

JUNE 2014

THE POINT

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

PHOTO BY: Levi Reed



THE
SOUL
OF THE
CITY

OUSTO

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POWERED BY COMMUNITY

EastPoint encompasses the combined footprints of both Eastside Promise Neighborhood and Wheatley Choice Neighborhood – a diverse and culturally rich neighborhood, home to approximately 18,000 residents.

EastPoint thrives on the harmony and originality of its new and old historic points of interest including St. Philip's College, The Carver Community Cultural Center and Library, Dignowity Park, St. Paul Square, the San Antonio National Cemetery, Sunset Station, Woodard, the Menger Creek expansion, and the redeveloped Wheatley Courts and Sutton Homes. It is also home to the Nation's Largest MLK March route. EastPoint embodies the values of integrity, hard work and a celebrated community. It reflects the social fabric of a rebirth where residents have been empowered to prepare their youth for success, strengthen family units and build lasting economic vitality.

PHOTOS BY: Sarah Brooke Lyons

THE POINT

'The Point' is the official newsletter of EastPoint. We are powered by community, for the community.

EastPoint is the combined footprints of the Eastside Promise Neighborhood and the Choice Neighborhood grants.

If you live, work or go to school in the EastPoint area and would like to contribute to this newsletter please contact us at The MightyGroup (210) 444-2315 or info@eastpoint.org.



EASTPOINTS.AORG
FACEBOOK.COM/EASTPOINTS.A
[@EASTPOINTS.A](https://TWITTER.COM/EASTPOINTS.A)

Produced and Published by
THE MIGHTYGROUP





DEAR NEIGHBORS:

It is a pleasure to have this opportunity to welcome you to the first edition of 'The Point,' the first official newsletter of EastPoint.

EastPoint is a combined footprint area that makes up the Promise and Choice Federal Grant initiatives. The project is a coordinated effort to revitalize the Eastside from a distressed community into sustainable, mixed income neighborhoods by linking housing improvements with wider public services such as good schools, human services and employment.

Thank you for your active participation and support. We look forward and encourage your contributions and dialogue to make this newsletter great.

Sincerely,

Ivy R. Taylor

Councilwoman District 2





GOOD THINGS ARE GROWING AT SUTTON OAKS

By Caroline Lacy

The Park at Sutton Oaks had its official opening May 31st which includes a community youth garden among its many amenities. But if you were to take a moment to investigate further you would see there is much more going on than just planting flowers.

After months of development and many hot hours spent in the sun by volunteers and children, some with no knowledge of gardening, the garden has blossomed into a beautiful gathering place for the community. The goal of the youth garden is not only to provide a space that will strengthen bonds in the community but additionally, by using gardening as a tool, have children put their math and science skills into practice.

WHEN PEOPLE GATHER TO VOLUNTEER, GOOD THINGS HAPPEN.

When people gather to volunteer, good things happen. Volunteers from many different walks of life have come to Sutton Oaks, shovels in hand, ready to get to work.

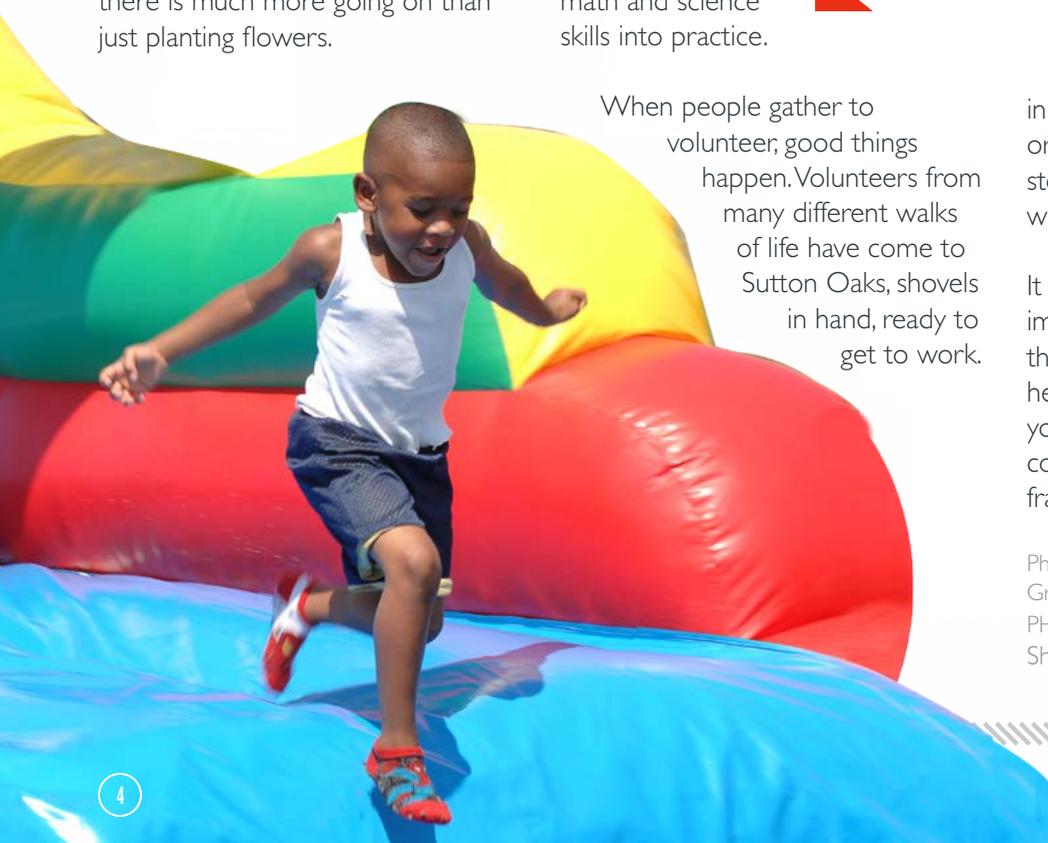
The development of the community garden brought military veterans and civilians together for a day of fellowship and volunteering. Curiosity brought some of the nearby children away from their

televisions and out of their apartments to work. Local organic farmers have even shown an interest in supporting the space by showing up to volunteer and teach the community homesteading, or the art of farming. With continued support from people both

in EastPoint and across San Antonio, organizations such as HEB, have stepped in to make sure good things will continue to grow there.

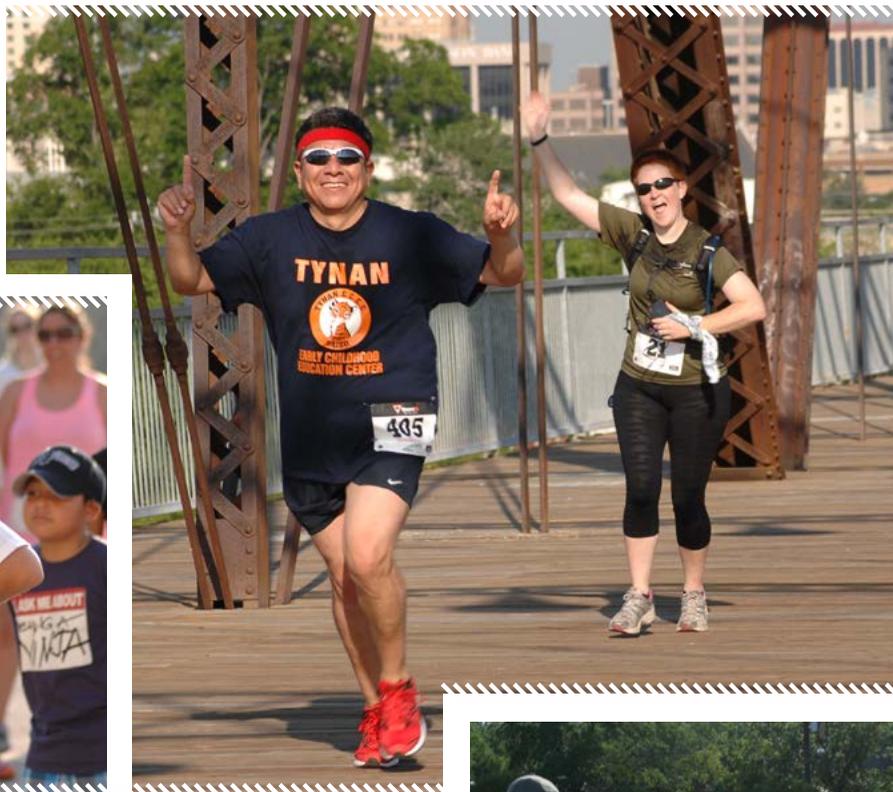
It is not too late to be a part of this important step toward unity within the community. If you would like to help with the garden or volunteer your time towards youth services contact Victor Zuniga at victor@fraklinmgt.net.

Photos of The Park at Sutton Oaks Grand Opening, May 31st
PHOTOS BY: Levi Reed & Shokare Nakpodia



EASTPOINT 5K FUN RUN

Saturday, May 31, 2014



PHOTOS BY: Levi Reed & Shokare Nakpodia



**CHANGE IS
COMING**
**HELP BUILD A
SAFER, STRONGER
& HEALTHIER
COMMUNITY...**
**BECOME THE
PRIDE OF
EASTPOINT**

THE GREATEST TEAM VS. THE GREATEST PLAYER

SAN ANTONIO SPURS VS. MIAMI HEAT

By Walter Perry

The Western Conference Champion, San Antonio Spurs are back in 2014 NBA Finals and they are on a serious mission to beat the team who broke their hearts and stole their trophy in last year's Finals... the Miami Heat. Led by the Big 3 of Duncan, Parker and Ginobili, along with the emergence of Leonard and the rest of the bench. The

Spurs' battle through the Western Conference playoffs was nothing short of epic and hard fought, with the Spurs beating Dallas in 7 games, crushing Portland in 5 games and battling to victory against Oklahoma City in 6 games.

Expect a fantastic series because both of these teams bring top-notch



scoring and defense. In order to win the championship the Spurs realize that they have to go through LeBron James and Dwayne Wade and the rest of the Heat players. Make no mistake that the Spurs will be ready to sweeten the sour taste left in their mouths from last season... I'm calling Spurs in 6 **#GoSpursGo!**



Join the EastPoint Pride and help grow our community!

Contribute to the community newsletter, distribute flyers, work on the events crew and more. *Contact us to join right away!*

Call 210-444-2315 or email eastpoint@themightygroup.com

MAYA ANGELOU REMEMBERED

There are so many things I could say about the poet Maya Angelou. She is the reason that I began writing in the first place. She was an outstanding woman of dignity. She was an amazing word-smith who could move an entire nation to tears. I could go on and on but the most important thing Maya Angelou did for me as a poet was teach me to believe in myself both as a poet and a person. Her poem "Still I Rise" inspired me to begin my journey as a poet and its repeated title line has been a constant reminder to keep trying and going in life and to never be afraid to share my piece because even if I bomb today tomorrow I will rise again! Even just as a woman outside of her poet role, Maya's many speeches for the youth, young women, and just the way she lived her life in general was a shining example to follow and a goal to aspire towards with each line I write. When we lost Maya we lost an amazing poet, woman, and leader but thanks to her life we have also gained many poets. I thank God for sharing her with us if only for a moment and can only hope to one day make her legacy proud!

- Courtney Blackwell

Dr. Maya Angelou is a true inspiration. She has shown her strength thru her words...her actions...her love for the people. I am inspired to be a greater person by being a mother, educator, mentor and writer. To be a voice for a voiceless people. To feed into the youth and show them the greatness they possess. This is what I take from Dr. Angelou and what I give to others.

-T Rochelle Guess



Does my sexiness
upset you?
Does it come as a
surprise
That I dance like I've
got diamonds
At the meeting of
my thighs?
Out of the huts of
history's shame
I RISE
Up from a past
that's rooted in pain
I RISE

Excerpt from Maya
Angelou's "Still I Rise"



FAITH SPOTLIGHT: ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

By Pastor Kenneth R. Kemp

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church is a dynamic fellowship of believers in Christ which has been ministering on the Eastside of San Antonio for 79 years. Organized in 1935, under the leadership of Rev. Rufus Wilson, Antioch has prioritized the empowerment of people through the teachings of Christ for nearly four decades. In 2009, Pastor Kenneth Kemp became the fourth pastor of Antioch. Under Pastor Kemp's leadership, Antioch continues to "Boldly Build for the Kingdom" through holistic ministry to the spirit, mind, and body. This historic body of believers continues to positively impact the Eastside community through ministry that makes a difference.

SERVICE TIMES

- **Sunday Worship:**
7:30 & 11:00 AM
- **Church School:**
9:15 AM on Sunday mornings
- **Mid-week Manna:**
Noon on Wednesdays
- **Wednesday Word and
Worship:** 6:00 PM
- **The Recharge Zone
Contemporary Worship:**
5:00 PM on third Saturdays



1ST ANNUAL JUNETEENTH ART & FILM FESTIVAL

The screen goes up for the very first annual Juneteenth Art & Film Festival on Friday, June 13th at Mixed Media Group on Cherry Street and runs through Sunday, June 15th. As an extension of the Juneteenth celebration, organizers have a mission "to expose the community to the benefits of art forms and inspire hidden talent." Juneteenth volunteer member Deborah Omowale saw the passion Febra Gaitan and her team possessed and reached out to them with the idea of bridging the old with the new and creating an Art & Film Festival. Friday will kick off the festivities with an opening reception and art exhibition featuring the Humans of San Antonio project and several local artists, and then continue with an after party at the always soulful Tucker's Kozy Korner on East Houston Street.

One of the festival's featured films is a Spike Lee executive-produced powerful documentary from Texas native Darius Clark Monroe, "Evolution of a Criminal." Rewinding back to his past director Darius Monroe gives an insight into his life changing experience as a 16-year-old bank robber in a desperate attempt to help his family. A remorseful Monroe, now 33, tries to help the audience understand his evolution of a good kid to an ex-con while providing zero excuses for his harmful actions.

Another festival highlight is Emmy nominated "As I Am," produced by Alan Spearman and Mark Adams; the short film takes you through Chris Dean's neighborhood in South Memphis throughout a span of eight weeks capturing the young philosopher's observation about life.

The festival will also proudly take part in the launch of the inaugural "Ya'Ke Smith Youth Filmmaker Award," which will recognize minority filmmakers between the ages of 17-21 that reside in Bexar County. Ya'Ke states, "The road of an artist is long and hard, but I hope that this award will inspire the recipient to remain persistent and continue to move forward no matter the obstacles that may come their way." Ya'Ke is currently screening films submitted by local students from Sam Houston, Brackenridge, Harlandale and Southwest Preparatory, and will announce the recipient of the award at a special presentation on Saturday June 14th (venue and times will be posted on the festival's official twitter; @juneartfilm).

In total, fourteen films (not including student submitted films) will be screened throughout the three-day celebration. Expect to find a diverse selection of films from award winning to Sundance, Cannes, and Hollywood Black Film selections available to you in your own backyard. Among the film screenings, other festivities will include an Art Exhibition and a Youth Showcase featuring local musicians, actors, artists, dancers, poets. With an exciting and inspiring line-up of films and events, this is one commUNITY celebration you must be a part of.

Check out the fest's Facebook and twitter for full lineup and schedule:
[facebook.com/juneteenthartandfilmfestival](https://www.facebook.com/juneteenthartandfilmfestival) and [@juneartfilm](https://twitter.com/juneartfilm)

FRANK'S PICKS:

FRI 06.13.14*

Opening Reception
6pm @ Mixed Media Group

SAT 06.14.14*

We A.R.E. Exhibition
I I am @ Ella Austin
Community Center

Youth Variety Showcase
2:30pm @ Ella Austin
Community Center

"Evolution of a Criminal"
Film Screening - 8pm
@ Little Carver Theater

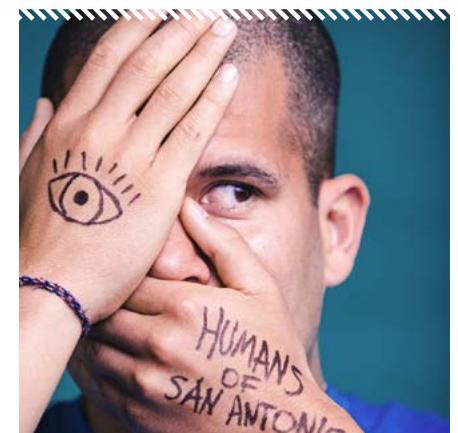
**Schedule subject to change*



TOP: "As I Am" (2012) Alan Spearman
LEFT: Ya'ke Smith, Filmmaker



CELEBRATING THROUGH ART & FILM WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY!



RIGHT: Michael Cirlos,
Humans of San Antonio

THE NEW WHEATLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Wheatley Middle School has been identified as a community school host in EastPoint. It is an opportunity to create a lasting physical, social, cultural, economic, educational and organizational community asset.

SAISD along with the San Antonio Housing Authority, and United Way has partnered with urban planning firm Concordia to develop the new Wheatley Community School.

A community school is both a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources. Its integrated focus on academics, health and social services, youth and community development and community engagement leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities. Schools become centers of the community and are open to everyone – all day, every day, evenings and weekends.

OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE A LASTING COMMUNITY ASSET

Community schools address many of the realities that challenge today's schools and educators including cultural disconnects, disengaged students, poverty, too much unstructured time, unaddressed health needs, transience, school violence and unsafe school environments, overburdened and under resourced schools.

Bobbie Hill, Partner in Charge of Planning for Concordia, stressed the importance of community involvement, "engaging citizens in

the planning for a community school presents a great opportunity for increasing student success and building local capacity for community members to have a more meaningful role in ongoing development."

Following Phase I of development, the soft launch of the Community School is targeted for September 2014 with ongoing work to further develop programs, schedules and necessary design issues that will take longer to develop.

Visit eastpointsa.org for more information.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: MARIA AGUILAR

Maria (17) will graduate June 7th with her fellow Sam Houston High School seniors and take the next steps in her educational journey. As she prepares for the next adventure she wanted to give a shout-out to Mr. Dromgoole, the senior sponsor and culinary teacher (Maria's favorite class) because "he's always giving us good advice about school and thinking about our right paths."

MARIA AGUILAR IS:

- The Sam Houston High School Senior Class President
- A member of the National Honor Society
- Will attend Texas A&M University in the fall
- Going to major in Bilingual Education with the goal to teach Spanish to pre-k and kindergarten children as a career.
- Aspiring to one day open a women's and children shelter in the EastPoint community.

Maria, who has lived her entire life in EastPoint, has seen improvement in the area saying, "It's a good community. It's developing a lot, there's a lot of different kind of people now. I've marched in the Martin Luther King March and it was a fun experience and I love to see that everyone gets along that day."



PHOTO: WALTER PERRY



UPCOMING

THE THIRD WHEATLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GATHERING IS JULY 8TH AT 5:30PM AT WHEATLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL.

THE 2014 SAGE BEST OF THE EASTSIDE BUSINESS AWARDS

San Antonio for Growth on the Eastside hosted their inaugural “Best of the Eastside Awards” at their Quarterly Eastside Business Briefing on May 14th. The awards honored local east side businesses that make a positive impact and are role models in the community.



Eastside business community members gather to recognize the SAGE “Best Of The Eastside” 2014 Award Recipients



BEST RETURN ON INVESTMENT
Mark Behounek, *NBTY, Plant Manager*



BEST BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION
Ruth Martin, *My Place Barber & Beauty, Owner*



BEST BUSINESS ROLE MODEL
Dona Liston, *Lambertmont Events- Owner*



BEST EMERGING BUSINESS
Sherrika Arch *Straight Line Management, Owner*



BEST COMMUNITY PARTNER
University of the Incarnate Word
Bowden Eye Care Clinic

PHOTOS: Courtesy of SAGE



**NEIGHBORHOOD
DELI, RESTAURANT
AND GRILL**



PHOTO: SARAH BROOKE LYONS

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: PANCHOS & GRINGOS

By Amaya Nakpodia

When Sergio Calderon decided to open his restaurant in the Dignowity Hill area in 2012, he saw it as an opportunity to return to his roots. Sergio, who was born and raised in Atlixco, Puebla, Mexico, ran two delicatessens in New York for a number of years prior to making the move to San Antonio, TX. When he came across his current location at 900 Nolan Street he simply fell in love with the space and the rest is history.

Panchos and Gringos serves a delicious variety of menu options from grilled sandwiches that come on your choice of bread including their delicious homemade rolls, fried chicken, hamburgers and salad platters. Some of the recommended dishes include: Kentucky eggs, chicken cordon bleu, and the meatball sub made with their in-house red sauce prepared fresh daily. Panchos also offers daily specials and serves up breakfast all day long for those with a craving for huevos rancheros late in the day.

The restaurant has a friendly retro, art deco atmosphere. In the 2 years Sergio has run the restaurant he's become familiar with the regulars sharing, “everyone who stops in is like family.” Sergio also added, “I’m excited to see the growth and improvement in the area. It’s a great neighborhood!”

Panchos and Gringos is open Monday- Saturday
7:00 am – 3:00 pm and Sunday 8:00 am – 2:00 pm.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Applications are currently being accepted for the following positions:

VIA:

PART-TIME BUS OPERATOR
Starting Salary: \$13.87 / hour

MECHANIC
Starting Salary: \$17.25 / hour

FACILITY MAINTENANCE REPAIRPERSON
Starting Salary: \$17.25 / hour

ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN
Starting Salary: \$17.25 / hour

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MANAGER
Starting Salary: \$4,996

TRANSIT POLICE OFFICER
Starting Salary: \$3,120 / month

VICE PRESIDENT SAFETY AND TRAINING
Starting Salary: Commensurate with experience

PROJECT ENGINEER
Starting Salary: Commensurate with experience

CLERICAL POOL
Starting Salary: Based on skills and specific assignment

*Apply online at www.viainfo.net
Equal Opportunity Employer*

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO: TRAINING OFFICER
Salary: \$17.93 - \$26.89 / hour
Apply online at www.sanantonio.gov

For information about placing an employment listing in this newsletter, contact us at (210) 444-2315 or email info@eastpoint.org.



PHOTO: WALTER PERRY



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Eastside Promise Neighborhood (EPN)
210-352-7142 | eastsidepromise.org

San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD)
210-554-2200 | saisd.net

United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County
210-352-7000 | unitedwaysatx.org

San Antonio for Growth on The Eastside (SAGE)
210-248-9178 | sagesanantonio.org

CHOICE Neighborhood Initiative
210-477-6262 | saha.org

Urban Strategies
210-477-6561 | urbanstrategiesinc.org

San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA)
210-477-6262 | saha.org

CONCORDIA
504-569-1818 | concordia.com

The MightyGroup
210-444-2315 | themightygroup.com

City of San Antonio (CoSA)
210-207-6502 | sanantonio.gov



PaCT (Promise and Choice Together) was formed by the City of San Antonio with the goal of creating an integrated and streamlined process in the execution of the Promise and Choice grants. The grants aim to improve childhood development, create affordable housing, develop community programs, increase business and job opportunities, and address crime.

PaCT is comprised of Eastside Promise Neighborhood, Choice Neighborhood Initiative, United Way of San Antonio, The San Antonio Housing Authority, The City of San Antonio, San Antonio Independent School District, and San Antonio for Growth on the Eastside.



PACT PARTNER PROGRAMS

EASTSIDE PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD

- **Kinder Prep Academy**
July 14 -Aug 8 at Bowden, Pershing, and Washington Elementary.
- **Summer Festivals**
June 20th at Pershing Park
August 17th - TBD
- **Midnight Basketball**
June 20 - Aug 2, Fri & Sat evenings
at the Davis Scott YMCA
- **Advisory Council Meetings**
Every 1st Meeting of the Month
@ 5:30pm. Please contact EPN staff to confirm the location

For info on any EPN programs please call (210) 352-7149.

SAGE

- **Store-Front Grant Program**
For information call
(210) 248-9178 or visit
www.sagesanantonio.org

UNITED WAY

- **Financial Empowerment Center**
at the Claude Black Center
Call to schedule an appointment
(210) 352-7087 or visit
www.sanantoniofec.org.

CHOICE

- **Monthly Neighborhood Coffee**
Every last Wednesday of the Month at 10 am at the Ella Austin Community Center
- **Wheatley Courts Residents' Meeting** Last Tuesday of every month at 11 am & 5:30 pm at the Ella Austin Community Center
- **Wheatley Courts Residents' Section 3 Meeting** Every 3rd Friday of every month at 11 am & 5:30 pm at the Ella Austin Community Center

SAHA / CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

For the programs below contact
Tomas Larralde @ 210-477-6550

- **Business Opportunity Academy**
Business Owners must apply
- **S3 Resident Academy**
Job Training and Job Placement Opportunities
- **Job Access Workshops**
Job Readiness
- **S3 Job Fairs**
Connecting residents to employers

For the program below contact
Jose Ortega @ 210-693-8108

- **2nd Chance Academy**
Workforce workshops for ex-offenders and residents with challenging backgrounds

For the programs below contact
Barbara Burford @ 210-207-8162

- **Home Maintenance/Safety Workshops**
- **Reducing Energy Costs Workshops**
- **Becoming a Home Owner Workshops.**
- **Do It Yourself**
Minor home improvement

For the programs below contact
Beth Keel @ 210-477-6242

- **Urban Farming**
Grow your own food
- **Safe Food Handling Class**



PHOTO: WALTER PERRY

COMMUNITY YOUTH PROGRAMS IN EASTPOINT

- **Boys & Girls Club of San Antonio**
(210) 436-0686
- **Carver School for Visual and Performing Arts**
(210) 207-7211
www.thecarver.org/education/education-csvpa/
- **Claude & Zernona Black Leadership Institute**
(210) 224-5953
- **Ella Austin Community Center**
(210) 224-2351
- **EPN Girl Scout Leadership Experience at Camp Metro**
(210) 349-2404
- **Free Summer Meals for Kids and Teens at Lockwood Park**
Healthy meals Served daily
8:30am and 12:00pm
June 9th-Aug 8th
- **Greater San Antonio After-School All-Stars**
(210) 229-7827
- **H.I.S. BridgeBuilders**
(210) 870-4676
- **Healy-Murphy Center, Inc.**
(210) 223-2944
- **Sam Houston High School SAISD**
(210) 661-4134
- **SA Public Library Mayor's Summer Reading Club**
www.mysapl.org/srp/
- **St. Philip's College Kids Camp**
(210) 486-2747
www.alamo.edu/spc/k8-summer-academy/
- **YMCA of Greater San Antonio**
(210) 246-9622

EASTPOINT TRACK CLUB FOR BOYS & GIRLS

Promoting health and wellness in the community for all interested runners ages 8-18 in the EastPoint footprint.



Training is on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at Wheatley Heights Sports Complex and Track Meets are every Saturday now through July at Judson High School. \$50 Registration fee.

For information on joining please call Frank Dunn at (210) 601-6116.

TEXAS HISTORIC
CIVIL ENGINEERING LANDMARK



HAYS STREET BRIDGE

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

JUNE 13-15 – Juneteenth Art & Film Festival
@ Various Locations

JUNE 16 – Fitness in the Stadium
@ Wheatley Heights Sports Complex, 5:30p

JUNE 19 – Juneteenth Freedom Dinner
@ Bethel AME Church, 6-9p

JUNE 20 – Summer Learning Festival
@ Pershing Park, 5-8p

JUNE 23 – Fitness in the Stadium
@ Wheatley Heights Sports Complex, 5:30p

JUNE 24 – EPN Childcare Assistance Information
Session @ Ella Austin Community Center, 10a

JUNE 27 – Student Summer Theater Camp
Performance @ The Carver, 7p

JUNE 28 – Student Summer Theater Camp
Performance & Reception @ The Carver, 3p

JUNE 28 – Tha I Radio's 1st Annual Burger
Cook-off & Kickball Tournament
@ Claude Black Community Center, 9a

JUNE 30 – Fitness in the Stadium @ Wheatley
Heights Sports Complex, 5:30p

JULY

JULY 2 – SAYWE Present Celebrate America!
@ St. Philip's, Watson Fine Arts Center, 7p

JULY 7 – EPN Advisory Council Meeting
@ Ella Austin Senior Center, 5 – 6:30p

JULY 7 – Fitness in the Stadium
@ Wheatley Heights Sports Complex, 5:30p

JULY 14 – Fitness in the Stadium
@ Wheatley Heights Sports Complex, 5:30p

JULY 19 – 2014 Drum Corps International
Tour @ Alamodome

JULY 21 – Fitness in the Stadium
@ Wheatley Heights Sports Complex, 5:30p

JULY 25 – Student Summer Dance Intensive
Performance @ The Carver, 7p

JULY 28 – Fitness in the Stadium
@ Wheatley Heights Sports Complex, 5:30p

CHECK EASTPOINTS.A.ORG FOR MORE EVENTS AND UPDATES

THE POINT

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

- Visit EastPointSA.org
- Like us on Facebook
facebook.com/EastPointSA
- Follow us on Twitter
[@EastpointSA](https://twitter.com/EastpointSA)



EASTPOINT
SAN ANTONIO

Tha 1st Annual Burger Cook-off & Kickball Tournament



Saturday, June 28th
Claude Black Community Center
9am-5pm

Teams Compete For the Kickball Championship
Local Restaurants Compete for the Best Burger!

\$1 Admission or (1) School Supply * Family Friendly Event
60% of proceeds will go to the Eastside Boys and Girls Club

