



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 67, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2022

SUPPORT THE WESTBURY CIVIC CLUB PAY YOUR 2022 DUES TODAY!

2021 was another challenging year on many levels. Some of our normal life activities have resumed but others have not due to the continuation of COVID. The Westbury Civic Club really appreciates all the residents who were able to contribute in 2021 to the WCC and Westbury Area Patrol. Thanks to your contributions, the Westbury Civic Club has continued to operate during these challenging times.

Westbury would be a very different neighborhood if it weren't for our strong civic club and volunteers advocating on behalf of the neighborhood, enforcing deed restrictions, and beautifying the public areas. This is so important to Westbury's future. Read all about the Civic Club's accomplishments in 2021 on pages 10 and 11. The Westbury Civic Club cannot function without YOU!

The WCC Membership Dues are just \$60 per year.

Your Westbury Civic Club dues pay for office space, utilities, insurance and an office manager who fields a wide range of WCC tasks including providing support for residents, organizing special events and projects, assisting the WCC board, and producing the monthly award-winning Westbury Crier. The dues also help beautify our esplanades and maintain our subdivision markers.

Contribute \$305 Towards the Westbury Area Patrol.

The Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) puts certified police officers in our neighborhood and on our streets. Their visibility (even if you think you do not see them, the criminals know they are around) coupled with their quick response time makes them an invaluable component of neighborhood safety. We ask that each household contribute \$305 towards the WAP program.

Please pay TODAY! The Dues form is on page 6.

We need EVERYONE to pay their dues. We believe that the combined dues of \$365 (just a dollar a day) provide a worthwhile service that protects the value of your home and the safety of your family. Working together, we really can make a difference.

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Use this handy QR code to access our online payment page or send in the dues form on page 6.



HEAVY TRASH

January 2022

Thursday, January 13
TREE WASTE ONLY

February 2022

Thurs., February 10
JUNK WASTE

RECYCLING

January 2022

Thursday, January 13
Thursday, January 27

February 2022

Thursday, February 10
Thursday, February 24

WOW WORKING ON WESTBURY

Sunday, January 23
2:30-4PM

Join WCC board members at the Willow Waterhole for our monthly clean-up. This month we will host another litter pickup at the Willow Waterhole. Meet in the new parking lot on Dryad near the Gazebo on Sunday, January 23, from 2:30-4PM. The WCC will provide trash bags and grabbers for you to use. This is a great volunteer opportunity for the whole family.



Keep Westbury Beautiful
Great Volunteer
Opportunity for the
Whole Family



SAVE THE DATE

Westbury Civic Club
Office Open House
Thursday, February 17, 5-6:30

Look for more info in the next Crier!

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

WCC OFFICE

5322 W. Bellfort #100, Houston, TX 77035
Jennifer Edmondson.....WCC Office Manager

Westbury Civic Club Office Hours
Mon.-Thurs., 10AM-12PM
WCC Office Closed Friday–Sunday

NOTARY SERVICES— available to paid WCC members

CONTACT US

WCC Office Telephone.....713-723-5437
WCC Office Email.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net
Deed Restrictions.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net
WCC President.....wccpresident@westburycrier.com

Visit our website at www.westburycrier.com
“Like” us on Facebook at Westbury Houston

SECURITY

Pct. 5 Constables (WAP).....281-463-6666
Report property crimes, suspicious activity, and vacation watch
Emergency.....911
Houston Police Dept. Non-Emergency..... 713-884-3131
Southwest HPD Station832-394-0400

CITY OF HOUSTON

District K CM, Martha Castex-Tatum.....832-393-3016
District C Council Member, Abbie Kamin.....832-393-3004
Deed Restriction Enforcement (City Legal).....832-393-6333
Platou Community Center.....713-726-7107
Mayor’s Citizen Assistance Office.....832-393-0955
Houston Help & Information.....311
*For missed garbage pickup, water line breaks, potholes
sewer repairs, dead animals, traffic signals, heavy trash
violations, neighborhood nuisances, and other city services*

CENTERPOINT ENERGY

Electric outage.....713-207-2222
Suspected natural gas leak.....713-659-2111
Street light repairs.....713-207-2222
Make sure to give pole number

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

County Commissioner Rodney Ellis.....713-755-6111
Graffiti.....www.braysoaksm.org
Shopping Cart Removal.....www.braysoaksm.org
Brays Oaks Mgmt. District - Use “report a problem” link
Poison Control.....1-800-764-7661
Harris County Tax office.....713-368-2000
Harris County Appraisal District.....713-957-7800

2022 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Contact the Westbury Civic Club at 713-723-5437 or
westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President.....Cindy Chapman
wccpresident@westburycrier.com
Vice President.....Marcia Hartman
Secretary.....Katherine Wingfield
Treasurer.....Becky Edmondson

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Communications.....Lauren Figard
Community Relations.....Tony Robert
Deed Restrictions.....Maggie Donovan
Flood Control & Infrastructure.....Jennifer Edmondson
Greenspace Beautification.....Mat Funk
Membership.....Susan Brock
Security.....**VACANT**
Volunteer Coordinator.....**VACANT**

SECTION DIRECTORS

Westbury 1..... Santiago Caraballo
Westbury 2.....Lindsey Pollock
Westbury 3.....Jeff Benavides
Westbury 3.....Jonathan Hansen
Westbury 4.....Eugene Sirls
Westbury 4.....VACANT
Westbury 5.....VACANT
Westbury 5.....Donna Strom
Westbury South.....VACANT
Parkwest 1..... Angie Furnari
Parkwest 2.....VACANT
Parkwest 3Alan Hirshman

POSTED WCC BOARD VACANCIES CAN BE FILLED AT ANY REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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Editor-In-Chief..... Jennifer Edmondson
Edited by.....WCC Publication Committee
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Westbury Civic Club , Inc.

A Message from the Westbury Civic Club President

Happy New Year! I hope that the New Year brings you joy, happiness, good health, and prosperity.

Celebrating the New Year has transitioned from one of my least favorite holidays to one of my favorite holidays. As a kid, I thought New Year's Day was merely staying up late on New Year's Eve, eating turnip greens and black-eyed peas and rich foods during a big family lunch, and watching parades and football all day long on television. As an adult, I have grown to appreciate celebrating the New Year for what it means -- to reflect upon the past year, to ponder the possibilities for the future, and to make plans to start off the New Year in a good direction.

In this issue you will read about the many accomplishments and activities from the past year here in Westbury. You will also read about what we can look forward to in 2022. COVID-19 might have slowed things down, but noticeable improvements will soon be underway in 2022.

Perhaps some of you have made a New Year's resolution to get more involved in our community. I invite you to join us at upcoming "Working on Westbury" activities to clean up and make our parks and esplanades better. We will also host I LOVE Westbury events at the Westbury Civic Club office, where you can drop by to say hello, tell us what you are concerned about, sample some treats, and enjoy looking at the historical photos and maps in the Westbury Civic Club Office. We intend to hold our monthly Westbury Civic Club board meetings in person starting February 2022 and you are invited to join

us. (Our Facebook page and website will have the most recent information posted if there are weather or COVID issues to consider for any specific meeting in 2022.) We will conduct our popular Westbury White Elephant Sale (giant community garage sale) events in the spring and fall of 2022. We also plan to host National Night Out (NNO) event in October. We want to offer many ways for you to interact with other Westbury residents and to be able to participate in activities which will make our neighborhood even better during 2022.

Another way to make our community even better in 2022 is by providing financial support. You should be receiving a postcard with information about paying your voluntary dues and constable fees for 2022. I encourage you to pay in January or early February. The COVID situation has strained our finances and the Westbury Civic Club has had to dip into our savings for the past two years. An important goal for 2022 is to get the WCC finances in good shape. It costs money to pay for a Security Patrol with the Precinct 5 Constables. It costs money to operate an office to serve the 5,000 homes in Westbury. It costs money to provide the foundation for the ongoing advocacy that the Westbury Civic Club is famous for across our city.

Feeling safe is important, and although our neighborhood has low crime in general, we all want to feel safe. The Precinct 5 Constable Westbury Area Patrol has been patrolling Westbury streets since 1984. The Constables are licensed law enforcement officers; they can arrest suspects, they can file reports into the

Houston Police Department system, and they have the backing and assistance from other Precinct 5 patrol units and Precinct 5 specialty units to respond to issues in our Westbury neighborhood. These services are not free. The Westbury Civic Club is obligated to pay for these services per a signed contract between the Westbury Civic Club and Harris County. A security patrol by licensed law enforcement officers is expensive, but I strongly believe that the services are worthwhile. Our neighboring communities of Meyerland, Maplewood South/North, and others nearby also pay to receive security patrol services from the Precinct 5 Constables. The dispatcher number for the Precinct 5 Constables is 281-463-6666. Save it in your contacts so you can quickly contact them.

If you haven't already paid your dues for the Constable Patrol and for the operations of the Westbury Civic Club, please take a moment to do so. The postcard sent to your home has a quick link to the Westbury Civic Club website at www.westburycrier.com. More information is on page 6 about how to pay your dues.

Working together, we continue to keep Westbury as the friendliest, best neighborhood around town. Tell your friends and co-workers that you live in Westbury and that you like living here.

Happy New Year! Let's make 2022 great!
-Cindy Chapman

WCC Board Notes

- ➔ The board approved a motion to not meet in December. The next WCC board meeting will be on January 19, 2022.
- ➔ **The January Westbury Civic Club meeting will be held via zoom.** The WCC board plans to meet in person in February 2022. Our last in-person meeting was in February 2020.
- ➔ **Want to join the WCC board?** Vacant positions are Director of Volunteers, Director of Security, Section Directors for Westbury 4, Westbury 5, Westbury South, Parkwest 2. If you are interested in joining the board, please email Cindy Chapman at wccpresident@westburycrier.com.
- ➔ Join us at our next **WOW Working of Westbury Event on Sunday, January 23, from 2:30-4.** Meet at the Willow Waterhole for litter pickup. The WCC will provide trash bags and grabbers. See page 1 for more information.
- ➔ **Support the Westbury Civic Club by paying your 2022 dues today!** See the form on page 6 or use the handy QR code on page 1.

NEXT

**WCC Board
Meeting**

**Wednesday
January 19, 7PM**

**Meeting will be held
via Zoom and
livestreamed on the
Westbury Houston
Facebook page.**

Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

11655 Chimney Rock Rd
713-726-7107 * platou@houstontx.gov



Temporary Supervisor—Julia Soto
Email—Julia.Soto@houstontx.gov

What's Coming in 2022

- * **Westbury library**
- * **New Trails at the Willow Waterhole**
- * **WCC Office Open House**
- * **WOW Workdays**
- * **TWO White Elephant Sales**
- * **Flood Control Projects**
- * **Neighborhood 101 Classes**

Platou Center is OPEN for Adult Classes

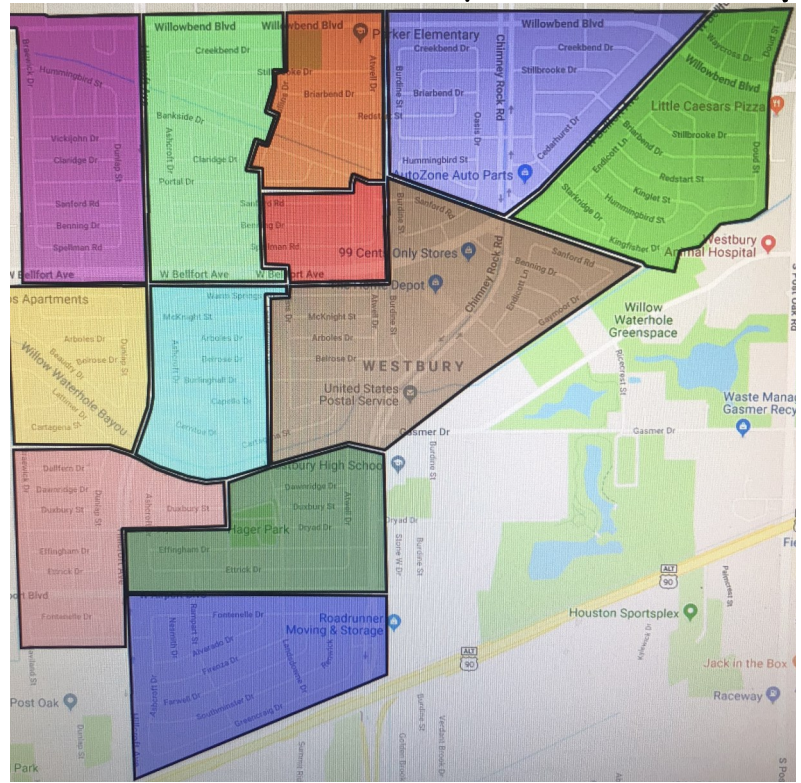
Adult Program Schedule
Programs will run from 9:30AM—1PM, Monday—Friday

- Exercise—M/W/F, 9:30-10:30AM**
- Quilting— Tuesday, 9:30AM –1PM**
- Games—Wednesday, 10AM—12PM**
- Ping Pong—Thursday, 9:30-10:30AM**

Temperature checks and social distancing will be enforced.
Face coverings are strongly encouraged.
Frequent cleaning and sanitizing will be maintained.
For the full City of Houston policy, please visit—
www.houstontx.gov/adminpolicies

Playground, basketball, and tennis courts are OPEN.

Map of Westbury by Section



Westbury is the 2nd largest neighborhood in the City of Houston with 5,000 homes. One reason Westbury has remained such a viable and desirable neighborhood is because of the very active Westbury Civic Club. The WCC has been advocating and working hard for the neighborhood for over 60 years. We often refer to different sections when talking about current or upcoming city projects, crime, or events. This handy map can also be found on our website, www.westburycrier.com.

	Parkwest 1	198 homes
	Parkwest 2	443 homes
	Parkwest 3	311 homes
	Westbury 1	543 homes
	Westbury 2	530 homes
	Westbury 3	853 homes
	Westbury 4	834 homes
	Westbury 5	501 homes
	Westbury 5	150 homes
	Westbury South	563 homes

January 2022 Calendar Events/Meetings

Jan 1	Happy New Year! 2022 is here!	
Jan 1-3	WCC Office Closed	
Thurs 13	HEAVY TRASH PICK UP—JUNK WASTE	
Sat 15	Audubon Society Bird Survey 5310 South Willow Monthly bird survey	8-10AM
Wed 19	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Zoom Meeting	
Wed 19	Westbury Civic Club Meeting Zoom Meeting Live streamed on Facebook.	7PM
Sun 23	Working on Westbury Meet at the Willow Waterhole parking lot on Dryad near the gazebo, see page 1 for more information	2:30-4PM
Feb 1	2022 Mandatory Assessments due for Parkwest 1 & 2 See page 6	

All About Trash

Trash, yard waste, recycling, and heavy trash are picked up by the City of Houston.



Regular Household Trash

Pick-up is EVERY Thursday. Regular household trash goes into the black trash can.

Yard Waste

Pick-up is EVERY week either on Thursday or Saturday or any day the City decides to come by. Yard Waste MUST be placed in the correct City bio-degradable bags.



Recycling in Westbury

All of Westbury recycles on Schedule A. Recycling is every other week. Recycling goes into the green trash can.

January 2022

Thursday, January 13
Thursday, January 27

February 2022

Thursday, February 10
Thursday, February 24

Heavy Trash Schedule

All of Westbury is on the same schedule for Heavy Trash. Pick-up is on the 2nd Thursday of every month. Odd months are TREE WASTE ONLY and even months are JUNK WASTE months.

January 2022

TREE WASTE ONLY
Thursday, January 13

February 2022

JUNK WASTE
Thursday, February 10

Important Trash & Recycling Info

- ♻️ Regular trash pickup is every Thursday.
- ♻️ Recycling is every other Thursday.
- ♻️ Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.
- ♻️ Yard waste is picked up on Saturdays.
- ♻️ Westbury is on Recycle Schedule A
- ♻️ NO Plastic Bags in green recycling bins
- ♻️ Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM each Thursday
- ♻️ Trash cans must be removed by 10PM each Thursday
- ♻️ Trash cans must be placed at least 3 feet apart
- ♻️ Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- ♻️ Yard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags with City logo
- ♻️ Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- ♻️ Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers:
 - SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr** - 10785 SW Frwy
Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM;
Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste & Recyclables.
 - Environmental Service Center** - 11500 S. Post Oak
Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM.
Accepts Hazardous Household & Electronic Waste.
- ♻️ Refer to www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information

PLAN AHEAD

Feb. 17— I ❤️ Westbury Open House
 Feb. 19 — WOW Workday
 Feb. 28 - March 20 —Houston Rodeo
 March 14-18 — HISD Spring Break
 March 27— WOW Workday
 April 2—Keep Houston Beautiful
 April 9 — 2022 MusicFEST



Why Support the WCC?

Westbury is a unique neighborhood. While all 5,000 homes in our Westbury neighborhood have active deed restrictions, only 463 have mandatory assessments. This means the Westbury Civic Club heavily relies on voluntary financial contributions from residents.

Westbury has historically had strong voluntary support because residents understood the great benefits of the WCC and our programs. The past several years' contributions to the Westbury Civic Club and to the Westbury Area Patrol have been down. By working together, we can meet the challenges head on and keep our neighborhood the jewel that it is. We all want a safe, flood free neighborhood with great schools and nice neighbors.

The total amount for the **2022 Voluntary Dues is \$365**. That is well worth a dollar a day! The Westbury Civic Club dues are \$60 for the year. The WCC suggests a contribution of \$305 for the Westbury Area Patrol (a paid contract with Precinct 5 Constables).

Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday Each Month

→ Zoom Meeting

→ Live streamed on Facebook, Westbury Houston

Next WCC Board Meeting

WCC Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 19, 7PM

Topics - 2022 Budget, Committee updates, WOW events, and more.

Pay Your Dues Online www.westburycrier.com

Go to westburycrier.com then to the **Dues and Assessments page**.

The available payment options on the selection menu are:

- WCC Dues — \$60
- WCC Constables — \$305
- WCC Dues + Constables — \$365
- Custom Amount — You can enter your own amount

Once you get to the payment page, you can opt to pay with your PayPal account, or pay directly by credit card.

Why are Westbury Dues Mailed to a Dallas Address?

You are mailing you payments directly to our bank's processing center in Dallas. This allows your payments to be processed immediately.

You may also drop off the payment directly to the WCC Office or pay online at www.westburycrier.com

Read the Westbury Crier *ONLINE!*

Did you know that you can read the *Westbury Crier* online? Our website, www.westburycrier.com has an archive of past Criers starting with March 2011 all the way to the current issue. We are working on getting all the past issues scanned and online. There is great Westbury history in the old Criers. If you sign up for announcements on the website, you will get an email every month with a link to the Crier.

The WCC tries to get the Crier to residents as close to the 1st of the month as possible. Sometimes this is hard to accomplish as there are printer issues, weather delays, and schedule problems with our delivery team. We apologize for any inconvenience. Subscribe to WCC announcements on our website, and you will receive an email with a link to the online Crier each month.

Please send this form in with your payment

2022 Westbury Civic Club Dues

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

Online payment:
www.westburycrier.com
www.paypal.com to email
westburycc@sbcglobal.net
 Make sure to include your address

Make checks payable to:
Westbury Civic Club, Inc.
Mail to:
P.O. Box 975182
Dallas, TX 75397-5182

Westbury Civic Club Dues	\$60	\$
Westbury Area Patrol	\$305	\$
Subtotal	\$365	\$
Additional Contributions:		
Westbury Civic Club		\$
Westbury Area Patrol		\$
Total		\$

Thank you for supporting the Westbury Civic Club and our important programs. We can't do it without you! To contact the WCC Office, call 713-723-5437 or email westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

By filling out this form, you are giving the WCC permission to send you communications. We DO not sell your information or give it out to other entities.

ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1 & 2

Homes purchased in Parkwest 1 after Jan. 1, 1993 and Parkwest 2 after Jan 1, 1994 have mandatory assessments. These assessments may be adjusted annually by the most recently published annual percentage change for the US Urban Wage Earners, US City Average, in accordance with the deed restrictions.

The 2022 Mandatory Assessments of \$253.90. Due Date is February 1, 2022.

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE AN INVOICE, PLEASE EMAIL THE WCC OFFICE AT WEST-BURYCC@SBCGLOBAL.NET

Don't Clog Up Your Sewer Piping

Did you know that there are twice as many sewer overflows during the holiday season? Yuck! A sewer overflow means that untreated wastewater (raw sewage) could back up into your home or into the street. The City Public Works Department warns that over 70% of sewer clogs in Houston are caused by grease or wipes.

Be careful with how you dispose of grease. Don't pour leftover oils or grease down the drain. Instead, pour them into a container (for example, a metal can), let it cool, and then toss the container into the trash. Pour. Cool. Toss.

Another cause of sewer overflows is flushing items that can cause clogs. Only flush the 3 P's – Pee, Poo, and toilet Paper. Wipes are notorious for causing sewer clogs. Please put wipes into the trash, not into the toilet.



All About Trash

Special Edition

All of Westbury's trash is picked up by the City of Houston. Every January, the WCC typically runs a 2-page trash special. Due to the current state of the Solid Waste Department, we did not want to provide mis-information. We hope to run the special trash feature in the next several months. The information provided below was up to date at press time. For current trash schedule updates, follow the City of Houston Solid Waste Department on Facebook.

Westbury Trash Dates

Every Thursday is regular trash pick-up in the black rolling can.

Every Thursday is yard waste pick-up, only collected if bagged correctly.

The City is currently collecting yard waste on Saturday. If you are skipped, call 311 to report.

Every other Thursday is recycling in the green rolling can.

The City is currently off schedule with collection on Saturday and Sunday.

2nd Thursday of every month is Heavy Trash. Odd months are TREE WASTE ONLY and even months are JUNK WASTE.

Over the last several months, the City has been anywhere from 4 days to 5 weeks late on Heavy Trash pick-up. The scheduled pick-up day for ALL of Westbury is the 2nd Thursday. Follow the City of Houston Solid Waste Department Facebook page for schedule changes and up to date information.

TREE WASTE	JUNK WASTE
January	February
March	April
May	June
July	August
September	October
November	December

What Happened to the Recycling in December?

The City changed their holiday schedule at the last minute. Instead of delayed collection as in past years, they skipped it completely. Everyone in Houston that had recycling scheduled for Thursday or Friday in the last 2 weeks of December, were skipped. This means recycling will not have been picked up for a month in Westbury. Recycling in January is on January 13 and January 27.

Unhappy about trash pickup? We are too! Come to the next WCC meeting to discuss ways to advocate for change.

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CHAMPIONS RE GROUP Parker Family Realty Team is a TREC registered team of the Champions RE Group brokerage, supervised by Brokers Adriana & Ignacio Osorio.

New State Law – Safe Outdoor Dogs Act

A new state law goes into effect on January 18, 2022, called the “Safe Outdoor Dogs Act.” The purpose of the law is to better protect dogs who spend time outside from cruel or unsafe conditions. The law requires that a dog cannot be restrained outside and left unattended unless it has adequate shelter, shade, and safe drinking water. The shelter must be large enough to allow the dog room to turnaround and to lie down while avoiding standing in water or being exposed to excessive animal waste. Tethered chains and weights are now illegal. Dog collars must not choke or endanger the dog.

The law was approved after years of advocacy by animal rescue groups and humane societies. The law eliminates a 24-hour waiting period before a chained animal can receive assistance from law enforcement or animal protection officers. This change will allow officials to immediately intervene if a dog is mistreated.

Stacy Sutton Kerby, from the Texas Humane Legislative Network said, “Every season, whether it’s super-hot Texas summers or whether it’s hurricane season or in the northern part of the state where it can regularly get to freezing temperatures, we get reports of dogs that have died outside at the ends of their chains. So we know that this is going to affect animals in a positive way going forward.”

The bill’s author, Senator Lucio from Brownsville said, “There is now a basic standard of care that must be provided to dogs tethered outdoors across the state,” the statement read. “Dogs are more than man’s best friend, they are family. Mistreating dogs is horrible and passing legislation like this isn’t just good policy, it’s humane policy.”

Violators face a Class C misdemeanor charge, punishable by a fine up to \$500. The City of Houston also has municipal laws related to animal care and places limits on tethers.

New State Law — Disabled Veteran Parking

On January 1, 2022, a new state law may affect disabled veterans. The new law will require any vehicle parking in a designated disabled parking space to have:

→ a valid disabled parking placard

OR

→ a license plate displaying the International Symbol of Access

Why? There is a limited number of parking spaces for people with mobility impairments. The intent of the new state law is to provide greater access to those who need accessibility. Veterans must meet eligibility requirements to receive a disabled parking placard or license plate with the ISA symbol. **A Disabled Veteran license plate without the ISA symbol will not be sufficient to park in a designated disabled parking space after January 1.**

Those with Disabled Veteran license plates that do not have the ISA symbol will need to apply for a disabled parking placard or apply for a new Disabled Veteran plate with the ISA symbol. Applications can be submitted at the county tax assessor-collector’s office. For additional information, contact the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

Houston ISD Election Results

Two HISD Trustee positions were up for election in the fall of 2021 for the Westbury neighborhood. In HISD District IX, Myrna Guidry was elected by majority vote on election day in November. HISD District V did not have a majority winner in November, so it went into a run-off election held in December, where Sue Diegaard was elected.

We look forward to working together with both of our elected HISD Trustees, especially since there are rumors of a school bond election in the near future. Trustee Guidry and Trustee Diegaard have attended a recent meeting of the Westbury Civic Club, and were informed that we believe Anderson Elementary needs to be replaced with a new school building due to building condition and problems.



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houstonmethodist.org/more
 or call 713.790.3333.

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Westbury Post Office Audit - Mail Delivery and Customer Service

On December 6, 2021, the US Post Office released an audit of two post offices in the Houston area, including the post office location based here in Westbury. US Representative Lizzie Fletcher requested an audit in June 2021 after receiving complaints about lost mail and drive-up collection boxes. The Westbury post office is responsible for delivering mail to 52 city postal routes and has: 56 full-time postal carriers with assigned routes, 38 postal carriers who are non-career employees and who do not have assigned routes and can be moved as needed, 7 full-time clerks and 1 part-time clerk. The drive-up collection box at the Westbury Post Office was replaced on June 1, 2021.

The audit was conducted from August through December 2021. Observations were discussed with Houston postal service management in November and recommendations are to be implemented by the end of December 2021. The audit "identified delivery and customer service issues at the Ashford West and Westbury Stations. These issues included delayed mail, inaccurate reporting of mail conditions, improper scanning of packages and inbound mail trucks, and inadequate safeguarding of assets".

Finding #1: Delayed Mail

First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Priority Express Mail are to be delivered on the day of receipt. It is "delayed" if it is not processed and taken out for delivery on the day of receipt. Delayed mail was observed during site visit at the Westbury site on August 31 and Sept 1: 2,341 letters, 439 flats, 28 parcels, for a total of 2,808 delayed pieces of mail.

"According to management at both stations, a contributing factor to the delayed mail was that carriers were returning from their routes without completing all their assigned deliveries. However, based on our observations, delayed mail occurred due to a lack of management oversight. Specifically, station management did not follow requirements to verify that the station was

clear of all committed mail when carriers began street deliveries or meet with carriers upon returning from their routes to determine whether all mail was delivered."

"At the Westbury Station, we identified letter mail in the distribution area on Wednesday, September 1, that was not distributed to carriers for delivery. According to the station manager, some of this mail arrived on Saturday, August 28. In addition, the station manager did not specifically assign either of the two evening supervisors to greet carriers as they returned to the station; therefore, neither supervisor performed this function. As a result, management did not ensure all committed mail was delivered on a daily basis."

Finding #2: Inaccurate Reporting of Mail Conditions & Expected Delivery

The audit revealed that site management did not accurately report undelivered mail – "clerks were giving the indication that all committed mail was ready for carriers to deliver by performing the DUT scans before the mail was distributed to the carriers. We also determined at the Westbury Station that packages were scanned with the wrong expected delivery date. For example, on Tuesday, August 31, we determined a distribution clerk changed the expected delivery date on the Passive Adaptive Scanning System (PASS) 12 machine to Wednesday, September 1, and continued to sort packages even though they were committed for Tuesday's delivery. As a result, the tracking data visible to the customer reflected the incorrect expected delivery day". The audit noted that inaccurate reporting provides inaccurate status of mail delays to US Postal Service management and "customers cannot determine the actual status of their packages when clerks perform package scans with an inaccurate expected delivery day".

Finding #3: Package Scanning Issues

The audit found improper practices related to package scanning. They found

that "Stop the Clock" scans were occurring at the station instead of the intended delivery address, noting that, "Customers rely on accurate scan data to track their packages in real time. When employees do not scan mail pieces correctly, customers are unable to determine the actual status of their packages". During the period between May and July 2021, there were 612 packages at the Westbury Station that were scanned as "Delivered" at the post office instead of at the delivery address.

Finding #4: Inbound Mail Truck Arrival Scans

"At Westbury Station, employees were not making scans of the inbound mail trucks upon arrival during our initial observations. A review of trips arriving from the North Houston P&DC identified that for the 30-day period ending August 16, 2021, station employees did not perform an "Arrive" scan on 144 (95 percent) of the 151 total inbound trips to the two stations".

Finding #5: Safeguarding of Assets (Vehicles and Postal keys):

On August 31, it was observed that 38 out of the 52 mail delivery vehicles were not properly secured at the Westbury site, and 2 of the 52 vehicles were found with undelivered mail inside. "When vehicles are left unlocked, there is an increased risk that they could be vandalized or stolen".

Arrow lock keys are special keys subject to strict controls that are used to open mail receptacles such as street collection boxes and apartment mailboxes. "Arrow lock keys were not properly managed at the Westbury Station. Specifically, we reviewed the station's arrow lock key log and conducted a physical inventory of the keys at the station. We could not physically locate five of the 24 keys listed on the log. We also found four additional keys at the station that were not entered in the log." "Carriers told us that there was not always a clerk or supervisor to return their key to in the evening, so they left the keys in an unsecured area."

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2021 WCC Highlights

Every year the WCC highlights our accomplishments from the past year. Usually this is long list of events, activities, and awards but as we all know, COVID is still around and the effect on our daily lives is real. In 2021, we saw several events return but not our full schedule yet. We are hopeful for more normalcy returning in 2022! Here are some of our highlights from 2021.

Communications

Westbury Crier

Since July 1956, the WCC has produced its monthly newsletter, the *Westbury Crier*, now a 20 page, full-color newsletter paid for primarily by advertising. Our award-winning newsletter is delivered by the Westbury HS baseball team directly to the doorsteps of Westbury residents.

Social Media

The WCC Facebook page (Westbury Houston) is updated frequently with reminders about: voting; flooding updates during the tropical storms and hurricanes this year; trash updates; census reminders; support of the Westbury Community Garden; support of the Willow Waterhole; support of Westbury small businesses; and much more. 3,526 people follow us. Go "Like" Westbury Houston Facebook today to know what is happening in Westbury.

Civic Engagement

Monthly Meetings

Since March 2020, the monthly Westbury Civic Club meetings have been held online via Zoom and live-streamed to our Facebook page, Westbury Houston. This has allowed more people to "attend" our board meetings and ask questions via Facebook. In-person meetings will resume in February 2022.

Library Action Committee

A committee was formed to help advocate for the new Westbury library. About 10 Westbury residents met bi-weekly for several months working on a list of items the community wanted to see in our new library. A community meeting was held by the City of Houston to get community input. The Library Action Committee submitted their list of idea and items. The library should start construction in 2022.

Constable Fundraiser Events

The WCC hosted several We LOVE Westbury events in the WCC parking lot to collect dues and donations for the WCC and Westbury Area Patrol. Residents were able to meet our Constables and ask questions during the event.

White Elephant Sale

The White Elephant Sale returned in the Fall of 2021 after a 2 year hiatus due to COVID. Look for the next White Elephant Sale in Spring 2022.

Yard of the Month

The Westbury Yard of the Month program runs from March through September each year with special holiday awards in October and December. The Yard of the Month judges love looking at all the beautiful Westbury yards each month, but holiday decorations are always a special treat. In December, the Yard of the Month judges select their top 3 winners from each section, since there are so many houses decorated for the holidays. In 2021, we continued the online contest with 7 fun categories.

Outreach

Water Giveaway



During the great Arctic freeze in February 2020, many Westbury residents were without power and water. A Westbury resident reached out to offer an entire pallet of water bottles. The WCC handed out free water to residents at the WCC office and also delivered it to residents that couldn't get out.

National Night Out at WCC Office

In lieu of visiting individual block parties, the WCC hosted one giant party in the WCC office parking lot. Multiple Constables attended the event and visited with residents. The HarvesTrolley, a mobile grocery store, was at the event. CM Robinson attended and awarded the WCC with a certificate.



Public Safety

The WCC works closely with the Precinct 5 Constables and the Houston Police Department (HPD). We also attend the BOMD (Brays Oaks Management District) Public Safety monthly meetings as well as the Houston Police Department's SW PIP meetings. Speeding continues to be an issue, not only on our major thoroughfares, but also on our residential streets. HPD and the Constables have both brought speed trailers out to W. Bellfort to measure vehicles' speed. Pct. 5 often has traffic units monitoring traffic on Willowbend near Parker on school mornings.

Westbury Area Patrol (WAP)

The Precinct 5 Constables program is the most expensive and most important program provided by the WCC to our residents. The Constables have special units that are able to patrol or investigate if need be. The Westbury sergeant sends crime reports directly the WCC office on a daily basis. He also attends all WAIC and WCC meetings and provides crime updates and tips for the community. Westbury constables attended all of our I LOVE Westbury events.

Commercial Properties

The WCC monitors commercial properties and works with the property owners or the City when problems occur. There are two new gas stations being built in Westbury, both on W. Bellfort. The WAIC has been in contact with the owner of the new gas station, Buzy Bee, located at Moonlight and W. Bellfort. They want to be good neighbors and work with the community. This site will also have a car wash and Sonic Drive Thru. The other gas station, Singh Food Mart, located at Cedarhurst and W. Bellfort, has not been in contact the WAIC or WCC. We reported them when construction first started for their lack of flood mitigation. Construction has since resumed. We are still trying to contact the owners and work with them to make this a positive addition to the neighborhood. The WCC reviews all building permits and replat requests in 77035 and 77096. We report unpermitted construction to the City of Houston.

2021 WCC Highlights

Flooding Advocacy

The WCC has advocated for years for solutions to reduce flooding along the Willow Waterhole Bayou. Protecting homes that have flooded repeatedly continues to be a priority, and we are making progress. The City and County are both working on projects in Westbury and around Westbury that will help reduce flooding in Westbury.

City of Houston Improvements

The Westbury Area Drainage and Paving Improvements Sub-project 1 is still in the design phase. The project will be the first of 6 in Westbury and will consist of new storm drains, streets, curbs, sidewalks, driveways, and underground utilities.

The City purchased the Spring Valley Apartments at the corner of Ludington and Chimney Rock, and the residents are currently being relocated. The land will be dedicated and maintained in perpetuity as open green space to reduce flooding.

Harris County Flood Control District Improvements

Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCFD) is conducting a study for the D-140 channel (often called the "Fondren Diversion Channel") drainage area that is immediately west and upstream of Westbury. Water from the D-140 channel overflows into Willow Waterhole Bayou in Westbury.

The study is in the feasibility stage — learning how the water flows, constraints, and problem areas. They are in the first two months of a study that will last about ten months. After they better understand the causes of flooding, then they will define options and alternatives, then consider solutions and figure out implementation. There will be public engagement during the process.

The City of Houston is working on drainage and flooding mitigation projects in the Westbury area for Willow Waterhole Bayou (D-112). The City and HCFCFD are coordinating their studies, since HCFCFD needs to understand how much water the city projects can handle in the Willow Waterhole Bayou system coming from the D-140 system.

HCFCFD continues its efforts to build new bridges across Brays Bayou at Chimney Rock and South Rice. The new bridges are higher, longer, and wider across the bayou, allowing for more flood waters to flow through Brays Bayou. The bridges are slated to be completed by mid-2022.

Volunteer Service

WCC board members are active in many different organizations that seek to make our public places better. We participated in the Brays Oaks Livable Center Study. Additionally, WCC board members are active in: the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy, the Westbury Community Garden, Brays Bayou Association, Levitt Pavilion Houston, Neighborhood to Trails Southwest, Keep Houston Beautiful Commission, and the Super Neighborhood Alliance.

School Outreach

The Westbury Civic Club works closely with our local schools. The continuing success of our schools is important for our Westbury families with children as well as for property values. To keep abreast of what's happening in our schools, representatives from Parker Elementary, Anderson Elementary, Meyerland Middle School, and Westbury High School often attend Westbury SuperNeighborhood meetings.

2021 was another challenging year for all schools as they worked to safely get students back in the classrooms.

HISD's new Superintendent, Millard House, brought his "Listen and Learn" tour to Westbury High school to hear community concerns. On behalf of the Westbury Civic Club and the Westbury community, Becky Edmondson and Cindy Chapman both spoke, noting that there is a disparity in our community between the education experience in the two elementary schools located in our community - Parker Elementary and Anderson Elementary. They mentioned concerns about the lack of a functioning library at Anderson Elementary and requested that the school to be included in the next HISD bond program to get a new school building. Bill Burhans, a Westbury resident and President of the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy, expressed concern about crime in the area of Willow Waterhole and Westbury High School and brought crime statistics data. He reminded Supt. House that HISD had promised in the previous bond to purchase the apartments located between the WHS baseball complex and WHS, but HISD then broke that promise.

Anderson Elementary Good News

Anderson Elementary will again have a functioning library as HISD has agreed to fund this project. They have been without a library for many years. A new fence has

been installed around the Spark Park at Hager Park to address ongoing safety concerns. The fence gates are opened after school and on the weekends for the community use. The Spark Park will be getting new equipment.

Greenspaces

Working on Westbury Events

The WCC is hosting monthly WOW: Working on Westbury Events in partnership with the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC). The events are good family volunteer activities to help spruce up our community. All WOW events in 2021 were litter clean-ups at the Willow Waterhole.

Hager Park

A fence has been installed around the SPARK playground by HISD. The playground is on school property and is meant to only be used by the community after school and on weekends. All park and playground facilities are open and operating normally.



Willow Waterhole Greenway

A hidden gem right in our backyard, the Willow Waterhole, is poised to be the next big park in Houston. We have miles of trails perfect for the whole family and much more to come. The Kinder Foundation just gave \$2 million for trails and other improvements at the park, with the possibility of more matching funds. Dryad was paved and a new parking lot paved near the Schwartz gazebo. Harris County Pct. 1 is also funding additional trails at the park. The WWG hosted several school cross-country meets and the 2021 MusicFEST.



Westbury MailBag

The Westbury Civic Club gets hundreds of emails and calls a month and many people have the same questions. This monthly feature will contain current hot topic and questions!



Q: What Happened to the Recycling in December?

The City changed their holiday schedule at the last minute. Instead of delayed collection as in past years, they skipped it completely. Everyone in Houston that had recycling scheduled for Thursday or Friday in the last 2 weeks of December, were skipped. This means recycling will not have been picked up for a month in Westbury. Recycling in January is on January 13 and January 27. Unhappy about trash pickup? We are too! Come to the next WCC meeting to discuss ways to advocate for change.

If you have any questions you would like featured in the Crier, please email westburycc@sbcglobal.net

Request a Vacation Watch

Going on a vacation? Well, if you pay your Westbury Area Patrol dues, make sure you request a vacation watch by the Constables. This is a great service that is included in our contract. A deputy will check out your property at least once a day to make sure it is secured and nothing suspicious is going on.

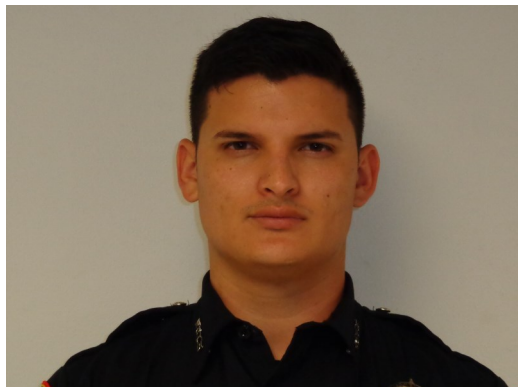
You can register for a vacation watch online at <https://constablepct5.com> or by calling 281-463-6666

**Pct. 5 Constable Dispatch
Westbury Area Patrol
281-463-6666**

FAQs for Westbury Area Patrol Constables

Welcome Deputy Pocasangre

Deputy Carlos Pocasangre has been in law enforcement for roughly 2 1/2 years. He is from Richmond, Texas, and attended Gus George Law Enforcement Academy after being sponsored by his previous Department (Richmond Police Department). Deputy Carlos enjoys getting to know the residents of the community, so if you ever see him driving around, feel free to say hello and introduce yourself! He looks forward to meeting each of you.



How do I contact the Constables?

Call the Precinct 5 Constables Dispatcher at **281.463.6666**. When you call dispatch, be sure they get the correct name and spelling of your street. Have them repeat it back to you. Many streets have similar sounding names. Be sure to tell them you are in the Westbury contract.



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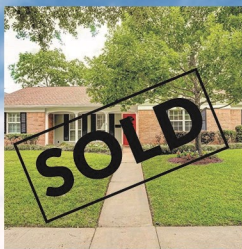
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5815 W. Bellfort
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5219 W Bellfort
3/1.5/2 • \$210's



5202 Briarbend
3/2/2 • \$330's


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Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood


November 23—December 24, 2021
Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

KEY

Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W
10600	Ashcroft	Theft—Other	12/13	10pm	Parkwest 2
11900	Ashcroft	Theft from Motor Vehicle	11/30	1pm	Westbury 4
11100	Braewick	Aggravated Assault	12/13	2pm	Westbury 5
11100	Burdine	Burglary, Breaking & Entering	12/12	4pm	Westbury 3
5500	Dryad	Fraud/Identity Theft	12/21	12am	Westbury 4
5600	Dryad	Theft from Motor Vehicle	12/8	1am	Westbury 4
11400	Dunlap	Robbery	12/24	12pm	Parkwest 3
5800	Duxbury	Theft—Other	12/12	6pm	Westbury 4
5600	Fontenelle	Sexual Offense	12/17	10am	Westbury South
5600	Fontenelle	Aggravated Assault	12/18	3pm	Westbury South
11500	Gaymoor	Simple Assault	12/16	10pm	Westbury 3
6000	Ludington	Theft—Other	12/15	5pm	Westbury 4
10900	Mullins	Theft—Other	12/20	11am	Parkwest 2
11000	Oasis	Auto Theft	12/13	10pm	Westbury 3
5800	Southminster	Fraud/Identity Theft	11/27	9am	Westbury South
5400	Stillbrooke	Theft—Other	12/11	10am	Parkwest 2
5800	W. Belfort	Burglary, Breaking & Entering	12/5	2am	Westbury 3

 Theft from Motor Vehicle

 Auto Theft

 Theft—other

 Burglary

 Robbery

 Assault

 Property Damage

The crimes listed took place between November 23 and December 24. They are in alphabetical order by street. The crimes are highlighted by type. Please see key above.

Crime by the Numbers

Crime Type	Homes	Apts./TH	Comm./Business	Park/Public
Aggravated Assault	2	7	2	0
Theft from Motor Vehicle	2	1	0	1
Burglary	2	5	4	1
Robbery	1	2	3	0
Simple Assault	1	12	5	1
Shoplifting	0	0	2	0
Drugs, Narcotics	0	0	2	3
Vandalism, Damage	0	7	3	0
Auto Theft	1	7	1	0
Fraud/Identity Theft	2	2	0	0
Theft of Vehicle Parts	0	1	0	0
Theft—Other	5	3	2	0
Sexual Offense	1	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	0	1	0	0
DUI	0	0	0	7
Disorderly Conduct	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	17	49	24	13

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SW HPD Station
832-394-0400
HPD Non-Emergency
713-884-3131

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Brays Oaks Livable Center Workshop Update

The third Brays Oaks Livable Center study public workshop was held in December. A final survey was distributed in December and will be open through January 9. We encourage everyone to go online and give your opinion.

https://rc1userj5rnmg1ftg3zz.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/preview/SV_8HvTTNhhhdCOyhbo?Q_CHL=preview&Q_SurveyVersionID=current

The full scope of the project is explained in prior issues of the *Westbury Crier*. It is to look at creating connected networks, livable neighborhoods, efficient infrastructure and prosperous communities throughout the Brays Oaks Management district. The Livable Centers' program develops plans for walkable, mixed-use communities that provide multi-modal transportation options, improve environmental quality and promote economic development.

There will be two types of study recommendations:

- *Project based recommendations — Items like improving intersection safety, creating a greenway loop, utilizing medians, improving trails, utilizing easements and connecting neighborhoods.
- *Policy and program recommendations — One of interest to us in Westbury is sidewalk assessments.

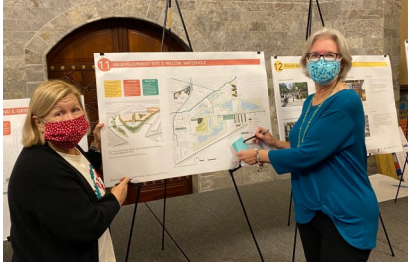
The project has identified 3 catalytic sites — Ruffino Hills, W. Bellfort and S. Gessner, and the Willow Waterhole area.

For us in Westbury, the greenway loop would be a wonderful asset. This would provide trail connections especially getting us to the Willow Waterhole without using our cars. Utilizing our medians along Hillcroft and Chimney Rock has long been on our radar since the Houston Planning Department's Revitalization Plan showed a linear park down Hillcroft.

There is a lot of excitement generated around the Willow Waterhole. With monies from the Kinder Foundation and Harris County Precinct One for improvements and trails, the Willow Waterhole is poised to become one of Houston's signature parks. Hopefully, this will be one of the drivers to spur economic development along South Post Oak and in the surrounding area.



Westbury resident Elizabeth Stamac attended the Livable Center Workshop



WCC Board members, Becky Edmondson and Cindy Chapman attended the Workshop



***Sunday, January 23
2:30-4PM**

See page 1 for more info

***Saturday, February 19
9-10:30AM**

***Sunday, March 27
2:30-4PM**

***Saturday, April 2
9-12PM**

**Look for more information in upcoming Westbury Criers.*

Confirmed LOCAL Cases of COVID-19

(data from publichealthharriscountytx.gov)

	77035	77096	Houston
4/23/20	54	59	2,975
5/21/20	108	85	6,188
6/24/20	334	183	16,253
7/27/20	748	492	45,145
8/26/20	1,102	700	62,097
9/26/20	1,255	817	72,684
10/26/20	1,360	894	82,999
11/23/20	1,504	1,026	93,988
12/20/20	1,779	1,240	110,445
1/26/21	2,238	1,659	150,091
2/23/21	2,613	1,943	170,667
3/29/21	2,752	2,069	182,440
4/25/21	2,837	2,126	189,585
5/19/21	2,863	2,152	192,238
6/28/21	2,842	2,153	192,674
7/28/21	2,920	2,216	197,088
8/24/21	3,409	2,675	233,287
9/28/21	3,927	3,139	271,395
10/25/21	4,053	3,252	281,913
11/22/21	4,124	3,332	287,932
12/29/21	4,465	3,713	312,298

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2021

Westbury Online Holiday Contest WINNERS



Westbury Award 2021 — 11606 Mullins



The Shining — 5723 Portal



Overly Inflated — 5818 Bankside



Best Hannukah — 5631 Hummingbird



Best Christmas — 10803 Ashcroft



All Decked Out — 5935 W. Bellfort



Interactive Wonderland — 11611 Mullins

2021

Westbury Holiday Yard of the Month Winners

Westbury 1

- 1st - 10910 Endicott - Grone Family
2nd - 5222 Briarbend - Dybala Family
3rd - 10919 Doud - Koenig Family

Westbury 2

- 1st - 5459 Redstart - Lyndsay & Nathan Hayden
2nd - 10703 Burdine - Brian Gidley
3rd - 5238 Creekbend - Randy & Julie Blanchard

Westbury 3

- 1st - 11606 Mullins - Baron Family
2nd - 5711 W. Belfort - Westbury Homeowner
3rd - 11402 Ashcroft - Westbury Homeowner
Best Block - 11600 Mullins

Westbury 4

- 1st - 11927 Dunlap - Westbury Homeowner
2nd - 5727 Ettrick - Jami Howard
3rd - 5734 Ettrick - Jessica & Beau Pope
Best Block - 5700 Ettrick

Westbury 5

- 1st - 6007 Portal - Albert Mendoza
2nd - 5611 Benning - Christopher Crear
3rd - 5522 Benning - James & Shelli Williams
Best Block—10700 Braewick

Parkwest 1

- 1st - 5519 Stillbrooke - Kim Jones & Linda Dubois
2nd - 5523 Sanford - Greg Schmid
3rd - 5619 Stillbrooke - Chris & Lora Brann

Parkwest 2

- 1st - 5723 Portal - Richard Tapia
2nd - 5703 Portal - Westbury Homeowner
3rd - 5818 Spellman - Stephen & Sharelle Poth
Best Block - 5600 Portal

Parkwest 3

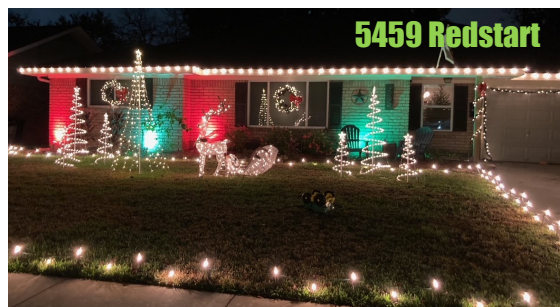
- 1st - 5903 Belrose - Brown family
2nd - 11502 Braewick - Peggy Vereen
3rd - 11714 Hillcroft - Lauren Guidry-Leach
Best Block - 11400 Dunlap

Westbury South

- 1st - 5863 Southminster - Rios Family
2nd - 5862 Greencraig - Ventura Family
3rd—5762 Fontenelle - Pereira Family
Best Block - 5800 Greencraig

President's Award

- 5906 Lattimer - Carrie & David Peterson
5923 Beaudry - James & Amy Beck



SeedMoney Fundraiser a Success

Many thanks to all the supporters of the Westbury Community Garden who contributed to its #SeedMoney Challenge Fundraiser. The Westbury Community Garden finished in the Top Ten among all gardens participating in the challenge, thus winning a match of \$600 from SeedMoney, plus an initial match of \$100 for a Strong Start during the initial week of fundraising. SeedMoney is a non-profit that supports food production projects worldwide by helping with fundraising. Donations to the garden from SeedMoney, employer matches, and direct donations totaled \$6,755. The garden will use the funds to improve accessibility by adding more sitting/standing height garden beds, as needed, and to add to their fund for driveway and parking improvements.

Although the matching period with SeedMoney has ended, donations can still be made to the Westbury Community Garden by credit card or PayPal at <https://westburycommunitygarden.org/donate/>

Gardens have ongoing expenses and needs. Here are some examples of what different sized donations could be used to buy:

- \$15 buys a sturdy pair of gloves for a volunteer
- \$30 buys a heavy-duty garden hose
- \$45 buys 2 bags of MicroLife organic fertilizer
- \$75 buys a cubic yard of high-quality garden mix soil
- \$135 buys two built-to-last garden tools
- \$250 buys enough concrete blocks and caps for a 100 sq. ft. sit/stand garden plot
- \$400 buys a high-capacity garden cart for transporting compost

Trees along Property Lines

The WCC office gets many calls about tree disputes between neighbors. If you have a tree that grows into your neighbor's yard or over their house; it is well within their right to prune it away from their property. It would be advisable to speak to your neighbor beforehand as they may want to trim it themselves. They might not even realize it has encroached onto your property.

Dangerous Trees

Do you have a dangerous tree on your property? Please have it removed before it damages your property or someone else's. We recommend, that if your neighbor has a tree that you feel could endanger your property, to put them on written notice if they are unwilling to take care of the problem. Please be a good neighbor.

Street Trees

Did you know all the trees located in front of your sidewalk belong to the City of Houston? Trees located on city property/right of ways are protected. Westbury property lines begin behind the sidewalk. If you witness the removal of a city tree from a street easement, please call 832-395-7200 immediately to report it so the City can minimize tree loss. This phone line is monitored 24 hours a day.

Tree Stump Grinding

Has the City removed a tree from the right of way in between the sidewalk and street in front of your home? Call 311 to request tree stump grinding.



WHERE IS THE GARDEN?

12581 Dunlap (77035) is off Hillcroft between W. Airport and South Main. Heading south on Hillcroft, turn right onto Greencraig, follow it around the bend where it turns into Dunlap. The large blue roof on the WCG Pavilion is readily visible. Street parking.



Like "Westbury Community Garden Houston" on Facebook

<http://www.westburycommunitygarden.org/>



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Brays Bayou Bridge Update

The Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) continues its efforts to build new bridges across Brays Bayou at Chimney Rock and South Rice. While construction continues on both bridges, the new bridge across South Rice is now open to traffic across the bayou. The new bridges are higher, longer, and wider across the bayou, allowing for more flood waters to flow through Brays Bayou.

Fondren Diversion Channel and Willow Waterhole Bayou Update

Cindy Chapman, Becky Edmondson, and Marcia Hartman, representing the Westbury Civic Club, attended a meeting on December 7 to hear an update for a study being done by the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) for the D-140 channel (often called the "Fondren Diversion Channel") drainage area that is immediately west and upstream of Westbury. See map. Water from the D-140 channel overflows into Willow Waterhole Bayou in Westbury. William Conlan is the Project Manager on behalf of HCFCD.

The study is in the feasibility stage - learning how the water flows, constraints, and problem areas. They are in the first two months of a study that will last about ten months. After they better understand the causes of flooding, then they will define options and alternatives, then consider solutions and figure out implementation. There will be public engagement during the process.

The City of Houston is working on drainage and flooding mitigation projects in the Westbury area for Willow Waterhole Bayou (D-112). The City and HCFCD are coordinating their studies, since HCFCD needs to understand how much water the city projects can handle in the Willow Waterhole Bayou system coming from the D-140 system.

The Westbury Civic Club will invite speakers from the City and HCFCD in 2022 to talk about these flood mitigation studies and projects.

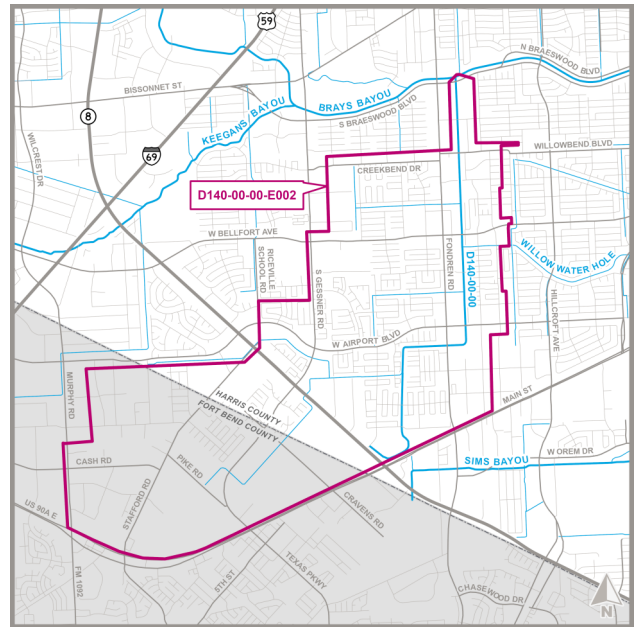
Audubon Society Monthly Bird Survey @ the Willow Waterhole

What: Audubon Society Bird Survey

When: Saturday, January 15, 7-9AM

Where: Meet at the Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow

For more information, visit the Houston Audubon website, <https://houstonaudubon.org/>





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