



The Alta Vista Neighborhood Association Newsletter

A V N A P O B O X 1 5 0 3 3 S A N A N T O N I O T X 7 8 2 1 2

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

The next general meeting is on **Wednesday, October 30, 2013 at 6:30pm** in the Mark Twain Middle School Cafeteria.

Alta Vista is a non-profit 501 (c) (4) organization.

Look for us on Facebook! Join our group to stay current with neighborhood news, find missing pets or get professional referrals. We are 150 members strong and growing!

Visit our website at AltaVistaSA.com

Questions? Write to [AVNA @ Ymail.com](mailto:AVNA@Ymail.com)

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BLOCK-CAPTAINS NEEDED

Block Captains deliver newsletters to every home on both sides of their assigned street between San Pedro and the Union Pacific Railroad. That includes the 400, 500, 600 and sometimes a portion of the 700 block. It takes about 45 minutes a month and gives you an opportunity to get involved in your community and get some fresh air and exercise. Newsletters are printed 8 months out of the year: Jan., Feb., March, April, May, Sept., Oct., and Nov. It really is a nice job and it unites the neighborhood. Call Maricel at (210) 401-6587 if interested.

YOU CAN ALWAYS GO DOWNTOWN

Big ideas are brewing for downtown San Antonio—VIA's proposed streetcar system, a UIW Medical School at Fox Tech, and a multi-fold arts and cultural strategy, just to name a few.

Join us at the next neighborhood association meeting to hear from Pat DiGiovanni, CEO of Centro San Antonio, who will provide an update on these and other developments, along with perspectives on how they affect surrounding central neighborhoods like Alta Vista and San Antonio at

large. Centro San Antonio partners with the Downtown Alliance to keep the core of our city strong through



enhancements that support a good mix of business, residential, recreational and tourist activity.

Projects on the boundaries like the Pearl and the Museum Reach river improvements demonstrate a changing landscape emanating from downtown. Come to the meeting to learn what Centro San Antonio has to say about what projects lie ahead and what they mean for us!

Our next general meeting is on Wednesday, October 30, 2013 at 6:30pm at Mark Twain Middle School in the cafeteria.

By Erin Zayko

SAN PEDRO WALKING TRAIL ON HOLD

On Thursday, Sept. 26th, the Department Parks and Recreation held its third San Pedro Springs Park \$1.07 Million "Walking Trail Bond Project" meeting at the Cellar Theater of the San Pedro Playhouse. The much anticipated conceptual walking trail plan was revealed to many neighbors, friends, city staff and Councilman Diego Bernal. The plan showed a meandering trail close to but not adjacent to the existing sidewalks that run alongside the park's four sides. Lacking were the trails along the southeast portion of the park where the softball fields are located. This section will be addressed when funding is made available to rebuild the ball fields at a different location in the future.

The new trail design calls for the removal of the existing sidewalk along the perimeter of the park, replacing it with a 10 ft. wide meandering promenade of concrete, lighted, irrigated and landscaped with native plants, trees and shrubs. All was go-

ing well until it was mentioned that the \$1.07 million was not enough to complete the project as called for in the plan. An alternative first phase was shown that would install some trails that would venture close to the planned trails, but



would have to be torn out after full and adequate funds were found to correctly construct the trails. Most folks in the audience were not overjoyed with this option and suggested that only portions of the trail be constructed in the correct manner.

It was pointed out that San Antonio will be celebrating its 300th Anniversary in 2018, our

first mission and presidio were founded on the springs in 1718 and the Park should play a prominent role in the upcoming milestone celebration. The trails would be a great addition to showcase the park at that meaningful time. Mike Beaty, project architect, indicated a cost of \$4.5 million to ensure construction of the entire trail project as drawn. After a lengthy discussion, Councilman Bernal stated that if the folks did not mind postponing the project, he would take on the task with the help of corporate, public and private support to find the remaining moneys to fully fund the project. His recommendation was loudly applauded and accepted. We applaud Councilman Bernal for stepping up to the plate again for the citizens of San Antonio, Alta Vista neighbors and the Friends of San Pedro Springs Park. We remain at his disposal.

By Hector J Cardenas

PET COMMITTEE NEWS

The AVNA pet committee continues to trap, neuter and return (TNR) feral cats in our community. We have been trapping 1-2 times a week throughout the neighborhood and have identified many homes in need of our help. If

you know of someone feeding outdoor cats that could use our free volunteer services, write to: AVNA@ymail.com ATTN: Pet Committee or call 210-401-6587 from 9am-6pm. Interested in getting involved? We could really use the help.

We need volunteers to help trap or to transfer the cats to the clinic after trapping or perhaps you can offer a cool dry place, even a garage, for the cats to recover after surgery. We also appreciate any donation to our pet fund.

We make good neighbors!

A L T A V I S T A N E I G H B O R H O O D A S S O C I A T I O N
A N E I G H B O R H O O D C O N S E R V A T I O N D I S T R I C T



2013 AVNA NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Great turnout for Alta Vista's 2013 National Night Out celebration. The gathering gets bigger and better every year. A good time was had by all!

Our special guest, Councilman Diego Bernal, was presented with a first edition copy of the book *Profiles in Courage* in recognition of his proactive and tireless work on behalf of all of the citizens of district 1.

Special thanks to our gracious hosts, Doug and Carla Chapa, who once again shared their lovely and spacious front lawn with us and manned the grill.

2013 AVNA EVENTS:

Wednesday, October 30
General Meeting

Wednesday, November 20
General Meeting

Saturday, December 7
Holiday Party

Don't forget to pay your membership dues and receive an invitation to the AVNA members only holiday party of the year!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

UPDATE OF SEPT 25 MEETING

We invited neighbors to voice their frustrations with the recent drainage construction at the last general meeting. We have been informed that all the problems have been handled by the appropriate organization and hope to close the books on problems related to the drainage project in Alta Vista.

Fun Raiser

To Benefit the Pat Clayworth Scholarship Fund

Saturday, November 2nd



6:00 – 7:30 pm Wine and Cheese Reception
702 West French Place at Breeden

8:00 pm Performance of "Les Miserables" at
The Playhouse in San Pedro Springs Park

Tickets are \$30 each and include admission to each event. Proceeds benefit the Pat Clayworth Scholarship Fund. The fund, named in memory of Mark Twain teacher, Pat Clayworth, provides a \$500 scholarship to a graduating SAISD high school senior who attended Mark Twain Middle School. The Scholarship fund is a joint project of the Alta Vista Neighborhood Association and the San Antonio Alliance of Teachers and Support Personnel.

Please fill out the information below and return with a check made out to BOB COMEAUX to 702 West French Place, San Antonio, 78212. Send \$30.00 for each ticket needed. For more information contact Bob at 210-326-2655 or write to bobtheunionguy@aol.com.

Name _____ Number of Tickets Needed _____

E-Mail Address _____ Phone number _____

If you cannot attend but wish to support the scholarship, consider buying one or two tickets for someone who otherwise would be unable to attend.

Donations of wine/beer/cheese/finger foods/light desserts are welcome.
Please let us know if you can bring something.

ALTA VISTA IN THE NEWS

Alta Vista was recently in the news because of disputes over the plans for the re-paving of the path of the sewer repair in our neighborhood. The newly placed sewer (part of the drainage project) had sagged and required re-opening the newly paved streets. The executive committee held a meeting with the Department of Public Works on October 18. Public Works was very receptive to our concerns. They conducted a review of the initial plans and met again with the executive committee on October 23 to present a compromise to our request to pave the entire path block to block. The plan is now to pave almost 100% of the path, leaving only a small area of recently laid asphalt on Breeden St. and on Huisache Ave. With this compromise, we avoided a patchwork of asphalt on about 10 blocks of our streets and the potholes that could result. We thank Public Works for their part in negotiating this outcome for us and thank our residents for their patience during the construction which is expected to begin this week.

Help your best friend live a long & healthy life.

All-in-one daily supplement specifically formulated for dogs.

For more information call:
Alma Noriega-Sotirhos
anoriegas@yahoo.com
Cell: 210-723-2519



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