

THE

FRONT PORCH News



News and Information from the City of Bulverde and our Neighbors
Volume 3 Issue 8 ☆ August 2016

THE
FRONT PORCH
News

CITY OF BULVERDE
ALL DEPARTMENTS

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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

Bulverde's City Manager, E.A. Hoppe tendered his resignation and his last day of service with Bulverde was at the end of July. Mr. Hoppe made the decision to pursue a professional growth opportunity with the City of Kerrville. His service and dedication to the Bulverde community will be missed. I wish him and his family the best with this new endeavor.

Mr. Hoppe worked well with City Council and City staff and helped us achieve many of our community goals. While there is never a good time to lose a valued employee, especially when you have a minimal number of staff like we do in Bulverde, the City must continue to

conduct business as usual. Luckily we have an outstanding City staff that is highly capable and qualified.

The process to find a new City Manager has already begun. It is not easy to find someone who fits our specific needs in Bulverde, as we found out just some four years ago when we hired Mr. Hoppe. Bulverde is a very fiscally conservative City experiencing high growth. Some City Managers will say the two can't go together. We have the track record that proves otherwise.

Only time will tell if the person we choose to fill Mr. Hoppe's shoes will be a good fit for the City. Be assured that City Council will not settle for anybody who will not meet our high expectations. This is a formative time and going down the wrong path regarding key leadership appointments can have long term repercussions for the community.



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BULVERDE CITY MANAGER E.A. HOPPE SELECTED AS NEW DEPUTY CITY MANAGER IN KERRVILLE



After nearly four years of dedicated service to the Bulverde community, E.A. Hoppe will be resigning from his current position as the Bulverde City Manager, effective at the end of July 2016, to join the leadership team at the City of Kerrville as their new Deputy City Manager.

“It is with great pride that I had the opportunity nearly four years ago to return to my hometown to serve the City Council in providing leadership to the City organization and the Bulverde community,” said Mr. Hoppe. “I believe the City has made great strides on numerous fronts in order to be better prepared for the challenges that the community may face in the future.”

Working in partnership, with strong policy guidance from the City Council and a dedicated team of City professionals, the City has accomplished many things over the last four years, including:

- Community adoption of a Bulverde Home Rule Charter
- Completing construction on the Bulverde Community Park
- Constructing and opening the Bulverde Community Garden
- Reassuming responsibility for Subdivision regulation in the Bulverde ETJ
- Revising and enhancing Bulverde’s Subdivision Regulations
- Studying in depth the Lewis Creek, Cibolo Creek, and Indian Creek Watersheds and exploring the feasibility of various flood mitigation measures
- Developing and adopting a Master Transportation Plan
- Formally branding the Downtown Bulverde area and

developing a vision for its future

- Acquiring the City’s first public wastewater infrastructure and developing plans for its expansion
- Expanding the City’s municipal boundaries by nearly 40%
- Engaging with TxDOT to plan for future enhancements to HWY 46 and US 281
- Supporting the creation of the Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- Initiating a complete revision of Bulverde’s Land Use Plan, Zoning Map, and Zoning Ordinance
- Enhancing public safety partnerships like Movies in the Park, Comal ISD DARE, POET, and VIPS
- Rebranding the City with a new website and logo
- Laying the groundwork for the community’s first hotel and Visitor & Convention Center
- Strengthening partnerships with the local Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Foundation

Mr. Hoppe will begin working for the City of Kerrville at the beginning of August. He will be working with Mayor Bill Krawietz and key City staff on transition plans to help make this change as smooth as possible for the City organization and Bulverde’s community partners.

“Bulverde has a bright future ahead of it, and I feel extremely honored to have had the opportunity to help lay the critical foundation that has now been set for the community,” said Hoppe.

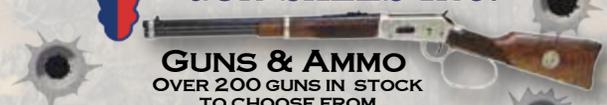
“Mr. Hoppe has worked well with Council and helped us achieve many of our goals. His service and dedication to the community will be missed,” added Mayor Bill Krawietz. “I wish him and his family the best with this new endeavor.”

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COMAL COUNTY CORNER

by: Gwen Mills, public health director

There have been a lot of changes in Comal County—and in the Comal County Public Health Office—over the past year, but one thing is still the same: We're here and ready to help make sure your children's vaccinations are up to date.

Last fall, Public Health moved from downtown New Braunfels to 1297 Church Hill Drive, just off Loop 337 near I-35. The new office means more space and updated facilities to serve your health needs, including providing back-to-school vaccinations for your kids.

We get increasingly busy as school gets closer, so the sooner you can come in, the better!

Call ahead—(830) 221-1150—to check on cost, which varies based on your insurance plan, and to schedule an appointment so you don't have to wait once you come into the office.

We accept Blue Cross Blue Shield, children's Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP Community First, and eligible members of the Texas Vaccines for Children and Adult Safety Net programs.

Children aren't the only people who should be immunized, however. We also vaccinate adults who need their Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) and other boosters, and later in the fall, we also will provide flu vaccines.

I encourage all of our clients to make sure they are registered in ImmTrac, the state's immunization registry. Once enrolled, you can get a free copy of your immunization record from us, or registered medical providers and/or schools.

In 2015, we served nearly 4,000 people. Of that number, we immunized 3,000 people, the majority in August, September, and October.

Vaccines are the easiest way to make sure you and your children avoid contracting disease, not to mention protecting infants and others who cannot be immunized for medical reasons. By working together, we can help keep Comal County healthy, no matter what changes are in store this school year.



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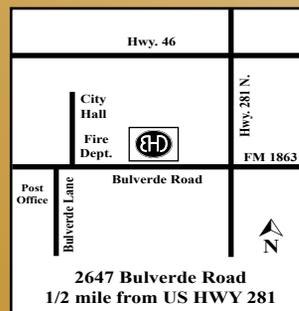


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Appreciation for Law Enforcement on Display in Bulverde

Events in recent news have brought into focus risks, issues, and dangers that all law enforcement officers face on a daily basis. They do so willingly, knowing that wearing the uniform and badge carries a responsibility and weight only known to fellow officers. The public opinion of law enforcement is often influenced by media coverage of national events which can sway from negative to positive and back again based on the event. Here in Bulverde, our police officers are subject to all of the same risks that are seen across the country; being from a “small town” does not diminish the danger of being an officer. The Bulverde Police Department is very involved in the community and works to engage citizens to become part of the solution. Following a string of highly publicized events involving law enforcement across the country in mid-July, citizens from the community came out to show their support. Bulverde neighbors poured out appreciation and support for our officers—folks young and old arrived at City Hall with cards, flowers, cookies & brownies, St. Michael medals, barbecue, and many hugs and handshakes. Chief Haecker, his officers, and staff received these offerings with thanks and humility. Knowing that our community has such love and respect for our team in uniform is appreciated beyond measure. Those officers who serve in Bulverde are dedicated professionals who uphold their responsibility to keep the community safe with the utmost integrity, and they are certainly thankful for the support the community shows them.



Children and parents from the Classical Conversation, Bulverde Campus home schooling group visit with officers, giving them notes of appreciation and getting “tours” of the officers’ cars; the Franks, Moon, and Beck families pulled up with their barbecue pit and prepared lunch for the officers and City staff.



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Honoring a Friend

~Anonymous

The inspiration to honor my dear friend, Frances Messer, came about through talks of how the Bulverde Community could show our appreciation of her; I was asked to see if we could have a memorial of sorts in our community park and the fundraising effort began. This special lady was loved and respected by so many as she worked at Rahe Bulverde Elementary, Kinder Ranch Elementary, and H.E.B. My own experience with Frances began when my children entered Kindergarten more than 12 years ago. She has been a sweet and honored friend of our family ever since. My son would come home talking about Miss Messer and her funny talks with him. She had a special discipline if you misbehaved on the playground. Students had to walk the large perimeter and she called it "The Mile." My son was well acquainted with it! He loved Miss Messer, and my daughter absolutely adored her. She cared so much about all of the children she was responsible for, and they knew to look for her register line at H.E.B. to say hello to her.



We, as a community, thought it only fitting that she have a special place at the Bulverde Community Park overlooking the children she loved so much. She will forever be the watchful guardian we knew her to be as they play. Her passing in 2015 hit this community hard, and it showed in all who contributed to this honor for her. Thank you to all who helped in this effort and to "The Friends of the Park" for her bench, trees and plaque. I just know she is smiling at her place in the park!

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Future Land Use Open House Provides Platform for Public Input

On Tuesday June 14, 2016, a Community Open House was held in Bulverde at the BSB Activity (Senior) Center. The Open House focused on the Future Land Use plan for the City and the surrounding ETJ. The meeting helped provide local residents and stakeholders an opportunity to voice their thoughts and ideas on revisions to the current land-use plan, initially adopted over 10 years ago in the Sunrise 2025 Comprehensive Plan. Thirty-five members of the public were in attendance and provided useful comments and feedback on the challenges and opportunities facing Bulverde.

The meeting opened with a discussion on the background of the project and the changes that have occurred in Bulverde since the adoption of the last comprehensive planning effort, Sunrise 2025. These changes include a Downtown Bulverde visioning effort, the adoption of a Home Rule Charter, and the annexation of four square miles of new territory into the City limits.

The Kimley-Horn consultant team led the Open House, which included a variety of stations aimed at different aspects of the update process, the existing 2025 Land Use Vision/Preferred Growth Patterns, the existing Bulverde Zoning Map, the Downtown Land Use Framework Plan, the Downtown Urban Design/Transportation Framework

Plan, and Draft Future Land Use and Place Types. **Information regarding these can be found online at <http://bulverdetx.gov/258/Future-Land-Use-Plan-and-Zoning-Map-Upda>**

During the Open House, the public was provided the opportunity to discuss general topics and information and to ask specific questions regarding the future of Bulverde.

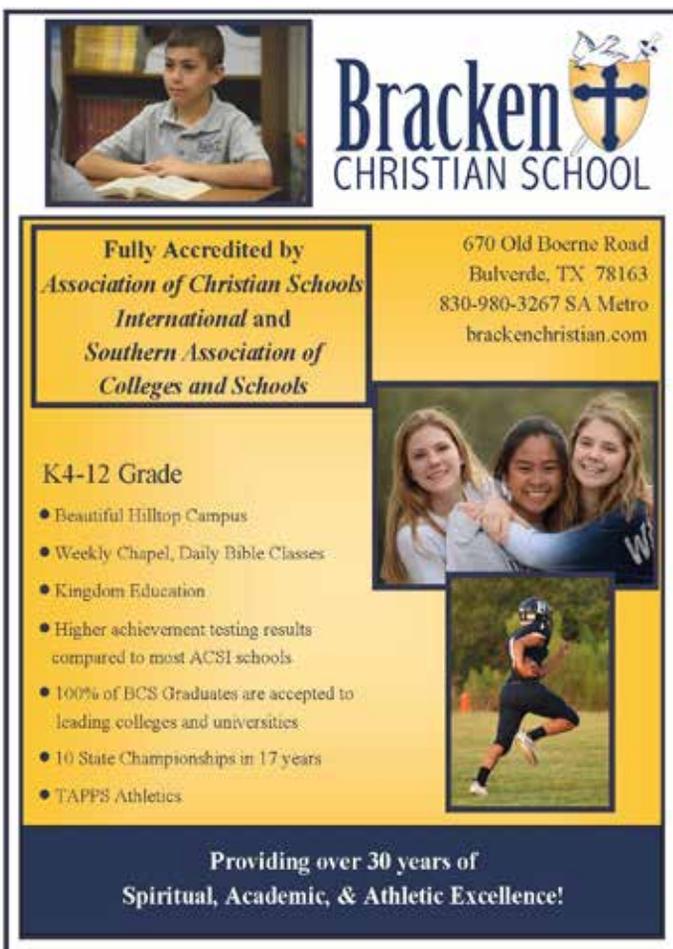
A concern voiced by several in attendance had to do with local flooding. The Lewis, Cibolo, and Indian creeks currently affect businesses and neighborhoods throughout the historically flood-prone Bulverde area. Several attendees expressed concerns that any new developments have the potential to increase these flooding issues. The meeting provided an informal educational opportunity regarding the City's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance as well as the City's Storm Water Drainage Manual that provides various requirements for new development to mitigate storm water runoff.

Traffic, including how to manage through/truck-traffic, was also a concern. The City Council of Bulverde has recently adopted a Master Transportation Plan (MTP) to promote transportation enhancements and greater mobility in the City and the region. Other concerns were land uses adjacent to residential uses and that transitions between uses needed to be considered. The concerns noted in this meeting will be addressed as part of the overall planning process.

General comments were similar to those received during the Downtown Bulverde planning process. Residents want Bulverde to maintain its quaint, rustic character and the aesthetic appeal of existing properties, which is a major goal for the Bulverde City Council.

The City and consultants team will continue to work closely with the community to provide an avenue for feedback on the direction of the Future Land Use Plan and Zoning Ordinance, in order to develop a consensus on the future direction of Bulverde. The community input from this Open House will be thoroughly reviewed and used in the planning and update process.

Second Community Open House Scheduled in August
Based on the existing conditions and the input received so far, a draft of the final Place Types and Land Use Plan will be presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council for review. Following that, a draft of the Zoning categories and map will be prepared. **This material will be presented in a second Community Open House, set for 4PM on August 9th at the BSB Activity (Senior) Center.** Please plan to attend if you are available. Public hearings and adoption of the Zoning Documents are targeted for September/October 2016.



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The Bulverde Police Department is looking for great members of the community to host a block party in your neighborhood. National Night Out is a great opportunity to get to know your neighbors and a great opportunity to meet your first responders, those that will respond in your time of need. The Bulverde Police Department will be glad to assist you, and you will receive lots of free stuff for your event. If you are interested in hosting a block party or are looking for a block party near you, please contact Mary Bell at the police department at 830-438-3612. We look forward to another successful National Night Out in Bulverde, but need your help!

BROADWAY COMES TO BULVERDE

It started 15 years ago as a cute little variety program at the Methodist Church. Over the years it has grown to a full-blown community-wide choral extravaganza with participants from 5 area churches bringing some of the best voices and musicians from Comal and northern Bexar Counties. It is not only entertaining but inspirational as well.

This year's version will revisit the eccentric but spirited "First Church Broadway" where the congregation has a Christian Heart but has trouble shaking off the flamboyance and "Razzle Dazzle" from their show biz backgrounds. Join us to see what mischief is going on and how the Holy Spirit can still be found in Broadway songs these folks have sung all their lives.

Performances: August 26 and 27 at 7:00 PM and August 28 at 3:00 PM at the Bulverde United Methodist Church, 28300 U.S Hwy 281 North just north of Borgfeld Road. Admission is free and child care will be available. For more information, call 830 980 7745.

S.T.A.G.E. News

The Annual S.T. A.G.E. Awards and Entertainment Evening
And the medal goes to... Join us for the 37th Annual Awards and Entertainment evening! The festivities begin at 6 pm on Sunday, August 14th with a potluck dinner. Your admission ticket is a covered dish to add to the buffet. Awards and entertainment follow at 7 pm, co-hosted by Lou Garza and Tom Balmos. We have performances by the Encore Players, and Charlotte Miniard doing Patsy Cline. Kelli Grant, Caron West, and Mona Klein will show the proper way to do yoga, Lisa Garza will be serenading us, The Bark! Band, Hunter, Simon, Daniel, and Tim will be playing music for us, and more.

We look forward to seeing EVERYONE FROM THE 2015-2016 SEASON CASTS, CREWS, AND VOLUNTEERS. And we would love to see our audience members who have graciously supported us all year. Everyone's invited!

Auditions for NIGHT COMES EARLY
 Auditions for Night Comes Early, a comedy by Burton Bumgarner, will be held on Sunday, August 7, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at S.T.A.G.E., Inc. at Krause House Theatre, 1300 Bulverde Road, 78163.

- Performers are needed for the following roles:
- MISS BAILY: Director of a community theater production, early 50s
 - AMANDA BAILY: Professional actress, Missy's daughter, early 30s
 - PETE VANDERHORST: Local sheriff, actor in the play, early 30s
 - COOKIE HARRINGTON: Retired schoolteacher, actress in the play, early 30s
 - BETTY RAYMORE: Lutheran pastor's wife, actress in the play, early 30s
 - HARRY BULLARD: Undertaker, thinks he's a great actor, early 30s
 - DAN: A workman, mid 30s
 - LYNN: Dan's assistant, mid 30s

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I WANT TO KNOW WHO WILL ARRIVE WHEN I CALL 9-1-1



Someone recently shared a story with us about being on the roadway when our ambulance came rushing by, sirens and lights going, obviously responding to an emergency. Following closely behind was another emergency vehicle, and after that, even one more. This person, like many of you probably, was wondering why so many different vehicles were rolling to respond to an emergency.

The simple answer is that the number and kind of vehicles required at a scene depends upon the type of call. For most 9-1-1 calls, if medical in nature, we send an ambulance with a squad (a single quick-response vehicle). Depending on the type and anticipated severity of the call, an engine and/or a command vehicle may respond.

Bulverde Spring Branch Fire & EMS has several types of vehicles and equipment in its fleet to respond to your emergency with highly trained professionals to serve you. Remember, all the team on the fire engine are both firefighters and medics. Full ambulance and engine crews are needed for medical response, communications, scene safety, and for traffic control should AirLife be needed or the medical call is on a roadway.

Bulverde Spring Branch Fire & EMS maintains the following emergency response vehicles. The Chiefs determine through protocol and dispatch information which apparatus will respond.

Mobile Intensive Care Units (MICUs) aka Ambulances

These vehicles provide emergency care and life support to those severely injured or ill at the scene of an accident or natural disaster, and while transporting patients to a medical facility. MICUs are equipped with specialized equipment and carry exceptionally trained paramedics.



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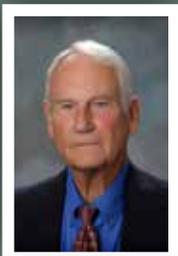
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The Commissioners of Emergency Service District (ESD) #1

This month we continue our series with introductions of ESD #1 Commissions.



Commissioner John Scheffler is a retired CPA. He and his wife Carol enjoy living in the Mountain Springs Ranch neighborhood. Before becoming a Commissioner for ESD #1, John volunteered many hours assisting ESD #4 (Spring Branch Fire) with its accounting and administrative systems. He is currently serving as Board President.



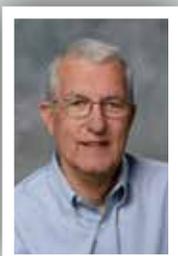
Commissioner William (Bill) Gonser and his wife Janet are residents of River Crossing. He is a graduate of West Point and served as a Ranger. After his service, Commissioner Gonser worked in the corporate world as an engineer in the oil and gas business. He is currently serving as Board Vice President.



Commissioner Rhonda Zunker not only serves as treasurer for the ESD, but also maintains a full-time job as President of the Bulverde Spring Branch Area Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Zunker and her family have ranched in the BSB area off Highway 46 for 30 years.



Commissioner Judy Wilken earned a degree in nursing and served in the US Air Force for 20 years. She and her husband Dale arrived in Bulverde Spring Branch in 1995 and are both active in many community organizations; especially the Bulverde Spring Branch Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Wilken lives in Cypress Springs and serves as Board Secretary.



Commissioner Harrell Hicks served in the United States Army as an enlisted service member for 3 years and Chaplain for 21 years. He lives in Bulverde Estates with Tommie Sue, his wife of 51 years, and they have two children and two grandchildren, all who live in the New Braunfels/Seguin area. Commissioner Hicks serves as Vice Treasurer.

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

Fire Department Founder Passes Away



Mr. Curtis Bremer, 81, an Emergency Services District #4 (ESD) Commissioner, passed away June 19, 2016 after a brief illness. A life-long Texan and Texas A&M graduate, Mr. Bremer also served as an officer in the United States Air Force. In 1959, he and six other gentlemen worked to form the Spring Branch Fire Department. For 57 continuous years, until his death, Mr. Bremer was an influential leader in emergency services in Western Comal County.

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About Hill Country Christian Church (a.k.a. HCCC)

- Our church is locally governed.
- We are affiliated with TCU (Texas Christian University) and other major universities.
- Our Great Day 6AM service runs every Monday at 7:00pm. (Brochures can be found on the church website: www.hillcountrychurch.org/Fact-648-Bulverde-173)
- All-ages meetings are held every Thursday at 7:00pm.
- We actively support the Producers Fund Party and other outreach activities.
- Members of the Bulverde/Spring Branch Chamber of Commerce

Hill Country Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
20845 TX-46 West, Spring Branch, TX. 78070
(Between Bulverde HEB and Spring Branch Middle School)
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BULVERDE
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B/SB Area Chamber of Commerce Events Calendar

August 11

Business Networking Mixer

Joint with Canyon Lake Chamber
 5:30–7:30 pm

Sponsored by: GVTC
 36101 FM 3159, New Braunfels, TX
 Member Only Event

August 17

Chamber Monthly Power Lunch

Sponsored By: Open
 12 Noon–1:00 pm
 Location: Bulverde Spring Branch Library

September 23, 2016

Birdies & Blackjack

9 Hole Golf Tournament & Casino Night
 3:00pm–10:30pm
 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*

Day of Services & Back-to-School Outreach



Community Blood Drive

Saturday, August 6
 9:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
 Bulverde Community Park
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ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL FUN FEST!



A day filled with fun and fellowship was enjoyed by all at the 3rd Annual Bulverde Fun Fest held in June at the Bulverde Community Park on Bulverde Lane.

The Friends of the Park, along with the Bulverde Community Park Association, would like to thank our sponsors for making this fun-filled day a reality and helping us raise funds towards the Shade Fund.

Live Oak Sponsors

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- Mammen Investments
- NB Mattress
- Park Place Recreation
- Popeye's
- South Texas Growers, Inc.
- Kathleen Banse, State Farm Insurance
- The Crossing Community Church

The festival kicked off with the Bulverde Police Honor Guard and Smithson Valley High School graduate Madelyn Deviney singing the National Anthem, followed by an invocation by Pastor Jeffrey Samplisky of The Crossing Community Church of Bulverde. A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held to recognize the new Music Park area installed in April 2016 and to recognize additional enhancements at the Bulverde Community Park and Bulverde Community Garden since June 2015.

Guests of all ages enjoyed the day with free rides around the park on The Blue Lion Train sponsored by the Spring Branch/Bulverde Lions Club and others took “funny face pictures” at the photo booth courtesy of Walgreens. Some guests tackled the Camp Gladiator Obstacle Course, while others enjoyed making a homemade craft at the Kids Workshop sponsored by the Bulverde Home Depot store. Works of art were created at the ASAH Creative Studios booth, while other guests enjoyed free foods provided by Smokey Mo's BBQ, State Farm Insurance–Kathleen Banse, and Provisions. All in all, fun was the word for the day, and everyone enjoyed a fabulous time in the park!

We would like to thank the multitude of volunteers, local businesses, and organizations for their participation and support in this year's Bulverde Fun Fest. We are most grateful for your generosity to our fundraising efforts to provide additional shade in our park.



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Cats multiplying like bunnies!

by Pam Parmer, Animal Rescue Connections volunteer



You've heard us talk about the humane method of controlling outdoor cat numbers through Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) before, but you may be wondering how we know that TNR works. Here's a

local example. For about 12 years, volunteers have supported Animal Rescue Connections' TNR efforts in the Comal County area. These folks take care of 12 colonies totaling about 50 "community cats," all of which are sterilized. If you see a cat with the left ear tipped, it has been sterilized and had a rabies vaccination. All of these cats are provided food and water every day, and we make sure that any newcomers (of which there are very few) are trapped, sterilized, and vaccinated before being returned to the colony.

This year we have had only one litter of kittens born at these colonies. They have been rescued and put up for adoption. The numbers over the years have reduced through natural causes. In fact, many years ago we started to help one colony of about 55 cats, and that group has now reduced to just 2 cats. These two happy, healthy cats diligently patrol the area around the restaurant, warning rodents that this is no place for them to hang out!

Our TNR work aims to stop the flow of kittens into shelters that are already too full. They have to turn people away. The excess kittens are being born to outdoor cats in the area, and we must solve this crisis at source. That means, if you are feeding a few cats in your backyard, **DON'T CAT NAP! TAKE ACTION NOW** to stop more kittens being born. It costs very little, and cats are not harmed in the process. We can help!

We can make a difference in lowering the number of stray cats needing homes, but we need to continue to work together before any one person gets overwhelmed with a situation. One cat can have up to 3 litters a year; she can give birth to 4-6 kittens each time; and her kittens can start having their own litters at 6 months of age. This means that the **one unspayed female** that you are feeding in your backyard can **turn into 25 cats** in the space of 1 year, or, if we had not spayed the 25 females in our current colonies, that population could have jumped from **50 to 650** in 1 year, and to more than 7,500 the year after that. It's alarming!

Before you find yourself in this situation, or if you know of anyone who may be heading down this road, please check out our website (www.animalrescueconnections.org) for information about TNR and call us for help. It's what we do!

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Seasons

by Tom Blacklock



There are seasons which we look forward to, such as football, baseball or basketball. The new season for television shows and for the more culturally inclined, the opera season. The four weather seasons also provide enjoyment. Spring, when everything seems to come to life after a winter hibernation. There are many who enjoy the winter season and the outdoor activities it brings like skiing, sledding, ice skating, ice fishing, or snowmobiling.

Just as there are seasons that we enjoy, there are seasons that we dislike. The flu season is one most would like to avoid, as well as the allergy season with its months of discomfort and suffering. Then there is the, ugh, tax season which is only popular with IRS and the tax preparers. At the Bulverde Area Humane Society (BAHS), the kitten season is a trying time when our resources and patience are taxed to the limit.

Each year beginning in the Spring, BAHS is inundated with requests and inquiries concerning orphan kittens. 2016 has been no different and BAHS has exceeded its maximum capacity with 44 kittens accepted into our shelter.

Most of these kittens come from well-intentioned individuals who think that the kittens have been abandoned or that the kittens have been left in a dangerous environment. In cases

where a mom cat is present it is best to trap the mother cat first and then grab the kittens. The mother cat can then be caged with the kittens and can continue to nurse them providing them with the nourishment and natural antibodies that come from the mother's milk. Separating very young kittens from the mother makes it necessary for someone to bottle feed them every three hours. Unfortunately, the BAHS has a very limited resource in this regard and this year our surrogate moms have been taxed to the limit. While older kittens might not need to be bottle fed some still require special attention.

Kittens accepted into the shelter need to be caged until tested for various diseases and illnesses. They cannot be spayed/neutered until they are two pounds. Once they are spayed/neutered, the kittens are placed in the Kitten Room. They have inside and outside areas while waiting to be adopted. If the kittens are not adopted after one year of age, they are moved to the Cattery.

The kitten season taxes BAHS' resources, and unfortunately we cannot accommodate all requests for kitten intakes. It is with a very heavy heart when we have to say no to a request to intake kittens. The unfortunate thing is that many of the unwanted kittens could have been prevented by spay/neutering adult cats. There are a number of low cost spay/neuter clinics in the area, and several groups of volunteers who are willing to assist in trapping, neutering and returning feral cats to their environment which would alleviate this kitten over population. Visit the BAHS website at bulverdeshelter.com for more information.

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The Buzz From the Garden

The Bulverde Community Garden continues to thrive and produce plenty of vegetables: potatoes in early June, zucchini, yellow squash and tomatoes, tomatoes and more tomatoes in late June and early July. The garden looks beautiful when it is alive with vegetables and flowers blooming in the native plant and butterfly plots, but there are other ways of adding beauty to the garden that we don't usually think of. The following suggestions were submitted by gardener, Madeleine Maciula.

Found! Treasures from the Barn



Today, when you think about buying a piece of outdoor art for the garden, are your tastes more suited to a whimsical flock of pink plastic flamingos or something more original? Living in Texas presents an exciting alternative to going to a big box store and settling for what's on display. Antique treasures are to be found, from natural rocks, driftwood, and seashells to vintage farm memorabilia and to relics from the infancy and expansion of the oil industry and the rapid modernization of Texas.

In many ways, old deserted barns are like the unexpected treasures found in an antique shop; emanating a wistful memory of the past. Vintage farm equipment, once abandoned as broken or obsolete can now be repurposed and cherished as a focal point for a Hill Country landscape. A rusty piece of iron taken from a tractor can be transformed into a piece of decorative art to adorn a beautiful flowerbed. An old barn door becomes a new gateway; tools such as crosscut saws, fence stretchers, posthole diggers, pliers and shovels can be "posed" individually as in a montage to provide an accent to areas of the garden. Ceramic insulators can be hung from trees like an Alexander Calder mobile to define depth and space. An anvil or a tractor seat makes a great plant stand. The imagination is the only limit to the possibilities.

While there is still an abundance of vintage farm and related memorabilia in our area, these items are becoming scarcer and harder to find. They have intrinsic value both as art and the history they invoke.

Search and ye shall find!!!

For more information on farm memorabilia:

- Google "vintage farm tools"
- Visit The Institute of Texan Cultures, San Antonio to see how the early pioneers settled Texas

The Bulverde Community Garden Committee wants to thank the Vintage Barn in Bulverde for the "garden art" donation, an added benefit to the garden. Also, a special thank you goes to the church youth group visiting from Houston who helped to tidy and clean up the Garden last month. Also, we would like to recognize the Slavin family for the generous donation made in memory of their son and brother, Marlon Slavin.

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@gvvc.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.

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Library Programs for Business Owners



The BSB Library is proud to present the following two business education programs in August.

Building a Wordpress Website for Your Business

Starting a business can require a lot of up-front investment. One of the biggest and most essential pieces of your business is your website. If you're thinking, "I can't yet invest thousands into a website, but I know I need to have a web presence," then this workshop is for you.

In this three-part workshop, you will be lead step by step to building a fully functional, SEO optimized, easy to manage website. We will cover the following:

Session 1: August 13

- The 3 things you absolutely must have before you start
- Setting up your Wordpress website
- Understanding and navigating the Wordpress content management back-end
- Choosing an effective look for your website

Session 2: August 20

- Creating your basic pages and menu
- Finding and applying visual elements
- Integrating tools part 1: Forms
- Integrating tools part 2: Store

Session 3: September 3

- Integrating tools part 3: SEO
- Integrating tools part 4: Extras
- Optimizing for mobile devices

Marketing to the Four Generations presented by the UTSA Small Business Development Group

Does your client prefer Lady Gaga or Sinatra? Do they read the newspaper or get their news from Twitter? How well do you know your clients and how do you best reach them? When crafting a marketing message, it's important for your business that you understand the four generations in today's workforce and consumer market. Though individuals vary, many of the characteristics of the societal groupings hold true and can make the difference in whether or not you connect with your customer. Walk away from this workshop armed with the characteristics of those you are trying to reach and the best way to connect with them. Topics discussed in the workshop include: the four generational groups, techniques and marketing strategies to consider for each group and much more.

Register for this free workshop that is open to the public though this link: <http://utsa.ecenterdirect.com/events/25276>

In addition to these useful business programs, there is a full slate of fun and informative classes and programs for the whole family throughout the entire month. Call the Library at 830.438.4864 or visit their website at <http://bsblibrary.org/> for the complete schedule of events.

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As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15

The Front Porch News Page 21

Art Center News

Bulverde Area Arts Center Holds Workshop

A critical element in art is the shadows visible in paintings and drawings. The shadows provide depth and dimension. They transform a flat, one-dimensional object into a vibrant three-dimensional work of art. The next time you are at a Bulverde Area Arts Center exhibit, take some time to locate the shadows in the art on display. Imagine the appearance the art would have if the shadows were not present.



Jeanne Keller, a charter member of BAAC, recently conducted a workshop for members and the general public on shadows. She began by explaining the composition of shadows. In the first exercise the class created a shadow scale, showing shadows ranging from total black to total white. This was followed by a demonstration showing how shadows could make a flat one-dimension shape, a circle, become a three-dimensional ball. The class then experimented using shadows from their chart on shapes prepared by Keller. They turned a circle into a ball, an oval into an egg, and rectangles into boxes.

Jeanne Keller is a life-long artist and is an art instructor, teaching individual or group classes. The workshop was held at The Makery in Bulverde Village.

Joe McNaul is August Featured Artist

Photographer and Bulverde Area Arts Center member Joe McNaul will be the Featured Artist in the month of August. His photography will be on display in The Makery for the entire month. Joe was an Art Education major at Edinboro University in Pennsylvania and taught Arts & Crafts at Roosevelt Senior High School in San Antonio. He also taught ceramics at the Southwest Craft Center. He became interested in photography while in the Army after being introduced to black and white film processing and printing. When asked about his style, he said that he likes to capture images that hold implied stories, especially ones that illustrate contrasts.

Looking to the future, he would like to produce a series of photo images that are unique to the Texas Hill Country. Somewhere in there, he intends to get back to wheel-thrown pottery and hand-built forms. Hours for the exhibit are Wednesday and Thursday from 11 am to 6 pm, Friday and Saturday from 11 am to 9 pm, and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. The Makery is located at 2355 Bulverde Road, adjacent to Mike's in the Village.

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Sporting Clay Shoot Event for Acacia Medical Mission

By Judy Sheer Watters, Living Rock Academy

Come and join the fun at the 1st Annual Sporting Clay Shoot Fundraiser, a benefit for Acacia Medical Mission. If you have never experienced a clay shoot, you are in for a real treat...and for an exciting and important cause.

Acacia Medical Mission, a 501(c)3 faith-based medical ministry, has served the uninsured and underinsured of Comal County for 10 years. Their mission is to provide high quality, low cost, primary medical care to low income residents of Comal County. United Way of Comal County, local churches, individual residents, nurse practitioners, physicians, and other volunteers partner with AMM, however, the demand for medical care in our county is great, and funds as well as other help is constantly needed.

We are gratefully accepting donations, sponsorships, silent auction items, and/or door prizes for the Clay Shoot event. All proceeds will be dedicated for healthcare, labs and diagnostics for the medical care of the underprivileged of Comal County.

So enjoy a fun day with friends, neighbors, and family and support Acacia Medical Mission. The AMM 1st Annual Sporting Clay Shoot Fundraiser (100 Target Course) will be held on August 20, 2016 at Joshua Creek Ranch beginning with a Light Breakfast at 7:45 a.m. The shooting event begins at 8:45 a.m.; lunch is included at 11:30 a.m. Visit our Facebook page for a registration form.

Odds-n-Ends

Local Churches to Host Benefit Rummage Sales

In early August, two local churches are hosting their annual benefit rummage sales, each of which supports church ministries and youth programs. There will be LOTS of bargains and treasures available at both locations!

- Bulverde United Methodist Church Annual Rummage Sale, Friday & Saturday, August 5 & 6, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 28300 U.S. Hwy 281 N., San Antonio, TX 78260
- St. Paul Lutheran Church Annual Youth Garage Sale, Saturday, August 6, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 29797 U. S. Hwy 281 N., Bulverde, TX 78163

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Bulverde City Hall
30360 Cougar Bend
Bulverde, Texas 78163

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AUGUST 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Planning & Zoning 6:30p	3 BAAC mtg 6:30p (The Makery) SBB Family Lions 7:30p (Activity Ctr.)	4	5	6 Back-to-School Outreach & Day of Services 10:00a (Bulv. Comm. Park)
7 International Friendship Day S.T.A.G.E. Auditions for Night Comes Early 4:00p	8 Friends of Library Board mtg. 1:00p (Library) Rural Library District mtg. 4:00p (Library) Comm. Garden Mtg. 5:15p (Activity Ctr.)	9 Community Open House: Zoning Study 4:00p (Activity Ctr.) City Council 6:30p	10	11 Bulverde Lions 7:00p (Bulv. Comm. Ctr.)	12 CLWSC Community Event 11:00a (Bill Brown Elem. Sch.) Movies in the Park: PLANES: FIRE & RESCUE (dusk 8:00sh; Bulv. Comm. Park)	13
14 S.T.A.G.E. Annual Awards & Entertainment 6:00p	15 CTGCD* 6:00p (353 Rodeo Dr.)	16 Native Plant Soc. 7:00p (GVTC)	17 SBB Family Lions 6:00p (Activity Ctr.)	18 ESD #1,4 & 5 5:30p (353 Rodeo Dr.) BSBES 6:30p (353 Rodeo Dr.)	19	20
21	22	23 CISD First Day of School Friends of the Park 6:00p	24	25 Bulverde Lions 7:00p (Bulv. Comm. Ctr.)	26 POET Program 5:30p (City Hall) Broadway Comes to Bulverde 7:00p (BUMethodist Church)	27 Shine the Park 8:00a (Bulv. Comm. Park) Broadway Comes to Bulverde 7:00p (BUMethodist Church)
28 Broadway Comes to Bulverde 3:00p (BUMethodist Church)	29	30	31	NOTES: Bulverde City Council, Bulverde Planning and Zoning Commission, and Friends of the Park meetings are held at Bulverde City Hall (30360 Cougar Bend)		

*Comal Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

SEPTEMBER 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	2	3
4	5 Labor Day City Hall Closed CISD Holiday	6 Planning & Zoning 6:30p	7 BAAC mtg 6:30p (The Makery) SBB Family Lions 7:30p (Activity Ctr.)	8 Bulverde Lions 7:00p (Bulv. Comm. Ctr.)	9	10
11 Patriot Day	12 Friends of Library Board mtg. 1:00p (Library) Rural Library District mtg. 4:00p (Library) Comm. Garden Mtg. 5:15p (Activity Ctr.)	13 City Council 6:30p	14 Birdies & Blackjack (River Crossing)	15 ESD #1,4 & 5 5:30p (353 Rodeo Dr.) BSBES 6:30p (353 Rodeo Dr.)	16	17 Bulverde Jubilee 10:30a (Downtown Bulverde)
18	19 CTGCD* 6:00p (353 Rodeo Dr.)	20 Native Plant Soc. 7:00p (GVTC)	21 SBB Family Lions 6:00p (Activity Ctr.)	22 Fall begins Bulverde Lions 7:00p (Bulv. Comm. Ctr.)	23 CISD Holiday (Fair Day)	24
25	26	27 Friends of the Park 6:00p	28	29	30 POET Program 5:30p (City Hall)	

*Comal Trinity Groundwater Conservation District