

## POET'S CORNER



Another year has passed

And it went so very fast, but we're alive.  
We are thankful we did survive.  
Many changes in the world were made.  
Some didn't last but many stayed.  
So year 2026, what will you bring—  
A prosperous year? A lovely Spring?  
We are waiting!

Happy New Year All!

**Welcome 2026**  
By: Len Hicks

**"Art is a reflection of God's creativity,  
an evidence that we are made  
in the image of God."**



## We have exciting news to share about our community!

Parkway Place was named among America's Best Continuing Care Retirement Communities for 2026. According to Newsweek, the top homes in each state were assessed and ranked based on four pillars, including performance data, recommendations of medical professionals, accreditations and resident satisfaction. We couldn't have achieved this without the incredible support and trust of our residents. Thank you for making our community such a special place.

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS



PARKWAY  
PLACE.  
Inspiring happiness.™

Amy Shields 281-677-5904  
Executive Director

John Bender 281-677-5917  
Chaplain

Shima Reddy 281-677-5931  
Director of Administrative Services

Dragoslav Lukic 281-677-5921  
Director of Environmental Services

Renee Copley 281-677-5940  
IL Sales & Marketing

Richard Ayala 281-677-5980  
Director of Culinary Services

Laura Thevenin 281-677-5961  
Environmental Service Manager

Rocio Garza 281-677-5971  
Director of Concierge Services

Sahara Opoku 281-677-5910  
Lifestyles Coordinator

Golden Girls Salon 281-677-5964

Transportation 832-473-5894  
832-473-5888

The Brimhurst 281-677-5959

Cabana Cafe 281-677-5909

Front Desk: 281-677-5967  
Receptionist and Security

AL# 44655



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JANUARY 9 | SHOPPING SQUAD: TOWN & COUNTRY VILLAGE

What sounds better than splurging on after Christmas sales?! Hop on the Parkway Place bus as we head to Town & Country Village for a shopping outing. Be sure to sign up in the Message Center!

### JANUARY 12 | LIGHTS, CAMERA, COOKING SHOW

Lights, Camera, Cooking! Chef Jose brings his culinary talents to the spotlight with a live cooking demonstration. Come see what's cooking at Parkway Place!

### JANUARY 14 | MEET THE AUTHOR - RUTH GLOVER "THE MANY FACES OF LOVE AND CARE"

Join us as Parkway Place resident and author Ruth Glover shares insights from her book, Coping: The Many Faces of Love and Care. Through heartfelt short stories, Ruth explores the emotional journey of caregiving, offering reflection, understanding, and encouragement.

### JANUARY 21 | OUT TO LUNCH: ALAMO TAMALES MEXICAN RESTAURANT

Enjoy a tasty lunch at Alamo Tamales Mexican Restaurant, where we'll savor authentic Mexican cuisine and delicious tamales.

### JANUARY 30 | COCKRELL BUTTERFLY CENTER

We're headed to the Cockrell Butterfly Center for a relaxing visit among butterflies and lush tropical gardens. Enjoy the beauty of nature in this serene indoor setting.



## Parkway Place Independent Living

JANUARY 2026

# COMMUNITY NEWS

Inspiring Happiness.

## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

Grace Gonzalez has made herself at home in Houston; however, her early life could not have been more different. She was born in the tiny town of Realitos, Texas, where her father owned a general store and a ranch. It was a cattle ranch, so Grace grew up as a ranch girl who never imagined that she would end up in a big city like Houston. After graduating as the salutatorian of her high school class, she married Al Gonzalez, and they settled in Kingsville, Texas. After marriage, she studied history at Texas A&I University, while Al worked as a pharmacist. They raised their daughter and two sons while Al eventually became the owner of Kingsville Pharmacy, Inc. She assisted her husband with the office and bookkeeping tasks at the pharmacy for many years.

Grace was ingrained in the Kingsville community. She knew the customers at the pharmacy, the families of the kids who went to

school with her children, her neighbors, and all the parishioners at her church. It was hard for her to go anywhere in town without running into several people she knew. Amid all the kids' activities and household management, she somehow found time to garden, sew, bake, and cook, which were a few of her hobbies. Al and Grace loved the holidays, and the holidays were always filled with family and extended family. They also shared a love of travel, visiting beautiful destinations in the US and abroad. Grace and Al were married for 49 years before he passed away in 2008. They have a daughter, two sons, a granddaughter, a grandson, and two great-grandsons. Grace appreciates being part of the Parkway Place community and values her friendships with the residents and staff.





THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE AND THE SOUNDS OF THE SEASON  
LED BY MRS. LAVONNE COLLINS

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Susan Kadow 1/01  
Grace Gonzalez 1/02  
Rusty Sutphin 1/12  
James Harper 1/13  
Janet McGuire 1/21



Margaret Schilling 1/22  
Ted Clover 1/24  
Bettie Cassady 1/26  
Lanell Van Treese 1/27

## ASSOCIATE OF THE MONTH - LAKECHIA HALBERT

Lakechia has been a dedicated member of our team. Her warm smile and passion to serve our residents is part of making a difference in our residents. She truly represents inspiring happiness



COOKIES MADE WITH LOVE FOR OUR FIREFIGHTERS  
AND A GINGERBREAD MAN ON THE LOOSE!

## Meet Malcolm Scott - Wellness Coordinator

We're excited to welcome Malcolm Scott to Parkway Place as our new Wellness Coordinator! Malcolm brings energy, vision, and a deep passion for helping others live healthier, more resilient lives.

He holds an A.A. in Communication, specializing in Speech Communications, from Houston City College, and plans to continue his studies at the University of Houston's Jack J. Valenti School of Communication, where he will pursue a B.A. in Strategic Communication with a concentration in Integrated Communications.

Malcolm's love for fitness and community shines through in the wellness programs he designs, encouraging residents and staff to embrace balance, strength, and connection. His goal for the new year is simple yet powerful: to foster a culture of wellness that uplifts everyone at Parkway Place.



STAY HEALTHY THIS 2026 WITH MALCOM!



## MUSIC AND HOLIDAY CHEER FOR ALL TO ENJOY!



SANTA MADE A SPECIAL APPEARANCE AT OUR  
RESIDENT CHRISTMAS PARTY