



The Jefferson Neighborhood Association News July 2013



Volume 31, Issue 7

"Preserving the integrity of the Jefferson Area since 1982"



President's Message

Our next JNA meeting will be held **Monday, July 8, 2013 at 7:00 pm.** We meet at the Grace Presbyterian Church on the corner of Donaldson and Manor. See you there!

This July we continue our JNA Summer Series with a focus on "Pondering Perfect Pets." We are happy to welcome a guest speaker from the San Antonio Humane Society to share information with us about their pet foster program. Pet lovers in attendance at this month's general meeting will have an opportunity to win a door prize for their perfect pet. See you then!



Hello Neighbors,

Summer time is indeed in full swing. Temperatures are rising rapidly. If I may ask a favor, please take the time this season to check on your elderly neighbors. We live in an older community and most of us have at least one or two neighbors either living alone or without air conditioning. You may not know them personally, but this might just be that opportunity to get to know them. Make certain they are keeping cool and if able, volunteer to purchase or give them a fan to help circulate the air.

Summer time also means the children are out of school. I don't know if you have noticed but I have seen much more graffiti in and around our neighborhood. Unfortunately home owners are burdened with the responsibility to paint over such graffiti. Any graffiti on public property can be reported to 311. The City of San Antonio will have someone come over to paint it. If you see this type of crime or any other crime taking place, don't hesitate to call the police. Our SAFEE Officer, **Joey Vidal**, would also like to hear from us about such crimes. His contact information is included inside this newsletter. He could also help with crime prevention. Have him check to see if your home needs to be made more secure.

The **Jefferson United Methodist Church** will soon be getting some much needed help. The **San Antonio Independent School District** is in the process of purchasing some of the property around the church. Beginning in the fall, **Jefferson High School** will also be going through some renovations. After completion of the church property sale, SAISD will be demolishing what once was the church daycare center and later the resale shop. The property will then be used to house 12-15 portable buildings for the school to use as offices and classroom during the renovations. After the completed project at the high school, the portables will be removed and that land will be turned into practice fields for the school.

The Church is now being rejuvenated. They currently offer a weekly "lunch bunch" for the community. They have a parishioner who happens to be a chef. He and his family cook a delicious and healthy meal every Friday for only \$3.00 per person. Everyone in the community is invited to participate beginning at 12 noon. Some of the other programs offered at this church involve having a Wesley Nurse from the Methodist Healthcare Ministries come once a week. I have invited her to come out to our next meeting to tell us more about the services she provides. They also hope to become a "hub for volunteers" to help with different kinds of projects/opportunities by the neighborhood associations and other NPOs in the area. For more information about this endeavor, see the inside of this newsletter.

Looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting, **Ted**



Animals are such agreeable friends - they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms. ~George Eliot



OOPS!

Dear Newsletter
Readers,
A quick apology

from your editors, Ted and
Samantha Guerra:

Volume 4 Edition 6 was our 3rd attempt to bring information to you in a new and interesting way. HOWEVER, we are finding that as we spend our days attempting to master the complexity of parenting two

teenage girls, being productive at our jobs, volunteering our time at church, heading or contributing to various organizations (school and otherwise), we arrive home in time to catch a quick meal (as a family) set our priorities for the upcoming day and say a small prayer before drifting (quickly) off to sleep. In this blessing that is our lives, we are spending a few hours here and there each month compiling information and utilizing an unfamiliar computer program to bring you this newsletter. In our haste to get it all done in 24 hours, with our four, sometimes bleary, eyes and despite the modern wonder of "spell check", we make mistakes. Imagine our horror as parents when our 7th grader Sienna, while perusing June's newsletter, says "Johnson is spelled wrong." We are in the car and Ted and I ask, "What are you talking about?" to which she replies, "You spelled President Lyndon Johnson's name wrong, it's not JONSON."

Yikes! Cringe, grimace, red colored cheeks...

While we are human, and by no means claim to be actual "Editors", we naturally strive to bring a faultless newsletter your way each month. Please forgive our imperfections but grant us your patience as we continue our endeavor to produce a publication that may not exemplify perfection but is informative, enjoyable and well meant.

What does your pet choice say about your personality?

In visiting the Mother Nature Network website, www.mnn.com, we found that your choice of cat or dog says a lot about the type of person you are. The website states that according to the American Pet Products Association, dogs are the most popular pets with 39 % of U.S. households owning at least one canine and cats coming in second as residents in 33% of U.S. households.

Studies show that we gravitate toward the animals we were raised with and that parents with young children are more likely to have dogs that kids can take outside while older and single people are more likely to have lower-maintenance pets such as cats.

A University of Texas study found that those who define themselves as dog people are more extroverted, agreeable and conscientious than cat people but that those who prefer felines are more creative, adventurous and prone to anxiety.

Here are a few interesting differences between dog and cat owners:

Dog people are 30% more likely to enjoy slapstick humor and impressions.

Cat people are 21% more likely to enjoy ironic humor and puns.

Dog people are 67% more likely to call animal control if they find stray kittens.

Cat people are 21% more likely to rescue the stray kittens.

Dog people are 36% more likely to use a popular song as a ringtone.

Cat people are 11% more likely to have contacts in both their cellphone and a physical address book.

Dog people are 9 percent more likely to think of zoos as a happy place.

Cat people are 10% more likely to be active on Twitter.

Regardless of your preference, enjoy your pet, treat them well and remember; the true indicator of your personality is the words you say and the deeds you choose.

"Take It To The Park"

This summer you can make a real difference in our neighborhood by taking part in Coca-Cola's America Is Your Park Contest. Now through July 15, 2013 your vote can help boost our chances of winning a \$100,000 grant from Coca-Cola that would be used to help restore, rebuild or enhance areas of Woodlawn Lake Park where people can be active. Woodlawn Lake Park is just one of the area parks in the running so it's up to you to help win the race.

Register at www.Coke.com/Parks and synch your foursquare and MapMyFitness apps on your smartphone to the website to earn even more votes. Votes are also earned in the following ways:

Earn 10 votes each day by logging at least 20 minutes of physical activity using MapMyFitness.

Earn 5 votes per day by checking in at the park via foursquare.

Earn 1 vote by clicking online at www.Coke.com/Parks using a computer or smartphone.

Voting ends at 11:59 p.m. on July 15. For complete details go to www.sanantonio.gov/parksandrec/spotlight_-TakeItToThePark.aspx



San Antonio's Got Talent

Okay members, this is your time to shine. The San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department's Our Part of Town 2013 auditions will soon begin. The three age categories are 12 and under, 13 years to 19 years and 20 years and older. Acts will compete in Quadrants:
 Quadrant 1-Districts 1, 2 and 3
 Quadrant 2-Districts 4 & 5
 Quadrant 3-Districts 6 & 7
 Quadrant 4-Districts 8, 9 & 10
 Auditions will be held in August and September with the final show taking place at the Carver Theatre on October 22, 2013. Winners in each category will receive a \$1000 cash prize. For entry forms and more details visit www.sanantonio.gov under Parks and Recreation.

Please visit our JNA Facebook group and ask to be added as a subscriber. Check our page frequently for Updates and news you can use.

Natural Alternatives to Pest Control

"Little Miss Muffet, sat on a tuffet, eating her curds and whey, along came a spider, who sat down beside her and frightened Miss Muffet away." I wonder if Miss Muffet ever considered a citrus juice concoction to counter her pest control issues. While this speculation is surely in jest, it introduces us to the idea of using more natural alternatives to address some of summer's common household pests:

Flies-This insect hates the smell of basil. Place pots of basil at doorways and windowsills and on kitchen counters. You can also put dried basil in a small muslin pouch, rubbing it occasionally to keep the scent strong, to keep pesky flies at bay.

Mosquitos-According to Science Daily, catnip repels mosquitos more effectively than DEET. Grow it in your garden or apply catnip oil to the skin for up to 2 hours of protection.

Spiders-These arachnids are not fond of citrus. In a spray bottle, mix water and lemon or lime juice. Wipe countertops with the solution or spray on doorways and windowsills.

Ants-A 50/50 solution of vinegar and water wiped onto countertops and other surfaces destroys the scent trails that ants use to navigate.

Wasps-These insects are extremely territorial and will not build a nest within 200 yards of another one. Build your own fake nest. It's like a scarecrow for wasps.

Fleas-Salting and vacuuming your floors will kill flea eggs. Because fleas have a three-day reproduction cycle, you have to be diligent, salt every day for nine days and vacuum every third day. Empty your vacuum EVERY TIME or live fleas will crawl right back out. Ugh!

Dust mites-Cinnamon Bark oil has been shown to control dust mites. Mix several drops into a 50/50 solution of water and denatured alcohol. Spray bedding, carpets and any other place dust collects. Bonus, this solution smells great!

Fruit flies-Fill a glass three-quarters full with vinegar or cider vinegar, then add six to eight drops of dishwashing liquid and fill to top with warm water. Very effective.

Deer-This beautiful animal can be extremely hazardous to your garden and trees. Hang Irish Spring soap or spike it to a stake near things that deer like to eat. Sprinkle shavings or small chunks on the ground to protect your precious plants.

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Check crime stats online at:

Sanantonio.gov/sapd

Under crime and call

Information.

City officials:

Mayor's office

207-7060/7107

Councilman's office

207-7044 or 207-0870

HISTORIC COOL CREST MINI GOLF RE-OPENS!

Closed since 2007, the historic Cool Crest Miniature Golf Course has re-opened to the delight of many in our neighborhood. Memories have surely come flooding back for many who grew up in this neighborhood and enjoyed great times at the course. This San Antonio landmark dates back to 1929 and owner **Mitchell Andrey** and family members purchased the property on Fredericksburg in 2007. High tech design and old photos were used to make repairs and restore the original appearance. An exclusive evening in celebration of Cool Crest is planned for July 12,

KEEPING COOL IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD



Summer time is here and it's public pool season in San Antonio. The 2013 regular summer session information is as follows:

DATES: Runs from June 15, 2013 through August 18, 2013.

TIME: 1:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. for most pools (San Pedro and a few select pools 8 am-5pm only)

DAYS: Tuesday through Sunday. Closed Mondays.

ADMISSION: Free general admission. Fees for classes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: 207-3299 or visit www.sanantonio.gov



Uniting to make a Difference

Matthew "Tiger" Alejandro II, with the Jefferson United Methodist Church is offering his vision of what could make a real difference in our neighborhood. Jefferson United (SA2020) is a non-profit organization that connects individuals who are passionate about identified causes (Health, Fitness, Arts, Civic Engagement, etc...) to other organizations who can provide volunteer opportunities. Jefferson United Methodist Church would become the hub for volunteers from not only the church but neighborhood associations and organization who would unite to create a large volunteer base able to contribute to a great many causes. Participation would be regardless of religion or political affiliation with a focus on positive action in our local area. For more information contact Tiger at tiger@jeffumc.org.

Old Spanish Trail Website Update

<http://oldspanishtrailcentennial.com/> has a new look. When you open the Old Spanish Trail website, if you find that the left column site bar is still green, clicking your "refresh" button will access the upgraded website's red/white/yellow Old Spanish Trail colors, NEWS section signage, and news of partnership for Walk the Old Spanish Trail 2nd Blue Ribbon award from American Volkssport Association.



A life without love is like a year without summer. ~Swedish Proverb

Thinking of Improving your home?

Below you will find the link to the Jefferson Neighborhood Conservation Plan. If you are considering making some changes to your home or property in the JNA area, you may want to consult this website for information as to what the boundaries are that fall into the conservation area and how to avoid any infractions. Homeowners who want to begin improvements can refer to the information contained on the website to ensure remodeling plans fall within the Jefferson Neighborhood Conservation Plan guidelines. If you observe any infractions in your area, please call 311 and ask to be connected to the Planning Department to lodge a concern. http://www.sanantonio.gov/planning/neighborhoods/jefferson_ncd.asp



Special thanks to our June JNA general meeting guest speaker, **Leslie Bingham** from the San Antonio Herb Board, who enlightened us about how to grow and use herbs.

Congratulations to JNA member, **Toni Cadena**, our winner of the mini herb garden door prize (pictured) given at last month's meeting.

Join us this month for an opportunity to win a prize for your special dog or cat!

Flood Damage Relief Option

Did the recent flooding in our area affect your home or property? The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) offers low-interest disaster loans to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and most private non-profit organizations. SBA disaster loans can be used to repair or replace real estate, personal property, machinery and equipment, inventory and business assets that were damaged or destroyed in a declared disaster. Visit SBA.gov under loans and grants for more information about the application process.

Woodlawn Lake Community Room Now Open

The City of San Antonio and the residents of District 7 recently celebrated the completion of a new Community Room at Woodlawn Lake Park, adjacent to the gymnasium located at 1103 Cincinnati. This renovated meeting room includes new fiber optic lines to support Wi-Fi connections for laptops and the use of other electronic devices. The room was refurbished with new furniture, carpeting, lighting and paint. The community room will be utilized for literacy activities coordinated by the San Antonio Public Library to include story time for children, teen club and Dare to Read Club for adults. Please visit the City of San Antonio Parks and Recreation website to view the Community Room Schedule. This room also features a health kiosk where citizens can receive important health assessment information including heart rate, weight, Body Mass Index (BMI) and blood pressure readings.

Jefferson Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name: _____ Birthday (mo/day) _____

Name: _____ Birthday (mo/day) _____

Address: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Dues are \$10 per year for individuals. \$15 per year for families.

Cut out and Mail to: PO Box 28552, SA TX 78228

DID YOU KNOW?

(MORE FUN PET FACTS)

90% of pet owners say they consider their pet a member of the family.

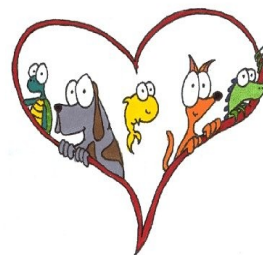
27% have taken Fluffy or Fido to a professional photographer.

33% of pet owners have a picture of their dog or cat displayed in their home.

36% buy birthday presents for their pets.

50% of pet owners talk to their dog or cat.

80% think their pets can sense their moods.



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