

APRIL 13, 2016 1:33 PM

H-E-B Happenings

More closures are coming for Midtown Express

Bedford ArtsFront opens Saturday



Ramp closures and traffic switches are commonplace along the Midtown Express project in Euless. **Paul Moseley** Star-Telegram archives

MIDTOWN EXPRESS UPDATE: CLOSURES COMING

More closures are coming along the Midtown Express reconstruction in Euless, including:

- **April 18 to May 2:** The U-turns for eastbound and westbound Texas 183 at Ector Drive will be closed.
- **April 21 to May 5:** From 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily, the westbound Texas 183 exit ramp to Industrial Boulevard will be closed.
- **April 22:** From 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., the eastbound Texas 183 frontage road at Ector Drive and Industrial Boulevard will switch to a new traffic pattern.

The project, which will widen and increase capacity for Texas 183 from Euless to Interstate 35E in Dallas, is expected to continue for two years.

More information at drivemidtown.com.

BEDFORD ARTSFRONT OPENS SATURDAY AT CENTRAL PLAZA

An art exhibit will open Saturday at unused storefronts at Bedford Central Plaza, southwest corner of Central Drive and Harwood Road.

The opening of the exhibit at Bedford Artsfront will be from 3 to 7 p.m.

The free event, sponsored by Crazy Cowboy restaurant and the Bedford Cultural Commission, will feature live music featured by local performers, artisan shopping and more.

Information: [817-952-2317](tel:817-952-2317).

RAPE SELF-DEFENSE CLASSES TAUGHT BY EULESS POLICE

The second of four self-defense classes for women is from 7 to 10 p.m. Wednesday with more classes scheduled for April 20 and 27.

Taught by the Euless Police Department, the Rape Aggression Defense class includes verbal instruction, the teaching of defensive techniques and a practical exercise.

The classes are being held at the Police Department, 1102 W. Euless Blvd.

Information: [817-685-1686](tel:817-685-1686) or jgordon@eulesstx.gov.

Read more here: http://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/community/hurst-euless-bedford_news/article71592487.html#storylink=cpy

Slain Eules Police Officer's Sister Posts Touching Tribute Online

April 21, 2016 4:17 PM

Filed Under: [#DavidHofer](#), [Annie Potasznik](#), [BLOG](#), [Community](#), [Eules](#), [NYPD](#), [Police](#)



Follow CBSDFW.COM: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

(CBSDFW.COM) – The sister of Eules Police officer David Stefan Hofer, 29, who was killed in the line of duty in March 2016, posted an emotional blog post about her loss.

“My Brother Was Killed Because He Wore A Uniform” details the actions of a “deranged young man” (Jorge Brian Gonzalez, 22) who ambushed Officer Hofer, fatally shooting him the head.



NYPD officers line up as the the ashes of former NYPD officer David Hofer, who served in Manhattans Ninth Precinct for five years, are carried into Saint Patrick's Cathedral by officers of the Eules, Texas Police Department. (credit: Timothy A. Clary/AFP/Getty Images)

Meret Hofer's post gives insight into her brother's life, who was born into a liberal, academic family, attended private school in Brooklyn Heights (where he was a puppeteer, poet and Chinese language student), and later New York University. Like many Americans, the September 11 terror attacks forever changed Hofer's life, leading him to join the NYPD after college.

The post calls out people who were “tempted to mourn Hofer’s loss as an “exceptional officer in an otherwise problematic institution.” Boris writes that that is a *mistake* and explains:

“There are countless reasons why my brother should be alive today, chief among them to give lessons to us all about how to care for one another. Yet, in that regard my brother is not an exception. There are many caring police officers who do good in an incredibly challenging profession. Unfortunately, we tend not to honor these officers. Rather, what makes the news out of the millions of positive interactions officers have with people daily are the very small number of these interactions that devolve into an abuse of power. Most officers want to and do do their jobs well. They want to keep our streets safe. They want to help those who need help. They want to solve problems in their communities. However, instead of becoming teachers or social workers or psychologists, they chose to make a difference as a first responder, navigating the acute emergencies and difficulties that crop up in each of our lives.”

Meret Hofer wrote about what made her brother “remarkable” and stressed the importance of dedicated first responders who protect our communities. The post cautions about being led astray by “negative assumptions about what it means to wear a uniform, just as we cannot allow ourselves to be guided by assumptions about what it means to come from a certain zip code or have a certain skin color.”

[*My Brother Was Killed Because He Wore A Uniform*](#), while no doubt inspired from tragedy, offers hope and gives the reader a sense of healing and hope that just as Hofer believed, one person can bridge worlds.

(©2016 CBS Local Media, a division of CBS Radio Inc. All Rights Reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed.)

10 days before 'assassinating' officer, Euless addict talked of killing cop

Diane Smith, Star-Telegram , WFAA 7:28 PM. CDT April 22, 2016

(Photo: Courtesy - Family)



[CONNECT](#) [TWEET](#) [LINKEDIN](#) [GOOGLE+](#) [PINTEREST](#)

EULESS -- Jorge Brian Gonzalez claimed he was God and told a police officer he wanted to kill him.

He was high and acting crazy as Euless police officer W. Tice rode with Gonzalez in an ambulance to a Fort Worth hospital. He talked to cameras he thought were hidden in the interior lights. He said he could control helicopters that he believed were flying overhead.

As he was rolled into John Peter Smith Hospital on a stretcher, Gonzalez's behavior became more threatening, according to a Feb. 21 police report obtained by the Star-Telegram.

Tice wrote that he saw Gonzalez "looking at a police officer's pistol who had his back to Brian as he passed.

"I moved the stretcher wide of the officer," Tice wrote in the report. "Brian looked at me and said, 'You saw me looking at this gun. I was going to take it.'"

A doctor at JPS diagnosed Gonzalez with having homicidal thoughts and numerous drug-related disorders, according to discharge papers. He was released from the hospital on Feb. 23, one day before he turned 22.

Eight days later, Gonzalez fatally shot Euless officer David Hofer in a neighborhood park, and then was killed by other officers responding to the March 1 shooting.



Officer David Hofer

Police Chief Michael Brown wrote in the Euless Citizens Police Academy April newsletter that Gonzalez was a “cold-blooded killer” who was going to take out as many people as possible.

“I don’t think we will ever know the motivating force that drove the suspect to kill Officer Hofer,” Brown wrote. “I do believe that his intent was to inflict even more death, damage and destruction in the park than he did.”

Brown said police continue to conduct separate investigations into the shooting. One delves deep into the shooting and will be turned over to the Tarrant County district attorney’s office. The other looks at police procedures to determine if policies were followed.

Because those investigations are active, Euless police have declined to discuss Gonzalez’s case. But police reports and other documents provided by his father detail his son’s dark life, scarred by sexual abuse, steady drug use and petty crimes — leaving behind more questions than answers.

“This was a tragedy for the officer’s family, for the law enforcement community and a life so young that is lost,” said [Alex del Carmen, a criminologist and executive director of Tarleton State University’s School of Criminology, Criminal Justice and Strategic Studies](#). “What could we have done as a society to prevent that?”

And at no time was Gonzalez’s self-destructive path more clear than on Feb. 21.

APRIL 22, 2016 11:52 AM

H-E-B happenings

HIGHLIGHTS

Arbor Daze is Saturday in Euless

Bedford butcher wins meat-cutting contest

Grocer closes



Bedford's Alex Marroquin.

H-E-B News

ARBOR DAZE IS SATURDAY AT MIDWAY PARK IN EULESS

If it's spring in Euless, it must be time for Arbor Daze.

Because of the ongoing Midtown Express construction project, this year's festival moves to Midway Park, 300 W. Midway Drive. That's practically its birthplace.

While the festival has been held at the City Hall campus in recent years, it started almost 30 years ago at the Midway Recreation Center. It grew to a three-day festival that drew more than 100,000 visitors before being scaled back to a community event.

This year's festival will include a kids zone, carnival rides, food vendors, live music (including Escape, a Journey tribute band) and, of course, free tree giveaways.

Information: arbordaze.org.

BEDFORD BUTCHER WINS \$20,000 IN MEAT-CUTTING CONTEST

A Bedford butcher is a one man meat-cutting dynasty.

For the second consecutive year, Alex Marroquin was named Meat Cutter of the Year at the National Meat Cutting Challenge in Orlando, Fla.

Marroquin, a butcher at the Bedford Texas Roadhouse eatery since it opened in 2005, won \$20,000 for his elite carvings. He is married and has a 6-year-old son.

“Alex is a highly respected member of the Texas Roadhouse family, and we’re thrilled to see him win for the second year,” said Michael Smith, managing partner of Texas Roadhouse.

The competition, which started with 200 butchers, requires entrants to cut sirloins, filets and rib-eyes from 30 to 40 pounds of meat. Butchers are judged on quality, yield and speed, and the cutting is done in a room chilled to 38 degrees.

SUN FRESH MARKET CLOSES BEDFORD LOCATION

The number of grocery store options in Bedford has been reduced by one.

The Minyard Sun Fresh Market in Harwood Hills Village, 3300 Harwood Road, is no longer open.

The store opened in February 2015, replacing a Tom Thumb that had long been a staple at the location just east of Texas 121.

The store was among a dozen Tom Thumb and Albertsons stores acquired by Associated Wholesale Grocers of Fort Worth and Minyard Food Stores of Richardson as part of divestments tied to the merger of Albertsons and Safeway, Tom Thumb’s parent company.

Another Sun Fresh Market remains open in Grapevine, also just off of Texas 121.

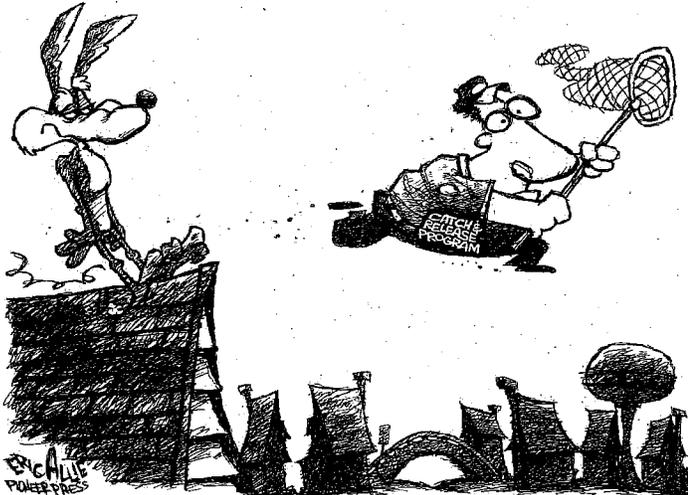
Read more here: http://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/community/hurst-eules-bedford_news/article73324247.html#storylink=cpy

ALL POINTS

Favored way to deal with feral cats is to trap, neuter, vaccinate, release

All Points each Monday features reader responses to a question posed by the Editorial Board. With each week's responses comes the next week's question. All Points responses are not counted toward the monthly limit of one letter to the editor from each writer. Readers are welcome to send their own ideas for All Points topics to Editorial Director Mike Norman, mnorman@star-telegram.com.

ERIC ALLIE, CAGLECARTOONS.COM



People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals says we're in "kitten season," when spring's longer days and warmer weather bring litter after litter from feral cats. Animal shelters are under pressure to deal with the influx.

Most feral cats don't survive past six months, PETA says, but female kittens can become mothers as young as 4 months and males can become fathers at 5 months.

Some city-run shelters have trap-neuter-release policies for feral cats, and others euthanize them. What's your opinion on these wild urban animals and your city's policy?

Trap-neuter-vaccinate-return (TNVR) is an effective, humane, long-term solution to help reduce the number of new litters born in community cat populations.

It ceases reproduction and nuisance behaviors that prompt residents' complaints, reduces overall costs for government agencies responsible for animal care and eliminates such health concerns as rabies.

TNVR improves the health of, and protects the lives of, community cats. It allows opportunities for younger kittens to be socialized and adopted and for stray cats to become pets again.

I understand that Eulesss does not implement TNVR. But I also understand that it doesn't prohibit nonprofit agencies and volunteers from conducting TNVR in the city. I hope that Eulesss fully embraces and implements TNVR.

- Krista Kulesza, Eulesss

Trap-neuter-release serves only to prevent propagation. It doesn't address what to do when these felines get sick, injured and starve, not to mention no access to rabies or other shots.

- Roy Cantrell, Fort Worth

Statistics show cities implementing TNVR see a significant reduction of feral kittens. Trap and kill just allows more kitten-reproducing cats to move in.

TNVR stabilizes and reduces the feral cat colonies and kitten reproduction stops.

Mainstream Texas cities are embracing TNVR with positive results. Unfortunately, Bedford sides with PETA's radical philosophy that killing is the better solution.

- Connie Ziegler Stout, Colleyville

The humane and sensible thing to do is euthanize. If most feral cats don't survive longer than six months, what's the purpose of trap-neuter-release? While cats are good at controlling mice and rats, feral cats in an urban area are a nuisance.

- Eva Snappka, Arlington

Euthanasia alone won't rid an area of feral cats because, if removed, they are replaced by other colonies seeking food and safety. TNVR programs are humane and effective but too expensive when other causes are more worthwhile.

- Patrick M. Jenkins, Arlington

Having practiced TNVR for 17 years and having started or participated with several successful programs on campuses, businesses and in neighborhoods, I can say that managed cats are healthy, the numbers are under control and the cats provide rodent and snake deterrence.

Many managed community cats live normal lifespans. Three on my campus at Texas Christian University are 8-plus years old.

We went from an annual trap/

kill to a stable population of 14 cats campuswide, and most years there are no kittens.

- Cari Alexander, Fort Worth

TNVR is the humane solution, but we need to encourage spay/neuter of pets as well as ferals.

- Debra Brandes, Carrollton

American Veterinary Medical Association studies have shown that feral colonies can be reduced by as much as 68 percent in 11 years with TNVR.

The Fort Worth City Council did listen to feral cat advocates when code control was trying to force through an ordinance to hamper volunteer efforts. The council did the right thing by approving a policy of letting volunteers continue to work with ferals.

- Brenda Rotramble, Haltom City

Cats that are trapped, neutered and released are an asset to any outdoor environment. They serve as pest control agents 24/7. Euthanasia doesn't work. It only causes a vacuum effect.

- Sofie Graham, Palmer

I live in Bedford and support TNVR.

My opinion of how my city handles stray, community and feral cats isn't positive. I understand from shelter volunteers that they euthanize most of them that come into the shelter.

Because residents know the city's stance on stray cats, they fear calling the city for help. They continue to feed the cats

and perpetuate the problem.

Bedford spends more tax dollars to hold and then euthanize cats instead of letting a local group, Mid-Cities Community Cats, practice TNVR with donated funds.

- Lisa Cassell, Bedford

Killeen had a feral cat problem but solved it in a humane way. Downtown merchants didn't want to see the cats go because they helped keep down the rat population.

So the City Council voted for trapping, spaying or neutering the cats before releasing them back onto the streets. To my knowledge, this seems to be working well.

- Edward Lindsay, Fort Worth

Eulesss has not yet put TNVR into practice, but talks have started. We're able to continue our efforts to trap, neuter and release without legal repercussions. Our leaders see the trend building and all the good statistics coming from cities that have TNVR in place.

- Juanita Francisco, Eulesss

Bedford has shortsightedly refused to pass an ordinance legalizing and/or supporting TNVR. Many cities have successfully implemented such programs and found that their animal control expenses have decreased.

- Steve and Cheryl Gardner, Bedford

I have several colonies of cats that are fed every night and all

are spayed/neutered, so there will be no more kittens in these areas unless people move and leave their cats/kittens behind to fend for themselves.

TNVR does work.
- Maureen Roberts, Fort Worth

TNVR sounds nice and would help reduce the population explosion, but it doesn't address other problems if they're returned to their homeless existence.

Infections and diseases are transmitted among feral cats and would go untreated. If, when trapped, they are vaccinated for feline diseases including rabies, I doubt that they are ever trapped again for revaccination.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says cats have remained the most frequently reported rabid domestic animal yearly since 1992. Not revaccinating them for rabies is violating our public health laws. And so is letting them run loose.

- George Siddons, Fort Worth

TNVR is a far more humane way to address the feral cat issue than killing them! It's not their fault that irresponsible human beings are so cavalier about their welfare. How about fining the irresponsible humans who don't spay/neuter their pets to begin with?

- Lee Koch, Colleyville

I trap in my city with a group of volunteers for a wonderful nonprofit group called Friends of Arlington Animal Services and can see the benefits of TNVR daily. Way to go, Arlington leadership, for doing the right thing!

- Renee Prescott, Arlington

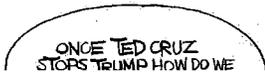
THE NEXT ALL POINTS: TEXAS RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal has vetoed a bill aimed at protecting the ability of faith-based organizations to deny services to those who violate their "sincerely held religious belief" and to fire employees who don't comply with those beliefs.

As with "religious liberty" bills in other states, the Georgia act drew objections from gay-rights groups and big-name companies. The NFL warned that it could endanger Atlanta's Super Bowl bid.

Fort Worth state Rep. Matt Krause says he will propose a constitutional amendment along these lines in next year's legislative session. Is that a good idea?

Send no more than 150 words with your name, home address and telephone number to letters@star-telegram.com. Deadline is Wednesday.

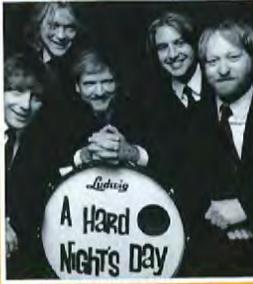




UPCOMING *Simply FabEules.* EVENTS

Eules
Parks &
Community
Services

PlayEules.com • 817-685-1666



Masterworks Series: Seasons of Sounds Concert Series featuring
A Hard Night's Day -
The Beatles Tribute Band
Friday, April 1, 7 - 8 p.m.
The Leon Hogg Amphitheater
1951 Bear Creek Parkway



Arbor Daze 2016
Saturday, April 23
10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Midway Park, 300 W. Midway
With headliner ESCAPE, plus live entertainment, a carnival, a Kidz Zone, and concessions!



Summer Programs 2016
The Summer Playbook class listings will be available online and in your Eules mailbox on April 1. Summer Class registration begins April 4 at 8 a.m.



Summer Jobs Available!
Lifeguards, Pools Attendants, Summer Camp Coordinator, Summer Camp Leader
Call 817-685-1451 or
eulesstx.gov/jobs to apply.



The awesome City of Eules firefighter team presented an engaging fire safety presentation for students at North Eules Elementary. Fire Prevention Safety Week was established to commemorate the Great Fire of 1871. The key message of this year's Fire Prevention Week is "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep" -- install smoke alarms in every bedroom.

#HEBISD

What's happening around the district