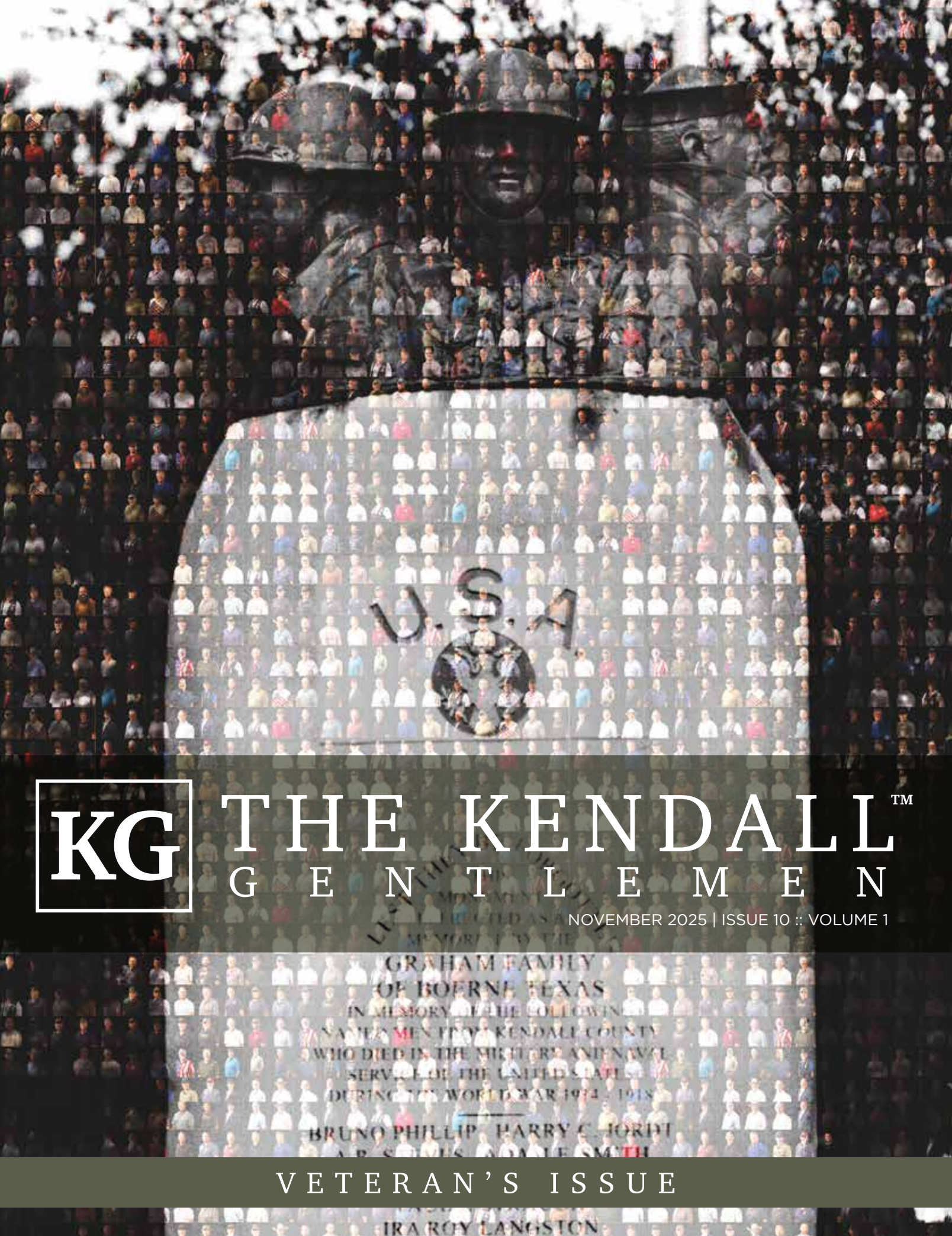




THE KENDALLTM

GENTLEMEN

NOVEMBER 2025 | ISSUE 10 :: VOLUME 1

GRAHAM FAMILY
OF BOERNE, TEXAS
IN MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING
NAMES MEN OF KENDALL COUNTY
WHO DIED IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL
SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES
DURING THE WORLD WAR 1914 - 1918

BRUNO PHILLIP HARRY C. JORDI
A. B. SMITH A. M. LE SMITH

VETERAN'S ISSUE

IRA ROY LANGSTON



Principle INFINITI of Boerne
A **PRINCIPLE** AUTO GROUP DEALERSHIP



Voted Boerne Star's Best of the Best Car Dealership



EXPERIENCE THE SERVICE
YOU DESERVE

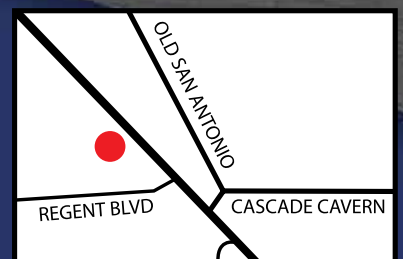
**#1 Customer Retention
in the U.S.**



Bill McKibbin
General Manager

TAKE EXIT 542

32275 IH-10
Boerne, TX 78006
210-477-1775



Experience the Best of the Hill Country



THE CLUB AT TAPATIO SPRINGS

Whether you're seeking a weekend escape, a round of championship golf, or a vibrant evening on the patio, The Club at Tapatio Springs welcomes you to enjoy the Hill Country lifestyle—**open to the public, yet uniquely semi-private.**

ELEVATE YOUR GAME

Become a Golf Member and enjoy exclusive access to premier amenities, personalized service, and a welcoming community.



RELAX & RECHARGE

Book a fall staycation and cozy up by our firepits, toast s'mores under the stars, and unwind in the warmth of our hot tubs—all while soaking in the crisp Texas air.



SAVOR THE FLAVOR

Celebrate the season with festive cuisine at Tapatio, featuring a delectable Thanksgiving Feast and a magical Breakfast with Santa.



CELEBRATE IN STYLE

Host your next holiday, corporate, or family event in a setting where charm, service, and unforgettable experiences come together.

***For more information or membership inquiries
email membership@tapatio.com or call 830-537-6229***



NEW WEBSITE
WWW.CGCCERAKOTE.COM/STORE



RADICAL FIREARMS FR-16
\$490.99



CANIK TP9SF ELITE
\$389.99



GUNS-AMMO-OPTICS-GUNSMITHING-NFA ITEMS-ACCESSORIES



**5% OFF
LABOR**

When You Mention
You Saw This Ad
In The Kendall
Gentleman

- Lube And Oil
- Engine/Repair
- Electrical Systems
- Smog/Emissions
- Exhaust/System
- A/C
- Tune-Ups
- Suspension
- Radiator System
- Brakes
- Transmission
- Tire Inspection
- Wheel Alignment
- Diesel Repair
- Timing Belts
- Steering



124 Cascade Cavern, Boerne, TX 78015
830-331-9944 | lonestarautoanddiesel.com



Salvador
DOBBS



COCKTAILS & BAR

512 River Rd., Boerne, TX :: www.salvadordobbs.com



THE KENDALL™

GENTLEMAN

NOVEMBER 2025 | ISSUE 10 :: VOLUME 1

8 FROM THE PUBLISHER

10 CALENDAR of EVENTS

14 OUTDOORS

Behold, Yellowstone Park

By Jed Mazour

18 REVIEW

The Whiskey Rebellion

By Renita Reavis

20 HOPE for HEROES

Dr. David Wampler

By Jonathan Mallard

24 BETTERMENT

The Power of Our Word

By Tommy Matthews

28 FAITH & LEADERSHIP

Find the Butavan

By Coach Stan Leech

32 THOSE WHO SERVED

By Brayden Church

40 MUSINGS OF JEV

Veteran's Park

By John Eddie Vogt

46 HISTORY

Bruno Phillip

By Tom Allred, Sr.





THE KENDALL™ GENTLEMAN



*Special thank you to
Jonathan Mallard, Director
of Photography, for capturing
all of the veteran portraits
featured on this month's cover.*

Publisher Michael G. Ethridge

Creative Director Ben Weber

Director of Photography Jonathan Mallard

**Photographer &
Social Media** Emily Pfeiffer

Sales Austin Fanning

Intern Brayden Church

Contributors Tom Allred, Sr.
Renita Reavis
Jed Mazour
Stan Leech
John Eddie Vogt
Tommy Matthews

www.thekendallgentleman.com
sales@thekendallgentleman.com
info@thekendallgentleman.com

Are you interested in contributing to
The Kendall Gentleman? Do you have an
interesting story to tell the men of Kendall
County? Could you be considered an
expert in your given field? Have something
interesting to say? We're always looking for
talented writers for The Kendall Gentleman.
Email us at info@thekendallgentleman.com



The Kendall Gentleman is a publication of





country. His death, whatever your politics, is a reminder that standing firm in your beliefs still takes bravery, and sometimes, sacrifice.

That same spirit lives in every veteran who stepped forward when it would have been easier to stay home. Some came back with visible wounds, others with quiet ones, but all of them returned having carried a burden most of us will never fully understand.

As Veterans Day approaches, we are also seeing leaders like Pete Hegseth speak boldly about restoring the military to what it was meant to be. His message of returning to warfighting, military readiness, and purging politics from the ranks has struck a chord with veterans and patriots alike. It is a call to return to the basics of duty, discipline, and strength. Those are the same principles that built this nation, and the same ones we honor in this issue.

This month, you will hear directly from one of our own, Jonathan Mallard, our Director of Photography and a 16-year Army combat medic veteran. Jonathan has seen what service really costs, and his perspective carries the weight of experience that few of us can claim.

So as you turn these pages, I want to leave you with a simple challenge: thank a veteran. Not just on November 11. Not just this month. Every chance you get. And when you do, mean it. Understand the depth of their commitment and the years they gave up so the rest of us could live freely.

Real gratitude does not come from habit. It comes from understanding.

Jonathan's words that follow are from someone who has lived that commitment firsthand.

Michael G. Ethridge
Publisher/Owner

Thank A Veteran

Every November, we set aside a day to honor the men and women who have worn our nation's uniform. But for most of us, gratitude should not be something we circle on a calendar. It should be part of how we live.

Both of my grandfathers were veterans, and three of my four grandparents worked for Northrop, now Northrop Grumman, building planes for the U.S. military. Service runs deep in my family, not just

in those who fought, but in those who built and supported those who did. They understood that freedom is not maintained by words alone. It is upheld by men and women who commit their lives to protecting it.

In recent months, our nation has been reminded again that courage carries a cost. The tragic loss of Charlie Kirk, a man who spoke boldly about faith, family, and conviction, shook communities across the



Jonathan Mallard - Baghdad 2005

From the Director of Photography

Telling the stories of Kendall County men has been one of the greatest privileges of my life. Each assignment reminds me of the strength, humility, and faith that define this community. Whether I am photographing a veteran, a public servant, or a neighbor who simply loves well, I see the character that holds this place together. Every portrait becomes an act of gratitude, a way of saying that their lives matter.

Before I ever became a photographer, I served as a combat medic. I was nineteen when that photo was taken in Baghdad, and I could never have imagined then where life would lead. In those years, I saw the best and worst of humanity, moments of deep courage and devastating loss. Through it all, I came to understand something sacred: every person bears the image of God. That belief, known as the Imago Dei, has shaped my heart and my

art. It is the lens through which I now see the world.

Being a veteran has influenced every part of my photography. It has taught me to slow down and look for grace in the details. I notice the resilience in a man's eyes, the gratitude in a quiet smile, and the strength that often grows from hardship. When I lift my camera, I am not simply taking a picture. I am bearing witness to a life that carries dignity and purpose.

Photography has become my second calling, a way to serve again. In telling these stories, I have found what I call my missional purpose: to reflect God's truth and beauty through the lives of others. Each photograph feels like a small act of worship, capturing what is good and worthy in the people around us.

Kendall County has become my Ebenezer, a place of remembrance where I can look back and say, "The Lord has helped me." It is here that I found restoration and purpose. Every story I tell is another stone of gratitude, marking what God has done in my life and what He continues to do through this community.

To my fellow veterans, thank you. Your service and sacrifice continue to inspire me. You remind me that calling does not end when the uniform comes off; it simply takes new form. And to our readers, thank you for allowing me to keep telling these stories. Through every image, I hope you see what I see: the image of God in every man.

Jonathan R. Mallard
Director of Photography [KG](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

10.15.25

The Forum VI: The Official Men's Mixer of The Kendall Gentleman

The Kendall Gentleman
Das GreenHaus
7 Upper Balcones Rd, Boerne, TX 78006
thekendallgentleman.com
Join The Kendall Gentleman for The Forum VI at Das GreenHaus in Boerne. From 5:00–8:00 PM, enjoy an open-invite evening of fellowship, conversation, and community as we celebrate the men of Kendall County—and those who stand beside them.

11.1.25

Beneath the Hill Country Sky

The Center
Estancia at Thunder Valley
1 Estancia Ln, Boerne, TX 78006
thecenterboerne.org
An evening of live music and community support comes together at Beneath the Hill Country Sky, a benefit concert for The Center, taking place Saturday, November 1, 2025. The exclusive event will be held in the indoor arena at Estancia at Thunder Valley in Boerne, with doors opening at 6 pm and the live auction and concert beginning at 7 pm.

11.1.25

VFW Veterans Coffee

Ford of Boerne
Black Rifle Coffee Company
101 S Main St Ste A, Boerne, TX 78006
www.vfw688.org
Enjoy a cup of coffee and camaraderie with other veterans on the first Saturday of each month at Boerne's Black Rifle Coffee Company. 8:00-10:00am

11.2.25

"Cookin' for a Cure for Alz"

Chili Cookoff
Mikey's Chicken & Tavern
Alzheimers Association – Ride to End Alz TX
25930 IH10 West, Boerne, Tx 78006
alz.org/rideTx
The 1st Annual Cookin' For A Cure for Alzheimer's Chili Cook-Off will take place on Sunday, November 2, at Mikey's Chicken & Tavern. This flavorful event supports Alzheimer's research and brings together chili lovers for a day of cooking, tasting, and fun.

11.6.25

Pub Poll Game Night

Tapatio Springs Hill Country Resort
1 Resort Way, Boerne, TX 78006
www.tapatiosprings.com
Join the fun at Pub Poll Game Nights, happening every first Thursday of the month at Tapatio Springs Hill Country Resort! The games start at 6:30 pm and are free to play, offering a fantastic night out filled with laughter and friendly competition.

11.8.25

Open Bowling

Boerne Turn Verein
221 E. Theissen, Boerne, TX 78006
www.boerneturnverein.com

11.9.25

Das Golf Turnier

Das Festival of Kendall
Buckhorn Golf Course
36 FM 473 Comfort, TX 78013
dasfestival.org
Grab your clubs and tee off for a great cause! Das Festival of Kendall presents its 2nd Annual Golf Tournament on Sunday, November 9, 2025, at The Buckhorn Golf Course in Comfort, TX. This charitable event promises a full day of fun, friendly competition, and community spirit—benefiting local organizations like Boerne Blaze Special Olympics, Comfort Table & Food Pantry, Heartland Children's Home, and VFW Post 688.

11.10.25

American Legion General Membership Meeting

American Legion Post 313
Kendall County EMS Bldg
1175 North Main Street, Boerne, TX 78006
www.alpost313boernetx.org
We meet every second Monday of the month from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM (with a social/pot luck hour from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM)

11.11.25

VFW Business Meeting

VFW Post 688
Kendall Masonic Lodge
897 E Blanco, Boerne, TX 78006
www.vfw688.org

11.17.25

Masonic Lodge Stated Meeting

Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897
897 E Blanco, Boerne, TX 78006
www.kendalllodge897.org
Monthly Stated (Business) Meeting at 7:30; Supper at 6:30

11.20.25

Men's Night

Free Roam Brewing Company
325 S Main St, Boerne, TX 78006
www.freeroambrewing.com
Featuring Boerne's legendary welding technologies teacher, Dorman Vick, speaking about the national movement to bring vocational education to the schools.

11.28.25

Dickens On Main

City of Boerne
Downtown Boerne
Main Street Boerne
holidaysinboerne.com/dickens-on-main
Kick off the holiday season at Dickens on Main, Boerne's premier holiday celebration, happening Thanksgiving weekend, November 28 & 29. Main Street shuts down, and the Hill Country Mile transforms into a vintage Christmas wonderland, featuring live music, performances, visits with Santa, ice sculpting, and snow along Main Street.

11.29.25

Texas Driven Shooting Series

Joshua Creek Ranch
132 Cravey Rd, Boerne, TX 78006
joshuacreek.com
Experience the thrill of traditional driven pheasant and mallard shoots in the scenic Texas Hill Country with the JCR Texas Driven Series at Joshua Creek Ranch. This fall and winter lineup features seven open-line shoot dates from October 4, 2025, through January 1, 2026, offering a mix of standard and high-volume shooting experiences for upland bird enthusiasts. KG

Your life. Your money. Your terms.

Whether it's investing some extra income, preparing a future for your family with your retirement secured, or saving for a home or education costs, we're here to coach you through it.

Contact us today to start creating a financial strategy tailored to your specific needs.



Caleb K Clark
CIMA®
Financial Advisor
124 E Bandera Rd
Boerne, TX 78006
830-428-0097



MKD-8652E-A AECSPAD 20180019



Welcome
Please come in!

153 S. Main St. #120
Boerne, Texas 78006
(830) 249-0000

www.theboernebookshop.com





GREAT SOUTHERN COINS

MAKE THIS SEASON BRIGHTER

**Sell your rare coins and bullion
for extra holiday cash today!**

1100 N. Main Street, Suite 101 • Boerne, TX 78006
830-331-9117 • 888-409-8344
www.greatsoutherncoins.com



Scan the QR code
to visit our site



THE TEXAS RANCH — COMPANY LLC —

FARM & RANCH REAL ESTATE



Serving the Hill Country and South Texas since 1997; specializing in Premium Live Water Properties, Fine Hunting Ranches, and Distinguished Estate Homesteads.

BRANDON SCOTT

ASSOCIATE BROKER

(210) 421-8181

BRANDON@TEXASRANCHCO.COM





Scan me!
GET THE APP

**Book online or in the app and
NEVER DO LAUNDRY AGAIN!**

**FREE
PICK UP &
DELIVERY**



**WASH & FOLD
LAUNDRY SERVICE**

METROWASHTX.COM | 830.249.6832

Family Owned. Serving Boerne Since 1995.
1415 E Blanco Rd #14 | Boerne, TX 78006

NO LEASE & NO DEPOSIT

ONE FLAT FEE | FREE WIFI | UTILITIES INCLUDED



FACILITY MANAGEMENT



PRIVATE OFFICES AVAILABLE



CONFERENCE ROOMS

BOERNE, TX
officebox
CO. WORKING SPACE

Schedule a tour (210) 660-4101 or visit officeboxboerne.com.





Behold, Yellowstone Park

By Jed Mazour

As a kid, you may have dreamed a lot about the great outdoors; things like snow-covered Rocky Mountain peaks, raging rivers, and giant wild animals. Your dreams and imagination could take you to places you have never seen before, but in your mind, it feels so familiar, having those thoughts of hiking to the summit of a snow-covered mountain, or setting up a makeshift tent and camping in the wild to see how long you could last.

As you get older, maybe in your teens, you might dream of hiking miles across a mountain range chasing a bull elk or even my favorite, an encounter with a grizzly bear! What boy hasn't had that dream?! Hell, I told a story to my kids for years when they were little about fighting a grizzly bear with just my two hands. It still makes me smile and laugh when I look at the scar on my chest. It wasn't really from a fight with a bear...

But these are the things a young boy thinks about. He dreams about being bigger and stronger. He dreams about being the toughest person in the world and taking on any challenge his mind might create. At some point in your life as a young man, you might have even come across the adventures of Lewis and Clark. If so, reading about their experiences was probably a lot like throwing gas on a raging wildfire. You would reach your limit of imagination and start putting plans on paper.

Over the years, as our kids got older, we would have the ability and time to take on some of these challenges. Several of these stories you might have read about in past articles. Kayaking the Devils River, hunting the mountains of New Mexico and Colorado, South Texas camping and hunting, etc. But until recently, I haven't really recognized the places from my dreams as a kid. Don't get me wrong, I am blessed to have accomplished so much as an outdoorsman, but there was something missing... Last month, my wife and I booked a vacation for just the two of us for our anniversary. We were headed to

Wyoming to see the famous Yellowstone Park. I had no idea the scale of creation I was about to witness.

As soon as we landed in Cody, we rented a Four Runner and headed to town. First stop, the Irma Hotel and cold beer. If you didn't know, this was Buffalo Bill Cody's place, built around 1902. Seemed like an appropriate little gem to start. If you have an imagination, this place will make you feel like you just jumped off a horse-drawn wagon coming through town for a quick stop off the trail. The walls are covered with animals harvested in these mountains and around the world, creaky old hardwood floors, Victorian-style decorative carpeted halls, and tall ceilings. Sitting in the bar, you can see into a fancy dining room, which was once the main gallery. I sat there thinking about what it might be like to have walked through that door in the early 1900s. Maybe someone was playing a piano in the background while the bartender was serving drinks to an ornery crowd of cowboys.

Over the next few days, Denise and I would drive all over northern Wyoming and southern Montana. We packed a couple of fly rods, drinks, and snacks, and left any expectations or timelines behind. It was incredible! One of our first stops was off Chief Joseph Hwy at Dead Indian Pass. There was a trailhead off to the left of the road we parked at. Denise and I grabbed our rods and hiked our way up the trail, looking for a good spot to make some casts. The river bank was lined with tall pine trees so dense we had to search for an opening large enough to accept our novice back casts. I watched as my wife stood on a fallen pine overhanging the river, casting a fly rod with a smile on her face and a genuine sense of tranquility. As we walked back towards the truck, we found our first sign of grizzly bears. There was a large rock with scrapings of a massive set of claws running down it. There was no question that this was a brown bear. We made our way back, sat there, and enjoyed a beer before we hit the road. The rest of the day, we would stop at waterfalls,



fish small ponds, sight-see at mountain passes, have a drink at a random bar in Montana where they race pigs, watch pronghorn in the prairies, and talk... just the two of us.

We decided to commit a full day to driving around Yellowstone. So, we woke up early and headed toward the east entrance. I had no idea what to expect. We followed a winding road through a beautiful mountain valley that took us through tunnels dug into the mountainsides. Arriving at the gates, I wasn't necessarily impressed, but I wasn't let down either. It seemed like a pretty standard entry. Nothing extravagant like a theme park. No large gates or fences. Thank God!

Almost as soon as we started down the road, we came across two of the biggest bull elk I have ever personally seen. They sat in the

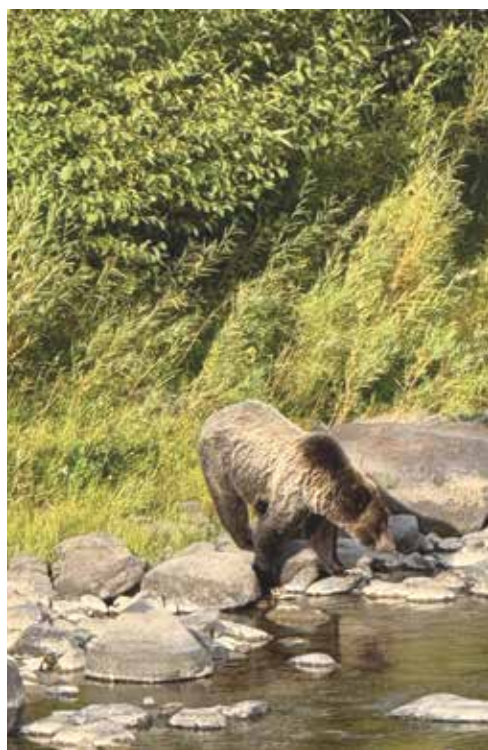
shade, yawning and waiting for the heat of the day to pass. It was hard to drive away from this; I have never had the time to study these animals so close. We continued on, stopping to see trophy-sized mule deer and herds of buffalo. I didn't think the buffalo would impress me like they did. When you see this many buffalo within feet of you, you can hear them breathe, see the dust blow up around their hooves, and feel their steps. A boy might stop and imagine a stampede of hundreds running across a prairie with Indians on horseback giving chase. What would it be like to survive a winter up here with nothing but buffalo blankets and a campfire? Could I shoot from horseback and keep up with the chase? No, but when I was a kid, I knew I could! We would pass the largest lake I have ever seen, countless waterfalls, beautiful pastures, and mountainside views that

would leave you with your mouth hanging open. Around lunch, we made our way to Old Faithful. Once we arrived, we grabbed a Bloody Mary and a cold IPA from the lodge. We both didn't know what to expect, so when we saw multiple geysers around us, steaming and randomly shooting hot water into the sky, we were left in awe. Denise and I sat on a park bench, and together we watched and marveled as Old Faithful erupted. It was so beautiful! As we drove away, we would pass several areas with vibrant blue ponds and rocks with steam bellowing out. I couldn't believe what I was seeing! As the sun started to set, we had to begin our hour drive back. Denise had been secretly waiting to see a grizzly bear, but they never made their appearance. We talked on the way out and decided that would be our excuse to come back. It wasn't ten minutes later that we saw a couple of vehicles stopped on the road, so we followed suit.

There he was! Standing tall and foraging on berries. Only about 30-50 yards away, the entire thirty minutes or so we watched him. His claws were massive. Bigger than I had ever imagined and reminiscent of the movie "The Great Outdoors". He was a mixture of medium brown and silver, moving from bush to bush, then making his way to the river for a drink. Sitting here, I am trying my best to articulate this magnificent creature in the most amazing piece of earth I have ever seen with my own two eyes, but I cannot do it the justice it deserves. I looked at my wife, and she had tears running down her face.

This land is everything kids dream of. It holds every challenge a man could ever want. I told my wife how it's like God looked down and said, "Do you want to see what I can do? Do you want to see what true, magnificent beauty looks like? Do you want to see an earthly level ten? Behold, Yellowstone Park."

Our hearts were left full. We couldn't really grasp everything we had just seen. There was no noise; just us and God's incredible creation. We both left with the same feeling; we would give the clothes off our backs and sell what we owned to live this life and be a part of this greatness. One day, maybe we will. But if this is an example of Earth at its perfection, so to speak, can you imagine Heaven and what you would do to get there? Might want to start asking yourself that... **KG**



Jed Mazour has lived in Boerne for over 30 years with his wife, Denise, and their two kids. An avid outdoorsman, he leads the faith-based Boerne Bass Club, helping youth anglers in grades 6-12 compete in bass fishing while sharing his passion for the area's natural beauty and opportunities. jed@thekendallgentleman.com



The Whiskey Rebellion

By Renita Reavis

TTB

The acronym that sends shivers through distilleries everywhere is the dreaded Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau under the U.S. Department of the Treasury. No one likes mentioning TTB, but they oversee our industry. However, this TTB actually refers to the Taxes, Troops, and Barrel fight, which is better known as the Whiskey Rebellion. I get that not everyone is into history, but trust me, this is a topic connected to whiskey and veterans.

In a land far, far away called Pennsylvania, and a long time ago in 1791, some farmers grew acres of rye! These farmers had more rye than they could eat, store for tough times, and sell to others. They had a handy skill that turned that rye into a product that could bring in more resources when they chose not to keep it for special celebrations. Many of these farmers owned small pot stills, which they used to create a rye-distilled spirit. Corn-based spirits did not emerge until later, when a deeper understanding of corn was gained.

During the Revolutionary War, the states accumulated their own debts, totaling over \$100 million. They were paying for their militias out of their own pockets. Sadly, the states and our new nation did not have enough money. Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton had a great idea—taxes! Taxes help generate revenue to pay off the debt. Everyone now thinks he is so cool because of a popular musical about him, but Hamilton really loved paying taxes to help reduce the massive, new national debt. He knew there were over 150 large distilleries and many smaller



private ones that could help generate revenue through an excise tax. President Washington and Secretary of State Jefferson opposed this idea, saying it was not the best, but they did not have many better options to raise money. Washington brought the concept to Pennsylvania and Virginia, where the local governments accepted it without consulting their people.

A law was quickly passed requiring distilleries to pay a cash fee of six to eighteen cents per gallon to their local county officials. The fee was based on the potential production capacity, with lower rates considering the still's possible output rather than the actual amount distilled. Cash was a limited resource for smaller, rural distilleries. If the taxes went unpaid, they had to appear before a federal judge. Rural farmers who used distilled spirits as currency faced disadvantages in every way.



Cash, distance, and time were all valuable commodities as they struggled to survive in the wilderness.

On July 15, 1794, U.S. Marshal David Lennox and Federal Revenue Officer John Neville traveled to Pennsylvania to serve subpoenas on individuals who had not paid their taxes and were required to appear in Federal court in Philadelphia. They faced a hostile crowd after serving a subpoena to their farming neighbor, William Miller. The very next day, more people gathered outside Neville's house, believing Marshal Lennox was there. Confronted by these armed individuals, Neville ended up shooting and killing Oliver Miller. Then, on July 17, a group of approximately 500 local militiamen returned to Neville's house. A tense shootout resulted in the death of rebel leader James McFarlane, and outnumbered, the Federal agents surrendered. The rebels burned Neville's house and barn to the ground. A few days later, David Bradford, who was the deputy county attorney for Washington County, took charge of the rebels in the area.

Several thousand rebels moved to Braddock's Field near Pittsburgh, where more gathered to protest the whiskey tax. Calls went out for the local militia to assemble near Pittsburgh to control the rising violence during the last week of July 1794. President Washington met on August 2 with his Cabinet and Pennsylvania's governor, Thomas Mifflin, to discuss the situation. The President declared on August 7, calling on the rebels to "disperse and retire peaceably to their respective abodes." The declaration also invoked the Militia Act of 1792, which, after Federal court approval, allowed the President to use State militiamen to suppress internal rebellions and "cause the laws to be duly executed." On the same day, Secretary of War Henry Knox sent a letter to the governors of Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, requesting a total of 12,950 militiamen

to end the rebellion. By mid-November, the militia arrested 150 rebels, including twenty leading figures of the insurrection. A general pardon was issued on November 29 for all those involved "in the wicked and unhappy tumults and disturbances lately existing," except thirty-three men named in the document.

The Whiskey Rebellion challenged the new Constitution and the authority of the Federal government, affirmed the supremacy of Federal law, and supported Congress's right to levy and collect taxes.

These troops had just returned home after fighting in the Revolutionary War. They were beginning to settle back into their routines when the President ordered them back to duty. It's possible some of them had their own stills or were known to buy whiskey from smaller producers. Those of us who have served never get to choose when or where we go. We do not get a say in whether we believe in the cause or not. We prepare for it to be tough and are thankful when things are easier. We do it because we made a solemn vow to our country. We gather and raise our glasses in celebration with loved ones, remembering those we miss.

Please refer to the TTB website for more information about the details of the Whiskey Rebellion. <https://www.ttb.gov/public-information/whiskey-rebellion> KG



Renita Reavis, a 15-year Boerne resident and Army veteran, is a whiskey enthusiast passionate about craft distilleries. She holds an Executive Bourbon Steward certification and Whiskey Sommelier Level 1, blending her love for unique flavors with rich experiences, friendships, and mentorships in the whiskey world. renita@thekendallgentleman.com



Dr. David Wampler

Service and Science

By Jonathan Mallard

For Dr. David Wampler, the road to emergency medicine was never a straight one, but it is one he is grateful for every day. Raised in San Antonio, Wampler grew up loving the outdoors and serving others. As a Boy Scout, he developed an early fascination with first aid, lifesaving, and lifeguarding, skills

that would one day save a man's life. When a carpet installer at his home went into cardiac arrest, a teenage Wampler and a fellow Scout performed CPR until paramedics arrived. Against all odds, the man survived. That experience left a mark.

"I didn't realize it then," Wampler said, "but that was my first real introduction to what it meant to step into someone's worst day and make it better."

After high school, Wampler planned to pursue law enforcement until the final slot in the police academy filled moments before his turn. On a whim, he signed up for paramedic school instead. That decision would define the rest of his life.

Over the next decade, Wampler served as a firefighter and paramedic in Kerrville, balancing 24-hour shifts with college courses at nearby Schreiner University. He went on to earn a Ph.D. in Biochemistry, researching how light-dependent microbes could help break down environmental pollutants. His scientific curiosity and hands-on experience in the field would later merge into a passion for advancing prehospital medicine.

"I've always loved the sleuthiness of EMS," he said with a grin. "You walk into a room, interpret what the patient is telling you, figure out what's wrong, and come up with a plan to make it better."

Today, Wampler serves as the Director of Clinical Research for the Office of the Medical Director at UT Health San Antonio, where he helps shape evidence-based policies for emergency medical care across the region. Yet, despite his academic credentials and leadership roles, he has continued to serve for nearly 18 years as a part-time paramedic with Kendall County EMS, keeping his boots on the ground and his heart close to the work that first inspired him. Locals will often spot him on the sidelines of Champion High School Charger football games, quietly standing by to provide emergency medical support when needed.

"I live here. My family lives here. My kids went to school here," he explained. "Working shifts as a field paramedic lets me stay connected to my community and to the realities of patient care. I may not hold a formal leadership role in Kendall County EMS, but I want to lead by example and model professionalism and compassionate care for those coming up behind me."

For Wampler, adrenaline may have drawn him into EMS, but compassion is what has kept

him in it. “I still get nervous when the tones go off,” he admitted. “That feeling never really goes away. But every call is a chance to do something meaningful. The science keeps me sharp, but empathy keeps me alive.”

Hope For Heroes Texas

Though his schedule often keeps him in San Antonio, Wampler has watched the impact of Hope For Heroes Texas ripple through the Kendall County first responder community.

“Many of my colleagues have attended and have had nothing but great things to say,” he said. “The fellowship and collaboration Hope For Heroes Texas creates away from the stress of scene calls and training is invaluable.” For Wampler, that kind of community matters deeply.

“I have a PhD in Biochemistry. I am a professor in an elite medical university. I have been a paramedic for almost 35 years — I am a pretty smart guy,” he said. “But I

only bring one perspective into the room. The room will have a much more robust perspective than any one person. The room is always smarter than any one person. That is the importance of getting a multidisciplinary room together. All the first responders, police, fire, EMS, infrastructure, business leaders, community leaders, and spiritual leaders bring a collaboration that will move public safety forward.”

He sees Hope For Heroes Texas as a catalyst for that kind of strength, a place where first responders can connect, learn from one another, and be reminded they are part of something larger than themselves.

“We’re at our best when we serve together,” Wampler reflected. “Programs like this bring those strengths into one room, and that room is what moves public safety forward. Low-stress camaraderie builds resilience for high-stress situations.”

Message from Brad Cornell

Brad Cornell, founder of Hope For Heroes Texas, sees leaders like Dr. Wampler as vital to the mission.

“Supporting first responders isn’t just about providing meals or saying thank you,” Cornell said. “It’s about investing in people like Dr. Wampler who dedicate their lives to saving others, pushing science forward, and mentoring the next generation. He reminds us that service comes in many forms, through action, through teaching, and through heart. That is what Hope For Heroes Texas is all about.” **KG**



1940s Night at the USO Gala

Presented by VFW Post 688

SAVE THE DATE

Featuring
Frank Sings Frank & The Boerne Jazz Band

FEBRUARY 28, 2026

8PM at the CANA Ballroom • 202 W. Kronkosky St.

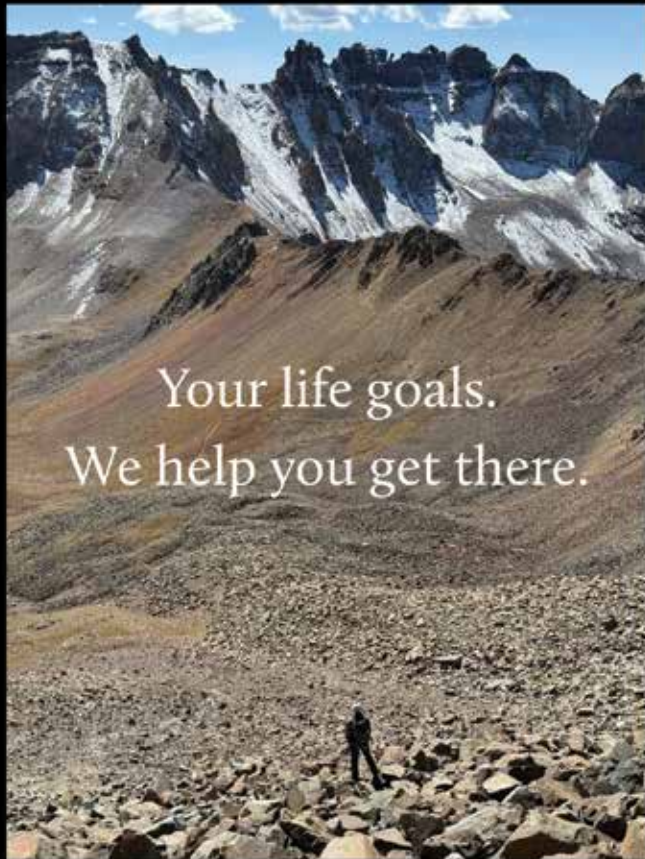


**Scan the
QR code for
event
information
and tickets**

Follow us on Facebook or visit our website for more information | www.vfw688.org

For sponsorship information, contact Post 688 Commander Tony White 512.693.8382





Your life goals.
We help you get there.



CRESTMONT™

PRIVATE WEALTH

Locally owned independent fiduciary

www.crestmontpw.com

Investment advisory services are offered through Crestmont Private Wealth LLC, a Registered Investment Advisor. This material is for informational and educational purposes only and should not be considered individualized investment, legal, or tax advice. Investing involves risk, including the potential loss of principal. No strategy can guarantee success or protect against loss in all market conditions. Services and outcomes described may vary based on each client's circumstances. Investments through Crestmont Private Wealth LLC are: NOT FDIC INSURED, NOT BANK GUARANTEED, MAY LOSE VALUE, INCLUDING LOSS OF PRINCIPAL, NOT INSURED BY ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY.



**40
MIKE
MIKE**

★ ★ ★

**TEXAS-STYLE
BOCK**

EASY-DRINKING MALTY LAGER



**WORLD BEER CUP
2025**

GOLD AWARD

**AMERICAN-STYLE
AMBER LAGER**

**FREE ROAM
BREWING COMPANY**



PROUDLY BREWED IN BOERNE, TEXAS
AS A TRIBUTE TO OUR MILITARY VETERANS
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PURPLE HEART PROJECT



FREE ROAM
BREWING COMPANY
BOERNE, TEXAS

- HOUSEMADE BEER
- WINE SELECTION
- BEER GARDEN
- FOOD TRUCKS
- DOG FRIENDLY
- SPORTS ON TV

**HOURS: 11-MIDNIGHT
7 DAYS A WEEK**

325 S. MAIN STREET, BOERNE

WWW.FREEROAMBREWING.COM

@FREEROAMBREWINGCOMPANY



100% CRAFT BEER



**PAIN RELIEF
IMPROVED JOINT MOBILITY
ENHANCED OVERALL WELL-BEING**

Our outstanding team is here to help you reach your healthcare goals.

37131 I-10 Building #400 | Boerne, TX 78006 | (830) 816-4357
genesishhealthchiropractic.com





The Power of Our Word

By Tommy Mathews

We are all familiar with the phrase “A man’s word is his bond”. It means that a person’s word, their spoken promise, represents a sacred obligation. We trust them to keep it, and we see it as a binding commitment. The phrase embodies the timeless principles of integrity, trustworthiness, and reliability. By living into “Our Word” with our actions, we demonstrate our character and principles.

Have you ever given your word? Made a promise with every intention of keeping it? Have you sworn a solemn oath? It is safe to say that in some way, shape, or form, all of us have done both of these. If we are honest with ourselves, sometimes we hit the mark

living into “Our Word,” even actually hitting the mark really well, and sometimes we fall short. Nevertheless, when we own falling short, we grow and recognize that we are human and fallible.

Promises and oaths can range from something that may be as simple as a promise to others to do or not to do something. Or it may be an oath taken as a youth, such as the Scout Oath, “On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country, to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight”. The Scout Oath lays a

foundation and creates an ethos for a youth to use in living out their lives.

We’ve all said the Pledge of Allegiance, and some reading this article have made an oath/pledge to uphold the mission and values of a service organization such as Rotary, Lions, or Kiwanis. What if, in setting our own ethos, we seek to better live into these oaths and pledges, with more than our words, making them a daily and important part of the very fabric of our lives? The answer to that “what if” question is that we would be better in every role in our lives, as men, fathers, husbands, leaders, church members, community servants, and citizens in this



great country. There is power in “Our Word” that goes beyond the visible outcomes of keeping our word. It is a deeper power that affects and shapes our lives, the lives of those around us, and strengthens the future.

This month, we will be celebrating Veterans’ Day as we honor those men and women who have and continue to stand guard at Freedom’s Gate. Each of them swore a solemn oath when they began their military service. It reads, “I... do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God.”

This oath has great gravity as these men and women have been and will be called upon to risk or give their very lives protecting our

freedom. We owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude, so I am asking each of you to make a promise to the entire audience reading this article – promise that you will take intentional time this month, especially on November 11th, to thank a Veteran and/or their family for living into their solemn oath and for standing guard at Freedom’s gate. To those veterans reading this article, we all offer you our great thanks for your sacrifice and service!

The military’s solemn oath is an outgrowth of an oath and pledge made long ago by several brave men on or about July 4th, 1776. The Declaration of Independence closes with the most solemn of oaths, which the Founding Fathers memorialized with their signatures. It reads, “...And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.” It was a bold statement of faith, a binding commitment to one another, and a pledge to give all that they had to the vision of our great nation. History tells us that they each lived into that pledge, and their sacrifices ensured the freedom that we enjoy.

Bringing this closer to home, we should ask ourselves what promises we might make to ourselves. Here are a few that you may be able to relate to:

I am going to take better physical care of myself

I am going to be more involved in my community or church

I am going to volunteer more

I am going to start going back to church

I am going to strike a better balance between work, family, and other commitments

I am going to schedule time to enjoy life without rushing to and from things

I am going to run for political office or seek to be on a board and serve my community, state, or country

I am going to seek to vote in every election

I am going to learn a hobby, take a certain trip, and visit an old friend

When asked to do “one more thing,” I am going to use the shortest sentence, “No,” followed by a mannerly, “No, thank you.”

I am going to retire while I can still do and enjoy the things on my bucket list

I will take the time every week to enjoy a sunrise and a sunset, to look at the stars, to spend quiet time in nature

I will practice random acts of kindness to those I meet

One or more of these may ring true for you, and if they do make a promise, a solemn oath to yourself to do it. Take that small but necessary next step, let that step develop into a habit and an essential part of your life and wellbeing. Do it with the same conviction and gravity as the solemn oaths mentioned above. Your life deserves no less.

To aid you, I suggest that you simply borrow or adopt the straightforward words of the Scout Oath and pledge to yourself and those whose lives are intertwined with yours, that “On my honor, I will do my best ...” and live into it one day at a time. Don’t measure today by yesterday or measure today by tomorrow. In Matthew 6:34, Jesus said, “Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own” (Matthew 6:34).

Pablo Picasso once said, “Only put off until tomorrow what you are willing to die having left undone.” Sobering but true. We can say “one day” or “day one”; we have to decide. Make today the day, make this the moment, make yourself a promise and live into that oath to yourself with the full force of your convictions. For me, Day One sounds like a new and great adventure, being true to one’s self, powered not only by the mystery of the future but by the power of my Word. **KG**



Tommy Mathews leads Westward Environmental, headquartered in Boerne. A proud Boerne native and BHS ’78 graduate, he’s actively involved in the community through roles with the Boerne Kendall County EDC and Visit Boerne, where he serves as Chairman. He’s also a dedicated member of St. Helena’s Episcopal Church. tommy@thekendallgentleman.com



Cocktails - Cigars - Wine - Coffee



A Social Club for Men and Women
*Where time lingers, glasses never empty, and
conversations matter.*



THE OAK

605 S. Main Street Boerne

A TASTE OF TUSCANY IN THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



**AUTHENTIC ITALIAN PIZZA
REGIONAL TUSCAN SALAD
THE SIGNATURE "O.G. PANUOZZO"
HANDCRAFTED OROBIANCIO GELATO
LOVINGLY PREPARED W/ THE FINEST INGREDIENTS
DINE IN & TAKE OUT**



605 S. Main Street Boerne



LUXURY IN THE AIR AWAITS

Find the ideal aircraft for your mission!

210.865.2475 | 529 State Hwy 46 E, Ste. A03 | Boerne, TX 78006

Find the Butavan

By Coach Stan Leech

Growing up in Brownfield, Texas, we didn't exactly live in the middle of the fine dining capital of the world, but on special occasions, there was one place in nearby Lubbock that felt like we'd stepped right into something special---the 50 Yard Line.

In West Texas terms, the 50 Yard Line was the perfect blend of "good food" and Saturday night ambiance." It was the kind of place where the steaks came sizzling, the chicken-fried steak could hold its own with the best of them, and the moment you walked in, you knew you were in the place to be seen---whether you knew anyone there or not."

What many people didn't know was that the man behind the 50 Yard Line---and before it, The Gridiron---was Jerrell M. "Jerry" Price, a fellow Brownfield High School graduate. Price had starred in football at Texas Tech from 1948-51, been drafted by both the New York Yanks and Los Angeles Rams, and played briefly for the Chicago Cardinals in 1952 before trading shoulder pads for chef's whites.

He opened The Gridiron in Lubbock, a restaurant with as much personality as its owner, and later launched the 50 Yard Line in 1979. For the next four decades, it became a West Texas dining institution. When it finally closed in 2019, it left behind more than just a menu---it left behind memories.

For me, those memories are baked right into their blueberry muffins.

They weren't oversized bakery muffins. These were small, perfect, and carried the most inviting shade of blueberry you could imagine. Warm, tender, and somehow just sweet enough to make you take that second one without hesitation.

My mother somehow got ahold of the recipe, and right in the middle of it was an ingredient I'd never heard of---Butavan. A rich, buttery-vanilla flavoring that adds a depth that plain vanilla can't match. Back then, it wasn't on a grocery store shelf. The only way my mother could get it was through Jo Ann Cargill, who brought it back from Mexico.

Mother always said the hardest part of making those muffins wasn't the mixing or the baking---it was finding the Butavan.

Years later, Carla got the recipe and made them often. They were always good, but Carla swore they weren't the same. She believed my mother had a pinch of something she never wrote down---a dash of care and maybe even the warmth of a kitchen that had served countless friends and family.

Maybe Carla was right.

Here's the thing about Thanksgiving: there will always be someone missing at the table.



They were our Butavan---the ones who made the meal, the story, the charisma perfect.

Yes, you can still have blueberry muffins with butter and vanilla extract. They'll be good. But they still won't be Butavan.

It still won't be Mother's buttermilk pie.

It won't be Dad's story of the time they tried to beat the train and didn't make it.

It won't be Uncle Johnny's story of cutting Robert Redford's hair in Goldthwaite, Texas.

The Butavan makes it perfect.

In our families, in our teams, in our communities---we can be the Butavan. We can bring the little extra that makes the moment special, that makes the story worth telling, that makes the table feel full even when a chair is empty.

Be the Butavan. KG



Coach Leech, now in his 40th year with Boerne ISD and 27th as Athletic Director, is a legendary high school basketball coach and a respected leader in the community. Beyond the basketball court, he has devoted over 30 years to teaching Sunday School at First Baptist Church, exemplifying his commitment to faith and mentorship.
stan@thekendallgentleman.com

YOUR TRUSTED FOUNDATION AND DRAINAGE EXPERTS SINCE 1997



- FAMILY OPERATED FOR 3 GENERATIONS
- FOUNDATION & DRAINAGE REPAIR
- INSPECTION & GENERAL CONTRACTING
- CITY LICENSED & BONDED

Matthew 7:25

CALL TODAY
210.635.7577

www.safoundationrepaircompanies.com



Onsite Pro Can
Portable Sanitation Rentals

**Purple & Green,
Always Clean!**

We are a local and woman owned and operated business, based in Boerne & Kerrville since 2017

Serving Kendall, Bexar, Kerr, Comal, Blanco,
Bandera, Gillespie, Medina and parts of
Kimble & Hays counties

CONSTRUCTION
EVENTS & EMERGENCIES • PORTABLE TOILETS
FRESH/BLACK WATER HOLDING TANKS
HAND WASH STATIONS RV PUMPING

Call or Text
830.521.CANS (2267)





HILL COUNTRY OVERHEAD DOOR

830.249.3649 | hillcountrydoor.com



The CIGAR Society

Passionate Texan cigar enthusiast crafting hand-rolled perfection for your events or for a relaxed evening at home.
Available for pop-up events.

Cigars available at Free Roam Brewing, Roc-n-Rita's,
Spotted Deer Coffee in Fair Oaks,
Spotted Deer Coffee in Comfort

IG: [_thecigarsociety_](https://www.instagram.com/_thecigarsociety_) | thecigarsociety1@gmail.com
210-364-7915

THOSE WHO SERVED

Generations of local veterans and the lives they made

By Brayden Church

Across decades and battlefields, veterans have shaped the character of our nation and our communities. From the young men storming Normandy's beaches to those navigating modern conflicts across the globe, their courage, sacrifice, and leadership inspire us all. In Kendall County and beyond, these men and women have answered the call whether on foreign soil or at home - leaving legacies of service, resilience, and unwavering dedication. This Veterans Day, we honor their stories, each a testament to bravery, ingenuity, and the enduring spirit of those who serve.



Samuel Boyd Patton
War of 1812
Veteran and
Frontier Judge

Samuel Boyd Patton, a veteran of the War of 1812, carried his spirit of service from the battlefield

to the Texas frontier. As a young man, he fought for America in the nation's second war for independence, standing among the generation that helped secure the country's place in the world. After his service, Patton looked west, eventually moving to Texas in 1837, where opportunity and hardship awaited in equal measure.

By the time Kendall County was officially formed in 1862, Patton had already established his homestead along Curry's Creek. Three years later, in 1865, he was appointed the county's second chief justice, helping organize a functioning local government in a region that was still raw frontier. His leadership, grounded in military discipline and civic responsibility, helped lay the foundations of law and order in the Hill Country.

Patton died on his ranch in 1869 and was buried beneath a large oak tree on his property—a fitting resting place for a man who helped lay the foundations of Kendall County. Today, a Texas historical marker near Boerne honors his legacy as a War of 1812 veteran who became one of Kendall County's earliest leaders.



George Wilkins Kendall
War
Correspondent
and Texas Pioneer

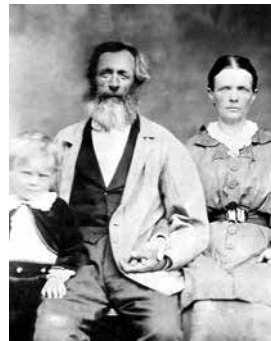
George Wilkins Kendall wasn't a soldier, but he faced the battlefield with the courage of one of

America's first modern war correspondents. During the Mexican–American War in 1846, Kendall embedded with the Texas Rangers under Captain Ben McCulloch, riding alongside U.S. forces and reporting from the front lines at battles such as Monterrey. Even after being wounded at Chapultepec, he

continued filing dispatches 214 in total—that earned him national recognition as the best-known journalist of the war.

After the fighting, Kendall brought his adventurous spirit to the Texas Hill Country, introducing sheep to the Boerne area and founding what would become Texas's sheep-ranching industry. His flocks later supplied wool for Confederate uniforms and blankets during the Civil War, intertwining his contributions with the state's history.

Kendall also traveled to Europe, where he met his wife and completed his influential book, *The War between the United States and Mexico* (1851). He spent his final years in Kendall County, passing away in 1867. His legacy endures in journalism, military reporting, and Texas agriculture, a testament to a man who faced danger to bring the story of war home.



Joshua D. Brown
San Jacinto
Veteran and
Founder of
Kerrville

Joshua D. Brown, a veteran of the Battle of San Jacinto, carried the spirit of Texas independence

into the frontier. After the war, he received a 640-acre land grant and moved to Kendall County, where he mastered the craft of making shingles from cypress trees along the Guadalupe River. This skill and determination eventually led him to establish the settlement that became Kerrville.

In 1846, Brown and a team of men scouted cypress along the Guadalupe and set up camp. Driven out by Apache attacks, they returned in 1848 to stay, forming a community first called Brownsborough. As settlers arrived, they built sawmills and farms along the river. When postal authorities proposed naming it "Brownsburg," Brown humbly suggested "Kerrsville," in honor of his friend and fellow San Jacinto veteran, James Kerr.

Through both service and settlement, Brown helped shape the Texas Hill Country. His story reflects the courage of a soldier and the vision of a founder whose legacy still endures in the heart of Kerrville.



Helwig Karl Ludwig Adolph Zoeller
Civil War Veteran
and Community Leader

Helwig Karl Ludwig Adolph Zoeller, born in Darmstadt, Germany, on

December 1, 1839, brought courage and leadership to Texas as a Civil War veteran. When the war broke out, Zoeller joined a German "loyal league" resisting Confederate conscription. Facing repeated clashes with authorities, he daringly escaped to Mexico and later enlisted in the Federal First Texas Volunteer Cavalry in New Orleans, serving as a captain and company commander. He saw action in southeastern Texas during the war's final months.

After the war, Zoeller returned to Boerne, Kendall County, dedicating himself to public service. He was elected to the Twelfth Texas Legislature in 1870, represented a vast district, and later served as a brigadier general in the Texas State Guard during Reconstruction. By 1876, he was justice of the peace and in 1878 founded the Boerne Turn Verein, a German social club that helped shape the community's culture.

Zoeller died in 1909 and rests in Zoeller Cemetery. His story reflects the resilience of a soldier who fought for his beliefs and then built a stronger community in peacetime.



John Sampson "Jack" Howard
Rough Rider and
Border Service Veteran

John Sampson "Jack" Howard, a native of Boerne, Texas, served with distinction as a member of

Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders during the Spanish–American War. Born into an English immigrant family in Kendall County, Howard answered the call to arms in 1898 alongside two friends, joining the volunteer cavalry that became famous for its charge up San Juan Hill in Cuba. His courage and commitment reflected the adventurous spirit of a young American

willing to serve on the front lines in a pivotal moment of U.S. history.

After returning home, Howard continued his dedication to public service as a U.S. Customs officer, helping secure the nation's border during a turbulent period. Tragically, in 1913, he was killed while on duty along the Mexican border, marking a somber end to a life defined by bravery and service.

Howard's story stands as a testament to the adventurous, risk-taking spirit of early American volunteers and the continuing commitment of veterans to serve their country beyond the battlefield. From the plains of Cuba to the Texas border, his legacy endures in the history of Kendall County and the nation he served.



Pvt. Pedro "Pete" Vera
D-Day Veteran and Lifesaving Hero

At just 19, Pvt. Pedro "Pete" Vera demonstrated extraordinary courage on June 6, 1944, storming the beaches

of Normandy as a U.S. Army ambulance driver. Amidst heavy enemy fire, he ferried wounded soldiers from the front lines, often navigating with American forces on one side and German troops on the other. His calm under pressure and unwavering dedication saved countless lives, exemplifying the bravery of the young men who faced D-Day head-on.

After Normandy, Vera continued transporting injured soldiers to hospitals across France, including Paris after its liberation, before returning to combat in northern France during the Battle of the Bulge, the final major German offensive on the Western Front. Enlisting in 1942 at age 20, he dedicated himself fully to the Allied cause, facing the horrors of war with courage and compassion.

Even decades later, Vera's heroism is recognized internationally. In June 2025, at 103 years old, he was awarded France's highest honor, the Légion d'Honneur, in a ceremony in Boerne celebrating his role in liberating France. Reflecting on his service, Vera said, "I

just want people to realize war is ugly. I hope there are no more wars and people can resolve their differences peacefully."

Vera's life stands as a living testament to courage, sacrifice, and the enduring spirit of those who fight for freedom, inspiring Boerne, Texas, and the nation.



Willie E. Adam
World War I
Doughboy and Hill Country Neighbor

Willie Adam grew up under big Texas skies where the Guadalupe runs clear and cold. When the telegrams and

headlines turned grim in 1918, he didn't stall. He packed his kit and reported in Boerne, a quiet young man with steady hands and a sense of duty that didn't need fanfare.

He was inducted on August 8 and sent to the 32nd Company, 8th Battalion, 164th Depot Brigade. Training was fast. Boots rubbed raw. Letters home stayed brief. By fall, he sailed for France as the guns began to fade. His work was the unglamorous kind that keeps an army moving. Move the men. Move the crates. Close the books on a hard war. He came back on February 26, 1919, processed out at Camp Travis on March 24, and looked for the familiar lines of the Hill Country again.

He married the girl he'd met at a Kendalia dance. He served on the Balcones School board. He kept his word and his tools in order. In Boerne Cemetery, his stone reads simply: Private. World War I. A neighbor who went when called and came home to build.



Thomas Ed Davis
WWII and Korean War Veteran,
Builder, and Boerne Icon

At 101 years old, Thomas Ed Davis of Boerne remains a testament to service, energy, and adventure.

A proud U.S. Navy veteran, Davis served his country in both World War II and the

Korean War. After returning home from military service, he pursued education at the University of Texas and built a remarkable career as a builder, engineer, and rancher, leaving an enduring mark on Boerne through homes, commercial buildings, and even a church.

Davis's contributions extend beyond construction. He has been a writer for the Boerne Star, sharing insights with his community, and made headlines in January 2025 when he renewed his driver's license "mostly to see if I could," he joked, symbolizing his lifelong vitality and adventurous spirit. His preferred ride, a classic Chevy pickup, reflects both practicality and enduring Texas character.

A devoted father of five, Davis exemplifies the values of family, service, and dedication throughout a long and active life. Whether through his military service, construction work, or community contributions, Thomas Ed Davis has left a lasting legacy in Boerne, inspiring current and future generations to live with courage, energy, and purpose.



Harry "Bud" Holzman
Vietnam and Gulf War Veteran,
Geologist, and Problem Solver

Harry "Bud" Holzman has lived a life defined by courage, skill, and resilience.

A Vietnam helicopter and fighter pilot, Holzman survived multiple crashes, sustaining bullet wounds and injuries yet continuing to fly missions, earning the grimly humorous nickname "Magnet Ass 13" because, in his words, "It seems like every mission I went on, they made a point to shoot me down." He even served as President Nixon's combat pilot in 1969. His bravery in the skies earned him multiple decorations, including two Purple Hearts, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Bronze Star.

After Vietnam, Holzman earned a geology degree from Trinity University, blending his love of science with service. Decades later, in 2004, he returned to active duty as a U.S. Army counterintelligence chief

analyst in Iraq. Stationed in Saddam Hussein's Al Faw Palace, Holzman helped restore Iraq's oilfields and electricity to millions while recommending judicial actions against Hussein's regime, combining courage, expertise, and moral judgment under pressure.

Holzman's career spans aviation, military intelligence, and geosciences, all marked by his calm under pressure and relentless problem-solving, inspiring those around him through a lifetime of service and dedication.



Kyle Stanbro
Combat Controller,
Elite Operator, and
Veteran Advocate

Kyle Stanbro's journey began in the Air Force as a Law Enforcement Specialist, testing his endurance, marksmanship,

and grit in the grueling Peacekeepers Challenge. But in 1987, he craved something greater: the crucible of Combat Control, one of the military's toughest and most elite paths.

Combat Controllers are warriors and air traffic masters, parachuting, diving, and infiltrating behind enemy lines to guide aircraft in hostile territory. After nearly two years of punishing training, Stanbro earned his scarlet beret and joined the 24th Special Tactics Squadron, the Air Force's Tier One unit, where he deployed alongside the world's elite, executing missions that demanded courage, precision, and unshakable teamwork.

After retiring, Stanbro turned his energy to entrepreneurship, building multiple companies and taking one public-but his heart remained with veterans. Today, he helps others transition to civilian life, guiding them to leadership, business, and purpose, while enjoying life in Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas, with his wife Tracey. Service, for Stanbro, never ends-it evolves.



Steven Simon
Lifesaver in
the Skies and
Community Pillar

For 20 years, Steven Simon soared through the skies with the United States Air Force, turning high-stakes

missions into opportunities to save lives. Starting as an Emergency Room Technician and Supervisor, Simon soon specialized in Aeromedical Evacuation aboard C-9A, C-141B, and C-130 aircraft, ferrying wounded soldiers to safety. His steady hands and calm under pressure saved countless lives, and as a Flight Instructor, he trained Flight Nurses, foreign medical teams, and fellow technicians for more than seven years.

Simon's expertise extended to a Tri-Service training facility, where he prepared Army, Navy, and Air Force personnel for the unpredictable realities of war. Every lesson, every drill, reinforced his dedication: the right care, at the right moment, can be the difference between life and death.

Today, Simon continues his mission of service as the leader of his local American Legion Post, embodying the courage, skill, and compassion that defined his military career. For him, saving lives and giving back is more than a job, it's a calling.



Grant Snyder
Veteran,
Peacekeeper, and
Leader

Grant Snyder devoted his military career to keeping people safe in some of the world's most dangerous regions.

As Deputy J-3 for Contingency Operations with NATO's Kosovo Force (KFOR) 7, he was responsible for planning every operation, anticipating what could go wrong, and ensuring his team returned home safely.

Snyder often went into the field himself, reconnoitering potentially hazardous areas to protect his soldiers. On one mission near the Serbian border, he and a Norwegian

teammate encountered a trail marked with warnings of mines and unexploded ordnance. Moving slowly and deliberately, they retraced their steps, a tense exercise that tested both courage and precision.

Known for his calm under pressure and keen strategic mind, Snyder combined leadership, vigilance, and humanity in every mission. He made difficult decisions in uncertain situations, always putting the safety of others first. His service reflects a lifetime of dedication, courage, and responsibility-qualities that define not just a soldier, but a person committed to protecting others and fostering peace.



Eric Rose
Marine, Trainer,
and Protector

Eric Rose served with distinction in the United States Marine Corps, deploying to the Middle East to enforce no-fly zones and protect

vital missions. His time in active duty placed him on the front lines of operations designed to safeguard civilians and maintain stability in dangerous regions.

Following his deployment, Rose brought his combat experience and tactical expertise to Naval Special Warfare Group, training SEAL teams in preparation for missions supporting the Global War on Terror. His guidance ensured elite operators were prepared for the most demanding and high-stakes assignments, blending technical skill, leadership, and real-world experience.

Throughout his career, Rose exemplified commitment, courage, and mentorship-qualities that strengthened both his fellow service members and the larger mission. From patrolling hostile skies to preparing the nation's most elite forces, Eric Rose's service reflects a lifetime devoted to protecting freedom and empowering others to do the same.



Captain Juan “J.J.” Guerrero (Ret.)
Wounded Warrior and Community Leader

Captain Juan “J.J.” Guerrero embodies resilience and strength. An Army officer wounded during his second tour in Iraq in 2007, Guerrero’s life changed forever when an explosively formed penetrator blast gravely injured him, costing him both legs. Despite this life-altering sacrifice, he refused to be defined by loss.

Following his recovery and retirement, Guerrero returned to Boerne, where his perseverance became an inspiration to many. In June 2021, the Gary Sinise Foundation built him a specially designed smart home, allowing him to live independently with his family and continue his life with dignity and purpose.

Today, Guerrero remains an active presence in the Boerne community, demonstrating that service extends far beyond the battlefield. His journey from sacrifice to strength reflects the values of courage, perseverance, and love of family - qualities that leave a lasting mark on all who know him.



Master Sgt. Matthew Williams
Medal of Honor Recipient and Boerne Native

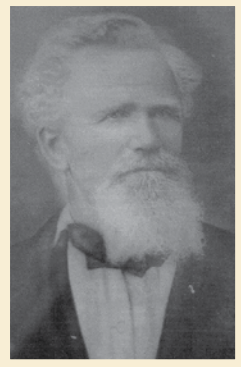
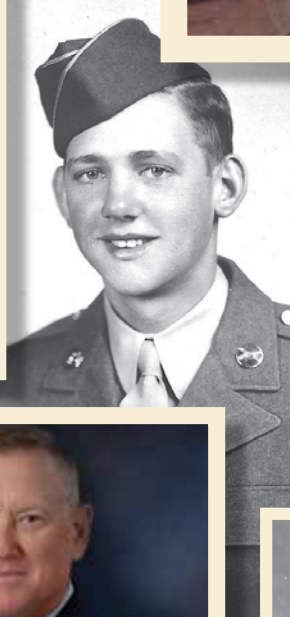
Boerne native Master Sgt. Matthew Williams stands as a symbol of courage and commitment. A Green Beret with the U.S. Army Special Forces, Williams distinguished himself during a harrowing mission in Afghanistan’s Shok Valley on April 6, 2008. Under heavy fire, he rallied Afghan commandos, repeatedly crossed open ground to reach wounded teammates, and carried multiple injured soldiers down steep, icy terrain to safety. His extraordinary bravery earned him the nation’s highest military award.

In October 2019, Williams was awarded the Medal of Honor by the President, formally recognizing his heroism that day. Despite the honor, he remains humble and continues to serve on active duty. Williams often returns to Boerne, where his story inspires both young and old. His example reminds the community that true service is defined by sacrifice, leadership, and steadfast dedication in the most difficult of circumstances.

The stories of these veterans remind us that service comes in many forms: from combat and lifesaving missions to training the next generation and giving back to our communities. Their courage extends beyond the battlefield, shaping lives, industries, and the very places we call home. As we reflect this Veterans Day, may we carry forward their lessons of dedication, leadership, and compassion - and honor not just their sacrifices, but the example they set for us all. **KG**



Brayden Church has called Boerne home for seven years and attends Boerne - Samuel V. Champion High School, where he plays football. When he’s not on the field, you’ll find him outdoors or fishing with friends. Brayden values hard work, teamwork, and the friendships that make life in Kendall County special. We’re proud to have Brayden serving as our intern at Oakridge Media!
brayden@oakridgemediacom



Boerne, Texas
TRUSCULUM
BREWING CO.

830-428-0596, 236 S. MAIN STREET, BOERNE, TEXAS 78006



ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Since 1996, **Westward Environmental** has been a trusted partner and dedicated advocate for our clients, building sustainable relationships with both our clients and the regulatory community. Our deep roots in Kendall County, and our extensive experience across diverse projects, allow us to provide expert commercial development solutions that are both innovative and environmentally responsible. We understand the unique challenges of commercial projects and are committed to helping you navigate the complexities of floodplain management, drainage, and environmental compliance. Our team expertly handles civil site design, stormwater management, and public water system design, ensuring your project meets all regulatory requirements and exceeds expectations.

Protect your investment and partner with Westward Environmental:

- Minimize risk of flood damage
- Comply with all environmental regulations
- Streamline permitting processes
- Reduce long-term maintenance costs
- Maximize property value

For almost three decades, we've been helping businesses thrive while protecting our shared environment. Let us leverage our extensive experience to help you achieve your commercial development goals efficiently, sustainably, and with confidence. We invite you to connect with us to learn how we can support your Environmental, Engineering, and Natural Resources goals.

ENGINEERING

Civil Site Design
Public Water Systems
Floodplain Permitting
Stormwater Management

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Air/Water/Waste Permitting
Environmental Due Diligence
EH&S Training

GEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Geologic Assessments
Groundwater Studies

NATURAL RESOURCES

Wetlands
Endangered Species

830.249.8284
westwardenv.com



EST.  1996
WESTWARD
Environmental • Geology • Engineering



Veteran's Park

By John Eddie Vogt

Published in 2011, the late John Eddie Vogt's book, Witches, Bitches, and Other Small Town Folks, brings to life the quirky, unforgettable, and entertaining tales of growing up and living in Kendall County from the 1930s through the 1960s. Thanks to the gracious permission of his family—and proudly sponsored by Hometown Roofing—The Kendall Gentleman is honored to share excerpts from his book for your enjoyment.

Veterans Park, which is located on South Main across from the Catholic Church, has an interesting past that just seems impossible to solve.

We know that “Boerne South Side of the Cibolo River” was being developed shortly after the War Between the States, or as the South called it, “The War of Oppression.” The original plat of Boerne was only laid out to about 200 yards south of the Cibolo. William Kernaghan had bought about 800 acres from Frederick

(Frederick), from which “Boerne South of the Cibolo River” was a part of that which was being developed.

As a start, Kernaghan gave the area where St. Peter's Church is today. Evidently there was a small building on the church property since such a building is recorded on the deed. The deed says that the building will be used for a school and a church.

At about the same time Kernaghan also gave what today is called Veterans Park to the city. On May 2, 1867 the park is referred to as “Union Square.” It seems logical that Mr. Kernaghan was a Union sympathizer and gave it this name in the gift. At some time the street now known as Hickman was named Lee. For how long the park was referred to as Union Square seems to be anyone's guess. We do know that in the 1920s a rock monument was erected in memory of those from Kendall County killed in WWI. I feel that this is when it started being called Veterans Park. This is only an educated guess.

While Kernaghan was making the “subdivision” more attractive for development, he made a deal with J. Stendebach to dig a well “for the use of the people of Boerne south of the Cibolo.” On August 29, 1866, Mr. Kernaghan's agent, Mr. O'Grady, deeded lots 27 and 28 to Stendebach on the condition that a well be completed by January 1, 1867. This well must be sufficient to furnish enough water for the people for a specified amount of time. Evidently the well was dug and met all of the requirements, as Stendebach later sold the lots he had received.

On Armistice Day (November 11) the schools would have a holiday. Everyone

would gather downtown at the plaza and line up for a parade to Veterans Park. The VFW and American Legion would lead the parade. I always looked forward to seeing Arno Harz. After so many years his uniform still fit him. He had been a Marine, and he looked so sharp. Joe Ammann would lead the parade carrying the American flag. Joe was rather short and bow-legged but took longer steps than anyone else. It was worthwhile just to see him holding the flag high as he led the procession along. After the veterans would come the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and school children waving their flags of assorted sizes. We would all march down Main Street until we got to Veterans Park where a ceremony would be held.

For years there was an old World War I cannon that was sitting just to the west of the memorial monument. Thank goodness it wouldn't shoot as it was aimed right at St. Peter's tower. During the war (WWII) the cannon was given as scrap to help in the war effort. **KG**

HMRC Services

Hunter Martin Ranch Construction Services

Mention this add and get 10% off of your next service

We at HMRC Services specialize in providing top notch land clearing and dirt work services in Boerne. From excavation to mulching, site preparation to lot clearing, we have the expertise and equipment to handle all your land clearing needs efficiently and professionally. Let us help you transform your property today!

OUR SERVICE

- Land Clearing
- Ranch Roads
- Retaining Walls
- MUCH MORE
- Mulching
- Excavation
- Tree Trimming and Removal

Contact Us

www.hmrcservices.tx.com
210-845-3280



305 South Main Street
Boerne, Texas 78006

Bechants
Men's

830-249-9879
BechantsMens.com  

Does your business target men as customers?

The Kendall Gentleman is here to help.

thekendallgentleman.com | info@thekendallgentleman.com

830-308-4406



THE KENDALL
G E N T L E M A N



**KNIGHTEN
INDUSTRIES**

The Fluid Movement Professionals

HISTORY OF RELIABILITY

BUILT ON VALUES. DRIVEN BY EXPERIENCE.

Since 1969, Knighten Industries has been committed to serving the pump industry with integrity, innovation, and unmatched service.

What began in West Texas has grown into a company trusted across multiple industries, weathering the peaks and valleys of changing markets.

Our decades of hands-on expertise, combined with our dedication to customer success, make Knighten the partner you can rely on for the long run.

With over five decades of proven performance, we continue to deliver the solutions that keep industries moving forward.

CONTACT US

830.816.5200

Scan the QR code
to fill out our
contact form or
find your nearest
location.



WWW.KNIGHTEN.COM



Supplements
& Natural Market



CLEAN, NATURAL MARKET WITH A HUGE SELECTION OF SUPPLEMENTS

Our products are backed by real science and many come with a money-back guarantee, so you can trust they'll deliver results. Avoid the growing threat of counterfeit products online—buy direct to ensure authenticity and effectiveness.

807 N Main | 830-249-4603 | NPBoerne.com

BEC Fiber

FOOTBALL NEEDS FIBER

AVOID A DELAY OF GAME - BEC FIBER INTERNET HAS THE SPEED YOU NEED ALL SEASON LONG

MULTIGIG FIBER INTERNET PLANS

2 GIG

— AND —

5 GIG



WITH
**SYMMETRICAL
SPEEDS**

Why go Big on Gigs with GVTC?

Experience lightning-fast connectivity with
our brand new MultiGig Fiber internet, now available
in blazing 2 Gig and 5 Gig options!*

- ✓ **Ultra-fast symmetrical speeds**—upload as fast as you download
- ✓ **Fiber direct to your home**—no sharing bandwidth with neighbors
- ✓ **Connect more devices** with less network congestion

PRICE LOCK

No contract.



Get connected today!

844-543-1775 gvtc.com/BigGig

*See terms and conditions at gvtc.com/BigGig for more info.





Bruno Phillip:

Boerne's Fallen Son and the Legacy of Service

By Tom Allred, Sr.

In the quiet corners of Boerne, Texas, where limestone buildings line Main Street and the Hill Country breeze carries echoes of history, one name endures as a symbol of sacrifice and patriotism: Private Bruno Phillip. Though his life was cut short on the battlefields of France during World War I, his legacy lives on in the hearts of Kendall County residents and in the enduring mission of VFW Post 688, which proudly bears his name.

This is the story of a local son whose courage transcended borders, whose death galvanized a community, and whose

memory continues to inspire generations of veterans and citizens alike.

Roots in Boerne: The Phillip Family

Bruno Phillip was born in Boerne, Texas, the eldest son of Julius Phillip, a respected member of the local community. The Phillip family was part of the German-American fabric that shaped Kendall County in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Like many families in the region, they balanced hard work, civic duty, and a deep sense of heritage.

Bruno grew up in a town that was still finding its footing - Boerne was a place of limestone storefronts, dusty roads, and a population shaped by ranchers, merchants, and immigrants. The values instilled in him - duty, honor, and service - were not abstract ideals but lived experiences in a community that prized self-reliance and neighborly care.

Answering the Call: Enlistment and Deployment

At the age of 30, Bruno Phillip made a decision that would define his legacy: he



volunteered to serve as an infantryman in the United States Army during World War I. His enlistment came at a time when the nation was rallying to support its allies in Europe, and young men from towns like Boerne were stepping forward to defend liberty abroad.

Bruno was assigned to the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF), which was preparing for one of the most significant offensives of the war - the Saint-Mihiel Offensive. This campaign, launched in September 1918, was the first major operation led by American forces under General John J. Pershing and marked a turning point in the war.

The Saint-Mihiel Offensive: A Final Stand

On September 3, 1918, during the early stages of the Saint-Mihiel Offensive, Private Bruno Phillip was killed in action. He died on foreign soil, far from the limestone hills of Kendall County, but his sacrifice was felt deeply at home.

The Saint-Mihiel Offensive was a bold and risky maneuver, aimed at breaking through German lines and reclaiming territory in northeastern France. It was a moment of national pride and strategic importance, but it came at a steep cost. Thousands of American soldiers lost their lives, including Bruno Phillip, whose name would soon be etched into the annals of Boerne's history.

Mourning and Memory: A Community Responds

News of Bruno's death reverberated through Boerne. In a town where everyone knew everyone, the loss was personal. He was not just a soldier - he was a neighbor, a friend, a son. His death brought the distant war into sharp focus for Kendall County residents, reminding them that global conflicts could reach even the quiet streets of their hometown.

In the years following the war, as communities across America sought to honor their fallen, Boerne took a step that would ensure Bruno's memory would never fade. In 1936, local veterans and civic leaders chartered a new post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and named it in his honor: VFW Post 688 - Private Bruno Phillip Post.

VFW Post 688: A Living Tribute

VFW Post 688 is more than a post - it is a living tribute to Bruno Phillip and all who have served. Located in Boerne, the post has become a cornerstone of veteran support, civic engagement, and historical preservation in Kendall County.

With over 250 members representing service in every conflict from World War II to Operation Inherent Resolve, Post 688 embodies the values that Bruno Phillip died defending. The post provides assistance with VA claims, organizes commemorative events, supports local schools, and volunteers thousands of hours each year to improve the community.

The post's mission is clear: to foster camaraderie among veterans, advocate for their rights, and remind the public that freedom is not free. Every meeting, every parade, every flag ceremony is conducted in Bruno's name - a constant reminder of the price paid for liberty.

A Legacy That Endures

More than a century after his death, Private Bruno Phillip remains a symbol of courage, sacrifice, and community. His story is woven into the fabric of Boerne,



carried forward by the veterans who serve in his name and the citizens who remember his sacrifice.

In a world that often moves too quickly, Bruno's legacy invites us to pause and reflect. It reminds us that freedom is earned, that service matters, and that the actions of one man can inspire generations.

As Kendall County continues to grow and change, the memory of Bruno Phillip stands firm - a beacon of honor in the heart of the Hill Country.

Sources

VFW Post 688 - Boerne
VFW Post 688 Official Site
Kendall County Historical Archives
Veterans of Foreign Wars National History

KG



Tom Allred, born in 1949, has lived in Kendall County since 1993 and is a dedicated contributor to *The Kendall Gentleman*. Inspired by his great-uncle, James V. Allred, the 33rd Governor of Texas, Tom explores local history and the legacies of men who shaped their communities. tom@thekendallgentleman.com



**LOCKED.
LOADED.
LOCAL.**

101 S MAIN ST SUITE A, BOERNE, TX



NOW OPEN!
101 S MAIN ST STE C,
BOERNE, TEXAS



What if insurance was easy?

Get a quote today



Luna Insurance Agency Inc
Jaime Luna, Agent

300 W Bitters Rd., Ste 155
San Antonio, TX 78216

Toll Free: 833-697-2984
jaimeluna@lunanation.com
www.lunanation.com



WINGSHOOTING LODGE



LUXURY SPORTING RESORT

Upland Hunting + Driven Shooting

Joshua Creek Ranch
Texas Hill Country

"The finest upland hunting with experienced guides, dogs, and incredible food and lodging. Also, the driven pheasant experience is superb, I attend all of the high volume shoots -- the number of birds and the setting in which they're driven is unsurpassed."

★★★★★ K. Worfe | Facebook Review



- ★ WORLD-CLASS UPLAND HUNTING AND EUROPEAN-STYLE DRIVEN SHOOTING
- ★ SPORTING CLAYS, SIMULATED DRIVEN CLAYS, AND HELICE SHOOTING
- ★ HANDGUN & LONG-DISTANCE RIFLE SHOOTING RANGES
- ★ LUXURY LODGING, FINE DINING, RESORT AMENITIES, AND EVENT FACILITIES

132 Cravey Road, Boerne, TX 78006 • (830) 537-5090 • JoshuaCreek.com

TEXAS INVESTORS TITLE



**Commercial | Residential
Farm & Ranch**

Becky Edmiston, CESP
President
Becky@TexasInvestorsTitle.com

Bryan E. Martin
Vice President
Bryan@TexasInvestorsTitle.com

116 W. Blanco Road | Suite 101 | Boerne, Texas | 78006
O (830) 816-5888 | F (830) 816-5889

Agents for Stewart Title Guaranty, Chicago Title Insurance, First American Title Insurance and Westcor Land Title Insurance

As your County Commissioner, Andra Wisian has kept safety front and center — for first responders, safer roads, and stronger regional leadership.

- Strengthened support for Volunteer Fire Departments with added staffing and resources in Bergheim and Comfort, improving fire and emergency response.
- Supported the updated fire code and helped launch the Hill Country Subregional Planning Commission for stronger safety oversight of battery storage projects.
- Advocated for safer roads, including SH 46 East/Herff/Esser intersection upgrades and safety improvements along SH 46 in partnership with TxDOT.
- Appointed to the Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization to give Kendall County a voice and keep safety first in regional transportation planning.



Scan the QR code to visit
www.VoteAndra.com

Kendall County
Commissioner



Re-Elect
Andra
W I S I A N

R E P U B L I C A N



Precinct 2

Andra Wisian: Standing Strong for Safety

Political ad paid for by the Campaign to Re-Elect Andra M. Wisian, Kendall County Commissioner, Precinct 2, Duane Zoeller, Treasurer