

IT'S HOT!

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MLK BOOTSTRAP QUOTE ANNIVERSARY AUGUST 13



“It’s alright to say people lift yourselves up by your own boot straps. But, it’s cruel to say to a bootless man that he must lift himself up by his own boot straps.”

Martin Luther King Jr.
August 13, 1967



Mission: The Challenger Street Newspaper advocates, informs, and connects diverse people from all walks of life. We empower street dependent campers with economic opportunity and get their viewpoints heard.



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Our partners:

Mobile Loaves & Fishes
Treasure City Thrift
Austin Public Library
T.O.O.F.
JP's P.L.H. Fndn
Hogg Foundation
Richard R. Troxell-N.H.C.



95% Street Reporters

Leslie Cochran wrote for the Challenger our first 6 months.

Clip Art used from MS Publisher
We use century gothic font cause it uses least amount of ink.



To subscribe or make a donation
www.challengernewspaper.org
Venmo Cash app Square or



THANKS TO ALL OUR

ADVERTIZERS,
DONORS,
CONTRIBUTORS AND
DISTRIBUTORS
YOU MEAN A LOT!

Editorial Policy

Material in the paper reflects the opinion of the author. Submissions determined to be libelous or that encourage discrimination, sexism, or violence will not be published. We ask you to proof read your article. Grammar is edited only for understanding. Editor doesn't edit your voice.

Deadline is 2nd Sunday or the 15th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is a good time to get ride of old koozies, freeze a bottle of water and stuff it in a koozie or carry water in a small cooler. Hand them out at the window at the corner.



WHAT'S THE SCOOP ON BUS PASSES???

By CTOSH email & Val Romness

Paper passes with a magstripe on the back will continue to work on the fareboxes, which are not changing. Participants will receive paper passes throughout 2025. (Local fare only) Once paper passes run out, it will move to the **new reloadable passes**; There are enough paper passes for the year, change coming most likely in 2026.



Challenger does advocacy to help end homelessness. Listen to our voices! Find better solutions, quicker!

Time for a discussion
Challenger Will Visit
Your Org/Hood

Zoom or in person

Understanding Homelessness and building empathy.

Goals

- 1 See the whole person
- 2 Meet them where they are
- 3 Recognize that there may be invisible disabilities
- 4 Use cultural competence
- 5 Never take your eyes off the person's humanity

Contact 512 560 4735 or challengernewspaper@yahoo.com



Should you come into contact with an individual you believe could benefit from the Homeless Outreach Street Team (H.O.S.T.) you can reach them at 512-804-3720



**Thanks so much to
Amber, Allen and all our
friends in Austin
working to help our
unhoused neighbors.**

John Paul DeJoria



LESLIE IS A CANARY....

BY LIZARD KING (REPRINTED FROM AUGUST 2013)

Once upon a time, not so long ago, in this great land, land of the weird, land of the free, land of Willie, Kinky, Anne, Lady Bird, and yes, of course our friend and my personal hero, Leslie.

I spent many nights at ye Ole Bouldin Creek Coffee House discoursing with Leslie about the state of Austin under an oppressive government and police force. You see Leslie Cochran was harassed regularly by the boys in blue, while standing, walking, laughing, posing for pics, sleeping, waking, and looking Austintacious! He was a cop-magnet, he dressed up like a ballerina, and famous ladies, I think he had an Amelia Ehrhart outfit for special occasions. He was a homo-phobe's worse nightmare!

Once I was talking to the late night Leslie, at Casino El Camino, out on the patio. I had spoken to several people who apparently had bad eyesight, who had revealed Leslie tales to me while in conversation. Similarly they had each just about lost their mind at this 'hottie' they saw walking down the street, usually walking down Congress wearing a skirt, but when they looked behind as they passed, they realized it was a dude, and they were freaked. So on this occasion I decided that I should ask Leslie why he doesn't complete his feminine image by shaving his much manly legs and beard. He gave an ex-rated reply, that I cannot repeat in press, but needless to say, he was original, and independent and exercised his free speech. In fact, I have been saying for years that I view Leslie as a canary in the 1st Amend. coal mines that are South Austin streets. As long as Leslie is allowed to run free and speak his mind, we all can. In fact, now that Leslie is gone, I feel less Free in Austin. No matter what you or your secret homo-phobe friend thinks about Leslie, he stood up for the oppressed, those without a voice, those who wish they could speak but are scared, and fashion, baby!

He ran for Austin Mayor at least twice, and he told me that he got 8% of the vote against Kirk Watson (Senator now) who had actually fudged on the residency requirements, in theory Leslie was the legitimate winner, according to him. Yay Leslie! But since the community did not fully stand behind him, he stopped running, and eventually he died. Even a

humble homeless man can be a Great loss. Now who will stand up for our Free speech? I think we all should take to the streets, in whatever manner of dress we wish, and speak our minds, whatever we wish to say, for anyone with ears to hear. In honor of Leslie.

Now I mentioned before that the community likes to talk about how cool and Austintacious Leslie is, and how much they miss him. I say that's all BS. Sorry if this offends you but I talked to him, I went to his benefit at the 1 to 1 club, on 4th. And of all the 100s of people that brag about Leslie, only maybe 30-40 showed up. He told me that he was beat up and that was what caused the coma. The time to back a person who is a standing up, proud and free, when they are facing up to the oppressor, for you. Not after they are gone. Myself and others in this community have stood up for you, won't you stand up for us? For yourselves? For your children and grandchildren, they are the next generation, they receive whatever world we make. Let's make this a better world.

Love more, live more, speak more, face up to oppression, help the helpless and the voiceless, resist the system, do not trust what the media and your government are telling you. Use your mind, your voice, your gut, your humanity, intuition and your Freedoms! Time is running out, the time to awaken and remake our society is now.

For me it's prime time to save the little doggies from police brutality. No one else will speak for them but us. This is the issue I am campaigning mostly for in Austin. And it's only a beginning. I will not fail Austin, I will not fail Planet Earth. I will not fail the children or the dogs in our families.

Join me!
Come visit my site at www.facebook.com/supportforshiner



Leslie Cochran
Photo by Val Romness

Time to spend money on mental health yet?

GONE HOME

BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

*Please let the paper know if someone has passed;
We want to remember them. A picture is nice
Call 512-560-4735 challengernewspaper@yahoo.com*

R.I.P. THOSE WHO ARE UNCOUNTED

RIP

RIP

Lizzardo Giganticus Column

Great source for vids of APD harassing Street People

<https://www.youtube.com/@LizzardoGiganticus>

Austin Police and TxDOT steal from the poor, and hide their crimes

Austin Police commit crimes against the poor for TxDOT and with Easter Seals cheap labor

Human Kindness / House the Poor on Facebook;

Patron: Julian Reyes

NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US!



Mobile Loaves & Fishes

Serving Goodness.™

Empowering communities into a lifestyle of service with the homeless since 1998.

WE PROUDLY SUPPORT

The Challenger Street Newspaper



mlf.org | [@mobileloaves](https://twitter.com/mobileloaves) | [#ServingGoodness](https://twitter.com/ServingGoodness)

PLEASE DONATE TO MLF'S *Community First! Village* PROJECT

A SPROUTING PLANT

BY TIMOTHY WARFIELD

I'm a wildflower that means no harm to anyone
Steady I move into hearts as if running a marathon
My goal is to win no matter the event or competition
Shifting in and out of traffic as if I have a well-oiled transmission

I never want to be an unwanted plant like a weed
I want to grow in a person's heart as if it was a garden
I'm a mature wildflower plant, not a seed
With love I sprout leaving nothing to bargain

Even though I am a person of low maintenance, positively I am felt
Through time like a card shark I have played the hand that was delt
Yes, I wilt like a wildflower; however, I survive
Within hearts of love, I thrive

Protein and water I devour to grow strong and stronger
Hoping to expand my life span longer and longer
I still have dreams I have yet to achieve
Once I am planted in a heart, I don't aim to leave



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PEACE & LOVE BROUGHT A GUITAR TO THE

FOOD PICK-UP

BY THOM THE WORLD POET

So of course we asked him to play-
"While My Guitar Gently Weeps"
Then discreet silence.. Finally, bubbles of conversation-
The style of gentle waves and polite agreement
That softened brash morning sunshine
Diluted disagreements, and made smiles legal..
He sid he would try TEXPOP open mic Thursdays-
but they are in abeyance (happiness fatigue)
And may return on a whim when winds turn benign
Is that not like life these days? Fickle, unpredictable,
with no security nor safety net when we fall..
And that is when i mentioned Sandra to Christiana
For we have not seen Sandra at all..and Sandra is blind
And Sandra has fallen more than once,and any loss of any of us
Makes this small circle smaller..So he picked up his guitar again
And strummed a smiling song

<http://austinopenmic.com/>

WEDNESDAYS OPEN MIC =OPA!Cnr S Lamar/Olthorf 7-10pm

BLUES

BY JOHN CURRAN

Man sumpin' got a hold on my soul 'n I went in a wiry state for a little while. Abad mental mode took hold. I did not like anything nor anybody. I got yelled at and got upset. It carried with me. I been wronged sure but some of that is definitely on me I know that. I didn' do anything terribly bad like they were trying to say but I did do something. I got a history of thinking I can get away with a lot, that I know my parameters pretty good. Well this time little did I know and came to find out there's some out there more evil than me. I was glad to get out of that at least and I have learned in a hard way, a lot. So, it ain't over, gotta close it out now, at the end of a long summer of heat, looking like it will be, and then to deal with the complete change in my housing situation all this has entailed. At least I can say well, how you like me now?.



So, feeling better today. The mind is a bad one to lose control over. Negativity is a bitch, like depression maybe, it's similar, must be. Oh well, I keep working on it, this word, that word, saint, sinner, and everything in between.

JEOPARDY

BY JOHN CURRAN

Yeah I used to be kind of a news junky, more like a news nerd actually, but truthfully now it's come to such a point that I am just losing interest brother. Not that I ain't there. Make no mistake concerning the big picture, when that clarion trumpet calls, I will be there. But for now, and it's not more than a sad reflection of the times, that I find my mind wandering now, and wondering, how many minutes until Jeopardy. I used to love Jeopardy, I'm finding that now, I still do. And ya know, Jeopardy is, has been, and probably always will be, just the greatest damn game show ever. But there was a time, going back to just past last year and for three years preceding, four years back, when I was living my life without Jeopardy. I had no TV. It was a magic time. A time when I became re-inspired as a painter and was again feeling it and doing real serious stuff. It was great great. See I'd left my old place in Texas feeling kind of burned out after a long number of years there. There I'd been doing painting. I'd been in a great Art program and had been doing good work with this group, even making money selling, complete validation, the pride of that. But real art reflects off of the real life I feel and towards the end of all these years here in this same place I was getting stale. The life was getting stale in many ways correspondingly. When a problem came about at this time with my local housing arrangement, I jumped at the chance to make a change. And so, not knowing nothing nor nobody I



came up here and was transferred to a decent little one bedroom single guy Apt. in an area spinoff of the main metropolis. A small Apt. complex, it had kids, that was new. A lot of these places don't anymore seems. It was a small place and what with that it was soon common knowledge that I was a painter. A like, artist guy. That definitely raised some eyebrows, people be funny, but it didn't bother me as far as my work was concerned. I was suddenly so totally back again into what was really some of my best painting ever. The Afghan sisters, who to me were the most beautiful girls I had ever seen, a lineage that carries on in spite of a sad history of repression. I loved the way their large family, four girls, two older brothers, mother and father, carried on in their Muslim traditions in the midst now of living in this, the modern American society. I was inspired by their obvious love for each other as a family and, I'll say this, the beauty of the Afghan woman. Anyway, the two middle sisters came to me early on and they had two paintings that they'd painted. I think one painted the pizza pie and one painted the cat. They wanted to see if I wanted to buy them. I really did like the cat, it was amateurish but yet... there was something there and hey, what's five dollars for a piece of original art, acrylic on canvas? The other, naw, but both were pretty good. Ya start somewhere. I've still got the cat. It's a sort of centerpiece, people comment on it, how like what a great painting it is. I think so too.

Pullout—Directory of Resources

See inside

Distributors Wanted!

BE YOUR OWN BOSS * CHOOSE YOUR HOURS!



We're a quick, no barrier income

get paid the same day

Start with a free paper, sell it to get a \$1.00 starter kit.

The kit comes with ID Badge & 10 papers to sell on a donation basis

We meet

Sundays 1-3 pm

Outside City Hall (Guadalupe & Cesar Chavez) or
Central Library Rm 471

Strike up a conversation & offer our paper on a donation basis. After you sell the 10, future papers costs you \$1 each and YOU keep the profits.

The Challenger is written & published monthly by 95 % un-housed people. The paper operates from a mobile office with 2 suitcases & a backpack. Our Director/Editor, Val, prints the paper at home, then we fold them when we meet.

We take Venmo, Cash app & PayPal. Make sure they put your name or badge number. It might take a couple weeks to build your business. We are also digital online,

If you submit an article, poem or art, you get 10 copies of the issue that you're published in.

We're a 501C-3 non-profit

Challengenewspaper@yahoo.com
www.Challengenewspaper.org

Challenger Newspaper
PO Box 151574 Austin, TX 78715
512-560-4735

It Works!

JAIL MAIL PROGRAM

We want you, and anyone you know who is incarcerated, to write your voice in our paper. You should write neatly so we can type or any writing, art or drawings send by email. Yes, we will publish you!

We don't have free subscriptions, but if you're published we will send a copy.

Challenger Newspaper PO Box 151574 Austin, TX 78715 challengenewspaper@yahoo.com



Tues-Thurs 1-7 PM
Fri-S-S-Mon 11am-7pm

Moving this fall
5201 Cameron Rd



Treasure City Thrift
Clothes, Housewares,
Books and more!
5201 Cameron Rd.
www.TreasureCityThrift.org

REALLY REALLY
FREE MARKET
LAST SUNDAY
2-5 PM

Challenger Directory of Resources

Updated 7/2025

Please notify

Challengernewspaper@yahoo.com

if you notice changes to the directory

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES: Call 988

DOMESTIC / SEXUAL VIOLENCE:

LASSA TX Hotline: 844-303-7233

SAFE 512.267.7233 www.safeaustin.org

VINE 512-936-1200 www.vineline.com

Kind Clinic .833.937.5463 www.kindclinic.org

If this is insufficient or you need help reporting or treating an event, email Challenger ATTN: Jenny

NAT'L SEX ASSAULT HOTLINE 1-800-656-HOPE

HUMAN TRAFFICING 1 (888) 373-7888

NAT'L HUMAN TRAFFICKING Resource Center
Text "HELP" or "INFO" to 233733 English, Spanish and 200 more, traffickingresourcecenter.org
<http://stopthetrafficking.org>

NAVIGATIONS CENTERS:

Sunrise Homeless Navigation Center (M-F 9-1) .
4430 Menchaca (Ben White) Hot meal, mail, showers, hygiene, ltd clothing, laundry, computer lab, triage referral/navigation: Service Point ID, Coordinated Assessment, MAP/Food stamp sign-up; Medical clinic (Th only), Integral Care; job resources, recovery support. **Hotline:** 512-522-1097 NARCAN VENDING MACHINE sunrisenavigationcenter.org

Trinity Center: 304 E. 7th St. Navigation/service ctr, meals, case mgmt, ID docs, Coordinated Assessment; MAP, SNAP, Food Stamp sign-up; bus passes, ltd travel assistance, clothes/showers (women only on Mondays), mail, phone, computer access, housing referrals. M-F 9a-1p, Sun. 3-4:30p Come in person/ no appts. TrinityCenterAustin.org

Charlie Center-Mosaic Church Navigation Cntr
2675 Research Blvd. (McNeil/183) 512-922-8954
Tues, Wed, Thurs 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. ID's, Social Security Cards, Vital Records, Meal Served Daily, SNAP Sign-Up, Coordinated Assessments, Housing Info & Referrals, Case Management, Mail, Packages, Medication, Secure Document Storage theCharlieCenter.org

First Austin Baptist

Case management, Resource navigation, Call for appt. 512-476-2635, 901 Trinity St. fbcaustin.org

BATHROOMS:

-Public Restroom 4th & Trinity

-Public Restroom 6th & Brazos

-Portapotti 7th & Trinity

-Portapotti 6th & IH35

-Downtown Austin Community Court / 505 Barton Springs Rd / 8-5 Monday -- Friday

-Libraries

-Near city trails

Shower and bathroom:

Rec Centers

Mon-Sat, 10a -3pm:

Bartholomew Pool
1800 E. 51st St East

Barton Springs Pool
2131 William Barton Dr Central

Springwoods Pool
13320 Lyndhurst St. Northwest

Balcones Pool /closed for season
12017 Amherst Dr. North

Showers:

M-F Sunrise Homeless Navigation Center 8:30 -11am

M-F-- 7th & I-35 / 9:30 AM-1:30 PM

M-F-- Burnet and Hwy 183 / 9:30 AM-1:30 PM

The Other Ones Foundation A mobile hygiene truck (showers, sink and toilet)

Barton Springs Pool

Shwrs available/Bath House will finish this summer.

Swim at your own risk 5-8 am & 8-9:50 pm daily

8 am to 8 p (fee charged)

Closed Mondays & Thurs

VETERANS are always in free

LAUNDRY:

Mission Accomplished

Mobile laundry, (must have voucher) care packages and connections to assist in transitioning to stable, self-sufficient and healthy lifestyles.

Each location 9am-12N

Unscented soap available.

M-- Sunrise Navigation Ctr--4430 Menchaca Rd

Tu-Violet Storage--700 E.. 7 St (parking lot)

W, F, Sat-The Other Ones - 780 S. Hwy 183

W-The Charlie Center at the Mosaic Church

12675 Research Blvd.

FOOD:

Angel House / Austin Baptist Chapel Soup Kitchen
Food Pantry/breakfast/lunch - daily 9:30-10a, 11a-12:30p, 512-643-2327, 908 E.

Cesar Chavez St

Bread For All: Food Bank Faith Presbyterian Church at 1314 E Oltorf St, 5-6:30 pm Mondays. We also sponsor a mobile distribution with the food bank at Parker Lane United Methodist (2105 Parker Lane) second Monday of the month from 9-10 am. All are welcome. <https://austincitylutherans.org/food/>

Caritas of Austin: Housing, food, educ, employment, veterans assistance. Housing programs require referral via Coordinated Entry system. Daily Lunch 11a. CENTRAL: 611 Neches NORTH: 9027 Northgate Blvd. Lobby hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8-11AM & 1-4:45PM. Tuesday 8-11AM & 1-6:45PM. Friday 8-11:45AM caritasofaustin.org

Central Presbyterian (200 E. 8th, corner of 8th and Brazos) Breakfast Thursdays 8-9 am, limited space, clothes and toiletries. 512-472-2445 cpcaustin.org

El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission:

Community Health Worker Training, Adult Educ, Youth Progs, Vaccines and Health Literacy. Office

hours: M-F 9a-5p, Food Help: T/Th 8a-10a 7000 Woodhue Dr, 512-439-8900, ElBuen.org

Foundation Communities' Prosper Health Coverage program provides FREE help for all people to find and use affordable health insurance or other health coverage programs. We have phone and in-person advice available. Call 512-381-4520, email enroll@foundcom.org, book an appointment online (<http://prosperhealthcoverage.org/>), or visit one of our community Prosper Centers at 5900 Airport Blvd. or 2900 South IH-35 from 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday

Foundation for the Homeless / Feed My People Tuesday/Thursday breakfast 5:30-7 am.. First United Methodist Church, Family Life Center, 1300 Lavaca St. Showers, AA meetings, a clothing closet (Thursday only), showers, and haircuts (every other Thursday).

Gateway Church - Feed the Community Food Pantry, 7104 McNeil Dr. Wednesdays 9-11am

Green Doors' veterans (transitional housing) and affordable housing residents (affordable rental or PSH with vouchers) until capacity is full. They may require a brief hotel stay for folks seeking to join the transitional housing program (and Green Doors would cover the cost); affordable rentals are immediate admission because they are single occupancy. info@greendoors.org or 512-469-9130 for information or applications.

Mobile Loaves & Fishes For locations and schedules, visit <http://www.mlf.org/truck-schedules>.

The Other Ones Foundation Work opportunities, out of town transportation assistance, emergency shelter. 512-568-7557 780 S. Hwy 183. toofound.org

University Presbyterian Church/Micah 6 Food Pantry Thursdays at 5:30-7 pm and Saturdays at 9:30-11 am. 2203 SanAntonio St., micah6austin.org

University United Methodist Church/ Open Door Ministry: breakfast & clothing every Saturday from 8-9 am. 2409 Guadalupe St.

Victory Ministries (2300 Canterbury St) supplies are VERY LOW. People being served outside only. If able, PLEASE CALL 512-480-9628 to check status before coming.

Westover Hills Church of Christ Providing food (non-perishable groceries) for everyone Saturdays 9-11 am. Drive-thru style. Located at 8332 Mesa Dr., Austin, TX 78759. Food for Seniors

Meals on Wheels and More [Main Office]
3227 E. 5th Street, Austin, TX 78702

STORAGE/LOCKERS:

Violet KeepSafe Storage 700 E 7th St. (Indoors/ bathroom available) 96 gal barrel with long-shank lock. 7 days 7 am - 7 pm. To apply for a storage bin, call first to check bin availability. If you have a Photo ID, that will help. 512-974-1294

Resource Directory con't

Updated 7/2025

EMPLOYMENT:

Challenger Street Newspaper

Sign up 1-3 pm on Sundays outside City Hall (Guadalupe & Cesar Chavez) or Rm 471 Central Library.. Low barrier self employment. Make money today and every day you work. Distribute the paper on a donation basis, you keep all profits. Challengernewspaper.org

Workforce First: Offers individuals experiencing homelessness opportunity to work cleaning parks. Also offers case management. The program is on a waitlist that can take several months to get through. Must be 18+ and currently unhoued. Call 512-568-7557 or email brian@toofound.org

Skillpointalliance.org Job training: plumbing, HVAC, electrical, manufacturing. Women & Men 512-729-4922

Hungry Hill Foundation.org
Jobs, clothing, meals 2xday.
East Austin-12th & Springdale Rd

Fair Living Wage Calculator: enter zip code
www.universallivingwage.org

City Resources App:
<https://opennow.maps.austintexas.gov/>

REFERRALS:

First Call for Help : 211 or 988
Free, bilingual information & referral service about food, clothing, housing, child and youth services, job placement assistance, education, recreation, support groups and other programs and services.

Arcilinc.org
CASE MANAGEMENT 512-832-6349



American Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 Text to 838255

Texas Veterans Commission www.tvc.texas.gov

V. A. 512-823-4100 7901 Metropolis Dr) 78744
Outpatient Clinic: Primary healthcare, specialty care and hospitalization. Contact Andrew Miller
Transitional housing for single veterans.

Caritas of Austin: 7th & Neches. Community Kitchen is serving lunch Monday-Friday 11 AM-12:30PM. Our clients receive case management/housing stability services and groceries through our food pantry. The lobby has public access to water, bathrooms, phones and info on community resources. Lobby hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8 -11AM & 1-4:45PM. Tuesday 8-11AM & 1-6:45PM. Friday 8-11AM

Green Doors 512-469-9130 1503 So IH35
Housing First- Transitional, affordable, permanent housing.

Strike Force Help with VA benefit claim, denial or appeal, call 254-299-9950. See www.tvc.state.tx.us for even more resources and links. 877-4AID-VET

Center Point Texas Veterans Program 512-297-2990 out-

reach, assessment of needs, vocational readiness training, housing assistance, job placement and referrals to job skills training programs for homeless Veterans . 2101 S. Interstate 35 Suite 219 Austin, TX 78741 Up to \$800 housing/car repair

Barton Springs Pool

VETERANS are always in free
Shwrs available/**Bath House will finish this summer.**
Swim at your own risk 5-8 am & 8-9:50 pm daily
8 am to 8 p. Closed Mondays & Thurs

SHELTER:

ARCH Austin Resource Center for Homeless
500 E. 7th St. 512-978-9920

8th Street Shelter- Emergency shelter for single women & transwomen 501 E. 8th St (Neches) (referral only) Contact Sunrise Navigation Cntr 512-522-1097 8am-8 pm M-F On site case management

Marshaling Yard: Appointment only.
Esperanza is expanding, they got more land adjacent.

Esperanza Community 780 S US Hwy 183 (Old Bastrop Hwy) between Briggs Equipment and Palm Harbor Homes. Contact the Other Ones Foundation for a space (512) 568-7557. Pets are welcome. Charging station, . Shower trailer Bus Route #217

The Safe Alliance Call for locations, 512-267-SAFE (7233) Emergency shelter, counseling, transitional housing and case managers for women escaping domestic & sexual violence. children & men also accepted.

YOUTH:

Lifeworks Under 27 yrs. 835 N. Pleasant Valley Rd. Mon-Thurs 12-4 pm Bus routes 300 & 493. Food, hygiene, bus passes, Wifi, gear, charging, mailing address, coordinated assessment.

American Youth Works 216 E. 4th St.
High School Diploma Program, ages 16-20
Also has a first-time home buyer program.

Street Youth Ministry 2008 Justin Ln

SAFE CARES a program of The SAFE Alliance, YOUTH 12-22 experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, and/or human trafficking. Case management, advocacy, therapy, and Drop-In services. Call 512.267.7233(SAFE)

SENIORS/ELDERS:

Family Eldercare Outreach and in-home care for those over 60 years old. M-Th 8-4, Fri 8-12
Call for locations, 512-450-0844

Safelink for 60 yrs+ FREE cell phones and service 1-800-Safelink (1-800-723-3546)

MEDICAL, DENTAL, MENTAL HEALTH:

Dell Seton Medical Center at UT (formerly Brackenridge) 512-324-7000 1500 Red River St. Emergency care-911

ARCH Clinic-Community Care
500 E. 7th St. 512-978-9920 Mon-Fri 7-11 am & 12-4 pm. walk-ins and appointments

MAP cards 512-978-8130 1313 Red River Ste. 217A
Mon. - Fri. 8am or 1 pm Homeless get right in.
Screening and enrollment done on a walk in basis. appts preferred. Full coverage medical services with reduced or no copay. Must meet a set criteria.

CARE CONNECTIONS CLINIC Walk in. 3706 S. First St.
Tuberculosis Elimination Clinic 15 Waller St., TB testing. Also Community Care-Hancock Cntr

BREAST CANCER ADVOCACY AWARENESS CENTER
1704 EAST 12TH ST 78702 512-965-6950
drduncan924@gmail.com

KIND CLINIC Austin-Koenig Suite 200 Free HIV/STI walk-in testing No appt Mon-Fri 9 am-12pm & 1:30-4:30pm 1-833-WE-R-KIND (1-833-937-5463) kindclinic.org

THRA TX Harm Reduction Alliance 512-893-3237
Drop in 1803 E. Cesar Chavez St. Mon-Thurs 11:30-2:30 pm Wed 3-5 pm. We offer support for people who use drugs, including tools, resources, and overdose prevention.

RecoveryATX.org Peer recovery/support 512-553-2683

Manos de Cristo Dental Clinic (wait in line or appt)
4911 Harmon Av 78751 512-477-2319
Emergency dental care for people who are working and don't qualify for city, state, or federal programs. Manosdecristo.org

STD Clinic 15 Waller St., 512-972-5430
not anonymous, but confidential STD testing. Must have photo ID.

AIDS Services of Austin 7215 Cameron Rd., 512-458-2437 case management, testing, & a variety of financial services available. The Jack Sansing Dental Clinic is a part of AIDS services of Austin and operates on a sliding scale for all HIV positive clients.

Integral Care.org Crisis Helpline 512-472-4357 (HELP) 24/7 Immediate emotional support. 24 hr/day, 7 days/week. or you may call them and an outreach worker will come to you.

Austin Mental Health Community(formerly S.H.A.C.) Self Help and Advocacy Center Drop in. M & Tu 11:30-4:30 W-F 9-4 3205 S 1st St. 512-442-3366

Austin Clubhouse community of mutual support and recovery for adults living with mental health diagnoses www.austinclubhouse.org An applicant must: Be at least 18 yrs, have a mental health diagnosis, be following a treatment plan (doctor, psychiatrist, therapist, case worker, peer specialist, etc.). We do not require a referral letter from a health professional. To become a member call 512-925-5877 to schedule a tour. 610 E. 45th Street, Austin, TX 78751 (Inside Hyde Park Christian Church)

MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES::

Call 988 For Police w/mental health training, don't call 911, call 512-472-HELP.

Mental Health Information HelpLine
1 (800) 950-NAMI (6264), Mon— Fri, 9.– 5, CST

Healthcare for Homeless HUB *co-located with Lonestar Circle of Care* 3000 Oak 512-532-9961 for appt.

Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES)
1165 Airport Blvd Walk in M-F 8a-10p and Saturday/Sunday and holidays from 10a-8p.

Directory continued

East 2nd Street Clinic (Central Austin)
1631 E 2nd Walk in M-F 8-5

Stonegate Clinic (So. Austin) 2501 W. William
Cannon Dr, Bldg 4 Walk in M-F 8-5

St. John Clinic – (North Austin)
6937 N. IH 35 Walk in M-F 8-5

Www.aayhf.org

African American Youth Harvest Foundation
6633 Hwy 290 E. Ste 307 (512) 428-4480
ContactUs@aayhf.org

H.O.S.T Homeless Outreach Street Team
512-804-3720

We CanNow Street Outreach
Sunrise Navigation Outreach

Suicide Lifeline 800-273-TALK
(8255) IF YOU TEXT 741741 WHEN YOU
ARE FEELING DEPRESSED OR SUICIDAL, A
CRISIS WORKER WILL TEXT YOU BACK
IMMEDIATELY AND CONTINUE TO TEXT
WITH YOU!

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities is at the
corner of 18th & San Antonio, 1716 San Anto-
nio St. Austin, Tx

LEGAL:

Legal Aid Survivors of Sexual Assault
1-844-303-SAFE free legal assistance to
survivors of sexual assault.

Austin Tenants Council 512-474-1961 (M-F
9-12 and M-Th 1-4 PM)

Camp Ban Tickets TX Fair Defense Project
512-637-5220 Press 0 Mon 12-5 pm & Thurs
10 am-1pm or if in jail: Austin Lawyers Guild
hotline 512-817-4254

Community Court 505 Barton Springs Rd first
floor. Bus 1, 3, 7, 10, 20, 801

(1700 Guadalupe St) is the current,
Travis County Civil Law Court House, which
gets confused with old courthouse, 11th &
Guadalupe & causes tardiness if you're not in
the know. At the Current & old Court houses
the cops do mag wand & scan your bag, coat, &
belt & there's barriers to leaving the building
too. But, at new courthouse they have a law
library on 2nd floor, where law books & comput-
ers with internet access, and law clerk librarians
can help you research forms & methods for
filing legal & business forms. All available for
anyone wanting to study law or research what
are common civic expectations, not taught or
explained in public school.

UTILITIES:

Baptist Community Center Mission 2000
E. 2nd St Elect, water, gas, meds, birth
cert, food

CLOTHING:

Mobile Clothing TRUCK:
Thrift-ish.org Contact for your group to
have a free shopping experience

Really Really Free Market
Last Sunday 2-5 PM
Treasure City Thrift 2242 E. 7th St

FREE HAIRCUTS:
Supercuts Training Academy call
ahead 512-481-8900.

Ron King Academy call ahead 512-
596-5000. (tip expected)

Foundation for the Homeless- hair-
cuts (every other Thursday). First
United Methodist Church, Family Life
Center, 1300 Lavaca St.

**FOOD STAMPS, HUMAN SERVICES,
MEDICAID:**

Texas Dept. of Human Services
Moved to Capital Plaza 512-929-7330
Women, infants & Children (WIC)
Call for closest location, 1-800-942-3678

HOUSING

VA 7901 Metroplis Dr) 78744 (512) 823-
4000
Transitional housing for single veterans.

Blackland Community Development Corp.
2005 Salina St., (512) 220-8751
Transitional housing for families and single
persons.

American Youth Works 216 E. 4th St.
High School Diploma Program, ages 16-20
Also has a first-time home buyer program.

Green Doors 512-469-9130 1503 So IH35
Housing First-Transitional, affordable,
permanent housing.

Project Transitions-Roosevelt Gardens
HIV Housing Complex
5606 Roosevelt Avenue
The 40-unit homeless or unstably housed

Austin Housing Authority 1124 S. IH-35
ATX, 78704. 512-477-4488 6 month to 2
year; waiting list depends heavily on indi-
vidual circumstance. Wwww.hacanet.org

Travis County Housing Authority 2200 E.
MLK Jr. Blvd. 512-480-8245 Similar to
Austin Housing Authority.

Foundation Communities
Affordable housing for individuals and
families with low to moderate incomes: 512-
447-2026

Community First! Village Micro homes,
trailers, canvas tents. mlf.org Hogeeye Rd

Victory Homes Austin Greater Austin area
as well as the surrounding cities. Lodging,
food, and clothing is provided. Majority of
people providing assistance are former
addicts and gang members who at one time
found themselves trapped in the same
cycle.

For more info: Director Gus Celaya (512)
920-8708 or Admin office 512-822-9182

Excellence & Advancement Foundation
(EAF) provides programs, services and
advocacy to break the school-to-prison
pipeline by coordinating prevention and
intervention programs to support children at
risk of becoming involved in the criminal
justice system. Below are some of
the programs. For more info:
<https://breakthepipeline.org/programs/>

Awesome Activist Leadership Program, Black
Leadership Academy, SPARK change, The Wrap
up, The Excellence Resource Center (this is the
advocacy, case management program), Parent-
ing with a purpose

ART FROM THE STREETS STUDIO

"Canopy" 916 Springdale Rd Bldg 2 Rm105
Mon & Tues 10am-1pm Thurs 12-3PM
(Women Only: Wed 12-3 PM)
Art supplies provided for FREE! Participation
allows each artist to be in the annual show in
October!

PET CARE: www.emancipet.org offers free
days for pet care

COOLING CENTERS:

OASIS: behind ARCH, shade, bathrooms &
water, pets ok on leash 8 am-7pm

Regular hours at Rec Centers &
Public Libraries. Sorry, no pets.

NO FREEZE SHELTER:

NEW THRESHOLD: 35' Dry, wet or windy.
24 hr notice. HOT meal! Call for status
512-972-5055 Free bus

Single adult men and women, pets wel-
come, please arrive at 505 Barton Springs
Rd for registration, 6-8 PM or till flow stops.
Rides to locations. Families with children,
arrive by 6pm. **Pets now welcome!!**
They'll stay in a crate near you.

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changes to the directory

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Challenger Newspaper

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marked crosswalks.

**Distributors who violate our
code will be warned and
suspended if it continues.**

**We need to
police ourselves or the
police will.**



**Homer The Homeless
Goose’s Demands**
By Challenger Newspaper

- More mental health care. TX is 47th in spending on mental health.
- Stop scraping camps and stop throwing all of ppls things away!
- Pay social workers a living wage!
- Women’s shelter: Current one has appointments only. Must be able to walk in for safety.
- Phones easier to get
- *End oppressive ordinances. No more criminalizing the poor!*
- *Increase funding for homeless services*
- *Austin Living Wage*
- *Pets must be allowed at shelters—better mental and physical health (get brief orientation for socialization of pets)*
- *Get past Moral Bankruptcy and be fiscally responsible. It can cost 17 to 35 thousand/year/person to ticket, court, jail, police, hospitalize, ER, ambulance rides. When a person is housed (w/a social workers guidance) they stand up and walk back into society.*
- *Take the boards off vacant homes.*
- *Cooling/heat Center: behind ARCH— Oasis has shade, water and bathrooms*
- *Find me! Get me on public display!*

Watch our documentary

[https://
vimeo.com/176352813](https://vimeo.com/176352813)

“Challenger: Voices from
the Street”

(Reprinted from February 2013)

Submitted by Fred Pettit



When the Power of Love overcomes
the love of power
the World will know Peace!

By Jimi Hendrix

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**LIFT FROM THE
BOTTOM
EVERYBODY
RISES**

Nihil de nobis,
sine nobis.

Nothing about us
without us

CARTOONS

BY ANDY STECKEL



Summer Info Flier 2025
 Due to extreme heat, all Parks and Library facilities will serve as Cooling Centers during normal operating hours. They have AC, water, and bathrooms.

OASIS @ ARCH-SHADE, H2O & BATHROOMS;
 leas ed dogs welcome

**CAP METRO IS OFFERING
 FREE BUS RIDES
 TO COOLING CENTERS!**

Heat Exhaustion	Heat Stroke
<p>ACT FAST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to a cooler area • Loosen clothing • Sip cool water • Seek medical help if symptoms don't improve 	<p>ACT FAST</p> <p>CALL 911</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move person to a cooler area • Loosen clothing and remove extra layers • Cool with water or ice
<p><i>Dizziness</i></p> <p><i>Thirst</i></p> <p><i>Heavy Sweating</i></p> <p><i>Nausea</i></p> <p><i>Weakness</i></p>	<p><i>Confusion</i></p> <p><i>Dizziness</i></p> <p><i>Becomes Unconscious</i></p>
<p><i>Heat exhaustion can lead to heat stroke.</i></p>	<p><i>Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.</i></p>
	<p>Stay Cool, Stay Hydrated, Stay Informed!</p>

ROBERT NEVER STOLE FROM THE HOMELESS SHELTER

BY RYAN DOWD

Robert had lived in our homeless shelter for years before we discovered that he liked to steal.

In fact, we only discovered Robert's "talents" when he tried to give a staff member a gift of something stolen.

Late one night I asked Robert about his "chosen profession" and he was VERY honest with me.

Robert was adamant, though, that he had NEVER stolen from the shelter.

I asked him why.

"Because," Robert said with a solemn look, "you don't treat me like a thief."

Pygmalion and Golem

There are two related concepts in social science:

- **Pygmalion Effect** – When you have high expectations for someone, they are more likely to live up to them.
- **Golem Effect** – When you have low expectations for someone, they are more likely to live down to them.

These two concepts are usually used in educational contexts.

Randomly select 20% of the students. Tell their teacher that they are the

smartest students. Their test scores will rise because the teacher treats them as smart.

The same thing happens if you tell a teacher that a randomly selected 20% is dumb. Their performance will drop.

You can create angels and demons

The way you treat people influences how they act.

When you treat people with **humanity**, you draw out their humanity.

When you **demonize** people, you draw out their demons.

Of course, this doesn't work 100% of the time.

Nothing else does, either, though.

Wouldn't you rather err on the side of humanity?

Don't believe the darkest corners of the human spirit:
Cynicism is not wisdom. Hope is not naïve.
Cruelty is not strength. Compassion is not weakness.

Ryan Dowd ryan@homelesslibrary.com





FINE DINING REVIEW

CHEZ CASA DE SALVATION ARMA

BY JEFF TYDEMAN (REPRINTED FROM FEBRUARY 2013 & 2010)

Hello fellow foodies! If you're like me you enjoy discovering new, out-of-the-way spots that feature gastrointestinal delights. So recently, when friends dropped in, we passed on boring old McCormick and Schmicks or The Chop House and tried someplace fresh - and we weren't disappointed.

Chez Casa de Salvation Armay is located in a cozy part of Austin far off the beaten track: just follow your nose! Our experience began with being buzzed in...can you say 'exclusive'?

We were greeted by a friendly hostess who pointed us up a winding staircase with a glittering balustrade. Apparently the place is so popular an armed guard has to verify your reservation before you're admitted.

Once inside we saw festive round polyurethane tables great for large parties. Every condiment you can imagine is provided - everything from hot sauce to more hot sauce. That night apparently they ran out of prime rib but still had a superb chicken dish. The quality of the fowl was indescribable. You could tell that the bird was healthy as it seemingly had been run until it dropped. I don't know their secret mix of herbs and spices but they were so flavorful you thought you'd die. Splotches of blood on the flesh indicated the chef had grilled it to perfection.

The sides were spot on as well. As a matter of fact, there were all kinds of spots in them. The

rice had a nice hard crunch to it and the green beans were boiled to a tasty limpness. I took my plastic spork and dug in with relish! There was one minor glitch: our server—perky in her hairnet - couldn't suggest what wine would best complement our feast. With better training she might have recommended a robust merlot or perhaps a kinky chardonnay from Washington State.

Management might consider re-training her as we didn't notice any bubbly or alcohol being consumed. That hurts the house's sales, especially as our fellow diners seemed in the mood for distilled spirits.



Fortunately Chez Casa de Salvation Armay rebounded with dessert. I don't know who their pastry chef is but, he's a keeper. My companion Shaky Pete likes his glazed donut so much he had six of them, while my

daughter's fiancé, Curtis the Crackhead devoured his government surplus faux-cherry pie.

So the next time you're celebrating a special event or just treating yourself and are on Austin's east side, pass on its world-famous barbecue joints and try Chez Casa de Salvation Armay. So good even sophisticated Europeans are flocking there. I guess coming straight from the airport, as everyone was surrounded by their luggage. Ta-ta for now fellow gourmands!

HOW TO BEAT THE HEAT!

BY ZEBRA

Beloved it is so very important to your mental health to have a hobby. Reading is a huge comfort for my circle of friends.

We found out the hard way, never let a library book that you checked out on your card get wet in the rain. An Audrey Hepburn biography fine went to \$65 and the luxury of selecting a precious new book is no longer a free present to our minds.

Mother would say the words that made my blood freeze, 'what do you do all day?' Well I have epilepsy so I have to stay out of the weather. The library carries great magazines, the New Yorker never fails to inspire art ideas. The art program, Art From the Streets, we were lucky enough to belong to, we were known as

'the professionals' A lot of self satisfaction is soul food. My attitude towards this life is to seek happiness. Eating out is always fun and can stand in as community, especially our population of brothers and sisters keeping occupied and not aimlessly feeling lost+dazed and confused.

Our friend always reminded us what the real deal is living moment to moment-the main thing is to keep the main thing, the main thing! Leslie shared lots of sayings. I'll never forget his pure spirit and truth.

Onward through the fog Austinites, daily affirmations, the word of the day, whatever nourishes you, is brain food.



Painting By Zebra

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“It’s alright to say people lift themselves up by your own boot straps. But, it’s cruel to say to a bootless man that he must lift himself up by his own boot straps.”
Martin Luther King Jr.
August 13, 1967



At the newspaper we’re mending bootstraps & lending a hand up, not giving a hand out!



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