

Us

Contact

E-mail: newsletter@windsorpark.info

> Visit the website at: Windsorpark.info

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

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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.

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

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

Events and Book Club

May 5, 3:30pm Book Club for Littles May 5, 7pm: Community Cinema, Limited

May 7, 10:15am: Play, Read, Grow! Early Literacy Training

May 12, 7pm: Book Club, Prodigal Summer

May 19, 3:30pm: Lego Lab

June 2. 3:30: Book Club for Littles

June 6, 2pm: Family Movie, Napoleon Dynamite June 9, 7pm: Book Club, In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin

Library hours:

Monday - Thursday: 10am - 9pm

Friday: 1pm - 6pm

Saturday: 10am - 5pm Closed Sundays

5833 Westminster Dr. • 512-974-9840 http://library.austintexas.gov/windsor-park-branch

SPRING FEST - MAY 16th at Blanton, 11-4

Around the World with Music and Art

Student and Community Art Sale. Featuring musical entertainment from EACH GRADE at Blanton. Yummy food will be available too!

Local artisans and vendors can contact Alicia Maxwell at 512-940-4762. Tables can be rented for \$25. All proceeds support the PTA

Numbers count! A strong neighborhood
ssociation advocates more effectively
or 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



WINDOW on WINDSOR

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

Vol XXXIV No. 5

May 2015

Windsor Park Neighborhood **Association** Meeting

Saturday, May 9 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

MAY LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Neighbors,

Thanks to all of you who came to our April meeting and participated in our plant exchange, which was a huge success. I personally was happy to come away with some beautiful plants.

Our April meeting was one of our more lively ones to date and included a presentation by representatives from Austin Achieve. The community's concerns were voiced loud and clear, and I am hopeful that a productive dialogue has begun as to how to address them. I contacted the director of the school, John Ambrust, shortly after the meeting to reiterate the community's desire for a public forum addressing safety and quality of life issues surrounding the school. Mr. Ambrust is amenable to organizing such a forum and I have offered to help him do so. Details will follow, hopefully in short order.

On April 13th Jeanette Swenson, our parks committee chair, and I attended a public forum organized by the office of Council Member Greg Casar. At this meeting Council Member Casar and his team solicited opinions and suggestions on traffic circulation within the district and beyond. It was, I must say, one of the more productive and energetic public forums I have ever attended. A lot of great ideas were suggested and further developed at this very important event. The Association looks forward to working with Council Member Casar, his extremely gracious and highly competent staff, as well as our other council members in addressing the pressing issues regarding traffic and development with which both the neighborhood and district 4 is contending.

At our May meeting we will be voting on increasing our dues - for the first time in well over a decade. The proposed annual fees for membership are as follows: 5\$ for low income individuals and families; 10\$ for individuals; 15\$ for families and 25\$ for sustaining memberships. We will be announcing the first winner of the WPNA Scholarship at this meeting so do please try to attend. If you haven't already, please consider donating to our Scholarship Fund and show your support for the young people in our neighborhood and for our local schools.

Finally, traffic-calming signs are still available. We will have them at the May meeting. If you cannot attend but would like a sign, please contact me directly 512 786 7224.

Sincerely, Karen Pagani, WPNA President

Sign up for the Neighborhood Email List Subscribe by sending an email to: windsorpark-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

May 2015 Message from Council Member Ora Houson

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve you on the Council. There continues to be a lot of information to absorb, people to meet, council schedules to coordinate, council committee process to begin and protocols to discover. Every day is exciting, presenting new opportunities and new challenges.

People throughout the city have high expectations of the expanded council. They want a lot of different things created, fixed, and/or finished quickly. A gentle reminder - it took time to get to this point, and it is going to take time to make changes in the culture of the city. We need to move from 'we've always done it this way' to becoming intentional about a more inclusive and open process to develop the policies which guide the decisions that are made.

I invite you to volunteer to serve on a board or commission and attend a meeting of the Council (there is free parking under City Hall). The meetings are televised, streamed online and aired on KAZI 88.7 FM.

I look forward to working with the Windsor Park community. As I said on election night, I can't do this alone – I will need your help. Please contact my office at 512-978-2101 with any concerns, issues or questions, or if you would like to be added to our email list. Peace, Council Member Ora Houston

May 2015 Message from Council Member Greg Casar

April was packed with Council meetings, community meetings, and many events! I'm glad to share with you some updates on the work my office and I have been doing and what we are working on.

Transportation Issues: Thank you to everyone who was able to make it out to our April community meeting on transportation! Windsor Park was well represented among the over 40 people who attended. Residents from Windsor Park strongly expressed their desire to see traffic mitigation and speed control along Berkman Drive. This is an issue our office regularly hears about and one that we are prioritizing in our discussions with the Transportation Department.

My office is also excited to work with Windsor Park on the 51st Street Vision project. If you weren't able to attend the public information meeting on April 23rd you can contact Burton Jones, the Project Manager with Public Works, for more information (512-974-7278 or Burton.Jones@austintexas.gov). You will be able to review the proposals for new medians, additional sidewalks and protected bike lanes, improved bicycle and pedestrian access and more.

Improvements to Broadmoor are ranking high on the City's list of projects to be funded. That means that part of my job this year will be fighting for adequate funding during the budget to ensure completion of these improvements. I'm also pleased to announce that sidewalks on Lancaster have been scheduled for construction this year!

Office Hours are back: I will be hosting District 4 office hours twice a month on Fridays. The initial session will be May 1st, at the Virginia Brown Recreation Center, located at 7500 Blessing Avenue, 78752 from 1pm to 4pm. Our next set of office hours will be on May 15th from 1pm to 4pm at a location to be determined. If you would like more information, or would like to schedule an appointment with me during those hours, please contact my Communications Director Shelby Alexander at 512-978-2157 or Shelby.Alexander@austintexas.gov.

Stay In Touch: We want to hear from you - please call 512-978-2104. If you need to reach me immediately please shoot me an email at Greg.Casar@austintexas.gov. If you need more information from me or my office, you can also look at my City of Austin webpage, which is being updated regularly: http://austintexas.gov/department/district-4

The June 5th Pink Houses First Friday Happy Hour will be at La Palapa Cantina, 6640 US 290 near Reagan High School, 6 to 8 PM.

Meet Your Neighbor – Laurel Otnes Wilson

Martin Luecke

You may already know Laurel Wilson as the voice on the phone of the Northeast Drive A Senior program (if you call on Mondays). Or you may know her as a Counselor at Reagan

High School for 25 years. Or if you have been in Austin since the 40's she was a school mate of yours at Ridgetop Elementary.

Laurel is one of those Austinites who actually remembers what it was like before Interstate 35 existed, when you had to go downtown to shop because that's where all the stores were located.

Laurel first moved to Windsor Park in 1971 when she was teaching junior high English and social studies. She and her three sons lived on Suffolk Drive and her house cost \$10,500! Mueller airport was only a few blocks from her house and one day a small aircraft actually crash landed in her back yard. The pilot walked away from the accident, and the fence suffered minor damage. The airplane did not fare so well.

After finishing her Master's Degree at UT, she became school counselor at Reagan High, which was winning state football

championships in those days. Any student from Windsor Park would have sat in her office at some point. She moved the family to her current home on Northridge Drive in 1977. All her sons graduated from Reagan. The oldest lives on Larkwood Drive today and is sending twin girls to LASA High School. Laurel is a very proud grandmother.

After retirement in 1994, Laurel encountered the Drive A Senior volunteer group at the Harvest Fest. Today she is President of the Community Counsel for the Northeast Drive A Senior program, where she handles fundraising and social events and works as a scheduler on Mondays. Drive A Senior connects elderly residents with volunteers who drive them to and from doctor's appointments and other important destinations, thus helping keep our elderly neighbors independent. To volunteer at Drive A Senior call 459.1122 or go to their website: http://www.volunteerdriving.com/northeast-austin/

Laurel has been a member of WPNA for many years and occasionally can make a meeting when she is not busy running the SAT and ACT Test Center at Lanier High. She says sitting in a rocking chair as the classic retiree is a myth; she just doesn't have a regular job anymore. Thanks to her tireless efforts, Windsor Park continues to be a good place for all ages to live and thrive.

Nominate an interesting neighbor for a profile by contacting Martin Luecke at 536.0465 or mwluecke@hotmail.com.





May 2015 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

From the March 31, 2015 News Release: The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) and the American Planning Association (APA) honored the City of Austin with the 2015 HUD Secretary's Opportunity and Empowerment Award for the Mueller Redevelopment & Reuse Plan. HUD Secretary (and former San Antonio Mayor) Julián Castro noted the plan made Mueller, "an asset that will provide local residents with employment, entrepreneurial and housing opportunities for generations to come. I congratulate and commend all those who came together for this common vision."

The Mueller Redevelopment and Reuse Plan is an example of a community-led vision overcoming challenges to become a compact, mixed-use, livable community. Neighborhood demand and voter approval set the foundation for moving the Mueller Municipal Airport and starting redevelopment efforts on the 700-acre site. Since 2006, 2,300 residential units of the projected 5,900 homes have been completed or are under construction. Twenty- five percent of the homes are affordable, and offered to income-qualified households. And more than 4,850 jobs are available of 13,000 anticipated, reflecting a range of income levels.

"The Mueller Community reflects the initial vision first stated 30 years ago: a sustainable, diverse, affordable community that could spur economic development, be compatible with the surrounding neighborhoods, be fiscally responsible, and help revitalize East Austin," said Mayor Steve Adler. "We believe our efforts, and this award, confirm that neighborhoods dream big when they are empowered and those dreams can come true with effective planning, partnership, and execution."

One correction to the Alamo Drafthouse announcement in last month's update: The location will be on the Paseo, but to the north of the Thinkery, immediately adjacent to the parking garage.

The next Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission meeting is at 6PM, Tuesday, May 12, 2015, in the Carver Library Meeting Room 1, 1161 Angelina Street. Please send Mueller-related questions & comments to bc-Rick. Krivoniak@austintexas.gov.

A Trash-free Windsor Park?

Jeanette Swenson

I cannot tell you how grateful I am to my neighbors who work to keep our section of Windsor Park relatively trash free. Every morning I watch dog walkers, runners, walkers pass my house carrying small bags of litter that has accumulated in the streets overnight. Last month, my neighbor went beyond the ordinary trash pick up when he lowered himself into Ft. Branch Creek and hauled out a Target shopping cart, suitcase, and blanket. He even returned the cart to Target. John may have gone beyond the ordinary, but it was much appreciated, and it's nice to see this portion of the Ft. Branch running relatively clean.

There is a lot of trash tossed out and blowing around, and the more there is, the more accumulation there will be. We can organize periodic sweeps, but to really clean up the neighborhood, our efforts have to be ongoing. I'd suggest that we all start with our own immediate area and take that couple of minutes daily to pick up our own yards and perhaps even those of our neighbors. They'll return the favor – and you even get to meet your neighbors over discarded coffee cups and beer cans.

Expanding the approach, get together with your neighbors and adopt a section of the neighborhood. Nadia Khan is working with Keep Austin Beautiful to adopt the section of Tannehill Creek from Belfast and Broadmoor to Berkman. A neighborhood effort by Broadmoor residents will have a huge impact not only on that portion of Tannehill, but also on Tannehill Creek as it flows through Bartholomew Park reducing trash that flows from upsteam.

We are a large neighborhood of 18,000 residents. If a critical mass of dedicated individuals stepped up and committed to keep a small area clean, it would have a significant impact on Windsor Park as a whole.



May 2015 Yard of the Month

Sara Jane Lee

The May winners are AJ Johnson, his wife Holly Custard, and their sons Diego and Dashiell. They live at 1414 Larkwood Drive. This yard is a nomination & the first winner on Larkwood Drive.

Their front yard is a profusion of wildflowers and other native plants. Since AJ loves wildlife, especially birds, he chose plants that attract birds and other animals. For inspiration he looked at the Ladybird Wildflower Center, prairies, hiking trails, and other wildscaped yards. He also enjoys watching their plants grow and mature through the seasons.

Some of their favorites are Big Muhly and Little Bluestem grasses, Blue Mistflower, Frostweed, and Antelope Horn Milkweed. The grasses are dramatic all year long and make the yard look full when other plants have died back. When the blue mistflower blooms, it is covered with butterflies. The frostweed and antelope horn milkweed attract Monarchs.

They also have several trees including a Burgundy Desert Willow, a Cedar Elm, a Mountain Laurel, a Shumard Red Oak, a Flame-leaf Sumac, and an Anacacho Orchid. Their bushes and smaller plants include Barbados Cherry, Esperanza, Autumn Sage, Cedar Sage, Mealy Blue Sage, Texas Sage, Turks Cap, Fragrant Sumac, Texas Lantana, Flame Acanthus, Tropical Sage, Hymenoxys, Xexmenia, Winecup, Mountain Sage, Columbine, and many more. Many of these plants came from Mueller while it was being developed. AJ was part of the Mueller Plant Liberation Committee, which took seeds and sometimes plants, ahead of the bulldozers.

The grassy part of the front yard is Habiturf, a mixture of native grasses. AJ reports that it works well all year, and once established, it needs no extra water. After letting their carpet grass die from lack of water, he, Holly and their sons spread and worked in compost over the area. Then they planted the Habiturf.

Surprise, AJ recommends planting natives drought tolerant, low-maintenance natives. He also suggests letting the seed heads drop to the ground where they will become either food for wildlife or more plants next year. Though AJ and Holly have lived in Windsor Park over ten years, they have reworked their front yard in the last

two years.

AJ and Holly will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate from our sponsor, Shoal Creek Nursery, 2710 Hancock Drive. Pictures of the Yard of the Month are displayed on our website, www.Windsorpark.info as well as our Facebook page. Check them out.

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 us at yom@windsorpark.info, call 928-0681 or write WPNA YOMC, P O Box 16183, Austin, Texas 78761

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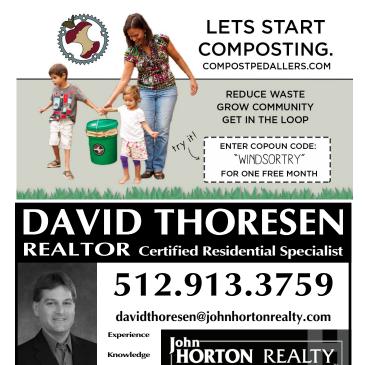
Bartholomew Municipal Pool

Current Hours

M-F 2 pm – 7 pm Recreational & Lap Swim Sat & Sun 1 pm – 5 pm Recreational & Lap Swim

Expected Summer Session
June 5 - August 23, 2015
http://www.austintexas.gov/department/
bartholomew-pool

May - page 4

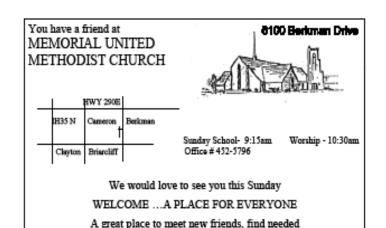


Joe Hernandez. (512) 657-8895

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jhtitan@yahoo.com References available

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OF HOMES SOLD IN (March 2015)

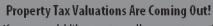
AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD 1,496

AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS 15

March 2015 Stats

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (March 2015)

ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET *As of April 13th, 2015



If you would like me to pull comps to assist with tax appraisal protests....EMAIL ME! :)



JOHN PAUL PORTER (512) 563-8176

JohnPaul@

NO OBLIGATION

Parks Update

Jeanette Swenson

Another 29 bags of trash were hauled out of Tannehill Creek on April 12 by a group from Keep Austin Beautiful participating in Clean Sweep! Trash continues to pile up in the creek and in the trees inspite of the best efforts by groups volunteering at Bartholomew Park. It's more than the Park Stewards and walkers who pick up trash as they walk their dogs or walk can deal with! Parks and Recreation has added two more staff people to clean up in our 59+ acre park daily, but their responsibilities do not include the creek.

Maintaining a trash free neighborhood is a huge task, but it does make a difference. If the parks are clean, people really do tend to use receptacles. If there is a lot of trash around, debris accumulates more rapidly. So, if you are in the park, please consider carrying a trash bag and picking up trash as you walk. It all helps. Even better, if you let me know how many hours you spend monthly walking your dog and picking up trash, I send those hours to the WPNA treasurer, who tracks them \$20.83 per hour.

Now, for the good news. Our playscape shades are in production, and the scheduled date for installation over the toddler swings and toddler playscape is the week of May 18. It will be posted in the park, and that play area will be closed for several days that week. Work should be completed before Memorial Day week-end! The splash pad should open mid-May for the summer, and the full pool should open soon after school ends in early June. In the meantime, the lap pool has been open for extended season, and it is a terrific addition to our neighborhood. It's so easy to go for a quick swim before dinner without driving hassles. I encourage you to take advantage of it and hope that Bartholomew Pool will be open next winter for an extended season.

Aquatics is still very short of lifeguards, and that could delay the opening of some pools. If you know of people looking for lifeguard jobs, contact Parks and Recreation Aquatics.

On April 10, Amanda Rose, Bob Wheeless, Rodney Ahart, Randy Case, and Jeanette Swenson worked on expanding the median landscaping at 290 and Berkman. We rototilled, laid landscape cloth, and covered the new northern bed with a layer of mulch. By the time you read this, the second new bed should also be prepared. Since we have chosen





matters, including:

- family petitions
- deportation defense
- immigrant visas
- nonimmigrant visas
- citizenship
- employment visas consequences of
- crimes

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not to use scarce water resources piping water to the median, we do need a crew who would adopt a portion of the median for the summer months. This would involve watering, weeding, and picking up trash. Contact Jeanette or Rodney, rodahart@yahoo.com to volunteer.

As usual, if you would like to join Park Stewards in the Park on Friday mornings from 9-11, please contact Jeanette Swenson. If you'd like to volunteer another time, please let me know. I will be registering a project with Austin Parks Foundation for National Trails Day, Saturday morning, June 6. Check the website and think about volunteering as a group or individually.

Questions or to participate in Park volunteer events, please contact Jeanette Swenson, jeanetteswenson@yahoo.com or 512-627-1295.

Federation of Teachers, Randi Weingarten, have toured Reagan this semester to see our accomplishments first hand. Please make sure to let your voices be heard at the Capitol by writing or visiting your local representative and ask for proper school funding. Go to this website to learn more: www.austinisd.org/schoolfunding

Reagan is happy to announce that PALS in conjunction with the No Place for Hate Coalition has created a **Diversity Cookbook** that has been uploaded to our school website (ReaganRaiders.org). Food can attract a person, a crowd, friends, and unite a family. We believe food is universal as it is an essential commodity to all people of all nations and cultures. In our theory, food can be symbolic for many reasons and occasions. Food can bring joy, unite, and draw different kinds of people together. Food conjures all the senses within the human body, whether it is to satisfy hunger, emotional needs, the many different occasions, or simply to enjoy the many multicultural flavors that our world has to offer. Enjoy! (Contributed by Kent Roberson, PRC Coordinator)

Upcoming events include:

May 4-7 - STAAR EOC Testing (Algebra, Biology, History)

May 12, 5:30pm - CAC Meeting, Room 344

May 16 - Senior Prom

June 3 – 4pm - GRADUATION, Frank Erwin Center

Greetings from LBJEC and LASA High Schools

Karen Donelan, Librarian

The end of the year is barreling towards us! April was a busy month with Prom on the 11th. The UIL String Orchestra competition was held on April 15th and 16th. No results at this writing. The District 26-5A Track Championships were held in Bastrop on April 9. LBJ Girls and Boys, Varsity and Junior Varsity, won or placed in 72 times!

May 1 will put us at 24 days left in the school year. May 22 will not be a holiday for students as it is our Bad-Weather Make-Up day, and school will be in session. May 25th will be off for Memorial Day. June 1-4 will be Final Exams, with the school days that week ending at 12:25 p.m. for students.

Graduation will be at the Erwin Center, Friday, June 5, at 1:00 p.m. Graduating Seniors are required to arrive at the Erwin Center at 12:00 noon, one hour early, to get

robed and lined up. It will be a wonderful day!

Project Graduation is a wonderful way for Seniors to end their high school experience. Project Graduation is a lock-in celebration from 11pm June 5th through 6am June 6th. It is chaperoned and the attendees will enjoy great food and fun activities. Tickets are \$15 each; tickets can only be bought after both the student and parent/guardian have signed and returned the event contract.

Last, but not least, our wonderful **LBJ Band Director, Don Haynes** is retiring at the end of this school year. He has been with us for 39 years! Mr. Haynes, we will miss your talent and your leadership. You leave behind an amazing legacy, and a beautiful Performing Arts Center named after you. Here is a link to an online story honoring Mr. Haynes: http://www.austin360.com/videos/news/lbj-band-director-retires/vDNmQh/

We wish the Windsor Community a wonderful Month of May!



Tips for Reducing Mosquito Problems

Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist

Mosquitoes can be very irritating and disrupt outdoor activities. They also are able to transmit various diseases to humans and animals. Many things can help to reduce mosquito problems around the home. Eliminate all sources of standing water. Containers such as watering cans, buckets and bottles can turn into mosquito breeding grounds. Water should be drained from birdbaths, gutters, flowerpots and pet dishes at least once a week. Children's wading pools should be emptied of water at least once a week and stored so they cannot collect water when not in use. Tree holes should be filled in with sand or mortar, or drained after each rain. Leaky faucets and pipes located outside should be repaired.

Areas that cannot be drained, such as ponds or large rain collection systems, can be stocked with mosquito fish that eat mosquito larvae. Dunks can also be used in these areas. Dunks are a small, donut-shaped product that contains Bacillus thuringiensis var. israeliensis. The donut disrupts the life cycle of the mosquito and is non-toxic to humans, amphibians and fish.

Avoiding peak hours when mosquitoes are active is probably the best method to avoid being bitten. When outside, wear loose-fitting, light colored clothing with long sleeves & long pants. Repellants containing active ingredients such as DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus can be effective to keep mosquitoes from biting when evening activities cannot be rescheduled. Other products such as citronella candles will also repel mosquitoes, but work best in enclosed areas.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com



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School Committee Update - Appreciate Your Teachers! Love Your Schools!

Meghan Dougherty

May 4-8 is Teacher Appreciation Week

It doesn't take much to show your appreciation – whether or not you have a child! Teachers perform a valuable service to our community and society, so please, find a teacher, any teacher, and thank them this week. That's all they really need – recognition that the work they do is important and matters. (But if you'd like to get them a box of chocolates, they'd probably like that, too. Just, please, no apples!)

Volunteer at the schools

These are all one-day events, and they're meaningful ways to show the schools we care. At Bertha Sadler Means Young Women's Leadership Academy there will be two workdays May 2 & 9 from 9-11 to create a rain garden; May 16th is the big garden reveal! It's an effort that will not only beautify the campus, but also add to the biodiversity of the neighborhood. More details about the time will be published in the listsery and Facebook page.

On May 16th, after you've admired the new Rain Garden, go visit Blanton Elementary to check out the first AMPED (Arts Music PE Diversity) Fest. There will be music, food, and the WPNA will have a booth. It will run from 11 am to 4 pm.

On May 30 from 8 am to 12 pm, Andrews Elementary is expecting a big neighborhood turn out for It's My School Day. This was an idea that was proposed to Andrews by our neighborhood, so we will need lots of volunteers! In addition, if you know of a business that might be willing to donate food, paintbrushes, or other supplies, please let Dana Newlove know (you can email her at dana. newlove@gmail.com). We will be painting nine, (count 'em) nine portables and there's talk of helping out with some murals. It should be a fun time with great people and wonderfully appreciative kids, so please come out and volunteer.

Scholarship Fund

We've received applications from Reagan High School seniors, and we are so excited to review them to select the winning applicant of a \$1000 scholarship. We will announce our winner at the May neighborhood association meeting, and we hope he or she will be able to attend our meeting in person to be recognized. Thank

you all for your generosity in supporting our fundraising efforts. We'll be kicking off our efforts to fundraise for a 2016 scholarship with a happy hour at Nomad's sometime in June, so stay tuned for that.

Andrews Elementary Update

Annette Almendarez, Assistant Principal

We are excited to announce the wonderful events happening at Andrews in May. On May 1st, our campus hosted a cultural event called Puestecitos. At this event, students, parents, and community members come together to celebrate Hispanic heritage through different activities, music and various types of foods.

A reminder that Enrollment for Pre-K 2015-2016 School year is in full force. Please visit our school for more information.

Another huge event for our campus is the Cinco de Mayo program on May 15th. We would love for everyone to join us. Our students will showcase their individual talents through song and dance. This is a great opportunity for students to show off their skills and to celebrate their hard work and all they have learned this year.

Lastly, we have a beautification project planned for our campus. This project will consist of painting and adding murals to our portables. The murals will be created by our students during art class. We are definitely are in need of community volunteers who are willing to paint and/or donate food and supplies. This event will be on May 30th, 2015 from 8:00-12:00. Please join us in making this a memorable and enjoyable event.

Blanton update

Karon Smutzer. ACE Site Coordinator

A.M.P.E.D! Fest - Blanton would like to extend a special invitation to the entire community to come out and join us at A.M.P.E.D! Fest on May 16 from 11:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. Admission is free. There will be musical entertainment by the students directed by the music teacher. ACE students will also be performing. We will have student art sales, community art sales, food sales and a special health fair. Join us and enjoy the music, food and fun.

On May 19th we will have our school Career Fair. Anyone who would like to participate and share insights (Schools Updates, continued on next page) about their career, please contact Ms. Rios our school counselor at 512-414-2026. ZUMBA is still in action as everyone wants to gethealthier. Comejoinus and dance your way to a healthier lifestyle - Tuesdays from 4-5 in the gym.

The ACE after school program is planning their summer camp for Blanton students. The summer camp includes plans for many field trips, academic studies, art activities, and recreational outdoor activities...so even though school will be out, you will be hearing about Blanton during the summer.

To review the great things that happened in April, we had two weeks of computer classes sponsored by the ACE program; parents are learning to do school registration online. Our play-to-learn classes, sponsored by Camp Fire, continues to work with children before they reach pre-kinder age on literacy and technology. We had a community garden work day on April 11. On April 23, Chief Robledo from the Austin Police Department spoke to our parents and community about child safety. Finally, April wrapped up with Carnival on the 24th.

We encourage the Windsor Park community to join us for any of our special events. For more information, please feel free to contact Karon Smutzer, ACE Site Coordinator at karon.smutzer@austinisd.org or call 512-841-5678 to leave a message.

Harris Elementary

Gloria Cano, school counselor

Thanks to Memorial United Methodist Church for providing goodies for our teachers during STAAR test week. We appreciate your kindness. Thanks also to our mentors and volunteers who help our teachers and students every week.

Our fifth graders had a visit from Dan Lester, a UT professor of Astronomy who came to share information about space, our solar system and new discoveries on the planets. He brought moon rocks for the students to touch and see. Our last Science Bowl of the year will take place before STAAR testing. We will announce the winners in the next newsletter.

PK and first grade students took some exciting field trips. First graders enjoyed the rodeo and PK students enjoyed a presentation at Windsor Park Library. Our students had a great time and learned something new outside of

the classroom. And we can't forget our parents. They attended Math/Science night participating in hands on activities with their children. Some of our parents also enjoyed Big Art night by working with clay courtesy of our Art teacher Ms. Corin. Great things are happening at Harris!

Bertha Sadler Means May update

Ashley Ayala, Parent Support Specialist

The school year is quickly coming to a close and while we're sad to see it go, we are happy to have a wonderful way to look back. We are excited to announce that we have published the FIRST EVER ANNUAL ANTHOLOGY. This anthology has various essays, poems and artwork from our students and staff. Our young ladies are so excited to have their pieces officially published in a book! We hope to continue this yearly anthology to provide a long and lasting history of our young women and our school.

We are also hoping to create a long and lasting wellness portion of our Parent University programming by instituting a Working on Wellness series. We have begun with a Walking Club held Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:00. Please join us as we Walk for Wellness. ZUMBA and Yoga classes will soon be added to the schedule.

We hope you'll be able to join us May 12th at 9 am for our Coffee with the Principal. We invite all community members as well as prospective parents from Blanton, Andrews, Harris, Sims, Norman, Barbara Jordan, Overton, Pecan Springs and Winn to come and see what makes our school shine.

We are continuing to work on making our Rain Garden grow and would love to have your support. Grab your favorite gardening tools and come join us Saturday mornings from 9-11:30.

John H. Reagan Early College High School

Julia Remington, LCSW Bilingual Social Service Specialist

"Not Without Honor"

Reagan continues to be in the news as a leader in the Community Schools movement. Senator Royce West, various Councilmen, and even the head of the American (Schools Updates, continued on page 8)