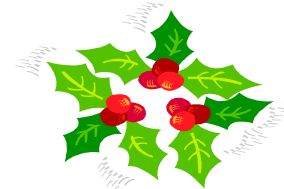




The Jefferson Neighborhood Association News

December 2011



Volume 29, Issue 12

"Preserving the integrity of the Jefferson Area since 1982"

From the President...

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines a heroine as: A woman admired for her achievements and qualities. This definition most certainly applies to so many women, both past and present, who have changed lives by virtue of their heroic efforts towards others.

I want to take this opportunity to share with you how blessed I feel to have recently spent one hour on the phone with one of my heroines, a woman who has inspired my family and after speaking with her, has changed my life.

In the hustle and bustle that is my life, one currently spent trying to make a positive impact on my immediate neighborhood community, I found myself recently contemplating how to make this year's JNA holiday celebration extra special.

Visions of choirs and musicians, great food and merriment danced in my head when all of a sudden, I had an "ah-ha" moment. Why not invite a special guest to speak with us and ask this guest to perhaps share a gift of inspiration that would last us well past the empty plates and unwrapped gifts? But who to invite? Then, divine inspiration...**Louise Locker**, better known as "Elf Louise".

I knew it would be a

tremendous challenge trying to contact this famous local figure to invite her to our neighborhood celebration, but as a lot of you know, I love a challenge. I did a little research, sent a few e-mails, received a telephone number and decided to leave a message, inviting Ms. Locker to our JNA Christmas celebration. To my shock, when I called the number I had received, she answered!

I was totally unprepared and, uncharacteristically, at a temporary loss for words. However, she immediately put me at ease and we proceeded to share a most beautiful conversation about her life, her work, her philosophy and her joy in giving to those who are less fortunate.

The project began in 1969 when Louise was a student at Trinity University in San Antonio. She found that for many San Antonio families, Christmas did not exist. She began to look for a way to provide a few Christmas gifts to children and with the help of a friend, collected gifts for children in 13 families. The Elf Louise Christmas project is based on Louise's philosophy of hope and faith and a belief in the goodness of people.

The current day Elf Louise Christmas project has evolved into a community

based 100% volunteer organization. Individuals work year round to ensure the project will continue into the future indefinitely.

At the present time, there is a need for over 60,000 gifts annually. The project operates out of donated space anywhere within the city and over 4,500 volunteers wrap gifts and deliver toys during the Christmas season. But this is not the heart of the story...

Louise Locker believes in the magic of Christmas. For her, while necessary, the commerciality of the project is not the focus. For her, it is the simple joy of seeing a smile transform a child's face after they have received a small gift from Santa, chosen and wrapped with love.



Photo: of Elf Louise by Helen L. Montoya/Express-News

During our conversation, she shared a story with me



that stays with me even now. She told of a day of Christmas deliveries where she and a few volunteers, including Santa, parked at the home of a family scheduled to receive a few gifts. While deliveries are carefully counted and bundled, the volunteers also pack their cars with a few "extra" gifts in case they encounter an additional child in a home that was unplanned for.

While Elf Louise was waiting outside the home, she glanced at a nearby home and noticed what appeared to be a teenage boy standing in the yard across the street. She did her best to ascertain the child's age from afar, looked inside her vehicle for a possible gift to share and chose a football as the most appropriate gift for the young boy. She and Santa walked over to the boy across the street and presented the young man with the football.

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Ken Beanland
Toni Cadena
Irma Cardenas
Maria E. Chavez
Marie L. Cooper
Henry De Leon
Cynthia Escamilla
Diane Fernandez
Yanet Gómez
John Horgan
Luverne Keller
David Liserio
Theresa Lopez
Joseph Pamplin
Rene Perez
Phillip Puleo Sr.
Jeanette Saenz
Mary A Tokoly
Leticia Van De Putte
Lynn Waghalter



**January 9th
is the date for the
first 2012
JNA meeting.**

See your mailing label?

Payment of FY 2011- 2012 dues is now underway. If you have the (pd) wording on your mail label, you've paid for the new fiscal year. **Our Fiscal Year begins September 1.** Please join us in support of our scholarship fund and other year-round activities.

Who's Who at the JNA?

Pres: *Ted Guerra*

219-4696

tedsamguerra@aol.com

Vice Pres: *Elia Reyna*

734-0085; 279-7204

elia62542c@clear.net

Sec: *Myra Lorenz*

733-9888

Treas: *Stanley Waghalter*

732-9426

sjw3@stanandlynn.com

Board Members:

Lynn Waghalter

732-9426

Chuck Whitehead

733-9341

Judy Jackman

737-0190

Scholarship Chair:

Ande Tokoly - 734-3443

SAFFE Officer:

Joey Vidal:

827-3707/207-1363.

Website:

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/>

Jefferson/home

City officials:

Mayor's office (210) 207-7060/7107

Chris' office: (210) 207-7044; (210) 733-7525

Newsletter Editor:

Stanley Waghalter

Ted's Message Continued

The teenager was ecstatic and it was in his enthusiasm, the enthusiasm of a very young child, that Elf Louise realized he was a special needs child.

The young boy rushed inside his home to his mother and shared the news of the gift he had received. Elf Louise overheard the mother ask "Who gave that to you?" and the child replied "Santa!" The mother hurried to the door and offered her thanks and the news that her son had been "praying for a football" that Christmas. It was in that moment, and in many that followed through the years, that Louise Locker realized what God intended for her life.

I have invited this most wonderful woman to join our Christmas celebration this year and want our association to focus on celebrating her life's work and Christmas mission of providing for those less fortunate than ourselves.

I'm asking that all who want to participate in contributing to the Elf Louise Christmas project, bring one unwrapped gift to our December 12th holiday celebration. Bring a gift to give that you wanted to receive as a child.

See you on the 12th at 6:30PM.

Happy Holidays,

Ted Guerra

tedsamguerra@aol.com

(210) 219-4696

*A JNA
Member*

MISSION REALTY

RANDY WATSON

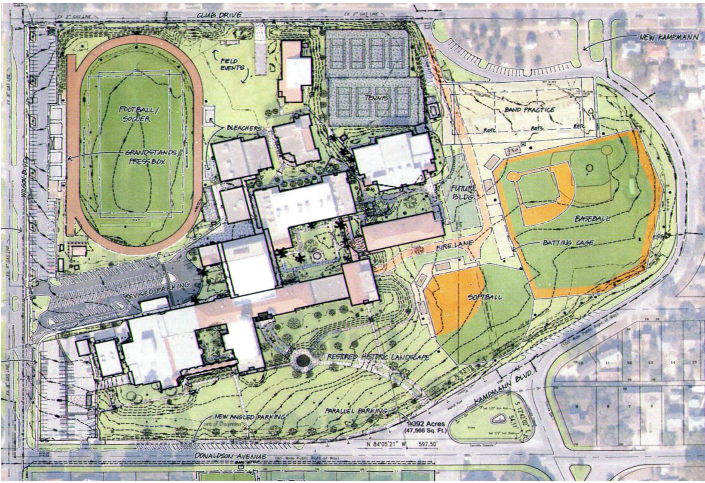
210-744-4514

Texas Real Estate Agent

randy@satxproperty.com

www.satxproperty.com

High School Master Plan Draws Overflow Crowd



An overflow crowd of citizens packed the "Sub" at Jefferson High School November 16th to hear about a Master Plan for the campus.

The meeting featured students and faculty from the school describing why they needed more space for their departments.

Chief among citizen's concerns about the project was the proposal to close part of Kampmann. That part of the plan was taken

off the drawing board after much criticism from residents.

Another feature of the master plan is a "decorative" fence to be built along Donaldson.

According to the Near Northwest Plan adopted in the late 1990's, only private residences may have fences on their property.

More public meetings are planned in January.

Stay tuned for more information.

A Taste of Grace December 10

Put Saturday, December 10th, on your calendar for "A Taste of Grace" at the Grace Presbyterian Church, 950 Donaldson @ Manor.

The event will feature a tour of their sanctuary, a sing along with their choir and congregation, and a spaghetti dinner.

You're asked to bring a donation of one non-perishable food item per person for the San Antonio Food Bank.

Activities begin at 5PM and run through 7PM on December 10th.

Turkey Bingo Results

Thanks to everyone who participated at the annual Turkey Bingo game held November 14th.



Seven winners took home gift cards from Wal Mart or H-E-B.

Some of the money raised from the event will be used to fund our scholarship program.

Be sure to join us December 12 for our Christmas/Holiday party starting at 6:30PM.



Vee's Hair and Spa

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1022 Donaldson Ave
San Antonio, TX 78228
210-733-7131

Oreole was recently introduced at the JNA Board Meetings.

She belongs to JNA Scholarship Committee Chair **Ande Tokoly**.

The board meets on an as-needed basis to discuss various JNA programs.

Oreole is only a few weeks old, but has already added some pep to our board meetings.



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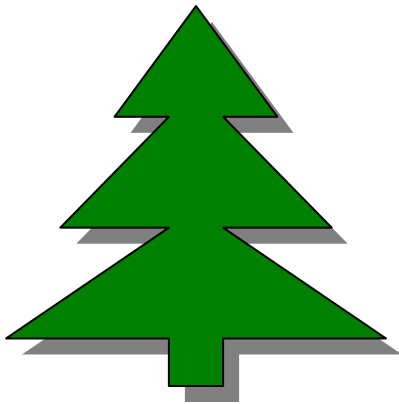
John Easley, Agent

7272 Wurzbach Rd, Suite 1104
San Antonio, TX 78240-4804
Bus 210 615 7898
www.johneasley.net

Thomas Jefferson Graduate class of 1966



Dr. Joseph Ferro, DDS and his team want to wish everyone in the Jefferson Neighborhood a very Happy, Safe, and Blessed Holiday Season.



Seasons Greetings

Dr. Joseph Ferro specializes in general dentistry in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Ferro attended medical school at University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio Dental School and graduated in 1982 and is celebrating 29 years experience in the dentistry field.





PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA MEXICANA

First Mexican Baptist Church

201 Meredith Dr. San Antonio, TX 78228-3231

Memorandum

PASTOR

Dr. Alfonso Flores

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Dr. Marconi Monteiro

CHURCH

ADMINISTRATOR

Noah A. Rodríguez

MUSIC DIRECTORS

Lois McClelen

María Monteiro

Othoniel Sánchez

YOUTH MINISTERS

Alejandra Cervantes

Steve Silva

DEACONS

José Carrizales

Geronimo Ferraz

Isaac Flores

Ezequías Hernandez

Jorge Lopez

Ramiro Magallanes

David Matamoras

Paul E. Napper

Héctor J. Rodríguez, Sr.

Noah A. Rodríguez

Daniel Valdez

TO: Charter School Addressed
and Neighborhood Association

C/O School Administrator or Director

FROM: Noah A. Rodriguez, Administrator
Primera Iglesia Bautista Mexicana

SUBJECT: School space available in the Jefferson Area.

DATE: October 27, 2011

The Charter school George I. Sanchez has returned to their home office in Houston, Texas. Therefore, we are seeking someone who is interested in relocating to a new location or opening a Project in the community.

Facts on location:

Place: Primera Baptist Church
201 Meredith Drive

Space: square feet are:

7,065 exclusive space (30 classrooms)

14,307 shared space

Commercial kitchen & dining room

NBA gymnasium (volleyball & basketball)

30 thousand volume library

Music Room—30 chairs

Computer system hook-up

Automatic bell system on line

Parking lot (30 slots)

Police patrol available

Finally, the school that was here for two years left tables, chairs and chalk boards in place. Therefore, a possible start-up can be arranged very quickly.

Call us!

(210) 737-6113

(210) 737-6181

fax (210) 737-6220

Jefferson Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name: _____ Birthday (mo/day) _____

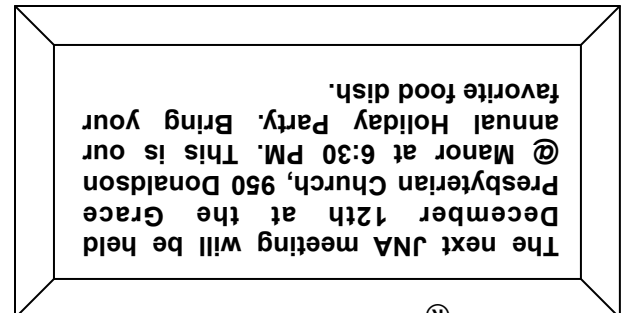
Name: _____ Birthday (mo/day) _____

Address: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

FY 2011-2012

*Dues are \$10 per year for individuals. \$15 per year for families.
Cut out and Mail to: PO Box 28552, SA TX 78228*



Jefferson Neighborhood Association
PO Box 28552
San Antonio, TX, 78228

