



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 67, ISSUE 5

MAY 2022

## Preserving the Character of Westbury

The Westbury Civic Club is made up of YOUR neighbors. They volunteer their time and deeply care about Westbury and want to see its continued success. The WCC has been active for over 65 years and is the main reason Westbury is still a desirable neighborhood today. We are a highly respected organization by the City and County. Other civic clubs try to mirror our successes. Over 65 years, we have developed a deep history, knowledge and respect for how neighborhoods work, and how to advocate.

The vision and mission of the WCC is the same today as it was 65 years ago, 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”. Westbury is located within the 4th largest city in the US and we have to fight for our fair share of projects and funding. If no one advocates for you, nothing will ever get done in your neighborhood. The WCC advocates for everything— flood control, street repairs, HISD issues, and much more.

Part of living in Houston means no zoning and neighborhoods whose main protection is strong deed restrictions. The WCC often refers to the importance of deed restrictions in maintaining the character of our neighborhood. Other neighborhoods around us such as Maplewood SN and Meyerland have recently updated their deed restrictions to be stronger and offer more protections. All sections of Westbury have active deed restrictions but most have never been updated. The documents, while still valid, are in need of updating to reflect the current 2022 legal meanings and our ever-changing world. This is NOT an attempt to create an Mandatory HOA. The purpose of this is solely to protect what we value in Westbury.

Updating the deed restrictions can be an arduous task but is incredibly important to retain the character and charm of our neighborhood. If you are interested in joining the WCC Deed Restriction Revision task force, please email Maggie Donovan at WestburyDR@westburycrier.com. See page 12 for more information.

## MAJOR Traffic Warning 610 W Loop S Exit off 59 South CLOSED for TWO Years

The ongoing reconstruction of the 610 West Loop and the 59 Southwest Freeway started a new phase on April 29. The southbound connector from the 59 SW Freeway heading to 610 West Loop South toward Bellaire and Westbury is now closed for approximately TWO YEARS.

TxDOT recommends that drivers coming south on 59 SW Freeway continue to the Fountain View exit, make a U-turn at Fountain View, get back onto the SW Freeway headed north, then exit onto 610 W Loop S.



## Why is Trash Collection ALWAYS Late?

The City Solid Waste Department is at its lowest level of workers in decades. It is extremely understaffed. The City is required by State law to collect the regular (black) bins every week, so it often pulls drivers off their recycling or heavy trash routes to cover the regular trash. This creates a chronic backlog. Read more about the Citywide trash issues on page 11.



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## NEXT Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting

**Wednesday, May 18, 7PM**  
**Westbury Baptist Church**  
**10425 Hillcroft, Game Room**

The board meeting will be live streamed on the Westbury Houston Facebook page.

## SUPPORT THE WCC TODAY!

Pay your 2022 Dues by using this handy QR code. The dues form and more info available on page 6.



**Pay your 2022 Dues ONLINE!**  
**www.westburycrier.com**

## Westbury Pool Opens May 28

The Westbury neighborhood pool, operated by the City of Houston, will open Saturday, May 28, for the Memorial Day Weekend. The pool WILL be open on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, from 1-8PM.



**For the full summer pool schedule, see page 7.**  
**The FREE adult water fitness class is back this summer at the Westbury Pool, see page 7 for more information.**

## HEAVY TRASH RECYCLING

**May 2022**  
Thursday, May 12  
**TREE WASTE ONLY**

**June 2022**  
Thurs., June 15  
**JUNK WASTE**

**May 2022**  
Thursday, May 5  
Thursday, May 19

**June 2022**  
Thursday, June 2  
Thursday, June 16  
Thursday, June 30

# IMPORTANT CONTACTS

## WCC OFFICE

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

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

**NOTARY SERVICES— available to paid WCC members**

## CONTACT US

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

**Visit our website at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)**  
**“Like” us on Facebook at Westbury Houston**

## SECURITY

**Pct. 5 Constables (WAP).....281-463-6666**  
*Report property crimes, suspicious activity, and vacation watch*  
Emergency.....911  
Houston Police Dept. Non-Emergency..... 713-884-3131  
Southwest HPD Station .....832-394-0400

## CITY OF HOUSTON

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

## CENTERPOINT ENERGY

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

## OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

County Commissioner Rodney Ellis.....713-755-6111  
Graffiti.....www.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

# 2022 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Contact the Westbury Civic Club at 713-723-5437 or  
[westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net).

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

President.....Cindy Chapman  
*wccpresident@westburycrier.com*  
Vice President.....Marcia Hartman  
Secretary.....Susan Brock  
Treasurer.....Becky Edmondson

## DIRECTORS AT LARGE

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

## SECTION DIRECTORS

Westbury 1..... Santiago Caraballo  
Westbury 2.....Lindsey Pollock  
Westbury 3.....Jeff Benavides  
Westbury 3.....Jonathan Hansen  
Westbury 4.....Eugene Sirls  
Westbury 4.....Becky Pate  
Westbury 5.....Andrew Jefferson  
Westbury 5.....Donna Strom  
**Westbury South.....VACANT**  
Parkwest 1..... Angie Furnari  
Parkwest 2.....Bob Droubi  
Parkwest 3 .....Alan Hirshman

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

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Published by.....Westbury Civic Club, Inc.  
Editor-In-Chief..... Jennifer Edmondson  
Edited by.....WCC Publication Committee  
Advertising..... 713-723-5437/ [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net)

**Ad Disclaimer:** *The WCC neither represents nor endorses an advertisement in the newsletter. Perform your own due diligence before contacting any advertiser.*



Westbury Civic Club , Inc.

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

Deed restrictions have been a recent hot topic, so I'll mention my own experiences. Like many of you, when my husband and I moved to Houston we were clueless about certain topics. We didn't consider flooding history or flood zones because we moved from a place where flooding wasn't an issue. And certainly, we had only a vague idea that Houston had no zoning and didn't understand what deed restrictions were. At that time in 1988, the economy was in a recession, the mortgage interest rate was higher than 10%, and the Houston economy was in terrible shape. Many people had lost their jobs and numerous houses and businesses in foreclosure. While we were house-hunting, we noticed that some neighborhoods had declined more than others, but we didn't realize why and we were pleased that the home we purchased was in an area of town that had stayed fairly stable. Our new neighborhood was named Westbury. We loved the large yards, the mature trees, and the convenient location that was a short drive to my husband's new job here in Texas. We were delighted that other young couples had also recently moved onto our street. I was 28 years old and my "new" house was the same age I was.

I served as the Section Director for Westbury 5E for a few years as a busy, working mom. After I stepped down from the board, years went by before I was contacted by the WCC inquiring about my willingness to fill the vacant Deed Restriction position on the board. Frankly, I was very reluctant, but I agreed to give it a try, and thus began an education that continues today about using the tools of deed restrictions, City ordinances, and advocacy to resolve problems and to keep our neighborhood stable and desirable.

I began to better understand how and why my Westbury neighborhood had been in better shape than many other neighborhoods during those dark days of the 1980s – the answer was active deed restrictions and the very dedicated volunteers of the Westbury Civic Club. I began to better appreciate and understand the hard work that homeowners in Parkwest 1 and Parkwest 2 had undertaken in the early 1990s to revise their deed restrictions to allow 2-story homes. I had already known that they had changed their rules to allow 2-story houses, but now I realized the care they had taken to look at a wide range of issues and to implement what were high-quality documents for the era.

Times change, and both Parkwest 1 & 2 changed with them by updating their Deed Restrictions. (About 30 years have gone by since those changes, so Parkwest 1 and Parkwest 2 could actually benefit from another round of updates!) Meanwhile, all other sets of Westbury Deed Restrictions still date back to the 1950s and 1960s, from a time when the developers expected modern affluent families to use a clothes dryer and worried that it looked low-class if someone used a backyard clothes line.

Today there are new challenges and issues, and it is sensible to consider how to update old deed restrictions for today's times. I have heard that some people think the Westbury deed restrictions should be loosened and we should instead rely on City ordinances. Based on my experiences, that approach would be a big mistake. In fact, the nearby subdivisions of Maplewood SN and Meyerland have made their deed restrictions MORE Detailed, have added definitions and modernized wording, and have tried to make their deed restrictions clearer to understand.

I have learned over the years that the City can sometimes be a helpful partner, but other times, relying on the City can be frustrating or fruitless. The City sometimes will implement rules and ordinances, but then not provide the resources needed to enforce those rules and ordinances.

The City is constantly "updating" and changing its rules. Our Westbury Deed Restrictions, even as old as they are, have protected our neighborhood from those dramatic changes to the City rules. For example, the City has modified its development ordinances, so Westbury is now classified as an "Urban" area instead of a "Suburban" area. However, the character of our neighborhood still feels suburban, because our Deed Restrictions had detailed requirements that still must be followed and our deed restriction requirements over-ride the City ordinance. It is much better to have written requirements in our Deed Restrictions rather than to try to rely on unreliable City ordinances or policies.

In the coming weeks and months you will be hearing more about deed restriction topics and issues. I encourage you to participate in community meetings or surveys to discuss what changes or updates are desired and valued. It is not my choice, nor is it the choice of the WCC to decide what changes should be made, or if any changes are made. Instead, any possible changes require discussion and consensus, because a majority of homeowners must approve any changes to a set of deed restrictions. The role of the WCC is to help homeowners understand options, choices, and consequences (good or bad) and to help ensure that any changes are done in a fair and organized manner, consistent with good practices, expert advice, and relevant laws and requirements.

-Cindy Chapman

### **WCC Board Notes - April 2022**

- ➔ HISD Trustee, District 9, Myrna Guidry was invited as a speaker to the WCC Meeting as the White Elephant Sale conflicted with her District 9 Community Meeting. Guidry noted that the proposed HISD Strategic Plan has been changed back to campus budgeting as opposed to the centralized budget that was being proposed. The compromise will see required positions at every HISD campus (Nurse, Librarian, and social worker/counselor).
- ➔ Sgt. Derkowski reminded that the Precinct 5 Constables have a 24/7 Dispatcher system. If a Westbury Constable is not available, then the nearest available officer will be sent by the dispatcher. 281-463-6666. Crime stats were discussed. For property crimes, response time is typically much faster if call the Constable Dispatcher rather than reporting to HPD
- ➔ District K – Field Services Director Melvin Hopkins gave updates for District K. The construction on the West Bellfort Traffic Slowing Plan is scheduled to start on May 2.
- ➔ The WCC board approved filling 3 vacant board positions— Susan Brock was elected to move to Secretary, Becky Pate was elected for Westbury 4, and Bob Droubi was elected for Parkwest 2.

**NEXT**  
**WCC Board**  
**Meeting**

**Wednesday**  
**May 18 , 7PM**

**IN PERSON MEETING**  
Westbury Baptist Church  
10425 Hillcroft, Rm. C109

**Meeting will be livestreamed**  
**on the Westbury Houston**  
**Facebook page.**

# Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

11655 Chimney Rock Rd  
713-726-7107 \* [platou@houstontx.gov](mailto:platou@houstontx.gov)



New Supervisor— Dajai Tennard  
Email—[Dajai.Tennard@houstontx.gov](mailto:Dajai.Tennard@houstontx.gov)

Platou Center is open from 9:30AM—6PM, Monday—Friday

## Adult Classes @ The Platou Center

Exercise—M/W/F, 9:30-10:30AM

Quilting— Tuesday, 9:30AM –2PM

Games—Wednesday, 10AM—12PM

New Members are Needed—Other Times can be added if interested.

Ping Pong—Thursday, 9:30-10:30AM

There is currently plenty of Room on the Platou Center Calendar. If you are interested in something particular, like games, exercise, line dancing, ping pong, genealogy, crafts and other great get together ideas, call Dajai Tennard at | 713-726-7107. There are no bad ideas.

## Summer Program

There will be a summer program offered this summer for children at the Platou Center.

For more information, contact Dejai Tennard by phone or email to [Dejai.Tennard@houstontx.gov](mailto:Dejai.Tennard@houstontx.gov)



# Westbury Pool

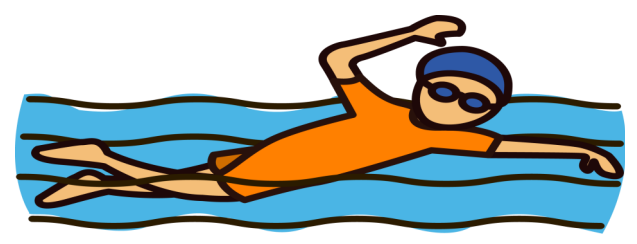
10605 Mullins, 713-723-2192

(Corner of Willowbend and Mullins near Parker Elementary)

The Westbury Neighborhood Pool is a FREE pool operated by the City of Houston and open to the public. The pool will open on May 28 for the 2022 Summer season. The pool is open on Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day (last day of season). The full pool schedule is available on page 7.

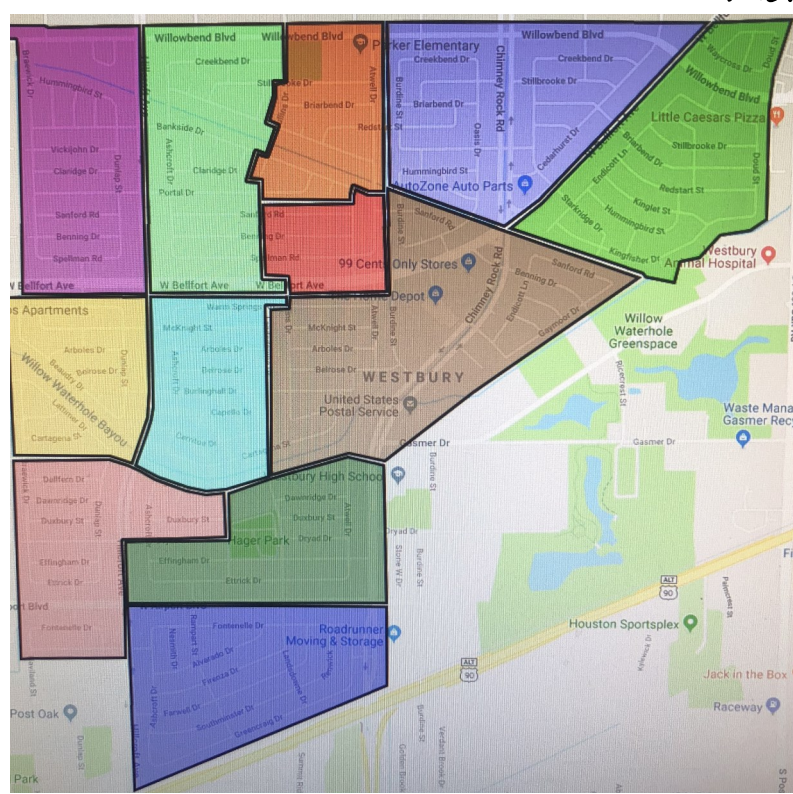
The popular Water fitness class will be offered at the Westbury Pool two evenings a week. This class is FREE and registration is open online. More info about the Water fitness class on page 7.

To learn more about the City aquatic program and information about City pools go to [www.houstontx.gov/parks/pools.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/pools.html).



## Map of Westbury by Section

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



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

## May 2022 Calendar Events/Meetings

<b>Wed 4</b>	<b>District K ReDistricting Town Hall Meeting</b> Fountain Life Center, 14083 S, Main	<b>6-8PM</b>
<b>Sun 8</b>	Happy Mother's Day	
<b>Thurs 12</b>	<b>HEAVY TRASH PICK UP—TREE WASTE ONLY</b>	
<b>Tues 17</b>	<b>Leisure—The Basis of Culture</b> Platou Center - 11655 Chimney Rock See page 11 for more information	<b>6:30-7:45PM</b>
<b>Wed 18</b>	<b>WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting</b> Zoom Meeting	<b>9:30AM</b>
<b>Wed 18</b>	<b>Westbury Civic Club Meeting</b> Westbury Baptist, 10425 Hillcroft— IN PERSON MEETING! Live streamed on Westbury Houston Facebook page	<b>7PM</b>
<b>Sat 21</b>	<b>Audubon Society Bird Survey</b> 5310 South Willow Monthly bird survey	<b>7-9AM</b>
<b>Sat 28</b>	<b>Westbury Pool Opens</b> See page 7 for pool schedule	
<b>Mon 30</b>	Memorial Day—WCC Office Closed	
<b>Mon 30</b>	<b>Westbury Pool Open for Memorial Day</b>	<b>1-6PM</b>

## All About Trash

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



### Regular Household Trash

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

### Yard Waste

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



### Recycling in Westbury

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

#### May 2022

Thursday, May 5  
Thursday, May 19

#### June 2022

Thursday, June 2  
Thursday, June 16  
Thursday, June 30

### Heavy Trash Schedule

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

**May 2022**  
**TREE WASTE ONLY**  
Thursday, May 12

**June 2022**  
**JUNK WASTE**  
Thursday, June 15

## Important Trash & Recycling Info

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

## PLAN AHEAD

June 7 - Last Day of School for HISD  
June 11—WOW Working on Westbury  
June 23 - Westbury Town Hall Meeting on Deed Restriction Revision



# Why Support the WCC?

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

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

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

## Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday Each Month at 7PM  
Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft  
→ Live streamed on Facebook, Westbury Houston

## Next WCC Board Meeting

### WCC Board Meeting Wednesday, May 18, 7PM IN PERSON MEETING

Topics - Committee updates,  
Deed Restriction Revision, crime, etc.

## Read the Westbury Crier *ONLINE!*

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

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

### Pay Your Dues Online

[www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)  
Go to [westburycrier.com](http://westburycrier.com) then to the **Dues and Assessments page**.  
The available payment options one the selection menu are:  
→ WCC Dues — \$60  
→ WCC Constables — \$305  
→ WCC Dues + Constables — \$365  
→ Custom Amount — You can enter your own amount  
Once you get to the payment page, you can opt to pay with your PayPal account, or pay directly by credit card.

### Why are Westbury Dues Mailed to a Dallas Address?

You are mailing you payments directly to our bank's processing center in Dallas. This allows your payments to be processed immediately.  
  
You may also drop off the payment directly to the WCC Office or pay online at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)

Please send this form in with your payment

## 2022 Westbury Civic Club Dues

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

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

**Online payment:**  
[www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)  
[www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com) to email  
[westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net)  
Make sure to include your address

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

Thank you for supporting the Westbury Civic Club and our important programs. We can't do it without you! To contact the WCC Office, call 713-723-5437 or email [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net).  
By filling out this form, you are giving the WCC permission to send you communications. We DO not sell your information or give it out to other entities.

## ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1 & 2

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

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

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

# Westbury Pool Opens May 28

The Westbury Neighborhood Pool, operated by the City of Houston, will open for the 2022 season on Saturday, May 28, for the Memorial Day Weekend. The pool will be open on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, from 1-8PM.

The Westbury Pool is FREE and open to the public. More information about the City aquatic programs and City pools can be found at [www.houstontx.gov/parks/pools.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/pools.html).

# Free Adult Circuit Water Fitness Class at the Westbury Pool Wednesday & Friday, 6:30PM-7:30PM

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. They will be held on Wednesday and Friday evening from 6:30PM to 7:30PM.

Register online at <https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/houstonparks/> Online registration begins on May 18.

The first day of class will be Wednesday, June 15, and the last day of class will be Friday, August 5, 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.

**Please Note** — Westbury Pool will be closed for general swimming during the class time.



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## Westbury City Pool Summer 2022 Schedule

**May 28- June 12:** Saturday & Sunday, 1-8PM

**May 30 (Memorial Day):** OPEN 1-8PM

**June 12– August 14:** Normal Summer Hours  
Tuesday—Sunday 1-8PM; Closed Mondays

**July 4:** OPEN, 1-5PM

**August 15 - September 4:** ONLY Weekends.  
Saturday and Sundays, 1-8PM

**September 5 (Labor Day):** OPEN 1-6PM  
Last day for the pool to be open!

**Questions? Call pool at 713-723-2192**

*Westbury Pool is located at 10605 Mullins  
(Corner of Willowbend & Mullins, near Parker)*

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# Keever & Wiesenthal

**Pam Keever and Kathleen Wiesenthal**  
Keever Law PLLC dba Keever & Wiesenthal  
6910 Chetwood, Houston, TX 77081

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[kwiesenthal@keeverlaw.com](mailto:kwiesenthal@keeverlaw.com)  
[www.keeverlaw.com](http://www.keeverlaw.com)

PROBATE • WILLS • GUARDIANSHIP • REAL ESTATE • ESTATE PLANNING

With a focus on real estate, will and estate planning preparation, and probate, Keever & Wiesenthal are unique in our ability to reconcile real estate issues within the context of a probate hearing or in the course of will and estate planning preparation.

You live in a very unique state from the rest of the nation in terms of real estate law. When you need to purchase, sell or refinance your real property, one-size-fits-all legal forms may not be adequate to achieve the results you need and neither should your estate plan.

You need to consult with a Texas Real Estate Attorney who has experience and knows how to reach the result you desire.

When you have taken the time to find a law firm to help you plan your end of life decisions and to guide you

through Texas Real Estate transactions, make sure it's a firm who can handle your case with the utmost care and professionalism.

**Make sure it's  
Keever & Wiesenthal.**



## City of Houston Redistricting

The City is hosting meetings in each City Council district about the City redistricting process and to receive an update on planned capital improvement projects (CIP). The meeting for District K will be held on May 4, 6 to 8PM, at the Fountain Life Center, 14083 S. Main at Hillcroft.

The City of Houston looks at redistricting needs after each Census. Since the 2020 census data was just completed, it is time for this process to begin again. Each city council district is supposed to have approximately the same population. Redistricting was last done back in 2010 and two new districts (District J and District K) were added at that time. Most residents of Westbury were moved from District C into the new District K. Hopefully we will not be moved again.

Harris County has already completed its redistricting process. Read more about that to the right.

## Let's Talk About Redistricting

### Redistricting Town Hall Meeting:

District K Council Member  
Martha Castex-Tatum

**6-8 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, May 4**

Fountain Life Center  
14083 S. Main St., 77035

[letstalkhouston.org/redistricting](http://letstalkhouston.org/redistricting)

# KEEP YOU MOVING

without joint pain



## Live life without joint pain.

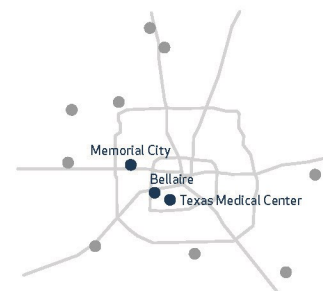
At Houston Methodist Orthopedics & Sports Medicine, we know that joint pain affects every part of your life. With treatment plans customized for you, our specialists offer a full range of advanced nonsurgical and surgical techniques. Our expert joint care includes:

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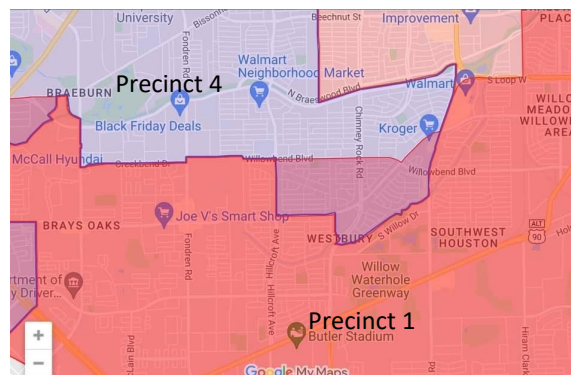
[houstonmethodist.org/jointpain](http://houstonmethodist.org/jointpain)  
713.441.9000

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## How Do Harris County Precincts Work?

Harris County is led by the Harris County Judge (Lina Hidalgo) and Commissioners Court. There are four Commissioners and they each represent a Precinct. Westbury used to be primarily in Precinct 1 under Commissioner Rodney Ellis; however, with the new redistricting, some of Westbury is now located within Harris County Precinct 4 under Jack Cagle. While most of Westbury remained in Precinct 1, a big section North of W. Bellfort moved to Precinct 4. See the map below that shows the old map overlaid with the new, so you can clearly see the sections of Westbury that changed to Precinct 4.



Harris County Commissioner Court Map  
Westbury Precinct boundaries



These are NOT the same Precincts as the Harris County Constables precincts. While the Constables are part of Harris County, they have their own Precincts and elected leaders. The boundaries of the 8 Harris County Constable Precincts has not changed. Westbury geographically falls in two Constable precincts, but our legal contract for security patrol services includes the entire neighborhood regardless of which precinct they live in. For more information about the Harris County Constable, see [www.constablepct5.com](http://www.constablepct5.com)



## FREE Pet Microchips and Vaccines


BARC is happy to partner with District K City Council Member Martha Castex-Tatum in May for two exciting events for District K residents. **FREE pet microchips & rabies vaccine appointments are now available for owned pets of Houston's District K residents at BARC's Wellness Center!**

Council Member Castex-Tatum will be sponsoring wellness services for District K residents May 9th and May 16th. The free services will include: Rabies vaccine, registration and a pet microchip at no cost. Remember: all owned Houston pets must be microchipped and registered with the City of Houston!

By appointment only and you must create one appointment per pet. Request an appointment online today!  
<https://barchouston.as.me/DistrictK>

Thank you Council Member Castex-Tatum for offering this free service for us!







**MAY 9 AND MAY 16**  
*Mayo 9 y Mayo 16*

Free pet microchips & rabies vaccines available for owned pets of Houston's District K residents at BARC's Wellness Center!  
**Request an appointment online.**


*¡Microchips para mascotas y vacunas contra la rabia gratis disponibles para las mascotas de los residentes del Distrito K de Houston en el Centro de Bienestar de BARC! Solicite una cita en línea.*

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY!**  
*Con cita previa solamente*





In partnership with District K Council Member, Martha Castex-Tatum.



BARC Wellness Center  
3200 Carr St. Houston TX, 77026

### Links for Lost & Found Pets

- Nextdoor Westbury - [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)
- Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook
- Houston Cares - Contact at [houstoncaresrescue.org/](http://houstoncaresrescue.org/)



Your **BUSINESS** name here!

Interested in Advertising in the Westbury Crier?

Email [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net) for ad rates

## Donate your Clean Recycles to BARC

Did you know that BARC (the city animal shelter) accepts clean recyclable items as donations? Items can be used as enrichment & comfort for our shelter pets! Recycle, donate AND help shelter pets all at the same time.

Donations can be dropped off seven days a week through the 2700 Evella Street entrance for BARC!

### Plastic Bottles/Jugs

Great for making DIY treat dispensers for our shelter dogs. We accept most plastic water or liter-sized soda bottles, and gallon sized milk/juice jugs. Just rinse them out and drop them off!

### Newspaper

Not only can it be used to line kennels for our small dogs, puppies, and felines but it can be used to create fun enrichment toys for our pets.

### Paper Tubes

Our kitties love playing with paper tubes. Our staff and volunteers get crafty and turn them into fun toys! Paper tubes also come in handy when BARC receives bunnies or other small animals.

### Cardboard Egg Cartons

Cardboard egg cartons make great disposable treat scavenging toys. Our cats, small dogs, and puppies enjoy ruffling through the shredded paper to find snacks. We are only able to accept cardboard egg cartons! No Styrofoam please!

### Cardboard Boxes & Paper Bags

Probably one of our most used and needed items. Boxes and bags are great to give comfort to shy cats and dogs. Next time you're out shopping ask for paper instead of plastic and then bring them to BARC!

## Dog Boarding and Daycare

**(713) 668-7297**

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Email: [info@youluckydoghouston.com](mailto:info@youluckydoghouston.com)

Free Compatibility Assessment with this Ad (\$30 Value)

## DISTRICT K UPDATES

Westbury is lucky to be in a very responsive City Council District. District K always sends representatives with good information to our monthly meetings. Our District K Councilmember, Martha Castex-Tatum often attends, if her schedule allows. At the April 2022 WCC board meeting, Melvin Hopkins spoke for District K and provided several important updates.

### W. Belfort Traffic Slowing Plan Construction Starts May

District K office is providing the funds to construct several traffic slowing measures along W. Belfort to try and slow down traffic and lessen the accidents. Smaller lanes, better signage, and painted street markings. Construction is scheduled to start on May 2.

### Hillcroft Concrete Panel Replacements

Segments of concrete panels will be replaced on the northbound side of Hillcroft, between West Belfort and Willowbend.

### Westbury 2 Sidewalk Repair

District K has submitted a section of sidewalks in Westbury 2 for modifications to improve mobility for those with disabilities. The Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities reviewed the sidewalk for eligibility. Thank you Susan Brock with the WCC for reporting this dangerous sidewalk.

## CONTACT DISTRICT K

832-393-3016  
district@houstontx.gov

## Spring Village Apartment Buyout Update

On April 6, Martha Castex-Tatum gave an update to Houston City Council on the progress of the Spring Village Apartments Multifamily Voluntary Buyout project in Westbury. This property, consisting of approximately 6.45 acres of land at the corner of Chimney Rock and Ludington, will be used for an additional 53-57 acre-feet of flood detention.

As of March 31st, 73 of the 132 tenants still remain at the property. Occupancy is slowly going down as residents are relocating. Everyone should be adequately relocated by the end of 2022. Demolition should happen within a month or two after Spring Village Apartments are fully vacated. The Spring Village Apartments have flooded MANY times.



Red circled area is the Spring Village Apartment. This land will be used for detention or greenspace after demolition. The property is located at the corner of Ludington and Chimney Rock and abuts the Willow Waterhole Bayou (blue line). The new Westbury Library will be built North of the bayou (yellow area).

This property will be dedicated and maintained in perpetuity for open space, recreational or floodplain and wetlands management. No new structure will be erected on this property.

This project will have a tremendous impact on improving the overall drainage in this area of the district that has suffered from repetitive flooding over the recent years. Progress is being made!



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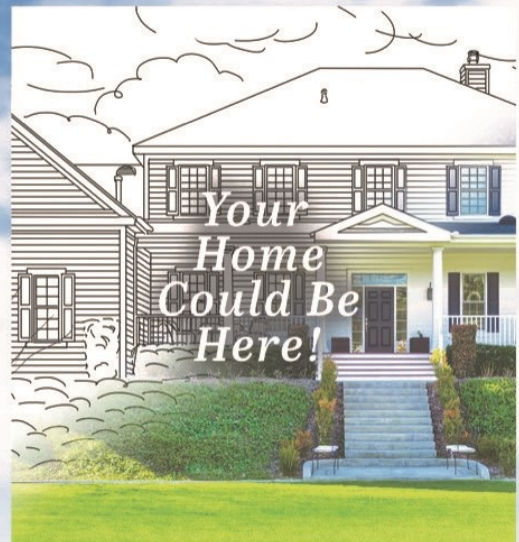
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# Leisure, the Basis of Culture

**May 17, 6:30PM—7:45PM**

**Platou Community Center  
11655 Chimney Rock**

*Do you wish you had more leisure time?  
Do you wish you had more access to leisure activities?*  
Then, this workshop is for you as it presents essential components of health and fitness that will enable a person to enhance quality of life to maximize better leisure.

Join Houston Parks Division Director, Louis Moore, as he provides recommendations to participate in various leisure activities with Houston Parks and Recreation Department that are either self-directed or leader-directed at community centers, parks, aquatic centers, tennis centers, golf courses, skateboarding parks, sports facilities, and trails. Many of you may remember Louis from his years of leading the water fitness class at Westbury pool.

A discussion involving ancient Greek philosophy will differentiate common misconceptions about the idea of leisure and its relation to work, and that it is actually an attitude of mind and a condition of the soul that fosters receptivity to both physical and spiritual realities. American society has devalued leisure in recent decades and instead overemphasized "total work", which has led to a culture of restlessness, poor health, and despair. Instead of mindlessly engaging in frenetic amusements and relentless striving, we can proactively participate in wholesome, contemplative leisure activities that can enable a person to attain both intrinsic and extrinsic benefits, such as to improve physical skills and abilities, develop new interests and values towards life, enhance cognitive skills and abilities, and foster spirituality to live a life worth living.

You may register for this class on line through the Houston Parks website, [www.houstontx.gov/parks](http://www.houstontx.gov/parks) and choose online registration.

## City Trash Delays

*Why is my Trash Pick-up ALWAYS late?*

Trash issues are the number one reason for calls to the WCC and our City Council office. Residents are very frustrated that recycling and heavy trash are always late and the weekly yard waste never picked up. The Houston Chronicle recently ran a great article answering many questions that people all over Houston want to know, key points are summarized below.

### Why is Trash Service Unreliable?

The City Solid Waste department has reached its lowest amount of workers in decades. The department is rarely able to assign drivers to all the routes throughout the City. It often has to pull drivers off recycling, heavy trash and yard waste to pick up the regular trash bins, which must be collected weekly, per state law. The constant maneuvering of the workforce leads to extensive and chronic backlogs in the recycling and heavy trash collections. The drivers have been required to work six-day schedules since 2018 and drivers often work over 60 hours in a week.

### What is the Solution?

Mayor Turner has added cash bonuses for new drivers and plans in bring salary raises before City Council soon. Mayor Turner has also been speaking about the need for a garage fee on residents. He voted against such fee in 2019 but says it is now needed to increase the budget. Other major Cities in Texas and the US have trash fees.

### How can you help the truck drivers?

- ➔ Make sure your bins are at least 3 feet apart.
- ➔ Make sure lids close completely on bins. Technically, you can be skipped, but most drivers will still attempt collection. Be respectful and do not overload your bins.
- ➔ Do not place bins or heavy trash next to light poles, trees or other obstructions that would make it difficult for the truck arm to grab the bin. Also, pay attention to tree branches and placement of bins and heavy trash.

## HOUSTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

# LIFEGUARDING SUMMER JOBS

*If you or someone you know, have swimming skills and desire to work for Houston Parks and Recreation Department Aquatic Team, contact the Aquatics Office to schedule a swim evaluation.*

### Requirements:

- Must be 16 years of age on or before May 31.
- Must pass standard Lifeguard Swim Evaluation.
- Must apply online at: <http://www.houstontx.gov/jobs>
- Must pass American Red Cross Lifeguard Training offered/approved by HPARD Aquatic Administration.
- Must pass physical examination, drug test and criminal background check.
- Must have reliable transportation

### The following positions are available:

- LIFEGUARD - \$13.66/hr.
- HEADGUARD - \$15.00/hr.
- AQUATIC CENTER SUPERVISOR - \$17.99/hr.

For more information call (832) 395-7129



Mayor Sylvester Turner

## Texas and Run-off Elections 2022

There are TWO separate elections for the month of May. The first election is to vote on two proposed Amendments to the Texas constitution related to taxes. The other election is for party runoff elections to select who will be on the ballot in November if no candidates received a majority vote during a primary election.



NOTE - if you voted during the primary in March for one political party, then you cannot switch to a different political party to vote in the runoff election. If you did not vote during the primary election, then you can opt to vote in any runoff elections for either political party.

For more details about where and when to vote and for sample ballots, go to [www.HarrisVotes.com](http://www.HarrisVotes.com)

### Amendments to the Texas Constitution

**Early Voting is April 25 to May 3.**

**Election Day is May 7.**

The two proposed amendments are related to taxes and are described as:

- ➔ A measure that would authorize the state legislature to reduce the limit on property taxes imposed on the homesteads of elderly or disabled residents to reflect any tax rate reduction enacted by law from the preceding tax year.
- ➔ A measure to increase the homestead exemption for school district property taxes from \$25,000 to \$40,000.

### Run-off Elections—Democratic and Republican

**Early Voting is May 16 to May 20**

**Election Day is May 24.**

There are both statewide and local races.

- Attorney General of Texas – Run-off —Democratic & Republican
- Land Commissioner of Texas - Run-off— Democratic & Republican
- Other Statewide Democratic Run-off Elections – Lt. Governor, Comptroller
- Other Statewide Republican Run-off Elections – Railroad Commissioner
- Local Run-off Elections – Check [harrisvotes.org](http://harrisvotes.org) for sample ballot

### Preserving the Character of Westbury

Times are constantly changing. Legal terms and what things meant in 1957 are not the same in 2022. Things that once concerned homeowners in 1960s are not a problem anymore, gone are the days of visible clotheslines being an issue or open garage doors. The original developers of Westbury never accounted for elevating homes and the need for rules around that process. As legal meanings have evolved, our Westbury deed restrictions should reflect these changes so Westbury can maintain what our neighborhood means to US not what it now means to the City or State based off some legal precedence or definition.

Westbury has over 30 sets of deed restrictions for 5,000 homes. There are some common clauses in all sections but there are also some differences as well. One thought is to streamline the restrictions and make them more cohesive throughout all of Westbury. It can be confusing for residents on one side of a street to have different rules than the other side. For example, Mullins divides Parkwest 2 and Westbury 5. In Parkwest, they amended their restrictions in the early 90s to allow 2 story homes and 3 car garages. Meanwhile, Westbury 5 still has their original deed restrictions which do not allow for 2 story homes and only allow for a 2 car garage.

Texas State property code dictates how and by whom deed restrictions can be amended or altered. The WCC will help facilitate the process of updating and amending the deed restrictions. The WCC is consulting with our attorney on the first steps we need to take in this process to ensure it is done openly, honestly, and correctly. We expect surveys, several community meetings, break out groups, and more. This process can be arduous, but is incredibly important to retain the character and charm of our neighborhood. If you are interested in joining the WCC Deed Restriction Revision task force, please email Maggie Donovan at [WestburyDR@westburycrier.com](mailto:WestburyDR@westburycrier.com). Stay tuned for updates in future Criers.

## VACATION WATCH

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



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

### Confirmed LOCAL Cases of COVID-19

(data from [publichealthharriscountytx.gov](http://publichealthharriscountytx.gov))

	77035	77096	Houston
4/23/20	54	59	2,975
5/21/20	108	85	6,188
6/24/20	334	183	16,253
7/27/20	748	492	45,145
8/26/20	1,102	700	62,097
9/26/20	1,255	817	72,684
10/26/20	1,360	894	82,999
11/23/20	1,504	1,026	93,988
12/20/20	1,779	1,240	110,445
1/26/21	2,238	1,659	150,091
2/23/21	2,613	1,943	170,667
3/29/21	2,752	2,069	182,440
4/25/21	2,837	2,126	189,585
5/19/21	2,863	2,152	192,238
6/28/21	2,842	2,153	192,674
7/28/21	2,920	2,216	197,088
8/24/21	3,409	2,675	233,287
9/28/21	3,927	3,139	271,395
10/25/21	4,053	3,252	281,913
11/22/21	4,124	3,332	287,932
12/29/21	4,465	3,713	312,298
1/24/22	5,997	5,187	399,987
2/26/22	6,629	5,869	441,000
3/30/22	6,696	5,989	451,483
4/25/22	6,767	6,054	457,343








# Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood

March 25—April 24, 2022

## Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

### KEY

Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W
10900	Ashcroft	Vandalism, Damage, Destruction	4/11	8pm	Parkwest 2
11300	Atwell	Theft of Vehicle Parts	4/2	5pm	Westbury 3
11400	Atwell	Theft of Vehicle Parts	4/4	7am	Westbury 3
5700	Bankside	Theft of Vehicle Parts	4/21	9am	Parkwest 2
5900	Bankside	Burglary, Breaking & Entering	4/14	5pm	Westbury 5
5700	Benning	Theft from Motor Vehicle	4/23	11am	Parkwest 2
11700	Braewick	Theft of Vehicle Parts	4/8	1am	Westbury 4
5200	Briarbend	Drugs, Narcotics	4/23	10pm	Westbury 1
5400	Briarbend	Theft of Vehicle Parts	3/27	6am	Westbury 2
10900	Cedarhurst	Theft—other	4/20	5pm	Westbury 2
10900	Cedarhurst	Burglary, Breaking & Entering	4/23	1am	Westbury 2
5800	Creekbend	Theft—Other	4/23	2pm	Parkwest 2
5900	Duxbury	Simple Assault	3/30	5pm	Westbury 4
6000	Effingham	Simple Assault	4/8	3pm	Westbury 4
5800	Greencraig	Theft from Motor Vehicle	4/14	7pm	Westbury South
5700	Hummingbird	Burglary, Breaking & Entering	4/22	1pm	Parkwest 2
5100	Kingfisher	Theft of Vehicle Parts	4/11	11pm	Westbury 1
12400	Landsdowne	Aggravated Assault	4/10	3am	Westbury South
6000	McKnight	Theft—Other	4/20	5pm	Parkwest 3
10900	Oasis	Robbery	4/3	4am	Westbury 2
5200	Redstart	Theft of Vehicle Parts	4/11	6pm	Westbury 1
5400	Redstart	Theft of Vehicle Parts	4/8	10am	Westbury 2
5700	Warm Springs	Simple Assault	3/31	3pm	Westbury 3
6000	Warm Springs	Simple Assault	4/22	4pm	Parkwest 3
5700	W. Airport	Burglary, Breaking & Entering	4/7	5pm	Westbury 4
5700	W. Airport	Theft of Vehicle Parts	4/13	11pm	Westbury 4
5700	W. Belfort	Simple Assault	3/31	3pm	Parkwest 2
6000	W. Belfort	Simple Assault	3/25	9pm	Parkwest 3
5400	Willowbend	Theft from Motor Vehicle	4/1	12pm	Westbury 2

-  Theft from Motor Vehicle
-  Drugs/Narcotics
-  Theft of Vehicle Parts
-  Burglary
-  Aggravated Assault
-  Simple Assault
-  Property Damage

The crimes listed took place between March 25 thru April 24, 2022. They are in alphabetical order by street. The crimes are highlighted by type. Please see key above.

### Crime by the Numbers

Crime Type	Homes	Apts./TH	Comm./Business	Park/Public
Aggravated Assault	1	5	2	1
Theft from Motor Vehicle	3	0	0	3
Burglary	4	4	0	0
Robbery	1	1	2	0
Simple Assault	6	26	4	2
Shoplifting	0	0	6	0
Drugs, Narcotics	1	0	1	0
Vandalism, Damage	1	9	1	1
Auto Theft	0	1	1	0
Theft of Vehicle Parts	9	2	0	0
Theft—Other	3	1	0	0
DUI	0	0	0	8
Arson	0	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>

**Pct. 5 Constable Dispatch**  
**Westbury Area Patrol**  
**281-463-6666**  
**SW HPD Station**  
**832-394-0400**  
**HPD Non-Emergency**  
**713-884-3131**

Support the Constable Program  
 Pay your 2022 Dues!  
 Dues form is on page 6  
**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TODAY!**

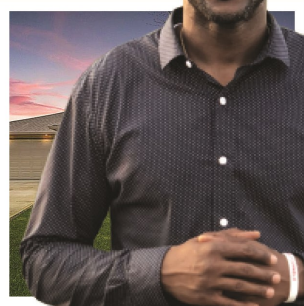


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# Westbury Yard of the Month APRIL 2022

**Westbury 1**  
10922 Endicott Ln  
Shaffer-Dean Family

**Westbury 2**  
5454 Redstart  
Westbury Resident

**Westbury 3**  
5630 McKnight  
Josh and Jess Madden

**Westbury 4**  
12214 Ashcroft  
Kathy & Joe Marroquin

**Westbury 5**  
5610 Spellman  
Westbury Resident

**Parkwest 1**  
5503 Briarbend  
Nolen & Annie

**Parkwest 2**  
5738 Portal  
Martha Severance

**Parkwest 3**  
6023 Beaudry  
Rita Puente

**Westbury South**  
12415 Renwick  
Marta Bonilla



Westbury 3 Yard of Month Winner



Parkwest 2 Yard of Month Winner



Westbury 1 Yard of Month Winner



Westbury South  
Yard of Month Winner

**UPCOMING**

**WORKING ON WESTBURY**

**\*Saturday, June 11  
8-9AM**

Trash Collection at Willow Waterhole

\*Look for more information in upcoming Westbury Criers.

## HISD Funding Update

Last month we wrote about the new Houston ISD strategic plan. The original HISD plan had sweeping changes, including centralizing the funding of certain positions and programs. This would have taken away the ability of principals to make the decisions for what their school actually needed and the District would tell them what they could have. As we go to print, the proposal to centralize has been pulled back for reconsideration after push back. HISD says it will still allow principals control of their budgets but will still mandate several positions at all schools such as librarians and nurses.

The new strategic plan will affect every school. Whether you have children in HISD or not, this is an important topic. The majority of our property taxes go to HISD and our house values are intrinsically tied to how our neighborhood schools are perceived. Westbury schools fall into two trustee districts. Both of our HISD Trustees held community meetings on this topic and HISD budget, and we thank everyone who took the time to reach out to their Trustees. Stay tuned to future *Criers* for updates on this important topic.

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# Keep Westbury Beautiful Day

Neighborhood volunteers have been working to improve Westbury parks and greenspaces for over 65 years. Each "Keep Houston Beautiful Day" since 2012, volunteers have worked in Westbury to make our corner of the world a little cleaner and a little better. On April 2, the WCC again hosted an official work site in Westbury as part of the "Keep Houston Beautiful" event. This year, events were held at Westbury Park, Hager Park, and the Westbury Community Garden.

## Westbury Park

Much of the volunteer work was to refresh the huge butterfly garden that we planted seven years ago. Approximately 37 volunteers, aged 7 to 70, spent the morning working in Westbury Park. Volunteers picked up trash across the park and cleaned up the park sign bed at the corner of Mullins and Willowbend. Overgrown and freeze-damaged branches were pruned back. Weeds were removed. New butterfly-friendly plants were planted, and several bags of new soil and 50 bags of mulch donated by Scotts Miracle Gro were spread. The butterfly garden once again looks spectacular

Joining Jennifer Edmondson, Becky Edmondson, and Cindy Chapman from the Westbury Civic Club, were 37 greatly appreciated volunteers: Joe Gaston from the District K office; the Bellaire High School National Honor Society, under the direction of Jennifer Kuhleman; residents of Westbury; and volunteers who signed up via Volunteer Houston.

The Westbury Park butterfly garden was cleaned up and new butterfly plants were planted. Jennifer Edmondson, who designed the bed 7 years ago along with Westbury resident Laura Falk, added some new host plants of lantana, milkweed, flame acanthus, and frog fruit. Still thriving from previous years were lantana, cassia, fire bush, pipe vines, and several other types of plants.

## Hager Park

Westbury resident, Tom Gwillim, led the day at Hager Park by filling several bags with trash. Thanks Tom!

## Westbury Community Garden

Twenty volunteers from Kincaid High School worked at the Westbury Community Garden pulling weeds and doing routine maintenance. See page 18 for more information.

Special thanks to Brett Byers of the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy for the loan of tools for this event. Thanks to Weichert Realty for water for our volunteers and thanks to Vintage Underwriters for the pizza. It was a beautiful day in the neighborhood!

**GET INVOLVED**  
Become the  
"Keeper of the Butterfly Garden"  
→ Routinely check, weed, and water  
→ Create a Westbury Butterfly Garden Sign  
If you are interested in either of these opportunities, please contact Jennifer westburyc@sbccglobal.net





## Creating Your Own Butterfly Garden

Do you love watching butterflies flitting about? We encourage Westbury residents to visit the Butterfly Garden at Westbury Park to see various butterfly species at work. Another great place to see butterflies is at the Westbury Community Garden. Both sites have designed their butterfly gardens to support butterflies across their life cycle: egg, caterpillar, pupa, through adult butterfly. If you want to see more butterflies in your garden, then your habitat should support the needs of butterflies during all four stages.



The plants purchased for the Butterfly Garden at Westbury Park were purchased at Buchanan's Garden Center. Here is some advice gleaned from their website. *"Plant flowers to attract butterflies by providing nectar, and provide host plants where the adults can lay their eggs. These plants are not the same. Do not use insecticides in the garden. All insecticides, including Bt are toxic to insects and butterflies are insects, too. After the eggs hatch, the larvae will begin to eat the leaves of the host plant. Don't worry if the host plant is defoliated; it will recover. Butterfly larvae usually prefer native "unimproved" varieties of plants."*

Some of the butterfly-nurturing plants, which have been planted at the Butterfly Gardens at Westbury Park and at the Westbury Community Garden, are:

Host Plants: Milkweed, Dutchman's pipe vine, Ruellia/Mexican Petunia, Fennel, Cassia and others

Nectar Plants: Phlox, Ruellia, Lantana, Cassia, Sages, Salvias, Zinnia, Milkweed, Purple Coneflower, and others

Some resources to learn more about pollinator gardening in Houston and Texas include:

- Native Plant Society of Texas – Houston Chapter
- Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center
- Butterfly Center at the Natural Science Museum.

## Help Needed Along Westbury Trails

There are several trails throughout Westbury along our drainage easements that run through the neighborhood. Have you seen the Westbury Trail signs? These trails are maintained by Westbury volunteers and we need you!

**Willow Waterhole Bayou Trail**— This trail is along the banks of the Willow Waterhole Bayou all the way through Westbury to the Willow Waterhole detention basins.

**Hummingbird/Bankside Ditch Trail**— This trail runs along the Hummingbird/Bankside Ditch all the way to the Chimney Rock/W. Belfort intersection, where you can take the pipeline easement to the Willow Waterhole complex.

**Atwell/Burdine Easement Trail**— This trail runs along the drainage easement behind Atwell and Burdine homes. It easily connects Parkwest to the Hummingbird Trail or you can walk along the trail to W. Belfort near Burdine.

These trails are unimproved with grass that needs to be mowed and cleared of trash/brush periodically. This type of maintenance requires volunteers, but right now, there is only one man, Allen Potvin, and he would love to find others interested in helping him mow.

The current mowing distance along the trails amounts to 1.6 miles, which can be easily broken down into sections ranging from 1/3 to 3/4 mile segments. There is also a need for volunteers to pick up trash and branches/twigs prior to mowing.

**If you would like to help with the Westbury Trail project, please contact Allen Potvin at [abpotvin@gmail.com](mailto:abpotvin@gmail.com) for more information.**

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## WESTBURY COMMUNITY GARDEN 12581 DUNLAP

### 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.



### Pocket Prairie at the Westbury Community Garden

There is demonstration pocket prairie located at the Westbury Community Garden. The prairie is in the area of the garden site nearest to GreenCraig, near the bend where Dunlap turns into GreenCraig.

Right now the prairie is alive with blooming Green Milkweed and many other spring wildflowers like wine cups, prairie parsley, tickseed coreopsis, and many more. There are no bluebonnets, but there is a patch of Indian paintbrush. These spring blooming plants will soon be followed by liatris, giant coneflower, and other types of milkweeds.

The best time to visit is on a Sunday, because the auto repair businesses on GreenCraig are closed and there is plenty of curbside parking. Visitors are encouraged to drop by if they are interested in the native plants of Texas. Take pictures and enjoy what you see.

### Thank you Kincaid HS Volunteers

Students from Kincaid High School volunteered in the WCG Butterfly Beds to kick off Keep America Beautiful month at the garden. The group, comprised of freshmen through seniors, were fantastic weed slayers & landscape helpers. They worked among the flowering Texas Bluebonnets and emerging spring wildflowers & native plants.



### Benefits of a Pocket Prairie

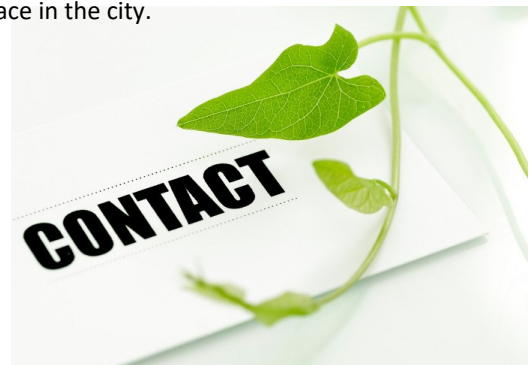
There are many benefits of a pocket prairie when compared to conventional lawns. Here is a quick list of ways that re-establishing prairie habitats can help the local community.

**Mitigates Flood Water**—Prairie grasses absorb flood water far faster and filter storm water runoff.

**Decreases Soil Erosion**—While conventional turf grass roots only penetrate a few inches into the soil, prairie grass roots go feet deep into the soil. This greatly reduces soil erosion.

**Habitat Conservation**—Many Texas native species of birds and pollinators depend on prairie habitat for their homes and food. Pocket Prairies help keep these species healthy.

**Psychological Benefit**—Walking in natural spaces greatly improves people's mental and physical health. Pocket prairies can be used to install sustainable green space in the city.



Like “Westbury Community Garden Houston” on Facebook

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

# Willow Waterhole

## More than Just Flood Control

### TRAILS \* BIRDS \* WILDFLOWERS

Visit the Willow Waterhole TODAY!  
The main Westbury Lake trails and gazebo are easily accessible via the new parking lot at the end of Dryad. Additional parking is available on the street off Ricecrest.



Photo—Mark Mulligan, Houston Chronicle

## The Pier is Near!

Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy is planning to build a pier on Westbury Lake in 2022. The pier was designed by Cobb Fendley and Associates in Houston.

The pier will be used for fishing and kayak/canoe launching, as well as environmental sampling by local schools. The pier will be built using the PermaTrak system, which allows the water level to cover the pier during rain events. The pier will extend 46 feet from the edge of the lake and then make a 90 degree turn and extend another 32 feet. The surface width is 8 feet and the entire structure will be surrounded by a safety railing. It will be ADA compliant with a concrete path from the top of the bank down to the water's edge.

This is a \$200,000 - 250,000 capital expenditure and WWGC has raised over 80% of the funds required. This is very good news but they also need your financial support now. No donation is too small and since they are very close to their goal, every dollar will have an impact. The money raised for this project will be matched by The Kinder Foundation.

To donate, go to [www.willowwaterhole.org](http://www.willowwaterhole.org) and click on Support, scroll down to Donate Now, select Capital Projects from the menu, and type in Pier.

If you prefer, you may send your personal check to WWGC, P. O. Box 35676, Houston, TX 77235-5676 with a notation of the Pier on the check.

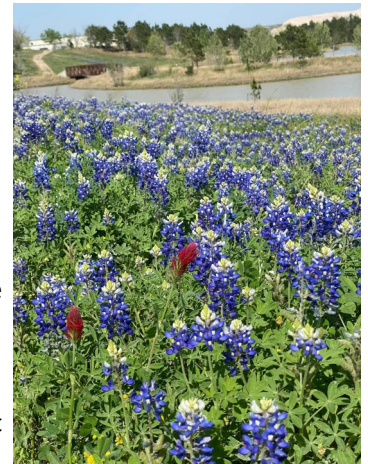


## Bluebonnets at the Willow Waterhole

One of the most iconic Texas photos is sitting among bluebonnets. It used to be that you had to drive out of Houston to towns like Brenham but now you can get those family photos close to home at the Willow Waterhole.

Did you make it out to the Willow Waterhole to see the spectacular display of bluebonnets while they were in bloom? Hundreds of Westbury residents took advantage of our nearby Willow Waterhole bluebonnet fields for that quintessential Texas picture of loved ones among the bluebonnets.

Come out next Spring for the amazing bluebonnets at the Willow Waterhole!



## Audubon Society Monthly Bird Survey @ the Willow Waterhole

**What:** Audubon Society Bird Survey

**When:** Saturday, May 21, 7-9AM

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

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

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# Westbury Town Hall Meeting

## Deed Restriction Revision

Thursday, June 23, 6-7:30PM

Westbury Baptist, Game Room



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