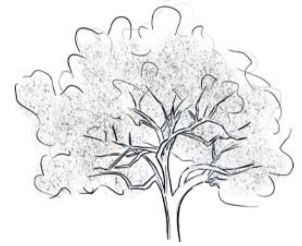




Gardens of Oak Hollow

A SMALL COMMUNITY WITH A BIG HEART

Neighborly News



Number 067

7 August 2023

Rest In Peace



On July 24, 2023 our neighbor, Ray Kirsch, passed away. Ray helped numerous people in need while working for Adult Protective Services for the great state of Texas for over 20 years. It was his true calling.

Ray was a selfless man in his work and private life. He was also an amazing cook. He won many prizes at County fairs, plus at chili and spam cook offs. He shared this talent with his friends, family, and co workers, much to their tastebud's delight!

Many people didn't know that Ray was also a gifted painter. He was once named one of the Top 50 Young Artists in Texas. He donated an unknown amount of his paintings to charities in San Antonio.

A knowledgeable and passionate Texas historian, Ray shared his vast store of Texas lore and history to all. He loved Texas with his whole heart and soul. A tour guide of Texas he truly was.

Ray is survived by his Father, Dr. Raymond Kirsch, and his sister Dr. Ann Marie Kirsch-Mazur (Kevin Mazur).

City Budget Town Hall



6:30 PM Wednesday August 16th

Phil Hardberger Park Urban Ecology Center

8400 NW Military Hwy, 78231

Do you ever wonder how the City of San Antonio invests in services for you and your neighbors? Don't miss your chance to learn what City services are available and speak up about what's important to you!

Each year the City of San Antonio develops an annual operating budget that reflects the City Council and Community priorities. The City's fiscal year begins October 1 and ends September 30.

The City has developed the Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Budget, and are asking for your feedback. Your comments will help them understand what investments should be prioritized for the next year.

Sales Tax Holiday



Friday, Aug. 11 to Sunday, Aug. 13

With the first days of a new school year right around the corner, Texans can capitalize on the state's annual three-day sales tax holiday on certain purchases this weekend.

All purchases of \$100 or less on qualifying products can be made without the addition of charged sales tax. Qualifying items are charged individually, meaning you can purchase two \$70 backpacks and not pay sales tax for either, even though the total price of goods amounts to more than \$100.

The Texas Comptroller encourages all taxpayers to support Texas businesses while saving money on tax-free purchases of most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks (sold for less than \$100) during the annual Tax-Free weekend.

Qualifying items can be purchased tax free from a Texas store or from an online or catalog seller doing business in Texas. In most cases, you do not need to give the seller an exemption certificate to buy qualifying items tax free.

Here is a link to the more details:

<https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/publications/98-490/>

You Can Help



After the last newsletter I received an email from a neighbor that began with the following statement:

"Just wondering why there is not news about the neighbors and neighborhood."

That comment really gets right down to the BIG FLAW in this "Neighborly News" project I started two years ago.

I am better suited to be
the Editor, not a Reporter.

For those of you that know me, you know I am a self-confessed "digi-aholic" and spend way more time with my computer than out and about in the neighborhood. This means I am frequently unaware of what is going on in the neighborhood.

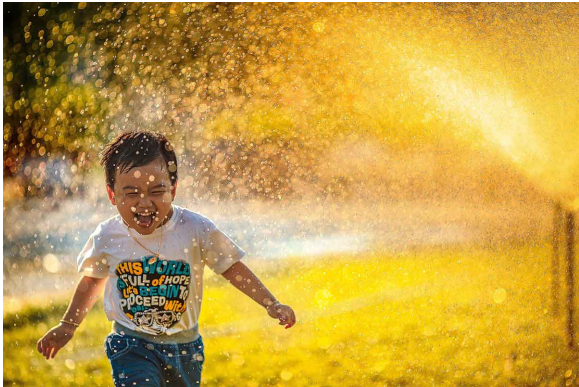
I need YOU to be a Reporter.

If you want the "Neighborly News" project to continue, take a moment to let me know if you . . .

- think of something you find interesting and think the neighborhood might also.
- know of a neighbor who deserves a "pat on the back" for something good they did.
- learn that one of our neighbors has passed away so that we can honor him/her with an obituary.

Neighborly News will be better if it is supported by more than one person.

Happiness Happens Day



Source: www.NationalToday.com

Today is the day to see how happiness happens and see how you can make it happen today, on Happiness Happens Day, Happiness — it's what people want most out of life. If we aren't actively looking for it, we are talking about it, spreading it, dreaming about it, or, hopefully, experiencing it. For many, it's a goal to be happy. Then, there are those who always just seem happy. How do they do it? Is it naturally in them or do they work at it?

Adults smile, on average, 20 times per day, which is a fraction of that of a child who smiles 400 times

per day! Let's not lose that smile factor as adults. As Truvy (Dolly Parton) said in "Steel Magnolias," "Smile, it increases your face value!"

5 Amazing Ways to Choose Happiness

Gratitude

Expressing gratitude leads to an overall optimistic attitude; it is consistently and strongly correlated to feelings of happiness.

Volunteer

Giving of your time to help others has been shown to decrease feelings of depression and improve optimism and a sense of worth.

Give

We've all heard the phrase: it is better to give than to receive — yes, giving is another action that leads to happiness and benefits the giver as much, if not more, than the receiver.

Encourage

Lifting others up brings about a reciprocal effect — put out positive thoughts and feelings and this is what you will likely receive in return.

Reminisce

Spend some time looking at old photos, flipping through high school yearbooks, or reading old letters and you will find feelings of happiness overflowing as you stroll down memory lane.