

South Austin AARP

Chapter 2426

Website: www.southaustinaarp.org

January, 2017

Wednesday

January 18, 2017, 1:00 p.m.

Talent & Trivia – A get acquainted party

Some members have volunteered to demonstrate various talents and hobbies. We will play a few get to know you games and fill the room with an abundance of laughter and memories. How did Mr. Hamburger introduce his wife to his friends? Come to the meeting to learn the answer. Prizes will be awarded to the least talented. If you want to help with this program please contact Pat Thomas – pthomas1@austin.rr.com

January refreshments are to be provided by members whose last names begin A-C.

Hollis Sheppard Memorial

A good representation of Chapter 2426 attended Hollis Sheppard's memorial service on January 3, 2017. We learned that Hollis was born in Hong Kong on May 31, 1961. She graduated from high school in Hong Kong and received her bachelor's degree at the University of Texas and her Master's degree at Purdue University, both in computer science. She was employed by several companies in the silicon valley, then became an IT consultant that was very much in demand. She married Gene Sheppard, and her son, London is now 15 years old. She died on December 24, 2016. To view a collage of pictures of Hollis, go to <http://rw.mem.com/display/7229678>

Sunshine Committee

Doris Thorne 512-382-9130

Please call Doris and give her the names of members who are ill, in the hospital or have had a death in the family.

Travel

Mario Macaluso

ANNOUNCING FIRST TRIP OF 2017

AARP FREDERICKSBURG DAY-TRIP

Do not miss this fun trip! Bus fills up quickly!

Destination: Fredericksburg, Texas

Date: March 21, 2017

Departure: 9:00 A. M. from SASAC, 3911 Manchaca Rd., Austin

Return from Fredericksburg at 5:00 p.m.

Itinerary:

Stop at Wild Seed Farm, Fredericksburg Tourism Office, Shop, Lunch on your own at a restaurant of your choice on Main Street, Self-guided Tour of the National Museum of the Pacific (and maybe more shopping time.)

Sign-up date:

At the January 18th monthly meeting. (Bring check or money)

Cost: \$48 per person. (It includes: Bus, Admission to Museum, water and treats, raffle prizes and tips for bus driver). **Lunch on your own**

This trip is open to members first. Members, who sign up late, lose their priority status, and will be placed on a waiting list along with all non-members.

No checks are accepted before the sign-up date, January 18. See rules for signing up on the next page

Caryn Gulas, 1504 Canoe Brook Drive, Austin, Texas 78746 **Tel. 512-897-8106**

Mario Macaluso 512-432-5255 (home)
Mmdm1967@aol.com

Rules for signing up for Chapter 2426 Trips

- 1) Sign up for trips will take place at the monthly meeting for members, and also for non-members who will be placed on waiting list.
- 2) Priority will be given to members who sign up in person at the first sign-up date and to members, who are absent, but mail their checks within a week from the first sign-up. (No checks are accepted before the first sign-up date.)
- 3) Trip will be open to non-members a week after the sign-up date at which time members forfeit their priority status and their names will be added to the non-member list.
- 5) The above guidelines will assure fairness to all members and also provide information in sufficient time for trip coordinator to charter a bus, buy tickets, and make reservations.

Community Service

Pat Thomas

COMMUNITY SERVICE - LET'S SUPPORT OUR NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY

The new public library at 710 Cesar Chavez is scheduled to open in summer 2017 . This new facility is not just a space for checking out books. It will feature art, music and amazing technology. A variety of online databases are currently available for your use free of charge.

Here are just a few of the databases that you may find helpful:

Legal Information Reference Center (legal books and forms for consumers)

ProCitizen - An online course to prepare new Americans for the USCIS Naturalization Text

Pronunciator - learn 80 languages with interactive multimedia

Brainfuse- live online tutoring every day from 2 PM - 11 PM provides homework help and test prep for students and adult learners

Computer Literacy Basics - A series of short videos to help you gain computer skills.

The library will feature a landscaped patio overlooking Shoal Creek and a cafe using recipes from cookbooks available at the library. Your tax dollars support Austin Public Libraries but we can

do more. *Please begin collecting books that you wish to contribute to the Friends of The Public Library.* We will collect donated books, cd's and DVD's at our March and April meetings. At our April meeting we will also have a book exchange - bring a book & take a book. Additional information will be available at our next monthly meeting.

Roll and Stroll - New Adventures Await You

Dates have not yet been selected for the following events.

1. Lunch and a movie - a post holiday date to sit and sup.
2. A Winter Walk - Let's walk off all those Christmas cookies - the first day after January 18th on which the temperature reaches 60 or higher we will explore one of the trails on Lady Bird Lake. Both slow and fast walkers are welcome. Benches are available for sitting. Yes, we will stop for lunch somewhere.
3. A visit to the Capitol to say hello to our State Representatives and chat about issues that concern us. Lunch in the cafeteria .

AARP Texas Presents Legislative Priorities for 2017

When state lawmakers convene next month for the 2017 legislative session, AARP Texas will pursue an agenda that includes strengthening nursing home quality, easing stress for family caregivers, helping millions of Texans save for retirement, and protecting seniors from financial exploitation.

AARP's non-partisan Texas legislative priorities also include a focus on eliminating surprise medical bills, and advocating for the age 50+ community to ensure that insurance costs are reasonable, coverage is reliable, and utility services are affordable and dependable.

The 85th Texas Legislature starts Jan. 10 and will address a host of major budget and policy considerations that are sure to have significant impact on older Texans. AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization with a membership of nearly 38 million, including 2.3 million Texans age 50 and older.

AARP Texas Director Bob Jackson and Advocacy Manager Rob Schneider will lead a team of policy experts who know their way around the Capitol. Among them are: Amanda Fredriksen, Tim Morstad, Joe

Sánchez, and Blake Hutson. In addition, any number of AARP volunteers like Charlene James, the AARP Texas president, will often be present during the 140-day session.

“Texas lawmakers will have enormous opportunities in 2017 to make meaningful and enduring improvements to the lives of older Texans,” said Jackson. “AARP will be a strong voice for consumers and older Texans as we work with legislators and Governor Greg Abbott on a host of issues that matter most to Texans.”

More information can be found at can find it at <http://states.aarp.org/aarp-texas-presents-legislative-priorities-for-2017/>



2016 Officers *And Committee Chairs*

Officers

President: Pete Skalnik 214-704-9562
 Vice President: Elaine Benton 512- 799-2224
 Secretary: Ed Gonzales 512-444-3335
 Assistant Secretary: Marilyn Totten 512-280-8030
 Treasurer: Barbara Fetonte 512-282-1944
 Assistant Treasurer: Caryn Gulas 512-897-8106
 Board of Directors (in addition to officers):
 Mary Ragland 512-280-8661
 Barbara Kaiser 512-282-0960
 Al Prewitt 512 -287-9847

Committee Chairs

Community Svc: Pat Thomas 512- 441-1485
 Greeters: Marilyn Totten-512-280-8030
 Health: Barbara Kaiser –512-282-0960
 Gail Glick 512-547-4153
 Hospitality: Al Prewitt -512-287-9847
 Legislative: Lilac and Tom Bauer 512-743-6364
 Membership: Margaret Hughes 512-956-3297
 Newsletter Editor And Web Manager:
 Diane McGowan-512-892-4416
 Newsletter Distribution: Ray Vaughn 512-292-0982
 Program: Open
 Phone Committee Chair
 Elaine Benton 512- 799-2224
 Sunshine: Doris Thorne 512- 382-9130
 Travel Mario Macaluo 512-432-5255

Treasurer’s Report *Caryn Gulas*

Check book Bal \$1564.46
 Travel Money \$ 344.20
 Chapter Bal \$1220.26
 Savings Acct \$25.00

2017 Dues are \$10. They are due no later than February to stay on the mailing list. We will be collecting dues through February 2017. Your dues must be paid so that you will receive the chapter newsletter. You can mail your dues to:

Barbara Fetonte
 830 Washita Drive
 Austin TX 78749

Volunteer Hours *Ed Gonzales*

December Volunteer Hours=567
 Year to date 5,995
 Total for 2016=5,995

Please bring your volunteer forms to the meeting!!

January Celebrations

Birthdays

- | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------|
| 2 | Sue | Thurston |
| 3 | Jan | Farmer |
| 3 | Phyllis | Pearson |
| 5 | Mitsuko | Stonkus |
| 6 | Margie | Foster |
| 8 | Terisita | LaRosa |
| 11 | Janice | Duncan |
| 14 | Rose M. | Gonzales |
| 19 | Tiwana | Yasim |
| 25 | Pat | Birnbaum |
| 25 | Kay | Nicholson |
| 31 | Bill | Nicholson |
| 29 | Bonnie R. | McDonald |

Members enjoyed a trip to San Antonio on December 13 to see the Christmas Lights on the San Antonio River and dinner at Casa Rio.



CIVIC AND/OR COMMUNITY SERVICE BY SOUTH AUSTIN AARP CHAPTER 2426 VOLUNTEERS

PLEASE BRING THIS INFORMATION TO THE CHAPTER MEETING

AND TURN IN TO : ED GONZALES

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	
Advocacy/Legislation/Information/Referral Services		Independent Living: Transportation Services	
Education/Scholarships or other		All Other Volunteer Areas	
Subtotal		Subtotal	
			Total Volunteer Hours