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JANUARY 2022

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

OFFICE PHONE
210-497-3022

EMAIL
CONTACT@ENCINOPARKHOA.COM

ADDRESS
1923 ENCINO RIO, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78259
SPECTRUM ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT
210-494-0659

OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY 9 AM-2 PM
WEDNESDAY 12 PM-6 PM
FRIDAY 9 AM-2 PM

THE MANAGER WORKS REMOTELY ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CALL 210-497-3022 AND LEAVE A VOICEMAIL OR EMAIL CONTACT@ENCINOPARKHOA.COM.

Message From The Board

By Kevin Nickels

Happy New Year Neighbors!

As we begin 2022, I hope that you have had a refreshing and restorative holiday season, and are heading into the new year with good cheer and optimism. The last few years have been challenging for all of us. If your HOA dues, which are now due, for 2022 are a challenge for you, please reach out to the office at contact@encinoparkhoa.com, 210-494-0659, or during EPHOA office hours (M 9-2, W 12-6, F 9-2) to discuss - we can work with you as long as you reach out *before* your assessment is overdue.

Your assessment helps your Homeowners Association to keep our great amenities in good order. We all appreciate the pool, community center, park, tennis and basketball courts that our neighborhood features. In the past year, your assessments have helped the community to recover from the "snowpocalypse", to update the lights in the community center to energy-saving and brighter LED fixtures, and to repair leaks at the pool, to name a few of the many projects we've completed. We've returned to in-person events, including our much delayed 2020 annual meeting, our 2021 annual meeting, Market Days, Chili cook-off, as well as a host of neighborhood committees (see page two of this newsletter for contact info for committees). We are looking forward to more projects in 2022 to help the community, including recovering our irrigation systems, updating the landscaping on the end caps, and some new upgrades at the park.

We want to thank the homeowners who voted for our holiday decoration contest, and congratulate the winners on their displays of good cheer. We appreciated the decorations provided and put up by the Women's Club around the neighborhood, and enjoyed Santa's visit to the community center.

If you haven't yet, please sign up for emails at <https://spectrumam.com/> to get announcements of board meetings and other events.





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COMMITTEE & CLUB CHAIRPERSONS

Architectural Control..... 210-497-3022
Block Captain - Gail Lamb/Daphne Sohocki 210-901-9936
Crime & Safety Committee - Dyan Montesclaros ..210-481-7890
Involvement Committee - Delisa Leopold 210-497-3022
Over 50 Club - Dalia Benzick..... 210-497-3022
Park Committee Chair - Peggy Wardlaw.....210-386-6601
Pet Finder - Cindy Haines.....210-573-1085
Pool Committee - Jason Williamson 210-497-3022
Swim Team - John Kirschbaum..... 210-497-3022
Women's Club - Nancy Thomas..... 210-497-3022

TO VOLUNTEER FOR A COMMITTEE, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.

ENCINO PARK SWIMMING POOL - 210-497-4333

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INFORMATIONAL: ENCINOPARKHOA.COM

Non-Emergency Numbers

Constable Precinct 3: 210-335-4750
SAPD: 210-207-7273 311: (512) 974-2000

OUT TO LUNCH



We will resume our regular restaurant outings this month by dining on **Friday the 21st** at Los Balitos Taco Shop at 226 West Bitters Road, #118, at 11:30. It is on Bitters just west of 281. Los Balitos is billed as having "the best tacos in Texas" and is "home of the original California Burrito and traditional Mexican food". Its menu lists a variety of tacos, burritos, super nachos, and enchiladas. Call Janet at 210-481-9956 by Wednesday the 19th if you plan to attend. Carpooling will be available.

Our December luncheon at Beverly Anderson's home was delightful. The house was festively decorated for Christmas and the food was scrumptious. Thank you Beverly!

Out-to-Lunch is open to all Encino Park women and friends. Join us!



OVER 50 CLUB

By Dalia Benzick
Club Reporter

Our Over 50 group met December 7th to decorate the EP Christmas tree in the community center followed by a festive and delicious luncheon to celebrate the season. We are looking ahead to 2022 as we feel the worse is behind us and "normalcy" is on the horizon.

We will meet again on **January 4th** for lunch and fun at 11:30 a.m. in the community center. On **January 18th**, we look forward to BINGO! Feel lucky? Come join us; our door is open wide and your Over 50 neighbors are here to welcome you.

Happy 2022 everyone!

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ENCINO PARK WOMEN'S CLUB

Happy New Year!

What a wonderful holiday season we had! First, thank you to the amazing ladies of Encino Park who volunteered their time and energy to help beautify our neighborhood by decorating the entrances for the holidays. The EPWC spends money every year on these Christmas decorations and are proud to support our beloved community!

On December 11th, dozens of local families were thrilled to see Santa Claus right here in Encino Park! In addition to taking photos with Santa, more than sixty kids also enjoyed decorating cookies and making crafts. Several generous women's club members and family members orchestrated this magical event, which is one of our favorites! This year



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members of the Encino Park Involvement Committee were also in attendance to collect food donations for charity. We loved this collaboration!

Also in December, the Women's Club celebrated with our big holiday party, which included an auction to raise money for a charity benefitting women and children. Due to newsletter publishing deadlines, information about these events will be published in the February newsletter.

Our upcoming January 10th meeting will be an awesome one! Encino Park's very own physical therapist, Dr. Meredith Noll, will give a presentation on women's health therapy, and why it's important. You won't want to miss this one!

More good news: if you haven't joined the Encino Park Women's Club yet, there's still time. You may now join the EPWC and pay only half price (\$12.50) for the remainder of the year. There are many fun and interesting meeting topics and events coming up in the months of January through May.

Future meeting dates are as follows:

Jan. 10 @ 7:00	Women's Health Therapy and Why It's Important, with Dr. Meredith Noll
Feb. 21 @ 6:30	"Galentine's" Dinner at Milano's
Mar. 7 @ 7:00	tbd

We'd love to have you join us! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call Nancy Thomas, at 210-410-7614.

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CRIME & SAFETY COMMITTEE

By the time you read this, the Committee will have had its first meeting of this new year. We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7 PM in the Community Center. We hope that everyone made it through the holidays safe and sound.

Citizens on Patrol training will be held **Saturday, January 8**, 9-12 at the Northside substation at 13030 Jones-Maltsberger Road. Officer Schneider of SAPD will deliver the training. While it is not a requirement to be a Committee member, it is helpful to learn how we individually can help law enforcement. We can help by knowing what to look for in our neighborhood and to whom and when to report it. The training is designed to do just that.

For the convenience of Encino Park residents, the Committee is planning to schedule a Citizens on Patrol training with Officer Schneider at our Community Center; we will announce it in this Newsletter and other HOA communications.

In case you didn't know, **January 8 is Law Enforcement Appreciation Day**. We are grateful for their service and protection every day they serve. What would we do without them!

Be safe and don't speed! ☺



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WE'RE GLAD YOU ASKED!

Question: What time are the recreational courts open and how do I gain access to them?

Answer:

The courts schedules are as follows:

Tennis Courts – 6:00 AM-10:00 PM

Basketball Court – 8:00 AM-8:00 PM

You must have an active resident amenity card to access the courts. To renew your amenity card online, visit www.spectrumam.com.

Beware: Credit Card Skimmers



Criminals use credit card skimmers to steal your credit card information. They then use that information to make fraudulent purchases or sell the card information to others.

Pay attention to detail in order to identify card skimmers. Typically, they're designed to look like they should be there. However, a few tell-tale signs might tip you off:

- If the card reader looks abnormally large or is loose and can be jiggled around.
- If a security seal on a gas pump is broken or a pin-pad seems thicker or harder to press.

You'll also want to check gas pumps to see if the payment devices look the same on multiple pumps. Typically, criminals only install a skimmer on one pump rather than every pump at a gas station.

If you find a credit card skimmer, call the police and let them know immediately. Don't use the machine. If you've already used it, call your credit or debit card company and ask them to issue a new card or to freeze your accounts.

For more information visit <https://www.moneyunder30.com/beware-credit-card-skimmers>

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6 Ways to Build Community in Your Neighborhood

Neighborhood sense of community has been shown to be linked to so many positives: creating a sense of belonging, providing a physical and mental health boost, and even lowering crime rates. With benefits like these, we could all stand to strengthen our neighborhood ties. Here are 6 ways to build community in your neighborhood:

- 1. Get to know your neighbors.** If you can't name more than a neighbor or two, it's time to introduce yourself. Even if you've lived in your home for a while, this first introduction doesn't need to be awkward or a big production. Simply smile and say, "Hey, I've been meaning to introduce myself..."
- 2. Hang out on your porch or in your front yard.** It's hard to get to know your neighbors if you don't ever see them. Just by being out in front of your house you can give off a welcoming vibe that encourages interaction.
- 3. Be respectful of your neighbors.** Don't be that guy/girl. Clean up after your dog and keep him leashed at all times. Be aware of any disturbing noise levels that you are creating. Maintain your property and respect property boundaries.
- 4. Welcome new families.** You can bring a traditional baked good, but another great idea is welcoming newcomers by sharing your favorite local restaurants and businesses, perhaps a stack of your favorite take-out menus wrapped up in ribbon.
- 5. Address concerns or issues directly with your neighbor.** Don't let a problem fester and escalate. And, don't immediately call to report a problem to the city without first trying to work it out with your neighbor directly and respectfully.
- 6. Be friendly.** Don't be the grouch on the street, or the person who never says, "Hi!" No matter our temperaments, we can all smile and wave.



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Encino Park 2021 Holiday Decorating Contest Winners!

Best Lights:

First Place: 19507 Encino Creek

Second Place: 2138 Encino Cliff

Best Creativity:

First Place: 19412 Encino Summit

Second Place: 19926 Encino Moss

Best Theme:

First Place: 2007 Encino Vista

Second Place: 1711 Encino Rock



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5 Ways to Get and Stay Organized in 2022

Starting out the new year organized may be one of our main resolutions for 2022. Although it may take some extra effort, with a few tricks you can do it! Keep reading for some tried and true methods for getting and staying organized in 2022.

Morning Rituals

Start out each morning by de-cluttering your workspace. Remove anything that that doesn't pertain to what you are working on for that day.



Prioritize

Each of us has a full day of tasks to complete, so consider prioritizing each of these by due date. If you're lucky enough not to have a deadline, then tackle the hardest tasks first. You will thank yourself for this later.

To-Do Lists

Making daily or weekly to-do lists can really help organize the day and can serve as a huge stress-reliever. As each task gets completed you may find yourself feeling a little lighter, I know I do. As you are making your list, add a star or similar mark next to the high priority items so they don't get lost in the list.

Use Electronic Calendars

Most email services have a built-in calendar. Those of us who are not naturally inclined with an organizational mindset can really benefit from setting reminders on the calendar. This assists us with being prepared for meetings and not stressing about what you may have forgotten during the day.

Everything in its place

Try your best to have a certain place for important items like keys, glasses, purse/wallet, etc. This can really be a time saver when you're trying to get out the door in the morning.

With a few minor changes to your routine, you will be amazed at how much this organizes your day. Just a little effort can really go a long way in getting and staying organized in 2022.



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ENCINO PARK TEEN DIRECTORY

Name	Age	Contact	Services
Jake Belz	16	210-790-1484	Power washing
Carson Benavides	12	210 727-8607	Dog walking, pet sitting
Emma Cline	13	210-912-9588	Pet sitting
Deven Garcia	17	210-643-3000	Lawn mowing, power washing & pet sitting
Matthew Garcia	15	210-643-3000	Lawn mowing, power washing & pet sitting
Javier Garrido		210-997-0771	Dog walking, lawn mowing, Bilingual
Alex Hansen	15	210-852-8651	Lawn mowing
Erin Heilbrun	15	210-801-5288	Babysitting and pet sitting
Julia Hendrix	15	210-363-7642	Babysitting, pet sitting, dog walking
Emily Hougen		210-632-0406	Babysitting, dog sitting, dog walking
Madison Kirschbaum	14	210-309-1527	Babysitting, pet sitting, dog walking, and house sitting
Timothy Massa	17	210-913-8126	Pet sitting
Carroll Montgomery		210-373-8841	Lawn Maintenance
Maria Palacios	17	210-838-7214	Pet sitting
Vincent Prusinsky	17	210-722-5545	Lawn mowing, pet sitting, dog walking, weed eating/trim hedges/ power/pressure washing
Jacob Rios	18	512-954-5219	I can do dog walking, pet sitting, and technology help
Kort Robinson	14	210-777-2622	Lawn mowing & pet sitting
Eoin Shearer	12	210-663-1606	Dog Walking, pet Sitting, Lawn Mowing
Allison Wagner	15	210-788-9879	Babysitting, pet sitting
Nate Wagner	13	210-788-9879	Lawn Mowing, pet sitting
Angela Zamora	16	210-780-2099	Babysitting, pet sitting and dog walking

Teen Service listings are free to all Encino Park residents under nineteen (19) years of age. Ads will run for one month only, unless the advertiser calls and requests renewal. To place, remove, or edit a teen directory listing or classified ad, call 210-558-3160 or email Ariel@neighborhoodnews.com. Please put "Encino Park Resident" in the subject line.



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Here's Your Short, Sweet Guide to San Antonio Gardening

By Sasha Kodet, SAWS Gardenstyle San Antonio



Think fast – when is the best time to prune roses or plant trees in San Antonio? Sometimes it's hard to remember the ideal months for all those gardening tasks, especially if you are a South Texas transplant like me.

So, I've put together a quick reference guide to common landscaping tasks. Dig into more details by exploring our website at GardenStyleSA.com.

Planting

San Antonio gardeners are in luck with two planting seasons — spring and fall.

- January leads the gardening season as the time to plant bulbs, rhizomes and corms for spring.

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SENIOR & VETERAN DISCOUNTS!

- Plant these sweet beauties in mid-February and if needed, move them in November.
- Annuals in April and November. Plant portulaca, impatiens and other warm-season annuals in April. Cyclamen, snapdragons, geraniums and other cool-season annuals can be planted November through January. Keep in mind annuals require more water than perennials.
- Palms and succulents go in the ground May to September. Find the best palms for your yard.
- Wildflowers are planted September to mid-November. Learn how to successfully seed wildflowers.

Pruning

Find out where to make the cut in our pruning videos.

- **Roses:** Mark your calendars to prune back by one-third around Valentine's Day in mid-February.
- **Perennials:** Prune your perennials back in late February or first week of March. Deadhead July to August, if desired.
- **Oak trees:** December to mid-February and mid-June to September are your windows to prune oaks to avoid oak wilt. More importantly, painting wounds is 100% successful in preventing the disease.
- **Spring-blooming trees and shrubs:** Wait until Prune spring-flowering trees and shrubs soon after they bloom to encourage flower bud growth for next year.
- **Shade trees, palms and ornamental trees that don't bloom in spring:** Only prune if needed December to January.

Fertilizing

Nutrients are important for healthy plants, but remember fertilizer is not the cure for issues like un-adapted plant selections, soil compaction, poor drainage and improper planting or watering. Always avoid fertilizing when it may rain as it can run off and pollute streams.

- **Roses can be fertilized in February and October.** Apply one-third to one-half cup of slow-release fertilizer and water well.
- **Lawns.** Aerate and apply one-quarter inch of compost in February and leave your lawn clippings in place instead of using chemical fertilizers.

(Continued on page 9)

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(Continued from page 8)

We don't recommend synthetic chemical fertilizers, but you may choose a slow-release fertilizer with a 3-1-2 NPK ratio and apply at no more than one pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet of lawn. Fertilize around April 15 and in mid-October.

- Mulch your landscape beds in May and September.
- Shrubs showing iron chlorosis may be fertilized in May. Apply a chelated iron product, if needed.
- Trees may be fertilized in November. Mature trees and shrubs may require little to no fertilizer, for example once every 3-5 years. But if it's determined to be necessary, use one pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of root zone.

Weeding and Herbicides

In San Antonio, the time to apply herbicide is different than when you apply fertilizer. Skip "weed-and-feed" products.

- Lawns can be treated mid-month in February and September. Apply a pre-emergent product to help prevent weeds and then re-apply six weeks later. Ask your local garden center for a recommendation.
- Spot treat weeds with an orange oil and vinegar mixture. Wear gloves and eye protection, and spray when it is hot and sunny.

Watering

We've got a method or two for keeping plants healthy and your wallet happy while conserving water.

- Use our 3-2-1 Watering Method to establish new plants.
- Water seasonally, only when needed during each season, to save up to 30 percent or more of your annual water use.
- During winter months, use the holiday watering method.

This quick overview just scratches the surface, but remember you can always dig into the details of these topics at GardenStyleSA.com.



CALLING 311

To report potholes, stray animals, downed street signs, trash collection or other City requests, call 311. Office hours are **7:00am to 7:00pm Monday through Friday; 8:00am to 5:00pm Saturday and Sunday.**

Scoop The Poop

Please pick up after your pets. Take a plastic bag with you on your walks and dispose of it properly. Obey the leash law. All dogs and cats must be confined to their owner's property at all times except when on a leash.





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Heating Safety

There is something about the winter months and curling up with a good book by the fireplace. But did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths? With a few simple safety tips and precautions you can prevent most heating fires from happening.

BE WARM AND SAFE THIS WINTER!

- Keep anything that can burn at least three-feet (one metre) away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three-foot (one metre) "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.



Heating Equipment Smarts

Install wood burning stoves following manufacturer's instructions or have a professional do the installation. All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

Install and maintain CO alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning. If you **smell** gas in your gas heater, do not light the appliance. Leave the home immediately and call your local fire department or gas company.



FACT

Half of home heating fires are reported during the months of **December, January, and February.**



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