

GEORGETOWN CITY Reporter



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Austin Avenue Streetscape

Work began in February on a sidewalk expansion and streetscape project on the west side of Austin Avenue from Seventh to Eighth streets. Parallel parking spaces will be replaced with a wider sidewalk for outdoor café seating. The project also includes five raised planters with ornamental trees and lighting as well as the preservation and re-use of historic limestone curbing.

Construction will allow for access to businesses and is scheduled to be completed by Red Poppy Festival in April. The \$231,000 project is funded mostly with revenue from the downtown tax increment reinvestment zone, which is dedicated to downtown public improvement projects.

Red Poppy Festival Posters

The poster for this year's Red Poppy Festival features a watercolor painting of poppies by Marilyn Lindholm, an artist from Austin.

Lindholm says that for much of her life, she thought she had no artistic talent. Then at some point she took a painting class, and after two hours, "I knew I'd paint the rest of my life. I knew I was just meant to do it."

That was 35 years ago, and Lindholm is still passionate about her art, which she does every day. "Everyone is an artist," says Lindholm. "Some cook, some decorate, but we're all artists in some way."

In addition to painting, Lindholm creates artwork with photographs using collage and embossing

techniques. She also teaches privately and conducts workshops for small groups. More of her artwork can be seen on her website at www.lindholm-art.com.

Street banners featuring Lindholm's red poppy painting will be on display downtown.

Posters for the 14th annual Red Poppy Festival featuring Lindholm's painting go on sale for \$5 each at the Visitor Center at

103 W. Seventh Street starting April 5. For details about the Red Poppy Festival on April 27 – 28, go to RedPoppyFestival.com.



Federal Tax Prep Help

Williamson County Financial Stability Coalition:

Free tax counseling, preparation, and e-filing services offered for low- and middle-income taxpayers. The service is offered in conjunction with the IRS by trained and IRS-certified volunteers. Two locations:

Wednesdays
12 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Saturdays
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Jan. 30 – April 13

The Caring Place
2000 Railroad Street

Tuesdays and Thursdays
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Jan. 29 – April 11

Cowan Creek Amenity Center
1433 Cool Spring Way

Questions? Contact
info@unitedway-wc.org
or (512) 255-6799.

Tax Help at the Public Library:

Free federal tax help from trained volunteers will be offered at the Georgetown Public Library, 402 W. Eighth Street, through April 15. Volunteers will offer tax help at these times:

Tuesdays and Thursdays,

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Wednesdays,

12 to 4 p.m.

Saturdays,

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Volunteers also are available throughout the year by appointment to assist with amended returns, prior year returns, state returns from other states, or answering IRS letters. To contact a volunteer, inquire at the Georgetown Public Library circulation desk.



Not sure of your yard trimmings collection days? Look up your schedule at recycle.georgetown.org, or call Texas Disposal Systems at (512) 930-1715.

Starts in March Yard Trimmings Pickup

The spring collection period for yard trimmings begins on the first Monday in March and continues through the last Friday in May. Collections are every-other-week.

Branches should be bundled with twine and no more than four feet in length. Compostable brown paper lawn and leaf bags, available at local hardware stores, can be used for leaves, grass, or other organic material. A maximum of 20 bags or bundles can be picked up per collection. Customers may purchase Bag Tags from City for \$5 each for additional bags above the 20 item maximum.

Recycle Your Old Computer

Thanks to a 2008 state law, computer manufacturers are responsible for recycling desktop and laptop computers, monitors, keyboards, and mice. Get the details at TexasRecyclesComputers.org. Resources and information about recycling your television are available at www.TexasRecyclesTVs.org.

Spring Break at the Library

During the week of GISD's spring break, March 11-15, bring your kids to the library to check out some books and to enjoy our special events.

Monday, March 11 – LEGO Day!
1 to 4 p.m.

Wednesday, March 13 – Children's Tea Party, 2 p.m. (Reservations and tickets required)

Thursday, March 14 – Tween Game

Day (for ages 9 -12), 1 to 2:30 p.m.
Friday, March 15 – Dr. Seuss's Birthday Party, 10:30 a.m.

All events at the library are free and open to the public. For more information about any of these events, see the library's website (library.georgetown.org). Seating at the tea party will be limited, and information about getting tickets will be on the website.

The Georgetown Swirl Saturday, March 2

Sample top wines from Texas wineries and savory bites from local restaurants in downtown businesses while enjoying live jazz music at The Georgetown Swirl. The event is from 6 to 9 p.m. on the downtown Square. Only 400 tickets sold online. Cost is \$30 per person. Proceeds benefit the Main Street Program Facade and Sign Grant Program. Go to Swirl.Georgetown.org for details and tickets. Note that tickets typically sell out early.



Georgetown Utility Systems West Side Service Center Planned

A satellite location on the west side of Georgetown for utility crews, service vehicles, and materials is on track to be under construction by the end of the year. The primary goal of the West Side Service Center is to reduce travel times for crews responding to sites on the west side of the city.

The new Georgetown Utility Systems facility near the northeast corner of Williams Drive and Jim Hogg Road will serve as a base of operations for some water, electric, and street department crews. The City purchased a seven-acre site in December for the facility, which will be up to 30,000 square feet with a storage yard for vehicles, equipment,

and materials.

From the Georgetown Municipal Complex on Industrial Avenue—currently the only utility facility—it can take 30 or 40 minutes to reach areas on the northwest side of the city. The new satellite location can save up to an hour of daily travel time for crews working on the west side of the city.

The West Side Service Center will have minimal staffing of administrative and supervisory employees. The facility is not expected to include a public office for bill payments or other public services and is projected to be open by the fall of 2014.

March Events

The Palace Theater

South Pacific, Feb. 22 – Mar. 24
Details at GeorgetownPalace.com, or call (512) 869-7469.

First Friday, February 1

Downtown live music, shops, and restaurants are open late. See the Downtown Georgetown Association website at TheGeorgetownSquare.com.

Market Days, March 9

Handmade arts and crafts, food, and more on the Square from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Details at TheGeorgetownSquare.com.

Georgetown Quilt and Stitchery Show, March 22 – 23

Presented by Handcrafts Unlimited at the Community Center in San Gabriel Park, 445 E. Morrow Street. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, admission is \$6. For details, go to Georgetownquiltshow.org.

Eggstravaganza, March 23

Free annual egg hunt at McMaster softball fields on N. College Street. The start horn sounds promptly at 9 a.m. Arrive by 8:45 a.m. Age categories are 2 and under, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, and 9-10. Each age division is assigned to a specific field to carry out their hunt.

The *Georgetown City Reporter* is a publication of the City of Georgetown Public Communications Department, P.O. Box 409, Georgetown, Texas, 78627. For questions or comments, contact Keith Hutchinson, public communications manager, at (512) 930-3690 or by email at keith.hutchinson@georgetown.org.

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