Sobering numbers

UPD arrests 63 for public intoxication

While it isn’t illegal to consume one or two beers; passing out on the street can land a person in jail.
On any given day, local law enforcement officers are dispatched to a scene to deal with an unknown, unconscious, and—more often than not—not-intoxicated individual.

Keep your cool this summer

It’s heating up outside, and as temperatures rise it is important to stay cool and hydrated.
Extremely high or unusually hot temperatures can affect health. A press release from Uvalde Memorial Hospital states that on average, 675 deaths from extreme heat events occur each year in the United States. Most vulnerable are the elderly, those who work or exercise outdoors, infants and children, the homeless or poor, and people with chronic medical conditions.

It is important to take the necessary precautions to prevent serious health effects such as heat exhaustion or heat stroke.
Be cool this summer by staying in air-conditioned buildings; not relying on fans as primary cooling devices; limiting outdoor activity, especially midday; and avoiding direct sunlight.

If the outdoors cannot be avoided, wear loose, lightweight clothing and stay hydrated.

In the state of Texas, intoxication is defined as having a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or higher.

The misdemeanor crime can carry a fine of up to $500.

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Kissing bugs pass on harmful Chagas disease

Though not as well known as the mosquito that transmits West Nile virus, Texas is rife with kissing bugs, which are capable of transmitting their own parasitic brand of sickness—Chagas disease.

Chagas disease can cause fever, swelling, headaches and, in rare cases, heart failure. It is spread when carrier kissing bugs (or triatomines, as they are scientifically known) feed on human or animal blood, thus passing the disease on to the host.

Little is known about the dispersal of the disease. In order to better understand the way that Chagas is spread, a research team came to Uvalde earlier this month to determine how kissing bugs behave at night and to monitor bug activity and movement.

The team, which consisted of Texas A&M University professor Sarah Hamer, graduate student Rachel Curtis-Robles, University of Tennessee professor Graham Hickling, Texas Department of State Health Services Dr. Edward Wunmaik and Uvalde veterinarian Dr. John Barnes, conducted research on Banes property, just outside of the city.

We conducted research projects in order to better understand how kissing bugs behave in their natural environment, since existing knowledge of behavior is largely based on laboratory studies, which don’t always accurately represent what is happening in nature,” Curtis-Robles said.

“Every kissing bug we receive helps us learn more about Chagas disease in Texas, and public involvement in this project has already enabled a record-setting collection of kissing bugs from the U.S.”

A during the 2014-2015 hunting season. Many of these were made possible through a partnership between Double A Ranch and the Texas Youths Hunting Program.

Uvalde’s hunters win big at prestigious awards

More than 30 entries from Uvalde County were recognized at the Texas Big Game Awards (for regions 4 and 7) held June 21 at the Staff Sgt. Willie De Leon Civic Center, where a crowd of nearly 400 people gathered.

The big winner of the night was Double A Ranch, which not only won the regional Landowner of the Year Award but had more

Seniors included wildlife photography by Larry Ditto, feral hog research and managing exotics, and modified deer aging methods by TPWD.

entries harvested on their ranch than any other in attendance. The ranch is owned and operated by Allyn and Susan Archer and is located just north of Uvalde on Hwy. 83. Several first harvests were made at Double

Mounts and antlers galore were on display at the Texas Big Game Awards held June 21.