

NEWS FROM THE STAFF

OPERATIONS

Alert status: **ORANGE**

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, 1 January: New Year's Day – Happy New Year 2022! 

Monday, 2 January: Holiday Schedule

- Minimal BST transportation & staffing
- Cochran's will be open from 11:30am-2:00pm
- Broadway Bank will be **CLOSED**
- WHASC will be **CLOSED**

Friday, 6 January: Christmas Take Down

Tuesday, 10 January: BA & NC Dinner, 5:00pm, Sky Lounge

- Entertainment by "Almost Patsy Cline Band"

Thursday, 12 January: Classic Country with Jack Romines, 4:00pm, Sky Lounge

IN MEMORIAM



Paul Nordstrom, 22 December

Charles Posey, 25 December

WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

Jack Gentry & Desiree Linson #1209/11

Margaret Martone-Maloney #751

Suzanne Wolf #304/06

Vernon & Lee O'Steen #561

Denise Trimble #1755

Mable Hall #412/14



Deadline: Monday, 23 January @ Noon: fridayflyer@blueskiestx.org
Next Publication Date: Friday, 27 January.

MAINTENANCE & PEST CONTROL

Scott Fishman, Maintenance Director

Maintenance Work Order Submittals – If you see something that our team needs to address, please let us know by calling Lupe or sending an e-mail.



- Work Order Desk: 210-568-3261
- Work Order Email: bstemaintmgmt@blueskiestx.org

Pest Control: Services are accomplished 4 weeks per month.

| Thursday, 5 January | | Thursday, 12 January | |
|---------------------|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Hi-Rise | Floors 11-12 | Hi-Rise | Floor 13 |
| Mid-Rise | Floor 7 | Mid-Rise | Floor 8 |
| Cottages | 1727-1730 | Cottages | 1714-1719 |
| Hills | | Hills | |
| Health Care | | Health Care | |
| Specials | AH: Interior common & exterior Cochrans: Interior & exterior | Specials | Hobby Shop: Exterior |

| Thursday, 19 January | | Thursday, 26 January | |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Hi-Rise | Floor 14 | Hi-Rise | Floor 15 & exterior |
| Mid-Rise | | Mid-Rise | Exterior |
| Cottages | 1709-1713 | Cottages | 1628-1631 |
| Hills | | Hills | |
| Health Care | | Health Care | TM: Exterior |
| Specials | MX: Exterior | Specials | F & V: Exterior |

CATERED LIVING – Laundry Services

Mercedes Cruz, Catered Living Manager

Laundry service is charged \$1.50 per pound with a \$6.00 minimum charge.



Catered Living Laundry Services:

- Pickup & delivery - wash, dry, & fold (detergent is provided)
- All clothes are washed individually
- No commercial equipment
- Large items (e.g., comforters, blankets, rugs, etc.) are \$22.50 per item.
- Ironing per piece: \$2.75

For more information please call: 210 568-3285, or email: mercedescruz@blueskiestx.org



2

Deadline: Monday, 23 January @ Noon: fridayflyer@blueskiestx.org
Next Publication Date: Friday, 27 January.

SCAM ARTICLE

Ashlie Campos, Personal Affairs Advisor

New Year, New Scams! 😞😞😞

Happy New Year! Have you received an email from a friend who is asking you for a favor because they are traveling or sick? This favor entails you purchasing a gift card so they can in turn send it to a friend for their birthday. DO NOT respond to this email! These scammers have software which will enable them to get through your computer's firewall once you respond, and they can look through any of your documents. Instead, report the scam email to your email provider and change your credentials so they can't hack into your computer.



PLAY FOR FREEDOM 2023

Daniel Garcia Casillas, Marketing/Fundraising Associate



Registration for residents is now open for the 29th Annual Play for Freedom Golf Tournament benefitting Freedom House. You can register a team of four golfers or register individually and we can include you on an existing team. Questions? Please contact me at 210 568-3290 or at danielcasillas@blueskiestx.org. If you're accessing the online version of the Roadrunner, you can also use this link to register: [PLAY FOR FREEDOM](#).

Thank you in advance for considering a gift or sponsorship for a great day for golf and a great day for Freedom House!



Deadline: Monday, 23 January @ Noon: fridayflyer@blueskiestx.org
Next Publication Date: Friday, 27 January.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES – A GREAT OPTION, NOW WITH HIGHER RATES!

Jennifer Z. Berg Matthews, Director of Development

A little extra cheer from the holidays spilled onto our Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) rates, set by the American Council on Gift Annuities. Normally, rates change once a year on July 1, if at all, but this year, with interest rates being as they are, the Council thought it wise to RAISE rates again to start 2023, which is good news for YOU!

As an example, someone who was 75 would have previously been eligible for a 6.0% return annually on their CGA, but after Sunday, Jan 1, they can now have a 6.6% annual rate of return. All rates of return are fixed for your lifetime, so no matter what the market does, you are guaranteed the rate you secure when you establish the CGA. The minimum investment for a CGA with the AFV Charitable Foundation is \$10,000.

In addition to the single-life rate chart at right, I've included a link to a massive chart on the ACGA website for those who want to set up a two-life gift annuity:

<https://www.acga-web.org/gift-annuity-rates---effective-1-1-23>

Two people, usually a married couple, can sign up for a gift annuity, but their combined rate would be lower than what they could receive individually. (After the passing of the first spouse, the surviving spouse continues to receive full payments.) For example, if our 75-year-old had a 73-year-old spouse, the two of them could receive a guaranteed lifetime rate of return of 5.7% on their gift annuity.

Please call me at 210-568-3206 if you have any questions. Also, please ask how a CGA can be used to provide a tax shelter for appreciated stock and other assets!

Age: Rate:

| | |
|----|-----|
| 65 | 5.4 |
| 66 | 5.5 |
| 67 | 5.6 |
| 68 | 5.7 |

| | |
|-----|-----|
| 69 | 5.8 |
| 70 | 5.9 |
| 71 | 6.0 |
| 72 | 6.2 |
| 73 | 6.3 |
| 74 | 6.4 |
| 75 | 6.6 |
| 76 | 6.8 |
| 77 | 7.0 |
| 78 | 7.2 |
| 79 | 7.4 |
| 80 | 7.6 |
| 81 | 7.8 |
| 82 | 8.1 |
| 83 | 8.3 |
| 84 | 8.5 |
| 85 | 8.7 |
| 86 | 8.9 |
| 87 | 9.1 |
| 88 | 9.3 |
| 89 | 9.5 |
| 90+ | 9.7 |



4

Deadline: Monday, 23 January @ Noon: fridayflyer@blueskiestx.org
Next Publication Date: Friday, 27 January.

ANNIVERSARY MILESTONES OF SERVICE

Human Resources Team

The HR Team would like to thank the following employees for reaching an Anniversary Milestone of Service with Blue Skies of Texas. Thank you for serving our residents with love and care throughout the years. We appreciate you!

| Employee | Anniv. | Yrs. Svc. | Department |
|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Sally Kelly-Rank | 3 Jan | 1 | The Mission |
| James Ballard | 4 Jan | 4 | Hospice |
| Noelle Nimchan | 5 Jan | 2 | The Mission |
| Emmanuel Soliz | 5 Jan | 2 | Dinning Services |
| Polleena Bun | 6 Jan | 1 | Freedom House |
| Ashlie Campos | 9 Jan | 8 | Wellness |
| Renee Coats | 10 Jan | 1 | The Mission |
| Irma Medina | 11 Jan | 10 | The Mission |
| Stephanie Cavanaugh | 12 Jan | 2 | The Mission |
| Teresa Reyes | 13 Jan | 11 | Arnold House |
| Evelyn Rodriguez | 13 Jan | 1 | The Mission |
| Darrell Jones | 15 Jan | 5 | Executive |
| Teresa Elizondo | 15 Jan | 3 | Wellness |
| Catherine Zendejo | 17 Jan | 1 | Freedom House |
| Tim Hohon | 18 Jan | 18 | Capital Projects |
| Nicole Byrd | 21 Jan | 3 | Freedom House |
| Mario Serna | 22 Jan | 13 | Maintenance |
| Kathy Phelps | 24 Jan | 5 | Wellness |
| Melissa Tellez | 25 Jan | 1 | The Mission |
| Victoria Ortiz | 25 Jan | 1 | The Mission |
| Harold Fernandez | 25 Jan | 1 | The Mission |
| Aljie Oden | 26 Jan | 2 | The Mission |
| Roberto Reveles-Ramos | 26 Jan | 2 | The Mission |
| Margaret Richards | 27 Jan | 19 | The Mission |
| Maria Rios | 27 Jan | 11 | The Mission |
| Martha Rey | 27 Jan | 9 | The Mission |
| Manuel Del Rio | 27 Jan | 6 | Maintenance |
| Carmen Arteaga | 27 Jan | 11 | Freedom House |
| Zytlally Vasquez | 30 Jan | 3 | Hospice |
| Gina Cortez | 31 Jan | 3 | Freedom House |



5

Deadline: Monday, 23 January @ Noon: fridayflyer@blueskiestx.org
Next Publication Date: Friday, 27 January.

RESIDENT'S CORNER

BA & NC Dinner

Ed Albert

January birthdays, anniversaries, and newcomers' dinner in the Sky Lounge: **5pm, Tuesday, 10 January**. Entertainment by *The Almost Patsy Cline Band*. Open to all Blue Skies of Texas East residents. Menu and cost will be on the registration form. Limited to 90 residents.

All attendees must make an advance reservation by entering their name on the reservation roster posted in CC-1 beginning 8:00 am, Monday 28 December. Reservations will close at 6 pm on Tuesday, 3 January.

Reservations are firm and you will be billed if you do not cross out and initial your name by 3 January (no take-out meals this time). No phone reservations or cancellations will be accepted. Only hospitalized residents will not be charged for absence on 10 January.

WHITE ELEPHANT

Ricci Fitzpatrick

The White Elephant will be **open** normal **Friday** hours of **9:00-11:30am** during January.

The White Elephant is having a special blanket/comforter sale on **Wednesday, 11 January 11** from **9:00-11:30am** in the **main lobby**. Come stock up for the rest of winter from the great selection!



We need volunteers! Volunteers are needed for the following tasks: Help during store hours, processing intake of donated items, pricing, restocking the store, packing up donations that we don't need or can't sell in order to donate to local charities, dropping off donations to other charities, organizing items in White Elephant storage rooms. Call Ricci Fitzpatrick at 210-380-0818 for more information.



6

Deadline: Monday, 23 January @ Noon: fridayflyer@blueskiestx.org
Next Publication Date: Friday, 27 January.

DRAC

Carol Hernandez, Chair

Dining surveys are to be picked up at the front desk when you get your January statements. Please return them to the front desk by **Sunday, 15 January**. These will help guide us this year.

We hope that many of you have enjoyed the new menu in the Sky Lounge that debuted in December. The menu has been limited to a theme. The first one was "Steak House". Therefore, showcasing several different types of steaks and then a few other choices. This theme will change to a new theme each quarter (This menu will be through March). The hope is this will help keep the menu fresh yet keep food waste down. Please note that with the current menu, you need to advance order the prime rib for either eat-in or take-out. This assures that they are not preparing more of this expensive cut of meat that will be ordered.

Traditionally, there is not an open DRAC meeting in January. Therefore, keep completing your comment cards or emails with what you want to convey about the dining rooms. Our next open DRAC meeting is **Tuesday, 7 February at 2:00pm** in the **Sky Lounge**. Please have all comments submitted before the meeting. Our meeting will focus on information and clarification and not new comments. During the February meeting J. Mack will be giving some details about his job.

BSTE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB FORMED

Steve Wilson



The Blue Skies East Amateur Radio Club is up and running and resides in room #757 in the midrise. Current membership includes Don Spoon (President), Steve Wilson (Trustee), Rob Lindsey (Treasurer), Alice Spoon (Secretary), Agapito Hernandez, Carol Hernandez, and Bob Stuckert. The group meets at **1:30pm** on the **third Tuesday** of every month in room **#209** of the high-rise. This month, the meeting will be on **17 January**, and all residents interested in this worldwide hobby (hey -- you no longer have to learn Morse Code) are encouraged to attend. The group is currently busily setting up the "ham" (slang for "amateur radio") club room in the midrise, getting antennas installed on the roof, and completing cable runs from the antennas down to the club room. All residents are invited to stop by room #757 in the midrise to see the club in action!



Deadline: Monday, 23 January @ Noon: fridayflyer@blueskiestx.org
Next Publication Date: Friday, 27 January.

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS SOCIETY MEETING

Robert Certain, BSTW Resident



The Alamo Chapter of the Distinguished Flying Cross Society will hold their monthly meeting on **Wednesday, 11 January at 10am** in the **BSTW Roadrunner Lounge**. Roger Hansen will present a program about the Yom Kippur War and Strategic Airlift. We welcome all residents with a DFC, their guests, spouses, and surviving spouses, as well as any interested resident from either BST campus.

VILLAGE VOICES

Nancy Jones Sowada

The Village Voices would like to thank you for attending our concerts! We are taking a break until Tuesday, 24 January, when we will begin rehearsals for our spring concert. If you can read music and/or have experience in singing in a choir, we invite you to join us at **1:30** on 24 January in the **Blue Skies West Chapel**. We rehearse every Tuesday from 1:30 to 3:30.



8 **Deadline: Monday, 23 January @ Noon: fridayflyer@blueskiestx.org**
Next Publication Date: Friday, 27 January.