
***TEST*: BCCI Newsletter for November**

From 'Robert Tysdal' <bcci@mg2.lglcrm.net>

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To robert@bccitx.org <robert@bccitx.org>

Reader



***Keeping the Hill Country
in Blanco County™***

Conservation Through Education

P. O. Box 1355, Johnson City, TX 78636

bccitx.org

[BCCI Facebook Page](#)

BCCI is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
You can help us at [DONATE | BCCI](#)



2026 ART CONTEST HIGHWAY TO HISTORY



Every highway has a story.
Every dancehall keeps it alive.



ARTWORK GUIDELINES

- Artwork should reflect the *Highway to History* Twin Sisters Dance Hall theme.
- Submit artwork by Thursday, September 24, 2026
- Artist's full name, email, and phone number should be clearly printed on the back.
- Artwork can be oil, pastels, watercolor, acrylic, pencil, charcoal, or other hand-drawn or painted media.

Artwork will be displayed at
**Raise the Roof Cookoff &
Festival Sep 25-26th!**

AGE CATEGORIES

ELEMENTARY 1

K - 2nd grade | 1st, 2nd, 3rd place

ELEMENTARY 2

3rd - 5th grade | 1st, 2nd, 3rd place

MIDDLE SCHOOL

1st, 2nd, 3rd place

HIGH SCHOOL

1st, 2nd, 3rd place

ADULT

1st, 2nd, 3rd place prizes
Sponsorship prizes

+
**HEART OF THE HALL
AWARD**

See the full list of rules, prizes, and sign up details at BCCITX.ORG

2026 BCCI + Twin Sisters Dance Hall Art Contest: Highway to History

This year's art contest invites artists to explore the history, stories, and community surrounding Twin Sisters Dance Hall along Highway 281.

THEME REQUIREMENT

All artwork must:

- Relate to the theme Highway to History
- Include recognizable imagery of Twin Sisters Dance Hall itself
- Connect in some way to the dance hall, Highway 281, its history, or the people and places associated with it

Visit the BCCI website for details: [BCCI 2026 Art Contest](#)

Thank you to our sponsors, William Chris Vineyards, Blanco Chamber of Commerce

THE BLANCO LIBRARY SEED EXCHANGE

NOTICE TO ALL NATURALISTS, GARDENERS, AND CURIOUS PASSERBY...

The Blanco Library is curating a living archive of seeds gathered from gardens, fields, prairies, and roadsides of the local ecoregion we call home. Each seed represents generations of adaptation, resilience, and careful stewardship. Together, they preserve the botanical heritage of our community for generations to come. Become a part of this collection by donating seeds today!

Ribbon Cutting Oct. 3rd
11 AM - 12 PM

Enjoy refreshments. Meet the founders. Donate seeds. Take seeds home.

Blanco Woman's Club
Native Plant Society of Texas
BLANCO CONSERVATION INITIATIVE
BACK 2 EARTH COMPOST
OLD BLANCO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
BLANCO Chamber of Commerce
BACKBONE VALLEY NURSERY

LEARN HOW TO BECOME A FOUNDING CURATOR
AT BLANCOLIBRARY.ORG/SEEDS

This fall, the Blanco Library is launching Blanco County's first free community seed library (dubbed The Blanco Library Seed Exchange), opening Oct. 3. The goal is simple: to create a community collection of native seeds that anyone can take, grow, collect and return.

Craig Bruska of the Native Plant Society of Texas is helping launch this new community resource and will lead a series of educational events this summer and fall:

Saturday, Oct. 3, 10 a.m.-noon
Ribbon Cutting for "The Blanco Library Seed Exchange"

BCCI is one of the **Founding Contributors** to this conservation project. All it takes to contribute is a few free seeds collected locally - from your field, fence line, garden, yard, or natural area. Seed donations can be dropped off at the front desk of the library with a note that includes the plant species and name of the organization.

Founding contributors that help establish the inaugural collection will be recognized on a commemorative plaque displayed with The Blanco Library Seed Exchange, honoring the organizations who helped launch this community resource.

Founding Contributors will also be featured on the [Blanco Library Seed Exchange website](#) and in the [catalog](#), along with any plant information, educational resources or other important information the organization would like to include.

BCCI - Blanco County Landowner Outreach Project

BCCI received strong response to its land ownership surveys sent to landowners in Blanco County in an effort to seek input on land stewardship views and goals. The survey received 108 responses representing more than 37,000 acres, and we were encouraged to see the strong interest in learning about conservation options that can align with individual landowners' goals. The surveys have shown that the majority of land ownership is for ranching, livestock, and wildlife habitat with the majority of landowners hoping to pass their land onto their children or family. The biggest threats seen to their land is subdivision and development, as well as the availability of water. It is clear from the responses received so far that the top priorities for landowners are continued good stewardship through maintaining open spaces and rural character of the county, preserving wildlife habitat, and water and spring development for continued privacy and personal enjoyment in preparation for passing along to future generations of Blanco County landowners.



For current conditions check: [Blanco County Burn Ban status](#)

Review conditions and exemptions to current order: [Notice of County Burn Ban](#)



Blanco County is currently under a burn ban until November 20, 2026 so this is a good time to understand your risk for wildfires and take steps to reduce that risk. Wildfire can affect your property through direct contact or by ember intrusion. Take action now to address weaknesses in landscaping, construction, emergency access, and evacuation planning, to significantly increase your safety and your home's likelihood of surviving a wildfire. Prepare for Wildfires Link:

<https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/wildfire-and-other-disasters/homeowners-prevention-and-preparedness/prepare-for-wildfires-home/>



Stage 2 Drought Declaration in Effect

For detailed information and conservation guidelines, please visit the [BPGCD Drought Information Page](#)

See drought conditions map of [Blanco County, TX | U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

BPGCD News

- Groundwater withdrawal permit issued to Lagom Ranch LLC for 977,533 gallons per year from a permitted well to be used solely for the public water supply of commercial lodging consisting of 20 cabins.
- Travis Materials Land Company was issued a permit to use 9,999,999 gallons per year at 1049 Rocky Fork Rd, Johnson City.

UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EXEMPT AND NON-EXEMPT
KNOW WHICH CATEGORY YOUR WELL FALLS INTO

EXEMPT WELL (NO PERMIT REQUIRED)	NON-EXEMPT WELL (PERMIT REQUIRED)
 Pump rated 17.36 GPM or less Pump rated to produce no more than 17.36 gallons per minute (GPM).	 Pump rated GREATER THAN 17.36 GPM Pump rated to produce more than 17.36 gallons per minute (GPM).
THE 17.36 GPM RATING REFERS ONLY TO THE PUMP. It is not based on: ✗ The size of the well ✗ The amount of water in the aquifer ✗ The pressure tank size ✗ The flow from one faucet in your home	WHAT DOES 17.36 GPM ACTUALLY MEAN? 17.36 gallons in 1 minute 1,042 gallons in 1 hour Over 25,000 gallons in 24 hours That is a SIGNIFICANT amount of water!
WANT TO CHECK WHAT YOUR SYSTEM PRODUCES? Try this simple bucket test to estimate your current flow rate.	
1. Get a 5-gallon bucket 2. Open the hose bibb closest to the wellhead. 3. Fill the bucket while timing it for exactly 1 minute. 4. Measure how many gallons were collected. EXAMPLES: 5 gallons in 1 minute = 5 GPM 10 gallons in 1 minute = 10 GPM 17 gallons in 1 minute = approx. 17 GPM	
 This test measures the water flow you're currently getting from your system. It is NOT a substitute for the pump's manufacturer-rated capacity, which is what determines exempt vs. non-exempt status.  QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR WELL, PUMP, OR PERMIT REQUIREMENTS? CALL US: 830-868-9196 EMAIL: office@blancoogroundwatertx.gov	



Water Leak Hotlines

Save that precious water!

City of Blanco [\(830\)554-0716](tel:(830)554-0716)

Johnson City [\(830\)868-7111](tel:(830)868-7111) [Extension 2](#)

Update on McCar Companies Quarry in Blanco

BCCI Board Members have a seat on the Advisory Council and are working to ensure all impacted parties are represented and facilitating dissemination of information to affected Blanco County residents on the quarry permitting process. The Advisory Council has been focusing on quarry best practices and lessons learned from community challenges to other quarries in the State.

Understanding how quarries are permitted and operated is an important first step. Feedback on quarry permitting should be directed to elected representatives.

Resources:

[Dirt, Sand, and Rock Quarries and Aggregate Processing Plants: Compliance Resources](#)
[Aggregate Production Operations: How to Register](#)
[Aggregate Production Operations \(APOs\): General Best Management Practices \(BMPs\)](#)



BCCI welcomes [William Chris Vineyard](#) as a **Business Supporter**. BCCI Best Practices include preservation of Blanco County's rural character and history and William Chris has embraced these practices through preservation at the vineyard of a farmhouse dating to the early 1900's and the Hye Post Office. The Hye Post Office has significant historical value as the location where President Lyndon B. Johnson administered the oath of office to Lawrence F. O'Brien as US Postmaster General in 1965.

— BECOME A — **MEMBER**

BCCI Friend - Annual gift of \$25 or greater

BCCI Champion - Annual gift of \$250 or greater

BCCI Lifetime Member - Single gift of \$1,000 or greater

BCCI Charter Member - Single gift of \$2,000 or greater

BCCI Business Supporter - Annual gift of \$500 or greater

Learn more at the [BCCI Membership page](#)

Board Members

April Sansom
President

april@bccitx.org

Bill Sisak
Vice-President

bill@bccitx.org

Mark Zuzanek
Treasurer

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Contact any of your
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support.

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They want to hear from
you!

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Sarah Roberts
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sarah@bccitx.org



If you do not wish to continue receiving BCCI emails, please Reply "No thank you" to this email and we will remove you from our list....no questions asked....we understand.

