

WLCA NEWSLETTER



Woodlawn Lake Community Association

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San Antonio, Texas

SA FOOD BANK EXEC DETAILS PROGRAM ON DEC 2nd

Eric Cooper, President and CEO of the San Antonio Food Bank (SAFB), will be the featured speaker at our December 2nd meeting. The mission of the SAFB is to fight hunger in Southwest Texas through food distribution, programs, education, and advocacy. It provides food and grocery products to more than 500 partner agencies in 16 counties in this region. In FY2013, the SAFB provided nearly 50 million pounds of food.

Eric Cooper has served as SAFB President and CEO since 2001. He brought seven years of experience in the food banking movement to the organization. He had previously served as the Product Donations Manager for The North Texas Food Bank and as the Deputy Director for the Utah Food Bank. He has degrees in sociology, social work, and business administration from the University of Utah.

Under Eric Cooper's leadership, and as a result of a successful \$10 million capital campaign, the SAFB moved into a new facility at 5200 Old Highway 90. During this time, the SAFB has increased the amount of food provided to hungry families and has started several innovative programs. It has become the first and now largest food stamp outreach program in Texas.

The SAFB relies on the generosity and support of local businesses, churches, foundations, corporations, government, civic groups, and individuals in order to successfully continue serving Southwest Texans who are at risk of going hungry. Thirty-six percent of its clients are under the age of 18 years; 46% of households served include at least one employed adult; 67% had incomes below the federal poverty level the previous month; and 8% are homeless.

The San Antonio Food Bank has consistently received the highest 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. Ninety-eight percent of donated resources go directly to food distribution programs. This time of the year, with our celebrations and bountiful banquets, is a good time to remember those less fortunate and learn about one of the major programs that provides assistance in meeting basic life requirements.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT REPORT First Event Successful

WLCA held its first association-wide National Night Out event on October 7th. Several members, as well as other neighbors, came together for an evening to show support for our community, stand together against crime, and enjoy each other's company.

Food and snacks were plentiful thanks to Kiolbassa, which donated 2 boxes of sausages; Walmart, which donated water, soda, and packaged snacks; and Joseph Neri and Emilio Arriola, who manned the charcoal grill throughout the evening. Bezaleel and Carol Chincanchan and Cathy Fernandez brought the tables. Ashley Hernandez organized the event and Gerard Bustos provided musical sound support for the entire evening.

In addition, drawings for door prizes were held. The prizes were donated by Mane Tamers Beauty Salon (\$25 gift card), Bird Bakery (\$25 gift card), YMCA (one month membership), Connie Barrera (2 gift cards for haircuts at "A Style by Rose" Salon), Gerard Bustos (2 gift cards from Red Door Multimedia for a photo sitting and an 8x10). Jason's Deli gave 50 free cookie cards for the attendees. Ashley and Gerard get the credit for obtaining the donations. We were visited by our SAFFE Officer Marcos Serda and McGruff, the crime fighting dog. Our interim District 7 Councilwoman, Mari Aguirre-Rodriguez, also spent some time with us.

Other helpers included JoAnn Hernandez; Mary Gomez; Gary, Jeri Ann, and Kimberly Hernandez; Juan Neri; Alejandro and Ester Soto; and Daniel Ramirez. District 7 Council Aide Robert Cantu helped to get the street for our gathering secured. The event went on for close to three hours. We thank the helpers and donors for making our first NNO a success.

CONGRATULATIONS...

to WLCA members Bill and Lucy Phalen on the election of their son-in-law Greg Abbott as Governor of the State of Texas.

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Kenneth Beanland, Antoinette Cadena, Jesse Castillo, Paul Garza, Servando De La Garza, Humberto Guerra, Eugene S Herrera, Javier Gutierrez, Laura Iglesias, Martha J Kwan, Alissa Lockett, Lupe Peña, Raymond Reyna, Clayton Smith, Romana Suarez, Woodrow Taylor, John Zadeh

HANDS FREE

A "Hands Free" Ordinance takes effect on January 1, 2015. It makes it illegal to drive while using any hand held mobile device to talk or text.

It is an offense if a driver uses a hand-held mobile communications device to engage in a call; send, read, or write a text message; view pictures or written text; engage in gaming; or engage in any other use of the device while operating a moving motor vehicle. The law does not apply if the vehicle is legally parked or on private property, the device is affixed to the vehicle and used as a global positioning or navigation system, or is used with a hands-free mobile communication telephone or other such device.

Warning citations will be issued during the first 30 days of the Ordinance. After that, a person convicted of an offense will be punished by a fine of not more than \$200. The complete ordinance is at City Code Section 19-225.

BUILDING PERMITS

A building permit is needed for most improvements to property. There are several types of permits, from building-related (roofing, general repair) to historic district permits (to protect a community's historic fabric). Trade permits (mechanical, electrical, plumbing) need to be pulled by licensed and bonded professionals in their respective trades. Work requiring a permit include structures over 120 square feet, new fences (or if replacing at least 25%), room additions, and repair and installation of major systems.

PARK TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS TO BEGIN

On November 6th, City Council approved the Construction Contract for the Renovations of the trail around Woodlawn Lake Park. The contract in the amount of \$655,910.00 was awarded to Crownhill Builders, which will be the General Contractor on the project. It is a 180 Calendar Day Contract. The City is looking to have work start this week (November 24th). Funding for the project is from the 2012-2017 City Park Bond. We will keep our members up to date as work progresses.

WLCA Christmas Party

DATE: Sunday, December 14, 2014

TIME: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

PLACE: The Salvation Army Peacock Center, 2810 W. Ashby Place, Building 2, Dining Room. This is where we used to hold our meetings. It is behind the Chapel at the southeast corner of Wilson and Ashby, and is reached through the parking lot and courtyard on the east side of the Chapel.

PARKING: You can park on Ashby and in parking lots on the north side of Ashby, or the small lot on the south side of Ashby, one building from Wilson. (The large parking lot on the south side of Ashby is for the use of the tenants of the William Booth and Catherine Booth senior apartments.)

FOOD: WLCA will provide tamales, plates, cups, napkins, and eating utensils. Members are asked to bring other food items, as side dishes, salads, and desserts, sufficient to share with six other guests. Dips (please include chips) are also acceptable. Please try to keep plug-in serving dishes to a minimum, and bring serving spoons, tongs, knives, etc., if needed for your food item.

DRINKS: We are asking 2 members to each bring six liters of soda or other flavored nonalcoholic drink in lieu of a food item. If you wish to bring drinks, please email (wlca@att.net) or call (485-6168) to be sure that this option is available.

DOOR PRIZES: WLCA will contribute door prizes. Members are invited to donate their own door prizes on behalf of themselves or their business. To be eligible for a door prize, you must be a paid member and bring a food item. Individual members will receive one raffle ticket; family/household members will receive two. You must be present to win and cannot win multiple prizes.

PITCH IN: We need volunteers to help set up and clean up and to keep things running smoothly. Please come in half an hour early and stay after to help.

GUESTS: The party is for WLCA members and their families. Non-member guests can attend by paying \$5 and bringing a food item.

REMINDER: Please no alcohol and no smoking.

THANKS: We thank The Salvation Army Citadel Corps for letting us use its facilities for our party and for their good work throughout the year.

Best Wishes for the Holidays and the New Year!

THANKS SAFFE OFFICER & DEPUTY CHIEF

SAPD Chief William McManus was to be the speaker at our October meeting, but was unable to attend. Our SAFFE Officer, Marcos Serda, brought Deputy Chief Janae Florance, who had been at another meeting. Deputy Chief Florance gave an excellent presentation, answered questions, and was well received.

Next WLCA Meeting: Dec. 2nd at 6:30 pm
Woodlawn Lake Park Wi-Fi Room @ Gym Bldg
Following Meeting: Jan. 27, 2015

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



WLCA ELECTIONS Old & New Rules Apply

Elections for WLCA Executive Board positions will take place at our December 2nd meeting. Those elected as officers and board members will serve in 2015 and 2016. Nominations began at our October meeting and will resume prior to the voting.

At our October meeting, the members also voted to revise our WLCA By-Laws. The new rules now make distinctions between members who reside within WLCA's geographic boundaries and those who reside outside. There are other distinctions concerning property interests, businesses and other non personal entities, and minors. All persons who were members as of November 1st are eligible to vote in this election. However, next year, the new rules will apply. To vote, this year and next, members must be at the meeting.

Only active members (within our boundaries) will now be able to hold elective office. As a result, our current treasurer, Mary Lou Reyna, and a current board member, Cathy Fernandez, will not be able to continue in their current positions. We thank these two ladies for the many years they have served WLCA.

Nominations to now are: President, Alejandro Soto; Vice President, Gerard Bustos; Secretary, Ester Soto; Treasurer, Ashley Hernandez; and Board Members, Fred Ayers, Marcy Gutierrez, JoAnn Hernandez, and Elia Reyna.

Holiday Activity in the City

(some events require an admission fee or a donation)

Nov 28: Tree Lighting Ceremony, 3pm, Alamo Plaza; River Parade & Lighting Ceremony, 7-9pm, Riverwalk
Nov 28 & 29: International Peace Market / Mercado de Paz, Esperanza Peace & Justice Center, 922 San Pedro, 10am-6pm
Nov 28-Dec 28: "White Christmas," Woodlawn Theatre, Fri & Sat 7:30pm, Sun 3pm
Dec 5-21: Holiday Boat Caroling, Riverwalk, 6:15-9:15pm
Dec 6: Silver Bells in the City Tree Lighting Ceremony, Main Plaza, 4pm
Dec 6: Tamales! Holiday Festival, Pearl Brewery, 12n-6pm
Dec 6: Helotes Winterfest, Cornyval Grounds, 12210 Leslie Rd, 10am-6pm
Dec 6 (10am-6pm) & 7 (11am-6pm): Hecho a Mano, Museo Guadalupe, 723 S Brazos
Dec 12-14: Holiday Arts & Crafts Show, Riverwalk, 11am-8pm
Dec 13: Blessing of the Animals, Market Square, 12n-6pm
Dec 13: SoFlo Holiday Gift Market, 1344 S Flores, 10am-4pm
Dec 14: La Gran Posada, Little Flower Basilica, 7pm
Dec 21: Chanukah on the River, Arneson Theatre & La Villita, starting at 1 pm
Dec 31: Celebrate San Antonio, New Year's Eve Festival, Alamo Street (Market to Cesar Chavez), 6pm-12:30am