



Proclamation

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF COMAL §
CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS §

WHEREAS, Bruce Boyer, Jay Brewer, and Betty Kyle have been named Living Legends of New Braunfels by the Braunfels Foundation Trust; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Boyer was born in Nebraska but grew up in Texas and Pennsylvania. After earning a degree from the University of Nebraska and a law degree from Southern Methodist University, Bruce was given the opportunity to work in New Braunfels in 1977, a place he visited in his youth on family trips. Bruce later served as the New Braunfels City Prosecutor, Assistant County Attorney, and Assistant District Attorney. He was the first president of the City of New Braunfels' 4B Board as well as a board member and past president of the Comal County Chapter of the American Heart Association, also serving the Comal County Children's Shelter, the New Braunfels Girls Softball Association, the New Braunfels Rotary Club, and the Comal County Senior Citizens Association. As a member of the Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce, he served as Chair of the Texas Legislative Conference Arrangements Committee and as President and Grosse Opa of the Wurstfest Association. We're told the six best years of his life were from 2005 to 2011 when Bruce served as Mayor for the City of New Braunfels. Some of the projects involving Bruce during his two terms as Mayor include the expansion of the New Braunfels Civic and Convention Center, the acquisition of Fischer Park and the development of the Creekside area. Additionally, the purchase of the Das Rec property, the initiation of the Landa Park restoration project, the expansion of Walnut Avenue, the planning and development of the Mission Hill and Highway 46/HEB project, and the development and implementation of the Downtown Master Plan all occurred during Mayor Boyer's terms. The Chamber of Commerce honored Bruce with both the prestigious Honors Hall recognition and the highly coveted Besserung Award. In 2013, Bruce was elected to his first term as Judge of the 22nd District Court where he serves the citizens of Comal, Hays, and Caldwell counties. Bruce is married to Toya Ohlrich and they are the parents of three daughters, Casey Cox, Shelley Bredewater, and Rachel Meier, and seven grandchildren.

WHEREAS, Jay Brewer and his mother moved from Mississippi to San Antonio in 1952. He graduated from Harlandale High School, was a National Honor Society member and lettered in track and basketball. He first visited Landa Park on a senior trip. Jay attended San Antonio College and upon completion in 1957 joined the United States Marine Corps. Following his discharge, Jay began a twenty-nine-year career with the General Electric Company, and as a sales counselor in the major appliance division his territory included New Braunfels. After several transfers, family dictated that Jay leave the corporate world, and he and his two children moved from San Antonio to New Braunfels in 1979 where he opened an appliance business on San Antonio Street and was active in the Downtown Merchants Association. In 1982, Jay married Susan Battenberg, blended their families, sold his business, and joined a successful distributorship in San Antonio. In 1986, Jay rejoined with GE and he and Susan moved to St. Louis, Missouri. After five transfers Jay retired in 1998 and returned to the New Braunfels area. This move sparked a sense of community and ignited Jay's impressive volunteer activities. While living at Canyon Lake for five years, Jay became a board member and then president of the Canyon Lake Community Recreation Center, which soon became the Community Resource and Recreation Center where he served as its first board President. He also served on the Advisory Boards of both the YMCA of Comal County and Greater San Antonio and the Tye Preston Memorial Library Capital Campaign. Moving back into New Braunfels Jay

became involved with the renovation of the Brauntex Theatre, doing everything from small tasks to major renovation, serving as President of the Board for five years and then as Chair of the Advisory Board. He currently serves on the boards of the Sophienburg Museum and Archives, New Braunfels Housing Partners, Hope Hospice Foundation and Hope Hospice, where he served as President of both. Jay also served his city and county governments with appointments to the Comal County Historical Commission, the Comal County Communications Task Force, and participated in the inaugural class of the University of County Government. He served on the City of New Braunfels' Wayfinding Committee, the Downtown Steering Committee, the Mayor's Strategic Planning Committee, and as a member of the Castell Avenue Redevelopment Committee. The Canyon Lake Chamber of Commerce gave Jay their "Volunteer Service Award" and earlier this year the Comal County Commissioners Court presented him with the "Jan Kennedy Key to the Courthouse" recognition. The Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce bestowed their "Chair of the Board Award" for Jay's preservation efforts and in 2011 the coveted "Besserung" Award. Jay and Susan are members of First Protestant Church and parents to Jaye Lynn, Michael, Nancy, and Katherine as well as the proud grandparents of seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

WHEREAS, Betty Kyle was born in New Braunfels and grew up with her siblings Jane and Shelley in their historic 1867 home in Comal Town, where she lives today. A 1958 graduate of New Braunfels High School and ranked third in her class, Betty was a twirler in the Mighty Unicorn Band and a student council member. She graduated from the University of Texas in Austin with a degree in Home Economics and began her teaching career at Troy High School outside of Temple. In 1962, Betty married Jack Kyle and they moved to her hometown of New Braunfels with their young son, Scott. Matt, Kathryn, and Jennifer were born in New Braunfels, reside in New Braunfels, and follow in their mother's active and community-driven footsteps. For twenty-nine years Betty taught Child Development and Family Living and the Cooperative Career Program at Canyon High School, where she also coached cheerleaders and advised the student council. During these teaching years Betty was a consultant to both the Texas and National Associations of Student Councils. She was Canyon High School's "Teacher of the Year," the New Braunfels Masonic Lodge's "Outstanding Educator," KENS Channel 5's "EXCEL Teacher of the Year," and the Texas Association of Student Council's "Advisor of the Year" and "Texas Leadership Consultant." Betty retired from teaching in 2002 but quickly found a job as accountant and manager of son Matt's law practice. As a member of the Braunfels Foundation Trust's Scholarship Committee Betty has helped select students to receive the "First Step Scholarship" for vocational and technical certifications. For ten years she has been the vice-chair of the New Braunfels Parks Department's Cemetery Committee, assists with the Soul Searching in the Comal Cemetery, and works with the Headwaters at the Comal project. She has served on the Greater New Braunfels Arts Council's Endowment Committee and chaired the City of New Braunfels' Water Preservation Board. Betty has received numerous recognitions within New Braunfels such as: the New Braunfels Optimist Club's "Friend of Youth" honor; the Comal County Extension Service's "Friend of 4H" award; New Braunfels Independent School District's "Silver Unicorn Award;" the NBISD Education Foundation's "Distinguished Alumni;" the Greater New Braunfels Arts Council's awards for "Dedication to the Arts Community" and "Community Endowment for the Arts;" and the Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce's recognition with a place in Honors Hall. Betty is a member of First Protestant Church where she has been a board member for nine years. She's a cancer survivor, a mother, a teacher, a volunteer extraordinaire, and now a Living Legend whose roots are deep in the foundation of New Braunfels.

WHEREAS, the Braunfels Foundation Trust will honor these Living Legends at their festive event at the New Braunfels McKenna Events Center on October 7, 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARRON CASTEEL, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of New Braunfels, do hereby proclaim Bruce Boyer, Jay Brewer, and Betty Kyle as

LIVING LEGENDS OF NEW BRAUNFELS

and urge all citizens to join the Braunfels Foundation Trust in honoring New Braunfels' Living Legends.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of New Braunfels to be affixed this the 23rd day of September 2019.

CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS

BY: _____
BARRON CASTEEL, Mayor