

# Monticello Park NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



March - April 2015

## MEET THE NEIGHBORS

by Jan Peranteau

Lanie Karam, living on Donaldson, remembers, “When we were little, we couldn’t get to school because of the rain. Mom drove us to St. Paul’s. We couldn’t get around Kampman. We had to stay home until the water went down. I remember being scared with the water rising and the flooding. The underground drainage helped. I later learned that Kampman is a riverbed. “ Now, she says, “I savor the moments when it rains. When you are all snuggled in bed with a good book, the sound of rain on the roof is relaxing and comforting.”

Does Karam collect rainwater? “No I don’t try. My mother didn’t either. We do what our mothers did. “ But she said,” You can water the grass with the sprinkler system and keep things kind of green, but if you have a good rain—that’s nourishment.”



*Flooding on Kampmann Boulevard in 2013*

My own memories of rain are quite different. Living on a farm in West Texas, rain was foremost on everyone’s mind. We were either praying for rain or praying that it would stop. It could make or break a farmer’s crop,

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ATTEND THE  
Monticello Park  
Neighborhood Association  
General Assembly Meeting

**Monday,  
March 30**

7PM

950 Donaldson  
Grace Presbyterian Church

Program:

Animal Control Services of  
San Antonio

Speaker

Kathy Davis

## President's Message

The rain keeps coming, and things are blooming in Monticello Park. Did you see the Bradford Pear Trees full of blooms on Fredericksburg Rd or the Mountain Laurels covered in deep lavender flowers broadcasting their grape scent? The crape myrtles should be vibrant in color during the coming months too. Lots of Texas Beauty plants are making a grand appearance!

As time passes between newsletters there are always many events occurring:

**The D7 Public Safety Town Hall**- Chief of Police Trevino reported a decline in overall crime within our community. SAPD committed to have SAPD's pop unit patrol our community for two weeks following the Town Hall. SAPD provided "Crime Prevention Safety Tips" information, Liza McKenzie gave updated information on graffiti removal, Code Compliance was present to address concerns, and Sergeant Ross of the SAPD West Patrol took questions from the community. It is important to remember to call the police 911 or non-emergency 207.SAPD. The police WANT you to contact them, to report crime over the phone or online. Engage MPNA's SAFFE Officer Joey Vidal to follow up on safety concerns, to notify him if something occurs in our community involving SAPD (don't wait for him to get statistics which may be weeks old). For example: If you have something stolen from your porch, you can make a report on line BUT then call or email Officer Vidal so he can be aware of real time events in MPNA. IF you post on the MPNA FB page tag "West Post" and he will be notified too. SAPD can assist with home safety inspections to check the security of your property. Lastly, please secure your property....unfortunately, items have a tendency to disappear off porches in our community, lock your car doors, and don't leave valuables in vehicles in plain sight.

**"Keep Monticello Bello"**: Much thanks to Laura Reid, Patrick Shea, and Chrissy Wayman for all your hard work to get the hunter green shirts designed and printed. On MPNA Facebook, "Now, when I do graffiti cleanup, the passers by won't think it's mandatory community service ... lol", stated John Hernandez. The shirts will be worn for community events, and we continue MPNA's desire to beautify and improve MPNA. "Monticello Park--A neat place to live" (another logo which appeared on t-shirts in the 90s).

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*President:* Bianca Maldonado  
385-6188  
*V. President:* Gary Hudman  
286-9212  
*Secretary:* Ressie O'Connors  
210-284-0092  
*Treasurer:* Richard Weik  
512-748-2609

### Board Members

Drea Garza 210-643-4760  
Laura Reid 215-9589  
Tony Sanchez 210-269-2886  
Patrick Shea 614-214-0736  
Tom Simmons 210-701-4300

[MonticelloParkNA.com](http://MonticelloParkNA.com)  
or check us out on Facebook  
[facebook.com/groups/MonticelloParkNA/](https://facebook.com/groups/MonticelloParkNA/)

### Newsletter Committee Editors:

Ferne Burney article and event submission  
please call 734-2445 or email  
[ferneburney@hotmail.com](mailto:ferneburney@hotmail.com)

For ad pricing info call 734-2445 or visit  
[monticelloparkna.com](http://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 Joey Vidal 218-6546  
207-1363  
SAPD, West Substation 207-7420  
SAPD Emergency 911  
SAPD Non-emergency 207-7273  
SAISD Police 271-3124  
SAISD Truancy Office 223-2360  
VIA Transit 362-2019  
Code Compliance 311  
Animal Control 311  
Office of Historic Preservation 215-9274  
Ron Meyers 219-2093  
Historic Building Enforcement Officer



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depending on when it appeared. My father always looked at the skies. He interpreted the clouds and generally knew when a storm was brewing. At night, when awakened by a thunderstorm, my dad would wake us and say, "Let's ride to the Harmony Place and see if we got any rain out there." Mother and I piled into the car in pajamas, robes and slippers and drove with Dad to the farm to see if it was raining on the crops. Then after making the rounds from one farm to another, we would return at dawn for early breakfast.

In storms, our neighbor had a storm cellar. A concrete block fence about 3 1/2 feet tall separated our yards. We rushed over the fence, also usually in the middle of the night, to the cellar next door. Our neighbors never went to the cellar so there was always room. When the storm passed we would emerge to a wet yard, often pounded by hail.

Tony Sanchez described rain in another way. "When a few inches of rain are predicted, I get nervous. I sit on the porch and wait. Bianca Maldonado keeps me company. " Sanchez has good reason to be nervous. His house and garage flooded several times. He described the year, 2002, when water rushed through the house and covered everything with mud. He also said that water flowed from Fredericksburg Road down North to Kampman and dumped in his yard and a neighbor's yard. He seemed encouraged by the building of Laddie Place III, soon to be renamed Old Spanish Walking Trails and Flood Control Basin. He did say, "It still won't take us out of the flood plain, but it has helped."



In viewing his yard, the eye travels to carefully manicured beds, and even in winter everything looks lush and green. Does he collect rainwater? He said, "I don't." I've wanted to but"—and he shrugs.

Carol Pfrommer is interested in water collection. She got her rain barrel many years ago at Central Market in Austin. She only has one barrel and would like to increase her water collection, but has not found an efficient way to do so. When I got my barrel, you couldn't find them in San Antonio. She said she is also interested in using gray water, recycled from clothes washers and showers. "I looked into that but it is cost prohibitive." She loves the rain. "It thrills me when it is raining. I am full of joy. I call family far away to tell them about the rain." Pfrommer doesn't let the rain stop her from walking her two dogs—Rosie and Nicky. She said, "I take them on two walks a day—one in the morning and one in the evening. They love their walks. I only stay in during bad storms with lightning." "I use my rain water mainly on the trees. I want to keep my trees." She proudly referred to a Burr Oak, started from an acorn.

*Carol Pfrommer also has a rain barrel.*

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Kenneth Beanland, on Gramercy, does not collect rainwater, but he does have a unique method of growing tomatoes, broccoli, and this year, French cantaloupe. He uses grow boxes, which are 14 by 21 inches in size. He said, "I usually have about 7 boxes. I bought the first one online. It was about \$30. Now I just make my own. In summer, each box uses maybe a gallon of water a day. There is a tray at the bottom that holds water. Then dirt is placed on top of a grate. A CVC pipe is used in a corner and water is poured into the pipe. When tray is full, water seeps out a drain hole. It doesn't look like much, but I have seen his tomatoes and they provide fruit for neighbors up and down the block. He said he would like to collect rainwater, and friends in Marfa do and have plenty for the year. But their tank is as big as an 8x10 room. Growing up in Marfa, Beanland has seen some spectacular storms. He described seeing dry creek beds become a wall of water, rolling and tumbling down, with skunks, snakes and all forms of wildlife scrambling for higher ground. He and his wife Bo like to sit on the front porch of the family home in Marfa and watch the storms. Bo said, "We love the rain. But the lightning can scare the daylight out of me."



*A plant box that the Beanlands use.*

*Kenneth and Bo Beanland enjoy the many plants of their home garden.*

Lynne Wilkerson and Basil Scaljon have a Big Mama catchment tank holding 600 gallons of rainwater and another 55-gallon tank. They use the big tank for the front yard and the smaller barrel for the back yard. Lynne said, "We love the rain. It's comforting. When it thunderstorms, it's adventuresome. We have covered balconies and we can see the sky and the storms coming in, the trees waving and bending to the will of the storms."

Dianne and Joe Simpson also are raincatchers. Dianne said, "We have six, 55-gallon barrels for catching rain water. We also collect 150 gallons of water from the air conditioner condensation process."

Wherever you are, you, too, can be a raincatcher. Your plants will love it and you will be joyful with nature's most precious gift, water.



# On May 9, make a new choice: **Enrique Valdivia** for City Council District 7

Enrique Valdivia has dedicated his life's work to fighting for the best interests of the communities he represents as an attorney and advocate. He listens to his neighbors and is running to make sure they are heard at City Hall.

## ✓ Experienced Public Servant and Community Advocate

Elected Director, Edwards Aquifer Authority, 8 years  
Practicing Attorney, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, 30 years

## ✓ Ethical and Independent Leadership

Enrique comes to City Hall with a fresh perspective and independent voice. He will bring his principles and sense of fair play to policy negotiations and constituent services.

## ✓ Commitment to the Position

Serving on the City Council requires a significant commitment of time—not just to attend meetings, deliberate on issues and cast votes, but also to respond to the needs of the neighborhoods in the district. Enrique is committed to working for you, when you need him, not just when it's convenient.



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



Keeping Monticello Bello is a goal for all of us!

Now, you can show your neighborhood pride by wearing one of these attractive tees when you work around Monticello Park.

Get your very own for \$10 at the General Assembly on March 30.

Show the rest of the world your pride!!

Mark your calendars for the semi-annual



MAY 2, 2015

Monticello Park

Call 385-1729 for space reservations

All proceeds benefit the MPNA Scholarship program.

VOTEFORMARI.COM

CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 7

# MARI AGUIRRE-RODRIGUEZ

will be a leader we can trust to focus on what's important to improve the quality of life for all of us who call District 7 home.



1031 Donaldson Ave., San Antonio, TX 78228. (210) 542-2094  
Pd. Pol. Adv. by Mari Aguirre-Rodriguez Campaign, Margaret Mireles, Treasurer.



FREE EVENT \* MUSIC \* FUN \* DOOR PRIZES



# FREE COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

**Wednesday, April 15, 2015**

**Davis Scott Family YMCA \* 1213 Iowa St. \* 10am to 2pm**

## HEALTH RESOURCES

- Community Programs
- Free Kidney Screenings
- Free Cholesterol Screenings
- Free Diabetic Foot Screenings
- Free Glucose Screenings
- Insurance Information
- CPR / First Aid

## ACTIVITIES / DEMOS

- Raffle every 15 minutes
- Free Fruit Cups for Guests
- Free Goodies for Guests
- Children's Activity Area
- Painting Activity
- Gardening Activity  
(with take home seedling)

For more information please call 210-371-8584 or email [crystal@cvmsanantonio.com](mailto:crystal@cvmsanantonio.com)

# District 7 Candidate Forum

Monday April 13<sup>th</sup>

7PM - 8:30PM

**Jefferson United Methodist Church  
758 Donaldson Ave**

Join us for a San Antonio District 7 Candidate Forum to hear the candidates talk about the future of our community and their priorities. The Candidates will be asked questions from the audience.

Moderated by The League of Women Voters

**Hosted by:**

**Jefferson Neighborhood Association  
Monticello Park Neighborhood Association  
Woodlawn Lake Community Association**





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**Laddie III**-In February MPNA had three representatives appointed to a citizen's committee by County Commissioner Paul Elizondo. The committee was comprised of representatives from four neighborhood associations to recommend a new name for the Bexar County Flood Control Project SA-2 Laddie Place RSWF Phase III. Upon the completion of the project, the property's ownership will transfer from the County to the City of San Antonio. County Commissioner's Court voted unanimously to approve the committee's recommendation. It will now be called Old Spanish Walking Trails and Flood Control Basin. The committee agreed it was appropriate to name the newly created park for what it is and not for an individual. Also, it pays homage to the history of the Old Spanish Trail along Fredericksburg Road. A dedication ceremony is anticipated for April. Thank you to Tony Sanchez and Gary Hudman for representing MPNA at the committee meeting and at commissioner's court.

**D7 Candidate Forum**- MPNA is hosting a Candidate forum with Jefferson Neighborhood Association and Woodlawn Lake Community Association on Monday April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7PM at the Jefferson United Methodist Church. The D7 position on City Council is a two year term. Come hear about the candidate's priorities, qualifications, and ask questions. Early voting is on April 27 through May 5<sup>th</sup>, and Election Day is May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**April Brush & Continuing Leaf Collections**-During the month of April, MPNA is scheduled for its biannual BRUSH collection at the curb. Please visit: <https://www.sanantonio.gov/swmd/Brush.aspx> to search for a licensed tree maintenance person, tree pruning techniques/tree care, and oak wilt in Texas. Remember: Each residential homeowner may request (2) free of charge collections of leaves per fiscal year. Leaves must be placed in paper bags or cardboard boxes and not exceed 50 bags per collection.

**TJHS Construction Contact**: If you have concerns regarding the construction traffic to and from TJHS, here is a contact for the contractor: Brad Hinson Turner, Senior Superintendent Mobile: 210.722.1215

**MPNA Board Member Vacancy**- We are seeking a MPNA resident to fill a vacancy on the 2015 MPNA Board of Directors. A time conflict for one of our board members created a vacancy. We will be taking nominations from the floor during the next General Assembly meeting.

**May is Historic Preservation Month**-Preservation Month, sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation is a nationwide tribute to historic preservation and is celebrated across the United States as cities highlight local preservation initiatives. The City of San Antonio's Office of Historic Preservation hosts a full month of events to encourage preservation throughout May. Kick off the month with OHP at their annual State of Historic Preservation Announcement. Don't miss out on the Amazing Preservation Race Scavenger Hunt or the Amazing Preservation Race for Kids. Show off your favorite historic building with the This Place Matters photo contest. More details: <http://www.sanantonio.gov/historic/Events/PreservationMonth.aspx>

Regards,  
Bianca Maldonado  
President, MPNA

## Our Scholarship Deadline will be here soon!!

The MPNA awards scholarships to seniors from Thomas Jefferson High School or to a senior who is a resident within the boundaries of the MPNA.

Applications may be downloaded from the website at [www.monticelloparkna.org](http://www.monticelloparkna.org).

The form is found under the "Scholarships" tab. Jefferson High School students may also get the information and forms from their school counselors.

## DISCOVER THE ARTISTS OF THE DECO DISTRICT. SUPPORT OUR LOCAL RESIDENTS.

Thanks to artist Rachel Marie Bower for transforming our Real Estate Office into a gallery for the 2015 On & Off Fredericksburg Road Studio Tour!

### About the piece

'Housewarming' was painted following the artist's relocation to San Antonio. The narrative scenes were inspired by the search for a place to call home. Originally from Northeast Ohio, the south Texas landscape has been influential on her subject matter and color palette. Vibrant hues and exotic plant life, a result of hot weather and a blooming garden, are symbols of this new life in Texas.

'Housewarming' is currently on exhibition at the offices of Rey Garza Real Estate.

### About the artist

Rachael Marie Bower, the artist of Found (Here) Studio & Press, has been at home in Texas since 2012. She is an Instructor at Northwest Vista College, teaching courses in painting, art history and art appreciation. Rachael also teaches painting classes at the Alicia Trevino Lopez and Elvira Cisneros Centers, through the Go! Arts Program by Bihl Haus Arts.



Visit her website, [www.rachaelmadeline.com](http://www.rachaelmadeline.com) & follow her on [www.facebook.com/Foundherestudio](https://www.facebook.com/Foundherestudio)

This artist spotlight is brought to you by local Realtor Camille Rodriguez Brigant. Camille specializes in marketing and selling historic properties. Historic homes require a Realtor who knows how to accurately price each unique property and market to specialized buyers.

You can contact her for a free personalized evaluation of your home's value. Looking to buy? Camille can provide information on assistance programs which can enable you to move in with no money down.

Call or stop by her office, conveniently located at Huisache & Zarzamora.



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2722 N Zarzamora, SA, TX 78201





MARCH MPNA General Assembly Speaker will be the City of San Antonio Animal Care Services (ACS). ACS is the largest, open admission, municipal shelter in South Texas. Serving San Antonio residents, ACS resides on a 14-acre campus boasting a variety of programs and services aimed at encouraging responsible pet ownership and compliance in our community.



## ACS Ongoing and Upcoming Events:

### **October 2014-September 2015-ONGOING**

- **Oldies But Goodies**- With age comes wisdom...and a "let's chill" attitude you're gonna love! Our oldsters are ready to spend their golden years hanging with you on the couch. Love like this never gets old! \$50 Adoption for all of our dogs 5 years and older. \$15 for all our cats 5 years and older.
- **-\$15 Feline Fridays**-TGIF- Thank goodness it's Friday...Feline Friday, that is! Sweet cats and kittens take the spotlight during this cat-centric adoption special. It's Friday...adopt a cat for only \$15!

### **May 2015-September 2015-ONGOING**

- **Two-FUR-Tuesdays**-Why stop at 1 furry feline when you can have 2?!?! Adopt a cat/kitten for \$10 and pick out a second furry feline friend. That's TWO for the price of ONE! Tuesdays Only!
- **\$5 Feline Fridays**-Instead of a \$5 footlong, how about \$5 feline? Bring home a "professional biscuit maker" for \$5 on Friday's only.

**March 30, 2015 Low Cost Dog and Cat Vaccinations**- 2PM-5PM, please call 210.232.1004 or 210.735.1004 or access Pet Shotz <http://petshotzinc.com/>. Pet must be on leash or in carrier. Clinic held at the ACS Annex Building.

**April 3-April 6, 2015 Final Fur Adoption "paw"ty**- March Madness may be over...but you can still win the big game with a Varsity pet from Animal Care Services. Reduced adoption pricing applies.

**April 6, 2015 AND April 13, 2015 Low Cost Dog and Cat Vaccinations**- 2PM-5PM, please call 210.232.1004 or 210.735.1004 or access Pet Shotz <http://petshotzinc.com/>. Pet must be on leash or in carrier. Clinic held at the ACS Annex Building-4710 Highway 151

### **CNSI Vaccination Clinic-FREE Rabies and Low Cost Dog and Cat Vaccinations Clinic-**

**April 18<sup>th</sup> Clinic Location:** Woodlawn Lake-1103 Cincinnati Avenue

**April 20<sup>th</sup> Clinic Location:** ACS Annex Building-4710 Highway 151

First 250 receive FREE Rabies Vaccine. Owners must live in qualified zip codes (MPNA 78201 is on the list). For more information on vaccination fees, please call 210.232.1004, 210.735.1994 or access the Pet Shotz <http://petshotzinc.com/>

**April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Furry Fiesta Frenzy Adoption "paw"ty**- Close our Fiesta with a new friend. Ole! Crack a cascarone to receive a reduced adoption price for your pet! Close out Fiesta with a new friend

### **Contact information:**

Animal Care Services: 210.207.4PET (4738) 4710 State Hwy 151 San Antonio 78227  
[www.sanantonio.com/animalcare](http://www.sanantonio.com/animalcare)

1800 FREDERICKSBURG RD.

WWW.NYA.US



NYA presents

DECO

DISTRICT

*Nya*

STAGE

NYA Performers  
12:00-3:00

Ray Colao &  
The NYA Allstars  
3:00-3:45

Markus D  
4:00-4:45

Leonard Trujillo  
4:45-5:30

Glass Slipper  
5:30-6:15

Abe Novy  
6:15-7:00

Derrick Rage  
7:00-7:45

Rad Envelope  
7:45-8:30

Maz Chingon  
8:30-9:15

Kenny Summit  
9:15-10:30

*Main*

STAGE

Battle of Bands Winner  
12:00-12:45

Palacios Brothers  
1:00-1:45

Sauce Gonzalez &  
the West Side Sound  
2:00-2:45

NYA Performance  
3:00-3:30

Tamale Eating Contest  
3:30-4:30

NYA Performance  
4:30-5:00

Migrant Kids  
5:00-5:45

SA Blue Cats  
6:00-6:45

Tequila Rock Revolution  
7:00-7:45

Ruben V  
8:00-8:45

Bombasta  
9:00-10:30

*Deco*

STAGE

The Tubameisters  
12:00-12:45

Cherry St Band  
1:00-1:45

Final Cut  
2:00-2:45

The Uprising  
3:00-3:45

Jake Castillo Trio  
4:00-4:45

Los #3 Dinners  
5:00-5:45

Joe Posada Trio  
6:00-6:45

Soundrave  
7:00-7:45

Mario Flores  
and the Soda Creek  
8:00-8:45

Making Movies  
9:00-10:30

Arts & Music

FESTIVAL



Helping Here:



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
DEPARTMENT FOR CULTURE  
& CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT



APRIL 19, 2015

12PM-10:30PM