

ROADRUNNER

AUGUST 2024

VOLUME 2024-08

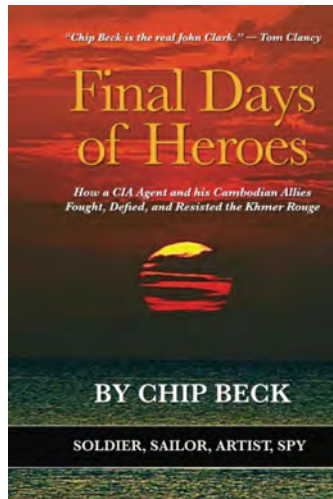
Blue Skies
of Texas
AT AIR FORCE VILLAGE

FROM THE DIRECTOR

AFIO Chapter Meeting

The Association of Former Intelligence Officers (AFIO) will make a two-part open-source intelligence presentation on Monday, **August 5** in the Roadrunner Lounge. All Blue Skies residents are encouraged and welcome to attend, the briefing will start at noon.

There were more than one secret war going on in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War. In addition to the Laos fighting there was also a secret war in Cambodia. The first part of the program will be a video interview with Chip Beck, a naval officer turned CIA Special Operations Officer working in Cambodia in the early 1970s. He has written a book about the last days before the fall of Cambodia as he and the Cambodians fought the Khmer Rouge. The non-fiction book is titled Final Days of Heroes.



Welcome

New Residents

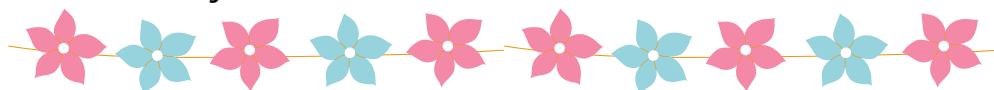
New residents coming soon to a neighborhood near you.

**William "Bill" &
Susan "Sue" Wilt, #1201**



City Public Service (CPS) Presentation

Join us on Wednesday, **August 7** in the Roadrunner Lounge at 2pm, for a presentation on how you can save energy during these hot summer days.



Save the Date:

There will be no RC Meeting for the month of August

Thursday, August 1 – Freedom House Dementia Caregivers Support Group – FH Chapel – 1:30pm

Monday, August 5 - San Antonio AFIO Chapter Meeting – Roadrunner Lounge – 12pm

Wednesday, August 7 – City Public Service (CPS) – Roadrunner Lounge – 2pm

Tuesday, August 20 – Village Voices Rehearsals Begin – BSTW Chapel – 1:30pm

Resident Services Announcements

New Gate Hours of Operation

It was announced in the July RC Meeting that the hours for both the Freedom House and John Ryan Gate have changed. The new hours of operation are as follows:

John Ryan Gate

Monday - Friday - 6a-1p
Closed on Weekends

Freedom House Gate

Monday - Friday - 6a-8p
Saturday - Sunday - 6a-6p

Happy Birthday US Coast Guard

On **August 4**, the US Coast guard will commemorate 234 years of service, having been founded in 1790.



Sky Lounge Reservations

Reservations to the Sky Lounge can be made via Uniguest or by calling the reservation line 210-568-5054. Stop by the front desk and a team member can assist you if needed. Making a reservation in the Sky Lounge does not immediately sign you up for transportation, you will need to sign up via Uniguest, or at the front desk, for the bus if needed.

Signing In/Out of Blue Skies of Texas

Did you know that you can sign out for medical or travel via Uniguest? Well, you can and it's easy too! Just log onto Uniguest and go to forms, there you will find the BSTW Resident Absence Form. Need help navigating? Stop by the front desk and a staff member can assist you.

Calling all Artist and Crafters!

It's time to take a good look at what you have tucked away in the Arts and Crafts room and remove or donate what you are no longer interested in keeping.

Carol Conkey volunteered to sort out the items discovered in one of the closets of the billiard room and laid them out on the table in the billiard room. So, stop by and see what treasures you find for your next project.

Select Rehab Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

If you have any medical equipment such as a wheelchair, rollator, or cane that you no longer have a need for please consider donating your equipment to Select Rehab, your friendly neighborhood rehab department. Have questions on other devices that you would like to donate? Give them a call at 210-568-3415 and they can let you know whether the DME is acceptable or not.

Summer is Coming to an End, but These Scams Will Never End~ Ashlie Maltos

Have you received an email from "CashApp" saying "Congratulations, a balance of thousands of dollars is available for your account. This transaction may only appear on your account after validating your info."

DO NOT click on any buttons! Immediately delete the email! CashApp will never send you an email saying this and if you use the CashApp app, please verify directly through the app to see if a confirmed friend has sent you money.



Items for Sale!!!

Have an item for sale? Want to get the word out? Stop by the front desk or email Aleisha Dillard at aleishadillard@blueskiestx.org and she can upload your flyer to Uniguest.

Resident Services Announcements

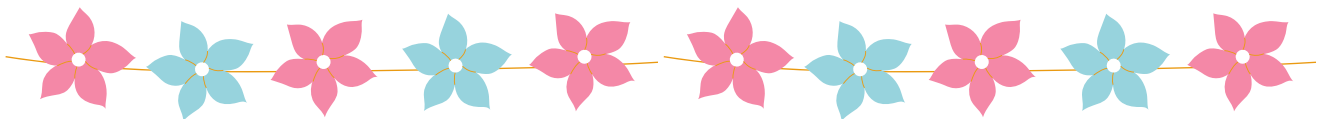
Big Give 2023 ~ Sarah Manzke

Save the date! Blue Skies / The Air Force Villages Charitable Foundation will be participating in the 11th Annual Big Give SA, a 24-hour online giving effort involving hundreds of other San Antonio-area nonprofits. Giving can be done from 6pm on Wednesday, **September 18** through 6pm Thursday, **September 19**.

Our Big Give fundraising goal is to raise \$50,000 to provide replacement furniture as well as educational materials and other needed supplies to Blue Skies' Intergenerational Preschool (the childcare center at Freedom House).



Please see <https://www.thebiggivesa.org/info/faq> for background information on this annual community giving opportunity. Stay tuned for more information regarding this initiative on our Blue Skies' Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/BlueSkiesTexas>) and in the next issue of the Roadrunner. Please stop by Corporate Office and see any of the Development staff if you have any questions about the Big Give.



Pest Control Schedule

	Friday, August 2	Friday, August 9	Friday, August 16	Friday, August 23
Tower Apts.	106-108, 131-138, 141-148	211-218, 221-228	231-238, 241-248	311-318, 321-328
Cottages	1100-1200	1300-1400	1500	1600
Ranch Homes	860, 862, 863, 864	865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 871	803, 805, 807, 809, 903, 907	804, 806, 808, Pavilion 3
Specials	Village Center, Kitchen, The Vista Office and A Wing	Exterior of Main Tower Building	Liberty House, The Vista B and C Wings	Freedom House: Int. and Ex.

Employee Anniversaries

	Location	Anniversary Date	Years of Service
Juiet Flores	Freedom House	August 2	1
Veronica Monsivaiz	Housekeeper	August 2	1
Sandra Gonzalez	Freedom House	August 4	26
Heather Ransom	Chief Operating Officer	August 5	5
Larissa Alejo	EVS Manager	August 9	8
Maria Gutierrez	Desk Clerk	August 10	2
Tyann Simpson	Housekeeper	August 11	4
Leticia Martinez	Housekeeper	August 12	13
Mary Alice Rangel	Relocation Manager	August 14	9
Monica Garcia	Housekeeper	August 14	9
Deysi Blumeyer	Freedom House	August 14	23
Logan Cook	Capital Projects	August 16	5
Shalynn Garza	Daycare	August 17	2
Maria Diaz	Dining Services	August 17	6
Erin Gonzalez	Daycare	August 18	1
Geronimo Cruz	Driver	August 18	1
Domingo Carrillo	Custodian	August 20	5
Marsha Lloyd	Liberty House	August 21	15
Alina Gonzales	Freedom House	August 25	4
Hector Noriega	Courtesy Officer	August 26	2
Michael Scoville	Courtesy Officer	August 26	2
Analilia Rodriguez	Dining Services	August 26	21
Cindy Yanez	Freedom House	August 26	42
Shelly DeCock	Hospice	August 28	1
Amy Ramirez	Liberty House	August 30	1
Brittany Totterdale	Freedom House	August 30	1
Tracy Lee	Beauty Shop	August 31	6

Freedom House Dementia Caregivers Support Group

This monthly support group provides an opportunity for caregivers affected by Alzheimer's Disease or related dementias to share their experiences and receive guidance, support, and inspiration. We meet on the first Thursday of each month, at 1:30pm in the Freedom House Chapel. Participants are welcome to bring their loved one to join a planned activity during the support group. RSVP is required, to Annabell Garcia, Freedom House Activities Coordinator at 210.838.6301 or annabellgarcia@blueskiestx.org.

This month we will meet on Thursday, **August 1** at 1:30pm.

Resident Updates

Dining Room Advisory Council ~ Leo Bell

There was no meeting of the DRAC in July. That is our customary summer break. Our next scheduled DRAC meeting is Thursday, **August 8** at 1:30pm in the Roadrunner Lounge. We hope to see you there.

The DRAC and BSTW residents gratefully appreciate all employees involved in our dining experience. Monthly we recognize individuals who have served with excellence. Our July Front-of-the-House (FOTH) winner is Adela Chimal (Adela did get an award previously, as the BOTH, but this time she is the FOTH winner.); Back-of-the-House (BOTH) winner is Henry Beas. Thank you both for your excellence towards us residents.

The wine tasting was unavoidably postponed until Friday, **August 16**; unfortunately, there is already a waiting list. The next kitchen tour is scheduled for Tuesday, **September 10** at 2:30pm. Juanita Hess manages this event for us, please contact her (see resident directory) about any openings. The next Coffee-With-the-Chef is Thursday, **August 1** at 9:30am. At the last meeting, Chef J promised to bring back gazpacho soon.

Summer temperatures are high and there may be a temptation to be dressed too casually at dinner in The Lakeview. The Resident Guide suggests "Appropriate dress for Sunday Brunch and evening meals (after 5 pm) includes slacks and shirts-with-sleeves or jackets for men, and slacks, skirts, or dresses for women". Please be mindful of these guidelines for yourselves and your guests when dressing for dinner in The Lakeview.

Begin preparations to wear your dress uniforms at the New Year's Eve party. BG Russ McCarthy may be gone, and we miss him, but let's keep the mess dress attire for the NYE party going in his honor. Diet now to start getting ready!! The meal tastes and goes better when we are dressed up. See our annual photo for the proof.



thank you



Resident Updates

Gadabouts ~ Larry Runge

On Friday, **August 9**, we will be going to Ernesto's Mexican Restaurant at 2559 Jackson Keller Rd. (phone 210-344-1248). Ernesto's serves gourmet Mexican & Seafood meals. They make all of their food from scratch, including salad dressing and sauces. You can see their menu online. The restaurant does not open until 11:30am so the bus will leave at 11am. Please be in the Main Lobby by 10:45. The sign-up sheet is in CC3.

Newcomers Social ~ Paula Haley

The Newcomers Social will be on Sunday, **August 11**, starting at 5pm sharp, in the Roadrunner Lounge. All our newcomers will receive a personal invitation to attend this party. Dinner will be from 5-6:30pm and will be for the new residents only. This will be a time for them to get to know each other and share their food. At 6:30pm, residents who have been here for a while are encouraged to come and meet the newcomers. There will be some great entertainment by our very own residents. We have had many new residents make Blue Skies their home since last September, and this is sure to be a fun event.

US Army Veterans ~ John MacIntyre

There will be a meeting of all US Army Veterans in the Roadrunner Lounge on Monday, **August 12** at 9:30am. This meeting is to discuss our ideas for a Blue Skies celebration of the Army's 250th Anniversary on June 14, 2025. Please RSVP to John MacIntyre via email (see resident directory).

Enjoy Hot Days / Cool Music of August 14 B&A

~ Corlea Plowman

All BST West residents and guests are invited to celebrate our Hot Days and Cool Music on Wednesday, **August 14**, at the Birthday and Anniversary event (B&A). Doors open for the hosted Social Hour in CC1-3 Rooms at 5pm. Dinner service in The Lakeview is at 6pm. Fernando Davil Jazz Trio will be the entertainment.



Bob Howen will be available to take Birthday & Anniversary pictures from 4-5:30pm in the Helen LeMay Room. Please check in with Judy Howen.

The dinner includes:

Starter: Cucumber Cilantro Tomatillo Gazpacho with Avocado Cream

Entrée: Grilled 6oz Halibut Topped with Shrimp Sauce, Wild Rice, Sautéed Broccoli with Cheese Sauce

Dessert: Limoncello Tarte

Bread: Sesame Seed Dinner Rolls

Water, Coffee or Iced Tea

\$41 Per Person

Alternative Entrée: 6oz Filet with Red Wine Demi Glaze

Dinner reservations are required. All those planning to attend, including guests, must sign up on the Sign-Up List in CC3. If you need to cancel after 11am Monday, **August 12**, call the Dining Services Office

(210-568-3232). If you wish to create a table of 6-8, call Bonnie Gardner or Donna Bowman.

Seating will be assigned for all others. Reservations are not

made through the Dining Room for this event.

Hosts for the Social Hour are Kathy Bader, Ron & Patty Bordwell, Al Buie, Ginny Callanan, Bob & Robbie Certain, Ron & Carol Conkey, Jerre & Kathy Griffin, Joy Hough, Patricia McCarthy (chair), Charley & Judy Michel, Betty Overacker, Jane Radigan, Nancy Reeder, Tom & June Reedy, Billie Rosencrans, Woody & Susan Woodrow, and Duane & Peggy Young.



Resident Updates

Red Hat Luncheon ~ Vivian Ray

This month's lunch is hosted by JoAnn Oldham and Connie Germann. On Friday, **August 16** at 11:30am, we will dine at Stone Werks Big Rock Grill, 6626 W. Loop 1604 N. Please be in the lobby by 10:30am. The bus leaves at 10:45am. When you sign up on the sheet, you must indicate "W" if you are using a walker or wheelchair because the bus only accommodates one wheelchair. If you sign up and can't go, it is essential that you remove your name from the sheet by the Wednesday morning before the luncheon. If you do not remove your name, you will be considered a "no call, no show," and will be charged the transportation cost. Please don't prevent someone on the waiting list from attending because you didn't take your name off the list in time.

Ecumenical Activities ~ Sharon and Tom Dera

Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come is an intriguing eleven-session study program that shows how the kingdom, established by Christ in his Church, is intimately connected with the kingdom of heaven. In this study, presenter Jeff Cavins pulls back the veil on the rich symbolism present in Revelation. Discover what the mysterious figures and images of Revelation mean and see how Revelation is more than an apocalyptic vision of the "end times." Explore the Church's teaching on the second coming of Christ and the Last Judgment.

Participants of Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come will meet on Thursdays from 6-8pm in CC2 starting with time for lively group discussion and fellowship followed by viewing of an engaging video presentation by Jeff.

The Revelation Bible Study will begin on Thursday, **September 5**, and end on Thursday, **November 14**. The cost is \$34.90 which includes a copy of your own Participant Workbook and access to the online videos for one year! Sign up in CC3, or on Uniguest before Friday, **August 16**. We hope you can join us!

Resident Concert Series

~ Pat MacIntyre

Residents will be pleased to know that we have scheduled the return of the Anthony Bazzani Trio +1 for this August's concert. The concert is scheduled for Sunday, **August 18** at 3pm in the BSTW Main Lobby. Anthony never fails to craft a performance of songs from show tunes, country, jazz, swing, classic rock, and any other type of music that you can name that will have you tapping your feet and humming along. Please join us for an upbeat and enjoyable afternoon.

Village Voices ~ Nancy Sowada

The Village Voices have been in existence at Air Force Village/Blue Skies of Texas for almost 50 years. If you can read music and/or have sung in a choir before, we would love to have you join us! Please join The Village Voices choir when we start rehearsals on Tuesday, **August 20**, at 1:30pm in the High Flight Chapel at Blue Skies West. We rehearse for 2 hours each Tuesday. We plan to sing for the Blue Skies West Veterans Day program and then in our concerts in December throughout Blue Skies of Texas. The accompanist for the Village Voices is Marianne Tanguy and the director is Nancy Sowada. Nancy and Marianna look forward to welcoming you! We will be rehearsing music for the Christmas and holiday seasons that we hope everyone will enjoy. Please join us on Tuesday, **August 20**, at 1:30pm in the Blue Skies West High Flight Chapel when we will receive our music and start singing!

Resident Updates

“Beryl’s Havoc” ~ Betty Overacker

Hurricane Beryl was a deadly and destructive Category 5 Atlantic hurricane that broke many meteorological records for the months of June and July primarily for its formation and intensity. Beryl developed from a tropical wave that left the coast of Africa on June 25, and rapidly intensified as it moved west. Beryl made landfall in Grenada on July 1 as a high Category 4 hurricane causing total devastation, and then continued to intensify as it entered the Caribbean Sea with maximum 165 mph winds. After weakening into a tropical storm over the Yucatan Peninsula, the storm moved into the Gulf of Mexico, where it gradually reorganized into a Category 1 hurricane on July 8 just prior to making its final landfall near Matagorda, TX. Beryl slowly weakened over land as it accelerated northeast, and eventually dissipated over Ontario on July 10. Damage and casualties from this hurricane were widespread causing catastrophic damage estimated at 6.2 billion dollars and 50 confirmed fatalities with at least 22 occurring in the Houston, TX region. The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN), manned by Amateur Radio Operators, was activated to track Beryl’s course, take damage reports, and manage health and welfare traffic. As of July 12, seven thousand residents in the Northeast region, and 1.3 million Texans were still without electrical power. The HWN Amateur Radio Operator volunteers, nicknamed “Hurricane Hams” are an essential part of an elite emergency service in disaster situations to mitigate the loss of life. All are welcome to attend the next BST Amateur Radio Club Meeting on Tuesday, **August 20**, in Meeting Room 110 at 11:30am. Please contact Bob Stuckert for more information. 73—(Best regards in Ham Language)

Blue Skies Handbells ~ Nancy Sowada

The Blue Skies West Handbell Choir has been in existence for almost 25 years! The members of the handbell choir read music on the treble and bass clefs, like any other musician does. If you can read music and be present for our rehearsals, we would love to have you join us! Please join the Blue Skies West Handbell Choir when we start rehearsals on Thursday, **August 29**, at 10:30am in the craft room (down the hall by the chapel). Nancy Sowada is the director. These handbells were purchased by Blue Skies West residents (Air Force Village II at that time) in 1990. We have more than 3 octaves of handbells plus 3 octaves of hand chimes, but we need a lot of people to play all of them. We learn new things and get better with each rehearsal. We will be rehearsing music for the Christmas and holiday seasons that we hope everyone will enjoy. Please join us on Thursday, **August 29**, at 10:30am in the craft room when we will receive our music and start ringing!

Hope for the Hurting ~ Diane Dill

Please join us on Thursday, **August 29** from 1-2pm in the Roadrunner Lounge to hear from a San Antonio missionary with AGORA Ministries. You will hear captivating inner-city stories of life change and enjoy delightful desserts!

In Memoriam

Robert Jones – June 30

Robert Williamson – July 7

Lillian Shockley – July 19

Joyce Kelly – July 19

Robert Hood – July 20

Betsy Arter – July 24

Resident Updates

Rotary Corner ~ Debby Cox

The San Antonio West Rotary Club meets right here at Blue Skies of Texas West, and all residents are welcome to attend any of our meetings. We meet the first and third Tuesday in the Roadrunner Lounge from 12-1pm. For those of you who may not know what Rotary is, it is one of the largest service organizations in the world with over 46,000 clubs and 1.4 million members. We are “People of Action” with each member devoted to “Service above Self”. In addition to many local community service projects, a few of our global projects have included: eradicating polio, bringing fresh water and sanitation to 21 million people, and providing literacy programs to the more than 57 million children worldwide who are not in school.



Tuesday, July 2nd we installed our new officers for the 2024/2025 Rotary year. We also inducted a new member, Robert W. Gracy. Robert (Bob) is a new resident of Blue Skies and the past CEO of the Texas Biomedical Research Institute. His latest focus has been on the early detection, treatment and prevention of Alzheimer’s disease, and he serves on the Board of the Alzheimer's Association.

Our planned second speaker became ill just prior to our meeting so one of our new Rotarians, Dr. Gordon Cox, was gracious enough to fill in at the last minute. Did you know you could earn a PHD in Ice, Sea Ice, that is? So, we learned how his expertise helped the Navy and the Oil industry. He kept his talk lively – especially when he mentioned his experience with a polar bear on his tent when he was serving in the arctic. August will be another exciting month. Our Tuesday, **August 6** speaker will be Carlos Contreras, the CEO of Goodwill of San Antonio. You will learn what your dollars support when you shop at Goodwill like their broad reach as it prepares people to find jobs and build careers.

Our Tuesday, **August 20** speaker will be the official visit by our District Governor, Kristen Salazar, one of Rotary International’s youngest District Governors. Her energy and enthusiasm about Rotary will leave a lasting impression on you.

If you have any questions, please contact Debby Cox (See resident roster). You can learn more about our club and projects by visiting our web site or Facebook page:

Web Site: <https://www.RotaryClubofSanAntonioWest.org>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/RotarySAWest>

Social Hour Committee Needs More Hosts! ~ Peggi Parkhill

The October B & A Social Hour Committee needs more hosts! If you would like to help with this function, please contact Peggi Parkhill as soon as possible (via email, text or call – see resident directory).



Thank You

The Bujalski Family would like to thank everyone who helped us after our dear Jack passed. All Fellow residents and all employees who were so good and helpful to us. It was such a wonderful tribute to Jack and a big comfort to our family as we celebrate the memories of such a special man.

Rachel Bujalski, Shawn, Blane, and Shelli and their families.

Resident Updates

Thrift Shop Grand Re-Opening ~ Annie Moore

For those experiencing shopping withdrawals from the Thrift Shop, you'll be pleased to know that the renovation is finally completed. We had our Grand Re-Opening on Friday, July 26, opening the doors at 7am. We now have more room for our donated "treasures". Plus it's more accessible for anyone with mobility issues. The doorways are slightly wider, making it easier to move around and shop.

If you have not visited us before, you're invited to stop by and see all that's available at great prices. For those of you that move here and find that you brought more "stuff" that doesn't fit in your unit, you can always donate to the Thrift Shop or the Furniture Store, and we'll provide you with a receipt to use at income tax time. Or if you find that you got rid of items and now wish you hadn't, come take a look and see what treasures we have before you go off "campus" looking for them. You may be able to find just what you need at a great price! Don't forget that besides cash, both the Thrift Shop and Furniture Store also accept checks, and credit or debit cards.

We have kitchen ware, glassware, small appliances, ladies' and men's clothing and shoes, ladies' accessories, linens and bedding, office supplies, gift cards and bags, pictures and frames, tools, suitcases, and more.

Since we're not open to the public, this is a reminder of who's eligible to shop at the Thrift Shop: Blue Skies of Texas (BST) employees and their family members, BST residents and their family members and guests, contractors who are working on site the day the Thrift Shop is open, and Marketing guests. Family members must be accompanied by those eligible to shop. BST residents, employees, and contract workers should wear their name tags/ID badges while shopping at the Thrift Shop.

Once again, a BIG thank you to all our residents who have been generous in providing items to the Thrift Shop and Furniture Store. You have made it possible for us to give back to the Village, and everyone living or working here ultimately benefits from our sales.

THANK YOU!

UPDATED Thrift Shop Guidelines for Donating Furniture

PLEASE FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE GUIDELINES:

1. Furniture must be in clean, usable condition (no rips, tears or soiled areas).
2. Furniture must come from PET FREE units.
3. Contact Susan Shumaker or Sandy Seigel (see resident directory). We will meet with you to determine if we have space for your item.
4. Mattresses must be clean on both sides. (Stained or dirty mattresses will not be accepted.)
5. Please DO NOT discard unusable furniture in the lower-level maintenance hallway. Call Larissa at Environmental Services at 210-568-3241.



AFVII Thrift Shop Christmas Decoration Sale, Seeking Donations ~ Susan Shumaker

We are always seeking donations of gently used Christmas decorations....It is never too early to think about the Annual Thrift Shop Christmas Sale. If you would like to make a donation please call or text Susan Shumaker (see resident directory). We would be happy to pick up your donated items. Thank you for your continued support of the Thrift Shop Christmas Sales!



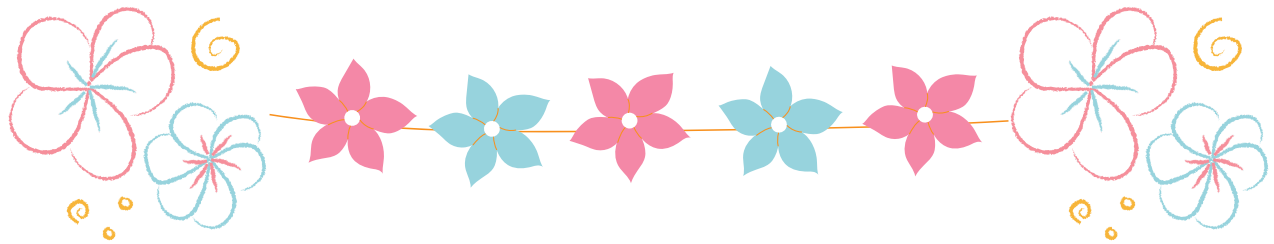
Resident Updates

Resident of the Month

Blue Skies is blessed with talented residents, who willingly share their expertise and knowledge with us. Nancy Sowada, a former Blue Skies West resident, who now resides at the East campus, is a professional musician, loves music, and inspires residents to share their musical abilities with our Blue Skies communities. For the past three years, Nancy has directed both the “Village Voices” and the “Hand Bell Choir”. Twice yearly, Nancy organizes and directs two themed “Village Voices” and “Hand Bell Choir” concerts: one in late Spring and the other prior to Christmas, which are presented to residents on both campuses, plus the Mission, Liberty House and Freedom House. Weekly practices



commence three months prior to the actual concerts. Nancy’s commitment, dedication, enthusiasm, and patience encouraged reluctant music lovers to participate in these activities. We thank you, Nancy, for bringing joy to our community with your fantastic musical productions. Nominated by Harlan Sager.



4th of July Thank You ~ Dottie Conner

Blue Skies residents put on their own Fourth of July Party, and it was outstanding! Susan Griffith chaired the event and organized her neighbors in the 2300 cul-de-sac, plus some special friends, to put together their efforts and abilities to fill all the needs. They helped with things from program design and printing, advertising, entertainment, setup, cleanup, creating Table Captains to distribute meal tickets, supervising the meal line, and much more.

Corlea Plowman was the emcee, Bob Hess and Marty Frazee led the sing-along of patriotic songs, the Blue Skies Dancers performed a military style revue. Residents representing each of the military branches came through an arch of flags to the cheers of the audience.

Rudy’s BBQ provided a delicious meal, and DJ Tony Styles spun music favorites for dancing afterwards. Each table was creatively decorated by the residents and seeing them all was part of the fun. Over 200 residents joined the party to wish a Happy 248th Birthday to America!



Resident Updates

Football Event ~ Jim Conner

The Nebraska vs. Colorado football game is scheduled for September 7. I have reserved the Helen Lemay room on Saturday, **September 7** from 6-10pm for anyone who wants to join us to watch the game. We'll bring some heavy hors d'oeuvres. Bring what you would like to drink. Please let me know if you plan to attend. I'll put a reminder in the September Roadrunner.

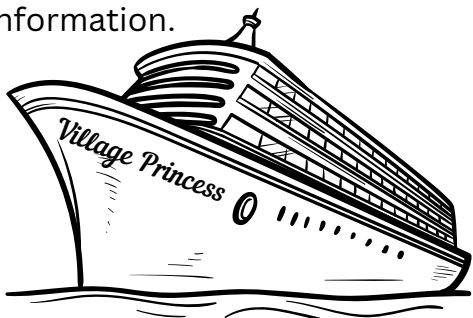


BSTW Entertainment



Your BSTW Entertainment Committee invites all residents and friends to the "Village Princess" Welcome Aboard theme Party

on Sunday, **September 8** from 6-9pm in The Lakeview. The San Antonio Swing Dance Society will bring a DJ and dancers to demonstrate and teach us to swing to the music! Wear your favorite Hawaiian shirt or any cruise attire you want. Sign up for a seat or an entire table in CC3. Enjoy group participation games, a Photo Booth, music and dancing. Bring your own snacks and beverages. We need a head count to have plenty of tables. The deadline for signing up is Friday, **August 30**. Contact Sandra Snyder (see resident directory) for more information.



Be a Traveler...Not a Tourist

~ Carol Pratt, sponsored by Frieda Shaw

Join Carol Pratt for an afternoon of wine and cheese while learning about the latest vacation opportunities and trends!

Carol, a Cruise Planners franchise owner and a specialist in cruises and vacations, excels at arranging relaxing getaways, all-inclusive cruises, escorted tours, and personalized independent travel experiences. Discover what your next travel adventure could be!

Please sign-up to attend on the Uniguest app.

Presentation will be in the Roadrunner Lounge on Friday, **September 13** from 3-5pm.

About Cruise Planners:

Cruise Planners, an independently owned and operated franchise, is part of the Signature Travel Network and the nation's largest home-based travel agent franchise company in the travel industry. Cruise Planners' travel professionals independently book amazing vacation and travel experiences for their clients around the world. For more information, please visit www.tinybubblestravel.com.

Those Amazing 80's! ~ Dottie Conner

Seventeen residents of Blue Skies West who are entering their Amazing 80's this year, would like you to help us celebrate this awesome milestone!

The names of these residents (in alphabetical order) are: Barbara Aydlett, Jack Briggs, Dorothy Conner, Janet Croce, Roy Diatkar, Mike Durack, Robert Ferre, Paula Haley, George Henson, Tom Jones, Ralph Kelly, Ron Miller, Karen Pearce, Katherine Rajczi, Carolyn Shipman, Geary Wallace, and Allen Wesson.

Thanks to our Fearless Leader Al Wesson (who came up with the idea and is leading the charge), we have banded together for a fantastic evening of fun! The 80's event will start at 5pm on Tuesday, **September 17** in the CC rooms. There will be music, beverages, appetizers, cake and some other surprises. Please come and enjoy the evening with friends. No gifts please, but you can congratulate the hosts on their Birthdays with a thank you!! Get Ready to Party!!

Resident Updates

BSTW Resident Council Meeting

The BSTW Resident Council will NOT be meeting in August. The next meeting will be Thursday, **September 19** at 1:30pm in the Roadrunner Lounge.

Mark Your Calendars - Fall Retreat Planned for September 28

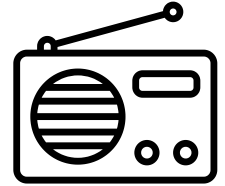
Save the date! The Protestant Church is hosting a one-day retreat on Saturday, **September 28** from 9am-4:30pm in The Vista Persimmon Room, called "Life is Hello...Life is Goodbye."

We live in a community well-acquainted with loss and grief. Blue Skies residents have lived full rich lives which included losing loved ones...perhaps having to say goodbye to a home we loved, dealing with changes in our health, and having to "downsize" our lifetime accumulation of "stuff"—the list goes on. Realizing loss and grief is never easy! This on-campus event will offer resources you will find extremely helpful in dealing with loss and grief in your life.

Our presenters are BST's very own Chaplain "Doc" Jones and Dr. Molly O'Phelan. Molly is currently the Bereavement Coordinator for Porter Loring Family Care Services. She holds a Masters in Counseling and a PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy. "Doc" Jones is known throughout the BST Community as a respected and loved Air Force Chaplain. In addition to a Masters in theology, he has done advanced Graduate studies in Marriage and Family Counseling, as well as Thanatology (the study of death, loss, and grief). This on-campus event will help us understand why it is vital that we deal with grief, the individual and unique ways we grieve and the physical, emotional, and spiritual reactions to grief. There will be a small charge for lunch. Call the church office for registration – 210-568-3372.

Blue Skies Drama Club

On the evening of **November 7**, hop on the magic Way Back Machine so you can revisit the "Fibber McGee and Molly Show"



Members of the Drama Club will re-create a broadcast of the program complete with sound effects and featured music. Join WAFV and the Drama Club for an evening of fun.

Did you know . . .

Mrs. Abigail Uppington, that snooty society matron Fibber calls "Uppy" is promoting a symphony now.

Not surprised, she is always about something cultural. Is she having any difficulties with it?

Only a slight one. It appears that there are eagles in the rafters dropping eggs.

Sadie, the Heart-Healer! ~ Dottie Conner

Recently I followed Sadie, the Heart-Healer, as she entered Freedom House. She usually goes there with her owners Bruce and Kathy Byers to visit residents on alternate weeks from Tuxedo, the Wonder Dog (You read about Tux and his owner Tom Young in a previous Roadrunner). It was wonderful to see how the residents loved seeing Sadie - their eyes lit up as she came up to them to be petted. I'm sure it gave them hours of happy thoughts after the visit, remembering their own pets from the past.



Sports, Games, & Scores

Adventures of the Seasoned Soles ~ John and Pat MacIntyre

The Seasoned Soles ended June with the E-Dragon Summer Series Race #3 at Lady Bird Johnson Park. Cynthia and Tom Cochran, Pat and John MacIntyre and Pat Perry ran the race while Lu Schuster took photos. Cynthia and Tom Cochran both won first place awards in their age groups, while Pat Perry and John MacIntyre won second place awards in theirs.

July races opened with Seasoned Soles running in two different races to celebrate the Fourth of July. Pat Perry and John Paul Sullivan ran the Pioneer Firecracker 5K in Leon Valley. Both Pat and John Paul finished first in their age groups. At the same time, Pat and John MacIntyre were among 450 runners who went to Comanche Park to participate in the San Antonio Road Runners Freedom Day Four-Miler. Both teams then met for coffee and horse petting after the race.

On the 13th of July, Cynthia Cochran and Pat MacIntyre joined over 500 women for the Women's Run, a 5K held on the city streets of Alamo Heights. Tom Cochran, John MacIntyre, and James Schuster were volunteer marshals helping to direct the runners. Lu Schuster took our photos. Friday night, July 19, saw Pat Perry win second place in her age group at the Mid-Summer Night's Dream 5K.

The final race of the month was the E-Dragon Summer Series 5K #4 in McAllister Park. Three Seasoned Soles participated and brought home three medals. Cynthia and Tom Cochran won first place awards in their age groups and Pat Perry won a second-place medal in hers.



Tennis & Pickleball ~ Linda Prose

Our Tennis and Pickleball courts offer a great opportunity for fun and exercise. Please come out and join us for Tennis on Monday and Friday mornings and for Pickleball on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings. Please contact Linda Prose (see resident directory) for details on the start times. See y'all out there!



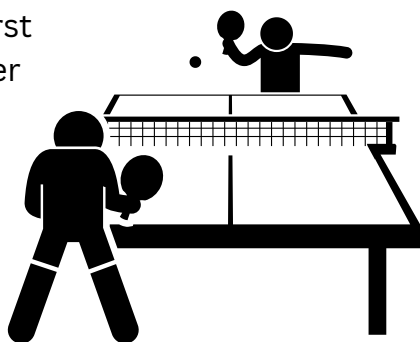
Sports, Games, & Scores

Ping Pong Anyone? ~ Bob Stuckert

Our new ping pong table is located in Vista Room 19. Paddles and balls are in the first wardrobe on the right as you enter the room.

Play is on a first come, first served basis. Please cover the table when you are finished.

Funds to purchase the table were provided by the Dabblers. Funds for paddles and balls were contributed by residents. For further information, contact Bob Stuckert.



Tai Chi at Blue Skies West

Tai Chi classes here at BST West have moved to their permanent home in The Vista Persimmon Room, which is a much nicer room and has a view of a lake in the background!

Tai Chi offers many advantages for seniors. Regular practice can increase balance, flexibility, and strength, and even improve cardiovascular fitness. Its emphasis on posture instills a greater awareness of the body and how it moves through space and can also be a form of meditation. Balance is very important to us as we age, so regular Tai Chi exercise can help avoid serious falls. This class works well for residents at all fitness levels, so join us in The Vista Persimmon Room, Wednesdays at 1pm, to give it a try!



Mahjong ~ Nan Smith

Wright Patterson Mahjong meets every Tuesday at 1pm in CC-3. National Mahjong meets every Wednesday at 12:30pm and Friday at 1pm in CC-3. All are welcome. Please come and join us. We will teach you how to play if you are new to the game.



Ladies BUNCO Group ~ JoAnn Oldham

We will be rolling the dice on Fridays, **August 6 and 20** at 3:30pm in CC3. Bring \$1 for the "Pot" invite a friend and join the fun. We will cool off with lemonade while warming up our dice. Our "experts" will demonstrate different winning techniques.

Winners for June

Ritchie Seymour, Barbara Wilson, Corlea Plowman, Judy Berridge, JoAnn Oldham, Brenda Perry, Cathy Bee, Vera Lee

Bridge Results ♦♠♥♣♦♠♥♣♦

We play party bridge on Mondays, relaxed duplicate (not ACBL Certified) bridge on Thursdays and one Tuesday a month. Sign up in CC3.

	1 Place	2 Place	3 Place	4 Place
July 1	McKinney / Hough	Sweeney / Sweeney	Germann / Wesson	Newman / Higginbotham
July 8	Holland / Ingram	Graves / Sweigart	Newman / Higginbotham	McKinney / Hough
July 15	Germann / Wesson	Reedy / Bader	Newman / Higginbotham	Graves / Sweigart
July 22	Germann / Wesson	Girton / Siefken	Padgett / Flood	

Spiritual News

Protestant Church

NEW PASTOR: We are excited to welcome Pastor Clifton Perry to our ministry team! Pastor Perry, a retired Air Force Chaplain with 30 years of service, retired in 2015 and has since been serving as a pastor at a nearby church in Helotes until his recent retirement in February. We hope you will join us in giving him a warm Blue Skies welcome!

REGULAR SERVICES:

High Flight Chapel – Sunday at 9:30 am and 11 am

- Sunday service is repeated at 10:30 am on Wednesdays on Channel 1890 or lobby monitors.
- Fellowship time between services: 10:30-11 am

Freedom House – Sundays at 10:45 am

Liberty House (3rd level) – Thursdays at 10:30 am

Pray For Our Nation – 1st and 3rd Fridays at 10am in the Helen LaMay Room

BIBLE STUDIES:

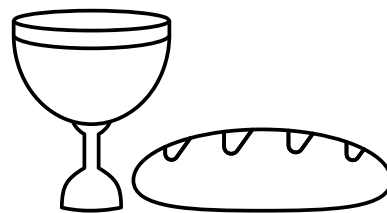
Connie Germann teaches a study on Revelation in CC3 every Tuesday at 10am. Please contact her if interested.

Camille Sweigart will be starting a Bible study in August. Please contact her if you are interested.

CONTACT US:

If you are interested in joining our congregation or wish to speak with Pastors Wayne Knutson Jr., Dan Figueroa, or Clifton Perry, please leave a message with Kayla Ramsey, our Church Administrator, at 210-568-3372. She will discreetly arrange an appointment for you.

Episcopal Church Services with the Holy Eucharist continue on Thursdays at 3pm in the High Flight Chapel.



Deadline for the next Roadrunner is
Thursday, **August 22**

Send articles to
roadrunner@blueskiestx.org

Next Publication Date: Friday, **August 30**

Spiritual News

Catholic News

Feast of the Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary – Thursday, **August 15**, in the High Flight Chapel. Time to be determined with notification via email.

Saturdays - 11am Mass (For Sunday by special dispensation of the San Antonio Archbishop) in the High Flight Chapel

First Saturday of the Month - Anointing of the Sick following Saturday Mass

Second Saturday of the Month - Birthdays and Anniversaries will be recognized with a special blessing at Saturday Mass

Saturdays/Sundays - Freedom House: Catholic residents will be visited, beginning about 1:30pm, with Holy Communion and prayers

Third Tuesday – 9am, Catholic Council meets in Conference Room #110. Guests are welcome.

Wednesdays - 9am, Communion Service in the Vista Willow Chapel

First Wednesday – 9:30am, Benediction and Adoration following Communion Service in the Vista Willow Chapel

Third Wednesday – 9:30am, Rosary following Communion Service in the Vista Willow Chapel

Fridays – 3-4pm, Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration in the Vista Willow Chapel

Pastoral Care - To meet privately with a priest for Reconciliation or Anointing, please contact Fr. Richard Bendorf (see Resident Directory).

Homebound - If you are homebound and unable to attend Mass but would like to receive Holy Communion, you may contact John Siebert, Barbara Wilson, or Mary Tucker by phone, text, or email and they will arrange for a Lay Eucharistic Minister to bring the Holy Eucharist to your apartment/cottage (see Resident Directory).

Hospital Visits - Most hospitals have a Catholic priest available; ask a staff member to contact a priest.

Centering Prayer / Silent Meditation ~ Linda Ricketts

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of every month.

In August we will meet on Fridays, **August 2 and 16** in the Helen LeMay Room from 8:30-9:30am. All are welcome to join us for a short reading followed by 20 minutes of silence together. Questions: Call or email Jena Hatchett or Linda Ricketts.

