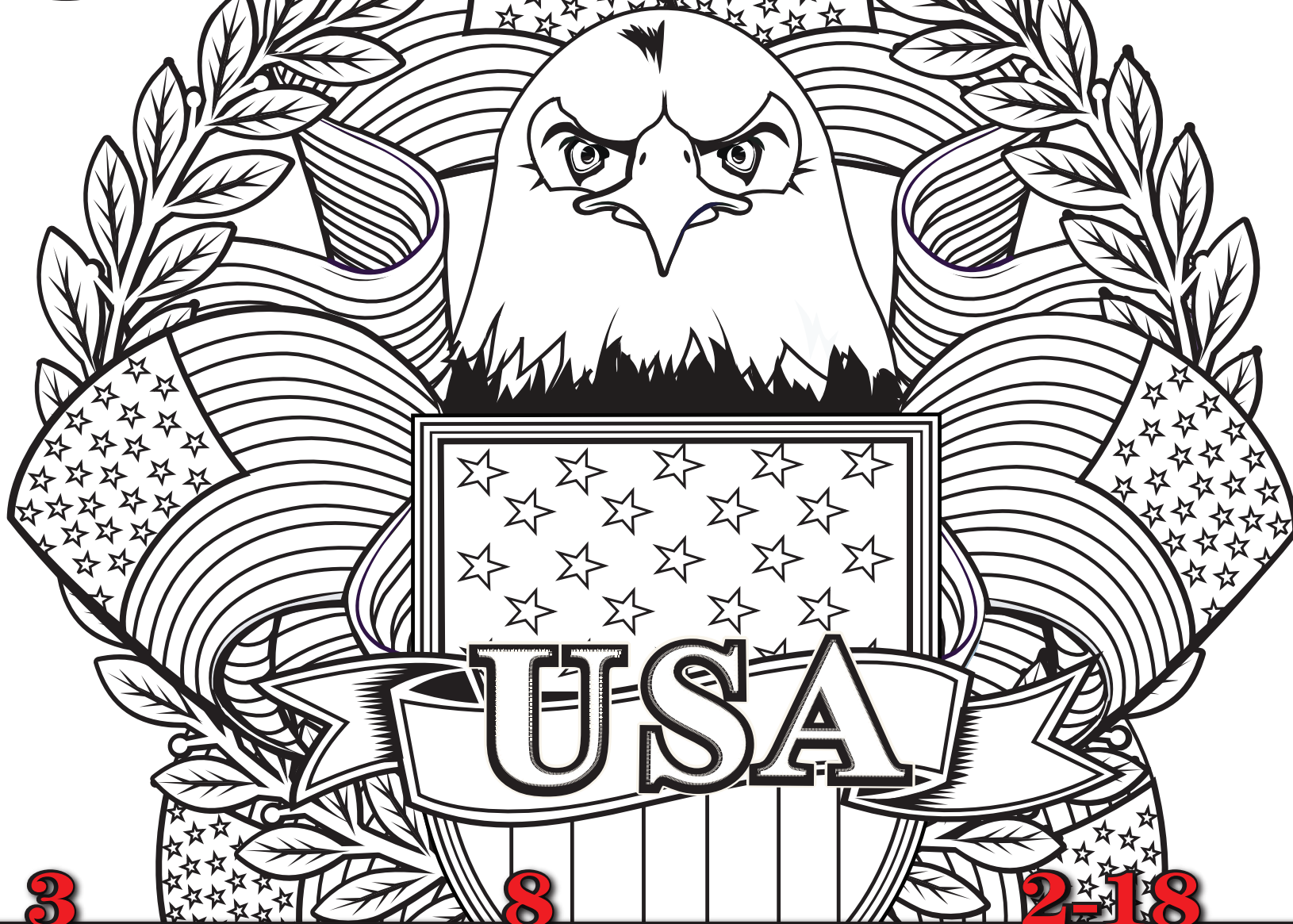


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VOLUME FIVE
ISSUE 11
JUNE



3 8 2-18
Miller Wrecks Himself | Forbidden Island Update | Best of the Wurst Winners

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table of contents

3 1st Word
Doug Miller takes the lowest road possible, pays with his dignity.

4 Due Process
Justin Carter scores a minor win in the Facebook terror case.

5 Around & About
The hardest working beer garden in the Great State takes home the Small Business of the Year title for 2016!

8 Res Publica
Turns out, we were right all along about The Forbidden Island of Booneville Avenue.

9 Citizen Soundcheck
The ONLY guide of its kind for the NB/SM Metroplex!

14 Ask a Mexican
Gustavo offends in two languages.

15 Freeman on Sports
The Month that Was,
The Month that Will Be

17 The County's Most Wanted
Look Mommy!
Daddy's in the paper!

19 Last Word
Colby questions #nevertrump.

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1ST WORD

Miller Loses Everything

Ol' Doug Miller threw everything he had into his campaign to keep his gig as our rep up in Austin. Over a million dollars (against his opponent's quarter mil), lots of photos with his cowboy hat and gun, a relentless stream of what-seemed-like daily mailers reminding us that it was him protecting the good people of District 73 from ISIS, and, just to make sure he had all the bases covered, his dignity. He lost anyway. As I told my son on election night, if you're not ahead by the time you start considering your integrity as collateral damage, the game is already over. There are worse things than losing an election, and right at the top of that list is the destruction of your reputation.

Miller really wanted to hang onto that job. He wanted it so bad that he indulged in a bit of a gambit – he dug up his opponent's 15-year-old divorce records, created a website out of them, and promoted that site through even more mailers and online ads that featured a photo of said opponent's face and the word "SICK" next to it. Doug wanted everyone to think Ace Hardware salesman Kyle Biedermann was a child-molester and all manner of other bad things. By engaging in this course of action, Miller lost the support of almost anyone who 1) had been through a divorce and custody battle, and 2) knows anybody who had been through a divorce and custody battle.

In a statement to the press made after the paperwork was publicized by the Miller campaign, the former Mrs Biedermann said that she said things "to hurt Kyle but never knew they would get out to the public." See, because that's what happens in custody fights. People take any and every action, no matter how innocent, and spin it into a horrifying tale straight from the pit of Hell that they don't expect to be parsed and distributed publicly 15 years later, after their personal war is over. Miller didn't think the populace would be onto that. He's not smart enough to know that the electorate, which is often as dumb as a rock, was sharp enough to see through this particular trick. He's the guy that's supposed to protect us from terrorists, except ISIS is smarter than Doug Miller.

Doug even drew the Houston-owned



Herald-Zeitung into the fiasco. After they printed an op-ed scolding Doug for the tactic, his campaign grabbed some of the background text from the piece and printed it under the HZ masthead, making it look like the Herald was exposing the Helpful

Hardware Man as a depraved maniac.

Miller did the same thing with the Texas Tribune. He's a deceptive l'il fellah, I'll give him that, but the ability to deceive doesn't fall in the "Virtue" column. ISIS is more honest than Doug Miller, and everybody I know hates ISIS.

Miller lost all four counties in the District, and, in fact, was probably going to lose anyway – if the incumbent can't close the deal in the first primary election, they're at real risk in a runoff, and the Biedermann divorce tactic isn't something pulled out by someone who has confidence that they're going to win.

The problem is that Doug wasn't smart enough, or life-experienced enough, or bound by a sense of personal integrity enough, to realize that when defeat is staring you in the face, you only have one choice, and that's to stand tall, take your swats, and properly set yourself up for your next challenge - whatever that may be. Every failure is a chance to look good, if you know how to handle it. Now we know how Doug acts when he's facing failure, which is like a baby-man. ISIS takes on failure with more gumption.

Continued on page 7.



GOURMAGE

Sea salt caramel truffle!

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Due Process WITH NICK ROGERS

Update: Facebook Terror Case

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals has given new hope to a New Braunfels' man's arguments that terroristic threat charges against him should be dismissed.

Justin Carter has argued that the law used to charge him is unconstitutional as applied. An as-applied argument contends that a law is being applied unconstitutionally as it pertains to the defendant (as opposed to a facial argument, which claims the law itself is unconstitutional). The Court of Criminal Appeals ruled that a lower court was incorrect in saying he could not bring an as-applied challenge prior to trial.

Carter is accused of making a terroristic threat on Facebook, posting: "I'm fucked in the head alright. I think I'ma SHOOT UP A KINDERGARTEN. AND WATCH THE BLOOD OF THE INNOCENT RAIN DOWN.

... AND EAT THE BEATING HEART OF ONE OF THEM." Carter said his comments, when viewed in context, were "sarcastic, hyperbolic[,] and conditional" and do not constitute a "true threat." While investigating Carter, authorities found no weapons or plans to carry out such an act. During interrogations by New Braunfels Police, Carter said his comments were the result of "trolling."

Both District Court Judge Jack Robison and the Third Court of Appeals denied Carter's challenges to the law, stating that the defendant's as-applied claims cannot be brought before trial.

"Under clear Texas Court of Criminal Appeals precedent, a pretrial writ of habeas corpus may not be used to advance an 'as-applied' challenge to the constitutionality of the statute," the Third Court said in its ruling. "Consequently, an 'as-applied' constitutional challenge may not be resolved pretrial because it depends on development of the specific facts of the case showing how the statute is being applied to the defendant."

Thus, the Third Court ruled, Carter's arguments that his statements did not constitute a "true threat" are "dependent on the facts of the case – which have yet to be developed through trial. ... Accordingly, we conclude that appellant's 'as-applied' challenge is not cognizable on a pretrial writ."

However, the Court of Criminal Appeals vacated the Third Court's ruling and ordered it to reconsider Carter's appeal based on the higher court's recent ruling in former Gov. Rick Perry's case. Perry was accused of abuse of power when he threatened to veto funds to a branch of the Travis County DA's office unless the District Attorney stepped down, following the DA's arrest for drunk driving. The case against Perry was dismissed.

"When the court of appeals issued its opinion in this case, it did so without the benefit of this Court's recent opinion in Ex parte Perry, in which the Court examined the categories of as-applied challenges which might be held cognizable in a pretrial writ," the Court of Criminal Appeals said. "Therefore, we vacate the judgment of the court of appeals and remand for that court to consider the Court's discussion in Perry and the effect of Perry, if any, on its reasoning and analysis in this case."

While Texas courts have generally held that as-applied constitutional challenges cannot be made pretrial, Criminal Appeals ruled in Perry that some constitutional rights issues can be settled pretrial if those rights are in danger of being further violated by trial.

"Certain types of as-applied claims may be raised by pretrial habeas because the particular constitutional right at issue in the as-applied challenge is the type that would be effectively undermined if not vindicated prior to trial," Criminal Appeals ruled in the Perry case.

"The cases that have stated that pretrial resolution is not available when factual development is necessary did not involve constitutional rights (like double jeopardy) that include a right to avoid trial," the Perry ruling continued. "We have, in fact, relied upon pretrial factual development to resolve, pretrial, claims that involve a constitutional right that includes a right to avoid trial, like former jeopardy."

The Criminal Appeals ruling in the Carter case is no firm indication that the Third Court of Appeals will eventually decide in favor of Carter, but lead attorney Don Flannery called the decision "promising."

Nick Rogers covers courts & crime for the TX Citizen.



PHOENIX SALOON



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To augment our annual Best of the Wurst readers poll, the TX Citizen took a separate survey of local business owners, asking them to name our first Small Business of the Year. The 2016 winner was the hardest working beer garden in all of Texas, Oma Gruene's Secret Garten. Congratulations, y'all!



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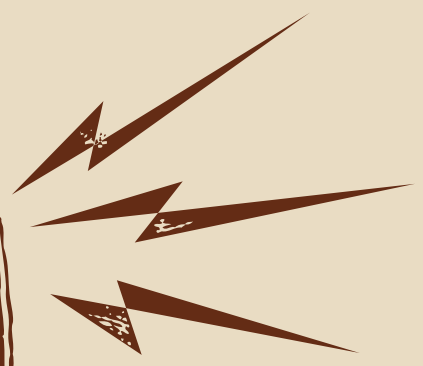


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Yeah, they're tainted with the Miller, but don't be too hard on them. At the time they endorsed him, they couldn't have known that Doug was going to turn full-phallus in the final weeks of the campaign.

Comal County

It's all over but for the formality of the general election, as Mark Reynolds (no relation, but I welcome the confusion) won his runoff against Brent Paullus, the guy he currently reports to at the Sheriff's Office (awkward). Reynolds still has to get past a Democrat that no one knows is running, along with independent DJ Seeger, who is 21 or 22 years old, hasn't got a day of law enforcement experience to his name, and who appears to have not yet been introduced to the mysteries of the female form.

Statewide

- Dinosaurs and humans co-existed but that the dinos died out because they were too young to reproduce after being released back into the wild by Noah (the Arkist)

- Had she won, she would have had a hand in what goes into the textbooks our kids would have to be de-programmed from. With the damage she inflicted during her time at the chalkboard, it's no wonder only one in six students can read.

The Forbidden Island of Booneville Ave

If there's one story that the people of our fair city demand updates about on a regular basis, it's that of The Island. For those of you new to town, The Island is an idyllic piece of land surrounded by the headwaters of the Comal River. Back in the 1930s, a group of homeowners illegally decided that they owned The Island and the surrounding water, and began chasing people off the land and out of the water, a practice that their successors continue to this day.

Generations passed with local media outlets ignoring the situation out of political expedience – The HZ since the 30s, and KGNB since the 1950s. We, on the other hand, didn't have the sense to protect ourselves from what the local elites could, and did, do to us, so we went ahead and pursued the story. This town is quite the hotbed of intimidation if you irk the wrong people, but hey, I'm from Vega\$. I've lived next door to "former" gangsters, and they scared all the fear out of me before I got here. I would have been wise to hang on to some of it, but hey, what's done is done.

We looked into the ownership of The Island, and it turns out we were right all along – they didn’t own it. They haven’t had an exclusive right to The Island or the waters around it for the past 80+ years, their “Keep Out of the Water” signs have been illegal all along, and they’ve just had to shell out a hunk o’ cash over the land. Nick Rogers has the story on page eight. Read it. In next month’s First Word, I’ll give you my analysis of what he found.

Color our cover and email us a photo of you holding it to news@txcitizen.com, and you'll win something, maybe. Include your age because we've got separate categories for Under 12, 12 to 17, and Adult. Prizes will involve the best ice cream you can get your hands on in all of the Great State. #gourmage

Our weekly newscast, The Texas Newsgrinder with Mike Reynolds, is moving from Friday nights to Sunday mornings, because more Texans like their weekly newscasts on Sunday mornings than they do Friday nights, and who can blame 'em? Look up "The Texas Newsgrinder" on Soundcloud or the iTunes podcast store. We're in both places, and subscriptions are FREE, thanks to the generous underwriting of Oma Gruene's Secret Garten, and Kora Kora Coffee. Come and take it.

 $\setminus m /$

Mike Reynolds
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

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RES PUBLICA

WITH NICK ROGERS

Spring Island Purchased

For decades, the two neighborhoods that make up Comal County Water Recreational District No. 1 have claimed they had exclusive ownership to Spring Island.

They did not.

But, now they do.

As of last year, the Lower Colorado River Authority had evidently claimed ownership to Spring Island (which TX Citizen owner Mike Reynolds has referred to as the Forbidden Island of Booneville Avenue). In March, 2015, LCRA transferred ownership of the Island to the Colorado River Land Trust.

In April of this year, the Land Trust sold 9.46 acres of river property, including the Island, to the Water Recreational District, which is made up of the Landa Park Estates and Landa Park Highlands neighborhoods.

Cecil Eager, the District's Board President, said they approached the Land Trust about purchasing the territory, which indicates that the District recognized it did not possess ownership of Spring Island since the 1930s, which they had previously asserted. The District purchased the acreage for \$300,000.

"The property purchased includes the area covered by the Comal River and its banks from Elizabeth Street to Houston Street," Eager said. "The banks include a 15-foot strip of land on both sides that is parallel to the Comal River. The property also includes the land under the water and all islands."

The purchase does not include the waters themselves.

"Both the Colorado River Land Trust and the Comal County Water Recreational District share the common goal of protecting, preserving and improving the property, and the Comal River," said Jeff Crosby, the Land Trust's executive director. "(The Land Trust) chose to sell this property to CCWRD as we determined that they were better suited to carry out the mission of protecting the land and water in the area."

Eager echoed that sentiment.

"CCWRD No. 1 was created by the Texas legislature in 1937 with environmental and recreational objectives," he said. "The Colorado

River Land Trust has some similar objectives and recognized that CCWRD No.1 had the resources and authority to accomplish them."

Those "recreational objectives," however, only extend to certain property owners within the Landa Park Estates and Landa Park Highlands subdivisions.

For decades, the District had claimed exclusive rights to Spring Island, and had law enforcement chase off any nonresidents who ventured near the Island. The entrance bridge to the Island has long been blocked off to anyone other than District residents, even while LCRA was assuming ownership.

However, previous investigations by the TX Citizen found there was no deed of ownership to the Island, raising questions as to how LCRA could claim ownership for itself. When asked by the TX Citizen when the River Authority assumed ownership of Spring Island, LCRA did not respond.

Comal County Water Recreational District No. 1 was created by the Texas Legislature in 1937. Senate Bill 419, which enacted the District, describes the reasons for its creation being:

"[F]or the purpose of protecting and preserving the purity and sanitary condition of a portion of the waters of the Comal River in Comal County by keeping the same free and clear of weeds and other growths and of other obstructions to the free flow thereof, and thereby protecting the health of those residing in such District, and maintaining such waters in good condition for the recreational purposes of swimming and fishing therein and boating thereon by those entitled to do so, and such District is hereby declared to be a governmental agency and body politic and corporate with the authority, powers, rights, privileges and functions conferred in this Act."

The Act's phrase "for the recreational purposes of swimming and fishing therein and boating thereon by those entitled to do so," has long been the District's justification for excluding access to Spring Island. The Act goes on to say, however, that it "does not create, grant or give to anyone any right to use the waters of said Comal River for fishing, boating, swimming or any other purpose."

The Texas News Grinder with Mike Reynolds

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YOUR LIVE MUSIC GUIDE

Fri 6.3

ADOBE VERDE
Historic Gruene, Texas

Traveling Trees
6:30pm

HAPPY COW
BAR & GRILL
TBA
8pm

LONGSHOT
WINE BAR & TASTING ROOM
Bob Schmueckle & Derek Krueger
7pm

OMA GRUENE'S
OGSG
SECRET GARTEN
Bad Brad & the Fat Cats
6:30pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON
Junior Nash
5pm
The Canvas People
w/ Catch Fever
9pm

Riley's
TAVERN
Big John Mills
9pm

THE WATERING HOLE
Saloon
IDA
8pm

Billy's Ice House
Dean Seltzer
8pm

Gruene Hall
Charlie Robison
w/ Austin Meade
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

On the Rocks
Southern Sky
7:30pm

Vino en Verde
Jackson Parten
8:30pm

Sat 6.4

ADOBE VERDE
Historic Gruene, Texas
JAM
6:30pm

HAPPY COW
BAR & GRILL
TBA
8pm

OMA GRUENE'S
OGSG
SECRET GARTEN
JUMBOFUNK
1pm
Robert Johnson's Soul
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON
Zack Walther Band
w/ Brian Christopher & the
Wild Oats
9pm

Riley's
TAVERN
Rob Roy Parnell
9pm

Scores
Sports Bar & Grill
NEW BRAUNFELS
TEXAS

3 Man front
9:30pm

THE WATERING HOLE
Saloon

River City Kings
9pm

Billy's Ice House
Dollface
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

On the Rocks
T-Bone & the Bluetones
7:30pm

Vino en Verde
JB Parker
9pm

Sun 6.5

ADOBE VERDE
Historic Gruene, Texas
Darrell Goldman
6:30pm

OMA GRUENE'S
OGSG
SECRET GARTEN
Smokehouse Guitar Army
w/ special guest Jason Crisp
1pm
Jimmy T & The Tear Drops
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON
Daniel Thomas Phipps
3pm
Lucas Taylor
7pm

Riley's
TAVERN

TBA
4pm

Billy's Ice House
Britney Monroe
8pm

Geronimo VFW #8456
Charles & the Fabulous Four
3pm

Gruene Hall
Bob Livingston
12:30pm
Whitney Rose Band
5pm

Mon 6.6

Gruene Hall
Grouchy Like Riley
6pm

Tues 6.7

THE WATERING HOLE
Saloon
Gau Nipper
7pm

Billy's Ice House
Reed Brothers
8pm

Bonzai Steak & Sushi
Smooth Jazz
w/ Sam Harriss
6pm

Geronimo VFW #8456
Tommy Reed, Priscilla Speed,
Sally Carlson
7pm

Gruene Hall
Two Ton Tuesday
7:30pm

Wed 6.8

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Bandreu
8:30pm

Riley's
TAVERN

TBA
9pm

Billy's Ice House
Aaron Stephens
8pm

Gruene Hall
Casper Rawls Band
7pm

On the Rocks
Vagabonds
8pm

Thu 6.9

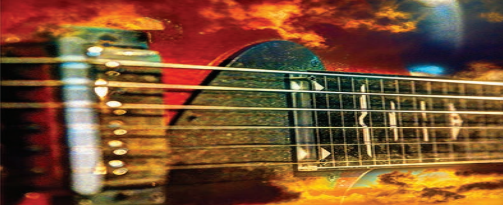
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Historic Gruene, Texas

Josh Holden
6:30pm

OMA GRUENE'S
OGSG
SECRET GARTEN
Jam Night
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON
Lucas Taylor
5pm

Riley's
TAVERN
Nate Rodriguez
9pm



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AND THE FAT CATS
JUNE 4 @ 1 THE MATT POWELL BAND
@ 6 ROBERT JOHNSON'S SOUL
JUNE 5 @ 1 THE SMOKEHOUSE
GUITAR ARMY
@ 6 JIMMY T & THE TEAR DROPS
JUNE 9 JAM NIGHT
JUNE 10 @ 6:30 JONESIN
JUNE 11 @ 1 THE JAMIE KRUEGER GROUP
@ 6 KIM AND HER BAD HABITS
JUNE 12 @ 1 ADAM JOHNSON
@ 6 call for info
JUNE 16 @ 6 JAM NIGHT
JUNE 17 @ 7 LUCAS JACK
JUNE 18 @ 1 CHRIS TAYLOR BAND
@ 6 THE MELISSA LUDWIG BAND
JUNE 19 @ 1 PEPPERS BLUES
@ 6 3 MF
JUNE 23 JAM NIGHT
JUNE 24 @ 6:30 THE MIGHTY ORQ
JUNE 25 @ 1 DIRTY UNKEL
@ 6 AARON STEPHENS



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Gruene Hall
High Plains Jamboree
7pm

Moonshine & Ale
Live Band Karaoke
8pm

On the Rocks
Julieann Banks Duo
7pm

Vino en Verde
Brett Cline Quartet
8pm

Fri 6.10



Buddy Vargas
6:30pm

HAPPY COW
BAR & GRILL
TBA
8pm



Bob Schmuckle & Derek Krueger
7pm

OMA GRUENE'S
OGSG
SECRET GARTEN
Jonesin
6:30pm



Soul Track Mind, Henry & the Invisibles,
Jesse Stratton Band, Junior Nash
4pm



Mike & the Moonpies
9pm



Knotty Grove
8pm

Billy's Ice House
Cody Bryan Band
8pm

Gruene Hall
The Black Lillies
w/ The O's
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

On the Rocks
Mark Monaco & the Strayhearts
7pm

Vino en Verde
Beau Daniels
8:30pm

Sat 6.11



Bru's Tunes
6:30pm

HAPPY COW
BAR & GRILL
TBA
8pm

OMA GRUENE'S
OGSG
SECRET GARTEN

Jamie Krueger Group
1pm
Kim & Her Bad Habits
6pm



The Tontons, Patricia Vonne, Rick Del Castillo,
Carson McHone, Tameca Jones, Junior Nash
3pm



Jim Stringer & the AM Band
9pm



J Abram Band
9pm

Billy's Ice House
FILE 13
8pm

Gruene Hall
Don Leady's Rockin' Revue
1pm
Jonathan Tyler
w/ Paul Cauthen
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Vino en Verde

TBA
9pm

Sun 6.12

ADOBE VERDE
Historia Guana, Texas

Zach Coffey
6:30pm

OMA GRUENE'S
OGSG
SECRET GARTEN

Adam Johnson
1pm

THE PHOENIX
SALOON

Redd Volkaert
3pm
Lucas Taylor
7pm

Riley's
TAVERN

TBA
4pm

Geronimo VFW #8456

Glenn Collins & the Alibis
3pm

Billy's Ice House

Goodfest
2pm

Gruene Hall

Bret Graham
12:30pm
Hot Club of Cowtown
5:30pm

Mon 6.13

Gruene Hall

Grouchy Like Riley
6pm

Tue 6.14

THE WATERING HOLE
Saloon

TBA
7pm

Billy's Ice House

Austin Gilliam
8pm

Panzai Steak & Sushi

Smooth Jazz
w/ Sam Harriss
6pm

Gruene Hall

Two Ton Tuesday
7:30pm

Wed 6.15

THE PHOENIX
SALOON

Bandreu
8:30pm

Riley's
TAVERN

Mike Ethan Messick
9pm

Billy's Ice House

Aaron Stephens
8pm

Gruene Hall

The Georges
6pm

Thu 6.16

ADOBE VERDE
Historia Guana, Texas

Bob Cheevers
6:30pm

OMA GRUENE'S
OGSG
SECRET GARTEN

Jam Night
6pm

THE PHOENIX
SALOON

Jay Russell Wimberley
5pm

Riley's
TAVERN

Wes Perryman & Rushin Steele
9pm

Billy's Ice House

Paul Rogers
8pm

Gruene Hall

Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun
6pm

Moonshine & Ale

Live Band Karaoke
8pm

Vino en Verde

Brett Cline Quartet
8pm

Fri 6.17

ADOBE VERDE
Historia Guana, Texas

Beau Daniels Band
6:30pm

HAPPY COW
BAR & GRILL

TBA
8pm

LONGSHOT
WINE BAR & TASTING ROOM

Bob Schmueckle & Derek
Krueger
7pm

OMA GRUENE'S
OGSG
SECRET GARTEN

Lucas Jack
7pm

THE PHOENIX
SALOON

Junior Nash
5pm
Ebrolution
8:30pm

Riley's
TAVERN

Roy Heinrich
8pm

THE WATERING HOLE
Saloon

Clif & the Dirt Road
8pm

Gruene Hall

Larry Joe Taylor
8pm

Moonshine & Ale

Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

On the Rocks

Adam Johnson Band
7:30pm

Sat 6.18

ADOBE VERDE
Historia Guana, Texas

JAM
6:30pm

HAPPY COW

BAR & GRILL
TBA
8pm

OMA GRUENE'S
OGSG
SECRET GARTEN

Chris Taylor Band
1pm
Melissa Ludwig Band
6pm

THE PHOENIX
SALOON

Dollface, Holophonics,
Six Pack Stranglers
9pm

Riley's
TAVERN

John Evans
9pm

THE WATERING HOLE
Saloon

Passing Strangers
9pm

Billy's Ice House

Jonathan Fox Band
8pm

Gruene Hall

Tom Gillam
1pm
Bob Schneider
8pm

Moonshine & Ale

Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Vino en Verde

LeAnn & Noah
9pm

Sun 6.19

ADOBE VERDE
Historia Guana, Texas

JJ Garrett Band
6:30pm

OMA GRUENE'S
OGSG
SECRET GARTEN

Pepper's Blues
1pm
3 MF
6pm



PHOENIX
SALOON
JUNE
EVENTS

JUNE 3

THE CANVAS PEOPLE + CATCH FEVER
@ 9

JUNE 4

ZACK WALTHER BAND +
BRIAN CHRISTOPHER & THE WILD OATS
@ 9

JUNE 10

TEXAS RIVERFEST: SOUL TRACK MIND +
HENRY & THE INVISIBLES +
JESSE STRATTON BAND + JUNIOR NASH
@ 4

JUNE 11

TEXAS RIVERFEST: THE TONTONS +
PATRICIA VONNE with RICK DEL CASTILLO +
CARSON McHONE + TAMECA JONES +
JUNIOR NASH @ 3

JUNE 12

TEXAS RIVERFEST: REDD VOLKAERT
@ 3:30

JUNE 17

EBROLUTION feat HAYDN VITERA,
JORGE GALLEGOS & DAVE PEREZ @ 9

JUNE 18

SKA FEST! featuring DOLLFACE +
THE HOLOPHONICS + SIX PACK STRANGLERS

JUNE 24

RYAN ROSS BAND @ 9

JUNE 25

RANCH/HOUSE + EL CAMPO + RACHEL LAVEN
@ 9

THE PHOENIX
SALOON



MARIO FROM THE PHOENIX SALOON



As Voted by the Readers of the TX Citizen



LOS GALLOS



As Voted by the Readers of the TX Citizen



THE PHOENIX SALOON

Jade Marie Patek,
Bryan Catalani
3pm
Lucas Taylor
7pm

Riley's TAVERN

TBA
4pm



Slim Bawb & the Fabulous Stumpgrinders
2pm

Geronimo VFW #8456
The Countrymen Band
3pm

Gruene Hall
Lone Star Swing
12:30pm
Billy Bacon & the Forbidden Pigs
5pm

Vino en Verde
Soul Sessions Jazz
5pm

Mon 6.20

Gruene Hall
Grouchy Like Riley
6pm

Tue 6.21



Billy's Ice House
Big Red Drum Series
8pm

Bonzai Steak & Sushi
Smooth Jazz
w/ Sam Harriss
6pm

Comal Country Music Show
KC Hall
TBA
6pm

Gruene Hall
Two Ton Tuesday
7:30pm

Wed 6.22

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Bandrev
8:30pm

Riley's TAVERN

TBA
9pm

Billy's Ice House
Aaron Stephens
8pm

Gruene Hall
Bo Porter
6pm

Thu 6.23

ADOBE VERDE

Beau Daniels
6:30pm

OMA GRUENE'S OGS SECRET GARTEN

Jam Night
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Greg Sell
5pm

Riley's TAVERN

Aaron Stephens
9pm

Gruene Hall
Aaron Einhouse
7pm

Moonshine & Ale
Live Band Karaoke
8pm

Vino en Verde
Brett Cline Quartet
8pm

Fri 6.24

ADOBE VERDE

Traveling Trees
6:30pm

HAPPY COW

BAR & GRILL
TBA

8pm



Bob Schmueckle & Derek Krueger

7pm

OMA GRUENE'S



SECRET GARTEN

The Mighty Orq

6:30pm



Ryan Quiet

5pm

Ryan Ross Band

8:30pm



The New Dukes

9pm



Rex McNeil Band

8pm

Billy's Ice House

Copper Chief

8pm

Gruene Hall

Uncle Lucius

w/ Jonathan Terrell

8pm

Moonshine & Ale

Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along

8pm

Vino en Verde

Henderson's Duo

8:30pm

Sat 6.25



3 Man Front

6:30pm

HAPPY COW

BAR & GRILL

TBA

8pm

OMA GRUENE'S



SECRET GARTEN

Birty Unkel

1pm

Aaron Stephens

6pm



Ranch/House, El Campo,

Rachel Laven

9pm



Joel Hofmann Band

9pm



Whiskey 2 Step

9pm

Billy's Ice House

Mark Monaco

8pm

Gruene Hall

Flat Top Jones

1pm

Ray Wylie Hubbard

9pm

Moonshine & Ale

Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along

8pm

On the Rocks

Minglewood

8:30pm

Vino en Verde

The Vagabonds

8pm

Sun 6.26



Chris Colston

6:30pm

OMA GRUENE'S



SECRET GARTEN

Wynn Taylor

1pm

West Side Horns

6pm



Adam Johnson

3pm

Lucas Taylor

7pm



TBA

4pm

Billy's Ice House

Locks of Love

2pm

Geronimo VFW #8456

Jim Bolado & the Country

Sounds

3pm

Gruene Hall

Slim Bawb

12pm

John Evans Band

5pm

Mon 6.27

Gruene Hall

Grouchy Like Riley

7pm

Tue 6.28



TBA

7pm

Billy's Ice House

Austin Gilliam

8pm

Bonzai Steak & Sushi

Smooth Jazz

w/ Sam Harriss

6pm

Gruene Hall

Two Ton Tuesday

7:30pm

Wed 6.29



TBA

8:30pm



TBA

9pm

Billy's Ice House

Aaron Stephens

8pm

Gruene Hall

The Georges

7pm

Thu 6.30



Josh Holden

6:30pm

OMA GRUENE'S



SECRET GARTEN

Jam Night

6:30pm



Jay Russell Wimberley

5pm



Mark Ambrose

9pm

Billy's Ice House

Chris Isaak

8pm

Gruene Hall

Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun

7pm

Moonshine & Ale

Live Band Karaoke

8pm

On the Rocks

Chad Smith

7pm

Vino en Verde

Brett Cline Quartet

8pm

FRIDAY 6/3

BIG JOHN MILLS 9PM

SATURDAY 6/4

ROB ROY PARNELL 9PM

FRIDAY 6/10

MIKE & THE MOONPIES 9PM

SATURDAY 6/11

JIM STRINGER & THE AM BAND

9PM

FRIDAY 6/17

ROY HEINRICH 8PM

SATURDAY 6/18

JOHN EVANS 9PM

FRIDAY 6/24

THE NEW DUKES 9PM

SATURDAY 5/28

JOEL HOFMANN BAND 9PM



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!ASK A MEXICAN!

By Gustavo Arellano

Dear Mexican: Please allow me a little latitude. I'm a resident of Northeast Dallas, a wonderfully diverse neighborhood near the heart of downtown Dallas. I've lived here for many years and wouldn't even CONSIDER moving north, south, east or west. However, I have one issue I'd like to address: What's the deal with Mexicans' propensity to stop their car in the middle of a busy street? I witness this almost every week, usually on Ross Avenue during afternoon rush hour. I (and hundreds of other motorists) will be clipping along at 30-35 MPH in the northbound lanes when all of a sudden, cars will swerve, horns will honk, and traffic will suddenly grind to a screeching halt. What could it be? A lost puppy dog crossing the street? A little old lady who's collapsed from heatstroke while trying to cross the street? A partially open duffle bag containing thousands of dollars, bills flying all over the road?

NO!! Without fail, it's a Mexican who: 1. Saw a friend walking down the street and stopped to exchange pleasantries. 2. A Mexican who stopped to drop off or pick up a wife, husband or friend. 3. A Mexican who accidentally passed their intended location, but instead of "making the block," decides instead to stop, and in some cases even BACK UP in order to reach their intended destination. I LOVE Mexicans. You all are some of the friendliest, easy-going, family oriented, hard-working people I've ever known. But put some of you behind the wheel of a car, and all bets are off. Help a gringo out here. What's the deal?

Stuck on Ross

Dear Gabacho: Ever heard of the Chinese Fire Drill? When you stop at a red light, everyone gets out of the car, circles it, and gets back in? I didn't either until I got some gabacho friends last year; gabas are weird, ¿qué no? Anyhoo, call the scenario you described the Mexican Fire Drill. You also forgot that Mexicans will stop in the middle of the street—traffic be damned—if

they're waiting for a friend who's getting ready at their house, if they have to go inside a place to pick something up, or if there's a particularly good banda jam on the stereo and they want the whole barrio to listen. As por el why? After a lifetime of crossing borders, running away from la migra and hustling from job to job, sometimes it's just great to relax and be still—and if that annoys gabachos, even better!

Dear Mexican: Cabrón, the Mexican flag. Tell your pals that every time they wave it, that's 5,000 more votes for Trump.

#fucktrump

Dear Gabacho: Waving the Mexican flag isn't just a shout-out to our ethnic heritage; it's a blatant reminder of the failings of this country toward comprehensive immigration reform. Because if there's anyone to blame for the Mexican-flag flap, it's conservatives. As I've been saying for over a decade in this pinche columna, Mexicans assimilate into America, yet many Americans don't want to believe it and want to do anything possible to stop it. Talk to those kids waving the bandera, and their culture is wholly American, from their language to steez to music, upbringing—their everything. But when you have morons calling their parents and elder relatives rapists and murderers, and call young Mexican-Americans unworthy of the U.S. and want 11 million undocumented folks deported, wrapping themselves in the Mexican flag is a righteous chinga tu madre to the white supremacy that wants them gone (and, yes, Virginia: Trump-supporting minorities can subscribe to white supremacy, too—know your decolonial imaginary!).

Waving the Mexican flag during rallies isn't sedition; it's a bold affirmation that aquí estamos, y no nos vamos—this generation's "We Shall Not Be Moved," except it rhymes. And it's a reminder that Mexicans simultaneously fully conform and buck American immigration trends. Notice how the red-white-and-green only pops up during times of protests or celebration, when we're expected to "act" Mexican; during the rest of the year, the Mexican flag is mostly out of sight, out of mind as Mexicans seamlessly return to the trappings of American life until

the next protest. Besides, what else are these young people supposed to wave at this point? They could wear the Stars and Stripes, even the Gadsden ("Don't Tread on Me") flag, and it wouldn't change the hearts and minds of the true haters—so might as well unfurl the Aztec eagle to antagonize them more, you know?

And waving the Mexican flag doesn't ruin la causa or push more people into the Trump camp—far from it. For decades, there has been a push-and-pull between the accommodationist segment of the Latino community and the radicals. The former's mantra—slow and steady and Democrat—rarely gets anything accomplished beyond getting centrists elected and former Mechistas in cabinet positions. The best example of this happened during last decade's DREAMer years, when undocumented college students were asked to basically serve as photo props for so-called Latino leaders. Those DREAMers eventually started launching direct actions against vendidas like SanTana Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez, who infamously didn't put her name to a congressional bill supporting the DREAM Act until two undocumented activists lost their lives. It's radical pushes like that, and brandishing the flag of a foreign nation, that's the needed fuel for activist fire in the face of conservative lunatics and liberal wusses. Scaring away the middle? Anyone so easily swayed by the choice of a piece of cloth that they'll wish a Trump on this country ain't an ally you want.

But that's the best part about waving the Mexican flag at rallies: we can, because—to paraphrase Mexico's favorite philosopher, Morrissey—we've got Mexican blood and an American heart. We ain't no fifth column, folks: we're the pinche foundation that represents the last, best hope against the Trump monster. And we're ready to let our freak—and Mexican, and American, and Bob Marley—flags at the ballot box and beyond.



Ask the Mexican at
themexican@askamexican.net,
be his fan on Facebook, follow him on
Twitter @gustavoarellano or follow him
on Instagram @gustavo_arellano!



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Life comes at you FAST.

I was reading my column from last month to give myself a refresher of my most recent musings, and in it I waxed poetic about the Spurs-Thunder series, a hilariously bad sequence to the end of Game Two, toasters, the pure awfulness of the Houston Rockets' season and my daughter's ability to channel her inner Ramsay Bolton when she doesn't get her way (my fellow Game of Thrones nerds know what I'm talking about).

Fast forward five weeks and the Spurs have long since exited the playoffs (with another controversial end to a game thrown in: Game Five), the Thunder are gone now too, the Rockets have atoned for their putrid 2016 playoff run by hiring a defensive guru (sarcasm font), Baylor's football program finally got what was coming to them, we're quickly approaching the one-third-of-the-way mark in the MLB season and more. It's a jam packed "Month in Review", so let's get to it...

NBA: It's always difficult and a little extreme to call any season a failure when it's so damn hard to win the NBA title. Since the Philadelphia 76ers won the 1983 championship, a grand total of nine franchises have taken one or more. That's 32 Larry O'Brien trophies split between Los Angeles (Lakers), Boston, Detroit, Chicago, Houston, San Antonio, Miami, Dallas and Golden State. Compared to three other "Big Four" American sports leagues, there have been 16 different Super Bowl champions over the last 32 years, 19 World Series champions and 16 Stanley Cup champions. There tends to be more randomness in the other three sports or at least cases where luck is more significant to swinging any given series than in the NBA (definitely in the case of the NFL where every round is decided by a single game, and OMG could you imagine if the NBA, NHL and/or MLB went to one game series? The season would feel cheap but the drama would be incredible).

Looking at the NBA teams listed, you can see why there have been so few champions: once-in-a-generation players at the peak of their careers (Bird, Magic, Jordan, Isaiah

Thomas, Olajuwon, Duncan, O'Neal, LeBron with space reserved here for Steph Curry, etc.). Here and there, a few teams have gotten hot to sneak in a title without a dominant superstar (2004 Pistons, 2011 Mavericks, and I'll say it, the 2014 Spurs) but it's rare. Unless you have a transcendent player, you're probably not winning the title.

That brings me back to my first sentence on this topic: few teams have such stars, so how many teams should really be given the "failure" label if their season ends without a dressing room doused with champagne? The way I see it, as far as this season is concerned, only three and the third one is debatable: Golden State (duh), Cleveland and San Antonio. The 2015-2016 Spurs won the biggest prize in free agency this past summer, had nearly all of the core of the 2014 title team back, won 67 games and had the Defensive Player of the Year and First Team All-NBA player Kawhi Leonard wearing silver & black. So on the surface, yeah, it was pretty much title-or-bust for the Spurs once the playoffs started and once they ended in Game Six after Oklahoma City, I was in the group of labeling the season as a failure (after about eight beers that night).

But with some more time to ponder that notion, I want takesies-backsies. While Leonard is one of the five (maybe even three) best players in the league today, he's only 24 and not quite in his prime (scary thought for the rest of the NBA). The Spurs were other worldly on defense but due to a lack of perimeter shooters off the bench and consistent play from Tony Parker at point guard, the Spurs were flawed offensively, something that was exposed vs OKC. San Antonio was stuck in way too many isolation situations with Leonard and Aldridge, something we haven't seen from the Spurs in large doses since the Robinson-Duncan days, which just doesn't hold up over long stretches in today's NBA. The core of Leonard and Aldridge is a great one to build around, but it wasn't one quite ready to take the league by storm. The surrounding parts were good enough to endure the 82-game grind but not enough to topple a historically great team

like Golden State (or, as it turns out, a pretty damn good team in Oklahoma City).

In summary, was the end to the season disappointing? Yes. Should it be considered failure? No. The other two teams had more working in their favor (the Warriors are so, so good, Cleveland's much easier path) and the Spurs had enough weaknesses ready to be exposed to think the title was theirs to lose. On to other musings from the month that was...

NBA II: The Rockets, namely their marquee player, were comically bad on defense this season so their solution is to hire Mike D'Antoni? That's like having plumbing issues at your house and hiring a painter.

NBA III: It's possible we've seen the last of Kevin Durant as a member of the Thunder franchise, a tenure so long he played a season for Seattle (I know, right?). On yeah, the Spurs have been floated as a possibility as a landing spot for him. My money is on him staying put but could you imagine...

MLB: I'm on the record as being a Cubs hater but my god is Jake Arrieta on another planet right now. It's been nearly a YEAR since he lost his last start. Meanwhile, the Dodgers' Clayton Kershaw has a video-game K/BB ratio of 105/5 as of this writing. This is all to say, hitters in the National League are the Washington Generals.

NCAA: I'll end the review with the Baylor fiasco. The victims of the numerous sexual assault cases involving Baylor football players deserve justice and the firing of Art Briles as Head Coach is a start but the way the university, athletic department and football program handled this whole thing is disturbing. Baylor spent years changing its culture from a loser to a winner but created a whole new culture in the process, one that has left a far more damaging mark than losses on the field that will also take years to fix. Sad.

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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VONTRELL TI
ANDREA**

Male • 5'06" • 144 lbs
DOB: 05/19/1994
CHARGE: Burglary
of building and theft
property over \$20,000
under \$100,000



**BRYMER,
CHARLES
WILLIAM III**

Male • 5'11" • 195 lbs
DOB: 01/08/1974
CHARGE:
Possession with
intent to deliver a
controlled substance



**RODRIGUEZ,
JOSE JR**

Male • 5'11" • 175 lbs
DOB: 08/22/1976
CHARGE: Assault
family/ household
member - impede
breath/ circulation



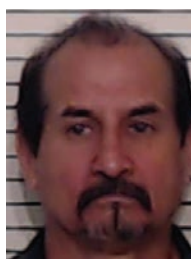
**ELIZONDO,
MICHAEL
ARMANDO**

Male • 5'07" • 160 lbs
DOB: 08/31/1965
CHARGE:
Possession of a
controlled substance



**SOLORZANO-
CUELLAR,
JOSE LUIS**

Male • 5'07" • 140 lbs
DOB: 02/22/1984
CHARGE: Sex abuse
of child continuous:
victim under 14



**GALLEGO,
DANIEL**

Male • 5'06" • 160 lbs
DOB: 01/29/1959
CHARGE: Theft
property over \$20,000
under \$100,000

**WEAVER,
GREGORY TRAVIS**

Male • 5'11" • 160 lbs
DOB: 05/05/1976
CHARGE: Possession
of a controlled
substance



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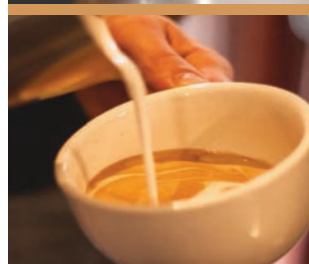


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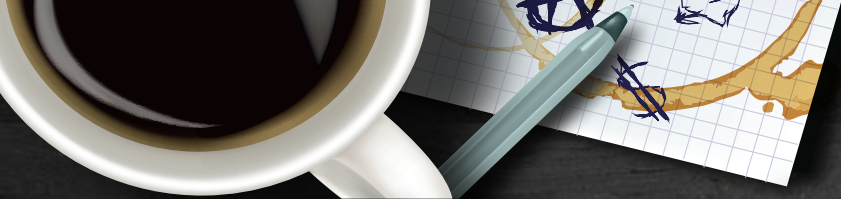
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Last Word

With Kelly Colby

Hell in a Handbasket

It seems I can't get away from members of the #NeverTrump movement. They're everywhere: On Facebook, in the network news, complaining bitterly in the columns I read. Now don't get me wrong, I won't be voting for Trump, but that's mostly because I can safely cast a Libertarian protest vote and not worry about it affecting things one way or another. I do wonder, though, how real Republicans can break ranks so easily or really why Trump is much of a bother at all.

It's almost as though these #NeverTrump people would prefer Hillary Clinton to the Republican nominee. That's a pretty harsh position to take for people who are supposed to be staunch supporters of their party. That's not to say that Trump is a perfect candidate; I would expect some nose-holding to be required, but none of the flaws I see make him less palatable than Hillary.

For example, there are the things Trump has said that open him up to criticism of racism, xenophobia, misogyny, war-mongering, and greed. Most of these things have been taken out of context in one way or another, but there's no question that these soundbites will be used against him in the general election. They were already used all through the primaries. This would be truly worrisome if the same things hadn't been used as a bludgeon versus every Republican candidate since Reagan.

The only difference between Trump and all of the other Republican candidates is that Trump has actually said some things that might be considered offensive and that Trump has the spine to tell those people to they need to toughen up a bit. The latter is actually why so many people like Trump. Romney was called on the carpet for being a greedy capitalist and hung his head in shame. Trump wears it as a badge of honor,

as he does being politically incorrect, being vulgar and common, and believing that our country is capable of being, and has been, "great."

It's also been said that Trump isn't really a conservative, that he just pretends to be. This is almost certainly true. When Ted Cruz pointed out that Trump had New York values, we all knew that he meant Trump was actually a liberal in conservative's clothing. That's a fair criticism. Trump has held some very liberal positions in the past. He has come to the conservative side in most cases since he began his run for President, but even these changes seem something less than rock solid. So, this is probably one of the few areas where a Republican might legitimately cry foul - assuming that their first choice had been someone like Ted Cruz.

Of the other candidates the Republicans had to choose from, Rand Paul was as libertarian as he was conservative, one or two choices might have been called socially conservative, the rest were the same mold that the Republican party usually gives the conservative crowd - candidates that talk a good game until they get into office. Once there, they are no more fiscally responsible than the liberals they decry, and their social conservatism is turned away from over and over again in attempts to "grow the party." Trump has grown the party without having any traditionally Republican principles at all, or at least none that are immediately discernable.

Of the arguments against Trump, I find the know-nothing chorus the most puzzling. Many of the #NeverTrumpers consider themselves highly intellectual. I do too. If anyone was going to question Trump's understanding of economics, trade, or international relations, these are the very people to do so, and they do, frequently.

Of course, many of these people were the very ones whose advice got us to this point. We are saddled with debt, in a war with an enemy who seems more committed than we are, and facing an economy that is the envy of Venezuela at least. Some of this can appropriately be lain at Obama's feet, but I remember when Obama entered office, and things weren't exactly peaches and cream then. Based on this, I would expect the establishment class to keep quiet. Perhaps it's time for some fresh opinions and ideas, even if they don't meet with the approval of the intellectual class of the Republican Party.

Another fair criticism of Trump is that he seems to misunderstand how our country works. He certainly doesn't seem to understand the Constitution. He's at various times suggested policies that he simply can't implement on his own and more than one or two that are probably illegal.

Here again, though, Trump isn't exactly different from any other candidate. Every candidate promises beyond the reach of the presidency and often beyond the reach of political reality. None of this is new. Trump's promises are perhaps more flamboyant, but they aren't unprecedented. Nor is his lack of constitutional scholarship a real problem (the current occupant of the White House comes to mind). The Constitution exists with or without Trump's understanding of it. He may try to exceed it, but he will ultimately be held back by our system's checks and balances. In this regard, Congress holds a certain level of responsibility. They need to exert their own authority and keep the Executive Branch in check. Perhaps Trump could be made to understand the constitutional limits of the presidency if he is instructed in them, if he can't, he'll be just like everyone else currently in government, so I'm at a loss to see the actual problem.

I can certainly understand why some people in the Republican party might find Trump a less-than-ideal candidate. What I don't understand is how they can fail to understand that this is how much of the Republican party has felt about every candidate since Reagan. This election cycle, the shoe is on the other foot, and I think that's the real source of the problem.

Trump is a populist candidate and this election cycle is one that will be decided based on the strength of that feeling throughout the country. Trump's appeal is actually far broader than that of most Republican candidates in recent history; his negatives are also larger. At the moment, it's impossible to say if Trump will be able to win November's election, but if he does, it won't be because people like his ideas better than they do those of Hillary Clinton. It will be because the people have decided to overturn the system.

If Trump should win, the voters will be expecting him to flip over tables and wreck the place. They'll forgive him a mistake or two as long as he tries to bring real change to Washington. They'll want him to upend the bureaucracy, and make the government work for the people again. I don't know if that's even possible, but I know that's what the people are expecting.

For the #NeverTrump crowd, the question is if they can stomach a candidate that the people actually want to vote for. There's no question that Trump will not be an establishment-friendly president. It's possible he'll be completely unable to work with Republicans in Congress. Of course, I'm guessing that the same should be true of Hillary Clinton. Maybe I'm wrong.

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