



WINDOW on WINDSOR

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July 2023

**Next
Neighborhood
Association
Meeting**

**Saturday, July
8th, 10am**

**Meeting at Me-
morial United
Methodist
Church on Berk-
man**

**Speaker: Texas
Representatives
James Talarico
and Sheryl Cole**

**Come attend
in person or
streaming at
windsorpark.info/**

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

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

BECOME A WPNA MEMBER - WWW.WINDSORPARK.INFO/MEMBERSHIP

ANOTHER VOTING OPPORTUNITY AND MORE

Jeanette Swenson, WPNA President

At the June meeting, Treasurer Josh Pitts circulated the following amendment to the WPNA Bylaws to up-date our voting procedure. We will vote IN PERSON on these proposed changes during our July meeting. Current bylaws may be found here: <http://www.windsorpark.info/windsor-park-neighborhood-association/bylaws/>

AMEND ARTICLE III, Section 5

Voting may occur in person and/or online. The Treasurer will maintain an accurate list of eligible voters.

AMEND Article VII, Section 1 Process

Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those voting in person or online, with voting eligibility to be determined by the Treasurer, provided that the amendment(s) have been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting. All amendment(s) shall go into effect immediately upon ratification unless the amendment(s) state otherwise.

Thanks to the pandemic WPNA leadership, Treasurer Josh Pitts set up and implemented a secure and inclusive process for voting while WPNA met virtually. The online and in person voting process encourage participation in WPNA affairs. For example, the May vote to expand the use of the playscape shade fund to include park projects passed by 19-0 with 1 abstention. According to our current bylaws, that was the vote that counted. However, we also did a non-counting online vote that reached an additional 40 members.

I hope that the July vote to amend the bylaws and expand our voting percentages will encourage active participation in WPNA. The easiest way to effect change is through local action.

Local action can positively impact our lives in Windsor Park. Currently, we face challenges in development projects; increased traffic; unsafe and inadequate pedestrian mobility both navigating our neighborhood internally and exiting and entering Windsor Park; AISD school boundaries and access; fees dedicated to parkland acquisition and development that must be used in the Windsor Park region; and so much more. Through local engagement and action, we can impact the quality of life in our neighborhood for ourselves and those who will live here in the future.

At the July 8 meeting, Peter Breton of Cap Metro will attend and address how Cap Metro might help to address the current and future congestion in Windsor Park. Hopefully, WPNA can work with Austin Transportation and Public Works, Safe Routes to School, Austin Parks and Recreation to improve mobility and safety in our neighborhood. Please contact me at President@windsorpark.info and share your ideas and join in to solve the challenges we all face right here in Windsor Park.

**WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS for
Newsletter Delivery!**

**CONTACT
[NEWSLETTER@WINDSORPARK.
INFO](mailto:NEWSLETTER@WINDSORPARK.INFO)**

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR - VAIL COOK

Martin Luecke

A few years ago, I was sitting in my back yard, enjoying nature, when I heard the unmistakable sound of an axe striking a wood target, about three back yards to the west. I have thrown a few axes and I recognized it right away. There is a rhythm to throwing an axe, a cadence of sound, especially when it echoes through the trees. It was clear that someone in the hood was throwing an axe hard.

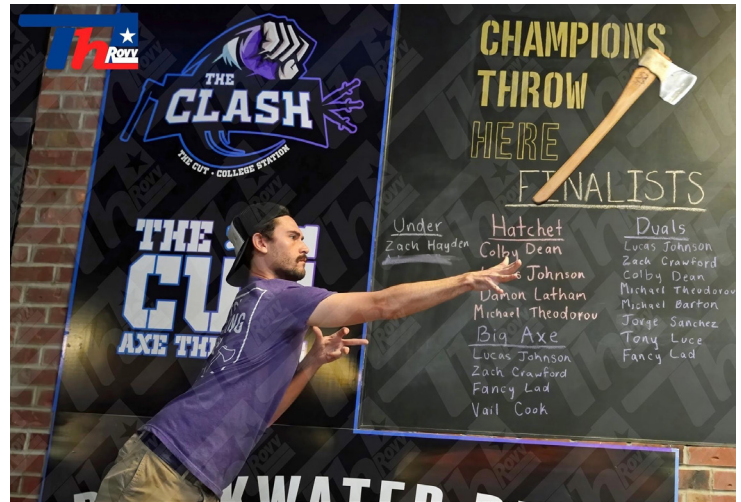
A few weeks or months later I ran into neighbor Joe giving Rocky a walk, and the conversation turned to his son Vail getting good at throwing an axe. They live three back yards to the west. I had a feeling there was a story brewing.

As time passed, I kept up with Vail and his axe throwing, and I am happy to report that he just finished in 4th place at the World Axe Throwing Championship in Toronto in June. He did not medal, but he did win a cash prize that paid for his trip. Welcome to the newest pro sport in the world, and the kid down the street is one of the best.

I call Vail a kid, but he's 28 years old now, a year younger than my son. They both grew up on Cloverleaf Drive. Funny how those kids stay young, even when they are older. Vail has been kicking around here for a while, working for his dad in the catering business and getting into handyman work, just like me. But now he's found a true love.

It all started when a family friend Tim Mateer "gifted" Joe with a serious axe throwing starter kit. Tim had been gifted said kit from another friend, and dutifully agreed to establishing a throwing court in his back yard. But the wife soon refused the gift, and it landed in Vail's back yard. The timing could not have been better. A kid in his mid-20's, looking for something to do, and a wicked home axe throwing opportunity shows up.

Fast forward a year and Vail wins a regional tournament, qualifying for the world championship. This is the turning point. Vail knew he was out of his league in Toronto February 2020, but then he saw what it took to be there, and that's when he got the message: work hard, focus, fix your game, and come back prepared. Then Covid hit. In those days I often heard a 'thwak' echo through the yards. It was the sound of an athlete, forming.



Fast forward to now, and Vail has won multiple regional titles, and more importantly, multiple major tournaments. "It's like the PGA" he says. "All the good throwers show up for a long weekend, throwing multiple disciplines. There's a lot of good players out there, many more than five years ago." The sport was invented by a couple drunk Canadiens in 2006, who then sobered up, created axe throwing venues (selling beer), and set about inventing rules and everything. Today the sport is on ESPN.

"It's a bar sport" Vail admits. I check the internet and find a dozen venues in the Austin area. Vail is sponsored by a place in College Station, which covers his entry fees for the many tournaments throughout the year.

There are two official leagues, with separate but similar rules, and Vail competes in both. There is hatchet throwing, big axe, and knives. Vail competes in all disciplines, but big axe is where he wins. All of this is still very new. "The modern mechanics that you see in pro throwers were all invented since 2017."

With axe throwing there is the three ring bullseye, and on the outside corners are special targets, called clutch- es. You must completely put the 4 inch blade across the one and a half inch clutch target to score big points. The good ones hit it every time. "Eighty percent of the game is mental. I just try to keep in the moment. I control my pace, my attitude, and do a monotonous pattern, where I take three breaths walking to the target, grab the axe, then three breaths back." Big league baseball pitchers have similar routines.

[Story continues on page 4]

\$11,000 awarded to local high school seniors!

Emily Vitris and the WPNA Schools Committee

The Windsor Park Schools Committee proudly celebrated the achievements of 11 deserving high school seniors at our annual Scholarship Breakfast and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, June 10. Several AISD teachers and counselors attended the ceremony and Trustee Candace Hunter also attended virtually to congratulate the students and thank the educators and the WPNA for supporting the scholarship efforts. Since the scholarship program began in 2015, we have offered over \$74,000 in scholarships to students who care deeply about giving back to their community.

Recipients of the 22-23 Scholarships included:

- **Northeast:** Mayah Arce-Lichty, Seiry Toral Hernandez, Celeste Pesina, Serenity Riggins, Isaiah Smith, Bibi Wahida Taniwal, Eden Tekle
- **LBJ:** Miriam Sanchez-Ledesma
- **McCallum:** Sage Edwards, Sabina Guardado
- **Austin High:** Jake Yopez

Students have plans to attend UT Austin, Concordia, Texas State, Brown University and UTSA and major in areas ranging from nursing, biology, math, psychology, studio art, archeology, advertising and education.

Congratulations to our scholarship recipients! Please remember this scholarship wouldn't be possible without you! You can donate to the scholarship fund by [visiting our scholarship page](#) and clicking on "Donate".



[Meet Your Neighbor - Vail Cook, continued from page 2]

There were 256 contestants in Toronto 2023, eight of whom won regional tournaments, including Vail, and all the others qualified through a thing called Round One. He reports 30 throwers could have won it all, but a for a bit of luck and timing. Such is professional sports, where only the dedicated survive. Since February 2020 Vail has traveled to 35 states and two countries, winning major tournaments in Iowa, Missouri, and Texas. But Toronto is the mecca, and now Vail is the man to beat no matter where he goes.

Please send me story suggestions: mwluecke@hotmail.com

Credits - Photographs by Jesse Levi Hummel



Recycling and Composting Tips

Recyclables: Please remember -- DO NOT BAG RECYCLABLES

After recyclables are collected in Austin, they are taken to the recycling facility where they are loaded onto a fast-moving conveyor belt for sorting. There is no time for bagged items to be opened and sorted; they are pulled off the conveyor belt and taken to the landfill. So, don't put recyclables in bags.

Compostables: Even though many items like paper plates and plastic bags say they are compostable, for the Austin facilities, items in the green cart must have the BPI-CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE symbol on the package.

These are items that have been tested and approved by Biodegradable Products Institute scientists to ensure the items will break down completely, quickly and safely during the composting process.

Paper wasps

Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist



Paper wasps are 3/4- 1" long with a pinched waist and smoky wings. They are overall a reddish-brown color with some species also having yellow markings. Paper wasps have chewing mouthparts and construct their nests by chewed wood fiber with their saliva. Nests are open-faced (cells can be viewed) and hang from a

single filament. The nest starts out small in the spring with just a few cells. It grows larger as newly emerged adults help expand the nest. Nests are often constructed under the eaves of homes, on fences, mailboxes, or other sheltered locations.

Wasps are capable of stinging repeatedly but are considered beneficial since they can help reduce number of insects that feed on landscape and garden plants. If nests are in areas where there is little chance of a stinging incident, then it is recommended that you leave them alone. If nests are built in areas where people or animals may get stung, then management may be necessary. Choose a wasp spray that can reach the nest from a distance and treat the nest in the early morning before wasps begin to forage for food. Once the wasps are dead, knock down the nest and dispose of it. If the nest is left in place, then developing wasps will emerge out of pupal cells and you'll be right back where you started. An optional, but highly recommended step is using a cleaning solution containing ammonia to clean the area where the nest was located to remove any pheromones (chemical smells that insects use to communicate).

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

A Message from Rep. Doggett: Go Green and Cut Cost\$



Jeffrey Clemmons, a member of Representative Doggett's field team sent the following update for the newsletter and said: "The Congressman appreciated the opportunity to visit with many of your neighbors at the recent Eco Extravaganza earlier this month, and I look forward to continuing my conversations with your neighbors about the issues of greatest importance to you here at home and in Washington."

Last year, Congress took bold action to address the climate crisis our Nation faces and passed the climate law, the single largest investment in clean energy. With my support, this law also offers cost-saving measures that lower household energy costs and put money back in your pocket.

Homeowners and renters in our community may be eligible to save on average \$500 per year on energy bills while also potentially receiving thousands in support through tax credits and rebate programs to help weatherize homes, upgrade to efficient appliances, purchase electric vehicles, and more.

To learn what federal benefits are available to you and your family, visit my website at doggett.house.gov/new-climate-bill.

As always, my office is a resource for you. I hope you'll keep me updated on your experience with these programs to transition your home to clean energy. I also encourage you to sign up for my email list and follow me on social media, @RepLloydDoggett, to stay up to date on my work for Austin families.

[Below: Rep. Doggett at the Eco Extravaganza]



Windsor Park May 2023 Market Report



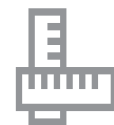
ALLURE
REAL ESTATE



Jef Hahl
10+ Year Windsor Park Resident
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512.796.6750



\$495,000
MEDIAN SALES PRICE



\$420.36
MEDIAN PRICE / SQFT



17
DAYS
MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET



6
NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD



\$704,000
MOST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD



\$409,000
LEAST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD

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

The New Normal of the Austin Market

It's taken around a year, but Austin seems to have found its "New Normal". We're in a market where both buyers and sellers can find opportunities that work for them. The buyers who have been sitting on the fence are starting to come off, but there's also a decent supply of properties available. Prices and interest rates (which are still higher than I'd like) have even stabilized. I've had a lot of people taking advantage of my "Move-Up" program, which saves them money on listing their home. There are a LOT of opportunities to buy under \$300k in many of Austin's surrounding areas at the moment and I know a few tricks to get that interest rate lower.

Yard of the Month – 1801 Corona Drive

Sara Jane Lee

The July winners are Rebecca Monti and Chris Faggioni of 1801 Corona Drive who were nominated by their neighbors. They have lived on Corona for nine years. This is the second time that they have won; their yard won in 2016. Yards are eligible to win again after five years.

Rebecca and Chris are inspired by native Texas gardens. Their yard is a work in progress that evolves with the seasons. Currently, they have both flowers and vegetables. Their flowers and grasses include several Salvias including Mealy Blue Sage, Pink Sage, and Cherry Sage (aka *Salvia Greggii*). Other flowers are Indian Blanket, Bulbine, Society Garlic, Butterfly Weed, Mexican Hat, Blue Mistflower, and Purple Cone flower, Mexican Fountain Grass and Little Bunny Fountain Grass. Their vegetables include Tomatoes, Beets, Green Beans, Cucumbers and a few others. Finally, they have Blackberry Bushes, three Fig Trees, a Pear Tree, a Peach Tree and a Desert Willow Tree.

Chris and Rebecca's children enjoy picking and eating the fruits and vegetables. The family enjoys finding, for example, the first beet of the season. They also enjoy the second, the third, the fourth, etc. They also enjoy watching the butterflies and bugs, lizards, and birds that the garden attracts. Rebecca's only advice is to try new things: You might get beautiful results.

Chris and Rebecca will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery. While you are there be sure to greet Chicago and admire the waterfall.

Do not be shy. If you like a certain yard, or more than one, tell us. Feel free to nominate your own yard. People have won that way. Send your nomination(s) to WPNA YOMC. P.O. Box 16183, Austin, Texas 78761, call 512-928-0681



July 2023 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

Austin ISD starts classes on Monday, August 14th, and this date brings a new neighborhood school into the mix – Marshall Middle School, on Tilley in Mueller. AISD and Austin’s Transportation & Public Works Department are asking students going between Windsor Park and Mueller for school to cross 51st Street using the Berkman signaled intersection, rather than at Tilley.

However, an imminent project will be a user-activated Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB) on 51st at Tilley. This will be one of the first projects funded from various fees generated by Mueller’s Parking & Traffic Management District - 51% of which are returned to the area for sidewalk, bike lane and street improvements. Even with that installation, Berkman will remain the recommended route for now. The 51st Street Mobility Project will include pedestrian improvements at the Berkman intersection – but that project will not get underway until Spring 2024, per their recently updated website.

Marshall will add a sixth-grade class for the next two years to achieve its full 6th-8th student body by the 2025-2026 school year, and the City & AISD will be monitoring how both Mueller’s Blanton students and Windsor Park’s Marshall students access the schools during that period.

I’ve been concerned how school buses might navigate the tight corners from 51st onto Tilley, but just learned the buses will also use Berkman, turning at Philomena Street, which leads directly to the school’s off-street bus loop and parking area. AISD’s Bus Stop Finder utility is under maintenance at this writing, but route information should be available in early August.

Roger Lavon Taylor, Sr. Plaza is the new name for the area surrounding the Mueller control tower. Roger Taylor was the founder and president of the J.J. Seabrook Neighborhood Association, just south of Mueller. He was active in the “Move It” campaign to relocate Austin’s former airport rather than expand it by bulldozing adjacent neighborhoods, and in saving the architecturally iconic control tower as Mueller’s redevelopment took shape. For images of the Plaza’s evolving design, visit the RMMAPIAC website shown below and click the June 13th meeting backup information for Item 3, a presentation by Studio Balcones Landscape + Urbanism.

The Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission does not meet in July, but will next meet on Tuesday, August 8th at 6PM in the 1st Floor Shudde Fath Conference Room, Austin Energy Building, 4815 Mueller Blvd. Enter the parking garage via Garcia Street. For the RMMAPIAC agenda and other information, visit austintexas.gov/rmmapiac



WINDSOR PARK Monthly Market Statistics

MAY 2023

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (May 2023) **\$411.59**

OF HOMES SOLD IN (May 2023) **6**

AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD **1.274**

AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS **17**

ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET **37***

*As of June 13th, 2023 - Single Family Homes.
Request a Detailed Report for Your Section of Windsor Park

John Paul Porter
Owner/Broker/REALTOR
(512) 563-8176
JohnPaul@DigDwell.com

3RD GENERATION
WINDSOR PARK RESIDENT

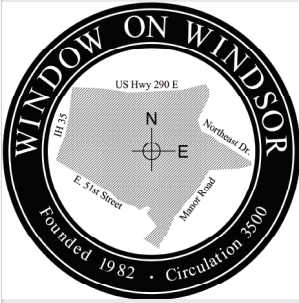
NO OBLIGATION
Property Valuations

WindsorParkAgent.com

NOTABLE REAL ESTATE STAT

Month-to-Month Active Listings

UP 48%



WEB: <http://www.Windsorpark.info>
NEWSGROUP:
<https://groups.io/g/windsorparkatx>
FACEBOOK: WindsorParkAustinTx

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

Or dues may be paid by Paypal or Venmo

WPNA MEMBERSHIP FORM - CUT OUT AND SEND IN

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
- Family — \$20
- Sustaining — \$35 or more
- Non-voting donations - gladly accepted

Name: _____

Add'l Name : _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Referred by: _____

**Austin Police Department
District Representative for
Windsor Park**

Officer Andre Black:
(512) 974-6875
andre.black@austintexas.gov

Windsor Park Neighborhood Association Online meetings streamed at windsorpark.info/ and also available on our Facebook page

Windsor Park Library

512-974-9840

5833 Westminster Dr.

Come by for great activities, books, storytime, videos and music.

All Ages - Bilingual Spanish/English

Drumming Workshop Sat, July 8, from 3-4:30 pm

English Storytimes – Tuesdays at 10:30am

Spanish-English Storytime - Mon, July 31

@ 10:30 am

Puppet Show from LiteratureLive!: Jack

and the Beanstalk - Wed, July 12 @ 3:30

pm

African Drum Circle with Mr. Boom Boom! -

Wed, July 19 @ 3:30-4:30 pm

Austin Symphony Presents: Tuneful Tales -

Wed, July 26 from 3:30-4:45 pm

Kids - Fun with the Sun: Solar Science -

Sat, July 29 from 2-4pm

Teens and Tweens - DIY Terrariums:

Make, Take, & Grow! - Mon, July 10 @

11:00am

Ages 15+ - Bilingual Spanish/English

Beginner Voice, Guitar, & Songwriting

Lessons – Mondays July 3 and 17th, from

4-5pm

Bilingual Spanish/English Taller Abierto:

Painting and Drawing Classes - Sat, July

22 from 2-4pm

Trivia for Adults - Wed, July 26 at 6pm