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NEWS & VIEWS

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“ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE.” – THE BEATLES

I've always adored the month of February. The colder weather, the overcast skies, the pinks and reds, the constant reminder of love. Love is an interesting subject, isn't it? It seems like there would be so many different ways to love but really there's only one. Unconditionally. With abandon. Without expectation or exception.

We've heard that love is patient, love is kind, love lasts forever. We have heard that love can truly solve any problem. And have you ever actually found that it can't? Be it personal, professional, social – love is the answer.

Love reminds us to be more gentle, more kind, more patient. Love can expand our perspective. Love doesn't have to mean resignation, it doesn't have to mean being overemotive, it can simply mean relating on a more human level and understanding that we're all connected and that we all feel the same basic emotions. Love helps us get out of our own way, calling us to be more present in the moment. However, you choose to show love this month, I hope it's returned to you tenfold. Wishing you a happy and cozy February.

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. February 10, 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.-May, Hill Country Unit of the *Herb Society of America*, Emily Ann meeting room. Visitors welcome! Refreshments 9:30am, program at 10am. Contact Valentine_Lisa@msn.com. February presentation: *Perfumes, Potions, & Other Aphrodisiacs* by Molly Ogorzaly
- 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. February 20: Del Castillo**
- 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
- Saturday, February 15, 7-9pm, **Sweetheart Mardi Gras Dance & Concert**. Free. VFW Hall Wimberley, 401 Jacobs Well Road
- Saturday, March 15, 1-3pm. **Big Band on the Square**, Willow Lake Watering Hole, 110 Old Kyle Road, Wimberley

Just a Little Encouragement

Many years ago, frustrated with keeping ants and bees out of our feeders, I planted a hummingbird and butterfly garden in front of our house to attract and nourish those spritely creatures. We never use pesticides of any sort there, to maintain a haven for our lepidopteran and avian friends. In the removal of weeds and rocks for the garden, we decided to dig up the Wisteria that was planted there long before we came to Wimberley. Because it was well out of its native range, it was always a bit chlorotic and pale in our alkaline soil. Nonetheless, every year, no matter how deeply we excavated its roots, the wisteria would sprout again, and usually bloom at least one or two smallish, but fragrant purple blossoms early in the spring.

We finally acknowledged that the persistent vine needed to have a place in our pollinator garden, so we dug around it and added some slow-release iron and sulfur to its root zone and began weaving its long tendrils into a tree-like form that could stand on its own. It did not bloom that year, but its leaves had begun to green up significantly by the time it went dormant for the winter.

That December was notable by the stretch of several four degree days we had that were hard on even tough native trees and plants, so our delight was multiplied when our enduring Wisteria burst into dozens of heavily perfumed blossoms as it leafed out in lush green foliage in early spring.



by Kern Deschner

explained this to me.

You see, she was 12 years old on Sunday, December 7, 1941. Her father was reading the paper and listening to the radio when the news interrupted that our Pacific Fleet was destroyed, and that we were suddenly likely at war. Her two older brothers were military age. We survived that, but ten years later, she saw her best friend in an iron lung, because of polio. Ten years after that, October 1961, she had just brought home her two new babies from the hospital not knowing if they were going to live to see their first birthday because we were as close to nuclear war, over Cuba, as we have ever been. Therefore, elections, wars, and pandemics, didn't worry her very much because, while there is always going to be much suffering, somehow, we'd survive.

She also talked about the metaphor of the 50% filled water cup, although she would've preferred for it to be coffee because that raised the stakes some. Purportedly, some of us see the cup as half-empty, and some as half-full. She said we actually see the cup both ways. We fear the half-empty glass will become all-empty and hope the half-full glass will become all-full. We build



by Tim Thompson

Even after being taught by Mother Nature over years of work in horticulture, I was glad to see I could still learn new lessons from her. Sometimes, all that is needed to further the cause of life is just the right bit of encouragement in the right place.

In fact, finding small ways to encourage life on our land has become my main gardening activity in retirement. Trimming sunlight-blocking limbs to awaken thousands of bluebonnets or transplanting purple sage volunteers and lantana seedlings can fill a garden and a heart quickly!

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.



Calamity? No Worry!

Of course I am not biased, but my mother was one of the wisest people I ever knew. It used to bother me, though, how she didn't appear to be bothered by what I perceived as the latest world calamity. One day she

bunkers in our backyard and then go out and buy lottery tickets. The truth is that the cup always stays about 50% – plus or minus a few percent. While it's disappointing that we may never see utopia, we probably also will not see the apocalypse.

That doesn't mean that Mom would just sit back and let the world roll by. She always told me that if you make a mess, you need to clean it up. The latest possible mess that my kids are worried about is artificial intelligence, known as AI. Right now, they see the cup as heading towards very empty when it comes to AI, that it's going to put us all out of our jobs. I think Mom would have figured it will be a 50-50 thing. There are ways that AI can out-perform people, but the fact that a computer can defeat every human at chess doesn't mean that people are going to quit wanting to play chess. Because a computer can search every article ever written about a disease doesn't mean it can hold your hand when you're suffering. We will find a balance.

Alpacas will not be changed by most of the calamities or pseudo calamities we envision. They go right on humming, eating hay, and growing fleece. And no intelligent computer is going to want to take my job of cleaning out the barns.

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.

Move, Breathe, and Hydrate

To move all the fluids in our body, we really need to move, breathe, and hydrate. Think about the fluid that is in our bodies and how it moves. Blood moves in our veins, we know. But other fluids also move in our organs, muscles, and tissues. Lymph flows in its own system. Gastric juices flow in their own system. Spinal fluid flows in its own system. All of the systems in our bodies work because fluids move.

Moving our bodies makes our fluids move better. Movement makes the fluids move more rapidly. And movement helps our fluids release clogs. Think of water. A little more flow pushes through the small dams.

Breathing creates movements deep down in the tissues and moves the fluid there. It also expels the waste and brings in the new, but this time in vapor form instead of fluid form.

Hydrating also helps fluids flow more easily. This is just me saying this, but I personally make sure to drink extra water when I have allergies. I may be imagining this, but the extra fluid actually seems to loosen my sinuses. I hardly ever get clogged. Since I'm not clogged, I feel like the pollen is easily expelled.



by Robert Donnelly,
DDS

Invisalign Treatment Designed for You

Getting your teeth straightened is not something just for teenagers anymore. Many adults, just like you, who are looking for a straighter healthier smile have found that Invisalign is the best option for them.

You can too! Invisalign clear retainers use the most advanced technology to give you your best smile yet.

Treatment with Invisalign is quick and easy. With Invisalign, you don't wear metal bracket braces, but instead wear comfortable removable clear aligners. Using a series of aligners made with advances, such as proprietary SmartTrack material, Invisalign treatment can straighten your teeth with 75% more predictability. Plus, your smile is shaped more comfortably than with braces. Dr. Donnelly will complete a scan and together with a team of specialists from Invisalign they will craft a complete digital treatment plan, mapping out your best smile from beginning to end. Each aligner throughout your treatment gradually and predictably moves your teeth as you continue to live your life the way you want.

Throughout your treatment, you will see your smile transform, gradually revealing the person you have always imagined yourself to be. The aligners are so inconspicuous that most people won't be able to tell you are wearing them. You wear the aligners all the time but they can be removed when you are eating, drinking, and

Hence, I never feel irritated. And also since I'm not clogged, no infection can set in. This is just an example of how our systems could work with more ease if we are hydrated.



by Sarah Geenberg

It is easy to move a little more, take breathing breaks, and drink a bit more water. And benefits abound.

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

brushing or flossing your teeth. Since the aligners are removable you are able to continue to eat your favorite foods and keep your oral hygiene consistent even while in treatment. You will be scheduled every few weeks to track progress and deliver new aligners.

Invisalign clear aligners can treat a wide range of teeth straightening conditions, from big to small, there is a treatment plan that can be tailored to your dental healthcare needs. When your teeth are properly aligned, the health benefits are clear. It is easier to brush and floss around properly aligned teeth and you are less likely to have areas that trap bacteria, it can reduce plaque retention, tooth decay, and the risk of gum disease. Properly aligned teeth can even reduce stress on the jawbone and joints.

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



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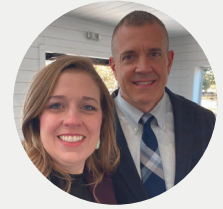
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Is your brain foggy?



by *Betsy & Rance Mosley*

As we enter the last stage of winter here in the Hill Country, it's always a great idea to remind yourself to continue to hydrate. This is much harder in the winter months because the thirst response is diminished in colder temperatures. However, our water needs are determined by our age, body size, whether you are male or female, and metabolism. Most of the time we only think about hydration when the weather is hot or if we have been more physically active. The truth is that you can become dehydrated when it is cold just as fast as you can when the weather is hot. This month I would like to discuss what dehydration can do to the brain.

Have you ever had trouble concentrating, trouble making decisions, couldn't remember where you left your phone, then got extremely irritated, and ended up with a serious headache because of it all? Now this could be your normal routine, but more than likely you are dehydrated.

The brain is the most complex organ in the body and is made up of about 73-78% water. The high water content makes the brain vulnerable to the effects of dehydration. According to the Mayo Clinic, the average adult loses more than 80 ounces of water per day through sweating, breathing, and eliminating waste. So if you drink less than 80 ounces per day, how is that impacting your brain function and overall health?

Studies show that you only need to be 1% dehydrated to experience a 5% decrease in cognitive function. A 2% decrease in brain hydration can result in short term memory loss along with difficulty focusing, slower reaction times, mood swings,

irritability, and increased anxiety. Your brain structure even changes while dehydrated and causes shrinkage in brain tissue. When this occurs the brain actually pulls away from the skull and can cause headaches. Also when dehydrated, blood volume decreases, which reduces blood flow to the brain affecting neural signaling. Dehydration can also cause an electrolyte imbalance, which disrupts the production and function of neurotransmitters – chemicals responsible for communication between brain cells. Adequate hydration supports the lymphatic and glymphatic systems in removing waste products and toxins from the brain. Removing this waste is extremely important in reducing the risk of neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's, which are associated with the buildup of toxic proteins.

I hope everyone is reaching for their water bottle after reading this article. As for me, my wife told me I had to do everything in my power to protect the brain cell I have left!

It's time to hydrate.

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.

Check Out Your Subdivision

The table below reflects the stats for several subdivisions in Wimberley. It contains the *average* for each category/January 1, 2024 thru December 31, 2024. This can be skewed by a very high or very low sale.

Sq. Ft. = Square Feet, Sp /SqFt = Sold Price per Square Foot

SUBDIVISION	UNITS SOLD	SQ FT	SOLD PRICE	SP/ SQFT	Avg Days on Market
ALL HOMES 78676 ZIP	252	2198	713,105	313.71	110
CITY OF WOODCREEK	31	2076	486,726	234.77	62
Mustang Valley	3	4323	2,485,833	565.05	37
WOODCREEK NORTH	74	1722	415,223	241.04	118
Homes on Blanco River	9	2749	1,493,333	583.4	181
Skyline	6	2338	847,033	367.45	122
RIVER MT RANCH	8	3239	1,302,750	410.17	124
"Cedar Oak Mesa"	6	1210	250,600	221.15	83



by *Jim & Debbie Donaldson*

Jim and Debbie's listing service provides an appraisal by a licensed appraiser. The Wimberley housing market is moving if homes are reasonably priced. Spring is just around the corner.

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.

Bringing the Hill Country Home: Remodeling with Nature in Mind

When it comes to remodeling your Hill Country home, it's essential to embrace the beauty of the region by incorporating natural elements into your design. At Sloan Hollace Hill Country Interiors, we specialize in crafting designs inspired by nature's palette and materials, ensuring your home feels connected to the landscape around it while increasing its appeal and value.

Natural Colors for Serenity and Resale One of the most enduring trends in remodeling is a color palette inspired by nature. Think stone grays, earthy woods, soft greenery, and sun-washed neutrals—colors that you encounter every day. These tones create a serene and calming atmosphere. They also have broad appeal, making your home more attractive to future buyers. A nature-based palette provides a perfect backdrop for personal touches, allowing your home to be both stylish and practical.

Materials That Bring the Outdoors In Incorporating organic materials is another way to connect your home to its surroundings. Reclaimed wood beams, natural stone accents, and custom cabinetry from local artisans can bring a touch of authenticity and craftsmanship to your spaces. They add warmth, texture, and depth, creating rooms that feel as if they've grown naturally out of the landscape. Our vendors share our dedication to artistry, reflecting the unique character of the region.

Windows: The Eyes of the Home Windows are more than just a way to let in light; they're an integral part of connecting your home to its surroundings. Roman shades, contemporary curtains on sleek tracks, or tailored pinch pleat styles allow the beauty of the outdoors to shine through while adding elegance to your space, framing the outdoors like living artwork.



by Allann Arnold & Victoria Payne

Crafting a Home for Today and Tomorrow By combining natural materials, a harmonious color palette, and thoughtful design details, you create spaces that feel both personal and connected to the beauty of the Hill Country. Whether you're updating a single room or undertaking a full remodel, Sloan Hollace Hill Country Interiors is here to bring your vision to life with care, expertise, and a commitment to excellence.

Allann & Victoria are the co-owners of Sloan Hollace Hill Country Interiors, a premier design firm owned & operated in Wimberley. With over 160 projects completed since 2020, they bring creativity, expertise, & a passion for Hill Country living to every design. Now booking full home remodels to be completed by spring 2026.



Resolutions are Seasonal: Goals are for Life



by AJ Harwood

Each year only 1 out of 10 people complete their new year's Resolutions. *Resolution:* A broad statement of intent or desire to change something. *Goal:* A desired result, along with a plan and timeline to achieve it. A written goal focuses effort and sustains

you through challenges are setbacks.

Make this year different, crush your goals! *Kaizen* is a Japanese business philosophy that encourages making small, continuous changes that will lead to a big impact. Use its principles to reach your own business and personal goals.

The four keys of Kaizen:

- Identify one small, specific area of your life you would like to change.
- Take time to examine where your resources might be misdirected.
- Focus on making small, incremental steps toward your goal.
- Commit to a time each week to review progress, evaluate what's working, and what needs to adjust.

If your goal is to move this year or if someone you know is planning to do so, feel free to contact me with any questions. I'm here to offer clear, concise information you can trust.

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.

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!

Art Education

by Tom Wiley

How much can public education influence an artist? Local artist Danny Jones would say, "A lot!"

Danny grew up in the small West Texas town of Post. Their school system at that time had no art classes. Danny's teachers saw some renderings he was working on and encouraged him to continue with his skills.

While taking an elective art class at West Texas State University, his instructor suggested he change his major from Math to Art. That recommendation influenced his future career. Danny had always been impressed by his classroom teachers. This provided the idea as early as the third grade that he would like to teach. Changing his college major to Art brought those two worlds together.

Danny began teaching high school art in Mansfield, Texas, in 1974. One of the benefits of that experience was the fact that the district supported art programs at all levels. At one time, there were ten art teachers serving the district's single high school.



From the beginning until retirement, Danny provided opportunities for his students. “Mister Jones, I can’t draw a straight line!” Danny would help them sculpt or start photography. They were encouraged to merge their art with community programs and art shows. Past students would succeed as artists or architects or teachers. Mansfield ISD acknowledged his work by naming Danny Jones Middle School after him.

Influencing his own art, Danny found personal education by traveling to Mexico. Each visit resulted in his immersion into that culture. Style and color so prevalent in Mexico found its way onto his canvases. He would return home with numerous photographs, especially of people he encountered. Many of his portrait images detail their sculpted faces.

After retirement, the Jones family moved to Wimberley. One of his special talents is providing art workshops. While still teaching in Mansfield, he was approached about teaching a workshop for artists in the Lakeway area. Those sessions were repeated several times. His wife Lynn helped organize destination workshops. Participants benefited by traveling to locations which provided scenic and historic settings. Danny’s workshops now draw artists in Wimberley.

Danny Jones’s art is often found at Wimberley Valley Art League gallery shows and at local galleries. You can find him on Facebook by following Danny Jones Artwork.

DannyJonesArtwork.com

Art In Public Places has exhibits at the Wimberley Medical Plaza and throughout the Wimberley Village Library. They will remain on exhibit until May 8th. Contact the artists to purchase.



Safety: The Number One Factor of Tree Care

Accidents happen. Not even the most reputable or reliable tree care company can avoid them. However, the emphasis that each company puts upon safety training, enforcement of OSHA (Occupational Health & Safety Administration) regulations and use of the proper equipment can vary widely. It only takes one company to ignore safety rules and put our entire profession in a bad light.

Bartlett Tree Experts places a high value on a well-earned safety record. Safety Coordinators oversee each job to ascertain the risks and advise. Extensive training is provided for all field members and OSHA regulations are strictly adhered to. Our pest management equipment is equipped with the proper materials and safety kits. Equipment operators are taught to properly maintain and use the tools of their trade. This includes ropes, chainsaws, chippers, stump grinders and trucks. Emergency procedures are well practiced.

OSHA regulations require that tree care personnel wear hardhats, gloves, suitable clothing, work boots, ear protection and safety glasses on a work site. Saddles for tree climbing are obligatory and may not be altered. Ropes must be inspected before each job. Knowledge about knot tying is a necessity and

the use of different types of ropes is also an important factor for safety. The methods that a climber uses to climb and tie into a tree are also regulated. Also the work site's proximity to electrical lines must be reviewed before work begins. There must be a CPR kit, and a first-aid kit with antihistamines available in the case of an on site accident.



by Joe Harris

Too often, tree care companies ignore the basic rules of safety and workers pay the price in terms of injury and possibly even death. It's a dangerous business to begin with. One moment's inattention can lead to disaster. Without the OSHA guidelines and strict performance of safety procedures the job of tree care would be much more unpredictable and hazardous.

A reputable tree care company helps protect your property and the workers who perform tree work. At Bartlett, we're proud of our safety record and of our workers who make it possible.



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 Randy Lawrence

Understanding Hard Water

It's well known that in central Texas, we have some of the highest water hardness levels in the country. Something you may not know is that those levels can vary greatly from one water source to another.

The amount of calcium and other

hardness minerals dissolved in water is expressed using grains per gallon, or GPG. The amount of scale buildup and corrosion you'll experience is directly proportional to the hardness of your water. It's safe to say that, with a test result of 10 GPG or more, the home's plumbing system and water-using appliances would benefit from a water softener.

Unfortunately there are few, if any, available ground or surface water sources in our area which contain less than 12 GPG. Most of our local municipal and community water supplies contain between 20 and 40 GPG. At the lower end of the range, visible issues can be relatively manageable with cleaning chemicals, but calcium scale will definitely accumulate in the pipes, fixtures, and water heater. The news isn't any better with private wells. Depending on the location and depth of your well, hardness can range from 15 GPG to as much as 160 GPG. At the higher end of the range, the calcium will cause excessive buildup on fixtures and surrounding surfaces, etching of glassware, and premature failure of water heaters, dishwashers, and other water-using appliances.

It's important to know that treatment equipment is not *one size fits all*. Despite misleading claims by some, traditional salt or

potassium-based softening is the only method which physically removes hardness from your water. Recent advances in electronic controllers have made the new generation of softeners more reliable, efficient, and user-friendly than ever. A water treatment specialist can test your water in order to determine the necessary softener size for your home.

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.

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Considering Structured Banknotes?

Discerning investors constantly seek investments that offer a balance of risk and reward. Structured banknotes are hybrid financial instruments that combine characteristics of traditional bonds and equity derivatives. They are issued by financial institutions and are designed to provide enhanced returns by linking the payout to the performance of various underlying assets such as equities, commodities, interest rates, or currencies.

Mechanics At their core, structured banknotes consist of two components: a debt instrument and a derivative. The debt component ensures principal protection, while the derivative component provides exposure linked to the chosen underlying asset.

Diversification Structured banknotes offer an excellent avenue for diversification. By linking the returns to a variety of underlying assets, investors can achieve exposure to different markets and sectors without directly investing in those assets.

Principal Protection One compelling feature of structured banknotes is the potential for principal protection. Depending on the specific terms of the note, an investor may be assured of receiving their initial investment back at maturity, regardless of the performance of the underlying asset.

Customization Structured banknotes can be tailored to meet specific investment objectives and risk tolerances. Investors can choose from a variety of structures, including capital-protected notes, yield-enhanced notes, and participation notes.



by *Carrie Campbell, J.D.*

Declaration of Guardian

Basic Powers of Attorney to name an agent for financial and medical decisions are the best means to avoid a guardianship. These documents allow you to name an agent to make decisions for you should you become unable to

make decisions for yourself. They are forms easily available for free or a nominal fee. For most individuals, these documents are adequate to address their care in case of incapacity, without the need for court intervention. However, if there is a dispute about your situation or care, the probate court can yet become involved to determine if a guardianship is necessary, and if so, the best person to look after your interests.

Therefore, one of the standard forms often included in estate planning is a Declaration of Guardian in the Event of Later Incapacity or Need of Guardian. This document instructs the judge whom you want to manage either or both your financial interests and/or health care. Because the court's intervention arises because of conflict within the family about your care, a Declaration of Guardian will more importantly include details about whom you *never* want making decisions on your behalf. Without guidance, the judge typically looks to your living "next of kin" as your court appointed guardian. In order, your "next of kin" are your spouse, children, parents and siblings. This

Credit Risk As with any debt instrument, structured banknotes carry the risk of issuer default.

Market Risk The returns on structured banknotes are typically linked to the performance of the underlying asset. Adverse movements in the asset's price can result in lower-than-expected returns.

Liquidity Risk Structured banknotes may not be as liquid as other financial instruments. Investors should be prepared to hold the notes until the end of the investment term.

Complexity The intricacies of structured banknotes can be daunting for the uninitiated. Understanding the specific terms, conditions, and potential outcomes requires a sophisticated level of financial acumen.

Structured banknotes represent a sophisticated investment option that combines the benefits of principal protection, diversification, and enhanced returns. Investors must conduct thorough due diligence and seek professional advice to determine the suitability of structured banknotes within their portfolios. Incorporating structured banknotes can add a layer of sophistication potentially leading to superior risk-adjusted returns.

Scott G. Hackett, CFP® is the president of the Hackett Financial Group LLC (HFG), a fee-only registered investment advisor. Visit HackettFinancialGroup.com or reach out at 512 847 0630. Email Scott at Scott@HackettFinancialGroup.com.



by *Scott G. Hackett, CFP®*

document is your only method to exclude certain family members from controlling your life and is especially relevant if your legal next of kin are not trustworthy. If your agent under a Power of Attorney dies or if the judge is convinced that your agent can no longer adequately tend to your interests or care, they will look to an independent or professional guardian instead of naming someone you have excluded. A review of your family dynamics and available options should be discussed with an attorney experienced in estate planning so that you feel more secure.

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



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Litigation: Invisible Harm



by Roland Brown

Just the other day I experienced an intense itch in the middle of my back. I applied some cream to the area I could reach which alleviated the itch but there was an area that – despite my long arms and relatively good range of motion – I could not reach. I immediately thought of the many clients with non-surgical back, neck, or shoulder injuries who have shared their difficulties doing routine things due to the pain and impairment that resulted from their motor vehicle crashes. Simple things such a blow-drying their hair, picking up a grandchild, riding a distance to visit their grandma, carrying a bag of groceries, looking over their shoulder to check for traffic, and on and on. I find that sometimes jurors, as well as insurance adjusters, just cannot seem to grasp the pain and limitations that can come from injuries that cannot be seen, sometimes even by sophisticated imaging. How do trial lawyers overcome this roadblock to successfully presenting a client’s injuries?

Certainly the lawyer’s skill in choosing words, creating exhibits, selecting and questioning witnesses, sharing analogies, ordering and pacing a trial in order to open the minds (and hearts) of those who hold the key to a just result for the client is important. But the client can do something that no one else can do. The client knows every way that the impairment and pain limits activity or diminishes their enjoyment of the day. The difficulty is often in getting clients to overcome a natural tendency to downplay their pain or impairment. While there are certainly

complainers, in my years of dealing with injured individuals, I find that most are working hard to recover the level of life they enjoyed before the injury and tend to push the pain and impairment into the background.

I encourage my clients to move forward, but I don’t want them to be lowballed by an insurance company or by a jury who doesn’t properly grasp the reality of what some careless person thrust upon my client. I need my client to recall and recount the things only the client knows. If you or a loved one is injured, consider keeping a journal that will help you or them to recall and recount. Write it down, but then get back to getting better. Getting better is good for you. Appropriate recalling and recounting is good for your case.

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.



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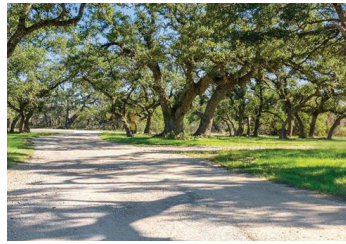




New!
66 Brookhollow MLS 5242626 \$625,000
Beautiful 4/4 with an office on golf course. Views! Mickey Brown



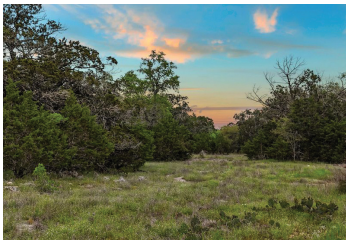
5400 FM 2325 B MLS 1524032 Amazing unrestricted 36 acres. Stock tank, Views. \$2,000,000 Mickey Brown & Jeff Hutto



7312 RR 12 MLS 6659766 70+ Unrestricted Acres. 4/4 Home. 3 Commercial, 3 Residential Rentals. \$4,500,000 Mickey Brown, Jeff Hutto



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



1147 Taylor Ranch Rd MLS 5292739 Beautiful tree covered 17 acres between Wimberley and Blanco.



New!
115 River Bend Rd MLS 4460080 \$1,525,000 Stunning 4/4 on Blanco River! Attached guest suite. Alice Lebkuecher



New Price!
160 Wimberley Ranch Dr MLS 5995047 \$2,300,000. 10 Ag Exempt acres, resort style pool, cabana. Jim Donaldson



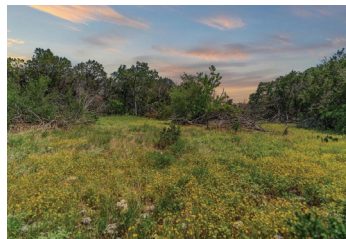
SOLD!
162 Jasmine Ct MLS 1198588 Sierra West 3/2+Office. 2,596 sq ft, 1.5 acres, Arroyo view. \$729,000 Linda Germain



13100 RR 12 MLS 3389117 \$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



New Price!
1401 Mt. Sharp MLS 1251683 Beautiful 12.5 Acres on Cypress Creek with 5/4.5 home and guest house. \$1,425,000 Alice Lebkuecher



SOLD!
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



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PENDING!



290 SKYLINE RIDGE OUTLOOK DR. SPACIOUS 4252 HOME W/ DISTANT SUNSET VIEWS ON 6.3+/- ACRES! NEW ROOF 08/24! DETACHED 3 CAR GARAGE/WORKSHOP! \$797,000.00

NEW PRICE!



453 LONE MAN MOUNTAIN ROAD RETREAT ON 24+/- AG EXEMPT ACRES! PARTY BARN, POOL COMPLEX WITH OUTDOOR KITCHEN, REGULATION SKEET RANGE! \$2,997,000.00

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