



Walnut Creek Neighborhood News

Walnut Creek Neighborhood Association

A pdf version in color is available at www.WCNAnews.com

Nov
Dec
2024

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It's Always So Dark – and Spooky - for Walnut EEK!

Now in its 5th year, Walnut EEK! is synonymous with Halloween in Walnut Creek Neighborhood! A group of neighbors, including Tasha Bowser, Cynthia Gesotti, Melissa Huber, Max Meehan and Eric Shaughnessy, have got the production perfected after four years of fine tuning (also thanks to

Social Media) and it's **👻a happening👻**. See this for yourself at <https://www.wcnanews.com/walnuteek>, which lays the whole operation out in one page, clearly and concisely. As you readers undoubtedly know, you sign your house up as a trick-or-treat stop, including whether you will

have allergy-free treats(!). You can also designate your house as “decorated” for the event and win a prize. This approach has been enormously successful, drawing attention from many folks outside the ‘hood, with more coming both from inside and outside each year. In terms of participation, it is clearly the largest annual event in Walnut Creek Neighborhood.

This year Tasha applied (on behalf of the neighborhood) and received a permit to close off a block of Hilltop Street from traffic, between Covington and Scurry, creating “Treat Street”, an area safe for all to move and mingle while visiting the haunted side-by-side venues set up by Max (Meehan) and Jill & Damon (Leberknight/Brown). Max featured a potluck BBQ in the hour before the official start at 6:00 p.m., and a big wave of participants showed up for this and to interact with his haunted structures. Many marveled at the electronic spirit / skull called *Sheldon* at Jill & Damon’s driveway (how does this “being” maintain eye contact and talk with me!?). The wave moved off for trick-or-treating, followed by smaller waves during the evening.

It’s hard to get a very accurate estimate of the number of folks who participated over the entire period from 6:00 to 9:00, but at the spooky stop deepest into the neighborhood more than a hundred adults and kids were recorded stopping for information and treats.



A spook-tacular portrait by Eric Shaughnessy

Meanwhile, in the middle of Treat Street, Eric set up his surprise “Photo BOOTH”, where costumed revelers could get professional-quality portraits in a spooky, foggy setting (example at left), terrific tokens to cherish from a memorable event in their neighborhood. See more of these at the WCNA group Facebook page: <http://goo.gl/4G41rS>

There were all kinds of strange beings walking the streets, enjoying the perfect weather after a threatening night before. There was a trailer-load of kids (and adults) making the rounds of our large, meandering, challenging-to-walk neighborhood. But the number of automobiles on the streets generally was small and clearly very cognizant of the danger with small kids on a dark night; none was reported moving at an unsafe speed.

So another Walnut EEK! has come and gone, leaving us with a new set of memories and ideas for future years. Thanks to all the volunteers who participated in the event, and especially to those whose efforts made the event possible. And of course to Eric and Becca Sharp who inspired it in 2020!



A treat stop on Scurry



Sheldon conversing with admirers.

Report on the CONAN Candidate Forum of 12 October 2024

by Robert Meadows

The **Coalition of North Austin Neighborhoods** (CONAN) is an umbrella organization that brings together neighborhood leaders in North Austin to collaborate, share ideas, and exchange information. CONAN was started in early 2024 and presently includes a collection of volunteer civic organizations, i.e., Walnut Creek Neighborhood Association, Gracywoods and North Park Estates Neighborhood Association, Lake Creek Estates, Quail Hollow, North Austin Civic Association, Georgian Acres Neighborhood Association, and others. (continued below)

In its first such effort, CONAN sponsored a District 4 (D4), District 7 (D7), and mayoral candidate forum on Saturday, 12 October 2024 from 9:30 am to noon at the NYOS Charter School at 12333 North Lamar Blvd. (corner of North Lamar and Yager Lane). The format consisted of two simultaneous sessions, one for D4 and one for D7, followed by the mayoral session. In each district session, a moderator asked prepared questions of the candidates, who were each allowed 2 or 3 minutes to respond per question. There were 3 or 4 prepared questions (public safety, infrastructure, etc.). Attendees could select the particular district session of interest to them. The moderator for D7 was our own Patrick Medina. The district sessions were followed by the mayoral session using the same format, but with a combined audience.

The candidates attending the mayoral forum were Jeffery Bowen, Doug Greco, Carmen Llanes Pulido, and Kathie Tovo (represented by a staffer at first, then by herself). Incumbent Mayor Kirk Watson did not attend and no representative was present for him.

The candidates attending for D7 were Edwin Bautista, Gary Bledsoe, Pierre Nguyen (a resident of the Walnut Creek neighborhood), Adam Powell, Todd Shaw, and a staffer who ably represented Mike Siegel. The D7 incumbent Leslie Pool, being term limited, was not running for re-election and did not attend.

The candidates attending for D4 were Monica Guzman, Louis Herrin, and Jose “Chita” Vela (the incumbent).

Refreshments were served (beverages and snacks); a restored vintage bicycle (from Christian Ninaud) was raffled off; and other items, e.g., HEB gift cards, were also raffled off. Over a hundred persons were in attendance – which is quite good as these events go.

Our neighborhood was well represented by Eric and Emily Shaughnessy, the “B”s (Mr. and Mrs. Birdsall), Christian and Luzdary Ninaud, Debbie Newton, and Pierre Nguyen playing himself. Apologies for any omissions due to failing memory. The overall impression was that this was a well-planned and well-attended event.

The Walnut Creek Neighborhood Association supported the event with a contribution of \$250.00.

The candidates themselves are to be thanked for their efforts simply in presenting themselves for office. They spend an enormous amount of time running for office, and they make a seemingly infinite effort to be cordial and gracious to all. Thank you to all of them.

Then We Had an Election

It’s safe to say everyone reading this newsletter knows who the next U.S. president and Vice President will be, and also the (current and) next Senator as well. Also governor Abbot probably got enough changes in seats in the Texas House to get his school voucher program through in the next session, as the house moved “right”. It’s to be hoped that this might also lead to a desperately-needed big increase in public school funding, since most districts are struggling with big deficits, but that remains to be seen.

In Austin, however, things tended to go in the opposite direction, which also was no surprise. For us here in Walnut Forest, our incumbents, all Democrats, were uncontested or held on to their offices (this includes our much-maligned district attorney). The race for mayor has come down to whether the incumbent, Kirk Watson, can hold onto a miniscule lead at “50%+ a few more”, literally, to avoid a runoff with Carmen Llanes Pulido. His vote count several days after the election was indistinguishable from 50% without decimal points.

In the City Council races, Chito Vela handily won in D4, but the crowded race in our district 7 produced a runoff, with Siegel receiving ~40% of the vote and Bledsoe with ~20%. Our neighbor Pierre Nguyen ran a strong race with limited funds, finishing 3rd with ~15%. **Any runoff races will be held on December 13th.**

Proposition A, a tax rate proposal which is intended to reduce AISD’s budget deficit and provide teachers with a pay raise (as usual, related to holding on to them via competitive salaries) in Austin / Travis County, **passed with almost 60% support**. The result likely will increase the property tax on a \$500K home by about \$400.

CapXpressCentral Has a Groundbreaking(!)

Well, I thought the *I35 Capital Express Central Project* started many years ago, first soliciting designs in 2014 and first (~\$5B) funding in 2020. So then why was there a groundbreaking ceremony on Oct 30th? It was a significant event, with 15 folks with shovels (couldn’t just be a photo op, now could it?).

And of course – this being Austin – there was a simultaneous protest against the IH35-widening project. Both the project and the protest have been in the works for about the same length of time. A lawsuit questioning the legality of the project with regard to environmental (*cont’d below*)



planning and intensifying segregation effects caused by constructing the highway through the center of Austin in the first place. The legal issues have not been completely resolved.

So the timing for the groundbreaking was a bit “squishy”, since it certainly had to do with having the funding pretty well in hand. Completion is expected in 2033, so it’s going to be a mess getting through Austin for a long time...

<https://www.kut.org/transportation/2024-10-30/austin-tx-i-35-expansion-starts-protests>

Meanwhile, “our” part of I35 Capital Express, CapXpress North, held its groundbreaking in March of 2023. After some delays the project has been going full speed since, with the results we’re dealing with today. It’s hard to predict what driving around IH 35 will be like from day to day, so I suspect many in the neighborhood are behaving a little (or a lot) like me: stay as far away from IH35 as you can for at least 5 years, and longer when going into Austin.



Photos by Renee Dominguez, KUT News

Report to the Neighborhood: WCNA-Sponsored “It’s My Park Day” on 2 November 2024

by Robert Meadows

It's My Park Day (IMPD) is a twice-a-year, community-led day of service organized and run at the citywide level by the Austin Parks Foundation (APF). Volunteers work to improve parks and green spaces and build community through projects such as litter cleanup, tree mulching, invasive species management and more. The Walnut Creek Neighborhood Association (WCNA) sponsors (leads) events under the IMPD umbrella for the Walnut Bluffs Trailhead. The WCNA sponsored a work session for the Saturday, November 2nd IMPD for the Trailhead, from 9 am to noon. This is actually a co-sponsorship with Gary Brewer, who provides substantial expertise and resources. *Go Gary (and Margaret, too)!*

Volunteers from the neighborhood and throughout Austin signed up online to work on the Trailhead project, and more Walnut Creek residents also showed up spontaneously. Volunteers received an APF-branded T-shirt, which entitled the wearer to freebies, such as free beer and pizza, at participating merchants.

The Team Leader was Board Member *Tasha Bowser*, who coined the phrase *Wild for Wildflowers* for the WCNA’s project. The Twidwells (Dorsey and Bunnie) provided breakfast tacos, fruit, and coffee, as has been their practice over many years. *Thank you Twidwells!* The WCNA received a \$250 mini-grant from APF and used the money to buy 4 pounds of wildflower seeds from Native American Seed (2 lbs. of Pollinator Essential Mix and 2 lbs. of Lady Bird’s Legacy Mix), with the unspent grant money being return to APF.

There were approximately 23 volunteers, split somewhat evenly between neighborhood residents and volunteers from outside the neighborhood. There was a substantial cohort from the Sierra Club. The volunteers were split into teams and pursued the tasks described below.

One team did maintenance on the *natural play elements* by the concrete trail roundabout. The installation of these natural play elements was requested from the City by WCNA, and it is now the neighborhood’s responsibility to maintain the area. WCNA plans to carry out maintenance at least every six months at the corresponding IMPD events. By the way, the mulch pile in the natural play elements area is for play (like a big sand pile), so please do not use this mulch for your individual needs.

Another team traversed the social trails (i.e., the dirt trails built and maintained by Gary Brewer (and others) for the neighborhood) to remove low-hanging branches, while another team mulched trees around the Trailhead entrance. This mulch was drawn from a pile delivered by APF and/or Austin’s PARD explicitly for IMPD.

Yet another team engaged in setting up a wildflower meadow around the segment of the eastern social trail that passes under the high-voltage line. At Gary’s request, this area had recently been mowed by PARD in support of the wildflower seeding operation. Mulch was spread on (continued below)



The Sierra Club member who seeded our Wildflower Meadow under the highline talks with President Robert Meadows, beside mulched wildflower rows along one of the “natural / social” trails.

both sides of the trail, followed by seeding and then a second mulching, with much raking to blend the seeds into the mulch. Luckily an almost 3-inch rain fell within a few days of the seeding.

The total cost to the WCNA, i.e., funds paid from members' dues, was \$109.58 for food and beverages for the volunteers. The undistributed T-shirts were returned to APF.

The WCNA did not sponsor a face-painting kiosk this time due to a lack of bandwidth by the WCNA organizers. No systematic invasive species uprooting was carried out due to the limited number of volunteers.

The next IMPD is Saturday, 8 March 2025. Please consider participating for a few hours to spiff up the Trailhead, and please do not hesitate to contact me with ideas for additional projects, etc.

New Rules for “No-Refusal” Breathalyzer Testing

The Austin Police Department has been invoking “No-Refusal” periods – when drivers pulled over suspected of “Driving While Intoxicated” must submit to breath-testing – for a long time, but typically only on holiday weekends or special events where attendees tend to be “celebratory drinking” during late-night hours. For transparency reasons these time periods were usually publicized in advance. But this last summer the department instituted the rule **on a permanent basis from 9:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.**, when statistics indicate 70% of DWIs occur (Note: about 40% of people stopped on suspicion of DWI refuse testing at the site, and will be taken to a police establishment for testing if an expert OKs the procedure. Breathalyzer testing significantly increases the chance for prosecution of impaired drivers and reduces the likelihood of accidents caused by them.

Bats Under Two IH35 Bridges May be Coming to Us!

I doubt that anybody reading this doesn't know about the bats that roost under many Austin-area bridges, the most famous of which is the Ann Richards Congress Avenue Bridge. Visitors from around the world visit the area on the southeast side of the bridge (where Austin American Statesman used to be) to observe every evening when the bats emerge to search for insects in a huge area around the city. There also are/were large colonies of these Mexican Free-Tailed Bats under several IH35 overpasses, some of which have already been demolished – or are marked for demolition - to accommodate the ongoing TxDOT expansion of IH35 from Georgetown to Buda: the *I-35 Capital Express Project*. These bridges are at Wells Branch, Howard Lane, the Upper Decks, and Onion Creek.

Demolition of these bridges in order to rebuild them wider obviously will displace their roosting colonies, and if the demolition was done as in the past (frequently using explosives) many of their “residents” would be killed. But because “our bats” have become so beloved over the years, TxDOT is trying to preserve as many of them as possible. The methodology to accomplish this is called “exclusion”, whereby on a specified day, after leaving for their evening hunt for insects, the bats are prevented from returning to the crevices where they roosted. The method being used to exclude them from IH35 bridges is to spray an expanding foam into their crevices after they've left for the evening, forcing them to find alternative roosts when they discover their crevice has disappeared.

This is where “we” – “Walnut Creek” – come in. The procedure for moving the bats to a defined new location is to have attractive habitat established there before the exclusion, as near their old homes as possible. For the Wells Branch and Howard Lane colonies, a prime location seems obvious: under the IH35 bridge over Walnut Creek. New “homes” built for this purpose, called “bat boxes”, are wooden structures about 4'x4'x2', constructed under TxDOT contract from a design provided by Bat Conservation International, with partitions spaced at optimum intervals for bat habitat (this turns out to be exactly what occurred “accidentally” with the beam design used on IH35; i.e., panels are/were spaced about 1 - 1.5 inches apart. TxDOT has built 36 of these bat boxes with guidance from Bat Conservation International, headquartered here in Austin, established in the '80s by Merlin Tuttle.

Thus, by the time the northbound Wells Branch bridge was demolished in September, many of the 36 boxes planned for the Walnut Creek site were built and installed under our bridge (they're not as ideal as the bridges they left, especially with their vertical positions being so much lower relative to the surrounding landscape, according to the Austin Bat Refuge, a residential non-profit). It can take a year for the majority of a colony to find and relocate to a new habitat, so it's likely going to be a while before we see large numbers of these new neighbors.

The report that engendered this article contains many more details, including more history on the path to acceptability by Austinites despite the superstitions (vampires, etc) associated with them and their ability to carry rabies (they are the most likely animal around Austin to carry rabies, so precautions should be taken when bats are encountered (<https://totalwildlifecontrol.com/critter-facts-control/bats/rabies-safety/>) The full article (*cont'd below*)



TxDOT worker with Bat Boxes near Walnut Creek Bridge

was presented on KUT-FM on Halloween morning. It can be heard in its entirety at <https://www.kut.org/transportation/2024-10-31/austin-tx-bats-bridge-displaced-i-35-expansion>. You will enjoy listening to Nathan Bernier's (pronounced 'Burnyay') report; He is a good story-teller as well as being a first-rate reporter, and it only takes about 15 minutes.



Crows in a tree near the Ruiz Branch Library in Southeast Austin

Like Poe, Mose Buchele tells the story of these crows who have frequented the library for years, staring in and tapping on the windows.

While you're there, you can enjoy another superb KUT reporter / storyteller, Mose Buchele (pronounced 'Booshay', I think), telling about some other critters with mystical reputations: Crows! These crows live in the vicinity of the Ruiz Branch Library in Southeast Austin, and frequently are found tapping on the windows there and "talking" to the students and others. So last Halloween – 2023 – Buchele broadcast his article about the phenomenon, using Edgar Allan Poe's style for his poem "The Raven". It's a delightful listen in about 8 minutes:

<https://www.kut.org/austin/2023-10-31/they-come-knocking-a-group-of-crows-has-visited-the-same-east-austin-library-for-years>.

All Your Medical History at Your Fingertips: It's Really Possible Now!

What if you could sit at your computer, tablet or smart phone and look up any information from any of your health care providers, from as far back as the providers have kept it, whether they kept it in digital or hard copy form? And you could use that (your) information for whatever purpose you needed, like setting up an appointment with a new provider? And you could ask an AI chatbot any question you like about your information and get any answer the data supports; e.g., *Show me my historical blood pressure*, and get a list and/or graph of same?

An Austinite, Bo Holland, has formed a company to produce such an application, *Health Bank One*, which launched in October and is available in the App Stores. His company is *AllClear ID*, <https://www.allclearid.com/>, and it was motivated by his experience dealing with the health care industry when his son was diagnosed with a brain tumor and his professional experience with developing similar accrual software with financial records. If you're as old as I am you've almost surely navigated this chaotic territory yourself, where, despite laws requiring making and maintaining electronic records and making them easily available to you, privacy laws have made this extremely confusing and difficult, with much aid from the insurance companies. When we "went digital" we were led to believe that our records would be quickly and easily obtained with our permission by the agency who needed it from the agency who generated it. And perhaps the most aggravating impediment to a smooth experience with a new doctor / agency is filling out the same information - on a slightly different form – that you filled out on the last 5 such agencies, and frequently in ink, because the digital interface isn't available or isn't working.

The app currently costs ~\$15 per month, with a 3 month free trial where you can test it on 3 providers. Holland is hopeful that agencies and governments will see the value and start paying for it to be provided to the public for free. One of the clearest descriptions of the application can be seen here: <https://bit.ly/40FJ7k4>

Report to the Neighborhood on the Semiannual Neighborhood-Wide Garage and Craft Sale of Saturday, 19 October 2024

By Robert Meadows

The Walnut Creek Neighborhood Association (WCNA) held its semiannual neighborhood-wide garage sale on Saturday, 19 October 2024. The previous sale was held on 13 April 2024. This is the 20th neighborhood-wide garage sale that I have produced, dating back to 2006. The WCNA has been holding these sales at least back to the 1980's.

There were 10 sales registered to be on the map (9 garage sales, 1 craft sale), and there were at least 5 other ad hoc sales. There was only a single sale in Walnut Forest (the strip of the neighborhood east of "Skunk" Creek, comprising Pollyanna, Whitewing, Wren, Sandpiper, Meadowlark, Thrush, and Covington). The weather was outstanding, cool in the morning and clear throughout the day.

In checking with only 3 sales, the reports were good, meh, and very good. Interestingly, a very good sale was reported by 11816 Indianhead, which is a very remote location in the neighborhood with reference to Braker and N. Lamar (i.e., remote from turn-in lookers and comparatively difficult to access).

Overall, then, neighborhood participation, that is, the number of sales, was mediocre (there has often been 25+ sales) when buying traffic was good. (continued below)

No WCNA signage was lost or stolen. The cost to the WCNA (i.e., the costs paid from member dues) was a total of \$102.46, i.e., \$43.96 for an ad in the Austin-American Statesman and \$58.50 for an ad in the Austin Chronicle.

Can You Balance on One Leg for 30 seconds?

If you're one of us "older" people, you may have taken notice of a study by the Mayo Clinic comparing several indicators of healthy aging, since the results have been reported in many places. Two of these places are AARP (<https://www.aarp.org/health/healthy-living/info-2024/one-leg-balance-longevity-test.html>) and <https://bit.ly/4fP6ufh>. Both are good references and have different discussions, including generalized descriptions of the results of aging. Both emphasize the result from the research that the best indicator of a person's state of aging was found to be *ability to balance*, which involves much of the neuromuscular system. The other indicators are *strength*, as measured by hand grip and the ability to apply force upward by the lower leg, or "knee strength", and *gait*, which involves motions associated with walking and dynamic stability in general. The measurements for *gait* and dynamic stability didn't show a difference with age, but strength decreased in the tested population by less than 4% **per decade**. But the measurements related to balance showed a decline of about **10% per decade**. The primary indicators for *ability to balance* were the times a subject could maintain balance in six configurations: standing on two legs with eyes open; two legs with eyes closed; on the dominant leg with eyes open; then with them closed; and on the non-dominant leg with eyes open and closed. In the study () the target time for these tests was 30 seconds.

The basic conclusion from all the tests is that the neuromuscular system tends to decline significantly faster than the muscle (strength) system. This doesn't seem surprising since the neuromuscular system integrates combinations of vision, inner ear balance and a network of muscles and nerves throughout the body, a much more complex structure than the tested muscular systems. Further, things like arthritis and heart/blood vessel disorders affect these structures, as do many medications, and these tend to be more prominent as we get older.

For us the findings provide a simple test we can apply to ourselves to assess our defense against the most common risk as we grow older: falling. The longer we can balance in the configurations described at a given age the better we are protected against falls. And the most sensitive of the tests is standing on the non-dominant leg with eyes closed, though all of them provide useful indicators of our neuromuscular health.

Another study at Duke used similar methodology to qualitatively assess this health measure based on the times balance could be held for the various conditions. It found that if you're older than 65 and can balance for 30 seconds or longer you're in good neuromuscular health, and you should take action if you can't balance for at least 5 seconds. The "balance times" thus provide a screening tool for physicians assessing patient's health.

Good news from the studies is that you can do things to improve your balance. Physical exercises to increase leg strength and movement exercises such as "step-ups", sideways walking, heel-to-toe walking in a straight line, one-leg standing with knee elevated to hip level, tai chi, yoga and pilates can improve your balance times. Making diet and lifestyle changes which allow reduction or elimination of medications which affect balance will also improve your test results.

The form below facilitates paying annual dues and also indicating whether and how much you might like to donate to any of the various programs currently sponsored by WCNA. Sending it with your payment allows recording your status and whatever contact information you would like for future reference. In previous years, a self-addressed, stamped envelope has been provided, most of which were not returned. We've decided to skip that procedure for at least one mailing to see how it affects costs and returns.

Dues and Contributions Form for Calendar Year 2025

Please clip and return with payment, or use PayPal (see below).

Dues for 2025 are \$25 Please note your desired distribution for contributions over that amount.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

DUES (\$25 per year): \$ _____

DONATION: General Fund \$ _____ Walnut Bluffs Trails (park) \$ _____ Safety Team \$ _____

Walnut Creek Elementary \$ _____ Cat Coalition \$ _____

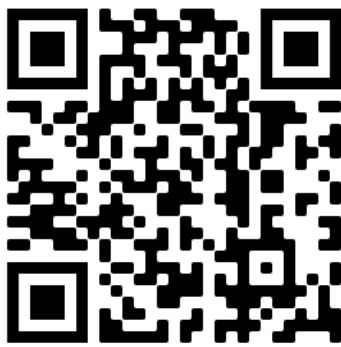
TOTAL INCLUDED: \$ _____

Sleeping Longer on Weekends: Not Just for Teenagers Anymore?

As you probably suspect, we Americans / Texans / Austinites / WCN-ites are sleep-deprived. Or at least a quarter of us are, according to many studies from research organizations (amazing how many there are!). That means we're typically getting fewer than about 7 hours of sleep per night. We're frequently advised that this is putting our health at risk, with links to high blood pressure, high cholesterol, inflammation, heart attack, and more. Donald Trump is said to frequently go a couple of days without sleep, so there's that, but most of us can feel the fog enveloping our brains and similar effects as we accumulate more "sleep debt". From our teenage years, many of us feel like just sleeping longer on weekends gives us our minds (such as they are at those ages) back, or at least our energy. But sleep experts keep warning us that this can just make things worse, by further screwing with our Circadian Rhythms.



Now come the results of a 14-year study in England (<https://www.ukbiobank.ac.uk/enable-your-research/approved-research>) showing that teenage us was right, to some extent. Results showed that people who increased their sleep time on weekends – as much as 90 minutes more than their sleep-deprived times, lowered their risk of many dilatory effects by about 20%.



QR Code to pay dues or donate

You can use PayPal for both dues & contributions.

PayPal is a popular way to become – or remain - a member, or to make a donation toward WCNA projects (shown on drop-down menus on the Donate site). You can use any credit card to make a payment via PayPal through the "join/donate" page on the WCNA website, <https://wcnanews.com/membership/>

Alternatively, with your smart phone using a QR code reader you can go to the same page using the QR code at left.

Note: You don't have to join PayPal to use it for payments.

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EMERGENCY: Police, Fire,
EMS, Animal Control: **Call 911**

**The National Suicide/Mental
Crisis Hotline: 988**

Trans Hotline: 877-565-8860

City: All services, codes & code
violations, animal reports:
Call 311

[Get the phone app: **Austin311**
on Google Play and iTunes]

APD District Rep: **Adam Soliz**
512 974-8143

Adam.soliz@austintexas.gov

County Constable, Pct 2

Adan Ballesteros, 512 854-9697

Adan.Ballesteros@co.travis.tx.us

**APD Animal Cruelty Unit Tip
Hot Line: 512 978-0523**

Emery Sadkin
**CoA Animal Protection
Officer, Wildlife**
Call 311 or 512-974-2000

**Local Weather Station on
Oakwood:**

<https://tinyurl.com/OakwoodWeather>

Office of Police Oversight
policeoversight@austintexas.gov

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Walnut Creek Neighborhood

Association membership is open to any resident (owner or renter) or property owner within its boundaries:

Braker to Yeager and
Lamar to IH35

Membership dues are \$25 per household for a calendar year. Send a check to: WCNA ; PO Box 82746; Austin, TX 78708-2746

Dues notices are included in the Nov-Dec and Jan-Feb issues.

Payment also may be via PayPal:
<https://wcnanews.com/membership/>

To check whether you've paid your dues for this or next calendar year, call or text Pat at 512 659-8132 or email s.pitt@earthlink.net

To contribute content to the newsletter: wcnanews@gmail.com and/or contact Pat Pitt, 512 837-6620

Note:

Any opinions expressed in articles printed in this newsletter are the explicit opinions of the writer(s) and, unless explicitly stated, are not to be implied as the opinions of either the editor or the Board of Directors of Walnut Creek Neighborhood Association, Inc.

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Calendar of Events

Nov	15	Blue Genie Arts Bazaar - https://bluegenieartbazaar.com
	16-17	East Austin Studio Tour - https://www.bigmedium.org/austinstudiotour
	20	Blue Recycle Container Picked Up: Curbside by 7:00 a.m.
	20-24	A Christmas Affair - https://www.jlaustin.org/a-christmas-affair/
	25-29	AISD Fall Break
	28	Thanksgiving Day
Dec	3	Giving Tuesday - https://ilivehereigivehere.org/givingtuesday
	4	Blue Recycle Container Picked Up: Curbside by 7:00 a.m.
	7	Holiday Sing-Along & Stroll - https://downtownaustin.com/holiday-stroll/
	14-23	Armadillo Christmas Bazaar - https://armadillobazaar.com
	16	Large Brush Collection
	18	Blue Recycle Container Picked Up: Curbside by 7:00 a.m.
	21	Winter begins
	23	AISD winter holiday break (23 December 2024 - 6 January 2025)
	23	Last day for Armadillo Christmas Bazaar
	24	Last day for Blue Genie Arts Bazaar
	25	Christmas
	26	Thursday: Blue Recycle Container Picked Up: Curbside by 7:00 a.m.
31	New Year's Eve	
Jan	1	New Year's Day
	2	Thursday: Regular trash picked Up: Curbside by 7:00 a.m.
	7	AISD classes resume
	20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Banks and Post Office Closed