



March 2023

Alta Vista Neighborhood Association Newsletter

The Alta Vista Community First Food Pantry

INFO

GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

March 29, 2023

Mark Twain Library 6:30PM or
Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/AVNA-GA-Mar-2023>

May 31, 2023

September 27, 2023

November 15, 2023

2023 AVNA BOARD PRESIDENT

Katie Adams

VICE-PRESIDENT

Erin Zayko

SECRETARY

Mary Lib Kenney

TREASURER

Cheryl Dozier

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Alston Beinhorn

April Driessling

Jennifer Khoshbin

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

SAFFE Officer:

Jesus Hinojosa

210-765-9470

jesus.hinojosa@sanantonio.gov



@AltaVistaNA.org



@AltaVistaNA

Needed: One-time Donations, or Sustaining Members to contribute \$5-10 per month. The Alta Vista Neighborhood Association has established its first food pantry in partnership with Community First Health Plans to help provide food and other essentials to neighbors who struggle with food insecurity. The Pantry is located in front of Oscar de la Tienda on Flores and W. Russell. If you can help in stocking or with financial support, please contact AVNAPantry@gmail.com, or keep a lookout on our AVNA Facebook page.

You can also join the 10 founding families as a sustaining member by committing to a monthly \$5-10 donation to keep the pantry stocked. If you are part of a food insecure household, the pantry is open.

Thank you to <http://communityfirsthealthplans.com/food-pantry/>

(@cfhealthplans) for making this happen, and to Cynthia at Oscar de la Tienda for contributing her space!



Alta Vista Sessions #3 at Outlaw Kitchens!

The AVNA Arts Committee is hosting our next music mixer on March 26th, 3-6pm at Outlaw Kitchens! Join us for an early evening of free music here in the neighborhood at our third installment of Alta Vista Sessions! Bring a friend or neighbor and come spend some time together!

We'll have free light individual snacks and beverages, and you're also welcome to bring your own. All ages WELCOME! Music by Grupo Tan Tan! Musica estilo fara-fara! Northern Cumbia and Country Music.

Alta Vista Traffic Islands

In September 2019, the City of San Antonio mowed down the landscaping on the traffic islands at W. Gramercy/Breeden and W. Kings/Breeden much to the dismay of the neighborhood. This was the result of a 311 complaint that they were overgrown.

The traffic islands were installed and landscaped by AVNA in memory of Jimmy Contreras and Jessica Zembala. Jimmy and Jessica were instrumental in many aspects of neighborhood planning and beautification for years. They both passed away in 2003. Over the years the community maintained the traffic island landscaping through volunteer work days. Unfortunately, the effort ultimately lost momentum and they became unsightly.

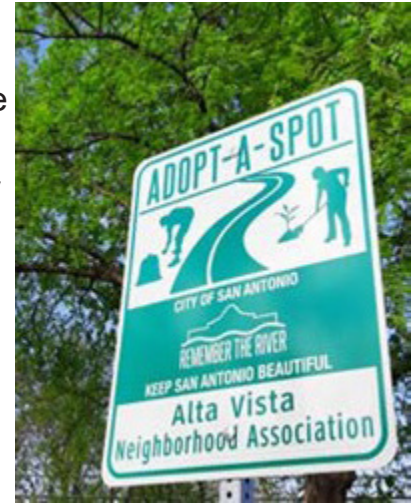
Since that time, a coalition of the AVNA Board and community



members have been working on breathing new life into the beautification of the traffic islands. The General Assembly approved submittal of an application to the city to give AVNA formal "Adopt A Spot" responsibility for maintaining the islands in December 2019. Erik Hausmann, then spearheaded brick fund raiser campaign for

landscaping materials and benches. The benches were installed in 2022 and the brick paths are scheduled to be installed this spring. Drought resistant foliage will be added later. AVNA is planning on having an event to rededicate the

islands in memory of Jimmy and Jessica, so stay tuned for more information. If you would like to volunteer to help lead the next phase of the effort or help to beautify the traffic islands, please send your interest to avna@altavistana.org



Save the Date

District 1 Candidate Forum
April 1, 2023 1PM-3PM

Laurel Heights United Methodist Church
227 W. Woodlawn

Early voting for City elections is
April 24th - May 2nd.
Election Day is May 6th

D1 Candidate List: Mario Bravo,
Lauro Bustamante, Sukh Kaur,
William T. Lamar-Boone, Robert Rios Ortega,
Jeremy Roberts, Ernest Salinas

The D1 Candidate Forum is hosted by the Tier 1
Neighborhood Coalition (T1NC)



Camille Rodriguez Brigant, Realtor®
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Neighborhood Business: Code Compliance, NCD, Vacant Properties

AVNA is a voluntary association registered with the City of San Antonio (CoSA) and a 501c4 civic organization. As such, the Board of Directors (BOD) receives notifications from CoSA and questions and concerns from residents of Alta Vista regarding a variety of issues in our neighborhood. This is a roundup of some recent activity:

- o 946 W. Ashby – Received notice from Development Services that the Building Standards Board held a meeting on March 2, 2023 to determine if the property constitutes a public nuisance in need of abatement. Neighbor complaints about that property and properties in that area have also been received.
- o 705 W. Craig – Brought to the BOD’s attention by a neighbor, this new home isn’t in compliance with AVNA Neighborhood Conservation District design guidelines. Development Services reports that the developer will be submitting an application to the Board of Adjustment for variances to the vertical 2:1 window requirement and the 25% surface area dedication for the front façade window openings; this issue is not yet on the BOA agenda.
- o 500 block of W. Agarita – At the request of neighbors, the BOD wrote a letter to a property owner requesting that the property be brought into code compliance and to note that the property has been recommended as a candidate for the Vacant Buildings program.
- o 800 W. Craig – This vacant, burned property is currently part of the Vacant Buildings program, and (after a long history of issues) has a new owner.
- o 400 block of W. Magnolia – Multiple code violations and complaints received; code compliance opened a case with the property owner.

Sidewalk Talk

Sidewalks are technically property owner’s responsibility. The City offers a limited Sidewalk Rebate Program for those property owners who wish to hire a contractor to repair their sidewalks. Visit the Sidewalk Rebate Program for more details.

When Rover Goes Roving...

How To Report Loose Dogs in Our Neighborhood

Call 311. Provide as much information as possible: color; breed; with collar or without; aggressive; visibly sick or injured; alone or in a pack. Give factual, accurate details. Animal Control Officers (ACOs) are much fewer in number than police. Officers do not respond as quickly as the police. You can also file reports online at 311, sanantonio.gov, or sa.gov or by downloading the city’s new 311 mobile app.

Slow Ride - Take It Easy!

Slowing down by just 5 mph, from 30 mph to 25 mph, means a pedestrian is half as likely to be seriously injured or killed in a crash. We encourage everyone to enjoy a slow ride through our lovely neighborhood to keep everyone safer.

According to the American Automobile Association, “the average risk of severe injury for a pedestrian struck by a vehicle reaches 25% at 23 mph, 50% at 31 mph, 75% at 39 mph, and 90% at 46 mph. The average risk of death for a pedestrian reaches 10% at an impact speed of 23 mph, 25% at 32 mph, 50% at 42 mph, 75% at 50 mph, and 90% at 58 mph” (<https://aaafoundation.org/impact-speed-pedestrians-risk-severe-injury-death/>).

Homestead Exemption & Property Tax Help

Free Sessions Hosted by the City of San Antonio

Get help filing your Homestead Exemption and learn how to submit an appeal to the Bexar County Appraisal District regarding your property taxes.

<http://sanantonio.gov/propertytaxhelp> or contact D1 Field Office at 210-207-0900

Execion de Vivienda + Ayuda Con El Impuesto a la Propiedad

Sesiones Gratis Organizadas por la Ciudad de San Antonio

Obtenga ayuda para presentar su Exención de Homestead y aprenda cómo presentar una apelación al Distrito de Tasación del Condado de Bexar con respect a sus impuestos a la propiedad

<http://sanantonio.gov/propertytaxhelp> o llame la Oficina de D1 a 210-207-0900



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Oscar de la Tienda

NEW FOOD OFFERINGS!
NOW SERVING COFFEE!

Monday - Friday: Plato o Plomo serving breakfast & lunch.
Tuesday & Thursday - Amber Gibson presents a rotating menu

Microgreens and produce now available!
-Please stop by to put in your requests-



LONGHORN CATERING

Carla Chapa
Event Coordinator

1615 N. Laredo Ste #102
San Antonio, TX 78207

Cell: 210.643.0107
carla@longhorncatering.com
www.longhorncatering.com

BECOME AN AVNA MEMBER!

At this time, we are collecting membership dues and donations that will go to community outreach and engagement.

Individual: \$15 per year
Couple: \$30/year
Business: \$35 per year

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Pay on-line on the AVNA website or return this form with a check to:
Alta Vista Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 12174 San Antonio TX 78212

Attention Alta Vista! Volunteers Needed!
Want to make a difference in your Community?
Be a Block Captain!

Responsibilities Include

- Distributing AVNA newsletters.
- Communicating any neighborhood concerns.
- Displaying yard signs for AVNA events.

Email AVNA@ymail.com,
or visit us on Facebook @[AltaVistaNA.org](https://www.facebook.com/AltaVistaNA.org)