



## MAHNCKE PARK

Neighborhood  
Association  
Established 1979

**JUNE 2022**

### THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Native plants within Mahncke Park. We will enjoy a presentation from environmental scientist Jesse Chadwick regarding the impressive variety of native flora growing in our wonderful Mahncke Park – in particular, native grasses. Come learn more about nature in our neighborhood!

### **TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 7PM, LION'S FIELD CTR**

#### NEW DAY FOR MONTHLY MEETING

The Mahncke Park Neighborhood Association (MPNA) will hold its monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of the month beginning in June. Meetings will continue to start at 7pm and be held in Lion's Field Center, 2809 Broadway.

#### A SUMMER KICK OFF

On Friday, June 10 all Mahncke Park residents are invited to gather at the Pig Pen, 106 Pershing Avenue from 6-9pm. This kid-friendly get together is supported in part by a donation from PHL Foundation, allowing us to "take over" Pig Pen for our summer celebration.

#### BRACKENRIDGE PARK, CHAPTER 1, TREES

The San Antonio Parks Dept. provided information at a May 24 public meeting further clarifying plans to rehabilitate a portion of Brackenridge Park along the river near the zoo and the 1870 pump house. In response to concerns expressed at an April 24 public meeting regarding the plan's proposal to remove 105 trees and to potentially destroy a traditional heron & egret nesting area, four local professional arborists were engaged to assess the plan. The arborists recommended one 8" diameter pecan and one 44" live oak on the removal list be saved (they also advised that two large crepe myrtles be added to the removal list). In addition, tree moving experts reviewed the tree removal list and identified trees they felt could be successfully relocated. At issue is balancing the obligation to preserve historic rock walls alongside the river while being responsive to the public's interest in preserving the park's trees without negatively impacting flood water conveyance.

The SA River Authority has initiated a hydrology study which will assess the option of repositioning the rock walls toward a goal of limiting tree removal. Study results are expected to be presented at this month's follow-up public meeting.

The public meeting will be held in the Witte Museum's Prassel Auditorium on June 14 beginning at 6pm.

### JULY 4TH PARADE AND FIREWORKS

The MPNA is reviving a Mahncke Park tradition and giving it a new twist - the 4th of July Parade! Gather in Mahncke Park across from Lamar Elementary at 9:30am on Monday, July 4. All people-powered floats encouraged - wagons, bikes, trikes, and walking. Children, pets, and well-behaved adults are welcome.

Later, fireworks!

The SA Country Club has scheduled their fireworks show to occur shortly after sunset on Monday, July 4.

What a great neighborhood!

#### BRACKENRIDGE PARK, CHAPTER 2, GOATS

Observant neighbors were delighted by the 160 goats nibbling overgrown vegetation in Brackenridge Park last month. Rent-A-Ruminant Texas was hired to clear invasive plants and raise sightlines within a seven acre portion of the park – generally SW of the Witte Museum parking garage. Owners Carolyn & Kyle Carr report their goats provide an eco-friendly, effective, and sustainable solution to vegetation management. The Carrs and their goats arrived in mid-May after completing a job in Houston and expecting to be here for a couple weeks; however, Ms. Carr said the goats loved Brackenridge Park – literally. They cleared an acre a day – faster than they had ever eaten before. They departed after a week to rejoin the 90 goats at their farm in Brownwood.

The Carrs' goats are one to nine years old and a variety of breeds, including Nubian, Boer, Spanish, Nigerian Dwarf, Savannah, Pygmy, Kiko and others. All their goats are adopted. Some were raised as pets, others were FFA projects, 65 were rescued from Florida after Hurricane Michael, and others they adopted from animal shelters. Every animal has a name which is on its ear tag. The 160 goat "travel team" consists of fixed males and intact females. The goats that don't travel are billy goats, mothers & babies, and blind or retired goats. The Carrs have a "no slaughter" policy.

#### GENTLE REMINDER

Collection of recycling and organic recycling will NOT occur on Monday, July 4. Instead, collection will occur Tuesday, July 5.

#### MPNA SIGNS, WHERE ARE YOU?

The MPNA board of directors is seeking yard signs that announce the monthly meeting. A number of the signs were purchased a few years ago and distributed throughout the area. Do you have one? Please check and if you do, send email to [info@mahnckepark.org](mailto:info@mahnckepark.org)

YOUR TAX \$\$\$ AT WORK, PART 2,102,077,273

SAPD Officer Juan Hernandez attended last month's MPNA meeting and stated there were no major instances in our neighborhood to report. Family disturbance calls and vehicle burglary mostly. Regarding the latter, Officer Hernandez encouraged that all car doors be locked and all valuables inside your car be kept out of sight. Most frequently, vehicle burglaries are a crime of opportunity and begin with bad people checking vehicle door handles.

Earlier this year, area residents expressed concerns about a particular driver behaving irresponsibly near the intersections of Milton Street and Claremont Avenue & Natalen Street. A neighbor provided irrefutable proof to Officer Hernandez, who then contacted the person leasing the vehicle. Following Hernandez' discussion with the lessee and the lessee's misbehaving offspring, no poor driving has been reported. We appreciate Officer Hernandez' responsiveness and effectiveness, and we thank him for attending the MPNA's monthly meetings.

BRACKENRIDGE PARK, CHAPTER 3, TURF WAR

A turf war of sorts has erupted in conjunction with the city's plan to realign city council district boundaries. Following completion of the US census every 10 years, an effort is initiated to balance an equal population among each of the 10 city council districts. This year, a redistricting advisory committee composed of citizens (not of city council members – although multiple former city council members are on the committee) recommended placing all of Brackenridge Park in District 1 – for the last 10 years part of Brackenridge Park has been in our District 2 and part in District 1. And for the 10 years prior, Brackenridge Park was completely in our city council district.

As reported at last month's MPNA meeting by Mr. Frankie Trynoski, Chief of Staff to our District 2 City Councilman Jalen McKee-Rodriguez, the Councilman prefers Brackenridge Park remain "as is" in both Districts 1 and 2. However, as reported by San Antonio's daily newspaper, energetic efforts by District 1 residents in the River Road Neighborhood seem to have swayed the advisory committee. City Council is expected to vote on the issue this month; Mayor Nirenberg has asked City Council for a yes or no vote without making changes "to build trust and signal that the committee's decisions should be free from the influence of elected officials."

BUDGET SURVEY

The City of San Antonio is presently conducting a survey "to gather your priorities" as work begins to develop the FY2023 budget. Take the survey via the QR code below or call 311 or visit [saspeakup.com/sabudget2023](http://saspeakup.com/sabudget2023)



PUBLICATION NOTE

The printing of this newsletter is supported by the Circle School, 217 Pershing Ave. [thecircleschool.org](http://thecircleschool.org)

MAHNCKE PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN

Despite dry conditions, volunteers & gardeners (Fred, LanaSue, Che' and others) have diligently kept the community garden watered so that tutame squash, green beans and eggplants are now being produced. Tomatoes will be ripening soon, as well as blackberries along the back fence. Come help yourself to what you can find there beyond (south of) the giant live oak tree.

The new bee colony is being inspected weekly by Ric Minks and fed a mixture of sugar water to insure its health and progress. A second hive box "super" has been added to give the bees plenty of space to expand their buzzy family.

The next community garden workday is scheduled for Saturday, June 11, starting at 9am. All are welcome to come & help care for the garden.

NEW BLOCK CAPTAIN NEEDED FOR CLAREMONT

Block Captains are wonderful people – they deliver your monthly newsletter and are largely responsible for the "connectedness" that is one of our neighborhood's many strengths.

Several of our Block Captains are young students. Others are retired. But all contribute about half an hour each month to deliver the MPNA newsletter.

Claremont Ave. needs a Block Captain. Will you help? Call or text Bruce Martin at 210-998-9898

MPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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<b>2022 MAHNCKE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION</b>	
Membership is open to homeowners, renters, property owners, businesses or anyone having an interest in our area. Dues are \$10 per household & \$5 for retired neighbors per year. Non-resident dues are \$20 to help cover postage costs.	
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