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*Wimberley Valley*  
**NEWS & VIEWS**

Postal Patron

**Volume 26 Issue 5 • Wimberley, Texas • April 2023**



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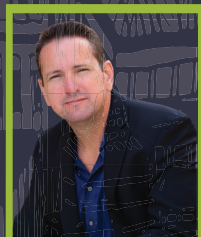
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## Momentum

2023 is in full swing. From Arts Fest to Butterfly Day to all the live music there is to enjoy, spring in the Hill Country is teeming with possibilities. And this issue is full of ideas for you.

As I'm writing this, the temperature hovers just below 50 degrees. Buds and freshly planted herbs and flowers hold their heads high with the fluctuation of sunshine and cold winds. It's such an exciting time of year to lay groundwork and to watch new growth unfurl.

Needless to say, Wimberley Valley is a magical place to experience the changing of the seasons and emergence of new life. Hopefully the momentum of the season carries us into a happy, healthy rest of the year.



*Happy April, y'all.*

Warmly,  
*Cyle*

# Wimberley Valley NEWS & VIEWS

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## The cadence of change

by Tim Thompson



Like many of you in Central Texas, I find myself in the midst of a landscape in transition. Our firewood rack is chock-full of fresh cut elm and oak that will be useful – once it has cured – during some future winter's cold snap. Piles of broken branches await a commercial chipper-shredder.

Several dangerous detached branches dangle near the tops of a few trees where I hope they will stay until the arborists can get around to our place. The neighborhood hums daily with the distinctive chorus of chainsaws attempting to restore some semblance of order to the chaos brought by a few days of freezing rain.

As the weather warmed and I could see the damage in more detail, I found a sense of grief at the loss of so much of Nature's beauty, chagrined that decades of photosynthesis and growth could so quickly succumb to the added weight of thousands of pounds of frozen water. The irony that water is critical to life itself is not lost on me.

The pace of the changing seasons, the cosmic movement of the planets in their courses, the cycles of the Moon and Sun around our planet, and the constitution of every living thing in its life and death are all potent reminders that the reality of our lives is built on rhythms that we partly understand and about which we still seek understanding. Perhaps we will comprehend more one day.

As time moves forward, we will realize that the vegetable gar-

den is more prosperous on account of the increased sunlight allowed by that enormous fallen oak limb. More wildflowers will sprout and bloom in those newly cleared areas in the woods. The Madrone tree that has been nursed for decades by its companion oak will finally have the chance to grow to its full maturity. Trees that sprout and grow in newly cleared spaces will be a joy to generations of families yet to come. I pledge to try to hear the promise of Mother Nature's symphony as it plays.

*Horticulturist Tim Thompson has managed the garden center at King Feed and Hardware for the past 25 years. They offer everything you need to have the garden of your dreams without stressing your budget. Pick up Tim's Tips, free one page sheets on how to carry out dozens of gardening projects available only at King Feed Nursery. Call Tim at 512 847 2618.*

  
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# • Community Calendar of Events •

- Every Mon. **Celebrate Recovery** 6:30-8:30pm, Cypress Creek Church, in the den. 512-847-1222 or CelebrateRecovery@CypressCreekChurch.com. Potluck at 5:30pm every 2nd Monday.
- Every 2nd Mon. **Wimberley Valley Art League** meets at the Wimberley Community Center at 6:30-8:30pm. Visit WimberleyArtLeague.org for information.
- Every 2nd Mon. **Wimberley 4H** meets during the school year at VFW Hall on 401 Jacobs Well Rd. Our next meeting is Monday, April 11, 7pm. 6:30pm Clover Kids Program. April community service: We will be collecting items for the Dell Children's Hospital family room.
- Every 3rd Mon. The **Wimberley Area Parkinsons Association** meets at the Chapel of The Hills Church, 14601 RR 12 in Wimberley from 9-11am. Caregivers, friends, and relatives are welcome. Guest speakers and general discussion. Parkinson's exercise program. Email Paul, paulwilj99@gmail.com.
- The **Wimberley Chapter of Overeaters Anonymous** meets every Monday at 7pm. This is a face-to-face only. Please call or text Aida at 512-787-8313 for the meeting location.
- Mon. April 10, **Jacob's Well Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution**, meets at the Emily Ann Theater in Wimberley at 9:40am, for chat time and 10am for our business meeting. JacobsWellNSDAR@gmail.com for more.
- Mon. **Toddler Time**, Wimberley Village Library, 10:30-11:30am, beginning January 9.
- Every Tues. 6:30-8pm. **Community Bible Study**, an interdenominational Bible study. To register contact Karen Bryson at 512 644 8805 or kb17@txstate.edu.
- Every 3rd Tues. The **Lions Club** meets from 6pm-8pm at the Wimberley Community Center. Call 512-847-0207 for info.
- Every Tues. at noon, **Rotary Club** of Wimberley meets at the EMS Classroom on Twilight Trail. Carolyn Manning is our President, 512-558-1626, director@wimberleylibrary.org
- Every 1st Tue. The Wimberley Community Center hosts **free medical checks** 9:30-10:30am. Call 512-847-2510.
- Every 1st Wed. 5:30-7pm, **Wimberley Valley Arts and Cultural Alliance (WVACA)** holds a mixer at Middleton Brewing. Opportunity for members and curious non-members to meet and mingle, share ideas, learn about upcoming events, and get involved. All are welcome. Visit WimberleyArts.org.
- Every Wed. Join **Wimberley Valley Chamber of Commerce** for breakfast at the Wimberley Cafe for networking opportunities, 8-9am. Bring lots of business cards.
- Every 3rd Wed. Sept. thru May, 9:30am-12pm. The Hill Country Unit of the **Herb Society of America** meets at the Wimberley Presbyterian Church. Visitors are always welcome! Refreshments at 9:30am. Program starts at 10am. Visit HillCountry-Herbs.org or email valentine\_lisa@msn.com.
- Wed. **Bilingual Storytime**, 5-6pm Wimberley Village Library
- Every 1st Thur. The **Wimberley Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group** meets at 1pm at the Presbyterian Church Library on FM 2325. Contact Linda Germain at 512-924-3661.
- Every 2nd Thursday, **Hill Country Bead Society** meets at 1pm at the Wimberley Community Center. All levels and types of beading and metal work. Marilyn Pierce at 512-722-3549.
- Every 2nd and 4th Thur. 7pm **Wimberley Toastmasters Club**, First Baptist Church Wimberley, 15951 Winters Mill Parkway, Wimberley. Toastmasters teaches public speaking and leadership. For more info contact Amy O'Neil at amy@texiasllc.com.
- Every 3rd Thur. Live concerts at **Susanna's Kitchen Coffeehouse**, 7:30pm; \$20-25 adults, \$5 children. Food, coffee, soft drinks available. Corner of RR 12 & CR 1492 (Wimberley United Methodist Church.) WimberleyUMC.org Proceeds benefit Barnabas Connection & Mother's Day Out scholarships. **Thurs. April 20: Dana Cooper**
- Thurs. **Gentle Yoga** 10-11am, Wimberley Village Library
- Every Fri. **Wimberley VFW Post 6441** hosts bingo nights. Doors at 6:30pm with food concession. Early bird games at 7:00pm. Regular games start at 8pm. Visit vfw6441.com/bingo
- Fri. **Storytime**, 10:30-11:30am, Wimberley Village Library
- Every 2nd Sat. **Wimberley's Second Saturday Gallery Trail**. Visit ten galleries for art, food, fun, 4-7pm. Email BentTreeGallery@gmail.com. Have a glass of wine & enjoy art after hours.
- 1st Sat. **Wimberley Market Day**, 7am-3pm, March thru December, rain or shine
- 1st Sun. of every month, **Wimberley Coffee & Cars**, 8am-11am, at Blanco Brew located at 14200 Ranch Road 12

- Concerts in the Park, Blue Hole Regional Park, Fridays 6-8pm, April 7, 14, 21, & 28
- Sunday, April 2, **Made Kids Workshop**, 1-4pm. Create wildflower seed bombs! Free event.

Register at: [HiSawyer.com/marketplace/activity-set/443343](https://HiSawyer.com/marketplace/activity-set/443343)

- Tuesday, April 4, 4:30-7:30pm, **Alexis Pointe Mural Unveiling**, barbecue & spirits giveaways, prizes, arts & crafts, shopping & local boutiques. Live music by: Jays Sims and Greg Ward
- Friday, April 14, **Ken Raba Solo Acoustic**, Chill's on the Creek, 14004 Ranch Road 12
  - Saturday, April 15, **Butterfly Day** at the Emily Ann, 9am-5pm
  - Saturday, April 22, 11am-3pm, **Wimberley Pie Social**, Wimberley Valley Museum, free admission
  - Saturday, April 29, 7-10pm, **Angelo and the Blue Dogs**, Savage's Hill Country Bar 9595 Ranch Road 12
- **Sense & Sensibility**, April 28-May 21, a comedy by Kate Hamill (from the Jane Austen novel by the same name).
  - Saturday, April 29 & Sunday, April 30 **Wimberley Arts Fest – Charity Car Show** Saturday, 10am-4pm

Have something to add to the Calendar of Events? Email us at [info@WVNewsViews.com](mailto:info@WVNewsViews.com) or call us, 512 375 5590.



# Not pretty, but it works

by Kern Deschner



During the February ice storm in Texas, Rhonda and I were enjoying warm weather and sunshine on the Turks and Caicos. Everything was perfect... except the rental car. We used a major car rental service and expected a vehicle that was typical of our former experiences. What we got was officially the worst car I have ever driven.

I think the lady behind the counter was stoned and switched the car we should have received with her personal clunker. The car was green, and white, and rust, depending on the door. There were so many dents that I did not even bother doing a video. The gas cap was a cork and the hubcaps were held on by zip ties.

Inside the car, there was no carpet. The back seat had a huge gash with foam rubber coming out. The check engine and low tire pressure lights were on the whole time. The AC didn't work, the radio would work for awhile until we hit a bump, and the car sounded like a rattlesnake when we hit the gas with us leaving a swirling cloud of smoke. Rhonda's seatbelt got stuck on the first try so she had to slither out and not wear one for the rest of the trip. The odometer was stuck at 28,134 miles (at least they could not charge me for miles) but I think the car may have been passing

28,134 miles on its second time around. The native islanders were shaking their heads at us, but at least I did not have to worry that anyone was going to steal our car.

For all its faults, however, the car did what basic transportation was supposed to do. The car started, and got us where we were going, and that is really what we needed it to do.

Our alpaca farm has something similar. It is easy to think that all alpacas are beautiful but, alas, a few are not. They may have a sweet personality, make good fleece, and be healthy, but we really do not want their offspring. They want to be pregnant and are healthier that way. So, through Rhonda's skill with embryo transfer, we can implant a superstar embryo into these mediocre alpacas, and they will happily gestate them and raise them as their own. They probably look at their genetically unrelated baby, who look at them as their mama, and feel pride that these are the prettiest babies they ever had. These alpacas are usually great moms and, like the rental car, get the job done even if not prettily.

*Rhonda and Kern Deschner are experienced alpaca ranchers raising alpacas through all kinds of Texas weather since 1997. Tierra Prometida Alpaca Ranch can be visited by calling Rhonda at 512 753 9962, or at [tierra@alpacausa.com](mailto:tierra@alpacausa.com).*

# Declaring independence

by Sarah Geenberg



We have always had a rule around the school to not talk politics. People come to practice yoga, Tai Chi, or karate and not for anything else. Through the practice, people find their own truths.

However, in the last few years, the Yoga Alliance, which is the industry standard and controls teacher credentials, has

encouraged yoga teachers to teach political ideals during class. We have vehemently rejected that idea and always will.

In yoga, truths are figured out by slowing down and becoming aware of what the body is saying. Your body holds tensions to protect itself from different things like damage or toxins, but sometimes those things are emotions. And we are not even aware that our emotions are restricting us, physically. But in class, that holding on is gently challenged. Damage is softened, and toxins are released. When ready, the body lets go and in the case of emotions, the mind is taken on a ride. It is usually freeing and self-rewarding as one can relax around something that was once stressful.

In Tai Chi, we play with energy and focus. I have had great realizations about my focus. I have seen that the opposite of what I usually focus on and believe is also valid. In life, it seems energy is just thrown everywhere and experiencing intention in energy flow and stopping energy leaks is powerful.

In karate, people's personality quirks are challenged. For example, in class people are often very hard on themselves when

they make a mistake. But mistakes are required for growth and learning. So people learn that mistakes are okay, but that they need to keep trying. All challenges are ironed out through repetition. People who are aggressive learn to soften, and those who are timid learn to step up.

In general, people get over bumps and do things they thought they could not do. Companies can find power and purpose in joining a political movement. But for us, there are more important things to do.

*Sarah Geenberg is the owner of Wimberley Karate and Yoga Studio, near Blue Hole, and [OnlineSeniorsYoga.com](http://OnlineSeniorsYoga.com). The yoga, Tai Chi, and karate classes are building again. Classes are offered indoors, outdoors, and online. Feel free to come check us out.*

## Wimberley Karate and Yoga Studio



**Sarah Geenberg**  
(512) 971-8528

**501 Old Kyle Road**  
**Wimberley, TX 78676**  
**[wimberleykarateyoga.com](http://wimberleykarateyoga.com)**





## A beautiful yard begins now by Jim and Debbie Donaldson



Attractive landscaping adds value and beauty to your home. It is time to lay the groundwork for the future success of your landscaping in 2023. There are several local landscape companies that you can call to start the process, or if you are a DIY kind of person you can follow these steps to begin:

1. *Clean up.* Clear out weeds, leaves, and debris from your yard and beds. You may also have leftover annuals in your beds that have died back and need to be removed.

2. *Trim.* Prune dead branches from shrubs that bloom on new wood. Wait on those that bloom on old wood. They can be trimmed once leaves emerge.

3. *Work the soil.* Prepare the soil in your garden and beds by using a spade to till the soil. If the soil is too wet you will need to be patient. Here is a test to see if the soil is dry enough to till – take a handful of soil and compress it into a clod. Let it fall from your waist to the ground. If it shatters the soil is ready to work. If the clod sticks together in one piece it is too wet to till. If you are able to work the soil you should add a healthy amount of compost and other soil amendments that will improve the structure of your soil. These steps will aid in root development and water retention during the heat of long summer days.

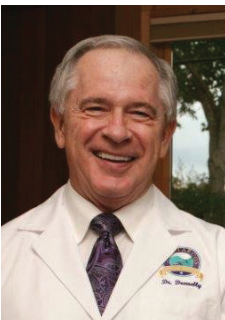
4. *Install new beds.* If you are planning on expanding your garden or beds now is the time to begin. In our area, many are using raised beds which take time to construct and fill.

5. *Begin early planting.* There are many types that can be planted now. We are fortunate to have several local nurseries with knowledgeable staff to help guide you in timing and plant selection. Don't forget to mulch when you are finished planting.

Start now to reap the benefits of a beautiful yard this year.

*Jim and Debbie Donaldson are Sales Agents with Keller Williams, Partners in Real Estate Group, in Wimberley. They moved to Wimberley in 1993 and enjoy helping sellers and buyers have an awesome real estate experience. You can reach Jim at 830-857-3371 or [Jim.Donaldson78@gmail.com](mailto:Jim.Donaldson78@gmail.com) or Debbie 512-665-9588 or [Debbie.Donaldson79@gmail.com](mailto:Debbie.Donaldson79@gmail.com).*

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## Achieve a natural smile with tooth-colored fillings

by Robert Donnelly, DDS

In many cases, when people have any work on themselves done they would like for the results to look as natural as possible. Whether it's our hair, nails, or some sort of cosmetic procedure, we may not want to look completely different but simply a better version of ourselves.

Many people have that same mentality when it comes to their dental work. In cases such as teeth whitening, porcelain veneers, and the like our patients like to look as natural as possible.

When it comes to fillings, you may find it difficult to feel secure in your smile if you have metal in it. Dr. Donnelly understands the importance of wanting to have a beautiful smile and is able to give his patients what they want using tooth-colored fillings. With tooth-colored fillings, your smile is able to look brand new, natural, and beautiful. Metal fillings, or *amalgam fillings*, can be toxic to our bodies as well as unappealing to the eye. Tooth-colored fillings are more durable than amalgam fillings and they are able to match your existing smile exactly.

Amalgam fillings can change shape depending on the temperature of your mouth, which leaves the possibility of expansion, cracking your tooth and inviting bacteria to make your smile its new home. The composite resin we use to make your tooth-colored fillings are more flexible and effectively adhere to your tooth.

These are only a few of the many benefits of tooth-colored fillings. Investigate all the reasons with a dentist you trust knows how to bring out the best in your smile. It can make all the difference.

*If you or someone you know are interested in learning more about maintaining oral hygiene, Dr. Donnelly is here to help you. You can contact San Marcos Gentle Dental by calling 512 396 5225 where we will be happy to get you scheduled. Come see why Dr. Donnelly was voted a Texas Super Dentist by Texas Monthly Magazine and Best Dentist in Hays County!*

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### *Stay*

We offer 2 short-term rental spaces. 4-minute walk to Wimberley square & private access to the Blanco River.

### *Cook*

Thursday, May 11 6:00pm Chef Mark Grimes of the Wimberley Supper Club  
Saturday, May 13 5:00pm "Celebrity Top Chef" CJ Jacobson

### *Host*

The Bell House Wimberley is a one of kind space. We are a private Texas Hill Country home uniquely designed for smaller gatherings. 40 people or less is our sweet spot.



**BELL HOUSE**  
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## Wimberley Arts Fest Under The Trees, April 29 & 30



**OUTDOOR ART SHOW WITH OVER 100 ARTISTS  
LIVE MUSIC | FOOD & WINE | CLASSIC CAR SHOW**

Join us at the Wimberley Arts Fest held April 29 & 30 at The Waters Point Resort, a beautiful outdoor venue on the Blanco River that provides ample space & shade under its towering pecan grove. We're excited to host more than 100 artists from all over the country featuring a variety of mediums – sculpture, paintings, jewelry, furniture, pottery, photographs, textiles, & more. There will be an abundance of art, continuous live music, food & wine, & a car show sponsored by the 12 Kings Car Club with more than 100 classic cars. Admission is free & well-behaved dogs on leashes are welcome.

**April 29, Charity Car Show 10am to 4pm • April 30, 11am to 4pm**

**The Waters Point Resort • 13401 Ranch Rd 12, Wimberley • [WimberleyArtsFest.com](http://WimberleyArtsFest.com) • [Facebook.com/ArtsFestWimberley](https://Facebook.com/ArtsFestWimberley)**



# Buying & selling at the same time?

by AJ Harwood



When it comes to buying a new home at the same time you are selling your current home, planning is key and timing is critical. Everything must fall into place at the right moment. With the proper strategy, you will not have to worry about double mortgage payments or end up without a place to live for a few days or longer.

Before you buy:

1. Make the necessary repairs or improvements to prepare your current home for the market.
2. List your home with a real estate agent.
3. Determine how to fund the down payment – drawing from your current HELOC, retirement funds, savings, or a bridge loan.
4. Start working with a lender and get pre-approved for a new mortgage so it's already in place when you find a home.
5. Have a contingency plan in case you can't find a new home before the sale of your current home closes (live with family, lease back from the new owners after closing, lease temporary housing).

If possible, coordinate the timing of the closing of both houses. Often, you can close on your old home just prior to closing on your new home. Working closely with an experienced real estate agent

will help protect your interests, making the process smoother.

I know the market can be confusing, but I am here to offer clear, concise information you can trust. Feel free to contact me and I will answer any questions you have. Texas is still one of the top states people are moving to. If you are wondering what your home would look like on the market, I would be honored to complete a Comparative Market Analysis (CMA) to see what homes in your neighborhood are selling for right now – you might be surprised! At the end of the day, real estate is local. I'm here to provide the best information so you can make the best choices. Experience matters – especially in the current changing market!

*This information is designed to provide a brief overview of the subject matter covered and is offered for general educational and informational purposes only. Used with permission by the Buffini & Company.*

Allison "AJ" Harwood, JD, MBA, GRI, is the Broker/Owner of RE/MAX REAL PROPERTIES. When Experience matters...Call "AJ" Today! Your Hill Country Luxury Property Expert. Member: Institute for LUXURY HOME MARKETING. He is Wimberley's "Peak Producer" offering Professional Representation for both Buyers and Sellers in Real Estate Transactions. He may be contacted at 512.847."SOLD" 7653 or at AJ@REMAX.net or drop by our office location at 160 South River in the South River Business Park, Wimberley, Texas 78676.

# Trees and storm damage

by Steven Austin



As a result of a recent storm in our area, a number of trees sustained damage, and some of the tree and limb failures inflicted damage to properties. In fact, most damage to properties during storms is caused by falling trees and limbs. As indicated in an article by the Bartlett Tree Experts educational staff, it isn't possible to totally protect your trees

and property from storms, but risk of damage can be reduced by having a qualified arborist inspect your trees for defects and conditions that predispose them to failure.

These defects and conditions can include presence of decay in the branches, trunk, or roots; overextended branches with foliage concentrated at the ends; stems or branches of similar size that originate from the same junction; soil heaving opposite a trunk lean, and similar situations.

Proper pruning can improve weight distribution in and wind flow throughout the canopy and reduce stress on weakened areas of branches. Properly installed support cables and braces, where needed, are also effective in reducing risk of failure. Tree lightning protection systems may also be appropriate in certain situations.

Property owners should be aware that topping and lion's-tailing are not proper pruning practices and can even increase failure risk. Among other reasons that topping is bad for trees, it produces extensive sprouting. These sprouts can grow into branches that form weak attachments. Lion's-tailing, an unfortunately common practice, removes too much foliage along the length of the branches, leaving it concentrated at the branch ends. This increases risk of

branch failure, and it's also unhealthy for the tree. If your tree has sustained storm damage, or even poor pruning, restoration pruning may be appropriate to improve structure and appearance.

Through the years, we've occasionally received feedback from clients who noticed that their properly pruned trees had held up better during storms than neighboring trees that had not been pruned, or properly pruned. Again, preventive maintenance of your trees doesn't remove all risk, but it can certainly reduce it, and that's a worthy objective.

A Wimberley resident, Steven Austin is a member of the Texas Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture and is an ISA Board Certified Master Arborist and ISA Tree Worker/Climber Specialist. His expertise includes integrated pest management of trees and shrubs and state-of-the-art organic treatments. He holds a commercial pesticide license with the Texas Department of Agriculture and is Texas Oak Wilt Certified by the Texas Forest Service. Steven is an Arborist Representative for Bartlett Tree Experts. Call 512 392 1089 or toll-free at 800 443 8733.

	Steven E Austin Arborist Representative ISA Certified Arborist #TX-3616AT
	bartlett.com SAustin@bartlett.com p 512.392.1089 f 512.392.7398
1324 Old Martindale Road, San Marcos, TX 78666	



# Think about your water supply

by Randy Lawrence



With drought conditions and another Texas summer just a few months away, thoughts are turning to alternative water sources and more efficient treatment techniques. More homeowners are looking to the sky in hopes of preventing interruptions to their water supply. Rainwater collection systems are designed and built into many new homes. Although it can be tricky, it is usually possible to incorporate rain collection into an existing structure. When used in conjunction with treated groundwater, the stored rainwater can

ease the burden on our aquifers.

One downside to rainwater collection systems, besides a potentially limited supply, is the cost of installation. Once the system is designed by a professional, you will need gutters, downspouts, collection lines, storage tanks, a booster pump and pressure tank, as well as proper filtration and disinfection equipment. For many homeowners, their budget requires them to consider other means of conserving water. Often, this includes replacing appliances and fixtures with more water-efficient models. One of the most commonly overlooked household appliances is the water softener. It can be difficult to know whether it is operating at maximum efficiency.

There has been a flurry of advertising aimed at those who have had a traditional salt-based water softener. Many of these products have existed for years, and are simply repackaged and heavily

marketed. Unfortunately, the results produced by these *alternatives* typically fall far short of the claims made by their distributors. This often leaves homeowners with no choice but to scrap their investment and start from scratch. The only proven method of removing calcium and other hardness minerals is traditional ion exchange softening, and that recent technological advances have made softeners far more efficient and user-friendly than ever.

To maximize the efficiency of your water treatment system, ensure that your equipment is up to date and that the settings accurately reflect your particular water conditions. An experienced technician can test your water quality, check the condition of your system, and make any adjustments or upgrades which may be necessary.

Randy Lawrence is the owner of ProQuality Water Systems, a full service water treatment company. He is one of only six Class III Certified Water Treatment Specialists in Hays County (LIC# WT0002693). With over 20 years of experience he has serviced Wimberley and surrounding areas for over a decade.

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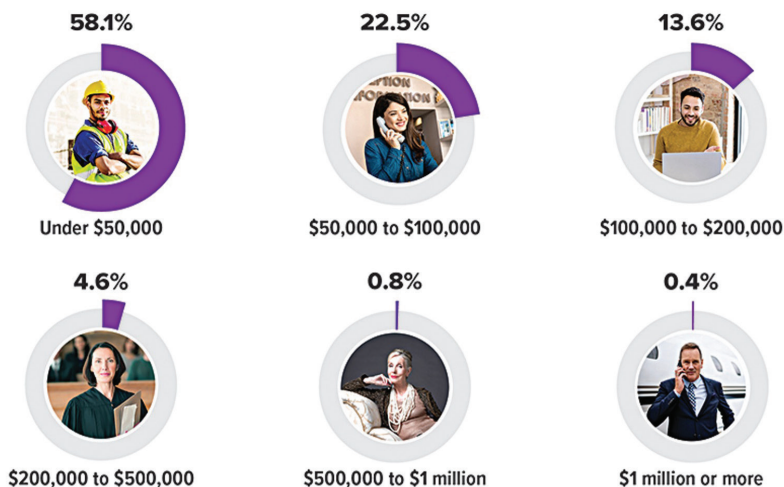
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# Where does your income fit?

by Scott G. Hackett, CFP®

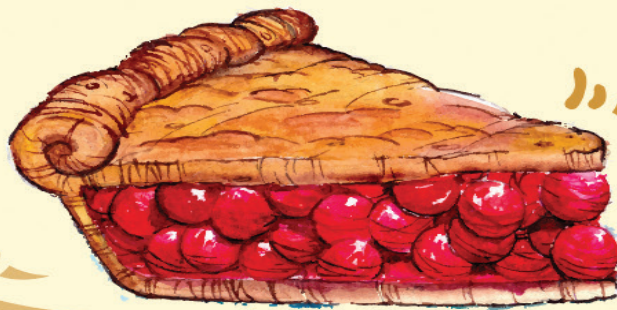


The IRS processed more than 164 million individual income tax returns for tax year 2020 (most recent full-year data). Almost three out of five returns showed an adjusted gross income (AGI) under \$50,000, while a little over 1% showed an AGI of \$500,000 or more.



Scott G. Hackett, CFP® is the president of the Hackett Financial Group LLC (HFG), a fee-only registered investment advisor. Contact Scott at 512-847-0630.

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June 19 - July 1 Musical  
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**Check out website for more details, showtimes,  
calendar additions and special announcements!**



## Litigation: Heard from your lawyer? by Roland Brown



You've got a lawyer, right? Or at least had one once? No? Then just as soon as you finish the important business of reading the rest of my article, please call one that prepares wills and make an appointment to discuss making your will. You'll be doing yourself, and those you care about, a big favor.

Now, although I don't prepare wills, my practice of personal injury litigation is like other types of law practice in once critical sense. We have clients – and those clients generally want us to communicate with them regularly. I'm going to share a little inside information with you. Despite our best intentions to communicate well with our clients, it's easier said than done it seems.

How can you maintain good communications with your lawyer? First, if you are hiring a lawyer, get recommendations from your acquaintances if you can. Also, check for reviews online. If you find more than one unhappy former client complaining about lack of communication, keep looking. Next, when you visit the lawyer's office, get to know the staff. Once they feel a personal connection to you, they are likely to be proactive in making sure communication with you is a priority. You should give the lawyer an idea of the level of communication you would be most comfortable with. Some folks are fine with *just let me know when it's all done*, but most want some updates along the way.

Do you want to be copied with all correspondence and other documentation during the representation (warning: it can be a lot!) Do you have a preferred means of communication? While our firm finds that most of our clients really like texts, which our case management software greatly facilitates for us, some prefer emails, phone calls, or letters. Your lawyer may not be set up to accommodate your preferred method, but it won't hurt to discuss it. Most importantly, remember always that *you are the boss!* The lawyer works for you, and if your lawyer isn't communicating with you, it may just mean the lawyer is busy working on your case and others. Nevertheless, you have every right to call, email, or text and ask *hey, what's going on with my case?* Now go call and set that appointment to get your will done.

*Attorney Roland Brown handles exclusively personal injury claims. Roland, who offices in Wimberley, has been voted HAYS COUNTY'S BEST PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEY for 2020 and for 2021 in annual polls of Hays County attorneys. For more information call 512 847 2500.*



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## Trusts without value by Carrie Campbell



Prior to the year 2000, most estate planning included some type of living trust to minimize estate tax exposure that existed at that time. Currently, your estate must be worth approximately \$12 million for your estate to be subject to federal estate taxes, although such trusts are still used in most other states where estate taxes are imposed on the state level. In Texas, we have no estate tax

so trusts to minimize taxes are of little or no value – but can be a burden and unnecessarily expensive.

Trusts are independent entities like a business with their own tax number that must file tax returns and follow legal formalities. Trusts can be complicated because of the multiple roles that one person often holds: creator (called a *settlor*), trustee, and beneficiary. Deeding property in the name of a trust may also affect availability of property tax exemptions. Therefore, there must be a corresponding benefit to outweigh the bother.

If you live in Texas and have less than \$12 million, and wish to simplify your estate, you have a few options. The first option exists if the settlor is still living, and the trust language allows the settlor to terminate the trust. If available, this option requires that any assets in the name of the trust be transferred to the settlor and a brief document signed stating the trust is terminated and by what

authority. If the settlor(s) has already passed, then the trust may have a provision that permits the trustee to terminate the trust if few or no assets exist. The final option is when the trustee and *all* beneficiaries of the trust agree that there is no longer a benefit to the trust and enter into an agreement to terminate the trust (if the document allows it) or to bypass the trust by waiving any gift the trust receives from someone's will or estate. To make an informed decision about whether you should create, terminate, continue, or bypass a trust, you should consult with an attorney experienced with estate planning and probate.

*Carrie Campbell has lived and practiced law in Wimberley since 1997. She is the managing partner of Mounger & Campbell law firm. Carrie is an active member of the Rotary Club of Wimberley and president of the Wimberley Village Library Foundation. She proudly has three wonderful daughters and two lively grandsons.*



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## Keeping bees healthy

by Tracy Sheffield, RVT



Watching TV veterinarians at work can give you a pretty good idea about what types of animals can receive veterinary care. On TV you see them treating the usual dogs, cats, birds, horses, and farm animals. You see them treating pocket pets, reptiles, and exotic animals. You probably feel like you have seen every animal on the planet treated by a veterinarian.

There may be one you haven't considered. Honey bees. Yes, honey bees can benefit from veterinary care. Honey bees have health issues just like all the above listed animals. In addition, there are laws concerning honey bees that are different than any other species.

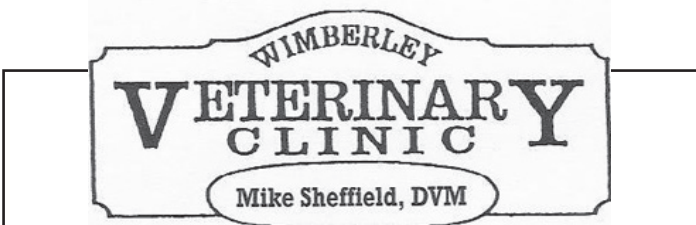
Many things can go wrong when keeping bees and it is important to be able to figure out what the problem is to be able to correctly address it. Bees can suffer from mites, bacterial infections, and for a variety of reasons the death of the entire colony. Treating some of these conditions – with the new changes to laws in beekeeping – can require the help of a veterinarian.

Vaccinating bees now requires the assistance of a veterinarian. No, there are no tiny syringes for bees. Vaccinations are given through a medicated sugar patty that the bees eat. A prescription from a veterinarian, called a veterinary feed directive, is now required. It is important to discuss the option of vaccination with your veterinarian because of how honey bees process the vaccination.

If it appears that bees in a colony are dying off, the veterinarian can send the bees to the appropriate laboratory to diagnose the cause of death. With an accurate diagnosis, the correct treatment can be implemented.

Beekeeping is a wonderful hobby with sweet rewards. There are many experienced beekeepers in the area that can help the novice beekeeper on the road to success. A relationship with a veterinarian willing to help care for these important pollinators will keep your bees happy, working, and producing honey. Talk with your veterinarian about local beekeepers and honey bee health.

*Tracy Sheffield, RVT works with her husband, Dr. Mike Sheffield, at Wimberley Veterinary Clinic. Wimberley Veterinary Clinic sees all kinds of animals, dogs, cats, horses, birds, pocket pets, reptiles and other exotic animals. Make your boarding reservations online at WimberleyVetClinic.com or call us at 512 847 5630.*



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10 Cedar Valley Ct MLS 6954853 Great NEW Somerset 4/2 home! \$575,000 Alice Lebkuecher



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100 Pluma Ct MLS 1903811 3/2 on 3 acres in Falconwood. Pool, fenced, chicken coop \$670,000 Alice Lebkuecher



**New Price**

920 Elder Hill Rd MLS 8934001 \$575,000 Create your STR! 5 acres, resort ready RV. Debbie Donaldson



000 W. Cambridge Rd MLS 2434595 45 acres of heavily wooded land i between Wimberley and Blanco. \$990,000 Jim Donaldson



460 Lloyd Ln MLS 9395690 Beautiful 5/3 on 2.75 acres in Butler Ranch Estates. \$1,325,000 Jim Donaldson



501 Rancho Grande Dr MLS 3482009 Home tucked away on 2.6 acres. Studio, greenhouse, workshop. \$800,000 Alice Lebkuecher



**New Price**

171 River Bend Rd MLS 8201806 3/2 on Breathtaking Blanco riverfront! 7.48 acres. \$3,250,000 Jim Donaldson



**Pending**

949 Spoke Hollow Rd MLS 2414600 Beautiful 3/4 on 4 acres. Pool and Views. \$850,000 Jim Donaldson



**New**

121 Camino Derecho MLS 8997044 Awesome 4/3 on 5 acres. Pool, Guest house \$1,290,000 Alice Lebkuecher



**New Price**

1231 Heritage Hill MLS 489266 Great 2 story 3/1 Canyon Lake views \$440,000 Debbie Donaldson



**Pending**

118 Camino De Roble Great 3/2 in Las Lomas Sbdv. Pool, Barn, Views! \$850,000 Alice Lebkuecher



122 Tulley CT MLS 6679350 Commercial lot. 1.17 acre \$335,000 Alice Lebkuecher



TBD Lone Man Mountain Rd MLS 6447362 10 Acres, nice oaks and cleared of cedars. High fenced! \$750,000 Alice Lebkuecher



120 Patriotic MLS 8913032 \$172,000 2 acres, Hill country views! Jeff Hutto



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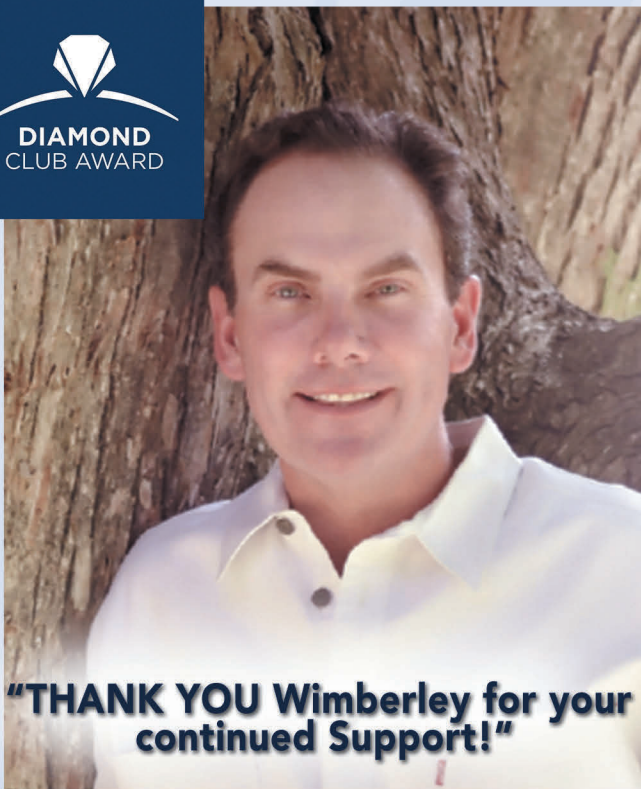
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