December BSBAC Buzz



An active life is a good life!

The mission of the Bulverde Spring Branch Activity Center is to facilitate active aging and to enhance the quality of life of older adults in our communities.



Halting Heart Attack & Stroke

Get Medical Help Fast

A heart attack or stroke can happen within seconds. Getting treatment fast for these medical emergencies can mean the difference between life and death or disability. But do you know the symptoms of these dangerous events? And do you know if you're at risk for having one?

More than 1.5 million people have a heart attack or stroke every year in the U.S. Heart attack happens when blood flow to the heart gets blocked, most commonly by a blood clot. Stroke happens when blood flow to the brain gets disrupted. The most common type of stroke is caused by a blood clot stuck in a blood vessel that feeds the brain. Stroke can also be caused by a blood vessel in the brain that breaks open and bleeds into nearby tissue.

"Early treatment is key to improving your chances of survival," says Dr. Gina Wei, a hearthealth expert at NIH. Treatment may include either rapidly dissolving or removing the clot to open up the blocked blood vessel. For some heart attack cases, emergency surgery is used to redirect blood flow around the blockage.

Getting help immediately can save a life and reduce damage to the heart or brain. Less damage to these vital organs can also mean less disability afterward, and a faster recovery, explains Dr. Clinton Wright, a neurologist and stroke researcher at NIH. So it's important to be on alert for symptoms of a heart attack or stroke for both yourself and the people around you. Every minute matters.

Know the Symptoms, Act Fast

The most common symptoms of a heart attack are pain, heaviness, or discomfort in the center or left side of your chest. But they're not the only symptoms. Women are more likely than men to have other symptoms, like pain or numbness in the left arm.

Some people may also feel a rapid or irregular heartbeat. Others feel pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, shoulders, neck, jaw, or above the belly button. You may also feel short of breath or suddenly sweat a lot for no apparent reason. Rarer symptoms include feeling extremely tired for no reason, nausea and vomiting, and dizziness.

For stroke, the most common symptoms are facial drooping, arm weakness, and trouble speaking. "There can also be a sudden loss of balance or coordination, or sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes," Wright says.

If you or anyone around you has these symptoms, call 9-1-1 immediately. Don't wait. Treatment can start in an ambulance on the way to the hospital. This helps improve the odds of survival and recovery. Don't drive yourself to the ER or ask someone to drive you. It may delay treatment.

For more information: https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/2024/12/halting-heart-attack-stroke



How do I get into about the Center?

- Weekly email and monthly printed newsletter
- BSBAC.com website
- Facebook page

- Posted flyers/notices at the Center
 - Text messages & email updates
 - Weekly Announcements





Note from the Center & Upcoming Events



Weekly Activity Schedule & Fellowship Menu



Health & Fitness Schedule





December Event Flyers & Special Events



Brain Games





A Season of Gratitude and Giving

As we turn the page to December, we're reminded of the warmth, generosity, and community spirit that define this time of year. It's a chance to pause, reflect on the past twelve months, and recognize the extraordinary kindness that makes our work possible.

This year, because of you, we have had a year full of growth, provision, and purpose. Every act of generosity—whether volunteering, donating, advocating, or simply sharing our mission—has helped strengthen our community.

We are thankful for the year we have had and are excited for what's to come in the year ahead. You are what makes the BSBAC community thrive and we invite you to continue to be part of our success. You can...

Give: Your year-end gift helps us meet immediate needs and plan for a strong start to 2026.

Share: Tell a friend, colleague, or neighbor about our work. Awareness fuels impact.

Engage: Join us for Center events and activities or volunteer with us!

Most importantly, we want to say **thank you**. Your support doesn't just help us serve—it inspires us. It shows what's possible when a community comes together with compassion and purpose.

From all of us at the BSBAC, we wish you a peaceful holiday season and a hopeful New Year.

May this season bring warmth to your home and joy to your heart.





10:00am - Mexican Train

December 3

1:00pm - Book Club

December 8, 22

12:35pm - Bunco

December 9

11:45am - Presentation: Let's Talk Meds & Travel

December 10

10:00am - Card Creations

1:00pm - Christmas Cookie Swap

1:30pm - Arts & Crafts Series: DIY Christmas Ornaments

December II

2:30pm - Dementia Support Group







December 16

11:45pm - Presentation: Energy Bites w/Texas AgriLife Ext.

December 17

2:00pm - Caregiver's Support Group

December 18

11:30am - Christmas Pajama Party & Potluck

December 19

9:00am - Loss Support Group

December 24-26

Center Closed for Christmas

December 31

Center Closed for New Year's Eve







Do you stock up on tissues and cough drops at the first sign of a chill in the air? Are you bracing for that first telltale sniffle of the season?

As winter nears, getting sick might seem inevitable. However, while we can't completely avoid seasonal germs, we can take steps to avoid a flu infection. This is especially important as we get older, when our immune system isn't as robust as it used to be—and serious illness and complications from the flu are more likely. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates 70-85% percent of seasonal flu-related deaths and 50-70% of seasonal flu-related hospitalizations have occurred in people age 65 and older.

How can older adults prevent the flu?

- 1. **Get vaccinated:** The best way to prevent the flu is to stay up to date with your flu vaccine. Getting vaccinated is especially critical for older adults. "People age 65 and older should opt for high-dose flu vaccines or adjuvanted flu vaccines, which are specifically designed to boost the immune response in older adults," said Dorothea Vafiadis, Senior Director of NCOA's Center for Healthy Aging.
- 2. **Practice good hygiene:** The flu virus spreads through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. You can also catch the flu by touching

contaminated surfaces and then touching your face. Someone who has the flu can spread the virus to others for about one day before they start experiencing symptoms and up to five days after getting sick. Practicing basic good hygiene can significantly lower your risk of getting the flu and infecting others when you're sick.

- 3. Prioritize good nutrition and **hydration:** Older age, chronic disease, environmental toxins, and other factors can weaken our immune system. Good nutrition can help counteract some of these effects by priming our body to fight off infection.
- 4. **Get plenty of sleep:** Sleep is crucial for a healthy immune system, but many older adults struggle with getting enough rest. To power up your slumber: Aim for 7 to 9 hours of quality sleep each night.
- 5. **Stay physically active:** Regular exercise not only keeps your body fit; it also enhances your immune system. A recent study found that exercising at moderate intensity for 15 minutes may help boost immunity by increasing levels of natural killer (NK) cells. These cells help our body destroy harmful pathogens, even if we've never been exposed to them before.2 Physical activity can also help flush bacteria out of your lungs and airways, reducing your odds of becoming ill.

- 6. Avoid close contact with people who are sick: Since the flu is highly contagious, avoiding exposure to those who are already sick is another key strategy for preventing the flu. If you know someone has the flu (or flu-like symptoms), maintain a safe distance:
- 7. Manage stress and moods as **much as possible:** It's no secret that stress and poor health go hand in hand. Chronic stress can compromise our immune system functioning and make us more vulnerable to illnesses like the flu. To keep your immune system working the way it should, make it a point to manage your stress from day to day.

Should you start experiencing flu symptoms—such as fever, chills, body aches, or fatigue—contact your health care provider right away. Early treatment with antiviral medications can reduce the severity of your symptoms, shorten the duration of your illness, and prevent serious complications that can land you in the hospital.

Preventing the flu as an older adult requires a combination of proactive measures, from eating healthy to getting vaccinated. By taking charge of your health, you can improve your odds of enjoying a safe, flu-free season.

https://www.ncoa.org/article/fluprevention-101-7-tips-for-older-adults/





MONDAY 📢



9:00am **Wood Carving**

10:00am Dominos: Mexican Train (1st & 3rd Mon)

11:30am Fellowship Meal

12:00pm Swoop Card Game (1st & 3rd Mon)

12:35pm Bunco (2nd & 4th Mon)

Bridge Foursome (1st & 3rd Mon) 1:00pm

2:30pm **Table Tennis**

2:45pm Intermediate Spanish

TUESDAY



11:00am Mah Jong

11:30am Fellowship Meal

1:00pm Bingo

3:45pm Beginners Spanish

WEDNESDAY



9:00am Bridge

10:00am Card Creations (2nd & 3rd Wed)

11:30am Fellowship Meal

12:00pm Advanced Poker Group 12:00pm Beginning Poker Group

Knitting/Crochet/Sewing Group 12:00pm

1:00pm Book Club (1st Wed)

1:30pm Arts & Crafts Series (2nd Wed)

1:30pm Guitar

Caregiver Support Group (3rd Wed) 2:00pm

THURSDAY



9:00am **Wood Carving**

9:30am Canasta Hand & Foot

> Tables drawn @ 9:45am Play begins @ 10:00am

11:30am Fellowship Meal Mindful Meditation 12:00pm

1:00pm Bible Study

2:30pm Dementia Support Group (2nd Thur)

FRIDAY



10:00am Grief Support Group (3rd Fri)

Fellowship Meal 11:00am

12:15pm Bingo









December FELLOWSHIP MEAL MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesdow	Thursday	Fridouz	
Taco Salad Dessert	Orange Chicken Rice Broccoli Dessert	Philly Cheesesteak Sandwich Chips Fruit Dessert	Baked Potato Bar w/Fixings Green Salad Dessert	Sausage Hoagies Potato Salad Dessert	
Chicken Tenders Mashed Potatoes Corn Dessert	Beef & Bean Burrito Spanish Rice Dessert	Zuppa Toscana Salad Dessert	Beef Tacos Black Beans Dessert	Egg Roll Fried Rice Dessert	
Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Dessert	Salad Trio Smoked Chicken Salad D's Salad Green Salad Dessert	Cheeseburger Black-Eyed Pea Salad Chips Dessert	HOLIDAY POTLUCK Ham Sweet Potatoes Green Beans	Taquito Enchilada Pinto Beans Dessert	
Chef's Choice Dessert	Pizza Green Salad Dessert	CENTER CLOSED	CENTER CLOSED RESTMAS	CENTER CLOSED	
Spaghetii Green Salad Dessert	Ham & Cheese Sliders Apple Salad Dessert	CENTER CLOSED	CENTER CLOSED HAPPY NEW YEAR	* • • • *	









Menday	Tuesday	Wednesdouz	Thursday	Friday	
8:30a Easy Pace (Renee) 10:00a Line Dancing (Renee) 11:00a Active Aging Strength (Maryann) 12:15p Balance & Strength* (Sandra) 1:30p Balance & Strength* (Sandra) 4:00p Yoga (Tania) 5:30p Clogging (Loraine)	9:30a Zumba Gold (Adaia) 10:30a DrumFit (Diana) 1:00p Beginning Line Dancing (Dottie) 2:30p Pilates (Meleah) 5:30p Zumba (Sandra)	9:00a Zumba Gold Toning (Adaia) 10:00a Active Aging Strength (Sissy) 11:15a Balance & Strength* (Sandra) 12:30p Balance & Strength* (Sandra) 2:30p Line Dancing (Dattie) 3:45p Mindful Flow & Core (Diana)	8:30a Easy Pace (Renee) 9:30a Zumba Gold (Adaia) 10:45a Chair Yoga (Sandra) 12:00p Balance & Strength* (Sandra) 2:30p Pilates (Meleah) 4:00p Restorative Yoga (Myrna) 5:30p Zumba (Sandra)	8:15a Self-Defense (Diana) 9:30a Posture Strength (MaryAnn) 11:00a Balance & Strength* (Sandra) 12:15p Balance & Strength* (Sandra)	
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Mon-Thurs: 8:00am - 6:00pm, Fri: 8:00am - 3:00pm

*Balance & Strength Class is FREE for all BSBAC Members











Class Descriptions HEALTH & FITNESS



ACTIVE AGING

This class helps improve strength. The instructor will take you through a variety of exercises for a complete workout. Get comfortable using circuit equipment as well as resistance bands, medicine balls, free weights, etc.



BALANCE & STRENGTH

This class is recommended for members with concerns about balance and loss of upper and lower body strength. Focus will be on functional fitness as well as balance and strength.

*Free to all members



CHAIR YOGA

Chair yoga is a gentle practice in which yoga postures are performed while seated and/or with the aid of a chair. Benefits include improved strength & energy, improved flexibility & balance, and improved concentration.



DRUMFIT

DrumFIT's Music, Motion & Memory Program encourages participants to socialize and move together for brain and body health. This unique program uses movement through drumming to benefit both the mind and body.



EASY PACE

Beginner to intermediate aerobics that includes cardio, marching in place, and basic arm and leg movement patterns. Improves muscle strength, flexibility, endurance, coordination, and balance.



LINE DANCING

Line Dancing is choreographed to a variety of music with repeating series of steps that are performed in unison. Learn some fancy footwork while challenging your mind to memorize these fun sequences.



MINDFUL FLOW & CORE

Peaceful meditation music while incorporating movement flexibility, static stretching, and core exercises. Equipment used will be straps, mats, foam rollers, and more to improve your mind, body and soul.



PII ATFS

Pilates is a low impact exercise comprising controlled movements that enhance your balance, core strength, mobility, flexibility, and even mood. It focuses on the smaller and deeper muscles that support your structure and enhance your overall health.



POSTURE STRENGTH

Gain a deeper understanding of postural alignment, postural habits, postural impacts and targeted exercises to correct them. Using strength and release principles of Corrective Exercise, this class will bring awareness to one's own imbalances and tips for everyday life.



RESTORATIVE YOGA

A therapeutic style of yoga which utilizes props to make it easier for the body to get into certain poses. The focus of this class is relaxation, renewal, effortlessness, ease and a completely supportive environment.



SELF DEFENSE

Class incorporates gross motor skills by learning strikes. Practicing these strikes over and over in classes creates muscle memory allowing you to be able to protect yourself. You also will learn to project your voice to deter predators. (Boxing wraps are recommended for hitting the pad, but not required.)



YOGA

Slow flowing class of gentle stretching and physical postures using breath to connect mind and body. This is an excellent way for improving flexibility, balance and great for de-stressing.



ZUMBA/ZUMBA GOLD

Zumba is a dance-fitness class that is set to zesty Latin music like salsa, merengue, mambo, etc. Zumba Gold modifies the moves and pacing to suit the needs of the active older participant.



ZUMBA TONING

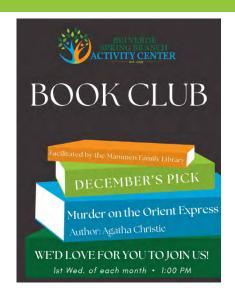
Zumba Toning is perfect for those who like Zumba, but want to put extra emphasis on toning and sculpting to define those muscles. The challenge of adding resistance by using toning sticks, helps you focus on specific muscle groups, so your muscles stay engaged.



1) ecember

EVENT FLYERS & SPECIAL EVENTS











Wednesday, December 10th at 1:30pm



\$5 Donations greatly Appreciated

Please use in-center sign-up to register.























BSBAC is once again partnering with Subaru to make an impact in the lives of homebound seniors.

This holiday season, Subaru and Meals on Wheels America are coming together through the Subaru Share the Love® Event to help ensure that older adults across the country receive the meals, care and connection they need to live independently and with dignity. When you choose Meals on Wheels America as your charity of choice, your selection helps support the delivery of meals and friendly visits to older adults nationwide.

From November 20, 2025 through January 2, 2026, Subaru and its retailers will donate a minimum of \$300 to charities, like Meals on Wheels, for every new Subaru vehicle sold or leased.







December

Abbott, Carol Adams, Diane Adams, Lorna Allen, Margaret Anderson, Debbie Antczak, Sheron Baldwin, Frank Banis, Wendy Barrett, Martha Bauernfeind, Gloria Been, Elaine Benites, Nora Boaz, Matthew Bowles, Jeff Brennan, Robert Burkett, Greg Chism, May Christner, Linda Clark, Dwight Corbin, Kathleen Cordes, Alfred Cosgrove, Marcia Cozart, Linda

Davis, Sherry Dawdy, Claudia Deitch, Leslie Dickens, Diane Dodd, Janet Dwyer, Nancy Ellingsworth, Brenda Eustrom, Rebecca Fairley, Sandra Ferguson, Richard Ferrari, Judith Flores, Jesse Forinash, Aurora Foster, Bill Gilbert, Andrea Gilbert, Joan Gill, David Gregoire, Alan Groat, Kathryn Guerra Jr., Fidelio Hamilton, Shawn Hawkins, Gloria Hazzard, Barbara

Heard, Marjorie Hildebrandt, Debbie Holliday, Annette Hurst, Cindy Hutchison, Patricia Hutson, David Iltis, Lisa Jimenez, Guillermo Kakar, Muhd Suleman Keith, Carol Kenisky, John Kimbrough, Daynelle Kirk, Julie Knibbe, Sharon Lagneau, Laura Lamers, Michael Landacre, Dona Lawson, Linda Letarte, James Lindsay, Jay Lobato, Abel Loesch, Margie Macias, Concepcion

Mammen, Lori Mann, Linda Matsler Brod, Lynn Mattice, Cindy McClain, Linda McGee, Silvia Meeks, Robert Mendenhall, Pam Montecinos, Joann Morse, Richard Munoz, Lydia Nyland, Rita Oar, David Orozco, Maria Ottea, Julia Perkins, Kristi Peterson, Larry Piet, Dolores Pixley, Charles Potter, Jean Potter, Terry Powell, Stacey Pritz, Michael

Puckett, Bill Purtell, Marlene Reed, Shirley Rhea, Becky Rizzo, Diane Robinson, Cheryl Sansom, Judy Santos, Belinda Sargen, Cheryl Schneider, Richard Schofield, Cindy Schwenn, Jenalee Shirey, Kathleen Shrader, Cindy Simpkins, Holly Smith, Kristy Suehs, Christine Tenney, Twyla Tiller, Karen Van Den Bergh, Flo Walker, Richard Walther, Judy Wilson, Toni Zimmerman, Patricia 9

Brain GAMES

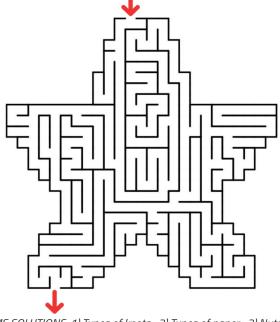


Sudoku

A 9×9 square must be filled in with numbers from 1-9 with no repeated numbers in each line, horizontally or vertically.

					8			
	7		1	4		3		
	2	4		3		5	9	1
		2			6		7	9
3	5	8	7					4
7	6		2		4	1	3	
	1			7	3	9	5	8
	8	3	9	1		7	2	
5				6			1	

Solve the Maze



EXERCISE

Your Brain!

Commonizms*

- 1. Slip Square Slide
- 2. Toilet Fly Wrapping
- 3. Lug Wing Square
- 4. House Dragon Horse
- 5. Prime Irrational Odd
- 6. Hunter Lime Forest
- 7. Sprinters Cities Toddlers
- 3. Spider Fiddler Hermit
- 9. Hair A Brain Ocean
- 10. A Cook A Toilet College Football

*COMMONYMS SOLUTIONS: 1) Types of knots; 2) Types of paper; 3) Nuts; 4) Flies; 5) Types of numbers; 6) Shades of green; 7) All have blocks; 8) Types of crabs; 9) They have waves; 10) They have bowls





Indidividual Giving CAMPAIGN



Dear Members, Supporters, and Friends,

Each day, we are reminded that the true strength of our organization comes from the people who believe in it – people like you. Your generosity, kindness, and faith in our mission make everything we do possible.

We also want to recognize the outstanding leadership of our Executive Director and the incredible team that brings our mission to life each day. Their commitment and innovation continue to move us forward in a rapidly changing world.

When you give, you're not just making a donation, you're helping change lives. You're standing beside us as we reach further, care deeper, and dream bigger for our community.

This year's Individual Giving Campaign is a celebration of that shared spirit. Together, we can continue to make a difference - one act of generosity at a time.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the opportunities and challenges that await us. The Board remains committed to strong governance, financial stewardship, and strategic growth, ensuring that our organization remains impactful and sustainable for years to come.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Your belief in our mission strengthens our resolve and deepens our impact. Together, we are building a brighter future.

With appreciation, Board of Directors, Bulverde Spring Branch Activity Center

ifling Spirits, Changing Lives - One Giff at a Time



Your gift fights hunger and isolation for older adults in our community





Our 2025 Individual Giving Campaign is in full swing and will continue through the end of the year. We have created a Giving Catalog and Form to make it easy to choose your gift to the BSBAC and Meals on Wheels Bulverde Spring Branch.

Give a gift with purpose this holiday season!

You Can Also Contribute Online















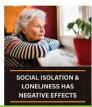


- Dally rellowship Meals
 Various pames icluding bingo, bunco, card games, dominoes, etc.
 Activities & Events including Arts & Crafts, Book Club, Support Groups,
 Daylrops, Parties & Morie
 Educational Opportunities

 Bus transportation to and from the Center

I Month of Transportation: \$50 Annual Membership for a Couple: \$75 1 Year of Social Activities & Daytrips: \$150











EGYM



Active Living - Lifeling Connections





Center HAPPENINGS

We had such a great time at the Bulverde Jubilee & Craft Show! Thank you to all the sponsors, community members, volunteers, the bands and vendors for helping us make this event a success. It was a beautiful day, and our community had a wonderful time!





































































Thank you to all who came out for our Community Thanksgiving Luncheon! Rain or Shine you showed up with smiles. Thank you to the students from Bracken Christian School and Pieper HS JROTC for helping us prepare and serve our members and guests. We appreciate you!



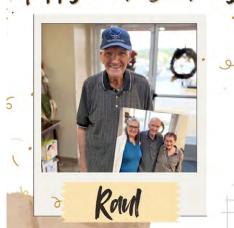
















Our first
Generations Dinner was a
huge hit - thanks to everyone who joined in! There
was great conversation all
around. Thank you to CBC
Northside for volunteering
to cook the food!











It was all about the Floral Design this month for Arts and Crafts. Members made arrangements in beautiful reds, oranges and yellows. It's Fall Y'all!











10 Health Benefits of Tangerine



How to Use Tangerine



soothe the nervous system. Additionally, clinical research suggests that the acid compounds in tangerine peel extracts may have potential as teeth whitening agents

HerbaZest.

Tangerines Excellent source of vitamin C and phytonutrients. Keep your portion to 1 to 2 tangerines maximum 9.3g 40 1.3g calories (per small fruit) 0.6g protein 0.2g



Thank You SPONSORS

SIMPLE LUXURIES

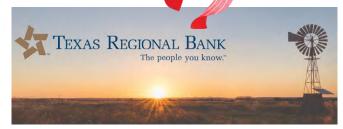
Michelle Hoehn

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up to \$2,000 on board credit



GREAT PEOPLE. **GREATER** IMPACT.



The GVTC Foundation is here for you. We're local, people-oriented, and most importantly, we care.

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SELECT SILVA









eam Members



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Rod Garcia *Transportation*



Allen Klar *Transportation*



Terre Sawey Transportation

Board Members

Keri Sandvig: Chair Matt Hester: Vice Chair Hanni Stautzenberger: Treasurer Ethan Myers: Secretary

Bobby Craft Melodie Vise Michelle Hoehn Seth Prescott Zandra Duke



The Bulverde Senior Center (BSC) and Bulverde Spring Branch Activity Center (BSBAC) is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization that provides services to seniors in the Bulverde/Spring Branch, Texas area. Current programs include Meals on Wheels, Senior Outreach, Social Activities, and Health & Fitness.











