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News, Issues & Events from City of San Antonio Downtown Operations  
September 2010

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### Mark Your Calendar

**June - September (Thursdays)**

Movies by Moonlight  
HemisFair Park

[www.sanantonio.gov/dtops](http://www.sanantonio.gov/dtops)

### Out & About Downtown

by Paula X. Stallcup, Director, Downtown Operations



Back to school means back to routines as we try to manage a variety of new activities. Be sure to schedule time to visit downtown, too! This month, HemisFair Park is the place to be. Join us for the first month of our popular [Movies by Moonlight](#) series. While there, you will notice orange lighting as we take part in [Hunger Action Month](#). The park will also be the site for downtown resident's National Night Out on October 5.

After visiting the park, walk across the street to La Villita to visit the unique shops. The [Little Studio Gallery](#) features art by Henry Cárdenas, who has many exhibits on display throughout the city. Be sure to also visit the shops and restaurants in [Market Square](#) - Fiestas Patrias is a cultural Diez y Seis celebration you won't want to miss. Don't forget to come back downtown the next weekend for the annual [Jazz'SALive](#) festival in Travis Park.

There is always something happening downtown, and every month we are making sure you know about it. As always, we look forward to seeing you out and about downtown!

We're located at 400 N. St. Mary's, #100. Contact us at (210) 207-3677 or via email at [downtown@sanantonio.gov](mailto:downtown@sanantonio.gov) for questions or assistance related to downtown San Antonio.

### Movies by Moonlight

by Tonya Drake, Special Projects Manager



Don't miss your last chance to enjoy Movies By Moonlight, the weekly outdoor cinema series in HemisFair Park, sponsored by Rivercenter Mall. The

**Now through October 1 (Fridays)**

Raza en la Plaza  
Main Plaza

[www.mainplaza.org](http://www.mainplaza.org)

**September 1 - 30**

Hunger Action Month  
[www.sagoesorange.org](http://www.sagoesorange.org)

**September 1 - 30**

Fotoseptiembre USA  
[www.safotofestival.com/](http://www.safotofestival.com/)

**September 11 - 30**

Denise Barron photo exhibit  
as part of Fotoseptiembre  
La Villita - Artistic Endeavors  
[www.artend.com](http://www.artend.com)

**September 11-12**

Fiestas Patrias  
Market Square  
[www.marketsquaresa.com](http://www.marketsquaresa.com)

Ballet Folklorico Performances  
La Villita  
For tickets call 932-0132

**September 12**

Westside/Woodlawn Lake  
Public Art Bike Ride  
PASA Studio (400 N. St. Mary's)  
[www.publicartsa.com](http://www.publicartsa.com)

**Eid Festival**

La Villita  
For info call 849-3786

**September 14**

Urban Renaissance Luncheon  
"San Antonio's Cultural Corridors"  
Westin Riverwalk  
[www.downtownsa.org](http://www.downtownsa.org)

**September 15 & 19**

BRAVO Dance Show  
La Villita  
[www.sanantonio.gov/sapar](http://www.sanantonio.gov/sapar)

**September 18**

Dignowity Hill/Eastside  
Bike Ride  
PASA Studio (400 N. St. Mary's)  
[www.publicartsa.com](http://www.publicartsa.com)

**Visits to the Past**

Alamo Plaza  
For info call 273-1730

**September 18 & 19**

Jazz'SALive  
Travis Park  
[www.saparksfoundation.org](http://www.saparksfoundation.org)

**September 25**

Mission Reach Bike Ride  
PASA Studio (400 N. St. Mary's)  
[www.publicartsa.com](http://www.publicartsa.com)

event features free movies every Thursday in the grassy area under the HemisFair Park archway at S. Alamo and Nueva. Come early for the preshow at 7:30 pm. The feature film premieres at 8:30 pm. You will be "Singin' in September" with this month's movies featuring:

September 16th	Jailhouse Rock
September 23rd	Annie
September 30th	Nine

Movies By Moonlight is a family-friendly event that is open to the public. Do not forget to bring your blankets and lawn chairs. Concessions are available and movie-goers can park for free at the Alamo Lot near the Magik Theater and playground or at the Durango Street lots across from the Federal Courthouse on a first-come basis.

Thank you to our sponsors for making this season's movie series possible. Movies by Moonlight is presented by the City's Downtown Operations Department with sponsorship by Rivercenter Mall and is presented in part by Time Warner Cable.

Been to a movie screening lately? Take our online survey and give us your feedback at:

<http://www.sanantonio.gov/dtops/Events/moviesbymoonlight.aspx>

You can also follow us on Facebook or Twitter for current updates and information. See you soon under the moonlight!

**Jazz'SALive**

by Tonya Drake, Special Projects Manager



Seasoned jazz aficionados, as well as casual jazz listeners, will want to come downtown for the 27th annual Jazz'SALive festival in Travis Park on September 18th and 19th.

Jazz'SALive 2010 will feature live performances that include local, regional, and national Jazz musicians. Come enjoy lively entertainment that will showcase legendary jazz artists Aaron and Charles Neville, and Kevin Eubanks.

Jazz'SALive is hosted by the San Antonio Parks Foundation and the City of San Antonio. The entire weekend is a free event with an amazing lineup of entertainment and food, which will surely be fun for

the entire family.

Bring young music lovers to the Children's Symposium at 10am on September 18th, which introduces children to music study and provides a free T-shirt to all participants. The musical event continues throughout the park from noon-11pm. For a complete schedule of events or more information, call 212-8423 or visit <http://www.jazzsa.org/>.

**Artistic Inspiration at La Villita**

by Veronica Garcia, Executive Assistant



You don't have to go far to find internationally known artists with a truly local flavor. The [Little Studio Gallery](#) in La Villita is home to resident artist Henry Cardenas. With an MBA from St. Mary's University, Mr. Cardenas is a partner

**September 25 & 26**  
 Dies y Seis Celebration  
 Mariachi Festival & Fashion Show  
 La Villita  
 For info call 207-8610

**October 2**  
 Primer Sabado  
 Market Square  
[www.marketsquaresa.com](http://www.marketsquaresa.com)

**October 5**  
 National Night Out  
 HemisFair Park  
 For info call 286-7875

## Diez y Seis Celebration

by Sonia Gaeta,  
 Sr. Management Analyst



Entertainment, music and delicious food to satisfy everybody's taste await you at the annual LULAC Diez y Seis de Septiembre Celebration.

Join us in Market Square for Fiestas Patrias on September 11 - 12 from 12 noon - 11 pm. The cultural celebration and event will feature folklorico dancing groups, mariachi music, and entertainment by some of the most popular Tejano, Conjunto, and local bands both nights. Also an "Oldies but Goodies" stage will take you back down memory lane.

Exhibit booths with free give-aways will also be onsite. Don't miss the free event that will be fun for the entire family! For more information visit [www.marketsquaresa.com](http://www.marketsquaresa.com).

## HemisFair Fountains Win Award

in the artist co-op gallery and features his own work along with local artists Margaret Smith, Donna Bland, Karen McCauley and Vera Dankof. The gallery also features uniquely designed jewelry by Dot.

A love for painting and art has grown along with Mr. Cardenas throughout the years. From crafting his own toys as a child, to forming life-size works for all to enjoy, his passion for creating art has always been shared with those around him. Today an acclaimed painter and sculptor, he enjoys creating bold, thought-provoking pieces that range from landscapes to abstract art. His talent is gaining more attention and his schedule continues to be busy with exhibits extending into 2012.

The Institute of Texan Cultures, which became an official Smithsonian Institution Affiliate in December 2009, is currently featuring Henry Cardenas in their Texas Contemporary Artists Series. The series features "some of Texas' premiere contemporary artists" and is curated by Arturo Almeida. Cardenas' exhibit entitled Remember the Future is on exhibit now through October 15. For more information, visit <http://www.texancultures.utsa.edu/>.

Cardenas is also preparing for another exhibit entitled Essential Matters, which will open October 1 at the Carver Community Cultural Center, 226 N. Hackberry, in the Theatre Gallery. The opening reception is Thursday, October 7, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Both exhibits are free and open to the public. Be sure to visit the Little Studio Gallery in La Villita for an opportunity to meet Henry Cardenas in person.

## Capital Improvements at Market Square

by Cynthia Martinez, Special Projects Manager



Please pardon our dust as Market Square and El Mercado are currently undergoing capital improvements! Work began in August 2010 on the El Mercado roof replacement. Beginning September 13, the Market Square area will undergo demolition of the overhead pedestrian walkway on San Saba, water fountain, elevator shaft, stairs and the Mariachi stage.

The scope of work for the Market Square Phase II improvements also includes new storm drains, new paving, new power and lighting systems, utility work by SAWS and ADA improvements. The proposed location for Phase II includes Produce Row from Concho St to San Saba St and along Commerce St.

In addition, work for the El Mercado Rehabilitation Project includes roof replacement, HVAC work, sprinkler upgrades, ADA improvements and entry renovations. These improvements are recommended in the City of San Antonio Market Square Master Plan. The project is estimated to cost \$4.6 million and is funded from the 2007 Improvement Bonds, Certificates of Obligation and the Parking fund. The project is scheduled for completion in March 2011.

The demolition of the overhead pedestrian walkway on San Saba will require the full closure of San Saba for the week of September 13, 2010. Once completed, there will be a one lane closure of San Saba (east side) that will continue until the end of December 2010.

Historic Market Square is one of San Antonio's most exciting shopping, dining and entertainment experiences. The festive setting featuring over 100 shops as well as celebrated restaurants will maintain regular hours of operation and special events will take place in the fall as scheduled. You



The City of San Antonio recently completed a water conservation project at the fountains at HemisFair Park. Located next to the Tower of the Americas, the HemisFair Fountains are a trademark of the park and often serve as a popular background for photos. The water conservation project diverted river groundwater from a basement in the Convention Center. The water is now recycled, treated and used to power the fountains. The project conserves nearly 37,000,000 gallons of water a year and saves taxpayers an estimated \$220,000 each year in water costs.

The successful project was recently honored by San Antonio Water Systems with a Refreshing Ideas Award in Commercial Water Conservation. In addition, the International Downtown Association awarded the project a Merit Achievement Award for Sustainability.

The HemisFair Fountain water conservation project is one example of how San Antonio is working to become a "greener" city. To see a short video about the project, [click here](#).

## San Antonio's Newest Champions



Congratulations to the newly crowned world champions of the Senior League Softball World

can visit our website at [www.marketsquaresa.com](http://www.marketsquaresa.com) for regular construction updates and information on upcoming events including the celebration of the new and improved Market Square coming in the Spring of 2011.

## Hunger Action Month

by Erica Benavides, San Antonio Food Bank



For 1 in 6 Americans, hunger is a reality. Hunger's impact is felt by many more than the millions living with food insecurity: hunger impacts child development, health and wellness, education, workforce development - our general welfare as a community.

Locally, more than 230,000 people in Southwest Texas rely on the San Antonio Food Bank's network of programs and services- and over 1/2 million Southwest Texans are at risk of going hungry.

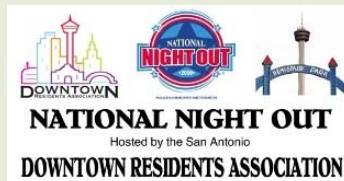
September is Hunger Action Month in the United States. "SA Goes Orange" is the San Antonio Food Bank local campaign to raise awareness and engage local businesses, government and the community to raise awareness and take action to fight hunger. You will see orange lighting throughout downtown, including at HemisFair Park and the Tower of the Americas, as San Antonio joins together to raise awareness and fight hunger in our community.

Now it's your turn! Visit [www.sagoesorange.org](http://www.sagoesorange.org) to view the 30 Ways in 30 Days calendar with ideas on how you can act now to make a difference. Thank you for doing your part to fight hunger and feed hope.

Developing solutions to hunger in our community is the on-going goal of the SAFB. In addition to the millions of pounds of food we acquire and distribute annually, we continue to work diligently to provide programs that not only solve the immediate problem of hunger, but to help individuals and families gain long-term food security, such as Nutrition Education, Social Services Outreach, and Community Kitchen Culinary Skills Training.

## National Night Out

by Alyse Garber, Downtown Alliance



The Downtown Resident's Association (DRA) is organizing a community-wide "National Night Out" (NNO) celebration on October 5, 2010 at HemisFair Park for downtown San Antonio.

In its 27th year, National Night out is a crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. Neighborhoods across the country come together to celebrate community and foster relationships to prevent crime.

DRA has hosted National Night Out celebrations in the past, and this year organizers hope to reach out to all downtown residents, including those in nearby neighborhoods such as LaVaca and King William.

All downtown communities are asked to depart from pre-decided meeting spots and walk to the arch of HemisFair Park so participants arrive at 7pm. From the arch, the group will walk through the park to the base of The Tower of the Americas and enjoy a free concert from local rock band, The Next Day. The Chart House Restaurant will have food and drinks available for purchase.

Series! The Northside Suburban Little League All Stars are the first San Antonio team to take home this honor. A season of hard work led the skilled team to an undefeated record of 17-0.

The inspiring team enjoyed barge rides along the River Walk on August 21, 2010. At the end of the barge ride, the athletes joined fans for a championship celebration at the Arneson River Theater in La Villita. Elected officials, local cheerleaders, friends and families joined in the festivities to applaud the girls' accomplishments.

The City of San Antonio and San Antonio Sports hosted the celebration, with support from several community partners including Rio San Antonio Cruises, Clear Channel Radio/ Mix 96.1 and other private donors.

"We want to show everyone that we have neighborhood spirit when it comes to crime prevention in our downtown", says Joan Korte, President of the DRA.

Ken Hack, a Downtown Resident Association Board Member and head planner for NNO added, "We also encourage families to bring food, beverages, blankets and chairs with them to enjoy the music. We plan to have a guest speaker to kick off the event and also have some of our city officials and favorite mascots visit."

Thanks to following sponsors who teamed up with the DRA for the event: San Antonio Food Bank, Chart House, Next Day Band, Texas Star Document Services, Mackenzie Restoration, Inc and Spectrum Fitness Club.

## Downtown STAR - Margaret Riojas

by Veronica Garcia, Executive Assistant



The Downtown STAR award recognizes Downtown Operations Department employees that go above and beyond the call of duty, demonstrating exceptional **S**ervice, **T**eamwork, **A**ttitude and **R**esourcefulness. Each Downtown STAR receives an award, recognition in the department newsletter, lunch with the Director, and a special prize. A copy of the nomination also goes in their personnel file.

Awardees are selected once a quarter by a committee of Downtown Operations Department employees.

This month we highlight another Downtown STAR:

### Margaret Riojas - Sr. Office Assistant (Parking)

Several employees nominated Margaret for the Downtown STAR award due to the excellent customer service she provides. She stays late to help customers and goes out of her way to answer every question. Margaret has been known to take on additional duties when the division is short staffed. She cheerfully helps others with her contagious positive attitude. Margaret has also proven to be a valuable asset. With the introduction of pay stations, she suggested a new method for counting meter revenue. Her idea was implemented and resulted in improved operations in the Parking Division.

Congratulations Margaret and keep up the great work!

If you know a Downtown Operations Department employee who demonstrates exceptional customer service and has left a positive impression on you, nominate him/her for the Downtown STAR award at <http://www.sanantonio.gov/dtops/DowntownStars.asp>. For more information, you may also contact Veronica at 207-8477.

## 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](mailto:downtown@sanantonio.gov).

400 N. St. Mary's, #100 San Antonio, Texas 78205  
Hours: Monday-Friday 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

[www.sanantonio.gov/dtops](http://www.sanantonio.gov/dtops)  
Phone: 210-207-3677

Director: Paula X. Stallcup

Assistant Directors: Colleen Swain & Kelly Rafferty

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