CELEBRATE TEXAS STATE PARKS THIS SUMMER

by Cassie Wedding

It’s the 75th anniversary of Texas State Parks this year. What better way to celebrate our State parks than to visit one this summer?

The Hill Country is blessed with a bounty of state parks. The nearest to the Bulverde/Spring Branch area is the Guadalupe River State Park. It has a river flowing through it, campgrounds, hiking trails, canoeing and kayaking, and wildlife galore. Check its website to see all the activities, guided and otherwise, it offers. It’s perfect for a day trip or camping for a weekend.

Just a little way north on Highway 281 is the Blanco State Park. The Blanco park boasts not only the Blanco River, but cool, spring-fed waters to enjoy in the heat of summer. Blanco was one of the first parks in Texas to host a Civilian Conservation Corps. The native limestone and timbers used by the CCC make their buildings timelessly beautiful. A number of Texas parks benefitted from the labors of the CCC in the 1930’s.

Another way to beat the summer heat is to visit an underground cavern. The Longhorn Cavern State Park is rich in human and geological history. Located about 90 minutes northwest of Austin, the cavern offers guided walking tours, as well as tours for serious spelunkers with cave equipment. Some of park’s earliest visitors were prehistoric peoples, who used the cavern for shelter. A number of legends surround the cavern, including one that claims the outlaw Sam Bass hid a cache of stolen money inside. While the accuracy of that story is debatable, it is true that the main room served as a dance hall in the 1920’s.

If you like to enjoy nature in a secluded, nearly pristine environment, the Hill Country State Natural Area is your place. This area near Bandera preserves 5,369 acres of rugged Hill Country terrain. The 40 miles of trails “wind up grassy valleys, cross spring-fed streams, and climb steep limestone hills.” It is a great place for horseback riding; primitive and back-

THE LIBRARY IS EXPANDING!

The Bulverde Area Rural Library District (BARLD) is proud to announce the plans for a much needed expansion to the existing Bulverde/Spring Branch Library (BSBL) facility. We worked with the community and professional library planners to determine the priorities of the growing educational and literacy needs of our community.

Expansion highlights include:

- Larger, designated children’s area (the #1 priority response of community surveys)
- Addition of a dedicated teen area
- Expanded meeting spaces
- Greater area for library materials and technology
- Improved and enhanced butterfly and memorial gardens

Why expand now? The library facility is bursting at the seams! Additional space is needed to continue expanding the collection. Meeting space is already close to maximum usage and capacity. It’s impossible to host larger functions with the current space.

As we will be adding close to 13,000 square feet, children will gain the most from the expansion. Their current space is restricted in size and overlaps with that of the teens and adults. The expansion will dedicate a corner of the floor plan just to the children.

We will continue to update the community on the expansion each month! Stay tuned to the West Comal Chronicle and the library’s social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) for more updates!

SEE STATE PARKS ON PAGE 10
GRANT AWARDED TO LOCAL LIBRARY

The Bulverde/Spring Branch Library was one of 22 non-profits awarded a grant by The San Antonio Area Foundation (SAAF)! This year SAAF awarded a total of $525,694 in grants for children and youth programs.

The Friends of the Library accepted the award and will be putting the money to good use for the children and teen Summer Reading Programs.

Pictured left to right: Janice Weber, Linda Quintero, Laura Kraus, Karen Schmalz, and SAAF member Jenna Gonzales.

Learn the Principles of Permaculture & Hygge
Saturday, June 17, 1pm

Come meet Jenny Perez, Education Coordinator from the American Botanical Council in Austin, with a Permaculture Design Course (PDC) background as she presents about permaculture. She also teaches Permaculture for Herbalists to students at the Wildflower School of Botanical Medicine in Austin/Cedar Creek.

Build a better world for yourself by learning how to set up a garden using permaculture principles and get some fun ideas for themed garden designs. Learn about the different healing gardens and herb gardens that you can plant which follow the principles of permaculture.

We also will introduce the basics of Hygge, a feeling of completeness or coziness that is based in Danish culture. Enjoy a craft that will bring the feeling of Hygge to you and also enjoy some refreshments.

Many of our programs this summer will reflect principles of Permaculture, Hygge or both. Come learn the meaning of the ideas that will shape our programs throughout the Adult Summer Reading Program.

Please register for a supply and refreshment count.

This event is made possible by a grant from the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation.

Bulverde/Spring Branch Library | 131 Bulverde Crossing | 830.438.4864
Summer Kick-Off at the Shops of Faithville Park
On Saturday, June 10 from 10am to 4pm come out to the Shops at Faithville Park for a day of fun, shopping, eating, live music, and activities. 17130 State Highway 46 W, Spring Branch, TX 78070.

Classic Car Cruise-In
On June 13 from 5-8pm come out to the Ay Chiwawa! Mexican Café in the Singing Hills Shopping Center to see classic cars, hear live music, and enjoy happy hour drinks and food specials. On the second Tuesday of each month. Sponsored by Sonora Bank.

Market Days - Ongoing
Be Fab Market Days - Every 2nd Saturday of the month, 10am to 4pm at Be Fabulous Boutique, 2877 Bulverde Rd in Bulverde. Contact: Cathy Scroggins-Brownlow at 210-343-9272.

The Bulverde Farmers Market on Wednesdays from 11am-2pm features locally produced veggies, honey, and more. You’ll find it next to the Hatch 5 Boutique at 2630 Bulverde Road.

The Spring Branch Farmers Market at the Faithville Shops at 17130 TX 46 West takes place every Friday from 9am-1pm.

The New Braunfels Farmers Market is open year-round on Saturdays 9am-1pm at 186 Castell Avenue.

The Sage Gardens Bandera Farmers Market is open on Thursdays 8-11 am at 702 Main Street.

Johnson City Market Days is held every 4th weekend, on Saturdays 10am-5pm and Sundays 10am-4pm in City Memorial Park on US 290, 830-868-7684.

Boerne - Farmers Market at the Cibolo is open every Saturday 9am–1pm at the Herff Farm at 33 Herff Road in Boerne.

Fredericksburg Farmers Market will be open every Thursday from 4-7 p.m. beginning May 4 through August at the Kinderhalle in MarktPlatz in downtown Fredericksburg.

Movie in the Park
The Secret Life of Pets will be showing FREE on Friday, June 9 at the Bulverde Community Park starting at dusk (about 8:30 pm). Bring lawn chairs and the kids. There will be food vendors and activities.

Music and More
Anhalt Dance Hall – Huge, historic, and German. Hear Johnny Bush on Friday, June 17 from 8pm- midnight and Saturday, June 18 at 12:00 pm. $25. 12 and under free. Watch website (www.anhalthall.com) for details on upcoming July 15 dance! 2390 Anhalt Road, Spring Branch, TX 78070, 830-438-2873.

Max’s Roadhouse has live music on most Fridays and Saturdays. Food and drinks, shuffleboard and pool, plus sports on TV. At 5375 U.S. 281, Spring Branch, Texas 78070, 210-352-0820.

Sandra’s Cantina and Grill has great margaritas, homemade salsa, and Tex-Mex. Local bands play on the patio Friday and Saturday nights. 13100 US 281, Spring Branch, TX 78070, (830) 885-2939.

Specht’s Store – Historic store and bar/restaurant that features live music Wednesday thru Saturday nights and on Sunday afternoons. Bike Night on Wednesdays. 112 Specht Road, Bulverde 830-438-1888.

Shade Tree Saloon is a biker-friendly honky tonk that serves good burgers and other fare, plus drinks. Call 830-885-5550 for information about live music schedule. At 13430 Highway 281 North, Spring Branch, Texas.

Tejas Rodeo Company presents Saturday night rodeos through November 25, 2017. Doors open at 5pm and rodeo starts at 7:30pm. Call 830-980-2226 for more information. At 401 Obst Road, Bulverde.

Whitewater Amphitheater features outdoor concerts on the Guadalupe River. See the lineup at www.whitewaterrocks.com for schedule and tickets.

Outdoors
Honey Creek Hike takes place at the Guadalupe River State Park every Saturday from 9am to 11:30am. Cost: $7 for age 13 and over. See http://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/guadalupe-river/park_events for many other activities at the Guadalupe River State Park.

Theater
S.T.A.G.E. – Coming up in July: WAIT UNTIL DARK by Frederick Knott, showing on July 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30 at the Krause House Theater, 1300 Bulverde Road in Bulverde (wheelchair accessible). 830-438-2339.

Brauntex Theater in New Braunfels will present the great Western swing band Asleep at the Wheel with Ray Benson, on July 3 at 8pm. Get your tickets now! For details call 830-627-0808 or go to www.brauntex.org.

Rockbox Theater in Fredericksburg will present Oh, What a Night!, a musical tribute to Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons on Saturday, June 10 at 3pm and 8pm. On Saturday, June 17 at 3pm and 8pm hear Classic Rock n’ Roll with Vinyl Radio, an incredible band from Nashville, covering the classic hits of the ‘70s. On Friday, June 30 at 8pm and Saturday, July 1 at 4pm, celebrate Independence Day with Michael Hix: American Proud, that showcases a variety of music that spans the decades. For details and tickets go to www.rockboxtheater.com or call 830-997-7625, 109 North Llano, Fredericksburg, TX.

Stars & Stripes Drive In Theater – An old-fashioned drive-in experience for the whole family. Open nightly at 6pm. Playground and Fifties Café. $8 age 12 and up. See www.driveinusa.com for movie schedule. At 1178 Kroeche Ln, New Braunfels, TX 78130, 830-620-746.

Wine
Public Hill Country Wine Tours by 281 Wine Tours – Tours of wineries & vineyards every 3rd Saturday. You must register by the previous Saturday. $75.00 per person. Contact Greg Ortiz at 830-202-0697.
Library Events - June & July

All library classes and events are FREE unless otherwise noted. 
Where: BSB Library at 131 Bulverde Crossing, Bulverde, TX 78163. 
Questions? Call the library at 830-438-4864 or go to www.bsblibrary.org. 
NOTE: If you registered for a class and need to cancel, please do so by clicking the link to unregister in your confirmation email or call the library.

Thursday, June 8
Read To Dog Tessa
11:00am - 12:00pm
Kids, come read to therapy dog Tessa and practice your reading skills.

Pinterest for Beginners
6:30pm - 7:45pm
Learn how to set up a Pinterest account and how to organize and share online images. Registration required. Limited to 7 participants.

Saturday, June 10
Summer Reading Program KICK OFF - “Build a Better World”
11:00am - 1:00pm
Bring the whole family to sign up for Summer Reading! Enjoy refreshments! Get your free Summer Reading T-shirt. The Summer Reading Program means fun and prizes for all ages!

Tuesday, June 13
Watercolor Techniques - Adults and Teens 13+
3:00pm - 5:00pm
Learn to mix colors and create your own masterpiece. Registration required.

Book Club - 2nd Tuesday PM
6:30pm - 7:45pm
New members welcome! Please come ready to discuss the book selection for this month. See Book Clubs under Classes & Events on www.bsblibrary.org.

Tuesday, June 20
Book Club – 3rd Tuesday
10:30am-12:30pm
Open to new members. Check the library’s website for the current book.

Tuesday, June 27
Gamer’s Night: Board Games for Adults
5:00pm - 7:45pm
Show up to play board games. Snacks provided! Please register.

Tuesday, July 4
LIBRARY CLOSED

Thursday, July 6
Cookbook Dinner Club
6:00pm - 7:45pm
Join the Cookbook Dinner Group to share with other foodies. Choose a recipe from the cookbook-of-the-month by the front desk. Ask for a copy of the recipe and cook it to share with others at the monthly meeting. Bring friends!

Tuesday, July 11
Book Club - 2nd Tuesday PM
6:30pm - 7:45pm
New members welcome! Please come ready to discuss the book selection for this month. See Book Clubs under Classes & Events on www.bsblibrary.org.

Saturday, July 15
Comal Master Gardeners Program
1:00pm - 2:00pm
Author Cheryl Beesley will discuss Landscaping with Edible Plants in Texas. Business meeting following at 2:00 p.m.

Ongoing Classes at the Library

Mondays

Sit and Piece/Quilt – 1st Monday (in July on 2nd Monday)
10:15am - 4:00pm
Watch a video on a quilt project and then sew!

Toddler Storytime
10:30-11:30am

Beginning July 10 - Region 20 ESL – must register
5:00pm - 7:30pm

Teen 13+ Writing Group
2nd and 4th Tuesdays
6:00pm – 7:30 pm
Pressure-free group for aspiring writers ages 13-18. Registration required. Bring a laptop or notebook and pen or pencil. Will not meet in July and August.

Wednesdays

Preschool Storytime
10:30-11:30am

English as a Second Language
6pm-7:30pm
No registration required.

Thursdays

For the summer, the two Spanish classes on Wednesday will be combined into one class on Thursday:
Conversational Spanish
10:00am – 12:00pm

Beginning July 13 - Region 20 ESL class – must register
10:00am – 1 pm

English as a Second Language
6pm-7:30pm
No registration required.

Saturdays

Walk-In Computer Help
11:00am – 12:00pm

BSBL TREKKER CALENDAR

Bulverde Activity Center
1st and 3rd Mondays 12:30pm – 1:30pm
The Trekker will offer hands-on help with library resources and check out books.

Tamiga Acres
Every Tuesday 5:00pm - 5:30pm
The Trekker will be stopping by Tamiga Acres to check out books to children.

The Heights
1st and 3rd Wednesdays 11:30am - 12:30pm
The Trekker will be traveling to The Heights for adult story and craft time.

Community Outreach
Every Thursday 12pm – 1:30pm
The Trekker will stop by several local spots to deliver library information.

Helping Hands Food Pantry
2nd and 4th Thursdays 1:30-6pm
The Trekker will be parked outside with books, magazines, and other library stuff.

Indian Hills
1st and 3rd Saturdays 10am - noon
The Trekker will be set up at Indian Hills EMS with books, free WIFI, library cards and more!
The Comal County Veterans Treatment Court has received a $75,000 grant from the Texas Veterans Commission. The Court works with veterans who have been arrested for misdemeanor offenses, said County Court-at-Law Judge Charles Stephens, who oversees the program.

The grant will continue to help fund the salary of a court administrator and operational expenses for the court.

The Veterans Treatment Court in Comal County held its first hearing in January 2016. The court is designed for veterans charged with misdemeanor offenses to receive help for addiction, PTSD and other mental disorders potentially connected to their military service. A veteran may enter the program as part of a pre-trial diversion to dismiss the charges or as a condition of post-conviction probation.

“We’re grateful the commission continues to recognize the value our program brings to veterans in Comal County,” Stephens said. “Expanding the amount of the grant is a vote of confidence in our work to improve veterans’ lives and help them get back on the right track.”

**PET OF THE MONTH - Bella**

Bella is a two year old medium to small size lab mix. A terrific dog that we can’t believe hasn’t been adopted, she’s the whole package -- gentle, walks well on a leash and is so affectionate! She loves to fetch, run and play, so a fenced yard would be a good fit. Bella would do great with a whole family to bond with, or she’d be wonderful for a retiree who wants a devoted companion.

Come out and meet Bella - you will be smitten!

For more information or to meet Bella, call 830-980-2247. Or come by 3563 Kingsnake, Bulverde, just off TX 1863 west of Hwy 281. Open TUES, THURS, AND SAT from 10am-1pm and SUN from 1-4pm. Check us out at www.bulverdeareahumane.com.
# 2017 Bulverde/Spring Branch Library Adult & Teen Summer Reading Program

All Ages Sign up at [www.bsblibrary.readsquared.com](http://www.bsblibrary.readsquared.com)

The following workshops are for Adults & Teens 13+. All classes are free and require registration unless otherwise noted. Registration for Summer Reading is not required to attend classes. To register or for more information on a class, please visit the library calendar at bsblibrary.libcal.com or call the library at 830.438.4864!

## Tuesday Craft Workshops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jewelry Class</td>
<td>June 13</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<td>June 16</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>String Map Art</td>
<td>July 11</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upcycled Crafts</td>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Backwards Canvas Bird Nest</td>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marbleized Candle Holder</td>
<td>July 25</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>July 28</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Handbuilt Clay Bowl</td>
<td>June 27</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
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## Wednesday Build a Better World Workshops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waffle It!</td>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Genealogy</td>
<td>June 21</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Build a Better Milkshake</td>
<td>June 28</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheese-making</td>
<td>July 12</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Storytelling Skills</td>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alcohol Ink Tiles</td>
<td>July 26</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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## Thursday Hobby Workshops

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bass Fly Tying</td>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ReelFly charges $10 at door for supply fees.</td>
<td>June 22</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meat Master</td>
<td>June 22</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rain Barrels</td>
<td>June 29</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Build a Game</td>
<td>July 6</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rustic Coordinates Sign</td>
<td>July 13</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wire Art - bring gloves, pliers, and eye protection</td>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cubbyhole Book - bring exact-o knife or box cutter</td>
<td>July 27</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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## Thursday Art Workshops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pencil Still Life</td>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charcoal Drawing</td>
<td>June 22</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collage Mixed Media</td>
<td>June 29</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acrylic Painting</td>
<td>July 6</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watercolor Calligraphy</td>
<td>July 13</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art Journal Book</td>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learn the Principles of Permaculture and Hygge</td>
<td>June 17</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>July 12</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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## Saturday Special Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Blood Drive with South Texas Blood and Tissue Center</strong></td>
<td>July 8</td>
<td>10:30am - 2:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Come donate blood for a good cause to help those who can't help themselves.</td>
<td>Sign up for a time</td>
<td>1/2 hour increments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Burns Alive Again and in Concert</td>
<td>July 8</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone loves George Burns! Join Broadway and film actor Duff Hudson as he takes you on a stroll along nostalgia lane. George Burns sings, dances and tells stories like only George Burns can. This 75 minute, one-man, musical, comedy performance of our beloved George Burns is sure to delight the entire family!!!</td>
<td>No registration required. This performance is made possible by a grant from the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Storytelling Performance by Donna Ingham</strong></td>
<td>July 29</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Humorist and folklorist Donna Ingham takes the ancient art of storytelling and gives it a Texas twist to entertain audiences of all ages. Hear tall tales, folklore, historical and personal stories told only as a Texan could – or would! No registration required. This performance is made possible by a grant from the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation.</td>
<td>George Burns Alive Again and in Concert</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Teen Only Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upcycled T-Shirt Crafting</td>
<td>June 23</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>There will be upcycled t-shirt crafting, streaming concerts, gaming and pizza.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mod Podge Washer Pendant</td>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>We will make mod podge washer pendants, stream concerts, have gaming and make your own sundaes!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duct Tape Wallets</td>
<td>July 28</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>We will make duct tape wallets, stream concerts, have gaming and pizza and cupcakes.</td>
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6
2017 BULVERDE/SPRING BRANCH
LIBRARY CHILDREN’S SUMMER
READING PROGRAM

ALL AGES SIGN UP AT www.bsblibrary.readsquared.com

All classes are free and do not require registration unless otherwise noted. Registration for Summer Reading is not required to attend classes. To register or for more information on a class, please visit the library calendar at bsblibrary.libcal.com or call the library at 830.438.4864!

Monday Story & Play Times

- **Toddler Storytime**
  - Every Monday
  - 10:30am - 11:30am
  - Storytime for Toddlers and their caregiver and part of our Summer Reading Program, Build a Better World!

- **Early Literacy Free Play**
  - Every Monday
  - 11:45am - 12:30pm
  - Ages 0 - 4 are welcome to come in and play with sensory toys, building blocks, and more at our Early Literacy Free Play! Learn more about Child Development and how to promote early literacy for your child!

Wednesday Performer Series

- **Musician Joe McDermott**
  - June 14th 11:00am - 12:00pm
  - Singer, song writer, and performer extraordinaire Joe McDermott brings his legendary talent to our stage to kickoff our Summer Reading Wednesday Performer series of shows!

- **Magician Richard Blake**
  - June 21st 11:00am - 12:00pm
  - Magician Richard Blake will wow you with his clever magic tricks. Come and be astounded by his book themed magic!

- **Critterville’s John Ramirez**
  - June 28th 11:00am - 12:00pm
  - John Ramirez from Critterville shows off strange but amazing insects from around the world.

- **Wild Things Zoofari**
  - June 28th 5:30pm - 6:30pm
  - Wild Things Zoofari visits us with animals!

- **Water Day**
  - July 5th 11:00am - 12:00pm
  - Cool off with kiddie pools, water gun fights and water balloons! Bring your own water guns for extra water power in the largest water fight that’s ever taken place on the lower parking lot of the library!

- **Happy Tails**
  - July 12th 11:00am - 12:00pm
  - Happy Tails will bring a smile to your face with cute and amazing animals.

- **Daniel G. Benes Science Show**
  - July 19th 11:00am - 12:00pm
  - See electricity generated by an actual miniature antique steam engine as it spins a 120 year old motor and lights up one of the world’s largest incandescent bulbs! Watch an audience members hair stand on-end from a 1950’s Van de Graff electrostatic generator! Listen to a 1905 Edison Phonograph as it plays an original Edison cylinder record! Plus, see lots of exciting live demonstrations of Physics, Chemistry, and Electricity! It’s as close to a magic show as science can comfortably come... It’s Science Magic!

- **Children’s Program Finale - EPIC**
  - Saturday, July 22nd
  - 11:00am - 12:00pm
  - End your summer the right way by joining us for a performance by EPIC entertainment.

Tuesday Craft Workshops

- **Craft it Up! Jr.**
  - For ages 5-7 on Tuesdays.

- **Fingerprint Designs**
  - June 13th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm
  - Fingerprint Design a la Ed Emberley

- **Owl Handprints**
  - June 20th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm

- **Firework Pipe Cleaner Painting**
  - June 27th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm
  - 5:30pm - 6:30pm

- **Fork Lions**
  - July 11th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm

- **Buttonmaking**
  - July 18th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm

- **Craft it Up!**
  - For ages 8+ on Tuesdays.

- **Minecraft Papercraft**
  - June 13th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm

- **Origami**
  - June 20th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm

- **T-Shirt Repurposing**
  - June 27th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm
  - 5:30pm - 6:30pm

- **Felt Sewing Projects**
  - July 11th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm

- **Buttonmaking**
  - July 18th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm

- **T-Shirt Repurposing**
  - June 27th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm
  - 5:30pm - 6:30pm

- **Coming learn how to make old t-shirts look different and new by cutting patterns into them or altering them in other ways.

- **Wild Things Zoofari**
  - June 28th 5:30pm - 6:30pm
  - Wild Things Zoofari visits us with animals!

- **Felt Sewing Projects**
  - July 11th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm

- **Sewing with felt is super easy to learn and only requires basic knowledge of sewing skills. Patterns and supplies will be provided.

- **Buttonmaking**
  - July 18th
  - 11:00am - 1:00pm
WHAT BOOK CLUBS ARE READING

The BSB Library book clubs will be reading the following books for discussion at their July meetings. Two of the BSB Library’s book clubs, the **Second Tuesday Evening Book Club** and the **Third Tuesday Book Club**, have room for new members. You can get on a waiting list for any of the other three. See our website under Programs and Classes for meeting dates and times.

For July the library’s book clubs have posted the following selections:

**The 1st Tuesday Book Club:** *The Last Days of Night*, by Graham Moore.
This is a historical thriller about the inventors of electricity. When Thomas Edison sues his only remaining rival for patent infringement, George Westinghouse hires untested Columbia Law School graduate Paul Ravath for a case fraught with lies, betrayals, and deception.

**The 2nd Tuesday Book Club:** *Dispatches from Pluto: Lost and Found in the Mississippi Delta*, by Richard Grant
In this memoir, travel writer Richard Grant tells of the adventure of moving with his girlfriend from a tiny apartment in New York City to an old plantation house in a tiny town in the Mississippi Delta. He captures the bizarre culture of the area, the eccentric locals, and the lingering racial tensions of the area.

**The 2nd Tuesday Evening Book Club:** *I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban*, by Malala Yousafzai
In this memoir by the youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, Malala Yousafzai, a young Pakistani girl, describes her fight for women’s rights and education in the Taliban-controlled Swat Valley.

**The 3rd Tuesday Book Club:** *The House on Mango Street*, by Sandra Cisneros
*The House on Mango Street* is a novel by San Antonio author Sandra Cisneros. Critically acclaimed and beloved by readers of all ages, it is the remarkable story of a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago, inventing for herself who and what she will become.

**3rd Thursday Book Club:** *Uncivilized Beasts and Shameless Hellions: Travels with an NPR Correspondent*, by John F. Burnett
Breezy and accessible, it reveals the sixth W, the “whoa” factor, in the places reported on by the author, like Afghanistan and New Orleans after Katrina. It’s about the bizarre encounters, miserable journeys, horrible hotels, and unsung heroes. If you like NPR, you will like this book.

UPCOMING ARTIST IN THE HALLWAY

Local artist Cheryl Sutter Wooten, a world class watercolorist, is our Artist in the Hallway for July.

Cheryl grew up in sunny California. Childhood days at the beach and her mother’s beautiful gardens inspired her creation of coastal and floral art. In later years, a spiritual journey made her aware of the importance of connection. She feels that our actions, words, even our art can be a catalyst for love and peace. She is especially drawn to the challenge of capturing the memory and emotion in private commissions.

The West Comal Chronicle featured an article about Cheryl Wooten back in our November 2016 issue. That article described some of her adventurous life story. After studying art in college, Cheryl eloped with her husband. His job with Exxon sent them all over the world, including Siberia, where Cheryl taught art to Russian orphans. Later she taught art in Norway and Scotland as well. Wooten wound up in Somerville, Texas, where she managed to run a goat and sheep farm, open an art gallery, and teach art classes.

Now she has settled in the Bulverde/Spring Branch area and is a member of several art guilds, including the prestigious Watercolor Art Society of Houston. Next time you’re in Fredericksburg, go see her paintings on display at the Fredericksburg Art Gallery.

*Information for this article courtesy of Buzz Heye and FineArtAmerica.com.*

WATER DAY!

Cool off with kiddie pools, water gun fights and water balloons! Bring your own water guns for extra water power in the largest water fight that’s ever taken place on the lower parking lot of the library! Event is part of the Children’s Summer Reading Program!

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 5TH**
**FROM 11:00AM – 12:00PM**
Clubs and Meetings

If you would like your club listed, email us about it at news@comalchronicle.com.

Book Clubs

History Book Club meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 1-3pm at Mystic Shores Community Center. Contact: Dennis Deeny at vatrading@msn.com.

2nd Tuesday Evening Book Club meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm at the BSB Library. Check the library website for this month’s book selection.

3rd Tuesday Book Club meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 10:30am at the BSB Library. Check the library website for this month’s book selection.

Gardening

The Bulverde Community Garden Committee meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 5:15 pm at the BSB Activity Center.

The Bulverde Garden Club meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10 am. For location, contact Lorelei at 830-885-4318 or lorelei@gvtc.com.

The Butterfly Garden Committee meets on the 4th Thursday of the month from 9-10am at the BSB Library to maintain the butterfly garden.

Comal Master Gardeners & Friends of the Library (FOL) Garden Lecture Series meets the 1st Thursday of the month from 10:30am-12 noon at the BSB Library.

Native Plant Society of Texas/Lindheimer Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the GVTc Auditorium.

Texas Master Naturalists/Lindheimer Chapter will meet on June 15 from 6:30-8:30pm at the AgriLife Center, 325 Resource Drive, New Braunfels. Open to the public. On June 15, speaker Mark Kiewiet will discuss “The Plight of the Bees.” www.txmn.org/lindheimer.

Hobbies

The Bulverde Quilt Group meets at Bulverde United Methodist Church on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 9:30 am – 1:30 pm. Contact: Sherry Sorbera at sorbera@gmail.com.

Comal County Beekeepers Association meets the 1st Thursday of every month at the EMS station at 353 Rodeo Drive, Spring Branch,Texas (830) 438-5643.

Guadalupe Valley Amateur Radio Club meets on Saturdays at 7:30am at Granzin’s BBQ, 660 W. San Antonio in New Braunfels. Contact: David Schreier, 830-914-6270 or 210-392-0676

Sit and Piece/Quilt – Meets every 1st Monday of the month (in July the 2nd Monday) from 10am-4pm at the BSB Library. Watch a project video and sew. Call BSB Library to register 830-438-4864.

Local Government

The Bulverde Planning and Zoning Commission meets at 6:30 pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month at City Hall. The public is welcome.

The Bulverde City Council meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 6:30pm to 8pm at Bulverde City Hall, 30360 Cougar Bend, Bulverde. The public is invited.

Service Clubs

The Bulverde Men’s Lions Club meets 7-9pm every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at the Bulverde Community Center at 1747 E Ammann Rd.

The Spring Branch-Bulverde Lions Club meets 7:30-9pm every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Bulverde Spring Branch Activity Center.

Toastmasters

Col. Jack Wallace Toastmasters meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 6:30pm to 7:45 pm at the BSB Library.

Web Design

The San Antonio Web Spinners, an Adobe User Group, meets 6:00pm - 7:45pm on the 1st Thursday of the month at the Bulverde/Spring Branch Library. They focus on web design and other web related topics.

Writing

Canyon Lake Area Writers (CLAW) meets the first and third Tuesday of each month from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Tye Preston Memorial Library. Formed to encourage the art and craft of writing.

Hill Country Christian Writers meet weekly on Tuesdays from 6:00pm - 7:45pm to share encouragement and writing. At the BSB Library.

Animals

Animal Rescue Connections provides instructions and traps for the Trap, Neuter, Return feral cat program and furnishes speakers for HOAs and other organizations. www.animalrescueconnections.org.

Bulverde Area Humane Society offers dogs and cats for adoption, plus volunteer opportunities, at 3563 Kingsnake in Bulverde, just off TX 1863. Open Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 10am-1pm and Sunday from 1-4pm. See www.bulverdeareahumaneociety.com.

Art

Bulverde Area Arts Center shares space, exhibits art, and holds classes inside The Makery.

The Makery at 2355 Bulverde Road next to Mike’s in the Village offers a variety of art classes. See www.makeryarts.com or call 830-980-9089.

Stouffer Studios, across from Mike’s in the Village, offers glass and metal art workshops. See class schedule at www.stoufferstudios.com or call 830-837-9527.

Comal County AgriLife Extension Service

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Comal County offers free or low cost classes and resources in the following areas: Foods and Nutrition, including canning and cooking classes. Agriculture and Natural resources, including hunting, horticulture and 4H for Youth. Health – continuing education classes. Call 830-620-3440 or go to https://comal.agrilife.org for more information.

ESL Classes

Free ESL Classes are available at the Bulverde/Spring Branch Library. This summer the classes will be held on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6-7:30pm. Call or go online at www.bsblibrary.org for details.

Food Pantries

Helping Hands Food Pantry offers food, nutrition education, and spiritual guidance. Open 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month from 2pm–5:45pm. At Rebecca Creek Baptist Church on Hwy 281 in Spring Branch. For more information, call 830-885-3945 or 830-221-5526.

Provisions: A 25:35 Outreach is a food pantry open Tuesday–Thursday from 9am to 3pm. At 2295-1 Bulverde Road in Bulverde, behind Wine 101.

Community Resources

Hope Center Food Pantry and Outreach distributes food every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 10am – noon at Riverside Community Church, 1100 Bulverde Road in Bulverde. Call 830-980-4673 for more information.

GED Classes

GED Classes will be offered again in the fall semester at the Bulverde/Spring Branch Library. In August call or check the registration schedule online at www.bsblibrary.org.

Health and Wellness

Wellness on Wheels is a rolling medical clinic and classroom staged by the BSB Fire & EMS. Every 2nd Thursday of the month, from 1-2 pm, WOW will be at St. Joseph’s Church Rotary, 25781 State Highway 46 W in Spring Branch.

Jobs

New Braunfels Works is a free service that helps adults and youth find jobs. “Work Force Class” meets the 1st Friday of each month at 11am and “Java and Jobs” meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 9:30 am. At the Kitchen Table at the Marketplace Shopping Center, 651 N. Business 35, New Braunfels. Contact: 210-431-8367.

Literacy

The Bulverde/Spring Branch Library offers books, audiobooks, and DVDs for free checkout, plus a variety of free classes in all topics for everyone from children, teens to adults, including ESL, Spanish and French. Check it out at www.bsblibrary.org.

Mental Health

Mental Health Crisis Number-1-800-325-893

Comal County Mental Health Center - Provides mental health services for adults with severe & persistent mental illness. Fees based on a sliding scale. 830-620-6221.

Recovery/Support

AA or Alateen – For help or information about AA meetings near you call the 24/7 Helpline at 210-829-6235. Call 210-829-1392 for information about Al anon or Alateen meetings.

Seniors

Bulverde Spring Branch Activity Center - Provides a friendly meeting place for adults over 50 to gather socially as well as a place to take free classes in exercise, yoga, nutrition, health, and much more! Call 830-438-311 or come by 30280 Cougar Bend in Bulverde. www.bsac.com.
Cantaloupe Salsa

By The Bulverde Community Garden Committee

2 cups diced cantaloupe (1/4 inch size)
¼ cup diced (1/4 inch size) sweet or red onion
2 Tbs fresh basil or cilantro
1 fresh hot red or green chile pepper – 2 inch size – minced (remove seeds)
2 Tbs fresh lime juice
¼ tsp salt

Combine all ingredients and serve immediately.

Yield: 2 cups

Delicious with grilled meat, chicken, or just tortilla chips.

Source: Smitten Kitchen

Word Labyrinth #1445
by Gerardo Joffe

Across: Alias initials (3); Anger (3); Protein-rich seed (3); Depressed (3); Wager (3); Is, in Hamburg (3); Dawn goddess (3); Communist (3); Loafer (3); Bulky (3); Large book (4); Bird’s home (4); Astringent (4); European capital (4); Can. Province (4); Egyptian snakes (4); Shout (4); Pale yellow (5); Not an express (5); Medicinal plants (5); Ignorant persons (6); Desire strongly (6); Dissolved (6); Big cars (7).

Down: Young fox (3); Wave in Managua (3); Pub brew (3); Request (3); Water, in Toulouse (3); Paradise (4); Light blow (4); Fellow (4); Singing voice (4); Ireland (4); Beige (4); Passenger (5); Hold responsible (5); Region (lower back) (6); Treat a dead body (6); Pet rodents (8); Those for centralized government (8); Occasionally (8).

Pecan Street Brewing Company

by Cassie Wedding

The Pecan Street Brewing Company, a brew pub and restaurant, is just a short drive north on Highway 281 in Johnson City. It’s located on the courthouse square, in the old Blanco County Supply and Hardware Building.

Tim and Patty Elliott purchased the old building in 2008 with the dream of giving the Johnson City icon new life. In the Fifties the building was the unofficial gathering place where folks would get together to drink coffee and swap stories. Now the gathering continues, but the beverage of choice is a nice cold one, to be enjoyed in the restaurant, beer garden or while dancing to one of the live bands featured every weekend.

Tim and Patty met at the Armadillo World Headquarters in Austin, where Patty was a barmaid and Tim the house handyman. There they fell in love through their shared appreciation for the finer things in life: good food, live music, and a nice cold beer to wash it all down. I guess you could say not much has changed…

The Pecan Street’s beers are aimed to complement the ever-changing menu of brick-oven pizzas, fresh salads, and burgers loaded with fresh and local ingredients. A peek at the menu reveals that you can also chow down on a certified Angus rib eye, chicken fried steak, fried chicken with honey pecan sauce, meat loaf, Greek dishes, and a marinated flat iron steak with coffee-ancho chili rub. Yum! Not to mention vegetarian options. Pecan Street also has a full wine menu.

On Saturdays and Sunday evenings from 6-9pm you can enjoy live country music as you eat and drink. Wear your dancing boots!


State Parks Continued from pg 1

In contrast to the pine forests of Bastrop, at Palmetto State Park you could swear you’ve landed in the middle of the tropics. The multiple sources of water in the park foster a profusion of tropical plants. Look for dwarf palmettos, the park’s namesake, growing under the trees. It’s also a bird-watcher’s haven. You can also swim in the San Marcos River or Oxbow Lake in the park, tube, fish, hike, and canoe. There are cabins and campsites for spending the night.

This is only a sampling of the many state parks in our area, and all over the state. There’s something for everyone, and it’s a great way to enjoy nature and get closer to your family, away from the distractions of computers and TV’s. Turn off your cell phone, too – I dare you!
The Naturalist’s Curse  
By R. Craig Hensley, Park Interpreter  
Guadalupe River State Park

It struck again, this curse I have. While touring a new staff member through Honey Creek State Natural Area, it manifested itself on the door of my truck. It sat there as if knowing that my reaction would include reaching for my camera while sputtering its name to my fellow staff member as I chased it from my truck to the adjacent Ashe juniper tree to get a photo.

Vein-covered, nearly see-through wings, long, thin antennae, each one moving independently sensing the air, and a pair of front legs that for all the world looked like boxing gloves, I couldn’t believe it had found me, and I! There in front of me was the last member of the “flies” I had, somewhat unknowingly, been seeking since coming to understand that there were flies that weren’t really flies.

Confused? Let me explain.

First, the curse. Ever since I can remember I have been fascinated by the natural world. Fascinated doesn’t really describe it – passion, that’s it – “strong and barely controllable emotion” as defined by the definer of all, Google. From childhood to a ripening age of 58, it has been with me. It’s not bad, but it can lead to various degrees of distractedness at often inopportune times. A meeting in a high-rise when a bald eagle soars by, a talk on bats when a nighthawk cries out high overhead, or a fly by of spring’s first giant swallowtail during a job interview.

But it is those very distractions that I not only crave but lead me to these wonderful discoveries on a nearly daily basis. And that is where the mantidfly comes in. With predatory front legs like those of the preying mantis, these rather unusual insects not only look cool, their life cycle is equally interesting.

Upon hatching from eggs perched on silken stalks, the tiny larvae wait for a spider or insect to grab onto for a free ride. When the larvae arrive at their host’s egg-laying site or nest, they molt into a white grub that commences to prey upon the offspring of said spider or insect. As adults they continue their predatory ways using their raptorial front legs to seize prey.

Other “flies” exist as well, flies with first names owl, snake and scorpion. Scorpionflies get their name from an extended, scorpion-like abdomen found on the males. If you ask me, they ought to be called “schnozflies” because of their elongated “snouts.” This is another peculiar insect that first made its introduction to me on the windshield of my truck.

Snakeflies are curious clear-winged insects that have a long “neck” or prothorax. It can raise its head like, you guessed it, a snake about to strike. And, like a snake, it is predatory, both as a larva and adult.

Finally, we have the owlflies. Two inches in length, these unique insects derive their name from large, divided compound eyes. Upon emerging from a silken cocoon, these predatory adults fly at dusk in search of prey. During the day, they use their feet and wings to cling to a branch, often with their abdomen hanging out, apparently mimicking a broken twig.

There you have it, four unique insects, all “flies” that aren’t, all curiously special to someone with my “ailment.” There are, of course, more “flies” out there. Did I mention the dobsonfly? Don’t get me started again…

George Burns Alive Again and in Concert

Everyone loves George Burns!
Join Broadway and film actor Duffy Hudson as he takes you on a stroll along nostalgia lane. George Burns sings, dances and tells stories like only George Burns can. This 75 minute, one-man, musical, comedy performance of our beloved George Burns is sure to delight the entire family!!!

Video, Photos and Reviews at www.duffyhudson.com

Saturday, July 8th 3:00pm—4:30pm
Bulverde/Spring Branch Library | 131 Bulverde Crossing | 830.438.4864

Bulverde/Spring Branch Library Trustee Election

The scheduled May 2017 election for Bulverde/Spring Branch Library Trustees (Bulverde Area Rural Library District) was cancelled. There were two open positions and only two residents of the District filled out the required paper work. On June 12, 2017, at the Trustee meeting Debbie Neubauer and Bev Lemes will be sworn in for a second two year term.
WILD THINGS ZOOFAI

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27TH
5:30PM—6:30PM

Wild Things
Zoofer visits us
with animals!
Event is part of
the Children’s
Summer
Reading
Program.

May the 4th Be With You Event

Solution to Word Labyrinth #1445

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May the 4th Be With You Event

May 20th - Spit N’ Whittle Americana Music Concert