

MAHNCKE PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION
ESTABLISHED 1979



MARCH 2026

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

A Neighborhood History slideshow will be the topic of this month's meeting on Tuesday, March 17 at 6pm. Historic photos of our neighborhood, before & after images, and stories regarding conflicts won and lost that have defined our Mahncke Park Neighborhood will be presented. Look forward to seeing you there!

**TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 6pm
LION'S FIELD CENTER, 2809 BROADWAY**

SA BOTANICAL GARDEN NEWS

Mahncke Park Neighborhood Association (MPNA) representatives have resumed regular meetings with the SA Botanical Garden to develop comprehensive guidelines for programs and special events that impact our neighborhood. Recently, various concerns have been addressed and solutions have been put in place to mitigate parking impacts, traffic congestion, trash, signage, and temporary street closures. Establishing effective means of communications from the SABG to neighbors has also been discussed.

The MPNA and SABG's efforts are to articulate corrective strategies and actions within one guide that will serve as a mutually agreed upon planning document, which shall be completed far in advance of this year's holiday light event. Drafted guidelines will be presented at a future MPNA meeting to gather input and additional ideas. The monthly newsletter will include a notice regarding the presentation date. After guidelines are finalized, distribution to neighbors is tentatively planned to be conducted via door-to-door fliers, as well as electronically.

GUIDED WALKING TOUR IN BRACKENRIDGE PARK

Brackenridge Park Conservancy has partnered with the SA Professional Tour Guide Association to offer a fascinating walking tour highlighting some of Brackenridge Park's most historic and scenic landmarks. The approximately one mile route along mostly level surfaces, will begin promptly at 9:30am on Tuesday, March 17 at the Brackenridge Park Conservancy Office, 531 Brackenridge Way, San Antonio, TX. A \$5 preregistration fee is required at brackenridgepark.org/events/
For more info, contact bramirez@brackenridgepark.org

FREE TREE ADOPTION & CAR SHOW

On Saturday, March 21 the second Trees & Torque Community Car Show will return to Wheatly Heights Sports Complex at MLK Park, 200 Noblewood Drive. The event will feature the adoption of 300 free, native trees, live music, car & bike show, as well as engaging community activities for all ages, and the opportunity to learn how trees improve air quality and shade our city. Event hours 10am – 1pm.

MAHNCKE PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

The Mahncke Park Community Garden (MPCG) new garden season begins this month. Persons interested in one of the garden's raised beds may submit requests via email to mpcgarden78209@gmail.com or text to 210-452-4881. Please include name and contact information in your email or text. Interested persons are encouraged to submit requests ASAP.

The MPCG Little Library is rotting, but Dickie Felter of Parland Place is working to rebuild the "library on a pole" in the garden. Thank you, Dickie. And thanks to all for contributing books over the past several years.

A new MPCG sign is being constructed by Gerald Scott to replace the original sign he built, which is now several years old. Installation is expected on or about the ides of March.

Next Community Garden Workday is March 14, Saturday from 9 - 11am. All neighbors are welcome.

The MPCG will host its Spring Garden Party & Plant Sale on Saturday, April 11 from 10am – 2pm.

CIRCLE SCHOOL SEEKS NEW TEAM MEMBER

Do you have non-profit leadership experience?
Would you love to work in the neighborhood?

The Circle School at 217 Pershing Avenue has begun its candidate search for the next member of its Administrative Leadership Team. They are seeking "a systems-minded operational leader who is highly organized, emotionally intelligent, skilled at building trust across families and staff, and confident managing both daily logistics and long-term organizational development." The position offers opportunities to "be part of a passionate, collaborative, and mission-driven learning community, play a key leadership role in shaping school operations, culture, and long-term success, work closely with a supportive Board, dedicated staff, and engaged parent community, make a meaningful and lasting impact in a unique cooperative school environment, and to join the school at a pivotal moment of growth and organizational development, helping to strengthen operational systems, leadership structures, and community collaboration for long-term sustainability."

To find more details and/or to apply for this position online go to thecircleschool.org/workatcircle

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 generous support.

ANOTHER WONDERFUL TALENT IN MAHNCKE PARK
We rarely know the talent that is hidden behind the quiet houses and apartments we pass daily. It turns out that we have a talented songwriter/balladeer living on Queen Anne Ct. His name is Jack Kennedy.

In addition to being a Block Captain delivering MPNA newsletters every month, Jack is a computer guy who loves to write songs. He claims he is not a musician and that he just writes songs for the neighborhood, chronicling its stories and activities. He begins with the lyrics, then decides on an appropriate beat, then instrumentation is added to create the song's "voice." He uses AI to help, and sometimes it does, but he puts in lots of work, before and after AI's input. It takes 10-12 hours of finetuning all the factors necessary to produce the right sound and the right mood to finish each song.

Among his recent creations is "Ballad of the Dane," a wistful song about a mottled, dark gray Great Dane dog, which wandered loose in our neighborhood for almost a week. Area residents regularly posted to Facebook photos and reports regarding the youthful scamp's whereabouts and his ability to avoid capture – regardless of how well-intentioned the thoughtful neighbors were. If you missed this Mahncke Park adventure and its happy ending, or even if you were in the middle of it, you will certainly enjoy Jack's memorable ballad.

"Actually," Jack says, "'Ballad of the Dane' is my third best song." He prefers the "Marathon Song," about the mixture of joy and inconvenience the annual run delivers across our neighborhood. He began crafting the song four weeks before the event, and he included recognizable neighborhood particulars most everyone will recognize. It has been said that Jack perfectly captured the "Mahncke Park zeitgeist."

Despite the two popular songs described above, Jack is most pleased with "Mahncke Park After Dark," a song regarding our neighborhood's critters of the night. We can all enjoy the familiar scenes the song describes with its clever lyrics – while Walt Whitman fans may especially appreciate its "Opossum, my possum" phrasing. Are these nighttime prowlers pests or are they like everyone in Mahncke Park just enjoying life in one of San Antonio's most convenient and comfortable neighborhoods?

We are very fortunate to have such a talented person as Jack Kennedy creating music about Mahncke Park that helps us smile and appreciate where we live.

For readers who would like to listen, go to <https://www.youtube.com/@LudwigMahncke>

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Carlynn Ricks
Bruce Martin



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.

LIMITED RAINFALL AGAIN IN FEBRUARY
For the second consecutive month, less than one inch of rain was recorded in Mahncke Park. February rainfall amount was .32" – about half of January's total.

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. To report homeless encampments neighbors are encouraged to call 311.

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

2026 MPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Email info@mahnckepark.org

CRUISING 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.

Copy and paste the link below to access MPNA membership form.

[//rebrand.ly/agzky83](https://rebrand.ly/agzky83)