



WINDOW on WINDSOR

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July 2021

**Next
Neighborhood
Association
Meeting**

**Saturday, July
10th**

**STREAMING
starts at 10:15
but connect
early for some
visiting!**

**Please see
instructions on
the back page
for attending a
meeting online**

**Topics:
WPNA
Committees**

**Windsor Village
Redevelopment
Update**

Other Business

Got something for
the newsletter?
Get it in by the 15th
to newsletter@
windsorpark.info

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July 2021 President's Letter

By Jackie Brooks, WPNA President

We tossed our graduation caps in May alongside our scholarship recipients and just like that, summer is here! We hope that you and your loved ones are finding ways to enjoy time together as we see restrictions lifting and an optimistic trend toward feeling safe to gather and travel again.

With the monsoon of spring rains slowing, those who have been in Austin long enough know that it can yield way to weeks of hot and dry sunny days. These conditions are perfect for soaking up some vitamin D at a local water spot like Bartholomew pool or the splashpad (though openings are only trickling in due to lifeguard shortages after the pandemic- check out COA's pool reopening updates: <https://austintexas.gov/page/pools-splash-pads>), but they can also pose a great risk for wildfires – something the Austin Fire Department and partner agencies keep a close eye on this time of year. It's especially important to keep in mind when choosing how we celebrate the 4th of July. Though it is illegal to use or sell fireworks within the City of Austin, you can still have fun with sparklers (one of my personal favorites) if you're celebrating in town –the COA's website shares further detail on what's allowed: (<https://www.austintexas.gov/departments/fire/faq>). Whatever creative ways you come up with to kick off summer and celebrate the Red, White, and Blue this year - be safe and have fun!

Below are a few updates from the Association:

Audit Committee

Our Treasurer, Josh Pitts, is organizing a team of nominees for our annual audit. Thank you to those that have volunteered! We'll share this slate of nominees at our July meeting, and upon approval of the executive committee and membership through a simple vote, I will appoint the committee to review all financial records of the Association for the previous year and report its findings. The pandemic paused our ability to safely accomplish this typical business, and though we are delayed, we are grateful things are moving in a direction that enables our volunteers to safely move forward with this important task soon.

Nominating Committee

Are you interested in being a member of the nominating committee? This standing committee of at least (3) members (a majority of whom are not currently serving as officers of the Association) functions to propose nominations for elected Association officer positions. The committee is similar to the Audit Committee in how it's appointed (by the President and approved by membership at a regular meeting). The Nominating Committee solicits nominees for officers for the next year from the membership. The nominees are reviewed by the committee prior to the report to the membership, which must occur at the October meeting for officers concerning the next year. The committee will also function in the event of vacancy in any elected position, and can report at the earliest possible regular meeting with its nomination for the vacant position. Current vacant positions include: Vice President. If you're interested in serving on this committee (or serving as Vice President or any other officer position) please email president@windsorpark.info. For more information about our standing committees, or officer positions, please check out the Association [Bylaws](#) on our website.

Continued - including on update on the Windsor Village Redevelopment - on page 2

President's Letter, continued from page 1

Windsor Village Redevelopment Update

Further advocacy efforts continue for the Windsor Village Shopping Center redevelopment project. At our June meeting we were joined by a fellow Windsor Parker, Conor Kenny, who shared a little about his company, Civiltude (a civil engineering and site planning company located in Windsor Park) and their offer to help. Conor reached out to me and Rodney with a generous offer to assist the neighborhood with its Windsor Village advocacy efforts. The pro-bono arrangement and the services will be donated to the WPNA.

We are grateful for the added experience and expertise this brings to our team, and the additional resources afforded to tackle this effort. As things are moving quickly, we'll continue to lean on our "real-time" communication channels such as the email listserv and social media to share more timely updates and requests for action that you can take to help make sure your voice is heard. **So please stay tuned** – we appreciate your interest and will continue to do everything we can to help empower you and keep you informed.

July 2021 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

The Mueller Farmers Market moved to the new Branch Park Pavilion on Aldrich Street at Philomena on Sunday, June 27th, and all of Mueller's Aldrich Street shops, restaurants and Alamo Drafthouse Cinema are now open. Metered on-street parking is free on Sundays, and some Aldrich Street businesses will validate limited free time in the McBee Street Garage (also accessible from Robert Browning St.), where parking is \$1 per hour. Please honor pandemic protocols that any individual businesses may still have in place if you patronize them.

The complex land negotiations continue between AISD, Catellus and the City for the coming northeast middle school located on Tilley at Simond Avenue. AISD's website still cites the expected completion as July, 2022, but a June 10th *Community Impact* item indicates that the "timeline has been pushed back to 2023, and staff members say it is in danger of moving back further to 2024."

The 2021 Pool Schedule for Mueller is available with a search for "Mueller Austin Pool info," but note that the posted schedule doesn't always get promptly updated. Right now, the general public's access through September 2nd is as follows:

- ELLA WOOTEN POOL (Closed Mondays, except July 5 & Sept. 2)
Open Swim: 4 PM – 10 PM when lifeguards are on duty.
- JOHN GAINES POOL (Closed Wednesdays)
Open Swim: 10AM – 4 PM when lifeguards are on duty.

Day Pass Fees: Adult (18+) - \$5.00; Junior (12-17) - \$3.00
Child (11 and Under) and Senior (62 and over) - \$2.00.

The Mueller Commission continues to meet virtually on the second Tuesday of each month except July & December. Contact Program Manager Matthew Schmidt at 512-974-6415 or Matt.Schmidt@austintexas.gov at least 24 hours prior to the second Tuesday of the month to learn about participation or listening opportunities. More information is available at austintexas.gov/rmmapiac



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AISSD's PTA Funding Decision is a move toward Equity

Alice Grauly

In May, AISD announced that outside funds (including from PTAs) would no longer be allowed to be used for hiring teachers and staff. Before my daughter started kindergarten at Harris Elementary, I had no idea that was allowed. I was shocked when I found out about that practice. Naive though I may be, I couldn't imagine the parents in any PTA having enough funds to support an entire salary.

I have no doubt that all PTA-funded positions are needed, well-deserved, and deeply cherished by their school's community. I know of a school that lost its Parent Support Specialist and members of the PTA were able to fill the gap to keep one on. That's a noble hire.

Yet it is all too apparent how this practice exacerbates the existing inequities in our school system.. How can our low-income schools, where the majority of our students of color attend, ever catch up? The well-resourced schools end up even more resourced, and the under-resourced schools fall further and further behind.

Not to mention, there is only 1 school on the eastside that funded a staff position this past school year. All other 30 PTA-funded positions were for schools in West Austin.

The inequities couldn't be clearer.

AISSD Equity Office's mission, "Educational equity means that each child receives what they need to develop to their full academic and social potential," also elaborates on how we must work towards achieving that goal. One of the ways we do that is by "Interrupting [Disrupting] inequitable practices."

I'm proud of AISD for using language like "the decision is final." But I'm worried that pressure from people who oppose the decision and legislation like HB 1524 will bring it down. If you agree with AISD's decision, there are advocates working in Windsor Park to gather support and brainstorm ideas for how to move forward.

Email me, and I'll connect you alicegrauly@gmail.com or let the AISD board of trustees know your thoughts.



Neighborhood Handyman

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MARKET FLASHBACK

MAY 2020 AVG Sold Price/Sq Ft
\$308.43...up 27.65%

1619 WHELESS LANE



SOLD FIRST WEEKEND ON MARKET



WINDSOR PARK Market Statistics

MAY 2021

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (MAY 2021) **\$393.71**

OF HOMES SOLD IN (MAY 2021) **18**

AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD **1,537**

AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLD **8**

ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET **4***

*As of June 16th, 2021 - Single Family Homes.
Request a Detailed Report for Your Section of Windsor Park

July 2021 Yard of the Month

Sara Jane Lee

The July winners are H. P. and Miriam Speight of 5305 Halwill Place. They have lived there five years. An attractive metal fence surrounds their front yard but does not obscure it. This was a great relief because we had picked their yard just before they installed the fence – you can still see their lovely yard!

About three years ago they decided that they wanted to replace some of their hedges with flowering plants. The flower bed is mulched and outlined in river rock to provide a smooth transition from it to the remaining grass in their yard

The Speights have several dwarf Rose Bushes. Some are red, others are pink. All are lush and bloom like crazy. They also have a Hibiscus, a Jasmine plant in a pot, and some Wisteria. Toward the border of the flower bed there are several tall, striking plants with large, light blue flower heads. They belong to that popular variety, “I knew what it was when I planted it.”

They also have some Nandinas, Red Tip Photinias, and Mountain Laurel. Their trees include two Oaks and two Crape Myrtles. One crape myrtle is white, the other pink.

H. P. and Miriam advise the new gardener to take pictures of yards that you admire, shop around for plants at your local garden center. Follow directions for planting. Most important, DON'T GIVE UP!

The Speights will get a \$50.00 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery. Shoal Creek has finished remodeling, and they have a good supply of plants, pots, and equipment. It is a pleasure to visit. There are two entrances from the parking lot.

Do not be shy. If you like a certain yard, or more than one, tell us. We cannot visit every yard in the neighborhood each month. We may not have seen your yard, or your neighbor's yard. Feel free to nominate your own yard even if you do not think that it is perfect. People have won that way. Send your nomination(s) to WPNA YOMC. P.O. Box 16183, Austin, Texas 78761, call 512-928-0681, or email wpna.yom@gmail.com.







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Windsor Park May 2021 Market Report

 \$555,000 MEDIAN SALES PRICE	 \$384.43 MEDIAN PRICE / SQFT	 4 DAYS MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET
 21 NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD	 \$810,000 MOST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD	 \$442,000 LEAST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD

**SINGLE FAMILY HOME STATISTICS COLLECTED FROM AUSTIN BOARD OF REALTORS MLS

When will the market crash?

The short answer? I don't see it happening any time soon.

The longer answer? What we're currently experiencing in real estate is a giant market correction driven by low inventory, low interest rates, and an influx of buyers moving out of rentals or relocating to Austin. We're seeing some slow down in the market (fewer offers, longer days on market, less over list price), but the prices are here to stay.

If you have questions about today's market or are interested in how to get top dollar and protect yourself in this market, I'm happy to have that no-obligation conversation.

Mosquito Repellents

Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist

Mosquitoes are out in masses and since they are capable of disease transmission, it is important that you protect yourself when spending time outside. Of course, you can wear long pants and a long-sleeved shirt in light colors to reduce the number of mosquitoes that can reach your skin when outside, but this is not always the option people choose with temperatures on the rise. Another option to protect yourself is repellent.

Repellent should only be applied to clothing and exposed skin; do not apply repellent underneath clothing! If you want to apply repellent to your face, spray your hands with repellent and rub it onto your face. Do not spray repellent directly into your face or near eyes or mouth. Make sure to apply repellent outdoors. Do not allow children to handle repellents and seek advice from a physician regarding insect repellent use for children under two years of age. Wash hands before eating, smoking, or using the restroom.

To reduce disease transmission from mosquitoes, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends using a product registered with the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) containing one of the following active ingredients: DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE), para-methane-diol (PMD), or 2-undecanone.

DEET, also known N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide or N, N-dimethylbenzamide, was developed by the U.S. Army in 1946 to protect soldiers in insect-infested areas. Pesticides containing DEET have been used by the public since 1957. Products containing DEET should not be used on children younger than 2 months of age (read the label and check with your pediatrician if you have questions). DEET has a slight odor and may have a greasy feel to some people. It may damage plastic, rubber, vinyl, or synthetic fabrics. DEET may be irritating to the eyes and skin for some people and comes in a wide variety of concentrations, so choose one that will work best for your situation.

Picaridin was first made in the 1980's and resembles a natural compound called piperine (which is found in plants used to produce black pepper). Picaridin has been used in Europe and Australia for many years but has only been in the U.S. since 2005. Picaridin is non-greasy and odorless.

IR-3535, or 3-[N-Butyl-N- acetyl]-aminopropionic acid, ethyl ester, was developed in the mid- 1970's and became registered for use in the U.S. in 1999. It is registered as a biopesticide by the EPA because it is functionally identical to a naturally occurring substance (an amino acid). It may dissolve or damage plastics and may be irritating to the eyes.

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Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) and PMD (para-menthane-3,8-diol) are essentially the same thing; PMD is the synthesized (lab created) version of oil of lemon eucalyptus. “Pure” or “essential” oil of lemon eucalyptus is not labeled as a repellent and has not undergone testing and should not be used as a repellent product. OLE/PMD has been on the market in the U.S. since 2002. OLE/PMD should not be used on children younger than 3 years of age. The natural product (OLE) has known allergens within it while the synthetic version (PMD) has less of a risk to allergens. This product is classified as a biopesticide. OLE/PMD has a varying range of residual, some offering about 20 minutes of protection while other products may last up to two hours.

The product 2-undecanone is also known as methyl nonyl ketone or IBI-246. It is a colorless oil that can either be produced synthetically or extracted from plants such as rue, cloves, ginger, strawberries, or wild grown tomatoes. This product is fairly new.

Many factors play into how long a repellent will last for a person. Some of these are:

- The concentration (or percent of active ingredient) of the product. You can find the percentage on the product label.
- Person's attractiveness. Some people are more attractive to mosquitoes than others (and no scientific research has proven that it is because of eating garlic, taking vitamin B, using tobacco products, etc.). A person's genetic code plays a large part on what makes a person so attractive to mosquitoes.
- Frequency and uniformity of application. In other words, how often is the repellent applied and how good of coverage did you get?
- Activity level of the person. The more active the person is, the more sweat they produce which can cause the repellent to wash off the surface of the skin.

As a word of caution, there are products that combine sunscreen and insect repellent. The CDC recommends that if you need sunscreen and repellent, that you choose two separate products. Sunscreen should be applied more often than repellents.

Wizzie's Blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

Meet Your Neighbor July 2021 - Joyce Willett School of Dance

Martin Luecke

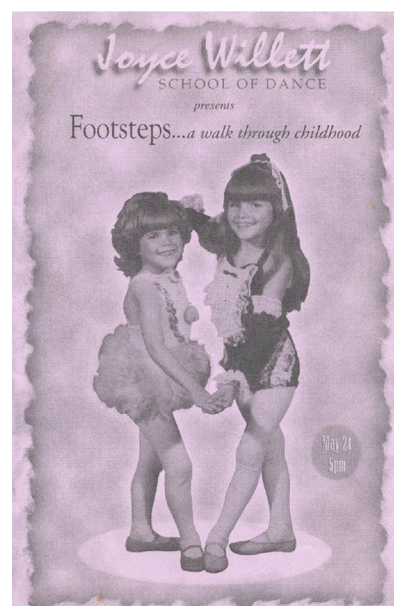
Joyce and Neil Willett moved to Westminster Drive in 1972 with three children, Kim (5 years), Kristy (3 years) and baby Matt. Joyce got a job teaching for Shirley McPhail School of Dance, which had recently opened in Windsor Village. I am speaking with Kim, who now lives on Delwood Drive. She and sister Kristy received free dance lessons and were fixtures at the studio. "I had free run of the shopping center and I loved to visit Patton's Barber Shop because they always had bubble gum and the teachers sent me over there to buy them a soda" Kim recalls. At the age of seven she began assisting her mother's classes. "I would help put shoes on the little dancers and I remember learning how to keep my hands from shaking when putting the needle on a specific track on one of her dance albums."



Joyce bought the dance studio in 1982 and taught almost all the classes herself because she could not afford to hire anyone else. "I was 15 when I was allowed to teach my first class of 3-year-olds" Kim remembers. It was a few years later when Kim realized how many talented dancers were in their studio. "I formed Body Talk dance company in 1985, the same year I graduated from LBJ, in order to provide dancers the training necessary to pursue a professional career. We began competing and traveling to conventions to train. Dancers spent entire Saturdays rehearsing at the studio. In the summer

of 1988, we were awarded Studio of the Year in Las Vegas for having the most top scoring routines."

Kristy also taught at the studio and her strength was musical theatre, so she was instrumental in teaching the dancers how to perform. Two of her four children grew up to teach for the studio.



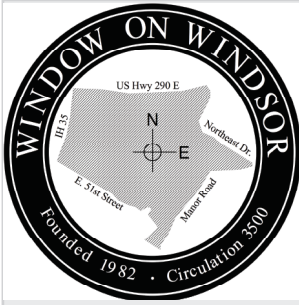
In 2005 Joyce gave the studio to Kim, who expanded into the old Windsor Village Library space to make room for the "Make A Difference" program providing free dance lessons for neighborhood kids. "I had built a solid program and had dancers who were touring with Reba McEntire and making JayZ videos. The dance company thrived, but the business did not turn a profit." Kim took on a full-time position with the state to keep the lights on. JWSD survived



the multiple recessions of this century but had to move out of Windsor Park in May with the redevelopment of Windsor Village. Kim looked for a new space in the neighborhood but could not get a long-term lease. JWSD can be found near Cameron and 183 at 8701 Cross Park Road. Kim says she is super sad about having to leave Windsor Park. "It's heartbreaking."

Kim's daughter Cheyenne manages the studio these days, and as we speak, three generations of Willett women are heading to the state meeting/convention of the Texas Association Teachers of Dance" (TATD). Good luck and thank you for the memories.

Please send me story ideas: mwluecke@hotmail.com
512.536.0465



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Attend a WPNA meeting online

1. Via facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/WindsorParkAustinTX>) where you can comment and ask questions.
2. Live stream from our website (<http://www.windsorpark.info/>) - available during the meeting

Library Updates

Kelly Overton

Curbside services at Windsor Park ended June 25th. MOST branches are now open for Express Service, exceptions include University Hills, Cepeda, Pleasant Hill, Southeast, and Terrazas.

The amazing Mr. Gabriel, youth librarian from the Windsor Park Branch, has an on-line story time every Monday from 10:30-11:00. Join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78474570554?pwd=UkNvUk9WOXQrcXdRMmt5U3BjUHp6dz09>
 Meeting ID: 784 7457 0554 // Passcode: 9qeUD5

In-person programming is still on pause at APL, but online events are going strong. Check the Library's events calendar at the link below for details: <https://library.austintexas.gov/events/calendar>

Summer Reading and Learning is alive and well @ APL! Pick up reading logs, activity packs, and a 'zine (for teens!). Young people can exchange a completed reading log for a free book from the library all summer long! <https://library.austintexas.gov/basic-page/adventures-your-name-here-summer-2021-759694>

Austin Police Department District Representative for Windsor Park

Officer Andre Black:
 (512) 974-6875
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