

# Welcome to the Winston Downs Neighborhood!

## Winston Downs Community Association WDCA

Spring 2020

### FROM THE WDCA PRESIDENT

We are truly in unprecedented times, and my heart goes out to all neighbors who are anxious, stressed and suffering. The WDCA cares about you and wants to help you through this difficult time. In the coming months, our efforts will focus on helping our community cope with this crisis and preparing for recovery and reinvestment when it is over.

When my family moved into Winston Downs seven years ago, we were struck the friendliness of our neighbors and the quiet, but close-knit, community. We really are a small town tucked inside a bustling city.

I am heartened to see so many of us out walking (respecting social distancing rules, of course) and being supportive and upbeat. This is an encouraging sign of our resilience and bodes well for our future.

In this newsletter, you will find information about groups that can help with grocery shopping and prescription pick up, as well as those that provide emotional support and coordinate volunteer opportunities.

Please continue to reach out to neighbors via phone, email and on walks, to keep up spirits. Say “hi” to someone you’ve never met. If your neighbor doesn’t have email, please print this out and post it on their door.

Don’t hesitate to reach out to the WDCA Board via email at [info@winstondowns.org](mailto:info@winstondowns.org).

*Tim Rooney*, President  
Winston Downs Community Association

The City and County of Denver has required events and gatherings of more than ten persons to be canceled or postponed until at least May 11 to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. As a result we are modifying our meeting schedule:

### Association Meetings

#### WDCA Board Meetings

Third Tuesday of the Month

Via teleconference 7:00pm

See <https://winstondowns.org/events/> for meeting call-in instructions

#### WDCA Annual Meeting

***WDCA annual meeting is postponed until further notice.*** We will monitor conditions and city/state recommendations and reschedule when safe, legal and appropriate.

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## SAFETY COMMITTEE BECOME INVOLVED, STAY ALERT

WDCA Safety Chair, Jerry Shustrin, represents our neighborhood at regularly held meetings at Denver Police Department – District 3 offices. Those meetings identify crimes within District 3 by neighborhood and those meetings help define safety measures for our neighborhood.

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Safety Committee, please contact Jerry Shustrin at [jerry@crestintl.com](mailto:jerry@crestintl.com)



## JOIN NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Neighborhood Watch is an organized group of neighbors devoted to crime prevention within a neighborhood or block. In other words,

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention scheme under which neighbors agree together to keep an eye on one another's properties, and report suspicious incidents to law enforcement.

If you are interested in having your block be a part of the Neighborhood Watch program please contact District 3 police 720-913-1300.



## ARE SMART TV'S TOO SMART?

*[Courtesy: Denver District Attorney's Office]*

As wonderful as it is to watch your favorite shows on a Smart TV, that Smart TV is also watching you. The FBI has addressed the question many people have asked: ***Can hackers get in to Smart TVs? The simple answer is YES.***

In order for your Smart TV to be, well, smart, it needs to learn your viewing habits which is sent to programming services (like YouTube and Netflix). That information allows the programmers to push relevant program choices to you. And, as with any internet-connected device, if it's connected, (Smart TVs are), it's hack-able.

Hackers probably don't care about what you're watching, but they do like to get every piece of information about you in any way they can. Remember, not only are Smart TVs connected to your internet, many have microphones and cameras. A trifecta for hackers!

Hackers can watch you, hear you and if they are good enough, they can get to your other internet-connected devices. Think about it, if programming services can collect your viewing habits, which they do, hackers can collect information as well. If your TV is unsecured, a hacker has the ability to take control and possibly do real damage.

## AND ... ALEXA IS ALSO LISTENING!

If the thought of Amazon employees listening to your chats with Alexa is too unsettling, here's how you can disable that function by following seven quick steps:

1. Open the Alexa app on your phone.
2. Tap the menu button on the top left of the screen.
3. Select "Alexa Account."
4. Choose "Alexa Privacy."
5. Select "Manage how your data improves Alexa."
6. Turn off the button next to "Help Develop New Features."
7. Turn off the button next to your name under "Use Messages to Improve Transcriptions."

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## Denver Stays at Home – COVID-19 Update

On March 23, Denver Mayor Hancock issued an executive order directing people to stay home until at least April 10. Check [Denver's COVID-19 web page](#) for the most up to date information on the City's response to this crisis. Call 911 for a medical or other emergency

### If you need to talk to someone for emotional support:

- Reach out to your faith community
- Visit [Mental Health Center of Denver](#) for information on self-care and how to talk to your kids about COVID-19.
- [Colorado Crisis Services](#) provides 24/7, free, immediate and confidential support. Call 1-844-493-TALK (8255) or text TALK to 38255

### If you want to volunteer or find a volunteer to help you:

- Mile High United Way is streamlining donations of supplies, cash and volunteers. for more information, go to [www.unitedwaydenver.org/covid-relief/](http://www.unitedwaydenver.org/covid-relief/)
- Contact [A Little Help on-line](#) or call 720-242-9032 to volunteer to provide services like delivering prescriptions or groceries to vulnerable populations.



## LOOK FOR YOUR INVITATION TO BE COUNTED IN THE 2020 CENSUS

It's in the Constitution: Article 1, Section 2, mandates that the country conduct a count of its population once every 10 years. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since 1790.

The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

The count is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. The 2020 Census counts the population in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). Each home will receive an invitation to respond to a short questionnaire—online, by phone, or by mail.

Invitations to respond to the 2020 Census will be delivered between March 12-20. Once you receive that invitation, you can respond online, by phone, or by mail.

## Allergies and Asthma Got You Down?

*Let us help you breathe better and live better!*



**Mark Ebadi,  
MD**



**Shaila  
Gogate, MD**

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# ZONING & PLANNING COMMITTEE

## JOIN THE WDCA ZONING & PLANNING COMMITTEE (WDCA ZAP)

Winston Downs Community Association/WDCA is a Registered Neighborhood Organization (RNO) that, by city ordinance, receives an official notice when a property owner wants an exception or variance from the **zoning** code.

Also, by city ordinance, the Department of Excise and License notifies neighborhood associations (RNO) of applications for, or modifications of, **liquor and marijuana** retail licenses. There are a variety of types of liquor licenses (tavern, cabaret, restaurant, retail sales, etc.) each with separate rules and regulations. Marijuana licenses include grow-facilities, retail sales and medical dispensaries.

### WDCA ZONING COMMITTEE PURPOSE

- The Zoning and Planning (ZAP) Committee works with the City of Denver on regulations and development of private properties (residential as well as commercial) in the context of our neighborhood's concerns.
- WDCA ZAP responds to development items that are up for public comment. These include builders seeking design variances, developers seeking re-zoning of properties, as well as landmark and historic designations.
- Other projects might include the development of a Design Overlay addition to the Denver Zoning Code; reviewing the status of public area; and contributing useful information to the WD newsletter.

### WHO SERVES ON THIS COMMITTEE

Residents and property owners within Winston Downs and Lee Downs may become committee members. The Board appoints the chair of the committee.

### EXAMPLES OF ZAP ISSUES

ZAP members will be tasked with researching and presenting recommendations for the WDCA Board to consider. Recent issues that are examples of the type of issue that we would seek support from the ZAP committee members include:

- Conservation Overlay discovery of interest
- 400 S. Monaco Pkwy – Historic designation and farmhouse being demolished and lot sold
- 716 S. Poplar St – City sale of former half-way house to a non-profit operator of homes for physically and intellectually disabled
- Fairmount Cemetery application for liquor and cabaret dance license in 2018



If you are interested in participating in WD zoning issues, please contact [info@winstondowns.org](mailto:info@winstondowns.org) with your name and best way to contact you.

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## ABOUT WDCA

### \$ WHERE YOUR DUES GO

- ✦ Meeting space to accommodate WDCA board, committee and special interest meetings
- ✦ Quarterly newsletters delivered to your door
- ✦ Neighborhood social events
- ✦ Neighborhood improvements such as neighborhood identification signage, cleanup activities
- ✦ Website fees & online conferencing
- ✦ Event notifications, mailings

### COMMITTEES AND VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

*If you are interested in supporting any of these please contact us at [info@winstondowns.org](mailto:info@winstondowns.org)*

- ✦ Newsletter delivery
- ✦ Zoning, Safety, Traffic issues
- ✦ Website improvement
- ✦ Communications (newsletter, web, breaking news, social media)
- ✦ Speaker topic development
- ✦ Social events development

### WHERE TO FIND US

Winston Downs Community Association  
PO Box 22594  
Denver CO 80222  
Website: [www.winstondowns.org](http://www.winstondowns.org)  
Email: [info@winstondowns.org](mailto:info@winstondowns.org)

Follow us on Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/wdhoa>

**Membership in WDCA is voluntary.** Our goal is to build a sense of community and pride within our boundaries. WDCA does that by such things as hosting open meetings, publishing newsletters, and planning social opportunities to get to know your neighbors.

### CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

Tim Rooney, President  
Terry Telfer, Vice President  
Jane Lorimer, Secretary  
Joanna Milewski, Treasurer  
Marsha Badanes, Director  
Wendy Glazer, Director  
Jerry Shustrin, Director & Safety Committee Chair



**If you want to be added to breaking news (emailed) please let us know at [info@winstondowns.org](mailto:info@winstondowns.org)**

### STAY AT HOME PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER

**As most of you know, the Stay at Home Public Health Order runs through April 10, at least. We offer this information so that WD residents know what the rules mean.**

- WD residents may not gather in groups on public OR private property. You are considered to be "gathering in a group" if you are within six feet of anyone you do not share a residence with. **Group gatherings are prohibited in City of Denver Parks, the green spaces between or in front of your home - anywhere outside of your residence whether on public OR private property.**
- City of Denver Parks remain open for walking, hiking, biking, running, and similar activities, provided individuals comply with social distancing requirements (6+ feet).
- Park amenities, including playgrounds and picnic areas, are closed and must not be used.
- City staff - park rangers, safety officers, and public health officials - will be patrolling and educating the public and, if necessary, issuing citations and fines of up to \$999.

Any concerns about violations of the Stay at Home Public Health Order should be reported to the City of Denver via 311 or the District 3 Police Department **Non-Emergency Line** at (720) 913-1300.