



JANUARY 2026

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

This month's meeting will feature Mike Villarreal, SA Independent School District board member, who will present information about "repurposing" the Lamar Elementary School property. SAISD staff members will also attend and be prepared to respond to questions.

Updates regarding neighborhood topics of interest will also be provided.

**JANUARY 20, TUESDAY, 6pm
LION'S FIELD CENTER, 2809 BROADWAY**

WILDFLOWER SEEDS SOWN IN MAHNCKE PARK

Neighborhood residents sowed wildflower seeds in Mahncke Park on Sunday, December 7. The volunteer effort was twofold – first, planting wildflower seeds in the park is an annual tradition begun in 1992 as a living memorial to deceased neighbors and family members. Also, sowing wildflower seeds helps restore native wildflowers, which are an important food source for pollinators. Seeds included Bluebonnet, Purple Prairie Clover, Lanceleaf Coreopsis, Lemon Mint, Huisache Daisy, and Black-Eyed Susan.

The following neighbors volunteered to sow seeds:

Derek Elliott, Davis Court,
Ric Minks, Parland Place,
Sandy Burge, Ira Avenue,
George Grimes, Parland Place,
Bruce Martin, Pershing Avenue,
Carlynn Ricks, Pershing Avenue,
John Gambuzza, Funston Place,
Ruben Lopez, Queen Anne Court,
Charlotte Anne Lucas, Funston Place,
Rachel & Hadrian Sorenson, Queen Anne Court,
Paul Vaughn & Ruth Rodriguez, Thorman Place.

Parks Department staff members Andre Dyer and Nicole McLeod loaned rakes (including children's size) in support of the effort, and Senior Horticulturalist Robert Kwiatkowski provided wildflower seeds.

Sincere thanks to all neighborhood volunteers and to the Parks Dept. staff who helped make this year's project successful. NOTE: 10 days after seed planting, it rained 1/2".

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD IS CHANGING, PART 1

Taco Cabana at 2908 Broadway closed last month and this site has ceased operations. A notice to Texas Taco Cabana LP posted on the property stated, in part: "You are delinquent on rent and are hereby locked out of the premises." The local daily newspaper reported on December 26 the property had recently sold to the children's museum.

MEETING RE: BOTANICAL GARDEN SPECIAL EVENTS

Representatives of the Mahncke Park Neighborhood Association (MPNA) met December 19 with SA Botanical Garden (SABG) management and Public Works Dept. staff members in a meeting facilitated by City Council District 2. The meeting addressed several issues such as adding licensed peace officers and signage to reduce traffic congestion and parking on residential streets. Subsequent to the meeting, the SABG provided weekly updates regarding efforts to alleviate problems for the neighborhood during peak operating hours, special events, and recent holiday light show programming. The MPNA and SABG have agreed to begin meeting in February to discuss a proactive approach to managing holiday and special events in 2026.

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD IS CHANGING, PART 2

Adair Kitchen, a Houston-based food service firm with two locations in Harris County, is continuing renovation on the building at 4108 Broadway, which was a Jim's Restaurant for over 50 years until closing in 2024. Per a filing with the State of Texas, Adair Kitchen represented renovation costs will be \$470,000.00. Adair Kitchen is reported to serve "homestyle comfort food all day long."

Adair Kitchen posted the following on October 2 to their Facebook page:

"The final pieces are falling into place, and our San Antonio location is taking shape day by day. From beams and tiles to the decorations that make it feel like home, we can already picture the coffee brewing and the tables filling up. It won't be long now, and we can't wait to share the finished space with you. Stay tuned, San Antonio, the doors will be opening before you know it."

In December, the message board outside Adair Kitchen at 4108 Broadway read:

"Guys . . . We mean it this time. . . Won't be long!"

NEIGHBORHOOD RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Due to the Martin Luther King holiday on Monday, January 19, City of SA offices will be closed; therefore, curbside collection of recyclables (blue and green bins) will be delayed until Tuesday, January 20.

MARTIN LUTHER KING MARCH, JANUARY 19

The annual, 3-mile Martin Luther King March will begin Monday, January 19 at 10:00am. The parade line-up will begin at 9:00am. The march starting point will be 3501 Martin Luther King Drive, and the ending point will be Pittman-Sullivan Park, 1101 Iowa Street. The City of San Antonio sponsors the march and has done so since 1987. The annual march is reported to be among the largest MLK marches in the country.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOLIDAY LIGHTS FANTASTIC

Our neighborhood is the site of several holiday light displays each December - and increasingly November, too. Twinkling lights across the Incarnate Word University campus create a pleasant nighttime view from Broadway and Hildebrand. Also, seasonal lights glow from outdoor displays at the SA Country Club and the skyscraper at the SE corner of Hildebrand and Broadway. However, the spirit of colorful incandescent and light emitting diode bulbs could be found throughout the residential core of Mahncke Park last month. In particular, the 200, 300, and 400 blocks of Elmhurst featured abundant electrical icicles at multiple homes, as well as what could best be described as multi-colored tornadoes in one front yard. The 400 block of Natalen included less exuberant displays but with a more consistent theme of colored lights outlining doorframes, windows and rooflines. Quite lovely. On Thorman Place, a corner property decorated trunks of two oak trees with thickly wrapped strands of colored lights, calling to mind a pair of exuberant Christmas socks.

But the unofficial, neighborhood holiday light display champion for 2025 was most certainly 500 Queen Anne Court, at the SE corner of N. New Braunfels. A mash-up of white and colored lights defined both front and side yard fences. Two front yard trees had trunks and branches thoroughly wrapped in white lights, and the home's roofline was defined by strands of colored lights. But wait, there's more. . . an archway of colored lights welcomed visitors through the front gate where a white reindeer/unicorn crossbreed covered in strands of lights welcomed visitors. Two Christmas trees made of green lights with yellow stars flanked the front door – above which were a bundle of red lights. Window frames were outlined in white lights, and the front of the house was awash in a green glow reminiscent of Kryptonite. Finally, perched above it all was a full-size peacock constructed of blue and green lights and regally glimmering among a holiday light display that won't soon be forgotten. Thank you, 500 Queen Anne Court, you are the best!

BLOCK CAPTAINS DELIVER

Angelique Snyder is the new Block Captain for middle Pershing Avenue. We are delighted to welcome her to this role and thank her for volunteering to distribute our monthly newsletter. Many thanks to Margie Hildreth for faithfully delivering newsletters on middle Pershing Avenue until she relocated to a nearby neighborhood.

Mary Gary is the new Block Captain for 400 block of Elmhurst Avenue. Welcome, Mary! We salute you for volunteering to deliver newsletters.

We would also like to recognize and thank Derek and Wendy Elliott for expanding their monthly newsletter deliveries beyond Perry Ct. to temporarily include Davis Ct.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Carlynn Ricks
Bruce Martin

THE CIRCLE SCHOOL

The printing of our monthly newsletter is supported by the Circle School, 217 Pershing Ave. Their web address is thecircleschool.org. We appreciate their very generous support.

LION'S FIELD ADULT CENTER, 2809 BROADWAY

Lion's Field is operated by the Parks Dept. and is open Monday-Friday 9am – 8pm. A variety of classes are offered with a focus on encouraging healthy lifestyles. For additional information call 210-207-5380.

CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION

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

Main Office, City Hall, Military Plaza, 210-207-7278
Field Office A, 2805 E. Commerce, 210-207-0950
Field Office B, 4351 Rittiman Road, 210-207-0970
Mahncke Park residents may contact Maria Castro directly with concerns. Maria.castro@sanantonio.gov

S.A. POLICE DEPARTMENT

SAPD Officer Juan Hernandez patrols our neighborhood; his duty hours are M-F, 7am-3pm.

Juan.hernandez3@sanantonio.gov

210-207-1039, St. Mary's Street Substation,
2020 N. St. Mary's Street

Officer Hernandez encourages neighbors to call 911 regarding time sensitive concerns, such as suspicious individuals or illegal activity. 911 operators are trained to prioritize calls.

SAPD recently reported on the frequency of personal firearms being stolen when vehicle burglaries occur. SAPD strongly recommends not leaving firearms in your vehicle.

2026 MPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Allison Chambers, Claremont Avenue
Scott Day, Eleanor Avenue
Laura Drew, Claremont Avenue
Isabel Garcia, Queen Anne Court
Erin Kelly, Elmhurst Avenue
Jimmy LeFlore, Parland Place
CJ Van Green, Lucas Street
Email info@mahnckepark.org

SAN ANTONIO CODE COMPLIANCE

Contact Code Enforcement Officer Leticia Villareal at 210-392-5669 or leticia.villareal@sanantonio.gov

WELCOME TO THE INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY

Mahncke Park Neighborhood Association website is www.mahnckepark.org

There are two Facebook pages neighbors may consider for sharing and gathering information regarding our Mahncke Park Neighborhood.

This is the link to MPNA Facebook page

www.facebook.com/MahnckeParkNeighborhoodAssociation

Unofficial neighborhood page with online community socializing

www.facebook.com/groups/66362695532

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Follow the secure link below to pay your annual MPNA dues for 2026. Thank you for supporting our neighborhood.

<https://rebrand.ly/agzky83>