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News, Issues & Events from City of San Antonio Downtown Operations
November 2008

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Mark Your Calendar

November 8
Vetrans Day Parade
www.usmvpa.org

November 16
Rock 'N' Roll Marathon
www.rnrna.com

Out & About Downtown

by Paula X. Stallcup, Director, Downtown Operations



Fall is definitely here as you can see by the gorgeous weather we are having. We could not have asked for more perfect weather for the exciting events and programs. At the end of last month, we celebrated the 3rd Birthday of the Houston Street Fair and Market with a successful birthday party and Fall Festival. This Fair has brought many locals and visitors to downtown, visit us on on the last Saturday of the month. Be sure and come downtown on November 28 for the Holiday Celebration.

The upcoming Veterans Day Parade and celebration is a special one for the many veterans who live in San Antonio. We thank you for your service to our great country. The City of San Antonio continues to find ways to honor those men and women who serve our country. The City Council recently approved the final design for a new Medal of Honor Memorial that will recognize those San Antonians who have received such a prestigious recognition. Please visit the website at www.samoh.org for more information.

Finally, San Antonio will play host to 30,000 participants in the Rock'N'Roll Marathon (www.RnRSA.com) on Sunday, November 16, 2008. In partnership with the San Antonio Sports Foundation, the City entered into an agreement with Elite Racing who puts on marathons throughout the country. The Rock'N'Roll Marathon features live bands every mile on the course to keep the momentum going for the runners. The event begins at Lions Field in Brackenridge Park and follows on Broadway through downtown. The run continues up Beacon Hill, Monte Vista, Alta Vista, back downtown and through King William. The full marathoners go down to the Missions. All runners finish at the Alamodome.

We look forward to seeing you downtown!

We're located at 202 E. Nueva. Contact us at (210) 207-3677 or via email at downtown@sanantonio.gov for questions or assistance related to downtown San Antonio.

November 28
 Holiday Parade and
 Lighting of the Riverwalk
www.paseodelrio.com

November 29
 Houston Street Fair
www.houstonstreetfair.com

November 6, 13 & 20
 Movies by Moonlight
www.sanantonio.gov/dtops

We Need Your help to Clean Up Downtown Sidewalks

By Veronica Carillo



Clean sidewalks are important to the City's overall sanitation and to a successful tourism industry. We all want to provide a clean environment where people want to live, work, visit and play. The City's Public Works Department has initiated a new cleaning method to improve the cleanliness of high pedestrian sidewalk traffic areas.

During the month of October, you will see the crews on Commerce Street. We want to invite our downtown businesses to work with us on keeping our sidewalks clean.

Here are several things you can do to help.

1) Clean up sidewalk area if your trash or residue has spilled on the Right-of-Way (R-O-W). We want to remind our downtown businesses to assist us by adhering to City's Code Section 14-1(c) which states that "It shall be the duty of the owner, manager, tenant or occupant of any business establishment or building or the agent or employee of any such person to clean stains or spots

Veterans Day Parade

By Delia Guajardo



On November 18, 2000 under cold and rainy skies, a small group of veterans and community members along with the Lackland Airforce Base Drum & Bugle Corps marched from Avenue E to Milam Park via Houston Street. This was San Antonio's first Veterans Day Parade and the first Grand Marshall was Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Luis Richard Rocco.

The idea to host a parade first surfaced in the minds of several veterans back in May of 2000. A small committee met to discuss the possibility of hosting a parade and soon others joined the group. After a series of whirlwind of meetings, a formal plan of action was adopted and a Steering Committee was formed. This resulted in the development of the U.S. Military Veterans Parade Association, a non-profit 501(c) 3, tax exempt organization.

The United States Military Veterans Parade Association was established in an effort to recognize all U.S. military veterans in a manner that can be appreciated, not only by those that have served so honorably, but by the community as well. Past parades have included a formation fly-by of military aircraft along the parade route. This year, as has been the practice since 2003, a special ceremony will take place in Alamo Plaza prior to the start of the parade.

November 8, 2008 marks the ninth annual parade! The ceremony at the Alamo will take place at 11:00 am and the parade step off begins at noon. This year's Grand Marshall is Jesse Trevino. Mr. Trevino is a Vietnam veteran as well as a local artist with an international reputation for being one of America's finest realist artists.

For more information on the U.S. Military Veterans Parade Association and this year's parade, please visit: <http://www.usmvpa.org/>

Celebrating Three Great Years ...Houston Street Fair & Market!

By Tonya Drake



Since October 2005, the Houston Street Fair and Market has occurred on the last Saturday of the month transforming downtown Houston Street to a lively fair in the middle of downtown.

On Saturday, October 25th the fair was bigger and better as we celebrated three years of bringing live entertainment, arts and culture to downtown San Antonio. The special event featured a pumpkin patch, costume contest and traditional birthday fun including a piñata and birthday cake. Activities from each of the previous month's themes were available. As always local arts and crafts vendors participated and pet adoptions were available through the City's

Animal Care Services.

Since the first Fair and Market there have been over 200 pets adopted, 300 different art/craft vendors, 7 different regional wine vendors, more than 250 different entertainment groups/artists have performed, over 80 non-profit organizations have participated and more than 200,000 in attendees to the event.

Houston Street Fair and Market is held monthly on the last Saturday of the

resulting from the collection of these wastes immediately."

2) Contain trash properly. We have noticed that businesses are doing so well that many have more trash than the receptacle can handle. Boxes are being put next to trash bins or put in trash bags without authorization from the City. Businesses need to purchase an additional receptacle or commercial trash bags/labels from the City. These can be purchased in the Finance Department at 111 Soledad, 4th Floor. What ever method you choose do not put trash out on City R-O-W without the proper container (Commercial receptacle or City issued trash bags/stickers).

3) Keep your trash receptacles clean. The San Antonio Metro Health Department requires that the receptacles be in good repair and clean.

We thank you for your assistance and look forward to working together to ensure that our downtown is the cleanest in the United States!

by Kenneth Appedole



Parking downtown not only affects visitors, workers and residents, but it also affects businesses and the ability of delivery companies to supply them with much-needed inventory and supplies. Several vendors have reported that the 30 minute time limit on Commercial Loading Zones (CLZs) is insufficient, especially when a delivery requires visiting multiple venues. Downtown stakeholders have also voiced concern over having goods delivered to their business due to these time limit restrictions.

month with the exception of April during Fiesta. The free event runs from noon until 6:00 p.m. Free parking will be available on event day beginning at noon in the City's St. Mary's Street parking garage located at 400 N. St. Mary's at Travis Street.

For more information on the Houston Street Fair and Market, call 207-7258 or visit <http://houstonstreetfair.com/>

Rock 'N' Roll in San Antonio

By Tonya Drake



The inaugural 2008 Rock N Roll San Antonio Marathon and ½ Marathon is officially sold out! The race is the largest inaugural Rock N Roll marathon. Race day will take place on Sunday, November 16, 2008. The 26.2 mile route will host over 30,000 participants from all fifty states and many foreign countries. The event features free on-course entertainment, with 50 bands playing live music throughout the route, so you can dance your way to the finish.

You won't want to miss the free expo at the Alamodome prior to race day. The San Antonio Health & Fitness Expo sets the stage for an exciting marathon weekend! The expo will take place November 14th and 15th and is open to participants as well as the general public, so bring your family and friends! Over 100 exhibitors will offer free samples, showcase the latest in running gear, sports apparel, health & nutritional information and much more. Be sure to visit the Official Merchandise Store and check out the wide selection of stylish souvenirs to commemorate the inaugural Rock 'n' Roll San Antonio Marathon and 1/2 Marathon.

Celebrate your race accomplishments Sunday evening at the Alamodome with the inaugural post-race headliner act, The Cult. Fusing American metal and post-punk rock, the 80's British rock legends are sure to provide a show-stopping performance with classic hits including, "Fire Woman" and "She Sells Sanctuary." Doors open at 6:30 pm. All participants receive FREE entry with their race number. General admission tickets cost \$26 in advance and \$30 at the door. Children 2 and under are free. Additional tickets can be purchased for friends and family online.

If you don't plan to run, we are still looking for volunteers. All volunteers receive a race crew t-shirt and a ticket to the post race headliner concert. Please contact the volunteer coordinator to sign up: mrodriguez@sanantonioparks.org. For more information about the route, street closures, alternate access routes, registration, concert tickets and other schedules, visit www.rnr.org.

Days of Caring in HemisFair Park

By Sonia Gaeta



On Saturday, October 4th, over 50 volunteers and employees from the San Antonio Express News came out to HemisFair Park to take part in this year's event. The volunteers helped to beautify the children's playground by removing graffiti and making necessary repairs.

The Downtown All Around Playground was completed in 1989 as the result of an all volunteer effort spearheaded by the Express News. Back then the playground cost approximately \$85,000 all of which was paid for by private contributions from throughout the community.

In an effort to meet the needs of downtown businesses, the Downtown Operations Department Parking Division created a pilot program that offers an extended permit program for CLZs. Through the program, companies can purchase a one-hour or two-hour permit that extends the time allowed to park in a CLZ. The pilot program has been in existence for one year, and participants have reported success and a desire to continue participation. On October 2, the City extended the program for an additional year in order to allow existing and new companies to participate.

For more information or to purchase a Commercial Loading Zone extended time permit, please visit the Parking Division [website](#) or call us at 210-207-8266.

Since then every year, the San Antonio Express-News coordinates the Days of Caring program in HemisFair Park to help clean and maintain the wooden playground. A big thanks to all the volunteers for their generous support and effort!

City of San Antonio - Downtown Operations

The mission of the Downtown Operations Department is to provide centralized services for activities related to maintaining the core of San Antonio in an exemplary condition and support downtown facilities, programs and events that highlight the city's unique qualities as a business center and tourist destination.

Need assistance? Have a suggestion for the newsletter? Contact us with comments or questions at downtown@sanantonio.gov.

202 E. Nueva San Antonio, Texas 78205

www.sanantonio.gov/dtops

Hours: Monday-Friday 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Phone: 210-207-3677

Director: Paula X. Stallcup

Assistant Director: Colleen Swain

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