



4th Annual Firefighter's Gala

March 7th from 6-11pm

Takas Park Civic Center

Details on page 7

[Fiesta 5k Run & Parade](#)

April 18th starting at 8am

City Hall

Details on page 15

City of Windcrest
8601 Midcrown
Windcrest, TX 78239-2598

City Administration

8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday
210-655-0022

City Manager – Rafael Castillo
ext. 2120 *rcastillo@windcrest-tx.gov

City Council

Mayor – Alan E. Baxter
210-846-5507

abaxter@windcrest-tx.gov

Place 1 - Gerd Jacobi

210-657-9547 *gjacob@windcrest-tx.gov

Place 2 - Jim Shelton

210-650-5584 *jshelton@windcrest-tx.gov

Place 3 - Pamela Dodson, Mayor Pro-tem

210-562-0299 *pdodson@windcrest-tx.gov

Place 4 - James McFall

210-473-7902 *jmcfall@windcrest-tx.gov

Place 5 - John Gretz

210-646-7956 *jgretz@windcrest-tx.gov

Departments * 210-655-0022

Finance – Sarah Mangham

ext. 2410 *smangham@windcrest-tx.gov

Permits/FD Admin - Heather Weidenbach

ext. 2320 *hweidenbach@windcrest-tx.gov

City Secretary/Municipal Court

Kelly Rodriguez

ext. 2250 *krodriguez@windcrest-tx.gov

Public Works – Tom Garcia

ext. 2490 *tgarcia@windcrest-tx.gov

Police Department – Chief Al Ballew

210-655-2666 *aballew@windcrest-tx.gov

Code Enforcement Unit

210-655-2666

Animal Control Unit

210-655-2666

Fire Department – Chief Erick Vargas

ext. 2180

Boards and Commissions

EDC – Tim Maloney

tmaloney@windcrest-tx.gov

P & Z – Col. Henry Berman

210-655-5650

WCCPD - Dr. William Mueller

210-654-7377 (no email)

Parks and Rec – Jan Leaders

210-386-8764 *saljkl29@gmail.com

Board of Adjustments –Rick Cockerham

210-827-8597

Newsletter – Kelly Hamilton

210-314-9783 *khamilton@windcrest-tx.gov

Firemen's Pension - Chief Erick Vargas

ext. 2180 * evargas@windcrest-tx.gov

Websites

www.ci.windcrest.tx.us

www.Windcrest-TX.com

www.GoWindcrest.com

www.DevelopWindcrest.org

www.WindcrestWindfall.com

www.Facebook.com/TheCityofWindcrest

www.Twitter.com/CityofWindcrest

Post Office

M-F, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

210-655-0022 ext. 2420

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atelfer@bexarcountywd10@gmail.com

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Mayor's Message



abaxter@windcrest-tx.gov

Dear Friends, Neighbors and Citizens,

March has arrived and the weather is getting warmer. I bet we all hope we get some rain this Spring. Many have spring break. So take the time off to enjoy this with your friends and family. Brush Pick-Up and Garage Sale Weekend are around the corner. Also, do not forget the Gala is this month as well. There has been tremendous support from our city's best asset, our residents, with regards to citizens volunteering for the different committees and commissions. We are continuing to witness the growth of TEAM WINDCREST - both city pride and citizen participation are growing. We encourage you to remain active and involved, and we promise that we will continue to modify, change and refine how we do business. As we all know: **If we stay the same, we cannot improve.**

4th Annual Kid's Valentine's Day (re-cap): This was on Sunday, February 8th at the Walzem YMCA. The Newsletter Committee hosted and coordinated the 4th Annual Kid's Valentine's Day Celebration and Party. This event always brings a smile to those children that attend. Every child who attended this party received a gift. Refreshments were served and the YMCA opened its doors on a Sunday. Yes, even the indoor pool was opened for the enjoyment of the children. All Windcrest residents' children and grandchildren were welcome. This free event was well attended and we all had a blast. The pool was particularly popular this year. Thank you to the Newsletter Committee for their time putting on this event. It is one of my favorites and I hope we have many more.

4th Annual Firefighter Gala: This is coming up on Saturday, March 7th and is sure to sell out. It is the best deal in town. Food, Drinks, Entertainment and Dancing - All for a worthy cause. The proceeds go to our Windcrest Volunteer Fire Department. The theme this year is DISCO, so come dressed in your Disco attire or dress from business attire to formal. Be prepared to have a blast. Please call Heather Weidenbach at City Hall to get your seat(s) or a table of 8. **More information is on page 7 of this Newsletter.**

2015 Light-Up (Save the Dates): Because this is so important to our city, I wanted to keep this in my Newsletter article again to make sure everyone has these dates. Our city is known throughout as the "City of Lights." We show our pride and this showcases our city. It is the biggest economic generator for our charitable organizations. The city has received millions of dollars in media attention from the National to the local level regarding this annual event. Next year the dates to circle are: Friday, December 4 – Deadline to Enter Light-Up Contest; Tuesday, December 8 – Judging for Contest; Saturday, December 12 – Light-Up Ceremony at City Hall; Thursday, January 7, 2016 – Light-Up Awards Party at Takas Park Civic Center.

Meetings with the Mayor: If anyone ever wishes to meet and/or discuss any issues they have regarding the city, feel free to call me on my cell at 210-846-5507. I answer most calls or they are returned timely if you leave a message. I also return all text messages. Please never hesitate to call during the day, night or weekends. I am always working. I mention this as several citizens have asked me regarding having a coffee with the mayor or other regular day once a month to have meetings. I pride myself on being available to meet around the people I serve schedules. Additionally, I am at City Hall virtually every day in the mornings, and this includes weekends. I look

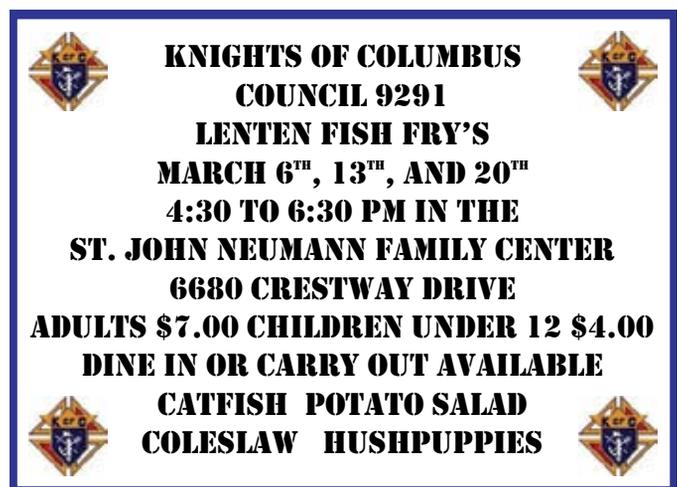
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COLESLAW HUSHPUPPIES

<Continued from page 2

forward to meeting anyone who has an issue they would like to discuss. I enjoy these talks and meetings, even the ones where there is a complaint. If I do not hear about an issue, I cannot try to correct it. So again, if you need to meet or speak with me, please call or text me on my cell. I pride myself on being "on call" for all the citizens. That is why I serve.

Warrant Round-Up: These were started under this administration. We are having another Warrant Round-Up from March 7 – March 15th. This is an especially long Round-Up as we are getting other municipalities involved. We are trying to make sure that those that do not follow our laws and are ticketed - pay the price. We have generated well over \$100,000 doing these Round-Ups. We will have at least three more this year alone. If anyone has any information leading to the arrest of someone with a Windcrest warrant, please call our warrant tip line at 653-5299.

Economic Development: The Pear Tree Hotel closed its doors this month. This is actually good news. We met with the owners and they are planning to demolish the hotel and re-plot the land into 3 lots. They are planning to put at least two restaurants on this land. We are seeing that as with the old Frost Bank Building site, the land in the Windcrest Business District is precious and becoming more and more valuable. It has grown so valuable that we are seeing tear downs and rebuilds. These new businesses will bring much more revenue to our city. Additionally more amenities for all of us to enjoy! IN-N-OUT Burger is going to be about a month away from opening by the time you receive this Newsletter. I expect the business to be robust. Buffalo Wild Wings is a hit. With the great job the staff and EDC are doing, and if we can keep stability and the momentum moving forward, we will see our sales tax revenue increase over 50% within the next three years. Our home values are increasing at an unprecedented rate. We are well on our way to lowering taxes again for the fourth year in a row, with a goal of having zero residential city property taxes in the near future.

Spring Garage Sale Weekend: This year it is March 26 – 29. Please sign up at City Hall if you are going to have a Garage Sale and take advantage of the free permit for this event. We ask that all those participating sign up so that we can add those participants to a map that we pass out to those desiring one.

Spring Brush Pick-Up: This service will commence on April 6. More information will be in the next Newsletter.

Windcrest Little League Complex: A special thank you to the Public Works crew and all the volunteers that are assisting in repairing the

fields. There have been quite a few improvements over the last several months. It is this administration's goal to have a first class Little League Complex. We are working toward that goal. We could not do it without the volunteers. Thank you to all of them, and please support the Windcrest Little League!

Public Schools: This administration is committed to assisting where we can to help improve our public schools in the area. Council Person James McFall has taken the lead in these efforts. We should all commend Mr. McFall for the passion and energy he is bringing to this effort. Recently, we had a presentation at Council Meeting from Windcrest Elementary School. This past month, we had a presentation from Ed White Middle School. Both presentations were impressive and informative. They are archived on the website. I encourage everyone to take the time and watch these presentations. They will inform and inspire. The children are our future, and Windcrest Elementary is in the center of our city. The better these schools do, the better we will do. In the very near future, we will have Roosevelt High School give their presentation. Stay tuned for much more to come.

Warrant Tip Line: We continue to try to improve. A citizen came up with the idea of a tip line to assist in apprehending people with outstanding warrants. I ran this by the court staff and they loved it. It is great to hear from our best asset – the citizens. We listened and now we have added this as another tool in our tool box to locate and apprehend person(s) with outstanding warrants. The rewards for information leading to the arrest of a person with an outstanding warrant will be from \$50 – 100. The number is 210 – 653-5299. Also, call City Secretary Kelly Rodriguez at **210-655-0022** for more details.

Volunteering and Participating: We need more people on Windcrest Citizens' Patrol and Animal Task Force. Please call Kelly Hamilton at City Hall if you wish to volunteer. Remember that there are still places of service within the City. If you want to participate or volunteer in any area of the City, you won't be turned away. Give me a call or email me to get involved.

Please email me if you wish me to add something to my article. When you visit City Hall, please stop in and say hello.

Remember that I welcome and answer every phone call and email.

Your Mayor and humble servant,

Alan E. Baxter

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FROM YOUR

Mayor Pro-Tem, Pam Dodson

pdodson@windcrest-tx.gov



Here is an update on my proposals for February.

- The Code committee did talk about perimeter fences but decided perimeter fencing was the responsibility of the Council.
- At the printing of this article, we are awaiting the traffic study report from Chief Ballew.
- Hopefully a date will have been decided by the time you receive this newsletter for the council to meet about not only the Personnel manual but also the Master Plan. Staff is supposed to determine a good date for a council meeting.

I know the 6pm time for city meetings is early for those who work so I really encourage you to watch city meetings on your computer so that you are aware of the decisions coming from city hall....whether it is your Council, EDC, Board of Adjustment, Planning and Zoning or even the Code Committee. Everyone should know and understand where we are as a city and where we hope to be in the future. If you are unsure how to watch those meetings on your computer, call me and I will walk you through the steps.

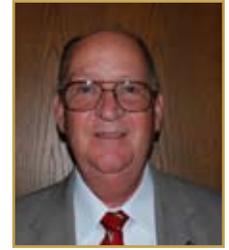
Something to think about: How much longer do you want to have alley pickup for your trash?? If you like the service, be sure your alley is clear for the truck and if there is a problem with the condition of the alley, let city hall know.

If you have any concerns or ideas that would make an improvement in our community, please contact me.

Councilmember

Jim Shelton

alamojim@sbcglobal.net



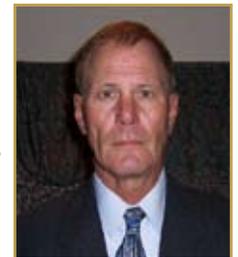
Spring clean-up can mean many different things to us, but most include getting rid of a few things that are no longer used or wanted. How about making a few dollars? Our Windcrest Garage Sale is an excellent way to do this. The dates are set. March 26-27-28 & 29 have been selected for this City Wide Event. Hours are 8 AM-6PM.

During our February 2nd Special City Council Meeting we were presented a PETITION requesting consideration be given to closing the east end of Fawndale Lane (at Parkcrest) to eliminate unnecessary traffic caused by avoiding the Eaglecrest/Walzem Road intersection. No action was taken on the Petition as this will require traffic studies, Fire & Police reviews and recommendations and also Public Hearings. Please feel free to provide any comments to me or any other City Council Members.

Councilmember

John Gretz

kgretz@windcrest-tx.gov



Dear Friends,

Last Fall, Windrest citizen Arlene Hart gave a great presentation on the Monarch butterfly. Prior to, I never had a clue on what the beautiful Monarchs go through each and every year. I do now! In the Fall, they migrate right through Windcrest on their flight to Mexico, in the Spring they come back through on their trip back to the northern US and Canada. It's an incredible journey and they need our help!

In January, Arlene, Rafael Castillo (City Manager), Jan Leaders (Parks and Rec), Don Myles (Friends of the Park), and I met to discuss the Monarch migration and what we can do to help the trip. We can do a lot! According to Arlene, Windcrest has some good areas of natural Milkweed that Monarchs thrive on. The only problem is we mow them down on a regular basis (because we didn't know), which does nothing for the poor Monarchs. We are going to change that with "no mow" periods during the migration cycles. In addition, we plan to enhance our green areas for not only Monarchs, but for other pollinators to enhance our little city ecosystem (plants and stuff). We plan to have signage to designate "Natural Habitat" areas throughout the city. It will not only help the insects, it will beautify our green areas and parks...a win-win for all! Please join us as we move Windcrest forward. If you would like to get involved (even yard projects are a big deal), please let me know. Thank you Arlene... and I'm proud to be a citizen of WINDCREST!



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Councilmember

Gerd E. Jacobi

gjacobi@sbcglobal.net



Let's all get together and support our volunteer Fire Department. The fire department works for ALL of us. So to purchase a \$50.00 per person ticket for the Gala is to put money into the department's budget. If you don't buy a ticket then who are you hurting? The funds are used for training and equipment updates. I give thanks to our acting Fire Chief, Erik Vargas. Since he has taken over the fire department it is more efficient and transparent. Bottom line, the fire department is doing a great job.

Our Police department is one of the most efficient in the state of Texas. People who enter Windcrest are aware of our police control and efficiency. Our Police Chief, A.O. Ballew, has come up with a crime prevention plan to make sure that our city is protected at all times. We, as residents need to continue to support our police department by reporting suspicious persons and activities. For instance, it was reported that suspicious persons have been tampering with some people's mail boxes, a federal offense. The Chief and our detectives are working tirelessly to remedy the issue. Remember to watch your mailbox, if you can, because between now and the end of April thieves may be searching for tax refund checks. The bottom line is that our Police Department is doing an outstanding job.

Of course our volunteers are the backbone of our city. If we did not have all of you wonderful volunteers it would be very hard to run our city and, I may add, a lot more costly. Any of you that have some time that you can give to our city by volunteering in any capacity please do so.

Last but not least this year's garage sale will be from 26 to 29 March. Times daily 8 AM to 6 PM. The annual brush pick up will start on 6 April.

Councilmember

James McFall

jmcfall@windcrest-tx.gov



Dear Residents,

We were proud and honored to present Phillip Carney, Ed White Middle School Principal, at our city council meeting on 2-2-15. Mr. Carney gave an impressive overview of the school's performance over the last three years. I am pleased to say

that Ed White Middle School has made much progress and earned Academic Achievement in Reading, Mathematics, and Social Studies. They have implemented a Restorative Approach to discipline which fosters belonging over exclusion, social engagement over control, and meaningful accountability over punishment. As a result of this approach, their out-of-school suspensions have decreased by 87% and their in-school suspensions have decreased by 29%. The three goals of their discipline are accountability, community safety, and skill development.

Data at Ed White Middle School will open for the year 2015-2016 school year. The school is partnering with Rackspace and Geek Bus with a curriculum focus on computer coding, programming, and information technology. The Bond Construction on campus will include a new athletic facility.

Administrators, staff members, as well as students, have worked jointly to improve their school. They deserve a big applause!

Please volunteer your time to support our students and encourage continued progress in our local schools. Their needs include volunteers at the library, fine arts supplies, donations of popular books, and monetary donations.

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City Secretary News, Kelly Rodriguez

krodriguez@windcrest-tx.gov

During the month of January the Mayor and Council passed a Resolution that you may be interested in. Please note that the links after the statements are links to the meetings on the City of Windcrest website. To view the whole discussion of the City Council simply type it into the search bar on your internet browser.

RESOLUTIONS SCCM 01.05.15

Resolution No. 2014-522(R), a resolution approving salary increases for the Police Chief, Director of Public Works and City Secretary. http://windcresttx.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=8&clip_id=1392

Please note that the dates for the City Wide Garage Sale are **MARCH 26-29, 2015**. The dates for the curbside pick up are April 6-24, 2015.

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Chief of Police - A. O. "Al" Ballew

Recently, we have been investigating thefts of mail from mailboxes in various sections of the City as well as criminal mischief to these mailboxes. As a result of this, we have been working diligently to make arrests. On January 30th at approximately 10:00 pm, Windcrest officers arrested two suspects for theft of mail as well as narcotic offenses. These two suspects were in possession of mail from both Windcrest addresses as well as San Antonio addresses. Windcrest Police are working with the United States Postal Inspectors regarding additional charges.



With our fast paced society and the increased use of the internet and Cyber Crime, identity theft continues to increase. There are ways to help protect you from these types of crimes. Consider a post office box for your mail. If your mail is delivered to your residence, try to pick up the mail soon after delivery. Never leave mail in your mailbox for long periods. If you are planning a trip, make arrangements with the Postal Service to have your mail delivery stopped or have a trusted neighbor pick it up. Also, consider electronic mail... have your financial account statements delivered paperless!

You can "Go Green" and protect yourself at the same time. Remember, just like your full time job... criminals also have a full time job, working hard to steal from you!



We need your help... be vigilant and report all suspicious activity in your neighborhood. For more crime prevention information, check out the Windcrest Police Department website at <http://www.windcrest-tx.gov> and click on the tab for Police. If you would like to schedule a crime prevention presentation, contact the Windcrest Police Department at **(210)655-2666**, no group is too big or too small.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Chief Erick Vargas evargas@windcrest-tx.gov

“The City of Lights” is getting ready for a night of **Disco Lights!!!** The 4th Annual Firefighter’s Gala is **Saturday, March 7th** at the Takas Park Civic Center located at 9310 Jim Seal Dr. starting at 6pm.



You and your guest(s) will receive the red carpet treatment. The “paparazzi” will take your photo and print your photo right there before you can make it the cocktail area. The cocktail mixer with hors d’oeuvres will be served from 6:00pm -7:15pm.

The doors to the Civic Center which will be transformed into a “disco ball” room will open at 7:15pm for you to enjoy a sit down dinner, raffle, live and silent auctions and the one and only Cleto Rodriguez aka WOAI News 4 San Antonio’s “Where’s Cleto”. Starting at 9:00pm DJ Tom “The Suit” will be spinning the best disco hits! For the first time ever there will be a dance contest with awards going to best dancers... get ready to “do the hustle”!

You don’t want to miss this gala!!! Gala tickets are still available for \$50.00 each or by becoming a Windcrest Gold Elite Plus contributor that has the perks of receiving two gala tickets, two meal tickets to the 45th Annual Firemen’s Picnic bar-b-que, two sheets of raffle tickets for the raffle drawing at the Firemen’s Picnic, and a Windcrest Gold gift. Proceeds from the Gala will go to the Windcrest Volunteer Fire Department.

For more information regarding the gala or to purchase your ticket(s) please contact **Heather Weidenbach** at **210.599.6007** or stop by City Hall during normal business.



The **45th Annual Firemen’s Picnic** is right around the corner and we are very busy preparing a “TRADITIONAL” picnic! This year’s Firemen’s Picnic will be held on **Friday, May 15, 2015** at **Takas Park** from **5pm-10pm**. Festivities will begin Friday evening with the 2nd annual softball game between the Windcrest Police and Windcrest Fire Departments ...this year there is a trophy up for grabs! Come out and root for your favorite team. This year we are planning a Casino night along with a jazz band and food truck’s for Friday evening. Bring the family and your lawn chairs or work on your poker face a great evening with your volunteers in Takas Park.

Saturday’s festivities will run from 9am-11pm. There will be a carnival, petting zoo, pony rides, entertainment throughout the day and a live band. This year we are planning a traditional bbq dinner. The potato salad and coleslaw recipes have been located and dusted off and will be prepared by volunteers the evening before the bbq dinner. Let’s not forget dessert... the “Country Store” will be accepting baked good donations of all kinds the evening of Friday, May 15th and all day Saturday, May 16th.

We are in need of additional volunteers from the community to make this 45th Annual Firemen’s Picnic a great success! If you would like to volunteer or have a question regarding the picnic, please contact **Heather Weidenbach** at **210.599.6007**.



The Windcrest CERT Team invites you to be a part of our first annual “America’s PrepareAthon, which is a nationwide effort to prepare citizens to prepare for disaster. You can visit <http://www.community.fema.gov/connect.ti/cfghome/grouphome> to learn more about the hows and whys of being prepared before a disaster strikes. Recently our CERT team was invited to assist with the overwhelming number of displaced elderly, which resulted from the fire at Wedgewood on Blanco and 410. As we responded to their needs, we realized that they were not prepared for the disaster. No “Go Bag” ready with clothes, required meds, contact numbers, extra cell charger and most were in their night clothes with not change of clothes. Most folks are not prepared to walk out the door in a moment’s notice with at least 3 days of needed items packed, to pick up on the way out the door. Is your gas tank more than half full in order to drive to a designated area if you are required to evacuate? Do you have cash available in the event there is no electricity and bank card machines are down? Do you have food and water? If you are interested in this first annual event, please mark your calendar for April 30th. Times and location to be listed in the April newsletter as well as our facebook page: Windcrest City CERT or contact: Kathie Maloney, Windcrest CERT Team Program Manager @ 210-887-5069, e-mail a@teamwindcrest@gmail.com For more information on CERT, visit: <http://www.fema.gov/community-emergency-response-teams>

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References Available

653-4041

From the Desk of Tom Garcia Director of Public Works

tgarcia@windcrest-tx.gov

For those of you that pass city hall on a regular basis, you may have noticed a change in the appearance of the building. Bushes have been removed and a concrete entrance has been installed to allow folks to conveniently enter the newly covered area. Large decorative flower pots now adorn the front of our city hall and have transformed the area into a great place to meet or just enjoy a beautiful Windcrest day. We also have new patio furniture for your comfort and leisure.

We have been very busy with the repair of pot holes in our city. If you happen to come across one, please call it in to Public Works so we can repair it in a timely manner. Many thanks Windcrest! Have a productive day.



Code Enforcement Unit

Spring cleaning time again! It's also that time of year to remove unsightly items from your properties in time for brush pickup. Take advantage of this service to remove any materials you may have wanted to dispose of. Please check the literature distributed by the City as to when **YOUR** pick up times will be. Please, **DO NOT** put out your brush and junk in front of your residence until the **WEEKEND BEFORE** you are scheduled to be picked up. Furniture can be put out as long as they are broken down into smaller pieces. Please keep in mind we are trying to keep Windcrest beautiful.

Please check your tree branches over roadways and alleys and trim them if needed. Minimum tree height is 13' 6" above roadway and alley. Take advantage of our brush pickup services. Please help us by doing your part for the community. **Reminder, residential garbage, waste and refuse placed outside for pickup shall be stored in a durable metal or hardened rubber container with a tightly sealed insect-proof and animal-proof lid.** Please correct or remove junked vehicles from your property, to include the back yard. Also note that you cannot use the streets to store your extra vehicles.

If you need any assistance or want to report a violation of the Windcrest City Code, please contact the Code Compliance & Enforcement Unit via the Windcrest Police Department Dispatcher at **210-655-2666** or send an email thru the link provided within the Code Compliance & Enforcement tab located on the Police Department webpage.

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RSVP by Monday, March 23rd
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Economic Development Corporation

March is and spring is upon us. Great news in Windcrest the Buffalo Wild Wings opening was a great success and they continue to do well thank you for supporting our newest business. We also Artic Ape Yogurt opening this month, this company is owned and operated by Windcrest Residents. In n Out Burger is almost ready for their Big Grand Opening stay tuned for more information.

You may have noticed that over the last couple of years the landscape of Windcrest has been changing business remodeling, growing and new businesses coming in. Stay tuned as more change will be coming along the IH35 access road, stay tuned for our WEDC Board meeting and City Council meeting with the new developments.

The WEDC would like to welcome our newest member Kelly Hamilton to Team Windcrest and if you are at City Hall please stop by and meet her as she will be involved in many of our events and promotions.

Please visit www.developwindcrest.org to find out more about the meetings and developments occurring in Windcrest. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Robert Colunga – Executive Director at 210-967-9381 or email at rcolunga@windcrest-tx.gov



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Municipal Court Report

By Kelly Rodriguez, Municipal Court Clerk,
krdriguez@windcrest-tx.gov (210) 655-0022 ext 2250

Statewide Warrant Round Up

The City of Windcrest will be participating again in the Great Texas Warrant Round Up. During the month of March participating agencies throughout the state of Texas will be focusing efforts on contacting those who have warrants in their cities. Windcrest will be part of those efforts. If you or you know of anyone please let them know that it would be in their best interest for them to contact the court to take care of them. In addition, if you would like to assist us with information, please call our tip line at 653-5299.

Tips for the Road

It's winter and you are traveling far from home. You break down and call a tow truck. It will be at least two hours before it arrives. Fortunately the heater works. When the vehicle isn't moving but the heater is on, there is a danger of carbon monoxide poisoning. Be sure that your window is down a couple of inches. Snuggle up in extra clothing and blankets. Run your engine for only ten to fifteen minutes each hour. If in snow, make sure the exhaust pipe is clear of snow to avoid sending carbon monoxide back into the passenger area.

TOTAL CITY REVENUE

Here is a 4 year comparison chart of the money collected from fines and fees. For more information please contact **Kelly Rodriguez, Assistant Court Administrator** at (210)655-0022 ext 2150 or krdriguez@windcrest-tx.gov.



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Learn an exotic, but simple technique, at our **2 March** meeting. Betty Riggs & Lois Wooten will demonstrate how to **make your own Japanese Komedama hanging moss string gardens.** (Go ahead, Google it.) There will even be a few to buy in our



Kokedama hanging garden

plant sale! Hostesses are Laurie Bocquin, Myrna Waters, Sondra Bump, Barbara Horvath, Ruby Rosales, and Barbara McGee. (**March Executive Board** meeting is 30 March at Annette Hoffman's home.)

Don't forget **6 April.** Our spring event is a trip to the Hill country African Violet Nursery with lunch in Boerne. Come and learn how to make those sleepy Violets bloom. Cost is \$10.00 each plus lunch. **RSVP REQUIRED.**, so give Betty Riggs (637-6302) a call.

Windcrest Garden Club will hold its annual public Plant Sale on 25 April at the Windcrest United Methodist Church. Proceeds support our community service projects including the Windcrest Elementary School winter coat and Angel Tree projects. All our gardeners are working hard to have lovely plants to sell. **Come see what we have for you this year!**

Spring showers bring spring flowers and, even better, give our yards and trees a healthy start.

The Windcrest Garden Club's Yard Award program is on track for this summer during the months of May, June and July. So **now is the time to survey your yard's needs.** Drought conditions have resulted in a lot of thatch and hard soil. Did you know that you can make a simple spray to break-up thatch and sweeten your soil by combining 1 can of beer, 1 can of regular cola (not diet), 1 cup of ammonia, and 1 cup of liquid dish soap (like blue Dawn) in a bucket and pour into a 20 gallon hose-end sprayer? Apply to the point of run-off. (Source: www.JerryBaker.com)

The Garden Club is open to ALL AREA MEN AND WOMEN interested in gardening. Membership is only \$10.00 a year and available anytime during the year. We meet on the first Monday of the month at the Windcrest Civic Center. **Come and see what all the excitement is about!**



Betty Riggs introduced Phil "Grampa" Haickey at the Windcrest Garden Club 2 Feb meeting. "Grampa" shared his love for tea & 60+ varieties he makes.

Women's Club News

Kathy Littlefield (210) 413-6018

Our year is off to a great start with an outstanding program by Jackie Van De Walle giving us the colorful background of the San Antonio Livestock & Rodeo Association. Grounds tickets were given as part of the door prizes! President Lea Fagin was presented a Certificate of Recognition by Mari Sandoval of the Battered Women's Shelter for a large donation of clothing and other items from members of the Woman's Club, and a cash donation from the VFW. What a great bunch of members and friends we have!



Friday, March 13th we will gather at the Civic Center from 6:00pm. To 10:00p.m. for our **SPRING SOCIAL.** Reservations are needed to **Pat Kendrick** at **653-3892.** This will be a fun, relaxing social event and you are invited to bring a friend.

All Windcrest ladies can join the Women's Club. Our dues are \$20 and we really are a nice group to be a part of! Come join us and get to know your neighbors and new friends. Contact Membership Chairman **Lu Nix** at **653-2371.**



go green

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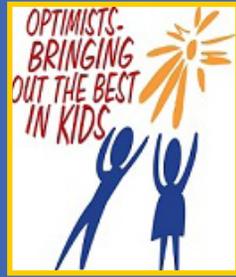
What will change?

Well... nothing! You will begin receiving your neighborhood newsletter by email on the very next publication! We'll be sure to remove your address from the mailing list, while you enjoy your digital copy.

We are so pleased to be offering this new service!

Questions? Feel free to contact Albert Prieto at (210) 558-3160 with any website related questions.

WINDCREST OPTIMIST CLUB



The Windcrest Optimist Club was founded in 1964. We are happy to report that we just celebrated our 50th Anniversary as a club! We are a community organization that is dedicated to ABringing Out The Best In Kids@ and serving our community. Optimists are people with vision - who recognize their civic responsibilities-who share common aspirations, interests, and desire a way of life in dynamic freedom - a person like you!

We meet monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at the Windcrest Civic Center at Takas Park at 6:30 AM. One of the highlights of the meeting is our Student Of The Month Recognition Program. Each of the schools in the Roosevelt Cluster is asked to choose a student who they believe exemplifies the qualities and character traits of their respective schools. Students are selected for traits such as: being a hard worker, being helpful to others, demonstrating a positive attitude, and exhibiting leadership skills, to just name a few. These students join our meeting with their parents and school representative. Each student is presented to the club by their teacher or administrator who shares why the student was selected and then he or she receives a Student of the Month Plaque. Our club looks forward to each meeting, sharing a delicious breakfast, and hearing about the future leaders of our community.

This year we have recognized the following students: Paige Stofa, Christopher San Gabriel, Marlist Villegas, Isaiah Nash, Victoria Trejo, Phylisha Estrada, Ashley McCutchen, Juliana Gonzalez, Stephanie Padilla, LaMaya Hackman, Antonio Rojas, Michelle Vo, Daniel Flores-Gallardo, Maegan Cullipher, Santos Mejia, LaiLa Harris, Kim Luong, Amy Rodriguez, Edward Rodriguez, Yarexi Caravajal, Bryley Coffel, Gabriel Carreno, Sophia Bejar, Jacqueline Puetnes, LaJoy Lumpkin, and Brian Welch.

We encourage you to join us at one of our breakfast meetings. It will be highlight of your day! Please feel free to contact President Mitch Weidenbach for further information at 210-653-3287 or visit our website at www.windcrestoptimist.org.

Our next meeting is March 10, 2015. Hope to see you there!

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6TH ANNUAL ITALIAN DINNER

Saturday, March 28, 2015

5:00 - 7:30 pm at Windcrest Civic Center

Everyone is invited to attend the Windcrest Lions Club's 6th Annual Italian Dinner on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at the Civic Center in Takas Park. We appreciate area residents' positive response to the Italian meal. The Italian dinner will consist of spaghetti, meat sauce, cheese, salad, garlic bread sticks and ice tea for \$8.00. Carry-out and eating in at the Civic Center will be provided. Live entertainment is planned. This event is a major fund-raiser for the Club. Proceeds help fund programs such as sight research, a low vision clinic, children's eye glasses, the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville and dictionaries for 3rd grade students. Save \$1.00 and buy a ticket early from any Lion. Tickets may be purchased at the door, or in advance from any Lions member. For tickets or more info call Lion Marlene (455-3662). Thank you and hope to see you there!



SAN ANTONIO SYMPHONY

UPCOMING CONCERTS



THE BAROQUE SERIES:
THE BRANDENBURG CONCERTOS
Sunday, March 1, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
San Fernando Cathedral
Akiko Fujimoto, conductor | Martha Long, flute
Eric Gratz, violin | Gösta Funck, harpsichord

THE BAROQUE SERIES:
HANDEL'S MESSIAH
Thursday, April 2, 2015, 7:30 p.m.
Majestic Theatre
Akiko Fujimoto, conductor
San Antonio Symphony Mastersingers
John Silantien, director



BUGS BUNNY AT THE SYMPHONY
April 3 & 4, 2015, 8:00 p.m.
Majestic Theatre
George Daugherty, conductor

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FRIENDS OF THE PARK



Friends of the Park is happy to announce that Scott Gorton was elected President at its recent Annual Meeting. We look forward to an exciting year with new ventures!

Joining Scott are Evelyn Eanes (VP), Don Myles (Treas.), and Jack Leonhardt (Sect.).

On February 21, FOTP sponsored a Windcrest Bashura Bash (see basurabash.org) - a one day volunteer effort to pick up trash, recyclables, limbs along local waterways. Basura Bash nationally celebrated its 21st anniversary this year; locally is sponsored by San Antonio River Authority. Our own efforts were along the tributaries which run through Windcrest as well as the three ponds. We hope this will become an annual event. This year, time constraints limited publicity

and participation, but it served as a blueprint for future years. Windcrest Elementary School's Recycle Club jumped on board, however! They had a poster contest (you may see the winning poster at City Hall) and some of the students and their parents joined in the clean-up.

Among our upcoming activities are continued tree planting, creating beautiful beds around the Flower Towers that were erected in November, placing attractive park directional signs on the steel structures also installed in November, and in general improving appearances throughout the city, sustainability and environmental responsibility being key. We are planning a Park Day in 2015 ... more later.

Our website is being completely redesigned: windcrestfotp.org. Please consider becoming a member, making a difference! Contact information available on back cover of this newsletter. Spring arrives this month; plant something!

Shweiki



Kid's Valentine's Day

Recap -

Sunday, February 8th, the Windcrest YMCA hosted over 100 children and their parents in a City of Windcrest sponsored Valentine's Day party. Numerous volunteers from the Newsletter Committee worked together to make the party a success for the children of Windcrest. A big thank you to the YMCA for graciously providing the venue for the children's party. We appreciate you!



WINDCREST ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL UNIT

Officers A. Fuentes and G. Bayer

With spring upon us we will be seeing an influx of stray dogs running loose. Of course this is usually due to irresponsible pet owners neglecting to spay or neuter. You may be an animal lover like many of us who want to rescue every dog we find. If you happen to spot a stray dog in the city limits of Windcrest, call us and we will pick the dog up and attempt to find the owner.



Please DO NOT pick up stray dogs outside of Windcrest. The worst thing you can do for the dog is to bring it home and expect Windcrest animal control to take the dog for you. You are not doing the dog or the owner any favors whatsoever. In fact, you are preventing the dog and owner from reuniting. People are going to be

searching in their neighborhoods, their animal control shelters and have no idea their dog is out of town. It also puts Windcrest dogs at greater risk of being euthanized due to overcrowding at the kennels we utilize. If you spot a stray dog outside of Windcrest, call 311 and they can further assist you. Please remember that we have several adoptable dogs that have been found in Windcrest, that desperately need homes. They are living in temporary kennels until they are adopted or euthanized. We are at a 98% adoption rate and we would like to make it 100%.

Windcrest Animal Control Task Force

TxWeACT



A big thank you to our community for the support of our pet immunization clinics in January and February. Your support makes the planning and all the work, worthwhile.

It is the time where you will be seeing little ones appear... baby birds, baby wildlife, puppies and yes, kittens. Please do not remove kittens from an area just because you don't see mom. She is probably out there looking for food. Help her by placing some food where you see the young, then call us and we will make every effort to try to trap the family. We try to wait until the kittens are eating the food because trapping is a lot easier. We can then trap them all, spay mom and try to socialize the kittens for adoption. If you find puppies, call animal control and he will make every effort to trap the whole family and take them into his care.

Remember to pick up after your dog... is the number one complaint for animal control in our city....really??? Yep, and you can be ticketed for it.



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Come on spring! South Texas, Windcrest in particular, has had enough cold weather for this year. This winter has brought us much needed rain but now we are ready for warmer temperatures and outdoor activities.

We are looking forward to the renovation of our next city park, Autumn Sunset. The survey has been completed, so now the process begins for getting a design and contractor to accomplish the work. This will not be as an extensive renovation as the Windy Hollow Pond but will have the same results; a beautifying look to an old friend.

Another project that is being undertaken, in conjunction with Friends of the Park and the city Public Works, are designated "no mow" areas to accomplish way stations for the migrating Monarch butterflies. We are working with a very knowledgeable and sharing resident, Mrs. Arlene Hart, to accomplish this task. So as you travel throughout our city over the next few months you will note areas that appear to be growing, which they are. This is to cultivate the native plants that are the natural friends for the Monarch butterflies as well as serving our bees and others who pollinate flowers for Mother Nature. I will continue to keep the residents up to date on this project

as it will be growing, both figuratively and literally, into something very beneficial for our city.

New signs are in our parks from an ordinance change by City Council to eliminate fishing and swimming in the ponds. Please adhere to the signs and remind those visiting our parks from outside our city that this is a recent change.

JROTC – NEISD National Competition



Lt. Col. Robert Fotz, head of the Roosevelt High School JROTC, presented to City Council on February 2nd along with his top 5 air rifle National finalist candidates. Along with their commander, the team is headed to Anniston, Alabama for the National Air rifle competition. As the only team in NEISD to qualify, and neighbors of Windcrest, the

Council invited the group to address the Mayor and Council members. The team travels to Alabama mid-February and has accepted the Mayor's challenge for an Air-Rifle Shootoff with date to be determined. The Mayor's challenge will be held at Takas Civic Center and for a \$50 donation to the Roosevelt JROTC, all residents are invited to challenge the National finalists along with Mayor Baxter, City Manager Castillo, Council member Shelton, EDC Director Colunga and Chief Ballew. Mayor Baxter encourages all willing participants to come out for a good cause and show the team their shooting skills.



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Angie's list.



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A few blocks down from City Hall, a local nonprofit organization called Reaching Maximum Independence, Inc. is helping individuals with disabilities bring visibility to the success, accomplishments and contributions individuals with special needs make in our community every day.

16 Individuals with a variety of disabilities campaigned to raise over \$54,000 for local nonprofit organizations serving children and adults with special needs earning them positions on the 2015 Fiesta Especial® Royal Court. Join us in celebrating with these amazing individuals as they ride at the front of this year's Fiesta Especial® Parade.

On Saturday, April 18th, from 7:30am – 11:30am, The City of Windcrest will partner with Reaching Maximum Independence, Inc. to bring the sights and sounds of Fiesta right here to our city streets. The Fiesta Especial Royalty Run 5K & Parade will start off at City Hall and loop around the golf course and through the neighborhoods. The 5K run will be followed by a parade of floats, mascots, marchers and fun. Windcrest residents are encouraged to bring their chairs and sit and

watch the parade go by as they circle around the golf course. Activities for children will be available in the City Hall parking lot. Continue to watch for details on our "Best Fiesta House" award which will be given to one participating home along the parade route on April 18th.



Registration for the 5K is available online at www.fiestaespecial.com/5k-and-1mile-run.html.



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➤ CUTOFF DATES FOR APRIL 2015 NEWSLETTER NOTICES TO CITY HALL:

To provide timely information in the next *Newsletter*, **notices must be in the Administration Office by noon on March 6**, and announce activities occurring after March 30 only. Please e-mail 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.

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

ORGANIZATIONS:

Little League – Amy Winn
210-789-9168 * amywinn@satx.rr.com
Lion's Club – Marlene Patton
210-393-7383 * marpatton@aol.com
Girl Scouts - Brittany Byrd
210-349-2404 ext. 227 * bbyrd@girlscouts-swtx.org
Boy Scouts - John Echevarria
210-341-8611 ext. 123 * jechevar@bsaemail.com
Cub Scouts – Alfred A. Cortez
210-967-7369 * aacortez@earthlink.net
Swim Team – Robert Hoffman
210-287-1798 * windcrestdolphins@hotmail.com
Optimist Club - Mitch Weidenbach
210-653-3287
Women's Club - Lea Fagin - 653-2036
American Legion - Buddy Cooper
210-656-3426
Golf Course – Dennis Dooley
210-655-1421 * dennidooley@windcrestgolfclub.com
Tennis Center - Scott McKay
210-590-8500 * scottmckay@satx.rr.com
Citizen's Patrol Team 1 Captain - Col. Henry Berman
210-655-5650
Citizen's Patrol Team 2 Captain - Nello Rosania
210-657-5704
Citizen's Patrol Team 3 Captain - James Mackey
Citizen's Patrol Team 4 Captain - Helma Ann Martinez
210-599-8583
Garden Club - Carolyn Freeman - 655-5816
Friends of the Park - Scott Gorton (President)
210- 216-7666 * scottl@satx.rr.com
CERT - Kathy Maloney - 210-887-5069
teamwindcrest@gmail.com

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:

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Lisa M. Pepi
Beckie Gergen
Leonard Neeper
Col. Sue Alexander
Col. Roy E. Wratlslaw
Col. Irv Gerrow

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Michelle Ramos-Martinez
Jaqueline Wickware
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Majie Takas

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Gayle Scheibler
Veronica Dixon
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Dennis Dooley
Jay Eldridge
Jan Leaders
Bill Zulaica
Pool Manager- Jonathan Hays
210-454-6883
Water Board President-Melroy Brandt
210-655-5528

Newsletter Committee

Mayor Alan Baxter
Heather Weidenbach
Claudia Carrera
Col. Henry Berman
Barbara Lindell
Gayle Baker
Veronica Dixon
Carolyn Freeman
Ruth Fritz
Kelly Hamilton
Ursula Schaub
David Diaz
Rick Cockerham
Liz Dick

Animal Task Force-Pam Dodson
210-562-0299 *
pdodson@windcrest-tx.gov



City Meetings in Windcrest City Hall Council Chambers

SCCM	March 2	6:00 p.m.	Parks & Recreation	March 11	6:00 p.m.
Municipal Court	March 3, 10, 17	4:00 p.m.	WEDC	March 12	6:00 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	March 5	6:00 p.m.	RCCM	March 16	5:15 p.m.

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For updated information go to www.ci.windcrest.tx.us