



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 64, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2019



CITY OF HOUSTON CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN MEETING

District K : March 20

We would like to have a LARGE crowd from Westbury at the District K meeting. Do you want better drainage? Better streets? Do you want a new community center? Curious about the timeline of the new library? Do you want to know the status of the improvements for Hager Park? This is YOUR opportunity to tell the City what YOU want. For more information, see pg 6.

March 20, 6:30PM, Fountain of Life Center, 14083 S. Main

Westbury Area Patrol Deputies Reduced

The Westbury Area Patrol with Precinct 5 Constables is a key service provided by the Westbury Civic Club. Starting on March 1, the number of Constable Deputies in the Westbury Area Patrol contract has been REDUCED from 4 deputies to 3.



Why the change? The WCC has never received enough financial support to fully pay for the 4-deputy contract. Over the past 3 years, we depleted our security reserve funds to pay for the 4th deputy, but we can no longer do this. The 2019 contract was signed with just 3 deputies to patrol Westbury. The goal is to raise enough funds to fully pay for the 2019 Precinct 5 Constable contract by June. If we receive additional support, the board may consider adding the 4th deputy back to the contract. **Please support the Westbury Civic Club and the Westbury Area Patrol.** The dues form is on page 17.

**Daylight Savings
Starts March 10
at 2AM**



**VegOut! At the
Westbury Garden**

See
page
23 for
more
info.



Spring White Elephant Garage Sale on April 27

Do you need to have a garage sale, yard sale or estate sale?



**1st Day of Booth Sales for
Westbury Residents ONLY
March 20—9AM—2PM
5PM—7PM**

The Westbury Civic Club (WCC) provides fall and spring community garage sale events to our members. The Spring White Elephant Sale will be on Saturday, April 27, from 8AM to Noon at Westbury United Methodist Church. The rain date is May 4.

Booth space will go on sale at 9AM on Wednesday, March 20, for individual Westbury residents ONLY *. The WCC office will be open at 9AM on March 20 and close at 2PM. **The office will also be open from 5-6PM on March 20 for booth space purchase.** Booths may be purchased during normal office hours of 9:30AM to 2PM starting on March 21.

You must be a paid current member of the Westbury Civic Club to purchase a booth. This means you must have paid your 2019 WCC membership dues of \$50. If you have not paid your 2019 dues, you may do so at the same time that you purchase your booth space. The booth price for individual Westbury residents will be \$20-\$25. Booths will go on sale to non-residents

and groups/non-profit organizations on April 3, if space permits, on a first come, first serve basis. The booth price for non-residents is \$70-75.

The Westbury White Elephant Sale allows residents the opportunity to sell unwanted household items at a highly visible central location with security provided. **The WCC provides location, security, bathrooms, and publicity for the sale. The Civic Club does NOT provide tables, chairs, or shade.**

Garage, Estate, yard, moving sales, etc. are not permitted at Westbury residences by long standing policy of the Westbury Civic Club and the deed restrictions. The official policy is printed on page 19.

So why not have fun, make money, be safe and be a good neighbor. **Plan on having a booth at the Westbury White Elephant Sale!**

**Due to limited space and increased interest by homeowners, only individual homeowners may purchase booth space in March. Non-residents and ALL non-profit organizations and groups (including Westbury resident run) must wait until April 3. Violators of this policy may not be allowed to participate in the current and/or future White Elephant Sales. All non-profit organizations and groups must register under their organization name. No individual may purchase a booth for a group or organization unless doing so under that organization's name.*

RECYCLING DATES

March 2019

Thursday, March 14
Thursday, March 28

April 2019

Thursday, April 11
Thursday, April 25



HEAVY TRASH

March 2019

Thursday, March 14
TREE WASTE ONLY

April 2019

Thursday, April 11
JUNK WASTE

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

WCC OFFICE *NEW ADDRESS

5322 W. Bellfort #100, Houston, TX 77035

Jennifer Edmondson.....WCC Office Manager

NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO DUES PAYING

WESTBURY RESIDENTS during office hours or by appt.

CONTACT US

WCC Office Hours: Monday- Thursday, 9:30AM-2PM

Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and holidays

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, Ellen Cohen.....832-393-3004

Deed Restriction Enforcement (City Legal).....832-393-6333

Platou Community Center.....713-726-7107

Meyer Library.....832-393-1840

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.braysoaksmd.org

Shopping Cart Removal.....www.braysoaksmd.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

2019 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.....Dan Vega

Treasurer.....Becky Edmondson

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Community Relations.....VACANT

Deed Restrictions..... VACANT

Flood Control & Infrastructure.....Jennifer Edmondson

Greenspace Beautification.....Mat Funk

Membership.....Jeff Benavides

Security.....VACANT

Volunteer Coordinator.....Robert Ellis-Montgomery

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Westbury 2.....Susan Brock

Westbury 3.....Tony Robert

Westbury 3.....VACANT

Westbury 4.....Eugene Sirls

Westbury 4.....Gail Reaben

Westbury 5.....Virginia Livingston

Westbury 5.....Donna Strom

Westbury South.....Brandon Richard

Parkwest 1..... Angie Furnari

Parkwest 2.....Jeffrey Weiss

Parkwest 3.....Lisa Placke

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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Westbury Civic Club , Inc.

A Message from the Westbury Civic Club President

Howdy, Westbury residents!

It's rodeo time in Houston! The 3+ weeks of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo events are amazing: trail rides, rodeo events, concerts, and farm animal competitions. I remember when I first moved to Houston, I'd see bumper stickers saying, "I wasn't born in Texas, but I got here as fast as I could!" I didn't know what to think about such a message. But over time, I've learned. Texas, Houston, in particular, is like no other place. As the rodeo begins, azaleas across the city come into bloom. They are joined by dozens of other plants bursting forth with flowers. The Mexican plums, pear trees, and red buds... could the flowering trees of Spring in Houston be more lovely, inspiring, or glorious? And the native Texas Bluebonnets will be blooming soon. I think of friends living up North. It's still snowing in the North, possibly through mid-April. Houston is a great place to live, especially in March.

March is "VegOut!" month at the Westbury Community Garden to celebrate exploring new foods. Events will be held on March 9 and 16. Details are on page 23. Bring the whole family or even a scout troop.

The Willow Waterhole is a great social space located in Westbury. You will read on page 21 how the Willow Waterhole Conservancy is looking for volunteers to help. This group advocates for amenities at the greenspace and hosts regular workdays, Scout projects, an annual MusicFest, and more. Be sure to mark

your calendar for the weekend of April 13-14 for the MusicFest. The Willow Waterhole is more than a social gathering space. The number one purpose is to reduce flooding in the Brays Bayou watershed, and the lovely "lakes" are a bonus, especially when the bluebonnets bloom on the banksides of the lakes. The WCC is still advocating for more to be done to alleviate flooding along the Willow Waterhole Bayou.

The District K CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) meeting will be held on March 20. This is where we ask for those BIG ticket items like replacement storm drainage projects. I urge all of you to attend and advocate for Westbury. We want ALL of our streets and storm drains replaced, our roads repaired, our park amenities improved, a new library opened in Westbury, and our community center updated or replaced.

The Westbury Civic Club is always striving to improve our response time to residents. We have decided to hire a 2nd part time employee to help alleviate the work load at the office, and the board approved the additional part-time employee in the 2019 budget. You will read more about this new position on page 7. You have likely noticed that this newsletter was delivered later than normal. The WCC tries to get the *Crier* newsletter delivered as close to the 1st of the month as possible. Unfortunately, sometimes circumstances beyond our control delay the delivery. February found the office hard hit by the flu and then Spring Break hindered the

delivery timing since the *Crier* is delivered by Westbury High School baseball team. The *Crier* is typically posted online at www.westburycrier.com and on our Facebook page (Westbury Houston) well before it is delivered to homes. You can also read past editions online.

On March 1, the new annual contract for the Precinct 5 Constable Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) went into effect, which means that we will DECREASE the number of officers from 4 to 3. Why? Because the WCC no longer has any security reserve funds remaining, so the board must be fiscally prudent to match our contracted payments with historical income. Our homeowners with voluntary dues will be receiving a dues letter in March. I encourage each of you to swiftly send in a WAP security patrol payment and your dues. You can opt to divide it into multiple payments. Income to date from mandatory assessments, WCC board members, and proactive residents who have already sent in their dues totals about \$150,000 out of the \$389,000 anticipated income for 2019. I want to emphasize that the regular civic club dues (\$50) and the WAP security patrol payments are both important.

Working together, let's make OUR neighborhood the safest, greenest, cleanest, and best that it can be!

-Cindy Chapman

I  Westbury

WCC Board Meeting Notes February 2019

- ◆ Speakers—Colin Gary – Build it Forward Program (Home Owner Assistance Program) for those who were flooded during Harvey in 2017; Sgt. Derkowski from Constable Precinct 5 – Security update; Mary Seymore from office of Senator Borris Miles; Shannon Miler from Precinct One Commissioner Rodney Ellis; Political Candidates— Sally Alcorn for City At-Large 5 and Mike Engelhard – 151st District Court
- ◆ Thank you to Weichert Realtors for bringing water and cookies to the WCC board meeting.
- ◆ Discussed hiring a 2nd part time employee to staff the office, see pg. 7.
- ◆ Discussed moving the May WCC board meeting due to conflict at the church
- ◆ Extensive discussion about deed restriction violations and enforcement
- ◆ Board went into executive session to discuss specific deed restriction violation cases.
- ◆ The next WCC board meeting will be Wednesday, March 20 at 7PM.

WCC Board Meeting Wed., March 20, 7PM

Westbury Baptist, 10425 Hillcroft



Are you looking to get more involved in your neighborhood? Come join the WCC board! There are several vacant WCC board positions: Community Relations, Deed Restrictions, Security, and Westbury 3 Director.

Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

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



Evening Aerobics Exercise Class Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6-7PM

Free Evening Aerobics Class held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6–7PM. Remember to bring a bottle of water and to wear comfortable clothing. The class has 9 members so far, and it is fun. Call the Platou Center at 713-726-7107 to register.



Weekly Classes/Groups

Stretching Exercise Class

Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 9-9:45AM

Improve flexibility in a non-strenuous exercise class.

Ms. BeeHaven Quilters

Tuesday, 10AM - 2PM

Contact Janie at 713-721-5526

Table Games

Wednesday, 10AM - 12:30PM

Take a chance at Dominoes, Card Games, and more!

Table Tennis

Wednesday, 4-8PM

Open Adult and Teen Ping Pong/Table Tennis will be available with Mr. Nelson

Interested in new classes/groups?

Call the Platou Center at 713-726-7107 or email platou@houstontx.gov if you want to form a craft class, play bridge, hold a meeting, etc. New classes are always welcome and needed. All classes are free and led by volunteers. The center will be open until 8PM Monday through Thursday.

Thank You!!!

Thank you to Westbury residents, Janie and Jackie, who donated two portable sewing machines to the Platou Community Center for the quilting class.

Thanks to the Houston Parks Department for repairing a wall, painting inside the center, and for fixing the lights outside.

LEARN 2 LINEDANCE with RACHEL THE SOUTHERNGIRL

music monday

Every Monday 1-2pm

Platou Community Center
11655 Chimney Rock
Houston Tx, 77035
713.726.7107



WWW.SOUTHERNKONNECTION.COM

Meyer Library News

➔ Meyer Library CLOSED Indefinitely

The Meyer Library has long been on the City's replacement list and after minor flooding in Harvey, the decision was made to not re-open Meyer Library. The City recently approved \$1.2 Million to purchase land in Westbury for a new Meyer Library. The new location would be at the site of the old Post Office in Westbury on Belrose.



"Mini" Meyer Library at Godwin Community Center

A "mini" Meyer Library is now open in Meyerland at the Godwin Community Center at 5101 Rutherglenn next to Kolter Elementary. Limited Services. Staff can be reached at 832-393-1840.

Hours of operation:

Mon-Wed: 1:00PM-6:00PM

Thurs: 1:00PM-8:00PM

Fri: 1:00PM-5:00PM



What's Happening in Westbury

March 2019 Calendar Events/Meetings

Sat 9	District K Neighborhood 101 13097 Nitida Reporting Effectively to the City of Houston, see page 6.	10AM-Noon
Sun 10	Daylight Savings Starts at 2AM Move your clocks forward one hour	
March 11-15	WCC Office Closed—Spring Break	
Sat 16	Audubon Society Bird Survey Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow	8AM
Mon 18	Brays Bayou Association Meeting Willow Meadows Baptist Church, 4300 W Bellfort	7:30PM
Wed 20	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting St John's Presbyterian - 5020 W Bellfort For more information, see page 12	9:30AM
Wed 20	WCC Board Meeting Westbury Baptist - 10425 Hillcroft	7PM
Wed 20	District K CIP Meeting See pages 1 and 6 for more information	
Thurs 21	Willow Waterhole Annual Meeting Schwartz Gazebo, 5300 Dryad	6:30-8:30PM
Tues 26	SW PIP Meeting SW HPD Station - 13097 Nitida	7PM

Planning Calendar

- ★ Keep Westbury/Houston Beautiful Day—April 6
- ★ Music Fest at Willow Waterhole—April 13-14
- ★ White Elephant Sale—April 27
- ★ Rain Date for Whit Elephant Sale—May 4
- ★ Friends of Westbury High School Gala—May 4



All About Trash

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



Household Trash

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



Recycling in Westbury

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

March 2019

April 2019

Thursday, March 14

Thursday, April 11

Thursday, March 28

Thursday, April 25

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.

March 2019

April 2019

TREE WASTE ONLY

JUNK WASTE

Thursday, March 14

Thursday, April 11

Important Trash & Recycling Info

- ♻️ Regular trash pickup is every Thursday. Recycling is every other Thursday. Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.
- ♻️ Westbury is on Recycle Schedule A
- ♻️ NO Glass in the green recycling bins
- ♻️ 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
- ♻️ 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.
- ♻️ GLASS: May be recycled at Westbury United Methodist, 5200 Willowbend, in the orange container near W. Bellfort.
- ♻️ Refer to www.westburycrier.com or www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information

District K Capital Improvement Plan Community Meeting

Wednesday, March 20, 6:30PM– 8PM
The Fountain Life Center, 14083 S. Main (at Hillcroft)

Mayor Sylvester Turner invites the community to participate in the annual spring meetings in each council district to discuss capital improvement projects and hurricane recovery programs. The mayor will also explain a reframed approach to improving neighborhood drainage and streets.

The City of Houston's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is a 5-year plan that lists projects that the City of Houston intends to construct. Information and experts will be available at tables before and after the community meetings to answer questions and provide resources.

Westbury residents are encouraged to attend this public meeting. There are several PENDING capital projects for the Westbury area, including: a New Library Building located in Westbury, Street and Drainage Projects, and Hager Park Improvements. Drop by the informational booths and ask questions about the scope and timing of these important projects.

These meetings provide citizens the opportunity to participate in the budget process by contributing comments and suggestions about needed services and improvements. In the past, Westbury has been very successful at lobbying the City at these meetings for much needed capital improvements for our streets, drainage, and parks.

For more information, visit www.houstontx.gov/cip/. The City of Houston wants everyone to participate and will accommodate residents with disabilities and special needs by advance request. To request accommodations, call 832-393-0955.

Safe Sidewalk Project

The City of Houston Public Works Sidewalk Program constructs new sidewalks and ramps along streets leading to schools, major thoroughfares and improves accessibility for people with disabilities. Project WBS No. N-320610-0127-4 in Westbury 5 and Westbury 3 is to remove and replace concrete sidewalks, ramps and driveways along Spellman Rd. (south side) from Renwick Dr. to Spellman Ct. The construction is anticipated to be complete by mid May 2019.



Westbury Safe Sidewalk Project

"Neighborhood 101" Training

The District K City Council office hosts "Neighborhood 101: ENGAGE. LEARN. LEAD" series for interested area residents. These classes are very informative about local topics that really help neighborhoods function better with the City. The next Neighborhood 101 training will be on how to report effectively to the City of Houston. The class will be held on March 9 from 10am to Noon at the Southwest HPD Station at 13097 Nitida. If you are interested in attending, please register with District K by contacting: 832-393-3016 or DistrictK@houstontx.gov.

The tentative dates for the 2019 Neighborhood 101 classes May 11, Sept. 14 and Nov. 9. If you have topics that you would like to know more about, please e-mail the District K office.



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To find a doctor, visit houstonmethodist.org/more or call 713.790.3333.

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Solid Waste Working in Westbury

There have been many frustrations recently with inconsistencies in our recycling trash collection and then the January heavy trash collection was never picked up in most of Westbury. However, in February, Solid Waste trucks were rolling through Westbury to collect heavy trash and recycling. All solid waste pickup has resumed its normal collection cycle! There was so much heavy trash that it took several days to collect all of it in the Westbury area. The Solid Waste Department has implemented temporary solutions to keep heavy trash and recycle collection on schedule until more new trucks arrive to replace the old, unreliable equipment. Also, they are hiring more drivers and maintenance workers to keep the trucks rolling.



When the WCC notified Solid Waste that they had missed a specific address of a new Westbury homeowner in February, Solid Waste sent out a truck to collect the trash later that very afternoon!

The WCC greatly appreciates that Solid Waste Department Managers Janice Simmons and Ed Zilton have been responsive to our concerns and have taken action to fix problems. Many thanks to Director Hayes and Mayor Turner for doing what it takes to get the job done. Solid Waste is one hard working department! They have been working very long hours and on weekends to get back on schedule. Can you imagine navigating our streets with this big equipment while cars are parked on the street? Give them a wave and a thumbs-up, and let them know we are happy to see them. And remember, if you hire someone for interior remodel work or landscape trimming, make sure they take the trash with them.

Now that the Solid Waste Department is back on schedule, please help KEEP WESTBURY CLEAN by putting your heavy trash out for collection at the correct time. It is a city violation to store your trash in a visible location, so a pile of debris is a violation whether it is at the curb waiting for heavy trash collection at the wrong time, or if it is visible elsewhere in your yard at any time.

The weekly trash and monthly heavy trash and tree waste schedule is always posted in the Crier for easy reference.



Broken Trash & Recycling Cans

Many residents have contacted the WCC office in the past 3 months requesting help to get their trash or recycling cans fixed or replaced. If your cans are in need of repairing or replacing, please contact 311 and get a Service Request (SR) number. Once you have your SR number, report it to the WCC office at 713-723-5437 or westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

At this time, the City of Houston is out of green recycling lids. They have ordered 1,000 more but the delivery date is unknown at this time.

If you have reported a damaged or missing trash can to the City in the past several months but have not received a replacement can, please call 311 and re-report. Make sure to write down your Service Request (SR) number. Then call the WCC office with your SR number.



Westbury Civic Club is HIRING

Seeking Another Part-time Office Worker

The Westbury Civic Club is seeking a part-time (9 to 20 hours per week) office worker to assist the WCC Office Manager with answering the phone, responding to requests for information or services, organizing files and materials, maintaining records, collecting and sorting mail, doing field surveys, and helping with events. Must have a friendly demeanor, a willingness to help others, and integrity when dealing with sensitive or confidential matters. Occasional evening or weekend hours may be required.

If you are interested, please send your resume to westburycc@sbcglobal.net with Subject Line of "Part-Time WCC Job".



Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

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WHS Student Honored

Congratulations to WHS Senior, Fatmata Sesay, for being honored with a KPRC Channel Two Texas Mattress Makers Senior Scholarship for \$2,500. Next year, Fatmata will attend Bryn Mawr College, where she plans to be a pre-med student and eventually become a doctor.

Fatmata grew up in Gambia, where schooling must be paid for. Her zeal for education is so high that she started selling mangoes at the age of 8 to help pay for her schooling in Gambia, and she has taken full advantage of her educational opportunities after her family immigrated to the United States when she was 11 years old.

Fatmata values giving back to the community that helped her family when they moved to the US. After Hurricane Harvey, she organized the refugee youth in her apartment complex to clean up the Plant It Forward Farms gardens. She is an active mentor with PAIR (Partnership for the Advancement and Immersion of Refugees) Houston, helping younger refugee youth assimilate to life in Houston.

WHS principal Susan Monaghan notes that Fatmata is a model student.

Congratulations, Fatmata Sesay!



Westbury HS Gala: May 4

The Friends of Westbury High School Foundation hosts an Annual Gala and Silent Auction to benefit Westbury students. The 2019 Gala will be held on May 4 at the Braeburn Country Club. Distinguished Westbury alumni, faculty and community leaders are formally honored and scholarships are presented to outstanding graduating WHS Seniors. The Foundation has raised over \$400,000 and awarded over 175+ scholarships from 1994 through 2018. They are currently collecting donations for 2019 scholarships and the silent auction. If you are interested in donating or attending the gala, visit www.friendswhs.org.



Everyone is welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

Save the Date! Saturday, May 4
The Friends of WHS Foundation Gala

Help Make This a Prom to Remember for HISD Students

HISD is requesting donations of formal attire for hundreds of homeless and at-risk high school seniors planning to attend their proms. The homeless office is requesting formal dresses, shoes, handbags, and jewelry for girls and tuxedo rentals, men's shirts, and men's shoes for boys. Donations may be dropped off at the following locations:

Hattie Mae White Education Support Center, Room 3SW11, 4400 W. 18th St., Houston, 77092 (713-556-6800)

HISD Homeless Education Office, Peck Elementary School, 5001 Martin Luther King, Houston, 77021 (713-556-7237)

Milby High School, 1601 Broadway, Houston, 77012 (713-928-7401)

Project Prom will be held from 9am to 1pm on Saturday, April 6, at Milby High School. The event will include information about college and career opportunities, free immunizations (including the meningitis shot needed for college), free food, giveaways, and much more.



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713.394.6638

Homeowner Assistance Program - Harvey Recovery

The City of Houston has announced a new program, Homeowner Assistance Program (HOAP) to help Houstonians whose homes were damaged by Hurricane Harvey. Tom McCasland, Director of the City Housing and Community Development Dept., emphasized that the City has moved quickly to ensure recovery was launched as soon as federal funds became available. McCasland said, "The contract for the money was signed on the 4th, today is the 14th – it's ten days later and we're rolling out programs." The City will receive the \$1.17 billion for housing recovery through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the State of Texas General Land Office. The City has taken a critical step forward with the opening of four Housing Resource Centers, one in each quadrant of the city, to help assist homeowners.

If your home flooded during Harvey, you may be eligible for assistance. **Anyone who may be eligible must first complete a survey.** The City has several ways to complete the survey.

→ Online at www.recovery.houstontx.gov

→ By phone at 832-393-0550 (Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm)

→ In person at any of the new centers, the closest one to Westbury is the Southwest location at 6464 Savoy Drive, Suite 110, Houston 77036. Free parking.

→ Mobile outreach teams are also available to serve home-bound residents and others.

After you fill out the survey, you will be notified if you qualify and then start the application process. This money is from the federal government, so it has stipulations. The majority of the funds will be prioritized to seniors, disabled, and families whose income is less than 80% of the AMI (average median income). If there is money remaining, there are funds available even for those at 120% of AMI and higher. If you suffered a loss for which you were not reimbursed, fill out the survey. If you still have needs, fill out the survey. Whether your needs are physical or mental, there are resources.

Mayor Turner stated, "Our goal is to reach and serve as many of the affected homeowners as possible, especially those who are hardest to reach – our disadvantaged, senior citizens, those with limited English proficiency and those with special needs. We will not leave anyone behind."

To give you an idea of 80% income limits by family size according to one source:

Family Size	Income
1	\$41,950
2	\$47,950
3	53,950
4	59,900
5	\$64,700

HOAP has five program options that you may be eligible to participate in if you qualify after taking the survey. There is roughly \$400 million available for HOAP.

Reimbursement: You may be eligible for reimbursement of some expenses if you've completed repairs.

Acquisition: If your home was substantially damaged, you may be eligible to have your property purchased by the City. You may also be eligible to apply for additional assistance to purchase a new home.

City Managed Rehabilitation and Reconstruction: The City will use a pool of contractors to rehabilitate or reconstruct storm-damaged homes. The City will manage and complete the construction process on your behalf.

Homeowner Managed Rehabilitation: This option is only available if you have already started construction on your home and are under contract at the time of application but need financial assistance and technical expertise to complete repairs.

Interim mortgage assistance: If you are making both a mortgage payment on your storm-damaged home and making a rental payment for a temporary home, you may be eligible to receive up to 20 months of mortgage assistance.

Want more information? Call 832-393-0550. Or visit: Recovery.houstontx.gov

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For an application and/or more information about STM, please visit our website stthomasmore-school.org

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SWHouston2000 Bi-Monthly Breakfast Featuring Dr. Laura Murillo

Get your tickets now for the SWHouston2000 Bi-Monthly Breakfast at the Morris Cultural Center at Houston Baptist University on Tuesday, March 12. The spotlight will be on Dr. Laura Murillo, president & CEO of the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, which is the leading regional advocate for the economic and civic interests of the Hispanic business community.

The Education Corner segment will feature Brandon Webb, pastor at Westbury Baptist Church, with Toufic Elachkar, principal at McNamara Elementary School, as they highlight how they are working together to help students. The Meet and Greet starts at 7:30AM and the speakers start at 8AM.

For more information or to purchase breakfast tickets, <https://goo.gl/sey678> or email Secretary@swhouston2000.org

BI-MONTHLY Breakfast

Please Join Us!

MARCH 12 @ 7:30 AM

Houston Baptist University
McNair Hall Joella & Stewart Morris Cultural Arts Center
7502 Fondren - 77074

spotlight on
Dr. Laura Murillo
PRESIDENT & CEO OF THE HOUSTON
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

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BRAYS OAKS

Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Houston Independent School District

with guest speaker **Toufic Elachkar**
NEW Principal **McNamara Elementary**

Hurry! Seating is Limited! RSVP BY MARCH 5, 2019

Tickets and RSVP at bit.ly/March2019Breakfast

\$15 INDIVIDUAL • \$120 TABLE • \$20 CASH/CHECK@DOOR

Traffic Warning for Hillcroft and Project Brays Update

You may have seen a lot of news lately full of conjecture about the current status of Project Brays, a project to reduce flooding along the Brays Bayou Watershed. What parts of the project are moving ahead and what parts may be delayed?

- ➔ Channel Widening of Brays Bayou – This is funded and the work continues up to the Fondren area.
- ➔ Elevating the Hillcroft Bridge – This is funded and the final construction details are being worked out. The bridge will be kept, but will be ELEVATED by about 18 inches, which means that the Hillcroft bridge will be closing soon, perhaps as soon as April. Please consider the alternate routes which you might need to use when the Hillcroft Bridge is closed. FYI, the City of Houston has been asked to consider paying an “enhancement cost” to change the lane striping on the Hillcroft bridge to allow more width for pedestrians and bicycles.
- ➔ Other Bridges to the east of Hillcroft. This timing of these bridge replacement projects is now less clear. In some cases, it has been discovered that there are conflicts with utility or communication lines buried underground which will take more effort and time to re-do than had been anticipated. Additionally, some concerns have been expressed about how many bridges might be closed at the same time along Brays Bayou and problems with neighborhood in-out access at specific locations. At this time, it is not known how long it will take for these traffic considerations to be reviewed and whether a detailed traffic study will be done or a simpler traffic plan.

Regarding the impact to Westbury residents, MOST of the flood reduction efforts for Brays Bayou have already been implemented. Additionally, most homes in Westbury which are in a 100 or 500 year flood zone are in the Willow Waterhole Bayou flood zone, and the work being done on Brays Bayou has limited effect reducing the Willow Waterhole Bayou flood zones.

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Only RAIN in the DRAIN!

It's very important that you prevent debris from blocking the flow of water to the storm drain inlet. It is vital to keep the water flowing in the storm drain pipes.

All you have to do is drive through Westbury during or after a storm and see all the leaves piling up and/or flowing into the storm sewers. Solid debris takes up space in the storm drain pipes making them less effective in transporting storm water to our ditches and bayous. Small sticks, leaves, newspapers, and other trash become wrapped together and could clog and slow the draining on your street. Our storm drains in Westbury are old. They are original to the neighborhood and should be treated with care. Only rain in the drain!

Here are some things YOU should be doing every week and especially before a storm.

- ➔ Sweep & BAG the leaves out of the street.
- ➔ Clean the storm drain inlet in front of your home (if you have one)
- ➔ Street gutters are city property. If your neighbor doesn't sweep, do it yourself. It's worth protecting your own home with a little extra street sweeping. Maybe it will shame them into action.

Adopt a Drain

The City of Houston knows how important it is to keep our storm drains clean. They spend millions of dollars each year clearing them of debris. The City of Houston has a residential Adopt a Drain program. By pledging to keep your drain free of leaves and debris, you will be joining your neighbors in helping to protect the environment, manage stormwater, and minimize flooding. Go to www.HoustonAdoptaDrain.org to adopt your drain today.

These pictures should SHOCK you. THIS IS NOT OK! The top photos are from a section in Westbury that floods regularly. The bottom pictures clearly indicate the problem with clogged drains.

CLEAN YOUR STOPRM DRAINS AND GUTTERS!



Keep Houston, District K & Westbury Beautiful Day Saturday, April 6

The WCC will be working in and around all of Westbury doing some much needed Spring cleaning! What is your passion? Would you like to work in a park? Pick your favorite green space. Is it Westbury Park, Chimney Rock Park, Hager Park, the Westbury Community Garden, or the Willow Waterhole? Or would you rather stay closer to home and sweep the street's storm gutters? Keeping our streets clean of leaves and debris will help keep our storm drains clear. Do you have an esplanade you'd like to see cleaned up? **Join us on April 6 at 9am at Westbury Park to sign up, get your supplies and pick your spot to spruce up for Spring.** This is always a family friendly event. Do you have a scout troop looking for a community service project? [Email westburygreen@gmail.com](mailto:westburygreen@gmail.com)



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Westbury Area Improvement Corporation

What is the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation?

The Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) is a 501c3 nonprofit founded in 1991 and is now defined to serve the geographical area of the Westbury Super Neighborhood. The WAIC board includes representatives from local civic organizations (including the WCC), schools (Westbury High, Meyerland Middle, Anderson Elementary, and Parker Elementary), businesses, and area nonprofits. The WAIC board meets monthly at 9:30AM on the 3rd Wednesday. This meeting also functions as the "Westbury Super Neighborhood" meeting and is thus also attended by representatives from METRO, the Mayor's Office, District K, HPD, Solid Waste, and others.

February Meeting Notes

The February joint meeting of the WAIC & the Westbury Super Neighborhood Council was held on February 20. The board of the WAIC approved purchasing 3 flags for about \$153 to replace stolen flags. These flags are flown on Westbury public esplanades during official flag days, and are posted by the Westbury High School ROTC students. The board also approved hiring a contractor, Elite Power Wash, to clean landscaping beds and power wash the Westbury signs at 7 locations.

Budget and Fundraising— Want to create an operating budget and get income. Do business outreach. Consider a capital campaign to raise significant funds to improve the Westbury area.

Westbury High School – Mentors of Hope. Friends of Westbury High School gala. HISD Budget cuts. Delays with construction of the WHS Fine Arts Wing.

Meyerland Middle – Discussion about social media and a school lockdown. Carnegie Hall performance.

Parker Elementary – Grand Opening on Feb. 28 at 5PM. Principal Lori Frodine is moving out of state at the end of the school year.

District K Office – Senior luncheon. New "Neighborhood 101" class on March 9. Trash problems.

Security – HPD Sgt. Ortiz. Constable Precinct 5 Sgt. Derkowski.

Solid Waste – Recycle should be back to normal schedule in February. Also Heavy Trash will be collected, but it may take several days to collect it all. Discussion that all of Westbury is in same zone for Regular Trash and Heavy Trash, but our recycle collection is split between two different zones.

Mayor's Office / Dept of Neighborhoods Office – CIP Meeting will be on March 20.

Senator Miles Office– Job fair for interns

Westbury Community Garden – Upcoming events

Neighborhoods to Trails SW – Trails, upcoming bridge work, Harris County Civic Saturday

The next meeting will be on March 20 at 9:30AM at St. John's Presbyterian.

2019 Officers of the WAIC

President – Becky Edmondson, Past President of WCC
Vice President – David Roschke, SW Minister's Association & Retired Pastor from Salem Lutheran
Secretary – Susan Shafer, Westbury Garden Townhomes
Treasurer – Marcia Hartman, Vice President of WCC



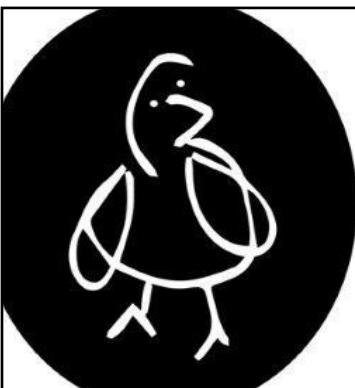
February 2019 WAIC / SN 37 Board Meeting.

Westbury Signs Cleaned

The WAIC had the 6 Westbury subdivision marker signs and garden beds cleaned in February. The difference is amazing! Check them out when you drive by!

BEFORE

AFTER



Are you looking for a reliable dog walker or pet sitter for while you are at work or on vacation??

Boon Pet Care
is here for you!

As Westbury residents, we are committed to taking the very best care of our neighbors' loved ones.

Check out our website for pricing and details: www.booncare.com

Or contact us today: booncare@gmail.com or 713.936.2623

Meyerland Middle School for the Performing and Visual Arts

Carnegie Hall

The MPVA orchestra is within \$10,000 of reaching Carnegie Hall! Many thanks to everyone who has, in one way or another, supported the orchestra program and to all who are helping provide the amazing musicians the experience of a lifetime.

Communications

MPVA was placed on lockdown on Monday, February 18. The teachers did an excellent job of executing the lockdown and keeping all of the students safe. After the lockdown, there was some misinformation circulating around the circumstances that necessitated the lockdown. In the future, the school would like to encourage community members to reach out directly to the school principal, Auden Sarabia at jsarabia@houstonisd.org or at 713-726-3616 if they have information they would like to share, or would like clarity on information that was passed on to them by word of mouth. By opening and keeping lines of communication open between MPVA and the surrounding community, we will continue to keep our community, our neighborhood, and our school safe and strong.

Awards

MPVA students continue to shine having recently gone to UIL academic competition and bringing back medals in Oral Reading, Art History, Editorial Writing and Calculator Skills. These students are products of the rigorous academic program at MPVA that helps stretch students academically and creatively.

NEW Portable Fingerprint Identification Units (AFIS)

The nonprofit Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) board voted last year to purchase two portable AFIS fingerprint units for use by our local Southwest Houston Police Department station. After a long delivery period, the two new AFIS units have been received and are already in service by HPD. Thank you, WAIC!

What is an AFIS unit? The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) says, "One of the latest innovations in crime analysis is the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), which is a computerized system that stores the identifying characteristics of more than 4.8 million individuals currently on file in the DPS Crime Records Service. The AFIS Section also performs systematic computer searches of unknown fingerprints by optically scanning a print and comparing it with those on file. Prior to AFIS, fingerprint searches had to be done manually, making it an impractical, time-consuming process to compare an unknown print to the millions of known prints on file."

Additionally, our WAP Precinct 5 Constables team also has an AFIS unit - provided by the Constables Office. When an AFIS unit is available, then suspects don't have to be transported elsewhere to be identified and suspects are more likely to provide a correct name from the start.

House Numbers

Take a look at your house numbers today. Do you have house numbers on your house and are the numbers readily visible from the street? Did you know that the city requires EVERY home to have a visible house number, so that emergency vehicles can respond quickly to the correct address. A house number painted on the curb is helpful, but it can be obscured by a parked car. The ordinance says a house number should be placed either on the primary door or within 18 inches from that door. If your house was built before 1979, then the numbers have to be at least 2" tall. If your house was built between 1979 and 2010, then the numbers have to be at least 3" tall. If your house was built after January 2010, then the numbers should be at least 4" tall.

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Crime Statistics for Westbury SuperNeighborhood

January 23-February 28, 2019

Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W
10900	Ashcroft	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	1/26	3pm	Parkwest 2
12300	Atwell	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	2/21	3pm	Westbury South
6000	Bankside	Burglary of Habitation	2/18	11am	Westbury 5
5600	Belrose	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	2/7	7am	Westbury 3
6000	Benning	Burglary of Habitation	2/21	6am	Westbury 5
11000	Braewick	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	1/29	9am	Westbury 5
12000	Braewick	Burglary of Habitation	2/25	11am	Westbury 4
5600	Burlinghall	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	2/9	5pm	Westbury 3
5900	Claridge	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	2/5	1pm	Westbury 5
5600	Dawnridge	Auto Theft	2/23	4am	Westbury 4
10600	Dunlap	Aggravated Assault with Weapon	2/16	3pm	Westbury 5
12300	Dunlap	Aggravated Robbery	2/22	9pm	Westbury 4
5600	Duxbury	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	1/31	7am	Westbury 4
10800	Endicott	Burglary of Habitation	2/9	2pm	Westbury 1
5700	Ettrick	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	2/17	9am	Westbury 4
5700	Fontenelle	Burglary of Habitation	2/1	4pm	Westbury South
5700	Greencraig	Burglary of Habitation	1/31	10am	Westbury South
5800	Greencraig	Theft—Misc.	2/15	6pm	Westbury South
5800	Greencraig	Theft—Vehicle parts	2/19	8am	Westbury South
11700	Hillcroft	Aggravated Assault with weapon	1/26	7pm	Westbury 3
12300	Hillcroft	Burglary of Habitation	2/5	2pm	Westbury 4
5500	Hummingbird	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	2/16	1am	Parkwest 1
5700	Hummingbird	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	2/8	9am	Parkwest 2
5600	Ludington	Burglary of Habitation	1/30	5pm	Westbury 4
5700	Ludington	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	2/24	12pm	Westbury 4
5800	Ludington	Auto Theft	2/22	4pm	Westbury 4
5600	McKnight	Burglary from Building	2/9	8am	Westbury 3
5700	McKnight	Burglary from Motor Vehicle	2/21	12am	Westbury 3
5700	Southminster	Burglary of Habitation	1/31	11am	Westbury South
5900	Willowbend	Burglary of Habitation	2/4	8am	Westbury 5

KEY

-  Burglary from Motor Vehicle
-  Auto Theft
-  Theft
-  Burglary
-  Aggravated Assault with Weapon
-  Aggravated robbery with weapon

The Westbury Civic Club strives to provide accurate information. Due to the printing date of the *Crier*, crime statistics are always delayed.

The crimes listed below took place between January 23 and February 28. They are in alphabetical order by street. The crimes are highlighted by type. Please see key above.

Crime in Commercial, Public Spaces, and Apartments

The chart below breaks out the type of crimes & how many at each type of location.

Crime Type	Westbury Homes	Apts./Townhomes	Commercial/Business	Public Space
Aggravated Assault	2	4	3	2
Aggravated Robbery	1	3	0	0
Burglary from Motor Vehicle	12	4	1	0
Burglary of Habitation	11	2	0	0
Theft - Misc.	1	3	4	0
Theft - Shoplifting	0	0	3	0
Theft—From Building	0	1	1	0
Theft—License Plate	0	0	1	0
Theft—Vehicle Parts	1	0	0	0
Auto Theft	2	3	1	0
Murder	1	1	0	0
TOTAL	30	21	14	2

Westbury Area Patrol
281-463-6666



*Taking a vacation? Don't forget to call in your Vacation Watch with the Constables if you pay your dues.

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

Public Safety Information from the Westbury Area Patrol

Burglary of Motor Vehicle Leads to Arrest

An alert driver witnessed a burglary of a motor vehicle (BMV) on the morning of January 28 and took a photo of the getaway vehicle used by the suspect. The witness flagged down a Precinct 5 Constable vehicle patrolling in and around the Westbury area. After some investigation and with a description of the suspect's vehicle, the Constables were able to track down the suspect to an apartment complex. After a short foot chase through the complex, the suspect was apprehended and arrested. The Precinct 5 Constable Deputies found items taken from the vehicle in his possession and he led them to a bag stolen in the burglary. The suspect was arrested by Precinct 5 Constables. The Suspect was charged with the BMV offense and taken into custody for this and several other warrants. The stolen property was returned to the Complainant.

Elder Scam Alert

Recently, an elderly victim of a scam in Westbury waited until the next day to report the scam because the victim spoke limited English. Our Westbury security works best when crime victims report immediately, so that law enforcement can search for the vehicles and perpetrators. In this elder scam, a male driving a new red truck knocked on a door and claimed he was doing contractor work nearby and

needed to go into the backyard. The victim accompanied the man into the backyard, and while distracted, an accomplice entered the home to search for valuables. The man left the backyard quickly after the truck horn sounded.

Translation Services by Constables

Our Westbury Area Patrol Constables have asked us to help spread the word that the Constables have **translation services**. If you have family or friends in Westbury who need translation services, please let them know that our Westbury Area Patrol Constables say that they "will make every effort to accommodate any and all needs." Our Westbury Area Patrol constable program works best when EVERYONE reports crimes or suspicious activities. Obviously, this is written in English, so please help spread the word to friends and family!

Constable Activity Report

During the 18 days from February 1 to February 18, our Westbury constables have reported 388 activities, which averages to about 22 activities per day, in addition to routine patrols. The most common activity is a "Contract Check", where they responded 150 times to service requests. The next most common activity is "Meet the Citizen" where they introduced themselves to citizens 89 times. There were 44 Traffic Stops

resulting in 9 citations, one referred to HPD, and the rest were warnings. They performed 2 Welfare Checks, and in one case the resident was discovered deceased after an employer was concerned that an employee had missed several days of work. They responded to 11 calls about suspicious persons, 13 calls about suspicious vehicles, reported 3 cases of Open Windows, and made 23 calls to check activity at local Parks or Schools or Religious locations in Westbury. They investigated 3 Burglaries of Motor Vehicles and also responded to various car accidents, reports of discharged firearms, disturbances, mental health, domestic problems, etc. We encourage Westbury residents who are paid supporters of the Westbury Area Patrol to also use the constables for Vacation Watches and also for home security alarms.



Vacation Watch

Going on a Spring Break Vacation? Leaving for a week long getaway? 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 going on.

You can register for a vacation watch online at <https://constablepct5.com/index.php/vacation-watch/> or by calling 281-463-6666 and requesting a deputy come by your house.

Support our Westbury Area Patrol TODAY

A large part of the funds paid to Precinct 5 for our WAP Security Patrol (Harris County Precinct 5 Constables) is paid VOLUNTARILY by our residents who do not have mandatory assessments. If you appreciate this vital service, please consider showing your appreciation by sending a contribution TODAY for the WAP security patrol. See page 17 with information about how to send an online payment by PayPal or where to send your checks to our bank deposit lockbox in Dallas. Thank you for supporting WAP security patrol and for supporting our Westbury neighborhood!



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Birds, Birds, Birds

If you build it, they will come -- especially when you are talking habitat and birds. The Willow Waterhole Bird Survey was started in June 2007 and is held on the third Saturday of each month (but no survey in December). During the 2-hour count, the number of species identified can range from around 30 in summer to over 50 in the winter.

The January WWH Bird Survey identified 35 species. It turned out to be a good day for raptors despite the wind and falling temperatures. Playing in the winds that day were 2 Caracaras, an Osprey, a Red-shouldered Hawk, 2 Red-tailed Hawks, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, a Coopers Hawk, an American Kestrel, and both vultures. Twenty-six (26) Killdeer camouflaged in with big chunks of mud were spotted on the side of one of the more recently dug up ponds. The birds were so well camouflaged that they were not spotted until they put a scope on the area! A very special thanks to Mark Meyer & David Crabtree who joined Mary Ann Beauchemin in leading the individual survey area groups this morning.

The monthly survey begins in the parking lot of the Gathering Place at 5310 South Willow Drive. Our usual starting time is 8 AM, but we begin at 7 AM from April through September. Bird watchers split up into three or four groups to cover the park thoroughly, and as of mid-2015, nearly 200 species had been reported to eBird. For a list of species reported to date at the Willow Waterhole Greenspace, link to <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L390915>.

NEXT BIRD SURVEY: MARCH 16 AT 8AM



American Kestrel at Willow Waterhole
Photo by Marc Meyer

Fire Safety

There has been a rash of fires in the area as happens, unfortunately, when the temperatures drop. Badly placed space heaters, unattended lit candles, burning wood in rarely maintained fire places, etc, are often the cause. Make sure you and your family are READY and SAFE.

Have you checked your fire alarms?
Do you check them every month?
Do your batteries need to be replaced?
Do you have a fire extinguisher? Has it expired?
Do you have a fire escape plan?
Have you talked to your kids about what to do in a fire?
Create and practice a home fire escape plan with two ways out of every room in case of a fire. Get a stopwatch and time how fast your family can escape. Children should know how to respond to the sound of a smoke alarm. Teach them to get low and get out when they hear it.

Use common sense in the kitchen. Limit distractions when cooking and don't leave a hot oven or stovetop unattended.

Blow out candles before you leave a room and/or before you go to sleep.

BE AWARE – KEEP SAFE!

Westbury Meet & Eat

Come out to Teotihuacan Mexican Restaurant at 6579 W. Bellfort every 1st Thursday of the month to meet Westbury residents. This event is open to anyone who lives in Westbury.

March Meet & Eat: Thurs., March 7, 6PM

April Meet & Eat: Thurs., April 4, 6PM

May Meet & Eat: Thurs., May 2, 6PM

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PFR PARKER FAMILY REALTY TEAM
CHAMPIONS RE GROUP

2019 Dues/Assessments

ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1&2

Homes purchased in Parkwest 1 after Jan. 1, 1993 and Parkwest 2 after Jan 1, 1994 have mandatory assessments.

The amount of the 2019 Mandatory Assessments is \$240.75. The 2019 Assessments was due by February 1, 2019.

If you have any questions or do not get your invoice by December 15, please contact the WCC office at 713-723-5437 or email westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

Mission of the WCC

The purposes of the Westbury Civic Club, Inc. (the "Club") are to improve the appearance of the Westbury area and promote the civic, cultural educational, health, and general welfare of the residents of the Westbury and Parkwest subdivisions in Harris County, Texas (collectively, the "Community").

Why Should I Pay My Dues? What are the Benefits?

- Protects your investment in your home by keeping Westbury a strong and vibrant neighborhood.
- Keeps the doors of the Civic Club office open and staffed.
- Protects your home and family with the Westbury Area Patrol through Constable Precinct 5.
- Improves the looks of our esplanades, parks, and green spaces.
- Advocates for City services and infrastructure improvements
- Hosts two White Elephant Community Garage Sale events each year
- Organizes community get togethers such as Coffee with Constables and National Night Out

Why do my dues go to Dallas? Is this correct?

Yes, this is correct! We have you mail your payments directly to our bank's processing center. This allows your payments to be processed immediately.

Please send this form in with your payment

2019 Westbury Civic Club Dues

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.

Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 Home Phone _____ Work _____ Cell _____
 E-mail _____

**Make checks payable to:
 Westbury Civic Club, Inc.**

**Mail to:
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**Online payment:
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 Make sure to include your
 address or account number**

Want to send your support in multiple payments? You may choose any

amount to pay in any increment throughout the year.
 Here are a few examples:
 2 payments of \$167.50 is \$335/yr
 3 payments of \$111.67 is \$335/yr
 4 payments of \$83.75 is \$335/yr
 5 payments of \$67 is \$335/yr
 12 payments of \$28 is \$336/yr

Westbury Civic Club Dues*	\$50	\$
Westbury Area Patrol	\$285	\$
Subtotal	\$335	\$
Additional Contributions:		
Westbury Civic Club		\$
Westbury Area Patrol (WAP)		\$
Total		\$

*The Westbury Civic Club Dues encompasses all operations, programs, and services including greenspace, of the Westbury Civic Club, except patrol services.

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



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Garage Sales in Westbury...Explained

For many years the Westbury Civic Club has had a policy that garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like are not permitted in Westbury. This long-standing policy has been announced in the monthly newsletter many times. In 2014, the board of directors of the Westbury Civic Club reviewed and approved a policy document regarding these sales to formalize the wording. (See policy in box to the right)

You will notice that the policy focuses on the deed restriction aspect of garage sales – nuisances (parking violations, traffic obstructions, and illegal advertising) and non-residential use of property. Many hundreds of homes in Westbury face major thoroughfares. This poses particular challenges related to parking and traffic if garage sales are conducted. In other Houston neighborhoods, it is sometimes common for homes on major thoroughfares to be used for ongoing sales; indeed, those highly visible homes are sometimes sought after by those who want to run a retail sales business from their home or yard. Over the years the WCC has shut down people selling Easter baskets, Mother’s Day flowers, appliances, and other sales from highly visible Westbury yards. The City Legal Department has helped shut down certain garage sale businesses in Westbury.

Both the city and the state have rules which make it illegal to post signs on public right-of-way. These illegal signs are considered to be trash and visual blight. The city, the Brays Oaks Management District, and volunteers in Westbury all collect illegal signs. Last month WCC volunteers collected more than 30 illegal signs related to garage or estate sales.

Another important consideration regarding garage sales is Crime Prevention. A garage sale allows passersby to know whether you have children and the approximate age of your children. If residents open their garage doors for shade during a garage sale, then they allow passersby to see what is stored in the garage: tools, exercise equipment, and other valuable items. An estate sale or garage sale allows visitors to leisurely examine your security systems and those of those of your neighbors.

Reserve your space for the 2019 Spring White Elephant Sale, starting on March 20.

Don't violate the deed restrictions or be a nuisance to your neighbors. Consider taking part in the next White Elephant Sale on Saturday, April 27.

Details are on the 1st page.



WCC POLICY Garage Sales, Estate Sales, Yard Sales, and Moving Sales, etc.

Westbury Civic Club Policy: Garage Sales, Estate Sales, Yard Sales, Moving Sales

Purpose: The intent of this policy is to clearly convey the Westbury Civic Club restriction on garage sales, estate sales, yard sales or any other independent action of the kind.

Definition: Garage, Estate, Yard or Moving Sale: The sale of personal property in, at, or upon any residential lot or home. This includes, with limitation, sales of personal property from the garage, driveway, yard, patio or house area of such premises.

Policy: Garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like are not permitted in Westbury.

All sections of Westbury and Parkwest have deed restrictions that state “no noxious or offensive trade or activity shall be carried on upon any lot nor shall anything be done thereon which may be or become an annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood”. Garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like draw substantial traffic and contribute to: hindering the flow of traffic on major thoroughfares; impeding access to homes by emergency vehicles or residents due to parking congestion; parking violations on city streets or esplanades; parking violations from vehicles parked on front yards; and, parking violations from blocking public right-of-way on sidewalks. Furthermore, advertising materials for garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like contribute to: visual blight, trash along public streets, and violations of the city sign ordinance. The Westbury Civic Club considers garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like to be “an annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood”.

All sections of Westbury and Parkwest have deed restrictions that state the lots are to be used for single family or family residential purposes. The Westbury Civic Club considers garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like to be commercial use of residential property.

Approved by the Westbury Civic Club Board, August 20, 2014

<p>Water Heaters: Regular & Tankless</p> <p>Disposals</p> <p>Water Lines</p> <p>Gas Lines</p> <p>Drain Cleaning</p> <p>Under Slab Repairs</p> <p>Re-route kitchen & laundry pipes</p>	<h1>ASTRO PLUMBING</h1> <p>Full Service Plumbing and Repair Specialist</p> <h2>713-256-0017</h2> <p>★ JOHNNY LEWIS ★</p> <p>WESTBURY RESIDENT</p>	<p>New Sewer Lines</p> <p>Hydrostatic Testing</p> <p>Remodeling & Repairs</p> <p>Sinks</p> <p>Faucets</p> <p>New Drains under Bathroom</p>	
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Willow Waterhole 2019 MUSIC FEST

Saturday & Sunday

April 13th & 14th
 noon-8^{pm} & noon-6^{pm}

TWO DAYS OF
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 SEE PARKING MAP AT:
WillowWaterhole.org/musicfest-parking

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“Back the Blue” 5K in Westbury

We are fortunate in Westbury to have a great outdoor location for races and cross-country events at the Willow Waterhole Greenway. For the first time, a national 5K race fundraiser “Back the Blue 5K” was held in Houston – right here in Westbury at the Willow Waterhole Greenway. The purpose of the Back the Blue 5K was to raise funds for the Houston Police Family Support Unit, on behalf of Houston police officers injured in the line of duty.



The Houston Police Family Support Unit was founded for the purpose of providing assistance when an officer is involved in a line-of-duty injury. When these incidents occur, the officer’s income and that of the family, are greatly reduced while the officer is on leave from the department. Since the officer is unable to receive a regular paycheck or pursue any overtime pay, or additional income from working a second job, his or her family is at risk of not meeting its needs. The Houston Police Family Support Unit helps these officers by providing materials and support during those difficult times.



Willow Waterhole - February Workday

Every month it seems that we are able to announce how yet another improvement has been made over at Willow Waterhole. February was no different. Saturday morning of February 16, 2019, was filled with activity over at the Willow Waterhole.

Students from Trafton Academy students picked up litter. As noted on the Facebook page for Trafton Academy, “The drizzling rain and mud didn’t stop these four TATC members (and their parents) from collecting 12 bags of trash, some tires, and small items of furniture. We all felt amazing about leaving this outdoor space trash free and beautiful.” Meanwhile, students from the Sharpstown High School National Honor Society planted native understory “American Beautyberry” bushes and mulched tree groves along some of the trails at the “Triangle Lake” area (the triangular area bounded by South Willow, Gasmer, and Ricecrest). If you aren’t familiar with this plant, it features colorful purple berries which are eaten by wildlife.

We are very grateful to these students who volunteered their time to make our community better. Thank you, students from Trafton Academy and Sharpstown HS!



Sharpstown HS Student at Willow Waterhole

7th Annual MusicFest Two Days! April 13-14

Save the Date! The 7th Annual MusicFest is scheduled for April 13th-14th, two days of diverse performances, both school students and professionals. Parking map is available at www.willowwaterhole.org/musicfest-parking. Stay tuned to future *Criers* for more information. This is always a great event for the whole family to attend.

Volunteers NEEDED for MusicFest 2019

Adult Volunteers Needed!
Music Fest will be held on April 13 and April 14. Help is needed with set-up, groundskeeping, runners, parking, help with professional musicians, greeters, etc.

If interested in volunteering, please sign up on the MusicFest Volunteer Page at <http://www.willowwaterhole.org/musicfest-volunteer>

Willow Waterhole Monthly Bird Surveys

Nature-lovers of Westbury, did you know that the Houston Audubon Society conducts a monthly bird survey at Willow Waterhole and that the public is invited to participate? Since the study area is so large, the effort is divided into several teams, each headed by an experienced leader. The next bird survey will be held on March 16 at 8 AM. Meet in the parking lot of The Gathering Place at 5310 S. Willow.

During the January survey, 35 different species of birds were identified, including 2 Caracara, an Osprey, a Red-shouldered Hawk, 2 Red-tailed Hawks (both a Sharp-shinned Hawk and a Cooper's Hawk), an American Kestrel, and both Black and Turkey vultures. See page 16 article for more bird information!

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Call 311 - Be The “Squeaky Wheel” – Complaining has its Benefits!

There is an old adage that “the squeaky wheel gets the grease”, meaning that those who complain are more likely to get a response than those who do not. When working with the city to advocate for projects, it is exceedingly helpful to have many voices who have expressed concerns about a problem to the city via 311. The city Public Works Department needs DATA (proof of problems) to demonstrate that it is working on the appropriate projects. Please report problems to 311 to build the documentation to get your problems worked on!

Structural flooding? Call 311.

Obstructed, slow-draining stormwater drains? Call 311.

Toilets don’t drain well during rainy weather? Call 311.

Toilet paper bubbling out of manholes? Call 311.

Sand in your water? Call 311.

Funny taste to your water? Call 311.

For example, HOW did the WCC advocate to the city and county to do flooding and drainage projects in Westbury? When told that there had been few complaints to 311 about structural flooding and drainage issues, the WCC encouraged our residents to contact 311 about these problems. Also, the WCC did driving surveys to document approximately which blocks flooded during Harvey and other high rainfall events.

In January, Jennifer Edmondson and Cindy Chapman met with a room full of engineers and departmental representatives discussing the upcoming Westbury Drainage and Streets Sub-Project 1. The use of 311 data was discussed during this meeting for 3 different topics.

* **Extent of drainage problems in the target area?** The engineers showed a map with every 311 complaint about structural flooding in that general area in Westbury. A discussion ensued that there had not been very many 311 complaints (despite this being a known problem area to residents for drainage problems), so we also discussed the data collected by the WCC.

* **Should the water lines be replaced?** The engineers discussed that the old cast-iron water piping on these streets was replaced in the 1980s and 1990s with PVC, some segments may have newer PVC, and that the old cast-iron piping has been left in place. Only 4 complaints have been made to 311 about water quality, and there was discussion whether this is sufficient justification to replace the water lines now or to defer later to do the water lines.

* **Should the sewer lines be moved?** The old sewer lines from the 1950s have been rehabbed and there have been few 311 complaints about sewer service. The newer design is to put sewer lines in the public right of way, in front of the house.

Feeding Stray Cats

Westbury is known as an animal loving neighborhood. BUT for some residents too much love is not a good thing. The Civic Club has received numerous complaints about neighbors feeding stray cats. It is against City ordinance to feed stray cats unless you trap them and have them neutered.

Links for Lost & Found Pets

Nextdoor Westbury -

www.nextdoor.com

Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook

Westbury CARE- Contact at westburycare@gmail.com or at www.westburycare.com, Compassionate Animal Rescue Efforts is located in Westbury.



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Westbury Community Garden News

WWW.WESTBURYCOMMUNITYGARDEN.ORG

VegOut! For National Nutrition Month

Do you wish that you or your children ate more vegetables? Do you need more variety in your meals? March is National Nutrition Month. Did you know that according to new studies, eating fruits and vegetables every day will make you happier?

Take the VegOut! 30 Days in 30 Ways Challenge to be healthier and happier! This challenge is sponsored by the Westbury Community Garden, Recipe for Success, and The John P. McGovern Museum of Health and Medical Science.

Join us at the Westbury Community Garden each Saturday in March for a series of fun, delicious, and educational events where you where learn more about how to keep a balanced diet, growing your own vegetables, and other topics. In addition, guest chefs will demonstrate recipes you can try at home. You won't want to miss the final event on March 16, which will feature a Veggie Party. Download the app to record your success.

VegOut! Events with Westbury Community Garden, Recipe for Success, The Health Museum

Saturday, March 9, 2PM — 3:30 PM

Saturday, March 16, 1PM — 2:30PM



IT'S AS EASY AS
1-2-3

1 REGISTER
Visit www.VegOutWithRFS.org to register and explore our resources & download the mobile app.

2 EAT
Try and track 30 different vegetables during March using our online tools to qualify for prizes.

3 SHARE
Join in the conversation on our website and spread the word on social media, start a team, join a team and reach out to get your family, school, colleagues and community involved. Use the tags [#vegoutrfs](https://twitter.com/vegoutrfs) and [#vegout2017](https://twitter.com/vegout2017) to share your progress on social media sites.

VEGGIES!
30 WAYS IN
30 DAYS
TAKE THE CHALLENGE!
IN MARCH

VegOutWithRFS.org



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.

JOIN the garden TODAY at
www.westburycommunitygarden.org

Contact us today at
membership@westburycommunitygarden.org



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