



PRECINCT 287 CIVIC ASSOCIATION

ORGANIZED JULY 1973. SERVING POST OAK MANOR AND WILLOWBROOK.

www.pct287ca.org

JULY 2023

VOLUME 57, NUMBER 2

Dear Residents,

It has been a pleasure to serve as Civic Association President for the last four years. I am grateful for the kind, fun, and generous neighbors I have met and worked with in the Civic Association.

Some highlights from this time include:

1. continued security patrol, now with crime tracking and regular security meetings to tailor our hours.
2. transitioning the membership database to Microsoft Access and our financial system to QuickBooks.
3. establishing the beautification committee, clean up days, and improvement of S. Post Oak Road.
4. updating and streamlining the website.
5. new signage for yard of the month and waste collection.
6. quarterly newsletters in color; now transitioning to e-newsletters next year.
7. transitioning the separation of overlap areas between Precinct 287 Civic Association and Willowbend Civic Club.

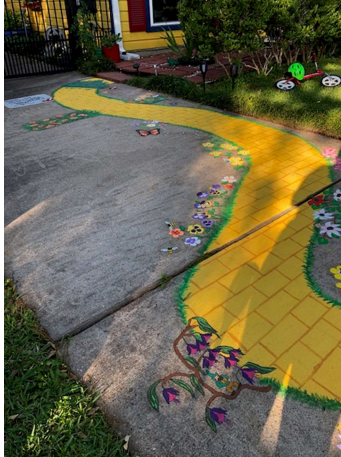
This has been possible thanks to many helping hands and our wonderful officers and committee chairs!

I will not be going anywhere, as I will serve as interim Vice President working with our new President, Alison Mitchell. Alison brings a fresh perspective and deep commitment to this neighborhood. At our last general meeting, all Civic Association candidates ran unopposed. The new or continuing officers and representatives are Barbara Beard, Secretary; Janeen Paprocki, E. Willowbrook Representative, and Susan Forrest, E. Post Oak Manor Representative. They will assume their roles in September this year.

Sincerely,
Edith Napoleon
President

RESIDENT OF THE MONTH

On April 30, **Donna Grimes** hosted a story time on her driveway at 4838 Kingfisher. Donna has a Wizard of Oz theme painted on her driveway. She invited neighbors to take a walk on her yellow-brick road and journey through the tale.



If you would like to recognize an exemplary neighbor in the newsletter, please email precinct287ca@gmail.com.

WELCOME NEW CIVIC ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Alison Mitchell was born and raised in New Zealand and has lived in Post Oak Manor for 17 years. A nurse practitioner, she currently works at Memorial Hermann Hospital, and is a past president of the Texas Nurse Practitioner organization. She has served in the Precinct 287 Civic Association as Vice President, Pet Locator, and as a longtime National Night Out host. In her spare time, she loves walking and cycling.



YARD OF THE MONTH

May Yard Winners

East Willowbrook
Clayton & Patricia
4530 Kingfisher



West Willowbrook
Sharron Reilly
4730 Kinglet



East Post Oak Manor
Navarro Family
4323 Spellman



West Post Oak Manor
Mary Christou
4746 Spellman



June Yard Winners

East Willowbrook
Sandel Family
4634 Kingfisher



West Willowbrook
Zamarripa Family
11030 Waxwing



East Post Oak Manor
Hong Hoa & Oanh Vo
4523 Warm Springs



West Post Oak Manor
Liz & Victor Acevedo
4701 Benning



WILLOW WATERHOLE GREENSPACE CONSERVANCY

Later this year, Prairie Lake (the part of Willow Waterhole south of Warm Springs) will be getting a paved walking trail, updated entrance, trash receptacles, and a parking lot off Gasmer Road. For more information, visit the website at www.willowwaterhole.org.



RESIDENT PROFILE: The Wheelers on Greenwillow

by Anna Wheeler Krpec, David Wheeler, and Jonathan Wheeler

In 1959, Paul Wheeler established Post Oak Shoe Repair in an L shaped strip center on Post Oak Road at Willowbend. Post Oak Road was a two-lane road with a deep ditch on both sides and nothing to the west but rice fields and pastures. At this time, the Wheeler family lived in a small house on Zephyr Street off Old Spanish Trail. The family was still growing so Paul and his wife Dorothy started shopping for a larger home in a neighborhood closer to his shoe shop.

In June 1960, Paul and Dorothy Wheeler and their three children, Anna, David, and Mary, moved into their brand-new home on Greenwillow. The cost of the house was \$18,000. Monthly payments were \$150.00. The house was built by R.E. Boyker. At the time, Paul said to Mr. Boyker that he did not have the money for a down payment and Mr. Boyker replied that he would loan Paul the money.

Being a spec house in progress, (slab and studs) when the Wheelers first saw it, they were able to choose the interior cosmetics including flooring, counter tops, paint colors as well as where the Arizona Ash Tree was planted and is still living. This was the last house built on Greenwillow south of Willowbend.

On June 28, 1960, the fourth sibling, Jonathan was born.

The area was in the Willowbend Mud District, not the City of Houston. One of David's favorite things to do with two of his bicycle buddies was pedal across the railroad tracks onto the caliche road to the U-TOTE-M and buy tamales with their hard-earned allowances. The caliche ran all the way to and onto Stella Link.

In late 1960, Paul was approached by an employee who suggested the possibility of making cowboy boots. Wheeler Boot Company was born. After several years of growth, the Boot Shop was moved to a larger space on Willowbend and the shoe shop was sold. During these years, David was trained by the Master Bootmaker, became a Master Bootmaker, and now is owner of Wheeler Boot Company.

As time moved on, the three older siblings left the Greenwillow house and started their own families, leaving younger brother Jonathan as the only child at home.

Following in the footsteps of big brother David, Jonathan had fun with his buddies in the backyard fort built by Paul, David, and a friend. There they would crawl over the back fence to look at the horses in the easement, scoot through the barbwire to scout around the horse stable and the windmill, and drink water from the trough. They liked to go down the easement near Main Street to explore the abandoned concrete mixing station and jump off the "tower" of sand.

Our neighborhood was a happy, fun and safe place to live – the best of times for us four.

In 1981, Anna and her family moved to a house on Spellman; 1982, Paul and Dorothy moved to a smaller home on Benning; 1982, David and his family moved into the Greenwillow Home; Mary moved to California; Jonathan moved to Austin.

During the Covid lockdown, David performed music concerts in his driveway, giving a little enjoyment to neighbors.

2022/2023 OFFICERS

President	Edith Napoleon
Vice President	Alison Mitchell
Treasurer	Teresa Palmer
Secretary	Barbara Beard, <i>interim</i>

2022/2023 AREA REPRESENTATIVES

W. Willowbrook	Kathy Long
E. Willowbrook	Janeen Paprocki
W. Post Oak Manor	Jeff Burrow
E. Post Oak Manor	Susan Forrest, <i>interim</i>

COMMITTEES

Beautification	Caroline Burum
Deed Restrictions	Matthew Camp
Lost Pets	<i>open</i>
Membership Database	Teresa Palmer
National Night Out	Monica Alzate
New Resident Welcome	Richard Orellana
Newsletter	Jill Navarro
Security Patrol Secretary	Pat Powell
Signs	Andrew Etter
Super Neighborhood Delegate	Matthew Camp
Yard of the Month	Janeen Paprocki

NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION

The Civic Association completed stump, bamboo, and concrete removal along S. Post Oak.



before



after



before



after

IN SEARCH OF...

We are in search of a volunteer to write a resident profile of a longtime or interesting resident for each newsletter. That's four features per year. If you are interested, please contact precinct287ca@gmail.com.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE!

We are moving to an e-newsletter in 2024. The Board voted unanimously to make this change to reduce costs. The savings will allow the Civic Association to invest in community events.

If it is important to you to receive a paper copy, please notify us at precinct287ca@gmail.com.



YOUR neighborhood LENDER

I've Worked With Your Neighbors & Can Help You

**PURCHASE
REFINANCE
RENOVATE**

George Zamarripa
Loan Officer, NMLS: 613892



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