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January 2024

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

OFFICE PHONE

210-497-3022

EMAIL

CONTACT@ENCINOPARKHOA.COM

ADDRESS

1923 ENCINO RIO
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Greetings Encino Park Homeowners Association (HOA) Members,

My name is Sergio Mielnik and I am excited to reach out to all of you as a new member of the Board of Directors of Encino Park. For those who don’t know me, I have lived in Encino Park for six years. I have a loving and talented spouse named Luz Gabriela, and a son named Esteban Stryker. In my spare time, I like to play golf, collect Pokémon cards, and play video games. You can always find me walking my dog Chucho around the park.

As a member of the Encino Park Board of Directors (BOD), my goal is to plan and understand our budget, manage finances in the best possible way, deal with disputes and come to best terms in the interest of the HOA, and discuss and carry out plans and suggestions from our HOA Members.

My family and I love our neighbors and community so much that we did not hesitate when the opportunity came to buy our house. We are excited to be living in our neighborhood and it is a key motivator to have decided on joining our Board of Directors. I hope to see you all at our HOA meetings.

Sincerely,

Sergio Mielnik





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- MEMBER AT LARGE: KELSEY WOOD
- MEMBER AT LARGE: SERGIO MIELNIK

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- Architectural Control..... 210-497-3022
- Block Captain - Gail Lamb/Daphne Sohocki 210-901-9936
- Crime & Safety Committee - Dyan Montesclaros ..210-481-7890
- EP Involvement Committee - Sunny Brown 210-497-3022
- Over 50 Club - Dalia Benzick..... 210-497-3022
- Park Committee - Peggy Wardlaw210-386-6601
- 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
- Sew Bee It - Joan Raver 210-497-3022

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SAPD: 210-207-7273 311: (512) 974-2000**



**ENCINO PARK
WOMENS' CLUB**

By Donna Morton

**Encino Park Women's Club January
2024 Happy New Year!!**

We had a marvelous December!! At the Holiday Dinner & Auction; the food, laughter, and generosity were abundant!! **Thank you to Sunny Brown for opening her home for our Holiday fun!** The monies raised from the auction and the recipient will be announced in the February newsletter.

December started with our annual Santa Visit right here in Encino Park! The Community Building became a bit of Christmas Magic for those who came to see Santa, made crafts and decorated cookies.

The New Year begins with a very special program on **Monday, January 8 at 7:00pm, Wonders and Worries, a non-profit, will introduce us to their mission of providing a foundation for children and teenagers to reach their full potential while coping with a parent that is ill.** Their comprehensive programming is the only one of its kind in the US. We all know someone in our daily life that is stricken with an illness. Although we have full compassion for what they are going through, we rarely think about the changes that will happen within the family dynamic, especially to the children and teenagers who may feel helpless and scared.



Mark your calendars, you do not want to miss this!

John Travis / architect

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End of Year Wrap Up

We had a fun filled 2023, and are working to make this year even better! Earlier this year, we joined forces with the Pool Committee to work together to deliver 18 EPIC Events for Encino Park:

- Playdate at the Park (10)
- Night in Old Encino
- Memorial Day Pool Party
- 4th of July Parade and Pool Party
- Fall Festival and Chili Cook-off
- Middle School Night at the Pool
- Pool Closing Party
- Movie Night in the Park
- Holiday Lights Contest

Please help us recognize and thank the Committee Members who make all of this happen: Sunny Brown, Gordy Brown, Cara Jacobsen, DeLisa Leopold, John Kirschbaum, Gail Lamb, Laura Seale, Janelle Cunningham, and Michelle Herr. We would love to have more of you join the committee to help plan and deliver our 2024 events! We meet once a month at the Community Center early on a weeknight. If interested, please email us a gsbrown@swbell.net!



Holiday Lights Contest

At the time this was written, voting had just begun. There were so many incredible light displays this year! While we have already announced the winners on social media, stay tuned for next month's newsletter where we will feature photos of each of the winners' lights!

Movie Night in the Park

Movie Night in the Park was a huge success, with well over 100 residents coming out to watch the Grinch while enjoying free hot chocolate and popcorn. Thanks to all who came out for a fun evening in the park.

EPIC Facebook Page

We started an EPIC Facebook page in November, and are gaining followers every week. Please follow us to be in the know on the EPIC events happening this year.

Upcoming Events

Playdate in the Park - We continue to have a great turn out for this fun way to get out with your kids and meet new neighbors over coffee or tea, and donuts. Second Saturday each month from 10:00-11:30.



Missy's Creations

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Out to Lunch

Happy New Year, everyone!



After a holiday break, we will resume our gatherings this month. We will keep it casual after the holiday rush by going to Torchy's Tacos. It is at 18210 Sonterra Place (1604 W frontage road next to, and just before, Trader Joe's). We will meet there on Friday the 26th at 11:30. Torchy's has multiple kinds of tacos available, including breakfast all day, as well as a salad and a burrito as options. Go online to see what their slogan is. Call Janet at 210-481-9956 by Wednesday the 24th if you plan to attend. Carpooling is available.

Our November luncheon in the home of Beverly Anderson was wonderful. We were treated to a homemade Italian meal and very warm hospitality. Eleven of us were fortunate enough to be able to attend and all of us thoroughly enjoyed it.

Thank you, Beverly!



WE'RE GLAD YOU ASKED!

Question: With the record heat we had this past summer, what are we doing to ensure our plants and trees in the common areas survive and thrive?

Answer: Questions have come up at several board meetings about the grounds maintenance and we wanted to make sure that you know we hear you and are investigating all suggestions and options. Over the summer, we priced the water bags that wrap around trees and found the process and expense is more than we thought. We would have to hire a water truck to refill the water bags weekly because the water evaporates 5-7 days after filled. We were able to repair 2 of our dead sprinkler heads so the median from the gas station to the pool can now be regularly watered. The original water spickets by the Encino Park entry sign and the entry into Forest Village were unfortunately capped by the city years ago and do not have any water access. We entertained asking neighbors to use their water supply to water any surrounding community greenspaces, but, with water bills already so high, we knew how important it is to maintain personal budgets.

The EP Board and Spectrum are working closely with our landscaping company regarding removal of the dead items and we're finding more drought friendly plants and cacti for the future. If you have any recommendations for xeriscape landscaping, please call the office, 210-497-3022 or email contact@encinoparkhoa.com. We would love to have input from our neighbors!

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ENCINO PARK'S BLOCK CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Daphne Sohocki & Gail Lamb

Encino Park Block Captains Co-Committee Chairs

epblockcaptains@gmail.com

210.901.9936

<https://www.encinoparkhoa.org/about-4>

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

Encino Brook (19602-19734)

Encino Brook (19810-19911)

Encino Cabin

Encino Cliff (2136-2202)

Encino Crest

Encino Crossing

Encino Crown

Encino Gap

Encino Rio (1706-1726)

Encino Rock

Encino Royale (19918-19967)

Encino Spur

Encino Valley

Encino Valley Circle

If your street is not listed, please consider becoming a Co-Block Captain. Most of our Encino Park Block Captains are covering more than 1 street and would love the help! Reach out to us today. Together we make our community a safe and great place to live!

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OVER 50 CLUB

Submitted by Dalia Benzick

Our December 5th meeting was a joyous treat of a potluck lunch followed noisy fun, games and fellowship, which is normal every time we get together. We will start our 2024 meeting promptly on January 2nd and continue every first and third Tuesdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the community center. We had several residents join us in 2023 and consider each one a treasure as we know each one better. You may make it your resolution to visit our group in 2024; it's a win-win all around.

From all the Over 50's, we extend our wishes for a year full of good cheer, good health, family blessings, and peace in your heart and on earth.

Remembering The Dream

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 15th

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TOP WORK ETHICS 2023 USA

EP TEEN DIRECTORY



Name	Age	Contact	Services
Wyatt Belz	17	210-309-5570	Power washing, brush hauling (2/23)
Faith Bush	14	210-323-6708	Pet sitting, house sitting (12/23)
Grace Bush	18	210-323-6708	Babysitting, house sitting (12/23)
Joseph Bush	16	210-323-6708	Lawn mowing, dog walking (6/23)
Javier Garido	17	210-997-0771	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)
Maggie Micklitz	17	210-410-2990	Babysitting, pet sitting, house sitting (8/23)
Clayton Micklitz	15	210-410-2990	Babysitting, pet sitting, house sitting, lawn mowing, power washing (8/23)
Vincent Prusinsky	18	210-722-5545	Lawn mowing, trim hedges, weed eating, power washing services, pet sitting, dog walking (12/22)
Caleb Schoellhorn	14	210-996-9163	Lawn maintenance (10/23)

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.

**Found a dog or cat in EP?
Want to check for microchip?**

Go to any vet and they will scan for microchip or go online to:
<https://www.sa.gov/Directory/Departments/ACS/Caring/Microchipping>

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CRIME & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Our SAFFE Officer, Arturo Castellanos, reports that in the San Antonio northside vehicle burglaries continue to be 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. Criminals only need a few seconds to take your vehicle and everything and everyone in it.

Reminder: 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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Winter Irrigation Makes Your Sewer Bills and Weeds Grow!

By Nathan Riggs (Conservation Project Coordinator - San Antonio Water System)

Ok everyone, let's have a show of hands to see how many of you run your irrigation systems at least once per week during the winter? Now, ask yourself why because.....

Dormant Grass Won't Grow!

First, you must understand that irrigating dormant grass will not make it grow, no matter how hard you try or how much water you apply. As long as soil temperatures are below 70°F, warm season turf grasses will not produce green shoots that require mowing or irrigation. Only the roots of grasses, trees and shrubs are active in the winter and generally survive on the sporadic rainfall that the area receives. What WILL turn green because of irrigation are the germinating winter weeds like dandelions and henbit, along with cool-season weedy grasses such as rye, fescue, Poa anna, and Rescue grass.

Lower those Sewer Charges

Why is NOT irrigating in the winter important? Your sewer bill. Yes! Your sewer bill! SAWS uses the period between November 15 and March 15 each year to calculate the winter average. SAWS averages the water consumption over three consecutive billing periods during the above timeframe to calculate the monthly sewer billing charges starting on April 1 of the following year.

Pay Attention to Consumption

If you are irrigating, draining and refilling a pool/spa, or have a bad unrepaired leak during this three-month period, you will see this higher consumption reflected in your metered domestic water use and will be included in that winter average sewer calculation. If you repair a leak during the winter averaging period, call SAWS Customer Service so a bill review can be performed and adjust for the leak (leak repair receipts MUST be provided) to make sure the sewer charges are accurate and don't include the extra water caused by the leak. NOTE: Irrigation, filling a pool/spa, and regular consumption during the winter averaging period are not eligible for adjustments.

Next time you're in the garage (or wherever your irrigation controller is installed), stop by "Hunter" or "Rain Bird" (whatever your brand of irrigation controller) and switch them to OFF or Manual between **NOVEMBER 15 AND MARCH 15**. Your budget will appreciate the attention to detail!

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NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

January is always the time to reset. Time to start a new exercise regime. Time to take a break from too much food or beverage. Time to decide on the changes we want to make in the next year. We're always pretty gung ho for the first 4-6 weeks and then it fizzles out and life gets in the way.



2024 is a big year! It's an Election Year, it's a Leap Year (all of those Feb 29th birthdays get to finally celebrate on their actual birth date!) and we are in the path of a major solar eclipse in early April. It's also going to be a tricky year financially with the worries of recession and the housing market interest rates continuously climbing.

Let's set some New Year's Resolutions for Encino Park! Top three are:

1. Get to know your neighbors' names and numbers on your block! You never know when you'll need your neighbor.
2. Make sure your emails are correct with the Encino Park office! We send out a lot of information via email or our webpage or our Facebook page and we want to reach you!
3. Join a committee! We have so many cool events and activities run by a handful of people who are always longing for more ideas and involvement.

What are your New Year's Resolutions?



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