

MAHNCKE PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION
ESTABLISHED 1979



JUNE 2024

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

This month's meeting will focus on the City's proposed Transit Oriented Development Ordinance, which is intended to make commercial corridors (such as Broadway) more enjoyable to walk and take transit while accommodating current transit modes. Key to this is new development and redevelopment of existing structures. Plan to attend this meeting to learn how corridors may become more vibrant.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 7pm
LION'S FIELD CENTER
2809 BROADWAY**

S.A. BOTANICAL GARDEN NEWS

Katherine Trumble is the new President & Chief Executive Officer of the San Antonio Botanical Garden (aka "The Garden").

Reed Hilderbrand, a landscape architecture practice based in Cambridge, MA and New Haven, CT, has been engaged to create a new master plan for The Garden. Following the MPNA's May meeting at The Garden, a link to a survey was provided enabling community members the opportunity to submit information that may be considered in developing the master plan. The link also includes the May 21 meeting presentation:

<https://forms.gle/4Cmo4sVCgytKGLAp6>

(Link also available at Mahncke Park Neighborhood Association Facebook page)

A second information-gathering workshop will be held Thursday, June 6, from 6:00 to 7:00pm in the Betty Kelso Center at The Garden. Tentatively, a subsequent workshop is planned for July 25 at the same time and location. The "master plan reveal" is expected in October.

PERSHING AVENUE IS AT IT AGAIN

After creating the beautiful Free Kevin (the peacock) signs, neighbor Ale Perez-Signini was asked by residents in the 300 block of Pershing Avenue to create another sign. This one reads VOTE 2024 on one side, and VOTA 2024 on the other. If you would like a sign, call or text Carlynn Ricks at 210-687-4894. Signs are \$15, cash only, exact change please.



CITY TO RE-INSTALL BIKE LANES

Public Works Dept. has committed to re-install bike lanes on N. New Braunfels Avenue between Eleanor Avenue and Burr Road no later than July 30, 2024. The bike lane striping was removed in April 2023 when the street was resurfaced.

MAHNCKE PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN

Total rainfall for May was only 1.54" so the community garden will soon begin to change from "spring lush" to "summer sparse." Dedicated gardeners will be working hard to produce tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, and okra as the temperature rises. Some gardeners will take a break until late summer when they begin planting their fall gardens.

Next Garden Workday is Saturday, June 8, starting at 9am. Neighbors are always invited to visit the garden, especially on Garden Workdays!

NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY: LUDWIG MAHNCKE

Ludwig Mahncke was born April 20, 1846 in Mecklenburg, Germany. His early career was in the liquor business; however, failing fortune convinced him to emigrate to America. Finding few opportunities, Mahncke took work as a cook for a party of road builders in Mexico. Accounts differ but an altercation occurred and Mahncke "picked up a bone from the leg of a beef that had just been slaughtered" and struck a man over the head with it. Thinking he had killed the man and uncertain of his opportunity for justice, Mahncke fled to Texas. After arriving in San Antonio in 1882, his wife and two daughters joined him. (SA Express, 3/27/1906)

Ludwig Mahncke prospered in San Antonio. He was a member of Hermann Sons Lodge, Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World, and the Order of Elks. He first managed the Mission Garden on South Alamo, then the restaurant in Scholz's Saloon on Alamo Plaza, finally opening the Mahncke Hotel in 1886. Located at the NE corner of Houston Street and St. Mary's Street (present day site of the Gunter Hotel), the Mahncke Hotel was a successful enterprise and its saloon was a popular gathering place.

Mahncke served as alderman (city councilman) and later became San Antonio's first Parks Commissioner in 1896, serving until shortly before his death from pneumonia on March 27, 1906. Sculptor Pompeo Coppini was commissioned to create the bronze bust of Mahncke that stands in the park named in his honor. In 1964, his daughter Anna Marie Mahncke Deutz donated the fountain in Mahncke Park, and a Texas Historical Commission marker commemorating Ludwig Mahncke was installed nearby in 2011.

MEET MPNA BOARD MEMBER C.J. VAN GREEN

C.J. Van Green may be new to the MPNA Board this year, but in a sense she has been here a long time. Eleven years ago, she moved into the house on Lucas Street where her grandmother lived much of her life. C.J. came to San Antonio to be with her mother, and through her extended family has connections with four generations of Mahncke Park residents.

This energetic woman has ideas for Mahncke Park that include the newsletter, new residents, and fund-raising. C.J. has experience with non-profit entities, and she recently saved money for the MPNA by establishing a free checking account at Broadway Bank. A self-confessed foodie, C.J. is another neighbor appreciative of interesting restaurants on Broadway, rather than more fast food franchises.

In addition to food, C.J. loves all fur babies and has indoor cats. She also likes art and music. In the course of our interview, C.J. mentioned her grandmother told her the area of our neighborhood east of North New Braunfels was once known as "frog town" and the area west of the street was known as "toad town." (Anyone with information about the history for those nicknames is invited to text Carlynn Ricks at 210-687-4894 so we may share in future newsletter).

We are happy to welcome C.J. Van Green to the MPNA Board of Directors.

INDEPENDENCE DAY, JULY 4

A fireworks show is scheduled at the SA Country Club on the evening of July 4.

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
Constituent Office, 2805 E. Commerce, 210-207-0950.

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. 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 if 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 concerns from within our neighborhood. Cynthia.Santana@sanantonio.gov 210-394-2544

MPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scott Day, Eleanor Ave., President
Jimmy LeFlore, Parland Place, Vice President
Isabel Garcia, Queen Anne Ct., Secretary
C.J. Van Green, Lucas St., Treasurer
Angelique Snyder, Pershing Avenue
Gene (Chip) Turner, Pershing Avenue
Email info@mahnckepark.org

LION'S FIELD CENTER – 2809 BROADWAY

Lion's Field Center is operated by the SA Parks Dept. and hosts a variety of classes, including art, music, and exercise. Call 210-207-5380 to learn more or visit the information superhighway: www.sanantonio.gov/ParksAndRec/Parks-Facilities
Under Parks, select Lions Field, View Classes.

PLANT SWAP, THOUSAND OAKS LIBRARY

Bexar County Master Gardeners are hosting a Plant Swap on Sunday, June 16 from 11:30am – 1:30pm in the Meeting Room of Thousand Oaks Library, 4618 Thousand Oaks Drive. You can trade or give away potted plants, cuttings and propagations, seeds, and gardening supplies. All plants must be healthy and free of pests/disease. Limit 2 free items per person. Library point of contact is Mari Carmen Castellano, 210-207-9190.

HELLO, DIGITAL NEIGHBOR

There are two Facebook pages area residents may visit to share and gather information.

This is the link to MPNA official page www.facebook.com/MahnckeParkNeighborhoodAssociation

This is the link to the unofficial neighborhood page which includes more online community socializing www.facebook.com/groups/66362695532

CIRCLE SCHOOL, 217 PERSHING AVENUE

The Circle School is currently accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year. They provide an academically enriched program for students from PreK to 8th grade. Interested persons may complete the inquiry form found at the Circle School' s website to sign up for a campus tour. thecircleschool.org

PUBLICATION NOTE

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

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Carlynn Ricks
Bruce Martin



2024 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	
Phone	
Type membership	Regular ____, Retired ____, Nonresident ____

Mail completed form & payment to:
MPNA, PO BOX 6752, SA, TX 78209