



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 62, ISSUE 5

MAY 2017

## April Event Rewind

April was jam packed full of fun events in the neighborhood. This month's *Crier* is full of many of these great events. We hope you enjoy the recap and will come out and enjoy these events in the future!!!



**MusicFest,**  
pages  
**20-21**



**Keep Westbury Beautiful, page 19**



## Westbury Pool Opens May 27



The Westbury neighborhood pool, operated by the City of Houston, opens Saturday, May 27, for the Memorial Day Weekend. The pool WILL be open on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, from 1-8PM. The pool is typically open Tuesday—Sunday 1-8PM and closed on Mondays.

**For the full summer pool schedule, see page 6.**



The Westbury Pool will have two sessions of the popular Adult Water Fitness class starting June 6. There will also be a free children's learn to swim program with three levels. **For more information on adult and children classes, see page 6.**

## IMPORTANT NOTICES ON SPEEDING AND STRAY ANIMALS

The Westbury Civic Club office receives hundred of calls and emails each week from residents and real estate agents. Most of these are about trash dates, deed restriction inquiries, dues/assessments, and general questions. Lately, we have received an increased number of communications from residents about speeding on our major thoroughfares AND neighborhood streets. Multiple wrecks and cut through traffic are becoming more and more prevalent throughout all of Westbury. For more information about action that can be taken and what you can do, see page 9.

Another hot topic is stray animals. The WCC office has received numerous emails and calls regarding a wild pack of dogs roaming the neighborhood and stray cats. Not all these calls originate in the same area of Westbury. Stray animals are a big problem in Houston, and Westbury is not immune. We are lucky to have an active pet rescue group and great neighbors who care about all pets. For more information on what to do if you see stray animals, see page 9.



**GO TO PAGE 9**

## HISD ReCapture on Ballot MAY 6

HISD voters will be asked on **May 6** how the district should pay its Recapture obligation to the state of Texas: by **Purchasing Attendance Credits** or through **Detachment of Commercial Property**.

**SEE PAGE 12 for more info.**

**THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT TOPIC AND NEEDS YOUR ATTENTION WHETHER YOU HAVE CHILDREN OR NOT.**



## HEAVY TRASH SCHEDULE

**May – TREE WASTE ONLY**

➡ Thursday, May 11

**June—JUNK WASTE**

➡ Thursday, June 8

**July—TREE WASTE ONLY**

➡ Thursday, July 13

*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 - Thursday.....9:30AM-1:30PM

Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and holidays

Telephone.....713-723-5437

Email.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net

Deed Restrictions.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net

Visit our website at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)

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## SECURITY

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

including suspicious activity, burglar alarms and vacation watch

Emergency.....911

Houston Police Dept. Non-Emergency..... 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.....832-393-3004

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

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

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

Mayor's Citizen Assistance Office.....832-393-0955

Houston Help & Information.....311

For missed garbage pickup, water line breaks, potholes  
sewer repairs, dead animals, traffic signals, heavy trash  
violations, neighborhood nuisances, and other city services

## CENTERPOINT ENERGY

Electric outage.....713-207-2222

Suspected natural gas leak.....713-659-2111

Street light repairs.....713-207-2222

Make sure to give pole number

## OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

County Commissioner Rodney Ellis>>.....713-755-6111

Graffiti.....www.braysoaksmd.org

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

Brays Oaks Mgmt. District - Use "report a problem" link

Poison Control.....1-800-764-7661

Harris County Tax office.....713-368-2000

Harris County Appraisal District.....713-957-7800

## 2017 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

If no contact information is provided, contact the WCC  
Office at [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net) or 713-723-5437

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

President.....Becky Edmondson

[wccpresident@westburycrier.com](mailto:wccpresident@westburycrier.com) or 713-443-3951

Vice President.....Marcia Hartman

Secretary.....Dan Vega

Treasurer.....VACANT

## DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Communications.....VACANT

Community Relations.....Cindy Chapman

[wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com](mailto:wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com)

Deed Restrictions.....Jennifer Edmondson

[westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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@comcast.net](mailto:rmontgomery002@comcast.net)

## 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@westburycrier.com](mailto:Westbury5E@westburycrier.com)

Westbury 5.....VACANT

Westbury South.....Sunny Davis

Parkwest 1.....William Grimsinger

Parkwest 2.....Jeffrey Weiss

[Jweiss@txchiro.edu](mailto:Jweiss@txchiro.edu)

Parkwest 3.....Joe Niles

[parkwest3@westburycrier.com](mailto:parkwest3@westburycrier.com)

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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## *A Message from the Westbury Civic Club President*

April and May are two of my favorite months. Things are greening up, gardens are growing, flowers are blooming, and those gray days of winter are behind us. Spring means many of our favorite neighborhood events are taking place like the Spring White Elephant Sale, Keep Westbury Beautiful Day, and the Willow Waterhole Music Fest. I know many of you joined us at these events because I had the pleasure of seeing and meeting many of you.

Beyond the reason behind these gatherings and the social impact of these gatherings, there is one important common denominator...volunteers. None of these events would take place without volunteers. Westbury is blessed to have so many volunteers, some of whom come from other neighborhoods! You will read about our Keep Westbury Beautiful day with dozens of volunteers, many from Meyerland Middle School, Westbury HS, and Sharpstown High School. The Music Fest was another incredible event that needed dozens and dozens of volunteers to make it the success that it was.

After 5 years the Music Fest has really come into its own. Of course, the perfect weather was an added bonus. The new Artist Village added this year added a whole new dimension of enjoyment. We celebrated music and art in a beautiful outdoor setting. Volunteers from Westbury Care, Westbury Community Garden and their partner the Houston Heath museum, Westbury Civic Club, Neighborhood to Trails SW, and Bike Houston all brought their messages to the festival.

I love the Willow Waterhole and all that it brings our neighborhood. Isn't it amazing that over 200 bird species have been catalogued during the monthly Audubon bird survey? How can you bring some of nature's diversity into your own backyard? You can have your backyard certified as a Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. Read how to do this on page 22. I just had some work done in our backyard and added a pond and some native plants. Within a matter of days the "critters" had found us: a hummingbird at my plumbago, a monarch butterfly at my milkweed, a giant swallowtail at my citrus tree, and in my pond thousands of tadpoles! A rose-breasted grosbeak stopped at my feeder one morning on his way from Mexico to Canada. With so much habitat disappearing, just a little oasis of habitat can make all the difference. Several years ago, 5 of us from Westbury took a course called "Habitat Highway" that stressed the importance of having habitat not just in a big place but with small areas in between that join habitats together.

One feature of a good habitat is being organic and avoiding the use of chemicals and pesticides. A Westbury One resident found her driveway covered with hundreds of dead bees this past month. Beekeepers we checked with surmised that the bees had been sprayed with a pesticide. If you have bees, there are services which will relocate the hive for you. Let's protect our helpful insects by not spraying pesticides.

And while we are on the subject of saving lives.....please slow down on our Westbury streets! This past month I know of two cars that left the roadway, one ended up in a house and the other against a tree. Last year in a 13 month period, 8 people died on Westbury streets; all were speeding. Let's get a reputation for not tolerating speeding. It's easy to go with the flow of traffic and look down and be surprised at our own speed. Let's **All** of us consciously remember that the speed limit in Westbury is 30 MPH except on Chimney Rock, West Belfort, West Airport and Hillcroft.

Be safe, Westbury!

Becky Edmondson



*Cindy Chapman (left) and Becky Edmondson (right) weed some garden beds at Westbury Park with Edmondson's grandson, Connor, for Keep Westbury Beautiful Day*

### **Westbury Civic Club Board Notes April 2017**

- ⇒ Discussed volunteer opportunities at upcoming events
- ⇒ New members of the Parkwest 2 Architectural Control Committee approved: Mike Quearry, Tom Melot, and Charlie Bartlett.
- ⇒ HISD Trustee, Wanda Adams, spoke about the May 6 HISD "recapture" vote and possible funding available to WHS for new fine arts wing.
- ⇒ Richard Nguyen, COH Solid Waste Dept., spoke about heavy trash in the neighborhood, and need to dump standing water
- ⇒ Speeding In Westbury: Discussed at great length. Public Works is attending next month to speak about traffic calming devices
- ⇒ Reminder that the City will trim trees located between the street and sidewalk, report trees to 311.
- ⇒ The next WCC Board meeting is Wed., May 17 at 7PM at Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft  
Speaker: Public Works Dept

### **NEXT WCC Board Meeting Wed., May 17, 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@houston.tx.gov

## Meyer Neighborhood Library

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

### 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 (Last Day May 22)

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

**BINGO** - Thursday, May 19, 10-11AM

### Interesting Insects ~ Family Fun Days

Saturday, May 20, 10AM-2Pm

The May Family Fun Day will feature a program about the Interesting Insects that live in Southwest Houston. Come in and learn about these insects (and more), walk out to the bayou, and make a craft. For more information, contact the Platou Center at 713-726-7107. Family Fun Days are FREE and held at Chimney Rock Park, 11655 Chimney Rock from 10AM to 2PM.



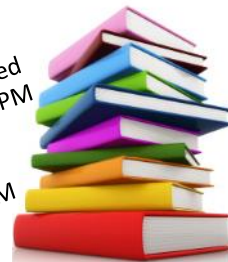
### TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

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

### LIBRARY HOURS

Sunday & Monday - Closed  
Tues. & Weds. 10AM-6PM  
Thursday 12PM-8PM  
Friday - 1PM-5PM  
Saturday - 10AM -5PM



### WEEKLY EVENTS MAY 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

See dates, hours,  
and class  
info on page 6



10605 Mullins  
City of Houston Pool

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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 MAY 2017

Sat 6	HISD Special Election ReCapture See page 12 for more information	
Fri 12	WHS Cheniere Grant Ribbon Cutting Chimney Rock Park for more information, see page 19	4PM
Mon. 15	Brays Bayou Association Meeting The Gathering Place—5310 S Willow See page 19 for more information	7:30PM
Wed 17	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Salem Lutheran Church—4930 W. Bellfort	8:30AM
Wed. 17	Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting Westbury Baptist Church—10425 Hillcroft	7PM
Sat 20	Family Fun Day at Platou Center Platou Community Center - 11655 Chimney Rock Topic: Interesting Insects	10AM-2PM
Sat. 20	Audubon Society Bird Survey Meet at the Gathering Place parking lot 5310 S. Willow	7AM
Sun 21	Cigna Sunday Streets <i>family friendly FREE</i> See page 7 for more information	
Tues 23	SW PIP (HPD Positive Interaction Program) Meeting Aramco Building—9009 W Loop South See page 15 for more information	7PM
Thurs 25	Last Day of school for HISD	
Mon 29	WCC Office Closed—Memorial Day	
June 3	4th Annual Tomato Tasting Westbury Community Garden For more information, see page 23	9:30-11AM

## SUMMER 2017 WCC OFFICE HOURS

Starting May 30 thru July 1

Monday – Thursday 10:30AM – 1:30PM

Or by appointment. Phone is 713-723-5437 or  
Email [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net)



## Heavy & Recycling Trash Calendar

### May 2017

Thurs 11	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS
Thurs 11	Heavy Trash- <b>TREE WASTE ONLY</b> <b>ALL OF WESTBURY</b>	
Thurs 25	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS

### June 2017

Thurs 8	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS
Thurs 8	Heavy Trash- <b>JUNK WASTE</b> <b>ALL OF WESTBURY</b>	
Thurs 22	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
- ♻️ 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
- ♻️ Heavy trash can be placed starting at 6PM the Friday before pick-up
- ♻️ **YARD 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 [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com) or [www.houstontx.gov](http://www.houstontx.gov) for more trash and recycling information

## City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule

June	Junk Waste	May	Tree Waste
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# Westbury Pool Opens May 27



## Westbury City Pool Summer 2017 Schedule

**May 27- June 4:** Pool open Sat. & Sun., 1-8PM  
**May 29** (Memorial Day): Pool OPEN 1-8PM  
**June 5– August 13:** Pool OPEN Normal Summer Hours Tuesday—Sunday 1-8PM; Closed Monday  
**July 4:** Pool OPEN, 1-5PM  
**August 14 - September 4:** Pool open on Saturday and Sunday only, 1-8PM  
**September 4** (Labor Day): Last day for the pool to be open! 1-6PM  
**Questions? Call pool at 713-723-2192**  
 Address: 10605 Mullins (near Parker Elem.)

---Cut me out---

## FREE Swim Lessons for Kids

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department offers free learn-to-swim classes for youths through the H2OSafe program. Classes are accessible to all and are offered at various skill levels: beginner, intermediate, and advanced. Each session meets Tuesday through Friday for two weeks (30 minute class).

All classes are free and space is limited on a “first come, first served” basis during specified registration periods. **Online Registration** is required and **begins at 8:00 am on registration date**. To register go to: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/houstonparks/Home>

For more information, contact the Westbury pool directly once it opens.



Sessions	Registration Dates	Class Dates
Session One	May 30 – June 7	June 13 – June 23
Session Two	June 12 – June 21	June 27 – July 7
Session Three	June 26 – July 5	July 11 – July 21
Session Four	July 10 – July 19	July 25 – Aug 4

Level 1 / Time	Level 2 / Time	Level 3 / Time
4 pm – 4:30 pm	4:45 pm – 5:15 pm	5:30 pm – 6:00 pm
4 pm – 4:30 pm	4:45 pm – 5:15 pm	5:30 pm – 6:00 pm
4 pm – 4:30 pm	4:45 pm – 5:15 pm	5:30 pm – 6:00 pm
4 pm – 4:30 pm	4:45 pm – 5:15 pm	5:30 pm – 6:00 pm

## FREE Water Fitness Classes

Stay in shape this summer and cool off at the same time! The city will once again offer **FREE** water fitness classes for adults at Westbury Pool this summer. These classes are very popular. There will be 2 classes this year. See below for class descriptions and times.

Registration is online (<https://apm.activecommunities.com/houstonparks/Home>) or you can register with the instructor on class days shortly before each class starts. The first day of class will be Tuesday, June 6, and the last day of class will be Thursday, August 3, at the Westbury Pool. If you have questions, call the city Adult Sports Office at (832) 395-7274.

Water fitness is a great exercise for any age, any fitness level and any body type. Wear appropriate swimwear, aquatic shoes are advised, and always bring a bottle of water for hydration

*NOTE: Westbury Pool will be closed for general swimming use during fitness classes*

## Adult Water Fitness Class Schedule & Descriptions

### Adult Circuit Water Fitness:

**Tuesday 6:30PM - 7:30PM**

A combination of cardio, strength training, and flexibility that takes you through a series of stations using effective circuit training principles and the latest aquatic equipment for a total body workout. The intensity is light to moderate.

### NEW Adult Aqua Zumba:

**Tuesday and Thursday 9-10AM,**

**Thursday 6:30PM - 7:30PM**

This class combines high energy and Latin music with movement in the water, a combination that helps participants dance away their worries while staying in shape. It is based on the principle that a workout should be “fun and easy to do” allowing individuals to stick to the Zumba fitness program and achieve long term health benefits. The intensity is light to moderate.

*NOTE: Westbury Pool will be closed for general swimming use during fitness classes*

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# Neighborhood Events

## Meyer Library Special Events

**Craft Time for Adults**, Thursday, May 4, 6 – 7PM  
Learn crafting skills through a variety of fun and easy crafts. Please contact the library for more information

**Creative Knitting**, Thursday, May 11, 6 – 7PM  
Learn knitting with beginner instructions in English. Bring your own knit project or start a new one with us. All skills are welcome. Supplies not provided.

**Fifty Plus Computer Club**, Saturday, May 13 & 27, 2 – 3PM  
Join us at our next meeting and discussion of computing in today's world from a mature viewpoint.

**Mystery Book Club**, Thursday, May 18, 1 – 2PM  
Do you enjoy reading and discussing books? Join us for a lively discussion with the Meyer Mystery Book Club.

**Read with Paws-itive Pups**, Sat., May 20, 10:30 - 11:30AM  
Woof! Woof! for reading books! Come and read with our trained therapy dogs!

**Pajama Storytime**, Thursday, May 25, 6:30 – 7:15PM  
Snuggle up to a good book at the Houston Public Library's Pajama Storytime. Wear your pajamas and bring your bed-time friend as we sooth you into an evening storytime. All ages welcome.

**Para Los Niños**, Tuesday, May 30, 4 - 5PM  
¡Bienvenido! Come explore the library, all of its resources and our parent workshops that will teach strategies and activities to improve family literacy and parents' abilities to serve as their child's first teacher in a friendly, bilingual environment.



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## 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! **#SHTX FREE!!!**

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/](http://www.facebook.com/sundaystreetshtx/) **FREE!!!**

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SPRING 2017

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## Flood Gauge Signs on N. Braeswood

Did you see the new flood gauge signs on North Braeswood? The City of Houston recently installed a series of flood level signs in residential areas along North Braeswood, which immediately caused an uproar and controversy. The city will soon remove the signs along Braeswood residential streets.

Our streets are designed to hold stormwater, but those new flood level signs along Braeswood were not located in areas of unusually high risk. The city said a request had been received for the signs to be placed, so the request was added to an existing project in the area; however, the contractor placed the signs before a change order could properly be processed. The city now says the signs will be removed after admitting that proper notification had not been made to the affected neighborhoods.

However, this episode serves as a reminder that flood waters can be very dangerous when driving, especially at night when headlights reflect off the water and make it harder to see where the road ends and the water starts. **DO NOT DRIVE**

**THROUGH FLOODED STREETS.** Park at a high elevation location and wait until the streets are safer for driving. Remember: If you drive headlong into several inches of water, then your brakes may not work to stop you from driving further into high water. Your car may start floating away with the flood currents or start sinking deeper into the water. In particular, be extremely wary of underpasses, which sometimes flood quickly during heavy rains.

Another reason to not drive through flooded streets – your waves could cause water damage to parked cars or push water into homes. Also, it is exasperating when inconsiderate drivers damage yards or esplanades trying to avoid flooded streets.

**PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE  
THROUGH FLOODED STREETS.**



*New flood gauge sign located on N. Braeswood at the entrance to the Robindell neighborhood*

## Adopt A METRO Bus Stop

Do you live near a METRO bus stop or shelter? Would you like it to look better or be less “trashy”? Here is your opportunity to be a part of the solution.

Perhaps you have read in a prior Crier about the opportunity to adopt a METRO bus stop or shelter. A recent “Southwest News” article featured residents from near-by Meyerland, Northbrook, and Shendoah subdivisions who have adopted bus stops.

METRO is preparing a list of bus stops and shelters in Westbury that are available for adoption. Please email [westburygreen@gmail.com](mailto:westburygreen@gmail.com) to participate.

Participants in the Adopt-a-Stop or Adopt-a-Shelter program volunteer to pick up litter in the area between METRO’s designated trash collection days, and have the option to make general improvements to the grounds. The volunteer or organization receives: six free round-trip passes per month, an Adopt-a-Stop sign recognizing the neighborhood or organization affixed to the pole with the bus route sign, an “Adoption Certificate” signed by METRO’s President & CEO and Chief of Police.

An unspoken benefit is the opportunity to improve the aesthetic appeal of the community. The Adopt-A-Shelter program phone number is (713) 739-6095. Or for METRO’s Facilities Maintenance at FM Care Team, call (713) 615-6195 or call FM Afterhours at (281)960-7131.



## 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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## Stray Animals in Westbury

Stray animals are a big problem throughout the City. Westbury has been seeing an increase in reports of stray dogs and cats. Last year BARC and their 24 employees received over 50,000 calls and took in 26,000 animals. They prioritize the calls. Dogs that attack people get priority. "Hey, I just saw a dog running down my street" is not a priority.

Westbury is a pet friendly neighborhood. There is a local non-profit, Westbury CARE (Compassionate Animal Rescue Efforts) that facilitates adoptions and finds homes for lost and abandoned pets. "NextDoor Westbury" is another venue that has reunited many an escaped dog with their owners. Occasionally, packs of dogs have formed and hunted together and professional help needed to restore safety. Several years ago, the WCC and Pct. 5 partnered with BARC to removed a pack of dogs.

There have been several recent reports of packs of dogs roaming. The reports are in several sections, suggesting multiple groups of dogs. The WCC office has also received reports of cats being mauled and found dead in several sections of Westbury. If you see a pack of dogs roaming, take a picture, note the date, time, and location. Report it to BARC via 311. Be willing to sign an affidavit.

WCC President, Becky Edmondson, spoke with BARC in early May and was told to share the following tips.

-  If you feed feral cats you need to register with BARC. Trap the cats and have them neutered and their ear will be clipped to show they have been neutered.
-  If you have a problem with feral cats: Trap the feral cat and take it to BARC. They will spay and neuter and return it to the same area.
-  **All cats and dogs are supposed to be secured in our homes or yards or on a leash.**
-  The reality is that dogs make great escape artists. Even the most vigilant owners have pets that get out. Be sure your pets are chipped and have tags.
-  Register your pets with the city.

Please remember to have your pets spayed or neutered. Get them chipped. Keep them secured. Dog walkers, keep your dogs leashed. Pick up their poop! And be respectful of your neighbors right to peace and quiet if you have a barker. Barking dogs are still one of the top complaints from homeowners.

***Thanks to all the caring people who help make Westbury a safe haven for our furry four-legged friends!***

## Traffic and Speeding Concerns on Westbury Streets



**30 MPH is the maximum speed limit throughout the streets of Westbury.** The only exceptions are on Hillcroft, West Bellfort, Chimney Rock and West Airport where 35 MPH is allowed. **PLEASE OBEY THE SPEED LIMIT!**

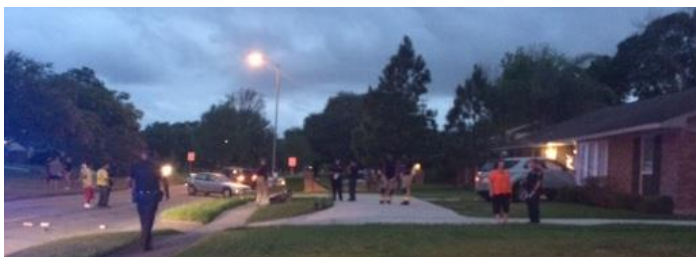
It is not only cut-through traffic that is barreling down our streets; it is Westbury residents, too. This is a safety issue! There are children playing, seniors walking for exercise, joggers running, parents pushing baby strollers, teens walking with their eyes glued to their cellphone screens, all of these activities and more happening on the streets of Westbury on any given day. All drivers need to make a conscious effort to SLOW DOWN and obey the speed limit.

It is easy to drive distracted and be in a hurry. School will be out later this month and more of our children will be outside playing and riding their bicycles.

Last month a car drove into a home on West Bellfort after two cars jockeyed for position in what appears to have been a road rage incident. Thankfully no one was injured in the home or walking by on the sidewalk.

Speeding has become one of the major complaints received by the WCC office. Residents are sick of cars speeding down their residential streets. We have asked HPD and Pct. 5 to ticket speeding drivers. If you witness a recurring speeding problem, please report it to the WCC office at [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net). Include the time, day of week, and hundred block or crossing streets, and specific vehicles (if known).

**30 MPH is the maximum speed on unposted residential streets. It's the law, NOT a suggestion!**



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## Parker Elementary Project Design Details & Update

On April 4, the Project Advisory Team took a tour of the ongoing construction project to build a new building for Parker Elementary. Project Manager Steve Redmond said that the project was 35% complete and is "gaining momentum".

Some special touches are incorporated in the music magnet school design to echo the theme of music. If you look carefully, you will notice that the windows are not symmetrically aligned. Instead, they are arranged to suggest a piano keyboard or notes on a musical scale. Also, the cover shading the front door (facing Stillbrooke) will cast shadows of musical notes.

The new two-story building is larger than the existing school building. Each new classroom will be typically about 100 square feet larger than existing rooms. The school will feature a 500 seat performing hall with sloped seating, which is not typical for an elementary school, but was a key design component requested for the magnet school by the project team and school supporters.

## New School Opening Delayed Until Jan 2018

The somber truth has been revealed and the HISD Bond team admits now that it was overly optimistic to say that the new Parker Elementary building would be ready for move-in by the start of school in August of 2017. The HISD construction team explained that there have already been 95 rain-delay days on the Parker project. Even though it might be possible to move in for start of school in August 2017, while still finalizing construction, it is not recommended or desirable based on experiences at other schools. The new schedule is that the move will be made over the school break in December of 2017, and that students will start in the new building in January of 2018.

The Project Advisory Team (PAT) for the Parker Elementary School Project met on February 15 to discuss the current construction status. School Principal Lori Frodine questioned why so little progress has been made. Construction was released in April 2016 for the new building, and the structural framing went up in October 2016. The owner for Patriot Construction and the site construction manager discussed that the rain delays have been significant. The slowest and most critical part of the project will be the completion of the utilities, mechanical, and heating/ventilation in "part C" of the building (the wing closest to the city park). The heating and ventilation systems must be working to do the sheetrock work. Once the roof is completed and the mechanical systems are working, then progress will go much faster.

The PAT had a chance to tour the new school in April. See box to left for design details learned during the tour.

It is very exciting to see the new school coming together! January 2018 will be here before we know it.



The Parker Project Advisory Team tours the new Parker Elementary site



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HOUSTON, TEXAS 77067

2/2/17

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Aerial view of new Parker Elementary Construction from early February 2017

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## Brunch for Communities by DON, Department of Neighborhoods

On March 23, the Department of Neighborhoods organized speakers to discuss neighborhood concerns in District K. Cindy Chapman and Becky Edmondson attended from Westbury. Before the presentations began, the attendees were treated to a light brunch and brief dramatic speeches by young children from the Martin Luther King Junior Early Childhood Center.

Topics discussed during the event included: Dangerous Buildings, Junk Motor Vehicles, Illegal Dumping, Open and Visible Storage of Trash, Bandit Signs, Hoarding, Weeded and Overgrown Lots, and Other Nuisances.



Stay connected with Westbury through [WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM](http://WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM) and our Facebook page, West-

## Congratulations to WHS VIPS!

Volunteers play an important role in public schools. Each year, HISD honors volunteers in 4 different categories. This year, Westbury High School had FINALISTS in all 4 categories at the HISD Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) award ceremony. This is an impressive achievement! Here are the WHS finalists honored for their volunteer service



**Demetris Bert** was the HISD recipient of the 2017 Charles Harding "Senior Of The Year" VIPS Award! Ms. Bert has been a part of the Westbury High School family for four years. Her son is a senior and will be graduating with the class of 2017. As a volunteer for Band, Basketball, Gents, and PTO, Ms. Bert has given tirelessly of herself. She exemplifies the importance of parents volunteering in their children's schools.



WHS VIPS Finalists with Supt. Carranza

**Chance Nichols**, nominated for WHS "Youth Volunteer Of The Year" award, has a heart of service. He arrives to school early and leaves late. Chance has definitely inspired his classmates to do more within their own community and on campus. He is teaching some of the underclassmen what he knows, so that they may step into his role after he graduates in May.

**Principa Thomas**, nominated for WHS "Parent Partner Of The Year" award, seems to be everywhere as she volunteers to make her daughter, Mahogany's years at WHS the best that they can be. Her service to both the PTO and Band has been exemplary. She is currently President of the 2016-17 Westbury High School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and is Treasurer of the 2016-17 Band Parent Booster Club. In addition, she presides over both the Executive Board and General Meetings of the PTO,

**PAIR Houston** (Partnerships for the Advancement and Immersion of Refugees) provides educational group mentoring programs to refugee youth in HISD. Twice a week for 10 weeks a semester, groups of 15 volunteers come to Westbury High School to mentor refugee and immigrant youth with the goals of helping them acclimate to American society, reach their academic potential, and become community leaders.

## \*Area Residents and Neighborhood Specialists\*



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Kendyl Maurer

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[kendylm@waynemurray.net](mailto:kendylm@waynemurray.net)

## HISD “ReCapture”

### Vote: May 6

HISD District IX Trustee and Board President Wanda Adams hosted a meeting at Tinsley Elementary to explain the upcoming May 6 “RECAPTURE” ballot proposition.

Trustee Adams welcomed the crowd and introduced HISD Superintendent Richard Carranza, who stressed the importance of viewing education as an investment and not as an expense. An educated public is important and that is why the status of our HISD schools is so important, not just to us in Westbury, but throughout the City. Education is an investment in our community and for our future. HISD is stressing the Global Graduate Profile of working in teams and working collaboratively. Competition is global and there are skills beyond reading, writing, and arithmetic.

The topic of RECAPTURE is complicated. Basically, the State of Texas does not provide sufficient funding for education, especially for students who require more resources. This means that school districts in Texas rely heavily on local property taxes. The state has devised a complicated process where so-called “property rich” school districts send payments back to the state (sometimes called Robin Hood funding). Amazingly and disappointingly, when the number of students in HISD are considered who have limited English skills or must overcome deprivations of poverty, the State of Texas

has somehow determined that HISD is now a “property rich” school district.

What does it mean for HISD to be “property rich”? The state offers two choices. HISD can send cash back to the state general fund where the state will distribute some of it to poorer districts. Or, HISD can have certain expensive properties “detached” from HISD and assigned to other school districts. These are both bad options. For the first time ever in Texas, Houston voters in Nov. 2016 refused to participate in the process and voted no. That caught the attention of the state legislature, which then massaged the funding equations so that Houston (and other school districts in a similar situation) would owe much less money to the state. However, the November election result also set up a situation where HISD would have to have property “detached” and assigned to other school districts, which is a less attractive financial alternative. Therefore, the HISD school board has set up another election on May 6 to allow voters an opportunity to vote again on HOW to send the required payments. For more information on this topic, go to [www.houstonisd.org/recapture](http://www.houstonisd.org/recapture).

**On May 6 voters face two options. The ballot wording is mandated by state law.**

***“Authorizing the board of trustees of Houston Independent School District to purchase attendance credits from the State of Texas with local tax revenues.”***

\* FOR – means HISD will write a check to the state.

\* AGAINST – means commercial properties will be permanently detached from HISD and assigned to other school districts. HISD will permanently lose those tax collections for district operations and also lose the debt service tax collections used to pay back bonds.

Texas State Representative Alma Allen sent her son Terrence Allen to the meeting and recommended that voters vote “FOR” in order “to keep control of our own checkbook” at HISD. She said she never wanted to see detachment of property happen.

HISD Trustee Wanda Adams noted that HISD wanted voters to vote “No” in November 2016 and that ours was the first school district to say no to the state. She said HISD won concessions from the state as a result of the 2016 vote, and had the bill dropped from \$162 to \$77 million (the bill has been further reduced in April 2017 due to changes in state funding formulas). Trustee Adams advises voters to vote “FOR” in the May 6 ballot.

The Greater Houston Partnership (GHP) supports voting “FOR”. The GHP is a place for community-minded business leaders who want to be involved in the positive growth of Houston, and the GHP serves over 1200 member companies in the 11-county Houston region.



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## Westbury Resident is Award Winning Writer

Did you know we have an award-winning writer of young adult novels living right here in Westbury? And one of her books may even hit local movie screens at some point in the future!

Jennifer Blessington, who writes under the name Jennifer Mathieu, has been a Westbury resident since she and her husband bought their home here in 2006. Jennifer is the author of three books for young adults, *The Truth About Alice*, *Devoted*, and *Afterward*. Her next book, *Moxie*, which comes out in September, has already been optioned for film by the production company run by Amy Poehler, best known for her work on the television programs *Saturday Night Live* and *Parks and Recreation*.

"The entire experience has been a whirlwind," says Jennifer, who taught at Meyerland Middle School from 2005 until 2011 and who is currently an English teacher at Bellaire High School. "My agents sent the manuscript out just after Thanksgiving and the deal was done before Christmas." Jennifer was even able to speak with Amy Poehler on the phone. While the option agreement does not guarantee *Moxie* will be made into a movie, it gives the production company 18 months to secure funding and a script in the hopes of taking the story to the silver screen.

*Moxie* tells the story of a group of young women in a small-town Texas high school who band together to fight against hallway harassment and unfair dress code rules at their football-obsessed high school. Jennifer's first novel, *The Truth About Alice*, was named one of Amazon Editors' Best Young Adult Books of 2014, and her book, *Afterward* received a starred review from *School Library Journal*.



Jennifer, her husband, and their young son love living in Westbury, and Jennifer has run a writing workshop for young writers at Meyer Library.

"I love how convenient our neighborhood is, how diverse it is, and how welcoming," she says. "My son and I love walking to PUCS on Saturday mornings, and our whole family loves Willow Waterhole. It's a terrific place to live."

You can find out more about Jennifer's books at her author website, [www.jennifermathieu.com](http://www.jennifermathieu.com). She is available for book clubs, too!

## Maplewood Marlins Swim Team

The Maplewood 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!

Register online at [www.maplewoodmarlins.swimtopia.com](http://www.maplewoodmarlins.swimtopia.com). Practices start May 15. For more information visit the website above. 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.



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# Crime & Security

## Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37\* 30 days April 20, 2017

	Single-Family Home	Apt/Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	6	2	0	0	8
Theft	5	5	5	8	23
Auto Theft	1	2	0	0	3
Robbery	0	2	1	1	4
Assault	3	0	0	1	4
Rape	0	1	1	0	2
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	15	12	7	10	44

\*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 April 20, 2017**

Block #	Street	Crime
5800	Belrose	Theft
12000	Braewick	Auto Theft
5700	Burlinghall	Burglary
6000	Dawnridge	Theft
5900	Duxbury	Burglary
5800	Effingham	Assault
6000	Effingham	Theft
5900	Ettrick	Burglary
12200	Hillcroft	Assault
11500	Landsdowne	Burglary
6000	Ludington	Assault
10700	Mullins	Theft
11500	Mullins	Theft
6000	Willowbend	Burglary
6000	Willowbend	Burglary



## 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/vacation-watch/](http://www.constablepct5.com/vacation-watch/) 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 Forum



Council Member Larry Green, in collaboration with the Brays Oaks Super Neighborhood Council, Westbury Super Neighborhood Council and the Brays Oaks Management District, hosted a Community Public Safety Forum at Fondren Middle School in April. "This community forum allowed 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 agency's roles and responsibilities as well as discuss coordinated initiatives per other partnered law enforcement agencies," stated Council Member Green.

Residents were able to meet, listen to, and ask questions of representatives from many law enforcement agencies serving the area. Panel participants included: HPD Chief Art Acevedo, HFD Chief Sam Pena, Harris County Precinct 7 Constable May Walker, METRO Police Chief Vera Bumper, Houston Municipal Courts Presiding Judge Elaine Marshall, and representatives from HISD Police, HCC Police, Harris County Attorney's Office, and the Harris County District Attorney's Office.

HPD Chief Acevedo announced the new HPD Command Staff. The audience met new Assistant Chief Wendy Baimbridge, new Executive Assistant Chief of Operations Troy Finner, and new Captain Belinda Null. Captain Null is assigned to Southwest (Beechnut) Patrol Division, which provides patrol services for the Westbury area. Captain Craig Bellamy is the new Captain for the South Gessner Patrol Division.

It was a good opportunity for the new police chief to hear directly from residents about our concerns.



WCC Board members Becky Edmondson, Marcia Hartman, and Cindy Chapman with Chief Acevedo and Sgt. Sutton At the Pubic Safety Forum

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



### Meaningful Change, NOT Spare Change

Over the course of the 2016 Fall season, the Greater South Post Oak/West Belfort Coalition, which consist of businesses, churches, and residents of Willow Meadows, Willowbend, Westwood, Westbury, and Meyerland, collectively coordinated a petition drive regarding the City of Houston ordinance amendment of Chapter 40. This amendment, which was approved by City Council, extends provisions of the existing civility ordinance to include the area defined by the Greater South Post Oak/West Belfort Coalition.

"The Coalition's hard work paid off," states Council Member Green. "I, along with my council colleagues, passed this civility ordinance unanimously."

The City of Houston civility ordinance prohibits certain conduct on sidewalks (lying, sitting or storing personal possessions) during the 7AM to 11PM timeframe. Prior to the passage, the civility ordinance was only applicable to the Central Business District, Midtown, Old Sixth Ward, Avondale, Hyde Park, East Downtown Management District and the Historic Near-Northside.

"This was a great community collaboration. It was good to see adjoining communities come together to address a holistic issue in a grassroots manner," states Council Member Green. As part of Mayors campaign to end homelessness and aggressive panhandling, please remember:

**MEANINGFUL CHANGE, NOT SPARE CHANGE  
DO NOT GIVE TO PANHANDLERS.**

### Neighbors4Neighbors

The Neighbors 4 Neighbors Network (N4NN) organization hosted their 2nd Annual Senior Fair at Westbury United Methodist Church. The aim of N4NN is to create a one-stop, one-phone-number center for linking people to volunteer help for everything from transportation, to professionals, services, etc. In other words, the purpose of the program is to replicate the old-fashioned notion of neighbors looking out for neighbors. And, so, the concept of Neighbors 4 Neighbors Network was born! For more information about this program for residents over 50, call 832-998-N4NN (6466).



### HPD SW Positive Interaction Program

WCC Board Members, Marcia Hartman and Cindy Chapman, attended the April meeting sponsored by the HPD Southwest Division. Captain Belinda Null has recently been assigned to the Southwest Division. She announced that a speed monitoring trailer for the Southwest Division has been purchased and that it will be deployed after it has been received and the officers trained on procedures. She also noted that the city has a new panhandling ordinance. The city is developing training and procedures for the new ordinance.

Officer of the Month was Leon Johnson, who observed a "slider" stealthily stealing a purse from a car at a gas station across the street. When the suspect's car was stopped, several purses were discovered in the vehicle and one of the suspects was out on bail on a murder charge.

Officer Leatherwood gave a presentation about the steps to become certified as a Houston Police Officer. The application process includes a medical screening, a psychological screening, and a polygraph test. Then a background check is performed. After graduating from the police academy, the officer is on probation while doing field training and then is mentored on rides with experienced patrol officers before moving to status as a Rookie officer.

**NEXT SW PIP MEETING: MAY 23 @ 7PM  
Aramco Building, 9009 W Loop South**

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# Westbury Area News

## Emergency Registry (2-1-1 Registry)

The State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) is a FREE registry that provides local emergency planners and emergency responders with additional information on the needs of residents in their community. Registering yourself in the STEAR Registry at 2-1-1 DOES NOT guarantee that you will receive a specific service during an emergency; however, you are more likely to receive services if you're registered. It also provides responders with info so that they can reach out to you after events.

⇒ **Who Should Register?** People with Disabilities. People with access and functional needs such as: People who have limited mobility, People who have communication barriers, People who require transportation assistance, People who require personal care assistance.

⇒ **How do you register?** Call 2-1-1 and let them know that you want to register for STEAR. Registration is VOLUNTARY. Required information is: Name, address, phone number, and primary language. Additional questions include: Emergency contact information, caregiver information, pets, transportation assistance for home evacuation, communication barriers, Disability or Functional or Medical Needs.

⇒ **How long will my information be kept?** Your information will be kept for 1 year. You should re-register after that time period.

⇒ **What if I move or do not need assistance?** Contact 2-1-1

⇒ **Will I be evacuated during an emergency such as a hurricane?** No. Each local government uses the information in different ways.

**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 construction?** 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 before 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 at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com). If you have any questions, contact the WCC Office at 713-723-5437 or [westburyc@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:westburyc@sbcbglobal.net).

## Links for Lost & Found Pets

☑ Nextdoor Westbury -

[www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)

☑ Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook

☑ Westbury CARE- Contact at [westburycare@gmail.com](mailto:westburycare@gmail.com) or at [www.westburycare.com](http://www.westburycare.com), Compassionate Animal Rescue Efforts is located in Westbury.



## Westbury Meet & Eat

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

**May Meet & Eat: Thurs, May 4, 6PM**

**June Meet & Eat: Thurs., June 1, 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.

## 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 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.

## 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

## 2017 Westbury Civic Club Dues

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

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

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

**Mail to:  
P.O. Box 975182  
Dallas, TX 75397-5182**

**Online payment:  
paypal.com—Send Money to  
westburycc@sbcglobal.net  
Make sure to include your  
address or account number**

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

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

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

\*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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# Keep Westbury Beautiful



Keep Westbury Beautiful day was a great success. This is one of our favorite workdays of the year. Keep Westbury Beautiful Day is held in conjunction with Keep District K and Keep Houston Beautiful Day. Volunteers worked at Westbury Park, Chimney Rock Park, and on our esplanades.

Thanks to all the volunteers from around the neighborhood and our youth volunteers from Sharpstown HS, Westbury HS, Bellaire HS, and Meyerland PVA Middle School! Special thanks to the Westbury Civic Club "Green Team" for organizing and coordinating this event!



Jennifer Kuehlman brought a group of National Honor Society students from Sharpstown HS.

The trash can holders at the Westbury Park were painted an attractive green color.

WCC Greenspace Director Mat Funk worked with a group of students to delitter and trim the trees along the West Airport esplanades.

This is the third year that the WCC has focused on the landscaped beds which welcome visitors to Westbury Park. Three years ago it was barren with only weeds and trees.

Today, it is a beautiful butterfly habitat! See photos below!



At Chimney Rock Park, improvements were done by Westbury High School students under the leadership of teacher Aaron Harris and the watchful eyes of the Friends of Chimney Rock Park. This work by Westbury HS Students work is being funded by a grant from Cheniere Energy. Cheniere Energy is committed to the communities and environments where they live and work. Cheniere believes education is the foundation of a strong community, so they partnered with HISD to help students plan and implement a community service project.



**Mark your calendars for 4 PM on Friday, May 12 for the ribbon cutting ceremony at Chimney Rock Park to celebrate the successful completion of this project by the Westbury HS student project team.**

## St. Thomas More Parish School Early Childhood Programs

- ◆ Accredited Preschool for 3 & 4 year olds
- ◆ Monday/Wednesday/Friday & Monday-Friday Classes
  - ◆ Full Day & Half Day Options
  - ◆ Before & After School Available
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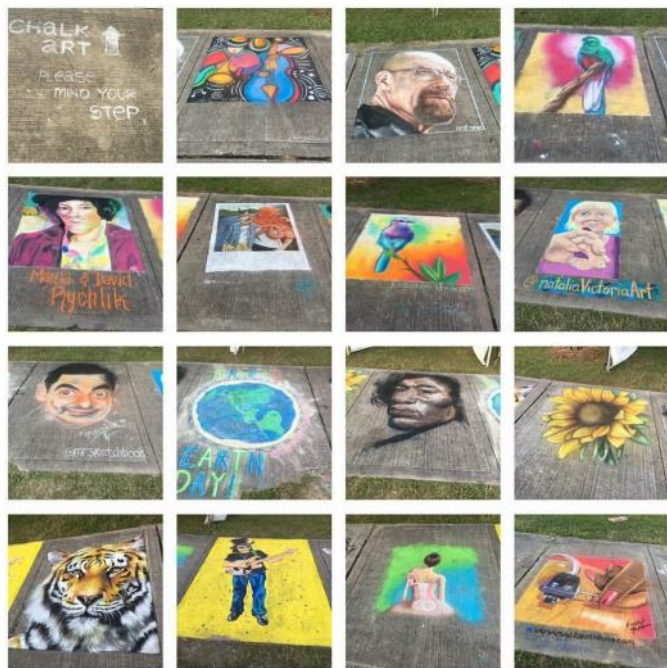






A new component was added to this years' Music Fest: an Artist Village curated by UP Art Studio. Noah and Elia Quiles of UP Art Studio are the force behind all the wonderful painted signal boxes we have here in Westbury and throughout District K. Artist Anat Ronen, who painted the first box at the corner of Willowbend and West Bellfort, showcased more of her incredible talent creating a portrait of Walter White and a tiger.

A dozen other artists joined her in creating jaw dropping works of art with chalk right on the sidewalks of the Willow Waterhole. Also, artists had painting demonstrations, while others had tents of their works for sale. Also on display was physical art in the form of aerialists and other gymnastic artists. The addition of the visual arts added a whole new layer of artistry to complement the musical artistry.



### Brays Bayou Association Meeting Notice

MONDAY, MAY 15, 7:30PM

The Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow Dr.

Speaker: Beth White, Exective Director Houston Parks Board

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.



CM Green & CM Knox with Becky Edmondson and Cindy Chapman

[WWW.WILLOWWATERHOLE.ORG](http://WWW.WILLOWWATERHOLE.ORG)

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The 5th Annual Willow Waterhole MusicFest was the best one yet! Thousands of people attended the two day festival celebrating music and art. April showers have plagued past Fest weekends, but this year the weather was perfect. Blue skies, soft breezes, and 70 degree temperature were enjoyed by all. The music over the two days was first class. Al Campbell put together a star studded line up. This annual event is a little taste of what the Levitt Pavilion Houston will bring to us here in southwest Houston in the future. In addition to the music and art, the crowds enjoyed food trucks ranging from snow cones to local Fainmous BBQ.



The MusicFest was also a chance to meet the volunteers from the various groups which are active in Westbury. The Westbury Civic Club hosted a booth and had a raffle. Many thanks to Jackie Murray and Kendall Maurer of Weichert Realtors for donating items for the raffle. The Westbury Community Garden and its partner, the Houston Health Museum, shared a booth and brought their message of healthy eating to the festival goers. Westbury CARE was on hand with pets for adoption. The Neighborhood to Trails Southwest group was showing off their ideas for trails to make getting to the Willow Waterhole easier for all of us. Harris County Flood Control District was on hand to talk about the Willow Waterhole as part of Project Brays. Bike Houston and the League of Women’s Voters also had information booths. Marcy Williams, President of SuperNeighborhood 36, hosted a booth with the Fiesta located at W. Bellfort and Fondren.

All in all, it was a glorious weekend celebrating a very special social place here in Westbury.



Westbury Civic Club booth and raffle prizes! Thank you to Marica Hartman, Becky Edmondson, Cindy and Walter Chapman, Emma Lou Scott and Jennifer and Connor Edmondson for working the WCC Booth!



TX Rep Shawn Thierry with her daughter with WCC President Becky and her grandson, Connor.



## WILLOW WATERHOLE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Willow Waterhole Volunteer of the Year, Paul Shaw, shown with the award presented by Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy Board Member Howard Sacks and Mayor Sylvester Turner. Participants in volunteer events at the Greenway have come to know Paul as an eager helper with a fun personality. Congratulations, Paul!

**Summer Swim**  
Houston Scuba Academy

## Children’s Summer Swim Classes

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

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- Call us: 713.721.7788
- Visit us: 12505 Hillcroft (just north of S. Main)

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## Wildlife Habitat Day

Houston celebrated its newly achieved status as the 100th community to certify through the National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat™ program. Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner recognized this accomplishment by proclaiming April 18, 2017, as Wildlife Habitat Day in the City of Houston during City Council. This certification was made possible through a combination of public and private efforts. In addition to the nearly 1,000 citizens' homes, schools and common areas in Houston that have been certified as wildlife habitats, the Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD) has identified 80 parks with 16,000 acres of land as having natural areas.

**WCC board member Virginia Livingston** (circled in green below) attended this ceremony wearing both her Texas Master Naturalist hat and as president of the Westbury Community Garden. The garden has a certified butterfly area and a pocket prairie.

### Is your backyard a wildlife habitat?

The Westbury Civic Club would like to challenge Westbury residents to get their backyards certified through the National



Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat™ program. Many Westbury yards already have this designation and we think it would be wonderful to have our whole neighborhood become a certified habitat. Wildlife needs our help. Human activity has changed and eliminated habitat, locally, and on the global scale, and birds, butterflies and other wildlife are pushed into ever-shrinking wilderness areas. You can make a difference. You can invite wildlife back to your own yard and neighborhood by planting a simple garden that provides habitat. Imagine your garden teeming with singing songbirds, colorful butterflies, flitting hummingbirds, and other small wildlife.

Getting started is easier than you might think. Here is what your wildlife garden should include:

**Food:** Native plants provide nectar, seeds, nuts, fruits, berries, foliage, pollen and insects eaten by an exciting variety of wildlife. Feeders can supplement natural food sources.

**Water:** All animals need water to survive and some need it for bathing or breeding as well.

**Cover:** Wildlife needs places to find shelter from bad weather and places to hide from predators or stalk prey.

**Places to Raise Young:** Wildlife needs resources to reproduce and keep their species going. Some species have totally different habitat needs in their juvenile phase than they do as adults.

**Sustainable Practices:** How you manage your garden can have an effect on the health of the soil, air, water and habitat for native wildlife as well as the human community.

Visit this link to get started today! <http://www.nwf.org/Garden-For-Wildlife/Create.aspx>



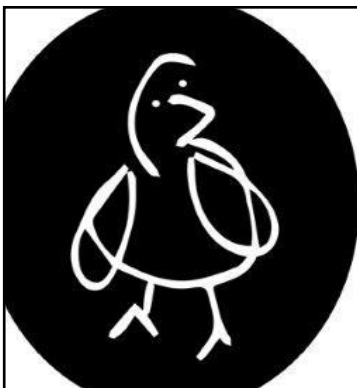
## Trees and Habitat

Here in Westbury, trees are important to our quality of life. Our beautiful tree lined streets are often mentioned as a selling point. Beyond the aesthetics, trees provide us with shade, increase our property values, hold storm water, lower our power bills, and provide food and habitat for wildlife.

In 2004, Westbury created a "community tree print" proposal, which is a forestry plan for our neighborhood. We realized that trees die and trees get removed for many different reasons. We needed a plan to replace our aging and disappearing tree canopy. Most of the trees planted in our neighborhood are 50-60 years old and some types are past their prime, some are dangerous, and some are invasive. Through that community initiative, more than 5,000 trees have been planted or given away to residents.

In 2006, the Westbury Civic Club (WCC) asked the city to remove the invasive Chinese Tallow trees on Hillcroft between W. Belfort and Portal. The WCC replanted over 100 trees along that section of Hillcroft, working with many volunteers and organizations such as the City of Houston Forestry Department and Trees for Houston. Now, 10 years later, the trees are prospering and the esplanade is healthy and abundant with city wildlife like birds and squirrels. Several WCC members attended a "Highway Habitat" course to learn how to provide improved wildlife habitat along roadways. As a result, the WCC "Green Team" and volunteers have added several groupings of native shrubs along Hillcroft which have been lovingly cared for over the past 10 years.

When developers arrived here in the 1950s, this whole area was originally coastal prairie and rice fields. The trees you see today throughout Westbury were all planted either by the original home builders, residents, or by volunteers who have improved our public areas. We urge all Westbury residents to continue to plant trees for the future. An old saying recommends, "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now."



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## Westbury Community Garden News

**4th Annual Tomato Tasting – June 3, 9:30-11AM**

*More details below about this fun event!*

**Plant It Forward Farm Stand – Open ONCE a month.**

*May 13, June 10, and July 8 from 10AM to 5PM*



## WHERE IS THE GARDEN?

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

**JOIN the garden TODAY at**  
[www.westburycommunitygarden.org](http://www.westburycommunitygarden.org)

### 4TH ANNUAL TOMATO TASTING EVENT SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 9:30-11AM

The tomato plants are lush at the Westbury Community Garden. By the end of May there will be ripe tomatoes galore, just in time for the 4th Annual Tomato Tasting. If you'd like to taste and compare tomatoes in our informal tomato tasting, come and join us! Our gardeners and other tomato growers will supply a wide variety of heirloom and hybrids of all sizes, shapes and colors. It is really a sight to see!

A \$5 donation gets you a score card to rate each numbered tomato as to its sweetness, tartness, juiciness, meatiness and other attributes in the slicer, salad and cherry tomato categories. Then choose your favorite in each category and we'll vote for overall best slicer, salad and cherry. Once scoring is done, we'll reveal the names and descriptions of each tomato.

Last year we had over 30 tomato varieties to taste. Come just to taste or save your notes for tomato planting time next year. There will be drawings for prizes and plain crackers, flat breads and water to 'cleanse the palate.' This is a fun event for the whole family.



### Helping Hands Keep our Garden Amazing

It takes many helping hands in a garden. We especially appreciate it when youth groups work in the garden! During the Keep Westbury Beautiful Day in March, 7 high school students weeded the butterfly habitat beds. Then on April 8, ten 3rd-graders from Cub Scout Pack 455 collected 5 bags of litter, released lady bugs, filled potholes, and pulled weeds. Afterwards, the boys ate watermelon and then composted the rinds.

For Earth Day on April 22, the garden had 67 hardworking volunteers show up to weed, scrape and level the garden aisles, freshen weed barrier, and move 25 yards of mulch. The volunteers were from Urban Harvest, Volunteer Houston, and gardeners.



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