

Westbury Crier

VOLUME 64, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2019

Westbury Crier

A New Look for Westbury.

WOW... Westbury on the Web

6th Annual Tomato Tasting Westbury Community Garden

Saturday, June 1, 10AM-12PM

The Westbury Community Garden will be hosting its 6th Annual Tomato Tasting on Saturday, June 1. 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.

Monday - Thursday 10AM - 2PM

Or by appointment.

Phone – 713-723-5437

Email – westburycc@sbcglobal.net 5322 W. Bellfort, Ste 100, Houston, TX 77035

Westbury Crier **Editor Celebrates** 100th Issue!

This *Crier* is the 100th edition that our office manager, Jennifer Edmondson has produced. That is an amazing accomplishment all on its own, but the really amazing thing is that she took a black and white 16 page monthly newsletter and turned into an information filled, award-winning, full color glossy monthly publication.

Jennifer's 1st edition March 2011 When she became editor back in 2011 the Crier was published in black and white and was 16 pages. Today it's in full color and 24 pages. We are not the only ones who think the Crier is something special, as it has won a national award. For 64 years this monthly newsletter has chronicled the happenings of the neighborhood, and its back issues are a fascinating look at Westbury over the past 7 decades.

Jennifer, Congratulations on this 100th issue!!! Your layout skill and pulse on what is happening in the neighborhood has definitely propelled the Crier to a new level. And while we email it electronically and make it available online, it is still delivered to each Westbury doorstep to provide a handy reference all during the month for trash days and other special events.



SUMMER 2019 WCC OFFICE HOURS



Westbury Pool Opens May 25



The Westbury neighborhood pool, operated by the City of Houston, opens Saturday, May 25, for the Memorial Day Weekend. The pool WILL be open on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, from 1-8PM. Regular pool hours start Saturday, June 2. Tuesday to Sunday 1-8PM and closed on Mondays. For the full summer pool schedule, see page 8.

The Westbury Pool will have two sessions of the popular Adult Water Fitness class starting June 4.

There will also be a **FREE** children's learn to swim program. For more info. on adult and children classes, see page 8.



Trash Alert—Yard Waste Pickup on Saturdays

Yard Waste in Westbury is TEMPORARILY being collected on Saturdays instead of on the usual Thursday date. We do not know how long this temporary situation will last. The Solid Waste Department has not updated its website nor its Facebook page since they consider this to be a temporary condition. It is probably safest to put yard waste out on Thursday, with an expectation that it probably will not be collected until Saturday.

Yard Waste consists of plant materials placed in official City of Houston Yard Waste bags, or bundles of sticks/materials tied together with compostable materials (such as twine)

RECYCLING DATES



June 2019

Thursday, June 6 Thursday, June 20

July 2019

Thursday, July 4 Thursday, July 18

HEAVY TRASH

June 2019

Thursday, June 13 **JUNK WASTE**

July 2019

Thursday, July 11 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.

CONTACT US

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

SECURITY

Pct. 5 Constables ((WAP))281-463-6666
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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, 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		 	7	13-207-2222
Suspected natural gas	leak	 	7	13-659-2111
Street light repairs		 	7	13-207-2222
			,	

Make sure to give pole number

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

County Commissioner Rodney Ellis	s713-755-6111
Graffiti	www.braysoaksmd.org
Shopping Cart Removal	www.braysoaksmd.org
Brays Oaks Mgmt. District - Use	"report a problem" link
Poison Control	1-800-764-7661
Harris County Tax office	713-368-2000
Harris County Appraisal District	713-957-7800

2019 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Communications	Katherine Wingfield
Community Relations	VACANT
Deed Restrictions	VACANT
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Jennifer Edmondson
Greenspace Beautification	Mat Funk
Membership	Jeff Benavides
Security	VACANT
Volunteer Coordinator	.Robert Ellis-Montgomery

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Susan Brock
Tony Robert
VACANT
Eugene Sirls
Gail Reaben
Virginia Livingston
Donna Strom
Brandon Richard
Angie Furnari
Jeffrey Weiss
Lisa Placke

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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Editor-In-Chief	Jennifer Edmondson
Edited by	WCC Publication Committee
Advertising 713-723-54	137/ 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

Summer has arrived! School is out, vacations and summer activities are starting up. Before you head out of town, contact the Constables to set up a vacation watch if you have paid your WAP Constable dues for 2019. This is a great feature of the Constable program. For more information, see page 16.

The Westbury Pool, which is a City of Houston pool, is now open! The pool is located at the corner of Willowbend and Mullins, near Parker Elementary. The pool is FREE and open to the public. The popular water aerobics classes are back this summer and start June 4. For more information about the Westbury pool, see page 8.



WCC board members, Katherine Wingfield and Cindy Chapman, at the Spring 2019 White Elephant Sale

We are very fortunate in Westbury that we have many public spaces and parks to use for activities and enjoy nature. The Westbury Civic Club organized a park cleanup workday in April for Westbury Park and held a workday in May for Hager Park. Mat Funk and the park cleanup work teams did a great job tackling these projects to help keep our public parks more attractive. Thanks to all our volunteers! We have requested additional "mulch" for the play areas at both parks, and discussed that need with CM Castex-Tatum during the May WCC meeting. Whether you are walking a dog, pushing a stroller, enjoying a picnic, or getting exercise - our public parks are there for all of us to use. Did you know that people feel more comfortable using public places and parks when they see other people also using the park?

June is the start of hurricane season. Now is the time to think about fine-tuning the disaster plan for your family, and creating a plan if you don't already have one. Every house in Houston should have flood insurance, even if your mortgage does not require flood insurance. Anywhere it can rain, it can flood. There is no such thing as a "no flood zone". Read more about flood insurance on page 9. Westbury had several days of heavy rains in early May. No homes in Westbury flooded, although many streets were completely full past the sidewalks. To read more about the May rains and learn about how the Willow Waterhole basins and weirs work, see pages 11.

HISD regular classes end May 31, but please keep in mind that summer school will be in operation until July 3. Continue to pay attention to school zones when driving. We want to protect our children, parents picking up their children, and also avoid getting a speeding ticket.

Summer often brings a spike in minor property crimes such as burglary of motor vehicles. Please make an effort to lock your vehicles, remove valuables from your vehicles, and park vehicles in your garage or behind a gate, if at all possible. Most crimes occur without much planning after an "opportunity" has been observed. If you have a security camera at your home, consider registering it with our WAP Constables. To learn more about this new initiative, see page 16.

At the WCC office, we have started interviews for the new part-time office position. Eighteen people expressed interest in working at the Westbury Civic Club, most are Westbury residents. WCC and WAP dues continue to roll in, but we still need to receive more income to meet our annual budget. Our thanks to all who have already paid. We will be mailing out a second round of letters at the end of the month.

If you have any questions, problems, or concerns, please contact us at the Westbury Civic Club office. Have a great summer!

Cindy Chapman

WCC Board Meeting Notes

- District K CM Martha Castex-Tatum attended the meeting. She gave an update on the new library and Hager Park. She also participated in discussion about flooding.
- Richard Nguyen from COH Solid Waste Dept. said that yard waste in Westbury was temporarily being picked up on Saturdays instead of Thursdays. Unclear on how long this will continue.
- Deputy Debose gave a crime update from Precinct 5 Constables.
- ♦ WCC Treasurer reported YTD income of \$325,000.
- The WCC is currently interviewing candidates for a new part time position.
- Thank you Westbury High School for allowing the WCC to hold the May meeting on campus.
- Thank you Weichert Realtors for bringing water and cookies
- The next WCC board meeting will be Wednesday, June 19 at 7PM at Westbury Baptist, 10425 Hillcroft

WCC Board Meeting

Wed., June 19, 7PM
Westbury Baptist Church
10425 Hillcroft



Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

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

Summer Enrichment Program at the Platou Center

The City of Houston offers a 10-week day-camp style Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) for youth ages 6 - 13. SEP is available at all 54 city community centers, including the Platou Center right here in Westbury. The program runs from Monday, June 3 to August 9. Program activities include: crafts, nutrition, fun fitness, track and field, soccer, swimming, 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 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. (NOTE: Any scheduled field trip costs are not a part of the registration fee).

Volunteers Sought for Summer Enrichment Program

A group of Westbury residents provides additional experiences for the children enrolled in the Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) at the city Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park in Westbury. On Tuesday mornings at 10, they conduct a nature program based on a wide variety of topics such as a particular insect, reptiles, birds, trees, wildflowers, etc. They also usually have a craft activity related to the topic of the day.

The Friends of Chimney Rock Park welcomes adult volunteers to help with the summer enrichment program or to provide their expertise about a nature topic. Contact Hazel Potvin at chimneyrockparkfriends@vahoo.com.

Attention—Adult Programs Suspended for Summer

ALL Adult Programs are suspended for 10 weeks due to the Summer Enrichment Program for Kids. Some activities have relocated. Some evening programming will remain. See below or check with your group/class for status

Stretching Class MOVED for Summer

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

Evening Aerobics Exercise Class

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6-7PM

Free Evening Aerobics Class held at the Platou Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6 -7PM. Remember to bring a bottle of water and to wear comfortable clothing. Call the Platou Center at 713-726-7107 to register.

TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

Tuesdays 5:45PM-7PM

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

Meyer Library News

→ Meyer Library CLOSED Indefinitely

The Meyer Library has long been on the City's replacement list and after minor flooding in Harvey, the decision was made to not re-open Meyer Library.

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

The City purchased land in Westbury for a new Meyer Library. The new location would be at the site of the old Post Office in Westbury on Belrose.

→ Library UPDATE on PAGE 13

→ "Mini" Mever Library at Godwin Community Center

A "mini" Meyer Library is now open in Meyerland at the Godwin Community Center at 5101 Rutherglenn. Limited Services. Staff can be reached at 832-393-1840.

Hours of operation:

Mon-Wed: 1:00PM-6:00PM Thurs: 1:00PM-8:00PM





Westbury Pool

Opened May 25

See page 8 for:

- → full pool schedule
- → FREE adult water fitness classes
- → FREE Kids Learn to Swim Classes

Westbury Pool is located at 10605 Mullins (near Parker Elementary)

What's Happening in Westbury

June 2019 Calendar Events/Meetings

Sat	Tomato Tasting 10AM-Noon Westbury Community Garden—12500 Dunlap See pages 1 and 23 for more information
1	See pages 1 and 23 for more information
Sat 1	Westbury Pool Opens for weekday use 1-8PM 10605 Mullins See page 8 for more information
Mon 3	Summer Enrichment Program Begins Platou Center See page 4
Tues 4	Water Fitness Classes start at Westbury Pool 10605 Mullins See page 8 for more information
Sat 15	Audubon Society Bird Survey Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow 7AM
Mon 17	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM Willow Meadows Baptist Church, 4300 W Bellfort
Wed 19	NO WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting in June
Wed 19	WCC Board Meeting Westbury Baptist Church— 10425 Hillcroft 7PM
Tues 25	SW PIP Meeting 7PM SW HPD Station - 13097 Nitida
July 3-5	WCC Office Closed

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS

Hurricane Season Starts June 1. Keep Storm Drains Clear of Debris. Have Your Trees Trimmed Now!



All About Trash

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



Household Trash

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



Recycling in Westbury

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

June 2019
Thursday, June 6
Thursday, June 20

July 2019 Friday, July 5 Thursday, July 18

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 2019
JUNK WASTE
Thursday, June 13

July 2019
TREE WASTE ONLY
Thursday, July 11

Important Trash & Recycling Info

Regular trash pickup is every Thursday. Recycling is every other Thursday. Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.

Mestbury 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.

Tard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags

Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints

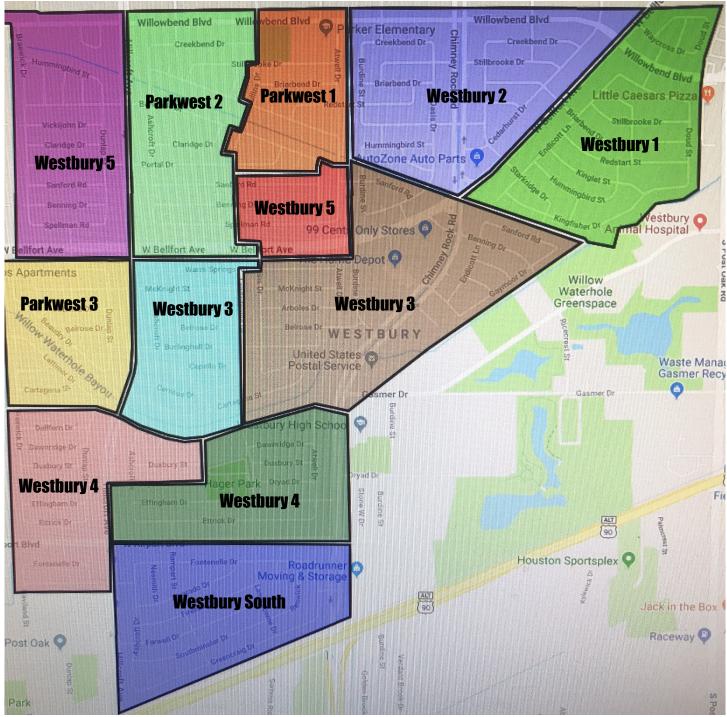
Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling
 Centers: SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr
 10785 SW Frwy / Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM;
 Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste & Recyclables.

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

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.

Westbury Map Mailbag

Why do Westbury 3 and 4 have two colors on the key/map?

The Westbury Civic Club board has directors that represent each section of the neighborhood. It was originally one per section, but years ago, the board added two new directors and split Westbury 3 and 4 into two sections, East and West, for board representation. These two sections are the largest in Westbury, both having over 800 homes each. Several years ago we did away with the East / West designation but kept 2 section directors for each section since they are so large.

Parkwest 1
Parkwest 2
Parkwest 3
Westbury 1
Westbury 2
Westbury 3
Westbury 4
Westbury 5
Westbury 5
Westbury South

Vestbury Area Patrol

2019 Westbury Civic Club Dues, Assessments, & W				
Please send this form in with your payment	2019 Westbury Ci	vic Cluk	Dues	
Name(s)				
Address				
Home Phone		Cell		
E-mail				
Make checks payable to: Westbury Civic Club, Inc.	Westbury Civic Club Dues		\$50	
Mail to:	Westbury Area Patrol		\$285	
P.O. Box 975182 Dallas, TX 75397-5182		Subtotal	\$335	
Online payment: paypal.com—Send Money to	Additional Contributions:			
westburycc@sbcglobal.net	Westbury Civic Club			
Make sure to include your address	Westbury Area Patrol			
Want to send your support in multiple payments?			Total	

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

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

Please support the Westbury Civic Club and our programs by paying your 2019 Dues and WAP. The majority of Westbury homes do not have mandatory assessments so the WCC relies on donations from residents to run the office, pay for the Constable program, and more. Please use the form to the left and send in your payment today! If you have any questions, please call the WCC office at 713-723-5437.

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

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

Mission of the WCC

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

The purposes of the Westbury Civic 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

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, Constable Pct 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 National Night Out and Keep Westbury Beautiful

ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1&2 HOMEOWNERS

Homes purchased in Parkwest 1 after Jan. 1, 1993 and Parkwest 2 after Jan 1, 1994 have mandatory assessments. The 2019 Mandatory Assessments of \$240.75 were due 2/1/2019. Late statements will be sent in June.





Westbury City Pool Summer 2019 Schedule



May 25-26: Pool open Sat. & Sun., 1-8PM

May 27 (Memorial Day): Pool OPEN 1-8PM

June 1- August 11: Pool OPEN Normal Summer Hours Tuesday—Sunday 1-8PM; Closed Monday

July 4: Pool OPEN, 1-5PM

August 12 - September 1: Pool open on

Saturday and Sunday only, 1-5PM

September 2 (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.)

----Cut me out---

----Cut me out ---

FREE Swim Lessons for Kids

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

All classes are free and space is limited on a "first come, first served" basis during specified registration periods. Online Registration is required and begins at 8:00 am on registration date. To register go to www.houstonparks.com.



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 4, and the last day of class will be Thursday, August 1, at the Westbury Pool. If you have questions, call the city Adult Sports Office at (832) 395-7274.

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

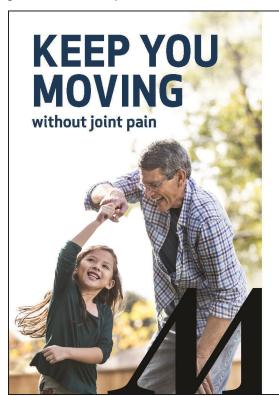
NOTE: Westbury Pool will be closed for general swimming use during fitness classes

Adult Circuit Water Fitness Class Tuesday and Thursday, 9-10AM Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30PM - 7:30PM

A combination of cardio, strength-training, and flexibility that

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





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. including:

- Innovative pain control methods
- Physical therapy to improve mobility and range of motion
- Latest technology, including minimally invasive surgical techniques
- Presurgical education programs for joint replacement

We can help you find relief from joint pain — so you can keep moving.

Schedule an appointment:

houstonmethodist.org/jointpain | 713.441.9000





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.

Only 15% of the structures that flooded during Hurricane Harvey had flood insurance.

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

created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which offers flood insurance to homeowners, renters, and business owners.

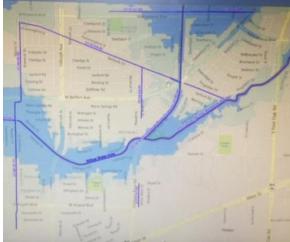
As you shop for a flood policy, you may be confused, as many are, about whether the policy is through FEMA or an insurance company. In 1983, the Write Your Own (WYO) Program began and is a cooperative undertaking between the private insurance industry and FEMA. The WYO Program allows participating property 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

government stepped in. In 1968, Congress due to the: deductible chosen, insured value, Replacement Cost or ACV, location in the flood plain, elevation of your home, and whether you choose to have both vour 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 in the Gulf of Mexico. Once purchased, there is a 30 day waiting period before it takes effect.



Flood plains in Westbury. Blue is 100 and light green is 500.

BE A PART OF THE ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

For an application and/or more information about STM, please visit our website stthomasmore-school.org

Private tours can be arranged by calling the school office 713.729.3434





5927 Wigton Dr. Houston 77096

- St. Thomas More Parish School is co-educational
- Grades Pre-K through 8th Grade 0
- Full Day and Half Day Pre-K Programs
- 0 Before and After School Care Available
- Experience the Academic Discipline of STEM



Sign Up for Power Outage Alerts

A helpful alert service about Centerpoint power outages is Power Alert Service (PAS) which can notify you, friends and family of a power outage, its restoration progress, and when the electricity comes back on. Thanks to recent upgrades, you can send alerts to up to five text, five emails and five phone numbers. https://www.centerpointenergy.com

Sign Up for Alerts from City

Sometimes it is easy to become complacent with weather alerts, but emails, texts, and phone calls sent from the City Alert System definitely were accurate this time. If you haven't signed up to receive City alerts, you may do so with Alert Houston. Timely information during emergencies is important. AlertHouston delivers critical information to Houston residents regarding current conditions, expected impacts, and protective actions to keep themselves and their loved ones safe.

These alerts are issued by City of Houston Office of Emergency Management (OEM). Messages are issued for citywide and neighborhood level emergencies. They are sent through email and social media (Facebook, Twitter and Nextdoor). You must opt-in to receive these alerts.

More information is available at www.houstonemergency.org/alerts/

Register for emergency alerts through email, text message, voice call, or mobile app push notification. You may download the Everbridge app free of charge from the Apple or Andoid app store. Most alerts are geo-targeted; subscribers with loved ones around the city may register up to five physical addresses per contact record.

PRIMARY CARE GROUP

Where Does it Flood?

Is my part of Houston flooding? Covering over 600 sq. miles, the answer is maybe, maybe not. Sometimes one area get 12 inches and another none. So first you have to know where you are. You have to know your watershed; Harris County has 22. And you have to know what causes your flooding.

ALL the streets in Houston are designed to hold water..."streets full of water" is not flooding. Flooding is when your home or business gets water inside.

In Westbury, we are in the Brays bayou watershed. The Willow Waterhole Bayou (WWB) is a tributary of Brays, which is a pitifully small tributary that can't even hold a 10 year storm. BUT, the Willow Waterhole detention basins built downstream will take spill over from the WWB once it reaches 52 feet or so. Unfortunately, the WWB top of bank is 54.20 ft., so the bayou tops its bank and freaks everyone out before the detention basins function for Westbury. One hundred and fifty homes flooded in one part of Westbury in 2013 when the gage level hit 55.10 ft.

There is another section of Westbury that floods when Brays Bayou gets too high, which causes the Fondren diversion channel to get too high. Then the WWB starts to flow the WRONG way towards Westbury and overtops the dam (berm) that was put in by Houston Flood Control Department (HFCD) back in the 1970s when there was flooding from Fondren. That worked from 1978 until 2016. Why doesn't it work now? No answer to that.

The third cause of flooding is our bad, broken, aged storm sewer infrastructure from the 50s. Water can't get out of our streets fast enough and floods homes especially at intersections and corners.

Solutions to our flooding woes have been in the works for decades. WE NEED ACTION NOW.

Respectfully,

Becky Edmondson, President of Westbury Area Improvement Corporation

HOUSTON METHODIST PRIMARY CARE GROUP IN BELLAIRE Welcomes Dr. Vinisha Patel Houston Methodist Primary Care Group is pleased to welcome Dr. Vinisha Patel, a board-certified internist who brings over 20 years of health care experience to the Bellaire clinic. I strongly believe in prevention and the importance of the doctor-patient relationship. I follow preventive care best practices and try to individualize them for each patient based on his or her unique characteristics. Vinisha Patel, MD, Internal Medicine Schedule online at houstonmethodist.org/pcg/bellaire or call 713.394.6638.

Suite 175

Houston, TX 77030

Weirs "Spillovers" on the Willow Waterhole Bayou

One of the biggest conversations in Houston these days is flooding. Every rain storm brings more worries. While Westbury saw no home flooding in May 2019, we did have many flooded neighborhood streets and stalled cars. These storms also brought the Willow Waterhole Bayou at Landsdowne out of its' banks.

After 5 floods since 2013, residents who live near the Willow Waterhole Bayou in Westbury at Landsdowne know how the bayou operates when it starts to rain. The WCC monitors the gage levels online and also know how this bayou has historically acted. This all changed in 2018.

Several rain events last year alarmed area residents as the gage seemed to stop reporting the level accurately; it stayed stationary even though it was still pouring outside. This happened again in May 2019. No homes flooded in Westbury.

Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) attended the July 2018 WCC Board meeting to explain the changes to the bayou and the resulting effect on the gage. The WCC's understanding is that the weirs "become active" when the water reaches approximately 52.5 ft at the weir. Upstream, at Landsdowne, where the gage is located, the elevation is one foot higher. This means that the bayou will reach the top of bank or very close at Landsdowne before water will overtop the weirs downstream at the detention basins. This is how it is designed to work. This is when we expect to see the Landsdowne gage stabilize and hold at a certain level between 53.5 and 54.5ft (top of bank is 54.20 ft.).

The "Spillover" weirs along the bayou are now complete and seem to be operating as they were intended. WCC board members Jennifer and Becky Edmondson toured the weir and control structure area the day after the May 7 rain. A video of the visit is posted on the Westbury Houston Facebook page and at www.westburycrier.com. The rain on May 7 saw the bayou plateau for 34 mins, at 54.28 ft, which was technically over the bank at Landsdowne. The rain 2 days later, on May 9, saw the bayou crest at 53.50. Each of these rain events saw rapid rainfall in a very short period and that is hard for our old infrastructure to handle. On May 7, we had a total of 5 inches of rain, BUT 3.24 inches of that fell in one hour. From 6:35-6:45, 0.68 inches of rain fell. Nothing is designed to hold that rate of rain. This is why our neighborhood streets flooded so quickly, even in areas "that never flood." The May 9 rain total was 3.20 but 1.6 inches fell in only 30 minutes. In one 5 minute period that night, 0.44" fell.

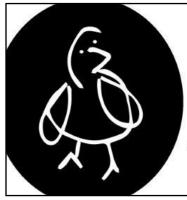
These 4 photos show some of the new features at the Willow Waterhole Bayou and detention basins. Photo 1 shows the new large culverts that are bringing the Bankside/Hummingbird bayou water from the Chimney Rock intersection to the Willow Waterhole Bayou. This photo also shows one of the weirs into the detention basin as well as the emergency/ secondary spillover that will allow water to overflow and re-enter the channel on other side of the "control structure" that is seen circled in red in photo 2. The control structure restricts the flow of water in the bayou. As the water level rises in the channel, water will flow over the weirs and into the detention basins. Photo 3 shows the 2nd weir which is located along the Willow Waterhole Bayou directly behind the homes on Gaymoor in Westbury. This weir is located before the other one to the West. The basins are now all connected. One of the new connections is seen in Photo 4.











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Keep Westbury Beautiful Day at Hager Park

The Westbury Civic Club organizes a volunteer workday each spring, Keep Westbury Beautiful Day. This event is coordinated with Keep Houston Beautiful and Keep District K Beautiful. The first workday was held at Westbury Park in April and a second was held at Hager Park on May 4.

Volunteers at Hager Park spread 5 cubic vards of mulch around tree trunks. collected trash across the site, trimmed trees, and adjusted tree supports. The park looks much nicer and the trees surely appreciate having mulch as hot weather approaches. Many thanks to those who volunteered at Hager Park: Joyce Bryouskis, Adam Aleweidat, and Elton Kasper, plus WCC Directors Mat Funk, Eugene Sirls, and Cindy Chapman. In particular, Mat and Eugene worked tirelessly to finish spreading the mulch and got the job done without having to add another workday.

How many of you know where Hager Park is located? Hager Park is a City of Houston park located in the center of Westbury, next to Anderson Elementary, and is bounded by the residential streets of Landsdowne, Effingham, and McClearen.

Hager Park is awaiting a Capital Improvement Project to renovate the park, and this renovation is sorely needed. The only playground equipment available during school hours are several ancient swing-sets. In 2013, Hager Park was listed by the City Parks Department as the highest need park for renovations in "Sector 8" and voters approved a bond several years ago to renovate Hager Park. The Westbury Civic Club has planted trees over the years at Hager Park, but we have held off doing more extensive plantings until the park renovation is completed.













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Local Park Info

FREE Youth Tennis Lessons at Platou Center

The Youth Tennis Program is a FREE program offered at Chimney Rock Park next to the Platou Center. This fun program is 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 week of each session. Class size limited.

Ages: 4 - 18

Registration: Online or On Site First Day of Class

Summer I June 3 - June 27, 2019

Summer II July 1 - July 25, 2019 (No classes July 4)

Information: (832) 395-7561

Age	Times	Days
4-6	8:15AM9AM	M-Th
7-10	9AM-10AM	M-Th
11-18	10AM-11:15AM	M-Th

Volunteer Needed for Westbury Park

Looking for a volunteer to help maintain the flower beds and butterfly garden at Westbury Park. Some new plants were planted this spring, and need a bit of care over the summer until they get well-established. Also, periodic weeding of the flower beds at Westbury Park will be helpful. If interested, please contact Bill Burhans at 713-906-3254.

Future Westbury Library Update

District K CM Martha Castex-Tatum recently held a meeting with Dr. Rhea Lawson, Executive Director of the Houston Public Library

System and members of the Library staff to discuss the status of the future Westbury Library location.

The City has purchased the site of the "old post office building" on Belrose in Westbury. This property also connects to Chimney Rock and is near our local Fire Station. The



library team has reviewed architect teams who have applied for the project and has narrowed the list down to 5 teams for further consideration. The library plans to hold a public meeting for comments after the architecture team has been chosen. At this time, it is likely that the existing large building will be renovated for use as a library.

The library situation was discussed during the May Westbury Civic Club meeting attended by CM Castex-Tatum. She is very aware that Westbury and other nearby communities miss having a convenient full service library location, and that this area has traditionally had among the highest library usage in the city library system. We have not had a local full-service library since the Meyer branch location (on West Bellfort near St. John's Presbyterian Church) was damaged by rain during Harvey. The Meyer building had foundation problems and the site is too small. The Belrose location is larger and is conveniently located in the middle of Westbury.



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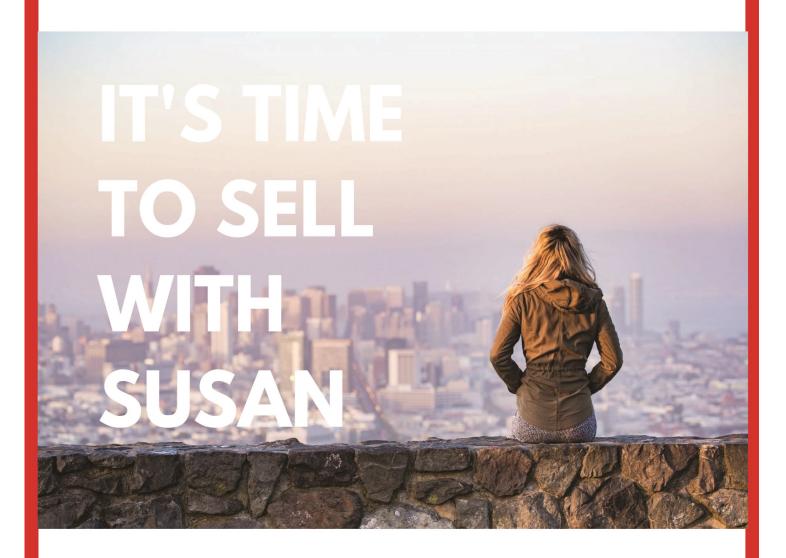
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Westbury Meet & Eat

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 6, 6PM

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.

Westbury Centerette Property

There was activity on the Centerette property this past month. One of the problems that has stopped development

of this property in the past was a utility easement running through the center of the property. The electrical easement was relocated to the perimeter. Perhaps now something will be coming!

We will keep you informed.



Happy 70th Anniversary to Three Brothers Bakery

Three Brothers Bakery, located at 4036 South Braeswood near Stella Link, may not be located in Westbury, but it is a local institution in southwest Houston. The owners of the family-run bakery have overcome adversity many times, and demonstrate a grit and determination which are to be admired. Founded by three Polish brothers, who survived Nazi concentration camps, the bakery was opened in Houston on May 8 of 1949.

On May 8, 2019, the bakery owners celebrated both the 70th anniversary of the family bakery and also received a "Family-Owned Business of the Year" award from the federal Small Business Association (SBA) at the SBA regional annual awards luncheon in Houston. The bakery has been recognized by the SBA for their disaster preparedness and recovery plans. The bakery location on South Braeswood flooded in 2015, 2016, and in 2017.

District K Councilmember Martha Castex-Tatum presented a city proclamation in honor of the 70th Anniversary at the celebration held at the bakery.





Public Safety Information from the Westbury Area Patrol

Why bother to report a small crime or an attempted crime? It is very important to REPORT CRIME to the Constables at 281 -463-6666 as soon as possible, even if it is a small amount that has been stolen or even if a crime was only attempted. We have noticed some situations where people are discussing a crime on social media, but have not reported the crime to the Constables or to HPD. Keep in mind that we are PAYING Precinct 5 Constables to be in Westbury. You are not bothering them by reporting a small crime. Instead, you are helping them to solve crimes by providing them with information about WHEN and WHERE crime is happening in Westbury and WHO is doing it. Thieves tend to be prolific at stealing, so if you have had something stolen then it is likely that others will soon be victims, too. Also, you will not have to wait hours to report a property crime to the constables as you might if you called HPD. The constables excel in these types of situations because they are here patrolling on a routine basis in Westbury and they can communicate with other Constable patrols in nearby neighborhoods, too. The constables are licensed law enforcement officers and can process crime scenes and fingerprints (if conditions allow). The constables forward their crime information to HPD, so by contacting the constables both HPD and the constables have the crime information available. (On the other hand, if you report to HPD, the constables may not know about the crime.)

Contractors BEWARE

Westbury homeowners, please alert your contractors that thieves are targeting vehicles and homes for tools and materials to steal. They have broken into several homes/construction sites and vehicles in Westbury. Be alert and lock your vehicles. If you must store items on site, make sure they are secure.

Vacation Watch

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

You can register for a vacation watch online at https://constablepct5.com/index.php/vacation-watch/ or by calling 281-463-6666 and requesting a deputy come by your house.

Constables Seek to Develop List of Residents with Security Cameras

Sgt. Derkowski of the Constables Precinct 5 Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) notes that some homes have security camera video systems with a view of public streets. These camera / videos can be very helpful to get photos of criminal suspects or to figure out which direction a criminal suspect has fled. Sgt. Derkowski is interested in developing a list of Westbury residents, in advance, who are willing to share photo or video information from their home security systems with the constables to help solve crimes.

If interested in participating in this program, please contact Sgt. Derkowski directly. He will need your NAME, House ADDRESS, and CONTACT INFORMATION (phone and email).

To contact Sgt. Derkowski, you can call the constable dispatcher at 281-463-6666 and ask that Sgt. Derkowski contact you, or you can email him at: Nicholas.Derkowski@cn5.hctx.net

To Lock or Not to Lock

Throughout Westbury and our surrounding neighborhoods, thieves walk the streets at night checking car door handles to find unlocked vehicles to ransack.

One thought is that if you leave your doors unlocked then they will not break your window. This is true, but they will still ransack or rifle though your car. Sometimes they will even steal the car.

However, if you lock it, most of them will keep on walking. Now that school is out we will have more unsupervised youths looking for something to do and we would encourage all of you to secure your vehicles out of the street if possible and even better in the garage if possible. But definitely don't leave anything in your car. You might know there's nothing worth stealing in your kids backpack or diaper bag but thieves don't.

Support our Westbury Area Patrol TODAY

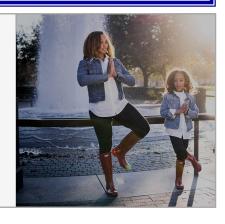
A large part of the funds paid to Precinct 5 for our WAP Security Patrol (Harris County Precinct 5 Constables) is paid VOLUNTARILY by our residents who do not have mandatory assessments. If you appreciate this vital service, please consider showing your appreciation by sending a contribution TODAY for the WAP security patrol. See page 7 with information about how to send an online payment by PayPal or where to send your checks to our bank deposit lockbox in Dallas. Thank you for supporting WAP security patrol and for supporting our Westbury neighborhood!



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Crime Statistics for Westbury SuperNeighborhood

April 19 - May 20, 2019 Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W]
6000	Arboles	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/13	11AM	Parkwest 3	KEY
10600	Ashcroft	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/7	10AM	Parkwest 2	
12000	Ashcroft	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	4/27	12PM	Westbury 4	Burglary from Motor Vehicle
12100	Ashcroft	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/10	2AM	Westbury 4	Woldi Veriicle
5100	Briarbend	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	4/22	7AM	Westbury 1	Auto Theft
10800	Burdine	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/13	10AM	Westbury 2	
10600	Carlota Crt	Aggravated Assault	5/6	2PM	Westbury 5	Theft
5700	Cerritos	Aggravated Assault	5/12	2PM	Westbury 3	
6000	Cerritos	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	4/18	9AM	Parkwest 3	Burglary
5900	Dawnridge	Burglary of Habitation	5/9	11AM	Westbury 4	Aggravated
10800	Endicott	Burglary of Habitation	4/18	12PM	Westbury 1	Assault
6000	Fontenelle	Auto Theft	5/12	3AM	Westbury 4	with Weapon
10900	Hillcroft	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	4/23	11AM	Westbury 5	Aggravated robbery with
11000	Hillcroft	Auto Theft	5/19	11AM	Westbury 5	weapon
11400	Hillcroft	Burglary of Habitation	5/3	8AM		Ì
11900	Hillcroft	Burglary of Habitation	4/22	5PM	Westbury 4	The continues linked
6000	Hummingbird	Burglary of Motor Vehicle	5/19	6AM	Westbury 5	The crimes listed took place between
10800	McClearen	Theft- Other	5/13	12PM	Parkwest 2	April 19 and May 20.
5600	McKnight	Burglary of Habitation	5/17	2PM	Westbury 3	They are in
11400	Mullins	Burglary of Habitation	5/6	10AM	Westbury 3	alphabetical order by
10700	Rampart	Burglary of Building	4/18	11AM	Parkwest 2	street. The crimes are highlighted by type.
10700	Rampart	Theft - Bicycle	4/19	11AM	Parkwest 2	Please see key above.
5400	Sanford	Aggravated Robbery - Home Invasion	4/23	10AM	Westbury 3	
6000	W. Airport	Theft - Other	4/24	7PM	Westbury 4	1
5500	W. Bellfort	Burglary of Habitation	4/18	12PM		1
5000	Willowbend	· .	4/24	10AM	Westbury 1	1
5500	W. Bellfort	111017	4/18	12PM		

Crime in Commercial, Public Spaces, and Apartments

Crime Type	Homes	Apts./ TH		•
Aggravated Assault	2	6	0	0
Aggravated Robbery	1	5	2	0
Burglary of Building	1	0	2	0
Burglary from Motor Vehicle	9	6	0	2
Burglary of Habitation	8	6	0	0
Robbery	0	1	1	1
Sexual Assault	0	1	0	0
Theft - Misc.	2	4	1	1
Theft - Bicycle	1	0	0	1
Theft - Firearm	0	0	2	0
Theft- From Building	0	0	2	0
Theft - License Plate	0	1	0	1
Theft - Shoplifting	0	3	0	0
Auto Theft	2	5	1	1
Murder	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	26	38	11	7



Westbury Area Patrol 281-463-666

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



Spring 2019 White Elephant Sale

The Spring White Elephant Community Garage Sale was another huge success. There were over 200 people waiting in line when the gates opened at 8AM. Two ladies that come every year were first in line again this year. They are consummate shoppers and always score some great finds. There were many familiar faces in the crowd as numerous shoppers return year after year.

The Westbury Civic Club hosts this event twice a year. The WCC board member volunteers get up before the crack of dawn and are on site at 5AM 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 get packed and cleaned up.

Two Precinct 5 deputies are on duty for safety and 2 port-a-cans are on site for convenience. Back again was Westbury's own very popular, PUCS coffee truck! They had their normal, delicious breakfast fare and much needed coffee. Look for PUCS in the Westbury Square parking lot on W Bellfort Thursday through Sunday mornings. Follow them on Facebook for location changes and menu updates.

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





Thank you WCC board members for working the sale!







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Friends of Westbury High School Gala

The Friends of Westbury High School Foundation Gala was a rousing success. The emcee was Lauren Kelly from FM 96.5, as an alum of WHS she brought a personal perspective. In attendance, showing their commitment to local youth, were Mayor Turner, our CM Martha Castex- Tatum, our HISD Trustee Wanda Adams, our TX State Rep. Shawn Thierry, and our HCC Trustee Pretta

Vandible Stallworth. Congressman Al Green was in DC but sent Catherine Lee with flags and certificates. Harris Cty Pct 1 Rodney Ellis sent beautiful certificates for the 11 scholarship winners.

In addition to awarding scholarships, four outstanding alumni and faculty were honored. Congratulations to Cheryl Peterson, English teacher; George Lake, Outstanding Alumni class of 1971; Mike Canahuati, Outstanding Alumni class of 1999; Laura Dew, College Access Coordinator

The room was filled with community members, teachers and admins. Thanks to Ms. Tomlinson from WHS Art Department for assisting with the decorations. Thanks to Mst. Sgt. Garcia and the ROTC who worked the gala event. A video honoring the WHS Foundations' founder, Rita Woodward, who passed away five years ago, was shown and her daughter, Chereze Therkildsen shared her memories of her mother. The silent auction was a huge success and we thank both the donors and buyers alike.

The Friends of Westbury High School foundation wishes to thank all the attendees, sponsors, alumni, contributors and advertisers of this year's gala.

WESTBURY MODIFICATION OF

Congratulations Scholarship Winners Bernadotte

Bernadette Annor
Essence Duplechain
Fiyona Berhe
Stephanie Quiroz
Reginae Brown
Tiffany Nguyen
Sophia Rodriguez
Sharon Roman
Eh K Ya Htoo
Almira K David
Veronica Sandoval



Scholarship winners with HISD Trustee Wanda Adams, Mayor Turner, and CM Martha Castex-Tatum

Westbury Christian School

Education Spotlight at SWHouston2000 Breakfast

Westbury Christian School (WCS) has served Westbury and southwest Houston since 1975. The school is located on the grounds of the Westbury Church of Christ, but it is independently operated and is not funded by the church. The school was recently featured during a May breakfast hosted by SWHouston2000, Brays Oaks District, SW District and Houston Baptist University. Mike White, Head of School (and also a resident of Westbury), discussed the academic achievements at WCS and noted that the demographics at the school reflect the population of Southwest Houston.

The talented 4th grade Youth Choir from Westbury Christian School entertained the breakfast guests, who also learned about planning efforts in Houston from event guest speaker Chuck Wemple from the Houston Galveston Area Council (HGAC). In recognition of school achievements, Mike White accepted a check for \$500 from SWHouston2000 on behalf of the school.



Meyerland Performing & Visual Arts Middle School

The Fine Arts program continues to shine! MPVAMS had a group of Greyhounds (school mascot) compete in the Texas Council of Economics Education "Stock Market Game" which

placed second in the Houston area. This was quite an accomplishment as hundreds of teams across several school districts competed.



Registration for incoming zoned and magnet students will take place on June 4 – 6 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

Greyhound Camp (orientation for incoming 6th grade students and new 7th/8th grade students) will take place on August 15. Times will be posted on the school website soon.



"Masting" Oak Trees

Have you noticed all the young oak trees sprouting in your yard or flower beds?

Why all of these tiny tees? Remember all the acorns this past fall? According to an article by Jennifer Trandell from the Galveston Bay Area Master Naturalist publication The Midden whenever there is a an abundance of nuts, the year is botanically referred to as a mast year.

The fruit of an oak tree is an acorn. A single giant oak trees can produce nearly 10,000 acorns in one season. However they do not bear fruit every year. When all the oak species together produce a big yield like this past autumn in the Houston area, we can call it a "mast seeding" or "masting" event. This happens every two to five years and although there are theories, the reason remains a mystery. In mast years, as the acorns fall plentifully more food is available for squirrels, mice, birds and other creatures. You may have already notice an increase in your squirrel population this spring.

So if you find yourself with these tiny trees growing all over your yard, you will need to dig them out of your vard. If interested, you may pot the tiny tree and then contact your local tree organization to see how you can help support oak populations.



Oak Tree "Masting" in Westbury

The House Next Door—Rats on the Roof

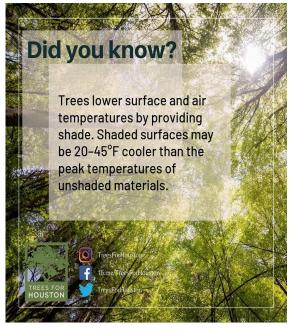
Rats on the roof; lizards inside the window; sun shining through an open roof into a filthy house; the smell of decay and mold and feces permeates the air as this house rots in place. Every time it rains, water pours into the house from multiple roof openings. Animals have free entry.

How would you feel if this house was next door to you? Five years ago the "house next door", which was in similar condition, had to be bulldozed by the city. The person living in that hovel then moved next door into what was already an untidy, ill-kept home and lived there for years. The house flooded in 2015 and 2017 without abatement, and is now unoccupied.

Thankfully with the assistance of the Houston Police Department and CM Castex-Tatum's Office, the Department of Neighborhoods sent an abatement team to clean up the exterior of the home – for both the front and back yards. This home is no longer fit for human habitation and probably is beyond repair as it continues to sit and rot. Hopefully demolition will rid the neighborhood of this eyesore which has plagued this street for many years.











Willow Waterhole Update

Volunteers with the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy asked Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) to meet near the basins to discuss trail damage along the Bayou Trail next to this detention lake. While touring in the trail area, Gary Zika and Rusty Lannin, from HCFCD, noticed that the weir construction done in the summer of 2018 was defective. The contractor had placed boulders at the bottom of the weir without putting in another section of concrete. HCFCD determined that the boulders needed to be removed so that more concrete could be poured at the weir. The picture shows the drained lake, the removal of the boulders, and the forms to pour another section of concrete.



Bill Burhans, Director of Conservation for the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy, notes that the conservancy had to pay for the materials (\$300 for crushed granite) to repair the trail

damage and that scouts have already completed the trial repairs. He says that he "will be happy to see all the construction completed and see people use the Bayou Trail that was nearly destroyed.





Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy



Eagle Scout Projects at the Willow Waterhole

The Willow Waterhole is a very popular spot for Eagle Scout projects. We often write articles about these projects. Two more boy scouts just completed their Eagle Projects in April at Willow Waterhole. **Samuel Zhang** from Troop 222 and **Hunter Henderson** from Troop 40 each installed two benches, for a total of four benches installed.

Two benches were installed on the Arboretum Trail and two benches on the Bayou Trail. The four benches had been donated by Cheniere Energy to Westbury High School. WHS, in turn, made them available to the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy. Thanks to all who donated time and materials.



Samuel Zhang with friends and family at one of the new benches they installed.

Hunter Henderson along with family and friends at one of the new benches they installed.



Willow Waterhole Monthly Bird Surveys

Nature-lovers of Westbury, did you know that the Houston Audubon Society conducts a monthly bird survey at Willow Waterhole and that the public is invited to participate? Since the study area is so large, the effort is divided into several teams, each headed by an experienced leader.

The next bird survey will be held on **June 15 at 7AM.** Meet in the parking lot of The Gathering Place at 5310 S. Willow.



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Dean & June Thomas 5514 Briarbend

Parkwest 2

Martha Severance 5738 Portal

Parkwest 3

Lisa and Doug Creamer 5910 Belrose

Westbury 1

Loren and Ra<mark>bbi D</mark>an Gordon

5023 Willowbend

Westbury 2

Marshall & Jean Pennington

10811 Moonlight

Westbury 3

K. Golding
11502 Ashcroft

Westbury 4

Chris & Rachel Yarborough
5718 Ettrick

Westbury 5

Stephen & Margaret Schulze
5526 Sanford

Westbury South

Buelah Spencer 12323 Atwell



Do you want to win Yard of the Month?

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

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

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



Westbury Community Garden News

6th Annual Tomato Tasting

Saturday, June 1, 10AM - 12PM

It's Tomato Tasting Time again! For the sixth 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 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.





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



The Garden is a Great Place to Volunteer



A team of volunteers helped at the garden on April 27 by working in the pollinator beds and in the orchard area. If you or your group are interested in volunteering, the service days are held monthly on the morning of the 4th Saturday (except in May and November when it is the 3rd Saturday).

collected more than 3 pickup loads of aged horse manure

Horse Manure at the Garden

from the site of the former Foxfire Farm Stables, located at 13034 S. Post Oak, currently owned by Subhas Sreeram. Since this manure is aged (not fresh), it can to be used to fertilize the fruit and citrus trees at the garden without

A crew of volunteers with the Westbury Community Garden

being composted.





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