

THE

FRONT PORCH News



News and Information from the City of Bulverde and our Neighbors
Volume 3 Issue 6 ☆ June 2016

THE FRONT PORCH News

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ALL DEPARTMENTS

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FAX
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Bill Krawietz, MAYOR

Rob Hurst, MAYOR PRO TEM **Yvonne Chapman**, COUNCIL

Kirk Harrison, COUNCIL **Gene Hartman**, COUNCIL

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FRONT PORCH NEWS
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As a City publication, the Front Porch News strives to maintain objectivity and accuracy in all published content. The newsletter must remain neutral in the publication of content that may be considered controversial, biased, or inflammatory within the community (e.g., political content or opinions, religious material, etc.). The newsletter differs from a newspaper in that opinion pieces are typically not included. Publication of contributing partner content is subject to review for applicability and appropriateness of a publicly funded communication initiative. The newsletter is produced in part through public funding, and is accordingly governed by the regulations set forth in Texas State Law.

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MAYOR'S POINT

Bill Krawietz
Mayor of Bulverde, TX

With the adoption of Bulverde's Home Rule Charter in May 2015, there were several changes to the terms of office for local Councilmembers. One change was that each Councilmember now serves a three-year term instead of a two-year term. In addition, there is now an overall term limit of three consecutive terms, where there had been no term limits before.

This year's Presidential election has proven to be very interesting to say the least. Conversely, the City of Bulverde's local election season was rather uneventful. All three positions on the ballot for City Council had only one candidate filing for each open seat—the current incumbents.

Because this was an uncontested race for office, the City was able to cancel the local City election, which had been scheduled to take place on May 7th. Cancelling the election saved the Bulverde taxpayers approximately \$7,500 in expense. If any of the three Council positions had been challenged by an additional candidate, the election would have taken place. This is not the first time the City has been able to cancel a local election; it has occurred a couple of times before.

Another change made as a result of the community-adopted Charter is that the City is now represented by six Councilmembers and a Mayor, all of whom have an opportunity to vote on matters of City business, rather than the old system which had five voting Councilmembers and a non-voting Mayor. In addition, each member of the City Council now runs for a specific Council "Place," while still being elected by the community at large. This differs somewhat from the "District" system seen in some communities in which each Councilmember represents a specific geographic area, must live in that geographic area, and is only voted on by residents in that geographic area. In the Place system Bulverde now has, each Councilmember still represents the entire City, and can live in any part of the City, but must file for a specific Place on the Council. This allows the voters to more specifically voice their opinion on each candidate running for each

(Continued on page 4)



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(Continued from page 3)

individual Place on the City Council, rather than the old system that simply elected the top vote-getters out of a potentially unlimited slate of candidates which essentially had to all run against each other.

The increased representation on the City Council from five members to six, plus a voting Mayor, coincides with the City's ability to now grow and bring additional adjacent land within the municipal boundary. Before the adoption of the Home Rule Charter, the Mayor only had the ability to vote on matters of City business when there was a tie vote amongst Councilmembers. Now the Mayor can vote on all matters of City business. Giving the Mayor the ability to vote and adding one additional City Council position results in an odd number of voting members, avoiding a deadlock scenario caused by an even number of voting members.

The unopposed City Council members who were re-elected to serve the citizens of Bulverde are Rob Hurst, Place 1 and Yvonne Chapman Place 2. I, Bill Krawietz, will continue to serve as Mayor alongside them for the next three years.

Community Open House to Discuss Bulverde Land Use Plan Scheduled for June

The City of Bulverde has completed several significant strategic priorities initiated by the community over the last twelve months; among them, the adoption of a Home Rule Charter and the annexation of four square miles of land area into the City. These achievements have created a variety of new opportunities and a need for an update of the City's Future Land Use Map, Official Zoning Map, and Zoning Ordinance. These documents, once revised, will need to align with the anticipated land uses identified in the Comprehensive Plan, the Downtown Bulverde Visioning Study, the Master Transportation Plan, and the agreements established with individual property owners during the annexation process.

A team of consultants will lead the update, which will include a review of existing land uses within the City of Bulverde and its Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ), and the future uses identified in the Bulverde Comprehensive Plan and the Downtown Bulverde Visioning Study. The outcome of this process will be a set of future land uses that accommodate the current and future development needs of the City. A fiscal evaluation of the Land Use Plan will also occur as part of the effort.

In addition to an update of the Land Use Plan, a review of the current Zoning Ordinance will take place. The end result will be an updated and modernized Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map that is more in line with the community's goals and current regulatory development standards and practices.

A Community Open House is scheduled for June 14, 2016, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Bulverde Spring Branch Activity (Senior) Center, 30280 Cougar Bend. This meeting is an opportunity for citizens to give input on the Future Land Use Plan and to ask questions of the consultant team. In August, the consultant team will return to the community for a second Open House to discuss preliminary direction on an updated Zoning Ordinance and Official Zoning Map. The recommended Zoning Map and Zoning Ordinance will be presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council in September 2016.

More information on the Bulverde Land Use Plan, Official Zoning Map, and Zoning Ordinance Update will be available in future editions of the Front Porch News and through the City's website and local email distribution lists as the project proceeds.

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COMAL COUNTY CORNER

by: By Gwen Mills

Every summer, Comal County greets the arrival of thousands of visitors—no, not tourists: mosquitoes!

Mosquitoes are well-known disease carriers, and with the spread of Zika virus in Latin America, the focus is once again on how to keep ourselves safe from mosquito-borne disease. How can you do that?

First and foremost, limit your exposure. That means:

- Dumping out and cleaning vases, birdbaths, and other items—indoors and out—where mosquitoes can breed;
- Removing standing water;
- Screening rain barrels and water-holding containers;
- Treating water that cannot be screened with anti-larval chemicals (“mosquito dunks”);
- Cleaning gutters;
- Keeping window screens in good repair;
- Wearing long sleeves while outside; and
- Using DEET-based insect repellent both on your body and around the entrances to your home.

Beginning in May, Comal County began implementing

a policy allowing environmental health staff to abate mosquitoes on unoccupied or abandoned property in unincorporated areas. This complaint-based process allows the county to treat with larvicide standing water that poses a public health threat by serving as a mosquito breeding ground.

The county already abates mosquitoes in the public rights of way and works with homeowners if a complaint is leveled against their property, and the new policy, which is authorized by state law, sets up a similar notification process for unoccupied, vacant or abandoned properties. Complaints can be called in to the Environmental Health Office at 830-608-2090.

Although no Zika cases have been reported in Comal County as of press time, the Public Health Office continues to work closely with the Texas Department of State Health Services and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—serving as a conduit between local physicians, who determine whether someone should be tested for Zika, and the experts in Austin and Atlanta studying this disease.

If you want more information about Zika or how to control mosquitoes in and around your home, visit TexasZika.org.

Gwen Mills is director of the Comal County Public Health Office.



John C. Sykes, D.D.S., P.A.



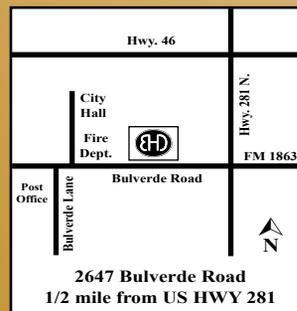
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Inquiring minds want to know...



Recently, the City has received several questions regarding the construction activity going on near Wiley Road and FM 1863. The rumors have ranged anywhere from a bus transit facility being built, to the Bulverde Area Humane Society being torn down or moved. The answer to both of these rumors is a resounding “False!” The construction underway is for a new single-family residential subdivision, currently designated as the “Uecker Tract.” The subdivision of 116.2 acres, which is located entirely outside of the Bulverde City Limits, is proposed to contain approximately 280 residential lots and will have central water and wastewater systems.

Several inquirers have expressed concern about the trees that have been removed from the construction site, and the potential for enhanced stormwater runoff. In addition to the property in question being located outside of the current Bulverde City limits—limiting the City’s regulatory ability—the project also has vested development rights from 2007 when the project was originally approved. Since the City’s current Tree Preservation and Stormwater Drainage regulations were created after 2007, those rules do not apply to the Uecker Tract development. However, the City Council was able to negotiate several regulatory enhancements to the 2007-vested project via a development agreement.

- The project will now have to save any large “Majestic” designated trees on the site. In addition, tree preservation will be required in the designated Open Space portions of the development.
- The project will now comply with the City’s Dark Sky regulations.
- The project will now comply with the City’s current (and more stringent) stormwater drainage standards and will have to have their flood mitigation facilities fully built before being able to sell even one residential lot.
- The development will now be required to install a wastewater recycling system so that their effluent is utilized to water common-area landscaping.
- The project will be zoned for single-family, site-built homes only, and will have minimum masonry standards.
- The developer will now have to build a sound-dampening fence between the new houses and the adjacent Bulverde Area Humane Society to help ensure the BAHS continued success and longevity at their current location.

While we all wish that the development had to fully comply with all of the important development standards that the City currently has in place for in-City developments, we’re quite fortunate that the City Council was at least able to negotiate portions of these enhanced standards for a project that was approved almost 10 years ago and is located outside of the City limits.

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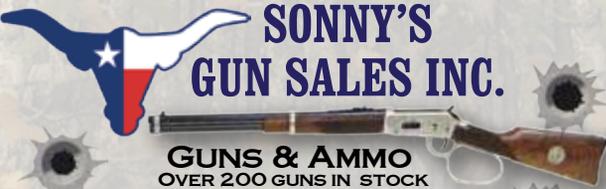
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Ribbon cutting for new music area!

Event Organized by:
Friends of the Park, Bulverde
Community Park Association

Music in the Round



The City of Bulverde and the Friends of the Park, along with the Bulverde Community Park Association, are very excited to announce the addition of Freenotes Outdoor Musical Instruments at the Bulverde Community Park.

Please join us on Saturday, June 18th, 2016 for the 3rd Annual Bulverde FunFest as we bring our community together for a day of fun, fellowship, and free notes in the Park. A Ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at the FunFest to mark this newest addition and celebrate with a few notes of harmony as we recognize our wonderful supporters—The Friends in the Village of Bulverde, The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation, and The GVTC Foundation.



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Wednesday, June 22, 2016

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Capital credit checks will be distributed only to active members who are registered and in attendance at the 61st Annual Membership meeting. To receive a capital credit check at the meeting, bring your Annual Meeting Notice and proper identification. Members will not be allowed to pick up checks for other members. Capital credit amounts for active members not attending the meeting will be applied to the members' account on the next billing cycle after the Annual Meeting.



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How to Avoid Scams and Fraud

Early last year, Bulverde Police Department ran an article in the Front Porch News about Identity Theft. This was done to help educate citizens on how to avoid becoming a victim of this crime. Identity theft continues to be a problem in Bulverde, but fraud and scams are, by far, the biggest problems facing our citizens.

According to Forbes Magazine, fraud is costing merchants an estimated \$190 billion annually! That number accounts for actual fraud related to merchants doing business; it doesn't include those individuals that are scammed out of millions of dollars each and every year. Officers with the Bulverde Police Department take numerous reports annually where citizens and businesses are scammed out of money. Members of the police department have even fallen victim to fraud and identity theft. It doesn't take a crook stealing your identity to cause you great financial loss—that can happen in many ways.

Unfortunately, crooks are continually finding new ways to steal money, so it's impossible to cover every scam or fraud scheme currently being used to defraud others. Here are a few things to look out for when it comes to protecting yourself against scams and fraud.

- Personal information such as banking information, credit card numbers, and your social security number should be kept private.
- Look for anything odd or strange at every location where you scan your credit or bank cards. If it doesn't look right, don't scan your card and bring it to the attention of an employee. Skimmers are used to steal your card information, so beware.
- If you receive a telephone call asking for private information, do not give it out.
- Follow the same advice for any emails requesting your private information.
- Delete emails where you don't recognize the sender, and never click on a link within an email if you do not trust or know the sender. Many times clicking on a link will open spyware or a virus.
- Phone calls from relatives stating they are in trouble, sick, or need financial help should be confirmed.
- If the phone call seems strange or out of character for someone you would normally help, confirm the situation by hanging up and calling them back at a number you know, or call another family member to confirm their location.
- There have recently been several Ebay and Craigslist scams in the area.
- If in doubt, have them meet you at a police department parking lot. If they're legitimate, they won't mind.
- Be aware of lottery scams and inheritance scams. If you have money coming to you, it shouldn't cost you money to retrieve or claim it.
- If you are considering sending money to someone or somewhere that you normally wouldn't, discuss it with another family member or contact the police department and get their advice.
- If someone is asking you to purchase gift cards to satisfy a bill or debt, don't do it; this is usually a scam.
- If doing business with someone, get it in writing or have a contract with signatures. Always keep a copy for your records.
- Live by: If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

You are the best defense against these types of crimes, and educating yourself about scams and fraud will help. There are many resources available to assist you, such as The Federal Trade Commission, Social Security Administration Fraud Department, Texas Department of Public Safety Identity Theft, and, of course, the Texas Attorney General's Office. The Theft Victims Kit on the Texas Attorney General's Office website at www.texasfightsidtheft.gov seems to be one of the most comprehensive kits available to assist individuals who may have had their personal information compromised. If you suspect that someone has stolen your identity, or that you've been a victim of fraud or theft, the Bulverde Police Department will aggressively pursue those that commit these crimes, so contact the Bulverde Police Department and we will do our very best to assist you.

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Service Providers and School Supplies Needed for Day of Services & Back-to-School Outreach



The Spring Branch-Bulverde Lions Club and the City of Bulverde are seeking community-minded volunteers to participate in the second annual Day of Services & Back-to-School Outreach for the Bulverde community, which is scheduled for Saturday, August 6, at the Bulverde Community Park.

This event is a community outreach effort to bring local service providers, nonprofits, and ministries together in one place to offer free or low-cost services to residents of the Bulverde area. Designed to provide much-needed services to folks who may otherwise struggle with the expense of certain goods or services, the event is open to the public for all to enjoy. The event premiered last year, and about 200 attendees received free health screenings (including vision and pediatric dental), flu shots, children's haircuts, school supplies, refreshments, rides on the Blue Lion Train, and low-cost pet vaccinations, among other things.

This year's event will focus primarily on the younger, back-to-school crowd, but services and goods for all ages are welcome. Not intended as a vendor fair or market day, as vendors are not selling their products for profit, it is truly a day of community outreach—a day for local service providers to give back to the community.

One aspect that the planners are hoping to develop is to be able to provide free school supplies to as many children as possible. If your business or ministry would like to participate by giving away free school supplies, we would love to hear from you. Other kid-friendly, back-to-school goodies like backpacks or string sacks, pairs

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of socks, personal hygiene items, toothbrushes & toothpaste, or coupons for shoe or clothing stores or thrift stores are all ideas for participants. We encourage all businesses to consider a way to participate—even if yours is not a traditional “service provider” type of business. Nonprofits are invited to provide a concession or a service and are allowed to accept donations for their charity as long as they are not charging for the product or service they are providing. A fun activity for kiddos is also an idea for participants.

Service providers such as hair dressers, nurse practitioners, doctors, dentists, optometrists, veterinarians, family counselors, insurance or legal experts (to offer non-product-specific advice or guidance) are all needed and welcome to participate.

For more information about participating in this community outreach event, please contact Weslea Miller at dayofservices.weslea.miller@gmail.com or 210.316.1940.



MOVIES IN THE PARK 2016

Friday, June 10	<i>Minions</i>
Friday, July 8	<i>The SpongeBob Squarepants Movie</i>
Friday, August 12	<i>Planes: Fire and Rescue</i>

Movie begins at dusk. The Bulverde Community Park is located at 29815 Bulverde Lane. This event is free!

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BURNING & EXPLODING— WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

The nation's birthday is a time of celebration—picnics, ball games and fireworks. Fireworks routinely cause wildfires, and just one careless, stray spark can burn thousands of acres. Fire danger is on everyone's mind, so our County Fire Marshal remains vigilant in analyzing conditions to determine whether a burn ban should be instituted. Causing some confusion is that a burn ban doesn't encompass fireworks. These are two separate regulations, and implementing one, doesn't automatically implement the other.



For example, The Keetch-Byrum Drought Index (KBDI), which measures the moisture in the soil, is the indicator specified in the code statute that is used to determine whether or not a burn ban is necessary. Comal County officials have

determined that the conditions we experience when the KBDI is 500 or more warrants a burn ban.

A separate code statute governs whether or not a fireworks ban can be enacted. To further confuse the issue, cities can make ordinances prohibiting the use and sale of fireworks, while counties cannot. In order for Comal to ban the sale of restricted fireworks, classified as "skyrockets with sticks and missiles with fins," the KBDI must be 575 by June 15th for the 4th of July fireworks season and December 15th for the Christmas and New Year holiday season.

The total ban and use of fireworks can only be enacted by a disaster declaration. These bans can only last 60 hours, unless extended by the governor.



With the record amounts of rainfall this year, it is unlikely that any of the conditions will be met to require bans, yet we should all work together to prevent any fires caused by carelessness. Follow these simple steps:

- Use fireworks in clear, open areas
- Keep a supply of water nearby
- After being lit, let a firework rest for 15 minutes, place in a bucket of water to soak, and finally, dispose of it in a metal trashcan.
- If a firework malfunctions, do not attempt to relight it. Allow it to rest for 15 minutes, douse it with water, and dispose of correctly.
- Do not tamper with the original design of a firework



Proud to share our Firefighter Feature Focus—Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/BSBFireEMS. All this year we will be randomly drawing names and highlighting one firefighter at a time on Facebook with two pictures and a bit about their lives. An exclusive look into the eyes of your heroes.



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Featured April 28th

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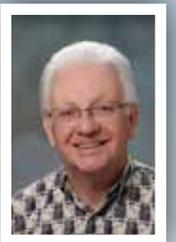
The Commissioners of Emergency Service District (ESD) #5

This month we continue our series with introductions of the leadership of ESD #5.



Commissioner David Bullock is a retired Civil Engineer and Management Consultant, but his career time was most notably spent in the Air Force, serving for 21 years before retiring in 2003. After the Air Force, he worked as a Project and Program Manager for several engineering firms before fully retiring in 2013. He and his bride Annie, who have been married

for 34 years, moved to the Bulverde area in April 2012. When not overseeing the many aspects of Fire & Emergency Services, Dave is enjoying life and spending time clearing juniper-cedars from his property here in the Hill Country.



Commissioner Ted Wilcox has served as President, and Secretary, and is currently Vice-President. He retired from the Air Force with 30 years of service. He has been active as a volunteer in the community, serving on the Bulverde Home Rule Charter Commission and is currently serving on the City of Bulverde Park Board. He and his wife

Shirley have been Bulverde residents for over 21 years.

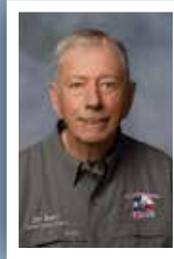


Commissioner Mike Rarick is a retired CPA, who along with his wife Paddie, relocated to the Bulverde area after a 35 year career in public accounting. He not only donates his time as a Commissioner, but he also serves on the Bulverde Spring Branch Emergency Services Non-Profit Board of Directors, The Foundation of the Bulverde/Spring Branch Library Board of

Directors, The Bulverde Food Pantry (Provisions), and his Highlands homeowners association.



Commissioner Eldyn Ingerick, like other members on ESD #5, also served his country. He was an Air Force finance officer at Kelly Field from 1966 to 1969 as a production officer at the General Electric plant in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, from 1969 to 1973. Eldyn has been a CPA Public since 1975 and currently has his own accounting firm in Bulverde.



Commissioner Jim Barr is a retired Regional Sales Manager for A-lert Roof Systems and has been involved in numerous organizations and committees: Bulverde Landowners Association Board, previous and present board member of ESD #5, past president and current member of Bulverde Lions Club, Bulverde Spring Branch Activity Center

building committee, and is a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church. Mr. Barr and his wife, Betty has lived here for 30 plus years.

The commissioner position is strictly an unpaid, volunteer one, but each commissioner agrees that serving as an ESD Commissioner is personally rewarding. Additionally, the Commissioners enjoy meeting and working with the firefighters.





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B/SB Area Chamber of Commerce Events Calendar

June 9

Business Networking Mixer

5:30–7:30 pm

Sponsored by: Reliance Residential Realty
Ashton Woods Model Home in Kinder Ranch
Member Only Event

June 15

Chamber Monthly Power Lunch

12 Noon–1:00 pm

Sponsored By: Aflac: The Clint Anderson Team
Location: River Crossing Club

***For information on any of the above events, please see our website at bulverdespringbranchchamber.com or call the Chamber Office at (830) 438-4285*



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Spring Chamber Market Day

Thank you to all the vendors and shoppers that came out to enjoy a beautiful Saturday on April 30th. We would also like to thank Bulverde Mayor Krawietz for Welcoming everyone, Bulverde City Councilman Kirk Harrison for singing the National Anthem and the Bulverde Police Honor Guard for presenting the colors. It helped kick off a day full of shopping, eating and fun.



We would like to express our appreciation to the following for their part in making it our best ever Market Day Event— Chamber Market Day Committee—HEB — City of Bulverde — BPD VIPs — River Crossing — Willie Blank — South Texas Growers — Tin Roof Coffee Shop — El Jalisco Rodeo — M & S Engineering — Bulverde Donuts— Spring Branch Bulverde Lions Club **and a Huge Thank you to Greg Mills and his wonderful team at Home Depot.**



Annabel Fey, Branch Manager of American Bank and Chamber Ambassador, presents Ginger Hofstetter with her gift basket winnings.

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Thank you to the Businesses that donated to our Raffle Basket—Value \$2,350 A Place called Grace— American Bank—American Eagle Sandblasting & Powercoating—Bahama Bucks—Barber 281 —Be Fabulous Boutique—Bill Miller's BBQ—BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse—Blinds n Motion—Bookkeeping by Val—CATO—Chick-Fil-a—China King—Chulie's Boutique—Grandpa's Plumbing—Hatch 5—HEB—Hill Country Nails & Spa—K9 Country Club—Kathleen Banse State Farm Insurance—KDO Jewelry—Kimi's Nails—Kohls—Landscape Lighting Guru—Mague's—McDonald's—PF Changs— Pat Rodriguez/ Mary Kay Distributor—Popcorn Friday—SA Print Supplies—Smokey Mo's—Sonic Drive In—South Texas Growers—Spring Creek Gardens—Starbucks—Subway—Table 46—Tejas Rodeo Co—Tejas Steakhouse & Saloon—Teri Heck with cabi Fashions—Texas Physical Therapy Specialist—The Reel Seafood House—The Tin Roof—The Vintage Barn—The Vintage Bee— **Congratulations to the Winner— Ginger Hofstetter**

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Hill Country Christian Church

10:30 a.m. Sunday worship service with open communion each week.
We have Children's church each Sunday and a staffed nursery.



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Hill Country Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
20845 TX-46 West, Spring Branch, TX. 78070
(Between Bulverde HEB and Spring Branch Middle School)
Senior Pastor: Rev. Larry Garcia • Associate Pastor: Rev. Janie Harrison
Church Office: 830-980-2019 • Fax: 830-438-2074
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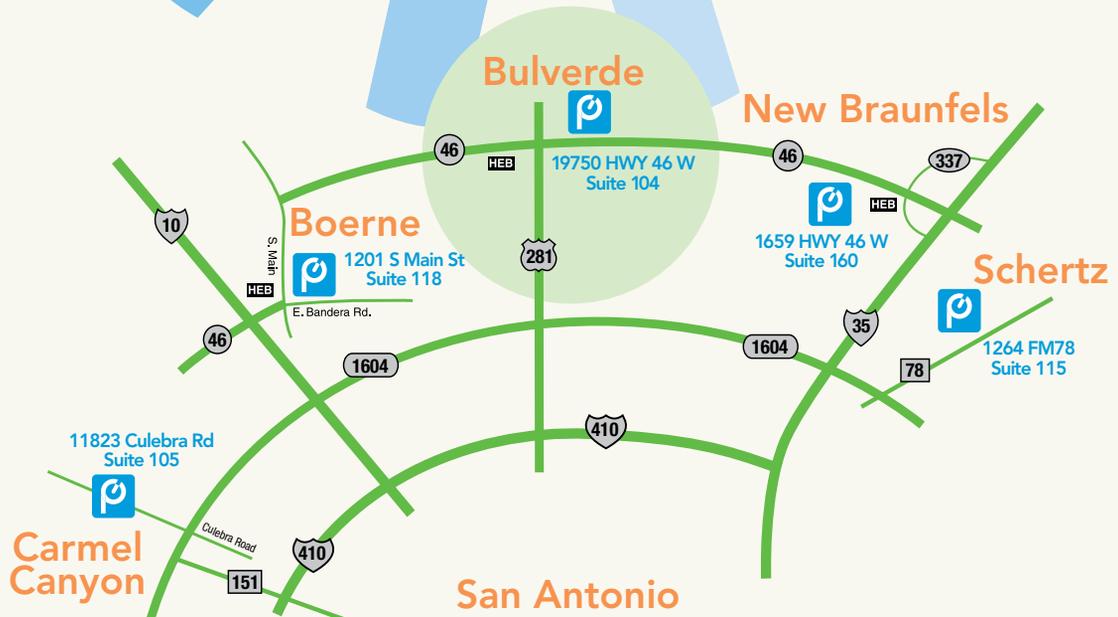
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Bulverde Residents to Receive National Theatre Award

Zada and Earl Jahnsen of Bulverde, Texas are being honored with the **David C. Bryant Outstanding Service Award** from the American Association of Community Theatre (AACT). The award will be presented at an awards ceremony during the AACT New York Adventure 2016 in New York, NY July 7--10, 2016.

The AACT David C. Bryant Outstanding Service Award recognizes members of AACT for significant, valuable, and lasting service to community theatre. Visit aact.org/awards for information on all AACT National Awards, 2016 AACT Award winners, and previous honorees.

Zada & Earl Jahnsen caught the theatre bug when their son was in drama in the 1970s. In 1984, impressed by the quality of the Society Theatre and Arts Group, Etc. Inc. (S.T.A.G.E.) in rural Texas, the Jahnsen family built the organization a theatre. The property is on a stipend lease to the theatre, and remains active to this day. Over their almost 40 years of involvement, Zada and Earl have built sets, directed, sewed costumes, made props, prepared programs, paid the bills, and cooked four-course meals for every performance of the dinner theatre. Zada served on the Texas Nonprofit Theatres (TNT) Board of Governors for several years, and the Jahnsens have provided scholarships for volunteers to attend annual TNT conferences. Zada & Earl have provided a quality space to present excellent theatre, made sure their volunteers had the best available training, involved young people, and planned for their succession to ensure the theatre would continue to survive and thrive. In their words, "We have seen over and over again the importance of artists/performers having a place to grow and display their talents. But, the most heartwarming stories and experiences have come from members of the audience who unexpectedly had an experience that touched their lives."



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What's Forever For?

By Tom Blacklock



For 33 years, a principal belief of the Bulverde Area Humane Society is that there is a “perfect” home for all of the furry critters who come into the shelter. Regardless if they are strays, abandoned, or owner surrenders, there is always the right combination of humans and places for these orphaned dogs and cats. Combine this belief with the BAHS no-kill policy, some of these dogs and cats end up having extended stays at our shelter. Dogs like Zippy and Baby, and cats like EC have spent years at the shelter before they were placed into the right forever home. An extended stay at an animal shelter might seem cruel, but this is not the case at BAHS. In fact for some critters the care, attention and treatment they receive at BAHS is better than what they enjoyed before their arrival.

The recent adoption of “Jack” tends to substantiate the BAHS belief that by extending the time, patience, and energy of working with individual dogs, the right home for all our charges can be realized. “Jack,” a Mallinois, came to the BAHS from a New Braunfels shelter where he was scheduled to be euthanized. Once in our care, Jack demonstrated a distinct fear of all men, and

considerable efforts of the male caretakers and volunteers did little to reduce this fear. Extensive time spent with Jack, along with tasty treats, did little to overcome this fear. With the exception of one male volunteer, he continually demonstrated a hostile attitude towards men. However, he quickly warmed up to the female volunteers who would walk and exercise him. Lisa Frasch at Red Barn Kennels in Bulverde graciously agreed to take Jack and determine if she could dispel this fear of men. Within days, Lisa was able to introduce Jack to her dogs, and within weeks was successful in reducing this fear of men. On February 22, 2016 he was adopted to a young couple who had another dog.



The cats also have had a recent success story, which validates our position that there is the right forever home for all our animals. EC, an 18 year old cat who had been at the shelter since January, 2005, was adopted. A mom with a young daughter and son arrived at the shelter one morning and announced that they wanted to adopt two cats and said one of the cats had to be an “elder” cat. EC went to a caring family who decided that he should spend the remainder of his adult life in a great forever home. EC, now at age 19, is still very healthy and active.



While we sometimes have been criticized for being a sanctuary for unwanted animals and thus reducing our ability to take in more adoptable cats and dogs, we at the BAHS continue to believe that it is our responsibility to find the right home for all the animals we take in, no matter how long it takes.



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Here in Bulverde

The Buzz From the Garden

The Bulverde Community Garden has some interesting additions to help collect all the wonderful rainwater we have been receiving this spring: two freestanding rain harvesting barrels with rain saucers. Adrian and Jeanlyn Valdez from Fruitful Branches Permaculture donated these unusual looking items.

Adrian submitted the following information to explain these how it all works.

Water is sacred. It nurtures and provides unlike no other, and rain water is the best form of water you can ask for. Unlike treated water from the tap, rainwater is free of many minerals and chemicals, and has a neutral PH level of 6. Plants love it above all other forms of water and respond to it in a dramatic and obvious fashion. Literally falling from the sky, it is one of the best resources we can learn to utilize in our gardens and landscapes.



Harvesting rain water is an ancient art that goes back thousands of years. When most people think of harvesting rain nowadays, they assume that a roof is required. Such is not the case with the Rainsaucer independent catchment system. Made out of food-grade, BPA-free plastic (the same material that plastic dishes are made out of), Rainsaucers provide a very

easy and practical solution for harvesting rain on location without a roof. Additionally, one of the key elements of the Rainsaucer is a screen filter that prevents sediment from collecting in the barrel, allowing your water to remain clean and clear.

Paired up with a 55-gallon, food-grade rain barrel, one 48-inch Rainsaucer can harvest 6.75 gallons of water per inch of rain in any location. That adds up to only needing 8 to 9 inches of rain to fill a 55-gallon barrel. With just one gallon of water weighing around 8 pounds, the option to catch water in the exact location you want to use it in becomes very appealing. One can use gravity to water your plants and veggies without needing a lot of space or to set up elaborate pipe systems.

The old adage “You are what you eat” is true. With more and more research proving just how true it is, it is a very worthwhile practice to provide the best and cleanest resources to the plants and vegetables that we, in turn, consume. By providing nourishing, clean rain water to our plants, we create a clean and healthy food source. And with good, healthy food, we provide for a healthy body and lifestyle.

If you or your business would like to secure a plot (at no cost), please visit the Garden website at www.bulverdecommunitygarden.com or contact Joanne Hall at jothall@gvtc.com. Donations gladly accepted. Also, interested persons are invited to attend the Bulverde Community Garden Committee meeting on the second Monday of the month at 5:15pm at the Bulverde Spring Branch Activity Center.

HOURS:
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ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, READ!



Head on over to the Bulverde/Spring Branch Library on June 11 at 11:00am for the Summer Reading Program kickoff! Bring the whole family, since there is a category for each age group.



entry for the weekly prizes and also the grand prize at the end of the program. Two ways to win, but more than double the prizes with weekly drawings.

Pick up your Summer Reading t-shirt for children and teens, enjoy hot dogs and drinks, and pick out some books to get your summer reading started with a grand slam!

For the teens, this year's theme is **Get in the Game!** The adult craft labs and classes to exercise the mind are open to the teens this year, but there will also be big events just for teens! Check the library calendar for events and dates.

Both the children and the teens keep logs of their reading to be redeemed for prizes in our Prize Room.

Changes are ahead for the adult participants—the program theme is **Exercise Your Mind**. There are two contests for the adults, with the grand prize of a Kindle HD for each. First, we will continue with submitting reviews, up to five per week, to be entered not only in the weekly prizes but also into the drawing at the end of the program. Second, we have an ongoing Read Harder Challenge—every time you read a book in one of the categories, you can submit an

A program that may be of particular interest for the adults is called **Brain Preference: It's Influence in Business**—Thursday, June 30, 6:00pm–7:30pm. Brain Preference allows us to harness our teams' thinking diversity for better results. It is the foundational measures of thinking preferences of individuals, teams, and organizations. This interactive session helps managers and business leaders better understand differing types of thinking and learning. Training in this exciting arena helps the individual or organization develop the ability to create and communicate in new ways. Registration is required.

This summer you will find ways to keep exercising your body and mind as you participate in the lively programs here at the library. Summer Reading begins June 11th and runs through July 30th.

Please find all the daily activities planned for each age group by visiting our website: www.bsblibrary.org and viewing the calendar. Many of the activities require registration. If you don't have a computer, please call the library at 830.438.4864 and we will be happy to register you for a class over the phone. At this time, you do need to come into the library to sign-up to participate in the Summer Reading Program.

GED and ESL will run through the summer as well. GED registration and testing dates are Tuesday, June 28th and Thursday, June 30th, 10:00am–1:00pm. Regular classes will begin on July 5th, 10:00am–1:00pm. ESL will continue now through the summer, with our evening classes on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 6:00–7:30pm. Morning classes for ESL on Tuesdays and Thursdays will begin on July 5th, 10:00am–1:00pm.

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Comal Trinity GCD Begins Work on Management Plan



Groundwater is, and continues to be, a major source of water for Texas. However, in Comal County and many parts of the state, more groundwater is being used than is being replenished through natural means. If this practice continues, water costs will rise, water quality could decline, and people in some areas of the County could run out of water.

To address this problem, last year the Texas Legislature provided a way for groundwater to be locally managed and protected—through the creation of the Comal Trinity Groundwater Conservation District (CTGCD). The CTGCD is a, nontaxing unit of government created to manage and protect Trinity aquifer groundwater resources.

Groundwater conservation districts were first created in Texas in 1949, and over the years, the Texas Legislature passed laws that encourage Texans to establish more GCDs. This legislation is codified in Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code and stresses the importance and responsibility of GCDs in developing and implementing plans to conserve and protect groundwater resources. Within 3 years of its formation, by law, a GCD must develop a groundwater management plan that outlines the GCD's objectives and the steps needed to reach specific conservation goals. The Comal Trinity GCD's Directors and Staff are presently defining their strategy for their Trinity management plan. Specifically, they are seeking to:

- Provide for the most efficient use of groundwater,
- Control and prevent waste of groundwater,
- Control and prevent subsidence (drawdown),
- Address drought conditions, and
- Establish conservation protocols.

To meet these goals, the CTGCD has already identified water drawdown performance standards and they are working on writing their water management objectives. They will also be seeking the public's help to specify the actions, procedures, performances, and avoidance measures necessary to implement an effective plan.

You are encouraged to help by attending the CTGCD's monthly meetings held at 6:00 on the third Monday of the month at the Rodeo Drive Fire station just off of Hwy 281. By providing your thoughts you can help your Comal Trinity GCD Directors better conserve and protect the Trinity Aquifer. You can also connect with the GCD by visiting their website and signing up for their water conservation e-blast of upcoming agenda at www.ComalTrinityGCD.com.

Odds-n-Ends

OVN Community Garage Sale

The Oak Village North annual community garage sale is scheduled for Saturday, June 11, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Several homes are participating, so come out for a treasure hunt! There's no telling what you may find! Oak Village North has six entrances off of FM 1863 as you travel east from US Hwy 281, beginning at 2.17 miles at Starlight, then Smithson Valley Road, Onion Creek, Olympus, Prancing Deer, and Running Deer follow.

Christmas in June

St. Paul Lutheran Church is hosting an all-family vacation bible school, Christmas in June, from June 26 through June 30. Each day, dinner is served between 5:15 and 6:00 p.m.; VBS starts at 6:00 p.m. and concludes by 8:30 p.m. There

are activities and lessons for all members of the family, from age 3 through adults. Registration is required: www.redroofchurch.org or call 830.980.2813 for more information.

Shine the Park

The Friends of the Park are always happy to welcome volunteers on the fourth Saturday of each month at the Bulverde Community Park who will lend a hand with a few simple chores. The FOP crew convenes around 8:00 a.m. and spends a few hours picking up trash, making minor repairs, and taking on other needed tasks that help to keep the Bulverde Community Park a wonderful, family-friendly place to play and relax. If you would like to participate, just show up around 8:00 a.m. on June 25th and pitch in. The Park is located at 29815 Bulverde Lane, 78163. All volunteer help is appreciated.



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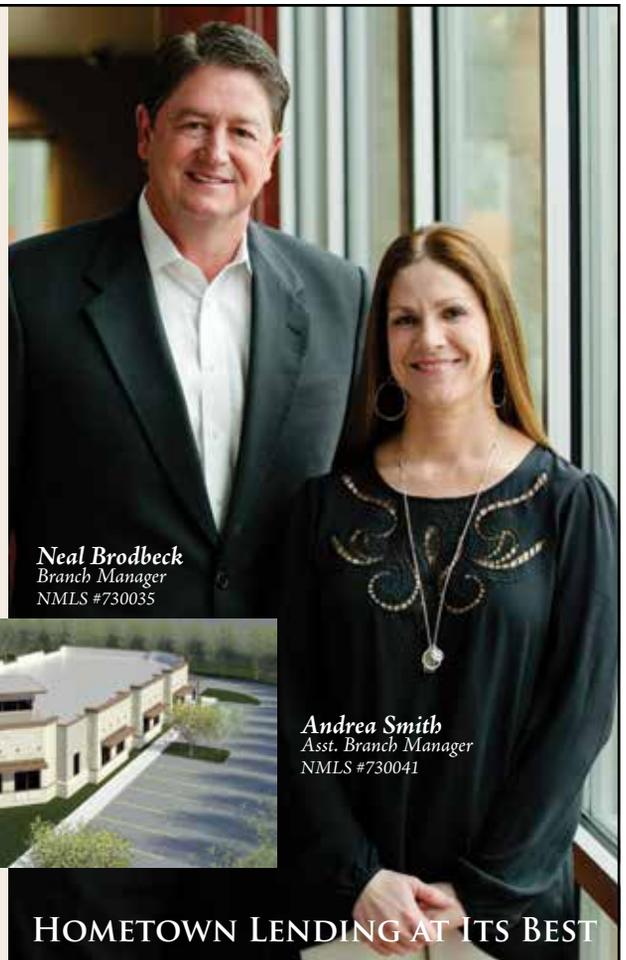
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2016 Comal ISD Graduation Schedule					
School	Day	Date	Time	Location	
Comal Academy	Thursday	June 2	6:00 pm	Smithson Valley HS Auditorium	
ACMECHS	Friday	June 3	6:00 pm	Canyon HS Auditorium	
Canyon High School	Saturday	June 4	9:00 am	Strahan Coliseum, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX	
Smithson Valley High School	Saturday	June 4	1:00 pm		
Canyon Lake High School	Saturday	June 4	5:00 pm		

JUNE 2016

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

NOTES: Bulverde City Council, Bulverde Planning and Zoning Commission, and Friends of the Park meetings are held at Bulverde City Hall (30360 Cougar Bend)		1 BAAC mtg 6:30p (The Makery) SBB Family Lions 7:30p (Activity Ctr.)	2	3	4 CISD Graduations S.T.A.G.E. Elf Performances 1:00p and 7:30p (S.T.A.G.E.)
5	6	7 Planning & Zoning 6:30p	8	9 Wellness on Wheels 1:00p (St. Joseph's Honey Crk.) Bulverde Lions 7:00p (Bulv. Comm. Ctr.)	10 BAAC exhibit opens. Wine & cheese recep. 5:30 (The Makery) Movies in the Park: MINIONS (dusk 8:00ish; Bulverde Comm. Park)
11	12	13 Friends of Library Board mtg. 1:00p (Library) Rural Library District mtg. 4:00p (Library) Comm. Garden Mtg. 5:15p (Activity Ctr.)	14 Flag Day Land Use Plan Open House 4:00p (Activity Ctr.) City Council 6:30p	15 SBB Family Lions 7:30p (Activity Ctr.)	16 ESD #1,4 & 5 5:30p (353 Rodeo Dr.) BSBES 6:30p (353 Rodeo Dr.)
17	18 Bulverde Fun Fest 10:00a (Bulv. Comm. Park)	19 Father's Day	20 Summer Solstice CTGCD* 6:00p (353 Rodeo Dr.)	21	22
23	24 Shine the Park 8:00a (Bulv. Comm. Park)	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Friends of the Park 6:00p			

*Comal Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

JULY 2016

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

NOTES: Bulverde City Council, Bulverde Planning and Zoning Commission, and Friends of the Park meetings are held at Bulverde City Hall (30360 Cougar Bend)		1 BAAC Featured Artist Exhibit opens (The Makery)	2
3	4 Independence Day City Hall Closed	5 Planning & Zoning 6:30p	6 BAAC mtg 6:30p (The Makery) SBB Family Lions 7:30p (Activity Ctr.)
7	8 Movies in the Park: SPONGEBOB MOVIE (dusk 8:00ish; Bulv. Comm. Park)	9	10
11	12 City Council 6:30p	13	14 Wellness on Wheels 1:00p (St. Joseph's Honey Crk.) Bulverde Lions 7:00p (Bulv. Comm. Ctr.) BARK! (S.T.A.G.E.)
15	16 BARK! (S.T.A.G.E.)	17	18
19	20 CTGCD* 6:00p (353 Rodeo Dr.)	21 Native Plant Soc. 7:00p (GVTC)	22 SBB Family Lions 6:00p (Activity Ctr.)
23	24	25	26 ESD #1,4 & 5 5:30p (353 Rodeo Dr.) BSBES 6:30p (353 Rodeo Dr.) BARK! (S.T.A.G.E.)
27	28 Shine the Park 8:00a (Bulv. Comm. Park) BARK! (S.T.A.G.E.)	29	30
31 BARK! (S.T.A.G.E.)	31 BARK! (S.T.A.G.E.)	31 BARK! (S.T.A.G.E.)	31 BARK! (S.T.A.G.E.)

*Comal Trinity Groundwater Conservation District