



WINDCREST

Volume 23 • Issue 3 • March 2023



TEXAS

The City of Lights

ART IN THE PARK

The Parks and Recreation Commission will be sponsoring an evening to explore the Arts here in Windcrest. The event will be held on Saturday evening, March 18 from 6pm to 9pm at the Community Center in Takas Park.

The event promises to be fun for everyone including couples, families, and 4-legged friends. To explore the culinary arts there will be a food truck court with great meals, live music, artist exhibitions, an Artisan Gallery featuring handcrafted items, opportunities for kids to create their own art, photo spots and a one of a kind chance for pets to create their own art pieces.

If you are an artist and would like to exhibit or like to participate in the Artisan Market, you can contact the coordinator, Scott Lee-Ross at Scott.M.Ross66@gmail.com.

You're invited to join us
for an evening of food, music
and art for the whole family.



Windcrest, TX

SAT. MARCH 18, 6-9

Takas Park
Food Truck Court

Art Exhibitions

Artisan Market

Children's Art Projects

Pet Art Projects

Bring the whole family
Even the Four Legged Ones!

Presented by
Windcrest Parks and Recreation Comm.

City of Windcrest
8601 Midcrown
Windcrest, TX 78239-2598

City Administration
Mon-Thu 8:00 am–4:00 pm • Fri 8:00 am–3:00 pm
210-655-0022

City Manager: Rafael Castillo
ext. 2120 • rcastillo@windcrest-tx.gov
City Secretary: Rachel Dominguez
ext. 2150 • citysecretary@windcrest-tx.gov

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Dan Reese
210-419-0099 • dreese@windcrest-tx.gov
Mayor Pro-Tem: Joan Pedrotti
210-414-7120 • jpedrotti@windcrest-tx.gov

Place 1 - Wes Manning
210-655-0022 • wmanning@windcrest-tx.gov

Place 2 - Cindy Strzelecki
210-655-0022 • cstrzelecki@windcrest-tx.gov

Place 3 - Greg Turner
210-655-0022 • gturner@windcrest-tx.gov

Place 4 - Marcus Yax
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Place 5: Joan Pedrotti
210-655-0022 • jpedrotti@windcrest-tx.gov

DEPARTMENTS: 210-655-0022

FD Admin: Delma Cortez
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Permits:
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Public Works: Chris Gamboa
ext. 2490 • cgamboa@windcrest-tx.gov

Police Department:
Jimmy Cole (Police Chief)
210-655-2666 • jcole@windcrest-tx.gov

Code Enforcement Unit
210-655-2666

Animal Control Unit
210-655-2666

Fire Department: Ivan Hernandez
ext. 2180 • firechief@windcrest-tx.gov

Finance: Natalia Witmer (CFO)
ext. 2820 • nwitmer@windcrest-tx.gov

EDC Director – Mario Hernandez
210-469-6802 • marioh@satx.rr.com

EDC Coordinator – Karen K. Nelson
knelson@windcrest-tx.gov • 210-469-6800

Municipal Court – Claudia Carrera
ccarrera@windcrest-tx.gov • 210-655-0022 ext. 2250

Newsletter, PR & Event Director – Liz Dick
210-383-4301 • edick@windcrest-tx.gov

Firemen's Pension – Tim Zelenak
ext. 2180 • tzelenak@windcrest-tx.gov

Utilities
210-655-0022 ext. 1053 • utilities@windcrest-tx.gov

Websites: www.windcrest-tx.gov
www.facebook.com/TheCityofWindcrest

Post Office
M-F, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. • 210-655-0022 ext. 2420

Bexar County Water District #10
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Mayor's Message

Dan Reese

Windcrest "Candle" - If you noticed something different about the water tower (sometimes called the Candle) by the tennis center, you are right! The Bexar County Water Control and Improvement District #10 is repainting the tower and it is draped as that painting takes place. The "Candle" designation comes from the lights that surround the tower and the "flame" at the top. The City of Windcrest is coordinating with the Water District to upgrade the lights that form the base of the candle and the "flame" structure on top. These new lights will give us the ability to change them for special events. Traditionally, we "light the candle" when Roosevelt High School wins a football game and during our famous "Light Up" Christmas celebration. When it's finished, we will be able to "Light the Candle" in many colors. Expect to see the project complete by early June.



Swimming Pool – As many of you know, the City Pool has been closed for some time. The 50+ year old pool was in need of serious repairs. The cost to repair was prohibited and the warrantee offered for repairs was short. The Council offered the Citizens an option to fund a new Aquatic Center twice and it was rejected both times. At the February 6, 2023 meeting, the City Engineer presented an option that uses the structure of the old pool and builds a pool structure above it. The company is called Myrtha Systems. The company has been in business for over 60 years and they have projects in 82 countries. The cost is not cheap, \$1.7 to \$1.9 million but they offer a 25 Year warrantee on the structure and 10 years on the plumbing. The Council decided to ask our Parks and Recreations Commission to look at the proposal, solicit Citizen input and come back to the Council as soon as possible with some recommendations.

Volunteer Coordinator. At the February 6, 2023 meeting, the City Council approved the creation of a nonpaid Volunteer Coordinator position. We will be working out details, but the concept is identifying a person who would collect information regarding those among us who would be willing to serve the City in some capacity. This could be helping neighbors, helping with special events such as Light Up, July 4th, etc. We know there are many in Windcrest who are more than willing to help as they can. We set up gatherings on March 1st in the evening and March 4th in mid-morning. These meetings will help identify volunteers and how they might be willing to serve.

New Resident Gatherings. Councilmember Strzelecki was a part of a group called "Windcrest Proud" some years ago. One of the missions of this group was to welcome new residents and explain the workings of our great City. Councilmember Strzelecki and I are going to revisit the concept of welcoming new residents. We are going to hold new resident meetings on the 3rd Tuesday in March, June, and September. Our first New Resident Gathering will be on March 21st. We will have City Staff and leadership at the meeting to go over the workings of the Windcrest. All residents are welcome to come, even if they are not new. It will be a great way to see how the city works and put a face to a name for our great City Staff and Leaders. Look for information on the City Website, Facebook or Instagram. Call or e-mail me if you have any questions.

(Continued on page 3)

("Mayor's Message" continued from page 2)

Google Fiber is coming! Google Fiber is on track to begin the installation of Fiber service to Windcrest residents in the next few months. They will have their install equipment installing the fiber optic cables in the streets of Windcrest. Google says once they start, it will be a matter of weeks to put the fiber optic cables in place to install to those residents who want their service. If you would like to listen to the Google Fiber executive speak to the "Coffee with the Mayor" group, it is available on my "Dan Reese, Mayor, City of Windcrest" Facebook page. It was a very interesting conversation and he reviews the install process as well as features of their service.

I am continuing my "Coffee with the Mayor" every Saturday that I am in town. Please see my Facebook page (Dan Reese, Mayor, City of Windcrest) for updates. We begin at 8:30 at Las Palapas on Walzem. You are welcome to come anytime you wish and leave as you need to.

Dan Reese

"The credibility of the message is intrinsically tied to the integrity of the messenger."

~Chip Ingram



APPLICATION FORM

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Last Name	First Name	Mobile
Address	City	State
Address		Email address

We have Boards & Commissions opportunities

Apply @ 

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www.windcrest-tx.gov/applyboards

PUBLIC WORKS

By Chris Gamboa

Public Works Director

GET OUT AND GET FIT!

Public Works Department has started a new health initiative with employees walking the Takas Park walking trail. Public Works staff are working on living a better health lifestyle.

In partnership with local civic groups and volunteers, Public Works is working on the potted plants around City Hall and the Takas Park Civic Center. Additionally, crews will be working on the Takas Park Butterfly Garden plants.

Public Works is seeking volunteers to help with watering all the plants throughout the city. This is an ongoing effort dedicated in maintaining the growth and stability of the plants all around the city. If you or someone you know is interested in helping with watering the potted plants and other plantings, they may contact me, Chris Gamboa, at (210) 468-9181.

The Public Works Department is currently working on removing dead trees in parks and green belt areas. Crews will be replacing the trees with new tree plantings. In an effort to assist Public Works with this effort and increase the Windcrest tree canopy around the city parks and green belts, Public Works is seeking out residents living next to or adjacent to city parks or green belt willing to adopt a tree. These residents will have the opportunity to select from a variety of native trees available to have planted near their home, if they agree to adopt the tree and maintain watering it. Yes, that is correct, we will purchase the tree and plant it for you. All you must do is adopt the tree and agree to watering it. Public Works will maintain the trimming of the adopted tree purchased and planted by the City. If you are interested, refer to the city webpage, click on the Parks and Recreation page, and completed the adoption form available. You may also come to City Hall and pick up the form. A Public Works team member will be in contact with you.

Thank you and remember, get out and get active!

Christopher Gamboa
Director of Public Works
cgamboa@windcrest-tx.gov



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2023 Spring Community Garage Sale

Start: March 23, 2023
End: March 26, 2023
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM



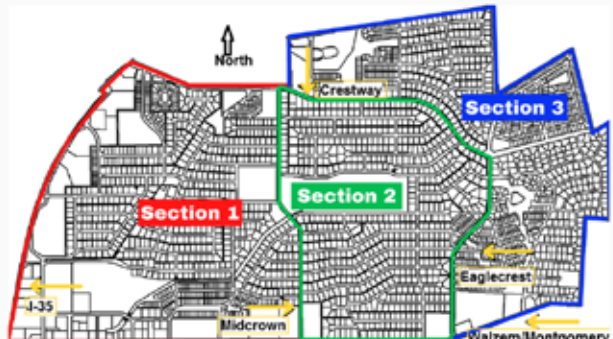
Scan Me

Get on the garage sale map:
www.windcrest-tx.gov/garagesale

March Calendar of Events

- 3/01 - Info Volunteer Meeting @ 6:30PM
- 3/04 - Info Volunteer Meeting @ 10:00AM
- 3/06 - City Council Meeting @ 6:00PM
- 3/18 - Art in the Park - Takas Park @ 6:00PM
- 3/19 - Garage Sale Map Submission Deadline
- 3/20 - DHR & City Council Mtg @ 5:30PM
- 3/22 - Garage Sale Maps Available
- 3/23 to 3/26 - Community Garage Sale






Brush & Bulk Pick-Up

Sec 1: April 4 - 7
• items MUST be out March 27 - April 2

Sec 2: April 10 - 14
• items MUST be out April 3 - April 9

Sec 3: April 17 - 21
• items MUST be out April 10 - April 16

For More Information Scan Here



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A Message From Fire Marshal Zelenak

Microwave Oven Safety

With busy lives, families rely on the microwave oven as a quick way to heat up a meal, warm up a drink or defrost dinner. While the convenience of the microwave oven is something we take for granted, safety should not be. By following a few simple safety tips you can prevent painful burns and possible fires.

SAFETY TIPS:

- PURCHASE a microwave oven that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Make sure to complete and return the product registration card. This way the manufacturer can reach you if there is a recall on the product.
- PLUG the microwave oven directly into the wall outlet-never use an extension cord.
- MAKE sure the microwave oven is at a safe height, within easy reach of all users.
- OPEN food slowly, away from the face. Hot steam or the food itself can cause burns.
- FOOD heats unevenly in microwave ovens. Stir and test before eating or giving to children.
- NEVER heat a baby bottle in the microwave. Since a microwave oven heats unevenly, it can create hot pockets, leading to burns. Warm a bottle in a bowl of warm-not hot or boiling-water.
- Always SUPERVISE when they are using a microwave oven.
- Use only MICROWAVE-SAFE food containers or dishes. Never use aluminum foil or metal in a microwave oven.
- If you have a FIRE in the microwave, leave the door closed, turn the oven off and unplug it from the wall. Make sure to leave the house and call the Fire Department.

Parks and Recreation
GET OUT & GET ACTIVE!

CoW Citizen
Volunteer Mtg.'s
03.01 @ 6:30p.m.
03.04 @ 10:30 a.m.
@ Civic Center

Stay Up to Date on
City Events!

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Address Visibility



The importance of having your address visible can make the difference between life and death. Time is of the essence for the Windcrest Fire Department when it comes to saving someone's life. But a lack of visibility of address numbers on houses adds precious seconds to our response times.

A few simple pointers for posting your address:

- Avoid spelling out your address, just post numbers
- Use at minimum of a 4 inch. numbers
- Use reflective numbers
- If possible post your address around a light, so at night it's more visible from the street
- Post numbers on both side of your mailbox

If anyone has questions on where their address should be posted or needs assistance posting their address, please contact Fire Marshal Tim Zelenak (210)655-0022, and he will be more than happy to assist you.

Chief Ivan Hernandez EMT-LP
City of Windcrest

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POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS
By Lieutenant Ben Crum



CITIZEN'S PATROL WINDCREST

The month of March brings us spring break and many residents may have trips planned out of town. Did you know that the Police Department offers a House Check Program for any resident that will be away from home? Officers will periodically check your home for suspicious activity or signs of criminal activity while you are away. Residents interested in a house check must complete a House Check Worksheet and submit it to the Department. The form is available in person at the Police Department, or it can be downloaded from the City of Windcrest Police Department webpage. Visit the webpage for additional information.

Wearing the Windcrest Badge

Highlighting Badge 114

Officer Jonathan Imperato wears Windcrest Police Department Badge 114



Officer Imperato is a 2021 graduate of the Alamo Area Law Enforcement Academy and he has served with the United States Army, Army National Guard and continues to serve as an Army Reservist. He holds an Associates Degree from Central Texas College. Officer Imperato joined the Windcrest Police Department on August 21, 2021, and is currently assigned to the Operations Division, Patrol "B" Shift, Central District. He has excelled in his assignments earning the Windcrest Police Department 2022 Officer of Year Award.

Jonathan is the proud father of two children, an 11 year old son and a 4 year old daughter.

Coffee with Cops

MARCH 9, 2023 @ 6:30 PM
Windcrest Civic Center • 9310 Jim Seal Dr

Code Compliance & Enforcement
By Lieutenant Ben Crum



Spring cleaning time again! It's also that time of year when the grass, weeds and vegetation start growing. As a friendly reminder: The first violation notice delivered to your door is to advise you of what the violation is and how long you have to correct the issue. Any future violations for the same issue within the same calendar year can have you receiving a summons to appear in court. Please schedule your property maintenance accordingly and help us ensure that our city stays beautiful.

Don't forget to clean the backyard, trim your branches, and cut the vegetation, grass, and weeds in alley area behind your property fence. It is also time to clean your swimming pools. Plan a pool maintenance schedule to prevent mosquito breeding and let us know if you see any abandoned pools in your area. Please keep in mind we are trying to keep Windcrest beautiful.

Please correct or remove junked vehicles from your property, to include the back yard. Placing a cover over a junked vehicle will not save the vehicle from removal. As a last measure for remediation, a Code Enforcement Officer is authorized to seek removal of a nuisance by court order.

If you are unable to correct issues with your property, let us know! We will be happy to work with you to bring your property into compliance. If you need any assistance with your property or want to report a violation of the Windcrest City Code, please contact your **Code Enforcement Officer via the Windcrest Police Department Dispatcher at 210-655-2666.**



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Animal Care & Control

By Animal Control Officers
Maria Bernal & Natalie Burgett

Are you looking for a new walking partner or couch cuddle buddy? Look no further than our bulletin board at City Hall or City website for your new four-legged family friend! The last few months have brought new faces and we need you to help by fostering or adopting. To see one of our amazing dogs in person, simply call 210-655-2666 or visit us during our adoption weekends at PetSmart. Please keep us in mind when looking for your new family member! The Windcrest Animal Care & Control Unit will be holding adoption events every first and third Saturday of the month at PetSmart, 8520 Fourwinds Drive, from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Dr. Vara with the Vanguard Animal Clinic will be hosting a vaccination clinic on March 18 from 9:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. Please join us at the Windcrest City Hall for low-cost pet vaccinations. Animal Control Officers will also be on-hand to register your pets. Section 6-59 of the City Code indicates that residents must license and register their dogs and cats with the City on an annual basis. There is no fee associated with this if your pet has been Sterilized and Microchipped.

Reminder, please chip or keep a collar with an up-to-date rabies tag and Windcrest Pet Registration on your pet so that your dog or cat, if lost, can get back to you. If you are a new resident to Windcrest, please update your microchip information. Many times, a dog without a collar, but chipped is returned but only if the phone number and address is current.



LIONS CLUB NEWS

By Lion Tim Flick

Thank you to everyone who came out and supported the Lions Club at our Pancake/Sausage Breakfast. We had a tremendous turnout! District Lions and Lions Members from all over Texas came out. Mayor Dan Reese was on hand, as were the LEOs from Roosevelt HS, who came out to help us serve. Thank you again to everyone!

The Lions Club recently delivered dictionaries to students at Camelot Elementary. We had the opportunity to speak to the kids for a few minutes and discuss the books. It was a fun time for all!

I didn't get to mention it last month, but over the holidays the Lions Club visited area Nursing Homes to provide Christmas cards and Ornaments to the fabulous residents, as well as pizza for the staff!



Lions President Kelly (Top Left) and Lion Marlene (Top Right) delivering Christmas Cards and Pizza!

Keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages for upcoming events. We are planning to have a nursing home bingo night and will post updates to let you know how that went.

Windcrest Lions joined the Lions of District 2A2 in Del Rio last weekend. Great opportunity to visit with Lions from other clubs and hear about their successful service, fundraising, and recruitment projects. The Del Rio San Filipe and Del Rio Host clubs were wonderful hosts for the conference.

Your Windcrest Lions Club makes a real and positive difference in people's lives. If you would like to be a part of the goodness, we would love to have

you join us! You can reach out to our membership chair at smagtx@aol.com.



Lions District 2A2 meeting in Del Rio, Lions Nanette and Marlene (standing), Lions Bob, Doug and Pam (sitting left to right)

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If you would like to learn more about joining the Lions Club, you can contact us at 210-951-9463, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WindcrestLions or on our website at www.windcrestlionsclub.org.

We are currently meeting at the Windcrest Civic Center, and you are welcome to join us!

Windcrest GARDEN CLUB

By: Alice Vargas Relkin

The Windcrest Garden Club will meet again on **Monday, March 6, 2023**. Please attend the March General Membership meeting for discussion of a bi-law change to encourage working members to attend by including evening meetings. Also on the agenda is a Q&A with horticulturalists, Peggy Jones, who will provide information about Rose care.

Windcrest Gardeners: It's time to set-up the next watering schedule for the Windcrest Gardeners. WGC needs volunteers to water pots around the city.

Save the Date: Field Trip Meeting
Monday, April 3, 2023 at Sunken Gardens

WGC will announce nominations for
2023-2024 Officers for a vote.



General Membership netting lead by President Kitty.



Betty, Debbie, and Annette build their floral arrangement.



Windcrest Garden Club members attending the Jan 24th Floral Design School at SA Garden Center. The instruction was using a hydrangea as a vase stabilizer when building a compact floral arrangement.



Every GM has an assortment of raffle prizes lead by Mary.

If you get exercise by pushing your luck, gardening might be for you. Join WGC today to enjoy knowledgeable speakers, creative garden improvement designs, and community service projects. **Mail payment for \$20.00 addressed to Windcrest Garden Club, 413 Zephyr Dr, Windcrest TX 78239. We are a 501(3)c organization.**

Women's Club News

Tickets Available

NOW!

Call:

- Dorothy Ferrell at (210) 656-1625 - or -
- Connie Ball at (210) 656-3035.



TICKETS \$30 | WINDCRESTWOMENSClub.COM

You asked, we responded!

Another Evening Meeting March 22, 2023

Please join us at the Civic Center on Wednesday evening, March 22nd at 6:30pm as we gather for a Potluck Dinner and take a stroll down Memory Lane back to the 1960's with collector, Robert from Furniture Finders. Bring your favorite entree, salad or dessert.

1

EVENING MEETING
General Meeting
Wednesday, March 22,
6:30 pm, Civic Center
Potluck Dinner

2

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE KICKOFF! RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BRING A FRIEND

3

PRESENT EXECUTIVE BOARD APPOINTEES
Get Involved! Consider running for office!

4

APRIL MEETING
Wednesday, April 26,
10 AM, Civic Center.
Vote for new Executive Board.

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MARKETING WINDCREST

Marketing is a crucial part of economic development. By using social media we can connect with consumers at all stages and bring awareness to the community and what it offers.

If you have seen any of the WEDC Social Media Platforms you will notice that we have developed a “BRAND” by using the different platforms for different purposes and to reach greater audiences.

We use **Facebook** to reach millennials and older age groups. We also see a lot of engagement from Windcrest residents on Facebook.

LinkedIn is a business-to-business social media platform used for building and developing professional connections.

TikTok allows us to create and share short videos which help our “BRAND” reach a wider audience.

Instagram is a platform we use to build and connect with the community in the greater San Antonio area.

Twitter allows us to post short posts and can put us in front of journalists and other news outlets.

One of the major focuses we have on social media as a whole is the use of short-form videos. In the last few years, video has become the content of choice that most people watch and get information from. We create short videos on Tik Tok and then share them on Instagram and, most recently, Facebook. Every place we share content (pictures and graphics on the feed, video, stories) reaches different people and works towards showcasing Windcrest as a place that wholly supports current businesses and future business development.

We then track our progress using Google analytics and Metricool, a program that tracks likes, follows, views, etc. We use this information to create a strategy for the following month that continues to encourage engagement so that community members and local people can know about the businesses in Windcrest.

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The month is here!! March 18th the city will once again offer low cost vaccinations by Vanguard in the city parking lot from 9 am to 11am. A good time to get those shots for your pets and then register them with the city! If this is the first time to register your pet, you will need proof of a rabies shot (Vanguard can do that), proof the pet has been sterilized and proof your pet has a **microchip = FREE**. If you don't have all that proof, the fee is small. It is good to register your pet with the city....added benefit is that animal control has some information about your dog in case it decides to go for a sightseeing adventure and needs to be brought back home. Shortens the process and makes the chances of it coming home again much better. So please come to the vaccination clinic we will be there to help any way we can.

The other good thing is that the animal control department is holding adoption events the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month at our **local Petsmart from 10 am to 2 pm**. If you are wanting to adopt a dog, be sure to check this event out. We are helping to staff the event and just know you can find your next new buddy there. A dog that needs to be rehomed seems to just know it is getting a second chance for love, and has such a grateful, loving look about them. Come and see for yourself!

Come visit our booth at the Art in the Park, March 18th (yah....busy day for us!) from 6 – 9. Have some really neat stuff by a local artist.....come on by.

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Children's Programming

Toddler Story Time

Sundays 2:30 – 3:05pm

Pruitt Library

Toddlers actively participate in stories, music, and movement to enhance their social, emotional and language development. Recommended for children ages 18 months-3 years and their caregivers.

Let's Build: LEGO Bricks and More

Sundays 3:30 – 4:30pm

Pruitt Library

Join us at Pruitt for a STEAM inspired construction program. Use your imagination to build on your own or with other aspiring architects and creative thinkers using a variety of materials. Best for ages 5-12.

Children's Yoga

Mondays 6:00 – 6:45pm

Pruitt Library

Dedicated to helping the next generation lead healthier, happier lives. Join us each Monday for this amazing yoga program designed for children and their parents. Parents are encouraged to participate and must remain in the room with their child.

Tween Yoga

Mondays 6:45 – 7:30pm

Pruitt Library

Dedicated to helping the next generation lead healthier, happier lives. Join us each Monday for this amazing yoga program designed for tweens, ages 9-12.



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Teen Programming

Teen Chess

Tuesdays 4:30-5:30pm

Pruitt Library in L109

Join us on Tuesday evenings as teens have a chance to take a 30-minute lesson with Chess Master Alex Weinberg. After the short lesson, a complimentary meal will be served and students will have the chance to try out their new skills in a free play session!

Teen Anime Hour

Wednesdays 4:30-5:30pm

Pruitt Library in L109

(please see online calendar for dates at mysapl.org)

An hour devoted to all things anime and manga! Teens can sit back, relax and watch anime, talk about all things anime/manga related and occasionally participate in fun crafts.

Dungeons and Dragons

Thursdays 4:30pm-5:30pm

Pruitt Library

Teens team up to create characters, explore fantasy lands and battle monsters of all shapes and sizes in this classic tabletop roleplaying game. Pre-registration is required and all current campaigns are full, but please email lhime@neisd.net if you are interested in participating in our next campaign!

Free Jam Fridays!

Fridays 4:30-5:30pm

The Pit at Pruitt Library

(please see online calendar for dates at mysapl.org)

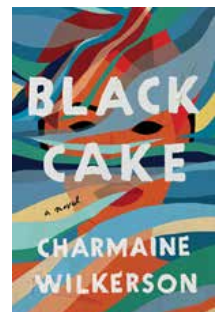
Teens can drop in to try out instruments that we provide or bring their own to jam with friends and discuss all things music.

Adult Saturday Afternoon Book Club

March Selection

We can't choose what we inherit. But can we choose who we become?

In present-day California, Eleanor Bennett's death leaves behind a puzzling inheritance for her two children, Byron and Benny: a black cake, made from a family recipe with a long history, and a voice recording.



Meet in-person or request the ZOOM link to meet online.

Saturday, March 11

3:00 PM

Light Refreshments Served

Pruitt Branch Library

5110 Walzem Rd 78218

210.650.1122



Spring Break – Airline Travel Tips

By Sharon Reynolds, Neighborhood News Staff Writer

In South Texas, Spring Break usually occurs between late February and mid-March. But no matter when Spring Break occurs for you, if you plan on traveling by air this year, follow these tips to have a safe and fun vacation.

Travel Tip #1 – Get your TSA Pre-Check and CLEAR Security Programs. To save time at the airport, plan ahead and get your TSA Pre-Check or Clear approval. Airport personnel get overwhelmed during Spring Break and standing in long lines can get frustrating and cut into your fun time. There is a fee of \$78 for a five-year membership for the TSA Pre-Check program. Typically, wait times in line with your approved TSA Pre-Check are around 10 minutes or less. Visit www.tsa.gov/precheck to learn more about this program.

Another program that is worth looking into is Clear. This is a privately-run security program that cuts you to the front of the security line after a fingerprint and retinal scan is performed to verify your identity. The cost of the Clear security program is significantly higher than the TSA Pre-Check program, at \$189 per year. To learn more about the Clear security program, visit: www.clearme.com.

You may be able to enroll in both of these security programs for free depending on the credit cards you have in your wallet. Check with your credit card company to see if they offer credits for these programs. Also, while over 80 airlines par-

ticipate in one or both of these security programs, not all airlines do, so be sure to check out the airline website to confirm.

Travel Tip #2 – Fly at the Right Time. If you don't love large crowds at the airport, you may be able to avoid the worst crowds and longest lines by not flying during peak days and times. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays are the slowest days to fly, and so, usually have the cheapest rates. Also, it's better to try to book the earliest flight that you can. Earlier flights have better odds of getting off the ground on time. For a smoother experience, if possible, avoid connecting flights. The more connecting flights you have on your trip, the more opportunities there are for something to go wrong.

Travel Tip #3 – Use Carry-on Bag Only. Another way to make your Spring Break travel easier on yourself is to travel with only a carry-on bag. This way, you won't have to worry about checking your bag, picking up your bag, or having your luggage get lost during the trip.

Travel Tip #4 – Check for Canceled or Delayed Flights. Keep an eye on flightaware.com to view a daily dashboard of cancellations and delays. This website provides real-time, historical, and predictive flight tracking data, and will alert you of any significant issues with your upcoming flight.

Follow the above tips to have a stress-free Spring Break trip and get ready to relax and enjoy a well-needed break!

RESOURCES:

- <https://thriftytraveler.com/>
- <https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/whatcanibring/all>
- <https://www.chiff.com/travel/spring-break.htm>

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SPRING Word Search

Search for the twelve Spring themed words below.

Y	L	E	E	V	K	C	Y	E	I	B	T	M	Y	N	N	U	B
R	R	G	W	N	Z	W	F	S	I	U	G	J	W	J	I	U	O
E	C	M	Y	A	K	H	O	Z	M	T	O	G	J	D	H	U	G
W	J	A	X	U	L	J	B	S	F	T	B	N	X	H	W	S	M
F	H	Y	T	Q	C	F	T	U	G	E	W	I	W	J	F	B	G
X	L	K	I	J	L	U	X	N	K	R	R	O	O	T	W	I	U
M	J	O	H	C	I	U	I	S	E	F	S	D	B	L	D	O	E
M	D	Q	P	I	R	R	Q	H	Q	L	U	T	N	E	E	M	E
F	R	C	D	Y	P	L	D	I	T	Y	U	Z	I	G	Z	O	O
X	G	A	K	S	A	O	N	N	I	W	O	R	A	U	H	M	S
B	H	H	W	U	R	Q	A	E	Y	N	D	R	R	M	O	I	S
H	O	E	U	K	O	P	S	P	D	H	D	X	L	O	S	R	G
H	B	I	U	V	K	Y	L	V	E	A	O	L	O	E	Q	L	
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R	S	C	Y	V	E	Q	U	T	R	B	R	L	N	A	X	T	T
F	P	A	G	K	C	R	R	D	X	C	F	R	P	O	J	Y	A
A	X	M	V	U	S	I	S	M	S	R	Z	A	B	F	I	X	N

APRIL
BIRDS
BLOOM
BUNNY

BUTTERFLY
FLOWERS
GARDEN
MAY

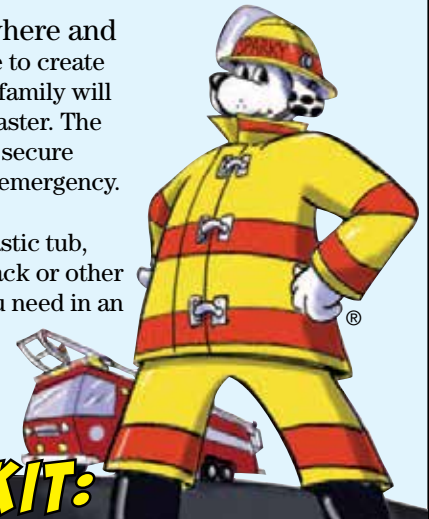
RAINBOW
SPRING
SUNSHINE
WARM



GET READY!

Disasters can happen anywhere and at any time. By taking the time to create an emergency supplies kit, your family will be prepared in the event of a disaster. The kit also helps children feel more secure knowing it is there in case of an emergency.

The supplies can be kept in a plastic tub, small suitcase, trash can, backpack or other container. To learn what else you need in an emergency supplies kit, go to www.ready.gov.



Sparky® is a registered trademark of the NFPA.

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES KIT:

- Water – one gallon per person per day for drinking and sanitation — store 3-day supply
- Ready-to-eat food, canned juices, comfort/stress foods — at least a 3-day supply
- Battery-powered or hand-cranked radio and a NOAA weather radio, and extra batteries for both
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Non-prescription drugs such as pain reliever, anti-diarrhea medication, antacid, laxative
- Prescription medications, contact lenses and supplies, denture needs
- Whistle to signal for help
- Infant formula and diapers, if you have an infant
- Water and pet food if you have pets
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Dust mask or cotton t-shirt to filter the air
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food
- Aluminum foil
- A jacket or coat, hat and gloves
- A complete change of clothing including long pants, long sleeve shirt, and sturdy shoes stored in a waterproof container.
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person
- Rain gear
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils
- Cash or traveler's checks, change
- Paper towels
- Tent
- Compass
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Signal flare
- Paper, pencil
- Personal hygiene items
- Soap
- Disinfectant and household chlorine bleach
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container. Remember to include emergency contact numbers.
- Passport, bank account numbers, credit card account numbers and companies
- Books, games puzzles, portable music device

NOTE: Replace food every six months. Re-think your kit and family needs once a year. Replace batteries and update clothes, etc.

My Personal Pack Checklist

Have children create their personal pack. Have them include things like their favorite book or stuffed animal. These familiar things will help keep them comfortable during an emergency.

- ✓ Change of clothes
- ✓ Blanket
- ✓ Books
- ✓ Favorite toy
- ✓ Paper, pencils and crayons



For more information, visit the National Fire Protection Association at www.nfpa.org/disaster.
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OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

ORGANIZATIONS:

Little League – Aaron Garcia • 210-608-2729 • windcrestlittleleague@gmail.com
 Lion’s Club – Marlene Patton • 210-393-7383 • marpatton@aol.com
 Boy Scouts – Justin Buckner • 210-744-7296 • Buckj64@gmail.com
 Women’s Club – Patsy Mowery • 907-290-0104
 American Legion – Jack Leonhardt • jackhleonhardt@aol.com
 Windcrest Golf Course – 210-655-1421
 FIT High-Performance Tennis Academy & Pickleball Center – 210-405-3781
<https://www.fithptennisacademy.com/>
 Citizen’s Patrol Team 1 Captain – Nikki Walker
 Citizen’s Patrol Team 2 Captain – Joe Regan • 210-655-2355
 Citizen’s Patrol Team 3 Captain/Coordinator – Mike Magallanez • 210-267-8390
 Citizen’s Patrol Team 4 Captain/Coordinator – Elvie Ortiz • 210-861-5558
 Garden Club – Kitty Mulkey • 210-780-1037
 CERT – Rene Garza • rene.garza@bexar.org
 Animal Task Force/TxWeAct – Pam Dodson • 210-562-0299 • Txweact@yahoo.com
 GRASP Transit – <https://grasp211.org/>

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:

Refer to the City of Windcrest Board and Commission web page for a current list of vacancies. Applications accepted year-round.

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 Alan Thompson
 Billy Gipson
 Robert Rohleder – Vice Chair
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 A1. George Alva
 A2. VACANT

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 Roberto “Bubba” Chapa
 Tanya Aksamentova
 Frank Martin
 Melissa Cervera-Castro
 Ritchie “Rip” Stimpson

BCWCID #10

Sue Alexander
 Salexanderbcwcid10@gmail.com

CIP Streets Bonds Project Committee

Leonard Young – City Engineer
 Dr. Don Hobaugh – Chair
 Alan Thompson – Vice Chair
 Col. Henry Berman
 Bill Shields
 Chester Varner
 Bill Zulaica

DEADLINE

CUTOFF DATES FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER NOTICES TO CITY HALL:

To provide timely information in the next *Newsletter*, **notices must be in the Administration Office by noon on March 5th**, and announce activities occurring after Mar. 31st only. Please email articles to newsletter@windcrest-tx.gov in ‘Word’ documents **only** so articles can be edited for misspellings, etc. which cannot be done in PDF or any other format. Also, please provide a contact name & phone number for City Hall.

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