

Wimberley Valley
NEWS & VIEWS

POSTAL PATRON

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

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 12 DECEMBER 2024

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
Calli Getty

Contact us
Info@WVNewsViews.com
512 375 5590

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 ©2024. 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.



**“BLESSED IS THE SEASON WHICH ENGAGES
THE WHOLE WORLD IN A CONSPIRACY OF
LOVE.”**

– HAMILTON WRIGHT MABIE

The summer heat released her grip on us not a moment too soon. And suddenly we find ourselves in the most wonderful time of the year. It always happens so fast. Something I've started saying to myself is, "Do it with joy or not at all." And at first I was only applying this to all the festive activities and surprises I'd planned, but it's evolved into a life philosophy. There is no point in doing anything without joy.

You may say to yourself, *yeah right*, what about laundry or a hard moment or cleaning up a mess? We can still find the joy in there somewhere. Whether it's the ability to stoop and clean up yet another mess or the sheer fact that we're able to choose how we show up in the moment – despite how heavy it may seem – there is joy to be extricated there. Wishing you a season of joy and peace, no matter what.

Cyle Elizabeth Johnson, Editor



Functional Wellness Clinic & Consultation

Are you in that peri-menopausal or menopausal stage of life and struggling to feel like your old self?

Are your cycles becoming more intolerable?
Have you gained weight and don't know why when you haven't changed your eating habits?

Are you struggling with?

Fatigue • Memory • Weight gain • Mood swings
• Low libido • Hair loss • Joint pain • Sleep disruption • Hot flashes and night sweats



Gabria Cathcart, FNP-C, IFMCP



It doesn't have to be this way. You can notice changes in your body with a few simple tweaks.

Hormones are a huge part of our sense of well-being and our overall health. As women, we spend approximately 40% of our lives in a menopausal state. Improve your metabolic flexibility and improve or eliminate those symptoms that are causing disruption in your life.

If these symptoms sound like you and you would like to have a conversation, I would be happy to help.

512 887 1817

FunctionalWellnessCC.com

In a Class of its Own

If you have visited the west coast, you have likely visited one or more of the sites where gigantic specimens of large trees grow. Sequoia, Redwood, Western Redcedar, Western Hemlock, and Douglas Fir all have living individuals of enormous size and age, some dating back to before the Common Era. Their size alone makes encountering one a nearly spiritual experience, always eliciting at least a gasp from the observer. Their preservation has become widely supported, and their continued populations are considered stable as of now.

In 1976, researchers discovered a quaking Aspen clone growing within the Fishlake National Forest in central Utah. By 2008, genetic testing proved the clone extended over a hundred and six acres with over forty thousand individual stems which appear to us as individual trees, but in fact, are each a part of a genetically identical tree interconnected by a massive interwoven root system.

Named Pando from the Latin for 'I spread,' it is believed to be the heaviest, largest, and the oldest living thing on Earth. Its total weight is estimated at over thirteen million pounds. The exact age of the clone and its root system is difficult to calculate, but it is thought to have sprouted at the end of the last ice age, making it around twelve thousand years old.

Pando is a natural wonder that offers its own unique testimony to the creativity of Mother Nature's imagination. She has learned to use the challenges of existence to increase its chances of survival.



by Kern Deschner

I do not know when I fell in love with bright colors, but the affection is obvious when I wear my Hawaiian shirts. The family Christmas tree had to have the big, hot, bright lights when I was a kid. Rhonda likes pure white lights on the tree... they are more elegant, she feels. But, when I was a child, the more colors, the better.

One of my earliest memories is sitting on my father's shoulders in Corpus Christi at the Naval Air Station relief festival, watching the Blue Angels fly over trailing colorful smoke. Due to their name, and my youth, I thought the Blue Angels were real angels. I told my mother, when I went to heaven, I wanted to be a Blue Angel and make colors in the sky. She thought that was the most poetic thing I ever said. My poetry skills peaked early.

Being tropical, our backyard in Corpus had lots of colorful flowers that I cannot persuade to grow here. The colorful-flower theme was carried over to one of our favorite family spots for post-church Sunday lunch, Pancho's Mexican Buffet, in the Port-Ayres shopping strip. Pancho's painted the place with every color but topped that off with a profusion of incredibly and improbably colored plastic flowers, colors not found in nature. Even the food glowed, probably with food coloring, and shiny delicious fat. I never left there hungry.

Colors took on another dimension when I was taking drivers ed and found out my best friend was red/green color blind, adding

Wildfires shy away from its unusually wet cambium tissue and damage to its terminal buds stimulates them to send out strong horizontal roots and shoots that are critical to the strength and stability of the tree's life on a steep, rocky canyon with an extreme climate.

Despite Utah State Highway 25 going right through its center, Pando's remote location makes it less susceptible to many environmental pressures from humans, and she has become the center of interest among forestry researchers following threats to her continued health and vigor.

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.



by Tim Thompson



Colors

to the anxiety of being in the car when he was driving. He went on to have a career in interior design. No disability there.

In recent years, Rhonda and I have enjoyed collecting paintings from Christian Jequel. They remind Rhonda of the south of France, but I really like the generous amounts of colorful paints he heaps on the canvas. Colors and texture! Alpacas do not come in blue or green, although sometimes they are yellow during the oak pollen season. Alpacas officially come in 16 shades ranging from white to black, passing through every hue of brown and gray. Jet-black alpacas are particularly prized if the fleece quality is desirable. A great color only goes so far.

Rhonda is particularly good at seeing the differences in their shades although I am not as practiced. When you get the alpacas in a line side-by-side, the color differences become obvious. We use some of our fiber to make alpaca rugs and they really show off those color differences in the colored stripes that run across the rugs. The rugs are very Southwest in style, and we did not have to use any dye for these colors. They are all found in nature.

Compared to fish, birds, and insects, mammals come in relatively few colors. I suspect alpacas are some of the most colorful mammals that exist. And I like colors.

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.

The Slow Build

“It’s such a slow process. Everything has time to be corrected and adjusted as needed. We want to learn and improve, but there is no need to stress.” One of the karate students said this to me a few years ago, and it has stuck. He was right. It takes five years of regular training to reach black belt. A steady climb is the best, but you can’t hurry it. If you do, you will have holes and weaknesses in your mental and physical abilities.

Since then, I have found that the best things in life come from slow builds. Raising kids is a good example. You just can’t hurry that. And a good relationship with a significant other is another. Also, the slow build guarantees success. There is time for course corrections. You won’t hit a wall. You have put your resources of time and energy into it, but, if done right, it is never too much.

Think about it from a yoga point of view. Peace and balance are not achieved overnight. And it is the nature of it to be continually knocked out of peace and balance. But the slow build generates a core mental and physical strength that is resilient. It may be temporarily weakened, but that can even be welcomed. The process is so powerful that the practitioners love the build. They always want to build more, because the journey is so rewarding and never too much.



by Sarah Geenberg

Learning to enjoy the slow build in both karate and in other areas of life is the most rewarding gain from my martial arts training. I applied it to soccer and ended up playing in college. I applied it to business and have had great success. I have applied it to relationships that are truly rewarding. The slow and patient build is where true balance lives.

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.

Wimberley Karate and Yoga Studio



Sarah Geenberg
(512) 971-8528



501 Old Kyle Road
Wimberley, TX 78676
WimberleyKarateYoga.com



by Robert Donnelly,
DDS

Easing Dental Related Anxiety

Going to the dentist can cause anxiety, and that's a normal reaction. It's estimated that between 15% and 40% of people are affected by dental anxiety. This often leads to unnecessary oral health problems as a result

of avoidance behavior, which can ultimately lead to more time spent in the dental chair to receive more extensive and potentially costly treatment.

There are many causes of dental anxiety:

- The fear of pain
- Feeling embarrassed about the condition of your teeth
- Recalling you own past experiences or the experiences of your family and friends
- The fear of needles, drills, and gagging
- Anticipating costly and/or extensive treatment

Please come talk with me at San Marcos Gentle Dental, I can help dispel any negative or frightening perceptions you may have. Having an understanding of your dental health and the dental services or treatment you may need will help to relieve dental anxiety. Make sure to avoid caffeine and sugar before any a dental appointment; they may make you anxious. Focus on relaxing, breathe regularly and slowly during any procedure.

When you are nervous you tend to hold your breath, which decreases oxygen levels and further increases feelings of panic.

Prior to any dental treatment we can discuss options of sedation. There are different types of sedation methods. The most common would be breathing a mixture of nitrous oxide and oxygen (laughing gas), and/or orally taking a medication by mouth. Sedation will make you feel more relaxed and even sleepy. We offer a comforting environment including headphones, large windows overlooking a bird haven, and a staff that cater to our patients needs.

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



Water Absorption: Are you really hydrated?



by *Betsy & Rance
Mosley*

Have you ever been in a situation where you thought you were drinking plenty of water, but you never felt hydrated? Then no matter what you did it was never enough. This month I would like to discuss how to help your body improve its ability to absorb water.

First, let's discuss how your body absorbs water. Absorption occurs after water passes through the stomach and into the small intestine. Fluids pass through the walls of the small intestine and into the bloodstream. Then water will travel to cells throughout the body. The large intestine will also absorb some water to help with digestion.

Next, let us look at some different ways to improve water absorption and increase hydration levels. One way is to concentrate on consuming most of your daily water intake on an empty stomach. It is worth noting that water can pass through your stomach and large intestine to your bloodstream in as little as five minutes when consumed during cardio-intensive exercise. When you try to consume most of your water with a meal or after a meal it can take as much as 45-120 minutes to absorb along with not being the best thing for your digestion.

Make sure to take your time and drink your water requirements throughout the day. Chugging your water down all at one time is not best practice because you could lose up to 90% of that water in your urine. It can also be dangerous because your sodium levels will drop and fluids can get inside the cells which could potentially cause seizures, a coma, and in extreme cases even lead to death.

Another good idea is to add salt to your water, especially an electrolyte supplement that contains salt. Sodium has a reputation for being bad, but this is when it is consumed in very large quantities. Our bodies actually need salt to keep cells hydrated and nutrients moving from our small intestines to the rest of our body. Fiber is also beneficial because it helps retain water so it will take longer for your body to absorb thus keeping you better hydrated for a longer period of time. Adding a magnesium supplement into your diet can also aid your body with water absorption.

Lastly, be sure to get plenty of sleep. A study done by Harvard Medical School found that individuals who sleep 6 hours or less had a 59% higher risk of becoming dehydrated compared to those who sleep longer.

Who knew there were so many different tips and tricks to help your body absorb the water you drink? Try one or try all of them and see if you can tell a difference. Drinking water is good but hydration is key, especially when consuming all the great holiday food and cocktails.

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.

BEYOND BUILDER GRADE: CRAFTING A HOME RICH IN CHARACTER AND STORY

Welcome to Sloan Hollace Hill Country Interiors! We're Victoria and Allann, co-founders with a passion for creating homes rich in warmth, elegance, and story. Our approach goes beyond decorating; we craft spaces that mirror our clients' lives, with thoughtful details, layered textures, and meaningful pieces.

As Texas Hill Country locals, we blend natural beauty with refined interiors, focusing on character-filled touches like architectural elements and heirloom-quality accents. In this article, we're thrilled to share how we add depth and deck the halls with holiday-inspired details, transforming each home into a lasting legacy.



Curated Architectural Details

In nearly every room, we've added bespoke elements like the antique oak beam turned fireplace mantle from an Amish barn and traditional moldings that reflect history. Stately paneling and wallpapered alcoves add depth and elegance, all within a refined palette of warm grays, dusty blues, putty whites, and deep greens for timeless elegance.

Lighting as Art

We replaced builder-grade fixtures with statement lighting that's both artful and functional. For us, lighting defines mood and creates focal points, like a beautifully crafted chandelier or antique-inspired sconce that invites conversation and admiration.

Layering Memories and Meaning

Character comes from spaces rich in personal history. Family heirlooms and curated objects add warmth, blending with our custom details to make a house feel like home—a place layered with stories and memories.



Achieving a Timelessly Elegant Look

Creating Your Own Legacy

For clients considering a transformation, we bring not only an eye for design but also an understanding of what makes a space feel genuine, grounded, and enduring. At Sloan Hollace Hill Country Interiors, we create homes that inspire. We don't follow trends; we build spaces that will stand the test of time, homes that are as welcoming today as they will be decades from now.



by *AJ Harwood*

Home for the Holidays

As mortgage rates lower, the real estate market typically becomes more competitive. Working with a qualified professional real estate agent helps get you into the home of your dreams.

Selling a home? A listing agent will...

- Conduct a Comparative Market Analysis
- Advise you how to prepare your home for listing
- Competitively price your home to sell
- Create a comprehensive home marketing plan

Buying a home? A buyer's agent will...

- Connect you with a lender
- Take the time to listen and understand your priorities
- Scout and recommend properties
- Arrange and attend property inspections after your offer is accepted

Whether you're buying or selling, a professional real estate agent will...

- Negotiate the best deal to get the price and terms you want
- Provide complete transaction management
- Keep you informed every step of the way
- Have a robust database of referrals to other service professionals

The holidays can be hectic, but you may find you have pockets of time where you can talk with family and friends about buying or selling a home. Spring is anticipated to be a competitive time – you don't want to get left behind! 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!

Room to Grow: Proper Maintenance to Ensure Mature Trees Thrive

Pruning Pruning mature trees must be done judiciously. Severe pruning reduces leaf surface area and can produce wounds. Pruning should be focused on removing dead, dying, diseased, broken, and crossing/rubbing branches. Live branches should only be removed to achieve specific objectives such as reducing crown density or reducing height and spread to help prevent storm damage

A professional arborist guided by specific pruning standards established by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) can help you ensure that cuts are made correctly – to protect the short and long-term health of trees. ANSI standards are accepted across the arboricultural industry as a way to protect trees and promote healthy tree care practices.

Fertilization Addressing soil nutrient deficiencies by periodic fertilization is an important consideration in managing mature trees. Fertilization is particularly important where trees must compete with turf for soil nutrients, as is the case at most homes. Fertilizer specifications should be based on soil analysis. For soil analysis, a sample is taken from the property and analyzed to determine pH, soil type, organic matter content, and nutrient levels. Fertilizer treatments can be customized to meet the specific needs of the site and tree species for optimum results.

Pest Management Pests and diseases can weaken trees by defoliation or by causing stem and root damage. Often infestations can spread quickly from tree to tree, and sometimes even lead to the ultimate decline of one or many trees. Pests should be managed using integrated pest management (IPM) principles, a technique of periodically inspecting plants for pests and other health problems. When detected, pests should be maintained below levels that impact health through cultural, biological, and/or chemical treatments.

Root System Care Root loss is the most common factor to the premature decline and death of urban and suburban trees. Causes include construction or wounds from lawn care machines, soil compaction, and root disease pathogens. Competition with turf can also cause root loss or inhibit root development.

Joe grew up in Charlotte, Michigan, as a second-generation arborist. He attended Texas State and joined Bartlett while he was there. Joe worked five years as an arborist climber and crew leader, making the transition 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*





greenerery

CANNABIS SHOP



FELIZ NAVI-DANK

14500 RANCH ROAD 12 (STE#1)

WIMBERLEY, TEXAS 78676



\$99 OZ'S (28 GRAMS OF FLOWER)

Dispensary style = FRESH hand-picked from our budtenders
Lab tested • Locally owned & operated

WWW.GREENERYTX.COM



WWW.GREENBOX.BUZZ



GREENBOX

CANNABIS KIOSKS NOW SERVING HAYS COUNTY

24/7 • 365 • HIGH • ALL THE TIME





WIMBERLEY GLASSWORKS

Wimberley Glassworks has been a gem in the Wimberley jewel box for 32 years. "We're here to stay. Hopefully we'll be open for another 32 years," says owner and glassblower Tim De Jong. "I have Wes who's been here for over 20 years and he is carrying on the Wimberley Glassworks tradition." Wes had just graduated from college when he came to Wimberley Glassworks. He has honed his craft here, including creating the dragon scale pattern you'll see on some of the glass art in the Glassworks gallery.

While the tradition of creating glass originated thousands of years ago when the Mesopotamians discovered glass in the form of liquid sand, it was in the first century that a Syrian in Jerusalem devised a new way to shape glass - a technique now known as glassblowing. The practice has evolved and grown, being improved upon by practitioners all over the world. That said, studio glassblowing - working with hot glass in a studio to create art rather than in a factory for the purpose of functionality - has only been around since the 1960's. Tim is technically a second generation glassblower.

I called Tim a pioneer of his field and he humbly corrected me, "The pioneers are the people that came just before me - Josh Simpson, Harvey Littleton. Those are the ones that really had the courage to start the whole movement." Noted glass artist Dale Chihuly studied under Harvey Littleton. It's a very short lineage. "I started Wimberley Glassworks because I really wanted to do this and everyone I knew said I was a fool. I decided I wanted to try even if I failed, versus never try. So I didn't have any regrets later.

"If it was not for the people in this Valley I would never be here. The people in Wimberley really helped and whole-heartedly supported this studio all the way through."

Every year, Wimberley Glassworks creates a unique Christmas ornament. "Our customers have been begging us for a red ornament. We usually do more reliable colors because red is extremely difficult to make. If there's too much or too little gas in the chamber it'll turn brown." But they did it.

You can walk in and find yours at Wimberley Glassworks at 6469 Ranch Road 12. Peruse their gorgeous gallery and watch them blow glass Wednesday through Sunday, 10am-5pm. Visit WimberleyGlassArt.com or call 512 393 3316.



Fire Safety for the Holidays

The holiday season is one of the most dangerous times of the year for household fires according to the U.S. Fire Administration. The number of fires on Christmas Day are double the average and the amount of property loss in a fire is 34% higher during the holiday season. The number of fatalities per thousand fires is nearly 70% higher.

Here are a few household safety tips for the holidays:

- **Cooking.** Unattended food is the most common cause of kitchen fires. Stay focused and keep a fire extinguisher nearby. Both ACE Hardware and King Feed stock fire extinguishers.
- **Candles.** Maintain a one foot clearance from flammable materials and extinguish when leaving the house or going to bed. Consider flameless LED candles this year.
- **Fireplaces.** Never burn wrapping paper. Make sure you have a fireplace screen in place. Have your chimney inspected and cleaned if needed. Only burn seasoned wood.
- **Children.** The number of blazes and deaths caused by children playing with fire goes up dramatically during the holidays. Keep matches and lighters out of their reach.



by *Jim & Debbie Donaldson*

- **Decorative lights.** Inspect light strings and throw away frayed or cracked cords. Limit the number of connected strands to three and choose LED when you purchase new lights.
- **Christmas trees.** Buy a fresh tree, make a fresh cut on the trunk, water it every day and keep it three feet from a heat source.

Thank you for taking steps to have a safe holiday season!

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 or Debbie 512 665 9588 or Debbie.Donaldson79@gmail.com.



by *Randy Lawrence*

Well Water Storage Systems

During times of drought, there is a great deal of concern with the possibility of wells going dry in the area. Many people are forced to take action when they no longer have a constant supply of water to their home. Some have to replace well pumps,

only to find that the old pump failed due to low water conditions. Others must drill new wells in order to access a larger supply of water. In most cases, these repairs are unexpected, and time-consuming. During severe drought, many well service companies are overwhelmed with calls, causing some families to endure days without a supply of fresh water. A water storage tank would be helpful to many of these homeowners.

The benefits of a properly installed storage tank are numerous. These tanks are normally installed near the well so that the well pump sends the water directly into the storage tank. This removes much of the back pressure from your well pump so that the workload on the pump is greatly reduced. The water can be sprayed into the top of the storage tank, eliminating odors which may be present. The water is then re-pressurized by an external pump which can maintain higher pressure and is much less costly to repair or replace than a submersible pump. Protection systems are also available for both pumps to ensure longevity.

Even on existing storage tanks, an early warning system, such as a light or alarm, can be installed to activate when the water in the tank drops to a certain level, indicating the need to check your well for problems. This buys you the time you need to contact a

professional. Should you happen to run out of water before the well is operational, there are water delivery services which can bring you a supply of water to replenish your storage tank, thereby maintaining your day-to-day routine while you await repairs. For homes in remote areas, stored water is also a valuable asset for firefighters.

Now is an ideal time to consider adding a storage tank to your well. Then you will be prepared before another Texas summer takes its toll on your well.

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."

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

Get Ready for 2025



by Scott G.

Hackett, CFP®

As the new year approaches, it's a great time to reassess your financial strategies and set yourself up for success.

- 1. Set clear financial goals.** Begin by defining what you want to achieve financially. This could include saving for a home, retirement, or an emergency fund. Break these larger goals into smaller, manageable milestones with specific timelines. Having clear, realistic goals keeps you motivated and focused.
- 2. Create a budget and stick to it.** A well-structured budget is the foundation of good financial health. Review your current spending habits and identify areas where you can cut back. Include fixed costs like rent or mortgage, utilities, and groceries, but also factor in discretionary spending like entertainment. Allocate a portion of your income toward savings and investments before spending on non-essential items.
- 3. Automate savings and investments.** One of the best ways to ensure consistent saving is to automate the process. Set up automatic transfers from your checking account to a savings or investment account. This *pay-yourself-first* strategy makes it easier to build savings without being tempted to spend the money elsewhere. For retirement savings, consider maxing out contributions to your 401(k) or IRA, especially if your employer offers matching contributions.
- 4. Reevaluate your investment portfolio.** Now is an excellent time to review your investments. Make sure your portfolio is well-diversified to reduce risk and take advantage of growth

opportunities. Rebalance assets if needed, ensuring that your investments align with your risk tolerance and long-term goals.

- 5. Pay down high-interest debt.** Debt can hold you back from reaching your financial goals, especially if you're carrying high-interest balances. Focus on paying off these debts as quickly as possible, starting with the highest interest rates first. The *debt snowball* or *debt avalanche* methods are popular strategies to accelerate debt repayment.
- 6. Build an emergency fund.** Aim to save at least three to six months' worth of living expenses in a separate, easily accessible account. Take proactive steps now to make 2025 your best financial year yet.

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

INVESTMENTS - FINANCIAL PLANNING - WEALTH MANAGEMENT

840 E. Summit Drive
Wimberley, Texas 78676

512.847.0630

www.HackettFinancialGroup.com
Scott@HackettFinancialGroup.com

Custodian Services with *charles* SCHWAB INSTITUTIONAL



by Carrie Campbell, J.D.

When to Revisit Your Estate Planning

Many of today's estate planning forms include contact information, along with the identity of the persons who can act on your behalf. It is not necessary to redo any Powers of Attorney (POA) or other documents just because someone moves.

It will be easy enough to trace the individual if needed. To be helpful, you can attach a note to the front of the document with the updated address, but do not write on the document itself. Any mark could be interpreted as a revocation. However, a change would be required if you feel it is necessary to change the person you want acting on your behalf. For some roles such as a medical power of attorney, proximity matters. If your first choice for agent now lives out of state (and don't want to live in that state), then you should strongly consider naming as your medical POA an individual who lives closer.

The primary reason to revisit estate planning is the aging of parents, maturing of children, and the gifting to grandchildren. If the last time you did a will was when your children were minors, then your estate documents likely included your parents in positions of authority. They may have aged beyond that ability and your children are more stable and capable of handling that type of responsibility. If you prefer that one or more of your children act on your behalf as executor, trustee, or POA, then an update is needed. Should you be fortunate enough to have

grandchildren, you should also confirm that provisions are in place to address their care and/or inheritance, if needed.

Finally, it is not necessary to update a will or other documents in the event of a divorce. A Final Decree of Divorce has the legal effect of changing inheritance and appointments as a matter of law. Your will will be read as if the ex-spouse predeceased you. Nevertheless, if in doubt, consult with an attorney experienced in estate planning and probate law.

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: Who are all these people?



by Roland Brown

There are occasions when I walk into a courtroom and wonder, *who are all these people?* You may have had the same feeling. We are all familiar with typical courtroom layouts. Entering from the *back* or side of the courtroom we find seating for the general public including people waiting for their case to be called, the *bar*, which is a low partition separating those seats from the remainder of the courtroom where the attorneys, litigants, jury, judge, and court staff operate, counsel tables, the jury box, the witness box, and the *bench* which may include areas for the court reporter, a clerk, a bailiff, and sometimes other personnel. In federal courtrooms, probate courtrooms, and some others, there may be a table or space for the court's briefing clerk or attorney.

The next question that is likely to come up is *what does each of these people do and how are they dependent upon one another?* We are familiar with the basic roles of the judge. The role of the court reporter – who records virtually everything that is said in the courtroom – is covered in other articles I've published (and can be reviewed on Roland's Blog at RolandsLaw.com). In addition to those two, there is almost always a bailiff present who is often a uniformed officer. The bailiff essentially keeps order in the courtroom. This includes summoning witnesses who may be waiting outside the courtroom to testify, making certain that the courtroom does not become noisy, sometimes reminding

forgetful folks like me to remove their hats, and escorting the jurors if they must move from the courtroom to a jury deliberation room. The district or county clerk or one of their deputy clerks may be present to accept the filing of documents and sometimes to assist with arranging settings for future hearing.

The judge's coordinator may also be in the courtroom to assist with settings or other details, and for courts having the luxury of a briefing clerk or attorney, that individual may be present to consult with the litigants and the court on legal issues. One of the most important lessons that a lawyer learns is to respect and – if at all possible – to make friends with all of these important participants in the judicial process.

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.

INDEPENDENCE
TITLE COMPANY

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

CUSTOM WINDOW COVERINGS AT AFFORDABLE PRICES

Now Offering a Complete line of Custom Draperies!

Beautiful new Window Treatments, Blinds, Shutters, Woven Woods, Cellular Shades and More. Most available in two weeks or less. Better service & lower prices than the big box stores.

Made in the Shade
Blinds & More!

Free estimates
512-847-8970

Superior service before and after the sale

MadeintheShadeofWimberley.com

Glass Well
SERVICE & SOFTENERS

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 \$1,450,000 5 Beautiful cabins on 5 acres. Short term rentals. Jim Donaldson



Reduced!

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



New Price!

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



New!

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



Pending!

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



New!

5 La Quinta MLS 8247598 \$149,000 Build your home in the Eagle Rock area of Wimberley. 1/2 acre lot. Alice Lebkuecher



New Price!

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. \$1,470,000 Alice Lebkuecher



New!

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



New Price!

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



New!

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



New Price!

810 Sandy Point Rd. MLS 5334220 Peace & Quiet on 16 acres with 3/1 home, sold as is, in Burnett Ranches \$740,000 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) • [@AJHarwoodSold](http://www.MoveToWimberley.com)



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



PENDING!

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 SKEET RANGE!
\$5,897,000.00



PENDING!

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



NEW PRICE!

5306 MUSTANG VALLEY TRAIL LUXURY
LIVING! 4 BED/3.5 BATH ON 5+ ACRES, AG
EXEMPTION, POOL/HOT TUB, PUTTING
GREEN, PARTYBARN/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



NEW!

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