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Article

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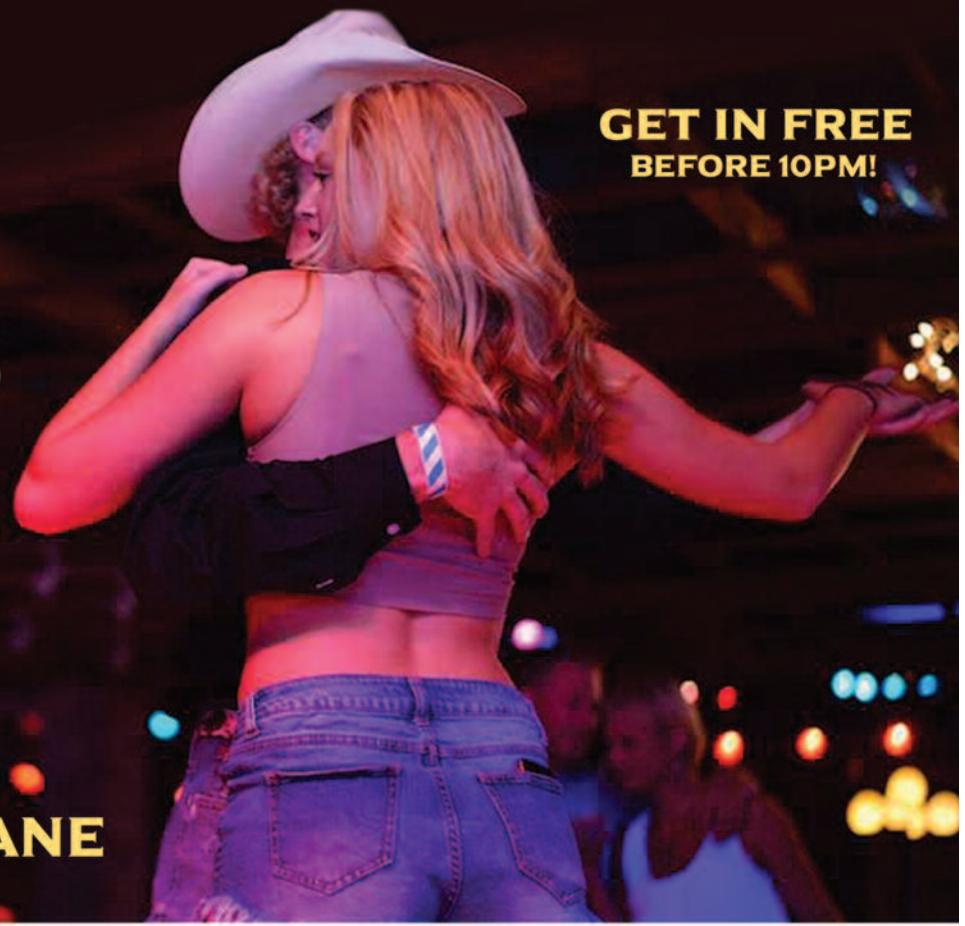
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Editor & Publisher Sam Kindrick
Advertising Sales Action Staff
..... Amy Heller Reif
Photography Action Staff
Distribution Ronnie Reed
Composition Elise Taquino

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Taking a road trip down the memory trail

By Jim Chesnut

I recently took a 2,200-mile-roundtrip road trip to Nashville to pitch some songs and visit colleagues and family. It was emotionally draining at times due partially to my recent can-

cer encounter. In the context of my own recent journey, reliving cherished memories of friends and associates who have died is challenging.

It has been almost 40 years since I signed my

first publishing deal with industry giant Acuff-Rose Music Publishing, Inc., the first country music publishing company.

During my Nashville stay, I had coffee with famed record producer

Ray Baker who was vice-president of the company at the time, and we talked a lot about the way things were then and the way they are now.

Ray produced the second of my two Nashville

albums, *Show Me a Sign*, which set up my first of two Billboard Top-40 country singles, *Let's Take the Time to Fall in Love Again*. It was a time (the mid-70s) when a 32-year-old Midland, Texas, kid like me could walk through open doors on Music Row and play his songs for industry insiders.

When Ray Baker and Wesley Rose signed me to Acuff-Rose Music in 1976, the company had 27 songs in Billboard Magazine's Top-100 country singles chart, as I recall. That's 27 percent, folks. When I left the company at the end of my recording contract in 1979, it had one in the chart, and it was *Let's Take the Time*....

None of us knew it at the time, but that was the beginning of a major transition from the talent-seeking Nashville I knew to what it has become today.

Gone are the days of Acuff-Rose Music and Tree International Music, two giants that facilitated the songwriting and performing careers of folks like Hank Williams, Roy Orbison, Mickey Newbury, The Everly Brothers and Don Gibson.

In fact, Tree was the last major Nashville-owned publishing company to be purchased by a corporate entity for a reported \$30 million. Sony/ATV now owns the catalogs of both Acuff-Rose Music and Tree International.

The Acuff-Rose building is still in use as a satellite campus of a Brentwood, Tennessee church. It has been refurbished, but its Acuff-Rose history has been preserved to some extent in the lobby and elsewhere in the building. I attended the 9:30 a.m. service on

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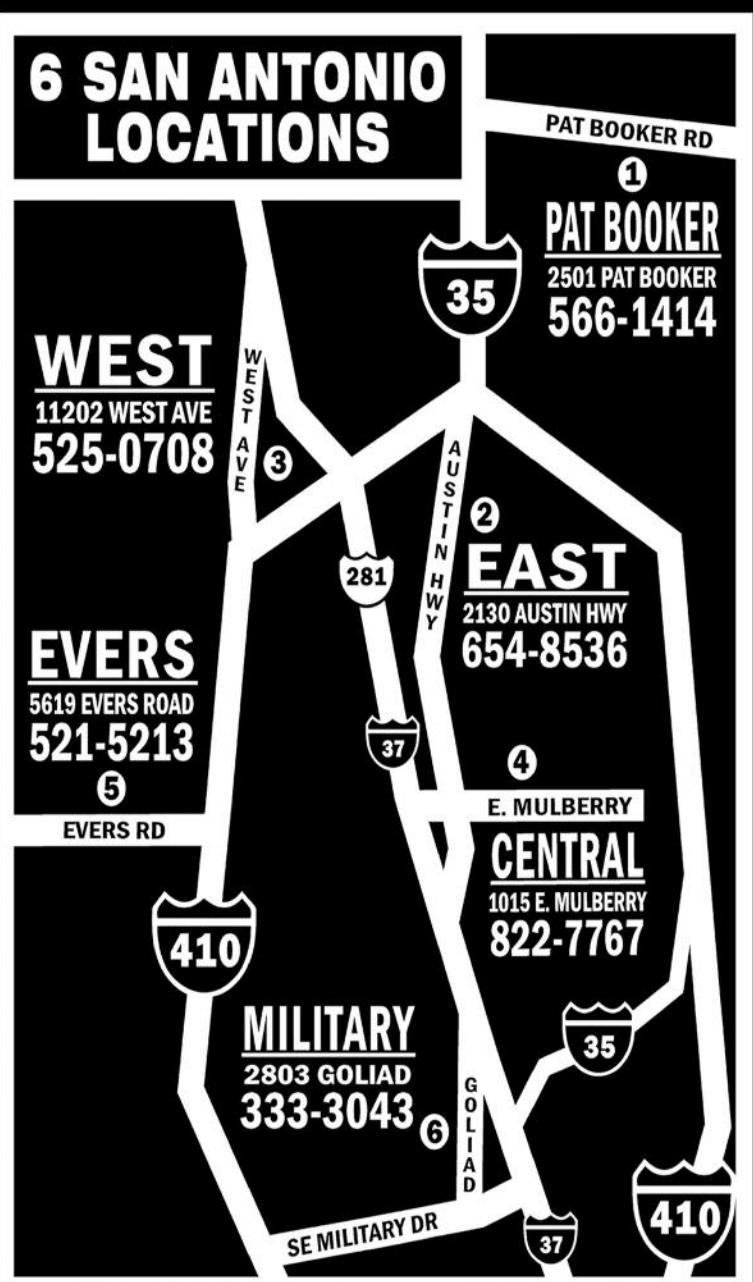
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Sam Kindrick



Some are jokingly calling it the "New Age Chainsaw Massacre."

The flood of comments came after I whacked myself with a saw.

Incredible, I believe, has been the response since I posted some photos of my wound on Facebook.

When personal comment posts passed the 300 mark I stopped trying to count the number of folks wishing me well, many of them musician and entertainment world personalities I have known through the years--Linda and Johnny Bush, Lisa Morales of the Sisters Morales duo, Willie Nelson ex-wife Connie Nelson, Darrell and Mona McCall, Carol Meyers, Sylvia Kirk, and Alycia Ambroziak, my Canadian writer friend who once covered the early-day Nelson July 4 picnics for the Montreal Star. And on and on.

It was the chainsaw debacle, an ignominious event that saw me whack a 7-stitch gash into my left upper ankle and leg with an Echo brand chainsaw.

I called it right when it happened, a chronic case of dumbfuckitis, for I am no stranger in life's gallery of simpletons geared for self-torture. As if I don't bear the scars to prove it, some still recall the history.

Didn't I leave the hospital too soon after an appendectomy many years ago? And didn't I subsequently bleed through my suit and onto the floor of Porter Loring Mortuary while trying to conduct a funeral for nightclub bouncer Cotton Stout?

And wasn't it me who set myself on fire with a 5-gallon can of gasoline back in the early 1980s? Talk about ignorance-fuelled drama. With hair and eyebrows singed down to my bare hide, and with skin puckering with third-degree burns on both shins, wasn't that me who walked like a crispy critter from a Three Stooges comedy right into the Bexar County Hospital emergency room, smoke still curling from my shirt?

I will never forget the welcome I got from the E.R. receptionist:

"Have a seat, sir, someone will be with you momentarily."

"I'm on fire lady," I must have screamed. "You can smell the smoke. It's me burning."

I can't plead ignorance or inexperience in this current case, for I am no stranger to the chainsaw. I own three of them, two Echos and a giant Stihl, plus a 30-ton Northern Tool Equipment log splitter, Dremel tool

chain sharpening attachments, and a Northern chain sharpening jig to boot.

Cutting cord wood to heat the house has for years been one of my favorite things to do. I am clear on what happened and why.

First off, weather conditions were not conducive to wood cutting. I usually do this work in the early and late fall months. The temperature was hovering near 100, and I was in a hurry to finish the job.

Secondly, this. My retired school teacher wife has long said I suffer from ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder). She may be right, but I call it HUAS (head up ass syndrome).

Finally, I must emphasize the importance of wood cutting in the proper attire. You don't run a chainsaw or any other heavy equipment wearing tennis shoes and short britches. Echoing the "dumbfuck" designation is my friend Matt B. of Clean Cut Chainsaw Services in Boerne, a tree removal expert who uses the big saws on almost a daily basis.

"My chainsaw wounds have been minimal," he said, "mainly because I have always worn the proper safety gear. High boots are a must. The boots have prevented me suffering numerous bad leg lacerations. Always wear your boots."

At high noon on June 10, a Sunday, I parked my brain in the shade, cranked up my smallest saw, an Echo, and walked out in blinding sun wearing T-shirt, short britches, and a pair of perfectly good New Balance running shoes to do what I intended to be a little light trimming on some cord wood I had already cut.

With the saw still running in my right hand, I stooped over to pick up a chunk of wood. That's when the bar tip caught my left sock, and that was it. The running chain teeth were pulled directly into my unexposed leg.

Blood spurted out of the wound, and it was filling my shoe when I managed to find a piece of cotton rope in my tool shed for a tourniquet. Yeah, a tourniquet. That's what I saw them do once in a movie. So I tied off the gash.

I yelled at Sharon, my 5-foot wife. She saw me headed for the truck.

"Are you going some place?" she asked.

"We are going to the Baptist Hospital emergency room off of Stone Oak," I replied. "And you are driving."

The rest is history. They staunched the blood flow and sutured the wound.

I began to reflect on some of my dumbest capers while Sharon drove us home. And my mind hung up on my emergency appendectomy at Bexar County Hospital which was performed in the late 1970s by a young surgeon in residency who answered to Dr. Rodney Yoshida.

This incident, I believe, defines me well.

A few days after the surgery, I was in the downtown Porter Loring Mortuary to preside over nightclub bouncer Cotton Stout's funeral. Stout and I had become friends after the two of us participated in a rather uncouth combative physical engagement in the old Squirrel Cage Club on Austin Highway. When Cotton was dying from cancer he asked me to preside over his funeral. He rejected the idea of a conventional preacher.

I will never forget the day. As I finished my talk over Cotton's coffin, my appendicitis stitches broke. Blood soaked through my suit coat and someone drove me back to the hospital.

"What the hell happened?" Dr. Yoshida yelled.

I told him and he was all but apoplectic with fury.

"You what?" he screamed. "You preached a funeral only days after surgery? You never told me you were a preacher."

"I'm not," I said. "I can explain."

The young doctor didn't want my demise on his record. Preacher or no preacher.

"You told me I could do anything I felt like doing," I reminded him. "And I felt like preaching a funeral."

Yoshida replaced my broken stitches and slumped into a chair. I will never forget what he told me.

Without one trace of a smile or one twitch of good humor on his face, Dr. Rodney Yoshida said: "You are one of my very first surgery patients, and it is people like you who make me seriously wonder if I made the right decision when I entered the medical profession."

It seems like things have been this way a lot for me. And I was thinking, too, about the perfectly good New Balance sneaker that was ruined for no good reason when the saw sliced my leg.

The Blue Star a big bright S.A. beacon

When Joey Villarreal joined the Air Force, he entertained visions of becoming an astronaut.

"The astronaut thing never worked out," says Villarreal. "But I have more than enough to keep me busy now."

Villarreal first attended The University of Texas at San Antonio where he majored in biology. Then he entered the Air Force, never dreaming he would eventually become a San Antonio craft beer baron with major downtown music club and restaurant venues in a riverwalk complex which has become an established tourist destination.

So welcome to Blue Star Brewing Company and the Villarreal enterprises. There are pubs and clubs, a restaurant, a venerable St. Mary's Street tavern, a grocery convenience store, and a bicycle shop which is a stone's throw from the San Antonio River banks.

Joey Villarreal and his wife Magdalena (aka Maggie) are well known and well thought of by literally thousands of both locals and tourists who frequent the holdings.

With a total of some 50 employees who work in the multi-faceted operation, the Villarreals are personable, hands-on owners who are loved by both employees and customers alike.

Maggie Villarreal is an attractive and ebullient ball of energy who connects instantly with people, and since the Villarreals have no children, she has long been at Blue Star Brewing almost daily with her husband, a quiet type with an engaging smile.

"I do the books and anything else that I can handle," Maggie said. "Joey and I work together. We got married in 1995."

It all started in Novem-

ber of 1988 when Villarreal opened Joey's neighborhood tavern on the St. Mary's Strip. He doesn't feature regular live bands at Joey's, but live music will be featured in November when Joey's celebrates its 30th anniversary in business.

"I was looking for something to do," Villarreal recalls. "I had been helping Albert Orosco with his Patio Bar and Grill and working in my dad's tortilla factory when the St. Mary's Street space became available. I guess I wanted a bar of my own. I jumped on it and started bartending myself. I was working the outside bar when I met Maggie."

Recognizing the vast potential of San Antonio's history-rich interior, Villarreal opened the Blue Star Brewing Company in 1996. It is located at the beginning of the Mission Reach, a major bike friendly and pedestrian friendly thoroughfare to the city's cultural and historical features that run along the San Antonio River.

In defining what the Blue Star website lists as The Pub, the promo material says, *This eclectic craft brewery and restaurant is a central watering hole and activity hub for locals and hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. The craft beer made on premise, and elevated pub food, are served six days a week using fresh and locally raised and grown ingredients.*

Maggie Villarreal said, "It is very important to note that our beer is brewed with nothing but organic ingredients."

The website message continues:

The Villarreals have fostered a strong bond with their community, elevating their classic pub dishes through an alliance



Joey and Maggie Villarreal have created a unique local destination point.

with local farmers. The food is made with quality ingredients prepared simply.

Blue Star Brewing Company features weekly live bands and other entertainment which includes a Spurs shuttle, group bicycle rides and other entertainment.

The brewery and pub include restaurant, brewing tanks, and a banquet hall area which offers space for parties, business functions, and weekly jazz shows by San Antonio's top jazz musicians.

Separate from the brewery and pub/restaurant is the adjacent live music venue Joe Blues,

where live blues music is offered on Mondays, and a singer/songwriter showcase is featured every Thursday.

The pub jazz shows on Tuesdays include the following bands:

First Tuesday: The Crimson Jazz Orchestra led by George Briscoe.

Second Tuesday: The River City Big Band, led by baritone saxophonist MD Merritt (Murph) Davis.

Third Tuesday: The San Antonio Jazz Orchestra, co-led by George DeRocher, Rick Horn, and Dale Schultz.

Fourth Tuesday: The Primetime Jazz Orchestra, led by saxophonist and world traveler John

Magaldi.

Fifth Tuesday (when there is a 5th): The Lampighters directed by David Hoeft.

In the adjacent Joe Blues club, which Villarreal opened in 2007, the blistering blues guitar of Will Owen Gage is being featured each Monday with Gage starting at 8 p.m. and continuing until 10 p.m.

The 30-year-old guitar phenom was featured on the June cover of Action Magazine, and venue owner Villarreal said the response was impressive.

The singer/songwriter Thursdays feature a wide variety of talent, ranging from the immensely popu-

lar Michael Martin to favorites like Josh Glenn, Sarah Centeno, Jimmy Wilden, Mike Ryan, and others.

Joey Villarreal takes great pride in the honor paid his Joe Blues pub when world-renown big band leader Doc Severinsen chose the facility for a rehearsal.

"Many of the older fans know Doc Severinsen from the Johnny Carson show," Joey said. "He was just fantastic. Ninety-seven years old and still going strong."

Joey noted that the Joe Blues singer/songwriter performers are scheduled by club management.

Continued on pg. 13



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SCATTER SHOT'S

High Voltage music new Tex Pop feature

Big things are happening this summer at Tex Pop.

Director Ruby Garza has added a new art director, and Bell Solloa is bringing her popular High Voltage Music Program to the South Texas Museum of Texas Culture (Tex Pop).

The new art coordinator is Jarvis Quarterman, a 10-year employee at Planet K, the official sponsor of Tex Pop.

Quarterman replaces April Dawn Ceja as art coordinator.

Of the new art director, Ruby Garza said: "Jarvis and I have worked side-by-side for many years and have done Planet K's event coordinating together. He has a fantastic background in the arts and was already involved in various projects. He has a great deal of contacts as well and I am super ex-

cited to have him here."

The upcoming High Voltage Music Program is a first for Tex Pop with workshops scheduled for every Tuesday and Thurs-



day through the month of July. The sessions run from noon until 4 p.m.

Bell Solloa (aka Bell Star) was the single parent of a Southside High School student when she started her High Voltage Music Program in September of 2016.

Upon realizing that the school had no music

classes, Solloa did some research before gaining permission from the school principal to take both instruments and instructors to the school for music classes.

The result has been phenomenal.

High Voltage started with electric guitar classes, and by the second semester was invited to bring in a second class which was acoustic guitar.

Solloa said, "The program has expanded within the campus, and now has both electric and acoustic guitar classes as well as a band class on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Bell says High Voltage now hosts over 20 free workshops year around, primarily during holidays and in the summer. The Tex Pop workshops will teach the fundamentals of



Tex Pop director Ruby Garza and new art coordinator Jarvis Quarterman.

both electric and acoustic guitar, bass, drums, vocals, songwriting, and even DJ work.

Bell Solloa started it all for one simple reason. Because there are kids out there who can afford nothing else, and High Voltage is free.

"An important factor to making HVMP a success," Solloa says, "is having no

cost classes which allow teens a chance to learn to play without any financial burden in an area of the city which has no music stores, music lessons, or academies. This was started primarily to help students who can afford no instructions or instruments."

Solloa added: "Since its inception, High Voltage

has received a grant from Rackspace, as well as instruments awarded by the Charitable Foundation at Guitar Center. We have also received support from Robot Monster Guitars and private donations."

Solloa said Tex Pop is providing an off-campus training site with room to invite up to 12 students per workshop.

Saldana theft

The giant loss of burglarized musical instruments suffered last month by Hector Saldana was not the first such loss by local musicians and it won't be the last.

Hector's loss--and it was a big one--is different from most such musical instrument thefts because it occurred in a climate-controlled security lockup which was equipped with security cameras.



Hector Saldana

Most musicians who lose instruments to

theives are victimized by car and van burglars who break into the vehicles, and few of these unfortunate souls lack the insurance to cover their losses.

Hector's collection of valuable guitars and other equipment was taken by what appears to be two young white men, one of them an ugly bastard whose mug shows fairly clearly in the security camera photos.

Hector believes it was an inside job. He said

someone had given the security code to the theives.

Stolen was a 1957 Gibson ES-125 TD sunburst, 1965 Guild Starfire III Red, 1978 Hamer Sunburst red color, 1970 Gibson EB-1 bass sunburst, 1940s Harmony Patrician natural and tons of professional studio gear including rare original Pendulum preamps first year, Orange bass amp head all-tube and two Orange bass cabinets with tweed grill

cloth. Please keep eyes and ears out. Stolen near Blanco Rd and Lockhill Selma area today.

The Harmony guitar, Saldana says, was given to him by his father when he was 7 years of age.

"I played it at my dad's funeral," Hector said.

Print in trouble

Print journalism, us included, is having an increasingly tough time of it.

The Express and News laid off more than a dozen

staffers last month, and La Prensa closed its doors for good.

The daily newspaper layoff included some staffers who had been with the paper for decades.

La Prensa, San Antonio's bilingual newspaper for more than a century, and a strong voice for the immigrant community for decades, has closed both its online and newsprint operations.

Continued on pg. 14

How about food and service that doesn't suck?

I recently heard that a somewhat popular live music venue in San Antonio is thinking of making changes to its live music schedule to attract college-aged people who will drink more.

Holy Moly! I'd hate to be their insurance underwriter.

That makes as much sense as a doughnut maker increasing profits by making the hole bigger.

Here's a better one (in my pretty-well-informed opinion).

Why not attract a more stable crowd of people who have more money to spend and offer them an entertainment experience

with food and service that doesn't suck? Drinks are ok, too, but no one gets a DWI from overeating.

Here are some numbers taken from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2013):

they earn, up until the age of 75 when they start spending from savings.

Here is the way annual entertainment spending breaks out by age group:

Under 25:	\$1,243
35-44:	\$2,958
45-54:	\$3,070
55-64:	\$2,651
65-74:	\$2,488
75+:	\$1,422

Even our senior citizens spend more for entertainment than those under 25. I think it is extremely shortsighted to overlook the purchasing power of older adults. True, for most of us, our

heavy drinking days are behind us, but our thirst for meaningful entertainment has never been stronger.

I once had a conversation with the Arizona owner of a now-closed chain of trendy discos called Bobbie McGees. He

told me that the life of his Dallas location in the mid-70s would be 27 months. The young crowd of that day had a way of moving on in less than three years forcing the investors to make their money and expect to close within 36 months.

I wouldn't invest in that portfolio, would you?

If you are in the under

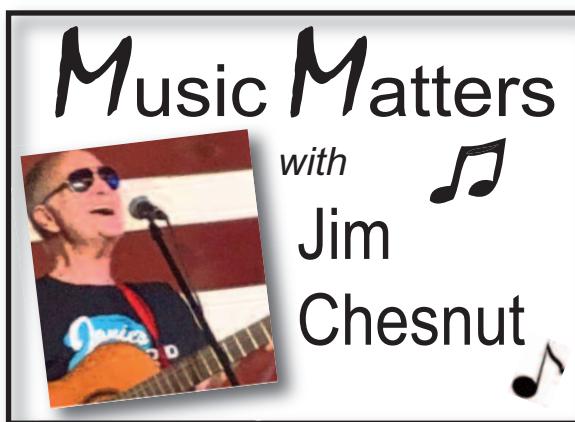
25 age group, celebrate your youth, and try on as many pairs of shoes as you wish. But, mark my words, there will come a time when you will have a pair of boots or slippers that feel so good, you won't want to wear anything else.

If you are a venue owner or operator, try to make the shoes you offer

as comfortable to as many feet as possible no matter what their age.

...

Jim Chesnut is a state-certified public management graduate of Texas State University in San Marcos and a former major label recording artist and staff songwriter with Acuff-Rose Music in Nashville.



Music Matters with Jim Chesnut

with

Jim Chesnut

Music Matters with Jim Chesnut

with

Blue Star Brewing

continued from pg 7

"It is not an open mic," Villarreal said, "but we do feature a bunch of different musicians, and some of the younger ones are real talents on the move."

Villarreal said the live music offerings at both Joe Blues and the main Blue Star pub are both attracting growing crowds.

"People are beginning to come in from other areas of the city, and also from the surrounding communities," Joey said. "There is a growing interest in blues and home-grown music, or that's how I see it. I think we have really got something going at Joe Blues and at Blue Star."

Joey and Maggie returned last month from the National Craft Beers Conference in Nashville. They toured music city and visited the Country Music Hall of Fame.

"It was fantastic," Joey said. "I never thought we would see so much."

He said the brewers conference was attended by 1,800 individuals from all over the country.

The convention, Villarreal said, will be held in San Antonio in 2020.

"There are talks by industry people, different suppliers and craft beer brewers like us," Villarreal said. "The conference was fun and very enlightening."

So for our own enlightenment, we asked Villarreal the question which has no stock, grounded, and universally accepted answer that all can understand.

What is a craft beer?

Joey rolled his eyes and grinned.

"There are many definitions," he said. "And they have continued to change throughout the years. I think craft beers got started in this country simply because the mass produced brands of beer lost their flavor.

"Do you recall back in the day when we had Pearl beer brewed right here in San Antonio? It was delicious. The same for Schlitz and the old Michelob we used to get. These and other mass-produced brands began to lose the taste."

Villarreal said the Spoetzl Brewery in Shiner is far larger than most craft beer operations.

"But in my mind," Joey said, "Shiner Beer is a craft beer. Compared to the big mass-producers, the Spoetzl Brewery is still small, and they still age the beer in oak and do other special things with their ingredients."

Maggie Villarreal pointed out that all ingredients in Blue Star Draft Beer are organic.

"We deal directly with the farmers," Joey said. "Our beer contains malted barley, rice, corn, oats, and hops. We only brew draft beer at Blue Star, and I estimate we brew between 600 and 700 barrels a year. We are still under a thousand barrels and that classifies us as a small brewery."

"We sell our beer on premise, and we deliver Blue Star to about 20 retail suppliers in San Antonio, plus a relatively new bar and grill in Bulverde. I think our product speaks for itself. A lot of people

like to drink it.

"In answer to your initial question, In my mind, craft beer is any beer that is not mass-produced."

In addition to Joey's on St. Mary's Street, the Blue Star restaurant and pub, and Joe Blues next door, Villarreal maintains a grocery operation in the same building which he calls Blue Star Provisions, and a street-side bicycle shop known as Blue Star Bicycling Company.

"We have produce and frozen meats in the grocery," Villarreal said. "We opened it because there seemed to be a neighborhood need. We have a downtown H.E.B., so I like to refer to our store as more of a convenience operation. We sell a lot of sodas and stuff the tourists like."

Since the entire Blue Star complex is on the missions trails of San Antonio, the establishment of a bicycle shop was only natural.

The Blue Star Bicycling Company sells new bikes, rents bikes, repairs bikes, and carries all bicycling accessories.

"More and more people are touring the missions trails on bicycles," Joey said. "This is a very pedestrian and bicycle friendly area."

Maggie Villarreal interjected, "We love our customers, and we love watching them have a good time."

Asked if he planned more expansion projects, Joey scratched his head and gazed out over the river.

"I guess not," he said. "I don't think we have the space for more."



Blue Star Provisions Store manager Diamond Mascorro is with Provisions shop keeper Gabrielle Rose (center) and the Blue Star complex co-owner Magdalena Villarreal.



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A decorative sign for the Deer Crossing Saloon. It features a deer silhouette in a diamond shape, surrounded by a decorative border. Below the border, the words "DEER CROSSING SALOON" are written in large, stylized red letters. At the bottom, there are two glasses: a beer mug on the left and a wine glass on the right. To the left of the sign, there is a small graphic of a deer jumping over a field of bluebonnets. The contact information is listed on the right side of the sign.

The Blue Star complex Villarreals, Joey and Maggie, offer everything the Mission Trails cyclist might need with a bike shop that sells, services and repairs.

Memory Trail

continued from pg 4

the Sunday I was there, and I must say Roy Acuff would be very pleased with the current use of the space.

Today is indeed different in significant ways.

Gone are the days that brought forth entrepreneurs like Jack Clements and Fred Foster (founder of Monument Records) who recorded the likes of Kris Kristofferson, Tony Joe White, Willie Nelson, Dolly Parton and many others.

When I lived in Nashville, I had the feeling that the major entrepreneurial players considered themselves to be stewards of country music. They were personally in-

vested in its future. They were personally engaged with both music makers and music consumers. There seemed to be an interest in listening to new material written by new people, believing that the next big hit was yet to be written.

From what I can see now and from what I hear on mainstream country radio, the industry is comfortable producing the same song over and over again. There doesn't seem to be the variety in radio programming that there once was.

During my trip, I kept trying to develop a theme for this article that revolved around the geographical limitations of Nashville. It was poetic and went something like this.

Everywhere you look in middle Tennessee, you see nothing but forests of trees at least 60 feet tall. There is no horizon like there is throughout most of Texas. Without the horizon, there can be no vision of the future. Folks living in the hollers of Kentucky and parts of Tennessee, weren't particularly cozy with folks in other hollers, even if they knew they existed.

That might have been a lovely argument for the lack of a vision, but Lauren Renee-Zartman Martino, a record promoter with Bill Wence Promotions in Nolensville, brought me back to reality from the metaphorical heaven where I live part-time.

Corporate ownership in search of predictable financial performance has

taken control of the message (Nashville) and the messenger (Radio).

Broadcast ownership has been largely deregulated by Congress, and the resulting consolidation has created a radio oligarchy that takes programming responsibility away from local stations. As a result, country music has suffered, in my opinion, because of something called Groupthink.

Groupthink happens when independent thought is restricted by group dynamics that occur within groups of people who seek harmony and wish to avoid controversy. Music suppliers and their public gatekeepers (radio) both seek the harmony that comes with predictability.

If the last record that

sounded a certain way was a hit with the public, it makes sense that the next one to be produced and released should sound the same. Right?

Oh, Hell no.

Where would the kaleidoscope of our rich cultural music heritage be without the variety produced by the likes of Berry Gordy, Jr., Quincy Jones or Chet Atkins? For that matter, where would it be without the pioneers of format radio like Todd Storz and Gordon McClelland who are responsible for the concept of Top-40 playlists.

Where would transportation be without the independent thought of Eli Whitney or the Wright brothers? Where would communications be without the independent

thought of Bill Gates and Steve Jobs?

Talking with tin cans and a piece of string between two canoes, that's where!

There was a time when radio was as much a steward of country music as the early music entrepreneurs in Nashville. Air personalities were the connectors who facilitated relationships between performers and fans.

We've lost that, I'm afraid, and I miss the likes of Max Gardner (KKYX in San Antonio), Arleigh Duff (KVET and KOKE in Austin), Bill Mack (WBAP in Ft. Worth) and Ralph Emery (WSM in Nashville).

Theirs wasn't a corporate mission. It was personal.

And, we were better for it.

Scatter Shots

continued from pg 11

Nina Duran, who became publisher of La Prensa following the retirement of her father, community activist and philanthropist Tino Duran, who died two years ago, says she always knew when she took over that the newspaper's future was murky.

"After serving the community for 29 years, La Prensa de San Antonio Newspaper has closed its print and digital doors," Duran wrote in a post on

social media. "I've enjoyed every step of this journey and knew this was a possibility when I returned as publisher in 2016. Ultimately I'm so happy I was able to provide jobs to people who I consider family for two more years. Looking back, I don't regret a single thing."

Earlier this year, Duran laid off some staff members and moved La Prensa to a digital only publication.

La Prensa dates back to 1913, in the first wave of Mexican migration to

Texas during the Mexican Revolution. Duran took over the paper in 1989 to make it a 'positive voice for the Hispanic community.'

Meanwhile, the Canadian newsprint costs continue to soar.

Action Magazine has endured and survived mainly because we have a low overhead with what is virtually a one-man operation, and because Action may be the only publication with balls still printing on the planet.

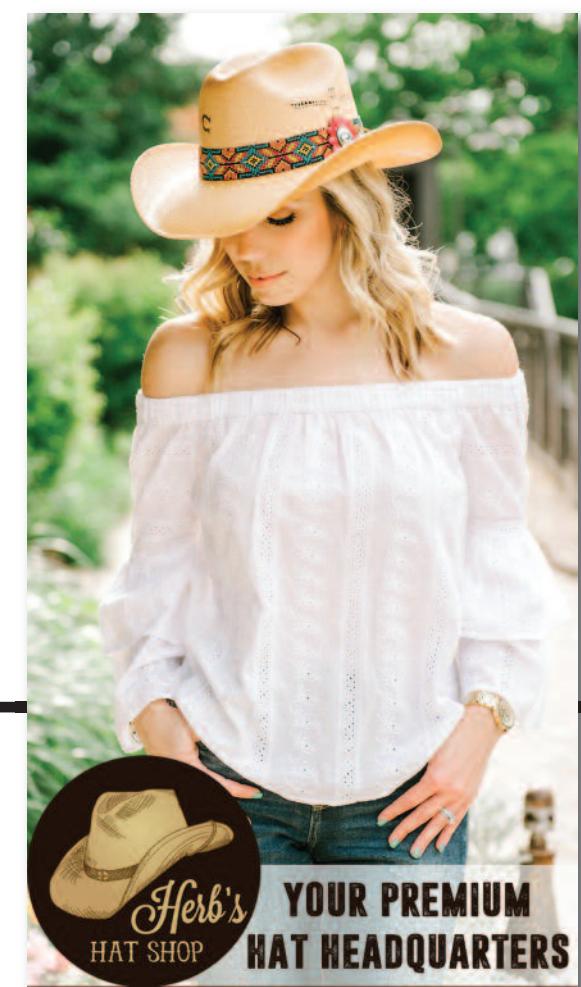
Club news

The nightclubs in San

Antonio and immediate area continue to close, reopen, and spring forth with new owners.

Bananas on San Pedro is back open with new ownership and management; Taco Land is again in business, offering some live music; and The Rusty Spur in Bulverde is no more, and new owners on the Blanco Road business will soon reopen as a coffee shop and boutique.

Baker Street Pub on Wurzbach is no more, and Casbeers on Blanco Road was still closed at this writing.



Where to find Action Magazine

Northeast

Adrenalin Tattoos
Barbecue Station
Boozehounds
Bracken Saloon
Century Music
Charlie Brown's
Cooper's Lounge
Cootey's
Country Nights
Crazy D's
Cross-Eyed Seagull
Easy Street
Eisenhauer Flea Mkt.
Evil Olive
Fiasco
Finnegan's
Fitzgerald's
502 Bar
Guitar Center
Halftime Lounge
Jack's
Jack-N-Around
Jeff Ryder Drums
Krystal's Cocktails
Lone Star Bar & Grill
Locoe's Sports Bar
Main Street Bar & Grill
Make My Day
Martinis
Marty's
Midnight Rodeo
Minds Eye Tattoo
Our Glass Cocktails

Pigpen

Planet K
Rebar
Recovery Room
Rick's Cabaret
Rookies Too
Schooner's
Silver Bullet Ice House
Spanky's
The Crazy Ape
Thirsty Turtle
Two Rivers Tavern
Whiskey Girl
Winston's
Zona

Northwest

Alamo Music
Big Bob's Burgers
Bend Sports Bar
Bone Headz
Burn House
Cavenders
Coco Beach
Cooter Brown's
Cowtown Boots
Element Tattoo
Fat Racks
Hardbodies
Highlander
Hills and Dales
Ice House Bar
Janie's Record Shop
Joe's Ice

Kennedy's Knuckleheads

Las Chiladas
Mitchell's
Pick's
Planet K
Stacy's Sports Bar
Wetmore City Limits
Whiskey's
Wise Guys
Who's Who

Central & Downtown

Alamo Beer Co.
Alamo Music
Armadillo
Amp Room
Augies BBQ
Big Bob's Burgers
Blue Star Brewing
Bombay Bicycle Club
Casbers
CD Exchange
Demo's
Goodtime Charlies
Hardbodies
Joe Blues
Joey's
Limelight
The Mix
Pigpen
Pigstand
Planet K

Sam's Burger Joint Sancho's Squeezebox

Southside

Billy's Bar 47
Brooks Pub
Flipside Record Parlor
Herb's Hat Shop
Leon's
Mustang Sally's
Perfection Tattoo
Planet K
Shady Lady
Spurr 122
Texas Pride BBQ
The Other Woman
The Steer

Bulverde area

Antler's Restaurant
Choke Canyon BBQ
Daddy O's
Max's Roadhouse
Shade Tree Saloon
Tetco, 46 & 281

China Grove

China Grove
Trading Post
Longbranch

Converse

Sportsman's Bar
Helotes
B-Daddy's BBQ
Bobby J's
Floore Store
Pete's

Leon Springs

Angry Elephant
Longhorn Restaurant
Silver Fox
The Grill at Leon Springs

Selma

Bluebonnet Palace
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JULY 14	SOUTH TEXAS REVIEW
JULY 19	SOUTH SIDE JUMP
JULY 20	LONE STAR PICKERZ
JULY 21	INTEXICATED
JULY 26	TONY RODRIGUEZ BAND
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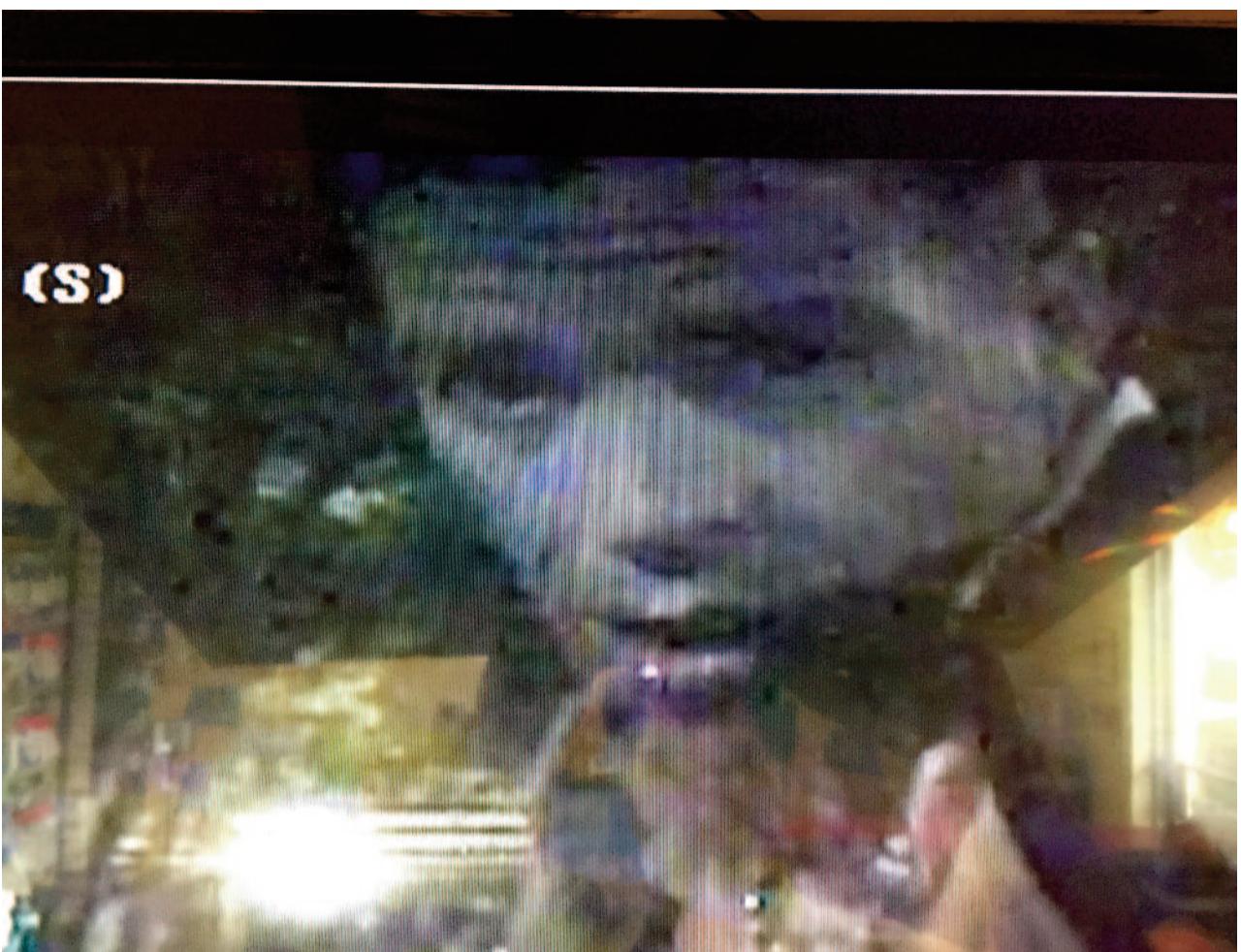
Suspect burglarized The Krayolas storage unit on June 8 at Life Storage located at 7340 Blanco Road at McCarty. Last seen driving a 2014 or newer Jeep Compass or Jeep Cherokee.

STOLEN: Vintage guitars and musical equipment including a 1950s Gibson ES-125 TD, 1966 Guild Starfire III, 1970 Gibson EB-1 violin bass, 1978 Hamer Sunburst, 1940s Harmony Patrician, Orange AD200B bass amp, Orange OBC-410 and OBC-115 bass cabinets, Pendulum HZ10-SE preamps and autographed Doug Sahm and Krayolas artwork.

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