



WINDOW on WINDSOR

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December 2021

**Next
Neighborhood
Association
Meeting**

**Saturday, Dec
11th at Knomad**

**STREAMING
starts at 10:15
Connect early
to visit!**

**Please see
instructions on
the back page
for attending a
meeting online**

**December
Meeting is our
Annual Holiday
Party at
Knomad's on
Corona**

come on by!

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

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President's Letter – Dec 2021

By Jackie Brooks

I hope this newsletter finds you well, and you are enjoying the Holiday Season with ones you love. I find joy and a sense of peace reflecting on the past year with a sense of gratitude – celebrating both the accomplishments as well as the challenges that have shaped us in 2021.

I'm proud of so many things this neighborhood has accomplished this year, like awarding \$15,000 in scholarships to 15 deserving high school seniors that are all enrolled and off to college, as well as advocating for the Living Streets program that will empower neighbors to shape our neighborhood streets as shared spaces for connecting with one another.

We'll celebrate these and more accomplishments along with our neighborhood heroes at our **annual Holiday Party Dec. 11th @ the Knomad from 10:15am to noon**. Traditionally this is a potluck breakfast, so please feel free to bring a dish to share, or come as you are to get in the holiday spirit with neighbors and friends! Adult beverages will be available for purchase. We'll also be streaming live with the celebration and recognition, so you can join from the comfort of your home with a warm cup of hot cocoa if you aren't able to attend in person. It's a great time to renew your membership to get a head start on the new year (and remember your donations are tax deductible)- please join us!

I'm also proud of how neighbors showed up in the challenges we faced this year. Many of which required collaboration, diligence, and a bit of grace. We navigated a winter storm with an aftermath we'll never forget – where neighbors and local businesses came to the rescue to connect resources and needs. We said farewell to many of our cherished small businesses (and friends) at the Windsor Village Shopping Center. And we continue to advocate for a successful project at Windsor Village with the support of our Contact Team working group that has been dedicating hours every week for almost an entire year.

With that reflection in mind, I am looking optimistically to 2022. Many of these accomplishments and challenges require showing up over and over again and can take years to come to fruition. In our little slice of Austin, Windsor Parkers new and old have been showing up for 40 years to leave the neighborhood better than they found it. **2022 is the WPNA's 40th year in existence– if there was ever a year to join, this is the year for you!**

Scan the code to the left to go to the Membership Form



December 2021 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

Correcting last month's report about street improvements at 51st Street and Tilley -- there is no bus stop, but the bike lanes are being improved.

Six new businesses are coming to Aldrich Street in the coming year.

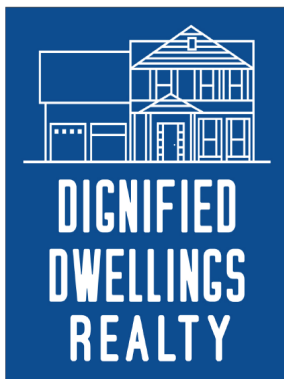
- Veracruz All Natural will move from its Hangar area food trailer to the Aldrich Street/Simond Avenue corner. Hoping to open by March, the authentic Mexican restaurant is known for its tacos, and features freshly squeezed juices and a full bar.
- Tinys Milk & Cookies is coming to the ground floor of the Origin Hotel, under construction across the Paseo from BD Riley's. Tinys will have a walk-up window and limited outdoor seating for coffee, home-made ice cream, pastries and cookies.
- Austin Eye Studio is relocating from Hancock Center to Shorenstein's Alpha Building on Aldrich, providing medical eye care, vision exams, eyewear and contacts.
- Marufuku Ramen will be in the ground floor of the Alpha Building near Robert Browning Street. After boiling their soup base for several hours, they serve authentic hakata-style tonkotsu ramen at various spice levels.
- Lone Star Pediatric Dental & Braces will open their twelfth central Texas location at Mueller to provide pediatric dentistry, including infant oral care, orthopedic services, and athletic mouth guards for children.
- Vio Med Spa is opening its first Austin location at Alpha Building, and will offer body contouring, spa facials, injectable fillers and facial treatments.

The Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission will next meet at 6PM on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 in the Austin Energy Headquarters conference room, 4815 Mueller Boulevard. Enter the garage from Philomena Street for free parking except on the 1st floor or in reserved spots. Enter the building through directly from the garage, and masks are required. For agenda information, visit austintexas.gov/rmmapiac

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!
Want a FREE 2022 Calendar?
If so, kindly email me your address and
I will get one in the mail...and get you
on the list to receive one each year.



WINDSOR PARK Market Statistics OCT 2021

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (OCT 2021)	\$366.76
# OF HOMES SOLD IN (OCT 2021)	6
AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD	1,537
AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS	48
# ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET	16*

*As of Nov 15th, 2021 - Single Family Homes.
Request a Detailed Report for Your Section of
Windsor Park **

Rebecca Lowe, Initiator and Supporter of WPNA Scholarships

Jeanette Swenson, Schools Committee

“Rebecca Lowe had a heart for children that led her to 27 years in education. She planted her legacy in countless young lives. In this spirit, in 2014 she proposed, established and always supported the WPNA Scholarships.” (Dolly Lamdin and Gloria Neunaber)



Sadly, Rebecca died of cancer in early October. Her Memorial Service will be in mid-December at Austin Mennonite Church. We miss her and extend our condolences to her family -- Sam Bertron, also a dedicated WP volunteer, and children Cara and Jesse. Rebecca's vision lives on through us. Her family has designated the WPNA Scholarship Fund as a cause to donate to in memory of Rebecca Lowe.

In 2015, WPNA awarded two \$1,000 scholarships, funded primarily by residents of WP to two Reagan HS students. In the seven years, WPNA has awarded 32 scholarships to graduates of our neighborhood high schools. In 2021, Windsor Parkers generously responded when we had 15 fully qualified students and \$5,000 in our account. Because of your generosity and Rebecca's hopes that we support all our applicants, WPNA funded all 15 students; all have matriculated and used their scholarships. We anticipate another robust year in 2022, and we want, with your generosity, to help all applicants realize their hopes and dreams. Contributions are tax-deductible.

To contribute to the WPNA Scholarship Fund 2022 in Memory of Rebecca Lowe:

- 1) Mail a check and note in the subject line that it is a contribution to Scholarship Fund in Memory of Rebecca Lowe. Mail to: WPNA, P.O. Box 16183, Austin, TX 78761. OR
- 2) Go to the WPNA Website and click on DONATE to Scholarships. You may use PayPal or Venmo. Just BEFORE you hit the SEND button, write in message to seller: In Memory of Rebecca Lowe.

You'll be glad you contributed! Thank you all for your past generosity. Watch this space for Scholarship application information, which begins in early January.



Holiday Sale
Blown Glass & More!
 Saturday-Sunday
Dec. 18 & 19
 10am-3pm
 Briarcliff/Belfast

Harris Elementary School

Laura Tomlinson, Librarian

We want to give a big thank you to our Partners in Education! First, thank you to Ambray Gonzalez from the Austin Public Library who presented a Native American shadow puppet show for our PK3 through first grade students in the Harris library. The students and teachers enjoyed it tremendously! Second, we send a big thank you to HEB Buddy who provided some Turkeys to raffle during the First Annual Harris Turkey Trot for the CATCH/Wellness night held the week before Thanksgiving break.

Ms. Napoles, our Music Teacher, presents the 18th annual holiday sing a long on December 17th. This is a fun, family friendly event where everyone can participate. Additionally, our students will attend a virtual Nutcracker ballet on December 10th during their essential area classes.

December is the month to give and we will be giving free books to all our students through BookSpring's Books4me program. This event is made possible through the Rotary Club of Austin. Every student will receive a book and then select one to give to another student. The gift books will be gift wrapped. We will need volunteers to help with the gift wrapping. Please contact Laura Tomlinson at laura.tomlinson@austinsisd.org if you would like to help. Wrapping days will be Monday-Wednesday December 13-15 from 8:30 am - 12pm & 1:30-3:00 pm.

- **School Contact:** Zoila Cardenas, Principal, zoila.cardenas@austinsisd.org, 512-414-2085
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/HarrisBulldogs118>
- **Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/ThomasGHarrisEl>
- **School Website:** <https://harris.austinschools.org/>

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Windsor Park October 2021 Market Report



\$529,085

MEDIAN
SALES PRICE



\$384.05

MEDIAN
PRICE / SQFT



39
DAYS

MEDIAN DAYS
ON MARKET



NUMBER OF
HOMES SOLD



MOST
EXPENSIVE
HOME SOLD

\$699,900



\$459,000

LEAST EXPENSIVE
HOME SOLD

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

What happened in October?!

39 days on market is unheard of these days when we're used to properties selling in their first weekend, so what happened?! I was a little shocked myself. I believe a number of factors contributed to our neighborhood's slower than normal October. A lot of sellers tried to get ahead of the market and anticipate that "multiple offer, \$100k over list price" offer and priced themselves too high. This caused price adjustments and properties to sit longer. When properties sit, buyers tend to ask themselves "Well, what's wrong with it?" causing it to sit even longer. A lot of buyers have also been turned off by this market and have decided to wait (which I don't advise). We're definitely going through an adjustment after the craziness of the past year, but the market is still very strong.

December 2021 Yard of the Month

Sara Jane Lee

The December Yard of the Month winners are Rudy and Mary Ann Carmona of 1603 Westmoor Dr. They have lived there 45 years. Like many of us who have lived in the same place for a while, the Carmonas have many plants best described as “I knew what it was when I planted it.”

They have two mature trees surrounded by Purple Heart, a flower bed on the left of the sidewalk, and beds near the house. The trees will be decorated for Christmas. There is a clump of Pampas Grass near the street. The bed in the middle of the front yard contains Yellow Lantana, Red Geraniums, and a delicate pink and white flower and a yellow flower that are definitely of the “I Remembered It Once” category.

Mrs. Carmona loves plants and enjoys their varieties of shapes and colors. She likes plants that look happy and bright. You can see the Tropical Sage near their house. Though her Cannas will probably be gone by December, her Roses should be still going strong. Mrs. Carmona’s favorite is her Red Rose on the right of their sidewalk, followed closely by the Yellow Rose on the left.

The Carmonas also have pots of yellow and orange Chrysanthemums and a pot of Peppers near their house. If we have a bad freeze, the chrysanthemums and peppers can easily be protected.

Mrs. Carmona recommends picking up the tree branches and other detritus that fall on the lawn and keeping the plants and the St. Augustine grass appropriately watered.

The Carmonas will get a \$50.00 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery, which is a great place to visit with a wide variety of plants and equipment and very helpful employees.

Do not be shy. If you like a certain yard, or more than one, tell us. We cannot visit every yard in the neighborhood each month. 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 and leave a message, or email wpna.yom@gmail.com.



December Meet Your Neighbor – Double Impact

Martin Luecke

Two former MYN subjects made news this month. Standing in front of the Windsor Park library CHITO VELA announced his candidacy to fill the District 4 Austin City Council seat being vacated by Greg Casar who is running for United States Congress.

Chito said “Austin’s growth continues to bring challenges and we must invest in our local infrastructure. We must also prepare for climate change driven challenges, such as flooding, freezes, drought and blackouts.”

Chito has the race to himself at the moment. His announcement was carried by all the local news media, and marks the first time a Windsor Park neighbor has run for city council. Vela was an outspoken member of the Planning Commission from 2015-17, and ran for Texas House District 46 in 2018, losing the Democratic primary run-off to Rep. Sheryl Cole by 173 votes. He was also president of Blanton Elementary PTA, and chair of the Workers Defense Project.



And in other news, the home of LEE BASORE received an official City of Austin Historical Landmark for being the dispatch and HQ of the Travis County Fire Control from 1962 - 1983. Lee was Fire Chief and ran the volunteer fire team with his two brothers starting when he was a student at The University of Texas. TCFC was the first of it's kind in Austin.

The house was built in 1947 past the northern edge of the city surrounded by dairy farms and agriculture where the city fire department would not respond to calls.

Today his house sits at 1037 Reinli St. not far from the eastern entrance to the Target store. City Council member Greg Casar represented Lee at the council vote, which passed unanimously.

Please send story suggestions: mwluecke@hotmail.com 512.536.0465



Photo 12. Looking east down Reinli Street toward Cameron Rd. October 1957. Source: Basore family.



Windsor Village Update

Jackie Brooks

Three Windsor Park neighbors - Rick Krivoniak, Hector Martell, and I - attended the City Council meeting on Thursday, 11/18, to speak on agenda item #52. We are part of a working group that has been following the Windsor Village Shopping Center redevelopment very closely since the process began in early 2020.

The working group team seized an opportunity to raise awareness around issues with the existing VMU ordinance- citing the Windsor Village Shopping Center redevelopment as the painful case study. We asked council to strongly consider the commercial component as they discussed expanding the existing ordinance to allow for more affordable housing.

The messages communicated support for additional affordable housing to be developed in Austin via the VMU ordinance, but that it should not come without the commercial services that VMU is intended to provide. Access to neighborhood services and connectivity are critical components to the success of VMU and moving us toward more “complete communities,” as described in our Imagine Austin comprehensive plan.

In a follow up email to council, Rick Krivoniak clarified the ask:

“[We] will follow up with Council Members to urge you to either amend the VMU and Commercial Design ordinances to specify an appropriate ratio of commercial to residential spaces and site planning standards for VMU, or to direct that the City Manager require stricter adherence to the intent of the VMU and Commercial Design ordinances in the review process and to limit the amount of discretionary alternatives and exemptions allowed by the review staff, or both.”

We have requested Council to include us when they discuss the VMU ordinance so that we can share our experience and offer our input where it might be helpful. We are encouraged by the verbal support we received from our council members including Greg Casar and Kathy Tovo at the meeting, and the follow-up email received from Leslie Pool at the time of this article.

Climate Corner – Jobs! Training!

Barrett Sundberg

For years, climate activists have been saying that green jobs would emerge. Now it’s happening in Austin, according to our panelists in Nov 17’s Climate Conversation on the topic of Electric Vehicle manufacturing.

“There’s about eighteen hundred manufacturers here, including EVs,” says Ed Latson, President of the Austin Regional Manufacturers Association (ARMA). They’re seeking “technician-level talent that can maintain robotic manufacturing equipment. These are really good jobs that pay a significant wage. The average wage in a high-tech plant here is \$106,000 and it’s a really clean environment. We want to make sure people locally get these opportunities.” I

Amy Atchley of Austin Energy says, “Del Valle High School is working with Tesla on a pipeline from high school into some of these jobs.” In concert with Austin ISD and other districts, ARMA has launched a Manufacturing Academy that takes high school juniors and seniors and gives them the skills to be that technician-level talent. “We have about ten companies hiring directly out of this program,” says Latson. The academy is located at ACC Highland; students spend half their day there and half at their high school campus.

For more of the discussion on EV manufacturing in Austin, including mentoring for the new employees, see the Windsor Park Climate Conversation channel on YouTube.



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Attend a WPNA meeting online

1. Via facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/WindsorParkAustinTX>) where you can comment and ask questions.
2. Live stream from our website (<http://www.windsorpark.info/>) - available during the meeting

Library and Book Club

APL Locations will continue with express service and limited hours.

Outdoor programs have been approved, so keep an eye on the library's events/programs page for upcoming outdoor story times.

The Windsor Park Branch is open Mon/Tues Noon-8pm & Weds/Thurs/Fri 10am-6pm. Information about APL's virtual events can still be found on the Library's events calendar: <http://library.austintexas.gov/events>

The Windsor Park Book Club meets over Zoom the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 7 – 8:30 p.m. If you're interested, contact Allen Michie at allenmichie@gmail.com. Come join us!

- December 11: various Mark Twain stories including "The Mysterious Stranger"
- January 11: Sleeper Agent: The Atomic Spy in America Who Got Away by Ann Hagadorn
- February 9: Kindred by Octavia Butler

Austin Police Department District Representative for Windsor Park

Officer Andre Black:
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andre.black@austintexas.gov