

SLNA Sentinel

Publication of the South Lamar Neighborhood Association

April 2009, Volume 3, Issue 4

www.southlamar.org

Letter From the Prez

HI NEIGHBORS!

Attendance at our neighborhood meetings (the third Thursday of even-numbered months) continues to be very low. There are surely a lot of reasons for this, not the least of which is everybody is strapped for time AND doesn't a neighborhood meeting about zoning and so forth sound really boring? So we are trying to increase the fun and socializing aspect. Here is our experiment: for the regular meeting in April (Thursday, April 16) we will rent the private room at Artz Rib house starting at 6 p.m. The actual meeting won't start until 7 p.m. -- but that allows time to order food and drink if you like and time to relax and catch up with your neighbors. We'll take up actual business and presentations or whatever starting at 7 p.m. You don't have to come early (some schedules and lifestyles just won't accommodate that) and as always, you can head out of the meeting when your presence is needed elsewhere. We hope that this approach will build some wider interest in neighborhood business. Things are relatively calm zoning-wise, and with this economy, maybe we'll continue to have some rest for a while from the near-weekly trek down to City Council chambers. But we want to keep the organization in place and watchful. Renting Artz isn't free to us -- so we are making an investment or a gamble -- but if this is a way to improve our attendance and membership then the rent is worth it. We'll see how the April meeting goes and take feedback from all, whether they came to the meeting or not.

See ya around the 'hood! (especially I hope at the SLNA meetings!)

Nancy MacLaine

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nmacLaine@sbcglobal.net

NEXT OPEN NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING:

Thursday, April 16
Artz Rib House (private room), 2330
South Lamar Boulevard
Meet, Greet and Eat starts at 6 p.m.
Business meeting starts at 7 p.m.

Shred Day

April 18, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Austin High School parking lot

With the increased awareness of identity theft, it's even more important to dispose of personal records carefully. To highlight this point, the Association of Records Managers and Administrators (ARMA) is offering free shredding for Austin residents. ARMA, a nonprofit organization, is the leading authority on managing records and information. Households can bring up to five file boxes for shredding. In lieu of a fee for the service, monetary donations will be accepted for the Capital Area Food Bank. The event is sponsored by ARMA and the City of Austin Solid Waste Services. For more information, contact Jannette Goodall, City Records manager, at (512) 974-9045 or jannette.goodall@ci.austin.tx.us.

2009 Neighborhood Cleanup Dates

JUNE 7

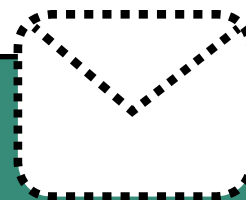
SEPT. 6

DEC. 6

The current meeting location for the Sunday cleanups is the parking lot of the former Unity Church at 10 a.m. to pick up all the cleanup tools -- trash bags, gloves, etc. The cleanups usually take place until about noon. For more information, contact Link Davidson by sending e-mail to osouthaustin@aol.com or by calling (512) 326-2379.

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Is Your Child's Development Behind?

Local Program Can Help, by Jennifer Vu

If you are a parent of an infant or toddler, birth to 36 months, and have questions about how your child is growing or developing, why wait? ECI (Early Childhood Intervention) is here to help!

ECI is a statewide program that has helped Texas babies and toddlers for more than 25 years. We partner with families to work together as a team and offer services where your child lives, learns and plays. Early is best when you have concerns about your child's development and income does not determine eligibility for services. ECI professionals have expertise in working with babies, toddlers and their families. Licensed and/or credentialed specialties include: Early Intervention Specialists, Speech and Language Pathologists, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Registered Dieticians, Hearing and Vision Specialists and Social Workers.

Red Flags

Red flags are a way to track your infant or toddler's development and help identify if he is unable to do something most children already can. Below is a list of behaviors or red flags that can keep your child from learning. Appearance of red flags is not a cause for alarm, but a call to action. If they happen often, call your local ECI program or your child's pediatrician.

Baby

- Cannot bend arms or legs
- Does not smile, move or look at you when you talk or play with her
- Does not want to be held
- Does not make sounds by 3 months
- Does not babble by 6-9 months

Toddler

- Has tantrums that last 20 minutes or longer
- Breaks things on purpose
- Hurts or bites other people
- Does respond to her name by 12 months
- Does not play appropriately with toys
- Flaps hands, rocks or sways over and over
- Does not point at objects he wants or use gestures by 12 months
- Has no words by 18 months
- Does not follow simple or familiar directions by 18 months
- Does not engage in pretend play by 24 months

Any Age

- Is fussy or cries a lot, even when not tired or hungry
- Has trouble falling asleep or staying asleep
- Does not notice people
- Is unhappy most of the time
- Any loss of speech, babbling, or social skills (i.e., eye contact)
- Becomes easily and consistently upset with change in routine or when moving from one activity to another

(Continued on Page 3)

Is Your Child's Development - (Continued from Page 2)

ECI offers free developmental screenings and evaluations. Call your local program, Infant Parent Program ECI, at (512) 472-3142 to request more information or to refer your child for a screening or evaluation.

To search online, visit DARS/ECI website at www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis.



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2009 South West Area Command Neighborhood Watch Training

Learn more about how to set up a neighborhood watch program in your neighborhood.

2nd Tuesday of each month

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Clinton Hunter Substation
404 Ralph Ablanado Drive

*(Between Congress Avenue and S. First Street,
one block north of Slaughter Lane)*

<i>April 14</i>	<i>May 12</i>	<i>June 9</i>
<i>July 14</i>	<i>Aug. 11</i>	<i>Sept. 8</i>
<i>Oct. 13</i>	<i>Nov. 10</i>	<i>Dec. 8</i>

Affordable Healthcare Made Easy

Is this you?

- Can't afford large surprise medical bills
- Unable to find time to take care of yourself
- Tired of the hassles associated with getting medical care



If any of these sound like you, it's time to do something about it! WhiteGlove members receive a higher quality medical care experience that costs less, at home or work, 7 days a week, 8am to 8pm.

WhiteGlove members pay just \$35 per visit (or their in-network speciality co-pay if Humana insured).

WhiteGlove is not health insurance but rather a new provider choice for routine medical care.

WhiteGlove Serves Austin, Dallas, and San Antonio.

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877-329-8081

Check out our special offer for new members:
www.housecallhealth.com/offer

WHITEGLOVE HOUSE CALL HEALTH

Free Family Earth Day Activities at Your Fingertips

Keep Austin Beautiful has free resources available to help teach young people about the environment. Activity kits are available for checkout to teach youths about the environment and the outdoors. The kits have lesson plans, background information and all the supplies needed to implement the lessons. They are available in a variety of topics, including recycling, watersheds, bugs and compost. Look online at www.KeepAustinBeautiful.org/ActivityKits to see a full list of kit topics and for a checkout form. Keep Austin Beautiful also has Patch Pal Activity Booklets with introductions to exploring creeks and identifying energy uses and beneficial bugs. Go to www.KeepAustinBeautiful.org/PatchPals for details.

Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to SLNA residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail kumscheid@austin.rr.com.

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

City Council Candidate Forums April 9, 14 and 23

Below are the remaining City Council Candidate Forums and the final list of candidates running for each open seat.

Place 1 -- Chris Riley and Perla Cavazos, both former City Planning commissioners

Place 2 -- Incumbent Mike Martinez has one challenger, Jose Quintero

Place 5 -- Bill Spelman is unopposed but is going up for forums

Place 6 -- Incumbent Sheryl Cole has one challenger, Sam Osemene who ran for Place 4 last year

Mayor -- Current City Council members Brewster McCracken and Lee Leffingwell, former Mayor Carole Keeton Strayhorn, David A. Buttross and Josiah James Ingalls.

Only the April 14 forum specifies "mayoral only" so the races will be represented at all the other forums. Not all candidates have attended every forum held thus far and there is no way to know in advance who will attend which forum.

Thursday, April 9, 5 p.m.

Combined Environmental Groups Candidate's Forum

City Council Chambers, 301 West Second Street

(Continued on Page 7)

Family Values... and family value!

Free YMCA Program

up to \$60 value on future registration

with YMCA of Austin membership enrollment

- Good at any YMCA of Austin location
- Limit one coupon per customer
- Not valid for current YMCA of Austin members or with any other offer
- Expires April 30, 2009



Free 1-Hour Personal Training Session

with YMCA of Austin membership enrollment

- Good at any YMCA of Austin location
- Limit one coupon per customer
- Not valid for current YMCA of Austin members or with any other offer
- Expires April 30, 2009



Join us for Healthy Kids Day

FREE & Open to the Public
Sat., April 18, 10am-1pm
at all YMCA of Austin branches

- Games, sports and prizes
- Healthy family activities
- Free food, drinks and snacks
- Bicycle & safety instruction

\$5 Off any YMCA Program

for sessions beginning in April or May, 2009

- Good at any YMCA of Austin location
- Limit one coupon per customer
- Not valid for current YMCA of Austin members or with any other offer
- Expires April 30, 2009



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		\$125,000 & ABOVE	2.27% APY****

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6 MONTHS REGULAR ¹	2.17% APY****	6 MONTHS JUMBO ²	2.27% APY****
12 MONTHS REGULAR ¹	2.32% APY****	12 MONTHS JUMBO ²	2.42% APY****
24 MONTHS REGULAR ¹	2.42% APY****	24 MONTHS JUMBO ²	2.52% APY****

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Easter Activities

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 10 / 6:30 pm

Family - Friendly

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 11 / 10 am

Family - Friendly | Free Event

Toddlers through Fifth Grade

One Had to Rise - Easter Musical

Saturday, April 11 / 7:00 pm / Great Hall

Presented by the Great Hills Celebration Choir

Free Event

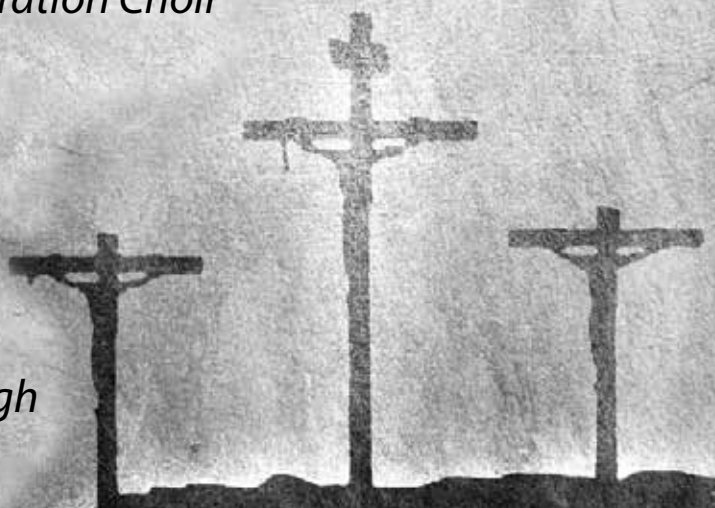
Easter Services

Sunday, April 12

9:30 am - Choir & Orchestra

11:00 am - Praise Band

*Children's worship for birth through
fifth grade during both services.*



10500 Jollyville Road . Austin, TX . 78759 | www.ghbc.org | 512.343.7763

City Council - (Continued from page 4)

Tuesday, April 14, 6 p.m.
Southwest Key Mayoral Candidate's Forum
Southwest Key Community Center
6002 Jain Lane

Thursday, April 23, 6 p.m.
PODER Candidate's Forum
Space 12, 3121 East 12th Street

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Please support the businesses that advertise in the SLNA Sentinel. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all SLNA residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. No neighborhood association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

Neighborhood Cleanup Thanks

Kudos to all who helped us clean up the neighborhood at the quarterly neighborhood cleanup. Randy Muilenburg, Anne Diamon, Jan and Dottie Cartwright, Nancy Maclaine, Sally Merritt and Oscar Lipchak all took time from their Sunday mornings to provide us all a better place to live. Special thanks go to James Espy and the students and parents of the Traditional Martial Arts Academy. Karen and Ellis Mahoney, and Jessica, Sybal, and Samuel Williams -- all who live outside of SLNA boundaries -- worked with us to pick up the trash that accumulates on and around our thoroughfares. Another neighbor, Carolyn Bennett, couldn't make it on the appointed day, so she gave an hour or so of her time on Saturday, picking up a bag of trash from the sides

of Southridge Drive.

Sunday's event saw the group spend some two hours collecting 20 bags of trash. Keep Austin Beautiful estimates that an average bag holds 20 pounds of debris, so at that rate, we took some 400 pounds of debris off neighborhood streets. Strangest find goes to Karen Mahoney for her recovery from the roadside of an IV drip bag, complete with some of its rigging.

After the cleanup, Doug Carpenter had burgers on the grill for all the participants. If the intrinsic reward of participation in the event wasn't enough, the hamburgers certainly made up for it -- they were fantastic! The after-cleanup party gave neighbors a chance to get to know one another in addition to enjoying some great food.

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