



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 63, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2018

5th Annual Tomato Tasting Westbury Community Garden Saturday, June 2, 10-11:30AM

The Westbury Community Garden will be hosting its 5th Annual Tomato Tasting on Saturday June 2. This is a fun, family friendly event that is delicious! Tasters can purchase a scorecard for a small donation and do a blind taste test of 25-30 varieties of tomatoes.

This is a popular event each year! Come check out the garden and taste the delicious fresh tomatoes grown locally! For more information, see page 23. The garden is located at 12581 Dunlap.

New District K CM Martha Castex-Tatum

On May 5, the City of Houston held a Special Election in District K to replace the recently deceased Larry Green. Martha Castex-Tatum won with 60% of the vote. There will be no run-off election since one candidate received over 50% of the vote. CM Castex-Tatum was sworn in to office on May 16, 2018. Read all about it on page 11. Martha will serve the remainder of the term. The next election is in Nov. 2019.

Westbury residents had a chance to get to know Martha as she had served as District K Director of Constituent Services since 2015. She even grew up in District K! Read all about Martha on page 11.

Voter turnout was abysmally low with 6,213 of the 106,410 eligible voters in District K for a total of 5.8%, but it was much higher in Westbury. You can read all about the election voting numbers and precincts totals on page 10. The WCC encourages all residents to VOTE in the next election. If you think that you have no voice and nothing ever happens, you are wrong. The best way to get anything done is to be a part of the process. Having good communications with our City Council office is an important part of this.

Sometimes our expectations exceed the reality of what can happen in terms of projects or fixes to chronic problems; however, that doesn't mean they aren't being worked on.

The WCC looks forward to working with CM Castex-Tatum to continue to bring Westbury's long standing projects to fruition. The District K staff is remaining as well. Donald Perkins will be the Chief of Staff and Barbara Hite will still be our awesome constituent rep! Vivian Harris and Joe Gaston also will remain.



Newly elected Martha Castex-Tatum being sworn into office by Mayor Turner on May 16. Her son, John Paul, is holding the Bible.

**SUMMER 2018
WCC OFFICE HOURS**
Starting June 11 thru July 20
**Monday – Thursday
10AM – 2PM**
Or by appointment.
Phone – 713-723-5437
Email –
westburycc@sbcglobal.net

Do you want to volunteer in the WCC office doing filing and answering the phones? Call 713-723-5437 or come by the office and let us know!! We have several times that need to be covered this summer and love some help!

Westbury Pool Now Open

The Westbury Pool will be open on Memorial Day weekend, May 26-28. Regular hours begin on Saturday, June 2.



For more information about the pool schedule, adult fitness classes, and children's learn to swim classes, see page 6.

The Westbury Pool is a City of Houston pool. Entry is FREE.

RECYCLING DATES

June 2018

Thursday, June 7
Thursday, June 21

July 2018

Thursday, July 5
Thursday, July 19

HEAVY TRASH

June 2018

Thursday, June 14
JUNK WASTE

July 2018

Thursday, July 12
TREE WASTE
ONLY

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- Thursday9AM-1PM

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

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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

Westbury HPD Storefront.....832-394-7520

CITY OF HOUSTON

District K CM, Martha Castex-Tatum..... 832-393-3016

District C Council Member, Ellen Cohen.....832-393-3004

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

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

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

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

Houston Help & Information.....311

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

CENTERPOINT ENERGY

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

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

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

Make sure to give pole number

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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

Graffiti.....www.braysoaksmd.org

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

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

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

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

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

2018 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President.....Becky Edmondson

wccpresident@westburycrier.com or 713-443-3951

Vice President..... Cindy Chapman

Secretary.....Dan Vega

Treasurer.....Marcia Hartman

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Communications.....Katherine Wingfield

Community Relations.....Eugene Sirls

Deed Restrictions.....Jennifer Edmondson

westburycc@sbcglobal.net

Flood Control & Infrastructure.....Donna Strom

Greenspace Beautification.....Mat Funk

Membership.....Jeff Benavides

Security.....VACANT

Volunteer Coordinator.....Robert Ellis-Montgomery

robertsmontgomery@icloud.com

SECTION DIRECTORS

Westbury 1.....Nancy Stewart

Westbury 2.....Susan Brock

Westbury 3.....Tony Robert

Westbury 3.....VACANT

Westbury 4.....Judy Overton

Westbury 4.....Gail Reaben

Westbury 5.....Virginia Livingston

Westbury5E@westburycrier.com

Westbury 5.....VACANT

Westbury South.....Brandon Richard

Parkwest 1.....Angie Furnari

Parkwest 2.....Jeffrey Weiss

Jweiss@txchiro.edu

Parkwest 3.....Lisa Placke

parkwest3@westburycrier.com

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

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

A Message from the Westbury Civic Club President

After 2 months without representation in the seat for City Council District K, on May 5, the citizens of District K elected in Martha Castex-Tatum. You can learn all about Martha and the election results on pages 10 & 11. The Westbury turnout for the election was about twice that of the average turnout. Across the board in non-national election years, it is hard to get much more than 5% of the electorate out. In Westbury, that means about 10-12% of us vote. A big thank you to the approximately 1,000 Westbury voters who went to the polls to cast their votes.

I don't really understand the apathy nor the "by not voting, I am voting mentality". But we voters are definitely in the minority. If you want to join an elite group who gets to decide who serves us, vote in the next election! I want you to imagine how much power a neighborhood would have if 80% of their voters went to the polls. At one polling location in District K with 580 registered voters, 8 people voted. In my opinion, we have more power to effect change at the local level than we do at the national level. The men and women who serve us on City Council, in the State Legislature, on the School Board, and the judges in our courts affect us more than those who sit in Washington. They are accessible! We will have another chance to go to the polls in November of 2019.

I'm very happy to have someone who already knows the job representing us in District K. There are so many ongoing and pending City projects. All of Westbury needs street and drainage reconstruction projects. We need more storm water detention added to the west of us; and we need to help get people back in their homes and make their homes safer. We need that new library that was in the 2012 bond. We need the bridge on Hillcroft

over the Willow Waterhole replaced. We need the plans for the new Hager Park. We need a trail hike and bike system throughout Westbury. We need traffic studies done throughout Westbury to make our neighborhood streets safer.

Part of getting things done is trying to identify who to approach for a solution. I often brag about our neighborhood, and people always ask, how we were able to get things done. I told them our secret: Show up! It's simple, just showing up will put you on the path to getting things done.

I hope some of you will think about joining the WCC board in August as we take nominations for 2019. What is your passion? There are so many areas that could use your expertise.

Summer is here and school is out. Please slow down on our streets. Please don't drive distracted. It only takes a moment for a child to dash into the street unexpectedly. A 6 year old child was hit by a car on a Sunday morning in Westbury 2 and had to be hospitalized. Like the signs say: Drive like your child lives here.

Three more summer caveats:

- ➔ Be sure to request a vacation watch when you take your summer vacation.
- ➔ Ask your lawn crews to stop blowing your grass clippings into the street. They just end up going down the drain.
- ➔ Adopt a storm drain near you and keep the gutters clean and clear.

Hope to see you at the Tomato Tasting at the Westbury Community Garden on Saturday, June 2.

Keep cool and enjoy a great summer!
Becky Edmondson

I love this picture and what it represents. Fourteen years ago, in June of 2004, I attended my first Brays Oaks Super Neighborhood meeting to learn about storm drain marking. I realized that the Super Neighborhood concept was important. The Westbury Super Neighborhood became recognized in March 2005. The formation of District K and flooding issues led us to work more closely with our adjoining neighborhoods to the north like Maplewood and Meyerland and to the east Willow Meadows and Willowbend. They, too, saw the benefit of the Super Neighborhood setup and the Near Southwest Super Neighborhood and the Greater Meyerland Super Neighborhood were both recognized in 2017.

Here we all are working together at the Mid-Brays Workshop. The night before this, all of the Super Neighborhoods of District K hosted a voter's forum to introduce the NINE candidates vying for the District K seat in the May 5th Special Election. These two events really proved how we are "Better Together" and that by working together, we are stronger and more effective.



From Super Neighborhoods: Becky Edmondson, Westbury; Cindy Chapman, Westbury; Jeff Peters, Near Southwest; Lynae Novominsky, living in Brays Oaks; Terry Comiskey, Greater Meyerland

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

WCC Board Meeting Notes—May 2018

- Voted and approved New Parkwest 1 Section Director, Angie Furnari.
- Discussed new Valero gas station that is being built by the Westbury Community Garden
- The old Parker Elementary building is scheduled for demo on May 17.
- Report all suspicions of boarding or group homes in residential areas to 311, and send service # to WCC President
- Vacant positions on the WCC board: Security Director and Section Directors for Westbury 3, and Westbury 5.
- The next WCC Board meeting is June 20 at 7PM

**NEXT WCC
Board Meeting
Wed., June 20, 7PM
Westbury Baptist
10425 Hillcroft
RM C109**



Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock Rd ♦ 713-726-7107
 Supervisor: Jayla Godbolt, Jayla.godbolt@houstontx.gov



***No Adult Day activities for summer due to Summer Enrichment Program for Kids**

Summer Enrichment Program (S.E.P.)

S.E.P. is a 10-week day-camp style program for youth ages 6 - 13. SEP is from June 4 to August 10. Registration is required for this fun-filled program. Available at 54 HPARD community centers, program activities include: crafts, nutrition, fun fitness, track and field, soccer, swimming, junior golf, nature exploration, computer literacy programs, recycling awareness, kayaking, bird watching, fishing and hiking excursions and youth entrepreneur experiences.

Parents are required to attend a program orientation at their registered community center. Transportation to and from the community center is the parents' responsibility. Student to staff ratio is 1 to 25 with qualified professional recreation staff. The cost is \$30.00 per child per week. **Online registration is available at www.houstonparks.org click on the SEP registration link.** Fee exemptions are available to parents or guardians who qualify. Appropriate documentation is required. Ask for more information regarding qualification criteria.

Adult Aerobics, Tuesday & Thursday, 6-7PM

Grapevine-step your way into a great cardio workout with adult aerobic classes. Call the Platou Community Center for more information, 713-726-7107. All classes are FREE unless otherwise noted.

Youth Tennis at the Platou Center

The Youth Tennis Program is a **FREE** program offered at a variety of public parks throughout the year by the Houston Parks and Recreation Department in partnership with the Houston Tennis Association, Inc.- NJTL. The program is designed to provide children with the fundamentals of the game of tennis and educational components that develop life skills. Equipment is available for use during class. **No pre-registration is necessary; however, you may register online at www.houstonparks.org.** No new registrants are accepted after the first two weeks of each session and class size may be limited. Call the Platou Center to confirm classes, 713-726-7107.

Summer I: June 5 - June 29
 Summer II: July 3 - July 27

Ages 4-6 → 8:15 - 9AM
 Ages 7-10 → 9 - 10AM
 Ages 11-18 → 10 - 11:15AM
 All classes are Monday through Thursday.

Stretching Class MOVED for Summer

The Monday, Wednesday, Friday morning stretching class has moved to the St. Thomas More Scout house for the summer.

Meyer Library News

→ Meyer Library CLOSED

The Meyer Library suffered damage from Harvey and is still closed. There is no plan to reopen at this time. Stay tuned.

→ "Mini" Meyer Library at Godwin Community Center

A "mini" Meyer Library has opened in Meyerland at the Godwin Community Center at 5101 Rutherglenn next to Kolter Elementary. Limited Services.

Staff can be reached at 832-393-1840.

Hours of operation:

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

Thurs: 1:00PM-8:00PM

Fri: 1:00PM-5:00PM



Westbury Pool Opens May 26

- See page 6 for:
- full pool schedule
- FREE adult water fitness classes
- FREE Kids Learn to Swim Classes



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What's Happening in Westbury

Events/Meetings Calendar JUNE 2018

Fri 1	Last Day of School for HISD	
Sat 2	Tomato Tasting Westbury Community Garden - 12581 Dunlap See page 1 & 23 for more information	10-11:30AM
Sat 2	Westbury Pool Open for Normal Hours See page 6 for more information	
Tues 5	Adult Water Fitness Classes Begin at Westbury Pool See page 6 for class descriptions and schedule	
June 4 -7	WCC Office Closed	
Thurs 14	Flag Day	
Sat. 16	Audubon Society Bird Survey Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow	7AM
Sun 17	Father's Day	
Mon 18	Brays Bayou Association Meeting The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow	7:30PM
Tues 19	SW PIP Meeting SW HPD Police Station—13097 Nitida	7PM
Wed 20	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting St. John's Presbyterian—5020 W Bellfort	9:30AM
Wed 20	WCC Board Meeting Westbury Baptist Church—10425 Hillcroft	7PM

SUMMER 2018 WCC OFFICE HOURS

Starting June 11 thru July 20
Monday – Thursday 10AM – 2PM

Or by appointment. Phone 713-723-5437 or
e-mail westburycc@sbcglobal.net



TRASH SCHEDULE



Recycling in Westbury

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

June 2018

Thursday, June 7
Thursday, June 21

July 2018

Thursday, July 5
Thursday, July 19

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.

June 2018

JUNK WASTE
Thursday, June 14

July 2018

TREE WASTE ONLY
Thursday, July 12

Important Trash & Recycling Info



- ♻️ Regular trash pickup is every Thursday. Recycling is every other Thursday. Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.
- ♻️ Westbury is on Recycle Schedule A
- ♻️ NO Glass in the green recycling bins
- ♻️ Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM each Thursday
- ♻️ Trash cans must be removed by 10PM each Thursday
- ♻️ Trash cans must be placed at least 3 feet apart
- ♻️ Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- ♻️ Yard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags
- ♻️ Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- ♻️ Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers: **SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr** 10785 SW Frwy / Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM; Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste & Recyclables.
- ♻️ **Environmental Service Center** - 11500 S. Post Oak Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM. Accepts Hazardous Household & Electronic Waste.
- ♻️ GLASS: May be recycled at Westbury United Methodist, 5200 Willowbend, in the orange container near W. Bellfort.
- ♻️ Refer to www.westburycrier.com or www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information

Westbury City Pool Summer 2018 Schedule



May 26-27 : Pool open Sat. & Sun., 1-8PM

May 28 (Memorial Day): Pool OPEN 1-8PM

June 2– August 12: Pool OPEN Normal Summer Hours Tuesday—Sunday 1-8PM; Closed Monday

July 4: Pool OPEN, 1-5PM

August 13 - September 3: Pool open on Saturday and Sunday only, 1-5PM

September 3 (Labor Day): Last day for the pool to be open! 1-5PM

Questions? Call pool at 713-723-2192
Address: 10605 Mullins (near Parker Elem.)

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 5, and the last day of class will be Thursday, August 2, 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

---Cut me out---

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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 8AM on the registration date**. To register go to www.houstonparks.com.



Adult Circuit Water Fitness Class
Tuesday and Thursday, 9-10AM
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.

Hydro Fitness Training Class
Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30PM - 7:30PM
An athletic approach to water fitness training with sports-specific drills, intense cardiovascular work, intervals, balance/core training, martial arts, and plyometrics. It's a great way to improve your cardiovascular conditioning and muscular strength with minimal stress on your joints. Loud, rocking music is part of the workout. Recommended as a great form of cross training. Intensity: moderate to hard.

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Westbury Willowbend Willow Meadows Meyerland

Do You Have Flood Insurance? You Should.

The majority of Westbury is not in the 100 year flood plain. However, with the amount of rainfall that is possible in any one storm, you don't have to be in a flood plain to experience water entering your home. Did you know the record for rainfall in a 24 hour period is held in nearby Alvin, Texas? 44 inches! The good news is that, if you are not in a flood plain, then you can buy peace of mind for just a few hundred dollars a year.

The Harris County Flood Control District advises that EVERY HOME in Harris County should have flood insurance, whether or not you live in a 100-year flood plain. The 100-year flood maps do not fully warn where flooding might occur. They show the risk of rising water from a bayou. The maps do not show where homes might flood due to street flooding from ditches or stormwater drains. The maps may not show where water will flow over land trying to get to a bayou. The maps do not show where houses may flood if the rainfall is higher than that predicted for a 500 year rainfall.

Because your homeowner's policy does not include flood coverage and because no insurance company wants to write an unprofitable line of business, the federal government stepped in. In 1968, Congress created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which offers flood insurance to homeowners, renters, and business owners.

As you shop for a flood policy, you may be confused, as many are, about whether the policy is through FEMA or an insurance company. In 1983, the Write Your Own (WYO) Program began and is a cooperative undertaking between the private insurance industry and FEMA. The WYO Program allows participating property and casualty insurance companies to write and service the Standard Flood Insurance Policy in their own names. The companies receive an expense allowance (approx. 30% of premium) for policies written and claims processed, while the federal government retains responsibility for underwriting losses. The WYO Program operates as part of the NFIP and is subject to its rules and regulations.

As of October 2015, there were 79 companies participating in the WYO program and handling the majority of flood insurance policies under the program. FEMA's NFIP Direct2 program administers a small number of policies. For flood events occurring between October 2012 and December 2014, the WYO companies received 162,500 claims and paid out 7.8 billion dollars. The cost of a flood insurance policy varies due to the: deductible chosen, insured value, Replacement Cost or Actual Cost, location in the flood plain, elevation of your home, and whether you choose to have both your home and your contents covered. Some Westbury homeowners were caught unaware that they did not have contents coverage. If you don't have flood insurance, ask your insurance agent for a quote. Make sure that you check the coverages and understand EXACTLY what you are purchasing. If you don't have an insurance agent, then look for one online at the FEMA site. Put in your address and it will give you a local agent. <https://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart>

Please note: You cannot purchase flood insurance when a named storm is in the Gulf of Mexico. Once purchased, there is a 30 day waiting period before it takes effect.

Flood Insurance Workshop

WCC Office Manager, Jennifer Edmondson, attended a full day conference about Flood insurance mapping and rates. It was an interesting topic with many layers of information. Since 2015, the WCC has become quite the experts on flooding and terminology and the procedures involved with insurance.

The workshop was held at the North Houston HCFCF location. On her way home, Jennifer stopped by the old Woodland Oaks neighborhood off Fairbanks N Houston (pictures below). It is a mind blowing sight to see in person if you haven't been in awhile.

After multiple floods from White Oak Bayou in the late 1990s, Harris County Flood Control did a voluntary buyout of the neighborhood. This was a fully developed middle class neighborhood built out in the early 1980s. Today, driving the streets was a picturesque setting of huge greenspaces full of grass and trees and only a few homes remain. It was a shocking sight if you knew what had been there previously. There are no signs of the old homes, no slabs or driveways. Solid curbs surround the huge open greenspaces. Most streets have no homes but some have only one or two left. Makes you wonder if this is what Houston was like before dense neighborhoods.

Flooding might seem like a hot new topic, but in reality this story has been repeated over and over again throughout Houston throughout our history. Flood memories are short. People move away. Rain falls elsewhere across our huge city. This doesn't mean we are safe from flooding just lucky. It's all about where the rain falls! There is a historic chart that lists all the floods in Houston since the mid-1800s. It's a long long list, because we flood. The floods change over the years and some areas get better because of mitigation projects or buyouts.

Jennifer's biggest take away from the workshop was **WHEREVER IT CAN RAIN, IT CAN FLOOD. This is so true in Houston. If you don't have flood insurance, get it! There is no such thing as a no flood zone. Yes, some of us are in flood plains but we can all flood given the right circumstances.**



Common Water Safety Rules

Tragically already this season, 22 kids have drowned in Texas so far in 2018. Last year, 78 kids drowned in Texas. Water is a great way to beat the heat, but summer is also when children are most likely to drown. Drowning is a leading cause of accidental death for kids under the age of five and toddlers are especially at risk. Drowning can happen in almost any amount of water, indoors or outdoors.

- ⇒ Never leave a child unsupervised around water, inside or outside of the house. It only takes a few minutes for a child to drown.
- ⇒ Never leave children alone around with water whether it is in a pool, wading pool, drainage ditch, etc.
- ⇒ Constantly watch children who are swimming or playing in water. They need an adult or certified lifeguard watching and within reach.
- ⇒ Secure access to swimming pools. Use fences, self-closing and latching gates, and water surface alarms.
- ⇒ Completely remove pool covers when the pool is in use.
- ⇒ Store water toys away from the water when not in use so they don't attract a small child.
- ⇒ Don't assume young children will use good judgment and caution around water.
- ⇒ Be ready for emergencies. Keep emergency telephone numbers handy and learn CPR.
- ⇒ Find out if your child's friends or neighbors have home pools.

Pool Safety and Violations

The summer heat has arrived! We want everyone in Westbury to have a safe summer. Back in 2013, the Westbury Civic Club's Environmental Committee met with the City of Houston's Health and Human Services pool inspectors to discuss swimming pools and safety. The WCC office has received numerous phone calls regarding unmaintained pools. All residential pools must be fenced. The fence must be at least 4 ft. high and in good condition (no gaps over 4 inches) with a self-latching gate. The pool water must be maintained.

Report a violation as soon as possible if:

- ❖ There is a house, occupied or unoccupied, with a pool or spa that has not been properly maintained. This can result in green or black water that may breed mosquitoes.
- ❖ There are any slats broken or missing from a fence surrounding a pool or a spa. This also includes both vacant and occupied houses.
- ❖ If a house or property has any type of outside above-ground pool or spa that is not enclosed by a secure fence.

To report a violation, call Health and Human Services at 832-393-5100 or go fill out a quick and easy online form available at http://www.houstontx.gov/health/Environmental/pool_complaint.html

After reporting the violation, please call the WCC office with the address so we can follow up.



Examples of residential pool violations.

KRAKEN
CONSTRUCTION
Design - Build - Remodel



- Professional
- Reliable
- Trustworthy
- Fair
- Well managed
- Good quality
- Good value

FREE ESTIMATES

We're local Westbury residents just like you!

We are a professional residential construction company that will plan, manage, and coordinate the entire project. Before Harvey we were home flippers, now we want to rebuild the neighborhood and help get your home whole again. We will handle all your needs from negotiating with insurance, handling bank draws, and be with you every step of the way until completion.

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Do I Have to Mow THAT too?

Did you know that city ordinance requires you to maintain not only your own lot but adjacent property?

City of Houston Municipal Code Section 10-451.10 describes yard maintenance responsibilities. In simplified terms, Residents are responsible for maintaining your entire yard within your property boundaries. Residents are also responsible for maintaining your yard out to the curblines of the street adjacent to your yard (for example, if your house is on a corner, then maintain out to the curb for both your front and side streets). If an adjacent property does not have a curblines (for example, a drainage easement), then residents are responsible for maintaining the adjacent property for 14 feet beyond their property line. This is why homeowners are responsible for maintaining the area between the sidewalk and the street. A big thank you to all who mow a portion of the easements.

Common Trash Placement Woes

Heavy Trash—Blocked. The tree or junk waste on the curb must be accessible to the automated collection truck. If there are obstacles or parked cars in the way, the trash cannot be picked up.

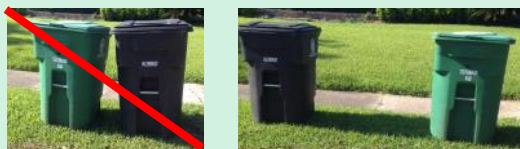
Do not place your heavy trash up against a tree, light pole, or wires.



Heavy Trash—Place too early or in wrong month.

The Crier always has the heavy trash schedule on the front page and on page 5. Junk Waste is collected in the even months of the year and tree waste only on the odd months. Westbury's pick up is the 2nd Thursday of each month. Trash can be placed on the curb starting on the Saturday AM before our pickup day.

Trash Cans—Too Close. The recycling and regular trash cans must be at least 3 feet apart from each other.



City of Houston 311

Do you Have a Problem that the City Should Address?
New Trash Cans, High Weeds, Heavy Trash Violations, Storm Drain Cleaning, Tree Removal, Traffic Signal Issues and more!

How to Make a 311 Report

Call 311, email 311@houston.tx.gov, use the 311 mobile app, or go online to City website.

Those three numbers, 311, are the first line for getting things done in the City. The city representative will take your information and the issue you a service request (SR) number. Make sure to save the SR number for your records. You can call 311 back at anytime and request an update with your SR number. If your situation needs to be escalated, send your SR number to the WCC office for further action.



City of Houston 311

Call 311 or 713.837.0311

If you have an emergency,
always **CALL 9-1-1**

Yard Parking is NOT ALLOWED in Westbury

REMINDER - "Yard Parking" is not allowed in Westbury. The City Prohibited Yard Parking ordinance states that it is an offense for any person to park or to cause, suffer or permit the parking of a vehicle or equipment on any surface that is not an improved surface, within any front or side yard of a single-family residence in a residential area subject to this section. This ordinance applies to neighborhoods, such as Westbury, that have signed up for the Prohibited Yard Parking ordinance. In Westbury, the board and president of the WCC submitted an application for inclusion under the ordinance, a public hearing was conducted, and the application by Westbury was then approved by Houston City Council. All homes in the Westbury / Parkwest subdivision are prohibited from having "yard parking" violations in their front or side yards.

Visible House Numbers

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



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District K Special Election Results

The special election to replace Council Member Larry Green was held May 5, 2018. Voter turnout was abysmally low with 5,091 of the 85,450 eligible voters in Harris County for a total of 5.96%. Did you know part of District K is in Fort Bend County? 1,163 of their 20,960 voters turned out to vote with a rate of 5.54%. In total District K has 106,410 voters and 6,213 cast their votes.

Close to 1,000 voters showed up to vote at the Westbury polling locations. Westbury precincts again were among the highest in voting percentage! Voters in Westbury voted at almost twice the rate as other precincts. Congratulations to our Westbury residents for displaying their civic engagement as voters! Elected officials respect that Westbury votes.

Only 5 precincts broke single digits. The top precinct this election was in Linkwood/Woodshire with 12.85%. Precinct 14 in Westbury always places in the top few precincts year after year, coming in second at 11.74%. Pct. 146 and 293 In Westbury are also tops in Harris County with 10.85% and 9.17%. Pct. 293 was a little lower, but with so many flooded homes in that precinct, it is understandable. Hiram Clarke had 10.85%. The Westbury average for our 4 main precincts was 10.15%.

There was no TV advertising and very little information about the election in the newspaper. This election was really driven by mailouts, robo phone calls, and door to door canvassing. The Westbury Civic Club posted information about the election in our monthly newsletter and on our Facebook page.

The Super Neighborhoods of District K hosted a voter’s forum at Westbury High School and solicited written questions and bios from all 9 candidates. The League of Women Voters often does this during other elections, but did not during this election, so the Super Neighborhoods helped fill the gap. The SNs felt it was important to give voters an opportunity to hear from the candidates and read their responses. The Westbury Civic Club made this candidate information available on Facebook and on NextDoor.

And the Winner is Martha Castex-Tatum

Candidate	Votes	%
Martha Castex-Tatum	3709	59.70
Pat Frazier	847	13.63
Larry Blackmon	629	10.12
Carl David Evans	428	6.89
Gerry Vander-Lyn	260	4.18
Elisabeth Johnson	120	1.93
Lawrence McGaffie	76	1.22
Anthony Freddie	74	1.19
Aisha Savoy	70	1.13

**Based of preliminary results*



Westbury resident voting at Parker

Percentage of Voter Participation in Special Election per Westbury Precinct

Pct	Voting location	Rough boundaries	Registered	Voted	Pct. %
14	Parker	PW 1, 2 and W5 east	1908	224	11.74
146	Platou	W 1 and W2 triangle W3 wedge	2056	223	10.85
293	Anderson	W3	1810	166	9.17
291	Braeswood Church	W5 west and PW3	1183	93	7.80
	Westbury precincts		6957	706	10.15
	Shared precincts below				
693	Braeswood Church	Braewick WB to VJ	711	49	6.89
22	Westbury High	Westbury 4 west to Bob White	2460	112	4.55
453	Westbury High	Westbury South and east to SPO	2048	93	4.54
	Totals at Westbury locations		12176	960	7.89





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CM Castex-Tatum Sworn into Office

The City Council meeting room was packed on Wednesday May 16, with an enthusiastic standing-room-only crowd to watch Martha Castex-Tatum be sworn in as the new City Councilmember for District K. Martha's son, John Paul, held a Bible as Mayor Sylvester Turner swore her in to faithfully execute the duties of her duly elected office. CM Castex-Tatum became the second person to represent District K. Her parents, brother and niece joined her at the podium as she said a few words before taking her seat at the city council "horseshoe" shaped table. She said it was a whole new level of service and accountability when you get to represent the district in which you were raised and where your parents still live. Her fellow council members welcomed her as they offered remembrances of CM Larry Green. May 16, the swearing in day, was also Larry Green's birthday, and there weren't many dry eyes in the house as he was fondly remembered by his peers.



A large crowd of residents from District K and other well-wishers then moved downstairs to the Legacy Room for a reception. It seemed right that cake was eaten not only for Martha, but also in remembrance of Larry's birthday. CM Brenda Stardig commented that it

looked like all of District K was in attendance: from Westbury were Becky Edmondson, Cindy Chapman, Marcia Hartman and Virginia Livingston. From the Central Southwest SN was Rev. Ray Washington and from Ft. Bend SN was Carl David Evans. Also in attendance were Richard Rodriguez from the Brays Oaks Management District and Beryl Davis from the Brays Oaks SN. Mary Seymoure represented Senator Borris Miles, and State Representative Shawn Thiery was also in the crowd.

Contact District K

832-393-3016

or

districtk

@houstontx.gov



Getting to Know District K New CM

Martha Castex-Tatum was elected on May 5 with almost 60 percent of the vote to fill the vacant District K Houston City Council seat following the untimely death of Councilman Larry Green. She will serve for the remainder of the term. She had been the Director of Constituent Services for the District K office since 2015 before she was elected.

Councilmember Castex-Tatum grew up in District K and attended Grissom Elementary, Parker Elementary, Welch Middle School, and Lamar High School. She graduated from Southwest Texas State University (now, Texas State University) in San Marcos, TX, where she earned her Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Public Administration degrees. After graduation, she served as an adjunct professor at the university. While in San Marcos, Martha was elected to the San Marcos City Council and served as Deputy Mayor Pro Temp.

The Association of Mayors Council and Commissioners awarded Martha a certificate of achievement for her completion of continuing education unit credits for the Texas Municipal League Institute program. Martha was a graduate of Leadership San Marcos in 1996. After she moved to Houston, she was a member of Leadership Houston Class XXXVI of 2018.

In 2004, Martha returned to Houston and became a residential realtor. In addition to her career in real estate, Martha has worked for District K with other District K staff members to address concerns of constituents while advocating for seniors, small business owners, extracurricular and after school activities for youth, economic development, beautification projects, among other issues.

She oversaw the progress of the new Southwest HPD police station in District K, the CASE after-school grant process, the monthly Fort Bend and Hiram Clarke "Bridging the Divide" community meetings, and numerous sidewalk, waterline and street repair projects throughout the district. Martha represented the District K office monthly at the TIRZ 9 and TIRZ 25 meetings, as well as the Five Corners Management District meetings.

Martha currently resides in Brays Oaks and is a member of Windsor Village United Methodist Church. When she is not working or serving the community, she enjoys spending time with her son and her parents, who are District K residents, and other family members and friends.





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How Things Get Done

New Traffic Signs to be Installed

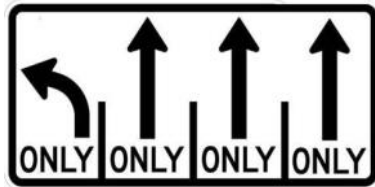
Westbury board member Dan Vega noticed that trucks and 18-wheelers were making left hand turns onto Chimney Rock from the second lane on West Bellfort, and actively blocking the green light while doing so.

Back in 2016 he reported the problem to 311 when he was almost involved in an accident with someone making an illegal left turn. Public Works sent someone out to look at the intersection, but no action was taken other than forwarding the information to the Signal Department.



Frustrated by the lack of action, Dan turned to the District K Council office in 2018 and sent Chief of Staff Donald Perkins an email and pictures thoroughly explaining the problem and offering a suggestion to improve the intersection for safety. Here is the reply Dan received: "Based on images being reviewed by the PWE Traffic Operations Division at this approach, and in general of the intersection, missing left turn markings (arrows and "only" symbols) are missing to clarify to drivers the purpose of the far-left lane. PWE will reopen this case and as determined needed, these left turn markings and complementary signs (single for turning lane only) will be installed."

So that is good news! Thanks to Dan Vega for bringing an unsafe situation to the City's attention. And, more importantly, for not giving up in frustration when nothing happened! The wheels of progress move slowly; but they do eventually get somewhere!



Westbury Park Gets New Mulch

Within several hours, WCC President Becky Edmondson, received text message pictures from two different people that had been at Westbury Park. The messages were identical in the concern with the extremely low mulch in both playground areas at the playground. See below photos sent by Bill Burhans and Jennifer Edmondson.

The WCC contacted the City Parks Department on Friday, April 27. Mulch was delivered and installed on May 1. The WCC was very thankful as were the many kids from Parker and the neighborhood that play on this playground daily.



Westbury Park is located at 5616 Stillbrooke next to Parker Elementary

The top 3 photos show the mulch level before May 1. It was very low in all sections. The bottom picture shows the City replacing the mulch.



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30 Day Crime Statistics for Westbury SuperNeighborhood

May 1-17, 2018

Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W
10900	Ashcroft	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/17	9AM	Parkwest 2
5500	Belrose	Theft—Misc	5/5	3PM	Westbury 3
5600	Benning	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/13	7PM	Westbury 5
11500	Braewick	Theft of License Plate off Motor Vehicle	5/15	7AM	Parkwest 3
10900	Cedarhurst	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/3	1PM	Westbury 2
10600	Chimney Rock	Theft from Building	5/4	9AM	Westbury 2
5600	Fontenelle	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/11	7PM	Westbury South
10800	Hillcroft	Auto Theft (Van/Truck)	5/2	6AM	Westbury 5
11600	Landsdowne	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/13	12PM	Westbury 3
5100	Redstart	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/7	6AM	Westbury 1
5700	Southminster	Theft—Other	5/15	8AM	Westbury South
5400	Stillbrooke	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/14	11AM	Westbury 2
5100	Torchlight	Burglary of Habitation	5/3	3PM	Westbury 1
5600	Warm Springs	Theft—Misc.	5/1	3PM	Westbury 3
5300	W. Bellfort	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/14	11AM	Westbury 2
6000	W. Bellfort	Theft—Other	5/5	6AM	Parkwest 3
6000	W. Bellfort	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/10	2AM	Parkwest 3
6000	Willowbend	Theft—Misc.	5/5	1PM	Westbury 5

KEY

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

The Westbury Civic Club strives to provide accurate information. Due to the printing date of the *Crier*, crime statistics are always delayed. For crime alerts, follow Westbury Houston on Facebook or sign up for email alerts at www.westburycrier.com.

The crimes listed below took place between May 1-17. They are in alphabetical order by street. The crimes are highlighted by type. Please see key above.

Crime in Commercial, Public Spaces, and Apartments

Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Where
11500	Chimney Rock	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/14	4PM	Home Depot
12500	Dunlap	Theft—Other	5/6	12PM	Apartment
12600	Dunlap	Aggravated Robbery	5/9	10PM	Apartment
12600	Dunlap	Aggravated Assault with Weapon	5/3	4PM	Apartment
5500	Gasmer	Auto Theft (Truck/Van)	5/8	9AM	Apartment
5500	Gasmer	Burglary of Habitation	5/10	6AM	Apartment
5500	Gasmer	Aggravated Robbery with weapon	5/13	7PM	Apartment
5500	Gasmer	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/12	12PM	Apartment
12600	Hillcroft	Auto Thet	5/7	10AM	
10600	S. Post Oak	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/4	7AM	Apartment
10700	S. Post Oak	Burglary of Building	5/2	4AM	Foodarama
5000	S. Willow	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/9	9PM	Apartments
5500	S. Willow	Burglary of Building	5/11	3AM	
5300	W. Bellfort	Burglary of Building	5/14	11AM	



Westbury Area Patrol

281-463-6666
 SW HPD Station
 832-394-0400
 HPD Non-Emergency
 713-884-3131



National Safety Awareness Month

June is National Safety Awareness month. Here are some tips for the road, home and the outdoors.

On the roads: Slow down and save a life! Last month, a six year old Westbury child was struck by a car. She had to be hospitalized, but she will survive. Two adult pedestrians were struck by cars and killed on our streets – one in 2016 and another in 2017. It is summer and more children will be outside.

NOTE: The speed limit on our streets is 30 MPH including Willowbend. Just the major streets of Hillcroft, Chimney Rock, West Bellfort and West Airport are 35 MPH. Please make a conscious effort to keep your speed at the speed **LIMIT**.

At home: Update your first aid kit. Refresh your hurricane preparedness kit. Have a family plan about what to do in case of an emergency. Hurricane Harvey reminded all of us that it is important to be prepared.

Outside: Mosquitoes, some carrying infectious diseases are here. It is summer and they live to eat and breed. Remember to **not** leave standing water, including in the trays under your potted plants or other receptacles. That water is a key breeding situation for mosquitoes.

Don't forget Vacation Watch!

For residents who pay the WAP dues, a special Vacation Watch may be requested from Pct. 5. The form is available online. Sign up at 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.



Brays Bayou Flooding Workshop

A team of researchers from Rice University, the University of Houston and Texas Southern University are creating a comprehensive plan to mitigate the impact of flooding along the southwest Mid-Brays Bayou neighborhoods. The team, led by Dr. Lester King from Rice and Dr. Bruce Race from the University of Houston, held a workshop for community members at the end of April.

Sustainability researchers King and Race have organized a group to develop the first community-level flooding resilience plan in the Houston region. Dr. King, a sustainability planner and expert at Rice, has developed the Houston Sustainability Indicators Project. Dr. Race is the director of the Center for Sustainability and Resilience at the University of Houston. Race is assisted by other scientists from the School of Science and Technology at UH. The School of Public Affairs at Texas Southern University and the TSU Law School also and collaborating on the project.

Attendees from Meyerland, Westbury, Willow Meadows and Brays Oaks broke down into discussion groups to discuss issues and opportunities. Questions posed to the groups: Who will be living in this Mid Brays community in 20 years? What will it look like? Will the strong family orientation, traditional institutions all remain? Will this area be reimagined for the 21st century?

“We hope the community really takes ownership of this project. We want to maximize community contribution. The final product needs to be fully reflective of the community’s vision. Our job is simply to help to facilitate and articulate the possibilities and the costs” said Dr. King.

The Mid-Brays communities have been worn down by the repeated flooding events. These workshops cover topics ranging from transportation, housing, retail and commercial business spaces, water retention options, green and open spaces, water recycling systems and landscaping.

Watch for an opportunity to attend the next workshop and put your input into the future of our area.

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11414 Braewick
4/2/2 • \$170's



6022 Ludington
4/2/2 • \$180's



5335 W. Bellfort
3/2/2 • \$230's



5750 Bankside
4/2/2 • \$310's



5431 Paisley
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Westbury Area News

Feeding Stray Cats

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

Links for Lost & Found Pets

☑Nextdoor Westbury - www.nextdoor.com

☑Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook

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



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. If you have any questions, contact the WCC Office at 713-723-5437 or westburyc@sbcbglobal.net.

AlertHouston

Staying informed during emergencies is important. There are two notification systems you can sign up for that the City of Houston will use to alert the public when emergencies occur. AlertHouston provides Houston residents with timely information about current conditions, expected impacts, and tips for keeping themselves, and their families safe.

[https:// www.houstonemergency.org/alerts/](https://www.houstonemergency.org/alerts/)



METRO Summer of Fun Pass

METRO will again be offering free rides on bus and rail for kids (K- 12th grade) from June 1 to September 1. Kids must register. You can apply online, by mail, or in person. Go to www.ridemetro.org for more information.



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.

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

July Meet & Eat: Thurs., July 5, 6PM



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2018 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 2018 Mandatory Assessments is \$235.80. The 2018 Assessments were due by April 1, 2018.

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

2018 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:
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**Online payment:
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 Make sure to include your
 address or account number**

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

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

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

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

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

Parker Elementary Featured at SW Houston 2000

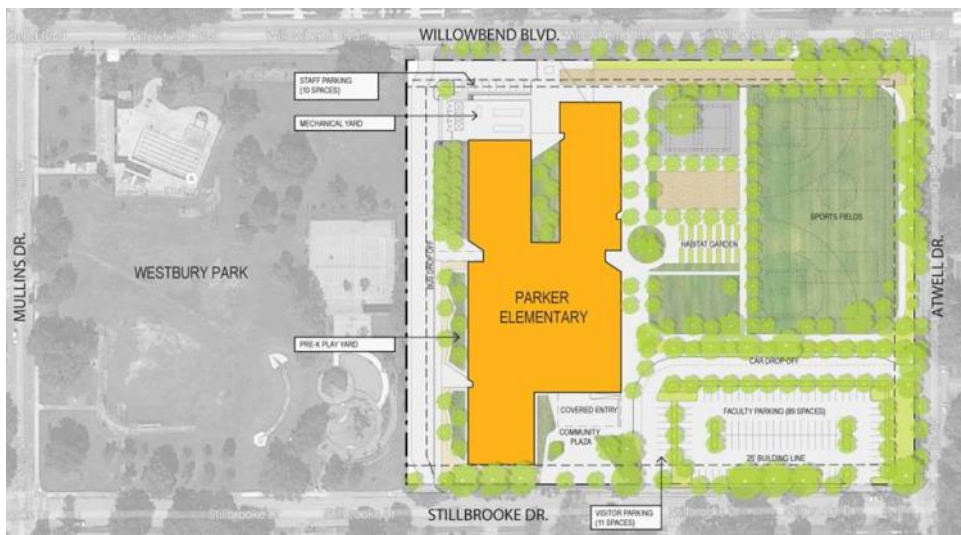
Every 2 months, SW Houston 2000 hosts an informative breakfast. The May breakfast featured the principal from Parker Elementary, and the main presentation was by Interim HISD Superintendent Dr. Lathan.

Principal Lori Frodine made an interesting presentation about Parker Elementary. Demolition of the original school built in 1975 started in May. The conceptual pictures shown on to the right are of the new campus layout. Students moved into the new building the day after the 2018 Spring break. Principal Frodine said Parker was always a good school academically, but now it has become a great school. The new campus is state of the art with a 500-seat auditorium, special music classrooms, and 21st century study spaces.



Interim Supt. Grenita Lathan spoke about HISD, which is the largest school district in Texas and the 7th largest in the nation. While the media has been focusing on the dozen or so failing schools, she asks us to look at the other 270 schools that are doing well.

Then District K Councilmember-Elect Martha Castex-Tatum was introduced. She talked about her plans to keep District K moving forward and introduced her staff Donald Perkins and Barbra Hite (Pictured below).



The new entrance to Parker Elementary located on Stillbrooke.

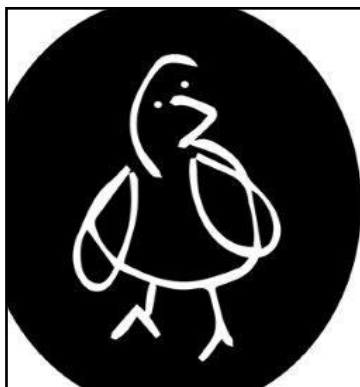


WCC President Becky Edmondson with some of the amazing Parker PTO parents



Parker Elementary was awarded \$500 from Southwest Houston 2000 for being the featured school.

Parker Demo Day is slated to be May 17. We will have pictures in the next Crier!



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Connecting Schools to Community Resources

With support from the City of Houston and with funding from the Houston Endowment, HISD has developed Every Community, Every School, a comprehensive initiative to connect schools to non-academic supports needed to improve the well-being and academic achievement of all students.

As Houstonians we have read the recent news about the low performing schools in HISD. It's fairly obvious that more needs to be done to meet the needs of today's students. Often called wrap-around services, these non-academic supports address critical issues such as mental health and physical health needs, food insecurity, lack of stable housing, violence, incarceration of a parent, and many other challenges that can have adverse effects on a student's readiness and ability to learn. When wraparound services are provided in tandem with strong academics and high-quality teaching, schools can truly meet the needs of the whole child and graduate students who are college and career ready.

The Westbury Civic Club and the Westbury Super Neighborhood are represented on this new Advisory Council that was formed in April for Westbury High School. The first meeting brought together about 40 individuals representing a diverse group of support ranging from mentoring, health services, language services, mental health services, refugees services, parents, teachers, and more. We learned about Westbury the campus and watched a powerful video about 4 students and the challenges they had faced and how Westbury provided them a safe haven.

Watch future Criers for ways you can become involved in our neighborhood community schools. Representatives from our area schools are invited each month to the WAIC/Super Neighborhood meeting. It's a way for us to find out what's happening and how we as a community can help support our schools. The Westbury community is zoned to many schools: Westbury High, Meyerland and Fondren Middle Schools, Anderson, Parker, Kolter, Foerster, Elrod, and Tinsley Elementary Schools.



Westbury High School Gala

The 26th annual Friends gala was held in May and ten \$3,000 scholarships were awarded to deserving seniors. Each recipient had time at the podium and thanked their families and their teachers. In addition, community leaders are recognized each year and this year's celebrants were Outstanding Alumni - Shawn Thierry, Outstanding Teacher - Reginald Washington, and Community Leader - Scott McCleskey, posthumously.



The gala theme this year was the Derby since it coincided with the date of the Kentucky Derby race. Event Co-chairs Elisa Namee and Barbara Freilich coordinated a great event.



The Friends of Westbury High School Foundation, an all-volunteer, non-profit, tax exempt organization, was founded in 1992. Thanks to the generous support of Westbury alumni, friends, and business partners, since 1994 the Foundation has raised over \$350,000 and awarded over 200 scholarships for Westbury students.



In addition, the organization supports school projects; such as campus landscaping, mentoring, serving on school committees, and maintaining the Foundation website.



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Workdays at Willow Waterhole

The Interfaith Environmental Coalition came out in force on Sunday April 29 for their semi-annual conservation workday. Twenty five volunteers helped move compost and crushed granite, watered plants, picked up litter, and installed plant ID's. Additionally they pruned trees and cleared a drainage ditch. Much accomplished! Thanks to all of the volunteers and their leader Lisa Brenskelle from Christ the King Lutheran Church for organizing. The Conservancy appreciates all the great work.



Congratulations Bill Burhans

Bill Burhans is a Westbury resident and the Director of Conservation for the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy. To recognize all the tree work that Bill has done, Trees for Houston awarded him its 2018 Arbor Day Award.

Trees for Houston is a non-profit organization whose mission is to plant, protect, and promote trees throughout the greater Houston area. Established in 1983, Trees for Houston has planted more than 500,000 trees. They grow, plant, and maintain tens of thousands of trees across the greater Houston area annually. Here in Westbury they have planted thousands of trees and helped us start our own tree farm. The first Westbury Trees for Houston trees were pine trees planted on the Hillcroft esplanade between Portal and West Bellfort in 2006. The Trees for Houston organization has planted thousands of trees at the Willow Waterhole Greenspace with the help of Bill Burhans.



Audubon Society Bird Survey

Saturday, June 16, 7AM

Meet at the Gathering Place

The Willow Waterhole Bird Survey was started in June 2007 and is held on the third Saturday of each month.



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What do You Want in Your Park?

Continuing his mission to improve community health, build stronger social ties, and meet environmental challenges through determining the best, most equitable, most strategic ways to increase access to parks and trails for all residents of Precinct One, Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis organized another round of "Park Smart" workshops.

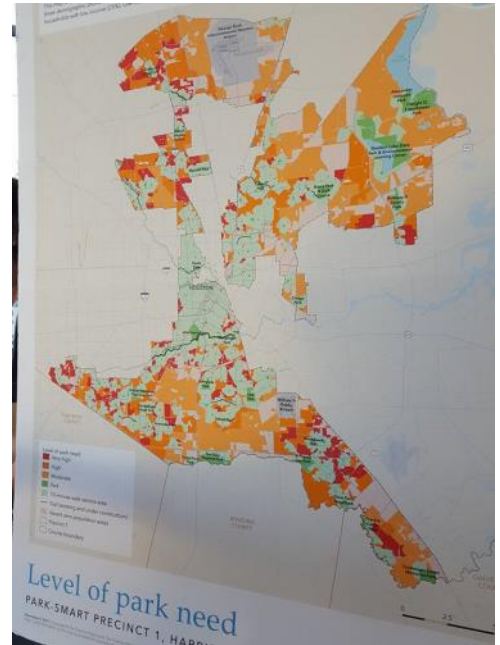
One workshop was held at the Brays Oaks Houston Community College Campus and was well attended by all the "green" groups in our area: Westbury Civic Club, Westbury Area Improvement Corporation, the Westbury Community Garden, Friends of Chimney Rock Park, Neighborhood to

Trails-SW, Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy, Brays Oaks Management District, and Levitt Pavilion Houston. These groups specifically want to see a trails system in our area, as well as improved safety and more amenities like restrooms at our parks.

Can you imagine a trail along the Willow Waterhole Bayou connecting the Fondren Diversion Channel Trail and Brays Bayou Trail to the Willow Waterhole? Can you see a safe route to school for children to Anderson Elementary and Westbury High School? Can you picture the Hillcroft Linear Park connecting the Sims Bayou Trail to the Willow Waterhole Bayou Trail and on to the Willow Waterhole or Brays? Imagine the new library along this trail, as well as the Platou Community Center.

Imagine a trail starting at Chimney Rock and West Belfort that will connect all of us west of the bayou by way of a bridge over the Willow Waterhole Bayou. These trails and more are in the design plans!

Stay tuned for ways you can participate in further workshops with Pct. 1



Spring White Elephant Sale (WES) Was A Success

The Spring White Elephant Community Garage Sale was another huge success. There were over 150 people waiting in line when the gates opened at 8 am. Two ladies that come every year were first in line again this year. They are consummate shoppers and always score some great finds. Duane Coombs was attending the WES for approximately the 50th year! He went home with several new drones. There were many familiar faces in the crowd as numerous shoppers return year after year.

The Westbury Civic Club volunteers host this event twice a year. The volunteers get up BEFORE the crack of dawn and are on site at 5 am getting ready for the sellers who begin arriving at 6am. It's a mad dash for them to get set up before the crowds descend upon them. And then the wheeling and dealing begins. By noon, the sale is over and its time to put away the signs, traffic cones, and flags until the next event.

Two Precinct 5 deputies are on duty for safety and a port-a-can is on site for convenience. New to this year's sale was the Eaker Barbecue food truck that served up some tasty breakfast tacos before switching to their lunch time menu. The egg and brisket taco was super YUMMMMM. If you haven't tried them, look for them in the Braeswood Square parking lot at Chimney Rock and South Braeswood (the shopping center with Belden's and Walgreens).



Next sale is in October! Upcoming Criers will have more details about the fall event.



Eaker BBQ was a hit at the WES this year!



Great crowds and good weather!

May Yard of the Month

- Parkwest 3**— 6026 Beaudry — Homeowner
- Westbury 1**—5207 Kinglet—Rigoberto Alvarado
- Westbury 2**— 5323 Redstart— Bryan & Terre Manning
- Westbury 3**—5211 Spellman — Diana Lovelady
- Westbury 4**— 5758 Ludington — Gabriel Gonzales & Alan Lucas
- Parkwest 1 & 2, Westbury 5, and Westbury South** — Are you interested in volunteering to judge these sections? Contact the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net or 713-723-5437.




Parkwest 3 Yard of the Month—6026 Beaudry




Keep Storm Drains Clear

Did you read last month about the city's new Adopt a Drain program? To adopt-a-drain in your neighborhood, visit: www.HoustonAdoptaDrain.org. By adopting a drain, partners will receive information and tips from the City of Houston and Keep Houston Beautiful and notification of upcoming Houston Adopt-a-Drain events.

This program does not replace any job that City is supposed to be doing. This is a unique way to remind homeowners and residents to keep the gutters and drains clear of debris. This debris will otherwise clog the drains and slow the water flow.



Mosquito Control



It's that time of year again. The mosquitoes are out full force! Mosquitoes are not only annoying but they can carry dangerous illnesses. The best way to keep down the number of mosquitos is to not let them breed.

Mosquitos can breed anywhere that water is left to stand or collect. If you look in the standing water, you may see little wiggling things. Those are baby mosquitoes (larvae). Some examples of where water may be left standing include: pet water bowls, bird baths, low puddle areas, saggy gutters, and plant container saucers. What can each of us do to reduce the numbers of mosquitos?

- ◆ Tip over all the water collectors in your yard and leave them turned over to discourage mosquitos
- ◆ Don't allow standing water in saucers under a pot.
- ◆ Rinse and refresh bird baths and pet water bowls daily.
- ◆ If you collect rainwater to water your plants, be sure the container has a good screen cover to keep the mosquitos out.
- ◆ If you have a decorative pond in your backyard, check it for mosquito larvae. Small fish called Gambusia (Mosquito Fish) can be added to eat the mosquito larvae.
- ◆ Keep gutters in good repair.
- ◆ Get rid of old tires.

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Westbury Community Garden News

5th Annual Tomato Tasting

Saturday, June 2, 10AM - 11:30AM

It's Tomato Tasting Time again! For the fifth year running, Westbury Community Garden will be showcasing heirloom and hybrid tomatoes of all shapes and colors in our annual Tomato Tasting fundraiser event. Tasters can purchase a tasting scorecard for a small donation and, like at a wine tasting, do a blind taste test of 25-30 varieties of tomatoes in the Slicer, Salad, Paste, and Cherry categories. Tomatoes are scored on color, texture, sweetness, acidity, traditional tomato flavor, and other traits. At the end of the event, we vote on the favorite in each of the four categories. The names and growing information are revealed on each variety. Growers will be on hand to answer questions about different varieties.

The final list of varieties will be assembled just before the event date and depends on the productivity, weather and generosity of WCG gardeners and other tomato aficionados.

Do you have the best tasting tomatoes around? The WCG is opening up the tomato submissions to home growers and other community gardeners this year. Will you have around 2 lbs. of tomatoes or about 50 cherry tomatoes of the same variety? If you enter your tomatoes in the tasting, you get a free tasting scorecard! You must be absolutely sure of the variety name and have about 4-5 large tomatoes, 8-12 salad tomatoes or 50 cherries to donate. We ask that you pick as close to the event date as possible and don't refrigerate the tomatoes. Get your entry on the list by contacting the Tomato committee by May 25 (before Memorial Day weekend) and then bring them to the garden pavilion in a labeled bag or container at 9:00 AM on Saturday, June 2 (one hour before the event starts). Garden Location—12581 Dunlap Contact Debbie Gordon, event chairperson, if you'd like to show off your own home-grown tomatoes in this event. Email debbie@digiroo.com.



Raffle items requested — Would your local business like to participate by supplying a raffle prize to this popular Westbury event? Please contact event chairperson, Debbie Gordon. Your company will be acknowledged at the event, on the WCG website, and in our social media channels.



WHERE IS THE GARDEN?

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

JOIN the garden TODAY at
www.westburycommunitygarden.org

Contact us today at
membership@westburycommunitygarden.org



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