

# Westbury Crier

**VOLUME 65, ISSUE 2** 

MARCH 2020

## City of Houston Capital Improvement Plan Meeting

## **District K: March 26**

We would like to have a LARGE crowd from Westbury at the District K meeting. Do you want to know the status of Westbury Storm Drain Reconstruction Projects? 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 7.

March 26, 6:30PM Fountain of Life Center 14083 S. Main

# Westbury Community Garden Celebrates Ten Years



## Saturday, March 28, 10:30AM-2PM

You are invited to join the Westbury Community Garden to celebrate 10 years of community gardening in Westbury!

Bring the whole family out to the garden to enjoy tons of fun activities such as a bounce house, giant Jenga, a ladybug release, a billion bubbles and more! There will be several food trucks along with live music and several art cars. The garden will also have displays, exhibits, and tours of the garden. For more information, see page 23.

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Daylight Savings Starts March 8 at 2AM



## **HEAVY TRASH**

## March 2020

Thursday, March 12
TREE WASTE ONLY

### April 2020

Thursday, April 9
JUNK WASTE

# March 8 at 2AM

# RECYCLING DATES

#### **March 2020**

Thursday, March 12 Thursday, March 26

#### **April 2020**

Thursday, April 9 Thursday, April 23

### White Elephant Sale Saturday, May 2

Do you need to have a garage sale? Garage sales, estate sales, yard sales, etc are not allowed at Westbury homes. Consider getting a booth at the next White Elephant Sale on May 2 at Westbury United Methodist.

The Westbury Civic hosts two garage sale events each year, one in the Spring and the other in the Fall, for the neighborhood to participate in. There are over 50 booth spaces available at this popular event that is very well attended each year.

See page 10 for more information including booth prices, sale dates, and more.



Booths on Sale Westbury Residents ONLY April 1

# **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**

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

### **SECURITY**

Pct. 5 Constables (	WAP).	281-463-6666
D		

Report property crimes, suspicious activity, and vacation watch
Emergency......911
Houston Police Dept. Non-Emergency......713-884-3131
Southwest HPD Station ......832-394-0400

### **CITY OF HOUSTON**

Houston Help & Information	311
Mayor's Citizen Assistance Office	832-393-0955
Platou Community Center	713-726-7107
Deed Restriction Enforcement (City Legal)	832-393-6333
District C Council Member, Abbie Kamin	832-393-3004
District K CM, Martha Castex-Tatum	832-393-3016

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	s713-755-6111
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

### **2020 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

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

### **DIRECTORS AT LARGE**

Communications	Lauren Figard
Community Relations	Tony Robert
Deed Restrictions	Ray Mora
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Jennifer Edmondson
Greenspace Beautification	Mat Funk
Membership	Susan Brock
Security	Maria Cervantes
Volunteer Coordinator	Robert Ellis-Montgomery

#### **SECTION DIRECTORS**

Westbury 1	Franny Oxford
Westbury 2	VACANT
Westbury 3	Jeff Benavides
Westbury 3	VACANT
Westbury 4	
Westbury 4	VACANT
Westbury 5	Virginia Livingston
Westbury 5	Donna Strom
Westbury South	
Parkwest 1	Angie Furnari
Parkwest 2	•
Parkwest 3	Lisa Placke

### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

# WCC Board Meeting Wed., March 18, 7PM Westbury Baptist Church 10425 Hillcroft GET INVOLVED

### Westbury Civic Club Board Notes February 2020

- → WCC Board welcomed Mary Seymore from TX Senator Borris Miles' office and Richard Nguyen from City of Houston Solid Waste Department. Political candidate Mark Miller for Constable Precinct 5 spoke briefly.
- → Sgt. Derkowski introduced new night Deputy Constable Kenneth Watkins. If your car is in an accident, try to get a picture of the other vehicle license plate in case they drive away. An elderly visitor to a Westbury home got lost for six hours, make sure to contact law enforcement if you have a lost visitor or are concerned someone seems lost.
- → Westbury Community Garden will celebrate 10th Anniversary on March 28. Big festivities are planned.
- → WCC board members attended a CIP pre-meeting with District K to discuss high priority capital projects that are needed in Westbury. Storm drain reconstruction, the new library site in Westbury, and Hager Park were discussed. District K CIP meeting will be on March 26.
- → Yard of the March restarts in March
- → Motion approved to elect current Westbury 2 Section Director, Lauren Figard, to the vacant Director of Communications. The Westbury 2 Section Director position is now vacant.
- → Motion approved to elect Maria Cervantes to the vacant Director of Security position on the WCC Board.
- → The next WCC board meeting is on Wednesday, March 18, at 7PM at Westbury Baptist Church.

# It's time to pay your 2020 Westbury Civic Club dues!

Your dues help support the WCC in many ways

- Protects your investment in your home by keeping Westbury a strong and vibrant neighborhood
- Protects your home and family with the Constable
- ☑ Improves the look of our greenspaces
- Keeps the doors to your Civic Club office open

The WCC works for you. Your support of the WCC is important. The dues form is located on page 6.

# A Message from the Westbury Civic Club President

February was "I Love Westbury" month in Westbury! This was a new endeavor for the WCC and I hope that you liked it as much as we liked organizing the activities. The WCC held two Open House events in February and we greatly enjoyed talking to everyone who visited! Visitors ranged from young parents pushing a stroller to residents who have lived in Westbury for decades. We held a raffle for any WCC resident that paid their 2020 Dues and WAP in full. Thank you to those residents who paid their 2020 dues!

As part of I Love Westbury month, we used our Facebook page to post a daily feature about something we love about Westbury. These daily posts have been very popular. At first, we wondered whether we could think up 29 different topics to write about, but after we started jotting down ideas, we had to whittle down the list. Truly there are many, many things to love about living in Westbury! To look at all the daily posts, you can look at the Westbury Houston page on Facebook. You can also search Facebook for the term #ILoveWestbury2020. My personal favorite was a post about the beautiful sunsets at Willow Waterhole.

March is a popular month for activities. The world famous Houston Rodeo will be underway and local schools will have a week of spring vacation. Near the end of the month, there will be a huge party when the Westbury Community Garden celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This will be a fun event for the whole family with live music, food trucks, bounce house, games, Art Cars and more. The gardeners will have informative displays, a live ladybug release, worms in a composting bin and more. See page 23 for more info.

March is also a time of year when Westbury residents can take actions to keep Westbury as one of the safest and greenest neighborhoods in Houston. Westbury needs YOU, all of you, because it takes all of us together to make a great community and a great city.

- → **VOTE.** March 3 is Election Day in the March Primaries for county, state, and federal primary elections. If you don't vote, then you allow others to define the future for Westbury and for Houston.
- → Be COUNTED in the CENSUS. Census forms will be mailed in mid March. Each person who is counted brings about \$10,000 per year in federal funding to Houston. Every person needs to be counted. It is very important to return your CENSUS form so that Houston (and Westbury) get our fair share of federal funds. Did you know that demographic data is prepared about every census tract in the USA? For example, that demographic data is used by businesses to decide where to place new stores.
- → PAY your WCC dues and PAY for the Westbury Constable Program. The WCC needs money to pay for rent, utilities, supplies, and for our office employee. The Westbury Area Patrol is the most expensive program of the Westbury Civic Club. It is expensive to pay for 3 licensed law enforcement officers, but Precinct 5 also provides 24-hour dispatch services, back-up from other Precinct 5 deputies, patrol cars, vacation watch, and access to special teams (criminal investigations, strategic response unit, animal cruelty task force, Silver Watch program, etc).
- → LEARN and ASK Questions. Stay informed. City Council District K is very busy! March 5 is State of District K dinner (RSVP by March 2 for the free event). March 21 is District K Neighborhood 101 class about Homelessness. March 26 is the District K CIP meeting where the City discusses proposed capital projects throughout District K. See calendar for details for these events.

# Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

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



## Weekly Classes/Groups

Classes are FREE at the Platou Center

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!

## **Line Dancing**

Monday, 1PM

Come for a fun and unique exercise alternative.

### **Table Tennis**

Wednesday, 3-7PM

All ages and abilities welcome.

# Evening Aerobics Exercise Class Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6-6:45PM

Call the Platou Center at 713-726-7107 to register.

# TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

**Tuesdays 6PM-7PM** 

A Weight Loss Support Group. Drop in to preview or call Dorothy -713-723-4441 or Naomi -713-988-2233

# **Chimney Rock Park**

The smallest park in Westbury is Chimney Rock Park with just over 4 acres. The park surrounds the Platou Community Center and is located at 11655 Chimney Rock on

the banks of the Willow Waterhole Bayou (near the post office).

Chimney Rock Park has a playground, picnic tables, and benches on one side. Across the parking lot there are great tennis courts and basketball. Youth tennis lesson are offered through the City Parks and Recreation department. Check houstontx.gov for more information. The Friends of Chimney Rock Park host Family Fun Days, summer enrichment activities, classes, and special events at the community center and park.







## **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.

# → City council approved BRAVE Architecture Inc. for the new Westbury Library on Belrose on Nov. 20

City Council approved the appropriation of funds authorizing BRAVE Architecture Inc. to perform design and construction phase services for the new Houston Public Library at 5505 Belrose in Westbury. This is an important step in the process towards a new library!

# → The City purchased land in Westbury for the new location of the library.

The City purchased land in Westbury for a new Meyer Library. The new location will be at the site of the old Post Office in Westbury on Belrose. Stay tuned to future editions of the *Westbury Crier* for more information about the new library. We expect public meetings to be coming soon.





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# **Donna Strom**

Text or Call 713-859-5296 donna@camelothouston.com

# What's Happening in Westbury

# March 2020 Calendar Events/Meetings

Thurs 5	State of District K Dinner MUST RSVP by March 2 to District K Fountain of Life Center—14083 S. Main	0-8:30PM
Sun 8	Daylight Savings Time Starts at 2AM Clocks spring forward	
March 16-20	WCC Office Closed	
Mon 16	Brays Bayou Association Meeting Willow Meadows Baptist Church, 4300 W Bellfort	7:30PM
Wed 18	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting St. John's Presbyterian—5020 W Bellfort	9:30AM
Wed 18	WCC Board Meeting Westbury Baptist Church– 10425 Hillcroft	7PM
Sat 21	Audubon Society Bird Survey Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow	MA8
Sat 21	District K Neighborhood 101—Homelessness 9-11AI SW HPD Station—13097 Nitida	
Tues 24	SW PIP Meeting SW HPD Station - 13097 Nitida	7PM
Thurs 26	District K CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) Meeting Fountain of Life Center—14083 S. Main at Hillcroft See page 7	
Sat 28	Westbury Community Garden 10th Anniversary Celebration at the garden—12581 Dunlap See page 1 and 23 for more information	10:30-2
April 1	Booths on Sale for Westbury Residents ONLY 9AM-2PM and 5PM-6PM See page 10 for more information	



- ★ Booths on Sale for Westbury residents ONLY—April 1
- \* Willow Waterhole Music Fest April 4-5
- \* Friends of Westbury HS Gala April 18
- ★ Booths on Sale for Non-residents- April 21
- \* Keep Westbury Beautiful—April 25
- ★Spring White Elephant Sale May 2
- \*White Elephant Sale Rain Date May 9

# **All About Trasi**

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.

# Recycle

## Recycling in Westbury

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

**March 2020** 

Thursday, March 12 Thursday, March 26 April 2020 Thursday, April 9

Thursday, April 9
Thursday, April 23

## **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 2020 TREE WASTE ONLY Thursday, March 12 April 2019
JUNK WASTE
Thursday, April 9

## 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
- MO 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: <u>SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr</u>
   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 <a href="https://www.westburycrier.com">www.westburycrier.com</a> or <a href="https://www.houstontx.gov">www.houstontx.gov</a> for more trash and recycling information

## Why Support the WCC and WAP?

Westbury is a unique neighborhood in Southwest Houston. 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 financial contributions from residents like you. Westbury has historically had strong voluntary support because residents understood the great benefits of the WCC and our programs. However, contributions to the Westbury Civic Club and to the Westbury Area Patrol were down in 2019. By working together, we can meet the challenges head on and keep our neighborhood the jewel that it is. The total amount for the 2020 Voluntary Dues is \$335. That is less than a dollar a day! The Westbury Civic Club dues are \$50 for the year. The WCC suggests a contribution of \$285 for the Westbury Area Patrol (a paid contract with Precinct 5 Constables).

3 payments of \$111.67 is \$335/yr

4 payments of \$83.75 is \$335/yr

5 payments of \$67 is \$335/yr

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

Yes, this is correct! Mailing your payments directly to our bank's processing center in Dallas, allows them to be processed immediately. You may also drop off the payment directly to the WCC Office.

### Why should you pay your Westbury Civic Club dues? (\$50)

The Westbury Civic Club (WCC) works on: reducing neighborhood blight, enforcing deed restrictions, improving economic development, and advocating for our fair share of the City's budget. We hold two semi-annual White Elephant Sales and host neighborhood events such as Keep Westbury Beautiful Day. We publish the award-winning Westbury Crier monthly. The WCC has one employee who works closely with our City Council Office and city departments to ensure timely responses to residents' complaints, like Solid Waste problems. We also continue to work diligently with the City and the County to find real solutions to flooding along Willow Waterhole Bayou. The WCC is a strong advocate for the City to continue on schedule with storm drain reconstruction projects in Westbury with ReBuild Houston. This project was to start in 2020 but has been delayed a year due to Harvey. Please pay your Westbury Civic Club dues.

### Why should you support the Westbury Area Patrol? (\$285)

The largest program and biggest expenditure for the WCC is for the Westbury Area Patrol (WAP). The WCC has had a contract with Harris County Precinct 5 deputies since 1984. The WAP offers 24 hour coverage, vacation watches, home security checks, and alarm monitoring. The program provides high visibility, rapid response to emergency and non-emergency calls. Daily patrolling enables the deputies assigned to Westbury to become familiar with the neighborhood, thereby alerting them to "out of the ordinary" situations and ability to respond better and faster. WAP officers were instrumental in recently catching young criminals in Westbury South who were attacking and robbing elderly residents. Harris County Pct. 5 has a dedicated investigative unit that can be available if needed. The WCC has had to lower the number of deputies from 4 to 3 in 2019, and we could be in danger of losing the program if participation in this important program does not improve. Please support the Westbury Area Patrol.

## ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1 & 2

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

The 2020 Mandatory Assessments of \$246.75 are due 2/1/2020. Invoices have been mailed out.

Payment plans can be set up for homes that have a past due balance. Please contact the WCC Office at 713-723-5437.

The WCC does NOT receive payments from escrow accounts or any other source. If you receive a Mandatory Assessment bill, it is due by 2-1-2020.

An attorney will be contacted for accounts past due.

Please send this form in with your payment	2020 Westbury Civ	ic Club Dues	3
Name(s)			
Address			
Home Phone	Work	Cell	
E-mail			
Make checks payable to:	Westbury Civic Club Dues	\$50	\$
Westbury Civic Club, Inc. Mail to:	Westbury Area Patrol	\$285	\$
P.O. Box 975182 Dallas, TX 75397-5182		Subtotal \$335	\$
Online payment: paypal.com—Send Money to	Additional Contributions:		
westburycc@sbcglobal.net	<b>Westbury Civic Club</b>		\$
Make sure to include your address	<b>Westbury Area Patrol</b>		\$
Want to send your support in multiple payments?		Total	\$
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	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.

## **District K Capital Improvement Plan** Meeting

March 26, 6:30PM Fountain of Life Center 14083 S. Main

### **Westbury Civic Club Board Members Meet with District K**



With concerns about the upcoming CIP meeting, the Westbury Civic Club requested a meeting with District K. Cindy Chapman, Becky Edmondson and Jennifer Edmondson met with District K Chief of Staff, Janae Winfield, and constituent rep, Barbara Hite. We spent two hours discussing storm drain reconstruction projects in Westbury, buyouts, Hager Park and the new city library.



## What's a CIP meeting and why Should You Care?

Every year, each council district hosts a meeting to let its residents know what projects are on the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). On March 26 at 6:30PM, District K will host its CIP meeting at the Fountain of Life Center at 14083 S. Main (at Hillcroft).

Each year the Westbury Civic Club advocates for money we would like to see spent on large capital projects in Westbury. What are these priorities? Storm Drain reconstruction, the District K city library, and improvements to our parks. Not only do we have to advocate; we then have to stay on top of the City to make sure they follow through with their commitments. Hurricane Harvey delayed pending CIP projects at least one year.

**Storm Drain Reconstruction** → We were expecting the first of our Westbury drainage and street reconstruction projects to begin in 2020. We will find out the status at this meeting. We are concerned that the project has been possibly delayed or moved. It is important to stay on top of the City to ensure that our projects that are already on the books are completed. Our storm drains are inadequate size and aging, they are past their expected life. Westbury is divided into 9 phases so this project will take a long time, and these do not even include the entire neighborhood. It is imperative that is begins on time as scheduled previously.

**New Library** Money for this first showed up in the 2012 Bond allocations, but it was moved elsewhere as there wasn't enough money. Money again appeared in the 2017 bond approved by voters, and we are happy that property has been purchased in Westbury to accommodate a new library for District K and our area. An architect has been chosen, and we are anxious to get a timeline on this project. We have been too long without a library.

**Hager Park** → After advocating for improvements at Hager Park for over a decade, nothing has happened. We were told that the 2017 Park Improvements Bond allocated more than a million to Hager Park, which was ranked in 2016 as the worst park in Sector 8 (southwest Houston) by the Parks Dept. After Westbury and city voters voted in favor of the \$104 million bond, the money seems to have disappeared for Hager Park. Hager Park serves an area of Westbury which has endured repeated flooding and it is overdue for renovations.

We want answers as to when these projects will occur. We hope you also want answers and will join us on March 26. We want a big, loud, Westbury group.

### " AREA RESIDENTS AND NEIGHBORHOOD SPECIALISTS"

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6030 Portal 3/2/2 • \$310's



5231 Kinglet 3/2/2 • \$300's



5734 Willowbend 3/2/2 • \$460's



5202 Hummingbird 4/2/2 • \$330's

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## I Love Westbury Month

We hope our residents have enjoyed the "I Love Westbury" events held in February. We love living in Westbury and hope that you do, too! In February, the WCC Office held two Open House events. On Saturday morning, February 15, the WCC offered donuts and coffee and other treats as board members Cindy Chapman, Becky Edmondson, and Jennifer Edmondson welcomed 25 Westbury residents for two hours! It was a successful event! We enjoyed talking all the residents who came by and hope you all enjoyed your visit to the WCC Office! Most people seemed to like the big maps on the walls and historic photos of Westbury displayed in the office. We will have info from the 2nd February Open House event in the April newsletter, as it occurred after the *Crier* goes to print. Look in the *Crier* for future events at the WCC Office in 2020!

For those of you on Facebook, the Westbury Houston Facebook page had daily "I LOVE Westbury" posts to highlight all the things that we LOVE about Westbury! The posts have ranged from parks, to schools, to places that make Westbury a wonderful place.

We enjoyed creating the daily series of positive posts in February. If you missed any of them, you can search on #ILoveWestbury2020 or #IILoveWestburyMonth on Facebook or Twitter.

The most popular I LOVE WESTBURY posts so far have been:

Sunsets at Willow Waterhole – 114 Likes, 7 Shares
Mini-Murals – First Mini-Mural in Westbury – 100 Likes, 10 Shares
Willow Waterhole Trails and Birds – 83 Likes, 10 Shares
Parker Elementary -- 75 Likes, 3 Shares
Westbury Little League – 69 Likes, 7 shares
SPARK Park at Parker Elementary – 63 Likes, 3 Shares









Register NOW for 2020-2021!

# VISIT US FOR A TOUR! CALL 713-729-3434

For more information, visit our website, www.stthomasmore-school.org

St. Thomas More Parish School is conveniently located in the Maplewood S/N neighborhood in Southwest Houston.

### St. Thomas More Parish School

5927 Wigton Dr. Houston, Texas 77096 713-729-3434





#### Grades PreK 3—8th Grade

- → Core Curriculum
- → STREAM program Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, and Math
  - → Hands-on learning
- → Extended Care (before/after school) is available.
- → Visit our website www.stthomasmore-school.org for more information.





### Anderson Elementary Advocacy

Members of the Westbury Civic Club joined Hannah Cobb from At-Large 5 CM Sally Acorn's office at Anderson Elementary to look at a long standing sidewalk issue. Mud routinely fills the sidewalk and the handicapped ramp. HISD points to the City and the City points to HISD. In the meantime, there is a muddy mess when it rains. A solution is needed.

Dr. Deshonta Everett, school principal, gave us a tour of the library, which had been unused for years. With the help of HISD Library Services and volunteers, the library is now undergoing revitalization. Books are being sorted and re-shelved. Westbury residents who are interested in helping with the library are invited to come by on Saturday mornings at 8:30AM.



While touring the school, it was obvious that there are building problems. There was a large crack in an exterior cafeteria wall where water enters inside. The Annex room is unlevel and water collects on the floor. With new campuses for Parker, Lovett, Condit and Kolter, we note that Anderson Elementary is of similar age and could definitely use a new building.

The Westbury Civic Club will continue to advocate for improvements at Anderson Elementary, and the adjacent Hager Park.

## The Sky's the Limit - Support WHS

On Saturday, April 18, 2020, the Friends of Westbury High School will host "The Sky's the Limit", its annual gala and silent auction at Braeburn Country Club. It will be a fun-filled evening with dinner, silent auction, and the opportunity to get to know this year's ELEVEN scholarship recipients.

In addition, notable Westbury High School alumni and others will be honored. Did you know Westbury HS had two Olympians? Benny Brezzell & Bayano Kamani will be honored. Dr. Sher Lu Pai and Mentors of Hope founder Sheila Howeison will also be honored.

Won't you consider buying a ticket and coming to the dinner? It's an easy way to support Westbury High School and have fun doing it. For more information about the Friends of Westbury High School Foundation, to make a donation, or to purchase tickets for the 2020 Gala, go to https://www.friendswhs.org/

Thanks to the generous support of Westbury alumni, friends, and business partners, the Foundation from 1994-2019 has raised over \$400,000 for scholarships for Westbury students. In addition, the organization supports school projects; such as campus landscaping, mentoring, ROTC, serving on school committees, and maintaining the Foundation website. If you are a Westbury High School alumni, or are interested in getting involved with the foundation, make sure to join

WHS Gala - April 18 www.friendswhs.org

# Parker Elementary Kindergarten Round-Up

March 27. 8AM

If you have a child ZONED to Parker Elementary who is starting kindergarten



class in Fall 2020, it is time to register / enroll at Parker to make sure that you get a guaranteed seat at the school. The child must be five years old on or before September 2, 2020, to be eligible.

Parker Elementary \* 10626 Atwell \* 713-726-3634

In anticipation of the 2020 Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo, here is

### Gene Autry's Cowboy Code

A cowboy never takes unfair advantage, even with an enemy. A cowboy never betrays a trust.

A cowboy always tells the truth.

A cowboy is kind to children, old folks and animals.

A cowboy is free from racial or religious prejudices.

A cowboy is helpful and, when anyone is in trouble, lends a hand.

A cowboy is a good worker.

A cowboy is clean in person, thought, word and deed.

A cowboy represents womanhood, parents and laws of the country. A cowboy is a patriot.





their mailing list!

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# Spring White Elephant Garage Sale on May 2

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

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, May 2, from 8AM to Noon at Westbury United Methodist Church. The rain date is May 9.

Booth space will go on sale at 9AM on Wednesday, April 1, for individual Westbury residents ONLY\*. The WCC office will be open at 9AM on April 1 and close at 2PM. The office will also be open from 5-6PM on April 1 for booth space purchase. Booths may be purchased during normal office hours of 9:30AM to 1:30PM starting on April 2.

You must be a <u>paid</u> current member of the Westbury Civic Club to purchase a booth. This means you must have paid your 2020 WCC membership dues of \$50. If you have not paid your 2020 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.

1st Day of Booth Sales for Westbury Residents ONLY April 1—9AM—2PM 5PM—6PM

Booths will go on sale to non-residents and groups/non-profit organizations on April 21, 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

So why not have fun, make money, be safe and be a good neighbor.

the deed restrictions.

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 s between April 1– April 20. Non-residents and ALL non-profit organizations and groups (including Westbury resident run) must wait until April 21. 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.

# WCC Board Changes and Introductions

New Communications Director

Join us in welcoming our new WCC Communications Director, Lauren Figard. Lauren has been serving on the WCC Board as Section Director for Westbury Section 2. Lauren has offered to help with WCC social media, so the move to Communications Director fits well. Lauren was elected to the WCC Communications position at the February WCC Board meeting. The WCC Board is authorized in the bylaws to fill publicized vacant board positions via a vote of the board. The position of Section Director for Westbury Section 2 is now vacant. Please contact the WCC Office to learn more about serving on the WCC board, if you are interested in filling the vacant position.

### New WCC Security Director

Join us in welcoming our new Director of Security, Maria Cervantes, who has resided in Westbury South for 21 years. Maria wants to "put a lot of effort in making our neighborhood one of the safest ones in the area". Her first



language is Spanish and she has offered to help out if there is a language barrier. Maria was elected to the position at the February WCC Board meeting. We thank Maria for volunteering to serve in this important position on the WCC Board.

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# All About Deed Restrictions & Nuisances

New Monthly Page Deed restrictions and Nuisances Deed restrictions and Nulsances
can be frustrating and confusing.
Dealing with the City can be a
Dealing Thic page will feature Dealing whire the envioling the ature a hightmare. This page will feature a hightmare. deed restriction or neighborhood nuisance issue or topic each

### Westbury is a Deed Restricted Neighborhood

ALL homes in Westbury have active deed restrictions. There are over 30 sets for the 9 sections and 5,000 homes in Westbury. Why do we have deed restrictions? To protect and maintain our neighborhood for the benefit of all residents. The City of Houston does not have any zoning or rules on where commercial business can be located. Deed restrictions help maintain our neighborhood as a neighborhood. All lots in Westbury must be residential usage.

When you bought your home, you should have received a copy of your deed restrictions. Certified copies of the deed restrictions can be obtained at the County Clerk office downtown for a fee. The WCC office has copies of the deed restrictions by section online at

www.westburycrier.com. You will need to know your legal address to know which set applies to you. An easy way to find your legal address is to look up your property on Harris County Appraisal District (HCAD) website, www.hcad.org.



## **Updating Westbury Deed Restrictions** Join the Action Group Today!

Westbury's deed restrictions are old and need to be updated. While they are still active and still have validity, they are slowing losing their original meaning in today's legal climate. There are many reasons to update the deed restrictions. It is no longer 1958. How people live and use their homes is different in 2020. While it is nice that no one can hang a visible clothes line in their front yard, I am sure the residents of Westbury 5 East of Hillcroft would like the option to build a 2 story home. They are the ONLY section that cannot. With the elevations and new home construction on the rise, a better set of deed restrictions and guidelines are needed.

The Westbury Civic Club worked with residents in Parkwest 1 and 2 in the 1990s and successfully updated and modernized their deed restrictions with changes such as allowing two story homes, three car garages, and mandatory assessments. This process can be long and frustrating. Later deed restrictions revisions over the years have stalled, failed, and fizzled out.

It is time to seriously think of Westbury's future. 2020 is the time to move Westbury forward and update our aging deed restrictions. The first step is to get a group of active residents who are dedicated to seeing the process all the way through. This group will first meet to get their bearings, then start to break down the choices of how to tackle a massive deed restrictions revision for 5.000 homes. Even Parkwest 1 and 2 need to be updated, despite the changes made in the 90s. We will do surveys, in the *Crier* and online, and hold several public meetings to get feedback from residents. The group will meet at the WCC office at least monthly.

If you are interested in the joining the Deed Restriction Revision Action Group, please call 713-723-5437 or email the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net.





### Check Your House Numbers

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.

House built before 1979— numbers at least 2" tall House built between 1979 and 2010—numbers at least 3" tall House built after January 2010— numbers at least 4" tall.

# **Copies of Deed Restrictions Available Online at** www.westburycrier.com



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### March 3 -Primary Election 2020

In Texas, primary elections are conducted in the spring by the major political parties to determine their nominees for a given elective office, in advance of the general election in the fall. On March 3, voters will select from Democratic and Republican candidates in primary election races. Election choices will range from U.S. President down to local races (state and county), including judges.

A runoff election will be held on May 26 for any primary in which no candidate receives at least 50 percent of the vote. If a local race goes into a runoff, any eligible voter can vote if they did not vote in the primary. If you voted during the primary, then you can only vote in a runoff of the same political party.

### **Contact Your City Council Reps**

All Westbury residents are represented by six City Council members, the 5 At-Large members and your specific district. Below is a list of phone numbers and emails for each CM office.

#### District K-Martha Castex-Tatum

832-393-3016 \* districtK@houstontx.gov District C—Abbie Kamin

832-393-3004 ★ districtC@houstontx.gov

At-Large 1—Mike Knox

832-393-3014 ★ atlarge1@houstontx.gov

At-Large 2—David Robinson

832-393-3013 \* atlarge2@houstontx.gov

At-Large 3-Michael Kubosh

832-393-3005 \* atlarge3@houstontx.gov

At-Large 4—Letitia Plummer

832-393-3012 \* atlarge4@houstontx.gov

At-Large 5—Sallie Alcorn

832-393-3017 ★ atlarge5@houstontx.gov





### It's Time to be Counted! US Census 2020

How many people live here in the Westbury neighborhood? How do we find out? The government does a population count every ten years, called a "census", and this is a census year. There are three ways to respond to the 2020 Census. By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. You will have three options for responding:

- Online
- By phone
- → By mail



In mid-March, households will begin receiving official Census Bureau mail with detailed information on how to respond to the 2020 Census. Census Day is April 1, 2020.

Why respond? It's important that the count be correct because it affects funding, schools, voting districts, developers and others who rely on the data to make decisions.

Ten years ago, it is estimated that zip code 77035 was "under reported" by 24%. Zip code 77096 was "under reported" at 12%. When people do not get counted, then they are invisible. It is very important for Westbury, the City of Houston, and our state that as many people as possible here in Westburyget COUNTED.



2020census.gov 1.800.923.8282 **#YEStotheCensus** 

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### **'Houston on the Cusp of a Changing America**"

Dr. Stephen Klineberg was the guest speaker for the February meeting of the Super Neighborhood Alliance. In the 1970s, Houston was a boom town, and he initiated a survey to understand the impact of the oil boom on Houston. Two months later, the price of oil fell and 100,000 jobs were lost, so they decided to do a second survey. The survey is now in its 38<sup>th</sup> year. The survey tracks the economic outlooks, demographic patterns, experiences & beliefs of local residents.

After WWII there was broad prosperity across the USA and a baby boom. The poorest 20% doubled their income. However, in the most recent 35 years, income mainly has gone to the wealthiest. Why? Jobs moved globally to follow the cheapest rate, so education requirements of US jobs went higher. By 2020, 62% of jobs required education past high school. The survey shows that Latinos and Blacks value education more than Anglos, but fewer are able to pay for it.

The 2018 survey indicates that 56% of Houstonians want more funding for schools. Most are willing to pay more taxes for high quality, universal Pre5 education. Residents perceive that the source of wealth is knowledge, and education is seen as a key need for economic development in Houston. The survey also indicates that 39% of Houstonians could not come up with \$400 if needed quickly. The city has one of the highest rates in the USA and Texas of children who do not have medical insurance. The survey indicates that over the past ten years, residents have a growing awareness of support for programs to reduce inequalities.

The study also looks at demographic changes. Over the years, most major cities in the USA lost population. Houston was an exception. Houston kept growing, primarily via immigration. As a result, Houston is at a demographic forefront of population change. Houston just beats New York City as the major city closest to 25% Anglo, 25% Asian, 25% Black, and 25% Latino; while nearby Ft. Bend County is the closest county in the USA for 25/25/25. The rest of the USA will look more like Houston in 25 years. Even if immigration is totally shut off, the USA will continue to become less and less Anglo because the Anglo population is aging. In Houston, only the 65+ demographic is more than 50% Anglo.

### **Alert Westbury Residents** Report Lime Green Willow Waterhole Bayou

The Westbury Civic Club office was alerted by several concerned Westbury residents that the Willow Waterhole Bayou at Hillcroft was a disturbing bright lime green. Residents quickly snapped photos and it was posted to our Facebook page. Social media has it benefits as several City employees who follow our page reached out, as did reporters.

Very quickly the calls, emails and questions started from the WCC. We contacted many entities including

Harris County Flood Control, HPD, Health Department, and City Council office to find the source of the lime green liquid. We were relieved to learn that it was just a dye test being performed by the City of Houston on a nearby storm sewer line. The dye is not toxic and is safe according to the City.





### **Links for Lost & Found Pets**

✓ Nextdoor Westbury - www.nextdoor.com **☑**Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook ☑ Houston Cares -Contact at https:// houstoncaresrescue.org/



# **Summer-Ready** in Just 10 Weeks

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## **H-E-B Grand Opening in Meyerland**

The highly anticipated new neighborhood H-E-B Meyerland Market is NOW OPEN! The new H-E-B had its grand opening ceremony on January 28. The new two-story store is located in Meyerland Plaza on the corner of Beechnut and Endicott next to JCPenney.

WCC Board Members Jennifer Edmondson and Cindy Chapman attended on behalf of the Westbury Civic Club. WHS Principal Susan Monaghan and Jeri Brown were also in attendance representing Westbury High School.

It was a chance to tour the new store and to hear all about new features. The H-E-B Meyerland Market, in addition to an extensive offering of Kosher foods, also features a pharmacy, a bakery, a florist, grab-and-go "Meal Simple" foods, organic and health food sections, 21-day dry-aged beef, a Kosher Roastery coffee shop, plus curbside and home delivery services.



Westbury reps happily took photo with beloved H-E-B President, Scott McClelland

There is also a BBVA Compass bank on the first floor. A bridge from the second floor parking lot connects to the second level of JCPenney next door. The store has about 700 parking spots. The lower level parking

has overhead indicator lights pointing drivers toward available or handicap spots. This store replaces the H-E-B Pantry on South Braeswood that closed after 3 flooding events within a few years. The Braeswood store had been in operation for 25 years before closing after Harvey.

In celebration of the Grand Opening, H-E-B made several large donations to local non-profit organizations, including the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy and provided \$10 gift cards to visitors.



H-E-B Meyerland Market store management team in front of the fun artwork in the store



New two-story Meyerland Market



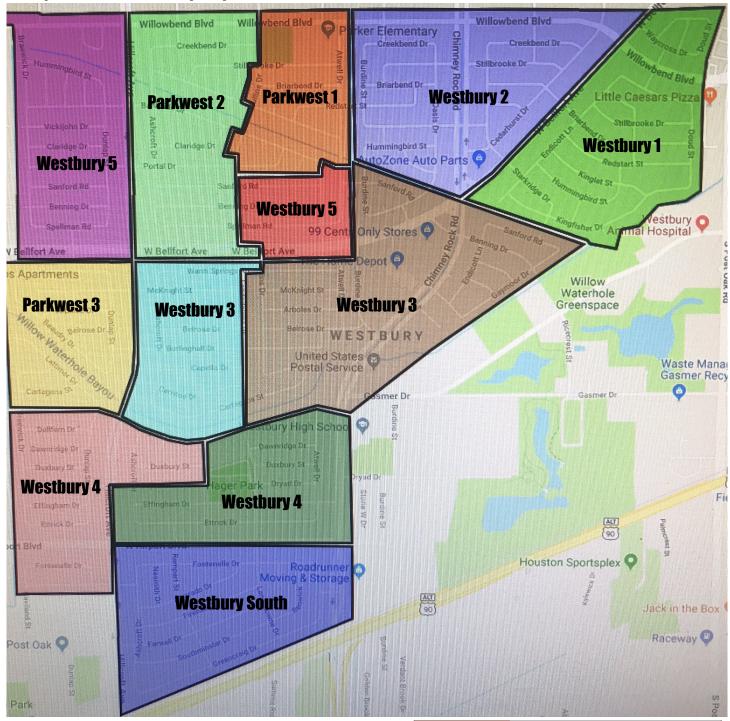
H-E-B Meyerland Market Produce area



H-E-B Meyerland Huge Meat Market area



## 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.

# Stay connected with what is happening in Westbury RIGHT NOW!

"Like" our Facebook page, Westbury Houston.

Visit our website, www.westburycrier.com

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

## Crime Statistics for Westbury SuperNeighborhood January 25—February 25, 2019

**Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes** 

Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W
6000	Beaudry	Theft from Motor Vehicle	2/8	6PM	Parkwest 3
5500	Belrose	Simple Assault	2/16	7PM	Westbury 3
5500	Burlinghall	Criminal damage to property	2/7	4AM	Westbury 3
10600	Braewick	Burglary, Breaking and Entering	2/14	4PM	Westbury 5
10700	Braewick	Theft from Motor Vehicle	2/11	3PM	Westbury 5
12300	Braewick	Destruction, Vandalism, Damage	2/16	8PM	Westbury 4
5400	Briarbend	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	2/19	8PM	Westbury 2
5900	Claridge	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	2/5	7PM	Westbury 5
5400	Creekbend	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	2/20	6AM	Westbury 2
5700	Farwell	Theft from Motor Vehicle	2/25	7AM	Westbury South
5700	Firenza	Theft from Motor Vehicle	2/24	11PM	Westbury South
11300	Gaymoor	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	2/5	9PM	Westbury 3
5500	Kinglet	Burglary, Breaking and Entering	2/13	5PM	Westbury 2
5900	Lattimer	Theft from Motor Vehicle	1/30	4AM	Parkwest 3
12400	Mullins	Destruction, Vandalism, Damage	2/24	7PM	Westbury South
12400	Renwick	Destruction, Vandalism, Damage	2/7	3PM	Westbury South
5500	Spellman	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	2/25	1AM	Westbury 5
5000	Stillbrooke	Purse Snatching	2/4	4PM	Westbury 1
			•		

### Crime by the Numbers

Crime Type	Homes	Apts./ TH	Comm./ Business	Park/ School
Aggravated Assault	0	4	0	0
Theft from Motor Vehicle	5	1	0	1
Burglary, Breaking & Entering	2	1	1	0
Robbery	0	3	1	0
Simple Assault	1	14	0	0
Shoplifting	0	0	1	0
Purse Snatching	1	0	0	0
Criminal damage to property	1	0	1	0
Drugs, Narcotics	0	0	1	1
Vandalism, Damage	3	7	1	0
Auto Theft	0	4	0	0
Theft from Building	0	0	0	0
Credit Card/ATM Fraud	0	1	0	0
Theft of Vehicle Parts	5	4	1	0
TOTAL	18	39	7	2

**SW HPD Station** 832-394-0400 **Westbury Area Patrol** 281-463-6666 **HPD Non-Emergency** 

713-884-3131

**KEY** 

Theft from Motor Vehicle

**Auto Theft** 

**Property Crime** 

Burglary

Simple Assault

Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts

The crimes listed took place between January 24 and February 24. They are in alphabetical order by street. The crimes are highlighted by type.

Please see key above.

Do you hear sirens? Go to http:// cohweb.houston tx.gov/ ActiveIncidents/ search.aspx



### Support the Westbury Area Patrol TODAY

The WCC contracts with Harris Country Precinct 5 Constables for our Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) program. A large part of the funds paid to Precinct 5 are paid VOLUNTARILY by 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.

The WCC currently has a contract for 3 deputies to patrol Westbury and we would like to increase this number. We can only do this by raising additional funding. A neighborhood our size should have more deputies.

See page 6 for the dues form including 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 your support!

**Pct 5 Constables** 281-463-6666





**Pct 5 Constables** 281-463-6666

# Advice from the Constables Visitors Can Easily Get Lost

Many of us have family who come to visit us for vacations. Often these visitors will take a walk, maybe while we are at work, or out running errands. Recently an elderly visitor did just that and became lost. She ended up at Walmart, but without her cell phone containing the address and phone numbers for her family in Houston. After being gone an extended period of time, the family called the Pct. 5 Constables to be on the lookout for her and she was eventually located after 6 hours! This also has happened to another elderly visitor. She came from an orderly city of rectangular street grids, so she counted the number of streets she had crossed but didn't realize that some of our streets are not true rectangles and are designed to reduce cut-through traffic. She, too, spent hours wandering about looking for something familiar.

Make sure your visitors know your address and phone number, even if they don't carry their cell phones. If you come across a person who seems lost, contact the Police and the Constables to see if they are already out looking for them.

### **Hit and Run Automobile Accidents**

Sgt. Derkowski, from the Precinct 5 Constables, noted at the Westbury Civic Club meeting and at the WAIC meeting that there have been several hit and run automobile accidents on Westbury area streets recently. Try to get a photograph of the vehicle, including the license plate, and the other driver, if you are able to do so. Sometimes the other driver may stop briefly and then decide to leave the scene of the accident.

# Constable Dispatch 281-463-6666

### **Additional Signs for Precinct 5 Constable Patrol**

All residents served by the Westbury Civic Club are protected by a paid patrol contract with the Precinct 5 Constable Patrol (Westbury Area Patrol). This security contract is the most expensive program of the WCC. Westbury is so large that some of our residents live in a different constable precinct; however, the paid patrol contract with Precinct 5 covers ALL of our Westbury residents. Call Precinct FIVE at 281.463.6666. (Do not call another precinct, because you will be told by that district that you are not in their service area.)

At the request of the WCC, Precinct 5 will be installing additional signs west of Hillcroft. This will help remind our residents who live in that other precinct that they are being patrolled by Precinct FIVE. This will also better notify drivers passing through Westbury that we have an active constable patrol program in that part of Westbury.





### **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!



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### **Constable Activity Report**

During the 2 week period from February 1 to February 15, our constables have reported 263 activities, in addition to routine patrols. This describes the most common activities, but not all.

**Traffic Stops/Accidents:** There have been many complaints by residents about speeding or other unsafe driving behaviors on our Westbury streets. In response to these complaints, the Constables made 39 traffic stops during the 2 week period, primarily on major roads. Ten drivers received citations, and two were arrested. The remainder received warning citations. There were 4 other contacts related to traffic and then another 4 related to accidents.

**Response to Suspicious Activity:** There were a total of 15 calls related to a suspicious person or a suspicious vehicle. We encourage Westbury residents to continue to call the constables when suspicious activity is observed.

**Alarms:** There were 5 responses to house alarms.

Meet the Citizen/Officer or Information Calls: Total of 40.

Vacation Watches: 18 stops

**Contract Check:** 96 locations. These are stops recorded periodically, while driving around on patrol, to document which street/block the constable is at.

**Crimes:** Criminal Mischief—4, Burglary Motor Vehicle—2, Vehicle Stolen—1, Theft—2, Fraudulent ID—1

**Silver Watch:** 3 stops. This is a program where elderly or their family can request period stops by Constable to check person is OK.

## Welcome Constable Deputy Watkins

Deputy Kenneth Watkins is the newest Westbury Constable on the Westbury Area Patrol. Deputy Watkins, 27, is from Natchez, Mississippi. After graduating from Natchez High School, he attended University of Houston—Downtown Police Academy. Deputy Watkin's



enjoys being outdoors, hunting and fishing. He also really enjoys cooking. Deputy Watkins looks forward to meeting Westbury residents and working for the neighborhood.

#### Vacation Watch

Going on a Spring Break Vacation? Leaving for a weekend 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 or by calling 281-463-6666 and requesting a deputy come by your house.



# Constable Dispatch 281-463-6666



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Performances subject to change. For more information & updates visit WillowWaterhole.org/MusicFEST











## 1st Annual School Art Contest (K-12)

Do you have a budding artist in the house? The Willow Waterhole Greenway is sponsoring their first Annual School Art contest to be featured at MusicFEST 2020. Open to students in K – 12, the theme is the Willow Waterhole Birds. Willow Waterhole is one of the top birding sites in Houston

- → Art contest dates are March 1 27
- → Open to all students K-12
- → Maximum size is 8.5 x 11
- → All 2-dimensional media will be accepted.

#### **Entry Fees**

\$50—Elementary level students \$10—Secondary level

For more information and to pay the entry fee, visit www.willowaterhole.org

Entries may be dropped off at Westbury High School Attn: A. Kennison-Lewis, or be mailed to: Willow Waterhole Conservancy, 11415 Chimney Rock, Suite 201, Houston, TX, 77035.

### WinterFest = \$now Blast!

On a fun-filled Sunday in February, the Willow Waterhole held its annual WinterFest. This year it featured two thrilling snow sledding runs Attendees were also treated to free delicious coffee or hot chocolate from Westbury's own PUCS food truck.

The crowd, estimated at over one thousand kids and parents, enjoyed another smile-filled, free event at the naturally beautiful 291 acre Willow Waterhole.



### **Grand Opening of Dabney Kennedy Scout Pavilion**

On January 26, the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy hosted Mr. Dabney Kennedy and distinguished guests for the grand opening of the "Dabney Kennedy Scout Pavilion". Dabney Kennedy himself cut the ribbon with his family, in the company of many friends from scouting, the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy, Harris County Precinct One, Harris County Flood Control, and the City of Houston Mayor's Office. A crowd of over 125 attended, including Houston Mayor



Sylvester Turner and Vice-Mayor Pro Tem / District K Councilmember Martha Castex-Tatum. Troop 99 from St. Thomas More provided the color guard and escorted attendees from parking areas to the site.

Congratulations to Dabney Kennedy for this honor! In addition to the other honors listed, Dabney is a past President of the Westbury Civic Club, a past President of the non-profit Westbury Area Improvement Corporation, and past PTO President of the Westbury local schools which his sons attended.



### Willow Waterhole Monthly Bird Surveys

The next bird survey will be held on

March 21 at 8AM

Meet in the parking lot of The Gathering Place 5310 S. Willow





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### Only RAIN in the DRAIN!

As it rains in Westbury, water begins to build up along the street edges and gutters. It's here that it begins its long journey to the sea. The first destination on this journey is to the storm drain inlet on your street. Clearing the path to the storm drains is essential. Once it reaches the inlet it flows into the storm drains and eventually ends up in one of the drainage ditches or Willow Waterhole Bayou then off to Brays Bayou, then the Houston Ship Channel and ultimately to the Gulf of Mexico.

It's very important that you prevent debris from blocking the flow of the water to the storm drain inlet. It is vital to keep the water flowing in the storm drain pipes under the streets that we don't see.

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!!! Our trees are old and have huge roots that are bound to have popped through, combine this with leaves and other debris, and water just can't flow at the rate it should. If the rain is falling very rapidly (as it has many times in the past several years), our water on the streets needs to flow as fast as it can to the bayous.

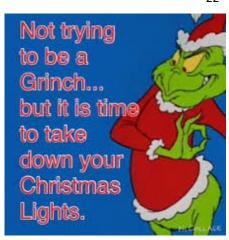
#### Here are some things you can do to help.

- Sweep & BAG your leaves out of the street.
- Ask your yard crew to NOT blow the leaves and grass clippings down the street or into the storm drains.
- Clean the storm drain inlet in front of your home
- **→** Pick up the newspapers that are thrown in your yard. Pick it up, read it or not, and throw it in the recycling can.



# **Got Holiday**

It's March and well past the Yule season. If you still have your Christmas holiday lights hung, please take them down! It can be frustrating for neighbors to see those icicles still hanging on your home. Please remove your holiday lights and decorations from your home and yard.



## Keep Westbury Beautiful Day - April 25

Every year in April, Westbury participates in Keep Houston Beautiful Day with a local event aimed to Keep Westbury Beautiful. This is also in partnership with Keep District K Beautiful.

Do you want to improve your local Westbury Park? Do you want to help Westbury be more attractive? Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity?

If you answered yes, reserve the morning of Saturday, April 25 on your calendar for Keep Westbury Beautiful Day. Details will be available in the April Westbury Crier.

# Yard of the Month is Back

The popular Yard of the Month program has started back up again!

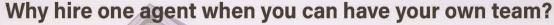
Do you think your yard should win Yard of the Month? Do you want to nominate your neighbor's yard?

The judges drive their assigned sections around the 15th of each month. Make sure your yard looks good and you have NO deed restriction violations, especially visible trash cans.

Email Robert Montgomery at robertmontgomery@icloud.com. He will forward the nominations to the correct judge for your section.



Westbury 1 Yard of the Month Winner in 2019





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### **Westbury Community Garden News**

## 10th Anniversary Celebration

### March 28, 10:30AM-2PM

Save the date of Saturday, March 28. You are invited to help celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Westbury Community Garden! From the beginning, the Westbury Community Garden has been about community, with a motto of "Growing Community Through Gardening". The Garden celebration will offer a variety of fun and learning experiences for all ages and interests.

The day will include a proclamation by Vice Mayor Pro Tem Martha Castex-Tatum followed by all kinds of activities and fun for the whole family. Come learn about bees, butterflies, bugs and worms. There will be all kinds of arts and crafts projects for kids, plus live music, food trucks, a Moonwalk bouncy house, giant Jenga and Corn Hole games, Art Cars and more!

We will have an organic honey available for a donation. Money raised will be used for a future apiary (beekeeping area) on the Westbury Community Garden grounds.

All this is free and open to the public. Please make plans to join us!

The garden is located at 12581 Dunlap. The March *Crier* will have more details. See the garden website for map and other information about the garden, www.WestburyCommunityGarden.org.

### **Food Truck Schedule**

PUCS Pop Up Coffee Shop: 8:30AM to 11AM Dough Re Mi Pizzeria: 10:30AM to 2PM Noa's Creamery: 10:30AM to 2PM

# JOIN the garden TODAY at www.westburycommunitygarden.org

Contact us today at membership@westburycommunitygarden.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.





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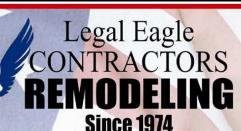
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