



WINDOW on WINDSOR

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

Vol 42 No.07
July 2024

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**Next
Neighborhood
Association
Meeting**

**Saturday, July
13th, 10am**

**Come join us at
the back of
Memorial
United
Methodist
Church**

**Bring your own
cup**

**July meeting
focus:
Plastic
Reduction**

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Windsor Park!

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

Overwhelmed by Plastic?

Jeanette Swenson

In the fall of 2019, I paused in the beverage aisle at HEB. Surrounded by single use plastic bottles of all sizes, I boldly decided to eliminate plastic from my life. Although I've come to terms with the fact that ZERO plastic is not achievable right now, I have at least eliminated a lot of plastic products from my life, home and landfill. After Sean Winn from the Plastic Reduction Project walked us through the complexities and limitations of recycling plastics, I'm feeling a new sense of urgency.

Here are a few things I've adopted with surprising ease: Continue to use reusable bags at grocery stores, including cotton mesh bags for produce. No single-use water bottles ever. Plastic-free laundry sheets and pods have replaced large liquid laundry and dishwasher detergent. Bar shampoo has replaced plastic containers. Replacing trash bags with compostable ones. I've subscribed to Ridwell and appreciate their outlets for the reuse of plastic film, multi-layered plastic, and Styrofoam, which are all transformed into new products. Still, there are challenges to achieving zero waste. The biggest challenge for me is disposing of cat litter, and I do love and indulge my cats. What are your biggest challenges? What are your best solutions? Share them with us.

For the second year, I've signed up for Plastic Free July (<https://www.plasticfreejuly>) Yes, it's aspirational, but it does raise my awareness and make me think of other plastics I can do without. Take the Pesky Plastics Quiz before July 1 and again at the end of July to see if you've made any changes. It has ideas for the home, workplace, schools, events, businesses. For example, WPNA has committed to compostable coffee cups at meetings in case you forgot to bring your reusable cup. For events like the Scholarship Breakfast, the Schools Committee use compostable cups, plates, napkins. Organizations like Zero Waste and Plastics Free July will change our own awareness and maybe even change our lives and our culture. There's a lot at stake.

CORRECTION: I believe we used incorrect numbers in our previous article about scholarships. After checking figures with Gloria Neunaber, the total dispersed scholarship funds in 10 years is \$77,500, with a total of \$82,000 donated. This leaves us with a small surplus to start preparing for 2025 scholars. I remain overwhelmed by your sustained support and generosity for this program!

July 2024 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

Rebecca Campbell, CEO of the Austin Film Society, and Martin Jones, Director of Austin Studios, reported to the Mueller Commission that in the 25 years AFS has been operating and using old hangars at Mueller, there have been 1000 projects, employing 36,000 people, with a \$2.6Billion impact on Austin's economy. Twelve film-related businesses currently operate on the site, and the Paramount+ Yellowstone spinoff 1923, filmed in New Orleans, has moved its production offices here for its second season. AFS has a lease with the City at Mueller until 2084.

On May 31, the City Council voted to extend the Master Development Agreement with Catellus from December 2, 2024 to December 31, 2027, a year shorter than the recommendation from the Mueller Commission, at the optimistic request of both Catellus and the City staff. One project Catellus wants to finish is the final bit of infrastructure for Mueller, and the site plan permit for the Tannehill Branch Greenbelt & Trail between Tilley & Old Manor Road, (behind the APEX Modern Living apartments at 2215 E 51st) was issued in late May.

The Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission does not meet in July, but next meets on Tuesday, August 13th 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.

Climate Corner – Personal Impacts

Barrett Sundberg

Why is my girlfriend crying?

After 30 lovely years in Windsor Park, I sold my beloved home a couple years ago and began to explore the world. One morning after nearly a year in Colombia, South America, my girlfriend here responded with tears to a text. During the previous afternoon, while her brother’s girlfriend and their 4-year-old son were playing in their town’s river park, a surge of flooding suddenly descended the river and swept them away fatally.

Her brother rescued the nearest bathers, saving two children. But when he returned to seek his girlfriend and son, the waters were too dangerous; a policeman pulled him back, saving his life but leaving him disconsolate. Several other people were missing after the flood. The state’s Department of Risk Management had to allocate resources between searching for them and responding to “other emergencies that have occurred in the state as a result of the rainy season.”

Is this tragedy a climate story? “Like other extreme weather disasters, flooding involves a number of competing factors that may affect frequency and intensity,” reports the New York Times (link for web version: <https://www.nytimes.com/article/flooding-climate-change.html>).

According to climate scientist Daniel Swain, heat waves are clearly worsened by climate change, “we don’t know yet” about tornadoes, and for flooding “I’d say ‘yes, probably, but...’”. NPR appears more confident, giving details on how climate change increases floods. <https://www.npr.org/2022/08/03/1115384628/how-climate-change-drives-inland-floods>

In South America, this past year has seen astounding increases in temperature. Last August (remember, that’s winter in the Southern Hemisphere), temperatures in some places shot from 30-odd degrees F to 100 or more degrees F, shattering records. (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/weather/2023/08/02/southamerica-record-winter-heat-argentina-chile/>) From August to December, the United Nations World Meteorological Association concluded that the extreme conditions were caused by “a double whammy” of El Niño and long-term climate change. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/05/1149516> The web version of this article has multiple links for documentation.

For me, though the effects in Colombia have been milder, climate change continues to feel more personal every year. I am glad that our neighborhood keeps pulling together to protect against climate change.

Neighbors should watch out for each other
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2024 Scholarship Winners – A Celebration

Emily Vitris

The June Neighborhood Meeting is by far one of the most exciting and inspiring meetings of the year. Every June the Schools Committee introduces the recipients of the Windsor Park Neighborhood Scholarship to our community. This year we awarded \$14,000 to 14 deserving high school graduates as they prepare for their post-secondary futures! Below is a brief introduction to these incredible young people who were celebrated at our June meeting.

- **Jennifer Aboytes**, graduate of LBJ, will attend ACC and major in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.
- **Lucas Benavides**, graduate of LASA, will attend UTSA this fall.
- **Andrew Brotherton**, graduate of LASA will attend Texas Tech and major in Engineering.
- **Gloria Contreras**, graduate of LBJ, will attend ACC and major in Nursing.
- **Janiya Dean**, graduate of Northeast, will attend Jarvis Christian College and major in Business Management.
- **Isaiah Dietz**, graduate of Anderson High School, will attend Southwestern and major in Biology.
- **Tahyrah George**, graduate of Northeast, will attend Texas Southern University and major in Accounting.
- **Maria Kataike**, graduate of Northeast, will attend Texas A&M in Corpus Christi and major in Pre-Med/Nursing.
- **Kelley Lagos**, graduate of Northeast, will attend Texas State Technical and study Collision Repair.
- **Jayvien Milhouse**, graduate of LBJ, will attend Texas Southern University and major in Finance.
- **Dafne Rodriguez**, graduate of Northeast, will attend the University of Texas in Austin and major in International Relations & Global Studies
- **Gloria Salgado**, graduate of LBJ, will attend ACC and major in Nursing.
- **William Viner**, graduate of McCallum High School, will attend UT Tyler and major in Radio, Film and Television.
- **Leo York**, graduate of Northeast, will attend Texas State and major in Business.



The scholarship recipients share common traits of deep community involvement and meaningful contributions. They each demonstrate a commitment to service beyond academic pursuits, dedicating substantial time and effort to volunteer roles or family responsibilities. From helping develop the plan for the Earl J Pomerleau Pocket Park, to volunteering at We are Blood, to working at the local food bank, volunteering for their churches and youth groups, being part of a welcoming team their high schools, being involved in Youth Rise Texas, Student Council, Peer Assistance Leadership and Service programs and more, these youth have participated in a variety of service projects that have impacted our community and their schools.

The WPNA scholarship program will celebrate its 10th year next year. We have awarded almost \$80,000 in scholarships since the program started and we hope to have our biggest year yet in 2025. Please consider giving a gift that is meaningful to you and donate to the 2025 fund today. You can find a link on our website: www.windsorpark.info/scholarship/

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Six Activities for July

Chris Winslow (shared by the WPNA's Enlivenment committee)

1. Vegetable Garden. The timing always feels a bit strange, but this is actually the month to renew your vegetable garden for the fall harvest season. From seed, plant snap and lima beans, sweet corn, Swiss chard, cucumbers, summer and winter squash (my favorite), black-eyed peas, okra, cantaloupe, pumpkin and watermelon. For transplants, it is the right time for tomatoes and peppers.

2. Tomatoes. Be sure to plant determinate varieties with reputations for heat survival. (Spot the clues in their names.) My favorites are surefire, solar fire, solar flare, celebrity, heatwave, sunmaster, and BHN444 (healthy surprise).

3. Water. Your plants will need this to survive. Not just a splash on the surface... but rather a profound watering. This will give them a more established root system and a better reservoir to draw from. Try to water on a 4 to 5 day schedule. Don't run automatic sprinkler systems during the day. (Loss to evaporation is too great.)

4. Mulch. Keep all flowerbeds, vegetable gardens and trees mulched. This will conserve water, cool the root zone and generally relieve heat stress.

5. Mow High. Choose the highest setting for your mower. Longer grass blades will help shade the roots and conserve water.

6. Survive. Want to avoid heatstroke? Three rules for central Texas gardeners: A. Wear effective sunscreen and a large brimmed hat. B. Garden early in the morning. C. Drink gallons upon gallons of water. Happy gardening everyone!

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

REPORT, REPORT, REPORT! Increase Safety in Windsor Park

Jeanette Swenson

Austin Police Department **Commander Shauna Griffin** spoke and answered questions at the May meeting. The most revealing Windsor Park map that she used showed that virtually no activity was reported between Cameron Road and Manor Road from 290E to East 51st Street in April. The map indicated a lot of activity along Manor Road and Cameron Road. APD has limited resources and to better serve the city, they are using "hot spot" responses with additional personnel to areas based on the calls they receive through 311 or 911.

Commander Griffin advises us to call 911 for activity in progress. Call 311 if you are calling after the fact. Even if APD does not respond directly to your 311 call, it will be entered into their database, and APD can increase its area responses using "hot spot policing" to monitor and respond to upticks in activity. Report all activity from exceptional loud music to harassment as a pedestrian or cyclist to gun shots, thefts, rummaging through unlocked cars and carports, speeding. If you feel unsafe, it's likely that someone else does too. It would also be helpful to report to WPNA Safety Chair White Snake, isisptah@gmail.com and Jeanette Swenson, Jeanette@windsorpark.info.

Currently, WPNA is working with Pecan Springs Springdale NA, Mueller NA, and University Hills NA to resolve harassment issues at Manor and Rogge near Pecan Springs Elementary. CM Harper-Madison's District 1 office set up the first joint meeting and CM Vela (D1) and CM Qadri (D9) were represented by staff. If you'd like to be involved, please contact WPNA Inter Neighborhood delegate Keith Edwards, Keith@windsorpark.info, or Jeanette Swenson, Jeanette@windsorpark.info. The coalition last met June 22 at East 19th Avenue Baptist Church.



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Market Statistics

LAST 90 DAYS

Trends to Note

Average Price Per Square Foot Has INCREASED by 84% over the last 90 days.

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

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (Over Last 90 Days)	\$381.68
# OF HOMES SOLD IN (Over Last 90 Days)	32
AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD	1,630
AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS	32
# ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET	33*

*As of June 12th, 2024 - Single Family Homes. Request a Detailed Report for Your Section of Windsor Park



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Yard of the Month - 5609 Delwood Drive

Sara Jane Lee

The July winners are Danielle Hayes and Bob Bednar of 5609 Delwood Drive. They have lived there 23 years and are members of WPNA. Bob delivers “Window on Windsor” on Delwood Drive.

Because they have a very large front yard, they have divided it into smaller living spaces on either side of their driveway. Surrounding their front yard, there is a livestock panel fence. Plants grow on both sides of the fence. As they have lived there, they have replaced the grass with hardscape and perennials. One side is like a courtyard reminding Danielle of the courtyards where she grew up overseas.

They have two Esperanzas, two Texas Sages, a Mountain Laurel, several Green Agaves, a Fire Bush, a Lantana, and a Dwarf Pomegranate. Several Pride of Barbados plants dominate one side of the front yard. Along the fence they have Cross Vines, Climbing Roses, wild Morning Glories, and wild Passion Fruit. Their Luffa Gourds are one of their favorites. This year, another favorite is the Victoria Red Grape because it is producing enough grapes for them after the squirrels have taken their tax. The Red Tip Photinia is the only plant that was there when Bob and Danielle moved there.

On the outside of the fence they have a small house labeled “Garden Treasures - Free for Kids.” It is full of toys free for the taking. It has brought Bob and Danielle closer to their neighbors.

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Seeking Yard of the Month nominations. We are looking for interesting yards, perfection not required. Send your nomination(s) to WPNA YOMC. P.O. Box 16183, Austin, Texas 78761, call 512-928-0681, or email wpna.yom@gmail.com.



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President..... Jeanette Swenson.....president@windsorpark.info
 Vice President Chad Cotton.....vicepresident@windsorpark.info
 Secretary..... Heather Wong.....secretary@windsorpark.info
 Treasurer Samantha Searle.....treasurer@windsorpark.info
 Inter-Neighborhood.... Keith Edwards.....keith@windsorpark.info
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**Windsor Park Library
 5833 Westminster Dr.**

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

Highlights:
 Saturday July 6 10:00am - 12:00pm
 Hooks and Needles

Tuesday, July 9th @ 6:30
 Windsor Park Book Club - Reservation Blues by Sherman Alexie

Thursday, July 11 & 18 @ 6:00
 The Astrology of Now: What's happening in the sky?

Tuesday July 16 @ 1pm
 Just for Tweens: Minecraft with TD3 Innovative Gaming

Thursday July 18 @ 10am
 Imagination Station: Oceans Touch & Sound

Saturday July 20 1pm - 2pm
 Austin Symphony Presents: Tuneful Tales

Tuesday July 23 @ 1pm
 Literature Live! Presents: Chicken BIG

Friday July 26 12:30pm - 1:30pm
 Books and Babies

Saturday July 27 1:30pm - 2:30pm
 Travis Audobon Society Presents: Welcome Mat for Backyard Birds

Tuesday July 30 @ 1pm
 Glow-in-the-dark Art

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 District Representative for
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Officer Mark Moreno
Mark.Moreno@austintexas.gov

Welcome, Officer Moreno!