



# The Jefferson Neighborhood Association News

## August 2013

Volume 31, Issue 8

*"Preserving the integrity of the Jefferson Area since 1982"*



Our next JNA meeting will be held **Monday, August 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.** We meet at the Grace Presbyterian Church on the corner of Donaldson and Manor. See you there!

### JNA Summer Series Part II

**Join us this month as we explore the topic of RE-purposing with purpose. Receive information about how you can re-purpose everyday household items. Enjoy the article inside this newsletter that offers great tips for recycling and re-using including instruction on how to use those food scraps toward your very own compost pile.**

**Members who attend this month's meeting will have an opportunity to receive a fun door prize. Join us and continue the fun of the last month of our JNA Summer Series.**

## A Message from the President and his Wife:

*"Hands that give, also receive." –Unknown*



Telethons, fundraisers, food banks, tithing, cheerleaders peddling ice cold bottled water on a hot, hot day... Less fortunate people with folded pieces of cardboard, Red Cross, Pink ribbons, bar-b-que plates... All good causes depending on your station in life and generous hearts.

**Dear Neighbors**, it seems these days; the battle for a small piece of our individual fortunes is an ongoing matter. How do we decide where to give? To whom? When? How much? It begs the question, "If I only give a few dollars, will it really make a difference?" When it comes to JNA, the answer is "Most definitely, **YES!**"

We come to you this month asking if you would consider becoming a member of the **Jefferson Neighborhood Association**. If you are an existing member, we thank you and encourage you to continue paying your annual dues. If you aren't a member yet, consider how **\$10** can change your life.

While you could spend that same \$10 on a burger, fries and drink (maybe), 2 Starbucks coffee drinks or 2 ½ gallons of gas, why not consider something a little more lasting. A JNA membership entitles you to the opportunity to join a network of neighbors united in preserving the same blocks you live and drive on daily. Battles have been fought in city council chambers over re-zoning issues by the same folks who you'll meet at our monthly meetings. A membership gives you direct contact with a City of San Antonio SAAFE officer who can address home invasion issues and neighborhood occurrences in a very timely manner. Benefits include **JNA block parties, holiday gatherings, National Night Out events and monthly newsletters** (mailed directly to your home.) We can be found on Facebook and on the internet and boast strong ties to the same community you call home. The benefits of becoming a member are countless.

In the years that my husband, our president, **Ted Guerra**, has served on the JNA board, he has been called upon regarding neighbor disputes, alley issues, buzzards on neighborhood streets, business openings and closings, illicit businesses, neighborhood break-ins, illegal signage, graffiti clean-up, to donate, advocate, and negotiate. He and the JNA board members are always quick to respond and react, taking action with calls to our councilman, state representatives, school board members and local business owners. Always proactive with you, the neighbors, in mind. Imaging having that kind of support behind you and **for you**, all for the same price of admission to one of the latest blockbusters.

More importantly though, **your membership fee is not only a contribution to our very minimal operating costs, but will also help us continue to award scholarships to graduating high school seniors, from our neighborhood community, who need our support to pursue their dreams of a better life.**

Go ahead; add us to that list at the top of this column. Yes, we want your \$10, but more than that, we want you to join our association in preserving and protecting this great place we call home. See page 5 of this newsletter to find our membership application.

**\*Annual membership for one individual is \$10**

**\*Annual family membership is \$15**

Yours truly, *Ted and Samantha Guerra*

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.



## Elections

for all JNA Board member  
positions will be held at our  
August  
general meeting. The  
following is the late of  
candidates assembled by our  
current nominating  
committee, however, all  
interested parties are welcome  
to run off the floor on that  
evening.

**Make your voice heard,  
make your vote count.**

## SLATE for 2013-2014

**President:**

Ted Guerra

**Vice President:**

Andres Lopez

**Secretary:**

Myra Lorenz

**Treasurer:**

Liliana Moreno

**Board Member:**

Joe Garza

## GOING FOR GREEN

In a world where “going green” for many is no longer just a trend but a way of life, thinking outside the box can be an interesting endeavor. With that in mind, here are a few eco-frugal suggestions of how you can re-purpose everyday items and re-think what you put in your trash and recycling bins:

**Unwanted CDs** can become glittering scarecrows to scare off birds and raccoons. Glue two discs together with shiny sides facing out, place a string through the hole and tie to your plants or trees.

Cover **cereal boxes** with brown paper to repurpose as shipping boxes. Cut these same boxes to desired angles and heights and cover with colorful contact paper to make desk organizers.

**Coffee cans** can be used to ship cookies or baked goods, to store food scraps to be added to a compost pile or as storage for your child's collection of crayons and markers.

**Dry cleaning bags** can be used as tall trash can liners by tying a knot at the end.

Make a fire starter from highly flammable dryer lint stuffed into an empty **toilet paper roll**.

Remove hard stuck foods on your pots and pans by filling the pan with water and dropping **old dryer sheets** inside. Let the sheet soak for about one hour then wash as usual.

Organize small toys, golf balls or craft materials in **egg cartons**. Use the egg carton to start your seeds indoors before planting in a pot or make a bird feeder by removing the lid, threading string through holes in each corner of the tray and filling cups halfway with birdseed.

Thoroughly wash powdered **detergent scoops** to be used as sandbox, pool or bathtub toys and pet food scoops.

Drop read **magazines** off at hospitals, doctor's offices or hair salons for others to enjoy. Shred the pages to make colorful tissue paper in gift bags. Shred a scented page to add a subtle fragrance to your gift.

Pet gerbils or hamsters enjoy gnawing on and crawling inside **paper towel and toilet paper cardboard rolls**. Use these rolls also to organize appliance cords.

Turn a **plastic milk jug** into a watering can with a few holes punched into the plastic cap.

Place clean and empty **wine bottles** into boots to help keep their shape.

Staple left over window screen onto over-sized decorated or painted **wood frames** to display and organize earrings.

Cut unwanted **clothing** into pieces to use as cleaning cloths

**Glass jars** become handy storage containers for buttons, hardware or candy.

**Food Items** can also be re-purposed. Here are a few interesting ideas you may want to consider:

**Lemon rinds**-grate the outer yellow layer to create a 'zest' that can be dried or frozen for use in baked goods. Put the zest on compost or grind in your garbage disposal to disinfect and deodorize it.

**Orange peels**-boil the peels with a ½ teaspoon of cinnamon on medium heat to fill your home with a delicious scent.

Wine-freeze **left over wine** in ice cube trays for later use in sauces or soups.

**Bread crumbs**-feed the birds or freeze for breading meat, fish or vegetables.

**Stale bread**-make great bread crumbs, French Toast, croutons or bread pudding.

**Fruit and vegetable scraps**-add to homemade broth or your compost pile.

## TAX-FREE SPREE

Back to school not so cool for your budget? Consider shopping during this year's Tax-Free sales tax holiday which runs **August 16-18, 2013**. The law exempts most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes saving shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. Tax-free items include everything from baby clothes and diapers to dresses and t-shirts. Undergarments, swimsuits, jeans, pants, skirts, slacks, sneakers, sandals and socks are also allowed tax-free purchases.

Texas families also get a sales tax break on most school supplies (priced at less than \$100) purchased for use by a student in an elementary or secondary school. These items include pencils, pens, folders, calculators, crayons and glue. For a complete list of tax-free items visit <http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxpubs/taxholiday/m/>



## Welcome to the Neighborhood!

The appearance and disappearance of **"For Sale"** signs in the **Jefferson Neighborhood Association** community is an ongoing occurrence. To keep up with the changes on our own neighborhood blocks, it is important that we make a concentrated effort to go out on a limb and meet our neighbors.

In a world where anonymity and indifference sometimes seem to be the choice of the majority, we offer the suggestion of a few ways to counter that mood with a display of some good old fashioned San Antonio charm. When that sign comes down and the moving truck pulls up, start thinking of how you can help that new family to really feel at home. You may want to:

- Find out, beforehand, who will be moving in. Ask the realtor if your new neighbors are newlyweds, an older couple or a family with children. This will help you to decide how to proceed.
- Be friendly, not invasive. When you and your family walk over to meet for the first time, keep it short and to the point. Offer to exchange phone numbers or e-mail addresses and to keep an eye on each other's home.
- Baked goods or a hot meal are a nice treat for the family who has just moved in and may feel overwhelmed by the new environment. Include disposable plates and utensils with a meal in case boxes have not been unpacked.
- Offer to host a welcome dinner or bar-b-que to introduce the new neighbors to others on the block.
- Continue the relationship. Don't let the first meeting be the last. Keep in touch, wave and make small talk as the days continue. An investment in your new neighbors is an investment in our community.

## JNA CONTACTS

### President:

**Ted Guerra**

219-4696

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### Vice President:

**Elia Reyna**

279-7204

[elia62542c@clear.net](mailto:elia62542c@clear.net)

### Secretary:

**Myra Lorenz**

733-9888

### Treasurer:

**Stanley Waghalter**

732-9426

[siw3@stanandlynn.com](mailto:siw3@stanandlynn.com)

### Board Members:

**Marie Cooper**

391-7889

**Chuck Whitehead**

733-9341

**Judy Jackman**

737-0190

### Scholarship Chair:

**Ande Tokoly**

734-3443

### Newsletter Editors:

**Ted and Samantha Guerra**

### SAFFE Officer:

**Joey Vidal:**

207-1363

[Joey.vidal@sanantonio.gov](mailto:Joey.vidal@sanantonio.gov)

Check crime stats online at:

[Sanantonio.gov/sapd](http://Sanantonio.gov/sapd)

Under crime and call

Information.

### City officials:

**Mayor's office**

207-7060/7107

**Councilman's office**

207-7044 or 207-0870

"If our neighbors succeed, we all succeed. There's a saying that you're only as strong as your weakest link, but if you flip that, you can also be as strong as your strongest link. Over time, the success of any one of us brings all of us up."

-Mike Martini, third-generation master winemaker of the Louis M. Martini Winery

## Preventing Pilfered Plants

**Joey Vidal Jefferson Neighborhood Association**

Good afternoon JNA!!! SAPD needs your help in trying to track down unknown individuals who are taking Potted Plants from the neighborhood. If anyone sees any suspicious activity or has any knowledge of these thefts please call me 210-207-1363. Thank you and have a SAFFE holiday weekend!!!

This was the posting that greeted Jefferson Neighborhood Association Facebook group members on Wednesday, July 3, 2013. Unfortunately, this type of theft is a common situation in a neighborhood such as ours where people take great pride in a nice looking lawn and home.

In February of 2012, a 43 year old man, after dropping his children at school, stopped at a home in the 700 block of Shadwell to steal plants from the front porch. To his surprise, the homeowner was at home and retaliated by firing several shots at the thief, striking him once in the head. The thief was able to drive away as the head injury was minor but was later tracked to his home by police.

While this is an extreme example, and in no way a suggested response to this type of criminal activity, there are a few things you can safely do to protect your pots and plants.

Place your plants in big, heavy pots which cannot be easily carried away. Place chunks of broken cement or big rocks at the bottom of your planters to increase their weight.

Run a chain through the drain hole of the pot and bolt or chain the pot to an area of your porch/home.

Keep your more expensive plants in an inaccessible area.

Install fake security cameras (or a fully functioning system if your budget allows.)

Hang signs such as "Beware of Dog" or "This area monitored by electronic security systems."

Install a motion sensor light on your porch or around your home.

Talk to your neighbors. Eyes and ears in numbers can make all the difference.



### GARAGE SALE GIVING

"One man's trash is another man's treasure."

-Tom Zart from his poem Garage Sale

Okay neighbors, it's time to come together to build our scholarship fund that will benefit graduating high school seniors in the coming year. In May 2013, JNA awarded \$2500 in scholarship money to five very deserving students. With your help, this year we can do the same or better.

This is a great opportunity to clean out your closets, garages, toy boxes, etc...

Items for donation can also be brought to the August 12th general meeting.

We look forward to coming together as a community for another successful JNA event.

### RUMMAGE SALE DETAILS

**WHO:** Jefferson Neighborhood Association

**WHERE:** Jefferson Village  
1032 Donaldson

**WHEN:** Saturday, August 17, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**DONATIONS:** Vee's Hair Salon in Jefferson Village is currently a drop off location for donations on the following days- Sat 9-3pm and Tues-Fri 9am-7pm.

You can also email [neighbors@jefferson-sa.com](mailto:neighbors@jefferson-sa.com) if you have items to donate or are interested in volunteering.



## Jefferson Neighborhood Association

*Founded 1982*

### How do you and the association benefit from coming together?

- \*Strengthen Community   \*Volunteer Opportunities   \*Voice your concerns
- \*Empower Neighborhood   \*Make new friends   \*Achieve neighborhood goals faster
- \*Reduce and prevent crime   \*Help preserve the history of our neighborhood

\*\*\*\*\*

Meetings are held monthly,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month  
Grace Presbyterian Church

For more information contact:  
President: Ted Guerra  
tedsamguerra@aol.com

Connect With Us:

www.jefferson-sa.com

[www.facegroup/groups/jeffersonneighbors.com](http://www.facegroup/groups/jeffersonneighbors.com)

### Jefferson Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (mo/day) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (mo/day) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone1: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone2: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues:

**\$10 per year for an individual      \$15 per year for families and business memberships**

### Infrastructure Management Program Schedule for District 7 JNA Alley Improvements (see pg. 7 for more info)

District	Year	Alley In Between	From	To
7	2013	Babcock Rd & Cromwell	Wilson Blvd	Kampmann Blvd
7	2013	Beverly Dr & W Summit	St Cloud	Morning Glory
7	2013	Cromwell & Rosemont Dr	Wilson Blvd	Kampmann Blvd
7	2013	Meredith Dr & John Page/ Donaldson Ave	Thomas Jefferson Dr	Dickinson Dr
7	2013	W Gramercy Place & W Kings Hwy	St Cloud	Morning Glory
7	2013	W Summit & W Mulberry Ave	Kampman Blvd	Lake Blvd
7	2014	Alley A-10079 & Leming Dr	Kampmann	Leming Dr
7	2014	Rosemont Dr & Leming Dr	Wilson Blvd	Kampmann Blvd
7	2014	W Craig Place & W French Place	N Zarzamora	N Calaveras
7	2014	W Kings Hwy & W Summit	San Antonio Ave	N Elmendorf
7	2014	W Kings Hwy & W Summit	N Elmendorf	N Zarzamora
7	2014	W Magnolia Ave & W Mistletoe	Kampman Blvd	Lake Blvd
7	2014	Woodlawn & W Craig Place	N Elmendorf	N Zarzamora
7	2015	Rolling Green Dr & Sunnycrest Dr	E Broadview	Cloudcroft Dr
7	2015	W Craig Place & W French Place	Emory	Wilson Blvd
7	2015	W Mulberry & W Huisache Ave	N Elmendorf	N Zarzamora
7	2016	W Gramercy Place & W Kings Hwy	Morning Glory	Manor Dr
7	2016	Waverly & Kentucky Ave	Rouse	Neff Ave
7	2017	Leming Dr & Quentin Dr	Kampmann Blvd	Shearer Blvd
7	2017	W French Place & W Ashby Place	Emory	Wilson Blvd
7	2017	W Gramercy Place & W Kings Hwy	N Elmendorf	N Zarzamora



This August, San Antonio will host the first-ever Kidcation Week. This celebration will run from August 12-18, 2013 and offers a variety of events and discounts with your child or grandchild in mind. Families will have the opportunity to enjoy one last big adventure before school begins. The event begins at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at Hemisfair Park where families will enjoy free music, entertainment, food, local celebrity sightings and more. Movies by Moonlight are offered throughout this week in addition to events such as Bat Loco, Dessert Cooking Demonstration, Vagercation and a LET'S READ! Kids Back to School Fest that will be full of make and take arts and crafts, airbrushing and hair styling, musical performances, storytelling, book giveaways, a petting zoo and more.

Some of the hotel and attraction offers running during Kidcation week will include:

Alamo Trolley: Free tour for kids 12 and under with the purchase of an adult tour

- Cheesy Jane's: Free kids milkshake with any kid's meal
- El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel: Milk, cookies, balloons, a coupon for complimentary S'mores and an El Tropicano beach ball upon arrival
- Hard Rock Café: Free kids meal with the purchase of an adult entrée
- Kiddie Park and Kiddie Park Pica Pica: Kids get a free cotton candy when they mention Kidcation Week
- San Antonio's Incredible Pizza: Free kids buffet or \$5 game card
- San Antonio Museum of Art: Free admission all week for kids 12 and under
- SpringHill Suites by Marriott San Antonio Downtown Alamo Plaza: Every child under age 12 will receive a balloon upon check-in and be entertained by a balloon artist from 4 – 5 p.m.
- Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade: Each child receives an Omnikids backpack at check-in, milk and cookies delivered at turndown on arrival evening and a cookie decorating session with a chef.

Witte Museum: Free admission all week for kids 12 and under (entrance to museum's Dinosaurs Unearthed exhibit will be \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under)

A complete listing of Kidcation Week events and specials can be found at [www.KidcationWeek.com](http://www.KidcationWeek.com).



Tech High School  
1960 – 1963

Reunion Association Honors  
*Louis W. Fox Vocational & Technical  
High School*

**Class of 1963**

"Together Again" 50 year Reunion

Saturday, October 5, 2013

San Antonio Shrine Auditorium/Ballroom

901 N. Loop 1604 West

San Antonio, Texas

Attire: Semi-formal (Coat & Tie)

BYOB/NO OUTSIDE FOOD

Cost: \$35 per person

Beer, Set-ups and Snacks Available

Contact:

Eloy Cabello, 210-383-4270

Bea Torres, 210-605-6249

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

### JNA Graffiti Wipeout

On **Saturday, August 3, 2013**, you are invited to join us at the Jefferson High School parking lot at **7:00 a.m.** for a morning of graffiti wipeout. Help us to beautify our neighborhood and fight to take back our neighborhood. Supplies will be provided by **Councilman Cris Medina**. Please bring address information for any locations in our neighborhood that we can tackle on this morning as a community. Private businesses or homes need approval from owner prior to August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Come on out to make a difference.**

### Creating Compost with Confidence

For some, composting is a complete mystery. How? Why? Where? When? As to the question of why? Composting in general is great for your garden. Compost can prevent erosion, improves soil structure and is great for the planet. When compost is added to soil, it increases the amount of moisture the soil retains which lessens the need for watering your lawn and plants. Considering this information, we can see how relevant composting can become when dealing with the hot, harsh climate in San Antonio.

Compost needs three essential ingredients, green material, brown material and sufficient moisture to develop. Green material is high in nitrogen and is what we refer to as kitchen scraps. Any kitchen waste that is not greasy or meat can be composted. Manure (not dog or cat, but barnyard animal) can also be added to your pile as a green material.

Brown Material is high in carbon. Paper, sawdust, small branches, twigs and straw all fall into this category. Water is the final key adding the all-important moisture factor. Without moisture, your pile will take months to develop or not break down at all. However, if your pile is too wet, it will begin to smell bad and become slimy. The goal is damp but not dripping wet. A bucket over the pile once a week is usually sufficient.

Now to address the question of how and where:

Choose a spot that is a bit out of the way. Compost piles are not the focal point of a beautiful yard. Make it as fancy or plain as you like, however an inexpensive option is to enclose your pile using a length of chicken wire or any pliable fencing to make a circle. Lattice is another choice if appearance is a consideration. Gather your ingredients, vegetable peelings, spent plants pulled from a garden, grass clippings, leaves, coffee grounds and egg shells. Aim for a mixture of vegetative material.

Arrange some branches in a layer at the bottom of the pile to promote circulation. Throw your compost materials on top of the branches and add a thin layer of garden soil to the top. Lightly water the pile to moisten the materials. Cover the pile with black plastic, if you wish, to speed up the process, but in time the compost will do fine on its own. Water the pile and throw a thin layer of soil on it every month or so. Turn with a pitchfork or rake occasionally without disturbing branches below. Compost that is ready for use in your garden will appear dark brown and crumble easily. You will know if your compost pile is right if it becomes hot in the middle. The heat is your proof that the ratio is working.

When should you use your newly made compost? Add it in large quantities, in the spring, to the soil you are going to plant in. Use it during any season to top off any soil that has been decreased due to water runoff or settling. In the fall, break down your garden and put any part of it that is not diseased back into a new compost pile to work all winter long.

### RIGHT UP OUR ALLEY

Improvements in and around our neighborhood continue to occur and are planned for many years to come. On page 5 you will find the city's IMP list of scheduled alley work through the year 2017. This information is specific to our neighborhood. If you want to see a complete list of scheduled alley maintenance for the entire city, please visit <http://www.sanantonio.gov/publicworks/imp/vwAlleylist.asp?cmd=resetall>.

If there are any alleys you feel are in need of maintenance, that are not on the list, you are asked to submit them for consideration to the District 7 City Council office for consideration as a future IMP project. Thank you to **Joseph Cortez** in the office of City Council District 7 for his assistance in providing us with this valuable information.



### LADDIE PLACE PHASE III

Don't forget to join us at our **August 12, 2013** general meeting for an update on the Laddie Place Phase III flood control project. A representative from **Bexar County Flood Control** will attend to share information about how the project is progressing and answer questions from our membership.

**HOW TO SELL YOUR HOME FOR TOP DOLLAR**

Selling your home for top dollar in today's market requires a strong competitive edge. Buyer's are savvier than ever, so before you put a sign up in the yard, take some time to address the little details that make a big difference when you sell.

**Come learn how to:**

- ♦ Create great curb appeal
- ♦ Stage for better showings
- ♦ Avoid a bad inspection report
- ♦ Get a great appraisal

**FREE** INFORMATION SESSION

Thursday, August 15, 2013 6:30PM

JEFFERSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

758 Donaldson, 78201

To register call or text Cynthia Gomez at 210-254-0503  
or visit <http://sellmyhomefortopdollar.eventbrite.com/>

Our next JNA meeting will be  
held Monday, August 12, 2013  
at 7:00 pm. We meet at the  
Grace Presbyterian Church on  
the corner of Donaldson and  
Manor.

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

