

WINDOW on WINDSOR

Vol XXXIII No. 9 September 2014

Published Monthly by the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association • Austin, Texas

Windsor Park Neighborhood Association Meeting

Saturday, Sep 13 at 10 a.m.

Memorial United Methodist Church, 6100 Berkman Dr.

We serve LOCAL Fair Trade coffee from Trianon Roasting Co.!

Windsor Park Contact Info

Website:

www.Windsorpark.info

Email:

president@ windsorpark.info

Newsgroup:

groups.yahoo.com/ group/windsorpark/



WindsorParkAustinTx

Submissions to the newsletter are due by the 15th of each month.

Email them to: newsletter@ windsorpark.info

PARTICIPATING IN THE REASONS FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

by Martin Luecke, WPNA President

To celebrate our freedom to assemble and choose our own representation, WPNA will be inviting political candidates of various stripes to our next two Saturday meetings. There are multiple categories of races and districts and bonds in the November 4 election and it is our hope to bring a bit of clarity to the process.

Our Founding Fathers would be impressed with the list of elections, which includes the Austin School Board, The Austin City Council, The Travis County Commission and Judge, our State Representative, our US Representative, Austin Community College bond, and City of Austin light rail bond. You could say a lot is being asked of us patriots.

At our Saturday September 13 monthly meeting we will get to meet several candidates for Austin School Board District 1 at 10am, to be immediately followed at 10:30 by a 90-minute City Council Candidate Forum for District 1. There are currently 8 candidates running for this seat

At our Saturday October 11 meeting we will repeat the process with a Candidate Forum for City Council District 4. There are currently 10 candidates in this race. Windsor Park is split evenly between these two city council districts.

WPNA will provide each candidate with one prewritten policy question and one randomly chosen question from WPNA members. Each candidate will have four minutes to answer a question. I will be the moderator.

I invite all Windsor Parkers to submit a question prior to the day of the forum. My email is president@windsorpark.info.

We will also strive to provide additional information and candidates from these other races and bond proposals so that you can have a good idea of choices that come with your right to vote.

Since WPNA is a non-profit corporation, we cannot support any political candidate or cause. But we can, as a neighborhood organization, give candidates a forum to speak. It is my hope that you will take the time in September and October to attend our meetings and hear the candidates for yourselves. It is the patriotic thing to do.

The deadline for voter registration is Monday, October 6

The election is Tuesday, November 4

"Meet the Candidates" at September 13 and October 11 WPNA meetings

September 2014 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

Catellus hosted a community meeting at Our Lady's Maronite Catholic Church on August 14th to share information on Berkman Drive. Construction (and disruption!) will soon start on Berkman within Mueller with the hopes of completing the full-width street by the end of 2015. Berkman traffic studies last October – after the HEB and schools had opened - revealed the 85th percentile traffic speeds were considerably above the posted 30 MPH limit, especially on the southbound lane. (The 85th percentile was 37 MPH just north of 51st where the limit is 35 MPH within Windsor Park.) Traffic engineers assured Mueller residents that traffic will slow when the street is completed due to the narrowness of the single lane of traffic with adjacent parallel parking. Mark Lenters, a nationally recognized roundabout consultant hired by Catellus, showed sketches of potential traffic circles at two key intersections. While roundabouts are possible within the existing platted right-of-way, none are planned at this time since they would complicate the routes of the Berkman cycle-tracks. The 4-way stop at the Market District driveway/Barbara Jordan Blvd. is currently the only anticipated control for traffic on Berkman within Mueller.

AISD's 68,000 square foot Performing Arts Center at the corner of Barbara Jordan & Mueller Boulevards is now scheduled to be complete in November, with a grand opening event sometime in January, 2015. Back in May, the AISD Board of Trustees considered naming the facility after a paid sponsor. Current policy would not allow the selling of naming rights. No word to date from the Trustee's naming committee, but with a budget shortfall of about \$30 million, AISD may be looking for methods of generating revenue. The Performing Arts Center's lot does not extend to 51st, so future buildings fronting onto 51st Street and wrapping the corner a bit at Mueller Blvd will someday hide the facility's parking garage.

Two smaller spaces in existing buildings are all that remain vacant in Mueller's Regional Retail Center, where the last pad site, now under construction between Wells Fargo and Jamba Juice, will be a La Madeleine restaurant projected to open in early 2015. The Austin Business Journal also reports that California-based pizzeria Pieology is opening a Mueller location. No

date yet on Torchy's Tacos grand opening, but http://torchystacos.com/location/mueller/ is the website up and running for the 1801 E. 51st Street address!

On a somber note, Jerry Perkins, my fellow Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commissioner until his recent resignation, passed away on July 31st. Jerry was a Mueller resident, active in the Austin

Neighborhoods Council and ANC East. He had a knack for tactfully handling folks holding differing views on many issues, but especially with those surrounding Mueller. He will be missed

The next RMMAPIAC meeting is Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at 6PM in Meeting Room 1 of the Carver Library, 1161 Angelina Street. Please send Mueller-related questions & comments to bc-Rick.Krivoniak@austintexas.gov.

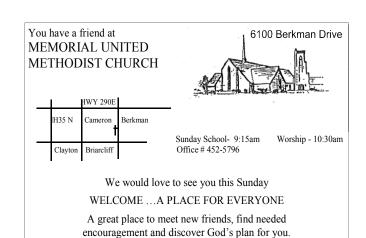
Windsor Park Resident and Real Estate Broker



Jane Amschwand
Realtor®
Salt Homes, LLC
Owner/Broker
512.228.2484

www.salthomes.com jane@salthomes.com





Election Information

Rick Krivoniak

November 4, 2014 is the Uniform Election Date for the upcoming General Election. We will be voting for US Senator and Congressional Representative, Texas Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, Land Commissioner, Agriculture Commissioner, Railroad Commissioner, State Senator and Representative, numerous county officials, and for the first time in November, for Austin's Mayor and City Council Members by District. With several candidates in each of the Mayoral and Council races, there is a very good chance that no single candidate will get more than 50% of the votes, so the runoff election will be held on Tuesday, December 16, 2014.

Important dates to remember include:

Friday, September 6, 2014 - First Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail

Monday, October 6, 2014 - LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE in the NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION

Thursday, October 16, 2014 - First Day to Apply for RUNOFF Ballot by Mail

Monday, October 20, 2014 - First Day of Early Voting

Friday, October 24, 2014 - Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (Received, NOT Postmarked!)

Friday, October 31, 2014 - Last Day of Early Voting

Tuesday, November 4, 2014 - ELECTION DAY, Last Day to Receive Ballot by Mail

Monday, November 17, 2014 - LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE in the DECEMBER RUNOFF ELECTION

Monday, December 1, 2014 - First Day of Early RUNOFF Voting

Friday, December 5, 2014 - Last Day to Apply for RUNOFF Ballot by Mail (Received, NOT Postmarked!)

Friday, December 12, 2014 - Last Day of Early RUNOFF Voting

Tuesday, December 16, 2014 - RUNOFF ELECTION DAY

Current Voter Registration Cards are ORANGE. A valid photo ID is required, and the name must substantially match that on your Voter Registration Card.





Matching Grant Opportunity from Austin Parks Foundation

Jeanette Swenson

Austin Parks Foundation matching grant continues through September 30, 2014. APF will match all contributions to the Windsor Park Playscapes shades from early July through September 30, so any amount donated will be doubled. Thanks to all of you who contributed in July and August. Remember, if you donated through the Windsor Park website, your contribution comes with a Windsor Park T-shirt. Contact Meghan Dougherty (doughtastic@gmail.com) to claim your T-shirt.

WINDSOR PARK AGENT. COM



July 2014 Stats

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT \$187.22 (JULY 2014)

OF HOMES SOLD IN 14 (JULY 2014)

AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD 1,673

AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS 21

ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET 26*

*As of Aug 13th, 2014



JOHN PAUL PORTER (512) 563-8176

JohnPaul@ DigDwell.com

3RD GENERATION WINDSOR PARK RESIDENT

FREE Service Contract with Listing (\$475 value)





NO OBLIGATION

Personalized Property Valuations



When faith and sexual orientation colide



School Committee Update

Meghan Dougherty, School Committee Chair

And school is back in session! Classes started in Austin ISD on August 25. Now is a great time to get to know your children's teachers and start the year off right. Don't forget Back to School Nights happen at the beginning of September. Middle school are holding theirs on Tuesday, September 9 and the high schools' are on Wednesday, September 10. Elementary schools will be having their open houses throughout the week; keep an eye out for communication from the schools for specific details.

Members of the school committee are currently brainstorming some ways to show teachers our appreciation. At our meeting on September 3, 7:30 pm at the Windsor Park Library, we will be brainstorming some ideas to welcome teachers back to school with some coffee and goodies. We will be targeting our three elementary schools: Blanton, Harris, and Andrews. All are welcome to come to the meeting.

All three elementary schools and both the middle schools have new principals this year. Blanton's new principal had not been named at the time of publication, but should be known by the end of August. Saleem Blevins of Andrews ES and Monica Martinez of Harris ES both attended our WPNA meeting in August and shared some of their plans and goals for the 2014-15 school year. They both mentioned that they would love to have community members come to the schools to volunteer to help out in the classroom, perhaps reading to students or helping them with their work. If you're interested in supporting the schools, please consider contacting one of them. Bertha Sadler Means Young Women's Leadership Academy (formerly Pearce MS) is getting a facelift; go check it out if you haven't been by in a while. And Gus Garcia MS is opening its doors as the new Young Men's Leadership Academy. The principals of the two middle schools, Ivette Savina and Sterlin McGruder, have great plans for raising academic expectations and performance this year. Both schools have over 350 students enrolled, and the staff reported back to work as early as July in order to participate in several weeks of trainings in order to get the school year off to a strong start.

The school board trustee election is happening in November, and our district (District 1) has a vacancy. We have invited any candidates for this position to come

to our Windsor Park Neighborhood meeting on September 13 so we can learn more about them and the issues. As of publication Ted Gordon has confirmed that he will be in attendance.

Finally, please consider donating to our Reagan HS Scholarship fundraiser. Remember that with a donation of \$15 or more you will receive a stylish Windsor Park hat as a thank you gift. We know this will mean a lot to the young man or woman who receives this scholarship. Windsor Park wants to show our students we believe in them and their dreams for the future.

Neighborhood School Updates

Harris Elementary

Gloria Cano/School Counselor

Welcome back to our students, staff and parents! We are so excited to be back in school. The students are meeting their teachers, new friends and a new principal. Her name is Ms. Monica Martinez. She comes to us with experience in AISD, Round Rock and Georgetown. We are very pleased to have her here in our Harris community and look forward to an outstanding year under her leadership.

Please remember to follow the bus traffic laws, the school speed zones and be courteous to our crossing guards. We want to make sure our students and community members stay safe. We will post news from our school in this newsletter on a monthly basis so stay tuned to the school news section to stay informed about school events.

New School Dedication Ceremonies!

Austin Independent School District's Dedication Ceremony for the **Bertha Sadler Means Young Women's Leadership Academy** will be held Saturday, October 11th at 3:00pm at the school, located at 6401 N. Hampton Drive.

AISD's Dedication Ceremony for the **Gus Garcia Young Men's Leadership Academy** will be held Sunday, October 12th at 3:00pm at the school, located at 7414 Johnny Morris Road.

We are excited to celebrate these events with the community, and would love to have as many participants as possible support the campuses!

WP Walk 'n' Roll: The Sunny Side of the Street

Samuel Bertron, Windsor Park resident

You're headed out for a long walk or a leisurely bike ride. Great, but--which side of the road?

"A person operating a bicycle, if moving slower than traffic, shall ride as near as practicable to the right curb or edge of the roadway.

If a sidewalk is not provided, a pedestrian walking along and on a highway shall if possible walk on: (1) the left side of the roadway; or (2) the shoulder of the highway facing oncoming traffic."

--source, TxDOT.gov

Short version: pedestrians in the street should *face traffic*. Cyclists in the street should ride with traffic.

Regardless of your mode of locomotion, you'll fare better in the streets <u>when visible</u>. Brightly colored clothing or high-viz accessories! Bandanas and flappy flags! Reflectors and lights by night! Big gestures/signals to let motorists know you're out and about!







September 2014 Yard of the Month

Sara Jane Lee

The September winners are Jeffrey "King" Coffey and Craig Stewart. A neighbor nominated the yard. This is how she described it. "I've seen him work on his yard and has recently redesigned it to be a fabulous looking house/yard! I think it definitely deserves the kudos of the neighborhood!" My guess is that the "he" that she is talking about is Jeffrey.

Jeffrey and Craig were inspired by local nature preserves and trails and by their neighbors' yards. Their yard is now a certified Wildlife Habitat. What had been patches of struggling Bermuda grass are now mulched beds of native plants. They have enjoyed transforming part of their yard into a butterfly garden which Jeffrey plans to expand. The Gregg Mistflower is a butterfly magnet. Rock Rose aka Pavonia, Prairie Verbena, Blackfoot Daisies, Pitcher Sage, Butterfly Guara and Winecups also grow near the corner. In the shade near the house are Turk's Cap, American Beautyberry, and Pigeonberry. Jeffrey saw these growing along the Turkey Creek Nature Trail in Emma Long Park.



Near the house are cacti surrounded by various succulents. The tall cacti plants are San Pedro and Totem Pole surrounded by Sedums and Echavarias. Many of the cacti and succulents were gifts from their neighbors

So far this has been a two-year project. The goal is to xeriscape the whole yard. Last year they removed the privet and red tip photinia near the house, and extended those beds five feet. They planted native and adapted plants in those beds. This year they added a Texas Red Oak and a Smoketree to the established Pecan and Carolina Basswood trees. They also built the walkway and adjacent beds, and planted the corner. They got much help from Jeff Maxwell, a landscaper who lives in the neighborhood. Mr. Maxwell helped them with plant selection and his crew did much of the heavy lifting. He also found the pink granite boulders that Jeff and Craig wanted. His crew installed them.

Jeffrey and Craig will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate from our sponsor, Shoal Creek Nursery, 2710 Hancock Drive.

Do you like a certain yard, or yards, in the neighborhood? You can nominate more than one. Tell us. We cannot visit every yard in the neighborhood every month. We may not have seen your great yard. Don't be humble. We love to get nominations. To nominate a yard or yards, e-mail me at wpna.yom@gmail.com, call 928-0681 or write WPNA YOMC, PO Box 16183, Austin, Texas 78761.



If the job calls for fast professional printing or duplicating, you need:

G&F Discount Printing

Austin, TX 78723 512-929-0585

2014 Habitat Challenge Open to All: New Urban Habitats and Previously NWF Certified Habitats

Jeanette Swenson

Thanks to those of you who have already newly certified your yard as a National Wildlife Federation (NWF) certified urban habitat for the 2014 Wildlife Austin Habitat Challenge! Windsor Park now has at least 150 certified yards, and we can pride ourselves on transforming Windsor Park into a green urban habitat. The basics are: Provide water sources, food sources from native plants, shelter/cover, nesting places. Windsor Park is an older neighborhood, and our yards already have most of the four. If you have a creek, it's a water source! To certify your yard as a new

habitat, request a City of Austin pre-paid application before November 15, 2014. Call 512-978-2606 or go the website: http://www.austintexas.gov/department.wildlife-austin. This year, Wildlife Austin is encouraging public spaces to certify. For example, our churches, library, fire station, and commercial areas are all eligible. Last year, WPNA certified the splash pad landscaping. This year we will certify the native landscaping at the Bartholomew Park Pool, installed by PARD. Take a few minutes in your yard to complete your application, return it to Wildlife Austin. You can also certify directly at National Wildlife Federation: www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife and pay the \$20.00 fee.



For those of you who have certified over the past five years and always ask if you need to re-certify, you don't. Your yard is certified for life. However, the 2014 Habitat Challenge has a new opportunity – FREE – for you, and it contributes to our 2014 yard count. Best news is that it focuses on making sure that our yards are pollinator gardens. Pollinators are in decline, and providing basics to your yard will attract pollinators to our neighborhood. The basics are: provide a SHALLOW water source; have a diversity of nectar/pollen sources; safeguard your pollinator habitat by

removing or preventing invasive plants and avoiding pesticides; and provide shelter for nesting and overwintering. (I checked my yard and found that it's already qualified as a Pollinator Garden after I added shallow sources of water.) To certify your already-certified yard: request the Pollinator Garden Requirements for Neighborhood Habitat Challenge 2014 from Wildlife Austin: wildlife@austintexas.gov. Complete the form—it's a daunting 4 pages of mostly checklists, so I'm not printing it in Window on Windsor, but will have copies at WPNA meetings. Submit the form to wildlife@austintexas.gov by November 15, 2014. To complete the application you will need to know your watershed: http://www.austintexas.gov/ GIS/FindYourWatershed.



If you have questions, please contact Jeanette Swenson, <u>jeanetteswenson@yahoo.com</u> or call 512-627-1295. Thank you for taking the extra steps to continue to upgrade our urban habitat.

FASTER INTERNET UNBELIEVABLE PRICE

With Grande Internet service you can get the speed to support everyone's online needs at once. In a household with multiple wireless devices make sure you have the power of Grande Internet to keep everyone online and running smoothly.

Power 50 Internet

- Up to 50 Mbps download
- Up to **5 Mbps upload**
- Cable modem rental included
- Antivirus included
- Use all of your devices online at once

Digital Basic TV

- HD included
- DVR service and receiver included
- Local broadcast channels
- Pay-Per-View Access



Call today **512-220-7001**Or go online to sign up **mygrande.com/power**



Offer expires 12-31-14. Services subject to availability, please contact Grande for details. Offers only apply to first-time residential customers. \$59.99 Promotional Offer price is for 12 months and includes Power 50 Mbps Internet service with one cable modem rental and Digital Basic TV service with one HD/DVR receiver rental and service. Prices increase by \$5 for months 13-24 and an additional \$5 for months 25-36. Prices revert to then current applicable retail rate in month 37. If you change or disconnect any or all of the services at any time during the 36-month promotip oral pricing will no longer apply and Grande's then standard monthly rates will apply to remaining service(s). Monthly offer rates subject to applicable surcharges, equipment taxes, franchisar fees and other imposed charges. Installation, taxes, fees, additional receivers, equipment, additional services or features not included. Bundle also available with a CableCARD however interactive features are not available. Actual Internet speeds may vary and are not guaranteed. A credit check and/or deposit may be required. Not valid with any other offer and may not be transferred or redeemed for each. Other transferred communications. Networks 11.C. All rights reserved.



Hope Lutheran Mother's Day Out Program

- -Offers fun activities
- -learning
- -social development

for children from 18 months to kindergarten

Tuesday's/Thursday's from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Enrolling now!

Call: 512-926-8574 or fill out the request form on the Hope Lutheran website: www.hopelutheranaustin.org
Located at 6414 North Hampton on the corner of
Northeast Drive and North Hampton.



E-mail: newsletter@windsorpark.info

Visit the website at: Windsorpark.info

Newsgroup: groups.yahoo.com/group/windsorpark/

President	Martin Luecke	512-536-0465
Vice President	Karen Pagani	512-786-7224
Secretary	Meghan Dougherty	512-709-4912
Treasurer	Rebecca Carpenter	512-670-6935
WoW Editor	Nicki Jamesnewsl	letter@windsorpark.info
WoW Sponsorships	Chad Cotton sponsors	ship@windsorpark.info

SPONSORS:

We must receive your content and check by the 15th in order to include your sponsorship notice in the following month's newsletter.

Mail check
(payable to WPNA):

WPNA
P.O. Box 16183
Austin, TX 78761

For Questions or to send Graphic Content, contact: sponsorship@windsorpark.info

Туре	Size (in.)	1 month	6 Months
Business Card	3.5 x 2	\$45	\$240
Quarter Page	7.5 x 2 or 3.75 x 5	\$90	\$480
Half Page	7.25 x 4	\$180	\$960

JOIN WPNA

All residents of Windsor Park are eligible to become voting members of the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association. If you would like to join the association, please send your dues, at the level appropriate for you, to the address below or bring them to a monthly general meeting. Memberships are renewed yearly and expire on December 31 of each year. In order to vote on WPNA positions, you must have been a member for 30 days. Business members are welcome but do not have voting privileges.

The money received for dues is used to produce our newsletter and to support our other neighborhood programs. Because WPNA is a 501(c) (3) organization, your dues and any other donations are tax deductible.

\square Student/fixed income — \$5/person	
☐ Standard — \$10/person	
☐ Family — \$15	d g
☐ Sustaining — \$25 or more	
☐ Business/Non-Resident (non-voting) — \$25 or more	
Name(s):	
Address:	
Phone:	

Make checks payable to WPNA and mail to:

WPNA, P.O. Box 16183, Austin, TX 78761

Or dues may be paid by Paypal through the WPNA website!

Windsor Park Library Updates and Events

Windsor Park Library hosts a calendar of events, films, workshops, and discussions—free and open to the public.

Events

September 6, 2pm: Family Movie Matinee: Bill

and Ted's Excellent Adventure

September 9, 3:30pm: Free Play Gaming September 12 and 19, 10:15am: All Ages

Storytime

September 16, 3:30pm: Lego Lab

Book Club

September 9, 7:00pm: The Astronaut Wives Club

by Lily Koppel

October 14, 7:00pm: The Inheritance of Loss by

Kiran Desai

5833 Westminster Dr. • 512-974-9840

http://library.austintexas.gov/

Link directly to the Windsor Park Library branch here: http://library.austintexas.gov/locations/Windsor%20

Park%20Branch

The Windsor Park Neighborhood Plan Contact Team (WPNPCT) is a representative group of neighborhood stakeholders charged with being stewards of the Windsor Park Neighborhood Plan and upholding the implementation of the Plan's vision, goals and recommendations, and to review and vote on all proposed amendments to the Neighborhood Plan. Meetings are the second Monday of each month at the Windsor Park Library (subject to change) at 6:30 p.m. Contact WPNPCT Chair Bob Mebane for more information at rem@grandecom.net.

Numbers count! A strong neighborhood association advocates more effectively for Windsor Park! Join us today!

Austin Police District Representatives

East of Berkman

Officer James Scoggins

(512) 974-8393 | james.scoggins@austintexas.gov

West of Berkman
Officer James Hyatt

(512) 974-5500 | james.hyatt@austintexas.gov