



The Jefferson Neighborhood Association News

January 2014



Volume 32, Issue 1

"Preserving the integrity of the Jefferson Area since 1982"



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year Neighbors!

I hope this newsletter finds you and yours feeling renewed and invigorated by the thought of a brand new year. As the sounds of *Auld Lang Syne* fade into the past once again, I find that now is the time to reacquaint ourselves with these very streets we call home. Allow me to share with you a little information about our great neighborhood.

Our **Jefferson Neighborhood Association** was founded in 1982 to help preserve the integrity of a once "Premier" neighborhood.

A neighborhood plan was developed in 1989 and revised in 1996. This plan is used as a guide by the City of San Antonio to foster growth in an orderly manner. In 2001, an area wide plan consisting of ten neighborhoods went into effect. While not a legally binding document for zoning issues, the plan does give developers an idea of what residents would like to see develop in their neighborhood area.

Parts of the neighborhood association are now incorporated within the boundaries of the **Monticello Park Historic District** and the **Jefferson Conservation District**. This adds additional development security and enhances property values in the area.

The Jefferson Neighborhood is located in the near northwest part of San Antonio's central business district. Nearby is **Woodlawn Lake**, another area rich in history dating back to the mid 1800's.

Jefferson High School was built in 1932 in the midst of a cow pasture and has been designated a historic landmark.

Now mostly a memory, **Jefferson Village** was the first shopping center of its type in the mid 1950's.

At that time, its design was praised by national magazines.

JNA can now be found on Facebook and on the web. Simply input Jefferson Neighborhood Association in your Facebook search engine or visit www.jefferson-sa.com.

Our neighborhood association meets the second Monday of each month at 7 P.M. at the Jefferson United Methodist Church, located at the corner of Wilson & Donaldson. I invite you to join us at our monthly general meetings and to go a step further by joining our neighborhood association. Our numbers are growing and we are committed to making a huge difference to our community.

Won't you join us in this effort? Hope to meet you soon.

Best regards,

Ted Guerra



Low-flow toilet program a success!

The San Antonio Water System's "Kick the Can" program ends after nearly 20 years of toilet replacements!

Started in 1994, "Kick the Can" was a simple enough program. San Antonio Water System would provide vouchers

for homeowners to upgrade to water-efficient toilets. The limit was two toilets per home. Homes had to be built before 1992 and couldn't already have received the vouchers. Over nearly 20 years, about 200,000 toilets have been replaced, saving the region billions of gallons of water. Low-flow toilets have become standard, so there is no need to incentivize them. And demand for the program had been dropping in recent years. Toilet distribution dropped from 9,100 in 2010 to 5,825 in 2012, according to SAWS. There had been a recent spike in demand, but that's only because "Kick the Can" ended the end of December. Still, SAWS will maintain its commercial toilet program as well as assistance for those customers who can't afford toilet replacements. With "Kick the Can" getting the proverbial flush, the focus shifts even more toward outdoor water conservation. San Antonio Water System provides coupons to help cover the cost of replacing portions of lawns with water-friendly landscaping. Demand for these coupons has been strong, and outdoor water conservation has been steadily improving in recent years. Who knows, maybe in 20 years, we can reflect on similar success for SAWS' landscape incentives for greater outdoor water conservation.

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Jefferson Neighborhood Association is a 501(c)(3) organization and does not support or endorse any political candidates.

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Veggie your way to Healthy

One of the top ten resolutions for many every year is to eat healthier. While this immediately brings to mind visions of rice cakes, carrot sticks and tofu, little did we know that you can work your way to healthier eating, in small steps, by incorporating more fruits and vegetables into those desserts we vow to avoid after the holidays.

In researching the possibilities, we came across the following veggie/dessert recipes, just to name a few:

Heirloom Tomato Cake

Chocolate Potato Cake

Black Bean Brownies

Red Velvet Cake with Beets

Cauliflower and Raspberry Cheesecake

Chocolate and Avocado Fudgesicles

Who knew that eating what's good for us could be so delicious? To get you started, we offer the following recipe that allows you to eat your veggies and blondies too!

Zucchini Blondies

- Oil or soft butter, for greasing the baking pan
- 5 tablespoons butter, melted with 1 tablespoon water
- 1 cup (packed) dark brown sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/8 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

1 medium zucchini, peeled and chopped into 1/4 inch pieces (6 ounces)

1/2 cup coarsely chopped walnuts or pecans

1/3 cup chocolate or butterscotch chips

Preheat oven to 350° F with a rack in the middle. Lightly grease a 9-inch square metal baking pan. Pour the melted butter into a large mixing bowl. Add the sugar and mix well.

Add the egg and vanilla and beat until blended.

Whisk the flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt in a medium bowl. Add to the butter mixture. When almost combined, stir in the zucchini and nuts to make a stiff batter.

Spread the batter in the baking pan and sprinkle the chocolate chips on top. Bake for 30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out almost clean with a little batter clinging.

Remove from the oven, and when cool, slice into 16 squares. Serve warm or at room temperature. Keeps covered for 3 days at room temperature or wrap each piece individually and freeze longer.

ENJOY!



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Jefferson High School
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Presents

GREASE

\$5.00 in Advance
\$7.00 at the Door
For more information
Call 736-1981
Ext. 231

January 23-25, 2014 at 7 PM, TJ Auditorium

Jefferson Neighborhood Association

HOLIDAY PARTY



On Monday, December 9th, 2013, JNA members, neighbors and friends gathered to celebrate the holidays. There was music, great food, a White Elephant gift exchange, door prizes and plenty of fun to go around. Thank you to all who attended and donated to the event. Special thanks to **Andee Tokely** for donating the main dish of brisket and turkey and to **Mrs. Claus (Estella Kierce)** for visiting on that evening and bringing goodies to all.

Thank you also to **Representative Trey M. Fischer**, **Representative Mike Villarreal**, **Councilman Cris Medina**, **Chile Tomate and Cibola**, **Bob's Big Burgers**, **SAISD Board President Ed Garza**, **Elia Reyna**, **Myra Lorenz** and **Meghan Regis** for providing door prizes for our event.

We had a blast and can't wait to celebrate together again in the new year!



Truly a Gift

This New Year, don't set yourself up for failure by setting unattainable personal goals. Resolutions should be personal, meaningful and within reach. In this month of January we celebrate renewal and opportunity for growth in our everyday lives. As a means to achieve this, we'd like to offer a different view of what might make this year, and your life, truly different and rich.

Why not set a personal goal of doing for others and thereby, achieving the satisfaction of finally doing for yourself? We suggest becoming a **Volunteer** this year. The opportunities in our great city for volunteering are endless. *Studies show that doing for others can actually make us happier than doing for ourselves.*

Volunteering can also lead us to discover hidden talents and skills that might otherwise go unrecognized. Taking advantage of doing something different can also allow us to enjoy interests that have gone dormant due to our concentration on work and family. Why not help build a home, read to a child, visit a senior, assemble meals for families or help to serve dinner to hundreds?

We encourage you to visit the United Way of San Antonio website for more information about what opportunities are available in our area.

(Volunteer.truist.com/unitedwaysats/volunteer/)

The best gift you can give, truly a treasure, is the gift of yourself, your talents and your time.

The happy pursuit of perpetual Poinsettias

A beautiful Poinsettia plant is a very common gift during the holiday season. However, how many of us, in the aftermath of a most joyous occasion, find ourselves the not so proud owners of a rapidly dying plant surrounded by fallen leaves? With a little love and care, we can preserve these beautiful plants for months and months past the winter holidays.

Once your Poinsettia loses its leaves, stop watering it. The plant will become dormant and no longer require watering. Cover the Poinsettia in the wrapping it came in and put the plant in a dry, cool, dark place such as a garage or outside shed and leave there until spring.

Come Spring, take your Poinsettia out and give it water. Water reminds the plant to wake up, coming out of the dormant stage. You can re-pot it at this time or keep it in the same container it came in. After watering, give it a couple of days to avoid shocking the plant. Next, cut the stems back to about 5 or 6 inches in length. This encourages growth and strengthens the plant.

Once the stems are cut, put your plant in a warm, well-lit area. Avoid cool air and drafts as these may have a negative effect. Water the Poinsettia as needed taking care not to over water which could lead to rotting at the base of the stems. When the plant begins to once again grow, pinch the stems back at the joints. This will result in a short and bushy growth instead of tall and lanky.

The red color of the leaves comes from light manipulation. Put your Poinsettia in a dark place, such as a closet, for 12 hours, and then in the light for 12 hours. Alternate this dark and light placement to achieve a nice red color.

Avoid direct sunlight or placing your plant on a windowsill as this will cause your beautiful new leaves to burn.



Jefferson Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name: _____ Birthday (mo/day) _____

Name: _____ Birthday (mo/day) _____

Address: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

FY 2013-2014

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

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

A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year, and out the other.

-Author Unknown

The next JNA meeting will be held Monday, January 13, 2014 at 7 pm at the Jefferson United Methodist Church, Donaldson and Wilson.

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

