# Window & Windsor

A LOOK INTO THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT NEVER GOES OUT OF STYLE

VOLUME
42
NO 97
JULY 2025

NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

SATURDAY JULY 12th 10 AM



NEXT MEETING FOCUS

Un-Housed Outreach



## Summer Safety and Community Support By CHAD COTTON

It's easy to forget just how hot and dry July and August can be in Central Texas until they're here again. In June, we were fortunate to have Jack McGarvy and Marco Martinez speak with us about preparing our homes to be more fire-resistant. They shared practical steps homeowners can take to reduce the risk of wildfire damage. If you'd like to learn more—or schedule a free Structural Ignition Zone Evaluation (SIZE) of your property—you can visit: https://wildfire-austin.hub.arcgis.com/.

As challenging as the summer heat can be for all of us, it's even harder on our unhoused neighbors. To help, we'll be partnering with Wheless Lane Church of Christ to distribute Blessing Bags—care packages with essential supplies—to those in need.

More details soon!

Also, for those who planted trees during last year's Eco-Fest, don't forget to keep them well-watered throughout the summer, especially as the heat intensifies. Young trees need consistent care to make it through their first few summers.

FREE spay/neuter services from 7:30am to 10am July 28 to August 1, 2025, at COTA, 9201 Circuit of the Americas Blvd, Del Valle, TX 78617. See our website for more information.

Thanks for helping keep our neighborhood safe, connected, caring and green!

## More Magic with 2nd Open Mic

#### By Darrel Mayers and the Enlivenment Committee

On a quiet Sunday evening in May, many neighbors gathered on the sizable backyard deck of Carol Kent (on Linda Lane) for an enchanting evening of music and poetry. Special guest Caroline Sears began with some touching tunes from her beautiful Bandcamp EP "Day of the Week."

Among those playing at the open mic afterwards were Aurora, Genevieve, Avery and Benedict Kent, Eddie Edwards, Ted Wade and Lily Bassett, Louise Richardson, Elizabeth Kubala, Feet of Animals, Dan Niendorff, Steve Ashley, Paul W., Roaring Sun, Alan Kubala, Daniel Perez, Jose Munoz, Darrel Mayers and Thom the World Poet.

Special thanks to host Carol Kent, and Alan Kubala who ran the sound system and even shared some songs, despite feeling under the weather.

Stay tuned for more Open Mic events! (Pictured to the right: Steve Ashley)





#### **Shade The Streets Returns**

#### **By Martin Luecke**

A recent survey of Windsor Park shows that almost all of the new trees planted last year for our Shade the Streets program have survived the winter and also the massive hail storm. Some of the trees planted behind Blanton Elementary school have damage to their tiny trunks, and had lost a lot of leaves, but new leaves are showing up. We have recently treated them with root stimulant, and suggest that all new tree owners do the same.

Claire Boetticher on Cloverleaf says they were concerned one of their new trees had died in the winter, but they were pleasantly surprised when it's leaves came out, just in time for the hail storm. Today the tree is covered in beautiful green leaves.

This year we have expanded our free tree program to six East Side neighborhoods including Pecan Springs, University Hills, MLK, Senate Hills, North Loop and North Austin Civic Association (NACA). Some of these groups will be hosting their own tree events in October.

We are working with Tree Folks once again, and the Shade Brigade will be canvasing in the fall to identify residences that could use a tree. The yard survey showed there are plenty of places to plant. According to the City of Austin tree canopy map, most of East Austin has only 20% coverage, while West Austin has 60%. It is our goal to increase coverage in Windsor Park to 50% in the next ten years.

Eco Fest returns on Saturday November 1 at Bartholomew Park!

## Harris Elementary Rebuilding

#### By Judi Rockman

On May 8th the construction crew gave a tour inside Harris for some staff, teachers and planners. Pictured is the stair to the second level.

Lane closure on Berkman Dr. should be opened by early July; future closures are possible for Briarcliff, Linda and Wheless. For latest news on all the projects and upgrades (Northeast ECHS, Sadler-Means, Blanton, Andrews, Pecan Springs) go to <a href="https://bond.austinschools.org/modernization-projects">https://bond.austinschools.org/modernization-projects</a>



Harris location for fall semester (starts August 19!) remains at Sims school campus, 1203 Springdale. Completion and reopening of new Harris is anticipated to be January 2026.

#### Yard of the Month - 2007 Oakleaf Drive

#### By Sara Jane Lee



The July winner is Cheri Gifford of 2007 Oakleaf Drive. Cheri inherited it from her grandparents who built it. She and her husband thought that they would use it for a starter home. When they were divorced, it became a home, not just a house, for her and her family. She has lived there since 2004.

Cheri likes a colorful yard. She recently planted four varieties of hydrangeas in front of her house. They are Annabelle, Endless Summer, Endless Summer Bloomstruck, and Vanilla Strawberry. On the left side of the house, she has a Limelight Hydrangea Tree. The trunk goes up 3 or 4 feet; the canopy is pale green to white blooms. The Annabelle, Endless Summer, and Endless Summer Bloomstruck have mophead clusters of blooms; Vanilla Strawberry and the Limelight are panicles. Mophead and panicle refer to the shape of the clusters of blooms. Hydrangeas require much love and work. They need morning sun, afternoon shade, soil with a high PH, and regular watering.

In the front of her yard, she also has an old Native Pecan Tree, a Tater Tot Arborvitae and some Patriot Hostas. To the left some Taylor Junipers join the Limelight Hydragangea. To the right there are a Crab Apple tree, several varieties of Hosta, and some ornamental grasses including Mexican Fountain Grass and Bamboo Muhly. Cheri loves to work in the yard. She spends several hours planting, fertilizing, and watering. She advises observing the light during the day where you want to plant something because that is the one thing that you cannot modify.

Cheri will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery on Hancock Drive. Please send in your nominations for the next Yard of the Month!

## **Clayton Farmer's Market**

#### by Belinda Bednarczuk

When we first imagined starting a new farmers market, we knew it wouldn't be easy. A midweek market in Central Austin — especially in a part of town without one during the week meant building something entirely new: educating the community, encouraging consistent attendance, and creating a welcoming space from the ground up.

The idea came from lived experience. As a small business owner, I saw how important it was to have a space that supported small local businesses, especially solo entrepreneurs, and family-run businesses. But it was equally clear how rare it was to find a market that felt truly supportive, vendor-friendly, consistent, and community-rooted.

This idea planted a seed for the Clayton Farmer's Market – now happening Wednesdays from 2-6pm – at Clayton Towers parking lot.

We chose Windsor Park because of its energy — its families, its longtime residents and new neighbors, and its steady rhythm of life. It's a neighborhood that feels connected, and it felt like the right place to start something small but meaningful — a weekly

event where people could shop local, meet their neighbors, and support makers, growers, ranchers, farmers and small businesses all in one place.

Of course, starting something new comes with its challenges. We're navigating it all — unpredictable weather, slow starts, hosting events, and the hard work of getting the word out. But what has made the difference is the dedication of the vendors. the support of Clayton Towers where our market resides, and the growing support from Windsor Park and surrounding communities.

This isn't just a space to buy meat, vegetables, bread or have a fresh meal. It's a place where small businesses feel seen, and where people come together midweek to slow down, share a conversation, and enjoy something local. We're still growing, still learning, and still showing up — rain or shine. But at the heart of it all is a simple goal: to build something that belongs to the neighborhood, not just in it.

Come by Wednesday afternoon and experience it for yourself.

Clayton Farmer's Market Wednesdays 2-6pm 1106 Clayton Lane



## Windsor Park

May 2025 Real Estate Report

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## Get to Know Your WPNA Scholarship Recipient: Yoselin Montes Espinoza

#### BY SAM SEARLE

Maybe it was the heat and sunshine, maybe it was the opening of local pools and splash pads, or maybe you saw "Congrats, grads!" signs in a few front yards. Chances are, you've noticed summer has started here in Austin, Texas; and this summer, 15 local graduates will have a little more to celebrate as they were awarded the 2025 WPNA Scholarship. Since its inception in 2015, the WPNA Scholarship strives to recognize and support Windsor Park high school seniors and public education. This year, recipients will receive \$1,000 towards their post-secondary education.

We sat down with Yoselin Montes Espinoza, Northeast Early College High School salutatorian, long-time Windsor Park resident, and recipient of a 2025 WPNA Scholarship, to hear more about her experience growing up in our neighborhood and her plans.

## Tell us about your matriculation and experience at Windsor Park schools.

I attended Thomas G. Harris Elementary School, Bertha Sadler Means Young Women's Leadership Academy, and Northeast Early College High School (NE). At NE, I most enjoyed my AP Literature class and participation in book club, as I enjoy reading. A recent favorite book is Sea of Tranquility by Emily St. John Mandel. I also enjoyed making dioramas in diorama club. In fact, I just made a café book club diorama for my bookshelf.

My most time-consuming extracurricular activity was yearbook "club". My friend and I created the entire NE yearbook this past year, inspired by Diary of a Wimpy Kid. I was excited to be creative and it really sparked my interest in graphic design.

## Any favorite memories from growing up in Windsor Park?

As an avid reader, I enjoyed going to the library and participating in various activities like arts and crafts, story time and Lego Lab. As I got older, I volunteered at the Windsor Park branch library. When I was volunteering, I was able to plan, organize and execute a children's activity with the help of the librarians. I also enjoyed

volunteering at Austin Creative Reuse and the abundance of local parks both in our neighborhood and close by.

## What are your plans to utilize the WPNA Scholarship?

I will be attending The University of Texas at Austin and plan to major in Advertising in the Moody College of Communication. I look forward to joining advertising & public relations clubs. I am feeling prepared for my classes at UT thanks to my teachers at NE and the ability to take college-level courses through the Austin Community College partnership. In addition to using my scholarships, I will continue working at a local grocery store to support my education.

## Do you have any advice for other high school students?

I would advise students to actively participate in clubs and extracurricular activities. It is a good idea to have diverse interests and not just focus on academics. I would encourage students to use local resources like the library and parks. And don't forget to apply for scholarships... everything helps!

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If you would like to donate to the WPNA Scholarship Fund that supports Yoselin and students like her, or get involved with the Schools Committee, please visit

https://www.windsorpark.info/scholarship/.





#### Handyman and Remodel Services **by Martin Luecke**

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## WINDSOR PARK Market Statistics



### Trends to Note

With proper pricing strategy, homes are seeing offers and accepted contracts. Number of SOLDS per month trending upwards.

WP's Go-To Source For Market Statistics since 2010

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (Over Last 90 Days)

\$340.94

# OF HOMES SOLD (Over Last 90 Days)

26

AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD

1,670

AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS

35

53\* # ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET

\*As of June 14th, 2025 - Single Family Homes. Request a Detailed Report for Your Section of Windsor Park





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## **Mueller Update - July 2025**

#### BY RICK KRIVONIAK

The June 4th downburst storm that swept through Austin hit parts of Windsor Park and Mueller particularly hard. It was Mueller's third damaging hail storm in four years. Brian Dolezal, VP of Mueller Marketing and Communications for Arterra Development, reported at the June commission meeting that at least 100 trees were destroyed in Mueller, straining the Property Owners Association's (POA) finances, as they are responsible the trees along streets, in medians, and in parks. The Regional Retail Center (Home Depot/Best Buy area), Market District (HEB/ Torchy's/etc.), and a few other large privately-owned sites are responsible for trees in their areas.

The Mueller POA is still exploring ideas with the Austin Parks & Recreation Department (PARD) to fund a six-month off-leash pilot dog park at Mueller, but there isn't yet a firm plan in place. The POA must agree to insure and maintain the park. More information is available at www. muellerdogparkcoalition.org At the June 10th Mueller Commission meeting, Roberto Gonzales and Miles Turpin of CapMetro offered up a lot of information regarding new and changed transit services available in or near Mueller. Best viewed on a desktop computer, here's a link to their presentation: <a href="https://services.austintexas.gov/edims/">https://services.austintexas.gov/edims/</a> document.cfm?id=453271

Veracruz Fonda & Bar owners plan to open La Mezca at 1905 Aldrich this summer, next door to their restaurant. Offering more than 20 mezcals and agave spirits from Oaxaca, Guerrero, Durango, and San Luis Potosí, the bar team of Sebastian Cajas & Bryan Ruiz want guests understand everything they're tasting, from the differences between agave spirits and varieties used to the regional variations that affect the end product. La Mezca will be open Wednesdays through Sundays starting at 5 pm. Mondays and Tuesdays will be reserved for private catas (tastings), master classes, and appearances by maestros y maestras mezcaleros.

The Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission will not meet in July. The next meeting will be at 6 PM on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at the Austin Energy Building, 4815 Mueller Boulevard. Attendees may park free in the AE garage.

## **Recycling Update**

City of Austin curbside customers can now recycle food and beverage cartons and coated paper products in their blue recycling carts.

Cartons, also known as aseptic or gable top containers, are often used to package items like milk, juice, protein drinks, soup and creamers. Coated paper products include cups used for hot coffee and other beverages, paper plates and takeout food containers.

## **Seeking Connection? Memorial United Methodist Church**

https://memorialumcaustin.org/



Worship-Sundays at 11 AM 6100 Berkman Dr All are welcome as we seek love the way Jesus loved!







9:30AM Classes by age group 10:30AM Happy Half-Hour coffee

nursery provided

A faith gathering for doubters, questioners, the faithful, agnostics, "sinners" and saints. All are welcome here as we seek the way of love and peace together in a safe and inclusive community.

We meet at 5801 Westminster Dr, Austin, TX 78723 visit austinmennonite.org for more info



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**KEITH EDWARDS** 

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# WPNA MEMB I Inntad!

Come one, come y'all,

Welcome to Windsor Park! A throwback neighborhood with a modern feel. Please join the WPNA - we are stronger and more effective as a local voice for our neighborhood when more neighbors join.

We welcome all neighbors. Come join a meeting and see what's going on in your neighborhood. We'd love to meet you and share what Windsor Park is all about.

See ya soon!

Explore the Library in person, online or via your favorite device to access materials to read, listen to or learn from. Check out the Calendar online for activities for all ages.

Highlights for July 2025:

- Tues July 8th at 6:30 Windsor Park Neighborhood Book Club: "Hester" by Laurie Lico Albanese
- Wed July 9th at 10:00 Senior Social Hour
- Sat July 12th at 1:00 Wicked Party for Adults
- Fri July 18th at 10:30 Chair Yoga with the Mexican American Cultural Center
- Wed July 30th at 2:30 Therapeutic Journaling for Teens with Austin Bat Cave

**UPCOMING EVENTS** library.austintexas.gov/events

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