



Alta Vista Neighborhood Association Newsletter

November 2021

P.O. Box 12174, San Antonio TX 78212

INFO

GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

November 17th
Mark Twain Library & Zoom

BOARD MEETINGS

November 7th (Zoom)

2021 AVNA BOARD

PRESIDENT

Cheryl Dozier

VICE PRESIDENT

Matt Garcia

SECRETARY

Corey Schultz

TREASURER

Mary Kenney

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

(Vacant)

(Vacant)

(Vacant)

WEB

altavistana.org

EMAIL

avna@ymail.com

P.O. Box 12174, 78212



@AltaVistaNA.org

District 1 Councilman Mario Bravo



District 1 Councilman Mario Bravo

District 1 Councilman Mario Bravo met with AVNA to discuss his vision for our neighborhood, including upcoming events and funding decisions on the City's 2022 Bond and American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

"City Council is leaning towards projects that benefit the city as a whole: the neighborhoods rather than downtown," Bravo said.

In May 2022, residents will vote on the proposed 2022 Bond sanantonio.gov/2022bond. D1, which received less than \$40 million in the 2017 Bond, will see that figure increase to about \$68 million. This funding will support key infrastructure projects such as streets and sidewalks, parks, and public facilities/housing. "The Bond is a big opportunity," said Bravo.

Bravo is also working allotment of ARPA funds, which will provide San Antonio with \$226 million. Bravo stated that citizen participation is absolutely crucial. He asked that Alta Vista residents please spend a few seconds to take the single-question survey at surveymonkey.com/r/XDPRYPT.

"This is our money; let's make sure it's spent how we want it," Bravo said

As of Oct. 27, the leading survey results are:

- Breaching the "digital divide" to reach residents who lack internet access
- Assistance for utility payments: electric, gas, and water.
- Support for homelessness and mental health services.

"Homelessness is another big issue I'll be taking on," said Bravo. He is in alignment with the city staff to spend \$20 million on permanent housing for the chronically homeless as well as for victims of domestic violence. Some homeless mentally ill will never be able to hold a job, and Bravo wants housing and mental health services such as addiction recovery.

Cooking and Art Classes, Tai Chi, TV Shows ... at Your Library?

Beyond the Book at the San Pedro Library Since August 5, 1930, the first branch of the San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) has provided a continuous stream of resources to residents of Alta Vista and the surrounding communities. The Spanish-style building with its lofty ceilings recalls an earlier era of elegance while providing modern services such as a digital catalog and WiFi.

“Our mission is information, imagination, and ideas,” said Karen Braeuler, Children’s Librarian.

While the San Pedro Library is small and charming, patrons actually have access to 1.6 MILLION books. The SAPL system operates a “floating collection:” any item at 29 libraries is available for delivery to any branch most convenient for the patron, such as San Pedro for Alta Vista.

“Place a hold on anything at any library, and it will arrive usually within the week,” said Braeuler. “This isn’t the old days when if it wasn’t on the shelf, you couldn’t get it.”

For instance, even though downtown’s Central Library is closed for renovation, patrons are able to request books and other media, available for pickup here at San Pedro Branch. Library card holders also may access the large online collection to read or listen to from their device, including The New York Times. SAPL cardholders also have access to over 100 research databases covering many subjects from business, to medicine to genealogy and more! Modern libraries are much more than rows of silent books. “We have magazines, audiobooks, music CDs, DVDs and Blurays,” Braeuler said. “You don’t have to subscribe to Netflix to get many of the shows – even some of the British ones.”

Kids are well-served at San Pedro Branch. Younger patrons have their own reading section and live online programs geared for age groups, from Toddler Time Online Live to Teen Dungeons and Dragons, to Trivia Live and Cooking for adults. Each month, the library provides a new take home craft (one for children, and one for “kids of all ages”).

“We promote lifelong learning,” said Braeuler.

On The Horizon

Ships & Chips: Nov. 7, 11 am – 2 pm, San Pedro Springs. Bring picnic lunch, watch and sail toy boats in pool!

AVNA Board Elections: Look for info coming soon to your email.

Membership Drive: Talk to your neighbors and friends, encourage them to join as well!

Traffic Islands Dedication: Working a timeline for installation of bricks and benches.

District 1 Councilman Mario Bravo Contd

“This is the compassionate thing to do,” Bravo said, “And it is a responsible use of the taxpayers’ dollar.” Providing support to the mentally ill homeless benefits all San Antonio, by freeing up emergency services. For example, it would lessen 911 calls, allowing a faster response for other emergencies. This support also will save time and money on ambulance rides, police response, and medical services.

“There are no quick fixes for homelessness,” Bravo stated, but in the long term, permanently supported housing can get people with serious mental health issues off the streets. To educate and empower the community, Bravo’s office is working with local entities to prepare a series of neighborhood workshops on:

- “Homelessness 101:” what resources exist, and how residents can help.
- How to be a first responder in a mental health crisis.
- Sex trafficking, especially how to identify victims.

Finally, in the beautiful and historic [San Pedro Springs Park](#), the trail is nearing completion, and a Ribbon Cutting will be announced soon.

“It takes all of us working together,” Bravo said.

– story by Corey Schultz

**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.**

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

AVNA Help Line

210-906-8617

avna@ymail.com

SAPD Non-Emergency

210-207-7273

SAFFE

Officer Ben Maciel

210-207-7413

benito.maciel@sanantonio.gov

District 1 City Council Office

Neighborhood Liaison

Martin Calderon

210-207-0907

martin.calderon@sanantonio.gov

North Central Unit Code Office

210-289-4801

Animal Care Services Dist 1

Officer Adán Pérez

210-216-8428

adan.perez@sanantonio.gov



Your Local Solar and Backup Specialist!

Erik Olsen

Alta Vista Resident, Solar Consultant

210-861-7163

erik.olsen@speirino.com

MOTIF
REALTY

Camille Rodriguez Brigant, Realtor®
Historic Home Specialist

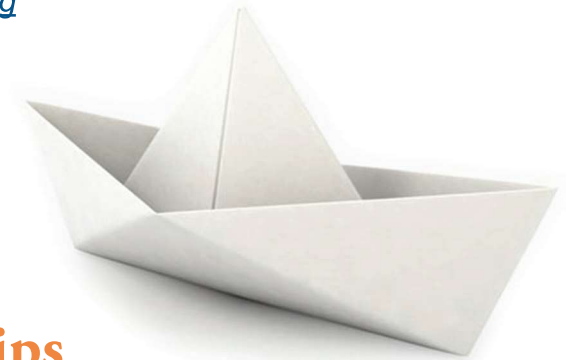
210.802.9797 MotifTX.com
Realtor@MotifTX.com

Join the Board!

Participation on the AVNA Board has lasting impacts. The railroad Quiet Zone is a great example. Before it was established in 2015, conductors were required to blow the train horn before EVERY intersection from Hildebrand to downtown. AVNA rallied support to make the Alta Vista Quiet Zone a reality. Today, we have safer intersections and rules in place that allow train horns only for a safety concern. This major quality-of-life improvement (especially on Ripley) would not have been possible without volunteers.

Want to make a difference for Alta Vista? Nominate yourself for a board spot today!

Apply at: altavistana.org



Ships & Chips

Skippers, sailors, and deckhands!

From 11AM - 2PM on Sunday, Nov 7

Join your neighbors for SHIPS & CHIPS, an event hosted by the Alta Vista Arts Committee. Bring a picnic and your own boat to float in San Pedro Springs Park pool. All levels of shipbuilding skill welcome! Find out how to make a simple and WATERPROOF paper boat at wikihow.com/Make-a-Paper-Boat or use your imagination to create your own USS Alta Vista (CVN 78212).

D1 has asked us to help with their coat drive. Please bring any new or gently used coats to share with those in need.

ADVERTISE WITH US!

You can reach 1,300 potential customers.

Business card size ads

are free on a space available basis

Email avna@ymail.com for more information

General Assembly November 17th 6:30 p.m.

Mark Twain DL Academy Library

AVNA Board Elections and more!

Or join us on ZOOM. Use the link below to access the meeting.

tinyurl.com/AVNAGeneralAssembly

Meeting ID: 899 0392 8642

Passcode: 660854

Look for the ZOOM info & agenda on our Facebook Events page. You can also email us at avna@ymail.com & we will send you the information!

BECOME AN AVNA MEMBER! 2022

Your membership dues & donations go to community outreach & engagement.

Individual: \$10 per year

Couple: \$20 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

San Pedro Branch Library

The library cards are free. Parking is **FREE**. WiFi is **FREE**. Computer access is free. **FREE** unlimited digital access to The New York Times. **FREE** arts and crafts projects and programs—Babies through Seniors.

Peruse events and classes!
mysapl.org/Events-News/Events-Calendar

Find out more!

San Pedro Library
1315 San Pedro Ave
San Antonio, TX 78212
210.207.9050

Attention Alta Vista!

Block Captains Needed!

Block Captains are vital to AVNA's ability to communicate with as many neighbors as possible.

What they do:

- Deliver newsletters: Jan, Mar, May, Sept, & Nov
- Communicate neighbor concerns to AVNA
- Be a Neighbor-to-Neighbor advocate

Email avna@ymail.com to sign up!

Join Us!

Become a member. On the AVNA website, click the "Join or Donate" tab or use the form to the left..

Sign up for our eblasts. AVNA hand delivers and emails newsletters every other month. We also send emails in between with announcements and time sensitive info. Use the "Contact Us" tab on the AVNA website to subscribe.