

# South Austin AARP

## Chapter 2426

Website: [www.southaustinaarp.org](http://www.southaustinaarp.org)

September 2021

**Wednesday**  
**September 15, 1:00 p.m.**  
**Legislative Update**  
**Kathy Green Bio**

Kathy Green is the Director of Outreach and Advocacy, State and Federal, for AARP Texas. In that role, Kathy oversees the state and federal advocacy team and agenda for the Texas state office. Previous to AARP Texas, Kathy served as Texas State Director for No Kid Hungry and as Advocacy and Public Policy Director for Central Texas Food Bank. Kathy's background encompasses 28 years of public policy experience as a legislative staffer, public policy advisor, and lobbyist. She holds a B.A. in Government from the University of Texas at Austin. Kathy is active in the Austin community, as a member of the Austin Library Foundation board, the Women's Symphony League, and board member of Open Door, a homeless outreach ministry of University United Methodist Church. She is also a graduate of Leadership Austin.

**The September Program will be via Zoom on computer or phone.**

Please watch for an email giving instructions on how to join the meeting.

**Message from the President**  
*Crespin Guzman*

**There is Good News and there is Bad News! Same song, second verse...**

So as to not to burst your bubble completely, the Good News is that some schools are open, football is back at all levels, HEB and others are pretty much open and used cars are selling for good prices!

However, the Bad News continues as AARP National has indicated in a recent August 15<sup>th</sup> letter to local chapter leaders that the constraints associated with local rules on COVID 19 conditions still rule the day and until further

notice the number 6 is the magical size for any AARP group meetings inside an enclosed facility.

We, the Board, will continue to seek further and greater clarity on the allowances by the local rules along with AARP guidance. In the meantime and until further notice, we need to be patient and realistic about our situation and make the most of what we can do via Zoom.

Our programming will continue via Zoom on a monthly basis as will our Board meetings. However, realize that the end of the calendar year is going to be upon us by December and usually we look to identifying the Chapter leadership by November. So, if anyone is interested in any Board position or Committee Chairperson position, please let our Vice President, Nancy Crowther or me know.

**Stay safe, Stay Well.**

**Legislative**

*Mary Ragland*

**AARP opposes TRUST Act**

Under the Time to Rescue United States' Trusts Act — or TRUST Act, for short — all it would take for legislation cutting these programs to be fast-tracked in Congress would be for seven members of one of these rescue committees to support a proposed bill. Under the act, lawmakers would be unable to make any changes to a TRUST Act bill once it went to the U.S. House of Representatives or the Senate.

"Older Americans overwhelmingly oppose cutting Social Security and Medicare to reduce the deficit. Proposals like the TRUST Act would give a handful of lawmakers the power to propose cuts behind closed doors with fast-track legislative consideration with minimum transparency and oversight from voters," said Nancy Lea Mond, AARP executive vice president and chief advocacy and engagement Officer. "On behalf of AARP's nearly 38 million members, we call for full and open debate that

ensures public input on protecting the future of our earned benefits. All members of Congress should be held accountable for any action on Social Security and Medicare.”

The TRUST Act was first introduced in 2019 but has not become law. AARP has strongly opposed this and other such measures, supporting instead broad public debate. The organization has urged Americans to make their voices heard in support of both Medicare and Social Security, and so far nearly 250,000 individuals have sent messages to their federal lawmakers demanding that they oppose the latest TRUST Act.

If you have not already done so, go to <https://action.aarp.org/trustact> and send a message to your congress person opposing the TRUST Act.

## Roll and Stroll *Pat Thomas*



One of the things I've missed most in the past two years is the ability to attend local concerts and plays. I fondly remember some of the music events we attended at the Central Library. Someday we will again be able to enjoy going as a group to an event. I am bringing to your attention a live music venue that is available and worth considering:

<https://www.mccallumfineartsacademy.com/>

The SpongeBob Musical! - MacTheatre students are in rehearsals for SpongeBob and are thrilled to present a high-energy family musical, with opening night fast approaching on September 9! The SpongeBob Musical will have the whole family laughing and singing along.

In November a Pulitzer prize winning drama All The Way Home, set in 1910's Tennessee will be presented.

Rounding out the season is a glittering spectacular production of one of the most popular musicals of all time, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat on the big stage of the McCallum Arts Center. Travel down the Nile through nonstop song and dance and see the wonders of ancient Egypt with Joseph.

Find your seat for one of these shows!  
[www.mactheatre.com](http://www.mactheatre.com)

My recent experience with a health matter.

Recently I felt like I was coming down with a sore throat/cold. I was worried that I might have been exposed to the Covid virus because I have a friend who developed a break though case of Covid. I contacted a social worker in my senior complex. It seems that when I get sick, it is always on a weekend or in the evening when my MD is not available. I asked the social worker if I could get a quick Covid test. She provided me with this link: [www.dispatchhealth.com](http://www.dispatchhealth.com) I contacted them at about 6:00 p.m. on a Friday evening. The unique concept of this health company (a national company but not available in every state) is that they send two medical professionals to your home. (a medical PA and a tech individual) The service I received was very similar to a minor emergency facility and at the same cost. There was no extra cost for coming to my house. They take Medicare and private insurance. They did administer a quick Covid test and I also asked for a more specific test. Both tests came back negative. I share this information with you because as I grow older I seem to have minor health issues but don't want to go to an emergency room and my MD is never available. Dispatch Health offers services until 10:00 p.m. It gave me peace of mind to know I could get help when I needed it. Review their web page for additional information.

## Travel *Mario Macaluso*

Hi Fellow Travelers

Who says that Patience is a virtue? We are still waiting to get together at meetings and resume our delightful day-trips. I am tired of waiting, but "hope springs eternal."

Let us wait a little more till spring of 2022. Love, peace and good health to all!

## 2021 Officers And Committee Chairs

### Officers

President: Crespin Guzman 737-222-8155  
 Vice President Nancy Crowther 512-808-7486  
 Secretary: Ed Gonzales 512-444-3335  
 Assistant Secretary: Marilyn Totten 512-280-8030  
 Treasurer: Bill Nicholson 512-481-8464  
 Assistant Treasurer: Rosie Perez 512-440-7050  
 Board of Directors (in addition to officers):  
 Wanda Hasley 512-280-9276 and Marie Martinez 512-276-4771

### Committee Chairs

Community Service: Pat Thomas 512-441-1485  
 Deborah Fennell 512-282-9931

Greeters: Marilyn Totten 512-280-8030  
 Health: Laura Dutton 512-740-9370  
 Gail Glick 214-808-6622  
 Hospitality: Connie Flores 512-536-0694  
 Legislative: Mary Ragland 512-280-2661  
 Membership: Joann Cepero 773-710-2053  
 Newsletter Editor and Web Manager:  
 Diane McGowan 512-923-3218

Program: Randy His 512-663-8196  
 Phone Committee Chair:  
 Elaine Benton 512-799-2224  
 Sunshine: Kathryn Stone 512-441-6038  
 Travel: Mario Macaluso 512-432-5255

### MEMBERSHIP LIST CHANGES

Changes in your mailing address, telephone number and email address or changing to dues exempt status upon attaining 85 years old are to be submitted to the Treasurer on the *Membership Renewal* form. The *Membership Renewal* form can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

### MAILING ADDRESS TO PAY DUES AND SUBMIT THE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

South Austin AARP Chapter 2426  
 Bill Nicholson, Treasurer  
 12512 Gun Metal Dr.  
 Austin, TX 78739

## Volunteer Hours

*Ed Gonzales*

**August: 904 hours**

**Year to Date: 3593 hours**

**Please send or email your number of volunteer hours. Look on the last page of the newsletter for the form.**

## Chapter 2426 Treasurer's Report

*Bill Nicholson*

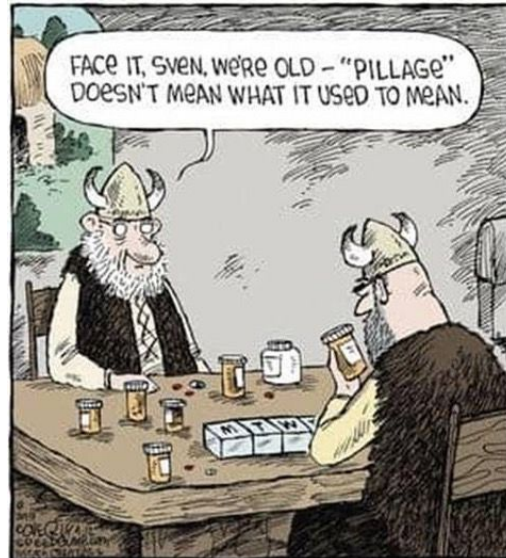
BALANCE SHEET as of August 31, 2021

#### Assets

Chapter Checking Account	\$ 3,451.12
Travel Checking Account	25.00
Savings Account	25.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3,501.12</b>
<u>Liabilities</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Net Worth</b>	<b>\$ 3,501.12</b>

#### REMINDER - DUES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2021

The dues is \$10.00 and is payable to South Austin AARP Chapter 2426. Payment is to be mailed with a *Member Renewal* form to the Treasurer during this pandemic time. Be sure to put your National AARP membership number where indicated on the form. A payment will be acknowledged by either email or postal mail.



**Please note that the September newsletter is being mailed or emailed only to those who are current with their 2021 AARP Chapter 2426 dues payments.**

### CIVIC AND/OR COMMUNITY SERVICE BY

**SOUTH AUSTIN AARP CHAPTER 2426 VOLUNTEERS**  
**PLEASE EMAIL THIS INFORMATION TO ED GONZALES**  
**Edgonzales7@gmail.com. If you do not have email,**

**mail to: Ed Gonzales, 710 Kinney Avenue, Austin, TX 78704**

*Note: You do not have to email the form. You may list the category and the hours for that category and the total number of hours.*

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

Category	Hours	Category	Hours
AARP Annual Day of Service		Fundraising for Community Service	
AARP Driver Safety Program		Health & Wellness	
AARP Tax Aide		Long-term Care/Nursing Home Support	
Hunger		Independent Living/ In Home Care Giving/Home Repairs	
<b>Advocacy/Legislation/Information/Referral Services</b>		Independent Living: Transportation Services	
<b>Education/Scholarships or other</b>		All Other Volunteer Areas	
Subtotal		Subtotal	
<b>Total Volunteer Hours</b>			

**South Austin AARP Chapter 2426**  
**Annual Membership Renewal - 2021**

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ National AARP Member No. \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday (Month and Day) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Anniversary (Month and Day) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (Print Clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$10.00 by cash or check

Dues are waived if you are 85 or older: Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Complete and mail this renewal with your payment to (checks should be made payable to South Austin AARP Chapter 2426).

*South Austin AARP Chapter 2426, Bill Nicholson, 12512 Gun Metal Dr., Austin, TX 78739*

Please check any committee(s) on which you are interested in serving:

- |  |   |   |                                      |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program         | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership       | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality    | <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunshine        | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative      | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Serv | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel (ad hoc) | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter     |                                      |