

### WINDOW on WINDSOR

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

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

Vol 43 No.01 Jan 2025

## Time for Membership Renewal & Community Involvement

By Chad Cotton, WPNA President

Next Neighborhood Association Meeting

Saturday, Jan 11th, 10am

> Memorial United Methodist Church

Come join us!

As we approach the end of the year, it's time for our annual membership renewal. If you haven't already done so, we encourage you to renew your membership to continue supporting the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association (WPNA) and all the exciting initiatives we have in store for 2025. If you know a neighbor who has not yet joined, now is the perfect time to invite them to become part of our community. You can easily sign up online at www.windsorpark.info/membership.

#### **Celebrating Our Outstanding Neighbors**

This year, we have been fortunate to have many individuals and groups in our neighborhood who have gone above and beyond to enhance the spirit of Windsor Park. Please join us in recognizing the following recipients of the 2024 WPNA Awards:

Please thank our sponsors for their support of and investment in Windsor Park!

Got something for the newsletter? Get it in by the 15th to newsletter@ windsorpark.info Kelly Overton (Windsor Park Branch Library): For collaborating with WPNA on library programs and transforming the library grounds into a beautiful no-mow zone with wildflowers and grasses. (Enlivenment Committee, Elizabeth Kubala, Mohan Rao)

Pam Hammond (Little Free Pantry on Westminster): For her dedication to providing essential resources to those in need. (Jeanette, Sam)

Miguel Jimenez & Nomad Staff: For hosting the annual Holiday Party for 16 years, bringing the community together. (Jeanette)

**Andrew Knight**: For his creative redesign of the WPNA logo. (Jackie Brooks)

**Gary Lockyear**: For his work as the Yard of the Month photographer, showcasing the beauty of our neighborhood. (Sandi Wilcox)

**Joe Limon**: For his role in selecting the Yard of the Month and managing the sign relocations every month. (Sandi Wilcox)

**Martin Luecke**: For his dedication to the Climate Committee and EcoFest, working to mitigate urban heat by shading our streets. (Jose)

**Jose Munoz**: For his leadership in organizing EcoFest and fostering collaborative community building. (Jeanette)

Maria Gonzalez & Freddie Vasquez & Family: For their seven years of providing a festive tamale feast at Peggy Street Halloween. (Katie Anderson, Jeanette, Elizabeth, Mohan)

Laurel Chesky: For her ongoing commitment to the Beautification Committee, including signage, maintenance, and stewardship efforts such as the Shade the Streets initiative.

**Kathy Hill:** For pre-press work to prepare the newsletter for printing by Geno. Kathy and Graphic Arts have been supporting WPNA with this work for many years.

**Stephanie Simmons**: For securing a Tree Amigos grant to shade our streets and her involvement in EcoFest. *[continued on page 2]* 

Neighborhood heros - continued from page 1

**TreeFolks**: For providing trees to enhance the green canopy in our neighborhood. (Jose)

**Hector Martell (Transportation Committee)**: For his vision and work in expanding safer transportation options for all, including trails and safer creek crossings at Broadmoor.

Candace Hunter (AISD Trustee): For her tireless advocacy for East Austin schools. (Nadia K., Emily V.)

**Sam Searle**: For her hard work in organizing EcoFest, including coordinating the Children's EcoFest activities.

**Alexis Dorn**: For successfully promoting EcoFest on social media, helping spread the word and engage the community.

**Tanya Marin**: For supporting the Shade Brigade through her work at Austin Creative Reuse.

Elizabeth Kubala & Mohan Rao: For their leadership in adopting and expanding the Linda Lane project to initiate the Shade Brigade.

Alex Greenwald: For coordinating the Shade Brigade,

ensuring our trees are planted, watered, and maintained.

#### Thank You to Our Outgoing Officers

A special thank you to **Jeanette Swenson**, who has served as President for the past two years. Jeanette's tireless dedication to improving our neighborhood, including her leadership in the creation of Pomerleau Park and her efforts to enhance mobility for pedestrians and cyclists, has made a lasting impact. We also thank **Heather Wong** for her service as Secretary over the past year.

#### Get Involved – We Need Your Help!

As always, the strength of our neighborhood comes from the involvement of its residents. If you are looking for a way to contribute, we need your help! Here are some ways you can get involved:

Write for the Newsletter or Website: If you're a talented writer and want to share your thoughts with the community, we'd love to feature your articles.

**Organize Social Activities**: Whether for families or young singles, we have a committee for that!

**Support Local Schools**: If you have kids in school and want to keep the neighborhood informed about school events and activities, we have a committee for that, too.

Help with the Website: If you have a knack for technology and want to help keep our website up to date, there's a place for you.

Together, we can continue to make Windsor Park an even better place to live and thrive. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to another year of collaboration and community!



#### WPNA Scholarship goes live in January

Mark your calendars! The Windsor Park Neighborhood Association's Scholarship application for HS seniors in AISD goes live Jan 15th, 2025. The deadline is March 31, 2025.

The scholarship is in its 11th year. Most recently, the scholarship was awarded to 14 deserving students. 11 of those students have successfully enrolled in a 2 or 4-year college (from UT Austin to ACC to Texas State, Texas Tech, and beyond) and received their scholarship funds.

The \$1,000 scholarship for 2024-2025 is open to seniors at Northeast and LBJ (regardless of where they live) AND all AISD seniors living in Windsor Park (regardless of which AISD school they attend).

Visit <a href="https://www.windsorpark.info/scholarship/">https://www.windsorpark.info/scholarship/</a> to read the application eligibility and to apply!

How you can support the scholarship:

**Volunteer**: Join the WPNA Schools Committee! We'd love more hands working on the scholarship and advocating for our public schools. Email the Schools Committee Chair: Emily Vitris vitrisemily@gmail.com

Spread the word: Know a high school senior in Windsor Park? Make sure they apply!

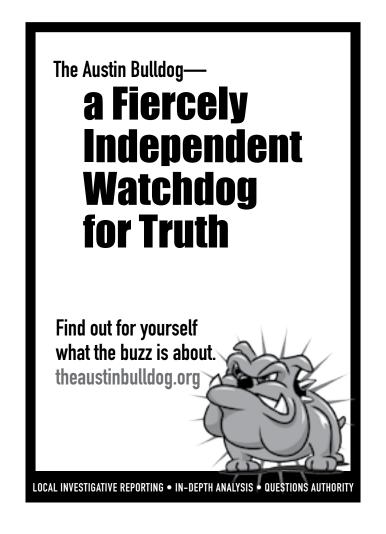
**Donate**: Now is a wonderful time to boost the scholarship fund. The more funds we have, the more students we can support



Scan to donate online

Or Send a Check

WPNA, Attn: Treasurer P.O. Box 16183 Austin, TX 78761



#### December 2024 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

Buddy Bear, an expansion of the Lilla & Beth boutique focusing on children's clothing and gifts, will soon be coming to the space next to Lick Honest Ice Creams on Mueller's Paseo across from the Thinkery. CorePower Yoga, offering a variety of class formats led by expert teachers, will locate at 1701 Simond Avenue. Vaura Pilates, founded in Australia, will open its second US location on Aldrich next door to Chuy's. They offer 50-minute, curated classes for beginners and advanced participants.

Six Mueller Commission positions will expire in February 2025, along with similar numbers on most City of Austin Boards and Commissions. Find one that interests you and apply for appointment to at www.austintexas.gov/services/apply-become-board-or-commission-member

The Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission did not meet in December. The next meeting will be at 6pm on January 14, 2025 at the Austin Energy Building, 4815 Mueller Boulevard. Attendees may park free in the AE garage. Commission agendas, presentations, etc. are available at austintexas.gov/rmmapiac.

#### Seeking Connection? Memorial United Methodist Church



https://memorialumcaustin.org/ casual traditional worship with love on Sundays at 11 AM 6100 Berkman Drive All are welcome as we seek to build faith in families & advocate for justice in our community!



#### Happy New Year Windsor Park!

We are a fully inclusive faith community that gathers weekly to encourage one another in our faith and pursuit of peace.

@ 5801 Westminster Drive visit austinmennonite.org for more info



#### January in the Garden

Chris Winslow (through our WPNA's Enlivenment committee)

- 1. Plant a fruit tree. Many fruit tree varieties will arrive in local nurseries this month, and in February and March. Try apples, peaches, plums, persimmons, and pears.
- 2. Prepare spring vegetable garden. I would recommend the solarization method to get rid of weeds. Till your garden with a mechanical tiller or a garden spade and water the area thoroughly. Cover with a clear plastic film and secure the perimeter with rocks or soil. The sun will raise the temperature in the garden soil to levels that will kill weeds and seeds. Allow the film to stay on for a month to six weeks. When removed, your garden will be weed free.
- 3. Turn off sprinklers. Automatic lawn sprinklers should be set at a minimum or simply turn them off. (Turf grass is dormant.)
- 4. Plant a tree. There is still time. Maybe you purchased a living tree for the holidays. Find that perfect spot, plant it and water it in.

vour home is worth

- 5. Catalog browsing. Find a comfortable armchair, and get to work! January is a good time to look through garden and seed catalogs to decide on varieties you want to grow in 2025. Starting a garden journal is a simple way to keep track of what you plant and what has been successful.
- 6. Plant asparagus. Now is the time to prepare beds and plant. Three-year asparagus crowns will arrive in local nurseries early this month. Beds should be dug deeply and filled with rich organic compost. Three-year crowns will put you closer to harvest than seed grown.
- 7. Onions are still possible. You still could produce large onions this year. Also, you can plant turnips, collards, and radishes.

This article was provided by the Austin Garden, a free newsletter published twice a month. To sign up, visit <u>austingarden.org</u>



Although the Fed cut its rates late in the year, mortgage rates remain steady around 7%.

if we get the Spring bump this year. Last year's window was very short and small.

Remember, it's best to sell when needed and buy when possible—don't try to time the maket. We'll see

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

#### MAGIC AT WINDSOR PARK'S FIRST OPEN MIC

Darrel Mayers

Thanks to all the friends and neighbors who showed up to share their talents at the Enlivenment Committee's first open mic, held last month at the Austin Mennonite Church.

Laura Freeman opened the evening, and soon had us out of our chairs singing and miming to a catchy tune about trees, and then pretending to play muted, NOLA-style trumpet solos through pursed lips.

Singer/songwriter Alan Kubala played tunes political and personal, and was followed by his sister Elizabeth, with the witty "Hippo-Rhine-Elephant Poem," a Kubala heirloom story. Neighborhood sax ace Erik Galloway charmed all with his jazz styling. Steve Spier then shared a touching poem by Hyde Park legend Albert Huffstickler. Steve Ashley played the groovy tune "Someone to Love" by Louis Capaldi, and was followed by Ted Wade and his daughter Lily Bassett, who took us into the land of the Lion King, with "Can you Feel the Love Tonight."

More beautiful poetry followed from church pastor Kim Becker, who read "Beannacht / Blessing" by John O'Donohue. Chris Becker then rocked the house with some of the originals, and from there Genevieve Kent took us to Transylvania and performed a heartfelt lament. The duo Feet of Animals wove quiet magic with guitars, piano and voice, leading into a romping solo piano piece by Benedict Kent.

Special thanks to Chris Becker for being our sound-person for the evening, and to Kim Becker and all Austin Mennonite Church for welcoming us into their beautiful, turquoise space.







**Austin's Neighborhood Painter** 

Call, text or email to schedule your free quote today! (512) 731-5280 scribnerspainting.com scribnerspainting@gmail.com



#### YARD OF THE MONTH- 6704 Duquesne Drive

Sara Jane Lee

The January Yard of the Month winners are Alex and Brian Franke of 6704 Duquesne Drive, They have lived there about three and a half years.

When they moved in, the front yard needed work. They inherited a dead palm tree and a dead sago palm, but they fell in love with the Heritage Oak. Because the ice storm of February 2023 severely damaged it, they had to have it trimmed professionally. They had the palm and the sago palms, even the live one removed because it



was toxic to dogs. Brian 's parents, who are landscape architects, redesigned the front yard. The sidewalk which led from the driveway to the front door was replaced with paving stones going straight from the front door to the street. The Frankes looked for drought, heat tolerant plants. They got advice from their neighbors. They added a drip irrigation system.

In their new landscape, Brian's favorite plants are the Palos Verde Tree and the Gulf Muhly Grass. Alex's favorites are the Esperanza [aka Yellow Bells,] Firecracker Plants, and Majestic Sage [Salvia guarantica]. They also have Yaupon Holly, Texas Sedge, Liriope, and Woodland Fern.

The Frankes will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery on Hancock Drive. It has great collections of plants, seeds, pots, and garden paraphernalia including gloves in various sizes. While you are there be sure to greet their cats and admire the waterfall.

Send your nomination(s) to WPNA YOMC. P.O. Box 16183, Austin, Texas 78761, call 512-928-0681 and leave a message, or email <a href="mailto:wpna.yom@gmail.com">wpna.yom@gmail.com</a>.

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. We may not have seen your yard, or your neighbor's yard. Feel free to nominate your own yard; people have won that way.





WEB: http://www.Windsorpark.info NEWSGROUP: https://groups.io/g/windsorparkatx FACEBOOK pages: Windsor Park Neighborhood Association AND Windsor Park Neighborhood ATX

# Contact Us

Phone(s): \_

President	Chad Cotton	president@windsorpark.info
Vice President	Laurel Chesky	vicepresident@windsorpark.info
Secretary	Keith Edwards	secretary@windsorpark.info
Treasurer	Samantha Searle	treasurer@windsorpark.info
Inter-Neighborh	ood	[pending]@windsorpark.info
WoW Editor	Amanda Rose	newsletter@windsorpark.info
Sponsorships		sponsorship@windsorpark.info

**Become a Member!** More members mean our voice makes more impact. Memberships range from \$5 to \$35. **Details on our website or use the form below** 

**Become a Newsletter Sponsor!** Sponsors get their message out to over 3500 recipients, and support the newsletter. Sponsorships available for various sizes and durations, starting at \$50. Graphics and payments required by the 15th to sponsorship@windsorpark.info

#### Make checks payable to WPNA and mail to:

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 ta deductible.		
☐ Student/fixed income — \$5/person		
☐ Standard / Individual — \$15/person		
☐ Family — \$20		
☐ Sustaining — \$35 or more		
☐ Non-voting donations - gladly accepted		
Member Name(s):		
E-mail for 1st Member:		
Email for Add'l Member:		
Address:		

# Windsor Park Library 5833 Westminster Dr. Upcoming events:

https://library.austintexas.gov/events?loc=184&date=

Explore the Library in person, online or via your favorite device to access materials to read, listen to or learn from. Check out the Calendar online for activities for all ages.

#### **WPNA Members wanted**

Please join the WPNA - we are stronger and more effective as a local voice for our neighborhood when more neighbors join!

We welcome all neighbors. Come join a meeting and see what we are about.

www.windsorpark.info/ membership

Austin Police Department District Representative for Windsor Park

Officer Mark Moreno
Mark.Moreno@austintexas.gov