



WINDOW on WINDSOR

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Sept 2023

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

**Next
Neighborhood
Association
Meeting**

**Saturday, Sep-
tember 9th,
10am**

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

**Speakers for
Sept from
Austin Parks
Foundation and
City of Austin,
Developmental
Services**

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](mailto:newsletter@windsorpark.info)

President's Message and Appeal

Jeanette Swenson

As I write this in mid-August from the Pacific Northwest, I sincerely hope that Windsor Park is experiencing relief from the brutal heat dome that has lingered over Central Texas since mid-June. Anxiety and hope battle over concerns for the electrical grid, water usage restrictions, burn bans, and the high human and economic costs linked to the climate crisis. Stay safe, cool, and connected to your neighbors and neighborhood.

To become more connected to Windsor Park, please consider joining and becoming an active member of WPNA. Become a committee chair and/or officer for 2024. Please contact president@windsorpark.info and let's figure out how to apply your skills, interest, and scope of commitment to our neighborhood.

Look for and complete the WPNA Website Makeover Survey from Josh Pitts, Treasurer. Mark Boyden recently suggested that WPNA, a non-profit, apply to the Annual Internet Rally (AIR), which will redesign our website to make it more accessible and user friendly. Josh has applied for this, with the \$150 application fee.

Re-design will include the following: At a high level, AIR consists of teams of web professionals given eight weeks to build or improve the websites of artists, nonprofits (that's us!), and community groups. During the eight-week period, each team will receive accessibility training (worth over \$4,000), and be matched with an accessibility professional who will serve as a mentor for the competition. When the two months wrap up in early November, teams will submit the work to the AIR judging panel and the winning sites will be announced at the AIR Awards Ceremony in January.

AIR expects that the WPNA community be engaged in the process, so contact treasurer@windsorpark.info or president@windsorpark.info to join the professional team to provide input to design an accessible website.

Brookdale resident, Rosaena Recendez, has researched and developed a comprehensive list of Counseling, Therapy, and Mental Health Resources. Probably the most important number if you or anyone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis is 988 to access by phone or text the Suicide & Crisis Hotline. The color-coded list highlights Adult, Child/ Adolescent, Family, and Senior Resources. An * denotes services in Spanish. Thank you Rosaena for a positive response to an often-hidden crisis in our community. www.windsorpark.info/windsor-park-neighborhood/community-services/

Above are two examples of Windsor Park residents who have seen a need and responded. Others who have responded to a specific issues in the community are White Snake who raised concerns about the location and text of the Josiah Wilbarger monument in Bartholomew Park. This resulted in a Parks and Recreation proposal, supported by Wilbarger descendents, Bastrop Historical Society and the Texas Historical Commission and CM Vela, to relocate the monument in Bastrop in a Wilbarger family cemetery.

And Sue David, who, after a two year search, may have found a Windsor Park location for her restaurant, Counter Culture, which will slightly offset Windsor Park's loss of commercial space with the destruction of Windsor Village. Thank you both for your persistence.

September 2023 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

Arizona-based market Sprouts will open their sixth Austin-area location on Friday, September 22 in the former Staples location, next to PetSmart. They focus on healthy fresh, natural and organic products, and expect to hire up to 95 employees to serve the approximately 20,000-square-foot store. The art, hobby supplies and home decor retailer Michael's is set to open nearby in the former Bed, Bath & Beyond location by late January 2024. Other new retailers and restaurants at Mueller include Bath & Body Works, Bento Tepanyacki Asian cuisine, Capriotti's sandwich shop, Ike's Love & Sandwiches, Learning Express Toys & Gifts, and Sephora personal care products.

A park just south of Marshall Middle School will be named for Eva Carrillo de Garcia, a founding member and president of the Ladies LULAC, and active in the League of Women Voters of Texas. She worked to desegregate movie theaters and swimming pools, and fought to improve underfunded schools. And a park along Sorin and Chennault streets will be named for Isamu Taniguchi, who persevered internment in Texas during WWII and in the late 1960s built, by hand, the Japanese garden in Zilker Park. Along with a trail on Mueller's eastern edges, 2024 will see the completion of the project's 140-acres of green space.

Members of the Austin Pétanque Group have spoken at the past two RMMAPIAC meetings, hoping to keep the historic Browning Hangar as-is for the enjoyment of their, and numerous other game, sports and social users who have made it a home over the past fifteen years. However, the Master Developer Agreement calls for it to be leased or sold for a community-oriented commercial use. Any change would require Catellus and the City to renegotiate the MDA.

Counting down the remaining 13 meetings of the Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission meetings, the next will be on Tuesday, September 12th 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

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Community Garden offers Plots; seeking Volunteer Coordinator

The community garden located behind the Austin Mennonite Church at 5801 Westminster Drive has been operating for many years and offers anyone interested an opportunity to have a plot in which to grow vegetables, some fruits, and flowers. Over the years of its existence there have been a few different individuals serving as the coordinator between the garden plot users and the church, which owns the land and supplies water. The current coordinator, Pat Hochstetler, has several empty plots available for anyone interested in using one. But Pat and her husband are now making plans to move out of state, and so she is also interested in finding a replacement coordinator. Anyone interested in finding more out either if these opportunities can contact her by email at: srh2pjh@pobox.com

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New Beginnings! Join us
on a journey of discovery
to serve and connect in the
Windsor Park Community!
Sunday Worship at 11 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.
6100 Berkman Drive

(Across from Harris Elementary School)
(512) 452-5796 + www.memorialumcaustin.com
"Ya'll Come Lunch" on September 10 at 12:00 p.m.
"Pancake Breakfast" on October 8 @ 8:30 a.m.

Annual Pancake Breakfast – 7 Oct 2023

Austin Mennonite Church will be hosting their 9th Annual Rebecca’s Pancake Scholarship Breakfast on Saturday, October 7th from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at 5801 Westminster Drive (next to the WP library). All proceeds will go to the WPNA Scholarship Fund. There will be pancakes, sausage, beverages, games, and community! If you would like to find out more or volunteer to help that day, please contact Stacy Vlasits at stacyvlasits@gmail.com or 330-347-0836.

Safety Committee needs you!

WPNA Safety Committee has been defunct for a while and we could use some one(s) to revive it. If interested, please contact president@windsorpark.info

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National Night Out – 3 Oct 2023

The best way to build a safer community is to know your neighbors and your surroundings. National Night Out is scheduled for the 1st Tuesday in October in the state of Texas. This event triumphs over a culture that isolates us from each other and allows us to rediscover our own communities IN PERSON. It’s important to know and have information for your 5 closest neighbors (those on either side of your house and 3 across the street). This year’s event is Tuesday, October 3rd.

Mark Boyden has been registering Thames Drive for many years with the National Night Out organization. If you have questions, feel free to reach out to him at me@mark.boyden.name.

To see other blocks or register your own: <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/national-night-out>
Registration is needed if you want to have APD, AFD, EMS or Code Enforcement visit. You can also do national registration if you wish at natw.org. Let’s see how many Windsor Park residents can get out and enjoy this hopefully cool evening!



ANOTHER
Broken Egg Cafe

NOW OPEN

Breakfast, Brunch, Lunch & Hand-Crafted Cocktails

THE LINC | 6406 N. INTERSTATE 35 FRONTAGE RD | STE 1600

OPEN DAILY 7AM - 2PM

ANOTHERBROKENEGG.COM



Composting Tips


The General Manager from Organics by Gosh, which is the company that accepts all compost from the City of Austin, says they use only three things to make their compost – heat, air, and time (120 days). They are completely organic – no chemicals are used to make their compost. In 2021 and 2022, they accepted and composted 95,000 tons of material, diverting that large amount from the landfill. Our green city compost bins can accept items that would not necessarily go in home backyard compost – things like meat, bones, dairy, avocado seeds, and nut shells.

Organics by Gosh reports that the contamination level has improved over the last 2 years but they still employ 3 people who go through these truckloads to make sure there are not large amounts of contaminated products.


The biggest contaminate is glass and next is plastic bottles. REMEMBER – ALL GLASS WITHOUT BOTTLE LIDS and empty plastic bottles with lids should go into the BLUE RECYCLING CARTS, NOT the green compost carts!

Using compost can reduce the need for water, fertilizers, and pesticides while promoting healthier crops with higher yields. Using natural compost and soil products free from artificial chemicals is a solution that addresses some of our biggest environmental challenges. And yet, it is an aspect of environmental protection that is so often overlooked. Let’s continue to keep getting better at filling our weekly green compost carts on our Windsor Park streets!







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ALLURE
REAL ESTATE



Windsor Park July 2023 Market Report

 \$683,750 <small>MEDIAN SALES PRICE</small>	 \$322.50 <small>MEDIAN PRICE / SQFT</small>	 12 <small>DAYS</small> <small>MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET</small>
 8 <small>NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD</small>	 \$785,000 <small>MOST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD</small>	 \$360,000 <small>LEAST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD</small>

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

Does Solar Add Value To Your Home?

Short answer: No. Longer Answer: When you compare the sales price of homes with and without solar in our market, there is no noticeable difference in average sales price. Because they lower utility bills, you would assume they add value. But most appraisers considered them an over-improvement.

I have solar panels and a battery backup, but I didn't add them because they would add value on resale. I got them to lower my utility bill, promote green energy, and after losing a little faith in our electric grid. If you want to consider them, I would only do so if you plan on being in your home at least another 10 years and make sure they are financed or purchased, NOT leased.

Schools Committee Update

The Schools Committee is delighted that at least ¾ of our 2023 Scholarship recipients have submitted paper work and have received their \$1,000 scholarships from WPNA. We share the excitement of students, parents, and teachers as our neighborhood scholarship recipients embark on the next phase of their educational journey.

Change is afoot for our neighborhood schools. Harris Elementary and Bertha Sadler Means Young Women’s Leadership Academy are embarking on a process of redesign and rebuild of their buildings. AISD commitment to these schools signals that AISD supports and invests in our neighborhood schools. The new Marshall Middle School opened in August and offers another neighborhood option for our middle schoolers. We wish the new middle schoolers every success as they move to a new and exciting phase of their journey.

Despite these positive signs, the Schools Committee and the neighborhood continue to be concerned about the fractured alignment of our neighborhood schools and safe access to the schools.



WINDSOR PARK Monthly Market Statistics

JULY 2023



AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (July 2023) **\$344.65**

OF HOMES SOLD IN (July 2023) **7**

AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD **2,018**

AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS **14**

ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET **32***

*As of Aug 12th, 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

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Property Valuations**

WindsorParkAgent.com

NOTABLE REAL ESTATE STAT

**Average Sq Footage of Homes Sold
over 2,000 sq ft**

September 2023 - Yard of the Month - 1609 Suffolk Drive

Sara Jane Lee

The September winners are Katy Billups and Sam Littman, who have lived at 1609 Suffolk Drive for four years.. They have lived there four years. Sam and Katy wanted to use Texas natives. Like many Yard of the Month winners, they were inspired by other Windsor Park yards. They were also inspired by Austin city parks, the Hill Country, and a trip to the Big Bend country.

A good friend who is a landscape architect worked out a plan to conserve water and look good. In their front yard they have two large planting beds. The one near the street holds plants that can survive the sun; the one near their house holds plants more comfortable in the shade. These include Desert Globemallow, Sea Oats, Salvia Greggii, Giant Leopard Plant, Pink Turks Cap, Blackfoot Daisy, Angel Trumpet and Cross Vine. Closer to the street they have Gulf Muhly Grass, (aka Pink Muhly), Prickly Pear Cactus, Fall Aster, Side Oats Grama, Frosty Blue Whale's Tongue Agave, Mexican Feather Grass, Silver Ponyfoot, Creeping Germander, Russian Sage and many Red Birds of Paradise (aka Pride of Barbados).

Between these two beds there is a large, fine looking Pecan Tree that Katy and Sam inherited. In describing their yard, they did not mention the tree – I assume because they did not plant it. However, people admiring the yard will look at everything including that great tree. Like many who have great yards, they spend much time weeding their yard. For their yard, Sam has learned to “go with the flow” while Katy seems to be more detail oriented – makes for a great mix and a great yard!

Katy and Sam will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery. While you are there be sure to greet Chicago and admire the waterfall. Please send in your nominations for yards! Do not be shy. If you like a certain yard, or more than one, tell us. Send your nomination(s) to WPNA YOMC. P.O. Box 16183, Austin, Texas 78761, call 512-928-0681 and leave a message, or email wpna.yom@gmail.com.



Pillbugs

Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist

Pillbugs, or roly-polys, are crustaceans, more closely related to crayfish and shrimp than insects. Crustaceans usually live in aquatic environments, but pillbugs are terrestrial. Even though pillbugs live on land, they still require moist environments for survival. Pillbugs do not bite, sting, transmit diseases, or cause physical damage to the home or its contents.



Pillbugs are ¼- ½” with dark grey coloring. Their oval bodies are convex above and either flat or concave underneath. Pillbugs have seven pairs of legs and two pairs of antennae and roll up into a ball when disturbed.

Pillbugs are beneficial in the landscape as decomposers, feeding mainly on decaying organic matter. They may occasionally feed on young, tender plants, but damage is typically not significant. They can be found under mulch, leaf litter, flower pots, compost, stones or other items resting on the ground.

Pillbugs may invade crawl spaces and homes at ground level with common points of entry being door thresholds and expansion joints. When critters are seen indoors, there is usually a large population breeding outside of the home near the foundation. Since pillbugs require moisture, they do not survive indoors for more than a few days unless there are very moist or damp conditions.

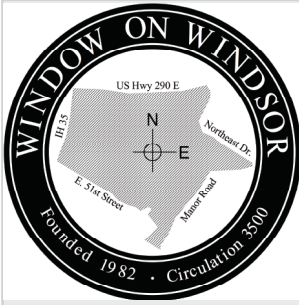
To manage infestations inside the home, rely on sanitation and exclusion techniques. Repair or replace door thresholds and seal expansion joints where pillbugs may be entering the structure. Pesticides are not usually needed indoors to manage these occasional invaders. They soon die on their own from lack of moisture and can be swept up using a broom and dustpan or a vacuum.

Outdoors, move any piles of debris away from the foundation of the home. If there are high numbers in and around landscape beds, turn mulch to allow it dry out, making the area uninhabitable. Any leaky faucets, irrigation lines, or air conditioning units should be repaired to eliminate moisture buildup. You may choose a pesticide to treat mulched areas or other areas that harbor large pillbug populations. Look for products labeled for pillbugs, sowbugs, or isopods.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600.

This work is supported in part by the Crop Protection and Pest Management, Extension Implementation Program [award no. 2021- 70006-35347/project accession no. 1027036] from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

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

Contact Us

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 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.**

Tuesdays in Sept -- 5, 12, 19, 26 @ 10:30am - All Ages Storytime with special guest librarian, Mary Beth from the Howson Library

Tuesday, Sept 12 6:30-7:30 - Windsor Park Book Club - Biography of Thomas Aquinas by Bernard McGinn

Weds, Sept 13 3:30-5pm - All ages Lego Lab

Monday, Sept 18 4-5pm - Mexican-American Cultural Center's Free Bilingual Music Class - Ages 18+

Saturday, Sept 23 11:30-1pm - Hispanic Heritage Month Craft: Talavera Art - All ages

Saturday, Sept 23 2pm-4pm - Mexican-American Cultural Center's Free Bilingual Painting Class - Ages 18+

Weds, Sept 27 3:30-5pm - Kids Create: Perler Beads

Thursday, Sept 28 10:30-12pm- Medicare Information Session with a Medicare Benefits Counselor