



WINDOW on WINDSOR

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

**Next
Neighborhood
Association
Meeting
Saturday, Oct
12th, 10am**

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

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

WPNA President's Letter

Jeanette Swenson

WPNA hosted a well-attended District 4 and Mayoral Candidate forum at the General Meeting on September 14. If you were unable to attend the forum, Chandler and Jackie Brooks and Chad Cotton livestreamed and recorded it, so you still have time to inform yourself about local issues and concerns before the November 5 election.

To view and listen to the recording, use the link: <https://www.windsorpark.info/september-2024-wpna-meeting-livestream/>.

The District 4 forum begins at timestamp 10:00 and the Mayoral forum begins about 11:15.

Please VOTE in November from the top of the ballot to the bottom. Local elections are critically important and where your vote can make a difference. The last day to register to vote in Travis County is October 7. Check your registration status at: www.VoteTravis.com. If you will be 18 before November 5, please register to vote. Most AISD schools have voter registration drives at the school.

To really make a difference in Windsor Park, consider running for a WPNA office and voting in person or online in our hyperlocal election on November 9. For 2025, we are searching for candidates for Vice President and Inter-Neighborhood delegate. Both positions offer leadership, organizing, and community building opportunities. Contact Meghan Dougherty, meghan@windsorpark.info, Chad Cotton, vicepresident@windsorpark.info or Jeanette Swenson, President@windsorpark.info.

Some great events coming up provide you an opportunity to connect with your Windsor Park neighbors and be a part of shaping and supporting our community. Hope to see you there!

- Pancake Breakfast on October 5 at Austin Mennonite Church
- Roots & Wings at Bartholomew Park on November 2, 10am – 2pm, will feature Eco Expo where over 800 trees will be distributed and we celebrate Shade the Streets. Many fun and informative activities for the whole family!

Shade Our Streets - Climate Conversation – Oct 9 at 7pm

Martin Luecke

The importance of shade trees in the Windsor Park future will be the topic when we live-stream on YouTube **Wednesday October 9 at 7pm**. We will be joined by representatives of TreeFolks, Austin Energy, and Dr. Dev Niyogi, Director of the Extreme Weather and Urban Sustainability “TEXUS” Lab.

Watch it live and ask questions of the panelists at Windsor Park Climate Conversation YouTube channel, or watch at any time after the livestream.

**ECO EXPO - part of Roots & Wings
Bartholomew Park
Saturday, Nov 2 - between 10-2**

**Kid's activities, food, music
Tree & mulch give-away
Shade Brigade
Meet your Congressman**

More Info: Windsor Park Eco Fest

Meet the Candidates for 2025 WPNA Executive Committee!

Please attend the November 9th Windsor Park meeting at Memorial United Methodist Church on Berkman Drive to vote for our slate of 2025 officers. Read below for more information about each candidate:



President

Chad Cotton has lived in the neighborhood for 16 years or so and has been involved with WPNA most of that time in some capacity. Seeing the need to have someone step up and get involved as a leader in the organization provided him the opportunity to be

more involved. Over the last year he has served as Vice President. He's observed first-hand Jeanette Swenson's effective leadership.

He looks forward to doing more to streamline our meetings, get more community input, and have more participation.



Secretary

Keith Edwards wants to give back to the neighborhood by serving on the executive committee. He has found that WPNA has great service leadership, and he appreciates the opportunity to support the association in working to improve the quality of life for all our neighbors.

He is a regular attendee at our neighborhood meetings and is wrapping up two years of service as the inter-neighborhood delegate for WPNA. He filled in twice this summer as secretary for our meetings in July and August and enjoyed the opportunity to serve.



Treasurer

Sam Searle would like to continue in the role as Treasurer for the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association. She has added value to the executive committee this year by leveraging her professional experience as a CPA and her wide network in the

neighborhood and adjacent communities. There are a lot of projects and plans in the works for our neighborhood, and she is excited to support their growth for 2025.

Through her role as Treasurer this year, she has developed friendships and working relationships with many of our neighbors and WPNA members. She looks forward to continuing to work with them collaboratively to improve our neighborhood.

But wait... We also need your help!

You might have noticed in this list of qualified and dedicated neighborhood volunteers we are missing two important roles: Vice President and Inter-Neighborhood Delegate! The Vice President serves in the role of President in the President's absence; chairs the Membership Committee; maintains a current copy of the Standing Rules; and serves as parliamentarian of the Association. The Inter-Neighborhood Delegate helps us build stronger relationships with neighboring associations to advocate for improvements that affect the larger northeast region of Austin. He or she attends meetings of the inter-neighborhood organizations and facilitates communication between our neighborhood and others.

If you or someone you know would enjoy becoming more involved in leadership in the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association, please fill out the form through the link <https://bit.ly/4e4FcRD> or reach out to Meghan Dougherty (doughtastic@gmail.com) if you have questions.

Rebecca's Pancake Breakfast
Benefitting WPNA Scholarship Fund
Saturday, October 5, 2024 -- 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.
5801 Westminster Drive -- next to the WP Library

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR - the late JOHN VINSON

Martin Luecke

There is a concrete drainage ditch behind Blanton Elementary school on Blanton Drive with a 15-foot-wide strip of green grass the length of the block. You will find four small fruit trees bunched together, two plum, two peach, almost out of place in their location between the curb and the creek. They did not naturally appear here, but here they are, on public land, and now I know why: seven years ago, they were planted under cover of darkness, without permission, and watered regularly by our former neighbor and resident guerrilla gardener from Ridgemoor Drive, John Vinson.



This, apparently, was a common practice. John and wife Martha were secretly known to transplant cacti from land being cleared for development to “Little Bend” their desert garden. In his youth John occasionally used his sunflower and tomato growing skills to transplant shrubs from affluent neighbors to houses that needed a landscape upgrade.

These are defining actions for a former assistant Texas Attorney General who once published “Reported Legal Case Opinions Pertaining to or Mentioning Coleslaw” in literary journal *McSweeney’s*. This might help explain his small garden pond project “A Safe Place for Toads”, designed to promote egg laying and back yard singing. (I have a similar project)

John began his legal career as a constitutional litigator working with Madalyn Murray O’Hair on first amendment cases throughout the US. O’Hair famously won the Supreme Court case removing religion from public schools. John joined the Texas Attorney General in 1992 and his work spurred the legislature to pass the Texas Nonprofit Charity Care Law. Other cases included prosecuting a megachurch televangelist for deceiving donors; imposing receiverships on primate and tiger sanctuaries that were mistreating animals; and dealing with the complex probate and corporate holdings of the artist Donald Judd (credited with making Marfa the art community of West Texas).

In private practice John served on numerous co-op boards as an expert in nonprofit and cooperative corporate law. He became the go-to legal guy for the neighborhood, making his services affordable to people of all incomes. He also was known for his “P Soup” recipe, containing ingredients beginning with the letter *p*, his “Rabbit” series of portrait paintings, his haikus, his encyclopedic knowledge of flora, fauna, fungi, and stars, and bemoaning the dangers of global warming. Martha says John planted the trees hoping they would eventually bear fruit that could be enjoyed by everyone in the neighborhood.

Partially inspired by John’s secret plan to install fruit trees in public spaces, I came up with this idea of planting trees across Windsor Park to Shade the Streets and reduce our future heat island effect. Unfortunately, John was taken by cancer a year ago. I only know his story because my next-door neighbor Gary is watering those fruit trees.

In November those trees are going to have neighbors because I have gotten permission from Watershed Protection to plant six more trees on that block long strip of land. I also have committed to watering those six trees, and ask now for volunteers to adopt their own tree in that public space. Let’s add to John’s legacy in Windsor Park.

martin@windsorpark.info 512.536.0465

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October 2024 Yard of the Month - 1424

Corona Drive

Sara Jane Lee

The October winners are Kelly Handran and Julie Szabla of 1424 Corona Drive.

Coming from San Francisco, they were familiar with the concept of xeriscape. When they came here seven years ago, they wanted to use xeric plants. Specifically, they wanted to use Texas natives. It took the landscaper that they hired about two months to complete the work.

Now they have a Pecan Tree, two beautiful pink-flowering Crape Myrtles, a Texas Sage, a Prickly Pear Cactus, a very young Red Oak tree, Iris from one of their neighbors, Golden Crownbeards (also known as Cowpen Daisies), Red Yucca, Goldenrods, Dallas Red Lantana, and a Pomegranate.

Their favorite is a Mexican Fan Palm which has they have grown from a small pot. After a rain, the red rocks in their yard are beautiful. They have a fascinating blue bottle tree. For the times when it does not rain, they use water from a 200-gallon rain barrel to water their plants.

Julie and Kelly highly recommend planting xeric plants, especially Texas natives that will survive our heat and drought.

Such plants cut down your work.

Kelly and Julie 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) for Yard of the Month – yours or any yard you admire in Windsor Park - to WPNA YOMC. P.O. Box 16183, Austin, Texas 78761, call 512-928-0681 and leave a message, or email wpna.yom@gmail.com.



You are invited to join our inclusive faith community as we seek together to be those who do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly.

9:30AM Classes by Age Group
11AM Worship Gathering and Nursery

5801 Westminster Dr, Austin, TX 78723

visit austinmennonite.org for more info



October 2024 Mueller Update

Rick Krivoniak

Around 2011, it became evident that the Mueller-Windsor Park interface on E. 51st Street might need improvements to make pedestrian and bike crossings easier. Home Depot was built, H•E•B was underway, and the AISD Performing Arts Center chose a site at 51st and Mueller Blvd., and this edge of Mueller has more streets and driveways than all the rest of Mueller’s perimeter. It was also a chance to reconsider a Mueller-side 60’ setback that was to allow widening 51st for a Red Line rail extension, which was deemed no longer viable.

A 2012 City bond issue passed to fund an improvement concept for tree-lined wide sidewalks on the north side to match Mueller’s, separated bike lanes and some parallel parking to encourage store-fronts on both sides, refuge medians at signalized crossings, an Art in Public Spaces installation, and a new 15’ setback. The City hired an engineer, public input sessions were held and construction drawings were produced. The bond’s funding shortfall were even addressed.

Then the flood plains in the area were revised to change what had been 100-year flood events to 20-year events, so stormwater management for the project had to be substantially revised. The City gave the engineer ample time to alter the drawings, but ultimately, that didn’t happen.

So, a new engineer has been hired, revised plans are coming along, and per Eric Bailey with the City’s Capital Delivery Services Dept. at the September Mueller Commission meeting, the project will be completed in 2026.

A trail alongside Tannehill Branch Creek as it runs through Bartholomew is planned for the future. The Creek crosses under 51st onto the Mueller portion of Tannehill Greenway, which fronts 51st Street from Tilley Street to the seven duplexes and apartments with the airplane on Old Manor Road, where it ducks behind them and then borders the CTECC complex back to Tilley Street.

The construction we see at 51st and Tilley is Catellus stabilizing the Creek’s bank and installing two bridges for the creekside trail in Mueller. Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds Mueller’s infrastructure, including this project, with land sales and City sales & property taxes (not AISD, County, etc.) generated at Mueller until 2032. The Tannehill Greenway continues further east along 51st beyond Old Manor Road, within Windsor Park’s planning area, awaiting Austin PARD funding for development.

The Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission next meets at 6pm on Tuesday, October 8th, at the Austin Energy Building, 4815 Mueller Boulevard. Park free in the AE garage. Commission agendas, presentations, etc. are available at austintexas.gov/rmmapiac.



Windsor Park

August 2024 Real Estate Report

Jef Hahl
 10+ Year Windsor Park Resident
 Broker Associate & Realtor
GRI, ABR, RENE, SRES, TAHS, RESA, PSA
Jef@HahlHomes.com
 512.796.6750

 \$510,000 MEDIAN SALES PRICE	 \$364.03 MEDIAN PRICE / SQFT	 14 MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET	 3 NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD	 \$480,000 LEAST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD	 \$570,450 MOST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD
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*SINGLE FAMILY HOME STATISTICS COLLECTED FROM AUSTIN BOARD OF REALTORS MLS

From WPNA's Enlivenment committee...

October in the Garden

Chris Winslow

1. Plant fall-flowering perennials Look around and see what's blooming this fall. Some good choices are Mexican bush sage, pineapple sage, Mexican mint marigold, Copper Canyon daisy, and fall asters. Don't forget to check out fall blooming ornamental grasses. Tops on my list are Gulf Coast muhly, big muhly, and maiden grass.

2. Prepare grass for winter Now is a good time to fertilize the lawn. Feeding now will help the roots through

winter dormancy. Inspect and treat for brown patch, a disease common with cooling, moist weather conditions. This is also a good time to apply corn gluten for weed control, and to top-dress with manure-based compost.

3. Plant a tree Choose from central Texas's great selection of native and adapted shade and ornamental trees. Plant one of the many oaks or elms for shade. Or add color to your late winter and spring season by planting a redbud, mountain laurel, orchid tree, flowering peach or pear, or a Mexican plum.

4. Plant a vegetable garden Now is the time for broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, and Brussels sprouts from transplants. Easily grown from seed are collards, spinach, carrots, radishes, lettuce, mustard and collard greens, beets, Swiss chard, spinach, and turnips. Garlic and shallots (multiplying onions) can be planted now with short day onions just around the corner in November.

5. Plant snapdragons These wonderful, winter hardy flowers should be planted now for a showy late winter and spring garden. They almost guarantee a Yard of The Month sign in April. Other bedding plants to choose from are dianthus, violas, pansies, stock and flowering kale, and cabbage.

6. Harvest basil and make pesto Also plant some winter-hardy culinary herbs. Rosemary, oregano, parsley, cilantro, sage, thyme, and chives love winter and can provide fresh cut herbs for the kitchen.

7. Plant winter grass seed If you have a bare spot or would like to get rid of a muddy patch, sow some ryegrass or fescue. Rye grass can also be planted in a vegetable garden area to provide green compost in the spring and soil aeration. Elbon rye seed can also be planted over winter in garden areas plagued by soil nematodes (a disaster to tomatoes).

8. Plant wildflowers These need to be planted in the fall. They will grow leaves and stems while the days are short during the winter and will flower in the spring as the days get longer.

9. Plant fall bulbs For spring flowers, some of the best choices are daffodils, grape muscari, tulips, jonquils, ranunculus, anemones, hyacinths, and narcissus. When planting, remember to add a little bonemeal to the root zone for some slow release organic nutrition.



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



John Paul Porter
 Owner/Broker/REALTOR
 (512) 563-8176
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WINDSOR PARK

Market Statistics

LAST 90 DAYS

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (Over Last 90 Days)	\$382.02
# OF HOMES SOLD IN (Over Last 90 Days)	23
AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD	1,525
AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS	28
# ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET	33*

*As of Sept 5th, 2024 - Single Family Homes.
 Request a Detailed Report for Your Section of Windsor Park

Trends to Note

**Since last month's reporting :
 We increased an entire month's
 worth of inventory taking us
 to 4.3 months of inventory.**

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



Memorial United Methodist Church loves all people in Windsor Park!

New website, new look:
<https://memorialumcaustin.org/>

- Sunday Worship at 11 AM
- GriefShare Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Register online.
- Trunk or Treat on Halloween 5:30 - 7:30 PM

6100 Berkman Dr ♦ All are welcome here!

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 Windsor Park Neighborhood
 Association AND
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Contact Us

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
 WoW Editor..... Amanda Rose.....newsletter@windsorpark.info
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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 or Venmo

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

Member Name(s) : _____

E-mail for 1st Member: _____

Email for Add'l Member: _____

Address: _____

Phone(s): _____

**Windsor Park Library
 5833 Westminster Dr.**

Upcoming events:
[https://library.austintexas.gov/
 events?loc=184&date=](https://library.austintexas.gov/events?loc=184&date=)

Saturday Oct 5, 10:00am - 12:00pm Hooks and Needles

Tuesday Oct 8 @ 6:30 Windsor Park Book Club
 God's Little Acre by Erskine Caldwell

Thursday, Oct 10 @ 6:00 The Astrology of Now:
 What's happening in the sky?

Friday, Oct 11 & 25, 3-4:30 All Ages Chess Open Play

Saturday, Oct 12, 1 - 3pm Costume Swap and Crafternoon

Wednesday, Oct 16, 10am - 2pm MiniMake-IT Lab
 Wednesday, Oct 16, 3 - 5pm The Family Naturalist:
 The great outdoors comes to Windsor Park Library. Each month, we will explore a theme with hands-on activities and nature-based play.

Saturday, Oct 19, 10:30am - 12:30pm Tree Care Workshop with City of Austin's Education Forester, Keith Babberney

Tuesday, Oct 22, 4 - 6pm Come create a terrarium home for a gnome while watching a spooky fall themed TVPG cartoon series.

Saturday, Oct 26, 11am - 2pm Roots and Wings: Un-Bee-lievable Pollinators Festival!

Tuesday, Oct 29, 5:30 - 7:30pm The Crafty Adult: Happy Little Paintings (bad art edition)

Thursday, Oct 31, 10 - 11am Early Literacy Playgroup - Halloween Edition

**Austin Police Department
 District Representative for
 Windsor Park**

Officer Mark Moreno
Mark.Moreno@austintexas.gov