

# WLCA NEWSLETTER



## Woodlawn Lake Community Association

*Keeping Woodlawn Wonderful since 1992*

Published Bimonthly

July–August 2018

San Antonio, Texas

### **D1's ROBERTO TREVIÑO SPEAKS ON JUL 31st**

Our July 31st meeting will feature District 1 City Councilman Roberto Treviño. District 1 encompasses the southeast corner of WLCA's geographic area, from Zarzamora west to Glenmore and from Cincinnati south to Culebra. This includes such features as Little Flower Basilica, the Almaguer Dance Studio, and Nelson Elementary School. District 1 also takes in downtown and the Alamo. The Councilman will bring us up to date on developments in these areas and on his legislative initiatives.

Roberto is a native of McAllen, Texas. He obtained his Bachelor's Degree of Architecture from Texas Tech University and MBA from the Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech. He settled in San Antonio where he established his professional career as a Registered Architect. He became involved in volunteer work and served on non-profit boards and citizen committees. In December 2014, City Council appointed him interim Councilman for District 1. He was elected for a full term in 2015 and reelected in 2017.

On City Council Roberto has focused on equity, inclusiveness, design, technology, and improving City processes. He created the San Antonio Under 1 Roof program, which helps homeowners protect their homes and also helps to reduce the heat island effect in San Antonio (Nwsltr May-Jun'17). He chairs the City's Arts, Culture, and Heritage Committee and serves on the Audit & Accountability, Comprehensive Plan, and Governance committees. He also serves on the Bexar Appraisal Board, the Alamo Citizen Advisory Committee, and the Alamo Management Committee.

### **BEFORE YOU DIG - 811**

If you have a project that involves digging, as a home addition, a new fence or deck, or just some landscaping like planting a tree or shrubs, be sure to first locate electric and natural gas lines, as well as cable and phone lines, by calling 811. You can also make a locate request online at [call811.com](http://call811.com). Allow two full working days for a team to come to your property and mark utility lines before your project begins. This is required by law.

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT TOPIC OF AUG 28th MEETING**

Danny Liguez, Development Services Manager for the Field Services Division of the City's Development Services Department, will talk about Code Enforcement at our August 28th meeting. He is responsible for assisting, planning, directing, managing and overseeing the day to day operation of the department's Code Enforcement section.

Liguez began his career with the City of San Antonio in September 2000 and has nearly 15 years of experience in the field of Code Enforcement. Additionally, he serves as the division's Subject Matter Expert on dangerous buildings and distressed properties and the Deputy Operations Section Coordinator for the department's Damage Assessment Team.

Liguez received a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Incarnate Word. He is licensed with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation as a registered Code Enforcement Officer and certified as a Building Inspector with the International Code Council. He maintains multiple certificates from the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

The Code Enforcement section is dedicated to protect the health and safety of buildings, properties, and neighborhoods within our community. Code Enforcement deals with additional issues as Dangerous Premises, Graffiti, and Damage Assessment. The Neighborhood Assessment Team coordinates code investigations and special projects with emphasis on highly travelled areas throughout the City's main district corridors and inner city reinvestment areas.

We will hear about common code violations, code provisions of which we might not be aware, the process for making a complaint, and the manner in which a complaint is processed. We will also learn about the results of a recent neighborhood sweep in our area. We will have the opportunity to ask about problems that seem to recur or fester in our community.

**About Our Meetings – page 2**

**Back to School – page 3**

**Park Amenities – page 4**

## WLCA EXECUTIVE BOARD

*President:* Alejandro Soto.....485-6168  
wlca@att.net

*Vice President:* Diana Sanchez Lira.....646-1595

*Secretary:* Ester Soto

*Treasurer:* Elia Reyna.....279-7204

*Board Members:*

Marcy Gutierrez.....313-8296

Sally Avila.....734-2093

Charles Oisten.....702-234-0604

Vicki Wright.....286-7222

## AGENDAS & MEETINGS

Our meetings begin at 6:30 pm and we try to be done by 8 pm. To control meeting length, we ask members who wish to discuss a particular subject to present it beforehand to an officer or board member (see block above) for placement on the agenda. Items not on the agenda will be heard only if time is available and can be limited to a three minute presentation.

WLCA welcomes membership from outside of our geographic area, but our focus is our Park and our community. We will discuss other area concerns only if they impact on WLCA interests. At times a member or a guest will take advantage of the presence of a Council representative or a guest speaker to ask or make a statement about an issue that does not fit our criteria. The chair can stop and refocus that discussion.

This being an election year, candidates are welcome to visit our meetings. Unless part of a presentation in which all opponents for an office have been invited, each candidate will be allowed two minutes for introduction and can visit individually with members before and after the meeting.

WLCA is also not subject to the Open Meetings Act. We do keep our members informed about our meetings and our business and give members access to our records. We announce our meetings by email and on facebook and nextdoor.com. WLCA's by-laws and finance rules are at neighborhoodlink.com. You need to enter a zip code, either 78201 or 78228, to find our listing. The site also has our Newsletters back to 2012.

## WLCA Birthdays

*July: flower - larkspur; birthstone - ruby*

Victor Almaraz, Sally Avila, Bodil Beanland, Bruce Bronstad, Adam Crawshaw, Mary Gantt, Cathleen McClure, Diana Prado, Lawrence Romo, Manuel Sandoval, Henrietta Zavala

*August: flower - gladiolus; birthstone - peridot*

Gloria Bolick, Tiffany Dale, Efraim Diaz, Alejandro Soto, Peggy Selden

## PARCHED, PLANS, PRACTICES

*Alejandro Soto, WLCA President*

I have been a member of the SAWS Community Conservation Committee since January 2016. We review and discuss plans for saving on our water use. These are published in the flyers that accompany our SAWS bills and in the weekly *Garden Style San Antonio eNewsletter*. SAWS has programs and incentives for making irrigation systems more efficient, plumbing repairs more affordable, and landscapes less thirsty. As we continue in stage 2 water restrictions, the promotions and suggestions become more meaningful. We should keep these practices in mind regardless of restrictions, rainfall, or temperature. Water is a finite resource. At times of abundance, we should be conserving it for later droughts that will undoubtedly follow.

SA Tomorrow is the City's 25-year framework that guides future growth and development. Adopted by City Council in August 2016, it addresses a wide range of topics that include land use, economic development, housing, environmental protection, cultural and historic preservation, and transportation. The Tier One Neighborhood Coalition, in which WLCA is a participant, fought to keep our Neighborhood Plans intact within the SA Tomorrow framework. Thanks to the efforts of D1 Councilman Roberto Treviño, provisions were added that that would assure that neighborhoods would be included in the implementation process.

WLCA is part of the Near Northwest Community Plan approved in 2002. Our area also contains portions of the Monticello Park Historic District and the Jefferson Neighborhood Conservation District (NCD), and all of the Woodlawn Lake Area NCD. As City planning continues on future land use categories and sub-area plans under SA Tomorrow, we hope to have our members participate in deciding what we want for our area. We should become familiar with existing plans and think about what has worked well and what has not, the changed circumstances and evolving patterns in the area, historic and natural features, transportation needs, and the effect of bond projects. We who reside in this area have a broader knowledge of its background and greater stake in its future. City staff often has the advantage of knowing ranges of possibilities, which we should consider, but we have a better feel of what will work for us. We and neighboring associations have requested a D7 workshop on this matter.

At our recent Earth Day celebration at the park, we attempted to eliminate single use plastic products. Most vendors did comply. Much of the litter at the park, and in our streets, is plastic. These are discarded bags, cups, wrappers, and bottles that have served their function and are no longer needed. Too many people then just toss them or leave them where last used. Plastic items also have the problem of being light weight and can be lifted from receptacles by a small breeze. It is best not to use them in the first place if at all possible. On page 3 we have listed ways on cutting down on one-use plastic items.

## LOCAL BACK TO SCHOOL EVENTS

Councilman Roberto Treviño and Telemundo 60 invite area families to attend the third annual District 1 Back to School Wellness Fair. It will take place on Saturday, August 4th, from 9 am to 1 pm, at Thomas Edison High School. School-aged children will receive a backpack filled with school supplies. There will be many community and wellness partners to provide services ranging from flu shots to allergy screenings to dental screenings and more. Each student in attendance will also receive two free meals thanks to a generous donation from the San Antonio Food Bank. Students must be present to receive supplies and services. Please contact (210) 207-0900 with any questions or if you are interested in donating or volunteering.

Councilwoman Ana Sandoval has partnered with Place for Life to host the District 7 Back to School Bash. It will take place on Saturday, August 11th, from 9 am to 12 noon at Place for Life Church (5820 NW Loop 410). Kids will be provided free backpacks and school supplies and free school immunizations and physicals. The Bash will also include food, fun, and entertainment, and a Community Resource Fair. Students must register. Donations are appreciated. Items needed are spiral notebooks (subject wide rule), composition journals, package of No. 2 pencils, glue sticks, scissors, crayons, and more. For information, to register, or to contribute, please visit [info@placeforlife.org](mailto:info@placeforlife.org), or contact the District 7 office (below).

### LOCAL CONTACTS

#### US Senate

John Cornyn, 600 Navarro, 224-7485

Ted Cruz, 9901 IH 10 #950, 340-2885

#### US Representative (Congress):

20--Joaquin Castro, Fed Bldg, 727 C'Chávez #124, 348-8216  
35--Lloyd Doggett, 217 W Travis, 704-1080

#### State Senate:

26--José Menendez, Wonderland Mall A-22, 733-6604

#### State Representative:

116--Diana Arevalo, Wonderland Mall A-12-A, 785-9114

#### City Council:

1--Roberto Treviño, City Hall 207-7279

Constituent Office, 1310 Vance Jackson, 207-0900

7--Ana Sandoval, City Hall 207-7044

Field Office, 4414 Centerview #160, 207-0870

SAFFE Officer, John Garcia, (cell) 218-6546

SAPD Non-Emergency, 207-SAPD (7273)

CPS Help Line, 353-4357

SAWS Emergency, 704-7297

### Next WLCA Meeting: Jul 31st at 6:30 pm

Woodlawn Lake Park Wi-Fi Room @ Gym Bldg

Other meetings in 2018: Aug 28, Sept 25, Oct 30, Nov 27

## CUT DOWN ON PLASTIC WASTE

Starbucks recently stopped the use of plastic straws. The Texas Supreme Court ruled that the City of Laredo cannot ban the use of store plastic bags. The use of single use plastic products is a major environmental issue. The US disposes of 30 million tons of plastic each year, only 7% of which is recycled. The rest goes to landfills or ends up in our landscape and oceans, where it can pollute for centuries and harm living organisms. Here are 17 ways to reduce your plastic waste:

1. Stop using plastic straws, even in restaurants. If a straw is a must, purchase a reusable stainless steel or glass straw.
2. Use a reusable produce bag. A single plastic bag can take 1,000 years to degrade. Purchase or make your own reusable produce bag and be sure to wash them often.
3. Give up gum. Gum is made of a synthetic rubber, aka plastic.
4. Buy boxes instead of bottles. Often, products like laundry detergent come in cardboard which is more easily recycled than plastic.
5. Purchase food, like cereal, pasta, and rice from bulk bins and fill a reusable bag or container. You save money and unnecessary packaging.
6. Reuse containers for storing leftovers or shopping in bulk.
7. Use a reusable bottle or mug for your beverages, even when ordering from a to-go shop.
8. Bring your own container for take-out or your restaurant doggy-bag since many restaurants use styrofoam.
9. Use matches instead of disposable plastic lighters or invest in a refillable metal lighter.
10. Avoid buying frozen foods because their packaging is mostly plastic. Even those that appear to be cardboard are coated in a thin layer of plastic. Plus you'll be eating fewer processed foods.
11. Do not use plasticware at home and be sure to request restaurants do not pack them in your take-out box.
12. Ask your local grocer to take your plastic containers (for berries, tomatoes, etc.) back. If you shop at a farmers market they can refill it for you.
13. The EPA estimates that 7.6 billion pounds of disposable diapers are discarded in the US each year. Use cloth diapers to reduce your baby's carbon footprint and save money.
14. Make fresh squeezed juice or eat fruit instead of buying juice in plastic bottles. It's also healthier.
15. Make your own cleaning products that will be less toxic and eliminate the need for multiple plastic bottles of cleaner.
16. Pack your lunch in reusable containers and bags. Also, opt for fresh fruits and veggies and bulk items instead of products that come in single serving cups.
17. Use a razor with replaceable blades instead of a disposable razor.

**Woodlawn Lake  
Community Association**  
PO Box 28374  
San Antonio TX 78228



## **SUMMER DOG CARE**

Our park is a great place for walking our dogs. But summer requires extra care to keep dogs safe in the San Antonio sun. Some measures include bringing lots of water on walks, watching for the signs of your dog overheating, and never leaving a dog in the car. We must also be aware that the pavement beneath a dog's paws could be sizzling hot. Surfaces, as asphalt or a truck bed, will be much hotter than our air temperature (blacktop can get up to 140°F when the temperature only reads 80°F). Waiting for sundown or the evening to walk your dog might still not be safe. It takes hours for the pavement to cool off after the outdoor temperature goes down. Check the pavement for heat before taking your dog on a walk by placing your hand or a bare foot on the surface for 10 seconds. If it is too hot for you to keep your hand or foot on it, then it is too hot for your pet.

It is best to stay on grassy surfaces and avoid bare ground. Avoid the hottest parts of the day. Walk early in the morning or late in the evening after the pavement has cooled down. If walking your dog on hot pavement is unavoidable, there are products that might help, like special dog booties or paw wax designed to protect your dog's sensitive paw pads from the heat.

If you see any signs in your dog such as limping, not wanting to walk, a red or pink color change in the paw pads, licking or chewing at the feet, missing pieces of the pads or blisters, take your dog to see your veterinarian immediately.

## **USING PARK AMENITIES**

Woodlawn Lake Park has a variety of amenities for individual and family recreation, as well as for social events, such as family reunions, company picnics, and birthday parties. Some of these facilities are free and some can be rented.

Free facilities include the 1.3 mile walking trail and the playgrounds. Also free are the swimming pool, open to the public from 1 to 7 pm Tuesday through Sunday during summer, and the fitness station on the walking trail. The tennis and basketball courts are available first come, first serve. You can also boat and fish at the lake without charge, though certain rules apply.

Facilities that can be rented include the pavilions, island (party) house, softball field, gym, and pool outside of public hours. You can reserve online ([SAParksReservations@sanantonio.gov](mailto:SAParksReservations@sanantonio.gov)) or at 207-7275. Payments can be made online with a credit or debit card. Reservations Staff is available to assist with reservations arrangements by visiting the Ron Darner Parks and Recreation Headquarters, 5800 Enrique M. Barrera Parkway (parking is free). Once you have finalized the reservation, please remember to take a copy of your permit with you to the reservation site. (The wi-fi room in which we meet cannot be reserved.)

Large special events such as concerts, runs, walks, fund-raisers and festivals must be booked through the department's special events coordinator ([SAParksSpecialEvents@sanantonio.gov](mailto:SAParksSpecialEvents@sanantonio.gov) or 207-3053).