



ILOA Newsletter

P.O. Box 808 Smithville, Texas 78957

January 1, 2026

Welcome January

Are you ready to shake off those post-holiday blues and kickstart the new year with a bang? January might seem like a dull and chilly month, but trust me, it's packed with surprises.

From its ancient origins to its modern-day celebrations, January is full of hidden gems waiting to be uncovered. So, grab a hot cup of coffee, get cozy and read a good book, get ready to welcome the new year and everything that comes with it.

JANUARY

Mail HOA Payments to:

Indian Lake Owners Association

P.O. Box 808

Smithville, Texas 78957

Phone # 512-237-8500

The ILOA Board is still accepting payments via credit card or ACH. If you would like to pay your HOA dues by credit card or ACH bank draft, please call the ILOA Office at 512-237-8500 to make arrangements, there will be a 5% surcharge for paying by credit card and 2.5% surcharge for ACH bank draft.



Current Board Members

Bonny-Lynn Joplin-President

Carlie Case-Vice President

Crystal Kohanek-Secretary

John Keller-Treasurer

James Turner-Parks & Roads Chairman

Charles Faulds-Lakes & Fish Chairman

James Spell-Pool Chairman

Architectural Committee

Christopher Robbins, Bobby Williamson, Wendy Williamson



Neighborhood Events / Happenings



Letter from the ILOA Board President

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year

Dear Indian Lake Residents,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I extend our warmest wishes to you and your families for a joyful holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year.

As we reflect on the past year, we are grateful for the sense of community we share in Indian Lake. The upcoming year brings with it the promise of new beginnings and continued collaboration to make our neighborhood an even better place to live.

The Board will be working on several initiatives in 2026, including “The New Pavilion project”. We look forward to sharing more details and working with you in the coming months.

We wish you a peaceful end to the current year and a January filled with hope and optimism.

Sincerely,

Bonny Joplin
President, Indian Lake Owners Association
HOA Board of Directors

REMINDER-The next bi-monthly Board of Directors meeting will be January 10th 2026, from 10-AM to 12-Noon at the First National Bank meeting room in Smithville. We hope to see you all there.



Everyone should have received their 2026 Dues Invoice by now, as a friendly reminder the dues were increased to \$200 annually, this was voted on and approved at the 2025 Annual Business Meeting. Dues for 2026 are considered late by February 1, 2026, if you did not receive your invoice, please contact the ILOA Board Treasurer at 512-237-8500, not receiving an invoice does not negate your responsibility to pay your dues. Liens will be filed for all invoices not paid after February 1, 2026.

Ownership Wide Vote Committee

The Texas Residential Property Owners Protection Act mandates that HOAs must provide certain documents to prospective purchasers of property within the community. This includes the bylaws and restrictive covenants (we currently call them Subdivision Restrictions). While our bylaws provide a procedure whereby our property owners can vote on making amendments or not, there is currently no such procedure in the ILOA Subdivision Restrictions. Therefore, our restrictions are still based on building codes, state laws, and available technology that were in effect in 1972 when they were written. Perspective new owners are provided with these outdated documents when considering purchase but discover different requirements when they go to the county to obtain a construction permit. **We need to get our Subdivision Restrictions updated to meet current law and building codes!**

[Section 209.0041](#) of the Texas Property Code regulates the steps that an owners' association must take to add a procedure to a dedicatory instrument (in this case our Subdivision Restrictions). In summarizing what I am trying to say, the ILOA has to conduct an election (by US mail) that returns a 2/3 favorable vote from all property owners in order to add such a procedure.

A committee has been appointed by the Board of Directors which has been charged with the responsibility of conducting such an election. The committee is working hard to create and ready the ballots, proof of ownership forms, instructions, etc. to be mailed to each property owner in mid-February. There will be additional newsletter articles, as well as more frequent email updates which will include information to update the ownership of where we stand. Future efforts will hopefully include the addition of an election discussion board on our website through which questions can be asked by ownership and answered by the committee.

What the committee desperately needs IMMEDIATELY is a Spanish speaking homeowner/property owner that is willing to join our committee to help communication and educational efforts on why the election is being held with our non-English speaking neighbors!! If you are interested in helping out your community, please send an email to LetsAllVote@outlook.com indicating that you would be interested in serving as a member of this committee.

Thank you and hope to hear from you soon!!



Neighborhood Watch

When you are out and about the neighborhood, please be vigilant of your surroundings, if we see something let's say something. Please call the Bastrop County Sheriff's Office at 512-303-1080 if you notice any suspicious activity in the neighborhood, you can also report concerns to your current Board Members by email @ iloaoffice78957@yahoo.com or by calling the ILOA Office phone 512-237-8500. In the event of an emergency, dial 911.





[New ILOA Website](#)

Please go to our new website and register by clicking on the Contact tab at the top of the page <https://indianlakeowners.net> . You can enter your personal information there, by sharing your email address with us you will receive notifications from time to time. Please share this information with your neighbors so that they can sign up also.



Brush Pile



The Brush Pile is open for ILOA residents the first Saturday of each month with weather permitting. When dumping, please pull to the back of the pile before dumping your brush/debris. **Members must have their dues paid in order to use the Brush Pile.**

Bastrop County Commissioner who arranges the mulching of the Indian Lake brush pile, only natural materials are appropriate for the brush pile: brush, shrubs, twigs, branches, small tree trunks.

Not appropriate is any processed wood materials, treated lumber, lumber with nails, etc. These products are hazardous to the environment and may damage the mulching machinery.

Open from 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon



Volunteer Your Time



The ILOA Board Members are always looking for volunteers to assist with things to do in our neighborhood, please send your information to iloaoffice78957@yahoo.com if you would like to volunteer your time.

Pool/Pavilion Playground Area

Brush Pile Area

Lawn Care

Lake/Fish

Architectural Committee Member



Welcome to the Neighborhood



We would like to welcome the following new neighbors to Indian Lake.

1. Non to report



Happy New Year

As you stand in the doorway to a brand-new year it's natural to take a pause and reflect on how the last year has been and to think about where you're going in the new year that lies ahead for you.

What have you learned from the past 365 days? What are your dreams and goals for the coming year and how will you use that blank canvas and time?



Smithville/Bastrop/La Grange Events 2025



Let's always support our Local Business's in Smithville, it helps our community grow and keeps our Business's open.

TIRES & ELECTRONICS ONLY!!!

Bastrop & Lee County residents — mark your calendars! A Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Event is coming to Smithville, focused on tires & electronics disposal. This is a great opportunity to safely get rid of items that don't belong in your regular trash.

Friday, January 24th

🕒 9:00 AM – Noon

📍 109 Taylor Street, Smithville

⚠️ Vouchers are required

Be sure to scan the QR code on the flyer or visit:

👉 www.co.bastrop.tx.us/page/ds.household_waste

Plan ahead, grab your voucher, and help keep our community clean and safe!

BASTROP & LEE COUNTY RESIDENTS:

SAVE THE DATE!

JAN 24TH 9AM-NOON



**TIRES &
ELECTRONICS**

HHW EVENT

**VOUCHERS
REQUIRED**

**109 TAYLOR ST
SMITHVILLE**



**SCAN the QR
CODE or VISIT:**

www.co.bastrop.tx.us/page/ds.household_waste

The Toasted Yolk Café

The breakfast and lunch chain will launch its Bastrop spot within an upcoming development called Sendero—a 75-acre mixed-use development under construction along Hwy. 71. The Toasted Yolk Cafe offers a variety of meals—including brisket tacos, breakfast burritos, and chicken and waffles—across its breakfast, brunch and lunch menus.

- Opening TBD
- Sendero, 900 block Hwy. 71 W., Bastrop
- www.thetoastedyolk.com



Crust Pizza Co.

Crust Pizza Co. will bring Chicago-style thin-crust pizzas alongside a wide variety of appetizers, pastas and desserts to Sendero.

- Opening TBD
- Sendero, 900 block Hwy. 71 W., Bastrop
- www.crustpizzaco.com/home



Tropical Smoothie Café

Bastrop residents can now grab a freshly blended drink at Tropical Smoothie Cafe, which opened its doors in the Burleson Crossing shopping center in late November, joining other recently opened eateries, including Volcano Sushi and Ramen, Jeremiah's Italian Ice, Chipotle and Smokey Mo's BBQ.

- Opened Nov. 23
- Burleson Crossing, 717 Hwy. 71 W., Ste. 400, Bastrop
www.tropicalsmoothiecafe.com



Tractor Supply Co. to open in Smithville

Tractor Supply Co. is slated to expand its footing in Bastrop County with a location planned for Smithville within an upcoming 69-acre industrial park. Jesco Construction broke ground on the industrial park, just south of Smith Supply Co., between highways 230 and 71, in late November, according to Smithville officials.

Brentwood, Tenn.-based Tractor Supply Co., founded in 1938 as a mail-order business for tractor parts, has more than 2,300 locations across 49 states and sells livestock feed, hardware supplies and tools, lawn and garden supplies, clothing and more.

- Opening TBD
- Smithville Industrial Park, intersection of Hwy. 230 and Hwy. 71, Smithville
- www.tractorsupply.com
-



Bastrop Empty Bowl

The 21st annual event, which will help raise funds for food support in the community, invites residents to sample soups, stews and chilies. Each ticketed attendee will take home a locally hand-painted ceramic soup bowl of their choice.

- Jan. 24, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Free (admission, ages 5 and under), \$7.18 (admission, ages 6-12), \$39.19 (general admission)
- Bastrop Convention and Exhibit Center, 1408 Chestnut St., Bastrop
- www.bastropfoodpantry.org



Always remember and support our Veterans

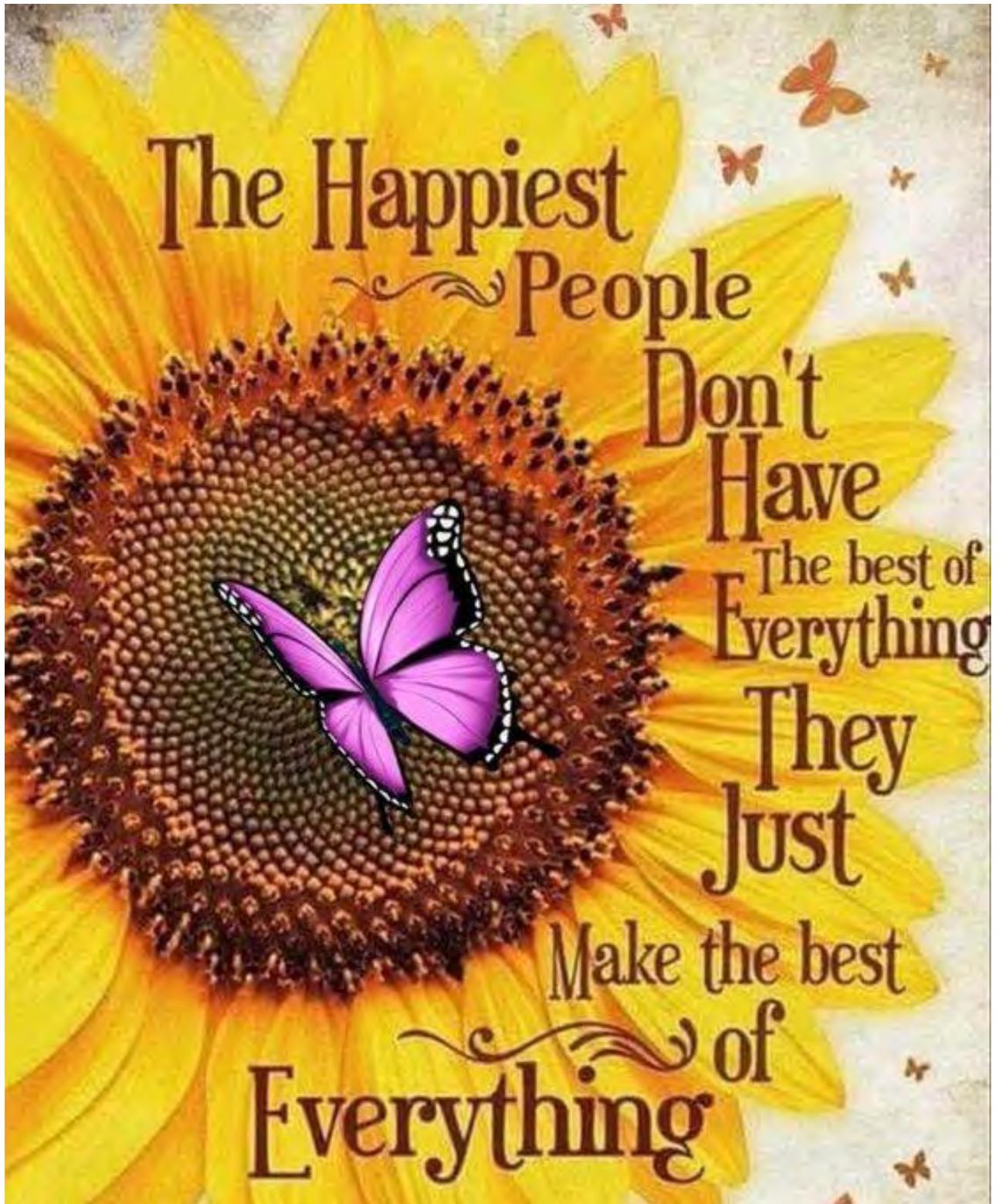
Veterans know better than anyone else the price of freedom, for they've suffered the scars of war. We can offer them no better tribute than to protect what they have won for us.



Texas A&M Forest Service, Smithville Task Force

The firefighters of the Smithville Task Force respond to calls far beyond Smithville. The 12 member Texas A&M Forest Service crew serves 16 Texas counties and sometimes other parts of the state. When conditions allow, task force members also make themselves available to support firefighters across the nation. Collin Woodland, task force coordinator, has led responders to more than 30 calls a year. This job is challenging. We operate in an ever-changing environment and interact with people at possibly one of the worst times of their lives. Woodland said. Seeing all emotions a person can have teaches you how to handle delicate situations. Texas A&M Forest Service members complete courses on wildland fire weather, firefighting and leadership skills, and continue their education with hands-on training. Below, Texas A&M Forest Service and Texas Parks & Wildlife team members practice connecting a hover sling, which carries and drops supplies into hard-to-reach-areas.





After school Art Classes at Mary Nichols Art Center.
Sign up now



Registration is now open for Spring 2026
visit www.artsforruraltexas.org/aasregistration
or scan the QR code



For more information, please contact Tory Farley,
Program Director, at programs@artsforruraltexas.org
or by calling 979-378-2113

Recipe of the Month:



Chicken Noodle Casserole Recipe

PREP TIME :10 minutes

COOK TIME: 35 minutes

TOTAL TIME: 45 minutes

Ingredients:

- 2- (12.5 oz) cans chunk chicken breast, drained (or 1 quart Home canned chicken)
- 2- (10.5 oz) cans of chicken cream soup
- 1- cup of mayonnaise
- 1- cup of milk
- ½- cup onion diced
- 1- can whole kernel corn
- 1- bag (10-12 oz) frozen sweet peas
- 1- Teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1- Teaspoon sea salt
- 3- cups finely shredded fiesta blend cheese
- 12- ounce package egg noodles, cooked and drained
- ½- cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1- stick butter (1/2 cup) melted

Instructions:

Preheat the Oven to 350 F degrees.

Spray a 9X13-inch baking dish with a non-stick cooking spray.

Shred your chicken or open and drain any excess water from the can and break up the large chunks.

Boil noodles in a large pot until el dente (about 5 minutes) and then drain.

Combine the chicken, cream of chicken soup, mayonnaise, milk, onion, peas and corn, salt and pepper and cheese into a large bowl.

1. Stir until combined.
2. Gently stir in the noodles until everything is evenly coated in the cream sauce.
3. Carefully pour the mixture into the prepared baking dish. Spread around until it is even.
4. Sprinkle the top evenly with panko breadcrumbs.
5. Drizzle the top with the melted butter evenly over the breadcrumbs.
6. Bake uncovered for 30-35 minutes or until heated through and the top is golden brown.
7. Serve warm and enjoy.



Inspirational Quote:

“We spend January 1st walking through our lives, room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done, cracks to be patched. Maybe this year, to balance the list, we ought to walk through the rooms of our lives... not looking for flaws, but for potential.”

