

The Community Connection

NEWS FOR SWEETWATER RESIDENTS

LAKE TRAVIS FILM FESTIVAL



The **Lake Travis Film Festival** is preparing for showtime, February 27-March 1, 2020. The schedule for this exciting, juried, event has been released to the public and badges are now on sale on the LTFF website, www.laketravisfilmfestival.com. Here is just a hint of all the fun there is in store:

Thursday, February 27, 2020 –

Red Carpet Premier at the Lakeway Resort and Spa

- An exciting Red Carpet event will open the Lake Travis Film Festival.
- The **Austin Premier** of Short Film: *Class Act: Dance Hall Divas*, by Michael Moss Q&A
- The **World Premier** of Feature Film: *Writers Block* by Ray Spivey Q&A
- The **U.S. Premier** of Feature Film: *Family in the Bubble* by Ming Ma
- Feature Film by a Local Director: *Cowboys* by Bud Force and Jeffrey Brown, Q&A
- A Late Night Karaoke Party will follow.

Friday, February 28, 2020 – Showtime! Screenings, Workshops and Panels-Lakeway Resort and Spa

- Eight Feature Length Films
- Two Short film Showcases
- A Live Actor Table Read of the Finalist Short Script for a Film
- A Producer Workshop with Nick Nicholson
- Music Video Showcase in the Evening

Saturday, February 29, 2020 – Screenings at Lakeway Activity Center, and the Contra Commons in the Galleria

- The **U.S. Premier** of Feature Film: *Galore* by Dylan Tonk
- The **Texas Premier** of Feature Film: *Act of Reading* by Mark

Blumbergm Q&A

• VIP Special Event: **Leslie and Kevin Alejandro** video showcase their films

- Six Feature Films
- Short Film Showcase with Q & A
- Student Short Films Showcase with Q & A

Lake Travis Film Festival Schedule

Saturday, February 29, 2020 – Bee Cave Arts Foundation at the Galleria

• Photography Retrospective for Van Redin, 38 years of professional photos from famous films

Saturday, February 29, 2020 – “Where the Stars Come to Shine” Awards Ceremony

- Sonesta Hotel, Bee Cave (Requires Separate Entrance Ticket)
 - Afterparty at the Sonesta Bar
- Sunday, March 1, 2020 – Bloody Mary Brunch for Filmmakers and VIP Badge Holders

• At Verdes and Iron Wolf Ranch and Distillery

Sunday, March 1, 2020 – Texas Film Industry Day at Star Hill Ranch, Austin, TX

• A Variety of Professional Film Making Skills including: a Prop Museum, Stunt Professionals, Art Department/Production Design, SFX and Effects Demos

- An Actor’s Workshop
- The **World Premier** of the Feature Film: *The Bob Zula* by Brandon Reich

- Four Feature Films
- Two Short Film Showcases
- Autographs with Filmmakers and Celebrities
- Best **Texas Project Award**: City Mayors of Lakeway and Bee Cave
- Van tours to film locations in the area for visiting producers

All screenings are subject to change; check the website below for updates. Mark your calendars now for this exciting event right at your doorstep. VIP Badges, Film Badges, and VIP Single Day Badges are on sale now at www.laketravisfilmfestival.com. Don’t miss this extraordinary event!

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance.....	911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency.....	512-974-0845
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire Rescue	
Administration Office.....	512-266-2533
Travis County Animal Control.....	512-972-6060

SCHOOLS

Lake Travis ISD.....	512-533-6000
Lake Travis High School.....	512-533-6100
Lake Travis Middle School.....	512-533-6200
West Cypress Elementary.....	512-533-7500

UTILITIES

Pedernales Electric.....	888-554-4732
Crossroads Utilities (Water, Sewer, Trash).....	512-246-1400
Texas Gas Service	
Customer Service.....	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies.....	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig.....	512-472-2822
AT&T.....	1-800-288-2020
Time Warner Cable.....	512-485-5555
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste	512-974-4343

OTHER NUMBERS

Bee Cave City Hall.....	512-767-6600
Bee Cave Library.....	512-767-6620
Bee Cave Municipal Court.....	512-767-6630
Lake Travis Post Office	512-263-2458
Baylor Scott & White Medical Center.....	512-571-5000
City of Bee Cave	www.beecavetexas.com
Travis County (General No.).....	512-854-9020
.....	www.traviscountytexas.gov

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc.	512-263-9181
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Please support the advertisers that make the *Community Connection* newsletter possible. The Sweetwater community receives this newsletter free of charge provided by the advertisers within. If you are interested in advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or advertising@peelinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

The *Community Connection* is mailed monthly to all Sweetwater residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to include information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for the *Community Connection* please email it to sweetwater@peelinc.com. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the issue.

A Fun, Fruity, Refrigerated Treat

Save time on family desserts with make-ahead recipes like these Kristoff Ice Box Cupcakes. By using kid-friendly treats that add nutrition to appealing flavor, you can solve busy evenings



just by reaching into the fridge. This and other family-friendly recipes are part of Dole's healthy-living alliance with Disney's Frozen 2. For details, visit dole.com/Disney.

#Dole #DoleRecipes

Kristoff Ice Box Cupcakes

Prep time: 20 minutes, plus chill time

Serves: 12

- 3 ripe DOLE® Bananas
- 1 container (8 ounces) fat-free whipped topping, thawed
- 7 low-fat honey graham crackers, coarsely crushed
- 1 pound Dole Strawberries, hulled and quartered

Line 12-cup muffin tin with cupcake liners. In large bowl, mash bananas; fold in whipped topping.

Fill muffin cups halfway with graham cracker pieces, banana mixture and strawberries; repeat layers with remaining ingredients.

Refrigerate cupcakes 4 hours; serve in cupcake liners.

Approximate nutritional information per serving (1 cupcake): 78 calories; 3 calories from fat; 0 g fat; 0 g trans fat; 0 g polyunsaturated fat; 0 g monounsaturated fat; 0 mg cholesterol; 25 mg sodium; 164 mg potassium; 18 g carbohydrates; 2 g fiber; 8 g sugar; 1 g protein; vitamin A 0%; vitamin C 25%; calcium 2%; iron 2%; vitamin E 2%; thiamin 2%; vitamin B6 8%; phosphorus 2%; magnesium 4%; manganese 10%.

Content downloaded from FamilyFeatures.com

Why Not Host?

The decorations are packed away, gifts have been exchanged and life is back to normal once again. Why not bring a little excitement into your life by hosting a foreign exchange student!

Each of our students is fluent in English, comes with their own spending money and health insurance. Most importantly, they come with a dream to spend a year in the US so they can experience life as an American teenager!

Hosting is a very great way of bringing new cultures into your family, home, school and community. Speaking as the host mom to 14 different exchange students, I can say that this is one of the best decisions I've made in my life.

STS Foundation accepts all of host families – from single parents, newly marrieds, empty nesters and same sex couples. In order to host, you would need to meet the following qualifications:

- Host must be 25 years or older
- Pass a background check
- Provide food for 3 meals daily
- Ensure reliable transportation to and from school (bus is ok)
- A bed for your student
- A safe and loving home



STS Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that places foreign exchange students with American host families. For more information about hosting, please contact Vicki Odom at 832-455-7881 or email at vicki.stsfoundation@yahoo.com.



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We're Sweet on Sweetwater & Warren Lives Here too!

As of January 7, 2020 MLS Stats for Sweetwater were as follows:

13 Homes Pending Sales and 10 Active Listings not counting all the new construction

Please let us know if you would like additional stats for Sweetwater or surrounding areas.

With us you get TWO experienced full-time agents for the price of ONE! Contact Us Today for your FREE market analysis! Referrals are appreciated. Warren lives in Sweetwater too!

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Top 10 Travel Destinations to Start the New Decade

FAMILY FEATURES

For many, traveling offers an opportunity to disconnect from the everyday and experience new places and cultures. With the beginning of a new decade, it is the perfect time to start deciding your next travel adventures.

When booking your future destinations, consider these spots and tips recommended by travel expert and Bank of America ambassador, Lee Abbamonte, the youngest American to visit every country plus the North and South Poles.

England, Germany, Scotland, Azerbaijan and more.

While technically more than one place, these locations have one thing in common: Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Euro 2020. The international soccer event marks the first time the games will be held across the continent in 12 host cities.

“The year is a big one for sports,” Abbamonte said. “From sporting events in Europe to Japan, it is a fun year for travel and to enjoy once-in-a-lifetime experiences.”

Australia

From its deserts to tropical beaches, Australia is a beautiful country to explore. While many people might be familiar with the Sydney Opera House and the unique wildlife, there are many hidden gems in Australia.

“I’ve been to Australia 10 times and I still can’t get enough,” Abbamonte said. “One of my favorite cities is Melbourne. While it’s one of the largest cities in Australia, the heart of the city is hidden and secretive. It comes to life when you visit the alleys, laneways and arcades. The vibrant city has so much to offer: cafes, a unique street culture and street art.”

New Zealand

If you are going to New Zealand for the first time, Abbamonte



recommends boogie boarding down the sand dunes, hiking up a volcano and visiting the Moeraki Boulders. However, if you are really interested in getting the blood pumping, take a leap from Nevis Bungy near Queenstown. It is among the highest bungy jumping experiences in the world, measuring 440 feet.

Mexico

“Mexico City has two of my favorite things – great food and sports,” Abbamonte said. “The street tacos are to die for, and I love going to soccer games at Estadio Azteca.”

In 2020, there will be many festivals to explore.

The city is a cultural hub with music, theater, dance and food events throughout the year. While experiencing the festivities, it is also an opportune time to take a step back and enjoy Chapultepec Park.

Brazil

One of Abbamonte’s favorite waterfalls is Iguazu Falls located on the border of Brazil and Argentina. While Iguazu Falls might be well known, the falls themselves are truly unique. The waterfall system consists of 275 falls that stretch over approximately 1.68 miles. The Devil’s Throat is the tallest fall with a drop of more than 262 feet.

(Continued on Page 5)

"Top 10 Travel Destinations..." (Continued from Page 4)

While traveling internationally can be fun and exhilarating, there are also places throughout the United States that offer memorable activities:

Scottsdale, Arizona

If you enjoy being outdoors, Scottsdale is an ideal place to visit. There are many trails to explore in Camelback Mountain, Papago Park and Hole in the Rock. After hiking, follow Abbamonte's example and golf at The Short Course at Mountain Shadows.

"Scottsdale has some of the most beautiful sunsets in the States, and from The Short Course at Mountain Shadows, I get to enjoy the view while practicing my swing," he said.

Boston, Massachusetts

"I love sports, so I visit Boston regularly for the professional games," Abbamonte said. "I'm also fortunate that Boston is a beautiful city I can enjoy along the way."

Boston is one of the oldest cities in the country. Founded in 1630, Boston is filled with history, museums and universities. If you are interested in a more unique attraction, check out the Warren Anatomical Museum, which is one of the last of its kind in the United States.

Portland, Oregon

What makes Portland unique are the bizarre and wonderful things you can do when you visit. For example, you can try bone marrow ice cream, stop by Mill Ends Park (the world's smallest park) or attach your wish to The Wishing Tree.

"Portland is absolutely beautiful," Abbamonte said. "It has a bit of everything – restaurants, bars, parks – and I enjoy the people watching. Portland has some of the nicest people while maintaining an edgy vibe."

Tampa, Florida

Tampa might be known for its spring break party scene, but it has so much more to offer. For example, the city's zoos and aquariums provide opportunities to interact directly with animals. Then you can take a break at Clearwater Beach, which is known for its soft, white sand and calm waters.

Santa Barbara, California

"I go to Santa Barbara when I want to recharge," Abbamonte said. "I enjoy the food, walking around, talking to the locals and even watching a football game or two."

There are wine tours, zoos, beaches, museums and restaurants. While taking in the city, also make time to visit the hidden gems such as Knapp's Castle ruins.

Find more solutions to make your travel goals attainable at bankofamerica.com/Premium. Content downloaded from FamilyFeatures.com.

Financial Tips to Help Boost Your 2020 Travel

When booking a trip, almost half (44%) of Americans don't use a rewards credit card that earns points or cash back, according to a Bank of America survey. No matter where you plan to travel, it is helpful to have a financial strategy in place to maximize rewards and help offset future travel costs.

- Use a credit card that allows you to earn and redeem points for travel such as the Bank of America® Premium Rewards Visa® credit card, which earns 2 points for every dollar spent on travel and dining purchases and 1.5 points for every dollar spent on all other purchases.

- Layer your rewards programs together to maximize points with each purchase. For example, when booking a flight and hotel

package, include your frequent flier number (layer No. 1) and hotel loyalty program details (layer No. 2). Pay with a rewards credit card (layer No. 3) that's eligible for bonus points with a banking rewards program (layer No. 4).

- A banking rewards program like Bank of America® Preferred Rewards lets you earn even more. Members receive a credit card rewards bonus of 25-75% on every purchase. For example, members in the Platinum Honors tier, the highest tier of the program, earn unlimited 3.5 points per dollar on travel and dining purchases with the Premium Rewards Visa® card and unlimited 2.62 points on all other purchases.



COMMUNITY CONNECTION

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Jenny Roan **FORGEY** *for* STATE REPRESENTATIVE



Erica Woodford Photography

Jenny is running to be your next State Rep and hopes to earn your vote in the Republican Primary.

Jenny is for:

- ★ Limited Government
- ★ Low Taxes
- ★ Pro-Business Policies
- ★ Transportation Solutions that Increase Road Capacity Immediately

Jenny has the experience and background to get the job done:

- ✓ Former small business owner
- ✓ Attorney
- ✓ Native Austinite and lifelong Travis County resident
- ✓ Former Congressional staffer
- ✓ Foreign Affairs degree from Georgetown University and Juris Doctorate from Baylor Law

JennyRoanForgey.com  JennyRoanForgey  @JennyRoanForgey (512) 676-5420

Early Voting: February 18-28, 2020
Election Day: March 3, 2020

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Jenny Roan Forgey Campaign



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*We love & live
in Sweetwater!*



Since 2014, my husband Tyler and I have lived in Sweetwater. During that time, I have helped many neighbors sell their homes, as well as buyers purchase in the community.

We are excited to announce that Tyler has joined as a full-time REALTOR®. By working together, we hope to help twice as many families achieve their goals of buying or selling in 2020.



If you are thinking of selling, or are just curious what your home might be worth, please give us a call! We love working with our neighbors!

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