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## MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Debra and Tom Riley

Photography by Niki

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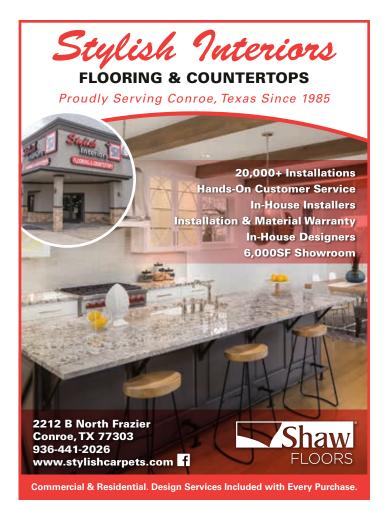
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# **Hello Bentwater!**

The Easter event was a huge success and very well attended. The rain finally stopped, and it was a nice, cool day. Thanks to Bentwater Volunteer Families for their help, to the Bentwater Civic Association for their generous contribution, and to Bentwater resident Sarah Conway for sponsoring so many fun activities. And thanks to Redemption Roofing and Rodger Stein Chiropractic for donating hot dogs and water. A special thanks also goes to Jada England for her help and coordination of the event.

Last month we migrated to a newly designed POA website. We are blessed to have Karla Fenton on staff and her professional background includes systems administration, or as we like to say, computer geek stuff. She solicited input from several property owners and managed to put the whole thing together in a short amount of time, and at next to no cost to the association. There's still work to be done but in the long term I expect great improvement. If you haven't registered on the new site, do. If you need help, give us a call. We're happy to help.

Finally, I want to share with you something that happened to me the morning of the Easter event.



That morning I was driving to the office when a flock of four or five ducks flew across the bridge in front of me. It really wasn't that close, but then one of them turned and immediately slammed into my windshield right in front of my driver's seat. The result was a shattered windshield, along with glass flying into the cab. I closed my eyes right before the impact but there was glass in my hair and all over my clothes, in the floorboards and even in the back seat. Somehow, I had the presence of mind not to swerve

into the guardrail, and to lean to the right so I could see where I was going. Ultimately, I made it to the office without further incident.

I was raised in this area and watched Lake Conroe fill up at the age of 13. Since I started driving, I have crossed

the 1097 bridge so many times it's unimaginable. In my 11+ years here at Bentwater I have crossed a minimum of twice every workday, and lots of weekends. I'll leave the math to you, but you get the picture.

When we are driving, anything can happen and usually does when we least expect it. Slow down and stay alert.



Leave your phone alone and concentrate on your driving. Bad things happen, but we don't have to contribute to the possibilities by our actions. Expect the unexpected. Arrive alive.





## **FROM YOUR BOARD**

BY LINDA RIOS BROOK

Those April showers did indeed bring the beautiful May flowers we are all enjoying this year. Thanks to all property owners who take such pride in making their yards picturesque for the enjoyment of all of us. It's a treat to drive or walk through our delightful community.

Here are some of the questions of interest to residents for the month of May.

### I've heard there is news on the traffic light for the west gate. Is there anything to it?

Best sources tell us that the contractor working on the greater 1097 project has been given the contract to install the traffic light at the west gate. He, in turn, is waiting for the subcontractor to submit the bid. If everything works like it should (when was the last time that happened?) it could mean that the timetable could move up and the light may be happening before we originally thought. We agree that the increased fast traffic on 1097 has made the light move more necessary than ever!



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### And speaking of traffic...

It is not your imagination. There are many more cars going much faster on 1097 and some of the drivers are aggressive—especially when it comes to passing in non-passing lanes. We know it is frustrating for both those who drive at or below the speed limit and for those who think the speed limit is a suggestion. Road rage is a real deal and we urge our residents to prepare in advance to be honked at and followed closely by an impatient driver who is intent on owning the road. As we get closer to school being out, please teach your young drivers, especially your boys (it's just a fact that young people, and not so young, males tend to be more aggressive in an automobile or on motorcycles than the girls) to curb the adrenaline because the consequences are not worth the cost of "winning" a car race that gets you somewhere two minutes faster than someone else.

We have recently moved to Bentwater and are surprised at how many fees and restrictions there are that we did not learn about before closing. For example, the frequent stop signs and speed limit violations are alarming. Is it true that there is no traffic enforcement in Bentwater? No, it is not true. It is true that law enforcement from the county cannot enter Bentwater for the purpose of enforcing traffic laws because our streets are private—we own them. Traffic violations are a matter of deed restriction violations, not state law. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the POA to impose fines on drivers who disregard neighborhood safety and posted speed limits and stop signs. When a property owner can provide evidence of a hazardous driver, the POA can and will follow up and take appropriate action.

My complaint has to do with social media. There is at least one website that sends a banner announcement such as "Bentwater Neighbors beware..." When I open the site, it is a report about a neighborhood other than Bentwater. Can the POA do something about this? We wish we could! Since we are all residents and property owners here, we get the same sort of sensationalism. Some sites such as Nextdoor will often respond to a reader complaint of abuse or inappropriate behavior of a writer. Some of the sites that appear to be Nextdoor are not, and the first challenge is to figure out who they are. Most people don't have the time to spend hovering over their social media feeds and so it continues. The best advice we can offer is to be wary of any information being reported on social media. There are simply no consequences for irresponsible posts airing personal grievances-real or imagined. If there is a matter of impending concern for Bentwater, your POA will eblast it to your inbox, so please read everything you get from us. We try very hard not to send information that is trivial or of interest only to a specific audience.



Debra Riley and her husband, Tom, have been Bentwater residents since 1999 when they moved here from the Dallas area. Debra is an artist who has won many awards for her works at the Conroe Art League (CAL) including Best of Show, Best Floral, and many first-place awards in local Lone Star Art Guild qualifying shows. She has had her art juried into four international shows and her art was selected twice by The Woodlands High School Art Trust. Those two pieces have become part of their permanent collection on display at The Woodlands High School, the latest "This Little Light of Mine" appearing on the cover of Conroe City Lifestyle

Magazine. She has also been juried into membership of the International Guild of Realism, the National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society, and the Oil

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Painters of America. At CAL, Debra studies under both Gary Hernandez, an award-winning and internationally recognized artist, and Juan Cantavella, also an award-winning artist and Bentwater resident. Her studio is located in her home in Bentwater.

Debra was born in Okinawa, Japan. Her father was stationed there for three years with the

Air Force. Her mother joined him with their two boys and returned to the States with the addition of a baby girl-Debra! Her family lived in Colorado, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Kansas until finally settling in Texas when Debra was 14 years old. They lived in the Dallas area where she completed her education and had careers in human resources and banking. She met her husband, Tom





Riley, and they eventually moved to Bentwater a few years before Tom retired.

She quickly got involved and held key positions in several Bentwater organizations: secretary and events chair of the Bentwater Ladies Organization, treasurer of the Bentwater Civic Association, president of the Bentwater Tennis Association, and volunteered with the American Cancer Society and United Way campaigns.

In addition to all these activities, Debra maintained a strong love of art and all things creative. Her mother was an oil and watercolor artist and Debra attributes her love of art to her mother. In 2013 she and several Bentwater friends decided to take oil painting classes at the local Hobby Lobby—and that's where the seed for her passion for art and creativity began to blossom and grow!

A couple of years later she had completed several pieces of art which she wanted to display and sell. That's when she discovered the Conroe Art League (CAL) in historic downtown Conroe. They have a beautiful gallery and courtyard along with classrooms and offices on the second floor of the Madeley Building, and when she became a member, she could display her art for sale in the gallery. She became fully invested in CAL, training to be a docent and helping to beautify the courtyard. She became a vital and integral part of the daily operations of the gallery and was asked to join the Board as treasurer. Two years later she was voted in as vice president. The gallery was thriving and growing, in great part to Debra's contributions, and today she is the gallery manager.

Her responsibilities are varied and ever-changing depending on the current events or activities in the gallery and in the Conroe community. She oversees the volunteers, coordinates all classes and workshops, applies for and maintains grants with the City of Conroe, the State of Texas, and the National Endowment for the Arts, creates the monthly CAL newsletter, maintains the CAL website, works closely with CAL's marketing chair to create social media posts and class/workshop literature, oversees private events held in the gallery, and keeps on top of all happenings in downtown Conroe.

CAL has grown to over 300 members and has become the premier art instruction facility in Montgomery County. It offers more than 600 classes each year with nationally known artists and instructors



for children and adults with all levels of experience. Debra recently served on the Steering Committee for the Conroe Cultural District and currently serves on the Greater Conroe Arts Alliance Board. In addition, Debra was appointed by the Mayor of Conroe to serve on the Texas Main Street Steering Committee. As Debra says, "Downtown Conroe is in a high growth mode and I am very excited to see what the future brings for the Conroe Art League."

In addition to all her civic and administrative responsibilities, she still finds time to create her beautiful oil paintings, enter competitions, and display her art in the Madeley Fine Art Gallery.

As an accomplished artist and civic leader, Debra Riley has dedicated her time and talent to the improvement and growth of the Conroe arts community. Bentwater is very fortunate and proud to have her as one of our residents.



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## The Double **Bottom Line** and You



More Americans than ever are investing in making the world a better place.

BY SHAUNA BRYANT, NATIONAL EDITOR

mpact investing, also known as socially responsible investing, has been a hot topic in the finance world lately, for good reason. The Global Impact Investing Network, an international research institute for impact investing, estimates that private impact investments grew to approximately \$1.2 trillion in 2021 - swelling by 63% in just two years. It's not hard to understand its popularity; as we grow more aware of the social and environmental challenges facing our communities, investors are increasingly eager to find ways to make their money work for them ... while making the world a better place.

WHAT is it? Impact investing is an investment strategy that strives to create financial returns while also carrying out positive social or environmental impacts. One wellknown impact investment fund is the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Strategic Investments Fund (SIF).

WHEN and WHERE did it begin? The term "impact investing" was coined in 2007 by the Rockefeller Foundation, an American philanthropic organization; however, many experts maintain that the practice of impact investing began as early as the 18th-century Methodist resistance to investment in companies promoting taboo liquor, tobacco products or gambling.

WHO'S investing? According to Forbes, "everyone from venture capitalists and investment banks to foundations and individuals."

WHY invest? Investors call it the "double bottom line" financial returns and added value to society. Impact investing has the potential to make sweeping positive changes in the world, helping to shape our children's futures.

Ready to explore impact investing? Learn more at thegiin.org/impact-investing, and talk to your financial advisor. First steps might include investing directly in private funds with explicit social missions you promote or withholding support from companies with practices or policies you oppose. Start small and make a big difference!

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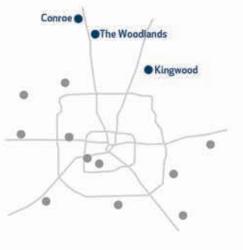


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# **APRIL LUNCHEON**

BY MARY FRANCES DORIS



I hope everyone had a happy Easter and survived the terrible storms we experienced with minimal consequences. Some of our members and neighbors experienced lightning strikes so let's reach out to help whenever we can.

Speaking of the unexpected, we were visited by David Novelli and May Burkett from Morgan Stanley Wealth Management at our April luncheon. They gave us some very practical advice on getting our affairs in order sooner than later. As women, sometimes we don't take the lead or make sure that we are well situated for the time when we might be the captains of our own ships.

Please visit our website at BentwaterLadiesOrganization. com to see the very simple but extensive list of things we should have prepared for our own financial security.

David, whose wife Mary is one of our own members, suggested we change the name of our group to the "Babes of Bentwater" (BOB). What do you all think? I think we can make that our "unofficial" name! I like it!

Don't forget to sign up for the May luncheon. It wouldn't be the BLO if we didn't have a jewelry show. Golden Thread Jewelry will be featured. You can google it to see the many beautiful pieces that will be for sale. Jen Welker, a Houston native, is the founder and will be telling us her story of how





she turned a hobby into a thriving business. If you can't make the luncheon, you can still come and shop starting at 10 am. Looking forward to seeing you all at the next fun event! Happy Mother's Day to you all!



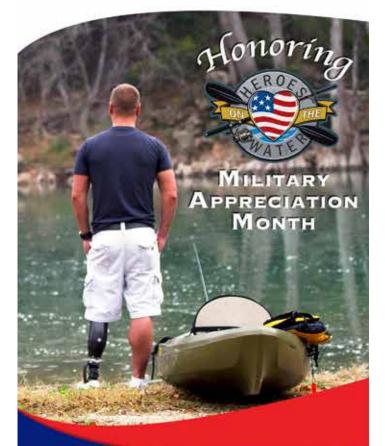








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## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

# **ADOPT-A-HOLE**

#### BY JOHN HUBBARD

The Bentwater Adopt-A-Hole program was started in 1998 when the Weiskopf was the only course open. Craig Hibbison, a member/resident at the time, mentioned that at the course he came from they had a program called Adopt-A-Hole where the members would get together and fill divots on the course on a periodic basis. Craig and I went to the club management and asked if they would support such a program. Fast forward to 2023, we now have 36 hole captains with "divot teams" and full support of the club's management. This next year will mark 25 years that we have been supporting this program.

Originally we got our own sand and buckets, but now the sand is put out on each hole by the golf maintenance staff on the designated divot days. This program has helped keep the courses in better shape by not only filling divots but by being an example to other players to

fill their divots and fix their ball marks on the greens.

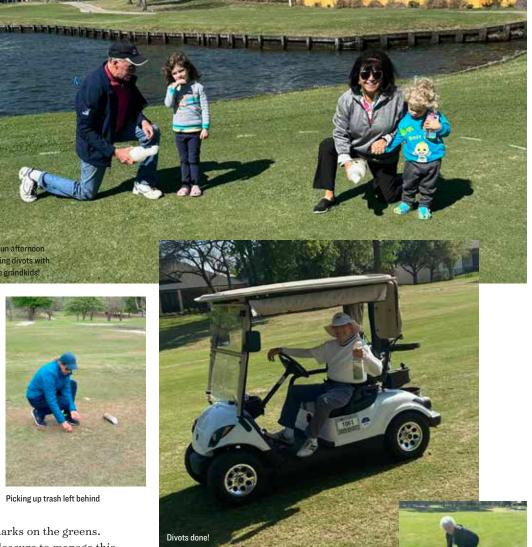
It has been my privilege and pleasure to manage this program. There have always been people in Bentwater who



Repairing ball marks on the green

job of hole captain. They all are very dedicated and work hard to keep our courses in the best shape possible. Blair Smith manages the Miller captains. We work with the Greenskeeper who sends us both quarterly schedules on days each course will be closed and which of those days the sand will be out. In winter months we generally sand just one day a month and during the

are willing to take on the



growing season twice a month. Most hole captains recruit friends and neighbors and have found "divot parties" even exist on some of the holes!

The program grew as the club and

Gail Kienle has been a

hole captain since the program's inception.

courses grew, from the 18 hole captains to 36 that now fill divots on both the Weiskopf and Miller. Below are comments from some of the captains.

Gene Colbert adopted Hole 17. "I do it because I am interested in having a golf course that is maintained in topnotch condition," he says.

Dave Clements, who adopted Hole 10, says, "And my motivation has to do with wanting to do my part to be able to play on a nice golf course."

Jodi Gunnerson has been a captain of Weiskopf since 2020. "I adopted Hole 4 because it gives me a sense of pride to have my adopted hole looking nice. I love living in Bentwater and the golf course is a reflection of how we care for our neighborhood."

"I have been sanding Miller Hole 9 since I retired in 2016. I continue to sand divots voluntarily to not only keep the course in good shape but also to let management know that we care about the quality of the golf course," explains Steve South.

Jim Street, a four-year captain, says "I fill divots on Hole 1 of Miller GC. I believe as a member and as golfers, we

should all do things to improve the golf courses we play."

Steve Krauzer has been a captain of Miller Hole  $2\,$ since 2011 and he says he joined "to make the course play and look better."

Gloria Flores, one of our long-time captains, explains, "As Bentwater residents we are all in this together, so whether you're a member of the Adopt-A-Hole program or not you can do your part to maintain the courses by repairing your own divots and ball marks, and/or picking up broken tees and random trash."



A job well done! Leaving



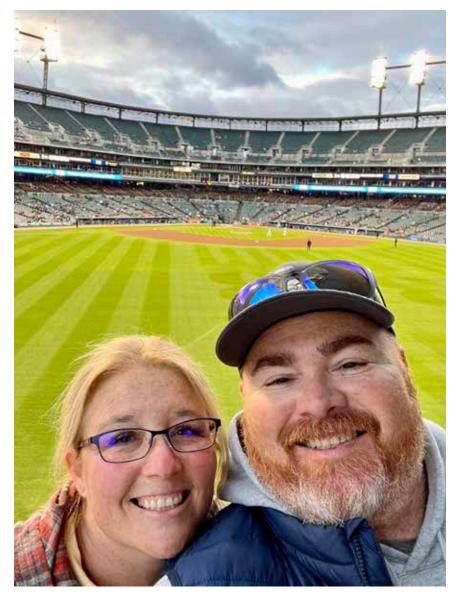
behind filled divots and an empty bucket of sand.



For more information, email John Hubbard at johnhub40@ icloud.com or Blair Smith at sblairs43@gmail.com.

We would love to feature your Bentwater group or organization, too! Email bentwatercontent@gmail.com.

## **Redemption Roofing**



"At Redemption Roofing, we're more than just a roofing contractor; we're a team of individuals dedicated to making a positive impact in our community," says owner Adam Sabel. Their values Love.Serve.Care.

When he started his own roofing business, Adam's goal was to change the industry in the local market. There was a need for honest contractors and he stepped into that spot. "We're a Christian company and we put God first," he says. The team at Redemption Roofing truly likes what they do and they're passionate

about providing exceptional roofing services to every client. They also believe in serving our community by giving back and supporting local charities. But most importantly, they care deeply about their clients and their satisfaction, which is why they go above and beyond to ensure roofing needs are met with excellence.

The most fulfilling part of the job for Adam is just having the chance to help. He says when customers call him, they're usually stressed and frustrated about their roofs and he gets the opportunity to step in and ease that burden. But before you start making calls to any roofing

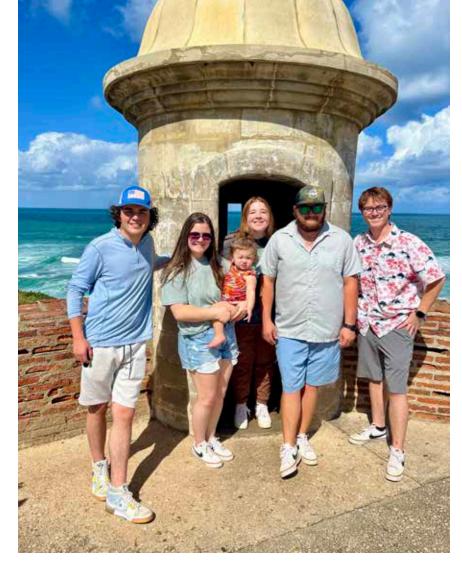
company, he says that you should do your research — look online for reviews, check their website and social media pages, and ask for references. "This will give you an idea of their reputation and the quality of their work."

Here's his step-by-step process for choosing a contractor, whether it's through Redemption Roofing or elsewhere:

1. Check their credentials: Make sure they have the proper licenses and insurance to do the work. You can verify this information by checking their website, asking for documentation, or contacting the relevant authorities.

- 2. Get a detailed estimate: It should include all costs, including labor and materials. Make sure the estimate includes any necessary repairs, removal of the old roof, and clean up after the project is complete. 3. Understand warranties and
- guarantees: These are offered through the company or the manufacturer. Ask questions to clarify any terms that you're unsure about.
- 4. Communication: This is the key to any successful roofing project. Make sure they're accessible and that they're responsive to your questions or concerns.





5. Prepare for the project: Discuss the timeline and make arrangements to protect your property during the project. This might include moving vehicles or outdoor furniture and ensuring that pets are kept safe during the construction process.

The Redemption Roofing team keeps al of these in mind when they're working with clients and they encourage you to hold them accountable to these standards and requests, too. "Our phones never stop ringing," explains Adam. "We take pride in each and every customer we come in contact with, and because of that, they tell other people about us. Referrals are huge for us," he says.

Adam is a local guy. He grew up in Spring and moved to Conroe in 1998 and then to the Montgomery area in 2013. He and his wife have four kids, some grown and some still at home. Baileigh, 24, is married to Seth and they have one daughter, Adam's only grandchild,

Bexleigh. She's 21 months old. Ty is 23, Kameron is 18, and Olivia is 16. They have six dogs that keep them busy, too! The Sabels are HUGE Astros fans and they often spend time in downtown Montgomery. They appreciate its charm and historical character, and they support local, small businesses whenever possible. They frequently sponsor events in Bentwater and love the opportunity to feed the residents whenever they can!

**Redemption Roofing** (936) 321-3733 www.redemptionroofing.com Facebook @redemptionroofing



Redemption Roofing did a first-class job on my roof last week. Great people to work with. Cleaned up at the end of each day. Super communication. Minor damage to a couple of fixed sprinklers was fixed quickly. Highly recommended.

BENTWATER RESIDENT THOMAS CLOUGH





## **TRC PRESSURE WASHING**



Meet Bentwater's Entrepreneur Teen, Kyle Ginsel

Howdy! My name is Kyle Ginsel, I am a Bentwater resident, entrepreneur, and the proud owner of TRC Pressure Washing. My family and I moved to Bentwater in 2008, and I will be graduating from Montgomery High School this month. After high school, I will be attending Sam Houston State University in pursuit of a business degree.

My business has evolved significantly over the years. When I was 12, I worked and saved enough money to purchase my first pressure washing set-up. In the early years, it was challenging to grow my business as I was not able to drive yet. However, I was determined to be successful and oftentimes would transport my equipment by hand in order to get to jobs. Over time, I have completed training courses and worked with my mentors in the pressure washing industry to grow my knowledge and expertise in this industry. Flash forward to today, I have designed and fabricated my own state-of-the-art trailer capable of handling both commercial and residential work.

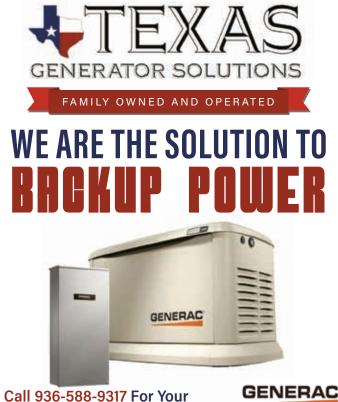
Last year I founded TRC Pressure Washing, which is a fully licensed and insured business offering 100% satisfaction guaranteed. My crew and I maintain high standards in everything we do. We understand that you take pride in your property, so it's important that your pressure washing company values your property as much as you do. We take great care to ensure all our clients receive unbeatable service and outstanding results. We work with only state-of-the-art equipment and safe, quality detergents to ensure a deep, effective cleaning that always leaves the customer with a smile on their face. Whether you need a powerful pressure washing service like concrete cleaning, or gentle soft washing work like house washing and roof cleaning, or even looking

for some of our commercial services, we're here to serve you.



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## YOUNG FAMILIES OF BENTWATER











## **SIP & SWAP**

SUBMITTED BY CIANA SIMPSON

The Sip & Swap Event was inspired by the idea of exchanging children's items (clothing, toys, and gear) in good condition to neighbors as a way to extend the lifecycle of these items vs constantly buying new. The event was held at the Park in the Meadows. Adults set up stations of their items while kids played. Everyone had an amazing time and we hope to make this an annual event where we can share and swap items with neighbors.

For any items left over after the swap, we partnered with Hope's Bridge, a local non-profit organization that is fully donation and volunteer driven and benefits foster families and families in crisis right here in Montgomery County. They were present at the Sip & Swap with information on their mission, along with a 20-foot enclosed trailer for donations of new or gently used items that will benefit the families they serve. Hope's Bridge also made trips to homes in Bentwater after the event to pick up more donations! For anyone who would like to arrange a pick up for donations, please contact julie@hopes-bridge.org.

Follow Young Families of Bentwater on Facebook to stay up-to-date on events and activities!





## BENTWATER GOLF

Unique Scramble/ Shamble Format Highlights Bentwater MGA Tournament



#### SUBMITTED BY RAY LAUGHTER

The Bentwater Men's Golf Association held its March member's tournament using a unique 2-Man Scramble/ Shamble format. More than 100 golfers participated in the tournament on the Bentwater Miller Course. The tournament was extremely competitive with all flight gross champions decided by one stroke or in scorecard playoff.

The low gross score of 7 under par was posted by the team of Scott McCarthy and Kyle Ishimoto who won in a scorecard playoff over Kirk Thomason and Sam Hochhauser in Flight 1. Other low gross winners in their flights were Bob Dimitroff and Thomas McGuigan, Jim Landgraf and Keith Way, Teejay Aho and Greg Harper, and James Wofford and John Pfeiffer.

Low net score winners for Flights 1-5 were Ed McCarron and John Taggart, Tony Zeis and Bill Jennings, Vincent Jefferson and Steve Sims, Michael Ishimoto and John Ward, and David Novelli and Edward Carey.

In May the MGA will be hosting its annual 36 hole Individual Stroke Play Championship. Start times will be 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 20, on the Weiskopf Course and on Sunday, May 21, on the Miller Course. Prizes will be awarded for both gross and net scores for each flight. Registration for this signature MGA event closes May15. Participants must be members of the Bentwater MGA and have an active GHIN membership.

In addition to the monthly tournaments the MGA hosts an open play day every Thursday. Participation in the play days awards points toward a series of newly announced Play Day Tournaments with cash prizes available. MGA members may sign up on the Bentwater tee sheet each Thursday.



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## Men's Golf Association

2023 Board of Directors SUBMITTED BY RAY LAUGHTER



Front row (I-r): Danny Contreras, Wayne Austin, Ray Laughter. Back row (I-r): Chuck Morgan, Mike Gallagher, Bob Stegge, Rick Allred, Kevin Tatum. Not Pictured: Bob Pickens

The 2023 Board of Directors of the Bentwater Men's Golf Association (MGA) started the new year with ambitious goals and objectives to maximize the enjoyment of Bentwater Country Club golf memberships. The primary aim is to allow the men in the community, regardless of their skill



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level, to get involved in golf activities, which includes social interaction among members.

Board members were selected by the MGA members in November of 2022 and incoming MGA Board President Bob Stegge immediately set out to organize the new board and begin to develop plans to expand the opportunities of the organization. "We were fortunate to have an outstanding board of directors selected to lead the Bentwater MGA for 2023," says Stegge. "Each board member is experienced and passionate about our association and its members, and to a man, we are committed to improving and expanding the golfing experience in Bentwater."

In addition to Stegge, other officers include Rick Allred, vice president; Wayne Austin, secretary; Chuck Morgan, treasurer; and Danny Contreras, tournament director. Atlarge directors are Ray Laughter, Bob Pickens, and Kevin Tatum. Mike Gallagher is the immediate past president.

The Bentwater MGA goals for 2023 include increasing MGA membership and participation in their events. These events include monthly tournaments for members as well as an expanded weekly MGA Play Day program to provide opportunities for members to get involved and meet new playing partners. The MGA also recognizes members for their accomplishments when they achieve a hole-in-one or shoot their age.

For more information on the Bentwater MGA go to the Bentwater website or contact the pro shop.

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Sharon O'Neil and Lions Club staff member Taylor Cloud

## NORTH SHORE REPUBLICAN WOMEN

SUBMITTED BY ANN KATE

Members passing through the Bentwater Fitness Center may have noticed the "treasure chest" box near the entrance hall. The box is for eyeglasses that North Shore Republican Women Caring for America committee members take to the Conroe Noon Lions Club eyeglass recycling center. If you have any glasses you no longer need, drop them off in the box. Sharon O'Neil recently dropped off 150 pairs that had been collected over several months. Kim Greene had an assembly line going following the NSRW board meeting March 15 to prepare bags of toiletries that were taken to the Under Over Fellowship in Conroe to be distributed to those who are homeless or in need. Including our regular monthly meeting, it was a very busy month for the Caring for America team and our members.



Janis Peel, Chris York, Jacqueline Fitzpatrick

## **PICKLED PINK BIRTHDAY LUNCH**

#### SUBMITTED BY KAY PONTIOUS



Happy birthday to Jackie Riley, Gigi Venable, Sherri Hicks and Laura Suggs! We had so much fun celebrating your March birthdays!

(L to R): Jackie Riley, Gigi Venable, Sherri Hicks, and Laura Suggs











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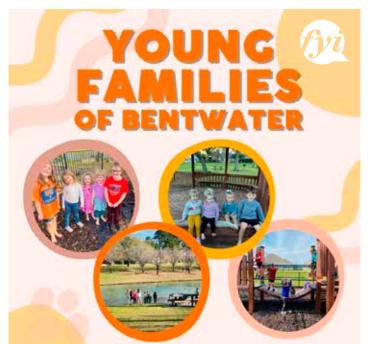
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### RESIDENT RECIPE

## Layered Mediterranean Dip



SUBMITTED BY MICHELLE HOOVER



We have a neighborhood group on Miller's Turn that gets together on a regular basis. Recently we headed out to see the Eagles cover band at Bernhardt Winery and we brought an assortment of food. My contribution was a new recipe (friends love to be my guinea pigs). Here's a quick recipe made with hummus. It can be prepped ahead of time and thrown together at the last minute. Happy to report there were no leftovers.

Serve with pita chips, naan, or your favorite crackers.

### INGREDIENTS

8 ounces cream cheese, softened
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
1 teaspoon dried Italian seasoning
2 cloves garlic minced
1 cup prepared hummus
<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup chopped cucumber
<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup chopped tomato, drained well
<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup chopped pitted Kalamata olives
<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup crumbled feta cheese
<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup sliced green onions
Pita chips, naan, crackers, etc.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Add cream cheese, lemon juice, Italian seasoning, and garlic in a medium mixing bowl. Beat with an electric mixer until combined.

2. Spread cream cheese mixture into a serving dish. Spread the hummus on top of the cream cheese mixture then top with the remaining ingredients. For those who don't like olives, leave them off or only put on half.

3. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Serve with pita chips.

Make ahead note: Prep the cream cheese mixture and hummus up to a day ahead. Top with the other ingredients right before serving. The tomatoes will become "juicy" if allowed to sit too long.

Tomato tip: I like to buy the packages of multicolored snacking tomatoes (yellow, orange, red) and just cut them in half.

### COUSHATTI TRACE CHAPTER, NSDAR

## Meals on Wheels Birthday **Bag Donations**

#### SUBMITTED BY KAY PONTIOUS

During their March chapter meeting, members donated 30 Birthday Bags to Montgomery County Meals on Wheels. Birthday Bags contain items like toiletries, activity books, coffee mugs, stationary, warm socks, costume jewelry and book lights.

In addition to delivering fresh

lunches to homebound seniors, Meals on Wheels provides supplemental food in the form of breakfast bags and senior meal bags. They serve more than 700 seniors each day and more than 20 percent of those served are veterans.



Pictured with Birthday Bag donations are Coushatti Trace members (I to r): Paula Dossett, Dianne Curry, Leigh Billingsley, Carolyn Worsham, and Kay Pontious

Homebound seniors and veterans are some of the most vulnerable in our community and Meals on Wheels was very grateful for the support from Coushatti Trace Chapter, NSDAR.



Pictured with the Vietnam War Commemoration Flag (I to r): Ed Brown, Army; Robert (Bob) Harper, Army; Ed Sellers, Navy; Sylvia Ashworth Bivens, surviving sister of Michael Dunning Ashworth, Marines; Edward W. Kelly, Navy; Ann Crosbie, surviving spouse of Grady H. Click, Air Force; William E. Cain, Army; Hiram Dunlap, Army; Art Byrum, Army; Judith DuBose, Army; Doug Chancellor, Army; and Dianne Curry, spouse of Jim Neal Curry, Navy.



Regent Cecily Kelly presents a Certificate of Appreciation to her husband, Edward W. Kelly, United States Navy, Retired.



Regent Cecily Kelly presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Brigadier General Ed Brown (in uniform), Army of the United States, Retired.





DAR Member and SAR Liaison Susan Hutchison-Johnston shared her 37 years of experience at the Kennedy and Johnson Snace Centers

## HONORING OUR **VIETNAM VETERANS**

SUBMITTED BY KAY PONTIOUS

Coushatti Trace Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, acting as a recognized Vietnam War Commemorative Partner, honored Vietnam Veterans and their survivors at the March chapter meeting.

Vietnam Veterans were recognized with a certificate of appreciation from a grateful nation and a Vietnam Veteran lapel pin awarded by the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration. United States veterans who served on active duty with the US Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975, regardless of location, are eligible to receive this pin.

The Freedom Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Color Guard posted and retired the colors. In honor of Women's History Month. DAR Member and SAR Liaison Susan Hutchison-Johnston shared her 37 years of experience at the Kennedy and Johnson Space Centers with a program titled "Space Shuttle Experiment Highlights and Technology Spinoffs." Veterans and their guests were invited to stay for the presentation and special "spacerelated" refreshments.

Since the launch of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration in 2012, the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution has become their largest and strongest commemorative partner with thousands of chapters participating across the nation.

If you are interested in more information about NSDAR membership, please email: CoushattiTraceDAR@gmail.com.

## BENTWATER CIVIC ASSOCIATION



Prescription Drug **Recycling Event** 

Prior to the March Mix and Mingle event, The Bentwater Civic Association sponsored a prescription drug recycling with the cooperation of the Precinct 1 Constables Office.



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(L to R) Kim Leonard, Mark Leonard, Julie Schouest, Julie Strickland, Bart Schouest, Mark Strickland, Steve Pontious, and Kay Pontious.



In March, members of the BLO dressed in their best western gear and hit the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo to see Jason Aldean. And on March 16 they went to Schulenburg where they visited The Stanzel Model Airplane Museum and the Texas Quilt Museum as well as some of the area's famous painted churches.





### BENTWATER LADIES ORGANIZATION

## THE BLO HITS THE ROAD



Mark and Julie Strickland experienced their first HLSR





# Mix and Mingle Shenanigans

Bentwater residents gathered for a special St. Patrick's day themed Mix and Mingle in March. More than 80 residents were in attendance and a few lucky winners walked away with some great door prizes, courtesy of Stroll Bentwater Life.

Mike Brasic won a gift bag from Farmhouse Furniture and Gifts in Huntsville. The bag included a fragranced wax candle set and tape measure. Steve Watkins, Bart Schouest, and Gaye Watkins won a Buff City Soap gift card for handmade soap for the year!

And J.C. and Marissa Frazier won a VIP gift certificate, including commemorative event glasses, for four to attend a wine master class with Europe Shares Wine Trade Tasting at B52 Brewing.

Mix and Mingle is hosted by the Bentwater Ladies Organization (BLO), the Men of Bentwater (MOB), and the Bentwater Civic Association (BCA), new residents receive a welcome gift bag. If you have one, wear your name tag, and if you plan to stay for dinner, reservations are recommended.



## **13th Annual Electronic Recycling Event**













SUBMITTED BY BOBBY VIKTORIN

On Saturday, March 25, the Bentwater Civic Association (BCA) held its 13th annual electronic recycling event at the North Shore Church parking lot. The event was a big success in cleaning out excess electronics from Bentwater homes and garages. The event recycled 58 TVs and monitors, 48 printers and computers, and 51 boxes of miscellaneous

electronics. Unwanted electronic devices were unloaded from 66 vehicles into the moving truck by 20 volunteers, including several from the Bentwater Volunteer Families (BVF) organization. The electronics were then taken to the Montgomery County recycling center.

The BCA holds three recycling events each year—Electronics, paper, and paint/chemicals. These events are free to BCA members. You can sign up for the BCA at Mix and Mingle or the recycling events. Paper recycling is scheduled for June 17 and Paint/Chemical recycling is on October 21.

## THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS WHO MAKE THESE EVENTS POSSIBLE.

Doug Autsolief Ken Broussard Gene Kuper Addie, Avery, Shelly, and Steven Clark Kevin and Mary Frances Doris Levi, John, Mark Fragos Brittany and Michelle Fuller Kendall and Kristie Hyde Mike Regan Marilyn Schmitt Skyler and Randy Sumner Bobby and Carol Viktorin Bentwater Volunteer Families

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

# Easter in Bentwater

Bentwater residents had a wonderful Easter! Thank you for sharing your photos with us!

































The weather finally cleared up and we gathered for our annual Easter celebration and egg hunt. We were so glad to see you all out there and hope you had as much fun as we did! Thank you to Bentwater Volunteer Families for their help and to the Bentwater Civic Association for their generous contribution. Stroll Bentwater Life sponsors Redemption Roofing and Rodger Stein Chiropractic donated the hotdogs and water. Sarah Conway, also a Stroll Bentwater Life sponsor, made many fun activities possible. Finally, thanks to the POA Landscaping and Maintenance staff for their hard work preparing the park for this event.

Thank you to Bentwater resident and professional photographer Brittany Roden for capturing the event. To see more images from the Easter celebration or purchase prints, visit www. brittanyeroden.com.





Director of Racquets

Esteemed residents.

It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as the new Director of Racquets for the Bentwater Yacht & Country Club team.

My name is George Schuldberg, and I am a **Certified Racquet Sports** Executive, USPTA Elite Professional, and USPTA Certified Pickleball instructor. With more than 30 years of experience, I

have been fortunate to work at some of the country's most prestigious clubs, including Houston Country Club, The Briar Club, Austin Country Club, Royal Oaks Country Club, and Arizona Country Club.





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### **BENTWATER TENNIS**

## **MEET GEORGE SCHULDBERG**

I have been playing tennis since the age of 5 and have achieved state and national junior rankings, as well as ranking as an adult player. Additionally, I was a college scholarship athlete at both Midland College and Houston Baptist University. In 2013, I hopped onto the Pickleball bandwagon when the sport was just starting to take hold. My wife, Susan Bryson, is also an accomplished tennis player who played at the University of Texas Austin. Together, we have won numerous state and national mixed doubles titles.

My wife and I are thrilled to be back in Texas after many years away. I am eager to bring a new level of enjoyment and service to the members of Bentwater, and I invite you to stop by for a quick hello whenever you have a chance. I look forward to meeting all of our racquet enthusiasts and hearing your thoughts and suggestions.

I am excited to see you on the courts!

Best regards, George Schuldberg, USPTA Elite Professional, CRSE Director of Racquets

## BENTWATER VOLUNTEER **FAMILIES**

**Our Welcome Bag Assemblers!** 



Stroll Bentwater Life would like to thank the members of Bentwater Volunteer Families for assembling welcome bags for our new residents. And a special thank you goes out to Toni Sellers for helping to store and deliver the bags. Welcome bags are distributed through the POA, at Mix and Mingle, and to the BLO newcomers. If you're new to the neighborhood, you can always email jada.england@ n2co.com to request a bag. We'd love to meet you and help connect you to the community.





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42 May 2023



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business from the ground up with this in mind. Establishing trust, disassembling confusion, and being clear about expectations is what they do best. For more information: (832) 381-6081 or www.luxe-renovation.com



### RESTAURANT REVIEW

## Wine and Dine at **H-Bistrot**

On March 23, a group of Bentwater residents met at H-Bistrot in Huntsville for a wine tasting and a light bite to eat. In addition to great conversation, guests sampled a variety of wines and local beers while they enjoyed tacos. Steve Hari, the owner of H-Bistrot, also owns H-Wines, a wine bar and tasting room in Montgomery. And recently, Steve opened a second H-Bistrot in downtown Conroe.

### **H-Bistrot**

1320 Windsor Street in Huntsville 401 College Street in Conroe www.h-bistrot.com





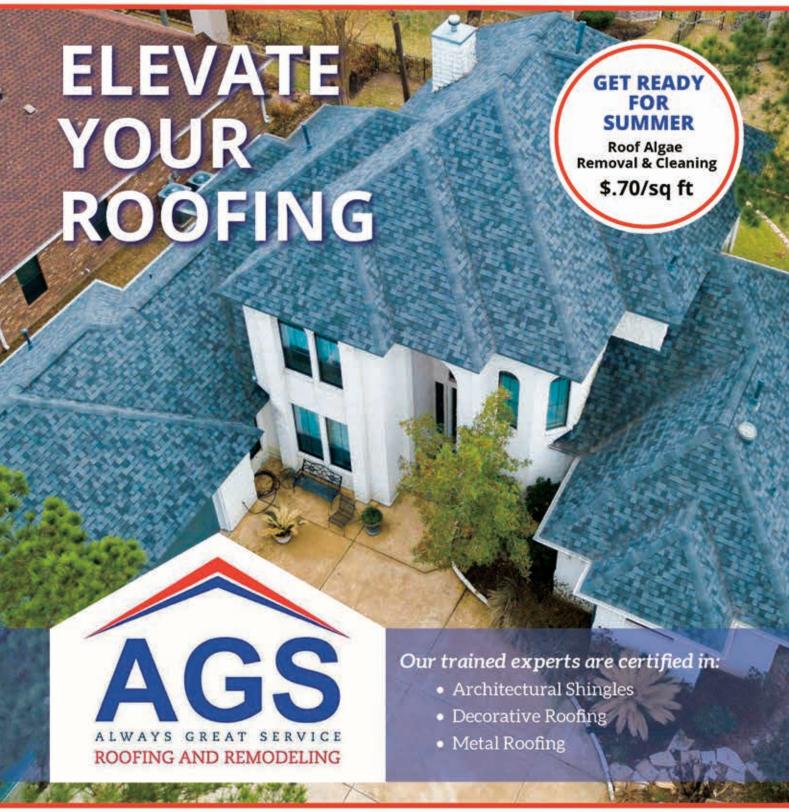








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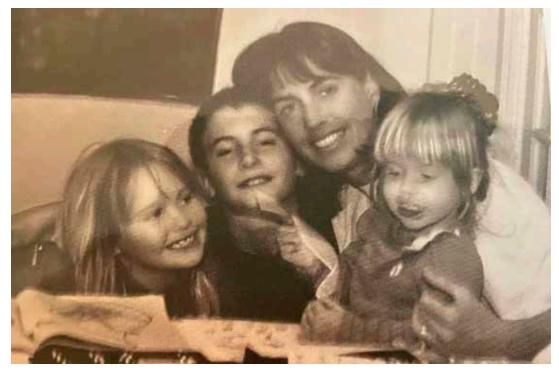




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Here I am with my mother Carol "Cookie" Machos enjoying our wine. My mom is the best because she always went above and beyond for us, whether it was a special note in my lunchbox at school as a kid, Christmas mornings that were borderline magical, or as an adult sipping on a glass of Chardonnay... she



always makes me feel so loved and so special.

### Shelly Machos Wahle



Here is a picture of my mother Cynthia. She is an amazing mother and grandmother who makes frequent trips to Bentwater from Illinois to visit her daughter (me - Ciana) and two grandchildren, Adelaide and Emmeline. We all love her so much!

Ciana Simpson

### HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

# Happy Mother's Day!

Carol Pinto Allen (also a Bentwater resident) is the best mom because she is a loving and resilient provider, always doing all she can to ensure everyone is well taken care of. She is the #1 cheerleader for her each of her three kids and always champions their successes. All of these beautiful characteristics translate to her role as a grandma to her three (almost four!) grandchildren.

Love, Sonia, Marina & Paul



## LOCAL EVENTS

# SUMMER KICK-OFF

Saturday, May 27 9am-12pm Hosted by Young Families of Bentwater and Sponsored by Stroll Bentwater Life Bentwater Community Park (by the dog park)

Let's get this summer started right! Join the Young Families of Bentwater for waterslides, field games, water balloons, and a BBQ! Follow Young Families of Bentwater or Stroll Bentwater Life to stay up-to-date on the event.



## BARK IN THE PARK



**Saturday, June 3** 11:00am - 1:00pm

Join us at the dog park for Bentwater's Bark in the Park, hosted by Stroll Bentwater Life and sponsored by Campbell's Scoops, Tip Top K9, Nature's Select Houston, and Aussie Pet Mobile. And if you're looking to add a special furry friend to your family, we'll have adoptions, too! Follow Stroll Bentwater Life on Facebook to stay up-to-date on events.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

Thursday, May 25 4:00pm - 7:00pm Restaurant Review MOCO Food Hall

You're invited to our May restaurant review at MoCo Food Hall, a collection of small businesses and chefs coming together to advance the concept of what a restaurant could be. It's a comfortable place for people to relax and socialize while enjoying great drinks and phenomenal food from all walks of life. Arrive early—prior to the event, Branding Iron and Main Street Merchants are offering a unique shopping experience exclusively for our guests. Follow Stroll Bentwater Life on Facebook to get your tickets now. Seating is limited!



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## REAL ESTATE RESOURCE

This is your neighborhood Real Estate Resource page. This information can be useful when trying to compare property values or for just keeping a pulse on the real estate market in our area. For questions regarding the properties listed, or about real estate in general, consult a real estate professional,

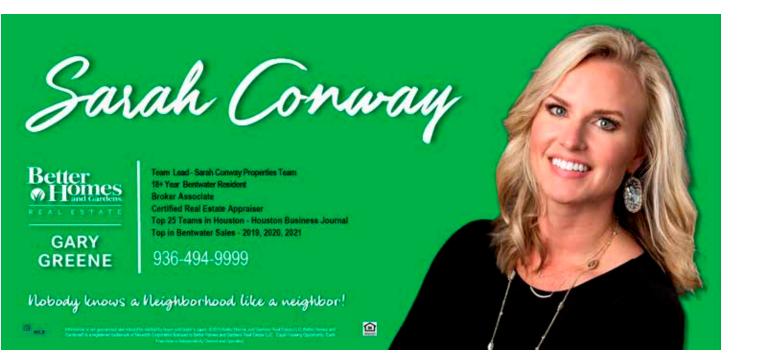
The information contained herein has been obtained through sources deemed reliable by The N2 Company, but cannot be guaranteed for its accuracy. Any information of special interest should be obtained through independent verification.

Supplied by Sarah Conway Properties Team BHGRE-Gary Greene

Address	Neighborhood	List Price	SqFt	Status
361 Promenade St. E	Waterfront	\$4,250,000	13,294	ACTIVE
34 Greenview St.	Golf	\$ <b>775,000</b>	3,939	ACTIVE
91 Brookgreen Circle N	Golf	\$ <b>750,000</b>	3,507	ACTIVE
33 Highwood Rd.	Interior	\$668,000	4,127	ACTIVE
185 Monterrey Rd. E	Golf	\$525,000	2,246	ACTIVE
90 Edgewood Dr.	Interior	\$489,900	3,121	ACTIVE
103 Club Creek Dr.	Golf	\$1,065,000	3,845	PENDING
134 Blue Hill Dr.	Interior	\$715,000	3,872	PENDING
18 Wick Willow Rd.	Interior	\$495,000	2,205	PENDING
415 Edgewood Dr.	Waterfront	\$2,599,000	6,338	SOLD
186 Bentwater Bay Dr.	Waterfront	\$2,500,000	5,376	SOLD
3123 Bentwater Dr.	Golf	\$1,050,000	3,978	SOLD
122 Club Creek Dr.	Interior	\$975,000	3,456	SOLD
36 Waterford Way	Waterfront	\$839,900	3,891	SOLD
21 Monterrey Cove	Interior	\$825,000	3,433	SOLD
1018 Bentwater Dr.	Golf	\$825,000	5,155	SOLD
245 Club Island Way	Golf	\$765,000	3,838	SOLD



Top row left to right: Kelly Beavers, Jen Miller, Pat Wright, Lisa Neal, Jimmie Lou Joyce, purple top, Lynn Watkins. Front row: Margaret Hudson, Val Gerbino, Mary Frances Doris, Nancy Busen. The little Black and white boy is Deano Gerbino!





### BENTWATER LADIES ORGANIZATION

## BENCH DEDICATION



The Bentwater Ladies Organization recently held a ceremony to dedicate a bench to the community dog park. The bench is nestled between three trees and is sure to be a wonderful spot to stop and rest with your pups! Nearby, the POA landscaping staff planted a tree that was donated by Susan Hutchcroft in honor of her late husband, Jim.



## CELEBRATING OUR 3 YEAR ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND...

## ALL WEEKEND LONG May 26<sup>th</sup> – May 29<sup>th</sup>

FRIDAY – Live Music on the Patio – 7-10 pm – Harley Ray



SATURDAY – The Lake Radio Live Feed 2-4 pm Live Music PLUS Games for the Kids on the Patio 7-10 pm – Raizin Cain

SUNDAY – Karaoke 6:30pm - 9:30pm

Monday – Memorial Day Musical Tribute ANDY RODRIGUEZ 5pm – 8pm

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