

# Monticello Park NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



HISTORIC HOMES AND FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS IN THE HEART OF SAN ANTONIO

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

Monday, 1/29/24, 7 PM  
Grace Presbyterian Church  
950 Donaldson

Speaker: D7 Updates

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*"You must be the  
change you wish to  
see in the world."*

Mahatma Gandhi

## Ferne Burney Met Family of Her Home's Original Owners

I had a recent visit by members of the family who built my home in 1936.



**MY HOUSE**  
by Ferne Burney

These were second and third generation members and were the most enthusiastic admirers of my home I have ever met. It was not

the first time we had met, but it was certainly the happiest visit we have ever had.

I learned many things about my home that I had not previously discovered, although on the last visit we had, I learned a ton of information, including the fact that one of the members of this family was my father's Commanding Officer when I was born.

I had always assumed that the home was occupied by sisters Bess and Ruth

Moynahan because their names are on the original blueprints that I have. I knew that their parents lived here as well from newspaper articles I discovered. What I did not know was that Bess and Ruth, both never married, were at the home with two other unmarried sisters, Esther and Mayme. Imagine four "spinster" sisters under one roof. No wonder this family has such a great sense of humor.

The oldest in the Moynahan family, Mayme stayed in the bedroom next to the kitchen. It now serves as the Breakfast Room in the modern kitchen. She kept the house for everyone and was a fabulous cook.

Mr. Moynahan was a railroad man. He stayed in the Master Bedroom and had a rocking chair where he sat, read, and smoked his pipe. His family still

*Continued on page 3*



*Moynahan family Christmas. Front Row: Ted Stephens, Jim Stephens, Betty Peplow Cronin, Esther Moynahan Middle Row: Mayme Moynahan, Bess Moynahan, Mr. and Mrs. Moynahan, Gertrude Moynahan Back Row: Ed Moynahan, Maurice and George Peplow, Eleanor and Ted Stephens, Ruth Moynahan.*

# Join MPNA and Help Build a Better Neighborhood

Neighbors,

I hope you had a safe and happy



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
by Drea Garza

holiday season. MPNA had a memorable 2023 that included celebrating our 40th anniversary, the installation of long requested and overdue four-way stop signs, and the return of the Holiday Home

Tour. What can we look forward to in 2024? Be sure to attend the next General Assembly for a sneak peak of what we can expect in and around our great neighborhood.

A heartfelt thank you to the homeowners, sponsors, docents, and committee members who made the Historic Home Tour a huge success. This tour is not only MPNA's largest fundraiser, but also one of the best ways to share the stories of our homes and let everyone visiting for the day experience a hidden gem of a neighborhood! Also many thanks to outgoing Board members Marti Campbell and Carol Rea for their work on the MPNA board, and in particular for bringing back a Membership Committee, and much appreciation to returning/new board members Pam Carpenter, Laura Reyna, and Andra Nava-Garcia.

Have you made any resolutions for the New Year? Here is an easy one—resolve to get more involved in your neighborhood! The easiest way you can do this is by joining or renewing your MPNA membership. MPNA is a voluntary association, and all homeowners/residents residing within the neighborhood boundaries are

eligible for membership. Annual dues are \$20 per household (if over 65, dues are \$10 per household). Being a member of MPNA is a great way to connect with neighbors, learn about upcoming city projects in our area, and be among the first to know about MPNA events. You do not have to be a paid member to participate in any MPNA meeting or event, but your dues payments help us offset the costs associated with the newsletter you are reading, with neighborhood socials, and with other initiatives that give back to the MPNA community, such as restoration grants for upkeep and maintenance of the exterior of our historic homes. Membership in MPNA also grants you voting privileges at MPNA meetings and for board elections. You can pay your dues by mail, in person at the next General Assembly meeting, or online ([monticelloparkna.org](http://monticelloparkna.org)).

Be sure to join us for the first General Assembly meeting of the year at Grace Presbyterian Church at 950 Donaldson Avenue on Monday, January 29th, 7 PM. In addition to updates from our SAFFE Officer, and District 7, we will share the latest on street/alley/drainage improvements, additional four-way stop signs, and upcoming volunteer opportunities. This meeting is also an opportunity to share your ideas on MPNA's priorities for the upcoming year, and most importantly, get to know your neighbors.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming General Assembly meeting!

## MONTICELLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

MPNA serves the interests of nearly 650 households in the Monticello Park Neighborhood and is recognized by the City of San Antonio.

We are a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation devoted to promoting, preserving, and enhancing the values and quality of life within our neighborhood. MPNA was founded in 1983 and this year we celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

President	Drea Garza
Vice President	Bianca Maldonado
Secretary	Pam Carpenter
Treasurer	Robin Foster

Board Members	Gary Hudman
	Andra Nava-Garcia
	Ressie O'Connors
	Laura Reyna
	Tony Sanchez
	Tom Simmons

[www.monticelloparkna.org](http://www.monticelloparkna.org)  
[facebook.com/groups/MonticelloParkNA](https://facebook.com/groups/MonticelloParkNA)

## MONTICELLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is published six times per year (January, March, May, July, September, & November) and delivered to households in the Monticello Park Neighborhood free of charge.

Neighbors are encouraged to submit articles (250-350 words) by the 5<sup>th</sup> day of each publication month to be considered for publication. We reserve the right to edit all materials for content, length, and style. All materials submitted become property of MPNA and may be reproduced in all MPNA communications.

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and MPNA is not responsible for that content or opinion.

Editor	Gary Hudman
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Committee & Writers	Drea Garza
	Ro Insler
	Bianca Maldonado
	Jan Peranteau
	Laura Reyna
	Carol Rea
	Tony Sanchez
	Barbara Simpson

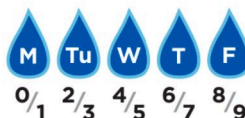
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[www.monticelloparkna.org](http://www.monticelloparkna.org)

## Water Once a Week on Your Designated Day.

San Antonio remains in Stage 2 Water Restrictions because SAWS purchased additional sources of water.



Watering day determined by last digit of address





## *Ferne Burney from page 1*

has that chair, and the arm has a groove in it where he used to strike his matches for his tobacco.

When his granddaughter had a special date, she would come to visit him before she went out, and he would always tell her that her outfit looked "scrumptious." On occasion, he would call out to Betty, "bring me a set-up!" That meant that she brought him ice and his metal cup (always in the fridge) with liquor, usually bourbon.

Mrs. Moynahan stayed in the front room (now the playroom). She shared the bathroom with her husband. Once, when granddaughter Betty had a bad cold, "Nana" told her to wait, and she went into the deep closet in that bedroom. She emerged with rock candy and bourbon. Betty slept well that night.

The downstairs bathroom was the "naughty" bathroom. In the space next to it in the hallway, where the fainting couch is now, was a small table, chair, and telephone. When that "special call" came for Betty, she would retreat into that bathroom to speak. The same goes for the only other phone in the house at that time, just outside the upstairs linen closet. That closet is as large as the downstairs powder room.

My workroom was the sleeping porch in 1936. It was part of Bess's room which was the room that is now my office. What we suspected about Bess was right: her family called her "The General".

The gas heaters in the house were confirmed as original. The one in the living room used to be in the hearth of the fireplace which clearly never saw wood burning. We had a laugh about the heaters that used to be in the bathrooms. They heated the room very well, but there was an open flame inside the wall! They confirmed that opening up the vents in them was the way those rooms were cooled.

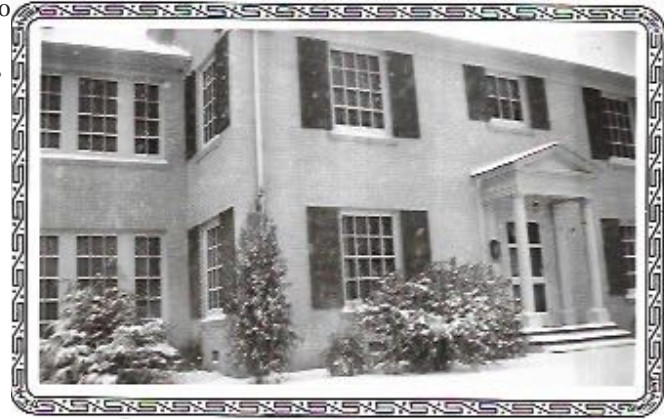
The Moynahans had blue carpeting in the living room. They, along with others, did not respect the beauty of hardwood floors. I ripped out carpeting as soon as I knew I could afford to refinish the floor. Only one room in the house needed the floor refinished. A previous owner had glued outdoor carpeting to the oak floor.

Former Mayor Maury Maverick used to live across the street (now my wonderful neighbor Erin Galloway's house). He was best friends with the Moynahan father. He never rang the bell or even knocked on the door.

He would come into the house where four "old maid" sisters lived, and he would call out "I'm coming up" since he was on his way to visit the man in his room (my bedroom). Sometimes, one of the women would call back "hold on" because of whatever was going with her at the time. The sisters all loved Mr. Maverick.

We have developed a bond with this family, and it feels so right to share the one thing we have in common and love so much. One of the third-generation members has told me that

when the house is ready to be sold (thinking that nothing will matter to me anymore), they want to be the buyers.



*340 Mary Louise during a snowfall, showing the original screen door. This may be the record snowfall of January 1949.*



*Michael Cronin and Betty Peplow Cronin on their wedding day in the 1950s, in the living room of 340 Mary Louise Drive. Note the carpeting covering the hardwood floors.*

# Meet Your MPNA Board of Directors

*Building a better neighborhood through engagement*

The Monticello Park Neighborhood Association is officially recognized by the City of San Antonio and has served the interests of households within our neighborhood boundaries since 1983.

We are structured as a 501(c)3, non-profit corporation, devoted to promoting, preserving, and enhancing the values and quality of life within the neighborhood.

We raise funds, host social activities, and award college scholarships and beautification grants to give back to and

build our community.

The daily administration of the association is by an all-volunteer board of directors, which is elected by the general membership each November.

Here are short bios of each board member, to help you get to know us. We'd love to have you volunteer on a committee, and hope to see each of you at our General Assembly Meetings, events, and socials.

Please help us build a better Monticello Park for everyone!



## **Drea Garza President**

Drea wandered into Monticello Park and was instantly reminded of historic Palm Boulevard in her hometown of Brownsville, Texas. Inspired by the original features found in neighbors' homes, she removed all her home's "updates" and reintroduced Art Deco elements to restore it to its original glory. She has served on MPNA's board since 2015.



## **Bianca Maldonado Vice-President**

Bianca relocated from St. Louis back to Texas, landing in Monticello Park, in 2004. She has volunteered her time serving on the MPNA board for 15 of the past 19 yrs. as a board member and past President advocating for improvements and historic preservation. She enjoys working in the yard and traveling.



## **Pam Carpenter Secretary**

Pam is a 4th generation Texan from a small town. She moved to Monticello Park in 2019 to have the storybook "holiday home" and discovered a fellowship of ardent homeowners. Her architectural practice with her husband specializes in historic preservation and keeps her engaged in the local community. She unwinds with puzzles, weeding, and doggie-strolls.



## **Robin Foster Treasurer**

A North Carolina transplant passionate about historic preservation, Robin moved to Mary Louise in 2019 and joined the MPNA board in 2020. Combining her love of history and architecture with an ability to swear in Russian, she's been training in wood window restoration since 2021. Quixotic, loquacious Scrabble player too.



## **Gary Hudman Board Member**

Gary, a native Texan, moved to Monticello Park in 2009. He currently lives on Donaldson while renovating "The Castle," his home on Mary Louise. He has served on the MPNA board since 2012, and is a past President. He is the editor of the MPNA newsletter, chairs the Home Tour committee, and administers the neighborhood website.



## **Andra Nava-Garcia Board Member**

Andra is a native San Antonian and moved to Monticello Park in 2018 with her husband and their beloved Mini Schnauzer, Otto. Most evenings they can be found strolling through the neighborhood and visiting with neighbors. She has a passion for environmental sustainability and incorporating eco-friendly practices at home. Andra enjoys running and spending time outdoors.



## **Ressie O'Connors Board Member**

Ressie moved to the neighborhood in 2011. She loves Monticello Park and is highly involved in the neighborhood. She has served on the board since 2013 and is a past Secretary. She retired from the United States Air Force after 22 years of active service. You can often find Ressie and her husband Charlie walking their dogs throughout the neighborhood.



## **Laura Reyna Board Member**

Laura is a San Antonio native who moved to Monticello Park in 2022 and immediately became involved with MPNA. She is new to the board this year and is looking forward to helping the neighborhood. Laura has worked in tech for over 10 years. She enjoys playing golf, reading, and traveling the world with her husband Ryan.



## **Tony Sanchez Board Member**

Tony has lived in the neighborhood since 1982 and was an integral part of establishing the Monticello Park Historic District. He loves working in his yard and greenhouse and has a passion for growing orchids. Tony is a member of the Orchid Society of San Antonio and enjoys volunteering at the San Antonio Botanical Gardens.



## **Tom Simmons Board Member**

Tom bought his house on Club Dr. in 2010 and soon began delivering the MPNA newsletter. He is retired from the United States Air Force and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 60. Tom enjoys hosting a neighborhood 4th of July party each year and has quite a green thumb. He can usually be found working on multiple projects in his front yard.





# Please Join MPNA to Build a Better Neighborhood

Pay dues by January 31<sup>st</sup> and you can vote at each meeting throughout 2024

Please help us build a stronger and more engaged neighborhood by paying MPNA membership dues for your household. We are an all-volunteer neighborhood association which works on behalf of all neighbors within our neighborhood association boundaries, and we need your help and support.

You may wonder what exactly the association does. Our projects cover a wide variety of situations, from social events to government advocacy.

For example, most of the street, sidewalk, and alley projects our neighborhood has benefitted from for many years are a direct result of MPNA advocating for funding and making certain our neighborhood is not overlooked among the city's many priorities. Visit [monticelloparkna.org/infrastructure-projects](http://monticelloparkna.org/infrastructure-projects) to see examples of the many projects MPNA has promoted.

Do you use the Monticello Park at Kampmann and Club? You should know that all of the original planning and

construction and later improvements to this park were due to the hard work of MPNA.

We also hold several neighborhood social events throughout the year to help bring neighbors together and forge stronger community bonds. When we know our neighbors, we are all stronger and better off for it.

Finally, we award scholarships to local high school students and beautification grants to neighbors who have helped preserve their homes.

All of this requires money, and we use both membership dues and proceeds from our Holiday Home Tour to support these programs and more.

Won't you invest a small amount to help our association build a better neighborhood for you and your family? You can mail dues using the form below, pay at the next General Assembly meeting on January 29th, or use the ever-convenient online payment method at [monticelloparkna.org](http://monticelloparkna.org).

## It's Easy to Pay Your 2024 Dues

- \$10 per household where at least one person is 65+
- \$20 per household when all are under 65
- Complete form below and mail with payment to MPNA, PO Box 100315, San Antonio, TX 78201
- Pay in person at 1/29 General Assembly Meeting
- Pay online at [monticelloparkna.org](http://monticelloparkna.org) in the online store



## MONTICELLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION 2024 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### Three ways to pay your dues:

- 1) Pay dues online at [www.monticelloparkna.org](http://www.monticelloparkna.org) or use this QR code
- 2) Complete this form and pay at any General Assembly Meeting
- 3) Complete this form and mail check to MPNA, PO Box 100315, San Antonio, Texas 78201



Membership runs Jan. 1st–Dec. 31st. Dues must be paid or postmarked by Jan. 31st each year in order to vote that year. MPNA is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

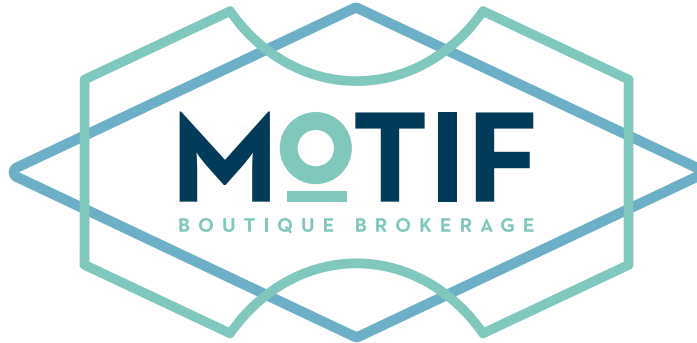
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I am including:  \$20 for households under 65  \$10 for households with anyone 65+  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ Additional donation

I am interested in volunteering for:

Alley/Graffiti Cleanup  Home Tour  Newsletter  Social Events  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Join the Monticello Park Literary Society

*New book club welcomes neighbors who love books, wine, and more*

Janie Velasquez-Wynne is a Registered Nurse at University Hospital and



**BOOK CLUB**  
by Laura Reyna

reading is a big part of helping her understand her patients. After finishing reading *The Body Keeps the Score* by Dr. Bessel Van Der Kolk—a fantastic book that everyone should read—and wanting to discuss the book with others, she saw a golden opportunity to meet more neighbors: a book club.

“My husband Stephen and I moved here with my daughter Elaina and stepson Chase about 2 years ago,” Janie said. “So, I saw a great opportunity to start a book club and get to know some neighbors.”

Janie asked around the neighborhood to see what the interest would be in establishing a book club in the neighborhood. Although there are a few active book clubs in the area, many

neighbors jumped at the chance to get involved and create something new. She decided to create a group, pick a date for a meet-and-greet, and organize the first gathering at her house. After a few weeks of organizing, the Monticello Park Literary Society was born.

*“It’s a welcoming, relaxed atmosphere for the people in the neighborhood to get to know each other”*

The club had their first meeting on November 16, 2023. Complete with a spread of charcuterie, a few bottles of wine, and of course bookworm neighbors, Janie felt the gathering was a huge success. Not only were the members able to agree on a book to read, but everyone also had the chance to meet new and interesting people in the neighborhood. Janie is excited about the group’s potential and would love to see the book club grow. She wants to

encourage even casual readers to join in on the fun.

“Come have a glass of wine (or coffee), some laughs, and lively book discussions,” Janie says. “It’s a welcoming, relaxed atmosphere for the people in the neighborhood to get to know each other. Although the Monticello Park Literary Society is in its infancy, I would love to see it grow into our community book club.”

The club’s book of the month for January is *Mexican Gothic* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia. It is a fiction book that falls within the suspense, horror, and even sci-fi genre. Although the book club is currently reading a fiction book, any type of book is up for discussion. The book club currently meets on the last Thursday of every month.

The next meeting for the book club is Thursday, January 25 at 6 PM at Janie’s house on Quentin Dr. The club will be discussing *Mexican Gothic* as well as choosing their book for February. If you would like more information, please contact Laura Reyna at [lauramf530@gmail.com](mailto:lauramf530@gmail.com)

# 2023 Home Tour Set Fundraising Record!

*After five-year hiatus due to COVID pandemic, tour roared back to success*

The weather was absolutely perfect, tickets sold briskly online, and our tour sponsors stepped up like never before. All contributed to the Monticello Park Neighborhood Association's most profitable home tour ever.



**HOME TOUR**  
by Gary Hudman

The 17th Biennial Holiday Home Tour set a profit record, thanks to online ticket sales and strong sponsorships. Held December 3, 2023, the tour featured eight homes of a variety of architectural styles. We even included one home in the middle of a major renovation. The home tour is MPNA's largest fundraiser, and allows us to support neighborhood beautification projects, scholarships, and association expenses, including printing this newsletter.

The Home Tour Committee is extremely grateful to the generosity of our homeowners who allowed us to feature their homes. You are all fantastic! We also appreciate the work of over 37 docents, who acted as helpers and hosts for our guests during the tour. You each did a great job.

Several hundred guests toured these gorgeous homes throughout the day, and we were delighted to see city leaders and homeowners from other historic districts on the tour. We even had a couple, who is researching homes of N. Strauss Nayfach, architect of many homes in our neighborhood, drive all of the way from Victoria to tour our homes.

We are also extremely thankful for

the support of our sponsors. This year, we set a record for both number of sponsors and total amount donated. Without these sponsors, our Home Tour would not be a success. Please note the complete list of sponsors in this newsletter and consider patronizing their businesses and thanking them for their support.

Finally, this tour would never have happened without the tireless work of the Home Tour Committee. This group worked to jump start a tour which had not been held for five years, relearned processes and procedures very quickly,

and convinced homeowners to open up their homes for the event. I am extremely grateful for everything they did. Committee members included Marti Campbell, Pam Carpenter, Jess Insler, Ro Insler, Ressie O'Connors, Jan Peranteau, Carol Rea, Tony Sanchez, Tom Simmons. Gary Hudman chaired the committee.

The 2018 Tour raised \$10,125, setting a tour record. We will continue to build on this success for the next tour and hope to see all of you there. Thanks to the entire neighborhood for a very successful day!

## Tour Homeowners

- Ferne Burney
- Adelita & John Cantu
- Cynthia & Frank Esquivel
- Teresa & Rob Hill
- Gary Hudman
- Jan Peranteau
- Angela Sanchez
- Jason Vasquez

John Buxie  
Drea Garza  
Ed Garza  
Cm. Marina Alderete Gavito  
The Hardberger Family  
Gary Hudman  
Senator Jose Menendez  
Commissioner Justin Rodriguez  
Richard Weik  
Dibbles Hobbies  
Duable Brand Trust  
Dynamite Fasteners  
Wayne J. Ehrisman, PhD

Sandee & Galen Gibson  
Brian Hough  
Mark Skruhak & Tom Simmons  
Ro Insler Taekwondo  
Mike Kennedy  
La Mana Boutique  
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Earline & Enrique Valdez

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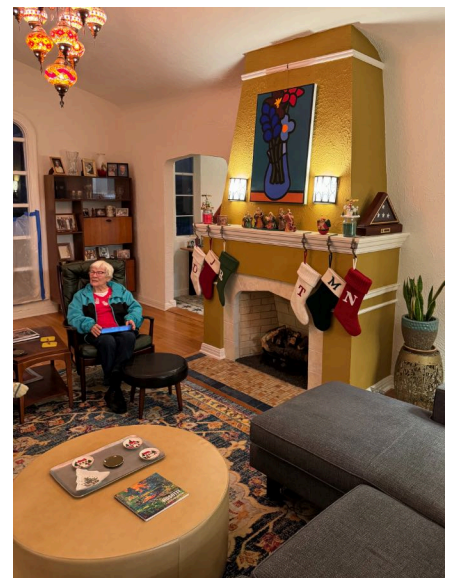
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INTERNATIONAL REALTY





# Monticello Park Holiday Home Tour 2023





# Beautiful Cast Stone in Monticello Park

*There is a good chance many of these examples could be the work of Pianta*

In the November 2023 issue, we featured Hannibal Pianta, San Antonio's



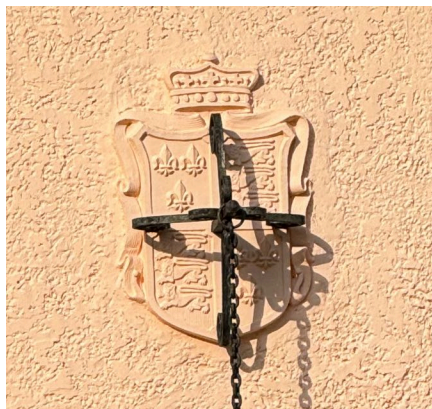
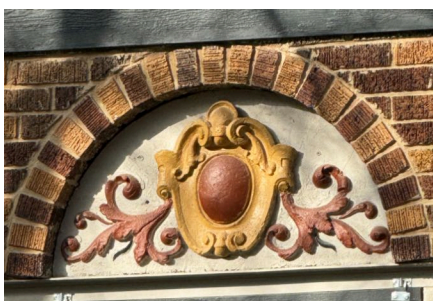
**HISTORY CORNER**  
by Gary Hudman

acknowledged master of cast stone in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. All of the cast stone on Municipal Auditorium (now Tobin Center), the San Antonio Light Building, the Aztec and Empire Theaters, and

Thomas Jefferson High School was done by his firm.

His work on each of these major buildings was highly documented, but he also supplied elements for hundreds of homes throughout San Antonio. Unfortunately, we don't have documentation for these projects, so attributing them to Pianta is difficult.

Despite that, I thought I would feature photos of decorative cast stone on many homes in Monticello Park. We don't know who created these works, but they are certainly beautiful. Does your home have any of this ornamentation? If so, do you have records which could document Pianta as the artisan? I'd love to hear from you!





# 15TH ANNUAL HISTORIC HOMEDOWNER FAIR

**Saturday, January 27, 2024  
10 AM - 2 PM**

**Henry B. González Convention Center  
Free Parking!**

- Connect with contractors
- Learn about historic design guidelines and permits
- Speak with experienced home renovators
- Exhibit Hall with local services and information
- Learning sessions and panel discussions

FOR MORE INFO:



**PLEASE DROP BY THE MPNA BOOTH!**





# Botika's Flavor Fusion is a Dining Delight

*This restaurant at the Pearl comes highly recommended*

We recently visited Botika, my favorite Chinese/Japanese/Peruvian fusion



**MASTER RO'S  
RECIPES &  
REVIEWS**  
*by Ro Inslar*

restaurant in San Antonio and were quickly reminded of just how great it is. Located at the Pearl Brewery, this gem always delivers amazing flavors and something a little different that you can't find elsewhere.

We ordered a few plates that the three of us shared and we were amazed at just how delicious each one tasted.

The food was delivered quickly, one dish at a time, served family style. We sampled the Steam Buns, the Poke, the Salmon 3 Ways Roll, the Spicy Eggplant

Noodles (my favorite), and the Short Rib Noodles (second most favorite). Everything was tasty and a delight to our palates.

Our server was friendly and informative, described all the dishes, answered all our questions, and came to check on us often. The manager, Christopher, greeted all the guests personally and made sure that we had everything we needed. He took the time to tell us about the origin of the dishes and made sure that we enjoyed each dish which we absolutely loved.

If you haven't yet experienced Botika, I highly recommend it for the variety, delicious and high quality ingredients. I promise your taste buds will thank you.

*Ro Inslar shares recipes and restaurant reviews in each issue of our newsletter.*



## Can You Find the MPNA Street Names?

*Up, down, left, right, diagonal, and reverse. See if you can find all 18!*



- MPNA STREETS**
- BABCOCK
  - CANFIELD
  - CLUB
  - CROMWELL
  - DONALDSON
  - FREDERICKSBURG
  - FURR
  - KAMPMANN
  - LAKE
  - LEMING
  - MARY LOUISE
  - NORTH
  - QUENTIN
  - ROSEMONT
  - SAN ANTONIO
  - SHEARER
  - VOLLUM
  - WILSON

Answer key on page 5



# Monticello Park Neighborhood Association General Assembly Meeting

Monday, January 29, 2024, 7 PM  
950 Donaldson, Grace Presbyterian Church Community Room



- **Crime Report from Officer Cano**
- **District 7 Updates**
- **Home Tour Recap**
- **Please Pay Membership Dues**

***Please Join Us and Help Build a Stronger Neighborhood.***

## Historic District Gentle Reminders

*Following the rules for historic properties helps uphold everyone's property values*

Whether you're repainting the trim on your home or have grand designs for a new addition, remember that if you live in the Monticello Park Historic District, you need more than a building permit before the hammers and paint brushes swing into action. All exterior improvements must receive a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) from the city's Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) before any work begins.

Nothing is worse and potentially more expensive than finding yourself reading a Cease and Desist message from Code Enforcement because of your failure to follow the rules. The color of our street signs (brown as opposed to blue) is a sign that you live in a historic district. Such information was likely a part of the listing information from when you bought your home.

In the past, you could submit paper applications in person or via email, but these are no longer accepted. Now, you must apply for a Certificate of Appropriateness through the city's

website at [www.sanantonio.gov/historic/HDRC/ApplicationsPortal](http://www.sanantonio.gov/historic/HDRC/ApplicationsPortal).

For the application, you will need photos of each side of your house in addition to documents showing what you are proposing. This documentation may include a scope of work, an annotated site plan with setbacks,

architectural drawings, and materials specifications.

Many applications may be approved administratively by OHP staff. Others may be referred to the Historic Design Review Commission (HDRC), which will review your case at a public meeting and consider approval.

### Considering Changes to your Historic Property?

- All exterior renovations, including landscaping, windows, and doors, require a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP).
- The city encourages applicants to meet with their local neighborhood association as part of the OHP/HDRC process. For MPNA, applicants will meet with our Architectural Review Committee (ARC).
- To help maintain the historic character of our neighborhood, the MPNA ARC comments on all HDRC cases for our historic district.
- The MPNA ARC serves as a significant resource to help applicants through the OHP/HDRC process.
- We look forward to assisting. Please contact MPNA ARC Chair Bianca at [maldonado98@yahoo.com](mailto:maldonado98@yahoo.com)



# Congratulations to Holiday Decoration Winners

*And a big thanks to everyone in the neighborhood who lit up their houses*

The holiday decorations throughout the neighborhood this season were outstanding. MPNA had an independent judge tour the neighborhood and select three winners to recognize for their excellent decorations.

This year's winners are:

**First Place (\$100)**

Katrina Cook, 222 North Drive

**Second Place (\$75)**

The Rangel Family, 305 Club Drive;

**Third Place (\$50)**

Margaret Mireles, 333 Mary Louise Drive



**First Place**

Katrina Cook, 222 North Drive



**Second Place**

The Rangel Family, 305 Club Drive



**Third Place**

Margaret Mireles, 329 Mary Louise Drive

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# Monticello Park Holiday Party 2023

*Neighbors shared their favorite dishes and celebrated the holidays in style*



**Neighbors gathered at Dr. Wayne Ehrisman's striking Mediterranean home for MPNA's annual Holiday Party.**



**We all enjoyed getting to know our neighbors and everyone looks forward to the next social event.**





# ABOUT FACE

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