



WINDOW on WINDSOR

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Nov 2022

**Next
Neighborhood
Association
Meeting**

**Saturday, Nov
12th, 10am**

**Meeting at Gym
of MUMC 6100
Berkman Drive
and**

STREAMING

windsorpark.info/

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting and at neighborhood events!

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

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Celebrating Fall and Our Community Spirit

By Jackie Brooks, WPNA President

As I write this letter to you, the first breeze of fall has arrived, and it's lifted my spirits with that crisp cool freshness. When the sun is shining too, just heaven! Perhaps inspired by the pleasant weather, this time of year I often find myself feeling thankful for all the things that surround me, and especially the things that are sometimes disguised as "ordinary."

This year I've never been more grateful for the ordinary things – like being able to meet and gather again in person. At our October meeting we hosted our Mayoral Candidate forum and heard presentations about the bond packages to consider as we prepare to vote in the November election. All of these things started as an idea, and only became a reality because someone said, "I can help with that!"

I'm grateful for volunteers like Laura Hoke, who took time to organize and host our forum. And for Nadia Khan, who not only dedicated her time to the AISD bond steering committee, but then presented that information to the neighborhood. And for the network of the many folks in the WPNA that continues to grow- It's amazing how many resources and wonderfully talented individuals we have right here in our community. Want to get connected? Plan to attend **HARVEST FEST – our Fall Neighborhood Block Party on Saturday, Nov. 12th from 12-4pm at Bartholomew Park**. All are welcome!

The WPNA has been fostering a sense of community, belonging, and connection amongst neighbors for the last 4 decades. At this year's Harvest Fest – we will celebrate some of the wonderful ways those contributions have manifested over the years and have some fun!. We'll be joined by local vendors and businesses, good eats, our WPNA committees, live entertainment, have a "cake walk" with PIE (we have so many great bakers in our

neighborhood, y'all!), a plant swap, games for the whole family, and more!

There's a spirit that continues to persevere through this organization, and we get a glimpse of it in the moments like this where we have an opportunity to reflect. As a volunteer, you may catch yourself in a grind of ordinary everyday tasks like writing emails, prepping or facilitating meetings, writing a newsletter article, or picking up the mail – which don't often boast a particular significance on their own. But when you zoom out, the cumulative impact they have on a community over time can be extraordinarily inspiring. Cheers to you WPNA members and volunteers – let's celebrate!



Park and Creek Clean-Ups

Please join and register for WP park and creek cleanup for It's My Park Day on **Nov 5, 9:00am - 12:00pm**. We're hoping for at least 30 volunteers, kids are welcome! Volunteers will get a free t-shirt. Here is a link to the event, where folks can register and learn more: <https://austinparks.givepulse.com/event/326591-Beautifying-Bartholomew-Park>

In December, save the date for a creek cleanup for Tanehill Branch Creek, for the stretch near Broadmoor and Belfast (upstream from the park!). Saturday, December 3 from 10:00am - 12:00pm.

Sadler Means YWLA

Dr. Rosalind Oliphant, Community Partnerships

In the spirit of leadership and activism, Sadler Means YWLA organized a team and volunteered at the annual Susan G. Komen Central Texas More Than Pink Walk. The team, led by our counselor Ms. Karen Terry, a 20-year cancer survivor, raised more than \$600.

Sadler After Sunset (SAS) launches this month with our Tuesday afterschool clubs. Girl Scouts, Chess Club, Book Club, and Arts & Craft Club are a just a few of the many options available. There will be snacks and a late bus for students who need transportation.

The AISD Bond on the November ballot includes a full modernization for our campus. With a full modernization, Sadler Means students and staff can look forward to a much-needed new building! Much appreciation to the WPNA Schools Committee for advocating on our behalf.

Gus Garcia YMLA

Dr. Rosalind Oliphant, Community Partnerships

The undefeated Gus Garcia Dragons are the North Zone Division II Champs. Congrats to the coaches and players on a great season and a playoff spot in the first round. The team recently celebrated Homecoming with sister school, Sadler Means YWLA. The 2022 Homecoming Court recognized the 8th grade King and Queen, 7th grade Prince and Princess, and 6th grade Duke and Duchess.

Garcia YMLA received the 2022 **Urban Forestry Grant** and will enjoy the benefits of a campus urban forest! Irrigation and planting work has already begun for approximately 60 native Texas trees. The grant covers the cost of all materials and labor for irrigation, trees, planting, and maintenance.

You're invited to take a look at our beautiful grounds during the annual **Garcia Fall Festival**, Thursday, November 10, 5p - 7p. Join Garcia families and staff members for food, games, and fun.

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Windsor Park September 2022 Market Report

 \$550,000 MEDIAN SALES PRICE	 \$397.06 MEDIAN PRICE / SQFT	 38 DAYS MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET
 11 NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD	 MOST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD (WP officially broke \$1mil) \$837,000	 \$357,500 LEAST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD

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

Fall & Winter Expectations

With interest rates and inflation still high, I expect it to be a slow Fall & Winter. I'm hopeful that we'll see a spring bump, but I wouldn't expect it to be gangbusters like the past two years. Builders are offering a lot of incentives and buying down the rates of buyers right now. I've seen rates in the 4-5% range through their preferred lenders. It's a good time for cash or large down payment buyers. Sellers are back to needing to make improvements and probably listing for less than they'd like.



November 2022 Yard of the Month - 2010

Singing Brook Drive

Sara Jane Lee

The November winners are Kristen Harper, Michelle Flores and Teo and Lucia of 2010 Singing Brook Drive. They have lived there since 2019. The family love Mexican culture and bougainvillea. The front porch is long and wide with a sofa that welcomes sitters. A picket fence surrounds the yard and is open at the driveway.

They used the playscape at Homeslice Pizza as a pattern for their front yard. Bougainvillea run along their front fence. Along the side fence they have Peach, Pear, and Tangerine trees. At our visit, the tangerine tree had green fruit on it. A Wisteria vine twists up one of the posts on the front porch. Their yard also has a Bur Oak. This is a child friendly yard; the grass is thick and welcoming and they have built mounds in the yard which you can crawl through or climb on.

Kristen and Michelle will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery, a great local nursery with wonderful staff and a great collection of plants.

If you like a certain yard, or more than one, tell us. We cannot visit every yard in the neighborhood each month. Feel free to nominate your own yard. People have won that way. Send your nomination(s) to WPNA YOMC. P.O. Box 16183, Austin, Texas 78761, call 512-928-0681 and leave a message, or email wpna.yom@gmail.com.



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October 2022 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

At its October 5, 2022 meeting, the City’s Historic Landmark Commission granted a Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed Mueller Control Tower Plaza design. The design uses a swooping ramp to provide ADA/universal access to an observation platform at the roof level of the former terminal building, where the Tower’s blue cladding starts. The design also incorporates a bridge, an outdoor amphitheater, an overlook, a lawn and milkweed plantings, along with numerous trees. The Certificate simply assures that the Tower’s architectural and structural remains intact. Illustrations of the proposed Plaza are viewable here: <https://services.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=393275>

The Mueller Tower NOEL Lighting will be held Tuesday, November 29, 2022. Details were not yet available, but the event is usually underway by 6PM, with the lighting happening between 7 and 7:30. It will be based at the eastern end of John Gaines Park, between Sorin and Vaughan Streets along Tilley.

Note the change of date (due to election day) and venue for the next Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission meeting, on November 15th at 6PM at the Permitting and Development Center, 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive, -Assembly PDC Room 1406. Free parking is available in the adjacent garage. For the RMMAPIAC agenda and other information, visit austintexas.gov/rmmapiac

Dottie Jordan Roots & Wings Festival - Saturday, November 5th - 2-5pm

Join your neighbors in welcoming several newly planted trees to Dottie Jordan Park! There will be a tree planting demonstration from the COA’s Urban Forestry Department, as well as a FREE tree giveaway from Treefolks.org.

Lots of local organizations will be on hand with fun activities for the kids – Kids Climb, Art Activities, & Seed Ball Making. Tour the community garden, find out where the birds live, and so much more!

The Roots & Wings Festival is brought to you by the City of Austin and the Neighbors of Dottie Jordan Park & Garden. Learn more: www.RootsAndWingsFest.com

Ridge's

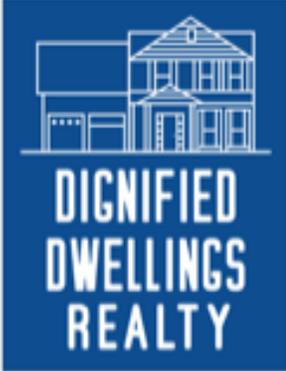
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NEW HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION RULES

If you purchased a home at ANY TIME during 2022 as your primary residence you can apply for your Homestead Exemption IMMEDIATELY...after changing the address on your driver's license.

WINDSOR PARK Market Statistics SEPT 2022

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (Sept 2022)	\$389.74
# OF HOMES SOLD IN (Sept 2022)	11
AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD	1,427
AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS	35
# ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET	27*

*As of Oct 10th, 2022 - Single Family Homes. Request a Detailed Report for Your Section of Windsor Park




Tips for Excluding Pests

Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist

As temperatures begin to cool off and days become shorter, insects and other animals look for a cozy place to spend the cooler months. This may often lead them inside your home. Now is a great time to go around your home and look for any possible entry areas and make it so the pests cannot join you during the winter.

If you can see light around doors and windows while inside your home, then it's a sign there isn't a good seal and weather stripping should be replaced. In the attic, look for holes or entry points for small mammals such as rats, mice, and squirrels. Cover attic vents with stainless steel screening to block animals from entering. Look around the outside perimeter of the home for cracks and crevices in the foundation or pipe and wire penetrations that enter the structure. Any potential entry points should be sealed with sealant, copper mesh, or expanding foam.

Exclusion tips:

- Seal pipe & wire penetrations with copper mesh, sealant, or expanding foam
- Replace weather stripping around doors and windows if there is not a good seal
- Repair or replace window screens with holes
- Trim back or prune any trees and shrubs that touch or overhang the home
- Stuff weep holes with copper mesh or use weephole covers on homes with brick or stone facades
- Clean debris from gutters to reduce harborage areas for pests
- Turn off porch lights at night or use bulbs that are less attractive to insects
- Inspect all furniture, boxes, and bags for pests before bringing them into the home
- Inspect all plants for insect pests before bringing them into the home; quarantine and treat any plants with pests
- Store garbage and recycling bins away from doors
- Do not store firewood inside the home, against outside walls, or near doors; wear gloves when moving firewood to reduce chance of being accidentally bitten or stung by hidden spiders or scorpions
- Use sheet metal, hardware cloth, or steel wool to seal any areas where animals have chewed to enter the home**
**make sure animal is not in the home or you'll seal it inside!

For more information or help with identification, contact me at 512.854.9600.

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MEET YOUR HISTORIC NEIGHBOR - BRUCE ROCKSTROH

Martin Luecke

Neighborhood associations as we know them today evolved from community organizations first created in the 1930's to help depression era social service agencies reach distressed residents. By the 1970's N.A.'s began to form across the country in response to rising crime rates and the need for local political representation.

In 1982 Wilshire and Trinity Presbyterian churches received a denominational grant to create a Community Mission Developer position to help East Austin neighborhoods get organized. Bruce Rockstroh was a 25 year old social worker in the right place at the right time, landed the job, moved his young family to a duplex near Reagan High School and began working out of the Trinity Church location (now Austin Mennonite Church).

Bruce did not have a car at the time, and rode his bike to work every day. "My first day in the office I asked the obvious question: What does Windsor Park need?" he recounts today from his home in New Braunfels. Bruce had been a member of his previous neighborhood association and community school council and discovered very quickly those were missing from Windsor Park. He realized that some kind of community organization should be created. "I drew up the original flyer, made 200 copies, and with the help of Marvin Johnson we hand delivered to houses in the neighborhood." The church was used for the first meeting. "We expected maybe 5 people and got 30. They were animated, said they had wanted to do something but didn't know what it was, and were active from the get-go!" They decided in that first meeting to create WPNA.

Bruce did the leg work, set up the next meeting, and did outreach to other Austin neighborhood associations. "My job was just facilitating. Neighborhood people took over immediately." Bruce remembers Dr. Stephen Rodi having a great deal of passion and energy and became WPNA's President. The first target for the neighborhood was getting a permanent library. "We had a big fight (with the city) about that library. Stephen picked up the ball and really moved it." It was a galvanizing event for Windsor Park and put the neighborhood association on the map. WPNA lost that particular battle, but won the war with continuous effort and appeals to city government, which finally opened the permanent Windsor Park Library in 2000.

Bruce bought a house on Northeast Drive in 1985 where they raised three children until 1990. "Windsor Park was the first integrated neighborhood in Austin, and we were proud to live there." At this point the grant was over and he had a different job. "I was fortunate to be there in the beginning, and to see it grow." These days



Bruce is retired, having served as a charter school superintendent for 15 years in San Antonio. His most recent project was to help create a school for San Antonio teenagers who are in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse. Bruce "facilitated" the start of the school, worked with passionate people to take action, did the leg work to keep the project moving forward. This fall they opened a new building for the school, the Rise Inspire Academy. Sounds familiar.

You can meet Bruce in person Saturday November 12 at the Harvest Fest celebration, along with other original members and officers of WPNA, celebrating 40 years of making Windsor Park a better place. I will be providing a brief history of the organization and the neighborhood, highlighting our many victories over the decades. Please join us.

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Newsletter Routes open for you

Amanda Rose

“Many feet make light work” Please consider “stepping up” to help get the newsletter out. If you can walk, roll, bike, drive or dance the newsletters down a route, we would love to hear from you!

The print issue of the WPNA newsletter comes to your doorstep due to the combined efforts of over 100 volunteers – and we need a few more feet to help us keep up! While we do post the newsletter online, many of our neighbors rely on the print issue and it is through our volunteer network that we cover the neighborhood.

If you have between 30-45 minutes each month to spare for circulating the newsletters, dropping copies to your neighbors and perhaps enjoying exchanging greetings and connecting with new friends, we have some open routes. Newsletter packets would be dropped to your door and you would take them the final step to the doorsteps of our neighbor readers.

The area of the neighborhood most needing “the final mile” is the Northeast quadrant – Betty Cook, Jack Cook, Viouthia, Vernon, Friendswood - do you live in this area? Do you have a friend in this area who has been missing their copy of the newsletter and might want to cover their street?

Other open routes are peppered throughout the neighborhood: Bristol, Hickman, Broadview / Clayton, 52nd Street. Let us know what would work for you!

Email newsletter@windsorpark.info with your interest and we will match you with a convenient route.



Climate Corner – Inflation Reduction Act

Barrett Sundberg

The recently passed Inflation Reduction Act really is historic, in that it contains many important incentives to fight climate change, and is the first US law to broadly address the problem. Committing an estimated \$359 billion to a variety of programs, the new law includes incentives to promote US clean energy manufacturing, retool auto factories to make clean vehicles, reduce methane emissions by natural gas producers, and more.

In WPNA’s most recent Climate Conversation, Congressman Lloyd Doggett remarked that the bill only includes part of what we need to fully combat climate change, and that more work remains to be done. That said, some of the most important incentives provided are directly applicable to neighbors.

For example, among the law’s policies to reduce consumer energy costs are 10 years of consumer tax credits for homes to become energy efficient, and use clean energy; the credits can be used to make heat pumps, rooftop solar, electric HVAC, and electric water heaters affordable.

There are also \$9 billion in rebates for low income residents to retrofit homes and buy efficient appliances. In addition to a \$7,500 tax credit to buy new clean vehicles, there is also a \$4,000 consumer tax credit to buy used clean energy vehicles. So if you’re interested in buying a used electric vehicle and powering it with new solar panels in your home, these credits can apply to you!

More details will be available on the Climate Committee web page (<http://www.windsorpark.info/climate-crisis-committee>), and are in the Windsor Park Climate Conversation YouTube channel - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU65FyAvXK8flqQnLrMB_A

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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 Events and Updates

Closures: 11 Nov for Veteran’s Day; early close 23 Nov and closed 24-25 Nov for Thanksgiving

- Music & Movement Storytime - Mondays 9:30am
- Pajama Storytime -Thursdays 6pm
- All Ages Storytime- Fridays 9:30am
- Tween Tuesdays @ 3:30pm
 - Nov 8, Video Game Free Play
 - Nov 15, Kids Create Craft Program
- Our Youth Computer lab is open selected days, check the door for updates!
- Read/Watch/Talk, Jr: Watch movie based on a book and chat about it over popcorn! (all ages) - Sat, Nov 19 @ 1pm, The Iron Giant 1999 PG
- Read/Watch/Talk Sci-Fi Edition (adults) - Fri, Nov 18 @ 5:30 Station Eleven
- Windsor Park Library Book Club - Forget The Alamo by Burrough, Tomlinson and Bryan - Tues November 8 @ 5:30
- Resume and job finding services - Wednesday, November 9 4:00-5:00 pm
- Trees, Seeds and Milkweeds - A community Conversation about the value of Texas native plants - Sat November 5 1:00-3:00 pm
- Weave a star, start a conversation – all ages - <https://www.onemillionstartexas.net/get-involved> Sat November 12, 12:00-3:00 pm

**Austin Police Department
 District Representative for
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Officer Andre Black:
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