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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.
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WPNA
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Austin, TX 78761

For Questions or to send Graphic Content, contact:
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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 / Individual — \$15/person
☐ Family — \$20
☐ Sustaining — \$35 or more
☐ Non-voting donations - gladly accepted

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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

Dec 3, 2pm - Family Movie Matinee: Elf

Dec 7, 3:30pm - Felt Friends World Tour - Polar Bear Pin

Dec 13, 3:30om - Lego Lab

7pm - Book Club - Between the World and Me, Ta-Nehisi Coates

Dec 14, 4om - Mario Cart 8 Wii U Tournament

Dce 23-26: Closed for holiday

Jan 7, 2pm: Saturday Family Movie - Kubo and the Two Strings

Jan 10, 4pm: Lego Lab

Jan 11, 6pm: Pajama Storytime

Library hours:

Monday - Thursday: 10am - 9pm

Friday: 1pm - 6pm

Saturday: 10am - 5pm

Sunday - closed

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<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.

Numbers count! A strong neighborhood association advocates more effectively for 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

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WPNA PRESIDENT'S LETTER – DECEMBER 2016

Dear Neighbors,

In this my final letter as president I want to wish you all a great holiday season and a happy new year. Please join us at our potluck holiday party on Saturday, December 10th from 12-2 at the Nomad Bar. The WPNA will provide coffee, plates, cups and utensils. Please bring your favorite dish. At the party we will be renewing memberships, as well as accepting donations for our scholarship fund and our newly established uniform fund for students at Harris.

I also want to congratulate and thank our newly elected Executive Committee officers. Our new president is Megan Dougherty; Dan Strub is our new Vice President. Emily Vitris will serve as secretary and Brian Graham and Meg Brooks will continue in their roles as ANC representative and treasurer respectively.

It has been a remarkably rewarding experience serving as president these last two years. As an association we have done a lot to better our neighborhood and help one another. I look forward to watching the WPNA continue to grow and expand our influence under its new leadership.

Best,
Karen

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR HOLIDAY PARTY

SATURDAY DECEMBER 10TH

12-2PM

NOMAD BAR, 1213 CORONA DRIVE

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**Saturday, Dec
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**Annual Christmas
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**Submissions to the
newsletter are due
by the 15th of each
month.**

Email them to:

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windsorpark.info

City will offer curbside clothing & housewares recycling

Gloria Neunaber

News from our city that might be of interest... Austin Resource Recovery will launch a free new service for its curbside customers this December: clothing and housewares recycling. Austin Resource Recovery has partnered with an independent company – Simple Recycling – to provide the service, which will occur on customers’ regular recycling day and week beginning Dec. 5. Many types of clothing and housewares can be recycled, including shoes, accessories, fabrics scraps, stuffed toys, linens, tools, toys, hats, purses, kitchenware and books.

Residents will use green bags provided by Simple Recycling to collect their items and leave them on the curb next to their blue recycling cart on their recycling collection day. When Simple Recycling collects a bag, they will leave a new bag in its place for the resident. The plastic bags will be recycled after the items are collected. This new service will be provided free of charge. Simple Recycling will pay the City of Austin \$20 per ton of material collected and they will keep the remaining profits from the sale of the collected items.

Residents who don’t receive curbside services from the city, such as those who live in apartments, can still participate, by dropping off clothing and housewares at the City’s Recycle & Reuse Drop-Off Center at 2514 Business Center Drive.

For more information about this new service, visit austinrecycles.com.

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512-536.0465

IPM...integrated pest management

Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist

IPM is short for Integrated Pest Management and is the blending of effective, economical and environmentally sound pest control methods into a single flexible approach to manage pests. By utilizing IPM, we hope that you can avoid or reduce pest problems.

Here are some things to reduce the number of pests in your home:

Reduce food or water resources for insects:

- Encourage family to eat in one location. This makes it easier to clean since spills and crumbs are not spread around the house.
- Clean up any spilled food or drink as soon as possible.
- Sweep & vacuum regularly. This helps to remove food crumbs, pet hair and other things that insects may feed upon.
- Do not leave dirty dishes in the sink overnight. Even small bits of food can be a meal for insects.
- Do not leave pet food out overnight. Again, can be a free meal for insects.
- Remove old newspapers, magazines and books that are unused. Silverfish love to feed on these types of items.
- Repair plumbing leaks to get rid of water sources required by insects.
- Use a plastic bag to line garbage cans to make garbage easier to remove.
- Remove garbage on a weekly basis, possibly more during warmer times of the year.

Reduce areas where insects may live:

- Clean drains with a stiff brush & then flush with boiling water. There are small flies that can grow in the slime layer of drain pipes. The stiff brush will loosen the slime and the boiling water will flush it away.
- Remove tree stumps and any dead branches in the yard to avoid carpenter or acrobat ant populations living in these areas.
- Remove debris (firewood, bricks, stones, etc.) away from the home. These areas can be inhabited by a variety of arthropods including spiders, scorpions and cockroaches.
- Clean closets on a quarterly basis to reduce the chance of spiders moving in.

Reduce moving insects into the house:

- Inspect all items for pests before bringing them into the house. Insect pests can be brought into the home with such items as potted plants, boxes full of things inherited from a family member, on used clothing or furniture, among other things.
- Prune tree limbs that touch or overhang the home & prune back and shrubs that touch the home. When shrubs or trees touch or overhang the home, they can be used as bridges for insects to get onto the home and then move inside.
- Seal entry points on the outside of the home with sealant, expanding foam or copper mesh screening. Pipe penetrations, weep hole or cracks can allow insects, spider or other animals move into the home.
- Store food in sealed plastic or glass containers to keep pantry pests out.
- Keep screens, weather stripping and door thresh holds in good repair. Many insect pests are very small, so even a small tear in a screen or crack under a door can allow them to come inside.
- Use yellow bulbs in outside lights to reduce the number of insects coming near doorways.

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



WPNA Neighborhood Beautification Committee

The Beatification Committee will be scheduling regular Saturday clean-ups after the New Year - we are taking a short break for the holidays and possible colder temperatures.

There is so much natural beauty in our neighborhood - we are fortunate to be in an older, established community with mature trees, landscape variation between neighbors and along streets and folks who really care about our living environment. With continued focus and some effort on our part, we can see continual improvements in our shared spaces.

Both the Beautification committee and the Transportation committee will be paying attention to any developments from the Transportation Bond which passed in the November election which may bring needed improvements to our neighborhood. We welcome input from neighbors both at our meetings for any topic of interest, and also at any community clean-up or workdays scheduled in 2017.



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MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: THE AMERICAN BOTANICAL COUNCIL & THE CASE MILL HOMESTEAD - PART ONE
Martin Luecke

Our neighbor on the corner of Manor Road and Walnut Hills Drive since 1998, The American Botanical Council (ABC) resides in the oldest house in Windsor Park: The Case Mill Homestead. This is actually two stories: first is the house, and second is the nonprofit organization living there.

The Colonial Revival-style three story home was built in the early 1850's by settler Sherman Case, who also built a flour mill on Little Walnut Creek near what is now Loyola Lane and Tulane Drive. Virtually all the land that makes up northeast Austin was once part of this homestead, comprised of three early land grants stitched together, one of which was presented by the last president of the Republic of Texas just months before Texas became the 28th state of the Union.



During the 1860's Mr. Case, known locally as a carpet-bagger, was involved in a series of lawsuits with land-owners and city merchants, one of which reached the Texas Supreme Court. Eventually Case gave up his share of the mill and returned to Connecticut, and the house had a number of residents through the turn of the century, including becoming the area Post Office. In the early 1900's a flash flood destroyed the mill, and the estate was purchased in 1906 by Edwin and Maggie Frame. Some years later Edwin was committed as a lunatic to the Austin State Hospital, where he died shortly thereafter. The estate had been reduced to 451 acres by the time Maggie died in 1947. The spooky old house was abandoned, vandalized, and became a party destination for UT students.

In 1949 produce and real estate salesman Jesse "Vernon" Cook took over the property. This was five years before Windsor Park was invented, and this part of Austin was still farms and dairies. The Cook family occupied the house for nearly 50 years. The big old place creaked and groaned when the wind blew hard, and the noises gave visitors the "heebie-jeebies." The Cooks believe old Mrs. Frame's ghost occupied the third floor "widow's walk" room, where one could always "feel a presence." To this day there are "supernatural" experiences of house inhabitants. That's right, it's haunted!

Until the mid 60's the Cooks used the land for horses and cattle, hosted polo tournaments and coon dog trials, where spectators watched dogs attempt to catch live raccoons (terrible pests that still live in Windsor Park and occasionally steal cat food in my back yard).

Over the years Vernon Cook sold and developed large sections of the land around the house, originally called Walnut Hills, and is now known as University Hills. You might recognize some of his street names: Betty Cook Dr, Arnold Dr., Jack Cook Dr., Vernon Ave., Adalee Ave, Vioitha Dr., Carol Ann Dr., Lakeside Dr., Emory Lane, Walnut Hills Dr., Breeze Way, Friendswood Dr., etcetera, etcetera.

Bubba and Kathy Cook bought the property in 1979. As a member of the Austin Herb Society, Kathy had a great interest in gardening. The couple built all of the gardens, patios, fish ponds, and walkways, planted fruit trees and lots of herbs and vegetables. They used no pesticides, and their children would eat directly from the plants.

In the late 80's they decided to turn the homestead into a private event space. After doing lots of research they discovered the great history of the house and named it the Case Mill Homestead.

[Continued on page 4]

[Continued from p. 3]

By the mid-90’s crime was a real problem in the area and the Cooks decided to put their long treasured family home on the market. Meanwhile, on the west side of Austin, The American Botanical Council was outgrowing the home of Founder Mark Blumenthal, who had created the non-profit organization in 1988. They looked and looked and looked for new headquarters, and finally came all the way over to East Austin to see the Case Mill Homestead.

When they pulled in to what was a run-down old house in a bad part of town, they found blooming echinacea in the first flower bed. It was a good sign: blooming echinacea is on the ABC logo. In June of 1997 the non-profit bought the house and planted an olive tree, a symbol of peace, to mark the occasion.

NEXT MONTH: what does ABC do?

Dear Readers: I need your help with nominations. Contact me today: mwluecke@hotmail.com or call 512.536.0465

Update from CM Ora Houston

Genoveva Rodriguez

Council Member Ora Houston will be hosting a Coffee Chat on December 10, 2016 from 10 am to 12 pm at McDonald’s, 1608 E. Parmer Ln. This is an opportunity to have a face to face meeting with Council Member or staff. Please call the office to request an appointment for that day. There are 30 time slots available.

Save the date: District #1 Town Hall meeting will be held on January 28, 2016 from 10 am to 12 pm. The location will be determined at a later date. Official notice will be sent to our distribution list and posted on Facebook. Contact us today to be added to our list.


For more information, please call our office at: 512-978-2101

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Yard of the Month – December 2016

Sara Jane Lee

The December winner is Diane Clarke of 1615 Cloverleaf Lane. She and her family have lived on Cloverleaf about a year. One reason that she bought this house was its beautiful yard. This yard is a past Yard of the Month winner. Its previous owners won in July 2007. After five years yards are again eligible to win.

Its many native and well adapted plants cut down on maintenance and on water usage. Now she has Blue Agave and Agave Mescalero, several varieties of cacti including Spineless Prickly Pear, Red Yucca, Esperanza (aka Yellow Bells), Euonymus, Texas Sage, Bamboo Muhly (aka Faury Bamboo), two varieties of Lantana, Inland Sea Oats, Flame Acanthus, Newby Hall Salvia, Purple Heart, Rosemary, and Mexican Feather Grass and several other plants. There are also several trees including Pecan, fruit bearing Pomegranate, Redbud, Italian Cypress, and Palo Verde.

She considers herself lucky to have found this yard with so many drought tolerant and heat loving plants. The soft greens and browns of the foliage complement their blue house and provide a nice background for their flowering plants. The rains have produced lush growth in the front and the side yards. Though she has an occasional yard man, Diane does most of the work. Because the plants are well-chosen for the area, Diane waters once a week if the plants need it. Three times this year she has done big weeding and pruning projects. Because they live at the corner of Cloverleaf and Berkman, Diane is exploring sound muffling devices that work and do not cost a fortune. She said that the noise has increased tremendously in the year that they have lived there. When we were talking in her front yard, the noise was almost constant.

Diane will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate from our sponsor, Shoal Creek Nursery

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.

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5701 Cameron Rd
Sunday Mornings
Bible Study: 9:30
Worship: 10:45

Christmas Eve Service 7:00pm
&
Christmas Day Worship 10:45am

Come & Celebrate Christ’s Birth with us!

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

Mueller Update - December 2016

Rick Krivoniak

The next phase of paid parking at Mueller will go into effect in December, including at the Town Center Parking Garage. The Thinkery, Alamo Drafthouse Cinema and other Town Center business will offer validation for the anticipated visit time (i.e. 3 hours at the Thinkery), though “stacked” validation will not be possible. The early implementation will allow testing of the validation process and garage egress of cars prior to the crowds anticipated with the opening of the Alamo Drafthouse. Some additional Town Center area streets will also begin on-street metered parking in December. Please be aware of paid parking signage in the Simond Avenue/Aldrich, Mattie & McBee Street areas.

Planning for a new park is underway at Mueller, currently called the Town Center North Park. Bounded by Aldrich, Garcia, Ruiz and Philomena Streets, landscape architecture firm Design Workshop’s plans include a potential farmer’s market space with a live music area, a volleyball court, picnic tables, garden spaces, a support building containing restrooms, small dog run, a rain garden, a playground, and a water play feature. The dog run is not a full-size dog park, but will serve as an area for dog socialization that will also help contain waste contamination from the other areas of the park. Groundbreaking is expected in the first half of 2017.

On November 16th, the U.S. Green Building Council announced that Mueller has been designated as the largest neighborhood in the world to be certified for Stage 3 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), and the first neighborhood in Texas to earn LEED for Neighborhood Development Stage 3 Gold Certification by the USGBC. LEED for Neighborhood Development considers safe walk-ability, high-performing green buildings, parks and green space, bike and other alternatives to automobiles to help create more sustainable neighborhoods. Mueller has three platinum, six gold, and five silver rated commercial buildings, and more than 1,175 single family homes with an Austin Energy Green Building rating.

Visit <https://austintexas.gov/rmmapiac> to see agendas, minutes and other documents related to the Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission (RMMAPIAC/Mueller Commission). With no December meeting, the Commission will next meet on Tuesday, Jan 10, 2017 at 6:00 PM at Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center, 2608 Gonzales Street. Address Mueller questions & comments to bc-rick.krivoniak@austintexas.gov

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Season's Greetings

Season's Greetings

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Market Statistics

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (OCT 2016)	\$248.41
# OF HOMES SOLD IN (OCT 2016)	14
AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD	1,451
AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS	19
# ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET	24*
*As of Nov 14th, 2016 - Single Family Homes	
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WPNA School Committee Update

Gloria Neunaber

Members of the School Committee continue to try to support our neighborhood schools as they are such important pieces to our community’s success. As we serve on the Campus Advisory Councils (CAC) at various schools, we learn the successes and challenges that face administrators and teachers.

Successes are many. AISD schools are using a So- cial Emotional Learning curriculum that is proven to be helpful in teaching self-regulation and is as important as learning to read and write. Dual language classes are meeting another important need. The Graduation Rate is increasing and AISD students continue to outperform their peers in the nation and state on both the SAT and ACT.

One of the challenges is the constant movement of children in and out of the schools. Currently, many families are being priced out of their apartments and homes which indeed becomes a challenge for the children. Some are forced to move out of the neighborhood or city, some become homeless, some move in with other family members in very crowded situations. Because of the economic situation, many of our students are food insecure and have a difficult time with clothing needs. This kind of stress in young people’s lives can greatly affect their ability to learn.

Another challenge is the large number of students who come from other countries, speaking numerous languages. It’s stressful for teachers and children who are trying to build relationships and increase learning but have an ex- tremely difficult time even communicating with each other. Increased societal pressure for improving test scores continues to increase the stress on teachers and students. One of our committee’s purposes is to continue to let educators know that they are supported and valued. The School Committee greatly appreciates WPNA’s members who voted to give a donation of student clothing to Har- ris Elementary. Our next school committee meeting will be Wednesday, January 4th -- we encourage others to keep in touch with our group. Working together, our Windsor Park neighborhood can help our schools and community succeed!

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We would love to see you this Sunday

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Andrews Elementary School
Clelia Parlange-Valdes, School Counselor
Kay Suttle-Field, School Counselor

- Upcoming events
- December 2nd, 2016 – Coffee with the Principal 8:30 – 9:30 am
 - December 14, 2016 – Winter Holiday Program 5:30 – 7:30 pm
 - December 21st, 2016 – January 3, 2017 – Winter Break

We are almost halfway into the school year and we can see how much our students have learned. We have been focusing on being principled, honest and committed. During the month of December we will be focusing on open- minded, curiosity and creativity.

- Enjoy your time as a family during the winter break with these fun activities:
- **Bring a book to life:** Draw pictures of your children’s favorite book characters and cut them to make puppets. Use puppets to act out a scene together.
 - **Create picture stories:** Take photos or draw pictures of your children doing their favorite activity. Write a story together, using the pictures as illustration.

If you would like to volunteer at Andrews Elementary, please contact Yaniselli Davis, Parent Support Specialist, at (512) 414-5661

Blanton Elementary School
Karon Smutzer, ACE Site Coordinator

November was the beginning of our holiday season and students enjoyed the Thanksgiving break and are looking forward to the Winter break as well. Holiday activities are loads of fun, but the learning continues on a daily basis. As usual, we have several activities and events planned for the upcoming month...we hope you might have time to join us. Please feel free to visit the school, ask questions and learn more about what Blanton Elementary can offer for your student.

- Important December dates for parents and community:
- December 1 through 15.....Adult Zumba, 4:45-5:45 p.m., every Tues. & Thurs. in the gym
 - December 2.....Winter Fest, 6:00 p.m.
 - December 7.....Adult ESL Classes, 8:00-10 a.m., room 108.
 - December 9.....ACE After School...Session 1 ends, ACE resumes January 17
 - December 21 through January 3.....Winter Break.....NO SCHOOL
 - January 4.....Classes Resume

Blanton has a very busy school year planned, we encourage the Windsor Park community to join us for the fun and enjoyment of any special events whenever they have the opportunity, just keep an eye on this column to find out what has and will be happening at Blanton Elementary. For more information, please feel free to contact Karon Smutzer, ACE Site Coordinator at karon.smutzer@austinisd.org

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Thomas G. Harris Elementary
Lori Cordaway, School Counselor

- Upcoming Events
- December 1- Multicultural Night from 5-6:30 p.m. “Holidays Around The World”
 - December 5- UT Astronomer in Library for 5th grade
 - December 7- Nutcracker Field Trip 3rd grade
 - December 9- Career Day from 8:30-10 a.m.
 - December 14- Lion King presented by Kids Acting Club and The Andy Roddick Foundation
 - December 15- CATCH night at 5:30 p.m. Choir/Musical
 - December 20- 13th Annual Sing A Long 9-1:30, Pre- K Polar Express Day
 - December 21- Winter Break Begins

John H. Reagan Early College High School
Julia Remington, LCSW Bilingual Social Service Specialist

- December 10- 7:30am Attendance Orientation. If your student has missed 5 or more classes, the student and a parent will need to attend.
- December 13- 9:30am to 10:30am Principal Coffee. The SEL team will be presenting on social emotional learning in the classroom.
- December 15 to 20- Final Exams
- December 21- Winter Break starts. Classes resume on January 4.

Huge congratulations to our band! On November 12, then won the Royal Battle of the Bands for mid-size band category. Way to go! Reagan High School would also like to thank Richard Castillo, our Parent Support Specialist. Mr. Castillo will retire at the end of December after more than five years with Reagan High School and 20 years in the district. Mr. Castillo has been invaluable in working with parents and the PTA. He will be missed! Have a safe and happy holiday season.

The

WINDSOR PARK SPECIALIST

and Resident



Every house in Windsor Park has a story. I have lived and invested in Windsor Park for nearly 8 years. I love being an active member of the neighborhood and that makes all the difference. Whether you are buying or selling I will help you with unparalleled experience that goes beyond the transaction.

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