



November 2023

# Alta Vista Neighborhood Association Newsletter

## San Pedro Slated for Major Changes

### INFO

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

November 29, 2023 - Board  
Elections

Mark Twain Library 6:30PM

2023 AVNA BOARD PRESIDENT  
Katie Adams

VICE-PRESIDENT  
Erin Zayko

SECRETARY  
Vacant

TREASURER  
Cheryl Dozier

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE  
Alston Beinborn  
April Driesslein  
Jennifer Khoshbin

#### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

SAFFE Officer:  
Jesus Hinojosa  
210-765-9470

[jesus.hinojosa@sanantonio.gov](mailto:jesus.hinojosa@sanantonio.gov)

Police Non-Emergency:  
(210) 207-7273

City of San Antonio District 1  
Office: (210) 207-7279  
D1 Liason Ryan Salts



@AltaVistaNA.org



@AltaVistaNA

The great turnout for last month's General Assembly meeting speaks to the way we come together to address issues facing our neighborhood. And it means so much to your hard-working Board of Directors (BOD) when you show up! Thank you!

Speaking of neighborhood leadership, we'll be electing the 2024 BOD at the Nov 29 meeting.

We'll also be joined by VIA Metropolitan Transit regarding "ART" aka the **Advanced Rapid Transit** North/South Corridor Project. ART vehicles will run in dedicated and mixed-use lanes from the San Antonio International Airport area, along San Pedro Avenue, through Downtown, and south to the Missions area. After several public meetings earlier this year, construction plans are being finalized now with construction to commence in 2025. Come to the meeting to learn about how the new lanes will greatly change the way we traverse San Pedro today.

Also on the agenda is a discussion about the status of plans to improve issues with **traffic flow around Mark Twain Middle School** and some inconsiderate parents blocking driveways and littering while picking up and dropping off their kiddos.

Finally, though tentative at this time, we may be joined by the representatives of **133 Hickman** to consider an alternate proposal related to the request to rezone the property to allow three units as opposed to one.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Happy Holidays!

- 29 Nov – General Assembly (Board Elections)
- 6 Dec – AVNA Board Meeting
- 9 Dec – Winter Party & Art Market
- 20 Dec – Neighborhood Caroling

**ALTA VISTA WINTER PARTY  
& ART MARKET**

December 9 4-7 PM  
PhiloCoffee 606 W. French Pl

Mariachis + Classical Guitarist  
Fresh, Hot Empanadas on us  
Coffee/Beer/Wine available for purchase

*AV Food Pantry Drive: Bring non-perishables/canned goods/or \$ donations*

# Around Alta Vista

## Thank You Neighbors...Together!

The generosity of our hosts for the Alta Vista Neighbors Together Potluck cannot be overstated.

Let's hear it for **Carla and Douglas Chapa** and family!

Each year they spoil us with their huge yard and the easiest setup logistics, owing to the fact they own Longhorn Catering (see ad), which is located around the way on Laredo St. The neighborhood association reimburses them for groceries but they do all of the shopping and grilling and provide the tables, serving dishes, drink dispensers, etc. Their support is a blessing!



Thank you to this year's volunteers for filling in around the edges and cleaning up at the end of the night. I'm talking about **Nancy Van Delist, Kris Zebrowski, Katie Schultz, Johan Coetzee, Cheryl Dozier, and Kathleen Bradley** and families —SO MUCH appreciated!

The potluck table was full as usual! Erica Schommer's almond cherry dip brought the compliments, a specialty in her family's part of Wisconsin. Our lives feel more complete having enjoyed **Katie Sirakos'** perfect Tahini Praline Cake and **Meeka Bain's** sheet cake and the kiddos probably ate way too many of **Johanna McLeod's** delectable brownies. Thanks also to **Leif and Lisa Endresen** for bringing a signature homemade macaroni and cheese dish and to all of those who kept it healthy with other dips, green salads and fruit! (**Julie Post, Henrietta Saldana-Paz, Edwin Blanton, Annette Paulin, Nicole Moore** and many more who we may have missed. What a nice spread!



A special shout out goes to **San Antonio Public Library's San Pedro Springs Branch** for bringing goodies, and of course, we thank **City Council District 1** and all of our D1 representatives from code enforcement and the SAPD.

And it's always great to have Latin Jazz guitarist Miguel Angel Garza this year performing with Ismael Muniz to provide the perfect mood.



See you all again next year!

## Are You Missing Your Chance to Have a Say?

The Alta Vista bylaws state that the members present at a meeting constitute a quorum. Therefore, one member could, theoretically, make big decisions on your behalf or that impact you as an AV resident.

The good news is, that doesn't happen. Board members and other volunteers work hard to get neighbor input and represent the neighborhood fairly. We host social and art events, publish and distribute a newsletter, manage social media, maintain business records, respond to issues that directly affect neighbors, and coordinate with other neighborhoods for a strong District 1 presence.

It's a lot! And we have a favor to ask.

At the next AVNA general meeting on 11/29 we'll be electing the 2024 Board of Directors. All 7 spots on the board are open each year. Currently we have commitments for every position except for Vice President and Secretary.

**Can you commit to reaching out to two people in the neighborhood to ask them to consider a leadership role on the board? Or consider a leadership role for yourself?**

For more information about serving on the AVNA Board of Directors, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/mr2f5e4u> or contact [avna@altavistana.org](mailto:avna@altavistana.org).

And if you're just not ready for a leadership role, see the back of this newsletter to become an AVNA member.



**LONGHORN CATERING**

Carla Chapa  
Event Coordinator

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

Cell: 210.643.0107  
[carla@longhorncatering.com](mailto:carla@longhorncatering.com)

[www.longhorncatering.com](http://www.longhorncatering.com)

## Civic Contacts:

### City of San Antonio District 1

Councilwoman: Sukh Kaur, D1@sanantonio.gov,

Office: (210) 207-7279

D1 Liaison, Ryan Salts:

(210) 207-7279,

ryan.salts@sanantonio.gov

### Alta Vista SAPD SAFFE Officer

Officer Jesus "Jessie" Hinojosa:

(210) 207-7413

Jesus.Hinojosa@sanantonio.gov

### Police Non-Emergency:

(210) 207-SAPD (7273)

### Code Enforcement:

Officer Ruby Luna, (210) 618-5867

Ruby.Luna2@sanantonio.gov

Denise Hasting, D1 supervisor,

(210) 416-5851

Denise.Hastings@sanantonio.gov

Kristy Garza, Dangerous Premises Officer:

kristy.garza@sanantonio.gov

Saturday Code Enforcement hotline:

(210) 207-2633

Vacant Buildings Officer:

Crystal.Grafft@sanantonio.gov

### Homeless Outreach Coordinator, District 1:

Ramon Gonzales, (210) 371-9998,

ramon.gonzales@sanantonio.gov

### Homeless Connections Hotline:

(210) 207-1799

### Animal Care Services District 1 Officer:

Officer Adan Perez,

adan.perez@sanantonio.gov

### US House of Representatives, District TX-35

Congressman Greg Casar (TX-35)

Irene Chavez Galvan, District Director  
210.307.0357,

irene.chavezgalvan@mail.house.gov

### Texas State Representative, District 123:

Diego Bernal, (210) 308-9700

Bethany Gutierrez, District Director  
bethany.gutierrez@house.texas.gov

### Texas State Senator, District 26:

José Menéndez,

(210) 733-6604 (district office)

### Bexar County Commissioner:

Tommy Calvert, (210) 335-2614

**Bexar County Sheriff's Office:** (210) 335-6010

### SAISD D6 Trustee:

Christina Martinez

Martinez.Christina1@gmail.com



## New Business & Business Member Spotlight

Welcome new business member, **The Wicked Wich!** This small business got its start in Alta Vista. To thank you for your support which allowed them to expand to a new location just a short distance away at 825 Fredericksburg Road, the Wicked Which is offering 10% discount on all sandwiches. Present this ad to redeem your offer. Thank you Wicked Wich! Open everyday from 11-6pm.



If you've never had a baked potato with carne guisada, pulled pork, or a pile of veggies, then head over to Alta Vista's **Midtown Meetup** for a variety of loaded spud offerings, soups, and more! While you're there, check out game

night, a Spurs game, a live show, or work off some calories with MixedFit Dance or Zumba. Proprietor Mia Cortez says that Midtown Meetup is all about making a nice place for friends and neighbors to come together. Open everyday at 11:30. 801 W. Russell Pl.

825 FREDERICKBURG RD

11-6

CLOSED SUNDAY

**SERVING UP A  
DELECTABLE  
DISCOUNT:  
10% OFF  
ANY FULL WICH**

\*present this coupon to cashier to redeem offer.

## Say Goodbye to the Midtown Plan (2000-2023)

Back in the early aughts, the neighborhoods of Alta Vista, Beacon Hill, and St. Anne's worked with the City to create the Midtown Neighborhood Plan (MNP), which among other things established "land uses" (commercial, residential etc.). Land use designations are very important because they represent preferred land development patterns for our area and they dictate what kind of zoning each property can have.

Our longstanding MNP will soon be replaced by the Near North Community Plan which Alta Vista will share with several other neighborhoods: Beacon Hill, Maverick, Jefferson, Woodlawn Lake, Monticello Park, Los Angeles Heights, Keystone, Monte Vista Terrace, Monte Vista, and River Road.

The change is an effort by the City to align all existing neighborhood plans under 30 new "sub-area" plans as part of implementing the SA Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan. The alignment is meant to "provide a consistent set of categories and definitions for use across all 30 plans."

The update process will kick-off soon. Developing the Near North Community Plan will take months if not an entire year. It will be lead by the city and participation won't be limited to neighborhoods—businesses, non-profits and other stakeholders will also be included at the discretion of the Planning Department. "The end result of these 30 sub-area plans will be a complete land use map for the City of San Antonio, something which currently does not exist." That may sound good, but Alta Vista must be at the table to make sure the updates are right for the neighborhood.

Your hard-working Board of Directors and members of the Technical Committee will do our best to represent you fairly and transparently, attending every meeting and sharing information via our regular outlets. Please contact [avna@altavistana.org](mailto:avna@altavistana.org) if you can help out by participating in the update process.



**PUTTY &  
POINTS**  
window restoration

**DANIEL HUBBELING**

210.287.9025  
puttyandpoints@gmail.com

323 Fredericksburg Rd., SATX 78201  
puttyandpoints.com

Mention this ad for 10% off  
restoration services.

*Scratch* KITCHEN  
CATERING

- BRIDAL SHOWERS AND BABY SHOWERS
- WEDDINGS!
- LARGE-SCALE CORPORATE EVENTS FOR GUESTS IN THE HUNDREDS
- BREAKFAST OR LUNCH FOR THE OFFICE
- RESIDENTIAL SOIREES

EMAIL BECKY@SCRATCHSANANTONIO.COM

Join us for Caroling  
Dec 20

Meet at  
6pm

3018 N. Flores St.

**Volunteering Looks Good On You!**

Contact [avna@altavistana.org](mailto:avna@altavistana.org) with your interests or choose from below:

- Arts and Entertainment Committee– Help plan social events and other fun stuff!
- Traffic Island Beautification Coordinator – Work with a contractor to finalize plans and existing materials for beautification of the islands at W. Kings Hwy and W. Gramercy.
- AVNA Community First Food Pantry - Periodically help maintain and stock the pantry (reimbursable) along with dozens of other families.
- Newsletter Committee – Write a neighbor spotlight article or help deliver newsletters.
- Technical Committee – Become familiar with neighborhood design standards and help to gather neighbor input and recommend positions related to rezoning and property related issues.
- Want to lead something else for which you would like neighborhood support? Let's talk!



**ALTA VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

**BECOME A MEMBER**

Individual - \$15 Couple - \$30 Business - \$35

**Website:** Use the QR code below or go to [altavistana.org](http://altavistana.org). Click on "Become a Member" in the right-hand column of the Home page or the "Join or Donate" tab at top of the page.

**Zelle:** Use our email address [avna@ymail.com](mailto:avna@ymail.com). Please include your address, email, and names (e.g. Jane Doe or Jane & John Doe, or Jane's Bakery)



**Mail:** Send us a note with your address, email, and names (e.g. Jane Doe or Jane & John Doe, or Jane's Bakery), along with a check to:

Alta Vista Neighborhood Association  
P.O. Box 12174  
San Antonio TX 78212

**Caroling with Julie and Andrew!**

Join us on Wednesday December 20 for Christmas caroling. Meet at 3018 N. Flores St. at 6pm. We'll socialize for about 30 minutes before heading out for a singing stroll a few blocks around the neighborhood. Bring your phone to look up lyrics. See you then!