

December 1, 2017

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

By Maj Gen Bruce Smith, USAF (Ret)

It's my honor to have handed the Chairman's gavel to Maj Gen Glen Shaffer, USAF (Ret). After eight years as a member of the Board of Directors and four years as your Chairman, my term has ended. In accordance with our bylaws I will stay on, as Gen Shaffer's wingman, for one year in the capacity of "Immediate Past Chair." The last four years as your Chairman have been incredibly rewarding. Working with a talented and dedicated group of Board members - who always put your interests first - has been both fruitful and gratifying. They and the staff have teamed to provide us a financially secure future and a quality filled lifestyle ensuring our community meets your expectations. Since his arrival on the board, Glen Shaffer has been your advocate and a powerful force for progress, and I know he will carry us forward with enthusiasm and a focus on your wellbeing.

Thank you for your support and for making Blue Skies a place where others want to be your neighbor.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT OF BLUE SKIES OF TEXAS

By Chip Utterback, President & CEO

In July, I sent you a note announcing that after seven years as the President and CEO, I would be leaving Blue Skies to retire in mid-January. The board has given me the honor to announce my replacement has been named. After an exhaustive, nationwide search with almost 200 applications, yielding an incredibly talented slate of candidates from the senior living industry and several with senior military backgrounds, the CEO search committee got it exactly right! I am excited to say the board approved Lt Gen Darrell Jones, USAF (Ret), a long-time friend who has a proven record of excellence in leadership. His background, talents, and passion for service give me full confidence our future is in good hands. I know him well, and he will put *you* first. It was a good Thanksgiving to celebrate the wonderful blessings that have come my way because I have been here at Blue Skies. This year, in particular, I'm thankful Darrell will be leading our Blue Skies in the years ahead. You will like him and will see him, full of energy and great talent, taking the reins in mid-January. Until then, you are stuck with me. ☺

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RESIDENT SERVICES

By Dave Anderson

It's time for Mistletoe and Holly! Save the Date –

Friday, Dec 1 – Market Days at BSTW, Main Lobby, **9am-2pm**

Sunday, Dec 3 – Residents' Concert Series Presents IluMen, BSTW, **3pm**

Tuesday, Dec 5 – Christmas Gala, Sky Lounge, **5pm**

Wednesday, Dec 6 – DRAC Meeting, CC Rooms, **9:30am**

Saturday, Dec 9 – Sing-Along Strings, CC Rooms, **7pm**

Monday, Dec 11 – Village Voices Concert, CC Rooms, **7pm**

Tuesday, Dec 12 – USAA Ensemble, CC Rooms, **7pm**

Friday, Dec 15 – Children's Christmas Party, Legacy Room, **4:30pm**

Employee Gift Giving – This time of year we receive many questions regarding providing gifts to employees. As a reminder our Employee Handbook states: "BST Employees are prohibited from accepting personal cash gifts - which includes: checks, gift cards, debit cards and tips - and personal gifts of any kind from residents or their family members or guests." Non-personal gifts offered to all Company employees, or an entire segment of the staff, intended to foster goodwill between residents and employees - such as baked goods or holiday-related items - may be accepted, provided they are made available to all. Residents do thoughtfully and collectively show their appreciation through the bi-annual employee appreciation fund which is much appreciated by the BST Staff. If you have any questions, please contact me in Resident Services.

Safety – Festive celebrations, flickering lights and winter greens are part of the holiday decorations we look forward to seeing this time of year, but they may also present fire risks. Please take a moment to look at your keepsake treasures and ensure they're safe. If you're using old lights, etc., please check for frayed cords; anything that is *warm to the touch* should be unplugged immediately. Avoid overloading outlets and adapters; plugging in too many light strings can become a potential fire hazard.

Wednesday Shopping – We depart the East Campus at **1:15pm**. Return pickup is **3:30pm**.

Wednesday, Dec 6 – Target

Wednesday, Dec 13 – Trader Joes

Friday "Mall" Transportation – We depart East Campus at **10:15am**. Return pickup is **2pm**. There is a \$5 per trip transportation fee for this service.

Friday, Dec 1 – La Cantera

Friday, Dec 8 – Ingram

Housekeeping Spotlight Item – These weekly items give housekeepers an area of special interest. Housekeepers will still adhere to their checklists but will pay special attention to the Spotlight Items of the week:

Week of Dec 4 – Trash Cans

Week of Dec 11 – Window Screens

RESIDENT ROSTER UPDATE *By Dee Smith, Assistant Resident Service Director*

We'll be printing the *BST East new Resident Roster* at the beginning of January. Please stop by the Front Desk to check your current information and make any updates you would like included. We will be happy to add cell numbers, your email address and paws indicating a pet in your home. This is an in-house publication and is *not* shared to outside entities. Deadline: Friday, Dec 15 @ noon

RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

By Shirley Clay, Resident Counselor

Retiree Appreciation Day at Lackland Legal Office – On **Mon, Dec 4**, Lackland Legal will be hosting a Retiree Appreciation Day from **8:30am–12:30pm**. All Military Retirees and their dependents can receive same day Will preparation during that time period. No appointment is necessary. Bring your Military ID card and complete a will worksheet at <https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil> or complete a will worksheet at the office located at 1701 Kenly Ave., Suite 134.

GM'S CORNER

By Ryan Dahl, BSTE Director of Dining Services



Jolly Holly-Day - This year, the Ladies Christmas Luncheon will be replaced with an open event sponsored by Dining Services with the help of a large number of our great residents. It will be a light Lunch open to all residents, both East and West, with a guest entertainer and some fun treats and surprises. The Lunch Buffet will be on **Fri, Dec 15**, in the Legacy Room starting at **11:30am** for the meal; there will be a social time before the meal starting at 11am in the lobby. This event can be charged to your meal plan and will be \$17. We ask you sign up by Fri, Dec 1, on the signup sheet in CC1. If you do not want to attend the Lunch Buffet, we will have a Blue Plate Special in Cochran's for lunch that day. We look forward to celebrating the Christmas Season with you all and hope to see you there.

Up Coming Events:

- Dec. 5 – Christmas Gala
- Dec. 15 – Jolly Holly-Day Luncheon
- Dec. 15 – Children's Christmas party
- Dec. 18 – Birthday, Anniversary, and Newcomers
- Dec 18 – Christmas reservations close
- Dec 25 – Christmas Day Lunch Buffet, **11am** and **1pm**

MAINTENANCE

PEST CONTROL SCHEDULE

By Scott Fischman, Maintenance Director

Thursday, Dec 07:		Thursday, Dec 14:	
Hi-Rise	Floors 6-7	Hi-Rise	Floor 8
Mid-Rise	Floor 4	Mid-Rise	Floor 5
Cottages		Cottages	1754-1756
The Hills	SA - All Apts. & Hallway All Bldgs. - exterior	The Hills	Dallas - All Apts. & Hallway
Health Care	AH - interior common/exterior	Health Care	
Specials	Bistro – interior/exterior	Specials	Hobby Shop - exterior

Maintenance Work Order Submittals

- Work Order Desk: 568-3261
- Work Order Email: workorder@blueskiestx.org

RESIDENTS' CORNER

LARGE-PRINT BOOKS PURCHASED IN NOVEMBER 2017

By Anne Bowbeer

Author	Book Title (Large Print Except Where Noted)
Bradley, Patricia	<i>Justice Buried</i>
Brown, Sandra	<i>Seeing Red</i>
Cook, Robin	<i>Charlatans</i>
Dave, Laura	<i>Hello, Sunshine</i>
Dunbar, Erica Armstrong	<i>Never Caught</i> (Nonfiction)
Egan, Jennifer	<i>Manhattan Beach</i>
Flynn, Vince & Kyle Mills	<i>Enemy of the State</i>
Gabhart, Ann H.	<i>These Healing Hills</i>
Grafton, Sue	<i>Y Is For Yesterday</i>
Grisham, John	<i>The Rooster Bar</i>
Howe, K.J.	<i>The Freedom Broker</i>
Johansen, Iris, & Roy Johansen	<i>Look Behind You</i> (Back-ordered)
King, Stephen, with Owen King	<i>Sleeping Beauties</i>
Kirkpatrick, Jane	<i>All She Left Behind</i> (Based on a True Story)
Lapena, Shari	<i>A Stranger in the House</i>

Author	Book Title (Large Print Except Where Noted)
Macomber, Debbie	<i>Merry and Bright</i>
Penny, Louise	<i>Glass Houses</i>
Robb, J.D.	<i>Secrets in Death</i>
Scottoline, Lisa	<i>Exposed</i>
Steel, Danielle	<i>The Right Time</i>
Wiehl, Lis, with Sebastian Stuart	<i>The Separatists</i>
Wortham, Reavis Z.	<i>Hawke's Prey</i>

Dorothy Benton Frank's *Same Beach, Net Year*, ordered in July, is not available in large print hardcover format.

SMART DRIVER COURSE *By Jim Phelps*



The next course is **Friday, Dec 1, 12:30-5pm** in the Roadrunner Lounge at BST West. AARP has dedicated considerable time and resources to creating the best possible Driving Safety course using extensive curriculum research.

The Smart Driver Course features the most informative and relevant content from previous editions – updated to reflect the latest driver safety and transportation innovations – bundled with fresh information based on new research, expert recommendations and volunteer and participant insights. Most auto insurance companies give a premium discount to those who complete the course. You must attend the course once every three years to be eligible for the discount. The cost of the course is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for nonmembers. Sign-up sheets are in CC1.

RESIDENT CONCERT SERIES *By Ginny Hallager*

We are approaching our last concert of 2017. Come to the Lobby of BSTW at **3 pm** on **Sunday, Dec 3**, to enjoy San Antonio's own professional men's chorus, IlluMen. They are a group of men passionate about singing; they all have musical backgrounds which, when put together, make beautiful music. They will help kick off our holiday season with this concert. This group of 10 men is dedicated to bringing the highest level of excellence in performance of a wide variety of music to thrill audiences of all ages, enrich the human spirit and to educate and encourage future musicians. Don't miss this special afternoon of music.

BSTE RESIDENTS' CONCERT ATTENDEES *By Allan Perry*

If you plan on attending the Residents' Concert on **Sunday, Dec 3**, and plan to take the **2pm** bus to the West campus, please place your name on the sign-up sheet posted in CC1, or remove your name if you no longer are going on the bus. Deadline for signing-up is noon on Friday, Dec 1.

Please Note: There must be minimum of five or more people signed-up in order to take the bus. There is no transportation fee.

NAVIGATORS, BOMBARDIERS, WEAPONS SYSTEM OFFICERS

By Bill Wilkins

During this holiday season, we invite you to share a memory of a mission you were on during one of the holidays. We will videotape your three-to-five minute story on **Monday, Dec 4**, at **10am** in the BSTW Roadrunner Lounge. Coffee and snacks will be available.

CHRISTMAS GALA & TREE LIGHTING

By Sue Wilkinson

The Christmas Gala and Christmas Tree Lighting will take place on **Tuesday, Dec 5**, from **5-7pm** in the Sky Lounge of BST East.

Black tie is optional. Sign up for this event has passed.

LSC DECK THE HALLS CHRISTMAS TEA

By Lee Wells

Join us for our Holiday Tea! Where: Gateway Club. When: **Tuesday, Dec 12**. Check in: 10:30-11am. Tea: 11am-1pm. Learn all about the do's and don'ts of Holiday Entertaining with Michelle De Leon from the Randolph protocol office. We will have games, prizes and a fabulous lunch. Cost/Menu: Not yet available. A bus will leave BSTW at 10am and **BSTE at 10:15am**. Call Lee Wells for more information and to make a reservation. Reservations and cancellations must be made by noon Thursday, Dec 7. If you want to ride the bus, you must sign the bus reservation list in the Activity book in your respective CC room.

JOINT CATHOLIC-JEWISH COMMEMORATION OF HANUKKAH LUNCHEON

By Abe Dreiseszun & Buzz Trustin



On **Thursday, Dec 14**, at **11:30am** the celebration of Hanukkah will take place at the San Fernando Cathedral Hall located at 231 W. Commerce. This event is open to all faiths and is not a fund raiser. Presenter will be Rabbi Rudin. Cost of the luncheon is \$36 and will be charged to your account. Transportation will be provided by Blue Skies of Texas. Please contact Abe Dreiseszun or Buzz Trustin if you have any questions. The sign-up deadline is Tuesday, Dec 5, at noon. The bus leaves BST West at 10:15am and **BST East at 10:30am**.

NEUROPATHY SUPPORT GROUP

By Bill Thomas

Please mark your calendar for our next meeting on **Mon, Dec 18**, at **3pm** at BSTW in Liberty House 1st floor activity room. Come and join in our discussions. Our focus will be discovering multiple drug treatments for neuropathy.

HAMS TO THE RESCUE!

By Bill Overacker



During the past month, volunteer Amateur Radio Operators were busy world-wide. In the wake of an avalanche of mud and rocks on the LaPaila River in Corinto, Columbia, with five fatalities, multiple injuries and twenty people missing, Hams jumped into



action informing risk management authorities about the injured, missing, temporary shelters and needed transports. On 5 Nov, over 250 Hams converged on New York City to support communications for their annual marathon with over 50,000 runners and 2.5 million spectators. Fortunately, there were no major mishaps. The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) chairperson, Ajit Pai, lauded Amateur Radio volunteers who assisted stricken Puerto Rico in the aftermath of hurricane "Maria" to "connect the disconnected." Thank you Hams! All are welcome to the next Amateur Radio Club meeting on **Thursday, Dec 21**, at **11:30am** in Room CC1 to learn more about this exciting and beneficial hobby. Please contact Joel Lichtenstein for more information. 73—(Best regards in Ham language).

NOTES FROM THE RESIDENT COUNCIL CHAIR

By Elke Schabel



Dog Park At Blue Skies East - The Resident Council and BST East Leadership have received several requests for the construction of a dog park where pooches can be exercised off-leash. Management has approved an area for a dog park at BST-East and is clearing all the hurdles necessary before construction can begin. We currently have 13 resident dogs and many more if you count the dogs that families bring with them when visiting relatives here.

One obstacle in accomplishing this project is funding since this was not budgeted for this year. Good news is, we (the residents) have the capability to reach this goal with help through resident donations. We have a donor who will match any contribution from our residents up to \$5,000 to pay for materials/labor to build an awesome facility for our pets to run and play.

If you are a dog lover and interested in helping, please sign the sheet in CC1 pledging your contribution toward this worthwhile project. Tax-deductible donations would be made to the Air Force Villages Charitable Foundation, marked "Dog Park" and sent through Internal Mail by Sun, Dec 31. We hope to raise sufficient funds by then. Thank you for your generosity as we continue to improve our facilities and programs on our Blue Skies East Campus.

O-CLUB MONTHLY APPRECIATION NIGHT

By Ken Wells

The Lackland Gateway Club will not have a "Member Appreciation Night" in December. The next Appreciation Night will be the fourth **Tuesday, Jan 23** at the Gateway Club from **5-8pm**.

ANNIVERSARY AND BIRTHDAY PHOTOS *By Norris Wynne & Sonja Williams*

Dig out your favorite old picture for sharing with your Blue Skies neighbors. Send your photo through the front desk internal mail to Norris Wynne Apt 709, **prior to the 27th** of the month before your Birthday or Anniversary. We will post it on the Birthday and Anniversary display in the lobby as well as on the in-house television channel. *Please write the name and the date as well as your apartment number on*



the back of the photo. The original will be returned to you. Remember the deadline is the 27th. Thank you, Norris and Sonja.

HOBBY SHOP

By Fred Potter & Bob Knapp



At Tidd's Tinker Shop, we repair items for residents of the Village. We do not expect to be paid for the work, but request that you make a small donation to the White Elephant as they provide the monies for our supplies. We repair lamps and small appliances, as well as repairing, painting, and refinishing furniture. We work mainly with wood, but have done some work with other materials. If we can help you with any of these items, please call us at the Hobby Shop: (210) 568-5297. We do not have regular hours each day; so please call our home numbers if you don't catch us at the Hobby Shop.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

HYMN SING-ALONG

By Rose Reagan

The Hymn Sing-Along has been revived! Come join in on the fun. We will meet on the first Wednesday of every month at **7pm** in CC3.

EPISCOPAL SERVICES

By Johnna Baladez

Please join Fr. David Archibald for services on **Wednesdays at 2pm** in the Main Chapel, and on **Wednesdays at 3pm** at The Mission in the Mockingbird Household.

CATHOLIC NEWS

By Pat Steffen

Catholic Mass - Mass is celebrated in the BST East Main Chapel every **Sunday at 3:30pm**. The celebrants are Marianist priests.

The BST East Blessed Sacrament Chapel - Room #114 is open 24 hours a day to all residents for quiet prayer and meditation.

Prayer Intentions - As you enter the Chapel, on top of the small cabinet to your left there is a journal for your prayer intentions. **On Wednesdays at 2:30pm** come join us there in the Chapel to recite the Chaplet of Mercy and the Rosary.

Holy Day - Friday, Dec 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, which is a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated in the Main Chapel at **10am**

Potluck Christmas Party – Sunday, Dec 10, in the Legacy Room around **4:30pm** following the Mass. Please thank Cory Ricót for organizing this party.

Thank You – Please thank Allan Perry and his wife Estelle for preparing the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for Christmas. The highlight is a miniature Nativity set in the Main Chapel. A second Nativity set has been placed in the small room on the right as you enter the Chapel.



PROTESTANT CHURCH SERVICE

By Carol Frazier, Chapel Administrator

Pastor - Pastor Kerry Haynes

Protestant Services - We invite you to our worship services each Sunday. We encourage you to find a spiritual home of Faith here at BST East!

The Mission Worship Service – Held each Sunday at **9:30am** at The Mission in the Multi-purpose Room

Sunday Worship Service - Held at **11am** each Sunday in the Main Chapel

Monthly Sunday Afternoon Bible Study – Join Pastor Kerry on the third Sunday of each month, at **2pm** in the CC rooms. Bible Study *will not* be held in December.

Church Membership - Interested in joining AFV I Protestant Church? If you desire to unite with Air Force Village I Protestant Church you may transfer your membership or request dual membership whereby you also retain membership in your present church. If you do not belong to a church, you may join by profession of faith. If you have belonged to a church, you may also join by reaffirmation of faith. For more information, please speak to Pastor Kerry, a Church Board Member or stop by the Chapel Office for assistance.

Church Information – For additional church information, such as donating flowers for a Sunday Service and Lobby display, church financial reports or a list of current Church Board Members, please see the clip boards displayed in the CC Rooms Information Center. We also have church and service information posted weekly on the *In-house channel*.

Chapel Office - The Chapel Office, located in the Executive Offices, is open for all Church business Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9am-1pm; Phone 674-3361.

JEWISH SERVICES INFORMATION

Sabbath Eve Service meeting is held on **Fridays at 4:30pm** at Lackland's Airmen Memorial Chapel.

GAMES AND SCORES

BRIDGE

By Marilyn Carter



Attention Bridge players! If anyone would like to join us to play Bridge, please call me. We play every **Thursday at 1pm** in CC1. Come join us.

ACTION AT THE POOL HALL

By Jim Edwards

Saturday, Nov 11, 2017

We're back from our cruise and had a great time.
It's now my duty to get these pool players in line.
We only had eight vying for the title today,
No would-be shark showed up to participate in the play.
"Big Daddy" took the third spot with a bank shot handicap,
And "Snapshot" was sure winning was on tap.
Alas, "Snapshot" had to settle for spot number two
As "Tally-Ho" staged the winning coup.



Wednesday, Nov 15, 2017

Nine players were present to join in the fray.
One shark candidate showed up and the other was away.
The one who showed was unable to claim the crown,
But, he did manage to hang on until the third round.
"Birdman" got his fins cut off and finished in third.
"Stilt" finished in second as he emerged from the herd.
But as usual, there was only one player able to take it all.
"Thud" was the only one standing because he refused to fall.

Saturday, Nov 18, 2017

As before, only one shark candidate was on hand.
He could claim it all if it goes like he planned.
"Thud" got shot down in the final game of the day
As "Dutch" from BSTW managed to put "Thud" away.
We had ten shooters when the games began,
And soon seven assumed the title of "also-ran."
One player was shooting both wild and free,
And thus "The Mouth" finished in spot number three.

Wednesday, Nov 22, 2017

One would have thought this would be a slack day,
Not so, as ten gamers showed up to play.
The "Killer" did well and came in at three,
And "Big Daddy" is working on a bank shot handicap you see.
As usual, only one player left the room walking tall,
That would be Bill "Stilt" Wilt who took it all.
After two years, I am close to winding my writing time down,
As of the first of December, I will be replaced by Jim "Mojac" Brown.