

Us

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### **SPONSORS:**

We must receive your content and check by the 15<sup>th</sup> 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

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

### 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 / Individual — \$15/person	N
☐ Family — \$20	as fo
$\square$ Sustaining — \$35 or more	10
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### 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**

July 6, 13, 20 - Wed 6:30pm - Practiquemos Español

July 7, 14, 21 - 10:15am: All Ages Storytime July 8, 2pm: Teen STEAM: Stop Motion

Animation

July 11, 2pm: Literature Live! presents:

Rumpelstiltskin

July 12, 7pm: Book Club: Being Mortal: Medicine and What Happens at the End by Atul Gawande

July 18, 2pm: You are the Force

July 22, 2pm: Teen STEAM: Mechanical Magic July 23, 11am: Hip Hop Dance with Weva July 25, 2pm: Sandbank Shadow Factory presents - A Wild Goose Chase

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

### The Windsor Park Neighborhood Plan Contact Team (WPNPCT)

is a representative group of neighborhood stakeholders charged as stewards of the Neighborhood Plan, to uphold the implementation of the Plan's vision, goals and recommendations, and to review & vote on all proposed amendments to the Plan.

Meetings are the second Monday of each month at the Windsor Park Library (subject to change) at 6:30 p.m. Contact Conor Kenny at conor@conorkenny.net or 512-968-3050

Everyone is invited to attend and participate.

lumbers count! A strong neighborhood ssociation advocates more effectively or Windsor Park! Join us today!

### **Austin Police District Representatives**

IDA 1 - Officer Gary Griffin

(512) 974-8392 | gary.griffin@austintexas.gov

IDA 2 - Officer Veneza Bremner

(512) 974-4118 | veneza.bremner@austintexas.gov



# WINDOW on WINDSOR

Vol XXXV No. 7 July 2016

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

### Windsor Park Neighborhood Association Meeting

Saturday, July 9 at 10am.

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/



# Follow us on Facebook!

WindsorParkAustinTx

Submissions to the newsletter are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Email them to:

newsletter@ windsorpark.info

### JULY LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Neighbors,

Thanks to all of you who attended our June meeting. At this meeting we received a safety update from Officer Griffin, our APD Rep for district 4. Officer Griffin is here to answer questions and advise on ongoing safety and security issues throughout the neighborhood and can be reached by phone or email (his contact information appears on the back of this newsletter).

At the June meeting we also heard from Nadia Khan about the creek and Broadmoor/Belfast area and a plan to perhaps have a bike path connecting that area to 51st through the Promisedland Property. At this point this is still in the conceptual phase and, as is always the case, the devil will be in the details. However, we will keep you posted if and when there are any developments on that front.

Our new semi-official neighborhood beautification committee met on June 23rd. The purpose of this committee is to consider new projects similar to the one that renovated the median at Berkman and 290 and, funding permitted, see them to fruition. If you would like to become a member of that committee please contact me at president@windsorpark.info. If you would like to donate to that effort, you can do so on our website: http://www.windsorpark.info/.

I met with Michael Kanin from the Austin Monitor in June. He has offered all dues paying members of the WPNA a 20% discount. If you are interested in this, please email me (president@windsorpark.info) and I can send you a promotional code.

At our July meeting we will receive an update from Bike Austin on upcoming and ongoing projects to make Austin more bike friendly.

Sincerely, Karen Pagani

### Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for the WPNA Reagan HS Scholarship Fund

We are so pleased to give advance notice that the Austin Mennonite Church will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, October 1st from 8 - 10 am with all proceeds again going to the WPNA scholarship for Reagan High School students. The WPNA thanks Austin Mennonite Church for their generous support of our students via the scholarship!

### **July 2016 -** page 9

### **Windsor Park Beautification Committee**

Rodney Ahart

If you've noticed the attractive Palo Verde trees, red yuccas, lantana, agaves, and Mexican feather grasses planted in the 290E and Berkman Drive Median, then you've seen exactly the type of projects that the new Windsor Park Beautification Committee wants to bring to the neighborhood. The committee held its first official meeting on Thursday, June 23 – this was the first of several discussions which will take place over the next couple of months. The ultimate goal is to develop a Beautification Master Plan for Windsor Park.

Please join us if you are interested in increased efforts to install native landscaping in neighborhood entrance locations, reduce litter along our roadways and public spaces, and engage homeowners, schools and business owners in creating a more clean, green and beautiful Windsor Park. We will post the next meeting on the Windsor Park Listserv and hope to work with you in the community effort!

### District #1 Town Hall - Notice from Council Member Ora Houston

We are having a Town Hall in July – details are below. Please tell your neighbors and attend if you can.

### **District #1 Town Hall**

Saturday, July 16th - 10 am - 12 pm. Asian American Resource Center, 8401 Cameron Road

Topic: Community Resources & Customer Service

For more information or to be added to the District #1 email list, call: 512-978-2101

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# OF HOMES SOLD IN 7 (APRIL 2016)

AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD 1,559
AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS 6

# ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET 16\*
\*As of June 13th, 2016 - Single Family Homes



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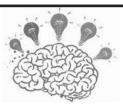
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### **NEW PATHS**

### 8 WEEK PROGRAM FREE BEGINS JULY 7, 2016

Uncharted trails emerge as we pass the half-century marker. Some call this time their Golden Years, others call it their Winter Years. Whatever you are naming your years ahead, there are activities that can help you stay productive and age gratefully.

As our body ages, so does our brain, but we are never too old to learn new things! We exercise to keep our bodies flexible and moving. There are exercises and activities to keep our brains flexible and moving, too. This program is designed especially for people over 55 focused on finding new paths to wholeness: physical, emotional, and spiritual.

Hope Lutheran Church 6414 North Hampton Drive Austin, TX 78723 Building 400 - Hope Harbor

(the building is located at the back of the North Hampton Parking Lot)

Thursdays from 1-3 pm

Contact Deaconess Sharon for more information at 512-926-8574 or steague@hopelutheranaustin.org

### July 2016 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

At the June RMMAPIAC meeting, the futures of the Mueller Control Tower, Browning Hangar and Mueller Central were discussed after presentations from Catellus and City staff. All three facilities remain under the ownership of the City of Austin, though Catellus has made investments to each for preservation and/or continued use, which will be reimbursed through the tax increment financing agreement with the City. Though the Master Developer agreement notes that the City may retain ownership,



lease or sell any of these properties, the understanding between Catellus and the City has been that each would ultimately be sold. No civic spaces are currently planned at Mueller.

Mueller's Control Tower, a remnant of the 1961 terminal building that won Austin architects Fehr & Granger a Progressive Architecture magazine award and cover photo, is a difficult building to retrofit for re-use. Despite having nine levels, each is quite small, and stairs and a small elevator shaft take up a roughly half of eight floors. The observation level is the size of a large bedroom with a stair opening in the middle. Fire egress, accessibility and just plain physics make it unlikely to ever be open to the general public, though intentions are that any ground-level development on its site will highlight the Tower's iconic status.

Built in 1943 and named for Texas aviation pioneer Robert Browning, the Hangar has become a community gathering place and the site of many public, private and fundraising events. Catellus is committed to finding a future owner that will continue the communal nature of the space, though it's likely that enclosure, restrooms, at least a small kitchen, and more parking are its future. The Hangar remains available for public and private use until that time. (Submit reservation requests to <a href="http://www.muelleraustinonline.com/reservations.php">http://www.muelleraustinonline.com/reservations.php</a>)

Mueller Central will continue to be the marketing facility for Catellus until the redevelopment is completed. It will likely continue as office space for some lucky future owner.

Various stages of three structured parking facilities are underway between Berkman and Mueller Boulevard south of 51<sup>st</sup> Street, all to be engulfed by the apartment buildings that they will serve. Most complete is the Overture at 4818 Berkman, a 201-unit, 55+ complex by Greystar, which will start leasing in late 2016. At 2401 Aldrich, AMLI will be building its second Mueller complex, with 318 units expected to open in early 2017. At 2604 Aldrich Street, Aldrich 51 is Mueller's workforce affordable project with 240 units, anticipated to start leasing in June 2017.

John Gaines Park is slated for a grand opening ceremony on July 23, weather permitting. Due to May rains, the planned Memorial Day opening date of John Gaines pool was delayed a few days, but the pool is open to the general public for summer hours much like Mueller's Emma Long Pool. The park and pool are located on Sorin Street, which runs east off of Berkman Drive. More information is available at <a href="http://www.muelleraustintexas.com/john-gaines-pool-opens/">http://www.muelleraustintexas.com/john-gaines-pool-opens/</a>

Paid parking is anticipated to begin at Mueller in early August. Please look for signs noting where you must pay to park.

The Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission (RMMAPIAC/Mueller Commission) does not meet in July. The next meeting is Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 6:00 PM at Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center, 2608 Gonzales Street. Address Mueller questions and comments to bc-rick.krivoniak@austintexas.

### July 2016 Yard of the Month

Sara Jane Lee

The July winners are Kim and Brian Otnes of 1301 Larkwood Drive. They were nominated by their neighbor, Melissa. The Otnes have lived on Northridge twenty-one years.

Part of their front yard is grass. The rest is planted in vegetables and flowers. Brian told me that the flowers are planted near the street because passing dogs sometimes leave little "presents" behind them. Also there is exhaust from cars and other dirty stuff in the street.

They have Zinnias near the street. Since Nasturtiums are edible they are near the middle of the yard. They also have Lemon Grass, Thai Basil, Rosemary, Flat Leaf Parsley, Thai Chili, Okra, Pomegranate, Long Beans, Angle Beans, Carrots, Golden Beets, and Red Beets. Kim got angle bean seeds from her mother in Malaysia. They also have a Peach Tree, an Apricot Tree and a Papaya Tree.

Kim was inspired by her cousin, Debi. Kim loves being able to eat what they grow. It saves them many trips to the grocery store. She really enjoys being able to walk out the front door and get just the right amount of lemon grass or basil for a recipe. Kim and Brian spend about one to two hours a day working in the yard. Weeding and watering takes most of their time. They use rain water as much as they can. Since they have two rain barrels in the front and three in the back and use plastic buckets to catch even more rainwater, they use little or no city water. They also enjoy all the bees that their garden attracts.

Kim and Brian 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 on 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@wind-sorpark.info, call 928-0681 or write WPNA YOMC, PO Box 16183, Austin, Texas 78761



Visit our Central Austin Branch at 5129 Cameron Road.



### MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR UPDATE: GREGORY WATSON

Martin Luecke

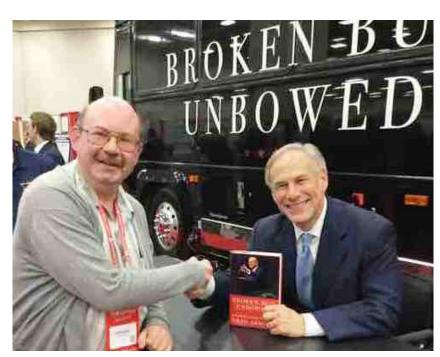
In March we met former WP resident Greg Watson and his amazing story of single handedly creating the 27th (and final) Amendment to the US Constitution. Three weeks after our newsletter hit the doorsteps of Windsor Park, Texas Governor Greg Abbott gave a speech at the University of Texas LBJ School of Public Affairs relating Gregory's story as it appeared in this publication. You never know who is going to read the 'Window on Windsor'.

Abbott was speaking to the Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute Policy Orientation on March 31. The topic: Amending The Constitution. It was the luncheon event, and Abbott was going to take his shot at The Constitution and he had an ace in the hole that no one knew about: Gregory Watson. In three minutes Governor Abbott recounted all the pertinent facts of the story, mentioned Gregory seven times, and body slammed the room with the idea of changing The Constitution from your very own basement.

The question is: how did 'Window on Windsor' end up on the Governor's desk? My guess is that somebody here in Windsor Park works in one of the Gov's offices. How quickly a good story can travel up the food chain. In the case of the Governor's speech, it appears that he did not care WHAT the 27th Amendment did, he only cared that one man made it happen. The Governor relates that the Amendment tells Congress it cannot give itself a salary raise without first being re-elected, but he spends no time extolling its merits, instead talking about how most people said the amendment could not be passed, and that they were wrong to assume a simple citizen could not be successful in this endeavor. The Governor seems to hold our Mr. Watson in very high regard.

But to Gregory's eternal dismay, when you look at the 27th Amendment since it's inception in 1992 (after a 10 year Herculean effort by Watson), the US Congress has given itself a raise seven times, and basically ignored the Amendment in the process. "It's criminal" said Watson when asked about this development. Sadly, Gregory has no plans to launch a lawsuit all the way to the Supreme Court to get Congress to actually enforce the Amendment. And while I'm thinking about it, why didn't the media report this EVER?

A few weeks ago Gregory travelled to the State Republican Convention in Dallas and met Governor Abbott, who was releasing his new book. "As I approached him in the book-signing line, I said "Governor, you mention my name 13 times in your book". He looked at my Delegate badge and read my name, and he immediately began discrediting the UT Professor". Gregory was satisfied that the Governor had actually written the book himself.



But we know better. The Governor was just using the 'Window on Windsor' to make a case for selling a book! Which makes me wonder: if we had waited until April to publish the story, would any of this be happening? And from whom's basement will the next Constitutional Amendment appear? Thank you First Amendment! Hopefully The Governor will find this story compelling enough to make a case for Enforcing the Constitution in addition to Amending it.

(Watch the Governor's March 31 speech on Windsor Park Facebook page)

Thanks for all the nominations! Martin Luecke 536.0465 or mwluecke@hotmail.com

### 26th Annual Summer Fan Drive Kicks Off!

Family Eldercare

Distribution of thousands of fans, critical outreach to vulnerable seniors, adults with disabilities and families across 11 Central Texas counties.

Beginning May 1st, Family Eldercare's well-known Summer Fan Drive began distribution of fans and critical outreach to a potential 6,000+ people across Central Texas.



This year marks the 26th anniversary for the Summer Fan Drive. When it began in 1990, staff and volunteers gathered 50 fans for Austin seniors. This summer the agency will deliver the 90,000th fan to a senior, medically fragile adult or family. Many of whom live right here in the Windsor Park neighborhood.

The Summer Fan Drive provides comfort from the searing, and often dangerous, Texas heat. Volunteers and staff provide additional resources to help participants find utility assistance, nutrition/food, counseling, home repair and other critical services.

From individual donations to forming Team Drives there are lots a ways you can help make a difference in the Windsor Park community & beyond by getting involved with the Summer Fan Drive. Find out more at http://www.summerfandrive.org/get-involved or email summerfandrive@familyeldercare.org. (Team drives are a great way for kids, church groups or businesses to help)

Donors may drop off fans at the Family Eldercare building, located at 1700 Rutherford lane, or at any Fire Department Station in Georgetown, Austin and San Marcos. Summer Fan Drive runs May 1st thru August 31st.

To find out about eligibility requirements or to request a fan, please call: 512.459.4FAN (4326).



[Continued from page 5] This information is to have you watch for this beetle on ash trees in your area.

In infested trees, canopy die back is often seen in the top one third of the canopy and then moves down until the tree is bare. Vertical fissures may appear on the bark and galleries may be able to be seen through openings. If bark is peeled off, serpentine galleries packed with frass (excrement) may be seen. Adult beetles produce a d-shaped exit hole (1/8 inch diameter). Woodpeckers may cause damage to tees infested with EAB. Look for flaking bark and uneven holes caused by the woodpeckers feeding on larvae and pupae.

If EAB activity is confirmed for ash trees within an area, it is recommended that a systemic insecticide treatment is given to ash trees of high value. If more than 50% of an infested ash tree crown remains, then treatment with a systemic insecticide may slow the attack. If less than 50% of an infested ash tree crown remains, the tree should be removed.



The site: https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/eab/ has great information on emerald ash borer within Texas.

Only 4 beetles have been found currently and only in NE Texas. No trees have yet been confirmed to be infested.

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

### **July Update from Council Member Casar**

### In Memory of Ethan Hernandez

I am especially thankful for the compassionate efforts of our Windsor Park neighbors who have rallied together to create a fundraiser for a memorial bench to be installed at Bartholomew Park in honor of Ethan Hernandez, who was killed in Windsor Park by a hit and run driver in May. Ethan loved to play at the splash pad and playground at Bartholomew Park. Please donate and share this fundraiser so we can commemorate him. The fundraiser is very close to reaching its goal! You can donate at www.gofundme.com/294zfkvw .

### **Fair Housing Initiative Passes at Council**

I'm proud to say that the Fair Housing Initiative I mentioned in our last newsletter passed at City Council! This initiative included a package of ten policy directives aimed at combating community displacement and promoting inclusivity in the face of Austin's growing economic segregation. With the help of Council Member Renteria, we passed this package of policies as an "all of the above" approach toward getting Austin off the list of most economically-segregated cities in the country.

### **Council Discusses Potential Mobility Bond**

By the time you read this, we may have already voted on whether or not a mobility bond proposal will go to voters this November. I have stated my support for a robust bond package that reflects the safety needs of neighborhoods like those in North Austin. Specifically, I have advocated for strong investments in our City's corridors like Airport and Lamar Boulevard, as well as improving sidewalks and crosswalks for children and seniors to make our neighborhoods safer and more connected. Regardless if there is a bond or not, I remain committed to improving mobility and safety for Windsor Park, which is why during our City's quarter-cent fund discussions, I set aside funding to make near-term improvements for Berkman Drive from 51st Street to US 290. If you were unable to make the June 30th meeting with the Transportation Department regarding what tools could be utilized to improve this street, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office at Greg.Casar@austintexas. gov or 512-978-2104. You can also contact Transportation Department staff by emailing Nathan Wilkes at Nathan.Wilkes@austintexas.gov or by phone at 512-974-7016.



### Pink Houses First Friday Happy Hour

Alfred & Rudy have graciously offered to host the July 1 Pink Houses Happy hour at their house, 6815 De Paul Cove (University Hills) on the front lawn, grilling hot dogs and burgers. Chips & bottled water provided. BYO for other drinks & sides, & lawn chairs! RSVP by 6/28 to alfred@alfredcatering.com

For more information on the Pink Houses group, see www.face-book.com/PinkHousesAustin or to receive emails about events, join the Yahoo Group at https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/pinkhouses

### **Pink Houses**

The purpose of this group is to provide a forum for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and friendly individuals and families living in the Windsor Park/78723 neighborhoods to share thoughts

and ideas, to organize social and community events, and to meet our neighbors. To receive e-mail notices about Pink Houses activities, join the Pink Houses Yahoo group at https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/pinkhouses/info .

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### **Emerald ash borer found in Texas**

Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist

Emerald ash borer, often referred to as EAB, is an exotic pest from Asia. This beetle is a serious threat to ash trees. Four beetles were found in a trap located in NE Texas (Harrison County) in late April 2016. There are currently no confirmed cases of ash trees that are infested. The beetles will continue to be monitored throughout the state. [continues on page 6]

### Hope Lutheran Mother's Day Out Program

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

for children from 18 months to pre-school

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

### Now Enrolling!

Call: 512-926-8574 or contact us at http://www.hopelutheranautin.org/contact/
We are located at 6414 North Hampton on the corner of

Northeast Drive and North Hampton in the Windsor Park neighborhood.

# **Here Is How To Sell Your Home Smarter, Not Harder**

If you're thinking of selling your home or a rental, a smart thing to do is consider a direct sale to a local cash buyer. These are real estate investors loaded with cash seeking to acquire houses, duplexes and vacant lots.

You'll get a quote with a NET figure that you will clear at the closing table. You'll receive a detail comparison on how their offer stacks up against what you could NET through a conventional sale with a real estate agent.

### 7 Great Reasons To Sell To A Direct Cash Buyer:

- 1. Close the sale when it's convenient to you, not buyer
- 2. Sell "as is", No inspections, No repairs to pay for
- 3. No listings, No showings = your privacy protected
- 4. No surprises at closing, No extras to pay for
- 5. No realty commissions to pay
- 6. Investor will pay all your closing costs
- 7. No loan approvals, No uncertainly with shaky buyers

Your sale is simple as 1-2-3: (1) you pick a date to close, (2) sign a contract, (3) show up at a title company to pick up your check. Service is friendly, no pressure, no games. For more information on how to sell your property to a direct cash buyer call Alex Gurevich (512) 773-5673