

Volume 38 No. 9

October/November 2024

www.stoneoakpoa.com



# Stone Oak POA Board of Directors

#### **Art Downey**

Chairman-of-the-Board adowney@ix.netcom.com

**Joe Silman,** President jsilman@satx.rr.com

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## **Stone Oak Property Owners Association**

19210 Huebner, Suite 100, San Antonio, TX 78258 210-858-8508 • www.stoneoakpoa.com

Meg Lorente - Stone Oak Property Manager

Please let us know about important events in your life, including photos!

SCHEDULED FOR MONTHLY PUBLICATION.

Next publication: November/December 2024 Article Deadline: November 1st Classifieds Deadline: November 1st (space available basis)

#### **ADVERTISING DEADLINES:**

October 23rd (for the November/December 2024 issue) November 23rd (for the December/January 2024 issue)

"The content and opinions expressed within the Stone Oak Newsletter are those of the authors/ represented businesses and are not necessarily shared by the Stone Oak Property Owners Association. All information within the Stone Oak Newsletter is screened and reviewed for accuracy, however, the information has not been subjected to formal tests and no guarantees are implied. The Stone Oak Property Owners Association is not responsible nor liable for any actions taken from use of the content and opinion expressed within the publication."

## **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

- To report damaged or blocked streets/sidewalks, potholes, loose dogs, dead animals in the road, code issues, or if you need general information regarding City of San Antonio related matters, please always call 311
- To contact SAPD for non-emergency related matters, call 210-207-7273; for emergencies call 911
- For SAWS related emergencies, call 210-704-7297
- For CPS/electricity related emergencies, call 1-800-870-1006



### **Property Owners Association**

Just a reminder: Your Stone Oak POA office has a new location! We are now located on the third floor of the Falcon Bank building on Stone Oak Pkwy, just north of Huebner Road: 19230 Stone Oak Pkwy, Suite 315. We love our property owners, but due to a small staff size, in-person appointments are by appointment only. If you need to visit the office, please call 210-858-8508 to set up a time in advance. This ensures we can assist you the best way possible. You can also email any of our staff members, or send an email to our general accounting inbox, accounting@stoneoakpoa.com.

It is also important to note we no longer have an external dropbox. Payments can be mailed to our office directly, or can be made online. The link to make an online payment can be found on the homepage of our website, www.StoneOakPOA.com. Thank you for being a part of our wonderful Stone Oak POA Community!

## Meg Lorente, Property Manager

MLorente@StoneOakPOA.com

## Joanne Gutierrez, Accounting Manager

JGutierrez@StoneOakPOA.com

## Tracy Liu, Accounting Assistant

TLiu@StoneOakPOA.com

#### Kristina Hock, ARC Coordinator

KHock@StoneOakPOA.com

## **Stone Oak Classified Ads**

Classified ads are a free service for the residents of Stone Oak. Ads are for goods only (no services). You may place, edit, or remove an ad by sending an email to <a href="mailto:info@NeighborhoodNews.com">info@NeighborhoodNews.com</a>. Please put "Stone Oak Resident – Classified" in the subject line of your email. Call 210-558-3160 ext. 5836 for more information.

**Restrictions:** One ad per resident. Ads will run for two months only, unless the advertiser calls and requests renewal. Ads may be edited for length or clarity.

The deadline to submit an ad for the March / April 2024 issue is March 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **MOSQUITO BREEDING PREVENTION**

By David Simpson, City of San Antonio Development Services, Code Enforcement Supervisor

During mosquito season, we are asking the community to do your part to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes. Here are several steps you can take around your property to prevent mosquitoes from breeding.

Once a week, empty and scrub, turn over, cover or throw out containers that hold water, such as:

- Vases
- Rain barrels
- Pet water bowls
- Trash cans & Buckets
- Flowerpot saucers
- Birdbaths
- Discarded tires
- Pool covers

These actions can help reduce the number of mosquitoes around areas where people live.

### Follow safe water storage tips

If water must be stored, tightly cover storage containers to prevent mosquitoes from getting inside and laying eggs.

## Improve sanitation

When water is contaminated with organic matter (for example, animal waste, grasses, and leaves), the chances that mosquito larvae will survive may increase because contaminated matter provides food for larvae to eat.

#### **Protect Yourself**

- Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants and socks to protect exposed skin during dusk and dawn, which is when mosquitoes are active.
- Avoid use of perfumes and colognes when working outdoors.
- Use air conditioning or make sure there are screens on all doors and windows to keep mosquitoes from entering the home.
- Use an insect repellent containing DEET or Picaridin on skin not covered by clothing.
- Choose a repellent that provides protection for the amount of time that you will be exposed. The more DEET or Picaridin a repellent contains, the longer time it can protect you.
- Spray insect repellent on the outside of your clothing (mosquitoes can bite through thin clothing).
- Do not spray insect repellent on skin that is under clothing.

- Insect repellents should not be used on young infants.
- Do not spray aerosol or pump products in enclosed areas or directly on your face. Do not allow insect repellent to contact your eyes or mouth. Do not use repellents on cuts, wounds or irritated skin.
- If working outdoors, use soap and water to wash skin and clothing that has been treated with insect repellent.
- Keep fountains maintained with fresh water and moving at all times.
- Keep rain gutters clean and free of any debris to allow rain water to flow properly.
- Keep shrubs cut short to reduce resting spots for mosquitoes.





## **NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES**

The Neighborhood Representative Committee meets the <a href="second Wednesday of each month">second Wednesday of each month</a> (with the exception of December and January) at 7:00PM in the Director's Room at the Club at Sonterra. These meetings last about one hour, and are designed to assist in communication between residential neighborhoods and the POA, while providing the opportunity for communities to ask questions, and trade valuable ideas and information. Past speakers have included SAWS, CPS, the City of San Antonio, SAPD, and Allied/Republic Waste. This group is vital to the Stone Oak community, and its members are usually the first to receive valuable information and updates from the POA. Many entities such as SAPD, CPS, and SAWS also have come to rely on them to get information out to the public quickly. If you do not see a representative listed below for your neighborhood, please consider volunteering. (A neighborhood is welcome to have two representatives and alternate attendance.) Call the POA office at 210-858-8508 for more information.

Committee Chairman Viki Melton 210-416-4774

Arrowhead Subdivision
Michael Bedwell
michael.b.bedwell@gmail.com

**Big Springs** Monette Fisher monettefisher@satx.rr.com

Canyons at Stone Oak REPRESENTATIVE CURRENTLY NEEDED!

Canyon Rim David Garza elrey0911@yahoo.com

> Canyon View Larry Schou 605-202-1657

Champions Ridge HOA Joe Silman jsilman@satx.rr.com

Champions Springs REPRESENTATIVE CURRENTLY NEEDED!

Champions Village
Liz Sandoval
Liz.angelica.sandoval@gmail.com

Crescent Oaks HOA Stephen Amerson ourcrescentoakshoa@gmail.com

> Crescent Ridge Kristin Carey kjcarey3@att.net

Echo Canyon Darlene Minea Kracavi01@gmail.com

Kracavi01@gmail.com

Estates at Arrowhead

Len Trevino

Trevino.l@sbcglobal.net

Estates of Champions Run

Jill Williamson

Jill Williamson 210-269-2363 Heights at Las Lomas

REPRESENTATIVE

CURRENTLY NEEDED!

Hidden Canyon
REPRESENTATIVE
CURRENTLY NEEDED!

Knights Cross Richard Sexton knightscross@yahoo.com

> Las Lomas Lisa Tkatchuk 210-213-3339

Mesa Grande Bert Denson hadenson@att.net

Mesa Verde REPRESENTATIVE CURRENTLY NEEDED!

Mesa Vista REPRESENTATIVE CURRENTLY NEEDED!

Mt. Arrowhead Dolores Gaylord dolores.gaylord@yahoo.com

Ridge at Stone Oak Michelle Collie mmoodycollie@gmail.com

Saddle Mountain REPRESENTATIVE CURRENTLY NEEDED!

Seventh at Sonterra Peter Bennett peterbennett510@hotmail.com

> SOCOMA HOA Al Crouch 210-260-0908

Sonterra Carolyn Miller carolynmiller0628@gmail.com

Springs at Stone Oak
David Contreras
dcontreras14satx@gmail.com

Stone Mountain HOA Tom Boney 210-240-5072

> Summit MAA Thomas Trbovich 210-844-7148

Villages of Stone Oak Moises Rzepka mrc\_oak@hotmail.com



SEEING PATIENTS
Ages 2 and Up

## HealthFirst: Now proudly serving patients in the Hill Country

Expert primary care, rooted in your community.

Same-day appointments are always available.





Aria Dayani, MD

Divya Muthappa, MD

Schedule an appointment today.

524 Singing Oaks, Suite 120 Spring Branch, TX (830) 252-5155 TXHealthFirst.com



## LEAVE THE LEAVES AND LEAVE RAKING BEHIND

By Mark Peterson, SAWS Conservation

By now, leaves are falling and we ponder whether to rake, mow or just ignore them. Although options vary, leaves do provide multiple benefits. Perhaps the path least traveled is the one to pursue.

Leaves supply an almost endless supply of essential nutrients like nitrogen, potassium, magnesium and manganese. Moreover, they supply simple and complex carbon chains to the soil, which provide food and energy to a variety of macro and micro-organisms. Without leaves, trees would soon run out of the building blocks to make their own food.

This is not to say that leaves don't have some downsides. For those enamored with large expanses of turf, a steady supply of leaves on top of the grass will be detrimental. Live oak leaves, in particular, decompose at a rate similar to the proverbial "molasses in January" and can quickly smother a lawn.

Here are some options to maximize leaf benefits and minimize leaf detriments:

- Rake up repeatedly and dispose in the proper receptacle.
   This option benefits only those who require outdoor exercise.
- Rake up and dispose in a compost bin. Exercise, reducing landfill input, and creating organic fertilizer are the chief benefits. You may have to speed up decomposition with small amounts of fertilizer and moisture.
- Mow and mow often. Mow over the leaves and then mow again. You have all of the above benefits plus added nutrients for the tree and the lawn, and most importantly for some folks, reduced winter weed population.

So keep the mower out of storage for just a bit longer. Sharpen the blades and mow, mow, mow those leaves.



## **Classified Ads**

#### FitBit Versa 4 Smartwatch

- Graphite aluminum Case with
- Black Infinity Band included.
- Brand New \$175.00 obo.

Contact: (210) 390-7805

#### **Bathroom Accessories:**

- 3 above-counter vanity lights,
- Variety of door knobs (gold/brass),
- Vanity sink,
- Floor and/or counter tiles,
- One floor lamp.

Call 210-334-7075 for prices and photos.

## Selling beautiful gowns and evening dresses:

(Worn once only at fund- raisers). Sizes: medium and large. Price: \$25.00 - evening dress; \$40.00 - evening gown; \$75.00 - gorgeous wedding dress (Brand new - never worn)

Call phone # 210-428-9055 - leave message if no answer.

#### **Property**

10.01 acres across the street from Lake Corpus Christi in Sandia, Texas, in the Lagarto community. Only 2 hours from San Antonio in Live Oak County. This property is an excellent place to build, bring home, or have a recreational spot for hunting and fishing in the lake. It is hard to find unrestricted land with views of Lake Corpus Christi and not in a subdivision with NO HOA FEES. Asking Price: \$169,900.00

Call or text 210-667-5263 William/Owner

### Care Giver

Driver needed Part time or Full Time Contact: (210) 870-0006

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## LANDSCAPE LEGENDS AND LORE

By Mark Peterson, SAWS Conservation

From hauntingly humorous to truly terrifying, garden tales of misery and woe hover and haunt unsuspecting homeowners. Read on for the shocking revelations. As we draw nearer to the spook and specter time of year, I'd like to recount some of the boo-tanical tales I've heard over the past year.

Some of them are quite ghoulish, while others are just a bunch of hocus pocus. Read on for a few gory stories — and what really happened.

## "My live oak must have water or it will die!"

Most of the time I hear this it is during a drought and the resident is concerned about their large tree. I try to comfort them and remind them that tree has been through several lengthy droughts and survived without any human intervention. I can't recall ever seeing a live oak completely die from drought. I also like to add that the best therapy for tree health is to limit excessive human interaction with them. Less is more when it comes to trees.

## "Red oaks are the 'Typhoid Mary' of oak wilt!"

Hardly. Vast majority of oak wilt transmission is by live oak roots to live oak roots. Less than three percent of all red oaks in the entire state of Texas are infested with oak wilt and pose a threat of transmission. Besides, we can prevent nearly 100 percent of oak wilt transmission with proper pruning and painting. Prune in the winter and summer, and always paint the wound within 30 minutes of cutting.

#### "St. Augustine grass is a water guzzler!"

Here's an eerie coincidence — St. Augustine grass doesn't guzzle any more water than other grasses if all the other grass species are treated the same way. In other words, if you want your Bermuda grass to look green and lush in August, then the amount of water needed for this preference is statistically the same as it is for St. Augustine. Also, St. Augustine is best adapted of all the warm season grasses to shade, where the need for water is much less. Too much water and disease flourishes.

## "Xeriscapes are ugly because they are just rocks and cactus."

Wrong! Nowhere in the principles of xeriscape does it mention rock or cacti. Let me say categorically and with passion, xeriscapes do not have river rock or cacti! Anyone who desires rocks and calls it xeriscape is sadly mistaken. Xeriscape is ideally 1/3 lawn, 1/3 pervious patio or deck, 1/3 native perennials and tree beds, and limited (if any) irrigation.

## "Crape myrtles must be cut back to produce flowers!"

This tale is truly terrifying — and probably the most disturbing thing I see every year. There has never been or will ever be any evidence that severe pruning on crape myrtles increases flowering. Who prunes crape myrtles in nature? Pixies? Elves? The amount of flowering is dependent on weather and placement to the sun.

I'm just trying to creep it real. Subscribe to the Garden Style San Antonio newsletter at www.GardenStyleSanAntonio. com for year-round up-to-date and truthful information on all things landscaping.

# REGISTER FOR THE STONE OAK POA WEBSITE

For the most up-to-date information regarding POA-coordinated community events, please register on our website, www.StoneOakPOA.com. We also utilize the website to e-blast urgent information from our community partners such as SAPD, SAWS, TXDOT, etc. We only send approximately six emails per year, and you can request to be removed from the list at any time. We value your privacy, therefore, your information is not shared with any other entities. Your registration on the website is your authorization for us to include you in the e-blast distribution. Although you may have provided our office staff with your email and contact information, the website is a separate authorization. Staff cannot register you on the site.



## WHAT WE CAN AND CANNOT ENFORCE

Gerald Roebuck, City of San Antonio Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement ensures the City's property use and maintenance codes, inoperable vehicles, and other quality of life related codes are followed. However, we're frequently asked to look at issues not under our purview, such as:

Mold isn't regulated by any city or Texas law. Frequently, it's a result of a plumbing leak, leaking air conditioning duct or a defective roof. The best way to address this is to find and repair the source of moisture. Once done, mold can usually be cleaned using household cleaners marketed for this. Be sure and follow all the safety precautions on the label of the product. For information on mold assessors and remediators, visit the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations (TDLR) website at www.tdlr.texas.gov/mld/mld.htm

Blowing leaves unto the street is a frequent complaint and the City discourages this practice. Though mentioned in City code, its intention is to prohibit the bulk discharge of grass and leaves and doesn't apply to incidental discharges created by lawn maintenance. Enforcement authority (Ch. 34 of City Code) is granted to the CEO/President of the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) and/or their designated qualified SAWS personnel. You can contact their complaint hotline at (210) 223-2290.

Noise nuisances are regulated by the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD). To report them, call the non-emergency number at (210) 207-7273.

Graffiti abatement of State highways, CPS Energy boxes, Union Pacific infrastructure is done by other agencies. The DSD Graffiti Team partners with respective City, State and private agencies to get rid of this unsightly problem. For a comprehensive list and contact information, visit us at: www.sanantonio.gov/CES/Graffiti/Abatement

Deed restrictions are enforced by the mandatory neighborhood association in which your property is located. Usually exceeding City code, they're private, contractual agreements between the subdivision developer, buyer and owners of real estate. If there isn't an association, there's usually an applicable City code to address health, safety and public nuisance violations.





## **BLUE SANTA PROGRAM**

Information pertaining to the SAPD Blue Santa program can be found at: www.sapdbluesanta.org. There you can find information as to how to donate, as well as how a family can apply to receive gifts. If you know of a family in need, or want to coordinate a toy donation, please contact Officer Rodriguez before December 1st. They can schedule their big van to come out with members of their unit to pick up the toys!

Officer Gerald Rodriguez
Gerald.Rodriguez2@SanAntonio.gov
210-207-8126

#### Some additional SAPD information:

1. North Substation website which includes contact information for SAFFE officers and map that shows patrol areas: https://www.sanantonio.gov/SAPD/North-Substation#295794183-saffe

BLUE

SANTA

- 2. Bexar County has a program similar to SAFFE called SCORE which provides some of the same services (designated patrol routes and flexible schedules for officers to attend HOA meetings or investigate persistent issues) https://www.bexar.org/directory.aspx?EID=605
- 3. SAPD patrols are informed by call volume. Anytime a resident witnesses suspicious activity or even hears loud racing going on they are encouraged to report this to the SAPD non-emergency number (210.207.7273) which helps create a log of activity. SAPD does not monitor NextDoor always call 911 for an emergency, or contact the non-emergency number for other issues.



# WINTER IRRIGATION MAKES YOUR SEWER BILL GROW...NOT YOUR GRASS!

By Nathan Riggs (Conservation Project Coordinator - San Antonio Water System)

Ok everyone, let's have a show of hands to see how many of you run your irrigation systems at least once per week during the winter?

First, you must understand that irrigating dormant grass will not make it grow, no matter how hard you try. As long as soil temperatures are below 70°F, turf grasses will not produce green shoots. Only the roots of grasses, trees and shrubs are active in the winter. What WILL turn green are the germinating winter weeds like dandelions and henbit, along with cool-season weedy grasses such as rye, fescue, Poa anna, or Rescue grass.

Why is NOT irrigating in the winter important? Your sewer bill. Yes! Your sewer bill! SAWS uses the period between November 15 and March 15 each year to calculate the winter average. The winter average is a consecutive three-month period used to calculate the sewer bill for the following year. Why use the winter? Water use for residential customers in the winter is ASSUMED to be primarily occurring indoors, and thus exiting the property via the sewer pipes. Wastewater output is not metered for residential SAWS customers. That's not a job ANY meter reader would want…hee hee!

If you are irrigating, draining and refilling the pool, or have a bad unrepaired leak during this three-month period, these activities are reflected in your metered domestic water use and will be included in that winter average sewer calculation. If you have a leak during the winter averaging period and get it repaired, call SAWS so a bill review can be performed and adjust for the leak (leak repair receipts MUST be provided) to make sure the sewer charges are accurate and don't include the extra water caused by the leak.

Next time you're in the garage, stop by your friend "Hunter" or "Rain Bird" (whatever your brand of irrigation controller) and switch them to OFF or Manual between November 15 and March 15.



## **GOURDS GALORE!**

By Donna Fossum, SAWS Conservation

Fall is here and so is gourd season. Most of the stores in town have a wide selection of them, but the most popular gourd this time of year is the pumpkin. We decorated them for Halloween and now we'll eat them as pumpkin pie.

Gourds are grown for both ornamental and utility purposes. Most of us have seen gourds when they are dried and made into arts and crafts objects such as bird houses. Purple martins love to make dried gourds their homes as they migrate through our area. Many gourds are prized for their interesting shapes and that is what endears most of us to the lowly gourd.

Gourds are annuals that thrive in areas where the temperature is 70 to 85 degrees. Their vines, which are closely related to cucumbers, squash and melons, grow best on trellises. Gourds are fairly easy to cultivate, but they do require good fertile soil. While the gourd is growing, you can create shapes by tying soft string or bands around young fruit or by frequently and gently bending the fruit into the shape you desire. Just be careful not to scratch the fruit.

When the gourds are ready to be harvested, make sure to leave some of the stem and use sharp shears to make clean cuts. After cutting the gourd, wash thoroughly and place it in a dry place out of direct sunlight and with good air circulation. Leave until dry and hardened. The gourds can then be decorated. The growing, harvesting, drying and decorating of gourds is a fun family project and a great way to get the little ones involved in gardening. But beware: Gourd growing can become addictive.



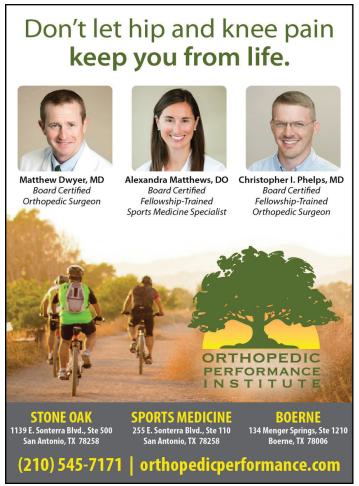
## WANT TO RECEIVE YOUR POA ASSESSMENT BILL VIA EMAIL?

The Stone Oak POA now has the ability to offer you paperless billing! If you would like to opt to receive all your Stone Oak POA assessment bills and accounting correspondence via email only, please visit the "Assessment Information" page of our website, www.StoneOakPOA.com, and complete our Authorization for Electronic Delivery Form. Upon completion, this form should be returned to accounting@ StoneOakPOA.com, or mailed to our office at 19230 Stone Oak Pkwy, Suite 315, San Antonio, TX 78258.

## **SCOOP THE POOP**

Please pick up after your pets. Take a plastic bag with you on your walks and dispose of it properly. Obey the leash law. All dogs and cats must be confined to their owner's property at all times except when on a leash.





## **BLUE STAR ARTS COMPLEX**

By Paul Ehrlich, Staff Writer

If you would like to appreciate local art in San Antonio, consider going to Blue Star Arts Complex. Located in Southtown San Antonio, Blue Star Arts Complex has

activities for the whole family to enjoy.



For instance, The Contemporary at Blue Star Museum currently features exhibits by artists such as Raul Servin, Ester Fernandez and Linda Valejo. Many of these exhibits explore aspects of the modern Latino experience as it relates to colonialism and other issues.

The museum features a reading room titled "The Center for Unfinished Business". In this reading room, uncomfortable reminders of the past are featured alongside modern

inspirational texts. This juxtaposition presents all aspects of the struggle for equality, both past and present.

Readers can post their thoughts on a comment wall located in the



reading room. Comments visible included "Don't judge a book by its cover but rather its content." and "Put down your phone + live".

Other exhibits include a collection of portraits and figures by Kaysaypac and a fascinating multimedia exhibit by Cheng Xinhao. In this exhibit "Silver...and Other Elements", a video examines the role worthless French coins play in the indigenous Mang community. You can find information about The Contemporary at Bue Star Museum at https:// contemporarysa.org/ Exhibitions are subject to change.

Another art gallery you may wish to visit incudes Mockingbird Handprints. This gallery has been in business for over ten years and features local artists on a rotating basis. Staff and customers describe Mockingbird Handprints as a "mid-range gallery", not super high-end.

The artists themselves have eclectic work, from street photography to woodcuts, and range in age from their early 20s to their 80s. Frequent customer Carol says, "Nothing is similar to this". You can find more information regarding

MockingbirdHandprintsathttps://mockingbirdhandprints. com/.

Next door to Mockingbird Handprints is Flight. Opened in 2001 by Justin Parr, this gallery features a new show every month. Generally, the gallery has a preview every Thursday and opens a new show on First Fridays. As of this writing (9/2024), the gallery is featuring work by Matt Tumlinson. This exhibition mixes contemporary styling with traditional Western Art. However, the gallery is scheduled to exhibit a new show, "Sin Eater" by David Alcantar, starting October 1st. Most artists featured by Flight are located in South Texas. However, Flight has hosted an exchange with Seattle artists in the past. Mr. Parr's aim in running the gallery is to "keep everyone on their toes". Future exhibitions should prove interesting. Check them out at https://www.facebook. com/flightSA/.

On Sundays, Blue Star hosts the Brick's artist market. Much like a craft fair, this market has some unique features such as a bar with cocktails. As for the wares being sold, they range from handmade leather wallets to healing crystals. Even pottery was seen. One item that stood out was a 3-D printed ocarina, accompanied with 3-D printed rupees. The Brick's artist market is only held on Sundays. You can find more information here at https://www.bluestarartscomplex.

com/calendar.

After you check out the art, other activities are available at the Blue Star Arts Complex. For instance, Blue Star Bike Shop offers bicycle rentals. The complex is located right on the Riverwalk, making Blue Arts a perfect starting point for a laidback bicycle tour.

Of course, there are several places to eat at Blue Arts, including Stella Public House, Blue Star Brewing Company, and Sukeban. Public Stella House features wood-fired pies and craft cocktails. Blue Star Brewing company features casual fare, served with home brewed beer.



Sukeban features sushi and ramen.

Several shops are also at Blue Star, from vintage clothing to eclectic studios and even a small grocery store (with beer

So, head down to the Blue Star Arts Complex, enjoy a beverage and see some art. Follow the advice on the museum wall -- put down your phone and live.



## Invitation for Registration South Central Texas Mahjongg Mavens MAHJONGG TOURNAMENT

Benefitting:

## **Tunnel to Towers Foundation**

Monday, November 11, 2024

Tournament & Social Play (bring your group of 4 for Social play & play at own pace)

## \$90.00 per player

(Sorry, no refunds, but substitutions will be allowed)

Includes: 5 Rounds of Play

Cash Prizes:

1st Place - \$1,000; 2nd Place - \$750, 3rd Place - \$500; 4th Place - \$250; 5th Place - \$125

Door Prizes and Raffles

## **Schedule of Events:**

8:15 - Check In & Breakfast

9:00 - Morning Play Begins

Lunch after third round

1:30 - Afternoon Play Begins

4:00 - Awards

South Central Texas Mahjongg Mavens (SCTMM)
Attn: Karen Huff, 109 Lake Village Road, Seguin, Texas 78155

Held at: The Alzafar Shrine Auditorium, San Antonio, TX 901 N. Loop 1604 W, San Antonio, TX 78232

Contact:

Gloria Kravetz: (210) 416-3111 gloriak@afhealthinsurance.com

Sue Feuille: (915) 255-8279 sue.feuille@gmail.com

Registration Form Attached

Tunnel to Towers Contribution Form - Email Request to a Contact Person listed



# ONE POT CHEESY CHICKEN BROCCOLI RICE CASSEROLE

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 small onion chopped
- 2 chicken breasts cut into small cubes
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp black pepper
- 4 cloves garlic minced
- 3/4 cup rice uncooked
- 10 oz cream of chicken soup (1 can)
- 3 cups chicken broth low sodium
- 2 cups broccoli florets
- 1 cup cheddar cheese
- 1 tbsp fresh parsley chopped



### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. Heat the olive oil in a large skillet. Add chopped onion and cubed chicken. Cook on medium heat for a few minutes until the chicken starts to brown a bit. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Stir in garlic and cook for another 30 seconds until garlic gets aromatic.
- 2. Add the rice, cream of chicken soup and chicken broth. Start with 2 cups of chicken broth and if more is needed add more until rice is fully cooked. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat, cover, and cook over medium heat until the rice is fully cooked, stirring occasionally, should take about 15 minutes or so. Taste for seasoning and adjust as necessary.
- 3. Add the broccoli florets and half the cheese then continue cooking for 2 more minutes, until broccoli so ens a bit. Sprinkle over the top with remaining cheese and place the skillet under the broiler for a couple more minutes, just until it melts and starts to brown a bit.
- 4. Garnish with fresh parsley and serve.

# THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Since October 27 will have us getting back on standard time, and off of Daylight Saving Time, I thought it would be fun to learn more about it. For most people, Daylight Saving Time (DST) means we get an extra hour of sleep in the winter and lose an hour of sleep in the spring. The idea behind DST has always been to use daylight instead of electricity to conserve valuable energy. But did you know...

## It Wasn't Always About Energy Savings

Daylight Saving Time is often associated with energy conservation, but this was not its initial intent. The concept of DST was first proposed by George Hudson, an entomologist from New Zealand, in 1895. Hudson wanted more daylight hours to collect insects after work. Years later, the idea was further popularized by English builder William Willett, who hoped that DST would allow people more time for outdoor activities during long summer evenings.

#### **DST Isn't Observed Everywhere**

While many countries, including the United States and most of Europe, observe DST, there are some places that do not. In the U.S., Hawaii and most of Arizona have opted out of DST, preferring to keep their clocks consistent year-round. Globally, countries near the equator generally don't observe DST either, as their daylight hours remain relatively constant throughout the year.

## It's Linked to a Spike in Heart Attacks and Car Accidents

Surprisingly, the transition into DST can have serious health and safety consequences. Studies show that the abrupt change in sleep patterns leads to a spike in heart attacks the day after clocks are set forward in the spring. Similarly, the loss of an hour's sleep has been associated with an increase in car accidents due to drowsy driving.

## It's Not Required by Federal Law

In the United States, observing Daylight Saving Time is not mandated by federal law. The Uniform Time Act of 1966 established DST guidelines but allows states to choose whether or not to participate. As mentioned, Hawaii and parts of Arizona don't observe DST, and several other states have proposed legislation to either remain on standard time year-round or permanently adopt DST.

## It Was Temporarily Abolished During WWII

During World War II, the U.S. government instituted "War Time," which kept the country on permanent daylight saving time to conserve energy and resources for the war effort. After the war, the U.S. returned to standard time, but many states chose to continue observing DST, leading

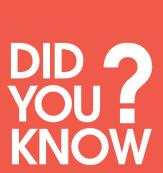
to a confusing patchwork of timekeeping rules until the Uniform Time Act established consistency.

## DST Might Not Save as Much Energy as You Think

While the original idea behind DST was to reduce energy usage by making better use of daylight hours, modern research suggests that the impact might not be as significant as previously thought. A study from Indiana, for instance, showed that DST actually led to an increase in residential energy use due to additional heating and cooling requirements.

## The European Union Is Phasing It Out

In 2019, the European Parliament voted to end the practice of seasonal time changes by 2021, allowing each member state to decide whether to remain on standard time or DST year-round. While implementation has been delayed, this move highlights growing global debate over whether DST is still relevant in today's world.





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## **BAT-FRIENDLY HABITATS**

Bats play a crucial role in maintaining a healthy backyard ecosystem. As voracious insect-eaters, they help control populations of mosquitoes, moths, and other pests, reducing the need for chemical pesticides. By keeping insect numbers in check, bats contribute to a more balanced environment, promoting plant pollination and supporting other wildlife species. Additionally, their guano, or droppings, act as a natural fertilizer, enriching soil and enhancing plant

Providing bat-friendly habitats, such as bat houses or preserving natural roosting sites, can attract these nocturnal creatures to your backyard, offering both ecological benefits and an opportunity for fascinating wildlife observation.

To learn how to attract bats to your backyard through housing and gardening check out this guide from Bat Conservation International: <a href="https://www.batcon.org/about-bats/bat-gardens-houses/?mc\_cid=60e7483887&mc\_eid=5f09782da8">https://www.batcon.org/about-bats/bat-gardens-houses/?mc\_cid=60e7483887&mc\_eid=5f09782da8</a>



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## **Shredding Service**





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For more information on how to stay safe online, or to report suspicious communications, visit the Amazon Customer Service page, which can be found in the Help section at the bottom of the Amazon home page.

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Shop our Stone Oak POA businesses this holiday season! According to the City of San Antonio, shifting just 10% of your shopping dollars to local businesses can boost our economy significantly! Of every \$100 spent locally, \$68 stays in our community - supporting local businesses, restaurants, and neighborhoods. Buy Local whenever possible!





The Stone Oak Teen Services Directory is a free service for teenage residents of Stone Oak (ages 11–19). Ages are updated automatically and names are removed at age 20. To add, remove, or update your information in the directory, please send an email to Ariel@NeighborhoodNews.com with "Stone Oak Teen Services" on the subject line.

Name	Age	Phone	Babysit	Lawn Care	Petsit/ Walk	House/ Plant Care	Subdivision	Other
Ella Ramon	15	210-238-6782	х		х		Oaks at Sonterra	CPR certified, great with kids, great with animals, very responsible. Guaranteed with happiness to kids and animals. All star cheerleader.
Maylene Cruz	19	727-225-7004	х	х	х	х	The Anthony at Canyon Springs	I speak English and Spanish and can do other odd jobs, such as painting. Affordable pricing.
Jocie Seward	12	979-703-9586	х		х	х	Villages of Stone Oak	Loves animals, kids and plants! Very responsible teen, please text or call to coordinate services!
Avalon Leonard	17	832-290-9815	х		х	х	Stone Oak	Responsible, intelligent and experienced. Great with children and animals. Negotiable rates. Able to stay overnight. CPR Certified.
Joseph Espinosa	15	210-396-6115	х	х	Х	х	Mesa Grande	Hearing impaired, great w/ elders, kids & animals.
Cogen Espinosa	15	210-636-0802	Х	Х	Х		Mesa Grande	Helpful and knowledgeable with children, pets, elderly and lawn care.
Ana Cordova	15	956-489-1255	х		х		Encore 281	Fluent in Spanish & English. Great with kids and animals! Responsible, caring, and reliable. Flexible and reasonably priced. Call or text.
Emily Krause	17	716-335-4707			Х		Stone Oak	In-home drop pet sitting and auto detailing.
Brooklyn Alanis	18	209-704-4150	х		х		Stone Oak	First aid/CPR and lifeguard certified and have been a swimmer for 12 years.
Juan Pablo Sordo Palacios	15	210-475-3025		х			Champion Springs	Fluent in English & Spanish. Available weekends 9am-5pm. Can also clean cars outside and vacuum inside. Other odd jobs. Affordable prices. Quality work.
Daniel Cordova	15	210-865-6950		Х			Stone Oak	Reasonably priced. Please text to see what days and time you need me.
Samuel Crawford	16	210-982-6429	х		х	х	Midlands (reliable car, can travel)	I am CPR certified. Older brother with experience with young children, toddlers and animals.
Mario Ronquillo	17	210-204-7513	х		х	х	Las Lomas	Fluent in English & Spanish. Very responsible, love kids & animals. CPR & First Aid Certified.
Isaiah Cruz	15	830-444-7955 727-225-7004	х		х		Anthony at Canyon Springs	
Justine Beleno	17	210-827-1474	х		х	х	Summit	CPR and first aid certified. Experienced babysitter, very responsible. Please text to set up services!
Palmer Straub	16	210-845-1676			Х	х	The Glen	Honest and reliable, love animals, hardworking and dependable.
Addison (Addy) Pol	16	210-857-6925	х		Х	х	The Vineyard	Responsible and good with kids!
Erin Cruikshank	18	254-319-5841	х		х	х	Mesa Grande	Experienced with babysitting and working with a variety of animals. Has own transportation and is very responsible. Reasonable rates.
Alic Riddle	12	210-516-2918			х	х	Heights as Las Lomas	Loves cats and dogs. Helpful with household and plant needs. Call (leave voicemail message) or text.
Divine Ajuzie	16	210-630-0676	Х		х	х	Remington Heights	CPR and first aid certified. Experienced babysitter. Very responsible. Please text to set up services!
Ava Dalton	15	360-862-3189/ 928-533-6749	х	Х	х	х	Stone Oak	I'm great with kids all ages. I have younger siblings. CPR and First Aid certified. Flexible schedule. I take safety very seriously, but I also prioritize having fun!
Caroline Marino	13	210-748-6762/ 864-525-0385	х		х	х	Estates at Champions Run	Responsible, solid communication, dependable. I love animals and am great with kids. CPR-certified. I can also photograph and list items for you on Poshmark or eBay. Please call or text.
Briana Zuazua	15	210-350-9505	х		х	х	Mesa Vista	Experienced babysitter. Can speak English & Spanish. Weekends 8am-8pm. I can help with plant and household needs.
Cinthya Guerrero	15	210-241-0045	х		х	х	The Peak at Promontory	CPR and first aid certified. Experienced babysitter has completed over 30 hours babysitting. Punctual and Responsible. Please text to set up and schedule a service!!
Noah Sharp	16	210-438-3469	х	Х	х	х	Oaks at Sonterra	I am CPR and First Aid certified and have my own transportation.  Experience working with young children. Responsible and respectful.
Jarianna Ortiz	11	210-500-7544			х		Villages of Stone Oak	I do dog walking.
Carlota Garcia	19	210-422-9878	Х				Stone Oak	I'm from Spain. I can speak Spanish and English.
Maximus Beleno	13	210-414-5888			х	х	Summit	I'm dependent and love animals.
Ethan Guerra	16	210-730-6042		х			Knights Cross	CPR Certified. I can help you lift & move furniture, vacuum, wash cars & other additional jobs. Reasonably priced, honest & reliable.
Brycen Schmidt	15	667-231-6700		Х	х		Hidden Canyon	I offer lawn mowing, weed eating, pet sitting, and walking services.
Santiago Cruces	14	210-488-0812			х	х	The Summit	I speak Spanish and English. Very responsible and trust worthy. Please text for availability.
Renata Cruces	16	210-701-9940	х			х	The Summit	Big sister experience. I speak Spanish, English, and basic French. I can cook. Very responsible. Please text for availability.

# STONE OAK SIGN POLICY & OPEN HOUSE SIGNAGE

One of the reasons your Stone Oak community looks different from other communities within San Antonio is the result of the Stone Oak Sign Policy. All signs within Stone Oak boundaries must meet policy guidelines, are required to be professionally made, and must first be approved by the Stone Oak POA Architectural Review Committee (ARC) - this includes business signs, wall signs, monument signs, neighborhood entry monuments, and even community garage sale signs. Signage placed without prior approval is subject to removal with no prior warning. Out of concern for turf drip irrigation, no signs are ever approved for placement within medians, and will be removed with no advance warning. You can read the Stone Oak Sign Policy, and the Stone Oak Sign Removal Policy, on our website, www. StoneOakPOA.com.

Of special note if you are having an open house - ONE real estate open house sign is permitted next to the monument at the entrance of the neighborhood during the open house hours. No Stone Oak ARC approval is needed for this one real estate sign, however it must be professionally made – no generic signs with handwritten or cut/paste lettering is permitted. No balloons, streamers, human signage, or directional signs are permitted. (Any signage within the neighborhood is subject to that HOA's guidelines, so check with your HOA regarding those).

To prevent the frustration of missing signs, please ensure your realtor is aware of this policy if your home is scheduled for an open house. And realtors, please share these guidelines with other realtors in your office.

## **FALL LAWN MAINTENANCE**

Please be a responsible neighbor and keep up with the maintenance of your lawn. Help keep the neighborhood looking great by maintaining your yard with frequent mowing, trimming, raking/bagging leaves.









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