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THE INSIDE SCOOP

Ex-band director indicted



By Ron Maloney
Seguin Gazette

SEGUIN
A former New Braunfels middle school band director has been indicted by a Guadalupe County grand jury on child indecency allegations and is scheduled for trial in 274th State



Gunn

Judicial court next month.

David Warren Gunn, 55, stands charged with two third-degree felony counts

of indecency with a child by exposure, a third-degree felony count of inducing or encouraging a sexual performance by a child and a second-degree felony count of promoting child pornography. If proved at trial, now set for Sept. 15, Gunn faces up to between two and 20

years in state prison. The allegations are re-indictments of a previous case investigated in New Braunfels and in Guadalupe County in 2008 and 2009. Gunn, who worked from 1996 to 2010 at Canyon Middle School, is free on bail.

The Texas Education Agency's State Board for Educator Certification says Gunn's teaching certificate remains valid with the TEA, but a notation in its Internet website says that, "an allegation of misconduct

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NEW FEATURE

Check out today's Business section for the debut of "Dave Says" by popular financial analyst Dave Ramsey.



BREWING SUCCESS

New Braunfels' microbreweries spotlight their success — and the hard work that goes into building a better brew. — BUSINESS, 1B



MOVING IN

Newly college-bound students — and their parents — are readying for the move to campuses as start of school nears. — LIVING, 1C



TRI-ING HARD

Take a look at some of the achievements of local triathletes, their dedication and their grueling training sessions. — SPORTS, 1B

Gaga for Gourds

Lone Star Gourd Fest highlights artistry

By Molly Block
The Herald-Zeitung

On Saturday afternoon at the New Braunfels Civic and Convention Center, many people were surprised to learn that a gourd, typically a large fruit with hard skin, could be crafted into artistic masterpieces.

But that's precisely what was on display at the The Lone Star Gourd Festival, which began on Thursday and will continue until Sunday afternoon and was held at the New Braunfels Civic and Convention Center for the first time since the event began almost 18 years ago in Dallas.

Hundreds of artists who traveled from across the country to attend the annual festival this weekend all share a similar passion — a love for transforming gourds into fine art. Walking through the convention center, people are able to view the various creations which the artists have put much time and effort into. Woven bowls, intricate carvings, paintings and sculptures are just some of the several pieces of original art work on display and also for sale.

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RIVER USE

City to examine rules for tubing

Officials to discuss refining regulations

By Greg Bowen
The Herald-Zeitung

New Braunfels is about to dive in for another round of talks on how the wildly popular summer pastime and undisputed economic engine that is tubing will be conducted and regulated.

Just a few weeks ago, Mayor Barron Casteel said during a city council meeting that he'd like to see the city's River Stakeholder/Steering Committee reconvened to look at possible changes on the tubing scene. City Manager Robert Camareno told Casteel that the wheels were already turning in the effort to bring the committee back together.

'Join us'

On Friday, City Hall announced that New Braunfels residents are invited to participate in a public input meeting on local river-related recreation at 6 p.m. Aug. 26 at the New Braunfels Civic Convention Center, 375 S. Castell Ave.

"As the season winds down, it's important for us to review the effectiveness of our new and existing management practices in order to provide the

WEATHER, 4B
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AP: Teen shooter was not thought of as threat

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP)

A teen who fatally shot another student at his suburban Denver high school last year had been deemed "not a high-level of threat" after shouting a death threat against his debate coach three months earlier, according to documents obtained by The Associated Press.

The disciplinary records show that Karl Pierson, 18, was allowed to return to class in September, less than a week after he was demoted from captain of the debate team and said he would kill the coach, who was a school librarian. The documents say Pierson showed no remorse for making the threat.

Authorities have said Pierson was targeting the debate coach when he entered Arapahoe High School on Dec. 13 with a shotgun, a machete and homemade bombs.

GUNN

Continued from 1A

is currently being investigated by Texas Education Agency staff" and adds that "A certificate with this notation remains valid because no formal determination has been made."

According to the indictments, Gunn, on or about June 1, 2008, allegedly exposed the genitals of a minor male under age 17 or caused the minor to expose them "with the intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of the defendant and/or (the minor)."

On that same date, Gunn allegedly "intentionally and knowingly promote by requesting, inducing and/or direction or possess with intent to promote, visual material that visually depicted ... a child who was younger than 18 years of age at the time the image of the child was made, engaging in sexual conduct, to-wit: actual and/or simulated masturbation.

On or about June 1, 2009, the indictment said Gunn "did then and there intentionally and knowingly authorize and/or induce a child ... to engage in sexual conduct and/or a sexual performance ... streamed live via the internet.

An indictment is not evidence of a defendant's guilt. The state is required at trial to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

KORPI

Continued from 1A

America's Teachers and

GOURDS

Continued from 1A

Rosa Semien, the current vice president of the Texas Gourd Society, said that many of the volunteers and artists hold classes during the weekend to teach people the basics of creating gourd art.

"Some of our teachers requested to bring certain supplies for the classes," Semien said on Saturday. "A few of the classes are still open, so we're hoping that people will sign up. The classes all teach different things with gourds, and people can come and literally learn step by step. They're fun, and there is literally something for everyone. The use of gourds gives you a canvas like no other."

Anyone who is interested in attempting gourd art on their own after attending a class has the opportunity to purchase raw gourds and the necessary tools at the convention center.

Mike Ford, an artist from Austin who displayed several pieces of his work this weekend, admits he only started working with gourds two years ago after his wife convinced him to give it a shot. Ford also entered the 2014 gourd competition during the festival, and he ended up placing in many of the categories.

"This is made entirely out of gourds," Ford said of his large fish creation he titled, "I'm Yours." "After I came up with the



ABOVE: Don Best and Cindy Jenkins check out award winning gourds in various divisions at the Lone Star Gourd Festival at New

Braunfels Civic Convention Center on Saturday. BELOW: Madeleine Baker, left, and Rhonda Croft attend a pine needle coiling class.

If you're going ...

■ The Lone Star Gourd Festival continues today at 9 a.m. and concludes at 3 p.m. at the New Braunfels Civic and Convention Center, located at 424 South Castell Ave. The admission price is \$5 for both adults and children. For more information, visit the Texas Gourd Society website at www.texasgourdsociety.org.

concept and idea, it took me a bare minimum of 80 hours to complete it. It's a learning experience, but I really enjoy doing this. I absolutely plan on entering again because if I can just make one person smile, that's even better."

Linda Raman, a resident of Marble Falls, attended the event on Saturday afternoon with her friend, Lynda Fry. Although

Raman admitted she probably should just look, both friends ended up purchasing some art to display in their houses.

"Well, I saw this event in the paper and thought, 'that just sounds wonderful,'" Raman said. "The imagination, skill and detail is nothing short of amazing."

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Saturday August 23 at 7:00 pm

All tickets \$10

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Ticket proceeds go to Family Promise of Greater New Braunfels in its mission to support local families with children who are transitioning from homelessness into independence.

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