

MAHNCKE PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION
ESTABLISHED 1979



APRIL 2023

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Candidates for City Council District 2 will participate in a Candidates Forum on Tuesday, April 18, beginning at 6:30pm. We encourage all neighbors to attend this important opportunity to hear from the 10 candidates.

NOTE: Start time for Candidate Forum is **6:30pm**.

APRIL 18, LION'S FIELD CTR, 2809 BROADWAY

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IN N'HOOD – BE ALERT!

Please be aware suspicious incidents have occurred recently during daylight hours within our area. In one situation, painters appeared, walked through an unlocked back gate, sized up the house for an exterior paint job – one the owners did not request. When questioned, the "painters" indicated they had been hired by a third party who approved their entry onto the property. Report was filed with SAPD.

We urge all neighbors to be vigilant for unusual activity and keep doors locked and house alarms set when not at home.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION DISTRICT, PART 1

A Neighborhood Conservation District (NCD) is a zoning overlay district which imposes standards in addition to zoning and building code standards on new construction, as well as additions and renovations to existing structures, which require a building permit. The purposes of an NCD include "to protect and strengthen desirable and unique physical features, design characteristics and recognized identity and charm" of a neighborhood.

The Mahncke Park NCD planning process began in 2005 and continued over two years. The Planning Team concluded that character-defining elements within the neighborhood included: driveways separated houses; parking and garages or carports, where present, were behind houses; dwelling main entries were defined by transition spaces such as porches, stoops, alcoves, courts or nooks; front yard sidewalks; a common pattern of front façade doors and windows; and few front yard fences. The Planning Team held four public meetings in 2005 and 2006, and a copy of the proposed design standards and a ballot were mailed to all neighborhood property owners. A majority of the ballots were returned in favor of the NCD. City Council adopted the Mahncke Park NCD in January 2008.

In April 2019, City Council approved revisions to the Mahncke Park NCD. The revisions clarified and simplified provisions, conformed provisions to revised building codes and State law, strengthened "grandfathering" of existing conditions, and deleted or modified difficult-to-enforce provisions.

CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

May 6, Saturday, is Election Day for San Antonio Mayor and City Council positions. Early voting will take place from April 24 – May 2.

JAMES GAFFNEY HONORED ON 100TH BIRTHDAY

James Gaffney celebrated his 100 years this month with friends, family and neighbors near his home on Eleanor Avenue. Born in 1923 in his family's home near the Southern Pacific RR tracks, Gaffney grew up in San Antonio and attended Brackenridge High School, where he played football – in fact, he played in Alamo Stadium the day it opened and scored the first points in the stadium's history. (For the other team when he intercepted a pass in his team's end zone and was inadvertently tackled by a teammate).

He married in November 1941, joined the US Coast Guard in 1942, and went to sea in 1943 aboard the North Star, which fired upon a surfaced German submarine between the ship & the Canadian coast. They overshot the sub & hit the shoreline, becoming the only US ship that fired on Canada during WWII. Later, his ship served in Greenland, then in 1944 he supported the Normandy invasion. Returning to San Antonio in 1945 to his wife and daughter, Gaffney held several jobs (Kelly Field, Rose Cadillac, Lincoln-Mercury) before joining the SA Police Dept. in 1954. "The best decision in my life," he said. Gaffney was promoted to detective after five years, then promoted to sergeant five years later. He supervised detectives in Homicide, Robbery, Burglary & Theft, then served in SAPD's Community Relations Division prior to retirement. Recently, Gaffney was recognized for his service by SAPD Chief William McManus. We are proud and fortunate to have Mr. James Gaffney as our neighbor in Mahncke Park and send him our very best wishes for his 100th birthday this month.

EARTH DAY IS APRIL 22

Terra Advocati, a local environmental non-profit based in our neighborhood, invites Mahncke Park residents to help keep our area beautiful throughout the year and particularly this month. Cans and bottles on curb sides, in parks, vacant lots and drainage areas are unsightly. Please help by depositing such items in recycling containers. Glass, aluminum, plastic, and tin are generally recyclable.

Thank you for helping to make every day, Earth Day!

YOUR TAX \$\$\$ AT WORK, PART 2,108,226,095.a

The SA Parks Dept. is responsible for mowing & maintaining Mahncke Park. Mr. Herb Sarabia oversees the mowing contract with Cantu Contracting. Mr. Sarabia's contact information is provided below. Herb.Sarabia@sanantonio.gov 210-207-3026

SPRING AND FIESTA: BACK AGAIN IN SAN ANTONIO

After a winter of brisk - and sometimes freezing - weather, Spring has arrived. We know there will be no freezes until next winter as both Pecan & Mesquite trees have sprouted leaves - that's what our grandparents told us. Red Bud, Mexican Buckeye, and Peach trees have finished their annual show of pink blooms and the subtle, tiny yellow flowers of the Texas Persimmon & Mesquite trees were on display at the end of March. Earlier we were treated to the distinctive purple flowers & Grape Kool-Aid fragrance of Texas Mountain Laurel trees. Red Yucca stalks have already been spotted flowering around the neighborhood, attracting Black Chinned Hummingbirds back from their winter vacation along Mexico's West Coast.

San Antonio's annual, 10 day Fiesta celebration will begin this year on April 20. And one of the best (and free) Fiesta events will take place in our neighborhood at the SA Garden Center, 3310 N. New Braunfels - the Cactus & Xeriphyte Show, Sale & Auction; this year, the dates will be April 27, 28, & 29.

As always, there will be an abundance of Fiesta activities - some inside, some outdoors, some free, others not, many family friendly, some less so. If you participate, please do so safely & considerately. And never forget the words of former Mayor Phil Hardberger, "Fiesta - 10 days when all of San Antonio takes a vacation from thinking."

SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

SAPD Officer Juan Hernandez patrols our neighborhood. Officer Juan Hernandez' duty hours are M-F, 7am-3pm. He regularly attends the MPNA's monthly meetings and provides information regarding illegal activity. Contact him regarding concerns or to request a "patrol by" of your property while out of town.

Juan.hernandez3@sanantonio.gov
210-218-6939, cell, 210-207-7413, Central Substation

SAN ANTONIO CODE COMPLIANCE

The Code Enforcement Officer for our area of San Antonio is Cynthia Santana. She regularly attends the MPNA's monthly meetings and is responsive to issues of concerns within our neighborhood.

Cynthia.Santana@sanantonio.gov
210-394-2544, Development Services Dept.

2023 MPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PUBLICATION NOTE

The printing of this newsletter is supported by the Circle School, 217 Pershing Ave. thecircleschool.org

LION'S FIELD CENTER, 2809 BROADWAY

April 15, 9am - 2pm.
Bargains on Broadway Rummage Sale.
April 19, 12 - 1pm.
Active Shooter Training with SA Park Police.

New classes starting this month & continuing weekly:
Mondays, 1 pm, Drum Circle.
Wednesdays, 10am, Belly Dance.
For details, call Lion's Field Center at 210-207-5380.

YOUR TAX \$\$\$ AT WORK, PART 2,108,226,095.b

The good news is interior renovations to the first floor of the SA Central Library at 600 Soledad Street are complete, and the excruciatingly delayed roadwork leading to the library parking garage is nearing completion after over 12 months of construction. The less good news is the Central Library's operating hours have been revised; the Central Library is now closed Sundays.

COVER DETAIL, 1984 MAHNCKE PK N'HOOD PLAN



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Today is the best day to renew your MPNA Membership.

Doing so can be done easily online and renewing now ensures your membership is current for 2023.

On left is QR code to MPNA PayPal enabling you to pay electronically. On right is QR code for membership form allowing you to complete form online. Or complete printed form below and mail with check payable to MPNA. Thank you for your support.



2023 MAHNCKE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP	
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.	
Name	
Address	
City, State, zip code	
Email address	
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Type membership	Regular____, Retired____, Nonresident____
Mail completed form & payment to: MPNA, PO BOX 6752, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78209	