



The Jefferson Neighborhood Association News



June 2020

Volume 38, Issue 6

"Preserving the integrity of the Jefferson Area since 1982"

Greetings from Mario

It has been about eleven weeks since our last JNA meeting back on March 9, 2020. Our nation, state, and city have gone through a time like none of us have every experienced before and the way we are able to socially interact with each other has been altered.



We all look forward to the day that we are able to come together as a community to celebrate our great city and neighborhood. Until then, we look to communicate with our neighbors through our newsletter, website, and social media platforms.

When we moved into the neighborhood four years ago, our family immediately felt that we had moved into a community in which we could stop and talk to our neighbors, take a walk, and enjoy a sense of pride when talking about where we live. During this unprecedented time, there has been a positive that our family has experienced in the past eleven weeks.

We have noticed so many of our neighbors walking, running, riding bikes, and taking the time to say "Good Morning" or "Hello!" I have personally been able to meet over 15 new neighbors and families. Practicing social distancing of course. We hope that this does not end, but continues to allow our neighborhood to grow stronger as well as our Jefferson Neighborhood Association.

As we enter the summer months it may be possible to hold a neighborhood meeting, but until we are all able to gather safely we are

looking at other means of holding live meetings. Stay tuned for more information.

Finally, we would like to take this time to say Thank You to all of our community members who are working on the Front Lines to keep our city safe and functioning.

Stay Home, Stay Safe!

Sincerely,

Mario Goff

Co-President,
Jefferson Neighborhood Association



It is with deep sadness to announce that the JNA has lost long time member **Chuck Whitehead**.

Chuck produced and edited this newsletter for several years as well as serving on our Board of Directors.

Our condolences to **Becky**.

He will be missed by our community.

J N A CONTACTS

Jefferson Neighborhood Assn
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 San Antonio, Texas 78228
www.neighborhoodlink.com/jefferson
www.jefferson-sa.com
www.facebook.com/groups/jeffersonneighbors

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ana.sandoval@sanantonio.gov

Constituent Services: **Debra Dehlinger**
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 San Antonio, TX 78228
debra.dehlinger@sanantonio.gov

Office of Historic Preservation:
 210-215-9274

SAFFE OFFICER:
Officer John Garcia #1447
 Office: 210-207-0810
 Cell: 210-218-6546
john.garcia3@sanantonio.gov

SAPD Non-Emergency:
 210-207-SAPD (7273)

SAPD West Substation: 210-207-7420

SAISD Police: 210-271-3124

SAISD Truancy Office: 210-223-2360

Code Compliance Issues: 311 or
 download the City's "311" phone app

Animal Control Issues: 311
 Graffiti in Progress: 911

Graffiti Abatement Program:
 210-207-5430

CPS Energy: 210-353-2222



Note From the Garden!

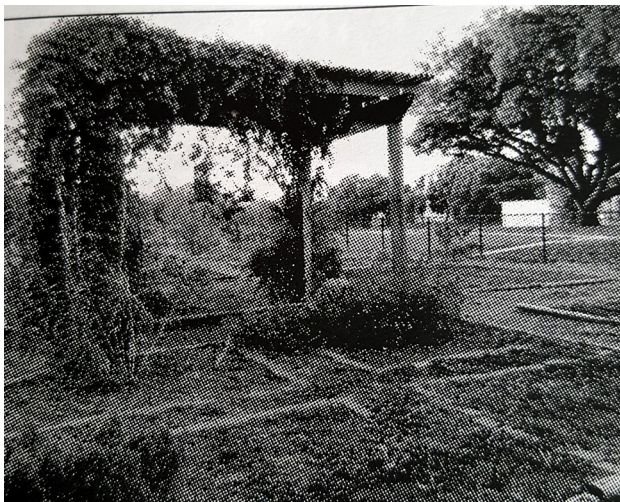
On a cool afternoon after a few hours of gardening at the Jefferson Community Garden (JCG), I took a break in the rose arbor area that was filled with a wonderful fragrance of roses. As I was musing about the garden, I noticed a



flagstone in the ground with the inscription Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas 2013, a time when the garden was flourishing and considered an asset garden.

For the next four years, however, the JCG began to decline despite every effort taken by **Sarah Rice**, the garden steward to keep the garden growing. Most significantly, the garden experienced water issues. The problems were due to leaks in an adjacent soccer field owned by SAISD, where Thomas Jefferson High School students practiced. The water would be turned off inadvertently and we had to go through many channels to have it turned back on. At this time the garden lacked any irrigation system.

The garden was beginning to look more and more like a dust bowl and the students who attended agricultural classes during the week from TJHS were disinterested, and rightly so, since the learning conditions were so bad.



In the spring of 2015, I became a volunteer when **Sarah Rice** was the JCG steward. Sarah was determined to bring the garden back to life after it had been abandoned without full access to irrigation. Despite the hardships Sarah had a knack for bringing people together and creating a sense of community. It seemed like the garden was starting to make a comeback. Sadly, Sarah stepped aside during this time due to other pressing needs.

This was the time when the current core gardening

group started to band together. Several attempts were made to set appointments with the then TJHS principal without success. Shortly thereafter, at the end of the school year the principal retired.

The core group of four members, determined to keep the garden going began its search for a new steward. In 2017 **Carolina Gonzalez Attwood** volunteered for the position. However, there were other pressing obligations that developed which led to her decision to step aside as the steward. She still stays engaged and her hard work is not forgotten.

Strides were also made after TJHS hired a new principal. Repairs were made to the soccer field leaks and access to water improved. Subsequently Green Spaces Alliance (GSA) and the **William R. Sinkin Eco Centro** became more involved. **Judith Temple**, at that time an intern at Green Spaces Alliance, helped to improve the garden. Judith provided the JCG with cinderblocks, soil for the six above ground vegetable beds, and coordinated the volunteer efforts of a group of Navy sailors to build the cinderblock garden beds and perform maintenance on the fruit trees and gazebos.

We currently have two Co-Garden Stewards and two other core members who share equal responsibilities. We have regularly scheduled days to water and share responsibilities in planting, harvesting, amending soil and attending to general garden needs. We have a Facebook Group that has become more popular since we began sharing information on when to plant seeds and a video on how to harvest vegetables. In just the last two months we have gone from 68 members to 101 members!

Eco Centro, (where Ms. Temple currently works) has supported the JCG with generous seed donations and has encouraged many community members to use the seed packages to begin their own gardens.

Camille Rodriguez Brigant, an avid gardener, JCG member, and owner of Motif Boutique Brokerage, a real estate firm, recently donated the major repairs to the irrigation system.

Our deepest gratitude also goes to GSA and Eco Centro for their generosity and guidance through out the years.

And lastly, I want to recognize the generosity of SAISD for the use of their land, water, and continued support for our community garden.

Working together,

Marie Cooper

Co-Garden Steward

Jefferson Community Garden

coordinator for San Antonio Water System. With over 30 years of experience as an urban forester and arborist.



SUPPORT OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS IN 2020!

We're proud that the following businesses have chosen to grow in partnership with the Jefferson Neighborhood Association.

We encourage all members to frequent these businesses. To join the JNA as a business member, or to inquire about advertising rates or any other questions please contact:

Mary Morales, veesalon@sbcglobal.net

About Face

Antiques and Collectables

Charles Keyton • 210-887-4331 • cwkegl@aol.com

BIG TEX ELECTRIC COMPANY

210-784-9777 • 316 Meredith Dr, 78228

Leal's Jewelry

506 W. Hildebrand (210) 733-9179
Fine Clocks-Watches-Jewelry-Sales & Service

Camille Rodriguez Brigant

Realtor, MOTIF Botique Brokerage

210.802.9797 . Camille@MotifTX.com

**This space is
Available**

Vee's Hair and Spa Salon

1022 Donaldson Ave • (210) 733-7131
An Aveda Concept Salon

**This space is
Available**



Farmers Insurance Agent

JORGE SANCHEZ JR

O (210) 732-1886 F (210) 787-3809
909 Manor Dr San Antonio TX 78228
jsanchez5@farmersagent.com



ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH

210 St. Ann Street † San Antonio, TX 78201
210-734-6687 † stanncatholicchurch.com

Jefferson Bank

2900 Fredericksburg Road • 210-734-4311

Janelle Moore



4374 Lockhill Selma Suite 101
Phone (210) 348-6090
Fax (210) 348-6160
jmoore@cfmail.com
www.ingenuityfinancial.com
San Antonio, TX 78249

Jefferson Bodega
1005 Donaldson Ave 78228
210 735-0990

Primary Runoff set for July 14th, 2020

Gov. [Greg Abbott](#) has announced that the runoff elections from the March primaries will be held July 14. Early Voting Period: Monday, June 29, 2020 – Friday, July 10, 2020.

Check with the Bexar County Elections office for more information.

Phone: 210-335-VOTE (8683); Fax: 210-335-0371 (Elections).

On November 3, 2020, voters will go to the polls to not only elect national officials, but also municipalities will be conducting balloting for local spots. The municipal elections are delayed from the scheduled May 2 balloting because of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Buying, Renovating, Staging, Selling - We Do it All!
A portion of all commissions are donated to local non-profits.



CERTIFIED HISTORIC HOME SPECIALIST

Camille Rodriguez Brigant *Realtor®*

📞 210.802.9797 ✉️ Camille@MotifTX.com



**SAN
PEDRO
CREEK**
CULTURE PARK

San Pedro Creek is where the Spanish first settled in our community and where the Payaya people lived for thousands of years prior to the Spanish settlements.

Over the course of the last 300 years, many groups lived, worked and worshipped along San Pedro Creek.

This historic creek became the location where the convergence of civilizations in our community took root and evolved.

In the 1719's, The springs provided abundant water, so those early settlers built their rustic houses, called jacales, nearby. These shelters were constructed of wood, mud, and straw—all

materials that were right there for the taking. The settlers also turned their attention to growing crops.

In 2018, The San Pedro Creek Culture Park opened to the community with a day-long family celebration. Thousands of people came out to take part in the grand opening celebration that included music, food and lots of family fun.

For more information about the San Pedro Culture Park, visit:

<https://spcculturepark.com/about/culture/>

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Charles Keyton
210-887-4331 • cwkegl@aol.com

Notes from Ana Sandoval District 7 Councilwoman

City Council approved an ordinance authorizing CPS Energy to forgive late fees for customers making timely payments under a payment plan.

While this means less revenue for CPS Energy and the City, it frees up residents' wallets to pay for essentials like food, fuel, and childcare.

This is great not only for the individuals it directly benefits, but for the entire city.

Since Governor's latest announcement, the City and County have updated their Stay Home, Work Safe orders to be in line with the new executive orders.

The City's updated order was signed by the Mayor on May 19th. Council approved to extend this order through June 4th. The updated Stay Home, Work Safe order states that:

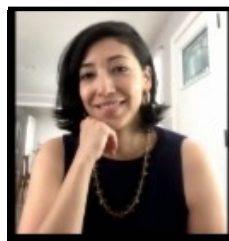
- ✓ People over 65 are strongly encouraged to stay home as much as possible and to be careful if they do leave home;

- ✓ Residents still need to practice social distancing when using a shared outdoor space or when at work;
- ✓ Face coverings are strongly encouraged for all people 10 and older; and
- ✓ Residents that are sick should stay at home and not engage in any activity outside their residence unless related to treatment or healthcare.

With that said, I want to hear from you. What kind of programs do you think City Council should prioritize in the Recovery & Resilience Plan?

Feel free to send us an email at:

District7@SanAntonio.gov.



Yours in public service,

Misc Information

You can register for FREE Covid-19 testing by going to the following website:
<https://www.txccovidtesting.org/> for registration.

The Animal Care Services shelter is currently operating by appointment only.

This is being done in order to protect both the public and our staff in support of safe social distancing.

To adopt a pet, please make an appointment, for those interested in fostering a pet, sign-up for our foster program.

For a list of other services currently available, you may make an appointment.
<https://www.sanantonio.gov/Animal-Care/Home>



Bexar County Information

Although Bexar County offices remain open to the public, we do encourage you to use our online services whenever possible, in order to practice responsible social distancing.

Visit our Online Services tab at <https://www.bexar.org/> to see which county resources are available for you. .



The next JNA meeting MIGHT be held June 8th, 7PM at the Jefferson Methodist Church, 758 Donaldson @ Wilson.

Check www.jefferson-sa.com for details.



JNA Business Member Spotlight

By **Mary Morales**
"Strong neighbors build strong communities, forging and building relationships that become the enduring mortar that unites."

The weeks of safe quarantine in our homes have left many of us feeling a bit unsure about returning to the 'outside' world. For my husband and I, as I am sure for most, our home became a sanctuary, a place of refuge and safety.

As business owners, we will ease back into economic normalcy with thought, care and excitement. Our primary concern is safety, for our guests and customers as well as ourselves.

Fortunately some businesses never missed a beat; **Jefferson Bodega** became the neighborhood champion! They had

TP and eggs when none else could find them and they gave protective masks to anyone that needed them =).

Motif Boutique Realty kept in sync and shared virtual tours of beautiful homes and real estate opportunities on our JNA Facebook page, super cool! **Farmers Insurance Agent Jorge Sanchez Jr** was available to address our insurance needs and volunteered to accept our delivered packages so as to keep porch theft in our community at a minimal. **Jefferson Bank** and **St Ann's Catholic Church** were here for the community with their usual exceptional service as was **Big Tex Electric**, a really essential business!

Ingenuity Financial Services filled a crucial need. The uncertainty of the financial markets made for trying times. They were available to their

clients both by phone and email with professional advice and reassurance to get them thru this unique situation.

Vees Hair and Spa is now open for business, a spacious salon, so distancing is easy. With strict sanitation guidelines, protective masks are now required.

We are excited to be able to shop at **Leal's Jewelry**, hope they had a quiet respite and are back to repairing clocks and watches! **About Face Antiques and Collectibles** is ready for a rebound! Charles tells me the inventory is amazing! I did not need to know that. LOL

As we get back to the business of business, we ask that you might consider our JNA Business Members, they remain essential part of our Jefferson Community.

Till next time,

Mary

News from County Commissioner Pct. 2 Justin Rodriguez



My colleagues and I on the Commissioner's Court have approved \$1.5 million in additional grant funding for small businesses, and we are still working on developing plans to utilize the remaining funding from the CARES Act.

Additionally, we have been distributing kits of supplies including masks, cleaning supplies, and other essentials to opening safely to business owners around the County.

If you have any questions or need help identifying resources you need, visit our website at www.bexar.org/P2-COVID-Resources or call us at (210) 335-2612.

Sincerely,

COVID-19 Hotline - 210-207-7559

Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday: 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

English & Spanish



Message from our Vice President

I have lived in this neighborhood (in fact, the same house) since age 4. I have seen many changes—first from the eyes of a child to now as an older adult. Some of the changes were positive, some were not so positive.

One of the better changes was the formation of the Jefferson Neighborhood Association (JNA) which was begun in the early 1980s. At that time, our neighborhood had some issues that needed attention by our residents. The residents came together to combat crime, failing infrastructure, as well as property upkeep issues.

Our JNA became a loud voice in our city. Our city leaders listened to our concerns and we got action.

Our monthly meetings were packed and our members became empowered with knowledge.

As time went on, we had an active COP (Cellular On Patrol—now, Citizens On Patrol) group which was an offshoot of being

involved with the JNA. The COP group learned how the police department works and that we could help the officers by being their eyes and ears in the Jefferson Neighborhood.

Now fast forward to 2020. The JNA is still here—still a major voice in our city.

Our meetings still provide our members with informative programs, but what's missing now is **MEMBERSHIP!**

Why has this happened?

Are we so complaisant now that we don't care about the problems that we now face? One current problem, which is very worrisome, is strangers lurking in our alleys.

The JNA needs **YOU!** We need you to become an active member and attend our monthly meetings.

We cannot solve the problems and maintain the quality of our neighborhood alone.

I invite all of you to attend our next meeting when the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

In the meantime, become a member—complete the membership form and send it in. Thank you!



Lynn Waghalter

From SR-116 Trey Martinez Fischer



No city in Texas has handled the COVID-19 pandemic better than San Antonio.

The [Rivard Report](#) has it right: while state leaders have only been consistent in the inconsistency of their public statements, San Antonio's local officials have been steadfast in their commitment to following the guidance of public health experts. The results speak for themselves: San Antonio has seen a significantly lower number of cases per capita than other metropolitan areas.

Stay safe and healthy.

Trey



The Jefferson Neighborhood Association thanks the Jefferson United Methodist Church for the use of Jackson Hall for our meetings!
For more info: jeffersonumcsa.com

Celebrations at Jefferson United Methodist Church
Celebrate the special moments of your life with us!
We offer space for weddings, birthdays, baby showers, and graduations. No matter the occasion we are here to help you commemorate the day!
Looking for a place to hold your next seminar, convention, or meeting? Check out the Alma Fite Lounge, Johnson Dining Room, or Jackson Hall. We offer a variety of venues to suit your needs.
Nursery space is available during events upon request.

Contact Jefferson United Methodist Church
Plan your next event in the "Deco District."

Please contact our Events Coordinator **Olivia Walker**

by calling or text at 210-367-1525 or email jeffersonumcsa@gmail.com to explore your needs and learn how we may serve you.

Dues Are Due!

Dues are accepted year round. They support our scholarship program and help pay for our monthly newsletter. Memberships expire at the end of **DEC** each year. **Renew now to help keep our neighborhood voice strong.**

Jefferson Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

Dues:

☐ \$10 per year for an individual

☐ \$15 per year for families

☐ \$35 per year for businesses

☐ Send my JNA Newsletter via email only

☐ I would like to receive updates and news through my e-mail address

☐ I would like to volunteer _____

☐ Unique skills I have to offer _____

FY 2019-2020 Calendar year is September to August

Cut out and mail form to:

JNA, PO Box 28552, SA TX 78228

The next JNA meeting MIGHT be held
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Methodist Church, 758 Donaldson @
Wilson. Check www.jefferson-sa.com.

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

