



Braun Station West NEWSLETTER

Braun Station West
Community Improvement Association
8630 Tezel Road
San Antonio, Texas 78254

June - July 2011

Meetings of the Braun Station West Board of Directors are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Tezel Clubhouse. Residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

President's Corner

by Roger Plasse

The elections are over. District 7 is faced with a runoff. We get another chance to select a representative to the City Council. The voter turnout for the May 14th election plus early voting was dismal... approximately 7%. That means 93% of us were either too busy or just maybe totally disinterested. Which were you? Early voting for the runoff is May 31st to June 7th. Voting day is June 11th.

The annual picnic went well. Many thanks to the Women's Club and members of our board who contributed a significant amount of "sweat equity" towards making this year's picnic a success. Special kudos to our smoke eating cooks: Neal Nye and Al Pohovich.

The hazy and hopefully not lazy days of summer are upon us. This drought is raising havoc with our lawns and shrubs. We've been through these extended dry periods before so remember to water on your designated day and hang in there. Oh, yes... if you have a unique rain dance by all means get it on.

Interested in adopting a pet? "Sea World's Happy Tails" is a new animal adoption program that will provide pet lovers free single day admissions to Sea World when they adopt a dog or cat from a participating animal shelter. It's a way to say "thank you" for helping animals in need. For more information, visit www.seaworldcares.com/happy-tails.

Al Pohovich and I have a concern regarding Architectural Control requests, specifically sheds. Many of the request are lacking specific information as to size, type of material to be used, location and start-up and completion dates. When you come by the office to pick up a request, be sure you ask your questions as to what we need in order to properly process your request. (See related article on page 9.)

School is out, so watch out for our kids. See you in the neighborhood.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Pool Hours & Swim Lessons Schedule - See page 3.**
- Summer Gardening Chores - See page 4.**
- Women's Club - See page 6.**
- Real Estate News - See page 8.**
- Acrylic Painting Classes - See page 9.**
- Book Club - See page 11.**



Manager	Tony LaFrenier
Clerk	Sherry Heffner
Office	680-3009
Fax	521-2728
Brigadoon Pool	684-7604
Office Hours	Mon-Fri 9:30-6:00
	Sat/Sun Closed

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Roger Plasse
Vice President	Al Pohovich
Treasurer	Fred Aldrich
Secretary	Mary Anne Kramer
	Terry Buchanan
	Ana Thornton
	Linda Cunningham
	Ori Villarreal
	Neal Nye

**FREE NOTARY SERVICE
AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS
(12 per household per year)**

**SMALL ANIMAL TRAPS
We have three to loan**

FAXING SERVICE

Sending

Long Distance:
\$1.00 each page

Local:
\$.50 per page

Receiving

\$.50 per page

COPIES

\$.10 per page

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

POLICE DISPATCHER 207-7273
(Non-emergency Assistance)

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO 3-1-1
(Pot Holes, Street Signals Out, Signs
Knocked Over, Information etc.)

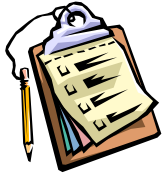
UTILITY LINE LOCATOR 8-1-1
(Natural Gas & Electric Lines)

BSW E-MAIL ADDRESS:

bswcia@sbcglobal.net

BSW WEB SITE:

www.braunstationwest.com



MANAGER'S CLIPBOARD

by Tony LaFrenier

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Pooch Parade (August)
- Back-To-School Party (August 20th)
- Adult Luau (September)
- Community-wide Garage Sale (October 29th)

DRY CONDITIONS: A resident's fence and yard were recently set on fire by someone tossing a cigarette out the window. With the extremely dry conditions, please be careful.

TREE DONATION: Raul Rea donated and planted a tree in the Tezel picnic area. He has also been watering the tree on a regular basis. Thank you, Raul!

BOATS/TRAILERS: Please, put your boats and trailers back into storage after your weekend use. Thank you for cooperation and have a great summer.

BRIGADOON & TEZEL PARK PARTIES: If you have a party at either of our parks—please bring some large trash bags. Put all your trash in the bags and dispose of them in the dumpsters. Please don't overflow the barrels with things like piñatas and boxes. Again, dispose of these items in the dumpsters. I take a lot of pride in keeping the parks clean. It only takes one party on a Saturday to make the park look like no one has ever cleaned it. Do your part—leave the parks cleaner than you found them. Have a great summer, and I hope to see many of you at our parks and pools.

Many Thanks to Easter Volunteers

We would like to thank all those who contributed to the success of the Easter Egg Hunt on April 16, especially, those who stuffed the eggs (Yadi Puente, Mariana Garcia, Andi Lewis, Katie Owens, Katie Mitnaul, Heather Davila, and Kristy Turner) and hid the eggs (all the above plus Meagan & Maddie Moseley, Emma Peters, Kaitlyn Nesbitt, Drue & Kourtney Johnson, Kourtney's friend Alexa, and Austin Turner). And very special thanks to the Easter Bunny herself, Jackie Viggato, and her escort, brother Nick. The Play Group and their volunteers work hard to make this the super event that it is every year. Good work, all!



CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS



Nancy Muldoon, resident of Cheviot Heights, is collecting used cell phones (working or *not* working) to be distributed to overseas troops. A long distance phone card will be given to each soldier to be used for making calls home. *Cell Phones for Soldiers* was founded by two Massachusetts teens with \$21 of their own money. Since 2004 their charity has raised almost \$2 million in donations and distributed more than 500,000 prepaid calling cards. Please bring your cell phones and/or donations to the BSW office. What better way to recycle your old phones? (cellphonesforsoldiers.com)

<Georges Lawn Service>

CLUBHOUSE RENTALS

Rental fee is \$100.00 for five hours (the five hours includes your set-up and clean-up time). Additional hours are \$15.00 per hour. Clubhouse capacity is 80. Full kitchen amenities. During the pool season the clubhouse cannot be rented during regular pool hours. To reserve the clubhouse, call the office at 680-3009.



POOL HOURS

Tezel Pool Hours:

(Weekend Hours - until school gets out)
May 28th & May 29th 12 noon - 8 p.m.

Monday, May 30th (Memorial Day):

Tezel Pool: 12 noon - 8 p.m.

Tezel Pool Hours: (Starting June 3rd)

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	12 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Wednesday	12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Thursday	12 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday	12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. - 8 p.m. <i>(note early opening)</i>
Sunday	12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Brigadoon Pool Hours: (Starting June 3rd)

Monday	12 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	12 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Thursday	12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday	12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday	12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday	12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

ADULT SWIM TIMES

(Ages 18 and over)

Adult swim times are at the Tezel Pool.

June 3rd through Start of School, August 19th
Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. – 12 noon

POOL TAGS

All residents 10 and older must have BSW pool tags to use either of the two pools. The tags are \$7.50 each and they can be purchased now at the office. Assessments must be current to buy pool tags.

POOL PARTIES

The pools may be rented for private parties (when pools are closed to the public) for \$50 rental fee, and \$50 deposit. Lifeguards are paid \$10 per hour by the renter, with a minimum of two scheduled (by BSW). **Call at least one week in advance to book a pool party.**

SWIM LESSONS SCHEDULE



Three sessions will be held, each running four days a week for two weeks (a total of 8 half-hour lessons), as follows:

Session I June 6th to June 10th
and June 13th to June 17th

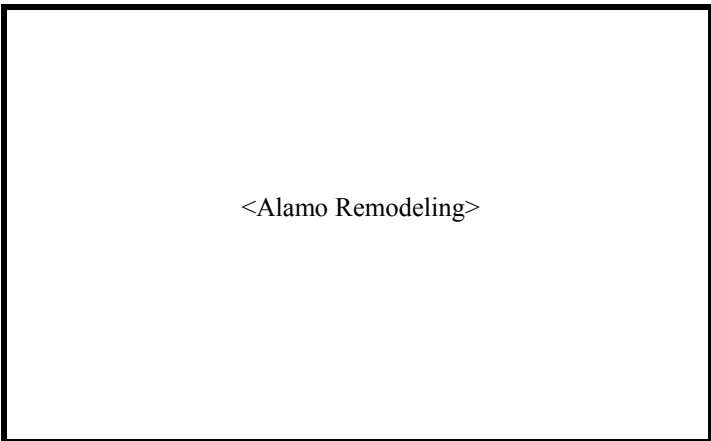
Session II June 27th to July 1st
and July 5th to July 8th

Session III July 18th to July 22nd
and July 25th to July 29th

The cost of each session is \$50 for residents and \$60 for non-residents. There are both morning and evening classes in each session. Students must be four years old. Register early... classes fill up fast! Stop by the office or check our web site for the complete class schedule, or call the office at 680-3009.



<Heaven's Best>



<Alamo Remodeling>



SUMMER GARDENING CHORES

*by Joe and Susan Noonan, Bexar County Master Gardeners
(Braun Station West Residents)*



The summer season is upon us, and that means that your plants need more attention to show their best. Here are some tips to help you care for them and conserve precious water as well.

Birds and Wildlife:

- Keep birdbaths full and clean. Clean water is in short supply and is essential to the birds and butterflies.
- Butterflies are attracted to overripe fruit, blooms, and mud. Make a muddy spot in your landscape for them to enjoy or place overripe fruit in a container.
- Hummingbirds will reward you with their antics if you have plenty of sugar water in feeder for them. Clean and change the water in the feeders weekly.
- To attract butterflies, plant coral vine, blue plumbago, butterfly weed, lantana, purple coneflower and yarrow.

Color

- For summer color and fall beauty, plant Texas tough annuals and heat-loving tropicals in beds and containers. To brighten a landscape in the heat of the summer, plant lantana, bougainvillea, mandevilla vine, allamanda, hibiscus, salvia, periwinkle, marigold, zinnia, portulaca, purslane, copper plant and Bush Morning Glory.
- Give special attention to water requirements of leafy garden plants such as coleus, caladiums and elephant ears during hot, sunny periods.
- Maintain heavy (two to four inches) mulch throughout your landscape and gardens to reduce water needs and reduce weeding. Water thoroughly rather than applying frequent light sprinklings.
- Deadhead spent flowers on annuals and perennials to encourage more blooms.
- Install a drip or trickle irrigation system with a battery-powered timer in your vegetable and flower gardens to make watering more efficient and less time consuming. Water early in the morning.

Shade Trees and Shrubs

- Newly planted trees need deep watering by hand when the soil dries to one inch.
- It is reasonably safe to prune oak trees in July and August. Be sure to paint wounds with latex-based paint.
- Crape myrtles reach full bloom in June. Deadhead spent flowers for more bloom.
- Prune hedges on an as needed basis, but avoid severe pruning.

Turf Grass

- Follow SAWS restrictions for watering grass until lifted. No more than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch of water per week is needed on St. Augustine--less for Zoysia, Bermuda and Buffalo. Water only the most important part of your lawn and let the rest go dormant until we get rain.
- Raise the blade on your mower to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches if you have St. Augustine. Continue to mow Bermuda at 1.5 inches. Keep your mower blade sharp.

From The Hill Country Gardener, Tom Harris, Ph. D.

Resources: For any landscape or gardening information call the Bexar County Master Gardeners Hot Line at 210-467-6575 or email questions to mg-bexar@tamu.edu; or search the web at www.thehillcountrygardener.com by Tom Harris, Ph. D. or www.plantanswers.com by Jerry Parsons, Ph. D.



311 is an easy-to-remember telephone number that connects citizens with specially-trained customer service representatives ready to help you with your City service requests -- potholes, stray animals, downed street signs, trash collection or other City requests. **Just dial 3-1-1 or call 207-6000.**

Customer satisfaction is important. 311 provides access to customer service assistance **24-hours a day, seven days a week.** 311 is the City's "customer first" answer to handling your non-emergency calls and requests for services quickly, effectively and professionally. 911 receives millions of calls. Most are emergencies, many are not. 311 can reduce the number of non-emergency calls to 911 and allows emergency personnel to focus on more critical, urgent calls.

When you dial 311, a customer service representative will answer your call. You'll be asked for detailed information regarding your request. This information is immediately sent to the appropriate City department for action. 311 customer service representatives understand the importance of providing quality customer service the first time you call.

Every call is important, so tell us how we may be able to serve you. 311 customer service representatives are knowledgeable and friendly. They use a shared database to process your request directly. This speeds up your call and eliminates phone transfers.

CALL 8-1-1 BEFORE YOU DIG

If your project (whether being done by a professional or yourself) involves a big dig, locate electric and natural gas lines as well as cable and phone lines by calling 8-1-1. Allow 48 hours (2 working days) for locating lines before you begin your excavation. *It's the law!*

NOTICE:



*Yards
of the
Month*



**HAS BEEN CANCELED
FOR 2011**

Unfortunately, the drought has caused us to make this unhappy decision. Hopefully the program can be resurrected for 2012. In the meantime, let's all pray for rain, and lots of it!

<FamilyEndeavors>

(NEW AD)



BSW WOMEN'S CLUB Concludes 2010-2011 Season

by Barbara Robeau

On May 10 the last gathering of the BSW Women's Club 2010-11 season took place at Perico's Restaurant, where 20 members enjoyed drinks and hors d'oeuvres in a private room provided by the management. President, Brenda Talley, made a few announcements to the group, including names of new officers for 2011-12 and the identity of the \$500 scholarship recipient. Club members celebrated completion of a successful season consisting of both fun and community service.

On April 19 the club's nominating committee met at the home of Barbara Robeau. New officers are as follows: President, Brenda Talley; Vice President, Kim Johnson; Secretary, Barbary Robeau; Treasurer, Marilyn Lott; Historian, Sherry Heffner; and Programs Chairperson, Betty Burson. Retiring officers are Patty Wilson and Sheryl Babiak.

The winner of the club's annual \$500 scholarship for a BSW high school senior is Amanda Bishop. Amanda is an honors graduate of O'Connor High School and Miss Helotes 2011. In addition, she was awarded an internship at Channel 4 News. Amanda plans to attend University of the Incarnate Word and study television journalism.

Five Women's Club members served at the BSW Annual Picnic on May 14: Brenda Talley, Pat Bulik, Lina Tan, Kim Johnson, and Sherry Heffner.

At the club's April 12 Fiesta Potluck Supper, members contributed candy and toys to fill Easter gift bags constructed at the March 8 meeting. The bags were delivered to St. Peter and Joseph Children's Home by Patty Wilson, Sheryl Babiak, and Brenda Talley. At the March 8 meeting BSW resident Gloria Morales had suggested St. P.J.'s as a charity for club support. Gloria teaches classes at St. P.J.'s and serves on the Board of Directors at the home.

The Women's Club does not meet during June, July, and August. September 13 is the date of the next meeting. This meeting is traditionally a party to welcome new members. The ice cream social that was successful last September will be repeated this year. The new programs chairperson, Betty Burson, has many good ideas for 2011-12. In the past, meetings have featured games, speakers, parties, demonstrations, craft sessions, and fashion shows. The officers will meet in July, when Betty will announce her suggested schedule for the 2011-12 season.

The Women's Club always welcomes new members. In April, Teresa Stover joined the group, which is so happy to include her. Club members are women of all ages, interests, and professions. Membership offers the opportunity to serve the BSW community and make new friends. Meetings take place September through May at 7 P.M. All except the May party at a restaurant are held at the Tezel Clubhouse. Interested BSW women who wish more information can phone Brenda Talley at 520-7401 or Barbara Robeau at 520-2861.

BSW Women's Club Scholarship Winner CONGRATULATIONS!



The Braun Station West Women's Club is pleased to award **Amanda Bishop**, daughter of John & Cheryl Bishop of Seaton Heights, a \$500 scholarship. Amanda will be attending the University of the Incarnate Word this fall where she plans to pursue a degree in Communications, specifically Broadcast Journalism.

The scholarship committee received many impressive applications. We appreciate the candidates' responding to our offer and wish all of them success in their future educational pursuits.

GREETINGS GALORE

Have you ever wanted to give someone special a handmade card, but didn't know where to begin?
Well, this is it!

Our stamp camps are designed to jump start your card-making creativity.

Please plan to join us at the Tezel Clubhouse for a fun-filled evening of card-making. We will use rubber stamps, colorful inks, pretty papers, ribbons, buttons, and more, to create a variety of adorable cards. A different technique will be taught each month.

June 16 (7 P.M.) - Happy Birthday, America
July 21 (7 P.M.) - Fun in the Sun

If you are interested in attending, contact Brenda Talley (520-7401)

Welcome to Braun Station West!



Mark & Brenda Pence - 8638 Cheviot Hts.
Mark & Elizabeth Barnette - 8814 Drayton Hts.
Intrepid Resources Group - 9338 Sturbridge
James & Samantha Brown - 8543 Pendragon
Chad & Tasha Eichorn - 8802 Wickersham
Raina M. Rochon - 8734 Curry Hts.
Allan W. Atkinson - 9006 Brightwater
Terry W. Chiles - 8846 Wickersham

<On It>



BUNCO, ANYONE?

Are you interested in playing Bunco? We play a simple version of Bunco which allows for beginners or for seasoned players to jump right in and enjoy our group. We have use of the Tezel Clubhouse for our once monthly gatherings. If you are interested in becoming a full-time player or you just want to be a substitute, please let me know. Remember, this is a great opportunity to meet some of your neighbors! For more information, please call **Susan Chambers** at **681-5725**.

BSW Web Site www.braunstationwest.com

- Draft copies of Board Meeting minutes
- Newsletters
- Covenants / By-Laws
- ACC Form (Building Improvement Form)
- Clubhouse / Pool Lease Information
- Contact Information / Useful Links
- Pictures of Facilities & Community Events
- Feedback Section



BRAUN STATION WEST REAL ESTATE NEWS

by Nancy Muldoon, SRES, GRI, Realtor - MoveUpSA.com

Pending Sales

Address	Sq. Ft.	DOM	List Price Sq. Ft.	List Price
Crooked Path	1719	51	\$88.36	\$151,900
Woodheather	2261	396	\$75.14	\$169,900
Waldon Heights	2425	32	\$90.51	\$219,500

Active Listings

Address	Sq. Ft.	List Price Sq. Ft.	DOM	List Price
Chimneyhill	1314	\$98.17	30	\$129,000
Woburn	1646	\$82.01	56	\$135,000
Sturbridge	1442	\$97.01	20	\$139,897
Sturbridge	1705	\$87.97	69	\$150,000
Rugged Ridge	1537	\$103.44	20	\$159,000
Donegal	1692	\$97.51	78	\$165,000
Beowulf	1832	\$92.79	292	\$170,000
Drayton Heights	2493	\$90.21	147	\$224,900
Croy Heights	2737	\$86.22	713	\$236,000
Hetton Heights	2753	\$87.14	30	\$239,900
London Heights	2664	\$91.77	34	\$244,500
Boutry Heights	3592	\$69.57	41	\$249,900
Waldon Heights	2852	\$94.63	181	\$269,900
Prince Heights	3450	\$79.79	713	\$275,300
Queen Heights	3417	\$81.94	57	\$280,000
Queen Heights	3100	\$101.61	276	\$315,000
Boutry Heights	3345	\$104.60	4	\$349,900

Properties Sold

Address	Sq. Ft.	DOM	Sold Price Sq. Ft.	Sold Price
Sturbridge	1442	101	\$60.33	\$83,000
Pendragon	1511	246	\$82.39	\$124,500
Wickersham	1805	87	\$79.77	\$143,000
Wickersham	1760	29	\$83.80	\$144,500
Brightwater	2212	70	\$70.07	\$150,000
Curry Heights	2448	197	\$81.29	\$197,000
Cheviot Heights	3442	122	\$69.40	\$236,500
Drayton Heights	3396	160	\$77.42	\$241,000

<Tree & Lawn Techs>

<Nancy Muldoon>
(Keller Williams)
NEW CARD

Washers & Horseshoes!

Check out the washers game or the horseshoes—or both!—for the weekend. We've got some great horseshoe pits right here in Tezel Park next to the office that are looking for some use! Get out and have fun!



ACRYLIC PAINTING CLASS



Due to the overwhelming response after the last newsletter, **Acrylic Painting Class** is being offered through July and August in Braun Station West!!

Acrylic paints bridge the gap between oil paints and watercolor, as they have the characteristics of both. After learning to mix colors and exploring how the paint behaves, you will begin your first masterpiece on canvas. As a beginning painter, you will feel right at home in this supportive atmosphere. Instructor Juanita Garza is fluent in Spanish. This class is designed for young adults (high school age) through “young at heart” Senior Citizens. No previous painting experience is required to succeed in this class. A supply list is available at registration. Going on vacation? Make-up classes allowed.

Class meets 4 times during the month, once a week for 3 hours, 9:30 am-12:30 noon on Thursdays, starting July 7.

Cost is \$60 per person. Contact Art Instructor Juanita Garza for registration/information. 210-681-6198 or email: riggalos@aol.com



ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

By Al Pohovich, Committee Chairman

The Architectural Control Committee (ACC) is a standing committee of BSW that originated within our covenants. Its purpose and responsibilities include reviewing plans submitted for any construction on any lot, or changes made to any previous construction. Basic information is located among paragraphs one through nineteen of the Declaration of Covenants. This, along with additional criteria specific to your area or specific street should be reviewed when you are planning additions or changes. The best place to begin your review is among your mortgage papers that were provided with your closing documents. If you are unable to locate this information, you may stop by the office and review copies.

While this is “legal” reasoning for the committee, practical reasoning is to ensure that all of us continue to enjoy a well maintained and attractive neighborhood, while avoiding deteriorating property and declining property valuations for you and your neighbors.

When you provide the ACC with a completed request and plan, that request is reviewed as soon as possible and returned to you so that you may begin your project. The committee will, when appropriate for your project, also review the specific Covenants to ensure there are no conflicts.

After approval, please be sure to complete your project as presented and within the time frame you estimated. If you find it necessary to deviate from the submitted plan, please contact the office to learn if the change will need to be brought to the ACC for additional review. After you have completed the project, it is possible the ACC will ask to follow-up by viewing the completed work.



MORE GERMAN HOMESTEAD INFORMATION...

Following up on our popular article in last month's issue, which gave the history of the old homestead on Braun Road, this month let's explore the property along Loop 1604, traveling north, on the right just before Braun Road, a structure similar to the Huebner Onion House on Bandera Road.

There are actually two significant buildings on the site at 9760 Braun Road, known in the historic preservation community as the Ruempel homestead, first settled by Philip Ruempel and his family. "We believe that the first house he built was later used as a barn," says Joanna Parrish, chairwoman of the Historic Farm and Ranch Complexes Committee of the San Antonio Conservation Society.

The conclusion is based on a comparison of the stonework, with the barn made of naturally rough-hewn rumble stone and the probable second house—sited on the highest point of the property—a larger structure made of neatly cut limestone blocks about 18 inches thick.

The Ruempel house is about the same age as the Huebner Onion House. Not far away, at 6613 Bandera Road, the original house is thought to date back to the 1850s, about the time German émigré Joseph Huebner settled there. The Huebner Onion House—whose double-barreled name also salutes the second family to own the property—is another limestone house of similar construction, currently undergoing restoration under the auspices of the Historical Society of Leon Valley.

The Ruempel homestead was established somewhat later by another German-born pioneer. Philip (sometimes spelled Phillip) Ruempel (1837-1909) came to Texas at age 18 in 1855, along with other families from his hometown, Offenbeck, Germany, says a biographical document compiled in 1998 by Calvin Galm for a church history project.

He and his wife, Carolina Braun, after whose family the road was named, had 11 children, nine of whom survived to adulthood. Though many mid-19th-century German newcomers settled in San Antonio, making them the city's largest ethnic group by 1860, the Ruempels were among the first European American inhabitants of the area that now comprises Leon Valley, Helotes and other communities.

"The pioneers cleared the land and built homes from limestone blocks," write Karen Petersen and Gloria Anderson in "A History of Zion Lutheran Church," available at <http://lonestar.texas.net/~tildegdalum/history/history.html> (broken link). "There were Apache and Comanche Indians who raided and killed. The pioneers gathered wild dewberries, plums, turkey, deer and wild hogs to eat, and eventually began to raise their own cattle, chickens, turkeys, domestic hogs and horses. They grew corn, sorghum cane, cotton, oats and vegetables, and sold butter, eggs, cotton, hay and furs in San Antonio for cash."

The Ruempels and their descendants were part of this do-it-yourself world, as evidenced by the old canning jars Parrish has seen in the root cellar of their former home. They lost one son, Willie, to snakebite when he was 10, and another, Christian, to influenza at age 24. With his son Karl (Charles), Philip Ruempel became a charter member of Lutherischen Zions Kirche zu Helotes (Zion Lutheran Church of Helotes), just west of their family homestead. Founded on February 14, 1904, this was the first church built in Northwestern Bexar County, say Petersen and Anderson in their on-line history.

The predominantly German-American pioneers also built a post office and school, the co-authors note, "and turned an uncivilized territory into a community that still endures." Both men, along with other family members, are buried in Zion Lutheran Cemetery at 9944 Leslie Road, west of Loop 1604 near Braun.

Currently, the former Ruempel Homestead is owned by the Fulcrum Property Group Inc., a developer of several retail/office complexes on San Antonio's far North side. The historic structures were fenced to protect them during construction and to deter vandals, says Steve Braha, a Fulcrum partner.

"We are going to do a mixed-use development on the site," says Braha. "The Ruempel Homestead will either remain where it is or be relocated to another parcel within the 20-acre project."

<On A Budget>

<Mowin' Moe's>



**Tom's Landscaping
Specializing in
Tree Service**

**Trimming
Removal Privacy Fencing
De-Mossing Free Estimates**

509-0685

413-0144

<Neil Cummings>

BSW Book Club

Come join us for a walk on the literary wild side! **READING** will help your imagination soar. Book discussions are lively, sometimes rowdy, and fun. BSW Book Club meets every third Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Clubhouse, often preceded by an optional dining out (usually lunch). Bring your book and a willingness to participate. See you there.

2011 Book List

June: "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett

July: "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot

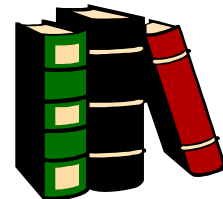
August: "South of Broad" by Pat Conroy

September: "The Tortilla Curtain" by T.C. Boyle

October: "The Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck

November: "A Woman's Crusade: Alice Paul & the Battle for the Ballot" by Mary Walton

December: "Same Kind of Different as Me" by Ron Hall & Denver Moore



If you need further information (including what the "restaurant of the month" is), please contact me, Cindy Morawski, 522-0706 or cski02@sbcglobal.net.



BRAUN STATION PLAYGROUP

Come play with us! The Braun Station Playgroup is a fun way for you to meet other Moms & Dads and for your children to play with other kids. The playgroup offers regular play dates in the park and other fun places (call for times and locations). We also host the neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt and Children's Christmas Party.

For those who want to learn about playdates, things to do around town, and a way to communicate with each other, check out the playgroup blog, produced by Heather Davila. It's at <http://BraunStationPlaygroup.blogspot.com>. But don't worry... for those who don't want to venture out into the blogworld, Heather will still e-mail playdates for the month.

Hey Parents & Babysitters out there! The Braun Station Playgroup is looking for some fun-filled individuals to add to our babysitter list. If you are a parent with a great sitter, we would love your recommendation. If you are a teen looking for some extra spending money, are responsible, and good with kids, send me your info and we will add you to the Braun Station Babysitter List! Contact Heather Davila at heather@davila.cc or 210-379-3025.

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JOAQUIN CASTRO DISTRICT 125

Dear Neighbor,

The 82nd Legislative Session was a hard fought battle. As Texas lawmakers, we faced many challenges, though none greater than the 27 billion dollar shortfall. However, while getting our state back in fiscal order should have been the number one priority, Republicans consistently ignored the budget in favor of Governor Perry's "emergency" items, and forced through bills like "sanctuary" cities, voter ID, and sonogram legislation.

When the budget was finally taken up, Republican House Members made a choice to disregard Texans who asked us to use the rainy day fund and maintain crucial state services, and are leaving Texas out to dry with a budget that is simply inadequate to meet our state's needs. As a result, schools and nursing homes face closure, teachers are being fired, and students across Texas will not be able to afford college.

In an effort to do right by Texas, I worked hard to keep funding for education and health care services in the budget. I fought for Communities in Schools, an organization that prevents kids from dropping out of high school and increases graduation rates. I was also able to restore funding for brain injury patients, which was initially zeroed out in the budget. When a final budget is jointly passed by the House and Senate, I hope that more programs like these will be given the funding they need to ensure the future of Texas. Investments like these are worth making.

In addition to my work on the budget, this session I filed and passed several bills that aim to boost Texas education, improve healthcare, protect families, streamline the court system, and give our students the tools they need to succeed. You can check out a complete list of bills that I filed this session by going to: <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/reports/report.aspx?ID=author&LegSess=82R&Code=A2495>.

During the interim months before next session, I look forward to continue working on your behalf in San Antonio. Look for our annual book drive, health fair, and Thanksgiving dinner, as well as several town hall meetings. For more information you can check out www.joaquincastro.com.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my District office at (210) 684-6896.

Sincerely
Joaquin Castro

Planning A Home Improvement Project?



Thinking about a project to modify your house; install a deck, shed, patio, fence, or pool? Don't forget to submit the proper paperwork (available at the office or by fax) for approval before you start. The ACC form is also available on our web site. The process is simple and will save time and trouble for everyone!

EDITORIAL POLICY: We welcome newsletter submissions of interest to BSW residents. News from area schools, churches, scout troops, civic groups, and other nonprofit community organizations will be run on a space available basis. No partisan political material. Submissions must be in writing and contain the writer's name and phone number. We reserve the right to edit or reject any submission. Viewpoints expressed do not necessarily represent those of the BSWCIA. Maximum article length will be one page. Deadline for article submission is 6 P.M. on the 10th of each odd numbered month. If the 10th falls on a weekend, the deadline is the preceding Friday by 6 P.M.

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