

Texas Rebekah News



2026

Rebekah Assembly Secretary

Pam Isenhower
27210 Kendall Ridge Lane
Cypress, Texas 719/775-9726

Retirement Center

Lavonne Cannaday, Director
2302 S. Oak Grove Road
Ennis, Texas 75119
972/875-8641 or director@ofrc.org

Grand Lodge Office

James Curtis, Secretary
3440 W. Second Avenue
Corsicana, Texas 75110
james.curtis@gliooftx.org

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Officer's Addresses to Assembly



Rebekah Assembly of Texas

www.texasrebekahs.org

President, Arlene Martin

Vice-President, Mari McDonald

Warden, Micki Jones-Hollaway

Secretary, Pam Isenhower

Treasurer, Amy Cantrell



Calendar of Events

July: 4 250th Independence Day Anniversary

11 W & O Meeting

16-29 Pilgrimage for Youth

31 Lodge Semi-Annual Reports Due

August: 8 W & O Meeting

14-20 Sovereign Grand Lodge Session, Frisco, Texas

September: 12 W & O Meeting

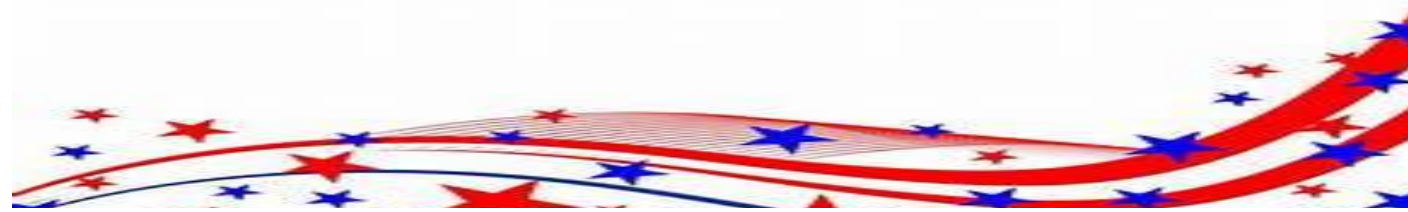
13 Picnic in Ennis

26 Annual Picnic in Corsicana

July Retirement Home Birthdays:

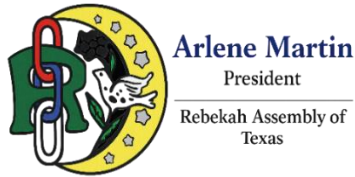
1 Jan Williams

24 Betty Oates



Rebekahs! Let us know what is happening in your lodge. Are you having a fundraiser? are you doing a service project? If it's scheduled, we will put it on our calendar of events. These items should be sent in as soon as they are scheduled by your lodge. If they have already happened, send photos and some information so that we can share your work with other Rebekahs.

Items should be emailed to texasrebekahnews@gmail.com no later than the 20th of each month. **Items received after the 20th, will not be included in that month's newsletter.**



Happy June Everyone! I hope you are all keeping cool and feeling well.

It has been a slow month. My son Jeremy was hospitalized with severe diabetic wounds on his legs and feet as well as an infection. At first the doctors said his foot might need to be amputated, but they gave him some strong antibiotics, and they are doing much better now. They are not gone but are so much better. Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers!

I have attended the board meeting on 06/13/26.

Sad news is Past Grand Master Grady Smith passed away on June 6th. His funeral was on June 19th in Terrell. Also, Jerry Swanson passed away on June 7th of Loyalty Rebekah Lodge #166. His memorial will be held June 30th at 6pm at their home. Please keep sisters Peggy Smith and Linda Swanson in your thoughts and prayers.

Always remember, that if you believe in yourself, others will believe in you too! Love to you all!

In FL&T

Arlene Martin, President

Rebekah Assembly of Texas



Balch Springs Serving Their Community

Pictured at right are the members of Balch Springs Rebekah Lodge #64 and Balch Springs Odd Fellow Lodge #78 presenting a check for \$1500.00 to the Hope Food Bank.



Sick & Distressed

- * Grady Smith, Past Grand Master of Texas, died on June 9, 2026. A Memorial Service was held on June 19th in Terrell, Texas. Please keep his beloved wife, Peggy, in your prayers.
- Jeremy Martin, Fort Worth Lodge #251 and the son of Assembly President, Arlene Martin, is home from the hospital. We are happy to report that he is free of infection and doctors did not have to amputate.
- Micki Jones-Hollaway, Warden of the Rebekah Assembly of Texas and member of Balch Springs Rebekah Lodge, was taken to the hospital on the 18th. She was sent home the next day with a heart monitor which will determine whether medication will help or whether she will need a pacemaker.
- Calley Harris, Smithville Rebekah Lodge, has been diagnosed with an ovarian cyst. Happily, a week after the discovery, it ruptured on its own and surgery will not be necessary.
- Sherry Reid has received good news! Her eyes have stabilized and they may not get any worse.
- Johnny Cantrell had shoulder surgery on June 25th.
- Jerry Swanson, Loyalty Rebekah Lodge #166 passed away on June 7th. His memorial was held on June 30th.
- Retirement Home resident, Carol Slowik, passed away on June 22nd. Services will be held at Baylor Baptist Church in Ennis on July 10th.

Submitted by Micki Jones-Hollaway

Call to All Lodges!

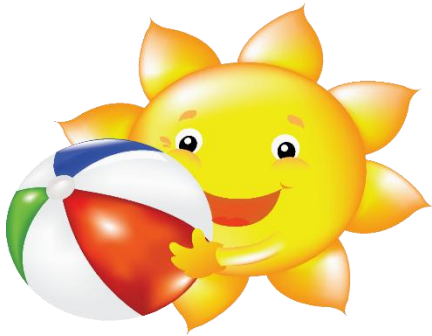
The State of Texas will be playing host to the Sovereign Grand Lodge and International Association of Rebekah Assemblies in August of this year. This is indeed an honor and we want to put our best foot forward. The President is looking for items to add to the registration (goody) bags that will be given out. We are anticipating about five hundred people will attend so, that's how many of each item is needed.

The items can be anything from snacks to keepsake items to office supplies. Perhaps an item that has something specific to the Lone Star State? Something Texas shaped or something decorated with Bluebonnets?

Some items from previous bags: Towels, hats, t-shirts, snacks, pens, notepads, key chains, figurines, magnets. The sky is the limit!

Items must be in the hands of the organizers no later than August 12th. If you have any questions, please contact coordinator, Christina Jones-Hollaway, at 214/690-7574.

The Youth can still use donations for their project making stuffed animals for the children in Children's Health Dallas. Checks should be sent to Pam Isenhower with a note in the memo designating the purpose of the donation.



Did you know?

If you have ten years continuous membership as a Rebekah or Odd Fellow, you are eligible for the lowest rates available at the IOOF Retirement Center in Ennis!

For more information, call Lavonne Cannaday, Director at 972/875-8641

Harlandale #179 Continuing Project

Submitted by Yvonne DeLuca

For the month of June, Harlandale Lodge provided our adopted family with games and toys including a swimming pool for them to enjoy during these HOT months. The items were delivered on May 4th by Cheryl Even, Robin Cloberdants, and Yvonne DeLuca. We also presented them with a gift card to help them with groceries and other items they need. For July, we will also give them a \$100.00 gift card for their use.



Pictured:
Aubree, Delana,
Yvonne DeLuca,
Cheryl Even

Running for Office?

Submitted by Mari McDonald

If you are interested in running for an Assembly office, there are several steps to being able to qualify to run.

The first step is to fill out the application, which can be obtained from the Rebekah Assembly Secretary.

Once you have completed the application process, you must attend a school of instruction which will be held at the next State Assembly session. This school is ssooooo important. I did not have the benefit of this kind of instruction when I ran for Warden and spent a lot of my time being surprised and learning on the fly.

I also cannot stress the importance of reading the code books. This applies whether you are running for an office or not. Yes, there are parliamentarians that will help keep us on track but a working knowledge of what is and is not a part of our codes is essential to the Order, its members and to any leadership roles within the Order.

Smithville Clothing Drive

Pictured below are members of the Smithville Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges who gathered fifteen bags of clothes and two boxes of personal hygiene items and winter accessories for Street Youth Ministry of Austin. Street Youth is a faith-based ministry serving street-dependent young people.



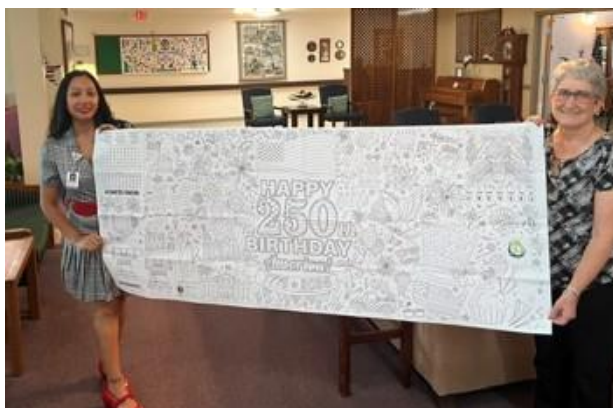
**If you would like to be added to our mailing list,
send us your email address at
texasrebekahnews@gmail.com**

Retirement Home Shenanigans



Tye Dye Bash!

Splashing the
world with color



Rosanna of Bristol Hospice presenting the residents with a banner to decorate for Independence Day.

Ramblings of Your V.P.

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Welp, June was a tough month for most everyone. I'm trying to get through the SGL code book. Reading it is the easy part, retaining the information is the challenge!

I was approached twice this month with a complaint about me personally. None of us gets through life without some judgement, and I'm as guilty as the next person of judging people.

We all have moments when we see someone and think, "oh, my word! What were they thinking?" For me, it's people who wear pajamas to public places like restaurants and grocery stores. Occasionally, I see someone wearing baggy flannel pajama pants, an oversized shirt and house slippers and shake my head because I wasn't raised that way. If you went out, you were at least neat and clean and had your hair brushed but pajamas were for indoors and sleep ONLY.

There was a time that I passed judgement on people with tattoos. When I was a kid, the only men with tattoos were either veterans or ex-convicts. And a WOMAN with tattoos. Sheesh! That told you all you needed to know about what kind of woman SHE was. And now, I have a tattoo and will be getting another.

My children are ages 45, 44 and 27. The two older ones have a lot of their mom's old judgements. But the younger one has taught me so much about judging a book by its cover. You see, her generation doesn't care how you dress, whether you have tattoos or not, whether you are vegan or a carnivore, whether you are gay, straight, non-binary or purple. Their question is, "what kind of person are you?"

My daughter is baffled by the fact that I think pajamas at the grocery store are tacky. Her comment to me once was, "mom, mind your business and quit judging." She was 19 at the time. She has done a lot to keep me moving forward/progressing/evolving as a human in this 21st century. I'm blessed because it reminded me that how people dress has nothing to do with who they are or how they act. In fact, I think that when there comes a judgement day, I will be judged harshly for my presumption that it is my place to have an opinion about how someone else looks.

If you had told me that at 67 I would have purple hair and a tattoo, I would have thought you'd lost your marbles, but here I am. And the surprising thing is that I have connected with more people because I'm leaving the judgements and precepts of the 20th century behind me. Come, take my hand and walk with me into the future.

In F, L & T

Mari McDonald

Directory of Rebekah Lodges in Texas

Andrews Rebekah Lodge #148

Pat Richards, Sec

206 NE 5th, Andrews, TX

prichards413@yahoo.com

Athens Rebekah Lodge #23

Barbara Curtis, Sec

1301 Cayuga, Athens, TX

jmcurtis162@gmail.com

Balch Springs Rebekah Lodge #78

Micki Jones-Hollaway, Sec

12001 Crumpton Drive, Balch Springs, TX

godschild_000@yahoo.com

Casa View Rebekah Lodge

Peggy Smith, Sec

meets @Cotton Patch Restaurant, Rockwall, TX

peggy111749@gmail.com

Cypress Rebekah Lodge #22

Rena Healy-Findlay, Sec

meets at VFW, 21902 NW Frwy, Cypress, TX

renahealy@outlook.com

Denton Rebekah Lodge #18

Karen June Bays, Sec

1415 Eden, Denton, TX

kalenajune@yahoo.com

Harlandale Rebekah Lodge #179

Yvonne DeLuca, Sec.

no physical building at this time

yvonedeluca@aol.com

Home Rebekah Lodge #128

Nancy Chew, Sec

3440 W. Second Ave. Corsicana, TX

nancy.chewglioftx.org

Loyalty Rebekah Lodge #166

Linda Swanson, Sec.

400 W. Terrell, Burleson, TX

lindaswanson1953@yahoo.com

Palmer Rebekah Lodge #25

Amy Cantrell, Sec.

no physical building at this time

aboxofjoy@yahoo.com

River Oaks Rebekah Lodge #467

Vicky Fluty, Sec.

1501 Hemphill, Fort Worth, TX

mytxnanaf@yahoo.com

Silver Leaf Rebekah Lodge #75

Arlene Martin, Sec.

1501 Hemphill, Fort Worth, TX

arlenemartin1955@gmail.com

Smithville Rebekah Lodge #180

Mari McDonald, Sec.

406 Turney, Smithville, TX

Smithvilleioof@gmail.com

Tyler Rebekah Lodge #142

Vivian McElligott, Sec.

220 1/2 W. Erwin, Tyler, TX

vnicklessmcelligott@gmail.com

Waxahachie Rebekah Lodge #381

Savannah Williams, Sec.

208 1/2 Rogers, Waxahachie, TX

savannah.o.williams@gmail.com