

ROADRUNNER

JULY 2024

VOLUME 2024-07



FROM THE DIRECTOR

San Antonio AFIO Chapter Meeting

The San Antonio AFIO Chapter meeting will be Monday, **July 1** at 12pm at the Blue Skies Texas West campus. Blue Skies of Texas residents are invited to attend the program. The presentation will be a series of items covering rebuilding of Tyndall AFB for F-35, European researchers responding to Chinese spying, F-35 vs A-10 flyoff = Farewell to the Warthog, the AO-1A Warden aircraft, Armenia divorces Mother Russia, and NSA issues guidance on cell phones.

Uniquet on Staying Safe When It's Too Darn Hot

While summer brings us warmth and bloom, prolonged exposure to excessive heat in summer months can be dangerous. This is especially true for older adults. Every summer, more than 600 Americans die of health problems caused by excessive heat and humidity. Older adults and individuals with chronic medical conditions are at high risk of developing heat-related illnesses, because of aging-related physical changes in the body, chronic health conditions, and even effects of taking some medications. Log onto Uniquet Module Summer Fitness & Safety and read what you can do to stay safe when it's too darn hot.



Save the Date:

Monday, July 1 - AFIO Chapter Meeting – Roadrunner Lounge – 12pm

Thursday, July 4 - 4th of July Holiday - (reduced staffing, no transportation, banks closed)

Thursday, July 11 - DRAC Meeting, RR - 1:30pm

Thursday, July 11 - Freedom House Dementia Caregivers Support Group – FH Chapel – 1:30pm

Saturday, July 13 - Ken Andrews 90th Birthday - Roadrunner Lounge - 2pm

Thursday, July 18 - RC Meeting - Roadrunner Lounge - 1:30pm

Welcome

New Residents

New residents coming soon to a neighborhood near you.

Allan & Lynne Johnson, #214

Robert & Garrie Gillaspie, #347

Janina Kuzma, #547

**Paul & Mary Jo Goldenbaum,
#745**

Donald MacNeil, #1603



Resident Services Announcements

Please Do NOT Feed stray cats

Residents should not be feeding stray cats. Because the rest of the animal kingdom doesn't know the food is just for cats and they tell all their friends and before you know it...we have become the BST ZOO!!!

Uniquet

Two new modules have been added to Uniquet. Summer Fitness and Safety and Daily Games & Comics. Log onto Uniquet today and see what information these modules have to offer.

Volunteer Drivers Needed

If you are interested in volunteering your time to drive your fellow neighbors to medical appointments, contact Aleisha Dillard, Front Desk Supervisor.

BST Decals

If you currently do not have a BST decal on your vehicle, golf cart or RV, please stop by the Front Desk and they will issue you one. If you've moved, please make sure your decal reads the correct apt/house number. This helps us identify who the owner is if the need arises.

Furniture Removal Schedule

Environmental Services will be available for the pickup and or disposal of furniture on Tuesdays and Thursdays only. Contact Larissa Alejo, Environmental Services Manager for further details.

Environmental Services

Trash bags are not provided by housekeeping services, however the changing out of trash bags, disposing of trash and the cleaning of trash cans on a rotating schedule is a part of the services. For further information contact your Environmental Services Manager, Larissa Alejo.

Ocean Waves, Sun Rays, Keep Those Scammers Away ~ Ashlie Maltos

It is no secret that Artificial Intelligence or also known as AI is starting to take over the technology



world. But what is AI? AI refers to a computer system performing complex tasks that historically only a human could do. For example, reasoning, making decisions or solving problems. So, how does this involve Scamming? Well, the most obvious example of how scammers use this new AI technology is by:

- Write more convincing and natural-sounding phishing emails and text messages.
- Create deepfakes of celebrities to trick victims into thinking they're investing in a good company or project.
- Impersonate the victim's friend or relative and ask for money as part of a grandparent scam.
- Impersonate an employer and ask for personal information.

The potential to create an image, video, or voice of someone else could make existing scams even more believable and this opens new opportunities for scammers.

Here a Flyer, There a Flyer, Everywhere a Flyer, Flyer

Have a special event coming up? Want to get the word out as much as possible?

Everyone wants to publicize that upcoming special event that's right around the corner, and we want to help you to do just that. However, we've been running into an overwhelming number of flyers. Keep in mind that events can be posted on the in-house channel as well as the Roadrunner. Our goal is to post flyers that identify events that are quickly approaching. Please contact resident services with any questions.



Resident Services Announcements

Pest Control Schedule

	Friday, July 5	Friday, July 12	Friday, July 19	Friday, July 26
Tower Apts.	631-638, 641-648, 441-448	611-618, 621-628	711-718, 721-728	731-738, 741-748
Cottages	2600-2400	2500-2600	2700	2800
Ranch Homes	837, 838, 839, 840	841, 843, 845	847, 851, 853, 855, Basketball, Tennis, Boccia, Cabana/Rstrm.	857, 859, Pavilion 2
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

Name	Location	Anniversary Date	Years of Service
Jessica Vidales	Freedom House	July 19	1
Kevin Machuca	Freedom House	July 13	1
Esparanza Ramirez	Freedom House	July 12	1
Samantha Hardin	Daycare	July 6	1
Misty Rymers	Hospice	July 6	1
Jacqueline Farnsworth	Wellness	July 3	1
Natalia Hall	Housekeeper	July 14	1
Maricela Ocampo	Freedom House	July 28	2
Dolores Rubio	Freedom House	July 27	2
Carolina Aguirre	Freedom House	July 20	2
Brianna Castillo	Daycare	July 22	3
Mark Abrego	Custodian	July 20	4
Sarah Manzke	Chief Growth Officer	July 27	4
Andrea Perkins	Freedom House	July 6	6
Jeanine Amecucci	Wellness	July 19	7
Timothy Surratt	Dining Services	July 13	12
San Juanita Garcia	EVS Laundry Aide	July 23	14
Joann Arguello	Freedom House	July 23	28
Marla Casanova	Wellness	July 2	28

Resident Services Announcements

Hagauer Memorial Scholarship

We are excited to announce the winners of our 2024 Hagauer Memorial Scholarship: Ivan Vazquez-Awarded \$1,000, son of Elena Vazquez, Social Worker at the Mission; Ivonne Torres-Awarded \$1,000, RN Case Manager with Hospice; Andrea Ponder-Awarded \$500, Scheduling Coordinator for the Mission; and Cynthia Escobar- Awarded \$500, Senior HR Generalist.

The Scholarship is named in honor of former Air Force Village President & CEO Colonel Richard W. Hagauer, and made possible by former AFV Inc. Board member, Col (USAF, ret) Jim Concannon. It was established for the purpose of advancing education by providing financial assistance to qualified Village employees and their dependent children. The process was extremely competitive. A Selection Committee comprised of senior staff members made the final selection of our winners.

- Ivan, an undergraduate student and active cadet of the Air Force ROTC Detachment 842 at The University of Texas at San Antonio is studying Accounting. Ivan has demonstrated academic achievement, leadership, and service to the community through his commitment to the Air Force Reserve Officer's Training Corps program. Ivan seeks to focus his education on advancing his knowledge of accounting by later pursuing a master's degree and CPA certification in accounting. Ivan's ultimate "lifelong dream" is to serve our country as an Officer of the United States Air Force.
- Ivonne, BST's RN Case Manager for Hospice is an undergraduate at The University of Texas at Arlington. Ivonne is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing and has a long-term goal of becoming a Nurse Practitioner. Ivonne has demonstrated love, care, and compassion for residents and has been referred to as the "MacGyver" of nursing. Her continued efforts of learning and passion for nursing is proven in her 4.0 GPA and in her current role of providing mentorship to new nurses.
- Andrea, BST's Scheduling Coordinator for the Mission, and an undergraduate student at The University of Phoenix says she has known since childhood of her passion for helping people. Andrea strives to fulfill her long-term goal of becoming a Social Worker for Blues Skies. Andrea exhibits leadership, service to her community and resilience all while balancing full time academics, working full time, and being a wife and a mother.
- Cynthia, BST's Senior HR Generalist, and undergraduate student at Texas A&M San Antonio is working toward a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in human resources management. While working her full-time job, managing her academic studies, and her involvement with a cycling community, Cynthia plays an active role of volunteering her time to the local Society for Human Resource Management student chapter as the Chapter Vice President. Cynthia's ongoing involvement with SHRM was commended with her recent recognition of the prestigious SHRM National Scholarship Award.

We are immensely proud of these recipients, and want to thank all of you for your support of our Blue Skies of Texas employees' and family members' educational dreams. Congratulations Ivan, Ivonne, Andrea, and Cynthia!



Resident Updates

Dining Room Advisory Council ~ Leo Bell

There will not be a DRAC meeting in July. The Coffee-with-the-Chef will be held on Tuesday, **July 2** at 9:30am, due to Independence Day. All are welcome to attend.

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. Their photos will be in the next August Roadrunner.

Last month's winners Moniesha Roberts (FOTH) and Teresa Diaz (BOTH) are pictured below. We are grateful to have them both here at Blue Skies of Texas West.



Please be considerate of the time required to close down the Bistro and set it up for the next day. Please give your orders to the Bistro Host no later than 6:10pm. The host must close, clean, and end their shift by 6:30pm. The Friday, **July 12** Wine Tasting event has been cancelled and moved to Friday, **August 16**. More information to come.

The next kitchen tour will be in September. Please safely enjoy the July travel period, and our annual Blue Skies BBQ sponsored by Susan Griffith on July 4th.

Attention New Residents ~ Judy Howen

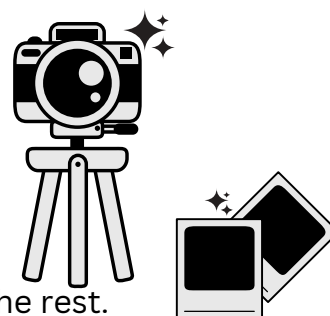
A very warm welcome to Blue Skies. We are sure you are busy getting settled but one of your responsibilities as a new resident is to have your picture taken to post on our resident bulletin board. This is a handy tool to help YOU remember names of people you've met and helps the rest of us call YOU by name. Judy and Bob Howen will be in the Helen LeMay room from 4-5:30pm on Wednesday, **July 10**. Just come on by and we'll take care of the rest.

Great Courses Discussion Group ~ Castroville Public Library

Join the Great Courses Discussion Group on Monday evenings from 6:30-8pm for a video lecture series, taught by Dr. Lynne Ann Hartnett of Villanova University, that examines some of the great revolutions of modern history. You'll see the crises that created opportunities for revolutions to occur and why they often introduced profound change. This course started on May 20 and will run through August 12, meeting Monday evenings (**July 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29**) from 6:30-8pm at Discover Church, 15495 US Highway 90 E. For mor information, contact the Castroville Public Library at 830-931-4095.

Workday Planned for July 10 – Want to Join Us?

On Wednesday, **July 10** we will be taking a Blue Skies Bus to Children's Hunger Fund headquarters. This is a Benevolence that the Protestant Congregation supports monetarily. Children's Hunger Fund serves a large area of South Texas. Though this is a year 'round project, often during summer children go hungry as they are used to being fed at school. It is a critical time in many families. The boxes come packed with goodies and treats for the kiddos and some staple products for the whole family. You are welcome to join us.... you'll learn more about this great non-profit we support and have a good time packing boxes. Call Judy Howen (see resident roster) if you are interested. *(The shift is 2 hours but if you cannot be on your feet that long you can also assemble small boxes by sitting at a table.)* We already have about 9 good workers signed up, but the bus will seat 16!! We will leave at 8:15am.



Resident Updates

July 10 B&A Honors USA Birthday ~ Corlea Plowman

All BST West residents and guests are invited to celebrate our USA Birthday on Wednesday, **July 10**, 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 Room is at 6pm. Meyer/Anderson Country/Pop Band 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: 4Th of July Salad: Diced Watermelon, Cucumber, Sliced Red Onion, Chopped Mint, and Crumbled Cotija Cheese with Zesty Honey Lime Dressing.

ENTRÉE: Braised Boneless Beef Rib and Smoked Sausage, topped with Honey Garlic BBQ Sauce, served with Sour Cream-Chive Mashed Potatoes and French Green Beans Almandine.

DESSERT: Peach Cobbler with Whipped Cream.

BREAD: Sweet Hawaiian Rolls.

Water, Coffee or Iced Tea

\$32 Per Person

Alternative Entrée: Roasted Salmon, Smoked Sausage with Honey Garlic BBQ Glaze.

Dinner reservations are required. All those planning to attend, including guests, must sign up on the list in CC3. If you need to cancel after 11am Monday, June 8, 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 taken through the Dining Room for this event.

Hosts for the Happy Hour are: Barbara Aydlett, Bennie & Sue Blansett, John & Bobbie Coombs, Jim & Dottie Cowen, Mike & Marguerite Fox, David & Connie Germann, Ed & Joann Hughes, Bob & Mary Kay Ingram, Annette Johnson, Tom & Luanne Jones, Celia Kellogg, Linda McMillion, Pete & Sue Peterson, Larry & Linda Prose, John & Lois Revak, Valerie Rieke, Billie Rosencrans, Sandy Shull, John Siebert, Lee Wells (chair), and Roxanne Wheelis.

Residents Concert Series Committee

~John MacIntyre

On Sunday, June 9, Blue Skies West was treated to a wonderfully exciting performance by a group of talented young school age musicians called Mojo-Rimba.

The students played on instruments adapted from the traditional marimbas of Zimbabwe, formerly known as Rhodesia with a delightful repertoire including traditional music from both Mexico and Zimbabwe, as well as popular tunes by current American musicians such as Taylor Swift. Their teacher, Bonnie Anderson, is often nominated as one of the outstanding music teachers in Texas.

Residents of Blue Skies West will be pleased to know that Mojo-Rimba will return to Blue Skies in 2025.

Dementia Caregivers Support Group

~ Jane Hill

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. 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, **July 11** at 1:30pm.

Resident Updates

Gadabouts ~ Kathy Bader

This month, on Friday, **July 12**, we will be going to Julianna's in Castroville. It is American fare and great pizzas, hamburgers and salads. You can pull up their menu online. The bus will leave at 10:30am from the Main Lobby. Please be in the Lobby by 10:15am. Sign up in CC3.

Birthday Celebration ~ Kathleen Andrews

Come celebrate Ken Andrews' 90th birthday on Saturday, **July 13** from 2-4pm in the Roadrunner Lounge. Light snacks will be served, and of course, cake.

"Mighty Fine Junk" ~ Betty Overacker

Amateur Radio Operator, Martin F. Jue, K5FLU, started his company, "MFJ Enterprises" in a Starkville, MS hotel room in October 1972 with one product, a CW (Continuous Waves or Morse Code) filter kit that sold for less than ten dollars. Amateur Radio Operators were delighted with this product, which enhanced communication reception. "MFJ Enterprises" consists of six different companies that manufacture more than 2000 products at a reasonable price and are fondly nicknamed "Mighty Fine Junk" by customers. Mr. Jue was recognized by ARRL (American Radio Relay League) for his five decades of service producing innovative products which have contributed to the enjoyment and effectiveness of Amateur Radio around the world. The BST-W's Radio Room has several "MJF" accessories. Sadly, Mr. Jue recently announced his retirement at age 80 years, and closure of "MFJ Enterprises". His dedication to the "Ham World" will be greatly missed. All are welcome to attend the next BST Amateur Radio Club Meeting on Tuesday, **July 16** in Meeting Room 110 at 11:30am. Please contact Bob Stuckert for more information.

73—(Best regards in Ham Language)

BSTW Resident Council Meeting

The BSTW Resident Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, **July 18** at 1:30pm, in the Roadrunner Lounge. Hear updates on financials, activities, and other news about our community. All residents are invited to attend. Please note that there will be NO MEETING in August.

Red Hat Luncheon ~ Vivian Ray

This month's lunch is hosted by JoAnn Oldham and Connie Germann. On Friday, **July 19** at 11:30am, we will dine at Saltgrass Steakhouse, 11812 Bandera Rd., San Antonio, 78023. Please be in the lobby by 10:30am, the bus leaves at 10:45am. When you sign up, please indicate "W" if you are using a walker or wheelchair because the bus only accommodates one wheelchair; if you 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.

In Memoriam

Jack Bujalski - June 4
Lyn Henderson - June 6
Richard Deans - June 14
Anna "Lucy" Brown - June 14
Dolores Giovannini - June 20
Billy Fletcher - June 22
Mary Tanguy - June 26

Resident Updates

Rotary Corner ~ Debby Cox

Since the San Antonio West Rotary Club meets right here at Blue Skies of Texas West, I'd like to extend an invitation to all residents to attend any of our meetings. We meet the first and third Tuesday of every month and for the month of July, instead of meeting in the Roadrunner Lounge, we will be meeting in the Helen LeMay room from 12-1pm.



If you missed our two terrific speakers in June, I am so sorry that you did not learn more about the power of the Conservation Society of San Antonio or the humanitarian efforts in Ukraine led by the Rotary Club of San Antonio and 40 other clubs around the world. Just one example of a project led by The Conservation Society was the saving of the San Antonio River from being buried so more commercial development could occur there. Now the San Antonio Riverwalk is the number one tourist attraction in Texas bringing millions of dollars of revenue to our fair city every year, and plenty of entertainment and wonderful restaurants.

Local Rotarian from the San Antonio Rotary Club, and a retired Air Force Colonel, JC (James) Clapsaddle, has been leading a Rotary effort to deliver ambulances and humanitarian supplies to Ukraine since 2022. His story was so compelling that several Rotarians wrote checks on the spot to donate to this effort. He is also working with Rotarians across our District on a global \$200,000 grant to provide peace and conflict resolution in Northern Ireland called "Seeds of Hope".

Tuesday, **July 2** will be devoted to our installation of new officers. The new Rotary year starts on July 1, when Dwayne Hopkins will become our new President. We will also be inducting a new member, Robert W. Gracy. Please join us to meet our new club leadership.

Tuesday, **July 16** we will hear from Sandeep Tiwari, CFA, the Senior VP and Corporate Development Officer from Broadway Bank, who will teach us about crypto currency and investing.

If you have any questions or would like to receive an invitation to join Rotary so you can add your skills and talent to some of these very worthwhile projects, please contact Debby Cox (see resident roster). You can learn more about our club and projects by visiting our web site <https://www.RotaryClubofSanAntonioWest.org> or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/RotarySAWest>.



Library News ~ Barbara Folkeson & Peggy Durack

Recent purchases and donations: 24th Hour (Patterson); The #1 Lawyer (Patterson); The Murder Inn (Patterson); The Making of Another Motion Picture Masterpiece (Tom Hanks) Large Print: The Demon of Unrest (Erik Larson, non-fiction LP); You Never Know: a Memoir (Tom Selleck); Swan Song (Hilderbrand); Camino Ghosts (Grisham)

Liberty House: Tom Lake (Patchett); 6:20 Man (Patterson); Lone Star Legacy (Johnstone, Large Print); 2024 Readers Digest Large Print Vol 3; 12 Minutes to Live (Patterson; semi Large Print); The Women (Kristin Hannah)

Resident Updates

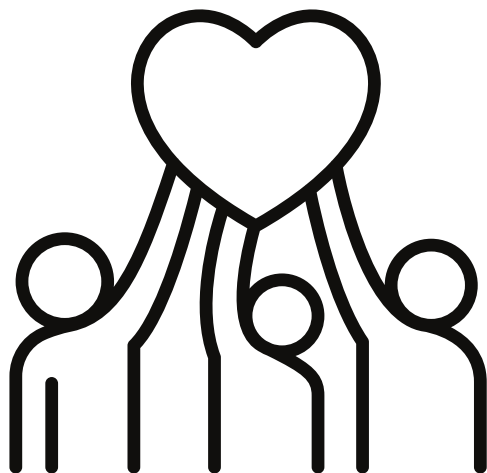
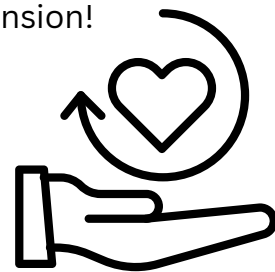
Thrift Shop Announcement ~ Annie Moore

With the thrift shop renovation almost complete and with several new residents since last year's article, here is an update from the AFVII Thrift Shop. At this point and based on all our sources, we have been open since 28 February 2003 and thus needing a renovation and expansion of our present location. Once we're notified of completion, we will go in and restock for our grand opening. There will be notices on the In-House Channel, Uniguest, as well as signs throughout the building.

Just to refresh from last year's article, the purpose of the Thrift Shop is not just to sell items donated by our very generous residents but to put those funds back into different Village West items that benefit our residents, our health care communities, and other worthy causes. Since its doors opened early 2003, the Thrift Shop has donated approximately \$615,000.00. The Thrift Shop is self-funding this expansion/renovation at a cost savings of \$22,500 to BSTW. We're extremely grateful for the added room that BSTW allowed us to have for the expansion!

Here are some of the ways the Thrift Shop has made a difference in recent years:

- The Vista - \$100,000 for equipment and a beautification project
- Freedom House - \$45,000 for upgrades
- Child Care Center - \$9,838 for playground equipment
- High Flight Chapel - \$20,000
- Liberty House - \$16,725 for healthcare equipment and resident activities
- Employee Appreciation Fund – donation every six months has increased from \$2,500 - \$6,000
- Fitness Center - \$6,500 for fitness equipment
- Beauty Shop - \$5,000 for two pedicure chairs
- 2021 Big Give - \$6,000 for BST employee education assistance
- Mary Opal Wolanin Endowment Fund - \$5,000
- Play for Freedom Golf Tournament – since 2015 our contribution has increased from \$1,500 to \$2,000 annually
- Cowboy Breakfast – since 2006, we have provided the musical entertainment
- Wellness Upgraded – committed \$50,000
- BSTW Wood Shop – approved \$30,000 towards their expansion
- Physical Therapy Room - \$600 for water therapy equipment and \$350 for a smart TV for the PT room
- Provided the following for BST West: \$10,698 for 18 benches; \$5,800 for shopping carts; \$2,349 for dog waste stations; \$2,000 for the Oaks dock by the lake



These are highlights, i.e., there are even more projects for which the Thrift Shop has made donations. Bottom line, thanks to all our residents who have been generous in providing items for the Thrift Shop and Furniture Store. We have been able to give back to the Village, and everyone living or working here ultimately benefits from our sales.

THANK YOU!

Resident Updates

Resident of the Month

In 2015, Tom Jones and Frank Sherman conceptualized a “Social Hour”, similar to a “Happy Hour”, where residents could gather, socialize, and enjoy alcoholic beverages under the liquor laws of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC), prior to enjoying a delicious dinner in The Lakeview. Tom and Frank created a planning group of seven to include a management representative and identified this group as the “Social Club Steering Committee”. An ambitious plan was developed: BSTW’s Roadrunner Lounge would be the gathering site, locked storage boxes would be built and bought by residents and installed by maintenance. After researching TABC’s rules, this method was allowed at no further expense under BSTW’s beer and wine license. This plan was published, and almost overnight 18,400 dollars was raised, the estimated cost to build and install the initial 46 boxes. Tom and Frank led the Steering Committee in the development of rules to allow residents to manage the “Social Club” with minimal management involvement. Thus, the “Social Club” was born, created by residents, and run by residents with minimal management involvement. The “Social Club” was so popular with residents and management that Phase Two was proposed, and seventeen additional storage boxes were sold and installed within two years! With Frank’s passing, Tom remains the Chairperson of the “Steering Committee” and encourages all members to enjoy the available comradeship. Nightly, folks gather prior to dinner in the Roadrunner Lounge, and sounds of chatter and laughter are delightful and cheerful. On the last Friday in each month, the “Final Friday Flings” occur, whereby folks share delicious treats and friendship. Thank you, Tom, and Blessings to Frank for your initiative to create the popular “Social Club”. Nominated by Ralph Kelly.



Grazing in San Antonio

~ The Clandestine Gourmet

Clandestine Gourmet is often asked for local restaurant suggestions. An updated list of places offering good food has now been re-posted on the BSTW Residents Portal.

https://bstwresidentsportal.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/SA-Restaurants-Clandestine-Gourmet-2024_0609.pdf

In addition to that list, here are a few more worth trying:

Battalion – Italian – parmesan crusted lamb chops, spinach dumplings - 604 S Alamo St., San Antonio, TX 78210 - Ph: (210) 816-0088

Camp Verde General Store & Restaurant – Hill Country – meat loaf, Texas burger - 285 Camp Verde Rd E, Center Point, TX 78010 - Ph: (830) 634-7722

Tripoli's Mediterranean Grill – Hummus, falafel, gyro wraps, shawarma - 11726 Alamo Ranch Parkway, San Antonio, TX 78253 - Ph: (210) 645-4450

{Note: The “Clandestine Gourmet” searches high and low for food that delights, from a wide range of cuisines.}

Resident Updates

Lyn Henderson – Antarctica, Norway, Iceland ~ Bill Ball

Lyn Henderson had an interesting life, working in the medical field, skiing, climbing mountains (including Mt. Kilimanjaro), and working near Ground Zero in New York City after the tragedy of 09/11/2001. She passed away shortly after her 93rd birthday, at Blue Skies of Texas West, in San Antonio. At the age of 92, Lyn flew to London with a friend for a cruise to Norway and Iceland. Previously, at age 88, she took a cruise to Antarctica – a lifelong dream. Video links to Lyn’s adventures in Antarctica, Norway and Iceland are shown below. We will miss her cheerful presence here at Blue Skies of Texas West.



Antarctica: https://youtu.be/gLulVXuJP_o

Norway & Iceland: <https://youtu.be/cKcQFA0HQvg>

Ecumenical Activities ~ Sharon and Tom Dera

Save the dates! Beginning Thursday, **September 5** through **November 14**, an 11-week Bible study on Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come, will be offered. Perhaps no book in the Bible fascinates people more than Revelation. Yet relatively few people have studied the book. Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come is an intriguing Bible study that shows how the kingdom established by Christ in this Church is intimately connected with the Kingdom of Heaven. Watch for more detailed information in the August Roadrunner.

BSTW Entertainment

BSTW Entertainment Presents a Cruise themed party on Sunday, **September 8**, 6-9pm in The Lakeview. Mark your calendars and board the “Village Princess.” All BSTW residents and friends are invited. Dress in your favorite cruise attire. Gather your friends at a table in The Lakeview and bring your favorite snacks and drinks. Make sure you wear some dancing shoes!

For your enjoyment we will have games for group participation, a Photo Booth and a DJ will spin records from the Big Band Era. Swing dance demonstrations and lessons will be available. The dance floor will be open for all to close out the evening.

Sign-up sheets will be placed in CC3. We need a head count so enough tables are available for all. The deadline for sign up is Friday, **August 30**.

Blue Skies Drama Club

And now for a special Blue Skies event: WAFV radio and Blue Skies Drama Club will bring you a special episode of “Fibber McGee and Molly” with guest star Gracie Allen on the evening of Thursday,

November 7.

Did you know . . .

Gracie Allen ran for President in 1940?

Of what?

The United States, of course, on the Surprise Party ticket. She and George Burns even went on a cross-country whistle stop campaign tour.

You don’t say!

Yeah. Gracie claimed, “Everyone knows a woman is better than a man when it comes to introducing bills into the house.”

Join WAFV and the Drama Club for an evening of fun.



Resident Updates

Village Voices ~ Nancy Sowada

In 1975, Blue Skies East residents George Howard and Jim Leddon joined forces to formalize The Village Voices. Beryl McKesson was the accompanist. “The first meeting of the Village Voices was held in 1976 with one objective in mind—the love of singing” (Col. Howard). In 1987, residents from Air Force Village II joined. In 1995, George Howard died, and John Lile became the conductor and accompanist. Programs by the Village Voices have been presented at many places, including USAA with the USAF Band of the West; OTS Choir at Medina Base, nursing homes in the city, as well as The Mission, Vista, Freedom House and Liberty House; Main Chapel at Lackland; Lions and Rotary Clubs; Army Retirement Center; USAA Towers; churches; 1982 Dedication of glass window at Air Force Village I; Fort Sam Houston and Lackland Officers’ Clubs; Howard Hall at Lackland AFB dedication program; and others. In 2016, ill health caused John Lile to retire from directing the Village Voices and Rob Jenkins took over direction and accompanying. In 2018, resident Nancy Jones Sowada took over direction of the Village Voices.

The Village Voices practice from 1:30-3:30 every Tuesday from August through May in the chapel at Blue Skies West. The Village Voices have a spring and fall performance show for Blue Skies East and West and they also perform each spring and fall at the Mission, the Vista, and Freedom House. In addition, they perform for the Veterans Day and Memorial Day programs at Blue Skies West. They are available to perform at other times, when requested.

The members of the Village Voices are excited to be in our 49th year of continuous existence. We thank residents for your continued support through the Air Force Village Charitable Fund and the Blue Skies West Activities Coordinating Council. Join us for rehearsals beginning August 20. The picture (*right*) is from one of our spring 2024 performances.



Blue Skies Handbells ~ Nancy Sowada

Nona Whitlatch, a resident of Blue Skies West sang with the Village Voices and started the Blue Skies West Handbell Choir. Starting in 1990, Nona began a fund-raising campaign and money was collected from residents to purchase the handbells and chimes. She was a major part of this effort. There were many, many contributions. The handbells are inscribed with the people’s names who contributed. We, the current members of the Blue Skies West Handbell Choir, are honored and excited to be a part of a Blue Skies group that has been in existence for more than 30 years and we look forward to beginning rehearsals again in August and performing for our residents later this year. We thank residents for their continuing contributions to the Blue Skies West Activities Coordinating Council for the maintenance and service of these beautiful bells and for the purchase of music.



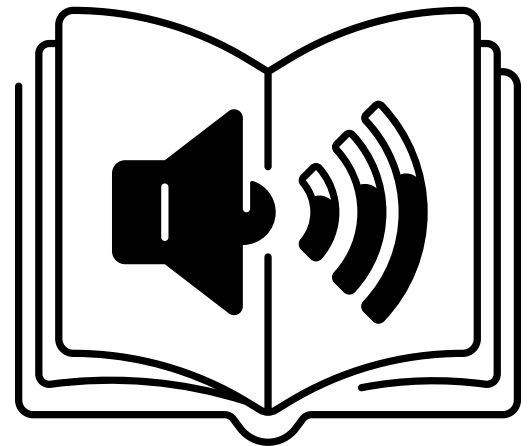
Resident Updates

Library Audiobook Options

Having trouble reading a book? There are some options.

Talking Book Program *(Audiobook services from the state of Texas)*

The state of Texas offers free library services for Texans of any age who are blind or have visual, physical and/or reading disabilities. The Talking Book Program is a regional library service of the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled. Veterans of U.S. Armed forces are eligible to use this program. Documentation that verifies a veteran's status, such as a copy of the DD-214 form, must be submitted with the application.



An application is available online to apply for these services; application must be certified (list of acceptable signatures is listed on the form). Qualified patrons include Texas residents of all ages who:

- are legally blind (vision in the better eye is 20/200 or less after correction, or the widest diameter of visual field is no greater than 20 degrees);
- have prescription glasses, yet are unable to read standard print material without additional magnification devices;
- have physical limitations that prevent them from holding books or turning pages; or
- have reading disabilities due to an organic dysfunction, as certified by a medical doctor (M.D. or D.O.).

Books are available on digital cartridge, Braille, large print, and cassette, and they loan playback equipment to be used with TBP materials. Materials can also be downloaded from the Web by registered readers. And best of all, books are delivered right to your door. All of the items are sent and returned through the mail free of charge. The program offers more than 80,000 titles in fiction and nonfiction, plus 80 national magazines for adults and children.

PHONE: 800 252-9605

Website: www.tsl.texas.gov/tbp/index.html

Website: <https://texvet.org/resources/talking-book-program-texas-state-library-and-archives-commission>

Blue Skies of Texas West library has some audiobooks available in CD-ROM format.

San Antonio Public Library – audiobooks are available to download through the Libby app (available to download for free from Apple App Store and Google Play). Audiobooks can be played on tablets and cell phones via the Libby app. Staff at the local public library branches can provide assistance.



Sports, Games, & Scores

Seasoned Soles ~ Pat and John MacIntyre

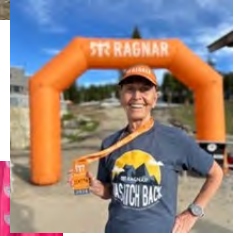
June added five races to our running schedule. First was the E-Dragon Summer Series 5K #2 on 9 June. Tom and Cynthia Cochran ran that race and both won first place in their respective age groups.

On that same weekend, Lu Schuster traveled to Utah and ran the Wasatch 200 Mile Relay with friends from Virginia. As a member of a 10-person relay team, Lu ran two 3-mile segments during the day and ran 10 miles at midnight, a total of 16 miles up and down hills. Impressive!

Pat Perry ran the Y'all Means All 5k in Lady Bird Johnson Park on the 15th of June and won third place in her age group.

Six of our Seasoned Soles (Tom and Cynthia Cochran, John and Pat MacIntyre, Pat Perry, and John Paul Sullivan) went to McAllister Park on June 22nd to run the Longest Day 5K and 10K races. Tom Cochran, Pat MacIntyre, and Pat Perry won first place awards in their age groups in the 10K race, and Cynthia Cochran (5K race) and John MacIntyre (10 K race) won second place awards in their respective age groups. John Paul Sullivan also represented Blue Skies in the 5K race.

The last race of the month is the E-Dragon Summer Series 5K #3 at Lady Bird Johnson Park. That event will be reported on next month.



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

RoadRunner Golf Association ~ Mark Wessman

The RoadRunner Golf Association is an activity at Blue Skies of Texas that is open to all who are interested in a regular golf experience. It includes both men and women of a



wide variety of skill levels and ages. The group plays Mondays and Thursdays, normally around 7:30am at the Golf Club of Texas (GCT), located just west of our campus off Highway 211.

RoadRunners golf plays to a specific set of local rules that accounts for the condition of the course (currently good, and improving), and the varying skill levels of the players. The group plays a modified Stableford match each day, with teams determined by random card draw and the target scores adjusted for the team's handicap. Handicaps for individual players can be tracked by any established method and can be initialized when a player joins the group if a handicap isn't already in place.

A block of tee times is made for each play day, and GCT has been very accommodating of our group. A special rate for annual memberships is available to all Blue Skies of Texas residents, but the membership is not mandatory. Those of us who play regularly find that the membership saves money for the year's play. Players without the membership pay a daily rate at the senior/military price for each round.

For more information, please contact Mark Wessman, Kathleen Raymond, or Rona Bonn (resident directory). Any of us will be happy to answer questions or provide a copy of the RoadRunner rules on request.



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!



Ladies BUNCO Group ~ JoAnn Oldham

We will be rolling the dice on July 2 and 16, at 3:30pm in CC3. Bring \$1 for the "Pot" and join the fun of this fast-paced game. Following Bunco, we will gather in the Roadrunner Lounge at 4:30pm before enjoying dinner together, or you can make your own dinner plans for the evening.

Winners for June

Jane Hill, Brenda Perry, JoAnn Oldham, Sarah Sheppard, Cathy Bee

Sports, Games, & Scores

Bridge Results ~ Stu Flood ♦♠♥♣♦♠♥♣♦♠♥♣♦♠♥♣♦♠♥♣♦♠♥♣♦♠♥♣♦

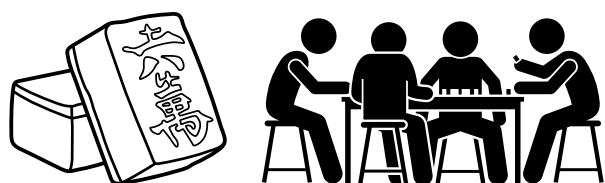
We play party bridge on Mondays, relaxed duplicate (not ACBL Certified) bridge on Thursdays and one Tuesday a month. Sign up in CC3.

	1 Place	2 Place	3 Place	4 Place
May 20	Reedy / Bader	Germann / Wesson	D. Skucas / Hood	
May 27	Reedy / Wesson	Gant / Wood	Caudill / McKinney	
May 30	Germann / Padgett	Germann / Wesson	Wood / McKinney	
June 10	G. Skucas / Leydon	Germann / Wesson	Graves / Sweigard	
June 6	Germann / Padgett	Wood Gant		
June 10	Girton / Seifken	Caudill / McKinney	D. Skucas / G. Skucas	Newman / Higginbotham
June 17	Ingram / Holland	Germann / Wesson	Wood / Gant	Bader / Reedy
June 18 Duplicate	Wood / Gant	Wesson / Wagner		
June 24	Germann / Wesson	Wood / Gant	Graves / Sweigard	Bader / Reedy

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.



Blackjack

Lou Genko 6720 points
Jim Wakenell 5650 points
Chris Wakenell 5550 points

Deadline for the next Roadrunner is
Monday, **July 22**
Send articles to roadrunner@blueskiestx.org
Next Publication Date: Wednesday, **July 31**

Spiritual News

Catholic News

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

Third Wednesdays – 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, Rebecca Vallejo, 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.

Protestant Church

Regular Services

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

Sunday service is repeated at 10:30am on Wednesday on Channel 1890 or the Main Lobby monitors.

Fellowship time between services 10:30-11am

Freedom House – Sundays at 10:45am

Liberty House 3rd level – Thursday at 10:30am

Pray For Our Nation happens the 1st and 3rd Friday at 10am in the Helen LeMay Room.

We also have Bible Study groups and other activities. If you are interested in joining our congregation or wish to speak to either Pastors Wayne Knutson or Pastor Dan Figueroa please leave a message with the church office at 210-568-3372 and they will be in touch.

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

Centering Prayer / Silent Meditation ~ Linda Ricketts

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

In July we will meet on Fridays, **July 5 and 19** 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.

