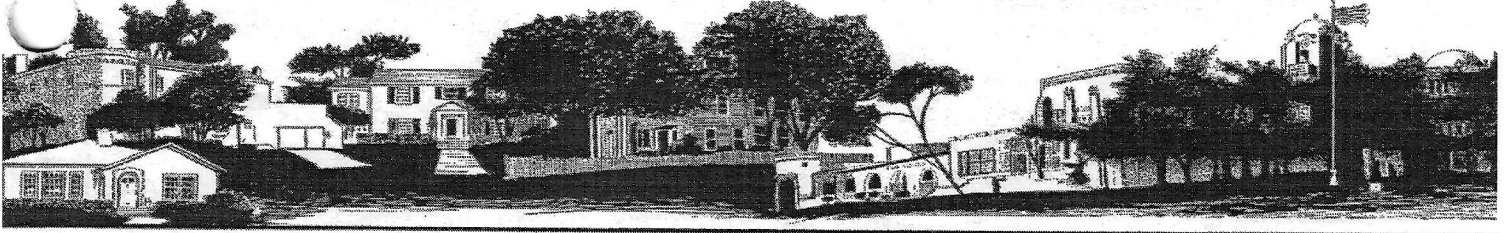


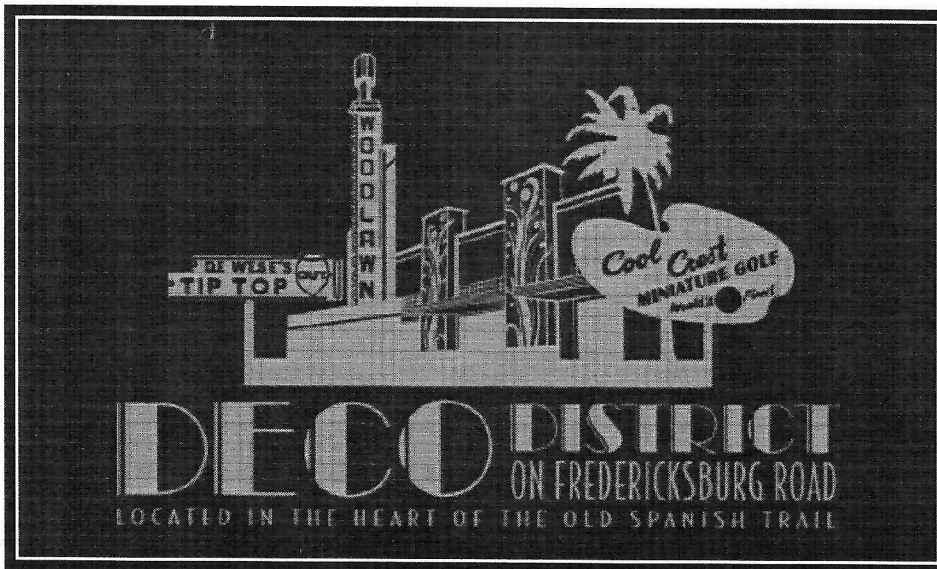
# Monticello Park

## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



July - August 2013

**Tons of cool stuff is taking place in the Deco District. Cool Crest has reopened. Classic Theatre of San Antonio and Woodlawn Theatre have announced that the former will be joining the latter in its Fredericksburg Road home come January 2014. The non-profit, Network for Young Artists, is offering such wonderful classes and programming that youth are coming all the way from Stone Oak to seize the learning and performing opportunities offered there. It's an exciting time for our community and we want YOU to help us spread the word about activities unique to our neck of the woods!**



### MPNA General Assembly Meeting

Monday, July 29 @ 7pm  
Grace Presbyterian Church  
950 Donaldson

Join us for a presentation by resident realtor, Cynthia Gomez, as she expounds on a previous article she did for the newsletter highlighting the differences between restoring and renovating a historic home. She'll have tips and pictures to share and will explain how whether you renovate or restore your Monticello Park home may affect its future marketability.

We'll also have updates on the bond work taking place at Thomas Jefferson High School – be on the lookout for portables by the end of the year – and Officer Vidal will fill us in on the latest neighborhood safety info.

We'll also have 2 Cool Crest tickets for a door prize....

**Whether you have a full-story, something to add to the calendar of events or an interesting photo you'd like to share with your Monticello Park neighbors, please email submissions to [MonticelloParkNA@yahoo.com](mailto:MonticelloParkNA@yahoo.com). The next newsletter deadline is Saturday, September 14.**

## President's Message



Summer is upon us, and I (strangely) get to say again, "how about that rain?"

At our July meeting, we will have a guest (a neighbor, in fact) present on the renovation versus restoration of historic homes, and how your choice between the two can affect future marketability.

As usual, we have had many neighbors volunteer their time (and homes) for various events. From our scheduled

social at the O'Connor's, to the various pop-up parties on the 4<sup>th</sup>, we seem to love any excuse to get together. Our next social will be Saturday, August 10, at Cool Crest. Check out page 5 for more details.

The semi-annual MPNA Scholarship Garage Sale was another huge success. We raised nearly enough with this single sale to fund a full scholarship next year. As you heard last time, we awarded TWO scholarships this year, so we are in good shape to do the same next year as well.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Children's Parade at Woodlawn Lake saw in excess of 500 kids walk halfway around the lake. Including some awesome halos and paper flowers, MPNA (along with some Jefferson neighbors) provided water and decorations for the kids to decorate themselves and their bikes, wagons, or scooters. Even though the politicians talked too long, the neighbors really made the event enjoyable for the kids. This parade gets bigger every year!

At our last General Assembly Meeting, Officer Vidal noted how he often gets updates on suspicious activities in the neighborhood from our MPNA Facebook page. Yeah... I really need to join that thing. Luckily, I have some kind Board Members that forward me the relevant information... at least for a while.

I know that our neighbors respect each other's property, but please remember to pick up after your dog when you are walking them. It is really disturbing to get in your car, smell something, and then realized you stepped in an unwanted present in your yard. In fact, the City requires you be courteous as part of its City Code. Section 5-19 of Chapter 5, "Animals" is actually titled, "Leash and pooper scooper required."

I hope to see you at our July meeting, where rumor has it, we will have a couple of Cool Crest tickets to give away! Oh, and I can promise that the meeting room will not be hot this time.

Rob Sipes  
President  
Monticello Park Neighborhood Association

### 2013 Monticello Park Neighborhood Association

#### Board of Directors

*President:* Rob Sipes  
738-0379  
*V. President:* Frank Ramirez  
734-0999  
*Secretary:* Ferne Burney  
734-2445  
*Treasurer:* Richard Weik  
731-0780

#### Board Members

Adrian Contreras  
Gary Hudman  
Bianca Maldonado  
Ressie O'Connors  
Sarah Rice  
Michael Robbins

#### Newsletter Committee

*Editors:* Ferne Burney, Sarah Rice  
For article and event submission  
please call 734-2445 or email  
monticelloparkna@yahoo.com

Advertising Mgrs: Board Members  
For pricing info call 734-2445 or  
visit monticelloparkna.com

MPNA  
P.O. Box 5851  
San Antonio, TX 78201

#### HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

District 7 Council Office	207-7044
SAWS	724-7097
CPS	353-2222
Officer Joey Vidal	218-6546
SAPD, West Substation	207-7420
SAISD Police	271-3124
SAISD Truancy Office	223-2360
VIA Transit	362-2019
Code Compliance	311
Animal Control	311
Office of Historic Preservation	215-9274

**If your pet leaves your yard...**



**Please have your  
dog on a leash**



**Please pick up  
after your pet**

**Thank you!**

**Treasurer's Report**

Checking  
\$7,720.48

Saving  
\$3,903.76

CD  
\$11,329.70



**Do you enjoy walking?  
We *DESPERATELY*  
need MPNA Newsletter  
delivery volunteers!  
This commitment  
requires approximately  
15-45 minutes of your  
time every other month. Interested? Email [MonticelloParkNA@yahoo.com](mailto:MonticelloParkNA@yahoo.com) or call  
Sarah at 738-8772. Thank you so much!**

Go! Historic SA Guided Running & Walking Tours are a great way to actively experience San Antonio's historic sites. At various stops along the route, tour guides will share stories behind the buildings, homes, neighborhoods, and parks that make San Antonio unique. Runners and walkers of all abilities are welcome. Participants will be divided into small groups according to experience.

**UPCOMING TOURS**

**Saturday, September 14**

*Westside*

Saturday, October 26

*Eastside Cemeteries*

Tuesday, December 10

*Downtown Holiday Lights*

Saturday, February 8, 2014

*Downtown Churches*

Each tour is \$15 per person and includes a T-shirt. Register at Active.com. For more information visit the Office of Historic Preservation website at [sanantonio.gov/historic](http://sanantonio.gov/historic) or call 210.215.9274. Inquire about the multi-tour discount.



## What's the Word, Bird?

Welcome to the new MPNA birding column – we've got a host of fine feathered friends that frequent our neighborhood!

**DUCKS IN A ROW** A proud pair of **Black-bellied Whistling Ducks** with 19 far-from-ugly ducklings was seen last month strolling down Kampmann near W. Kings Hwy – visit the MPNA Facebook page for a video! These handsome ducks have bold markings and are different from most ducks in that they'll perch and nest in trees, often near water – tree boxes can be placed for nest sites. Large clutches (usually 12-16 eggs) may explain why both parents share in tending the ducklings, and long-term pairs are common. These neotropical "tree ducks" used to largely be found in TX around the border, but have been expanding their range northward – who says global warming is for the quacks!

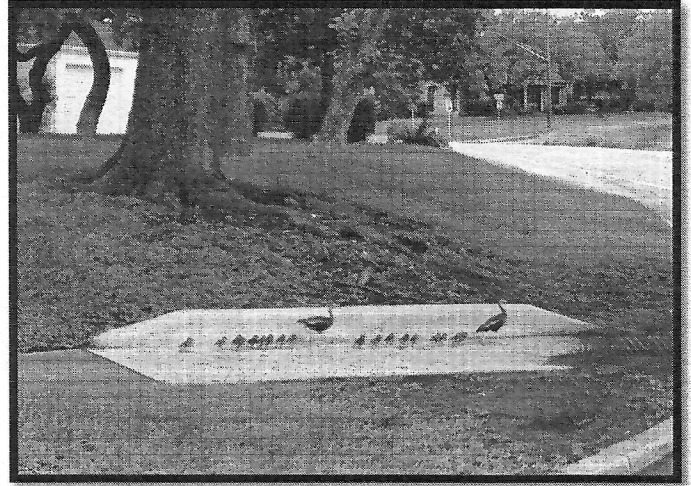
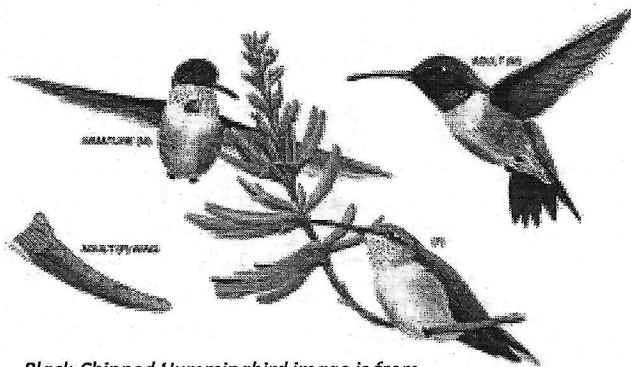


Photo courtesy of Monticello Park resident Sarah Rice



Black-Chinned Hummingbird image is from [animals.nationalgeographic.com](http://animals.nationalgeographic.com)

**HUMMER TIME** While **Black-chinned Hummingbirds** may be at your feeder now, expect to see **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** passing through the area starting this month through September. **Rufous Hummingbirds** and **Buff-bellied Hummingbirds** are less common, but will also be migrating south. Enhance your chance to attract these marvels with brightly colored flowering plants and regularly changing your hummer mix (4:1 ratio of water to sugar – avoid red dye which could prove harmful).

**SO LONG, FAREWELL** Woodlawn Lake is a San Antonio epicenter for **Purple Martins**, which have largely departed the area for the summer. These birds are the largest swallows found in the U.S. and make wonderful backyard companions – they departed our martin house the first week of July and will return in February. Install a martin house before they arrive in the area, preferably in open sites away from trees. It took 2 years to attract a pair to our house, but once established, you can count on return visits for years to come.

Please share any unusual sightings with me at [justrice@yahoo.com](mailto:justrice@yahoo.com).

Justin "J-Bird" Rice

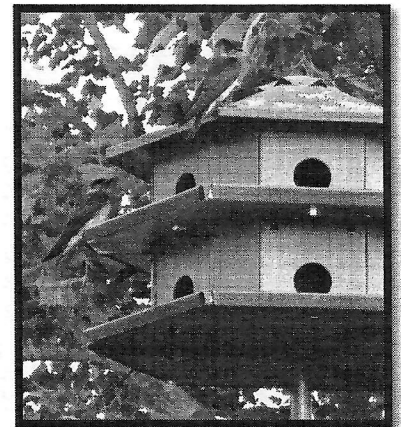


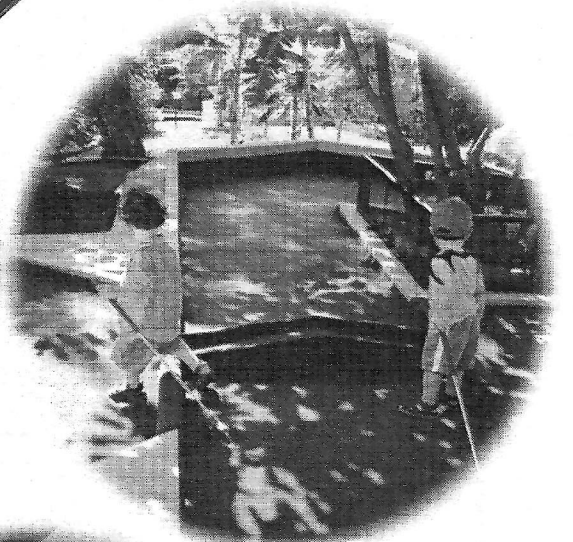
Photo courtesy of Monticello Park resident Sarah Rice





## Join us for the next MPNA Social at Cool Crest!

Come test your putting skills against these 2 challenging but family-friendly 18-hole courses. Nestled under the shady canopy of beautiful banana trees and other lush vegetation, with the murmur of running brooks and fountains, and a gentle breeze whispering through its gently sloping terraced courses, kids of ALL ages will enjoy playing a round or two of golf at Cool Crest. And for those "aces" up to the challenge, make a hole-in-one on either of the two finishing 18th holes and win a free round of golf! *(Cool Crest Facebook page)*



*Neighborhood boys Reid and Sagan tearing up the greens.  
Photo courtesy of Christy Willome.*

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 10  
10AM**

**1402 Fredericksburg Rd**

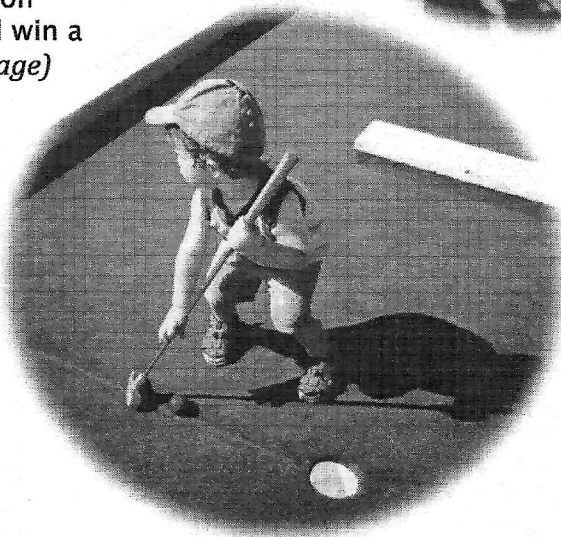
Prices (tax included)

\$9 Adults

\$8 Seniors 55+

\$7 Military w/ ID

\$6 Kids 4-12 (kids 0-3 are free)



Go online and check out [therivardreport.com/the-return-of-cool-crest-and-vintage-miniature-golf/](http://therivardreport.com/the-return-of-cool-crest-and-vintage-miniature-golf/) for a great recap of Cool Crest's history and some awesome vintage photos.

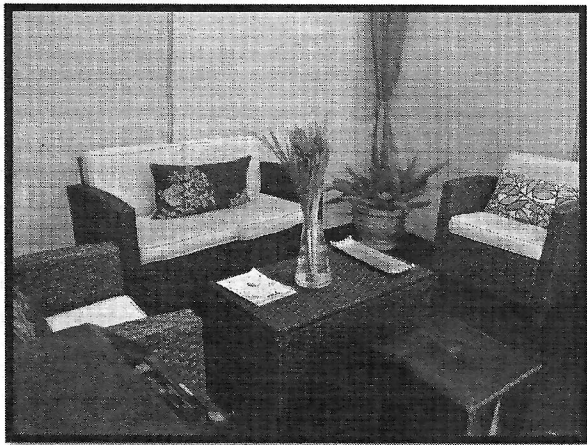
# MPNA BUSINESS BUZZ



## Monticello Park Boutique Salon Spa By Sarah Rice

I have now found my third favorite haven of serenity in our neck of the woods. Yes, I'm a nature girl so my backyard and the Jefferson Community Garden rank #1 and #2 respectively, but now Monticello Park Boutique Salon Spa has been added to the list. I started to get the inkling I was in for a treat when I went to the Salon Spa's website and saw, not the photo of a bland strip center but of a cute, nicely manicured store front with a bit of a storybook feel. I eagerly called and made an appointment for later that week to get a hair trim and a Hand/Skin Renewal Treatment.

Upon arrival I was graciously welcomed by Co-Owner and Stylist, Robb Charles, who gave me a tour of the salon & spa as he led me to the back where a relaxation area has been created for patrons to decompress from daily stresses. Comfortable chairs for lounging, soothing music,



*Relaxation Area*

water, and a Keurig fully stocked with a range of robust to delicate coffees and teas are yours to enjoy. A neck pillow is also provided to ensure complete patron comfort.

Frank Baez, Co-Owner and Licensed Massage Therapist, indulged my hands in a most luxurious hand treatment that lasted over half-an-hour. Before being moisturized and encased in soothing, warm paraffin, each hand was cleansed and gently massaged in a custom-made, all natural Pink Himalayan Dead Sea Salt Exfoliant. My hands, used to daily gardening and yard work, soaked



up the special treatment. In fact, my entire body relaxed during this treatment. I was reclined in a full-body chair in a separate room with an eye mask and gentle music playing to keep distractions at bay.

One of my favorite aspects of MP Salon Spa is that each room is designed to hold one client at a time. You don't have to worry about having a patron right next to you talking loudly about work stuff on his/her mobile phone or recounting an overly dramatized personal story to the service provider. \*deep, content sigh\* Even as I got my hair trimmed it was just Robb Charles and me in the naturally lit salon room. I enjoyed learning more about him. For example he was raised in San Antonio but moved into our area two years ago – his mom having lived in these parts her entire life. He's got 25 years of experience as a hairstylist and it's evident when I look in the mirror. I'm pleased, even more so when I receive the 15% discount for Monticello Park residents on their first visit. (I later learn Robb has worked with Paul Mitchell and has done fashion, runway, print work and TV.)

If only I had a bottomless Salon Spa expense account I would have spent the entire day experiencing all the different massage therapies, spa treatments and esthetician services offered! Swedish, Deep Tissue and Hot Stone Relaxation massages (couples massages and four-handed massages available as well)...body wraps, body scrubs, and renewal treatments...various facials, chemical peels and makeup application...hair cuts, coloring and styling. And, just within the last week a nail tech has joined the MP Salon Spa team. Monticello Park Salon Spa truly is your one-stop, body shop. And they'll come to your home too...

You see, providing customized service is of utmost importance to the co-owners, Frank and Robb. They have a special fondness for our community and want to see it thrive. Their passion for what they do combined with what they sensed was a lack of high-end salon and spa services in the area drew them here rather than to other areas of

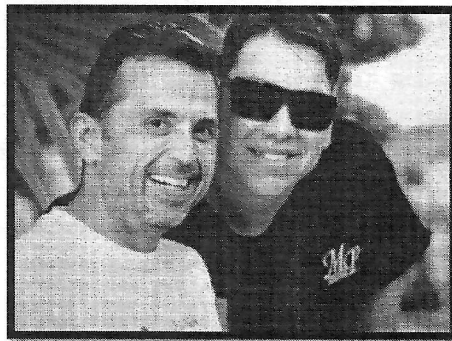
town. They want to provide residents the opportunity to keep their dollars right in their neighborhood.

Frank is a Thomas Jefferson High School grad, class of 1986. He founded the Antonian College Prep Dance Team and is serving as the choreographer at Network for Young Artists (located in the Deco Building on Fredericksburg Road). He and Robb recently purchased a home on Sutton in Jefferson Terrace. Frank passionately tells me "We chose to be a part of positive economic development and revitalization here in the Jeff Area!" It's music to my ears.

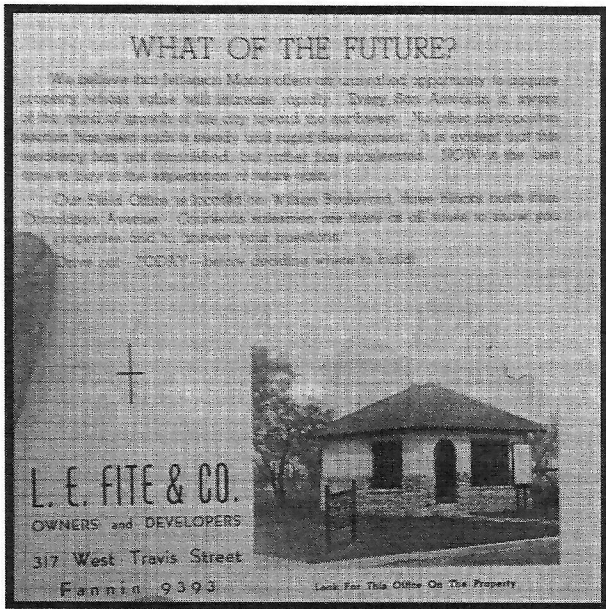
But Frank and Robb aren't the only parts of the MP Salon Spa with interesting Jeff area ties. Turns out their building was originally the field office for L. E. Fite & Co. Owners and Developers Office on Wilson Blvd, just three blocks north from Donaldson Ave. The advertisement below provides an interesting glimpse into the history of our area. MP Salon Spa is located at 909 Manor Drive, so the building has since been moved from its original location (and I believe it was expanded when a previous owner used it for his dental practice) but it still retains tons of historical charm. Robb and Frank have worked hard to keep this charm while making aesthetically pleasing and

practical updates.

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Monticello Park Boutique Salon Spa and would highly recommend it to others. But, as LeVar Burton used to remind me in my Reading Rainbow days, "...you don't have to take my word for it." I asked resident Brandyn Medina Thomas about her visit to MP Salon Spa. "...that was one of the best deep tissue massages I've ever had, and I've had a lot of them over the years. ...Frank and Robb both made me feel very welcome and comfortable in their 'home.' It felt more like visiting a friend's home than a business, especially the cabana in the back. I will definitely be back." Yup, me too.



Reprinted with permission of [MySanAntonio.com](http://MySanAntonio.com).  
 Left: Robb Charles, Co-Owner & Stylist  
 Right: Frank Baez, Co-Owner & Licensed Massage Therapist



Ad reads:

*We believe that Jefferson Manor offers an unrivaled opportunity to acquire property whose value will increase rapidly. Every San Antonian is aware of the trend of growth of the city toward the northwest. No other metropolitan section has seen such a steady and rapid development. It is evident that this tendency has not diminished, but rather has accelerated. NOW is the best time to buy in the expectation of future gain.*

*Our Field Office is located on Wilson Boulevard, three blocks north from Donaldson Avenue. Courteous salesman are there at all times to show you the properties and to answer your questions.*

*Drive out - TODAY - before deciding where to build!*



Cynthia Moore-Franco,  
 Nail Technician



Sarah Garcia, Esthetician



## Monticello Park Celebrates Independence Day



**Thank you Monticello Park volunteers who helped with the  
"Salute to the Red, White, & Blue Children's Parade."**

**This event is made possible by you.**

**A special thanks to Bianca Maldonado for her stellar event  
coordination. Over 500 kids participated!**

**Thank you Tom Simmons and Mark Skruhak for opening up your home  
that evening to neighbors for a little 4<sup>th</sup> of July fun that included  
viewing the Woodlawn Lake fireworks and square dancing!**

**(This event was announced after the last newsletter was published. It was publicized at the previous MPNA General Assembly meeting and on the MPNA Facebook page – even more reason to come to our meetings and join the Facebook page!)**

*To those, past and present, who protect our freedom THANK YOU.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **July 30, Texas Public Radio's Cinema Tuesdays Featuring "All Quiet on the Western Front"**

**Santikos Bijou** - Show time is 7:30 most nights, with a few shows starting at 7:00. The box office opens one hour before show time. *Some screenings can sell out. Please arrive early to ensure optimal seating choice.* Suggested donations of \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members will get you in for these one-time only showings! You can also call 614-8977, or 1-800-622-8977, during regular business hours, to make advance reservations. All proceeds from the Cinema Tuesdays series benefit Texas Public Radio. Advance reservations close at noon the day of the show, so don't wait! **August 6 – Featured Film will be "Singin' in the Rain"**

### **Friday, August 2, 10am-12pm, "Gardening in a long-term drought"**

**San Antonio Botanical Gardens** - With Stage 3 water restrictions anticipated, large lawns may no longer be practical. Gardening experts will provide an overview of turf alternative landscapes and take you on a tour through Watersaver Lane. Learn how to take advantage of SAWS landscape and irrigation rebates as well as programs and services. Sponsored by SAWS. Class fee: \$ 10 (\$9 members). Online registration is available at [www.sabot.org](http://www.sabot.org). You may also email [programregistrar@sabot.org](mailto:programregistrar@sabot.org) or [sasha.kodet@sanantonio.gov](mailto:sasha.kodet@sanantonio.gov) or call Sasha Kodet at 207-3270 for more information or to register.

### **Friday, August 2, 7pm until ?, Jazz Festival**

**Wonderland of the Americas Amphitheater, 4522 Fredericksburg Road** - Joseph Vincelli will be performing at 7pm; Slim Man at 9pm. Outdoor seating on the amphitheatre lawn is free on a first-come, first-served basis. Typically jazz fans begin staking their spots with blankets and lawn chairs the morning of each concert. Food and beverages are available for purchase at a variety of booths, as well as the adjacent Food Court inside Wonderland of the Americas.

### **August 2 – September 1, "Monty Python's Spamalot" @ Woodlawn Theatre**

Show runs Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 pm and Sundays at 2:30 pm. Visit [woodlawntheatre.org](http://woodlawntheatre.org) or call 267-8388 for more info.

### **Friday, August 9, 7pm until ?, Jazz Festival**

**Wonderland of the Americas Amphitheater, 4522 Fredericksburg Road** - Warhawk will be performing at 7pm; Peter White at 9pm.

### **Saturday, August 10, 7:30-9:30am "Second Saturday in the Garden"**

#### **Jefferson Community Garden (across the street from 2350 W. Gramercy)**

Join us for some therapeutic gardening before heading over to Cool Crest to play in the shade! Once the weather cools down we'll move the Second Saturday activities to a little later in the morning ☺. Until then, we look forward to seeing all you early birds! Questions? Call Sherilyn at 210.912.4871

### **Saturday, August 10, 10am – MPNA SOCIAL @ COOL CREST!**

**Friday, August 16, 5-9pm, Council District 7 presents Movies at Woodlawn Lake Park** - Movies begin at dusk between the pavilion and basketball courts. Remaining dates are **August 24, September 28 and October 26**. Free and open to the public. Snacks available for purchase. Please bring your own blankets and/or lawn chairs. For more information call 207-0870

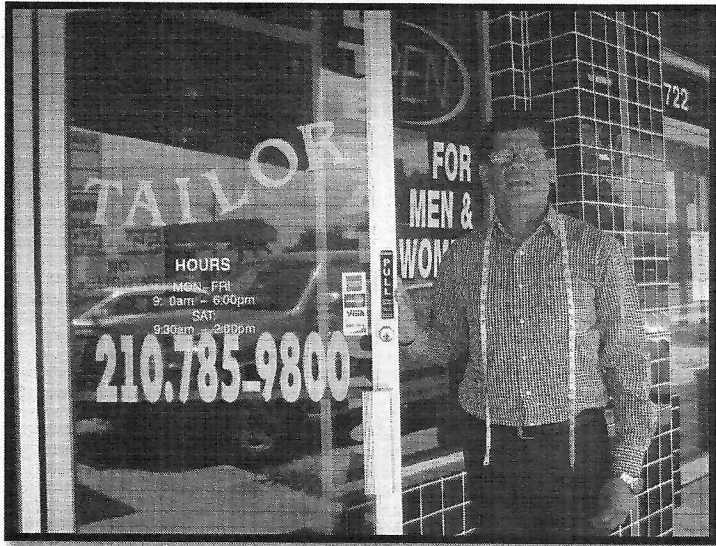
### **Tuesday, August 27, 10am-12pm, "West Nile 101 and Mosquito Management"**

**San Antonio Botanical Gardens** - It's mosquito and West Nile season! Come learn what you need to know about West Nile, how it is transmitted, how to prevent the mosquitoes that carry it and protect yourself and more. West Nile is endemic to the US, and each summer we have cases. There is no cure, only treatment and prevention, so learn what you can do to protect yourself. Presented by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension entomologist, Molly Keck. Free. Online Registration is available at [www.sabot.org](http://www.sabot.org). Please contact [programregistrar@sabot.org](mailto:programregistrar@sabot.org) or [sasha.kodet@sanantonio.gov](mailto:sasha.kodet@sanantonio.gov) or call 207-3270 for more information or to register.

# Raul Ruiz

## Ruiz Tailor Shop

By Cathy Teague



I am the daughter of a mother who made many of my clothes beginning with my baptismal gown all the way to my prom dresses. She was an excellent seamstress. Yet, I have a confession to make. I can't sew. That's why I admire Raul Ruiz, of Ruiz Tailor Shop, one of our locally owned businesses. I am one of his customers.

Mr. Ruiz opened his shop at 1724 Fredericksburg Road nearly six years ago. He is always polite to his customers and pays attention to what they want. Perhaps most of all, he has your alterations ready when you need them and just the way you want them. That's good customer service and something

I've noticed from many of our locally owned businesses. Recently, Mr. Ruiz and I had a conversation in which I asked him to tell me about himself.

Me: How did you learn to sew?

Mr. Ruiz: I learned from my father who learned it when he was a young man living in Mexico. Like him, I started when I was 17 or 18. I liked it because you work inside where it's clean and to me it is an art, a skill.

Me: Before opening your own business, where did you work?

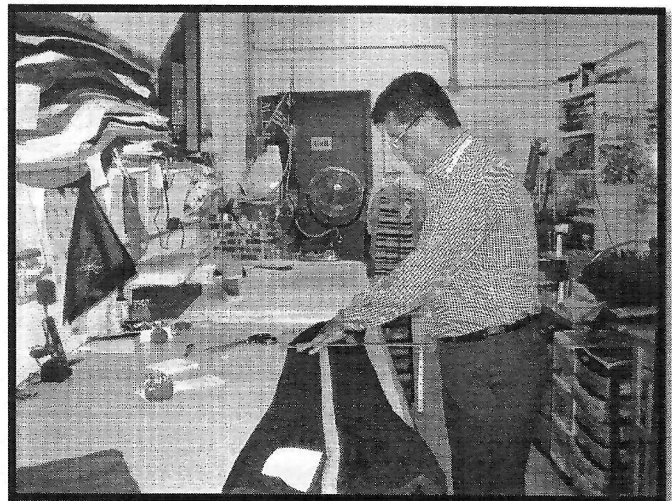
Mr. Ruiz: I worked for Lackland A.F.B. and Fort Sam. I worked for other alteration businesses. It was always in my mind to have my own business but the timing was tough. My bosses would offer me more money to stay with them instead.

Me: What do you like about sewing?

Mr. Ruiz: Well, no one likes sewing but, I enjoy it. It is like a hobby and it is not a stress to me. I mainly do alterations in my shop. People come with zippers to change, a hem or a waist to let out or in. I can also do tailoring such as making a wedding dress or a suit. Custom made clothes here are more expensive, but I can make whatever someone wants.

Me: What do you think of our neighborhood?

Mr. Ruiz: I like it very much. It is quiet, secure and the people are very nice. My business is growing.







"Serving Humanity to Honor God"

4507 Medical Drive | San Antonio, TX 78229 | (210) 692-0234 or (800) 959-6673 toll free | [www.mhm.org](http://www.mhm.org)

*Wesley Nurse Health Ministries™, A Mission of the Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc.*

The mission of Methodist Healthcare Ministries (MHM) is "Serving Humanity to Honor God" by improving the physical, mental and spiritual health of those least served in the Southwest Texas Conference area of The United Methodist Church. MHM is dedicated to providing medical and health-related human services to low income families and the uninsured throughout South Texas. It is now the largest private funding source for community healthcare services in South Texas. The mission also includes MHM's one-half ownership of the Methodist Healthcare System – the largest healthcare system in South Texas. This creates a unique avenue to ensure that the Methodist Healthcare System continues to be a benefit to the community by providing quality care to all and charitable care when needed, and it provides revenue to MHM for its programs.

Wesley Nurse Health Ministries™ (WNHM) spans 80 sites throughout South Texas, and is MHM's largest geographic outreach program.

The professional practice of the Wesley Nurse is not limited to the physical dimension of medical needs; rather, it includes a mind/body/spirit holistic approach.

A key component of the work our Wesley Nurses undertake in their communities is providing health education, health promotion, and facilitation of resources. We assist individuals and communities in achieving improved health and wellness through self-empowerment and access to healthcare resource information.

All church sites served by Wesley Nurses are located throughout the Southwest Texas Conference and the Rio Grande Conference of The United Methodist Church, with just one exception<sup>1</sup>. While the Wesley Nurse program is a component of Methodist Healthcare Ministries' ecumenical outreach, and located within churches, it does not teach a particular set of denominational beliefs. All members of the community are invited and welcome to participate regardless of the church to which they belong.

**For more information about the Wesley Nurse Health Ministries™ call toll free (800) 489-8863 or go to [www.mhm.org](http://www.mhm.org).**

<sup>1</sup>San Fernando Cathedral, San Antonio

### *How the program works.*

All Wesley Nurse programs are *free* and all members of the community are welcome. Programs are offered to groups or on an individual basis.

Some Wesley Nurses may offer the following programs:

- ☐ Alzheimer's Support Groups
- ☐ Referral Assistance
- ☐ Prescription Assistance
- ☐ Exercise Classes
- ☐ Diabetes Education
- ☐ Support Groups
- ☐ Blood Pressure Screenings
- ☐ Glucose Screenings
- ☐ Food Pantry Assistance
- ☐ Nutrition & Weight Management Education

Wesley Nurse services *do not* include: dispensing or administering medication; diagnosing or treating medical problems; or recommending medical treatments or medicines.

 [www.facebook.com/mhmstx](http://www.facebook.com/mhmstx)

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Get \$100\* when you open, plus cash back monthly.
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- ✓ **Mortgage & Home Equity Loans** Ready to move or want to improve, we can help.
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Just \$5 to open and earn prizes for savings
- ✓ **Plus**, online and mobile for on-the-go and around-the-clock banking

\*Go to [firstmarkcu.org](http://firstmarkcu.org) for details.

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122 Donaldson Ave  
San Antonio, TX 78201



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