

Monticello Park NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



MEET THE NEIGHBORS

January – February 2017

by Jan Peranteau

Christmas is over and yet, the spirit of Christmas lives on. It is the spirit of giving to others in our daily lives. Sometimes, the gifts are things. Sometimes, they are simply meaningful conversations with a friend. The Bible teaches that it is more blessed to give than to receive. And yet, there is such a swirl around it all. Friends complain that some people are so hard to buy for. The right present simply cannot be found. Others say, “Well, she has everything she needs, so what can I give her?”

Still others feel that giving gifts is a waste of money since one rarely gets something they truly love. My children generally say, “Just give me money and I can get what I want.” That totally spoils it for this giver. So why give at all?

Here are a few reasons for giving and receiving gifts. Ann Goetz remembered her days as a pediatric nurse. She said to herself, “When I retire, I am going to work with children in need.”



She chose the Children’s Shelter at St. Cloud and Woodlawn. “Children come from all over the city to this shelter. They are infants to fifteen years of age. The only way they get here is through Child Protective Services or the SAPD. They are victims of some type of abuse and have been removed from their homes.” She said that she goes once a week from 9-12 and helps in whatever way she is needed.

Ann Goetz reflects at home

.....continued on page 3

Please attend the
Monticello Park
Neighborhood Association
General Assembly Meeting

MONDAY

January 10, 2017

7PM
950 Donaldson
Grace Presbyterian Church

Program:

Our speaker will be
SAPD SAFFE Officer
Vincent Cano

Crime, Safety Tips, and Securing
your home

President's Message

Dear Neighbors,

I hope your holiday season and new year were filled with wonderful memories and joy.

MPNA as always has been working hard to improve the neighborhood and greater community. The biggest success was the Holiday Tour of Homes held in December. Many thanks to the homeowners who opened their doors, residents who volunteered, the committee for executing a great event, and sponsors for supporting MPNA.

A BIG Thank you to the 2016 Board of Directors: I'm always humbled by their service and dedication! Elections were held at the last General Assembly Meeting and the 2017 Board has 9 returning members and one new addition!

A tidbit of Community Happenings:

2017 Bond-Significant improvements have been voted on by City Council and will be on the ballot in May for voters' approval. The projects within MPNA and the greater community are highlighted in the newsletter. Additional information on the scope will be presented at the General Assembly Meeting.

Crime-It's all around us. With the MPNA Facebook Group we are all more aware of the crime occurring in our community every day. The best defense is a good offense! Secure your property with gates, fencing, and locks. Do not leave anything of value within your vehicle, Call SAPD 210.207.SAPD (7273) 24/7 if you see something suspicious, ask the MPNA SAPD SAFFE Officer to do a home safety inspection, and know your neighbors. Many instances when a burglar is apprehended it involves a neighbor who saw something and made a call to police.

Tier One Neighborhood Coalition-MPNA is a founding member of the Tier One Coalition which was created as a unifying group to advocate for Neighborhoods and their needs during the San Antonio Comprehensive Plan creation and adoption. In January Councilman Trevino (D1) secured representation for the Tier One Coalition on Mayor Ivy Taylor's New SA Tomorrow's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. Yours truly was nominated by the Tier One Coalition, over 25 neighborhood associations, to be their representative on the Mayor's steering committee. The first meeting was held this month. The City has a "working" map of the timing when the entire City will be re-planned.

.....continued on page 9

sident: Bianca Maldonado (Club)
385-6188
V. President: Gary Hudman (Mary Louise)
286-9212
Secretary: Drea Garza (Furr)
643-4760
Treasurer: Tom Simmons (Club)
701-4300

Board Members

Scott Gustafon (Club)
Ron Hubbert 215-5875 (Quentin)
Jaime Jasso 818-4593 (Kampmann)
Laura Reid 215-9589 (Club)
Tony Sanchez 269-2886 (North)
Patrick Shea 614-214-0736 (Club)

MonticelloParkNA.com

or check us out on Facebook
facebook.com/groups/MonticelloParkNA/

Newsletter Committee

Editors: Ferne Burney article and event
submission please call 734-2445 or email
ferneburney@hotmail.com

For ad pricing info call 734-2445 or visit
monticelloparkna.com

MPNA P.O. Box 5851
San Antonio, TX 78201

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

District 7 Council Office	207-7044
SAWS	724-7097
CPS	353-2222
Officer Vincent Cano	207-0803
394-1398 (cell)	
vincent.cano@sanantonio.gov	
SAPD, West Substation	207-7420
SAPD Emergency	911
SAPD Non-emergency	207-7273
SAISD Police	271-3124
SAISD Truancy Office	223-2360
VIA Transit	362-2020
Code Compliance	311
Animal Control	311
Office of Historic Preservation	215-9274
Historic Building Enforcement Officer	
report@sapreservation.com	

.....continued on page 1

“This includes rocking, feeding, and taking children on walks. We play with them.” She also volunteers occasionally at Haven for Hope, doing whatever is needed there. “It makes me happy to work in the Shelter.”

Edith Cuellar described a different kind of gift that she received. “It’s Victor---our gift from Heaven.” Victor is their fifty-six year old son with Down Syndrome. He is almost deaf and does not speak; yet, he is very personable. He greeted this reporter with a warm handshake and a hug. Amador, the father, explained that he had a job for fifteen years packaging pharmaceuticals. He earned Social Security credit during those years. Edith said that the job ended when the company closed down.

Amador Cuellar told of growing up in Hondo, Texas as one of ten children. He and his family lived on a farm five miles from town and the school. “We walked to school each day. My dad bought my older brother a bicycle to ride to school. I still had to walk. Later, my mother decided that I needed a bicycle too. She bought me a bicycle at Western Auto in Hondo so that I could ride too.” He described his Christmases as very simple. “We didn’t have a Christmas tree or any presents. We had each other and that seemed enough. At Christmas, Mother made special meals. We always had plenty of



Edith and Amador Cuellar share thoughts of giving.

food since we grew up on a farm. In fact, when we went to school, the nuns would ask us to share our food with other children. And we did because the nuns told us to. Mother packed our lunch in a bucket. She put in extra food for the other children.”

Lynne Wilkerson had some interesting thoughts on giving. “We all know that giving is the right thing to do. When we give, it makes us feel good.” Wilkerson did some research and further stated, “It turns out that when we give, it changes our brain chemistry, releasing endorphins.” Endorphins are also released when we exercise, and hence, we feel on top of the world after exercise and also when giving. Finally, it increases your longevity. “So if you want to be happy---Give.”

My special gift this year is a dog, named Grover. I lost my ornery and fussy dog, Lucky, about two years ago. He was old, senile, and could barely walk. So getting a replacement was quite difficult. My niece, Amy Hardberger, decided to take matters into her own hands. If you have ever met Amy, she is like a West Texas storm blowing through. Just stand back as things are about to happen. She found one dog in the SNIPSA website. That dog had already been given away. Then, I saw this cute black and white little bit of everything dog. I was smitten. She arranged for a meeting with the dog at the SNIPSA office and the next thing I knew, I was filling out papers and Amy was paying the adoption fees. Bingo! I had a new dog right before Christmas. Thank goodness, he was on his timid, new dog behavior, for my Christmas Party. I must say that things have changed and he is a real handful. But I have a dog that adores me and I in turn adore back and give each day to his well-being.

So giving and getting gifts comes in many forms. Whatever form it takes---whether wrapped a box with shiny paper or a friend helping another get to the doctor, it enriches our life. Let’s give and receive with joy!

Home Tour a Great Success

by Gary Hudman

Despite the drizzling rain, the 15th Biennial Holiday Home Tour was our largest tour ever and a huge success. Held December 4, 2016, the tour featured eight gorgeous homes, the sanctuary of Jefferson United Methodist Church, and the amazing Thomas Jefferson High School. The home tour is the Monticello Park Neighborhood Association's largest fundraiser, and allows us to support neighborhood beautification projects and college scholarships.

The Home Tour Committee is extremely grateful to the generosity of our homeowners who allowed us to feature their homes on the tour. You are all fantastic!

- Diana and Tony Sanchez
- Alfred Peña and Mike Reyes
- Ann Goetz
- Giamo Lorea
- Laura Reid and John Hernandez
- Amy Hardberger
- Cathy Teague
- Martha and Frank Ramirez

Several hundred people toured these gorgeous homes throughout the day, and we were delighted to see Mayor Ivy Taylor among the visitors. Thanks Mayor Taylor for visiting our wonderful neighborhood!

Thanks also to the local media who supported the tour. The Reid/Hernandez house was featured in the *San Antonio Express News*, and local film crews from Fox and Time Warner News featured the tour on television during the morning of the tour, showcasing the Christmas Market and the Ramirez' home.

We are also extremely thankful for the support of our Sponsors. This year, we set a record for both number of Sponsors and total amount donated. Without these Sponsors, our Home Tour would not be a success. Please note the complete list of sponsors in this newsletter and consider patronizing their businesses and thanking them for their support.

This was a year of firsts. We had the largest tour ever, featuring eight homes and two additional historic neighborhood destinations. We also sold tickets online, bringing our operation into the eCommerce world. Finally, we added a Christmas Market, selling gifts from around twenty local vendors. The vendors were very happy with their results and look forward to attending our next home tour.

We also had amazing volunteers who made multiple aspects of the tour come together. The committee is very grateful to:

- Troy Beshears for his exceptional photographs featured in this year's booklet
- Mary and David Guererro for the decorative markers at each home
- Wayne Ehrisman and Jan Peranteau for the after-tour party
- Staci Revilla and John Hernandez for assistance with Salesforce and the website
- Uriel Mejia and Cathy Teague for social media consultation and execution
- Students and Leaders from Thomas Jefferson High School's Architecture Magnet and Martha Jefferson Randolph Society, who served as tour docents

.....continued on page 5

.....continued from page 4

Finally, this tour would never have happened without the tireless work of the Home Tour Committee. This group worked for over a year to plan this event and I am extremely grateful for everything they did. Committee members included Gail Collins, Drea Garza, Kathy Hernandez, Ressie O'Connors, Laura Reid, Tony Sanchez, Tom Simmons and Earline Valdez. Jan Peranteau and Gary Hudman chaired the committee.

The 2016 Tour raised nearly \$7000, despite the lesser turnout due to the rain. We will build on this success for the next tour in 2018, and hope to see all of you there. Thanks to the entire neighborhood for a very successful day!



Mayor Ivy Taylor, center, flanked by daughter Morgan Taylor and homeowner Cathy Teague, enjoyed visiting the homes on the tour



Mary and David Guererro supplied the colorful markers for the tour, seen here at the home of Laura Reid and John Hernandez

The Monticello Park Neighborhood Association is incredibly grateful for the Sponsors of our 2016 Holiday Home Tour and Christmas Market

PLATINUM LEVEL

Alamo Hardwoods
Northside Ford
The Rangel Family
Randy Rice, Keller Williams
Melissa Muse Wiggans, Real Estate Muses

GOLD LEVEL

Joseph A. Ferro, DDS
Gary Hudman
JDG Associates, Inc.
Jefferson Bank
Margaret Mireles
Dr. Kelly Morales, MD
The Original Donut Shop
Jan Peranteau
Dianne & Joe Simpson



Vendors were very happy with the new Christmas Market

SILVER LEVEL

Allen & Allen
Cavallini Stained Glass Studio
Classic Theater
Wayne J. Ehrisman, PhD
Camille Rodriguez Brigant, Realtor
Sande & Galen Gibson
H-E-B
Brian Hough
Jefferson Neighborhood Association
Senator José Menéndez
Larissa & Charlie O'Connors
Alicia A. Pais
Mark Raizen
Jorge R. Sanchez, Farmers Insurance
Tom Simmons & Mark Skruhak
Vee's Hair & Spa
Richard Weik
Melanie Young

BRONZE LEVEL

Katrina Cook
Edith & Amador Cuellar
Deco Pizzeria
Virginia Delmas
Dibbles Hobbies
Ron Hubbert
Marguerite & Jesse Lopez
Rita Mitchell
Rose O. Garza, MP Custom Framing
Sergio & Paula Orozco
Pancake Joe's
Leslie & Rob Sipes
Tip Top Café
Earline & Enrique Valdez
Ida Villalon
Lynne Wilkerson
Luz & Louis Wilmot



Tom Simmons managed the new Christmas Market during the Home Tour.



This bedroom in Diana and Tony Sanchez's home features many antiques.



The line formed early at the Sanchez home.



Architecture students from Thomas Jefferson High School served as docents for the tour



Homeowner John Hernandez excitedly discusses his home's renovation

MONTICELLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
The Monticello Park Neighborhood Association is for everyone (owners and renters).

Yes, I want to invest in my neighborhood. Enclosed is my 2017 contribution.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

I would also like to help on the following committees:

<input type="checkbox"/> Finance	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety/Crime Prevention	<input type="checkbox"/> Zoning
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Preservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Home Tour
<input type="checkbox"/> Directory	<input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter

Membership Dues

<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Senior Dues
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Member Dues
<input type="checkbox"/> \$___ Additional for _____

Other: _____

Send to:
MPNA P.O. Box 5851 · San Antonio, TX 78201

The MPNA has worked hard to achieve its 501(c)3 status. What does that mean to you? Any dues paid, any donation to the association (such as for scholarships), any expense to you on behalf of the Association is now tax deductible. Check with your tax preparer concerning any deductions you want to take. This is a major step forward for our association!



Beautiful Holiday theme in a bedroom at the home of Alfred Pena and Mike Reyes.



.....continued from page 2

MP is tentatively scheduled to have its community plan updated in year 3. The City has hired 7 new employees to assist with the implantation of the city's master plan. Additional details to follow.

Looking for Volunteers: This is your community and any time invested pays huge dividends to all! We will be reaching out and asking for assistance with small events. There are great ideas and energy and together we can make a difference.

What's on the horizon: trees for the 100 block of Club Dr, graffiti/trash clean up, dial a trailer day (local dump of brush and bulky), candidate forum, socials, 4th of July, Academic scholarships, Beautification and Restoration Awards, and much more. Join us!

Hope to see you at the MPNA General Assembly.

Regards,
Bianca Maldonado

Grow Over It! by Lisa McKenzie (Code Connection newsletter)

We're always looking for innovative programs to deter graffiti. Our newest one is a concept from Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED), encouraging planting greenery in front of tagged walls, or in areas with high incidences of graffiti vandalism. *Grow Over Graffiti*, in partnership with the Parks & Recreation Department, offers free trees through an application process.

Has your commercial or residential property (within city limits) been vandalized lately? Are you ready for a 3-year tree maintenance agreement? If you answered "yes." then you're ready to deter graffiti. Applications are accepted year-round with an attached signed 3-year tree maintenance agreement.

Don't forget, call 811 for free utility line locator service before choosing the final planting site. Once it's been cleared to dig, there are seven drought-tolerant tree species you can select from. If a tree isn't suitable for your location because underground utility lines prohibit digging, consider planting ivy or other plants along fence lines or walls. Reducing the surface will help in keeping the wall graffiti-free.

Need an application or have any questions? Call 210-207-BUFF (2833). Applications are also available online at:

<http://www.sanantonio.gov/CED/graffiti/growovergraffiti>

Monticello Park Neighborhood Association 2016 Beautification & Restoration Award Application

The Monticello Park Neighborhood Association (MPNA), with a donation from the Jefferson Woodlawn Lake Community Development Corporation, is proud to announce \$4000 for the 2016 MPNA Beautification and Restoration Award. Please complete the application below. Projects eligible for Beautification and Restoration award must be visible from the street. Some examples: wood window restoration, wood door restoration, roof, exterior masonry repairs, wood screen restoration, painting and new landscaping. New construction projects will not be considered.

Application is due by Sunday, January 31, 2017 and can be turned in to any MPNA board member or mailed. Projects must be completed between 1/1/2016 and 1/31/2017

Name _____
Address _____
Phone Number _____

Please provide a description of the scope of the project. If you need more lines, feel free to answer this on another sheet of paper and attach it to the application. Please write or print legibly.

All Applications MUST include the following documentation:

1. Certificate of Appropriateness from the City of San Antonio's Office of Historic Preservation.
2. Itemized list of all expenditures associated with project for award consideration.
3. Copies of receipts that show proof of payment with detail of the scope of project and materials.
4. Photos of "before" and "after" the project.

City of San Antonio 2017-2022 Bond

On Thursday January 19th City Council passed an Ordinance approving 173 projects totaling \$830 million for a Special Bond Election on May 6, 2017. Projects are divided into categories and each category will be an item on the ballot. Projects within Monticello Park and the greater community are:

Streets/Sidewalks and Bridges:

- 1) District 7 Sidewalk Improvements (Benrus, Wilson, Fredericksburg, Loma Linda & Lake Blvd) \$2,800,000
- 2) Monticello Park Area Streets \$3,936,000
- 3) Thomas Jefferson High School Area Improvements \$3,600,000

Drainage & Flood Control:

- 1) Seeling Channel Phase 3 Drainage \$18,000,000

Parks and Recreation:

- 1) Monticello Park \$300,000
- 2) Old Spanish Walking Trails Park \$3,075,000
- 3) Woodlawn Lake Park Multi-Generational Center \$5,000,000

To see the complete list of all projects to be on the ballot in May <http://www.sanantonio.gov/2017Bond>



GRAFFITI CORNER

from the Code Connection Newsletter

It takes a village, better yet, a city to fight graffiti! Volunteer for one of our many wipe-out events throughout San Antonio. With the help of more than 2,000 volunteers, we abated graffiti on over 59,000 sites this past year! Interested? You can register online at

<http://www.sanantonio.gov/commpa/volunteer>

The City offers many opportunities to get involved through volunteering. The next Volunteer Workshop will be held on Saturday, January 28, 10 am – noon at the Public Safety Headquarters (315 S. Santa Rosa). To RSVP, call 210-207-8178 or send an email to:

<mailto:Melissa.Escamilla@sanantonio.gov>.



Rey Garza Real Estate is a proud sponsor of On and Off Fredericksburg Road Studio Tour.

When Saturday February 18: 11am - 6pm
Sunday February 19: Noon - 5pm

Where Rey Garza Real Estate
1650 W. Huisache @ Zarzamora

We are pleased to host artists **Silvia Sarinana, Russell Stephenson** and students of the **Bihl Haus Go! Arts program**. Join us for hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and great art by local artists! **Autograph Party, Friday, Feb. 17, 6-9 pm at Bihl Haus.**



Camille Rodriguez Brigant Realtor®

p: (210) 802-9797

HomesbyCamille@gmail.com

1650 W. Huisache, SA, TX 78201

