



Alta Vista Neighborhood Association Newsletter

January 2021

P.O. Box 12174, San Antonio TX 78212

Alta Vista Traffic Islands

INFO

GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

January 27th (Zoom)
March 31st (Zoom)

BOARD MEETINGS

Monthly Schedule TBD

2021 AVNA BOARD

PRESIDENT

Christina Wright

VICE PRESIDENT

Andrea Alfaro

SECRETARY

Cheryl Dozier

TREASURER

(Vacant)

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Erik Olsen
Colleen Witt
Matt Garcia

WEB

altavistana.org

EMAIL

avna@ymail.com

P.O. Box 12174, 78212



[@AltaVistaNA.org](https://www.facebook.com/AltaVistaNA.org)

The traffic islands at Breeden intersecting W. Kings Hwy and Gramercy are in commemoration of neighbors who have gone before us, and the Alta Vista Neighborhood Association wants to honor the traffic islands that are a special little spot in the neighborhood by beautifying and landscaping the islands to become pocket parks. With these funds we hope to create a place of respite where neighbors can gather and enjoy our community. Jimmy Contreras, one of Alta Vista's past Presidents, had been an active member of the association for many years. Much of the groundwork planning in Alta Vista had something to do with Jimmy. He was a member of the Neighborhood Planning Team and an active member of several AVNA committees. Jimmy was also a Master Gardener and would lend his marvelously landscaped backyard to many AVNA functions.

Jessica Zembala and her fiancé Allen Sikes touted the idea of landscaping the islands several years prior to her passing. Both Allen and Jessica were active members of the AVNA Zoning Committee and the Neighborhood Planning Committee. They shared a beautiful home close to the intersection of one of the proposed islands. Jessica and Allen had been avid Xeriscape gardeners and their yard was featured as a winner in a SAWS landscape tour.

Alta Vista lost Jimmy on Thanksgiving Day of in 2003, after a long illness. He was in his early fifties. Jessica passed away unexpectedly in April of the same year. She was 32 and was to wed Allen the next month.

In light of the pandemic and the hardships we have faced, Alta Vista is asking that the community come together in an effort to restore the traffic islands. The AVNA Board in 2003 raised funds and landscaped the islands in memory of Jimmy and Jessica. But for many years since, the islands have been neglected. The General Assembly voted in 2020 to "Adopt a Spot" and move forward with a landscaping project. In order to raise funds, we are having a Brick Fundraiser Campaign.

We're hoping that in February we'll be able to start with the ground breaking. Community work days will be scheduled through March to bring us together and celebrate each other; even if we're still safely social distancing then.

see the next page for more information on how to donate

In Our Community

Happy New Year



Use the app to connect to 63 different city services, and file reports.

Dial 3-1-1 with detailed information regarding your request; your information is immediately sent to the appropriate City department for action. 311 can reduce the number of non-emergency calls to 911, allowing emergency personnel to focus on critical and urgent calls.

ADVERTISE HERE! SEND US AN EMAIL FOR THE CURRENT FEE STRUCTURE AND SCHEDULE. YOU CAN REACH UP TO 1,300 RESIDENCES IN THE ALTA VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD!

FREE WIFI

Laurel Heights United Methodist Church

(227 W. Woodlawn) has set up a free WiFi hotspot in their Woodlawn parking lot. The hotspot is available from 6am to 10pm. They hope this resource will be a blessing to their neighbors and be one small step toward bridging the digital divide in San Antonio.

The AVNA Board of Directors has worked very hard reviewing the results of the survey that was circulated last August. There were only 80 returned and that is only 6% of our neighborhood population. However, those voices were critical to shaping our objectives. The Zoning and Planning Committee (what was called the Technical Committee) will be focused on property taxes as a special assignment. D1 has already been notified that sidewalks are still an issue and that Alta Vista is still not included in the city's Capital Improvement Plan. We're going to continue to improve communication and let you know about specific issues that pose challenges to our neighbors, especially regarding Code and SAFFE. There were several requests for more information regarding development, but there are not large scale development projects planned for Alta Vista. However, the neighborhood is currently in the discovery phase of the Large Area Rezoning review by DSD. Community input meetings will be scheduled as soon as we have that coordination with DSD. If you missed what that is all about then please find the November 2020 newsletter archived on our website to read all about it. When specific properties have zoning change requests or something of that nature then we'll make sure that we get that information out so that you're aware of those types of actions, along with what the Board decisions are, or whether we submit a response to the city. Information doesn't always correspond with the physical newsletter publications, that are every other month. Please sign up for our email blasts so that you are getting information in between. And there is quite a bit of interest in reading stories about other neighbors, businesses, the park, and our neighborhood's history. We're going to bring back the "spotlight" section of the newsletter and hope to find a way to make the Cultural Committee a reality this year.

The day to day life in Alta Vista plays out on our Facebook group page. Please request to join to be a part of the activity. Active property issues are ongoing at 800 W. Russell. We recently found out, in days after the fire, that it has made it to the City Attorney's Public Defenders' office. It still has to make its way to Bexar County for it to be auctioned. Across the street, 2602 N Flores, "Patsy's", has been sold and the new owner has initiated a request for historic landmark designation. It is currently on the HDRC agenda for January 20th.

More business, info, and updates will be provided at the General Assembly Meeting on the 27th at 6:30pm. You do not have to be a member to join the meetings! Membership dues pay our operational expenses and members vote on Association matters. Please join us, your input is what makes us a community and gives voice to our neighborhood!

Alta Vista is bounded by Hildebrand on the North, San Pedro on the East, the Union Pacific railroad tracks on the West & Myrtle on the South.

In Our Neighborhood

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

AVNA Help Line 210-906-8617
 SAPD Non-Emergency: 210-207-7273
 SAFFE Officer for AV
 Officer Sanchez: 210-207-7413 or
 albert.sanchez@sanantonio.gov
 District 1 City Council Office
 210-207-7279 or 210-207-0900
 Neighborhood Liaison:
 Lawson Picasso
 North Central Unit Code Office
 210-289-4801
 Animal Care Services Dist 1
 Officer: Adán Pérez
 210-216-8428 or
 adan.perez@sanantonio.gov

Zoom in to the General Assembly

Please join us for the first General Assembly Meeting of the year on January 27th at 6:30pm!
 To get to the General Assembly Meeting on ZOOM, use this link: bit.ly/avnazoom2
 Or find the ZOOM information on our Facebook events page or call or email us for the information! The link will also be sent out in eblast so make sure we have your email address!
 The January General Assembly Meeting agenda will be sent out with the ZOOM meeting reminder prior to the 27th. Topics will include introducing the new AVNA board, the 2021 board objectives, Traffic Island Brick Fundraiser update, Large Area Rezoning plans, and updates from D1, code, and SAFFE.

DONATE @ bit.ly/AVNABrick

\$50.00 per brick (with an option to add the \$2.05 transaction fee for the PayPal transactions only)
 Engraving option for up to 3 lines is included with 18 characters per line.
 Continue to payment for an option to pay by PayPal / debit or credit card - OR - by check (the check number has to be entered and you must continue to submit the order through the site for the brick to be processed, then mail the check to AVNA). You can also cut out the below form and mail it to AVNA with a check. Checks are made out to Alta Vista Neighborhood Association.
 Please consider making a direct donation to AVNA if you are interested in giving a different amount or you would prefer to donate but not have a brick made. Go to our altavistana.org/home/membership and use the Join or Donate tab, select the yellow Donate button, and you can make a donation through PayPal.
 When we get closer to planting there might be opportunities to give plants, and help with the labor!

Yes, we'd like to reserve a permanent brick. Please engrave our brick as follows:

4 X 8 BRICK

ANY SYMBOL IS CONSIDERED ONE SPACE (PERIOD, COMMA, DASH)
 ALL TEXT IS CENTERED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

EXAMPLE

							W	E									
						L	O	V	E								
			A	L	T	A		V	I	S	T	A					

City of San Antonio COVID-19 HELP

covid19.sanantonio.gov/Home

covid19.sanantonio.gov/Services/Alerts-Sign-Up-for-Alerts

COVID-19 Hotline 210-207-5779

Customer Service 311
or 210-207-6000

Join Us!

Sign up for our eblasts. AVNA distributes the newsletter every other month. In between, we send out an eblast email. If you would like to be included, send us your email address. Go to our website & click on the Contact Us tab. There you can subscribe to our eblasts.

Become a member. Just click on the Join or Donate tab. Or mail in the form on page 4.



Camille Rodriguez Brigant, Realtor®
Historic Home Specialist

210.802.9797 MotifTX.com
Realtor@MotifTX.com

BECOME AN AVNA MEMBER!

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

Individual: \$10 per year

Business: \$20 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)

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

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

Name: _____ Phone: (_____) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Amount Paid: _____

If you have any questions, please call AVNA at (210) 906-8617.

You can also order on-line at bricksrus.com/donorsite/avna.