



PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS, INC.

April 2023

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SWIM TEAM NEWS

By John Kirschbaum, Swim Team President



Swim season is about to start! If you haven't already, please look in to signing your kiddo up for an exciting June. I thought best to describe first what the Encino Park Blue Sharks swim team is not, then what it is.

- It is NOT swim lessons. The main requirement beyond wanting to have fun is to be able to swim the length of the pool by themselves. It IS a way for your swimmer to hone their skills with an experienced coach who will care for your kids as one of their own.
- It is NOT summer camp. Swimmers have 1 hour practice sessions either in the afternoon (May) or morning (June) based on their age group. It IS a team that competes in competitions every Saturday from May 27th to June 17th, with another Championship meet to follow.
- It is NOT just about your kiddo swimming competitively. Oh sure, we all dream of having a potential Olympic athlete, and yes, it can start here! What it IS, is a family activity. Want to show your child that you are all-in on their fun? We ask that parents volunteer during our meets. It takes a small army to run these competitions and we need all the help we can get. I promise you, just being there and showing your son or daughter that you care about their team and goals, means more than you may think.

Be part of our extended family and sign up for some fun this summer. Join our team and see your child grow in more ways than one. Don't hesitate to reach out to us with questions. Looking forward to meeting you at the pool! Registration is open, contact Jenn Smith if you have any questions at jennsmithswim@gmail.com.



OVER 50 CLUB

Submitted by Dalia Benzick



Spring has arrived and seeing the grass growing and flowers blooming gives us a joyful heart as we spend more time outdoors every day.

Our Over 50 group is looking forward to having a speaker at our **April 4th meeting**. Chickie Backhaus from Texas Senior Services will be addressing senior living placement and care options. This is an important topic for all as living independently can change overnight to needing partial or total care from professionals for ourselves or a loved one.

We invite you to join us on that day or any **first and third Tuesday** of each month at 11:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. in the Encino Park Community Center for fun and fellowship.

For more information, call the office at 210-497-3022.



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EP Involvement Committee - Sunny Brown 210-497-3022
Over 50 Club - Dalia Benzick..... 210-497-3022
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Pet Finder - Cindy Haines.....210-573-1085
Pool Committee - Cara Jacobsen 210-497-3022
Swim Team - John Kirschbaum..... 210-497-3022
Women’s Club - Nancy Thomas..... 210-497-3022

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UPCOMING NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

April 8th – Playdate at the Park - Families with kiddos meet at the park from **10:00-11:30**. Great way to meet your EP neighbors! Donuts and coffee provided (thank you Gail Lamb Realty!).



April 15th – Night In Old Encino - Fiesta Fun!! Mark your calendars for **April 15th from 5:00-8:00**. Family friendly fun, food, games, music and more! Activities are free! Please bring cash for food drink and special purchases.

The event will kick off with a Fiesta Golf Cart Parade. Participants will meet in front of the post office at 4:45. This year’s route will go from the post office to Encino Loop and turn around and head back to the Community Center.

Watch your email or EP Facebook for more details.

Join us!!

The Community Involvement Committee is looking for more people to become involved in making Encino Park an even better place to live. If you would like to be a part of creating, planning and implementing community events please consider joining the committee. We meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at the Community Center. We also need volunteers for Night in Old Encino!! Please contact Sunny Brown at gsbrown@swbell.net for more info or to volunteer.

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ENCINO PARK WOMENS' CLUB

By Donna Morton

The ladies participating in the Women's Club of Encino Park are having a wonderful year of fellowship and fun! In March we got creative, painting planter pots, and planting the Oh! so popular succulents. In February we had a special **Galentine Dinner**, celebrating the wonderful connection of our neighbors and friends. The Women's Club meetings are winding down for the year, let's enjoy a very relaxed evening on **Monday, April 10 @ 7pm.**

Our evening will sparkle as we experience a **Wine Tasting & Food Pairings Event!** Our guest to guide us through the various wines will be Becky Mosley. Becky worked at HEB Wine Department, gathering a wealth of knowledge of wines while there. **** This will be one of our most popular events, please don't miss this! ***



Finally, our **End of the Year Banquet**, for members and guests will be held on **Monday, May 8 at 6:30.** (There will be a nominal fee for the dinner). It is a wonderful evening. The 2023 scholarship winner will be recognized and Women's Club officers for '23-'24 year will be introduced.

Community Connections

Apara Autism Centers of San Antonio



Come join us for real conversation on topics related to Autism and parenting. This series is FREE and open to the public.

Please RSVP using the QR code below or by emailing Nercan@AparaAutism.com



April 18
6-7pm



All meetings will be held at
Encino Public Library
2515 E. Evans Rd
San Antonio, TX 78259

Social Skills Group



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Ages 15-18 years old
March 21st-July 11th, 2023
Every Tuesday 4:30-6:30pm

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For more information:
Call us at 877-789-9659
AparaAutism.com • info@aparaautism.com



April 8, @ 10 SHARP! Easter Egg Hunt. We REQUEST and hope all residents will contribute a bag of wrapped non-chocolate candy and bring to the Community Center office by Sunday, April 2. Candy contributions are to be stuffed into the eggs for the Hunt.



May 5 & 6 Friday & Saturday – Neighborhood Garage Sale

Start your Garage Sale plans now. You will need your Permit that can be obtained at HEB Customer Service.

Night in Old Encino

SATURDAY, APRIL 15
5:00 – 8:00 pm
EP COMMUNITY CENTER & PARK

FOOD MUSIC
KID CRAFTS
PARADE GAMES

This is a BYOB Event
Food & non-alcoholic drinks available for purchase

AN EPIC EVENT
ENCINO PARK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Out to Lunch



We will gather once again this month for a lunch outing, after having skipped March. We will go on **Monday, April 17, at 11:30**, to 54th Street in the Village at Stone Oak Shopping Center, at TPC Parkway and Hwy 281 North. This restaurant is always a favorite of ours and we enjoy returning to it from time to time. Call Janet at 210-481-9956 by Friday the 14th if you plan to attend. Carpooling will be available.

In February we enjoyed what has become an annual February outing to Bourbon Street Seafood. Twelve of us gathered there to enjoy the delicious food, the wonderful service, and the lively conversations. Join us for our lunch outings. All Encino Park ladies and female friends are welcome. We have a fun time!



WE'RE GLAD YOU ASKED!

Q: What can be done about the homeless people around Encino Park?

A:

- DON'T give him/her food.
- DON'T give him/her money.
- DO call 311 with as much information as you can.
- DO contact Councilman John Courage's office at 210-207-0955 to let them know you've contacted 311, their office will also follow up on your inquiry.
- DO call the police non-emergency numbers 210-207-7273 or 210-335-4750 with as much information as you can.
- DO email SAFFE Officer Arturo Castellanos at Arturo.castellanos@sanantonio.gov.

If you can, safely take a photograph of the homeless person. You can forward it along with a brief note to Officer Castellanos.




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Encino Park's Block Captain Program

If you are the "Go-To Person" for your street, please think about becoming the Block Captain or "Neighborhood Ambassador" for your street or block of Encino Park. Here are the streets that do not have a coverage:

- Encino Brook (19602-19734)
- Encino Brook (19810-19911)
- Encino Cabin
- Encino Cliff (2136-2202)
- Encino Crossing
- Encino Crown
- Encino Gap
- Encino Glen
- Encino Point
- Encino Rio (1706-1726)
- Encino Rock
- Encino Royale (19918-19967)
- Encino Spur
- Encino Valley
- Encino Valley Circle
- Park Circle
- Park Hollow

If you are curious who your Block Captain is or would like to help your Block Captain, please reach out. Many of our Block Captains are covering more than one street and would appreciate the help!

Information about the Block Captain program is located on the EPHOA website <https://www.encinoparkhoa.com/block-captains>, or you can reach out to Daphne Sohocki & Gail Lamb at 210-901-9936 or by email to EPBlockCaptains@gmail.com.

Join our Encino Park Block Captain Social Media groups to learn more and keep up on important events and activities happening in our community:

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/EPBlockCaptains/>
- https://nextdoor.com/g/qg6mg8nle/?is=nav_bar
- <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/7073004/>

Thank you for your help in making Encino Park a strong and safe community!



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CRIME & SAFETY COMMITTEE

About our times, a wise man wrote that “we are living in critical times, hard to deal with” and that is so true. Here in Encino Park the incidences reported by our Constables are more about domestic disturbances than property crimes. We have both, but disturbances seemed to dominate in February. Yelling at neighbors, arguments between family members are an example on the list. Evidently there is a lot of stress and challenges being experienced by our neighbors. So, let’s work at what another wise man said and that is to treat each other with kindness just like we want to be treated.

Our SAFFE Officer, Arturo Castellanos, reports that in the San Antonio northside vehicle burglaries are a problem. He advised these five tips:

- Use a steering wheel lock.
- Hide your valuables from plain sight.
- Lock your vehicle and take your keys with you.
- Park in well-lit areas and well-attended parking lots.
- Never leave your vehicle running or unattended. It only takes seconds for a criminal to take your vehicle.

SAPD has a new schedule of its Citizens on Patrol classes. It’s a 3-hour training class held at the substation at 13030 Jones Maltsberger put on by Officer Cathalina Schneider. If you are interested, please call her at 210-207-5182 or email her at Cathalina.schneider@sanantonio.gov. The next few classes are scheduled for the following Mondays and Saturdays:

April 10 6:00-9:00pm
May 13 9:00-1:00pm

If you experience a crime 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.



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Published and distributed by:
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Ph: (210) 558-3160 • Fax: (210) 558-3163

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Ready to roll your sleeves up and dig down deep? Me too! National Gardening Day is on **Friday, April 14, 2023**. This holiday is all about encouraging you to experience and enjoy all the goodness and contentment nature intended. After all, there is nothing more magical than the scent of roses drifting through your window on a cool spring day. National Gardening Day was founded in 2018 by Cool Springs Press to celebrate gardening and to encourage the sharing of expert gardening tips.

Gardening is a favorite pastime of mine, any day of the year. Gardening offers the best of both worlds where it is physically challenging and oh so rewarding. Below are a few interesting facts about gardening.

1. Tulips were more Valuable than Gold?

Yes, it’s true. During the 17th century, the demand for tulip bulbs increased so dramatically that they became worth more than gold. Also referred to as Tulip Mania, this event eventually caused the Dutch economy to crash.

2. This Grows Seeds on the Outside?

There is only one fruit that bares their seeds on the outside, strawberries. The average strawberry contains approximately 200 seeds on its exterior surface.

3. Bees like Weeds more than some Flowers?

Depending on what type of flowers you have in your garden, there is a likelihood that bees will ignore them and opt for weeds instead. Bees are attracted by scent, and a lot of flowers are beautiful but have little to no scent.

Observing this holiday is as easy as starting a new garden or spending the day tending to a new garden. Take some pictures of the end result and post them to our Facebook page at: www.Facebook.com/neighborpro

Resources:

- <https://www.holidayscalendar.com/event/national-gardening-day/>
- <https://nationaltoday.com/national-gardening-day/#>



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Arbor Day

By Sharon Reynolds, Neighborhood News Staff Writer

**“Other holidays repose upon the past;
Arbor Day proposes for the future.”**

–J. Sterling Morton.

Arbor Day is an annual celebration that occurs on the last Friday in April. This year Arbor Day will be celebrated on April 28, 2023. This holiday first began on April 10, 1872, by an avid tree lover named J. Sterling Morton. Sterling had a passion for planting all types of trees and planted thousands of trees over his lifetime.

On Arbor Day, it is customary to plant a tree. Many neighborhoods organize events to start community gardens or tree planting projects. A popular Arbor Day tradition is to plant a tree to memorialize a loved one.

In honor of Arbor Day, we have gathered a Top 3 List of Pruning Tips to assist with spring pruning.

Pruning Tip #1 – Avoid Tree Paint

According to the University of New Hampshire, applying tree paint to wounds is a no-no. Research has shown that tree paint does not prevent decay, improve appearance, or help speed healing. While many garden supply stores continue to sell tree wound dressing products, many of these products are petroleum-based and marketed to promote keeping fungi

and insects from invading the wounds. However, this is false. In reality, tree paint slows healing and encourages insect infestation and the growth of rot organisms. Rather than seal out infection, wound dressings often seal in moisture and decay. In most cases, it is best to simply let wounds heal on their own. Over the ages, trees have evolved and developed effective means to counteract the effects of pruning. Woody plants and trees compartmentalize wounds with cell layers that prevent damage from spreading to the trunk of the tree.

Pruning Tip #2 – Over-Pruning

Pruning stimulates new growth and the more a plant or tree is pruned, the more extensive its re-growth will be. So, trying to control growth by over-pruning will likely have the opposite effect. A good rule is to remove no more than one-third of a healthy plant each year. Removing more than a third of the plant can weaken the tree or shrub since doing so would cause excessive growth.

Pruning Tip #3 – Pruning Tools

Make sure pruning tools are kept clean by sterilizing your tools before and after pruning with rubbing alcohol. This will kill any disease-causing microbes that may have come into contact with your tools during use.

We hope this article was helpful. Make plans now to plant a tree for Arbor Day or hold a tree planting event in your neighborhood!

Resource

<https://extension.unh.edu/blog/2019/07/should-i-cover-large-pruning-wounds-tree-wound-dressing#>



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T	K	C	Y	F	F	L	O
E	A	K	U	H	B	Y	W
R	F	L	Y	E	N	E	E
Y	K	E	T	C	R	G	R
C	A	R	R	O	T	G	E

Find objects
in the picture
and
in the puzzle



- BUTTERFLY
- EGG
- FLOWER
- BUNNY
- HEN
- CHICKEN
- CARROT

ANSWER

E	G	O	T	C	A	R	R	O	T	G	E
R	K	E	T	C	R	G	R				
E	R	F	L	Y	E	N	E	E			
W	A	K	U	H	B	Y	W				
O	L	O	F	F	L	O					
T	U	N	N	Y	A	T	T				
C	N	W	C	N							
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5 Ways to Enhance Your Home's Curb Appeal

By Sharon Reynolds
Neighborhood News Staff Writer

Ever wonder what people think when they see the front of your home? In essence, your home's curb appeal is like a cover of a book leading a pathway to what's inside the home. If you're anything like me, your home's curb appeal matters. Not only will it increase your home's value, but it will also provide an enjoyable aesthetic to those around you.

When the aesthetic and functional aspects of curb appeal collide, something really beautiful happens. Read on for some inspirational tips to enhance your home's curb appeal.

1. House Numbers. House numbers can be an important factor in the event of an emergency. Highlighting your address can help EMS find your home quickly and could potentially save a life. Additionally, blending the house numbers with your home's outer aesthetic by matching colors, texture, and lighting can go a long way with little expense.



- 2. Fix it Up.** Taking care of small repairs will make a big difference to your curb appeal. Take a stroll around the outside of your home and notate any burned out light bulbs, chipped paint, etc. then get to work fixing them.
- 3. Design a Pathway.** Designing a pathway from the street to your front door can do wonders for your curb appeal. Something as simple as adding stepping stones makes your home appear more inviting. If you already have a sidewalk, try adding a pathway of lights to illuminate the night.
- 4. Add Color.** Adding pops of color provides a beautiful array of interest to your overall aesthetic. If you don't have room for planters, consider adding hanging plants to add color to the exterior. You may be surprised at what a difference it makes to your home's appearance.
- 5. Outdoor Furniture.** It's important to find a good balance when using outdoor furniture. Too much furniture can make it look cluttered, while too little can make it look neglected. Consider flower and plant colors and do your best to help them blend together with the furniture you choose.

EP TEEN DIRECTORY			
Name	Age	Contact	Services
Jake Belz	18	210-790-1484	Power Washing, Brush Hauling (2/23)
Wyatt Belz	16	210-309-5570	Power Washing, Brush Hauling (2/23)
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)
Javier Garido	17	210-323-6708	Lawn mowing, Pet sitting, car wash, weed eating (3/23)
Erin Heilbrun	16	210-801-5288	Babysitting, Pet sitting, dog walking, house sitting (2/23)
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)
Vincent Prusinsky	18	210-722-5545	Lawn Mowing, trim hedges, weed eating, power washing services, Pet sitting, dog walking (12/22)
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 add, 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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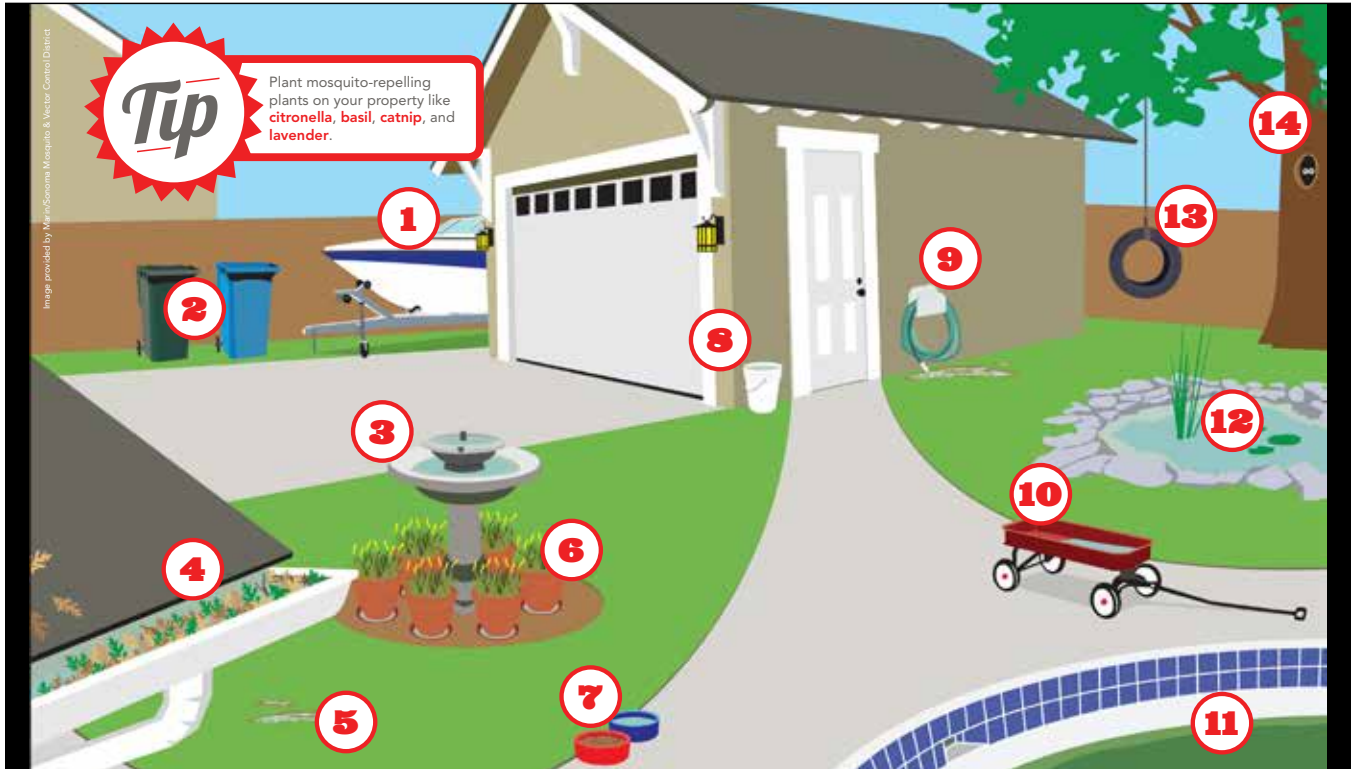


Image provided by Maria Soomea Mosquito & Vector Control District

Tip Plant mosquito-repelling plants on your property like **citronella, basil, catnip, and lavender.**

Adult mosquitoes lay eggs in stagnate or slow moving water, and on moist soil or leaf litter in areas likely to collect water. By eliminating these water sources, you can keep new generations of mosquitoes from taking up residence in your yard.

Eliminate Standing Water Sources

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Uncovered Boats | 8 Buckets and Barrels |
| 2 Open Trash Bins | 9 Leaky Hoses |
| 3 Fountains and Bird Baths | 10 Wagons and Other Toys |
| 4 Clogged Rain Gutters | 11 Neglected Pools |
| 5 Low Areas | 12 Ponds |
| 6 Potted Plant Saucers | 13 Tires |
| 7 Water Bowls for Pets | 14 Rot Holes in Trees |

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM MOSQUITO BITES



USE INSECT REPELLENT
Look for active ingredients like DEET, Picaridin, or IR3535.



WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHES
Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants. Treat clothes with permethrin for greater protection.



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