

NEWSLETTER

December 2024

Senior Connections
A Gathering Place for Active Seniors

Located in Wolters Park
1111 Bohlmann Ave., Schulenburg, TX 78956
Phone: 979-743-3227 Email: amanda@srconnections.org
Website: <https://www.srconnections.org/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SeniorConnections979>



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Program Director's Desk

Hello All,

Welcome to the final month of the year! December is often a time of reflection, togetherness, and celebrating life's simple joys. It's a season for kindness, sharing stories, and finding comfort in each other's company.



More than anything, December reminds us of the warmth of human connection and the beauty of giving from the heart.

Let this Christmas season serve as a reminder that the true magic lies in the love, care, and generosity we extend to one another each day.

Wishing you a joyful close to the year!

Stephanie Shroyer

December Trivia

Babies born the last month of the year are more likely to live the longest!

Zodiac signs: Sagittarius & Capricorn

Birthstone: Turquoise

Flower: Holly

Quote of the Day

It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness.

-- Charles Spurgeon



A Gathering Place for Active Seniors
Call: 979-743-3227

Email: stephanie@srconnections.org

Website: <https://www.srconnections.org/>

Schulenburg: 1111 Bohlmann Ave.
Weimar: 301 West Saint Charles St.
Flatonia: 403 E. North Main St.

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/SeniorConnections979>

Dec.
2024

SUNDAY Closed	MONDAY 9am-2pm Schulenburg	TUESDAY 9am-2pm Weimar or Flatonia	WEDNESDAY 9am-2pm Schulenburg	THURSDAY Closed	FRIDAY 10am-1pm ARTS Bldg.	SATURDAY Closed	
1	11:30 am Lunch Broccoli & Cheese Soup, Ham & Cheese Sliders, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn w/ Stephanie Shroyer, Holiday Traditions 12:30 pm Bingo w/ Jeffery, Care Inn La Grange	2	3	4	5	6	7
		SC-Weimar 11:30 am Lunch Lasagna alla Roma, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn w/ Stephanie Shroyer, Holiday Traditions 12:30 pm Bingo w/ Takeshia Hodge w/ Columbus Oaks Nursing	11:30 am Lunch Beef Tips, Rice, Veggie, Salad, Dessert 12:00 pm – Bingo w/ Fayette Savings Bank		10 am -12 pm at ARTS w/ Claire Lewis Lunch Served		
8	11:30 am Lunch Enchilada Casserole, Pinto Beans, Rice, Dessert *** BAKING GROUP *** Cookie Roundup 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn w/ Jim & Elena Pate, Sing-along Music 12:30 pm Bingo w/ Sandy Anderson, TrueCare	9	10	11	12	13	14
		SC-Flatonia 11:30 am Lunch Lasagna alla Roma, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn w/ Gavin Miculka, Monument Hill State Park 12:30 pm Bingo w/ Sherry Haas	11:30 am Lunch Fried Chicken, Buttered Potatoes, Broccoli Salad, Dessert Birthdays of the Month 12:00 pm – Bingo w/ Chyla Podhajsky, Wellsential	OUTING Brookwood Community & Cafe	10 am -12 pm at ARTS w/ Claire Lewis Lunch Served		
15	11:30 am Lunch Fried Fish, Cole Slaw, Mac & Cheese, Hush Puppies Dessert 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn w/ Lindsey Gutierrez, Regency Home Health – UTI prevention & treatment 12:30 pm Bingo w/ Elizabeth Marrs, Shady Oak Nursing Home in Moulton	16	17	18	19	20	21
		SC-Weimar 11:30 am Lunch Meatloaf, Buttered Potatoes, Salad, Dessert 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn w/ Claudia Wicks, Colorado Valley Transit 12:30 pm Bingo w/ Chyla Podhajsky, Wellsential	Christmas Lunch @ KC Hall 9 am – Games/Social 11:30 Lunch 12-1 pm - Super Dave Hollas Music	Board Mtg.	CLOSED		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
			Christmas				
CLOSED							
29	30	31					
		New Year's Eve Heritage Ball					
CLOSED			<p>Come join our family! Enjoy a cup of coffee or glass of tea. Play games or just visit with others!</p>				

Koopmann
Oakridge
Sr. Conn.
AMK
Schobel's

December Birthdays

In December, we celebrate birthdays with:

- La Verne Dornak – 4th
- Shirley Machicek – 8th
- Donace McFadden – 10th
- Elsie Kahlden – 10th
- Barbara Nugent – 11th
- Betty Miksch – 11th
- Lucia Roeder – 13th
- Carelie Ahlschlager – 14th
- Bert Cole – 16th
- Joan Schmidt – 19th
- Marcie Dancy – 19th
- Julia Perales Webster – 20th

- Virgie Holub – 22nd
- Kenneth German – 23rd
- Betty Stolarski – 24th
- Gloria Miksch – 24th
- Henry Billeck – 26th
- Mary Hattenbach – 26th
- Sandy True – 26th
- Troy Chafin – 27th
- Gary Belcher – 28th
- Julie Clements – 28th
- Lee Morris – 30th
- Cathy Glenda Besetzny – 31st



Please join us at the center on the third Wednesday of each month to celebrate.

Birthday Spotlight:

Frank Sinatra (Born December 12, 1915)

Frank Sinatra, born on December 12, 1915, was one of the greatest entertainers of the 20th century. Known for classics like "My Way" and "New York, New York," Sinatra's smooth voice and charisma made him a music legend.

He also had a successful acting career, winning an Academy Award for *From Here to Eternity*. Sinatra's influence on music and film remains timeless.

Sagittarius (Nov 23 - Dec 21)

Sagittarians are artistic, loyal, sophisticated, independent, and kind!

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

Capricorns are responsible, and disciplined and have good managers

WOW!

Spotlight of the Month: The Invention of Radio

In December 1906, Canadian inventor Reginald Fessenden made the first radio broadcast of a human voice, playing "O Holy Night" and reading a Bible passage. This marked the start of public radio, a technology that still connects and enriches lives today.

News to Know



I'D RATHER BE PLAYING CANASTA

CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

Won't you please choose a gift from our Wish List this Christmas?

If you would like to purchase an item from our list, a link is provided.

Other items on our wish list don't cost anything! We just hope you can join us at one of our three locations: Schulenburg, Weimar, and/or Flatonia.

We appreciate any support you can give. For more information contact Stephanie Shroyer at 979-702-1246.

Thank you!

Portable Bluetooth Speakers <https://search.app/FmvBfTYBoWqu4h3L7>

Microphone Headset <https://search.app/fxz1quau9Y8ksSLz9>



\$15-\$20 Gift Cards (variety for Bingo Blackout Prizes)

Uzzle Game <https://theuzzle.com/products/the-uzzle->



Salad Spinners (3) <https://search.app/FZ8aEypndSKyDvvrz8>

Monthly Donors Canasta players

More smiling faces Mahjong players



More Volunteers Bunco players



Senior Connections T-Shirts.....\$15

We have a variety of sizes (Medium to XXL) and several colors available. Wear these shirts proudly to let others know about our community program.

Blank Note Cards.....\$12 (set of 3)

These unique designs were created by our members during our Artful Friday Senior Sessions at Arts for Rural Texas. The watercolor designs were then sent to the printer to create these beautiful, one-of-a-kind blank note cards. There are 3 different designs in each package. Envelopes are included.



Upcoming Events



Don't miss our upcoming speakers for November at any of our 3 locations (S) Schulenburg, (W) Weimar, (F) Flatonia:

- Dec. 2 – (S) Stephanie Shroyer – Holiday Traditions
- Dec. 3 – (W) Stephanie Shroyer – Holiday Traditions
- Dec. 9 – (S) Jim & Elana Pate – Sing Along Music
- Dec. 10 – (F) Gavin Miculka – Monument Hill Park
- Dec. 16 – (S) Lindsey Gutierrez – Regency Home Health – UTI Prevention & Treatment
- Dec. 17 – (W) Claudia Wicks – Colorado Valley Transit

Outing!

Thursday,
December 12th
Brookwood Community

Founded in 1983, Brookwood is a God-centered non-profit residential and vocational community for adults with disabilities located on 485 acres in Brookshire, TX.

9:15 am – Meet at Senior Connections in Schulenburg
9:45 am – Weimar members meet at Methodist Church
11:00 am – Arrive at Brookwood – Browse, Shop, Lunch in Cafe

If you would like to participate in this outing, please contact Stephanie Shroyer at 979-702-1246 to join our wait list.



Next Outing will be Sunday, January 26th to see Mollie B at KC Hall in Hallettsville.

Call Stephanie to be added to the wait list.



Claire Lewis will continue our slow stitch embroidery into December, but there will only be 2 sessions, Dec. 6th & 13th. For those of you working on a quilt square, please have them finished by Dec. 9th, so we can start arranging the squares for the quilt. Claire will take them home and assemble the quilt so it will be ready for the Live Auction at the New Year's Eve Heritage Ball. Other seasonal crafts will continue in the second classroom with **Stephanie Shroyer**, or feel free to bring your own project and hang out with us while you work! A light lunch will be served after class.

ARTS - Arts for Rural Texas
1206 Lyons Ave. Schulenburg.



PLEASE NOTE: These classes are open to anyone 55+. You do not need to be a member of Senior Connections.

Upcoming Events



Senior Connections is participating in the tree decorating contest at Sengelmann Hall sponsored by the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce. Thanks to Martha Beckmann and her husband and helper Rusty, we have a winning tree! Each ornament has a photo of a member! **We need YOU to go vote for our entry, and you can vote as many times as you want.**



Voting ends on Dec. 13th so get out and do your thing! And I'll bet you will leave there in more of a holiday spirit than when you walked in!



And speaking of Christmas.....
Don't forget our annual Christmas luncheon at the KC Hall. See details below.

There is a sign-up sheet for members who would like to bring a food item to share!



Upcoming Events (continued)

SOLD OUT!

JOIN US FOR OUR 2ND ANNUAL
NEW YEARS EVE
Heritage Ball

BENEFITING THE MEMBERS OF SENIOR CONNECTIONS
 Serving the Elderly Population of Fayette, Colorado and Lavaca Counties

DECEMBER | **31** | 7:00 P.M.

Freyburg Hall
SCHULENBURG, TEXAS

Signature Cocktail Hour
 Hors d'Oeuvres * Whiskey Wall
 Live Auction * Dinner
 Live Music By The Mark Odum Band
 Champagne Toast & Fireworks at Midnight

Event Questions Contact Amanda
 979.732.0640 Amanda@SrConnections.org

Thank you to our Table Sponsors:



HIGHWAY MOTOR CO.



Mark and Suzette Surman



Linda Streicher



Craig and April Pierson

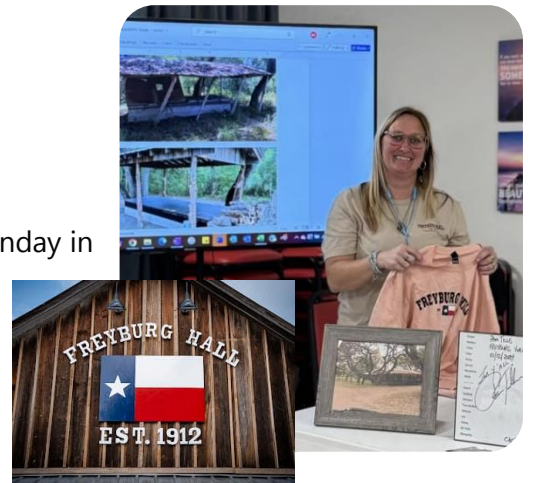


Rusti and Martha Beckmann

Last Month in Review

Lunch & Learn – Monday, November 4 (Schulenburg)

Elizabeth Fox with Freyburg Hall gave a very interesting program on Monday in Schulenburg. It's a fascinating history from way back to 1912! She donated a gift bag filled with a shirt and hat as well as two tickets to an upcoming concert, and the winner is automatically put in the pot to win VIP tickets for a table at Roger Creager concert too!

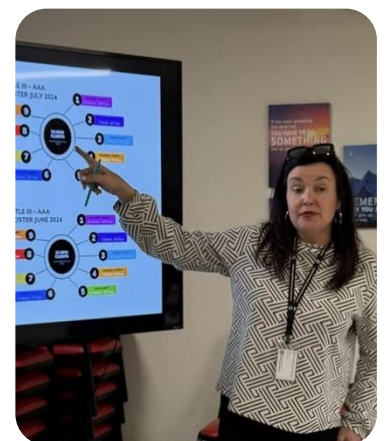


Lunch & Learn – Tuesday, November 6 (Weimar)

Officer Jimmy Schneider, Sergeant Josh Jones and Lauren Dahee the Administrative Assistant with Weimar Police Department came by for a visit. They spoke to us about scam prevention. I was proud that most of our members were well informed of most of the scams that were discussed! Just remember, if you get a message either by email, snail mail, Facebook messenger, or phone call that sounds too good to be true, it is! And if any of these messages are threatening and sound like one of your utilities or credit cards are about to be cut off, don't press the link. If you're unsure, feel free to reach out to the police department and show them the message. Or you can show it to a family member, a neighbor, a representative from your bank, just don't press the link! That's how they get your information. And possibly refrain from joining in on games on Facebook, where they try to get you to engage by solving a puzzle, etc. They are trying to get your information.

Lunch & Learn – Monday, November 11 (Schulenburg)

Dana Platt with CARTS shared her company's service to our members... and what the future may bring for transportation in our area. Also she explained why they could not take members across county lines to the east of Fayette County. They are governed by a different company/organization.



Last Month in Review (continued)

Lunch & Learn – Tuesday, November 12 (Flatonia)



Tuesday in Flatonia was another wonderful, fun day! Our luncheon learn speaker was so engaging. I forgot to take a picture! **Jeanette Johnson** and her boss Jesse came to talk about the changes for Medicare in 2025. The good news is it's not going to be so bad! There will be a bit of a rise in expenses, but I hope it will be manageable for all of you

Lunch & Learn – Monday, November 18 (Schulenburg)

Paula Grahmann put on a very informative program about pain management! The main interest was in her CBD product line at **Hometown Pharmacy**. She visited the Kentucky manufacturer to learn what she was providing her customers. She also discussed the dangers of taking over-the-counter pain meds for a long period of time.



Lunch & Learn – Tuesday, November 19 (Weimar)

Miss Violeta Manzano, a Diabetes Dietician, reminded us of what we already know but seem to forget around holiday time. She gave us tips on how to enjoy festive meals without blowing our blood sugar altogether. She suggested adding more color to our plates in the form of non-starchy vegetables, limiting starchy carbs, watching portion sizes, and staying hydrated.

Last Month in Review (continued)



Thank you to **Fayette Electric Cooperative (FEC)** for your continued support! Recently, they hosted a free Customer Shred Day, offering our community members a secure way to dispose of sensitive documents. Donations were collected for those shredding more than three boxes, and we're excited to announce that this event raised \$500 for Senior Connections! We truly appreciate FEC's dedication to our seniors and their positive impact on our community!



Senior Connections New Year's Eve Heritage Ball Sparkle Sponsor Spotlight: Frank and Jesenia Manzano **Jordan Ranch**. In addition to their sponsorship, they were also an integral part of our Thanksgiving celebration. The team from Jordan Ranch volunteered and assisted our members. They also provided the delicious turkey. Thank you, Jordan Ranch, for your kindness, generosity, and for being such an amazing part of our community.



Weimar Encore Lions Club



We appreciate your generous donation of \$500 in support of our mission to provide quality of life for the members we serve.



Assorted cookies baked by our members, were packaged and distributed to each of our New Year's Eve table sponsors.



Please continue to bring cookies each month so we can offer these homemade "goodies" as a thank you to the many supporters in our community who care for our members at Senior Connections.

Our next drop off day for baked goods is
Dec. 9th
Please help by bringing cookies.

Last Month in Review (continued)

Weimar Campus



Thank you to the **Weimar Encore Lions Club** for your generous donation of \$500 to our Weimar Senior Connections Locations. We are blown away by our community's support of our program, and we thank you for believing in what we do!



Anne Frye with Texas Home Health did a great job with our bingo game! She is a newbie to calling, and you all coach her well! Peggy Hiatt won the blackout prize of ground beef from the Texas Beef Initiative.

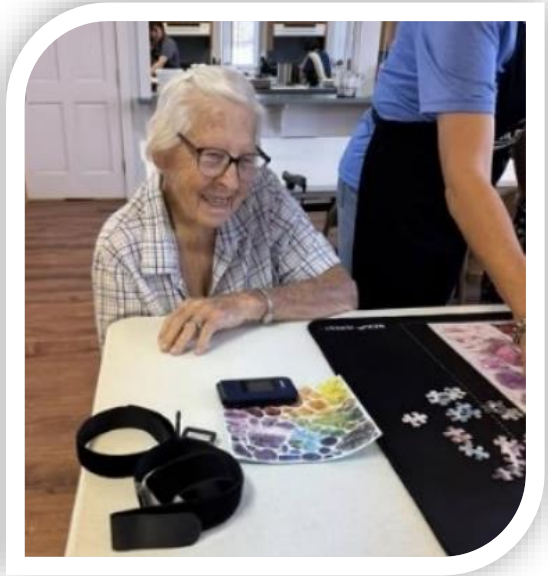


We also greatly appreciate **Linda Heller and Marilyn Hinze**, our amazing volunteers (pictured here), who have been part of our Senior Connections Program in Weimar since day one. Your dedication makes all the difference in the lives of our members. We couldn't do it without you both!!



Last Month in Review (continued)

Flatonia Campus



Joshua Lovejoy with Crown Hospice from Victoria presented our bingo game. He's pictured here with **Angeline, Vivian, Loretta, and Jeanette**. Also, Loretta and Jim shared our winners for the blackout prizes! Jim decided she could have the award, and he would take home the beef!



Last Month in Review (continued)



Claire Lewis, our teacher for art class is pictured here with **Bernie Gillings** who is working on her square for the quilt to be auctioned at New Years. **Kim Penland** works on hers as well.
[ARTS - Arts for Rural Texas](#)



In the other class **Annette and Irene Janda** are working on yarn pumpkins, and **Cynthia Meyers** is finishing up her tree!



In our other class, Christmas cards are being created at ARTS on Artful Fridays!



The stitching queens continue to work on their quilt squares for our auction item for the Heritage Ball. And the food is great too! You too could have all the fun.... Call me, Stephanie Shroyer at 979-702-1246



Last Month in Review (continued)



Thanks to **Darlene Williams** and **Sharon Rodriguez** for calling our bingo! And congratulations Ginni for winning the big prize!

Takeshia Hodge, with the **Oak Nursing Home and Rehabilitation center in Columbus** came by for our bingo game Tuesday. And **Betty Hellcamp** was our blackout winner. She won two pounds ground beef from **Texas Beef Initiative!**

Ms. Aileen Kasper won the prize and gifted it to **Kathy Carpenter**. Thanks to **Jeffery and Care Inn of La Grange** for calling our game, and to **Darlene** for finishing the day!



Chyla with Wellsential Nursing Home in Hallettsville brought some fabulous bingo prizes to **Schulenburg!** **Ms. Aileen** won some great kitchen gifts, and **Caralie** won the beef for Blackout prize and \$20 too! Whoop, Whoop!



We welcomed a new Bingo caller to the family! **Tracy Klessel with True Care Living in Columbus** did a great job for her first try! **Cynthia Meyer** won an electric lap blanket for the Blackout prize! Now if we could get some cool weather for her to enjoy it!



Last Month in Review (continued)



What a Wonderful Thanksgiving Celebration!

On November 20th, we gathered at the KC Hall in Schulenburg to celebrate Thanksgiving with over 100 members and volunteers from all our satellites in Flatonia, Weimar, and Schulenburg. This event was a genuine community effort made possible by amazing volunteers and those from Jordan Ranch, our dedicated board members, and our community supporters. The day was filled with so much joy and activity!



The talented 3rd and 4th graders from **St. Rose Catholic School** entertained us with a heartwarming performance before lunch.



Congratulations to **Faye Smith** and **Carolyn West** for winning the candy jar guessing game and the winners of the fun word puzzle thanks to **Cynthia Trojacek**. We enjoyed a lively bingo game led by four excellent representatives from **Crown Hospice in Victoria** and held an exciting raffle featuring handmade home decor by **Martha Beckman**. **Julie Hill** and **Rusty Beckman** were our final winners for the day for bingo. Congratulations!



A delicious potluck meal featuring food brought by members, **Jordan Ranch** and food prepared by our volunteers was served. We had a variety of desserts!

A special "Thank You" to our Board Members for volunteering to help serve our Thanksgiving Feast. We appreciate you!

Last Month in Review (continued)

Our November birthdays were:

Kathy Adams	Alice Fajkus
Daniel Gutierrez	Isabel Martinez
Paula Armstrong	Joyce Ohnheiser
Janis Kutac	Monica Dunsworth
Judy Hageman	Linda Wooddell
Irene Lozano	Ted Stanzel
Leona Jones	Sue Pape
Ginni Berwick	Leona Lange
Chery Wilson	Carol Olson
Blake Rhoden	Marilyn Mares
Betty Mulholland	



We hope you will join us for games, a fabulous lunch, and lots of other activities at one of our 3 locations:

Schulenburg: @ Wolters Park
Monday & Wednesday 9am-2pm
1111 Bohlmann Ave.

Weimar: @ First United Methodist Church
1st & 3rd Tuesdays 9am-2pm
301 West Saint Charles St.

Flatonia: @ United Methodist Church
2nd & 4th Tuesdays 9am-2pm
403 E. North Main St.



**JUST ONE MORE
 PIECE I PROMISE**



*Be honest
 kind
 silly*



There is always time for being silly at Senior Connections! Does this remind anyone of an old Saturday Night Live skit?



Santa's Helpers filled goodie bags for St. Rose Children, who will perform for us at our Thanksgiving luncheon.



Cathy B. is working on her Christmas cards.

Last Month in Review (continued)

Don't forget, our "Helping Heroes" team is available to assist our members in activities that are difficult as we get older. Now that the weather is getting cooler, don't wait till the last minute to winterize your pipes or take care of other wintertime needs. Let Stephanie Shroyer know if you need help with anything listed below (or other needs):



April Pierson helps Ginni Berwick move plants to the greenhouse before the weather gets too cold.

- Wrap pipes & install insulated covers on outdoor faucets
- Change directional switch on ceiling fan for correct air flow
- Get Christmas items out of attic or storage; set up Christmas Tree
- Check antifreeze in your vehicle
- Move plants away from north wind
- Cover plants, if temperature gets below freezing

Also, for light housekeeping and errands, contact **Tanya Edwards** 361-246-0101 to negotiate a fee and schedule a date.

Thank you "Helping Heroes" Team! This is truly a selfless act of love to those who truly need assistance.

Please remember, these volunteers are not professionals and therefore, do not have the equipment necessary to handle big jobs meant for pros. However, they are generously donating their time and talent to help our members with yard work and small repairs around the house.



We had a wonderful day visiting Columbus, Texas. Our first stop was the Santa Claus Museum. This place is quite remarkable. If you don't walk out of that place filled with the Christmas spirit, then there must be a problem! There are more than 5000 Santas from many cultures and several collections from generous benefactors. **Charlotte Tilotta** was a wonderful guide, sharing the history of the museum as well as the highlights of the collections. We completed the adventure at **Dewberry Café**. We all left with a full tummy and the vision of a nap!



Members attending were:

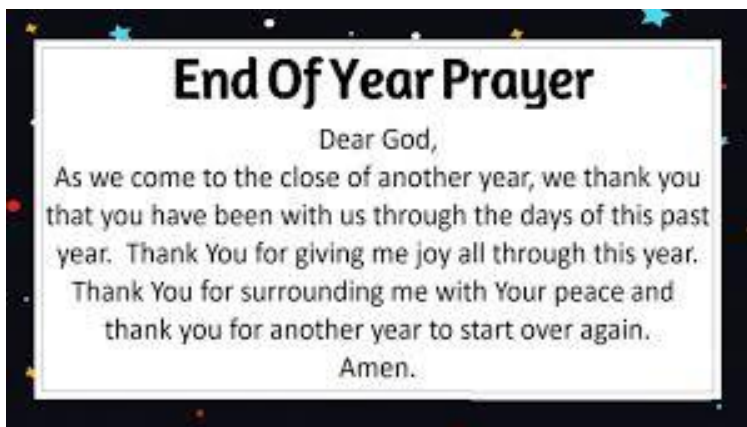
- **Cathy Besetzny**
- **Cynthia Meyer**
- **Peggy Hiatt**
- **Marilyn Mares**
- **Gloria Cook**
- **Shirley Machicek**
- **Caroln Moore**
- **Stephanie Shroyer**

Year End Thank You's



We had an amazing year at Senior Connections because of the people who supported us in so many ways! There are too many people to list here, but I wanted to mention our monthly Bingo Callers who faithfully come and bring bingo prizes which makes our members smile, especially when they get to yell "BINGO".

I also wanted to recognize our volunteers. We could not do all we are able to do without these special people!



Thank you..... Bingo Callers:

Crown Hospice - Victoria
Care Inn of La Grange
Columbus Oaks Nursing Home
Encompass Health – Katy
Fayette Savings Bank
Regency Home Health – Schulenburg
Schulenburg Family Fitness & Rehab
Shady Oaks Nursing Home – Moulton
Texas Home Health – Weimar
True Care Living – Columbus
Wellsential - Hallettsville
Bill Wagner, VIP Caller
Plus other guest callers!

Thank you..... VOLUNTEERS:

Brenda Ray
Cynthia Trojacek
Darlene Williams
Judy Hageman
Kandice Dalmolin
Kathy Carpenter
Kitty Wilbanks
Linda Heller
Linda Kobersky
Marilyn Hinze
Martha Beckmann
Pam Janda
Rusti Beckmann
Sharon Rodriguez

If you would like to join this wonderful team of volunteers, please contact Stephanie Shroyer at 979-702-1246.

We could especially use an extra person in Weimar on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

Noticeboard



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We welcome 4 new members to our family:

- Elsie Kahlden (Weimar)
- Sharon Simek (Weimar)
- Harvey Besetzny (Schulenburg)
- Pam Janda (Schulenburg)

THANK YOU

Anonymous Donation of \$7,500 in honor of a beloved member who passed away a year ago.

Texas Beef Initiative - Thank you for continued support of prime quality ground beef which provides for our restaurant quality home cooked meals for our members.

Weimar Encore Lions Club for a \$500 donation

WISH LIST

Senior Connections keeps an ongoing "Wish List" of items to help us fulfill our mission and deliver impactful programs that positively impact our rural community. Please keep checking this page in our newsletter each month for ways you can support our efforts by purchasing needed items. This month, we put our Wish List on page 5. Check it out and help us if you can.

WHAT'S NEW

We appreciate our newest volunteer

Pam Janda

Thank you for joining our volunteer team

PRAYER REQUESTS

Let us remember and pray for our members and friends who are ill and need our healing prayers:

- **Judy Hageman**
- **John & Terry Ehler**
- **Monica Dunsworth**
- **Chery Wilson**
- **Stephanie Shroyer**
- **Betty Stolarski**

CELEBRATIONS

- John Knotts (Terry Ehler's husband) is now off the ventilator and is having 3-6 hours of PT daily. He is getting better each day. Praise God! Hallelujah
- JoNell Vacek – is thankful to be home after a lengthy time at nursing home healing from her injuries.
- Jenell Heaton – her broken nose has healed and she is thankful to breathe again,

Spotlight – Cynthia Trojacek



Senior Connections is incredibly grateful for our Board Member and Volunteer, Cynthia Trojacek. Please read her bio below for more insight into this special person:

As a native of Schulenburg, I have a great love for our community and the people in it. After graduating from SHS, I attended Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos earning my bachelor's degree. In the field of education, I had the privilege of coaching for 24 years and retiring with a total of 34 years of pouring into the youth from K-12. In 1986, I married the love of my life, Gregory Lynn Trojacek. We have 3 (+3) adult children, Jarad (wife Robin), Avery (husband Nathan), and Ali (husband Drew) who have blessed us with 7 adorable grandchildren – Silas (7), Sutton, (5), Elisha (3), Ronnie (3), Corban, (2), Ellis (9 months), and Eden (6 weeks).

Since drawing nearer to the Lord, my approach to life has become an opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus while striving to focus on the positive side of things. When I fall short (and often do), I repent and seek forgiveness. It is very humbling and has provided a freedom for me like none other. Volunteering and helping others bring me joy. I have learned that I CANNOT out give God.

While on a constant journey to better health, I encountered Linda K (a board member) who shared all about this beautiful organization, Senior Connections. Having a servant's heart, I couldn't wait to get connected and fill any needs there were/are. I quickly fell in love with these sweet souls and the mission of this organization. Since February, I have had the opportunity to serve as a board member as well as continuing as a volunteer. Senior Connections partners pour out so much love for our members who have given to our community throughout their years. It is simply beautiful to honor them. The quality of care, preparations, planning, food, events, etc. that is poured into our members is beautiful and noble.

In this season of thankfulness, I would like to thank GOD for connecting me with such beautiful souls through this organization. My cup runneth over and as always, My Heart is Full.

Come join us on this incredible journey. All are welcome.

THANK YOU!!!

Poem to Share

A Time to Believe

B.J. Gallagher

To believe is to know that
Every day is a new beginning.
It is to trust that miracles happen,
And dreams really do come true.

To believe is to see angels
Dancing among the clouds,
To know the wonder of a stardust sky,
And the wisdom of the man in the moon.

To believe is to embrace the values
Of caring and sharing,
To know the gift of a loving heart,
It is to know we are never really alone.

To believe is to find the strength
And courage that lies within us
When it is time to pick up
The pieces and begin again.

To believe is to know
We are wonderful works in progress,
To trust that we have within us
The power to heal and grow.

To believe is to continue to pursue
Our hopes and dreams,
For as long as there is a dream,
There is hope,
And as long as there is hope,
There is joy in living.

Laughing Matters



Nice Tie

A man walks into a nearly empty bar and orders a drink. He's sitting alone at the end of the bar, sipping away, and he hears a voice.

"Nice shirt."

He looks around and sees no one nearby. He forgets about it and continues drinking.

"Nice tie," the voice says again.

He looks around a second time. The bartender and all other customers are at the other side of the room. Confused, the man calls the bartender over and asks about the mysterious voice that admired his clothing.

"Oh, that's the peanuts," the bartender said.

"The peanuts?" asked the man.

"Yeah, they're complimentary."

The Grocery Store

I went down the street to the 24-hour grocery. When I got there, the guy was locking the front door.

I said, 'Hey, the sign says you're open 24 hours.'

He said, 'Yes, but not in a row.'

Word Search

HOLIDAY MOVIE CHARACTERS



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

Find the underlined words

<u>Rudolph</u>	<i>Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (1964)</i>
<u>Grinch</u>	<i>How the Grinch Stole Christmas (2000)</i>
<u>Frosty</u>	<i>Frosty the Snowman (1969)</i>
<u>Buddy the Elf</u>	<i>Elf (2003)</i>
<u>Virginia</u>	<i>Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus (1991)</i>
<u>Betty and Judy</u>	<i>White Christmas (1954)</i>
<u>Bob Cratchit</u>	<i>A Christmas Carol (1984)</i>
<u>Kevin</u>	<i>Home Alone (1990)</i>
<u>George Bailey</u>	<i>It's a Wonderful Life (1946)</i>
<u>Griswold</u>	<i>National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989)</i>
<u>Ralphie</u>	<i>A Christmas Story (1983)</i>
<u>Kris Kringle</u>	<i>Miracle on 34th Street (1947)</i>
<u>Jim Hardy</u>	<i>Holiday Inn (1942)</i>
<u>Charlie Brown</u>	<i>A Charlie Brown Christmas (1965)</i>
<u>Clarence</u>	<i>It's a Wonderful Life (1946)</i>
Yukon <u>Cornelius</u>	<i>Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (1964)</i>
<u>Elizabeth</u> Lane	<i>Christmas in Connecticut (1945)</i>
Edward <u>Scissorhands</u>	<i>Edward Scissorhands (1990)</i>
<u>Neal</u> Page	<i>Planes, Trains, and Automobiles (1987)</i>
<u>Mary</u> Quite Contrary	<i>Babes in Toyland (1986)</i>