

This Month:

January Trivia
So. Texas Ocelots
LLG Quilt Show
PAWS Kitty Yoga
24th Annual WT Expo
Jeepers Toy Drive
RV and OUTDOOR Show
Kautsch Lumber Company

IN PRINT, ON-LINE & ON FACEBOOK

The Valley Spotlight

**FREE
TAKE ME HOME**

January 2017

The Little Paper You'll Want To Keep & Share

Vol. 3 No. 8

Happy New Year
2017

Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.

Oprah Winfrey

Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man.

Benjamin Franklin

I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're doing something.

Neil Gaiman

New Year's Resolution:

To tolerate fools more gladly, provided this does not encourage them to take up more of my time.

James Agate

It Happened on New Year's Day

January 1, 1776 - During the American Revolution, George Washington unveiled the Grand Union Flag, the first national flag in America.

The Flag Act of 1777 by the Continental Congress authorized a new official national flag of a design similar to that of the Colors, with thirteen stars (representing the thirteen States) on a field of blue replacing the British Union Flag in the canton.



The Act Prohibiting Importation of Slaves, enacted March 2, 1807, took effect on January 1, 1808, the earliest date permitted by the United States Constitution. This Act ended the legality of trade with the U.S. However, it was not always well enforced and slaves continued to be imported in limited numbers.

On New Year's Day 1863 The Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves in the states rebelling against the Union.

Slavery itself continued in the United States until the end of the Civil War

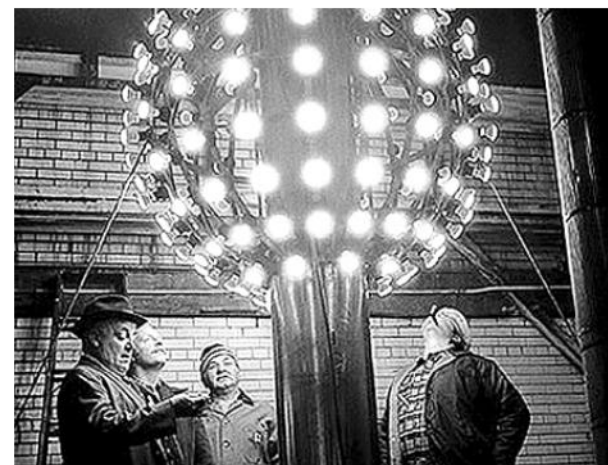
in 1865 and the adoption of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution. The domestic slave trade within the U.S. was unaffected by the 1807 law.

Ellis Island in New York Harbor opened to process immigrants on New Year's Day, 1892. Over 20 million new arrivals to America were processed until its closing in 1954.



Originally titled the *Tournament East-West* football game, what is now known as the Rose Bowl Game was first played on New Year's Day, 1902, at Tournament Park in Pasadena, California. The inaugural game featured Fielding H. Yost's dominating 1901 Michigan Wolverines football team, representing the East, who crushed a team from Stanford University, representing the West, by a score of 49-0.

In 1903, The New York Times newspaper was about to open their new headquarters, the city's second tallest building, in what was then known as Longacre Square. The paper's owner, Adolph Ochs, decided to commemorate their opening with a midnight fireworks show on the roof of the building on December 31, 1903. After four years of New Year's Eve fireworks celebrations, Ochs wanted a bigger spectacle at the building to draw more attention to the newly-renamed Times Square. An electrician was hired to construct a lighted Ball to be lowered from the flagpole on the roof of One Times Square. The iron Ball was only 5 feet in diameter! The very first drop was on New Year's Eve 1907, one second after midnight.



January History ... continued on page 5

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Spotlight on Local Business

Kautsch Lumber Company

Est. 1932

In 1932 Arthur Kautsch lived in Lohman, Missouri with his wife, Ola, and their 3 yr. old son Marvin. Arthur was a banker and partner in Kautsch-Lenhardt General Store while Ola taught grade school. Having become aware of the wonderful opportunities for farming in the tropical Rio Grande Valley, Arthur decided to head to South Texas and check it out. The Kautsch's traveled south by train, courtesy of the Swallow Land Excursion Company, to Alamo, Texas which was named Swallow at that time.

They decided to buy 10 acres of land South of Alamo to grow citrus. Arthur was a better businessman than a farmer and eventually he bought Humphrey's Lumber Yard in Alamo from the First State Bank and changed the name to Kautsch Lumber. He then purchased Temple Lumber Company, also located in Alamo, which he eventually closed so that Kautsch Lumber could flourish.

In 1933, a category 5 hurricane left \$16.9 million in damage and 40 deaths in southern Texas. Included in the property damage was the complete destruction of Kautsch Lumber. Undeterred, Arthur rebuilt a larger and more stable structure, paving the way for his son, Marvin, to join in the family business upon returning home from World War II in 1945.

A third generation of the Kautsch family

joined the business when Arthur's grandson, Marvin's son, John came to work after graduating from college in 1971. Kautsch Lumber Co. became a True Value Hardware store in 1984, which allowed the decades old business to grow into one of the most established and successful hardware stores in the area.

In the mid-1990s John added *The Siding Source* to the company logo and became the

largest vinyl siding distributor in South Texas, servicing the entire region with quality vinyl products and accessories.

Kautsch True Value - The Siding Source, was built on honesty, integrity and customer satisfaction over many years, spanning three generations of the Kautsch Family philosophy that continues to be a Texas tradition.

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Observations on Life

by Ben Dover

Hey! It's January of 2017

I will try my best to include a short dissertation regarding the month of January, and if you read the entire piece, you will become much more excited about what and why we are celebrating, I am sure.

The month of January, as might be true about all other months except the month of August, has its own collection of celebrations. Some are happy. Some are Holy. Some are truly unhappy as well. We members of western society agree to celebrate, by naming a day in memory of something that should be remembered on that day. I can't argue with this premise, but feel certain recollections should not be limited to twenty four hours of celebration. My feeling is that remembering should never abate when certain memorial days are considered. I have included a small listing of days that have been named for reasons mentioned, occurring in the month of January. All dates shown are referenced in the Julian Calendar except those referenced as Eastern Orthodox.

Jan. 1 Is our celebration of the New Year. (Football etc.)

Jan. 6 Is Catholic Epiphany (Birthday of the Church)

Jan. 7 Is the Orthodox Christmas (Gregorian Calendar)

Jan. 14 is Orthodox New Year (Gregorian Calendar)

Jan. 18 Is Martin Luther King Day

Jan. 20 is Inauguration Day (Yupp!)

Jan. 27 is the Memorial day of recollection for the Nazi Holocaust

Jan. 28 is the Chinese New Year (I can't pronounce that calendar)

I decided to do a little research on calendars, and then after I got into the learning process I decided this was more sophisticated than an old mind of eighty seven years could endure. There must be a listing of twenty five or more calendars used by various peoples of the earth. The calendar settled upon by the peoples of western society is known as the Julian Calendar, and that is enough said about the matter.

Who could ask for anything more than the knowledge that one second past twelve midnight on December 31st the new year will begin, and we have titled it, 2017. It will last for a period of three hundred and sixty five and one fourth days.

So there. I'm going back to bed. Have a nice day.

Ben

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True Tales of a Valley Birder

by Keith Hackland (alamoinn@aol.com)

South Texas Ocelots

Not a bird, but a wild cat, larger than a house cat, but generally smaller than a Bobcat. Ocelots have long tails and rounded (Mickey Mouse) ears. They play a valuable role in our South Texas wild lands. They may eat birds but are more likely to focus on rodents, from mice to rabbits, for food. Seriously endangered with their numbers in free fall for the past 100 years, today we see some possible signs of their population stabilizing. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is responsible for ensuring survival of wild Ocelots in United States and their recent population estimates have been around fifty. We believe that the greatest killer of Ocelots in our area is cars. As they cross roads, particularly at night, but also during the day, they are hit and killed.

Ocelots are secretive and forage at night in thick brush. Imagine thorny brush so thick that humans cannot crawl through it - that is where Ocelots live. They are found on Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge and on South Texas ranch land mostly close to the coast.



The Friends of Laguna Atascosa raise funds for research into the lives of Ocelots. They run a face book page filled with Ocelot news and photos, called VivatheOcelot. They also organize Ocelot events and feature news of Ocelots. The following story is extracted with permission from their January 2017 newsletter:

First Ocelot Den Discovered in 20 years at Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge!

This past year was encouraging for the endangered ocelots of south Texas! Several females with kittens were documented using remote cameras placed in strategic locations where ocelots live and reproduce.

"I suspect that the past couple of years of abundant rainfall have made excellent breeding conditions for these endangered wild cats," said Hilary Swarts, wildlife biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS),



stationed at Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge.

Precipitation leads to plant growth, which in turn provides food for the wildlife that ocelots like to eat, such as rodents, rabbits, and birds. "With plenty of food and water, and minimal disturbance from humans, female ocelots have all the resources they need to reproduce successfully," said Swarts.

Of the seven known adult female ocelots at Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, two are just now reaching the age to reproduce, three have recently been photographed with healthy-looking kittens following close behind, and one adult female has not yet been seen with any offspring. However, the seventh female brought researchers the most exciting discovery of all.

Using GPS technology, biologists tracked her movements and discovered the first confirmed ocelot den at the refuge in nearly twenty years. At the den site, researchers rejoiced to find a male ocelot kitten, weighing just shy of a pound, estimated to be three weeks old. The researchers took measurements and photos and left the area as quickly as possible in the interest of minimal disturbance. His mother, approximately 11 years old, was not at the den at the time, but returned soon after. USFWS researchers plan to track the kitten's growth and progress in the coming years.



Swarts and other researchers track and monitor ocelots in south Texas, collecting data on their population numbers, health, habitat use, range, and reproduction. These new kittens are now part of this ongoing effort.

In addition to Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, private land plays a vital role in ocelot survival and recovery. Land owners that work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect ocelot habitat on their own property are also seeing camera evidence of new kittens.

Of the adult females captured on camera by USFWS biologists at the Yturria Conservation Easement in Willacy County, at least three have had kittens this past year. While ocelot females usually have only one kitten per litter, researchers were excited to see that one of the three mothers had twins.

"Data gathered in Willacy County is further evidence that private ranches are often great havens for wildlife and key partners in our conservation efforts. These private lands will be crucial to protecting habitat and wildlife into the future," said Boyd Blihovde, Refuge Manager at Laguna Atascosa NWR.

As long as USFWS and its partners continue to work toward reducing threats to ocelots in south Texas and ocelots keep reproducing successfully, there's great hope for the future of these majestic wild cats in the lower Rio Grande Valley!



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January History

continued from page 1

On New Year's Day, 1959, Fidel Castro seized power in Cuba after leading a revolution that drove out Dictator Fulgencio Batista. Castro then established a Communist dictatorship.

Early on, Castro gained the support of many Cuban citizens with promises to restore political and civil liberties. But later, Castro began to take a more radical tone, nationalizing American businesses on the island, and further angering the US with an increasingly anti-American rhetoric, and aligning with the Soviet Union in a 1960 trade deal.

On January 3, 1961 President Dwight D. Eisenhower broke off diplomatic relations with Cuba just weeks before John F. Kennedy was inaugurated as the next president.

Due to failing health, Castro delegated his presidential duties to his brother Raúl Castro in 2008. Eight years later, Cuban state television announced that Fidel Castro had died on the night of November 25, 2016.



Fidel and Raúl Castro in the early 1960s

During the Watergate scandal, former top aides to President Nixon including former Attorney General John Mitchell, Domestic Affairs Advisor John Ehrlichman and Chief of Staff H.R. Haldeman, were found guilty of obstruction of justice on New Year's Day 1975.

Hawaii proclaimed Liliuokalani as its queen on January 29, 1891. Renowned for her song Aloha Oe, she had a reign of only four years until she was forced to abdicate on January 24, 1895 under pressure from powerful businessmen. Hawaii was then annexed by the U.S. and remained a territory until statehood was granted in August, 1959.

Alaska was admitted as the 49th U.S. state on January 3, 1959. Alaska's land mass is almost one-fifth the size of the lower 48 states combined.



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The Battle of New Orleans occurred on January 8, 1815. General Andrew Jackson and American troops defended themselves against a British attack, inflicting over 2,000 casualties. Both sides were unaware that peace had been declared two weeks earlier with the signing of the Treaty of Ghent ending the War of 1812. On a similar note, on January 24, 1972, Japanese soldier Shoichi Yokoi was discovered on Guam after he had spent 28 years hiding out in the jungle not knowing World War II had long since ended.



Three American astronauts were killed on January 27, 1967 as a fire erupted inside Apollo 1 during a launch simulation test at Cape Kennedy, Florida. Disaster struck again on January 28, 1986 when Shuttle Challenger exploded 74 seconds into its flight, killing seven persons, including Christa McAuliffe, a teacher who was to be the first ordinary citizen in space.

U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War ended on January 27, 1973 as North Vietnamese and American representatives signed an agreement in Paris. The U.S. agreed to remove all remaining troops within 60 days thus ending the longest war in American history. Over 58,000 Americans had been killed, 300,000 wounded and 2,500 declared missing. A total of 566 prisoners-of-war had been held by the North Vietnamese during the war, with 55 reported deaths.

The 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (Prohibition Amendment) was ratified on January 29, 1919. For nearly 14 years, until December 5, 1933, the manufacture, transportation, and sale of alcoholic beverages were illegal in the United States. The Amendment had the unexpected result of causing enormous growth of organized crime which provided bootleg liquor to thirsty Americans. Somewhat ironically, Al Capone, who once controlled organized crime in Chicago, died in Miami on January 25, 1947 from *sypilis*.

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Jeepers Getting Together To Help Others

by Alyssa Cavazos

The weather conditions at this month's Jeep Night were less than ideal. Although it was the coldest day of the year, Jeep Night still went on as planned. Jeep Night was held at Sofie's "SS" Saloon on Thursday, December 8th.

People came and went as the evening progressed. Burns Motors made sure to provide a hot meal to those who came out to support the cause. Present were members of several Jeep Clubs including Texas Jeep Crawlers, Texas Off-Road Republic, and South Texas Rebels.

Burns Motors staff was also present with David Nunez bringing an abundance of delectable tamales. The night went on as usual with the only set-back being the weather.

Although Jeep Night is held once a month, twelve months out of the year, December's was especially significant.

In the spirit of the season, Jeep Night held a Toy Drive. Back in November a Canned Food drive was also held. These proceeds were sent out to a small colonia in Edinburg.

Logos Community Church, along with the Edinburg Police Department, distributed the canned goods right before Thanksgiving. This December was no different. Jeep Night wanted to give back to that same community. With 113 children, ranging in ages from 1 to 19 years, we relied on the attendees and Jeep Clubs to come together and donate as much as possible. An award was given to the Jeep Club with the most bountiful contribution of toys. South Texas Rebels took the award home that night.

Even in the blistering cold we managed to collect quite an abundance of toys. Although some did not attend Jeep Night, quite a few people still made the drive to South McAllen and dropped off their toys. Those children and their families were invited to Logos Community Church for Christmas Eve Services. While there, the gifts were distributed among the children. Thank you from Jeep Night to all those kind hearted individuals who contributed to our cause. It is much appreciated by all those involved, especially the recipients.

Jeep Night, powered by Burns Motors, is typically held on the second Thursday of each month, unless changes are made beforehand. Next month's Jeep Night will be held January 12th at Sofie's 'SS' Saloon, located at 6801 S 10th St. in McAllen, Texas. Information on Jeep Night and other events held by our Jeep Clubs can be found on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/RGVJeepNight.

You can also get in contact with Burns Motors' Big Lew at (956) 984-4554 or via email at biglew@burnsmotors.com

Salary Negotiations

Reaching the end of a job interview, the Human Resources person asked a young engineer fresh out of MIT, "And what starting salary were you looking for?"

The Engineer said, "In the neighborhood of \$125,000 a year, depending on the benefits package."

The interviewer said, "Well, what would you say to a package of five-weeks vacation, 14 paid holidays, full medical and dental, company matching retirement fund to 50 percent of salary, and a company car leased every two years, say, a red Corvette?"

The Engineer sat up straight and said, "Wow! Are you kidding?"

And the interviewer replied, "Yeah, but you started it."

Arrogance Rewarded

A DEA officer stopped at a ranch in Texas, and talked with an old rancher. He told the rancher, "I need to inspect your ranch for illegally grown drugs."

The rancher said, "Okay, but don't go in that field over there," as he pointed out a distant location. The DEA officer verbally exploded, saying, "Mister, I have the authority of the Federal Government with me!"

Reaching into his rear pants pocket, he removed his badge and proudly displayed it to the rancher. "See this badge? This badge means I am allowed to go wherever I wish...on ANY land! No questions asked or answers given! Have I made myself clear...do you understand?"

The rancher nodded politely, apologized, and went about his chores.

A short time later, the old rancher heard loud screams, looked up and saw the DEA officer running for his life, being chased by the rancher's enormous Santa Gertrudis bull. With every step the bull was gaining ground on the officer, and it seemed likely that the officer would be gruesomely gored before he reached safety. The man was clearly terrified.

The rancher threw down his tools, ran to the fence and yelled at the top of his lungs: "Your badge...show him your BADGE!"



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8TH Annual Quilt Show Promises **MORE!**

Each year the Llano Grande Quilting Bee show impresses guests with the many inspiring hand and machine quilted quilts, exquisite wall hangings, colorful table décor, and amazing wearables. This year the show's theme is *Bordeaux Elegance* and takes place on Tuesday, January 31 from 9am - 3pm at Llano Grande Hynes Event Center. The entry fee to the Llano Grande Bordeaux Elegance Quilt Show is \$2.

Bordeaux Elegance, the theme of our show, is also the name of our *Opportunity Quilt*. This luxurious queen-size quilt is created in shades of cream, soft sea-foam green and rich browns with an intricate diamond pattern adorning the front and a complimentary pattern featured on the back. Bordeaux Elegance is quilted with a stunning custom design pattern. Tickets to win this quilt are available for \$1 each or 6 for \$5.



The 100 plus members of the Llano Grande Quilting Bee are active in Community Service. The Bee is well known to several agencies in the area for the precious baby blankets each member donates, the comfort quilts given to dialysis and chemo patients, and the monetary donations given to special causes. The Quilt Show enables the Bee to provide these services.

The beautiful *NEW* Hynes Event Center at Llano Grande provides much needed space for the display of more than 200 quilted works of art, and the many activities planned for this year. Whether you are new to the world of quilting, a fabric artist or simply appreciate the beauty and intricacy of the craft, you will find: **MORE** to See and Do, **MORE** vendors than ever before, **MORE** Technique Demonstrations and videos, **MORE** parking and an on-site Café and **MORE** door prizes including an opportunity to win a Baby Lock Sewing Machine!

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Eight Things You May Not Know About Ellis Island



1. It was used for pirate hangings in the early 1800s. Long before it became a weigh station for people looking for a new beginning, Ellis Island, named for its last private owner, Samuel Ellis, was known as a place where condemned prisoners met their end. For most of the early 19th century, the island was used to hang convicted pirates, criminals and mutinous sailors.

2. The first immigrants to arrive at Ellis Island were three unaccompanied minors. Ellis Island accepted its first new arrivals on New Year's Day 1892, when the steamship Nevada arrived with 124 passengers from Europe. The first would-be immigrant to set foot on the island was Annie Moore, a teenager from County Cork, Ireland who had crossed the Atlantic with her 11 and 7-year-old brothers en route to reuniting with family in New York.

3. The island wasn't the first place immigrants landed when they arrived in New York. While Ellis Island was the official entry point for immigrants to the United States, it wasn't the first piece of American soil they encountered. The waters surrounding the island were too shallow for transatlantic ships to navigate, so most docked and unloaded their passengers in Manhattan. During the detour, American citizens and first and second-class passengers were allowed to enter the country after only a brief inspection, but steerage passengers were herded onto ferries and shuttled to Ellis Island for further processing. Around the turn of the century, crooked immigration officials were known to take \$1 or \$2 bribes in exchange for letting immigrants get off in Manhattan without first going through inspection at Ellis Island.

4. Immigrants were subject to physical and mental exams to ensure they were fit for admittance to the United States. Upon arrival at Ellis Island, immigrants were ushered into the Great Hall for physical inspection. Most were allowed to pass by in a matter of seconds, but those whom the doctors deemed physically or mentally deficient taken away for additional screening. Despite the litany of guidelines for new immigrants, of the 12 million people who passed through its doors between 1892 and 1954, only around 2 percent were deemed unfit to become citizens of the United States.

5. American cultural lore is rich with tales of immigrants' ethnic sounding names being Anglicized or shortened during their passage through Ellis Island, yet there is no evidence that such a practice ever took place. Immigration officials merely checked the person's identity against the manifests of the ships that brought them to America, and there was no policy advising them to forcibly alter names. Some immigrants voluntarily chose to change their names to help assimilate into American culture, but they did so before they left their home country or after they had gained admission to the United States.

6. Shortly after the United States declared war on Germany in 1917, the government turned a suspicious eye toward all German-born, non-naturalized citizens residing within its borders. Potential "alien enemies" were placed under harsh restrictions, and those suspected of harboring pro-German sentiment were rounded up and detained. Since immigration had tapered off during World War I, officials designated

Ellis Island as one of the main holding centers for would be enemies of the state, and some 1,500 people were eventually detained there. The island's double life as a prison later continued during World War II, when it was used to house suspected Nazi sympathizers.

7. Ellis Island's role as a gateway for immigrants began to change in the early 1920s, when a series of federal laws ended the open door immigration policy. By 1925, the government had also shifted the inspection process from American ports to the U.S. consulates abroad, leaving Ellis Island to operate primarily as a detention center and deportation point for undesirable immigrants. The island was used to imprison and evict suspected communists and political radicals during the Red Scare (anarchist Emma Goldman was a notable deportee), and later served as a detention center for communists during the Cold War.

8. When the U.S. government tried to sell Ellis Island in the 1950s, would-be developers proposed everything from a drug rehab facility to a resort marina and even an experimental "city of the future" designed by architect Frank Lloyd Wright. None of these schemes got off the ground, however, and the "gateway to America" spent the next 20 years in political limbo. The island finally opened for tours in 1976, but plans for a historical museum or renovation didn't come together until the 1980s, when Lee Iacocca helped spearhead a fundraising project for Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. The restored island opened to the public in September 1990, and now receives around 3 million visitors each year.

Nice Time to Explore Santa Ana NWR

by Christine Donald

Awwww! Finally some cooler weather here in the valley. As there is a slight nip in the air and we are wearing sweaters, now we can explore Santa Ana NWR more comfortably. It is a nice time to get out and walk the many abundant trails to burn off all those extra calories that we are all consuming.

Cookies and cakes are abundant around this time of year and you may be like me, trying to avoid my clothes from shrinking or should I say my stomach increasing. Thank goodness for spandex.

Santa Ana also offers a tram this time of year that will take you to explore further out on the refuge. The seven mile tour route lets you see more of the refuge as you listen to the guide talking about the refuge's, history, plants, and animals. There are several stops where you can get out and stretch your legs and take a short hike.

If you are a birder, great news. We are now offering guided bird hikes Thursday-Saturday through Mid-December. By the end of the month through March, we will offer daily birding tours.

Participants meet at the visitor center



by 8:30 a.m. and are led out onto the refuge by volunteer birding guides.

Birding programs are free once you pay your entry fee. The tram fees are \$4.00 for adults 13 years old to 61 years old, Seniors, \$3.50 for 62 years old and up, \$2.00 for kids 3 to 12 years old, and free for kids 2 years old and younger after your entry fee is paid.

Larger groups, please call the refuge at 956-784-7500 to get registered. Tram times are 9:30 a.m., Noon, and 2:00 p.m. Tuesday - Sunday.

Hope to see all of you there.

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		9		5	6			
2	4				8	3		9
	7		5	1			8	4
1				3			7	
5		1	9				6	7
3		7		6	1	4		5
	8		7	2		1		

Sudoku No.: 10689

	7		1					
3	8							
			3	8	6	1		7
5	3	9			2	8		
	4		6	9	8	3		
					5			
	9			4		6		
1		8		5	7			
				6			7	5

Sudoku No.: 38798

3								5
			4	7				
2	8		1	9				
		9	8			3		
		2			4			
			6			1	8	
		7		6				9
5	4						1	
					3			

Sudoku No.: 61753

Fill in each square with one digit, using only the numbers one through nine | Numbers cannot repeat within an individual box of nine squares
 Numbers cannot repeat down a column | Numbers cannot repeat across a row

For Kids Only

No matter how old you are!

Have Fun and Learn while you solve these puzzles and practice your coloring skills

January 21 is National Hugging Day!



Hugs are loving. Hugs are therapeutic. Hugs are caring.
 Hugs are celebratory. Hugs make you feel good inside.
 Celebrate today by giving hugs to family, friends and loved ones.
 You'll love the warm feeling you get.

Winnie the Pooh Day is January 18 celebrating the birth of A.A .Milne in 1882. He was an author of children's story books, and created Winnie the Pooh and his friends.

Milne is most famous for his two Pooh books about a boy named Christopher Robin after his son, Christopher Robin Milne, and various characters inspired by his son's stuffed animals, most notably the bear named Winnie-the-Pooh.



Find these words related to the stories of Winnie The Pooh

- AA MILNE
- AKER WOODS
- BEES
- CHRISTOPHER ROBIN
- EEYORE
- GOPHER
- HEFFALUMPS
- HUNNY
- JAGULAR
- KANGA
- MR SANDERS
- MR SHEPARD
- OH BOTHER
- OWL
- PIGLET
- RABBIT
- ROO
- SILLY OLD BEAR
- SMACKEREL
- TIGGER
- TOPHERS CASTLE
- WINNIE THE POOH
- WIZZLES
- WOZZLES

R A F C A O K P M F G S D O O W R E K A
 L N I B O R R E H P O T S I R H C P G L
 E W B E E S H O O P E H T E I N N I W K
 D F O S I L L Y O L D B E A R F E U J D
 N F U U T H U N N Y C R E G G I T W W R
 G P W F D R U J R M S M A C K E R E L C
 Q B M L U F N P Z O V B I F W Y O M V E
 C P R W O O Z L E S X L K E R O Y E E A
 D U S N E T T O P H E R S C A S T L E C
 X J H J H O C R Y I U S V D U U U J E X
 X C E O F M J S X V T E L G I P E K U B
 W K P S R E D N A S R M J K P I Q L G E
 I A A K E H E F F A L U M P S L B P R O
 Z N R G T G N F C C Q B Q R O L J X E V
 Z G D N C B Y S W I D L J P Z N A O H B
 L A B G J E N L I M A A Z Y D T S W T C
 E J O J Q W M R E H P O G X N Y A X O G
 S Y Y O A W H H T K O J A G U L A R B N
 X M R S R N E W Q L Z R A T A L A K H O
 U V S N M E W L B M B F R A B B I T O V

Kitty Yoga

PAWS Center Unleashes Cat Yoga Classes To Promote Adoption & Spread Wellness

By Amanda A. Taylor photos by J. Fernando Gonzalez

Cat and health enthusiasts met for Kitty Yoga at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 20, at The Laurie P. Andrews PAWS Center.

What exactly is kitty yoga? The idea was to allow some of the adoptable felines at the PAWS Center to interact with yoga participants for a unique experience. Not only could the cats get a little extra socialization, but yoga participants could mingle with the adoptable pets prompting awareness on the benefits of adopting a shelter pet.

Led by local yoga instructor, Bianca Scalise, the group participated in a two-hour long session while the cats roamed the room freely, adding a playful element to the session.

“It was so fun! It was way more fun that I thought it would be,” Scalise said about the session. “I didn’t really know what to expect because cats are a bit unpredictable sometimes, but all the cats were really well behaved. It was a great social setting and fun, and the cats definitely added liveliness to the class.”

It’s been proven through various studies that owning a pet, especially, in this case, a cat, has its health benefits. Any cat owner could more than likely say that the companionship of a cat helps with emotional wellbeing such as diminishing stress, anxiety and even loneliness. A recent study from the “Journal of Vascular and Interventional Neurology” has stated that from a medical aspect, owning a cat can even lower the risk of developing cardiovascular disease. This includes lowering the risk of having a heart attack.



Pairing the company of cats with yoga led to a fun experience that added a little extra level of comfort.

“The cats kind of crept up on you when you didn’t expect it,” Scalise said “It was heartwarming and really cute to have them there. I do cat yoga all the time with my cats at the house, so I’d definitely recommend this to my clients in the future.”

Events like Kitty Yoga are made possible by the staff at Palm Valley Animal Center and The Laurie P. Andrews PAWS Center. While both facilities work in conjunction to help the homeless animals throughout Hidalgo county, the PAWS Center promotes animal welfare education through public events.

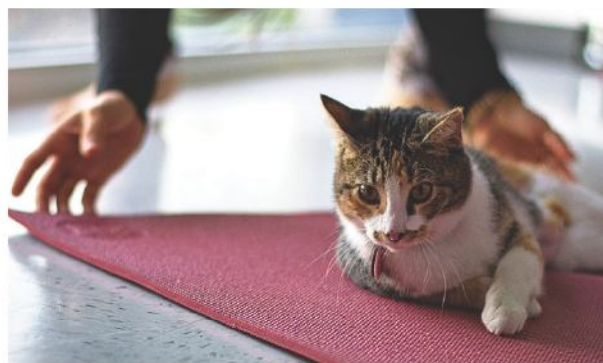
“With the opening of PAWS, we have the opportunity to invite our community to participate in unique animal-related events and activities otherwise not possible without our new facility,” Rebeca I. Villanueva, Director of Development said. “Kitty Yoga and similar events encourage animal lovers to find their ‘purr-fect’ match and meet other like-minded individuals, all while having fun and raising awareness on animal welfare issues. We hope to make PAWS a community space that offers a variety of events and activities that exposes our community to a new way of thinking about the

role pets play in our lives.”

All pet adoption fees at The Laurie P. Andrews PAWS Center includes the first series of shots, spay/neuter operation, microchip and a month of pet accident insurance. You can also see a list of all our adoptable animals 24 hours a day at www.pvaonline.com.

To learn more about the adoption program at the PAWS Center, call (956) 720-4563.

To learn more about the next Kitty Yoga session, keep an eye on The Laurie P. Andrews PAWS Center Facebook page or call the center for more information.



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“Our dogs always love staying at Paws and Claws ... we appreciate all you do to make them feel so comfortable!”

We sing Barbershop-style four part harmony. Wow! What a sound. That’s what I said the first time I listened to Barbershop Harmony. But don’t take my word for it, come and listen for yourself. We practice every Tuesday from November through March. Practice is from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. at St. Mark’s Methodist church which is located on the southwest corner of Second Street and Pecan in McAllen, in the choir room. Hope to see you soon. www.barbershoptx.com

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