

Wimberley Valley NEWS & VIEWS

POSTAL PATRON

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #8
WIMBERLEY, TX 78676
ECRWS



VOLUME 28 ISSUE 1 JANUARY 2025

Come see us at our NEW LOCATION!



Hills of Texas
SKY REALTY

190 Oak Drive

Two blocks off the
Wimberley Square

Across from
Oak Park / Public Parking



Experienced Agents
with
Outstanding Results



Angel Laughlin

Broker Associate
512.217.6938



Barbara Latimer

Broker Associate/Mgr.
512.557.5257



Ben Mejia

REALTOR® Associate
512.994.5423



Brittany Bailey

REALTOR® Associate
512.648.0858



Chloe Gatewood

REALTOR® Associate
512.779.7288



Christina Lawson

Broker Associate
512.710.5628



Curtis Reddehase

Broker/Owner
512.565.7848



Jackie Hines

REALTOR® Associate
512.968.4167



John (J.D.) Payne

REALTOR® Associate
512.412.0897



Jennifer Kirchner

REALTOR® Associate
512.757.7076



Jonathan Bailey

REALTOR® Associate
512.599.7587



Jordan Carter

REALTOR® Associate
512.842.9032



Josh Harmon-Sanders

REALTOR® Associate
512.689.7556



Kim Cabler

REALTOR® Associate
512.695.8363



Kurt Kimmerle

REALTOR® Associate
512.667.8278



Laura Kilber

Broker Associate
512.376.8098



Lee Pruden

REALTOR® Associate
512.771.9463



Maureen Shanklin

Broker Associate
512.517.5735



Melody Pruden

REALTOR® Associate
512.773.3168



Pam Shultz

Broker Associate
512.923.3608



Sharon Wild

REALTOR® Associate
970.318.6406



Sheryl Kelley

REALTOR® Associate
512.557.3851



Steve Hysinger

Broker Associate
512.461.2865

190 Oak Drive • Wimberley, TX 78676 • 512.722.3267 • HillsofTexasSky.com

Editor
Publisher
Cyle Elizabeth Johnson

Creative Director
Nico Johnson

Cover
Madeline Harper Photography
for Sloan Hollace
Hill Country Interiors

The Wimberley Valley News & Views,
a subsidiary of Valentino Publications,
is mailed monthly to all street addresses serviced by the
Wimberley Post Office in 78676.

Entire contents copyright ©2025. Reproduction of any of this
publication requires written permission of publisher. We are not
responsible for the products and services advertised or the views
contained in this publication.

Contact us
Info@WVNewsViews.com
512 375 5590



**“CELEBRATE WHAT YOU WANT TO SEE
MORE OF.”**

– TOM PETERS

Mindset. The last sermon of the year at the Austin Ridge focused on mindset. It’s something I work on daily in order to get it all done and do it well – and with some semblance of panache, meaning, and intention.

This sermon was interesting because it talked about the scarcity versus abundance mindset and how that relates to our being provided for by a Sovereign being. This wasn’t your typical televangelist abundance sermon, it was more about gratitude and

genuine faith that everything will work out for your own good. And being patient with the process.

I like this quote by Tom Peters. When we celebrate something, we take the time to notice the way we’re feeling and honor that. Celebration is common in our culture – birthdays, graduations, holidays. But what about the every day successes that seem too small for celebration? What might some grander acknowledgement of the little things do for our mindset?

Cyle Elizabeth Johnson, Editor



WIMBERLEY VALLEY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- Every 1st Mon. *Wimberley Apron Society* meets at Emily Ann Annex Bldg. Set-up at 5:30, program 6-8pm. Exchange ideas on healthy sustainable lifestyles, gardening, cooking, homesteading. See Facebook page for more.
- Every 2nd Mon. *Wimberley Valley Art League* meets at the Wimberley Community Center at 6:30-8:30pm. Visit WimberleyArtLeague.org
- Every 2nd Mon. *Wimberley 4H* meets during the school year at VFW Hall, 401 Jacobs Well Road, 7pm, 6:30pm Clover Kids
- 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, general discussion. Parkinson's exercise program. Paulwilj99@gmail.com.
- Every 2nd & 4th Monday, The Wimberley Chapter of *Overeaters Anonymous* meets at 7pm, Wimberley Presbyterian Church, 956 FM 2325 (3rd door from the right). For more info, call or text Aida, 512-787-8313.
- Mon. January 13, Jacob's Well Chapter, *National Society Daughters of the American Revolution*, Emily Ann Theater in Wimberley at 9:40am, for chat time and 10am for our business meeting. JacobsWellNSDAR@gmail.com
- Mon. *Toddler Time*, Wimberley Village Library, 10:30-11:30am
- Every Mon. *Stroller Strides workout*, 9am, Wimberley First Baptist Church, contact Summer 512 644 4198, SMWimberleyDS@fit4mom.com
- Every Tues. *Gentle Hatha Yoga*, 6pm, Wimb. Community Center (\$10)
- Every Tuesday, 6:30pm, *Celebrate Recovery* with an option for dinner served at 6pm. Calvary Baptist Church, San Marcos. Contact Celebrate Recovery Leadership Team, 512-426-3758.
- Every Tues. *Bilingual Spanish Storytime*, 10:30-11:30am, Library
- Every Tues. 6:30-8pm. *Community Bible Study*, an interdenominational Bible study. Men, women, Co-Ed, Spanish, Youth & Children. Register at SanMarcosEve.CBSCClass.org
- 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* meets at Wimberley Library. Ermias K. Gebremeskel is president, 512 210 6966, Ketema_Ermias@yahoo.com
- Every 1st Tue. The Wimberley Community Center hosts *free medical checks* 9:30-10:30am. Call 512-847-2510.
- Every 1st Wed. *Transforming Stress: Unique Approach to Calm Body, Mind, Emotions*, Friends Meeting Room, 6-7:30pm, contact Dr. Marianne Calvanese, ND for more information, 512 663 1820.
- Every Wed. *Stroller Barre workout*, 9am, Wimberley First Baptist Church, contact Summer, 512 644 4198 or email SMWimberleyDS@fit4mom.com
- Every 1st Wed. 5:30-7pm, *Wimberley Valley Arts & Cultural Alliance* mixer at Middleton Brewing. All are welcome. WimberleyArts.org.
- Every Wed. *Spanish for Homeschool Teens*, 12:30-1:30pm, Wimberley Library, multipurpose room, 7th grade and up
- Every Wed. *Gentle Hatha Yoga*, 3pm, Burdine Theatre, EmilyAnn (\$10)
- Every 1st Thurs. *Wimberley Chamber of Commerce* breakfast, Wimberley Cafe for networking opportunities, 8-9am. Bring business cards.
- Every 3rd Wed. Sept. thru May, Hill Country Unit of the *Herb Society of America*, Wimberley Library. Visitors welcome! Refreshments 9:00am, program at 10am. Contact Valentine_Lisa@msn.com.
- Every first Thursday, Art Crawl, 5-8pm, 5 Wimberley galleries open late, guest artists, refreshments. WimberleyArts.org/programs/ArtCrawl



Have something to add to the Calendar?

Reach out to us at info@WVNEWSVIEWS.com

or 512 375 5590.

- Every 1st Thur. *Alzheimer's Caregiver's Support Group*, 12:30pm at the Presbyterian Church Library FM 2325. Contact Linda at 512-924-3661.
- Every Thurs. *Gentle Hatha Yoga*, 12pm, Community Center (\$10)
- 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. Toastmasters teaches public speaking and leadership. Contact Amy, amy@texiasllc.com.
- Every 3rd Thur. *Concerts* at Susanna's Kitchen Coffeehouse, 7:30pm; \$25 adults, \$5 kids. Pie, pizza, tamales, coffee, soft drinks. RR 12 & CR 1492 (United Methodist Church.) WimberleyUMC.org Barnabas Connection & Mother's Day Out scholarships. **Thurs. January 16: Warren Hood**
- Every Thurs. *Gentle Yoga* 10-11am, Wimberley Village Library
- Every Thursday, *Master Gardeners* at the Library, 2-5pm
- Every Fri. *Wimberley VFW Post 6441* bingo nights. Doors 6:30pm with food concession. Earlybird 7:00pm. Regular 8pm. VFW6441.com/bingo
- Fri. *Storytime*, 10:30-11:30am, Wimberley Village Library
- Every Fri. *Stroller Strides workout*, 9am, Emily Ann Theatre, contact Summer, 512 644 4198 or smwimberleyds@fit4mom.com
- Every Fri. *Stroller Strides Playdate with Kids Craft Fridays*, 10am, Emily Ann Theatre, contact Summer, 512 644 4198 or SMWimberleyDS@fit4mom.com
- Every Fri. *Storytime*, 10:30-11:30am, Wimb. Village Library
- 1st Sat. *Wimberley Market Day*, 7am-3pm, rain or shine
- 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.
- Every 3rd Sat. *Art Bazaar*, Wimberley Valley Winery noon-6pm
- 1st Sun. of every month, *Coffee & Cars*, 8am-11am, at Blanco Brew

Farm to Table

Gardeners devote untold hours nurturing beautiful flowering plants for the primary purpose of bringing joy to their lives. We also put them to solemn use in weddings, enjoy them as decor on our kitchen counters, and send them with love in bud vases delivered to hospitals.

Flowers from vegetable plants morph through the magic of their incredibly special genetics into delicious goodness on our dining tables and feed the world. Some flowers become delicious fruit that carries important nutrients. Some of those fruits are essential in the making of my favorite beverages. Indeed, flowers, buds, bulbs, fruit, nuts, and seeds—all reproductive parts of plants—make up the bulk of the food pantry for our species.

Indeed, there are over fifty thousand edible plant species, but we mainly eat around fifteen of them. Some of these foods have come into greater cultivation because they are well suited to farming methods available. Some have become more used due to their massive yields, such as grains. Some are selected for their ease of storage and transportation.

A common vegetable, Brassica oleracea, is actually several plants you may eat without recognizing they are the same species. Cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, Brussels sprouts, collard greens, savoy, and kohlrabi are all the same plant, cultivated and selectively bred for the last twenty centuries for their differing characteristics.



by Kern Deschner

Sometimes I wonder how we humans ever survived as a species. We are so susceptible. We are wholly ill-designed to handle even moderate cold weather. One would think that we would have trouble over-populating the planet since we usually have one baby a year, rarely have litters. We don't run, swim, burrow, or climb very quickly, and have pathetic teeth and claws. There are dozens of animals that could kill us if we were cornered. If someone from outer space showed up here a million years ago and saw lions, tigers, bears, wolves, not to mention snakes, spiders, and crocodiles, I don't think they would've bet on humans to dominate all the others. I think we are the only animal that kills other animals and wears their skin to protect us against elements that we are so poorly adapted to survive. We have become the animal that struggles to restrain itself from destroying all the others. Who would've suspected that we hairless apes, with opposable thumbs, language skills, and extraordinary proficiencies at throwing projectiles, would subdue everything else on the planet.

I wonder the same thing about alpacas. It seems a marvel that they survived as well. As herbivores they don't have to kill anybody to eat, but that makes them a prime target for those animals that do. They can't climb or fly away and I have never



by Tim Thompson

Grasses also represent substantial portions of our food. Rice, corn, wheat, barley, oats, rye, and millet are all grasses either traditionally bred or genetically altered to produce more grain, with less water, or without weed competition. After blooming, they can produce many seeds on their maturing panicles. Some produce hundreds of seeds on a plant grown from a single seed.

The productivity of plants is testament to how well Mother Nature's skills work. Natural selection and human agriculture make it possible for us to feed over eight billion people. It's truly a wonder that our greatest challenges to feeding everyone are logistical and political. We have plenty of food, but we need to put more heart into the feeding of the world.

Horticulturist Tim Thompson managed the garden center at King Feed for over 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 King Feed at 512 847 2618.



The Underdogs

seen one swim. They don't have much in the way of fangs or claws. All they have for defense is that they can run. They breed slowly, only having one baby a year, so they can't re-populate by having litters of babies. On the other hand, they are fleece-bearing animals, so they don't have to worry too much about getting cold. They like it that way. Like humans, they are pretty smart, they stick together, and they have a rudimentary language. They have survived through the millennia with very little defense, except to be able to run. It is amazing that they weren't all taken out by predators, but they have survived with intelligence and coordination.

Maybe part of the reason they have done well is that, like dogs, they have adapted well to humans, who find that they are more valuable alive than they are on the table. It can be a good thing to have the top animal on the planet thinking you are valuable when healthy and alive. That alien visiting the earth now may not choose alpacas as the species likely to run the world in a few million years, but who knows?

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.

Happy New Year!

In karate, we have a tradition to have the first class of the year in the dark. We joke around and say that we've been off during Christmas, and we are in the dark to hide our errors until we get back into it. Also, the students like that teach can't see the fumbles. Ugh.

But really, training in the dark forces us to think differently. Our eyes are relatively useless, so we have to use our other senses when we are trying to find balance and power in our moves. Thinking differently opens us up to new exploration. It is a great way to start the year, and the students end up requesting that we practice that way again and again.

In yoga, the New Year is started with openness, too. We visualize what is to come, and we find gratitude. In yoga, we are taught to really listen to our bodies and we look forward to what we can learn from that in the coming year.

One thing we talk about is that what we think will happen often does – because we make it that way. If we think that we will flub something, we do. If we think something will really work, we make it so that it does.

How do you see your New Year? You may think you need to exercise more or start other good habits. Or maybe you want to start a new hobby. Can you visualize what that will look like?



by Robert Donnelly,
DDS

The Effects of Acid Erosion

The loss of tooth enamel due to acid erosion and acid wear is a growing epidemic. Studies have found that twenty-two percent of U.S. adults say they experience acid erosion, which can cause tooth sensitivity, transparency, discoloration and more.

Acid erosion occurs when acid in the foods and drinks you consume wears away your enamel which is the white-looking outer covering of the tooth. Erosion exposes your teeth's inner layers, which increases sensitivity and makes them more susceptible to cavities or decay. It also can leave your teeth looking cracked, transparent and discolored. Acid erosion also can occur as a result of your teeth's exposure to stomach acids due to some medical conditions, including gastroesophageal reflux disease and bulimia. In addition, environmental factors, including friction (bruxism) and abrasion (brushing too hard), can cause erosion. Signs and symptoms of acid erosion include sensitivity, discoloration, rounded teeth, transparency, cracks and cupping, or small dents that may appear on the chewing surface of your teeth.

You can reduce sensitivity at home by using specially formulated toothpaste or over-the-counter enamel-building products. These products are designed to reharder (remineralize) tooth enamel to

Many times, I ask my students to visualize what they are about to do, especially when they are demonstrating their skills. Sometimes, they struggle to see it, for they are afraid of messing up. They learn to visualize success and are surprised when they do it.

So be honest. When you think of trying something, can you see yourself succeed, at least at the first step? If not, keep visualizing until you figure it out. Then you might be surprised by the outcome, too.

Sarah is the owner of Wimberley Karate and Yoga Studio, near Blue Hole, and 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.



by Sarah Geenberg

Wimberley Karate and Yoga Studio

Sarah Geenberg
(512) 971-8528

501 Old Kyle Road
Wimberley, TX 78676

WimberleyKarateYoga.com



make it more resistant to acid. However, there are no products that can reverse the damage caused by erosion. At the dental office, if the enamel loss is minimal, we may apply a bonding material that will protect your tooth and improve its appearance. If the enamel loss is significant, we may recommend covering it with a crown.

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!



J. ROBERT DONNELLY, D.D.S.

Master of the Academy of General Dentistry

1337 THORPE LANE

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS 78666

512 396 5225

FAX: 512 396 7022

SANMARCOSDENTAL.COM

Are you aging well?



by *Betsy & Rance
Mosley*

As 2024 comes to a close and we begin the new year I find myself wondering where did all the time go? I feel like time is definitely going much faster now than when I was younger. I am also coming to the realization that aging is not always fun, but it is inevitable.

In the *Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities* study, researchers looked at health data from 11,255 adults over a 30 year span to try and determine the importance of proper hydration in older adults. The scientists looked at serum sodium levels, which rise when fluid levels in the body go down. Higher serum sodium levels can signal dehydration or a problem with your kidneys.

The study found that individuals with above average levels were more likely to be biologically older than their chronological age. These individuals had a substantially greater risk of developing chronic health conditions, such as heart failure, stroke, atrial fibrillation, peripheral artery disease, chronic lung disease, diabetes, and dementia. Are you thirsty yet?

Unfortunately, as we age our sense of thirst actually diminishes. One reason for this is because of the psychological changes associated with aging, which alters the body's electrolyte balance and mutes the sensation of thirst. Changes in cognitive abilities can also lead to an impaired sense of thirst. All this becomes compounded by the fact that as we age our body water percentage actually decreases and we have less water in reserve for our body to use.

As a reminder here are some key benefits of staying well hydrated: Joint lubrication, delivers oxygen throughout the body,

aids in skin health which keeps you looking younger, it cushions the brain, spinal cord, and other sensitive tissues, regulates body temperature, keeps the digestive system working properly, flushes body waste, helps maintain blood pressure, it makes minerals and nutrients accessible, prevents kidney damage, boosts performance during exercise, and helps your metabolism.

So if you are having a hard time deciding on a New Year's resolution you could always make a plan to improve your hydration protocol.

From our family to yours we would like to say thank you for your support and patronage. We wish you the best in the New Year!

If you have been curious about trying alkaline water and have never visited our store, come see us and receive a free gallon of water in the month of January.

Rance & Betsy Mosley are the owners of Blue Jug of Wimberley and My Wimberley Office Space. Rance retired from teaching after 28 years & now manages and operates Blue Jug while Betsy teaches at Blue Hole Primary. Stop by & try the best tasting water in the Hill Country. Located at 14201 Ranch Road 12, Suite 1. Contact us at 512 387 1001 or email Rance@bluejug.com.

Creating and Maintaining Friendships

As far back as 400 BC, Greek dramatist and writer, Euripides, wrote, "One loyal friend is worth ten thousand relatives." No doubt for many of us there are times when we can really relate to that sentiment. While relationships with relatives are important, the relationships we create with our friends exist in a different realm. With relatives, there is the binding glue of genetic lineage, but with our friends, there is only one thing – our choosing to be with them and they choose to be with us.

Friendships are important for good mental health, and one doesn't necessarily have to have a long list of them. Having one, two, or more good friends in your life is invaluable to feeling more connected with the world and more in balance within yourself. But it takes work, skill, and time for friendships, and often people find themselves frustrated with two basic aspects: creating friendships and maintaining friendships.

But what is a friend? Qualities that are often described of healthy relationships are: you feel good being with them. There is mutual like and respect for each other. They keep your personal information to themselves and don't share it with others. You can talk openly without fear of ridicule or judgement. They're fun to be with. They accept you. They have time for you.

One of the foundations of friendship is mutuality. In healthy,

growing friendships it goes both ways in one being there for the other. Both people need to invest the time and effort to talk to each other from time to time in order to be heard. While some friendships can survive with only occasional contact, generally there needs to be a more constant investment of energy and self. Even the toughest cactus will wither away and die if

deprived of water for too long. Friendships need that contact in order to thrive as much as living things need nourishment.

Friendships take commitment. Some friendships work best with spur of the moment contact, but others need more planning in order to stay fresh. Sometimes friends have regular weekly or bi-weekly lunches or outings together, and work that into their schedules. Others plan the next time they will get together as they end their time together for that day. Even small things make a difference – remembering birthdays or holidays with cards.

Sometimes even the best of friendships have the life cycle of birth, growth, decline, and death. There are times when a friendship is important enough to infuse with energy and bring it back to life. Sometimes too much time and separation has passed. Life does go on. New friends out there to be made.

Leslie Tourish, LPC, is a Dripping Springs psychotherapist in private practice. To contact Leslie, please go to www.leslietourish.com or www.latourish.com



by *Leslie Tourish,
LPC*

Home Upgrades that Boost Value & Add Style

When it comes to home renovations, making thoughtful upgrades can not only elevate the beauty and function of your space but also provide a significant return on investment. In Wimberley, where charm and Hill Country character reign supreme, certain renovations stand out as the most impactful for increasing your home's value.

Floors and Paint: The Foundation of Your Home's Style Floors set the tone for your entire home and updating them can instantly refresh and modernize a space. Hardwood or high-quality engineered wood flooring offers timeless appeal, while luxury vinyl plank has become a durable and stylish option for busy households. Pair new floors with a fresh coat of paint for an inviting backdrop that showcases your home at its best. Neutral, warm tones or nature-inspired hues complement the surrounding Hill Country beauty. Rooms feel more spacious and cohesive.

Kitchens and Bathrooms: The Heart of Value It's no secret that kitchens and bathrooms are top priorities for homebuyers and homeowners alike. A kitchen remodel—whether it's a full overhaul or a refresh with new countertops, cabinetry, and lighting—can transform how you enjoy your home daily. In bathrooms, consider upgrades like modern fixtures, custom tile, and improved storage. These spaces not only elevate comfort and style but consistently contribute to a home's resale value.

Built-Ins and Lighting: Function Meets Character Built-in features, such as bookshelves, window seats, or custom cabinetry optimize space while creating focal points that showcase your style.

Replacing builder-grade fixtures with statement lighting, such as pendants, sconces, or chandeliers, enhances form and function while adding a touch of personality.

The Big Picture: Making Smart Investments Renovating your home isn't just about keeping up with trends; it's about investing in upgrades that bring joy to your everyday life while maximizing your home's value. Whether you're planning to stay for years or preparing to sell, focusing on these areas will create a home that's both beautiful and valuable—a place that truly feels like yours.



by Allann Arnold & Victoria Payne

Interior Design for thoughtful living
Your dream home awaits



HILL COUNTRY INTERIORS



SCAN TO FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM
www.sloanhollace.com
info@sloanhollace.com

2025 Houzz Home Design Trends: The Top 8 Predictions



by Alice Lebkuecher

This is the time of year for 2025 home design predictions. Here are the top eight 2025 Houzz Design Trends.

English-Style Kitchens: Classic English country style can help to create a cozy and welcoming feel in the kitchen. Think

cabinets in rich woods and historical paint colors like moody blues and deep greens.

Arches: Design and remodeling pros are incorporating arches throughout the home for doorways, windows, niches, cabinets, and millwork details.

Shower Rooms: While light and airy showers with frameless glass enclosures continue to be popular. The shower room style of shower has a glass door leading into a fully enclosed space that creates an intimate, spa-like look and feel.

Range Alcoves: The range is set within a recessed alcove or niche area, sometimes arched, and often flanked by countertops and side walls. It creates a focal point, allowing for a natural stopping point for, and containment of, a striking backsplash.

Narrow Wet Rooms: Wet rooms are increasing in popularity and consist of a set up that combines a separate shower and tub in one combined space. Placing a tub at the back of a long room, with a separate shower in front, gives homeowners with tight spaces a wet room arrangement that feels more luxurious.

Wood-Infused Architectural Warmth: There's been a shift from cool whites and grays to off whites, beiges, tans, creams, and browns. Paired with warm neutral palettes, earthy tones, and organic colors, we're seeing wood elements used as ceiling beams, trim, millwork, wall paneling, posts, and cabinetry to add architectural warmth to spaces throughout the home.

Layers Of Color, Pattern, And Texture: We've also noticed that designers are getting requests from homeowners for a more-is-more approach that layers bold color, pattern, and texture.

Multiple Outdoor Cooking Options: Homeowners will still focus on creating an outdoor entertaining space. But we're seeing homeowners embrace other outdoor cooking methods as well. In addition to traditional grills, homeowners are adding pizza ovens, smokers, ceramic kamado-style barbecues, and Argentinian-style gaucho grills.

Source: Adapted from article in Forbes

Alice Gumbert Lebkuecher is a sales agent with Keller Williams Realty, Partners in Real Estate, in Wimberley. She works with both buyers and sellers in Wimberley and surrounding areas. To contact her, call her cell at 713 253 1311 or by email at AliceinWimberley@gmail.com.



by AJ Harwood

9 Tips for Developing Better Habits

More than half of adults make New Year's resolutions each year. Many give up after a few weeks because they haven't turned their goals into habits. Whether you want to lose weight, save for a home, or eat more vegetables, adopting good habits is sure to

help you reach your goals. Here are a few tips:

1. Get motivated. Why do you want to adopt the habit? How will your life improve once you develop this habit? What will happen if you don't? These questions will help you streamline your goal and maintain motivation when you need it the most. Write down your answers and post them where you'll read them daily.
2. Start small; lasting habits take time to develop. Start by setting small goals that will eventually lead you to accomplishing your end result. Focus on manageable changes at the beginning of your transformation; habits are more likely to become automatic.
3. Set reminders; it's easy to fall off track when you're in the process of adopting a new habit. Consistency is key.
4. Replace a bad habit. If you want to kick a bad habit, it helps to replace it with a better one. Trying to quit eating sugary snacks? Keep carrot sticks or nuts nearby.
5. Tell people about the habit you're adopting. The more people you tell, the more accountable you'll feel.
6. Have realistic expectations. Changes don't happen overnight – they happen over several weeks and months of consistent action.
7. Studies show it takes 30 days to form a habit. If it hasn't become automatic by then, pinpoint the challenges and try again.

Young Trees Deserve TLC

Bartlett Tree Experts recommends some of these standard practices for young trees to get a *new arrival* off to a good start.

- Root Collar Excavation: It's most important in young tree care to remove excess soil near the buttress roots and the root collar of the tree to prevent disease. The Root-Rx Root InvigorationÆ program from Bartlett Tree Experts helps to remove excess soil around sensitive roots without damage. It promotes rapid root growth for improved nourishment.
- Hydration: It's critical for new transplants to have adequate water – especially under drought conditions. Over-watering can be just as damaging. A soil moisture monitoring device or a tensiometer indicates when watering should occur.

Either an irrigation system or a low cost soaker hose with a water timer can maintain a regular schedule of watering during a drought and avoid over-watering.

- Fertilization/Soil Analysis: An application of fertilizer promotes the goal of rapid growth. Nutrients are added to the soil that may be lacking.

Soil analysis is another service Bartlett provides that can reveal nutrients available (or lacking) at an individual planting site.

- Selective Pruning: Most shade trees have one central trunk. If the tree has more than one, then the crown should be corrected by pruning away the defect. A strong central leader

8. Take on one habit at a time. Although you may feel motivated to revamp your life and change several habits at once, doing so may prevent you from adopting any of them. Focus on one good habit at a time. Once it becomes routine, take on another.

9. Reward yourself for a job well-done! Think about how to reward yourself ahead of time for something to look forward to.

Real estate is local and I'm here to walk you through with the best information so you can make the best choices and know how it applies to you in the Wimberley and Texas Hill Country area. If you're thinking of selling your home, call me today! 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. Sources: NAR 2015 Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers. Used with permission by the Buffini & Company.

Allison "AJ" Harwood, JD, MBA, GRI, is the Broker/Owner of RE/MAX REAL PROPERTIES and the #2 Top Producing RE/MAX Agent for Austin and the Central Texas Area for 2023. 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. AJ may be contacted at 512.848-6612 or at AJ@REMAX.net Call AJ Today!

should be left intact, and any other defects like v-crotches should be corrected. No more than 33% of the crown should be affected at one session. That may mean pruning in several sessions over a period of time. Limbs that compete with the central leader should be reduced in length and removed the following year.

- Insect and Disease Inspection: Regular inspections may reveal pest and disease problems. Damage from insects and disease may not be obvious – except to a trained eye. These problems often occur in higher branches and can't be seen easily from the ground. Pest and disease management techniques should be applied before damage reaches irreversible levels and severely affects the health of the tree.

Joe grew up in Charlotte, Michigan, as a second-generation arborist. He attended Texas State, joining Bartlett while he was there. Joe worked 5 years as an arborist climber and crew leader, transitioning to Arborist Representative. He and his family love spending time on the San Marcos river. Visit Bartlett.com or call 512 392 1089 to schedule an appointment.



by Joe Harris



ENHANCING THE SHOT

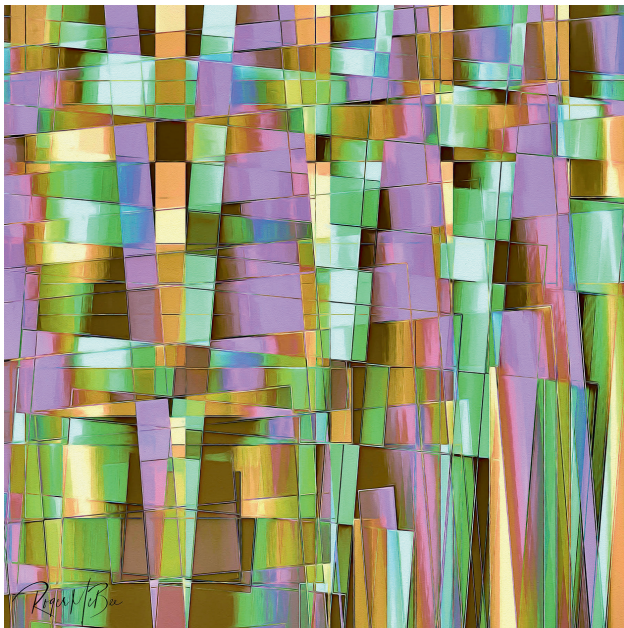
BY TOM WILEY

If you visit Art On 12 Gallery in Wimberley, especially during their monthly Second Saturday Gallery Trail, you will most certainly be greeted by Roger McBee. Roger is one of the owners of this popular destination gallery.

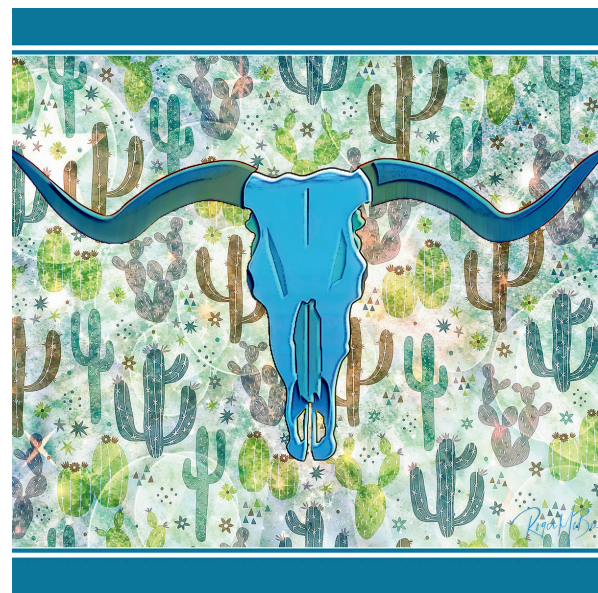
In one of the main rooms, you will find Roger's wall of work. Roger is a professional photographer and creator of fantastic digital art. In addition to detailing his displays, Roger can enlighten visitors to pretty much every work in the building. This skill comes from a long background, which almost always revolved around art.



ROGER MCBEE



JAGGED EDGE



LONGHORN AND CACTUS



A CLASSIC

Digital art is the enhancement of a photograph, in the simplest sense. Roger goes far beyond enhancement. His tools include an immense collection of photographs and numerous computer based programs. An upcoming project might include a review through this collection, creating a digital collage of photos, or using his skills for pure experimentation.

Roger moved to Wimberley 25 years ago and began photographing Hill Country landscapes and wildlife. He was influenced by local photographers Dan Gautier, Robert Anschutz, Tom Bender, and the late Herb Smith. He joined the Wimberley Valley Art League and for several years helped set up their art shows, where he also exhibited his work.



THE FARM GIRL

In the fall of 2013, Roger was approached by Bob Cook. He and his wife Zeina were opening Art On 12 Gallery and Studios. Roger was invited to become a member. He has been there ever since.

Roger's skills come from his extensive background and is inspired by what he calls his "muse." He writes...

before the blank screen
with a blind and blank mind
waiting and wondering
where is the she goddess
that sings to me her song
the mighty muse
the enigmatic enabler
and there and then
with sudden inspiration
she silently speaks

RogerMcBee.com
Art On 12 Gallery
13811 Ranch Road 12, Wimberley

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 5-7PM ART RECEPTION
WIMBERLEY COMMUNITY CENTER
MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 6:30PM
ART LEAGUE MONTHLY MEETING. OPEN TO EVERYONE

Financial Decisions for the New Year: Strategies to Enhance Your Financial Well-Being

- 1. Establish clear financial goals.** The first step is to establish clear, achievable goals. These should be specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART). For instance, instead of "save more money," aim for "save \$5,000 by the end of the year." Clear goals provide direction and motivation.
- 2. Create a budget and stick to it.** A well-structured budget is the backbone of good financial management. List all income sources and categorize your expenses, including essentials like rent and groceries, and discretionary spending. Use budgeting tools to monitor your spending and stay within limits. Review and adjust your budget as needed.
- 3. Build an emergency fund.** An emergency fund acts as a safety net for unexpected expenses. Aim to save at least three to six months of living expenses in a separate, accessible account. Consistently contributing to your emergency fund can provide peace of mind.
- 4. Reduce and manage debt.** Start by listing all your debts. Prioritize paying off high-interest debt first. Consider the

snowball or avalanche method to tackle debt. Explore options for refinancing or consolidating loans to secure lower interest rates.

5. Invest wisely for the future. Investing is key to building wealth. Diversify your portfolio with stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and real estate. Use tax-advantaged accounts like 401(k)s and IRAs. If new to investing, seek advice from a fiduciary financial advisor.

6. Review and optimize your insurance coverage. Regularly review insurance policies to ensure adequate coverage. Shop for competitive rates and consider bundling policies to save money. Evaluate if additional coverage, such as disability insurance, is needed.

7. Making good financial decisions for the new year involves setting clear goals, creating a budget, building an emergency fund, managing debt, investing wisely, and continuously educating yourself. Follow these strategies and seek professional advice when needed to enhance your financial well-being and achieve long-term stability and growth. Here's to a prosperous and financially sound new year!



by Scott G. Hackett, CFP®

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



by Randy Lawrence

Which water filter is right for you?

If you ever consider buying a filter for drinking water, it will quickly become apparent that there is a wide range of pricing and technologies to choose from. It can be difficult to determine which type of filter is appropriate for your water supply.

Learning about different levels of filtration that are available can help you make an informed choice.

Often referred to as taste and odor filtration, the most common type of water filter is activated carbon. Its primary use is to remove chlorine from the water, which can certainly improve taste and odor. Filters that utilize carbon include refrigerator filters, faucet attachments, and filtration pitchers. It is important to note that some of these filters don't appear to live up to the claims made by their manufacturers. Independent testing results that show this are readily available online. There are types of carbon which can remove lead and other heavy metals, but the majority of store bought filters will have little effect on these and other contaminants. While a carbon filter alone may not give you the quality of water you would like, they are often used as part of a larger filtration system.

One example of this is reverse osmosis, often referred to as RO, which is a more comprehensive method of filtering drinking water, accomplishing a much greater level of filtration than a simple inline or pitcher filter. An RO unit commonly consists of two or three stages of pre-filtration, often including sediment and carbon filters, before forcing the water through a semi-permeable

membrane which removes fluoride, lead, and other heavy metals. This membrane will reduce the dissolved solids content of your water by 90-95%, producing high quality drinking water which is stored in a small pressure tank under the sink. The water is forced through a final polishing filter before being dispensed through a separate drinking water faucet installed at your sink. A licensed Water Treatment Specialist can explain the quality concerns that may be specific to your home's water supply and help you to determine which type of system best fits your needs.

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 25 years of experience he has serviced Wimberley and surrounding areas for over a decade.

"When you want quality, call a pro."

PROQUALITY
Water Systems

RANDY LAWRENCE
512-618-1334
(830) 822-3533

A FULL SERVICE WATER TREATMENT COMPANY SPECIALIZING
IN CUSTOMER SERVICE & INTEGRITY
Certified by the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality
Class III License # WT0002693

www.proqualitywater.com

For the Living



by Laurie Smith

December marks the seventh anniversary of my mother's passing after a brutal two-year battle with bone cancer. At the time, I was a young teacher who didn't know the name of a funeral home, let alone what her final wishes would be. My sisters and I found ourselves scrambling to make arrangements, find the funds to pay for the service, notify family and friends, all while in a devastated and exhausted state.

When it comes to your final arrangements, shouldn't you make the decisions? There are more than 100 decisions and pieces of information needed at the time of passing. When you don't plan ahead, you leave those decisions to your loved ones, who might be left to emotionally overspend or open the door to conflict. By pre-planning, you protect the ones we love on the day they'll need it most.

Pre-planning prevents uncertainty and provides you and those you love with peace of mind, knowing that your wishes will be fulfilled. Most families don't spend five minutes discussing end of life arrangements and when my mother was diagnosed, we avoided the topic completely.

Thomason Funeral Home and Crematory is a family owned funeral home that has cared for Wimberley residents for more than 40 years. Dwayne Thomason began working in a funeral home at the age of 13 in his hometown of Humble, Texas and is honored to have guided so many families through their hardest of times. Thomason Funeral Home owns and operates the only

crematory between Austin and San Antonio, thus your loved one never leaves our care. He is pleased to work with veterans and help them with their VA benefits and offer a veteran discount.

Now working as an advance funeral planner, I find myself with one goal: to prevent what happened to my family from happening to yours, three days after Christmas and having nothing pre-arranged or funded. I personally meet with members of the community and help them prepare the gift of pre-planning and peace of mind. When you pre-arrange, whether it be for a traditional burial or a cremation, you are locking in the cost of that service indefinitely. Payments can be made over time or even transferred to another funeral home should you move.

I love living and working in Wimberley. I learn so much from my clients, hearing of the long lives they've lived and the families they hold dear. When we receive the call that a loved one has passed, I am proud to know that the only decision that the family will have to make is the actual date of the service. A funeral, a service, a gathering, after all, is for the living.

Laurie Smith is an advance funeral planner that helps Wimberley residents pre-plan final arrangements with Thomason Funeral Home and Crematory. She enjoys meeting members of the community and veterans and considers it an honor to work with a population that has lived such wonderful long lives.



by Carrie Campbell, J.D.

Contingent Trusts for Children

If a child under the age 18 inherits through a will, life insurance, or intestate (probate without a will), the default procedure is for the court to secure the inheritance by depositing any funds into the court's registry, then releasing those

funds to the child on his or her eighteenth birthday. To access the funds requires a court proceeding.

When very young children inherit, it is often worth obtaining a guardianship over the child's estate in order to more practically access the money necessary for his or her everyday care. A guardianship is needed even if one or more of the parents survive. The guardianship is the court's way of making sure that the inheritance is handled responsibly and in the best interest of the child. It will require an initial court proceeding, posting of an insurance bond, then an annual accounting until the minor reaches adulthood.

However, these bureaucratic measures can be easily avoided by including a contingent trust within your last will and testament. The will's contingent trust is triggered if the person inheriting is under any age you select. While the court will hand over money to an 18-year-old, you may well want to consider a more mature age. For example, parents may want to establish a contingent trust that takes effect if they die, and their heirs are under 21. The trust will appoint a trustee who will manage the money for the

children and provide instruction to the trustee regarding what the funds can be used for until the heir/beneficiary of the trust reaches 21, such as education, health, and support. You can also include incentives that allow additional distributions upon certain events like graduating from university or earned income. The trustee then distributes to the heir whatever funds still exist on their twenty-first birthday. If the heir under the will is over 21 at the time the parents die, then the contingent trust is ignored.

To determine if this provision is a good fit, 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.



CARRIE CAMPBELL
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW
carriec1970@gmail.com
www.attorneyscampbell.com

512-847-1308
303 Mesa Drive
Wimberley, Texas 78676



Litigation: The People I Meet



by Roland Brown

A colleague recently asked why I became a lawyer. The answer is that it seemed interesting and utilized my natural abilities and love of serving people. However, after nearly 50 years as a lawyer, I know what makes that choice the right one. Stealing from the title of a song written by my good friend, singer/songwriter, Carol Elliott of San Antonio, it is “the people I meet”. (Look Carol up online; she’s a gem.) Ending a year and beginning a new one, I stop to think about those without whom I would not be successful as a lawyer and without whom, my life, both professional and personal, would not be the *pinch me so that I can be sure I’m not dreaming* experience that it is.

Before moving to those who work directly with my law firm, I think of how my longstanding relationship with the *News and Views* and the *Outlook*, and editor, Cyle, has gone from simple advertising to a rewarding writing experience and personal connection. You, my readers, make that possible. The other business owners who share their stories in each issue add to my enjoyment and store of knowledge on many subjects.

Turning to the law practice itself, Carol’s song title might be modified just a bit to read “the people I need”. There are a bunch of them. My wife, Gayle, assists with the business side of the firm, while my longtime legal assistant, Kristina Sandifer, is indispensable, and as a bonus, is a good friend to Gayle and me.

Of course, without my clients, there would be no law practice, and it is my pleasure to meet and serve them, and my challenge to force the insurance companies to recognize that these folks are more important than their corporate profits. The legion of experts, doctors, vehicle safety experts, engineering consultants, court reporters, videographers, graphic designers, accountants, settlement consultants, etcetera, not only help me effectively prepare cases and tell my clients’ stories, but also keep me constantly learning new things.

Attorneys, former clients, and friends who refer people to me for help are essential, particularly since I choose not to do high profile advertising. There are many others. Thank you for being a part of “the people I meet”, even if we have not met personally. As the new year dawns, think about your own “people you meet” and have a wonderful 2025.

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, 2021, and 2023 in annual polls of Hays County attorneys. For more information call 512 847 2500.



Wimberley Office
 150 RR 3237, P.O. Box 727 • Wimberley, TX 78676
 Office: 512/847-2278 • Fax: 512/847-5131



Complete water well service provider.
 New Wells | Pump Service | Water Treatment
 Locally owned and operated serving Wimberley

512-288-1963
www.GlassWellService.com





520 Days End Rd MLS 1466920 Great 4/2 on 4.9 acres. Neighborhood Blanco River Park \$459,000 Jim Donaldson



5400 FM 2325 B MLS 1524032 Amazing unrestricted 36 acres. Stock tank, Views. \$2,000,000 Mickey Brown & Jeff Hutto



7312 RR 12 B MLS 5489983 27 Unrestricted Acres. 4/4 Home. 3 Commercial, 3 Residential Rentals. \$2,999,999 Mickey Brown, Jeff Hutto



604 Burnett Ranch Rd MLS 4785875 \$1,350,000 5 Beautiful cabins on 5 acres. Short term rentals. Jim Donaldson



125 Water Park Rd. MLS 9090531 Blanco Riverfront, Custom 6/5.5 on 23.3 Acres \$3,600,000 Linda Germain



320 La Buena Vista Dr MLS 7971333 \$435,000 Delightful 3/2 on 1/2 Acre. Spectrum Internet, No HOA. Alice Lebkuecher



160 Wimberley Ranch Dr MLS 5995047 \$2,500,000. 10 Ag Exempt acres, resort style pool, cabana. Jim Donaldson



162 Jasmine Ct. MLS 1198588 Sierra West 3/2+Office. 2,596 sq ft, 1.5 acres, Arroyo view. \$729,000 Linda Germain



13100 RR 12 MLS3389117 \$4,250,000 Heritage property, 28+/- acres along river. Minutes to downtown Wimberley! Alice Lebkuecher



11 Pecos Dr MLS 6213227 Contemporary New Build 3/2. Open Floor Plan, Flex Room \$614,000 Alice Lebkuecher



1001 Bluff View Rd. MLS 3930355 Beautiful tree covered 5 acre lot in coveted River Mtn Ranch \$475,000 Jim Donaldson



1401 Mt. Sharp MLS 1251683 Beautiful 12.5 Acres on Cypress Creek with 5/4.5 home and guest house. \$1,450,000 Alice Lebkuecher



63 Woodcreek Dr. MLS 7137671 Golf Course Home, 3/2/2.5 + office + workshop \$542,000 Linda Germain



2 Stepping Stone Ct MLS 9900818 Great 3/2 New Build on cul-de-sac. Luxurious Amenities. \$470,000 Alice Lebkuecher



104 River Rapids Rd MLS 5058703 Level 1 acre lot Well & septic needed. Private Blanco River Park access. \$180,000 Alice Lebkuecher



2120 Sandy Point Rd. MLS 9545185 \$395,000 3.7+/- acre lot overlooking Blanco River. River in this section underground. Alice Lebkuecher



Mickey Brown
512-468-4509



Alice Lebkuecher
713-253-1311



Jim Donaldson
830-857-3371



Debbie Donaldson
512-665-9588



Jeff Hutto
936-327-2303



Linda Germain
512-924-3661

RE/MAX REAL PROPERTIES

Allison "AJ" Harwood

JD, MBA, GRI Real Estate Broker / Attorney

**"THANK YOU for
your continued support!"**

THE
RE/MAX
COLLECTION®

Specializing in Fine Homes and Luxury Properties

512.847.SOLD (7653) • 713.668.SOLD(7653) • www.MoveToWimberley.com @AJHarwoodSold



NEW FEATURED LISTING!

3607 LONE MAN MOUNTAIN ROAD WIMBERLEY, TEXAS 78676
Introducing a recently built venue set on 4.5+/- pristine acres in the heart of the picturesque Texas Hill Country. This elegant property offers a perfect blend of sophistication and versatility, designed to accommodate everything from intimate gatherings to grand celebrations of up to 150 guests. Whether hosting a wedding, corporate retreat, or family reunion, this venue is an idyllic setting for memorable events. The property includes nine custom-built cottages, an event center and a main 3/2.5 log home... This is a rare opportunity to own a one-of-a-kind venue in one of Texas' most coveted locations. PRICE: \$3,597,000



NEW PRICE!

11201 BONHAM RANCH ROAD #6
UPDATED HOME, 15+/- ACRES W/
WET WEATHER CREEKS! REFINED
LUXURY AND URBAN CONVENIENCE!
\$1,997,000.00



SOLD!

2403 FM 3237 ROAD HILL COUNTRY
LIVING PERCHED ATOP A RIDGE OVER-
LOOKING 13+/- AG EXEMPT ACRES W/A
POND, POOL, HOT TUB AND STUNNING
SUNSET VIEWS. \$1,497,000



NEW PRICE!

290 SKYLINE RIDGE OUTLOOK DR.
SPACIOUS 42.52 HOME W/ DISTANT SUNSET
VIEWS ON 6.3+/- ACRES! NEW ROOF 08/24!
DETACHED 3 CAR GARAGE/WORKSHOP!
\$797,000



83 +/- ACRES!

453 LONE MAN MOUNTAIN ROAD
RETREAT ON 83+/- AG EXEMPT ACRES! PAR-
TY BARN, POOL COMPLEX WITH OUTDOOR
KITCHEN, REGULATION 3 CAR GARAGE!
\$5,897,000.00



SOLD!

2051 WINDMILL RUN LUXURY CUSTOM
CRAFTED RESIDENCE - 5 BED/3.5 BATH
HOME ON 5+ ACRES, AG EXEMPTION,
POOL/HOT TUB, BLANCO RIVER AC-
CESS THRU HOA PARK \$1,495,000



PENDING!

5306 MUSTANG VALLEY TRAIL LUXURY
LIVING! 4 BED/3.5 BATH ON 5+ ACRES, AG
EXEMPTION, POOL/HOT TUB, PUTTING
GREEN, PARTY BARN/GAMEROOM,
\$1,347,000



**GREAT
OPPORTUNITY!**

16920 RANCH ROAD 12 EXCEPTIONAL
COMMERCIAL LISTING! CURRENTLY
OPERATING AS A FINE DINING RESTAU-
RANT, ON APPROXIMATELY
1.87+/- ACRES. \$1,185,000



PENDING!

25 PALMER LANE METICULOUSLY
MAINTAINED AND UPDATED 4 BED-
ROOM 2 BATH HOME OVERLOOKING
THE 5TH FAIRWAY - UPDATED DECK,
ROOF, MASTER BATH & MORE. \$449,700