



PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS, INC.

November 2022

News Summary

Women's Club	2
Out to Lunch.....	3
Over 50 Club.....	3
We're Glad You Asked	3
Crime & Safety	4
Recipe: Potatoes Au Gratin	4
Gourds Galore.....	5
Word Search	5
Fall Home Maintenance Tips.....	6
EP Teen Directory	6
Fall Gardening Tips	7

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Message from the Board

by Peggy Wardlaw



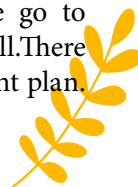
HAPPY THANKSGIVING

There are so many things to be thankful for this holiday season. I am so thankful that for the first time in three years, all six of our children will be home to share Thanksgiving and Christmas with us. The last few years with COVID have been not only stressful but also profoundly sad for those who lost loved ones. It has been a time of isolation and I am making a New Year's resolution to get to know my neighbors better. I am the Chairman of the Park Committee and would like to hear what you want for *your* community. **The Board of Directors is your voice in Encino Park.** Please email the Board at contact@encinoparkhoa.com with your requests or suggestions.

Some of the things we have to be thankful for here in Encino Park are our large swimming pool with its active swim team, a beautiful park and playground, tennis courts, pickle ball court, basketball court, sand volleyball court and the Community Center. The park is open year-round and the Community Center serves as a location for many community clubs and events and is available for rental. Information on renting the Community Center, as well as reserving a tennis court and the pool hours, is available at encinoparkhoa.com.

All of the costs of these amenities are covered by your annual dues of **\$456.09**, which is only \$38 per month for your whole household. The dues statements were mailed in September. **If you haven't paid it yet, please pay it now. You will not receive a reminder statement until February**, when a \$20 processing fee will be added by Spectrum Management. Another \$20 fee will be added after February 28th and if not paid by March 30th you will incur an additional \$70 penalty and if not paid by April 30 an additional \$140 will be added to your account.

If you are having trouble paying the full assessment amount, please go to www.spectrumAM.com, then to the homeowner's tab, then to pay my bill. There is a payment plan tab that will walk you through how to get on a payment plan. When everyone pays their part, the assessments can remain low.





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- 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

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ENCINO PARK WOMEN’S CLUB

by Donna Morton

“Getting to Know You”

As Summer succumbs to Fall and we enjoy cooler weather (okay, we can pretend), we would like to invite all the women of Encino Park to our next meeting on **November 14, 2022 at 7:00 pm** in the E.P. Community Center. We have numerous new members and are planning a festive evening of games that help us get to know each other a little better. As usual we will have a causal dinner and dessert plus an assortment of beverages.

Our community has been enhanced over the last forty plus years by our club and we want to continue contributing to Encino Park with our talents (we all have them), service, skills and entertainment. I’ll bet when you bought your house, you did so because of the community as well. Our amenities are some of the best in San Antonio and we want to keep it that way. So, mark your calendars now and come to one of our meetings and enjoy the camaraderie of your neighbors, the side-splitting hilarity of friends and the pleasure of knowing that you are enhancing your neighborhood in the process. We hope to see more new faces in the coming months!

We meet the second Monday of most months (check our calendar and the newsletter). Here are some dates to keep in mind for December as well:

Saturday, Dec. 3rd – Santa Visit
Monday, Dec 12, 6:30 PM –
Holiday Party @ Home of Joan
Raver, Potluck and Silent Auction



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Out to Lunch

RSVP ahead



This month we will not be having an out-to-lunch gathering, with the busyness of the holidays upon us. We will, however, meet on **Tuesday, Dec.**

6 at the lovely Timberwood Park home of Women's Club member and former EP resident Beverly Anderson. Beverly has invited us to dine there at **11:30** on a homemade Italian meal and visit together during this holiday season. **There is a limit, however, of how many can attend and there may be a waiting list. Contact Janet at 210-481-9956 by Tuesday the 29th** if you are interested in attending. Carpooling will be available.

In September eleven of us dined at POPO Trattoria and Pizzeria on Stone Oak Parkway. This reincarnation of a former Luciano's was wonderful. The food was great and the service fabulous. We had a great time! Thank you to Anne Frazer for selecting this restaurant and making the arrangements for us.

50 OVER 50 CLUB

Submitted by Dalia Benzick

Goodness gracious, it's November already! Our Over 50 group has enjoyed getting together, sharing neighborhood happenings and becoming more supportive members. We will be planning for the holidays and that's always fun. All of us invite new and old neighbors to join us in activities at the community center, 11:30 a.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Bring yourself and a brown-bag lunch; dessert and drinks will be provided. Meantime, just a weather proverb for this month: Flowers that bloom late in Autumn indicate a bad winter. So get ready!

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

WE'RE GLAD YOU ASKED!



Ever wonder how the HOA board can host events, manage the pool, make improvements to the park, and assist law enforcement with security? They do these things by having Committees who serve in advisory capacities. The Committees come up with ideas or get ideas from various sources and then develop plans to propose to the Board. The Board reviews the recommended proposals and either accepts as proposed or makes changes and then the Committees implement the plans.

However, the problem is that we don't have many other residents on the Committees. They are primarily made up of Board members. So, decisions are being made by a few people. If you would like to be involved in making decisions in the HOA, but don't want to make the commitment to serve on the Board, maybe being on a committee is the answer. Most of the committees meet monthly and the meetings are usually an hour. Some meet during the day because the members have that flexibility, but any of them could meet in the evenings to accommodate schedules. See the list below of the current five committees and their Chair.

Please give it some serious thought. The Board needs help from homeowners in the planning and making decisions. Plus, a side benefit is that the more you know about the working of Encino Park, the more you will appreciate the HOA you chose to live in and can be part of maintaining it and improving it and thereby ensuring the best interests of all residents. Please refer to the second page of this newsletter to see the other committees and contact information of the chairpersons.

Committee	Chair
Community Involvement	Sunny Brown
Crime and Safety	Dyan Montesclaros
Park Committee	Peggy Wardlaw
Pool Committee	Cara Jacobson

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CRIME & SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Committee met last month and discussed any observations members made as they drove throughout the Encino Park neighborhood.

The Constables report showed a few family disturbances and a few vehicle burglaries. SAPD reports vehicle burglaries continue to be high in the northside neighborhoods. Cars have been stolen and/or broken into for the valuables contained within. If you are not able to put the vehicle in the garage, remove all valuables and lock the vehicle. Holiday season is approaching, and porch pirates will increase their efforts. Be sure to check your mail and retrieve packages as soon as you can.

Our Councilman placed a speed monitor on Encino Rio across from the Community Center the week of August 23-30. The data show that 38% of drivers drove faster than the posted speed limit of 30 mph. There were nine drivers who drove faster than 51 mph and two drivers who drove faster than 61 mph. Also, notable was that the hours when most speeding was done were between 1-3 pm weekdays. We need to slow down especially during those hours when kids are walking home from school.

SAPD offers Citizens on Patrol classes where you learn how to support law enforcement, what types of situations should be referred to 311 and which to SAPD, and what to observe in our neighborhood to ensure its safety. The next class and last for the year will be on **Monday, November 7, 6-9PM** at the Northeast substation located at 13030 Jones-Maltsberger. To schedule the training, or for any questions about it, you may contact Officer Cathalina Schneider at 210-207-5182 or email her at: Cathalina.schneider@sanantonio.gov.



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If you experience a burglary or see something illegal, don't post it to NextDoor only, email our SAFFE Officer at arturocastellanos@sanantonio.gov. You can also report suspicious activity to the non-emergency numbers (210-207-7273 or 210-335-4750).

The Committee meets the **first Wednesday of the month at 7 PM** in the Community Center for 30-45 minutes. All residents are welcome.

Potatoes Au Gratin

Ingredients:

- 2.5 lbs Russet potatoes, peeled
- 4 tbsp Butter, separated
- 6 oz Gruyere, grated
- 2 oz Parmesan, grated
- 1 3/4 cups Heavy cream
- 1 Garlic clove, minced
- 1/2 tsp Nutmeg
- 1 tsp Salt
- 1/2 tsp Freshly ground pepper



Source: themodernproper.com

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400°F.
2. In a small sauce pan add heavy cream, garlic, nutmeg and 3 tbsp of the butter and set over low heat.
3. Using a mandolin slice potatoes 1/8 inch thick and immediately place in a large bowl of cold water. Once all potatoes are sliced, rinse and pat completely dry.
4. Using 1 tbsp of butter lightly grease a 9x13 baking dish or 12 inch circular pan.
5. Arrange a single layer of potatoes on the bottom of the pan, lightly season with salt and pepper and sprinkle with gruyere cheese. Continue this process of layering until potatoes are all used up. (Be sure to reserve a little cheese for the top.)
6. Slowly pour the warm cream mixture over the potatoes and gently press down on the potatoes with your hands to make sure all liquid is evenly dispersed. Sprinkle with remaining gruyere and parmesan cheese.
7. Cover the pan with foil and bake for 50 minutes covered, remove foil and continue to bake for another 25 minutes.
8. Top with fresh greens and serve warm.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS:

Due to paper and printing supply chain issues, there may be a delay in the delivery of your newsletter. However, we are doing our best to get print products out in a timely manner. We encourage residents to sign up for the e-newsletter so that you have access to the newsletter on time.

Sign up at: www.neighborhoodnews.com/go-green-2

Thank you, The Staff at Neighborhood News



GOURDS GALORE!

By Donna Fossum, Water Conservationist

Fall is here and so is gourd season. Most of the stores in town have a wide selection of them, but the most popular gourd this time of year is the pumpkin. We decorated them for Halloween and now we'll eat them as pumpkin pie.

Gourds are grown for both ornamental and utility purposes. Most of us have seen gourds when they are dried and made into arts and crafts objects such as bird houses. Purple martins love to make dried gourds their homes as they migrate through our area. Many gourds are prized for their interesting shapes and that is what endears most of us to the lowly gourd.

Gourds are annuals that thrive in areas where the temperature is 70 to 85 degrees. Their vines, which are closely related to cucumbers, squash and melons, grow best on trellises. Gourds are fairly easy to cultivate, but they do require good fertile soil. While the gourd is growing, you can create shapes by tying soft string or bands around young fruit or by frequently and gently bending the fruit into the shape you desire. Just be careful not to scratch the fruit.

When the gourds are ready to be harvested, make sure to leave some of the stem and use sharp shears to make clean cuts. After cutting the gourd, wash thoroughly and place it in a dry place out of direct sunlight and with good air circulation. Leave until dry and hardened. The gourds can then be decorated. The growing, harvesting, drying and decorating of gourds is a fun family project and a great way to get the little ones involved in gardening. But beware: Gourd growing can become addictive.

North Pole Word Search

N	R	N	K	U	Z	P	R	N	S	B	O	H
F	E	T	I	P	R	A	N	C	E	R	I	A
D	I	Z	S	C	U	P	I	D	R	M	E	P
O	N	D	T	O	H	P	Y	D	E	H	N	P
N	D	M	I	M	O	C	H	I	M	N	E	Y
D	E	S	C	E	L	L	A	S	S	G	C	
E	E	Z	H	T	U	B	D	A	C	L	J	H
R	R	Z	R	V	I	X	E	N	S	E	P	R
V	P	I	V	I	K	C	I	D	A	I	Q	I
S	T	N	I	C	H	O	L	A	S	G	D	S
U	F	K	D	A	N	C	E	R	G	H	A	T
P	D	A	S	H	E	R	C	I	B	B	A	M
I	J	T	Y	M	S	A	E	T	A	C	E	A
D	B	L	I	T	Z	E	N	C	O	J	Z	S



- chimney
- Dancer
- Comet
- Vixen
- sleigh
- Dasher
- Blitzen
- St. Nicolas
- reindeer
- Cupid
- Donder
- Prancer
- Happy Christmas

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BBB Tip: Fall Home Maintenance



By Better Business Bureau

Fall is here. With the change in weather comes a list of home maintenance that all homeowners should tackle before the really cold stuff sets in. BBB offers these tips when preparing your home for the colder weather:

- **Clean those gutters.** A build up of leaves and other debris can cause your gutters and downspouts to not drain properly. Improper draining can make water spill over your gutters which can lead to foundation damage and damage to your fascia boards.
- **Inspect your roof.** Damaged or loose shingles can let in water and ice during the winter which can create interior damage.
- **Test your smoke and carbon dioxide detectors.** Making sure these important safety tools are in proper working condition is easy and vital to ensuring the safety of those in your home. The National Fire Protection Association offers great information on installing and maintaining smoke alarms.
- **Check your windows and doors for air leakage.** Adding caulk and weather stripping helps prevent leakage of cold air into your home as well as spiders and insects. Also check where pipes and wires enter your home.
- **Organize your garage.** You will undoubtedly use your garage a lot more in the colder months. Get rid of trash and clutter

and make sure your winter-use items are easily accessible. Fill/repair any cracks or holes you see to prevent bugs and rodents from entering that will be seeking refuge from the cold.

- **Inspect your driveway.** The frequent freezing and thawing conditions in many areas, along with tree roots and ground shifting, can cause driveways to develop areas of needed repair. Fall is a great time to fill cracks and sealcoat to prevent wintertime water/ice damage.
- **Tend to the outside water supply.** Cover up your outside water spigot(s). Spigot covers help keep the exterior pipes from freezing. Empty hoses of any water and move them indoors.



ENCINO PARK TEEN DIRECTORY

Name	Age	Contact	Services
Grace Bush	16	210-323-6708	Babysitting, pet sitting, dog walking, house sitting (5/22)
Faith Bush	12	210-323-6708	Babysitting & pet sitting (5/22)
Emma Cline	16	210-912-9588	Pet sitting, dog walking & house sitting (2/22)
Julia Hendrix	16	210-363-7642	Babysitting, pet sitting, dog walking (11/22)
Ryan Kruger	15	210-787-0015	Lawn maintenance (7/22)
Maggie Micklitz	16	210-410-2990	Babysitting, Pet sitting, house sitting (6/22)
Clayton Micklitz	14	210-410-2990	Babysitting, Pet sitting, house sitting (6/22)
Ignacio Watkins	18	626-975-0676	Soccer coach, soccer trainer, fitness/cardio trainer (7/22)

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

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FALL TIPS FOR GARDENING

By San Antonio Botanical Gardens



- To minimize the likelihood of weeds this fall, do not allow weeds to go to seed.
- Plant shade trees now to take advantage of the mild fall and winter weather for root growth.
- Prepare beds to plant cool season flowers. Add compost as needed to your flowerbeds.
- Deadhead flowering plants to stimulate more blooms.
- This is the last time to fertilize roses for the winter months. Wait until January or February to fertilize again.

- With the mild weather, it is a perfect time to plant landscapes. The cooling temperatures allow for more root growth, which will establish the plant before winter cold snaps.
- Take advantage of the weather and dig, divide and plant your spring/summer blooming perennials.
- Begin to back off on watering. With the cooler temperatures, soils stay moist longer than they did this summer. You do not want to overwater your plants.
- Mulch all new plantings to reduce weeds, maintain soil moisture and regular soil temperatures.
- This will be the last time to do any pruning on your rose bushes until February.
- Sow bluebonnets and other wildflowers.
- Make preparation to protect tropical plants or move them to a greenhouse.
- Prepare exposed pipes for winter.
- After last use of your lawn mower or other power equipment, make the machines ready for winter storage. Don't leave gasoline in the machine over winter.
- Start thinking about purchasing fall planting/spring blooming bulbs. Don't plant until hot weather is over.
- Prune trees when they are dormant.



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