

# Westbury Crier

**VOLUME 62, ISSUE** 

APRIL 2017



# **Spring White Elephant Sale Keep Westbury** Saturday, April 29

WHEN: Saturday, April 29, 8AM to Noon

**WHERE:** Westbury United Methodist Church

Parking Lot (5200 Willowbend)

**PARKING:** St. John's Presbyterian

(5020 W. Bellfort) Handicapped parking on-site

**RAIN DATE:** Saturday, May 6

Booth spaces are still available. RESERVE YOUR BOOTH SPACE NOW! Call the WCC office at 713-723-5437 for more information. For more information, see page 13.



The 5th Annual MusicFest at Willow Waterhole will be held on Saturday AND Sunday, April 22 & 23. Come enjoy this TWO DAY, FREE live music event! Saturday, April 22, the MusicFest is from 11AM to 9PM, and Sunday it is from 10AM to 8PM. This two day event will feature 20 hours of FREE diverse music, provided by 16 professional bands and 7 student-school bands. New this year is a dynamic Artist Village, and with the return of the popular food truck service, it's all happening at the spectacular and relaxing 290-acre Willow Waterhole Greenway. Bring your chairs and blankets and the whole family for a fun day at the Willow Waterhole. Come join the fun this coming April!

See pages 20-22 for more information or go to www.willowwaterhole.org.

### **Community Public** Safety Forum

hosted by District K CM Larry Green for the Westbury and Brays Oaks SuperNeighborhoods.

April 5 at 7PM **Fondren Middle School** 

### APRIL UPCOMING EVENTS

April 4: Senior Safety Fair, see page 14 for more information.

**April 5: Community Public Safety Forum,** see page 15 for more information. **April 29: Friends of Westbury High** 

School Gala, see page 10 for info.

**ACTION NEEDED: Flooding Solution at Risk** See page 6.





### Saturday, April 8 **9AM-12PM**

Bring the whole family out and help keep Westbury Beautiful! We will be beautifying our neighborhood parks and streets!

Westbury Park- Working in the butterfly garden, which we created 2 years ago. Plant and Mulch trees. Paint trash cans.

Other Areas of Westbury— We will be working along W. Airport as well as in Hager and Chimney Rock Parks

### SEE PAGE 12 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Hope to see you at one of these great events! Bring the kids out to help and meet great neighbors! Meet at Westbury Park at 9AM.



### **HEAUY TRASH SCHEDULE**

**April – JUNK WASTE** 

Thursday, April 13

May—TREE WASTE ONLY

Thursday, May 11

June—JUNK WASTE

Thursday, June 8

DO NOT PLACE TRASH ON CURB UNTIL WEEKEND BEFORE HEAVY TRASH DAY

## **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.

### **OFFICE HOURS/CONTACT**

Monday - Thursday9:00AM-1:00PM
Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and holidays
Telephone713-723-5437
Emailwestburycc@sbcglobal.net
Deed Restrictionswestburycc@sbcglobal.net

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

### **SECURITY**

Pct. 5 Constables (WA	P)281-463-6666	
including suspicious activity, burglar alarms and vacation watch		
Emergency	911	
Houston Police Dept. Non-E	mergency 713-884-3131	
Westbury HPD Storefront	832-394-7520	

### **CITY OF HOUSTON**

District K Council Member, Larry Green	832-393-3016
District C Council Member, Ellen Cohen	
Deed Restriction Enforcement (City Legal)	
Platou Community Center	
Meyer Library	
Mayor's Citizen Assistance Office	
Houston Help & Information	

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
Graffitiwww.braysoaksmd.org
Shopping Cart Removalwww.braysoaksmd.org
Brays Oaks Mgmt. District - Use "report a problem" link
Poison Control1-800-764-7661
Harris County Tax office713-368-2000
Harris County Appraisal District713-957-7800

### 2017 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

If no contact information is provided, contact the WCC Office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net or 713-723-5437

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

President	Becky Edmondson
wccpresident@westburycrier.c	com or 713-443-3951
Vice President	Marcia Hartman
Secretary	Dan Vega
Treasurer	VACANT

### **DIRECTORS AT LARGE**

Communications	VACANT		
Community Relations	Cindy Chapman		
wcccommunityrelations@wes	stburycrier.com		
Deed Restrictions	Jennifer Edmondson		
westburycc@sbcglobal.net			
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Donna Strom		
Greenspace Beautification	Mat Funk		
Membership	Jeff Benavides		
Security	J K O'Brien		
Volunteer & Event Coordinator	Robert Montgomery		
rmontgomery002@como	ast.net		

#### SECTION DIRECTORS

SECTION DIRECTORS			
Westbury 1	Nancy Stewart		
Westbury 2	VACANT		
Westbury 3	Tony Robert		
Westbury 3	Recy Dunn		
Westbury 4	Judy Overton		
Westbury 4	Eugene Sirls		
Westbury 5	Virginia Livingston		
Westbury5E@westbur	rycrier.com		
Westbury 5	VACANT		
Westbury South			
Parkwest 1	William Grimsinger		
Parkwest 2	Jeffrey Weiss		
Jweiss@txchiro.edu			
Parkwest 3	Joe Niles		
parkwest3@westburycrier.com			

### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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### A Message from the Westbury Civic Club President

Often we hear and talk about what Westbury needs. This month I want to focus on what Westbury has! We all know that Westbury is a neighborhood of homes, 4,987 to be exact. But did you know that we are more than just a great place to live with convenient access?

We have beautiful tree-lined streets and easy access to nearby neighborhood parks like Westbury Park, Hager Park, Chimney Rock Park, and the Willow Waterhole Greenspace. Have you seen the amazing field of bluebonnets blooming at Willow Waterhole? The bluebonnets are spectacular and awaiting your families' photo ops. April 8 is Keep Westbury Beautiful Day and Keep Houston Beautiful Day. Join us on April 8 as we spend a few hours making our neighborhood more beautiful. (page 12 for details). Later this month, I encourage you to venture out to the Willow Waterhole MusicFest and Art Show during the weekend of April 22-23. FREE LIVE MUSIC and this will be the first time that there will be an Art Show.

But what about places to eat? We often lament our lack of choices, but when we sat down to compile a list of nearby places, we were surprised to see the variety and choices within a few miles from Westbury. I think you may be as surprised, too. Do you have a local favorite? We will publish our list in May.

We have two new advertisers this month, which are long-time Westbury treasures: the Houston Scuba Academy and Art Glass by Wells. There are also articles this month featuring these same two businesses, which have called Westbury

home for decades. Having driven by Art Glass on Chimney Rock hundreds of times, I never knew what it was until I asked friends where I could get a piece of stained glass repaired. The answer was right here in Westbury!

And as a scuba diver, I am a long time customer of Houston Scuba Academy and two of my children earned their certification through HSA. I did not know, however, they offered swimming lessons and children's pool parties.

The Westbury Community Garden (WCG) is another one of Westbury's treasures. To celebrate March as Nutrition Month, "VegOut" events were held each weekend with educational information and samples of delicious vegetable recipes. Also, the Plant it Forward Farms farm stand has reopened on Saturdays at the WCG. When you talk about buying and eating fresh local food, your organic produce doesn't get much more local than the WCG.

Is Westbury a safe place to live? That was a question posted to our Facebook page. Public Safety and personal safety are extremely important to all of us. For over 30 years the Westbury Civic Club has contracted with Harris County Precinct 5 to have licensed peace officers patrolling our streets. This service is paid for by YOU, the residents of Westbury. Have you sent in your dues for 2017? We ask for \$285 for the Westbury Area Patrol, but EVERY dollar sent in makes a difference. In addition, the HPD Westbury Storefront on Gasmer has made a real difference. The officers who work the storefront

know our area and help us routinely with difficult neighborhood issues. There will be two safety forums this month, one specifically for seniors on the 4th and one for all of us on the 5th. On the 5th you will have a chance to meet the new HPD police Chief Art Acevedo as well as the new Precinct 5 Constable for Pct. 5, Ted Heap.

And last but not least, April 29 will bring the spring White Elephant Sale! There is still time to reserve a booth. Mark your calendars to come out and find some great treasures at our spring community garage sale. That evening will also be the Friends of Westbury High School gala fundraiser. I hope to see you at one of the many April events this month! Finally, we need ACTION to reduce flooding. See page 6 for how to help.

**Becky Edmondson** 



WCC President Becky Edmondson, Sheryl Taylor from Rep. Shawn Thierry, CM Larry Green, Mary Seymore from Borris Miles office, and Carl Davis at the CIP Meeting.

# Westbury Civic Club Board Notes March 2017

- ⇒ Discussed plan for Keep Westbury Beautiful Day on April 8
- ⇒ Announced that County Judge Ed Emmett will speak at the June WCC Meeting
- ⇒ Discussed the April upcoming events such as the White Elephant Sale, Music Fest at Willow Waterhole, WHS Gala, and more!
- ⇒ Hager Park is not on the current City CIP. The board discussed the on-going effort to get renovations or new amenities at Hager Park.
- ⇒ Discussed the City CIP meeting that was held in March. Westbury did not receive any new CIP items despite the effort of the WCC board, WAIC, and SuperNeighborhood. We have current projects such as the big Westbury Local Drainage Project. Information about the Drainage Project will be coming soon in future Criers,
- ⇒ The next WCC Board meeting is Wed., April 19, at 7PM at Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft

# NEXT WCC Board Meeting Wed., April 19, 7PM Westbury Baptist

If you are interested in becoming a Westbury Civic Club board member, please attend a WCC board meeting. The following positions are vacant. Section Director for Westbury 2 and Westbury 5, Communication Chair, and Treasurer.

### **Platou Community Center**

11655 Chimney Rock
Hours: Mon-Thurs 12PM—8PM; Fri 11AM-7PM
Supervisor: Jayla Godbolt, 713-726-7107
Email: Jayla.godbolt@houstontx.gov

# REGULAR MONTHLY CLASSES

STRETCHING EXERCISE CLASS Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9-9:45AM

MsBEEHAVEN QUILTERS -Tues., 10AM - 2PM For more information, contact Janie at 713-721-5526

**GAMES—Wed., 10AM to 12PM**For more information, contact Wally at 713-729-9310

**LINE DANCING Mondays @ 1PM**For more information, contact Platou Center, 713-726-7107

Ping Pong Leagues—Wednesday & Friday
Open adult ping pong will be on Fridays from 11AM to 2PM.
Open adult and teen play on Wed., from 6-8PM.

### NEW THIS MONTH AT THE PLATOU

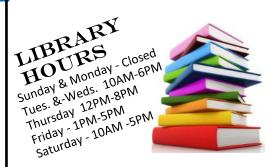
Spanish Classes: Every Tuesday in April from 6:30-7:30PM
Texans Recovering Together—Disaster relief information.
Wednesday, April 12, 10-10:15AM
BINGO - Thursday, April 20, 10:30-11:30AM
Family Fun Day—Flower Power— Saturday, April 22 10am-2pm

# Story Time at Platou Tuesday, April 18, 3:30PM with Ms. Lauren from Houston Public Library.

TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS
SENSIBLY: A Weight Loss Support
Group, Tuesdays 5:45-7PM
Drop in to preview or call Dorothy at
713-723-4441 or
Naomi at 713-988-2233

# Meyer Neighborhood Library

5005 W. Bellfort Phone: 832-393-1840 / www.houstonlibrary.org



### WEEKLY EVENTS APRIL 2017

### **Baby Playtime**

**Tuesdays, 10:30am – 11:15am**Come for creative and collaborative play!
For children ages 0-18 months.

### **Toddler Storytime**

Wednesdays, 10:30am - 11:15am

Stories, songs, activities that will help develop toddler's social, motor, and literacy skills. Intended for ages 18-36 months.

### **Preschool Playtime**

**Wednesdays, 1:30pm – 2:15pm**Creative, collaborative play experience that will help prepare your child for school readiness. Intended for ages 3-5 years.

### **Kids Craft Time**

Thursdays, 3:30pm

Westbury Pool
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UNTIL MAY
2017





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M-F 8-5 Thurs. 8-7 Sat. 10-4 6 Months No Interest Financing

## What's Happening in Westbury

Events/Meetings Calendar APRIL 2017			
Wed 5	Community Public Safety Forum Fondren Middle School	7PM	
Wed 5	Booths on Sale for non-residents for White Elep See page 13 for more information.	ohant Sale	
Sat 8	Keep Westbury Beautiful Meet at Westbury Park See page 12 for more information	9AM	
Sat 8	Westbury Little League Auction Meridian Banquet Hall - 5200 Bissonnet See page 11 for more information.	6РМ	
Mon. 17	Brays Bayou Association Meeting The Gathering Place—5310 S Willow See page 19 for more information	7:30PM	
Wed 19	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Salem Lutheran Church— 4930 W. Bellfort	8:30AM	
Wed. 19	Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting Westbury Baptist Church—10425 Hillcroft	7PM	
Sat. 22	Audubon Society Bird Survey Meet at the Gathering Place parking lot 5310 S. Willow	8AM	
Sat-Sun 22-23	Willow Waterhole 5th Annual MusicFest See pages 20-22 for more information	ALL DAY	
Sat 22	Family Fun Day at Platou Center Platou Community Center - 11655 Chimney Rock Topic: Flower Power	10AM-2PM <	
Tues 24	SW PIP (HPD Positive Interaction Program) Med Aramco Building—9009 W Loop South	eting	
Sat 29	Westbury White Elephant Sale Westbury United Methodist 5200 Willowbend See pages 1 and 13 for more information	8AM-Noon	
Sat 29	Friends of Westbury High School Gala Braeburn Country Club See page 10 for more informatoin	6:30PM	

### PLANNING CALENDAR

May 17 - Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting

May 21 - Cigna Sunday Streets (See page 16)

May 25 - Last day of school for Houston ISD



# Heavy & Recycling Trash Calendar

	<b>April 2017</b>		
Thurs 13	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS	
Thurs Heavy Trash—JUNK WASTE ALL OF WESTBURY			
Thurs 27	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS	
May 2017			
Thurs 11	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS	
Thurs Heavy Trash- TREE WASTE ONL ALL OF WESTBURY			
Thurs 25	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS	

### **Important Trash & Recycling Info**

- Regular trash pickup is every Thursday. Recycling is every other Thursday. Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.
- Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM each Thursday
- $\ensuremath{\overline{\mathbb{I}}}$  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.
- Tard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags
- Heavy trash can be placed starting at 6PM the Friday before pick-up
- MYARD WASTE is not considered tree waste. It is collected on regular Thursday trash day
- Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling
   Centers: SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr
   10785 SW Frwy / Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM;
   Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste & Recyclables.
- Environmental Service Center 11500 S. Post Oak Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM. Accepts Hazardous Household & Electronic Waste.
- Refer to <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

### **City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule**

April	Junk Waste	May	Tree Waste
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## Action Needed to Help Reduce the Risk of Flooding



### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Please read and take action!

### Reduce Risk of Flooding in Westbury! Support the "BOMD Plan"

We are asking for YOUR Help to help reduce the risk of flooding in Westbury. Please contact Mayor Turner, CM Larry Green, "Flood Czar" Stephen Costello, CM Ellen Cohen, and the 5 At-Large CMs to say that you support "the BOMD Plan" to build new detention in the Brays Oaks Management District area within District K. The proposed funding source would be from a federal grant related to "un-met needs" due to the two floods which happened in 2015. The proposed detention, located upstream of Westbury, would better protect homes in southwest Houston from flooding and would remove more homes from the 100-year flood zone after Project Brays is completed and more homes would have a reduce risk. The problem is – those federal funds are a tempting target to be used elsewhere for other flooding problems in Houston. In 2015, southwest Houston was most strongly impacted by flooding, and we believe that it is only fair and just that southwest Houston is aided by those funds to reduce flooding risk in the future!

Please send your emails ASAP. CM Larry Green is fighting to keep these funds for new detention per the "BOMD Plan", and he needs our help to keep the funds from being diverted to other areas of town or for other projects! Save the "BOMD Plan"!

What is the "BOMD Plan"? The Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) has done engineering studies to investigate the impact of adding detention within BOMD in District K. The "BOMD Plan" has demonstrated that NEW DETENTION built in the general area of the Fondren Diversion Channel and the upper reaches of Willow Waterhole Bayou, would reduce risk of flooding downstream in Westbury, Meyerland, and other southwest neighborhoods in the middle section of Brays Bayou.

How would the "BOMD Plan" be funded? During 2015, there were two flooding events in Houston, both of which caused extensive flooding in southwest Houston, including in Westbury. Houston was allocated \$66,560,000 from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assist in the recovery from the 2015 Disasters. HUD regulations require Houston to determine "un-met needs" in the areas of housing, infrastructure, and the economy. The regulations require that the funds be spent in low-income areas.

According to the Action Plan prepared by the city, "a long-term recovery solution for impacted housing residents is impossible without first creating additional capacity within the City's flood mitigation with a focus on detention, which the City will address by using the majority of CDBG-DR15 funding for Public Facilities/ Infrastructure and Housing Buyout activities." The "BOMD Plan" proposes that a portion of this \$66 million be used for new detention located in the Brays Oaks Management District area of District K.

What is the impact of the "BOMD Plan"? The proposed NEW DETENTION would be located in a high density, low-income area of southwest Houston. The new detention would:

⇒ Reduce risk of flooding in Westbury and other southwest neighborhoods in the watersheds of Brays Bayou and Willow

Waterhole Bayou.

- Approximately 900 homes would have reduced flooding risk.
- Reduce density of low-income housing (residents would be relocated)
- Remove dilapidated buildings from a low -income area
- Create new greenspace in an area that has been designated as high priority by the city

### **CONTACT** your City Representatives NOW. Save the "BOMD Plan"!

**Mayor Sylvester Turner** mayor@houstontx.gov

**Stephen Costello** Stephen.Costello@houstontx.gov

> District C CM Ellen Cohen districtc@houstontx.gov

> **District K CM Larry Green** districtk@houstontx.gov

> At Large 1 CM Mike Knox atlarge1@houstontx.gov

At Large 2 CM David Robinson atlarge2@houstontx.gov

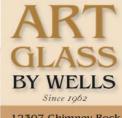
At Large 3 CM Michael Kubosh atlarge3@houstontx.gov

At Large 4 CM Amanda Edwards atlarge4@houstontx.gov

At Large 5 CM Jack Christie atlarge5@houstontx.gov



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## **Local Westbury Businesses**

### **Art Glass by Wells**

"Art Glass by Wells" is a locally owned Westbury business that has been operating since 1962. Joe Wells was completely self-taught by taking lamps apart and learning how to piece them back together. From there his love of glass grew!

He made lamps out of his home until he had his first storefront at AstroWorld. After that, Art Glass by Wells was located in Westbury Square. Long time residents might remember that Mr. Wells hung lamps from the trees outside the front door to get people to come inside. The location proved to be too small. It relocated in 1992 to 12307 Chimney Rock, 25 years ago.

Joe's wife, Margaret Wells, worked at the Astrodome under Judge Hofheinz and when he was building his private railcar for the premises, he spoke with Joe about making a stained glass dome for the main car. That was the first of what would become dozens and dozens of domes Art Glass would produce - one going as far as Dubai.

Art Glass by Wells specializes in leaded glass, etchings, repair, and restoration. It has expanded into mirror and shower doors since 2000. The company has worked with over 50 churches and hundreds of builders, decorators, and home owners to create thousands of custom windows, doors, and specialty pieces. If you stop by the Blue Blue Ice Cream Shop in Brenham after a wildflower excursion, then you will see lamps created by Art Glass by Wells. The company provides services worldwide.

including ten 10' windows for a church in Nigeria. Dozens of churches around Houston showcase its work. Art Glass by Wells also offers on-site home repair for front doors and in-store repair for any leaded glass

Steve Wilson, Joe's stepson, now runs the business. He has been working there for over 40 years, along with his mother, Margaret Wells and other talented artists.

If you are in the market for stained glass or need a stained glass repair, remember that Art Glass by Wells is located right here in Westbury.

### **PUCS Local Coffee** Truck Celebrated 2nd anniversary!

**Congratulations PUCs** team!! We are glad to have you in the neighborhood.



### **Houston Scuba Academy**

Houston Scuba Academy (HSA) is located in Westbury at 12505 Hillcroft. Houston Scuba Academy has been teaching new divers and opening up the underwater world for over 56 years. They are the oldest dive shop in Houston. According to store manager, Fred Schwegmann, many families have brought their children and grandchildren to HSA to learn how to dive.

HSA is a complete dive store stocked with gear, expertise, and personalized service, open 7 days a week to meet your dive training, equipment and service needs. They have a fully stocked dive store offering premiere lines of gear to meet all of your needs. HSA also has an on-site, enclosed and heated pool designed for dive training, offering a comfortable year-round location for training and practice. They say: "Once you become part of our crew - our pool is your pool. Come practice!"

In addition to diving, they have swim lessons, a summer swim program, and host birthday parties. Come check out this long time Westbury treasure!



**Houston Scuba Academy** 

# <u>Children's Summer Swim Classes</u>

June through August. Classes are 45 minutes each, on Monday through Thursday for two-week sessions (8 classes for \$99). Ages 4 and up

For more information:

- See our website: www.houstonscubaacademy.com

- Call us: 713.721.7788

- Visit us: 12505 Hillcroft (just north of S. Main)

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### Make Meaningful Change, Not Spare Change

In March, Mayor Sylvester Turner announced a new initiative to help solve

homelessness and to reduce panhandling. Housing and Outside Shelters: The city will continue to move homeless people into housing by working with about 100 organizations. More beds in shelters are coming available. The

city also seeks to create outside shelters, a covered area with

restrooms for up to 75 people, who do not want to sleep inside.

MEANINGFUL CHANGE-

NOT SPARE CHANGE.

Don't give money

meaningfulchange.org

to panhandlers.

Encampments: The city will continue weekly cleanups of encampments to address health and safety concerns. The city is expanding the HPD Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) which meets with the homeless to offer assistance. Tents will be outlawed on public property, although it will not be illegal to sleep outdoors. There will be a transition period while the HOT team and partners work to redirect those living in encampments into housing or outside shelters. TXDOT will install "no camping" signs at freeway underpasses. Also, the city is looking at the possibility of using freeway underpasses for businesses.

Panhandling: The city proposes to reduce panhandling with a new ordinance to prohibit obstructing roadways. Also, the city and partners will implement a media campaign involving TV, radio, print, social media, street signs, billboards, and ways to donate to service organizations via text or online giving. The media campaign will urge making "meaningful change" by donating any "spare change" directly to service organizations instead of directly to panhandlers.

Feeding the Hungry: The city will seek to create additional sites for charitable food service.

Mental Health/Substance Abuse: Many of the homeless have mental health or substance abuse problems. The mayor notes that increased funding by the state for mental health and substance abuse treatment programs would help reduce homelessness.

### **Greater S. Post Oak Civility Ordinance**

At City Council on March 29, the Greater South Post Oak West Bellfort Civility ordinance was unanimously approved by coun-

The civility ordinance prohibits laying or sleeping on the sidewalk between the hours of 7am to 11pm. This grass roots campaign started over two years ago. Aggressive panhandling in this area had become such a pervasive problem. As it went unchecked it just became worse and worse.

Residents from nearby neighborhoods went to the District K council member and to the Houston Police Department. Marilyn Brown, Executive Director of houstonhomeless.org spoke at a Westbury SN meeting. We looked for answers and solutions. Our three neighborhoods, Willow Meadows, Westbury, and Meyerland prepared a one page public service campaign asking people not to give to the panhandlers. We heard Mayor Turner tell us to "just say no" to the panhandlers. Giving money may make one feel good, but it is not helping the individuals out working the streets.

Petitioning for this civility zone was seen as another tool in our toolbox. Dozens of people worked to collect signatures and the coalition met the criteria of 20% of the landowners by square footage and 100 signatures. Over 800 signatures were collected. In February Captain Anthony of the Southwest patrol division of HPD made the presentation to City Council. Steven Paletz of Willow Meadows and Becky Edmondson of Westbury spoke on behalf of the civility zone during the public comment period.

The Mayor put our civility ordinance on the agenda in March and it passed unanimously. The Mayor also has rolled out a comprehensive program to help get the homeless off the streets.

Remember: Make meaningful change...not spare change. Please do not give to panhandlers.



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# DON'T MAKE A MOVE WITHOUT SUSAN BROCK

STOP. The first thing to do if you're thinking of buying, selling or leasing is call Susan Brock. Look no further, Susan is a neighbor and a neighborhood expert that generates an average sale price at 99% asking price in an average of just 36 days on the market.

Susan sells more homes in Westbury than anywhere else in town. With more than 15 years experience as a licensed Broker and Realtor<sup>®</sup> you might say she's been around the block.



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

Every year the City of Houston hosts meetings in each council district to provide information about planned city capital projects for the coming 5-10 years, and to receive feedback from citizens and neighborhood groups about issues and needs.

Every year the Westbury Civic Club (WCC), the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC), and the Westbury Super Neighborhood prepare a long WRITTEN list of concerns and requests, but it is also helpful to be seen and heard at these meetings. WCC President Becky **Edmondson and WAIC President Cindy** Chapman, as well as WCC board members Marcia Hartman, Eugene Sirls, Donna Strom, Virginia Livingston, Nancy Stewart, and Jennifer Edmondson, attended the District K meeting this year. Additionally, more than a dozen Westbury residents, including Hazel Potvin and Vicki Davison, attended the meeting for District K. Thank all of you for showing up for Westbury!

One disappointment was that this year's format by the city did not allow individuals to publicly speak at a microphone. However, tables and rooms were set up for the majority of the city departments to allow concerns to be discussed one to one. By tradition, we arrive early and leave late, so there was ample opportunity for WCC and WAIC representatives to ask questions and to advocate for issues.

In addition to Mayor Sylvester Turner and District K CM Larry Green, other city

councilmembers who attended were CM Amanda Edwards, CM Michael Kubosh, and CM David Robinson. State Senator Borris Miles and State Representatives Alma Allen and Shawn Thierry sent emissaries since the Texas legislature is in session. Also, County Commissioner Rodney Ellis sent a representative.

Mayor Turner started by talking about FLOODING. The city has borrowed money from the Texas Water Board to expedite work on Project Brays by Harris County, and then the city will be repaid by the federal government. "Flood Czar" Stephen Costello has identified more than 100 drainage projects for the city to do that will reduce flooding, and the city will start by doing 22 of those projects this year (two in each council district). Then the Mayor talked about PUBLIC SAFETY: A new HPD station will be built for the Southwest Patrol District and the location is moving south of US90A near S. Post Oak. He noted that more than 1,900 of the existing 5,200 HPD officers are eligible to retire, and that at least 600 more patrol officers need to be hired. The new Police Chief is working to deploy more officers to patrol and wants to work with other policing agencies to reduce gang activity.

City PENSIONS are a major issue. Mayor Turner says that the city owes more than \$8 Billion to the three city pension funds.

He has spent much effort on this topic; it is in the best interest of the city workers and taxpayers for the pension system to be modified to be sustainable. This is a complicated topic, so readers are urged to go to the city website to study the proposed details.

CM Larry Green talked about achievements last year. District K has the 3rd LOWEST CRIME RATE in the city of Houston among the 11 city council districts. A Public Safety Community Meeting will be held on April 5 at Fondren Middle School. When District K was created, the area only received a smidgeon of funding (1% of the city capital budget!). He continues to be an advocate for capital projects in District K. He will be seeking small projects to be done under Council Budget funding, since previous requests have been done except for speed cushions (speed bumps) which are proceeding forward. District K continues to conduct monthly "Neighborhood 101" workshops.

Other speakers included Carol Haddock from the Public Works Department, Deidrea George from TXDOT, Richard Vela from General Services (city buildings), Mike Isermann from the Parks Department, and two speakers from the non-profit Houston Parks Board.







# **Congratulations Parker Elementary Magnet School Named National Magnet School of Distinction**

Parker Elementary has been named a National Magnet School of Distinction by Magnet Schools of America, the national association for magnet and theme-based schools.

Parker Elementary School is a high performing academic school with an award winning Music Magnet Program with classes ranging from pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade. Students who come to Parker participate in a comprehensive music program that includes offerings in Suzuki Strings, Choral Music, Piano, Guitar, Elements of Music, and Band. Parker students were recently honored to perform at the Suzuki Association of the Americas Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the Texas Music Educators Conference in San Antonio, Texas. "Parker has always been an outstanding school and it is a true honor to be recognized by Magnet Schools of America. The stakeholders truly deserve this recognition, because it is their collaboration that makes Parker such a special place" says Lori Frodine, Principal, Parker Elementary School.

Lori Frodine will receive the National Magnet School of Distinction Merit Award on behalf of Parker Elementary during an awards ceremony held at Magnet Schools of America's 35th National Conference hosted by Los Angeles Unified School District in Los Angeles, California, April 26-30.

To receive a national merit award, members of Magnet Schools of America must submit a detailed application that is scored by a panel of educators. These schools are judged and scored on their demonstrated ability to raise student academic achievement, promote racial and socio -economic diversity, provide integrated curricula and instruction, and

PARKER

create strong family and community partnerships that enhance the school's magnet theme.

### Friends of WHS Gala: April 29

The Friends of Westbury High School Foundation will host its annual gala banquet and silent auction fundraiser on April 29 to benefit Westbury High School. Distinguished Westbury alumni, faculty, and community leaders will be formally honored and scholarships will be presented to 13 outstanding graduating 2017 WHS seniors

This year's honorees will be: Al Campbell - educator and active community member at the Willow Waterhole Jazz Festival; Donna Edmundson - 1977 graduate of WHS and first woman City Attorney for the city of Houston; Cynthia Franks - Educator and Senior Aerospace Science Instructor for the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFJROTC) program at Westbury High School; David Garcia - Educator and Aerospace Science Instructor for the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFJROTC) program at Westbury High School

### Gala—6:30PM—April 29 at Braeburn Country Club

Through the generous support of Westbury alumni, friends and business partners, the Foundation, since its inception in 1994 through 2016, has raised over \$225,000 and awarded 175+ scholarships to WHS students.

For more information or to join the fun-filled evening, go to www.friendswhs.org. If you are unable to attend, but would like to make a donation, you can donate directly on the website. Or, mail checks to: Friends of Westbury High School Foundation, PO Box 31386, Houston, TX, 77231-1386.

Get well soon! WHS Friends' president, Kaye Griggs, Class of 1975, suffered a heart attack in March and we wish her a speedy recovery.



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### Maplewood Marlins Swim Team

Are you looking for a fun activity for the kids this summer? Want your child to stay active? Do you love to spend time at the pool? Swim team is what you are looking for!



The Maplewood recreational swim team summer season is just around the corner. The Maplewood Marlins swim out of the Maplewood S/N pool located just north of Westbury at 10425 Rampart. The team consists of 200 kids from ages 4 to 18. Great news for Westbury residents, you do not have to be a Maplewood resident to be on the swim team!

Registration opens to NEW swimmers on April 8. The meet team is limited to 200 kids and does fill up! Reserve your child's spot today! Swimmer eligibility, practice times and other information is available online at

www.maplewoodmarlins.swimtopia.com.

The Maplewood Marlins are members of the Southwest Houston Recreational Swim League (SHRSL). The SHRSL is a summer swim league composed of over 20 community and subdivision swim teams in the Southwest Houston Area including Alief, Sugar Land, Missouri City, Meadows, Mission Bend, Stafford, Houston and Richmond. The

SHRSL was organized to consolidate local swim teams, to standardize swim team rules and to foster competition through the divisions of teams of equal size and strength.

For swimmers age 4-18 years, a strong emphasis is placed on strengthening swimming skills, sportsmanship, water safety, and promoting fun through a competitive summer swimming programs.

Come join the fun this summer at Maplewood Pool with the Marlins swim team!!!

# Westbury Little League Auction Party "Throwback to the Fifties"



Westbury Little League is having its annual auction on April 8 at 6PM. The Westbury neighborhood is invited to attend. The auction will be held at the Meridian Banquet Hall, 5200 Bissonnet. Attire is 50s theme or casual! The purpose is to have fun with baseball loving families and to raise money for our 100% self-funded league. The



evening will include dinner, casino tables, DJ, dance floor, live and silent auction. Tickets are \$50/person and can be purchased online at www.westburyll.org or at the concession stand at the little league field off Dryad. Come have some fun while supporting a local neighborhood organization.

### **Congratulations Westbury Christian School**

Congratulations to the Westbury Christian School boys' basketball team for winning their FIFTH consecutive TAPPS state basketball title! The team and coaches were honored with a mayoral proclamation at City Hall by Mayor Sylvester Turner and District K CM Larry Green on March 21, 2017. Congratulations, Wildcats!



### \*Area Residents and Neighborhood Specialists\*



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# **Keep Westbury Beautiful**



### 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.

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 can do to help.

- Sweep & BAG your 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 street sweeping.

# **Keep Westbury Beautiful Day**

The Keep Houston Beautiful (KHB) theme this year is "Calling All Houstonians". This is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of KHB Day, and Westbury is participating by hosting Keep Westbury Beautiful Day on April 8. Have you noticed litter or bandit signs on our esplanades, sidewalks, bus stops, and parks? Do you drive by a



SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2017

spot and think to yourself, "I wish someone would clean that up?" Well, now is your chance to do something!

Come by Westbury Park at 5630 Stillbrooke, near Parker Elementary, to get a trash bag and then pick a spot in Westbury to clean up. You can work in one of our parks, clean a bus stop, or walk an esplanade. Bring your bag of trash or bandit signs back at noon and enjoy a pizza lunch. We encourage interested volunteers of all ages to come and help make Westbury shine. This is a great way to meet neighbors, introduce your kids to volunteer work, enjoy the great outdoors during the best time of year in Houston, and help improve our Westbury community. We look forward to seeing you!

WHEN: Saturday, April 8, 9AM to Noon, Rain or Shine

**WHO:** Everyone is welcome!

**WHERE:** Register at Westbury Park, 5630 Stillbrooke, near Parker Elementary

\* Westbury Park: Weed and plant in the butterfly garden.

Water and mulch trees and vines.

Paint trash cans.

\* West Airport: Pick up trash on esplanade Trim trees and bushes.



# RETHINKING WHAT'S POSSIBLE TO GIVE HEART PATIENTS NEW OPTIONS.

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houstonmethodist.org/debakey; or to schedule an appointment, call 713.DEBAKEY.





### **New Housing Developments**

Several new housing developments are underway near Westbury.

The "Enclave at Willow Park", located north of Willowbend at Mullins, is a David Weekley project featuring 44 single-family homes with prices starting from \$549,000. These are two and three story estate homes with 3 to 4 bedrooms, ranging from 2,800 to 3,500 sq feet.

The "Netivot Braeswood" will be a small, single-family home community situated on a one-acre parcel and will be high density, featuring 3-story homes with shared driveways priced above \$500,000. KinghornDriverHough (KDH) is developing this 12-home project on the southwest corner of South Braeswood and Glenfield, west of Hillcroft.

The "Venician", a 9.5-acre community of single-family homes, is in development from AC Home on the west side of South Gessner, north of West Bellfort. The Venician will consist of 99 new homes with a variety of 2 or 3 bedroom floor plans, ranging from 1,250–1,650 SF and priced affordably for new buyers between \$170,000 and \$240,000.

Additionally, "Northfield Section 7" is now in development on 60 acres at Ludington and Pembridge, located between Fondren and S. Gessner and south of West Bellfort. The single-family homes will be priced at about \$300,000.

### It's time to pay your dues!

Please send in your support which:

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

### The dues form is on page 17

### **Spring White Elephant Sale: April 29**

The Westbury Civic Club (WCC) provides fall and spring community garage sale events to WCC members. The Spring White Elephant Sale will be on Saturday, April 29, from 8AM to Noon at Westbury United Methodist. The



rain date is May 6. **Booth spaces are on sale NOW for individual Westbury residents.** 

The booth price for individual Westbury residents will be \$20-25 cash or check. You must be a <u>paid</u> current member of the WCC to purchase a booth (must have paid your \$50 WCC 2017 membership dues).

Booths will go on sale to non-residents and groups/ non-profit organizations on April 5 if space permits on a first come, first served basis. The booth price for non-residents and groups 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.

\*Due to limited space and increased interest by homeowners, only individual homeowners may purchase booth space before April 5. Non-residents and ALL non-profit organizations and groups (including Westbury resident run) must wait until April 5. 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.

5111 BELLAIRE BLVD. / 77401



## Crime & Security

Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37\*
30 days March 15, 2017

	Single- Family Home	Apt/ Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	11	1	0	0	12
Theft	12	3	9	9	33
Auto Theft	1	6	1	0	8
Robbery	0	3	2	0	5
Assault	1	1	2	0	4
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	25	14	14	9	62

<sup>\*</sup>Area bounded by: S. Post Oak, US 90/S. Main, utility easement north of Willowbend and drainage bayou, west of Braewick

Single Family Residential Crime Locations by block number, not exact address. Stats for 30 days preceding March 15, 2017

	μ.σσσ	p. 505 a.m. g. 11 a.m. c. 1 = 5, = 6 = 7				
Block #	Street	Crime				
11900	Atwell	Burglary				
6000	Beaudry	Burglary				
5700	Belrose	Burglary				
5800	Burlinghall	Burglary				
5600	Cartagena	Theft				
6000	Dawnridge	Theft				
11000	Doud	Theft				
6000	Dryad	Theft				
10800	Endicott	Theft				
5700	Firenza	Burglary				
5700	Fontenelle	Assault				
6000	Hummingbird	Auto Theft				
5000	Kingfisher	Theft				
5100	Kingfisher	Burglary				
12400	Landsdowne	Theft				
12400	Landsdowne	Theft				
10700	Moonlight	Theft				
5800	Southminster	Burglary				
6000	Warm Springs	Theft				
5800	W. Airport	Burglary				
5900	W. Airport	Burglary				
5600	W. Bellfort	Burglary				
5700	W. Bellfort	Burglary				
5200	Willowbend	Burglary				
5700	Willowbend	Theft				

### **Don't forget Vacation Watch!**

For residents who pay the WAP patrol dues, a special Vacation Watch may be requested from Pct 5. The form is available online. Sign up at www.constablepct5.com/vacationwatch/ If you want to request a Vacation Watch, but do not have access to a computer or internet, please call 281-463-6666 for assistance.

Public safety is on everyone's mind. There are two safety forums taking place in April: one for Seniors on April 4, see box below for more information. A Community Public Safety Forum, hosted by District K CM Larry Green will be on April 5. More information on the next page.

Neighborhoods throughout the City of

Houston are being hit with high levels of property crimes. Westbury is one of them. Burglary of motor vehicles topped our list. Please lock your vehicles and remove all items. During spring break, there was an uptick in cars being rifled through during the night. Cameras caught four youths walking up driveways and checking door handles for an easy opportunity to steal from these vehicles.

It is recommended that you park your cars in the garage whenever possible. If you cannot park in the garage, then you shouldn't leave anything in your car that you don't want to have stolen.

Burglary of a motor vehicle is a crime of opportunity. Don't become a victim, protect your car and personal property.

The Houston Police Department wants to remind citizens how easy it is to deter burglars from stealing items out of your vehicle. It takes a burglar just 5 seconds to break in to a car and make off with valuable items. The simple advice is: Do not leave valuables in your vehicle! Remember to "Take, Hide and Lock" – TAKE your keys, HIDE your items, and LOCK your car doors.

By practicing basic crime prevention, citizens will reduce the opportunities criminals look for when targeting a crime victim. Crime prevention starts with each person, family, and home. If we all do our part to fight crime and make it as hard as possible for a criminal to identify a crime victim, then we are all helping to Keep Houston SAFE.

### Senior Safety Fair & More

When: Tuesday, April 4 from 10 AM to 4 PM Where: Westbury United Methodist Church,

5200 Willowbend

Hosted by: Neighbors4Neighbors & Jewish Family Services.

Admission is FREE!

Memorial Herman Trauma: Why do we Fall? 11-11:30AM

BBB: Don't Get Scammed 11:45-12:15

HFD Fire Safety Program 1-2PM

Westbury Animal Hospital: Senior Pet Health 2:15-2:45

There will be products and services to make aging in place safer as well as food trucks and door prizes!



Westbury Area Patrol 281-463-6666 Westbury HPD Storefront 832-394-7520 HPD Non-Emergency 713-884-3131

# Community Public Safety Forum

### Fondren Middle School April 5 at 7 PM

City of Houston District K Council Member Larry Green is facilitating a Community Public Safety Forum that encompasses both the Brays Oaks and Westbury communities.

This forum will allow Houston area law enforcement agencies to introduce themselves to the constituents of the Brays Oaks and Westbury communities and allow them the opportunity to explain their agencies' roles and responsibilities, as well as discuss coordinated initiatives with other partnered law enforcement agencies.

Invited guests include: Harris County Precinct 7 (Constable May Walker), Harris County Precinct 5 (Constable Ted Heap), HISD Police, HPD, Houston Fire Dept., and METRO Police.

Public safety is a key initiative to Council Member Green and to the surrounding Brays Oaks and Westbury communities. There will be a Q&A portion at the end of the meeting.

We encourage Westbury residents to attend this public safety forum.



The Houston Police Department (HPD) conducts a monthly P.I.P (Positive Interaction Program) meeting each month at the Aramco Building



**POSITIVE** • INTERACTION • PROGRAM

auditorium (9009 West Loop South). A full crowd of citizens attended the February meeting to hear Officer Forrester give a presentation about the HPD Bomb Squad. Officer Forrester gave a quick rundown of what is involved in serving on the Bomb Squad, and provided guidelines for dealing with a bomb threat. He pointed out that the first line of defense in dealing with such threats is always someone who knows what is supposed to be at that location; they are the most likely to notice something out of the ordinary. Report suspicious activity right away to law enforcement. "If you SEE something, SAY something."

Also present was newly-appointed HPD Chief Acevedo, who stated his intention to begin "shifting resources", deploying personnel based on data and statistics, not tradition. He spoke in support of the City's current pension plan for his department, and removing the revenue cap. He said his officers were too busy to be working for ICE, or enforcing marijuana possession laws; there are more important things to concentrate on first. He emphasized the importance of letting our elected officials know how we stand on issues; elected officials vote to please their constituents, but if they don't know how we feel, then they can't represent our wishes.

Officer of the Month was Officer Brinson, who is in her first year with HPD. She received the award for single-handedly capturing a burglary suspect in November 2016 at National Tire and Battery on the South Loop. Captain Anthony presented the award to Officer Brinson on behalf of the HPD Southwest Patrol.

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Westbury CARE

## Westbury Area News

### **Cigna Sunday** Streets is coming to **SW Houston**

### May 21, 12 to 4PM

"Cigna Sunday Streets Houston" is a family-friendly

initiative to promote and improve the health of Houstonians. Cigna Sunday Streets Houston closes a street normally used by cars and other vehicles for a 4 hour period to allow cycling, walking, dancing, socializing, and provides an opportunity to be physically active. Come out and enjoy Houston! Be sure to tag us in your pictures and videos! #SSHTX

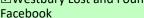
During the Brays Oaks event, more than a mile of Fondren (1.3 miles between S. Braeswood and West Bellfort) will be entirely CLOSED to motorized traffic for 4 hours. This will be a street festival, and participants will be encouraged to walk or bike on Fondren while it is closed. The city is providing security, 5 food trucks, and portajohns. Local businesses and organizations will also be sponsoring activities. Tens of thousands of people have participated at other Cigna Sunday Streets Houston events, so this should be a fantastic event for our area! For updates, check out their Facebook page www.facebook.com/ sundaystreetshtx/

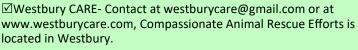


Remodeling your home? Adding On? Do you know your deed restrictions? Did you know that the Westbury Civic Club can look over your proposed plans for free before you start con**struction?** We want to avoid deed restriction violations before they happen. Did you know that Westbury 2, Westbury 3, and Westbury 5 have a 25 foot rear setback for the main structure? Did you know that there is a minimum percentage of brick that must be on your home? Did you know that you can't build in front of your building line? We want to help you! We want you to find out about possible violations be fore it costs you money and time. Several homeowners in the past couple years have had to tear down and/or modify their construction due to deed restriction violations. The City of Houston does not review deed restrictions when issuing permits. They require a signed affidavit acknowledging that the plans comply with your deed restrictions. This holds YOU, the homeowner, accountable for knowing and complying with your deed restrictions. We are here to help you. All deed restrictions are available online

### Links for Lost & Found Pets

✓ Nextdoor Westbury www.nextdoor.com ✓ Westbury Lost and Found Pets







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.

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



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# 2017 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 2017 Mandatory Assessments is \$233.50. The 2017 Assessments are due by February 1, 2017.

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

# 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.

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

### 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

Please send this form in with your payment		By filling out this form, you are giving the WCC			
Name(s)		permission to send you communications. We			
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Home PhoneWork				information or give it out to other entities.	
E-mail				G. 16.10.	
Make checks payable to: Westbury Civic Club, Inc. Mail to:		Westbury Civic Club Dues*		\$50	\$
		Westbury Area Patrol		\$285	\$
P.O. Box 975182 Dallas, TX 75397-5182			Subtotal	\$335	\$
Online payment:	_	Additional Contributions:			
paypal.com—Send Money westburycc@sbcglobal.ne Make sure to include you	et	Westbury Civic Club			\$
address or account number		Westbury Area Patrol (WAP)			\$
Want to send your support multiple payments? You may cho				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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### Flood Mitigation and Greenspace: A Three Part Series

This is the final article in a three-part series about how the Brays Bayou Association, the Willow Waterhole Project (March) and the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy (April) came to be and how they have impacted life in Westbury.

# Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy

The first of this series was the story of the Brays Bayou Association (BBA) that formed in 1984 after many homes flooded in the Brays watershed in 1983. The BBAs purpose is to reduce the risk of flooding in the Brays Bayou watershed. Storm water detention was seen as a way to mitigate flooding. This led to the idea of detention along the Willow Waterhole Bayou. Our second article told the story of how the Willow Waterhole Greenway Project became part of the federal Project Brays.

This, the third and final article, is the story of the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy. In 2000, the City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department received a \$750,000 grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to take what was essentially just holes in the ground and created an urban destination for walking, bird watching, festivals and enjoying nature.

It became clear to the Brays Bayou Association (BBA) that this Willow Waterhole project was a bit outside their scope and in 2001 they sponsored a new 501(c)3 organization, the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy (WWGC), which became the recognized steward of the facility by both Harris County Flood Control (HCFCD) and the City. The WWGC decided to adopt the name Willow Waterhole Conservation Reserve (WWCR) for the facility.

During 2002 and 2003, HCFCD acquired 279 acres for the park. The WWGC, with

the help of the National Parks Service, initiated a process that eventually added 30 additional acres to the Conservation Reserve. In 2004, the first construction phase was completed in the fall. HCFCD completed the demolition of the dilapidated and obsolete buildings and the cleanup of all but one of the brownfields. The worst aspects of the site were replaced with trails, bridges, gazebos, picnic tables, and benches funded by the Texas Parks and Wildlife grant.

To bring awareness to this new greenspace that was under construction and to introduce residents to it, the WWGC held its first annual Fun Run and Walk in 2005. These continued over the next five years bringing hundreds of runners and walkers to the emerging greenspace. Continuing the theme of being more than just a detention area, in 2006, the Jack Rafferty Memorial next to Triangle Lake on Ricecrest was dedicated during the second annual Fun Run. It honored the engineer who crafted the first flood control master plan for Houston in the late 1930s.

In 2007, the Houston Audubon Society begins monthly bird surveys at the Willow Waterhole. They were held the third Saturday of each month and over the last 10 years over 200 species have been recorded. The WWGC works to spread the word that the WWCR is a birding destination!

The WWGC conducted the first Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower planting in 2007. Over the next ten years, the WWGC has facilitated annual wildflower plantings, and now, in 2017, it is a wildflower snow piece.

In 2009, the WWGC started organizing periodic volunteer work days. There are now regular workdays with scout troops, school groups, church groups, and corporations bringing hundreds of volunteers every year to plant trees,

clean trails, and do

other maintenance. Scouts needing Eagle projects have been working with the WWGC since 2010 and dozens of wonderful projects have been completed by these fine young men.

After 5 Fun Runs, the WWGC turned its eyes to the arts and all the musical talent at the nearby schools. The 2011 inaugural "Sunday Music in the Park" event featured the jazz band of Westbury High School. This music event has grown into a 2 day extravaganza with both students and professional musicians entertaining thousands of visitors.

The greenspace still has many needs. A federal grant of around \$400,000 was received to implement additional amenities including: parking, trails, signage, educational outreach, habitat restoration, and plantings. Much of this work was completed this year.

The WWGC is a non-profit advocacy group whose mission is to mobilize individuals, neighborhoods, government agencies, businesses, and foundations to support the Willow Waterhole Conservation Reserve. The WWGC seeks to enhance the site as a wildlife area and accessible greenspace and to encourage visitors by developing activities for the park. If you would like to learn more about this wonderful organization, visit them at www.willowaterhole.org . They have an open monthly board meeting and are always looking for interested volunteers who want to help make the Willow Waterhole one of Houston's premiere greenspaces.

As the Project tag line goes: Reduce the risk, rediscover the Beauty!

# **Brays Bayou Association Meeting Notice** MONDAY, APRIL 17, 7:30PM

The Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow Dr.
At press time, the Speaker has not been determined.
Please check our Facebook page, Westbury Houston, for updates.

The Brays Bayou Association's purpose is to help reduce flooding in the Brays Bayou watershed. Westbury is located within the Brays watershed. The BBA was formed after rains flooded over 1,800 homes in 1983. The rain in 1983 was NOT a hurricane. The BBA holds monthly meetings with a range of speakers to keep the neighborhood informed of drainage/flooding concerns in our area.



Bluebonnets at the Willow Waterhole



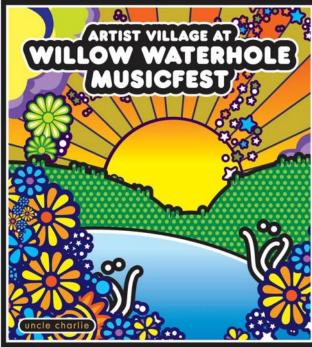
### Art at the Waterhole

The traffic signal box at the intersection of Gasmer and South Willow at the entrance to the Willow Waterhole was turned into a piece of civic art thanks to Brays Oaks Management and Up Art Studio. The beautiful great egret in the field of bluebonnets is another work of art by artist, Anat Rouen.



### **Artist Village at MusicFest**

For the first time ever, the MusicFest at Willow Waterhole will feature an Artist Village of 40+ artists. This will be an arts festival. No machine made or mass-produced items will be sold. A limited number of the Artist Village posters, made by well-known poster artist Uncle Charlie, will be sold during the event. Additionally, there will be chalk artists and other live art taking place each day. It is exciting that the MusicFest will now feature Performing and Visual art.

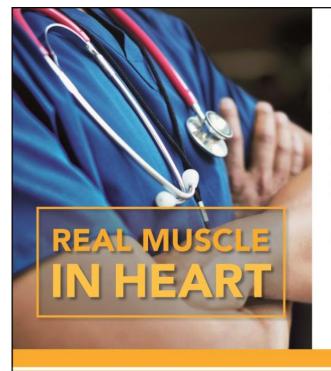


Willow Waterhole

### WWW.WILLOWWATERHOLE.ORG

Stay connected with what is happening in Westbury right now! "Like" our Facebook page, Westbury Houston, to stay updated on neighborhood issues.





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# Willow Waterhole

PARKING HAS CHANGED! MAP at WillowWaterhole.org/musicfest-parking

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PERFORMANCE TIMES:

# Saturday

### **PROFESSIONAL BANDS:**

11-11:50am • The Recollections Texas Rock & Blues

12-12:50<sup>pm</sup> • Runaway Radio Rock, Blues

1-1:50<sup>pm</sup> • Crocro y su Tambaka Latin Big Band

2-2:50<sup>pm</sup> • Pat Williams Group Jazz Fusion

3-3:50<sup>pm</sup> • Charlie Perez's Latin Caravan Carribean

4-4:50<sup>pm</sup> • Conrad Johnson Big Band Blues & Jazz

5-5:50<sup>pm</sup> • Mark Dini Band Contemporary Jazz/Classics

6 -6:50<sup>pm</sup> • The Classix Classic Rock 7-7:50<sup>pm</sup> • Soul Dig Soul & Funk

8 - 8:50pm • Kyle Turner Band Smooth Jazz







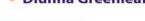
#### **PROFESSIONAL BANDS:**

2-2:50<sup>pm</sup> • TKOH Classic Rock, Pop, Funk

3-3:50<sup>pm</sup> • Jelando Johnson & the Movement R&B, Smooth Jazz

4-4:50<sup>pm</sup> • La Tribu Cuban

5-5:50<sup>pm</sup>
 6-6:50<sup>pm</sup>
 Luther and the Healers Blues
 7-7:50<sup>pm</sup>
 Diunna Greenleaf Blues



#### STUDENT PERFORMERS

10-10:30<sup>am</sup> • Southwest Feeder Pattern Jazz Band (Parker EL, Meyerland MS, Westbury HS)

10:30-11am • Houston Youth Klezmer Band

11-11:30<sup>am</sup> • Kipp Academy Jazz Ensemble 11:30-12<sup>pm</sup> • Summer Jazz Workshop All-Stars

12-12:30am • Pin Oak MS Stage Band

12:30-1pm • Emery Weiner School Rock Band

1-1:45pm • HSPVA Combo



hosted by:



Willow Waterhole.org



BraysOaksMD.org



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### Westbury Community Garden / WAIC

### Earth Day at the Garden: April 22

Urban Harvest is partnering with Westbury Community Garden to provide fresh mulch for the aisles between the garden plots. April 22 is also WCG's monthly volunteer day. Come on out to the garden between 8:00 and noon if you would like to volunteer for Earth Day.

### VegOut! At the WCG!

Thanks to everyone who made WCG's "VegOut" program during National Nutrition Month a success! During the 4 Saturdays in March, we had fun learning about different vegetables and how "eating the rainbow" of different colored foods provides a variety of nutrients for healthy bodies. Participants were encouraged to eat many different vegetables, and the VegOut app was useful to keep a running tally of the different veggies eaten during March. Delicious food samples of different vegetable recipes were offered each Saturday. Yum.

Special thanks to our partners The John P. McGovern Museum of Health and Medical Science and the Recipe For Success Foundation. We had many supporters and contributors - Brays Oaks Management District, Whole Foods Market, Central Market, Braeswood HEB, Panera Bread, science teacher, Roberto Dominguez, Monica Martinez from Advice For Eating, and all the gardeners who volunteered their time - Debbie Gordon, Jasmin Regalado, Diana Gonzalez, Kay Dotsey, Kat Elder, Martha Huebel, and Andy Wilhoit.





HAPPY Birthday! The garden celebrated its 7th birthday in March. Our motto is "Growing Community through Gardening" and we continue our mission to

"educate adults and children about good nutrition and ecology, strengthen community spirit, provide organicallygrown food, and serve as a gathering

place for the community."



JOIN the garden today at www.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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