



The Jefferson Neighborhood Association News

October 2021

Volume 40, Issue 10

Little Free Libraries: A Labor of Love in Our Neighborhood

Perhaps you've seen them while out for a stroll, a run, or walking your dog. Or you've noticed them while cruising by on your bike or in your car. Have you ever stopped to look inside? Borrowed a book? Or donated one to the cause?

Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization with more than 100,000 little libraries worldwide, and we have three of them right here in our neighborhood. Each of these library owners has generously shared what they love about their Little Free Library.

West Kings Highway Little Free Library

Located on the 1700 block of West King's Highway, John and Grace Watson have enjoyed using Little



Free libraries in other places they have lived and when traveling. "We wanted one in our front yard to serve our neighbors since there isn't a public library nearby, and as a gathering point to help us get to know our neighbors better."

Gramercy Place Little Free Library

This Little Free Library is located on the 1900 block of West Gramercy Place and is dedicated to resident Diane Datz's Aunt Rosemary Boyce, a lover of books and, for many decades, Administrative Secretary for Nassau Library Systems (Long Island, New York). On Sept 17, 2017, the family gathered to install the Little Free Library. A gift and labor of love from the whole family.



Penney-Lindquist Little Free Library

Located on the 2000 block of West Magnolia Ave, this library has seen lots of action during the pandemic, and its owners have shared, "our love of our neighborhood has grown and it's been a joy to see how many neighbors have already contributed books and have spontaneously mentioned how much they like it. When the weather cools, I'll add a small seed library. I want our Little Library to be a small hub for sharing."



"Little Free Library is a community service, a little place of refuge and pleasure. Even if you don't stop to 'take a book, share a book,' it'll bring a smile to your face."

*- JNA Resident & LFL Owner,
Diane Datz*

Learn more about Little Free Library at

<https://littlefreelibrary.org/>

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jefferson-sa.com
neighborhoodlink.com/jefferson
facebook.com/groups/jeffersonneighbors

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SAPD Non-Emergency: 210-207-SAPD (7273)
SAPD West Substation: 210-207-7420

SAISD Police: 210-271-3124
SAISD Truancy Office: 210-271-3124

Office of Historic Preservation: 210-215-9274
Code Compliance Issues: 311
Animal Control Issues: 311
Dial 311 or download the City's "311" app

Graffiti in Progress: 911
Graffiti Abatement Program: 210-207-5430

CPS Energy: 210-353-2222



This is Your Neighborhood Association Newsletter!

Please send items of neighborhood interest to: neighbors@jefferson-sa.com by the 20th of each month. Articles should be sent as Word or Google docs, pictures as .jpg files.

A Message From Your JNA President

Dear Neighbors,

Fall is upon us and that means cooler weather – or as cool as it gets down here in South Texas – and Trick-or-Treaters will be out at the end of this month. We are feeling a taste of what's to come and were given a week of reprieve from the heat – and how nice it was!

I want to thank the community and the previous board members for the support given to JNA. We have an amazing year ahead of us and our new board is continuing the great work of strengthening our community.

There are 3 goals our board is working towards this year. The first is to increase membership and communication. At the beginning of the year, we had a wonderful time meeting with neighbors with our membership drives. We will be ramping up membership drives up again this month and encourage you to come meet our membership team. We hope to increase membership with neighborhood events and keeping you informed of what's happening in JNA. Bring a neighbor and come support our community and you might just get some JNA giveaways!

Another goal is to increase awareness by bringing our community to you. If you read last month's newsletter, you'll see we added several new headlines! You can now get gardening tips and support our neighborhood garden with 'Garden Goings-On'. Celebrate and show love to your adorable pets with 'Furry Friends of JNA.' If you're new to the neighborhood and want to know a little bit more about the history of JNA, read 'Did You Know ...' where will highlight some of the history of JNA. In the upcoming months ahead, we will be updating the website and adding committees to engage our community and build friendships. This is a great opportunity to get involved and give feedback!

Finally, we want to build on the scholarship fund to give our next generation a better chance of success. A portion of our membership fees and fundraisers will go towards scholarships to help our high school graduates reach for the stars and continue their education.

We hope you will continue to support JNA and would like to hear from you! As an association, we are here to listen and advocate for you. I encourage you to reach out to any of our board members listed in this newsletter and have a conversation with us. Let us know what's on your mind such as neighborhood improvement, getting together safely for small events, getting involved with our bountiful community garden, or neighborhood safety.

Don't forget we have general meetings every second Monday of the month. We are still working on a set location for our meetings so please follow us on Facebook – Jefferson Neighborhood Association (JNA) – for updates.

We also want to give a shout out to Jacob Valenzuela at Deco Pizzeria on Fredericksburg Road for hosting our meetings since August. What a wonderful venue and great open outdoor space.

Join us as we grow stronger together!

JNA President, Katherine Sanchez-Rocha

Want to Make a Difference in Your Neighborhood?

Joining a JNA committee is a great way to get involved, make a difference and meet your neighbors.

If you're interested in helping out with:

- Membership
- Events
- Zoning
- Code Compliance
- Scholarships
- Fund Raising



We would love to have you!

Please email neighbors@jefferson-sa.com and let us know that you want to become a volunteer.

Support JNA Business Members!

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.

About Face

Antiques and Collectibles

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

BIG TEX Electric Company

210-784-9777 | 316 Meredith Dr. 78228

Leal's Jewelry

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

Camile Rodriguez Brigant

Realtor, MOTIF Boutique Brokerage
210-802-9797 | Camille@MotifTX.com

The Koffee Kup Company

1025 Donaldson | 210-635-0400

Vee's Hair and Spa Salon

An AVEDA Concept Salon
1022 Donaldson Ave | 210-733-7131

St. Ann Catholic Church

210 St. Ann Street, San Antonio, TX 78201
210-734-6687 | www.stannsa.org



Farmers Insurance Agent

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San Antonio, TX 78249

Jefferson Bodega

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Jefferson Bank

2900 Fredricksburg Rd | 210-734-4311

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Up Do's- Make Up- Men's Haircuts
Waxing- Nova Lash Extensions- Facials

To join the JNA as a business member,
or to inquire about advertising rates
please contact:
Mary Morales, veesalon@sbcglobal.net

Neighborhood Zoning Update

At the JNA General Meeting in September, Woodlawn Lake Community Association President JD Morales spoke to us about Zoning Case Z-2021-10700211. The application includes a request for a change in zoning from R-4 NCD-8 AHOD Residential Single-Family to IDZ-1 NCD-8 AHOD Limited Intensity Infill Development Zone and asking for a 14 residential unit to be built at 1943 W French Place.

The JNA board and members present at the meeting OPPOSED the zoning case because there was not enough information from the developer to make the best-informed decision. There are renderings for both 14 and 8-residential units to be built and we would like further clarification regarding issues of flooding, parking, and overall design.

If you are interested in giving comment regarding the zoning case on 1943 W French (Zoning Case Z-2021-10700211), please contact Rebecca Rodriguez, Development Services Department Planner at (210) 207-0120 or email her at Rebecca.rodriguez@sanantonio.gov and CC the Zoning Commissioner for D7 at zoning7@gmail.com.

Please include your name, address, and phone number when submitting comments. The Zoning case hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, October 19 at 1 pm; however, you must submit your comments by Monday, October 18th by 4 pm.

The agenda will be posted by Friday, October 15 at <https://www.saspeakup.com/agendas>.

Free Flu Shot Drive Oct 16th



To avoid a “Twindemic” of COVID-19 and the Flu, University Health and Bexar County Precinct 2 Commissioner Justin Rodriguez have partnered to host a flu shot drive-thru.

The event will be Saturday, October 16th from 8:00 am – 12:00pm at Wolff Stadium, 5757 US Hwy 90 W, San Antonio, TX 78227.

Pre-registration is required; Walk-ups will not be allowed. There is no charge for flu shots and they are available for children 6 months and older.

Register at: www.universityhealthsystem.com/flu

Community Vaccination Events

Metro Health is working with community agencies to host COVID-19 “pop-up” vaccine clinics using health and equity data to coordinate events.



Explore an interactive map of “pop-up” vaccine clinic events in Bexar County:

<https://covid19.sanantonio.gov/What-YOU-Can-Do/Vaccination>

No registration is needed.

For any questions, call 311 or 210.207.6000 (select option 8) or email COVID-19@sanantonio.gov.

COVID-19 vaccines are available at no cost. You do not need insurance to get a vaccine.

You do not need to return to the same location to get your second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines. Second dose vaccines can be obtained at any location offering COVID-19 vaccines.

All Bexar County residents over the age of 12 are eligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Homebound individuals may call 844-90-TEXAS (844-908-3927), Option 1
For more information visit wecandoitsa.org or www.covid19.sanantonio.gov

Commissioners Court Adopts 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget

Bexar County Commissioners voted to approve the Budget for fiscal year (FY) 2021-2022 reducing the current tax rate to \$.299999 consisting of a 0.023668 road and flood control tax rate and a \$.0276331 general fund tax rate.

The Approved Budget totals \$2.79 billion for all funds, including \$660 million in Operating Appropriations, \$1.28 billion in Capital Projects, \$147 million for Debt Service, \$389 million for American Rescue Plan Act funds, and \$311 million for contingencies and reserves, most of which is carry forward funding for multi-year capital projects.

The FY 2021-22 Adopted Budget for the General Fund totals \$526.3 million compared to last year's operating budget of \$524.2 million, or an increase of just over \$2 million.

For full details on the County's Adopted Budget included Change Orders, please visit www.bexar.org The FY 2021-22 Adopted Budget will begin on October 1, 2021.

VIA Taking Steps to Balance Demand, Available Labor

VIA Metropolitan Transit is taking steps to maintain essential service levels while adjusting to meet current demand with shortages in the available labor pool.

At its September Board Work Session Tuesday, VIA staff proposed service changes designed to maintain service quality while adjusting to available staff levels, beginning October 25, 2021.

These adjustments are meant to be temporary and will primarily impact fixed-route bus frequency. If approved by the VIA Board of Trustees at its regular Board Meeting on September 28, the provisional changes would create 2- to 5-minute differences on most affected routes.

Bexar County to Develop Housing Policy Framework

LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation) San Antonio will assist in developing a Housing Policy Framework that considers Bexar County's role in the regional housing ecosystem and identifies opportunities for advancing both short- and long-term outcomes for individuals and families.

The Framework will illustrate how housing impacts core County functions such as public and behavioral health and the justice system, and identify relevant gaps in the current system the County is uniquely positioned to address.

The Policy Framework will maximize the results of Bexar County investments by coordinating and leveraging the county's available tools and resources in the context of regional housing resources and investment.



Other routes with lower demand could see 20- to 30-minute adjustments while tight labor conditions are in place. VIAtrans and VIA Link service will not be affected.

Information about the route and schedule changes is available at VIAinfo.net/servicechanges, by calling the Customer Care Team at (210) 362-2020 or visiting any of VIA's Customer Information/Transit Centers.

Garden Goings-On

by Jason Bartels

The [Jefferson Community Garden](#) located on the 2300 block of West Gramercy is a space for the residents of the Jefferson and Monticello Park neighborhoods in San Antonio to learn and grow in the garden. Through a generous donation from SAISD, Jefferson High School, the land and water supply are provided.

On our last community garden volunteer day we planted over sixty lettuce heads and eight fall tomatoes. We also started to lay professional landscape fabric on all the edges of the beds to suppress the weeds from coming into the ground plots.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who came out but we do have a bit of bad news: Although our temperature was in the upper 80's the next two day after planting the temperatures rose to 98 degrees causing all the lettuce to wilt.

We have 200 more lettuce heads sprouting and we will be looking at transplanting those at a later date.



Gardening Tips:

- Remember to keep all your peppers in as those will continue to produce till the end of October.
- Now is the time to start planning your fall crops such as spinach, lettuce, carrots, Brussels sprouts, broccoli and much more. Due to the influx of our temperatures I would recommend planting these in the evening with plenty of water so they can get some establishment overnight.

Happy Growing!!

Follow the JCG to keep up to date on volunteer opportunities:

Instagram: [@jeffersoncommunitygarden](#)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/jeffersoncommunitygarden>

Or contact Jason Bartels at jasonb365@gmail.com

REMINDER:

Curbside brush collection is scheduled for the week of November 1, 2021. Please take this biannual opportunity to trim trees, clean your alley and leave the brush on your curb for the upcoming collection.

Send us Your Pics & Tips!

Have something in your garden you're especially proud of or a tip you'd like to share? Send your tip or a picture and the type of plant, along with your name and your street or block to:
neighbors@jefferson-sa.com

District 7 Update

Dear Neighbors,

On Thursday, September 16, the San Antonio City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget that moves forward a number of this council's priorities including public health, streets & sidewalks, neighborhood safety, affordable housing, and more. It's a budget that does right by the residents of District 7.

Moving Forward Key Projects in District 7

While this budget will not address every need in our community, we are making important progress on key projects including:

- \$1,500,000 for repairs at the Forest Hills Branch Library (affected by the winter storm).
- \$500,000 for the second phase of the Bandera Road Corridor Plan within Loop 410.
- \$2,250,000 for upgrades at District 7 parks and community centers including Woodlawn Lake Park, O.P. Schnabel Park, West Quill Park, Gilbert Garza Community Center, and the French Creek Greenway Trail.

Fixing Our Streets & Connecting Our Sidewalks

Over the past four years, I've heard consistently that the number one priority of District 7 residents is fixing our streets and filling our sidewalk gaps. This budget makes a historic investment in our streets and sidewalks with \$10,950,874 for street improvements and \$1,702,516 for sidewalk improvements in District 7 this upcoming fiscal year.

Every resident deserves a good street and sidewalk to travel on throughout our community, and I'm excited that the adopted budget continues to move us towards that goal.

Taking a Holistic Approach to Public Safety

Through extensive community input over the past year, the FY2022 Budget introduces a holistic approach to public safety that makes key investments to address mental health, domestic violence, community relations, street lighting, and more. These initiatives include:

- A pilot program creating a multi-disciplinary response team with a paramedic, a health

(cont.) clinician, and a police officer to address mental health calls.

- A team of crisis community advocates responding with police officers to domestic violence calls.
- Redirecting fireworks calls to the Fire Department's Arson Division, loud music calls to Code Enforcement, and animal-related calls to Animal Care Services.
- Funding 12 new SAFFE officers to proactively engage with our neighborhoods and strengthen community policing efforts.
- Investing a record \$5.8 million for the City's streetlight program.

Together, these investments improve our crime prevention efforts and integrate public health resources into our public safety system.

Investing in Our Community's Health

The gem of the City's budget is the historic investment in our public health efforts. The adopted budget increases the health budget to \$81 million. This allows us to immediately begin growing our investments in mental health, health equity, and increasing access to healthcare. The department's strategic growth plan has dozens of initiatives ready to be launched and improve the lives of our children, families, and seniors. Every dollar we put into public health is a dollar spent on making sure our residents lead long, flourishing lives.

Additional Community-Based Initiatives

I'm also particularly proud that the budget funds a childcare stipend to help parents who volunteer on City Boards & Commissions, introduces a pilot program to activate our underused greenspace in District 7, invests in language accessibility, and supports the Mexican American Civil Rights Institute.

Thank you to every resident that contacted my office to give their input, took this year's budget survey, and came to a public comment session to provide feedback on the budget. We cannot craft a budget that reflects community priorities without you participating in the process.

Yours in public service,
City Councilwoman Ana Sandoval

Did You Know...

The Woodlawn Lake Lighthouse was Installed as Part of a 1930's Improvement Project



While the true origin of the purely decorative Woodlawn Lake Lighthouse is a bit of a mystery, several sources suggest that it was installed in 1935, one of many improvements made by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal.

Woodlawn Lake Park began as a subdivision development outside of San Antonio in 1887. The developers constructed a dam across a creek on the property to create a lake which soon became a resort area. The City of San Antonio acquired the property in 1918 and a citizen's group constructed restrooms and a playground and planted trees. A bond package in 1928 allowed for the construction of a pool and community center.

In 1935, the Works Progress Administration (WPA) built two masonry bridges in the park, dredged the lake, added concessions stands, landscaping, improvements to the tennis courts, construction of parking lots and sidewalks and a decorative miniature lighthouse in the center of the lake for a combined cost of more than \$200,000.

Made of concrete on a base of native stone, usually submerged by surrounding water, the lighthouse was budgeted at \$847.42 — by far the lowest cost of any of the items in the project.

Remaining steadfast through successive renovations during the '60s and '80s, the lighthouse is still in good shape, and the light still works. It's set on a timer that turns on at 7:30 p.m. and off at 11 p.m.

While it may not serve the intended purpose of a functioning lighthouse, it certainly is an iconic symbol of the neighborhood and therefore a beacon in its own right.

Sources:

[The Living New Deal](#)
[San Antonio Express News](#)
[San Antonio Report](#)
[My SA](#)



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Furry Friends of JNA



Meet Charlie, the newest furry family member of Art and Rose Martinez on the 2300 block of W. Summit. Charlie is a spunky little pup who likes to take walks and watch his favorite show - Ancient Aliens.



Meet Arthur & Nori, the cat family of Rae Cabello and Hannah Garison. Arthur and Nori love lounging around the house and looking for opportunities to snatch food off the counter. They also love playing tag at 3am. Every. Single. Morning.

Send us Your Pet Pics!

Send your pet pics along with their name and yours, your street or block, and a short description to: neighbors@jefferson-sa.com.

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Jefferson Neighborhood Association MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please complete this form or sign up online at <https://bit.ly/join-jna>
(The JNA Membership Year is September 1 through August 31)

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Address _____

Phone _____ email _____

Dues paid by: Check Venmo (@jna-payments) Cash

\$10 per year for an individual

\$15 per year for a family

\$35 per year for a business

I would like to receive updates and news via my
email address

I would like to volunteer

Mail check and form to Jefferson Neighborhood Association, PO Box 28552, San Antonio, TX 78228

OCTOBER JNA GENERAL MEETING

Monday, October 11, 2021 at 7pm
Deco Pizza, 1815 Fredericksburg Rd.
We hope to see you there!

Jefferson Neighborhood Association
PO Box 28552
San Antonio, TX 78228

