

MAHNCKE PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION
ESTABLISHED 1979



OCTOBER 2023

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Texas State Senator Jose Menendez will be our guest speaker at this month's meeting. State Senator Menendez and his staff have been supportive of the MPNA. Plan to attend this meeting to hear directly from the senator.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 7pm
LION'S FIELD CENTER, 2809 BROADWAY**

LAMAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The S.A. Independent School District has proposed closing Lamar Elementary School, 201 Parland Place, and relocating students to Hawthorne Pk-8 Academy at 115 W. Josephine Street for the 2024-2025 school year. In addition to Lamar, 18 other schools have been recommended for closure. The SAISD School Board will vote on the proposed closure plan in November.

Regarding the \$21.5M in bond funds for improvements at Lamar which voters approved in November 2020, SAISD staff stated "bond funds would follow the students" to Hawthorne.

BIKE LANES STILL MISSING ON N. NEW BRAUNFELS

Neighbors continue hoping for the return of bike lanes on N. New Braunfels Avenue between Eleanor Avenue and Burr Road. The bike lanes disappeared in April when N. New Braunfels was resurfaced. Public Works Dept. replaced crosswalks and center lane striping in June, but stripes defining bike lanes remain missing.

PALETA SOCIAL A WONDERFUL SUCCESS

Approximately 30 neighbors gathered to beat the heat on September 9 at our Paleta Social in Mahncke Park. Strawberry was the #1 choice among both kids and adults as they mingled in the shade. One memorable little girl insisted on TWO chocolate paletas and she wore her enthusiasm for them with her smile and her shirt, which worked well as a napkin. Thanks to Kali and Travis Kurth of Claremont Avenue for organizing this event and for donating the paletas.

WADDLERS & TODDLERS HALLOWEEN EVENT, 10/31

North Mahncke Park. Families gather at Clover Lawn Park at 5:30pm, then Group Photo at 5:45pm, and at 5:55pm trick or treating walk begins on Allensworth, Thorman, & Carnahan.

South Mahncke Park. Families gather at Community Garden at 5:30pm, then Group Photo at 5:45pm, and at 5:55pm trick or treating walk begins on Funston, Parland, and Elmhurst.

This is Mahncke Park's 13th Annual Halloween event. All are welcome to participate!

NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY, 310 ELMHURST AVENUE

The single story, stucco cottage at 310 Elmhurst Avenue was built as part of Robert McGarraugh's Elmhurst Addition Development in the 1920's. The house has varied roof lines and like most of McGarraugh's other properties developed on Elmhurst the roof pitch is quite steep – a style sometimes called a "cat slide roof."

Original owners of 310 Elmhurst were Colonel & Mrs. Wm. Hensley. Per the SA Light newspaper, Col. Hensley was "noted as an airplane, balloon and autogyro pilot" and a "pioneer of the American Air Force." Following his death in 1929, Naval Air Station Dallas was established & named Hensley Field in his honor. His widow Mattie Hensley raised their two children and she lived in the house until her death in the mid 1970's.

The son, William, earned a law degree at age 19 and passed the Texas Bar Exam with the highest grade in its history at that time. He was a pilot during WWII; Major Hensley led his B-29 squadron in 23 missions over "the Japanese empire." After the war, he was elected Bexar County District Attorney & served 1946-1951, and was known as the "crusading DA" for reforming courthouse procedures & pursuing notorious gambler Red Barry, among others. Hensley was the founding commander of the Texas Air National Guard's 182nd Fighter Squadron. He died at 33 when his aircraft crashed just prior to his squadron's deployment to Korea. William Hensley is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

URBAN WILDLIFE: CO-EXISTING WITH NATURE

Wildlife living in our neighborhood must be clever to survive and to survive they must eat. Frequently they expand their diet beyond frogs, toads, crawdads, mice, rats, roaches, bird eggs, & wild fruit to include what humans make available to them. Garbage bins/cans without tops or secure lids can be toppled by raccoons & possums - consider a bungee cord to secure a loose top or call 311 to request replacement bins for those with missing or broken tops. Also, leaving pet food outside is inviting to wildlife.

Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation suggests "repel techniques" to avoid wild animals taking up residence in your home. Sprinkle cayenne pepper generously in areas where an animal has been coming & going. Take 6 to 15 strips of 1" wide fabric, soak strips in household ammonia; wearing rubber gloves, place the soaked strips under the house or in the attic. During the day, playing loud music or placing a radio under the house or in the attic with annoying talk radio at high volume may dissuade nocturnal animals and relatives from visiting.

PORCH PIRATES & SAPD'S RECOMMENDATION

Regarding "porch pirates" stealing packages delivered to your front door, Officer Hernandez recommends victims of this crime submit reports to SAPD, particularly if your security system captured a photo of the thief. Reporting your burglary may link culprit to other crimes and affect the punishment. (Several neighbors have agreements to collect each other's front door packages, returning them when their neighbor is back home).

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

CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION

Mr. Jalen McKee-Rodriguez is the District 2 City Councilman and his district includes Mahncke Park.

Main Office, City Hall, Military Plaza, 210-207-7278
Constituent Office, 2805 E. Commerce, 210-207-0950

Mahncke Park residents may contact Maria Castro directly with concerns. Maria.castro@sanantonio.gov

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 concerns from within our neighborhood. Officer Santana reminds all property owners they are responsible for maintenance of the alley behind them. Alleyways are to be kept passable & free from overgrown vegetation. Violators subject to citation.

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

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

Lion's Field Center is operated by the SA Parks Department and hosts a variety of classes, including art, music, and exercise. Call 210-207-5380 to learn more.

Lion's Field has hosted the MPNA's monthly meetings for over 30 years. Thank you, Lion's Field!

CIRCLE SCHOOL SURVEY

The Circle School Middle School students thank Mahncke Park residents for submitting responses to the Eco-Scholars' survey. As of September 30, 25 households have completed the survey, which will remain open through October. Please take a moment to complete survey & support the students' efforts.



NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

This month's newsletter is sponsored by The Circle School, 217 Pershing Avenue. The Mahncke Park Neighborhood Association appreciates its long term partnership with The Circle School, and we encourage all neighbors to support their fall festival on Saturday, October 21. Details below.

The Circle School at 217 Pershing Avenue will host its annual fall festival, CircleFest, on Saturday, October 21 from 4-8pm. Costumes are encouraged! Children 13 years old and under are FREE! Adult admission is \$10. Admission includes: FREE Kids activities, FREE admission to participate in Pumpkin Path storytelling, entertainment, low cost food & drinks and a diverse, silent auction. More information can be found at the Circle School's website at www.thecircleschool.org

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL
at **THE CIRCLE SCHOOL**
217 Pershing Ave.
San Antonio, TX 78209

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST 4-8PM

featuring:

- Pumpkin Path Storytellers
- Food 🍴 Music 🎵 Games 🎮
- Haunted School House 🏠
- Silent Auction
- & Giveaway

SCAN FOR DETAILS & ADMISSION

<https://bit.ly/CircleFest23>

CircleFest
Costumes Encouraged