



WINDOW on WINDSOR

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

Vol 42 No.06
June 2024

**Next
Neighborhood
Association
Meeting**

**Saturday, June
8th at 10am.**

**at Memorial
United Methodist
Church**

**Next Meeting
Focus:**

**Come meet and
celebrate the
2024 WPNA
Scholarship
winners!**

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

Pedestrian and Bike Trails Plan Update

Jeanette Swenson and Hector Martell

Hector Martell and the Transportation Committee have up-dated and prioritized the proposed trail system in Windsor Park to address the woefully inadequate bike and pedestrian mobility in our neighborhood. Additional maps are available on the Windsor Park website. The trails will offer safer mobility for all within the neighborhood and connect Windsor Park to our neighbors. Currently, the City Council is crafting the 2025 budget, so we are asking you to encourage our Council Member, Chito Vela, to prioritize the construction of the trails. Chito.Vela@austintexas.gov. The top priorities are a bridge across Tannehill Branch Creek at Broadmoor and an up-grade of the rapid flashing beacon at 51st and Tilley Streets. Transportation@windsorpark.info would also like to hear from you!

Please visit this QR link for more information on the trails and to sign the petition in support of the Bikeways Vision Plan. If you'd like to write your own letter please see the sample letter/ bullet points on page 2. Please personalize the letter with your priorities.



Harris Elementary School - rebuilding

Alice Grauly

On May 14th Harris Elementary, in the heart of Windsor Park, held a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of what will be a complete tear-down and rebuild of their campus thanks to the 2022 bond. AISD interim principal Lina Villarreal, District 1 Trustee Candace Hunter, and Superintendent Matias Segura, spoke (along with 2 outgoing 5th graders).

The current campus was built in the 1950's and is in great need of modernization. The new campus will be two stories to make more room for outdoor learning space, and will hold a maker space, flexible learning spaces, a community room available to the neighborhood, and so much more. See page 9 for some graphics from the community meeting.

For the 2024-2025 school year and fall of 2025, Harris Elementary will be housed temporarily at the old Sims Elementary campus at 12th and Springdale. Busing will be provided to all families at various stops throughout the neighborhood. The new campus is expected to open Spring 2025.

During the groundbreaking ceremony, AISD's Teacher of the Year for elementary school, Ms. Paola Arroyo, a Harris Life Skills teacher, was also recognized. Windsor Park is so proud and honored to have her at one of our schools! To learn more about the Harris modernization and subscribe to updates, visit <https://bond.austinschools.org/bond-projects/harris-elementary-school>

Sample Letter in support of enhanced walkways and bikeways

In addition to Council Member Vela, please include CM Natasha Harper-Madison (District1@austintexas.gov), CM Zo Qadri, (District9@austintexas.gov) and CM Paige Ellis, Council Mobility Chair (District8@austintexas.gov). Please also copy Laura Dierenfeld, City of Austin Department of Transportation & Public Works, Active Transportation & Street Design (Laura.Dierenfeld@austintexas.gov), and Alex Phillips, Senior Transportation Planner (Alex.Phillips@austintexas.gov)

Dear Council Members Ellis, Harper-Madison, Qadri, & Vela:

I am a resident of Windsor Park Neighborhood, and I would like to advocate for transportation improvements that enhance the safety and mobility of pedestrians and bicyclists. There are several improvements that have been identified by neighbors and the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association Transportation Committee, and I would like to express my support for these improvements. Please refer to the WPNA Bikeways Vision for full description (<https://www.windsorpark.info/windsor-park-bikeways-vision/>).

I understand budget discussions are underway now, and I request that funding is allocated for these projects in the 2025 budget cycle. I have listed these improvements in order of priority:

Increase mobility and safety along Belfast Bike Trail and Bridge

Bikeways:

- A bike / pedestrian bridge at Tannehill Branch Creek connecting Mueller blvd. to Windsor Park at Belfast.
- A safer crossing at 51st & Tilley street (Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon)
- Improved Urban Trails / Bikeways within Windsor Park
- Better crossings & connections to & from Windsor Park at the edges (51st, I-35, 290)
- Reverse Stop signs on Belfast Drive.
- An urban trail/bikeway through Bartholomew Park to Tilley Street.
- A Bikeway from Pomerleau Park to Bartholomew Park (Linda ln. / Westminster / Bartholomew Park)
- A North-South Bikeway on Belfast Drive (Cameron Rd to Mueller blvd.)
- An East-West Bikeway from Clayton ln. to Rogge ln.

Cameron Road:

- Improved bike lanes on Cameron Rd. from 51st to Broadmoor.
- A new stop light & pedestrian crossing at Cameron & Glencrest.
- Improved bike lanes at Cameron & 290.
- Complete the Cameron Road mobility improvements.

Berkman:

- Improved Intersection at Berkman & 51st.
- Convert the hybrid beacon at Berkmen & Suffolk / Rogge into a stop light.
- A new pedestrian hybrid beacon at Hank's (Berkman between Northridge & Briarcliff)
- Stoplight at Berkman & Patton ln.
- Safety improvements at Berkman & 290.

Our neighborhood has been making requests for these improvements for years. As the council knows, East Austin has been chronically underdeveloped and underinvested compared to other parts of Austin. Given the numbers of people in our neighborhood that walk, bike, and take public transportation, these improvements are long overdue. The need for these improvements will only increase as several large-scale housing developments (including almost 700 new units going in at Windsor Village) are underway in our neighborhood. Our streets cannot accommodate much more motor vehicle congestion and traffic safely, increasing the chances of accidents, which makes improvements for alternative modes of transportation even more urgent.



CLIMATE CORNER - SHADE THE STREETS FREE TREE PROJECT

Martin Luecke

WPNA Climate Committee is organizing the planting of trees throughout Windsor Park to create shade on city streets so that we can reduce the amount of ambient heat in the neighborhood. This project is bringing together an epic level of commitment from multiple WPNA committees including Beautification, Enlivenment, Yard of the Month and Parks.

We are looking for homeowners and business owners to plant a tree on their property within 15 feet of the street. There are many yards in WP that are a good candidate for this program. The best time to plant will be in the fall.

Your free trees will be distributed at the WPNA ECO EXPO Saturday November 2, 2024 at Bartholomew Park. The Expo is a family event with free tacos, kids activities, local business gift card drawings, climate organizations, and meet your friendly neighborhood Congressman.

Tree Folks will give you two native drought tolerant trees of your choice, one for the front yard near the street, and the other for anywhere else. Tree Folks arborists will be at the Eco Expo to teach you how to plant your trees, and how to care for them. We will also give you mulch.

We ask that you agree to water your trees every week for two years, with extra water in the summer. We ask that you plant in the approved front yard location. Tree Folks will contact you before the Eco Expo to confirm your acceptance of the trees.

SHADE BRIGADE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Be a member of our tree team. Shade Brigade volunteers will be asked to identify front yards in their designated area of Windsor Park and to approach each of those homeowners with a Shade the Streets promotion and tree adoption contract.

Shade the Streets will also be planting trees in public locations, and we will need volunteers to adopt a tree and water every week for a period of two years.

There will be portable tree watering gear available to volunteers. One such public location is along the concrete creek on Blanton Drive across the street from Blanton elementary school. Watershed Protection has given us permission to plant six trees on that strip of land. We will be identifying other public locations with your help.

To become a volunteer scan this QR code, or send an email: martin@windsorpark.info or call 512.536.0465



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Memorial United Methodist Church loves Windsor Park!

- Wesley School Daycare Now Enrolling! 7 AM - 6 PM & After School: 5 - 12 years
- Sunday Worship at 11 AM

6100 Berkman Drive
www.memorialumcaustin.com

2024 Scholarship Recipients Announced

Schools Committee

It's official. WPNA will award fourteen \$1,000 scholarships to seniors graduating from an Austin Independent School District high school (AISD). Come to the June 8, 2024 WPNA meeting and celebrate our 2024 students and wish them well on the next stage of their journey.

In our neighborhood schools, Northeast and LBJ High Schools, any qualified senior is eligible and encouraged to apply. Windsor Park resident seniors who attend any AISD school are eligible and encouraged. Since the first scholarships were awarded ten years ago, our mission continues to recognize and support our Windsor Park seniors and to support public education (AISD).

Thanks to the generosity of Windsor Park residents, WPNA has always funded all qualified applicants. In ten years, we have awarded 98 scholarships and have raised about \$103,000 to fund all qualified applicants. We have a reserve for our 2025 scholarship. Please consider a donation to continue this incredible tradition of community support. Windsorpark.info/fundraising. Select Scholarships to contribute.

2024 Scholarship Recipients

Northeast High School - 6

Janiya Dean
Tahyrah George
Maria Kataike
Kelley Lagos
Dafne Rodriguez
Leo York

LBJ High School - 4

Gloria Contreras
Gloria Salgado-Santiago
Jayvien Milhouse
Jennifer Arrendondo

LASA - 2

Andrew Brotherton
Lucas Benavides

Anderson High School - 1

Isaiah Dietz

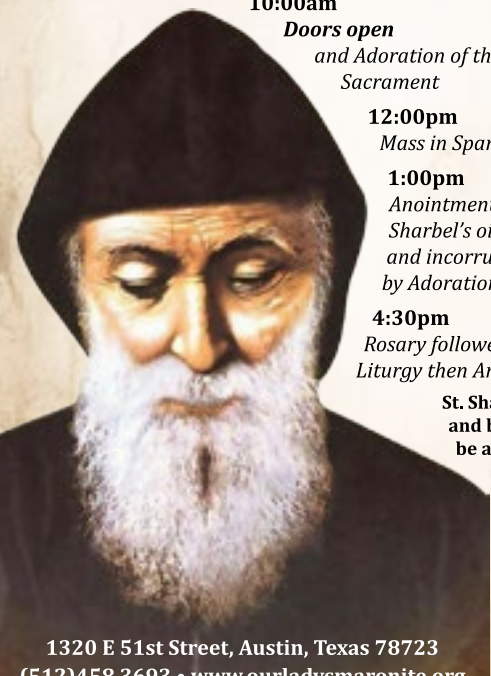
McCallum High School - 1

James Viner

Join us to celebrate

St. Sharbel Feast Day

at Our Lady's Maronite Catholic Parish
on **SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2024**



10:00am
Doors open
and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

12:00pm
Mass in Spanish

1:00pm
Anointment from Saint Sharbel's oil from his tomb and incorrupt body, followed by Adoration

4:30pm
Rosary followed by Divine Liturgy then Anointment

St. Sharbel's souvenirs and blessed gifts will be available all day.

Food available at the event!

Find & follow us on Facebook

1320 E 51st Street, Austin, Texas 78723
(512)458 3693 • www.ourladysmaronite.org

Our Lady's Maronite Catholic Parish



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Longing for connection? Seeking community? Wanting a place to explore faith in God and ask hard questions? There is a gathering every week right here in the Windsor Park Neighborhood where you can find all these things and more! You are invited to come see for yourself. We are Austin Mennonite Church, located at 5801 Westminster Drive. We meet together for worship at 11AM. We also have Faith Formation classes at 9:30AM. Want to check us out online? Go to our website at austinmennonitechurch.com. (The site is being updated at this time, but it will give you an idea of what we are about.)

Wondering if you are *really* welcome here? You are! All are invited: We affirm that people of any racial or ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, age, and economic status are welcome to full participation in our congregation. In all that we do, all that we are, we seek to serve Christ *simply, peacefully, together.*

Saltmarsh caterpillars

Wizzie Brown, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist

Saltmarsh caterpillars seem to be a common sight in gardens, lawns and traveling across roads and sidewalks. These caterpillars are a particular species, *Estigmene acrea*, and turn into saltmarsh moths. They are often mistakenly called “woollybears” which are a different species, *Pyrrharctia isabella*, that turn into Isabella tiger moths. The two species are related and in the same family Erebididae.



Saltmarsh caterpillars are extremely variable in color and have many setae in the late instar which creates a hairy or fuzzy appearance. They have striped or mottled bodies varying from black to brown to yellow and reaching lengths of 2.25 inches. Hairs, or setae, also vary in color and are mostly soft when touched. Hairs are not venomous and do not sting, but some people may be sensitive to the hairs.



Saltmarsh caterpillars actively disperse, and late instar larvae can be seen moving quickly across lawns, landscape beds, sidewalks, roads, and other locations. These caterpillars can move easily into areas and begin to feed on plants. Their chewing mouthparts cause damage to plants by defoliation. They have a wide host range feeding on numerous broadleaf plants including trees, shrubs, crops, and others.

Adult saltmarsh moths are medium sized and have white forewings with black dots. Hindwings are white in females and peachy yellow in males. The adult’s head and thorax are white, and abdomen is peachy yellow with black oblong spots. Pupae occur in the soil or in leaf litter. Caterpillars spin a cocoon using silk and hairs from the body. There are multiple generations each year in Texas.

Management can be as simple as removing caterpillars by hand; wear gloves while doing so. In backyard gardens, this typically is a feasible method of control. Pesticides such as *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki*, spinosad, or botanicals can be used against smaller stages of caterpillars (these are not as hairy as the late instars), but will not kill off late instar larvae.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at ebrown@ag.tamu.edu.



ALLURE
REAL ESTATE



Windsor Park April 2024 Market Report

 \$705,000 <small>MEDIAN SALES PRICE</small>	 \$368.15 <small>MEDIAN PRICE / SQFT</small>	 18 <small>DAYS</small> <small>MEDIAN CUMULATIVE DAYS ON MARKET</small>
 13 <small>NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD</small>	 <small>MOST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD</small> \$995,000	 \$265,000 <small>LEAST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD</small>

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

Pricing and adjusting quickly to the market and feedback

The current Austin market is all about proper pricing and making necessary (albeit sometimes painful) adjustments based on feedback and market response. By staying responsive, you increase your chances of a successful and timely sale. Did a similar home get an offer while yours didn't? Let's put them side by side and see where the differences are. Adjusting your price and marketing accordingly can reignite interest and ensure your property remains competitive.

Interest rates are keeping some buyers at bay. So now is the time to get creative and offer the buyer 2-1 buydowns, owner financing, or finding out if your current mortgage is assumable.

June 2024 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

At the request of Mueller Master Developer Catellus and the City's Economic Development Services Department, the Mueller Commission approved a May 14th recommendation to City Council to extend the 2004 Master Development Agreement (MDA) between the City and Catellus, set to end in December 4th of this year, to December 31, 2028. Additional time is needed in order to fully accomplish the vision and goals of Mueller's Master Plan.

While the better-than-expected success of Mueller's redevelopment spurred density-limit increases that remain to be met, the project has also been affected by the 2007-2009 recession, the COVID pandemic, and recent unfavorable interest rates for construction and home sales. A few parcels of Mueller land remain unsold, and among the projects needing more time are additional affordable housing, the Mueller portion of the Tannehill Branch Greenbelt & Trail between Tilley & Old Manor Road, the 8-acre site at 51st & Berkman, and the park space at the Control Tower's base, named Roger Lavon Taylor, Sr. Plaza for the late 1980s Pecan Springs NA president who also advocated for the Tower's preservation.

As a result of this extension, the Mueller Commission's term will also be extended to December 2028, though if Catellus completes the project prior to that date, both the MDA and the Commission will come to an end earlier. Current terms for six members of the Commission, including mine and Martin Luecke's, will end on February 28, 2025. I have served longer than the usual two-term limit, so my reappointment is not a sure thing. Anyone interested in serving on it, or any other City Commission, should apply online at austintexas.gov/department/boards-and-commissions

The Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission next meets on Tuesday, June 11th at 6pm, Austin Energy Building at 4815 Mueller Boulevard. Access free parking in the AE garage via Garcia Street. Commission agendas and other information is available at austintexas.gov/rmmapiac.

Seven Garden Activities for June

Chris Winslow (shared by Darrel Mayers, member of the WPNA Enlivenment Committee)

1. Water. Early morning is the best time... otherwise most of the irrigation water evaporates. Deep soaking is best because it gives the plant a greater reservoir to draw from.
2. Native tree care. This month is already proving to be hot and dry. Remember your trees are going to be thirsty too. A small amount of rain does little to carry moisture deep into the soil.
3. Mulch. This will cool the roots and slow the water loss from evaporation. Mixing your mulch 50:50 (bag-for-bag) with compost, will add nutrition and relieve stress.
4. Slow-release fertilizers. When feeding flowerbeds and turf, use an organic-based, slow-release fertilizer. You will avoid burning plant roots in the summer heat and will have little impact on our watershed. Foliar sprays with seaweed will also help reduce heat stress.
5. Care for your roses. The first flush of your spring roses has finished. The flowering ends of the rose stems have probably formed hips (seed pods). Cut them off and there will be a new round of flowering. Also, give them some rose food. Examine them for any sign of insects, especially spider mites, and treat with horticultural oil (Sunspray or All Seasons) or Spinosad.
6. Mow high. Cut your grass as high as you can stand. Longer grass blades will help shade the turf and conserve water. Leave clippings on the lawn.

7. Add summer color. This is the right time to plant heat-loving summer color in those empty spaces. Planting in the morning and evening is best. For summer color, zinnias, purslane, moss rose (photo above), and vinca seem to be the toughest. Make sure they get enough water when they are establishing themselves. Happy gardening everyone! 🌱

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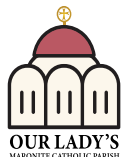
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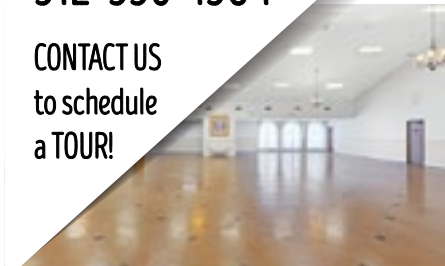
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Yard of the Month -1512 Suffolk Drive

Sara Jane Lee

The June winners are Nathan Gaar and Lizzie Chen of 1512 Suffolk Drive. They have lived there for five years.

Since Windsor Park is on the edge of the Blackland Prairie, they want to grow plants native to the area. To accomplish this, they look online at such places as planoprairiegarden on Instagram and search through seed catalogs like Native American Seeds. They have also gotten great advice from their neighbors.

In their front yard Lizzie and Nathan have Liatris, White Mistflower and Gregg's Mistflower, Mealy Blue Sage, Goldenrod, Standing Cypress, American Beautyberry, Horsemint, Engelmann's Daisy, Butterfly weed, and Zizotes Milkweed. Many of these plants are favorites of Monarch butterflies and their caterpillars. They also have several prairie grasses including Sideoats Grama, Texas Cupgrass, Little Bluestem and Switch Grass. They are replacing their dying Arizona ash with an Escarpment Live Oak.

They have been modifying their yard since they moved there. Though some of it has been hard work, they have enjoyed it. The hardest was getting rid of Bermuda grass which they solarized and dug out.

Now they only water new, young plants. Otherwise, they let their yard survive the summer because they are trying to grow a prairie.

Lizzie and Nathan 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. While you are there be sure to greet their cats and admire the waterfall.

Please send in your nominations for Yard of the 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.



Representations of the design for the Harris Elementary rebuild - made available from the community presentation linked here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wZ5bTa5-rxKTZrcJbohKGo3sj6-M6PJO/view>



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AND PARKING
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para los padres



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Market Statistics

LAST 90 DAYS

Trends to Note

Over 30% of the homes sold over the past 90 have closed at over \$400 per Sq Ft. Highest was \$466.22

WP's Go-To Source For Market Statistics since 2010

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (Over Last 90 Days)	\$351.97
# OF HOMES SOLD IN (Over Last 90 Days)	29
AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD	1,740
AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS	39
# ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET	30*

*As of May 7th, 2024 - Single Family Homes. Request a Detailed Report for Your Section of Windsor Park



WEB: <http://www.Windsorpark.info>
 NEWSGROUP: groups.yahoo.com/group/windsorpark/
 FACEBOOK: WindsorParkAustinTx

Contact Us

President.....Jeanette Swenson president@windsorpark.info
 Vice President Chad Cotton..... vice-president@windsorpark.info
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 TreasurerSamantha Searle treasurer@windsorpark.info
 Inter-Neighborhood Rep...Keith Edwards..... keith@windsorpark.info
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Make checks payable to WPNA and mail to:

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Or dues may be paid by Paypal through the WPNA website!

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(s): _____

Email for 1st member : _____

Email for Add'l Member:: _____

Address _____

Phone(s): _____

Library Happenings

Tuesdays in June 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. all ages story time

Saturday June 8th 10:30 to 11:00 all ages story time

Friday June 21st 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Books and Babies

Wednesday June 5th 10:00 a.m. to noon Magnet Mania play time for ages three and up

Saturday June 1st 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Hooks and Needles

Weds, June 12th 3:00-5pm - All ages Perler Beads: Summer Fun

Thursday, June 6th & 20th @ 6:00pm - The Astrology of Now: Transits and Us!

Tuesday, June 11th @ 6:30 - Windsor Park Book Club - Trust by Herman Diaz

Friday, June 21th @ 3pm - All Ages: Chess Club!

Weds, June 26 from 3:00-5pm - All-Ages Lego Lab

Austin Police Department District Representative for Windsor Park

Officer Andre Black has retired. We thank him for his many years serving Austin and our neighborhood.

New contact details will be posted when the new DR is named.