

Inch by inch, row by row-gonna make this garden grow!

As a permanent fixture in Boerne, the Cibolo Nature Center & Farm (CNC&F) has become the community's garden and natural playground. This has been a banner year for the nature center and as a number of fulfilling initiatives came to fruition, we continue to deepen and strengthen the roots we've put down in our community:

- Nature Pre-School launched and is going strong.
- The Garden Barn at Herff Farm is built and ready for yellow school buses, and for you to join in classes and workshops.
- Herff Farm is nearing completion of Phase II and is ready for celebrations and teaching opportunities.



AT THE TRAIL

Julia Murphy CNC&F

- A record number of school children attended Outdoor & Farm Classroom
- We hosted our 42nd Wildlife Field Research Week and continue to contribute to valuable data collection that supports water, bird and monarch research

The coming year will be no different as we will continue in our efforts to keep "Toes in the Creek and Hands in the Dirt."

This is the year the Herff Farm officially opens to the

public and schools. However, we can only create programs if we have the support to do so. In order to keep the Herff Farm and the CNC thriving and reaching the community's demand for programming, we need your help.

During this season of giving, consider supporting the CNC&F. Caring for our cultural and natural resources, our Texas heritage, the creeks that recharge our water source and the plants and animals that live around us is our collective responsibility.

Working together we can continue to create a regional model for living lightly in the Hill Country. A true asset in our com-

munity, the nature center receives no public funding, but is 100 percent supported through the generosity of individuals, foundations and corporations.

A financial gift in any amount will ensure that this precious landscape and Herff Farm, now preserved in perpetuity, will continue to be open and accessible for a place to recharge in nature while delivering outstanding programs that enrich people of all ages.

Your gift may be an annual contribution or a monthly payment. Additionally, you may name the Cibolo Nature Center & Farm as a beneficiary in your long-term planning. Cheyenne Johnson, director of development, can assist with special arrangements. Please contact her directly at 830-331-8982 or cheyenne@cibolo.org.

We have a track record of success, and inch by inch, row by row, we're making this garden grow! Won't you help us grow even more? Our mission is to conserve natural resources through education and stewardship.

Learn more about the CNC&F's mission to conserve natural resources through education and stewardship the www.cibolo.org.

Check out our OnLine Poll & express your opinion today www.boernestar.com

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The Cibolo Nature Center & Farm has become the community's garden and natural playground



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Come check us out at 1100 Grand Blvd., Boerne TX 78006 (just off Highway 46 and Interstate 10). Call us at 830-816-4400 or 210-734-1175. Apply online at www.mmliving.org or www.glassdoor.com.

Stop by the Workforce Solutions Alamo office, 1414 E. Blanco, Ste. 10A, Boerne TX, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 6 to learn more about these positions. On-site interviews available.



CNC&F Happenings

LITTLE EXPLORERS, Wednesday, Dec. 7, 10 to 11 a.m., CNC Visitor Center. For preschoolers and their caregivers, the Little Explorers will come for fun and adventure using their five senses to discover nature. They will listen to stories, sing songs, play games, explore the outdoors and make crafts to take home. \$5 per family.

SECOND SATURDAY VOLUNTEER DAY OF SERVICE, Saturday, Dec. 10, 9 a.m. to noon, CNC Visitor Center. Cooler weather will make all our projects seem so much easier! Projects for this workday will include parking lot and general trail maintenance. Bring gloves if you have them! Email volunteer@cibolo.org for more information.

FARMERS MARKET AT THE CIBOLO, Saturday, Dec. 10, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Herff Farm. Enjoy fresh air and delicious local produce, live music and more at the only Farmers Market in Texas on the

grounds of a historic 1850s pioneer farm. Buy fresh local vegetables and farm-fresh eggs, original arts and crafts, homemade breads, jams, jellies, pastries and locally produced honey. Join us for the last Farmers Market of the season. The market will open again in spring 2017!

KIDS CLUB: BIRD SEED FEEDERS, Saturday, Dec. 10, 10 to 11 a.m., Herff Farm. Let's keep our feathered friends happy this winter by making some seed feeders that you can take home for the bird friend in your own backyard. For kids from 3 to 103! \$5 per family.

CHRISTMAS WITH SANTA, Saturday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Herff Farm. The CNC&F presents Christmas at the Herff Farm. Santa Photos \$10, Family Portraits \$20 and Santa and Family Photos \$25.

The Cibolo Nature Center is at 140 City Park Road and the Herff Farm is at 33 Herff Road, both in Boerne.

A New Eye in the Sky

A new multimillion-dollar, next-generation weather satellite was launched into Earth's orbit on Saturday, Nov. 19. It is named GOES-16. GOES-16 is the first of four National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) highly advanced geostationary weather satellites.

Its geostationary orbit has been achieved at approximately 22,000 miles away with full communication and power implemented. The satellite harnesses the sun's output to power it with its solar array.

GOES-16 was created to provide continuous imagery and atmospheric measurements of Earth's Western Hemisphere, total lightning data, and space weather monitoring to provide criti-

WEATHER PERMITTING...



Dave Knollhoff

cal atmospheric, hydrologic, oceanic, climatic, solar and space data.

GOES-16 is considered to be a game changer. There are seven main improvements listed: (1) Improved hurricane track and intensity forecasts, (2) increased thunderstorm and tornado warning lead time, (3) improved aviation flight route planning, (4) improved air quality warnings, (5) improved solar flare warnings for communications and navigation disruptions, (6) more accurate monitoring of energetic particles respon-

sible for radiation hazards to humans and spacecraft and (7) better monitoring of space weather to improve geomagnetic storm forecasting.

GOES-16 is a multi-tasker. The satellite is set to scan the Western Hemisphere every 15 minutes, the Continental US every 5 minutes and area of severe weather every 30 to 60 seconds, all simultaneously.

The National Weather Service will take these datasets from GOES-16 and assimilate them into the numerical weather prediction models which is expected to improve forecast accuracy.

GOES-16's expected lifetime extends through December 2036. You can read more about GOES-16 at www.nesdis.noaa.gov/node/99.

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LIMESTONE

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