

Westbury Crier

VOLUME 66, ISSUE 7

JULY 2021

Fire at the Westbury Post Office

A fire was started inside the Westbury Post Office located at 11805 Chimney Rock on the evening of Memorial Day (May 31). Luckily, response to the fire was fast. Our local fire department station is located across the street from the Post Office. The Houston Fire Department arson investigation division and the US Postal Service are investigating.

The Post Office building is currently closed to the general public for repairs of the damage caused by fire and water. Here is information about what to expect if you need to use the post office.

If you have a PO box at the Chimney Rock Post Office, workers are stationed outside, ready to assist you. The postal employees are working outside Monday-Friday, 10AM-6PM and on Saturday, 10AM-4PM. If you have a valid ID and are listed on the PO Box as an authorized user, they will check your PO Box, get the mail, and then bring it back to you.

If you want to drop off already stamped mail, you can hand it to the

Hurricane Season is Here. Be Prepared.

It is officially hurricane season.
Being prepared and knowing what to do are key. There is no need to panic if you are prepared and have a plan. Pages 8-9 contain many helpful articles about storm prep, alerts, weather resources, and more.

workers based in the mobile truck outside, during the work hours listed above. You CANNOT purchase stamps or anything else at this post office location. Two nearby post office locations are Bellaire Post Office at 5350 Bellaire or Westbrae Post Office at 10910 S. Gessner.



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VOTE for the Name of the New Library in Westbury

A NEW state of the art, regional library is coming to Westbury. The City of Houston is holding a poll for your favorite name! Voting is open until July 13. There are 5 names to choose from on the poll.

https://forms.gle/VGWBbP6cJh28ZJo9A More information on pg. 16

Westbury Pool is NOW OPEN!

The City of Houston opened 10 city pools on June 15 and happily the Westbury Pool is one of them! The pool is open Tuesday-Sunday from 1PM to 8PM. There will be NO exercise or learn to swim classes this year. For the full pool schedule, see page 4.



Westbury Pool, weekend of June 26-27

Westbury Volunteer Opportunities

For over 60 years, Westbury residents have volunteered to help make our community great. There are several opportunities to get involved in the month of July.

Litter Pick-up at Willow Waterhole

Saturday, July 17, 8-9:30AM

For more information, see page 17.

Join the NEW Westbury Green Team

Join this new, fun group of volunteers who will work throughout Westbury on "Green" projects and monitor our 7 miles of esplanades and 3 city parks. Volunteer opportunities can vary from planning, to hard labor and more. To join the Green Team, email westburygreen@gmail.com.

HEAVY TRASH

July 2021

Thursday, July 8
TREE WASTE ONLY

August 2021

Thursday, August 12
JUNK WASTE

IMPORTANT TRASH NOTICE

The City will likely be late for Heavy Trash pick-up. Heavy Trash dates are still the 2nd Thursday of each month. As of press time, the City is a week behind.

Expect Heavy Trash Delays

RECYCLING

July 2021

Thursday, July 1 Thursday, July 15 Thursday, July 29

August 2021

Thursday, August 12 Thursday, August 26

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

WCC OFFICE

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

*Appointments available Mon-Thurs, 9AM-1PM Call 713-723-5437 or email westburycc@sbcglobal.net to set appointment time.

NOTARY SERVICES are available by appointment ONLY.

Masks required.

CONTACT US

| WCC Office Telephone | 713-723-5437 |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| WCC Office Email | westburycc@sbcglobal.net |
| Deed Restrictions | westburycc@sbcglobal.net |
| WCC Presidentwccp | president@westburycrier.com |

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

SECURITY

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

| Report property crimes, suspicious activity, and | vacation watch |
|--|----------------|
| Emergency | 911 |
| Houston Police Dept. Non-Emergency | 713-884-3131 |
| Southwest HPD Station | 832-394-0400 |

CITY OF HOUSTON

| District K CM, Martha Castex-Tatum | 832-393-3016 |
|---|--------------|
| District C Council Member, Abbie Kamin | 832-393-3004 |
| Deed Restriction Enforcement (City Legal) | 832-393-6333 |
| Platou Community Center | 713-726-7107 |
| Mayor's Citizen Assistance Office | 832-393-0955 |
| Houston Help & Information | 311 |

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

CENTERPOINT ENERGY

| Electric outage | 713-207-2222 |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Suspected natural gas leak | 713-659-2111 |
| Street light repairs | 713-207-2222 |

Make sure to give pole number

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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

2021 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

| President | Cindy Chapman |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| wccpresident@westk | ourycrier.com |
| Vice President | Marcia Hartman |
| Secretary | Katherine Wingfield |
| Treasurer | Becky Edmondson |

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

| Communications | Lauren Figard |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Community Relations | Tony Robert |
| Deed Restrictions | VACANT |
| Flood Control & Infrastructure | Jennifer Edmondson |
| Greenspace Beautification | Mat Funk |
| Membership | Susan Brock |
| Security | Maria Cervantes |
| Volunteer Coordinator | VACANT |

SECTION DIRECTORS

| Westbury 1 | _ |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Westbury 3 | |
| Westbury 3 | Jonathan Hansen |
| Westbury 4 | Eugene Sirls |
| Westbury 4 | VACANT |
| Westbury 5 | Kent Perschke |
| Westbury 5 | Donna Strom |
| Westbury South | Brandon Richard |
| Parkwest 1 | Angie Furnari |
| Parkwest 2 | Jeffrey Weiss |
| Parkwest 3 | Lisa Placke |

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.



Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

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Message from the Westbury Civic Club President

I hope all of you have a great Independence Day holiday on July 4 with lots of good food and fun times. A new federal holiday was added to the US calendar, June 19, which also honors freedom, the Juneteenth holiday. It was authorized by Congress and signed by the President on June 17. Juneteenth honors and celebrates the date when the Emancipation Proclamation, first reached Texas and was read aloud in Galveston on June 19, 1865.

There will not be a Westbury Civic Club (WCC) meeting in July. The WCC Board voted to cancel the July meeting, which is typical for the WCC. Our non-profit partner, the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation also voted to cancel their July meetings. A friend asked why so many Texans take vacation in July instead of August, which was more typical where he came from. The answer is that many schools up North start in September, after the Labor Day federal holiday ends; however, in Texas, schools start in mid-August. Students will start the school year for Houston public schools on August 23. and teachers will start a week before that.

The Annual Meeting and Elections for the Westbury Civic Club will be held in September. The COVID situation has made it more challenging to plan the event, but we are planning for an in-person meeting at our traditional meeting location of Westbury Baptist Church on Hillcroft at Willowbend. This year will be the 65th Anniversary of the Westbury Civic Club. Let's celebrate!

Nominations for the board are due by 4PM on the second Thursday of August, which is August 12, the deadline specified in our bylaws. WCC Director Lauren Figard will be leading the nomination process. It has been a few years since the bylaws were looked at, so WCC Director Lindsey Pollack has agreed to chair a committee to review the bylaws and make recommendations to the board. If changes are recommended, they will be published in the September monthly newsletter before the annual meeting.

Volunteers make our neighborhood better and are a great way to have fun and meet people. I want to first acknowledge our newest member of the WCC Board, Santiago Caraballo, who has volunteered to represent Westbury 1 and was elected at the June meeting to fill the vacant position.

I want to thank all the people who volunteered at the June Working on Westbury (WOW) event to clean up litter at Willow Waterhole, and in particular those who lugged some heavy bags full of discarded glass bottles back to a trash can. (By the way, glass bottles are not supposed to be brought to city or county parks because they can break and cause injuries). For July, the WOW volunteer event will be on Saturday, July 17, at 8AM.

The Library Action Committee is being led by WCC Director Jennifer Edmondson and is meeting via Zoom every two weeks to discuss ways to make our future city library the best that it can be. There is a great team of community volunteers, including several librarians who live in Westbury, on the Library Action Committee and I thank all of you for sharing your skills and ideas. The City is holding a public meeting on June 30, so we expect to have more information in the August *Crier*.

I want to close by providing an update on several city programs. The good news first, is that the City completed the purchase of an apartment complex on Chimney Rock at Ludington that will be used for future detention and greenspace. Read more on page 14. The next news is not so good and involves the costs of your water and wastewater bills. The City of Houston has an annual inflation adjustment for water and wastewater bills; however, on a periodic basis the City evaluates its projected costs and may opt to make adjustments. The Public Works Department proposed significant increases to both water and wastewater bills, which was approved by City Council and will be phased in over the next 5 years. More info is on page 10.

Have a great summer!

Cindy Chapman



Four Westbury Civic Club presidents! Edith Smith, Cindy Chapman, and Becky Edmondson with Dabney Kennedy



Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting August 18 20 7PM

WCC Board Notes - June 2021

- → Guest − CM Sallie Alcorn discussed the city budget. Changes include an extra HPD cadet class and more funding to BARC for spay/neuter programs. She sponsored amendments to consider ways to share more services with Harris County, to pay overtime for the Permitting Office, and to do a short pilot program for composting.
- → Guest Precinct 5 Constable Sgt. Derkowski gave a Public Safety update on: Traffic Patrol units in Westbury, Mental Health training, crime, trash causing road hazards, keep an eye on elderly in heat. See page 12.
- → May 2021 Meeting minutes were approved. Financial overview provided. Budget to date is on page 11.
- → Board approved Santiago Caraballo as the new Section Director for Westbury 1
- → Board voted to not meet in July. The next meeting will be on August 18.
- → Board discussed upcoming Annual Meeting and Elections in September. Three committees were created: Event Planning Committee, Bylaws Committee, and Election/Nomination Committee.
- → Membership –Susan Brock is working with Jennifer Edmondson to create a New Homeowners packet of information, with hopes to roll it out in September.
- → Infrastructure discussed purchase of land by City in Westbury for water detention and future study by HCFCD of the Fondren Diversion Channel.

Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

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

houston
PARKS
& recreation
department
A CAPRA Accredited Agency

→ Supervisor: Ilea Balderston
→ Assistant: Justin Thomas

Platou Center is OPEN for Adult Classes

Adult Program Schedule

-Programs will run from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Monday - Friday

Exercise— M/W/F, 9–10am
Quilting— Tuesday, 9am–1pm
Games— Wednesday, 10am–12 pm
Chair Yoga— M/F, 10–11 am
Movies— Thursday, 10am–12pm

Temperature checks and social distancing will be enforced. Face coverings are strongly encouraged.

Frequent cleaning and sanitizing will be maintained.

For the full City of Houston Policy please visit: www.houstontx.gov/adminpolicies.

For questions and/or comments please contact Ilea Balderston at 713-726-7107 or ilea.balderston@houstontx.gov.

Playground, basketball and tennis courts are open.

Westbury Pool is OPEN!

The Westbury Pool is NOW open. There are NO water fitness or learn to swim classes this year. The Westbury Pool is located at 10605 Mullins, at the corner of Willowbend and Mullins near Parker Elementary. This is a FREE City pool.

Westbury Pool Schedule

Summer Schedule

June 15 — August 15 Tuesday-Sunday — 1PM-8PM

Fall Schedule

August 16 — September 5 Saturday & Sunday ONLY, 1PM-8PM

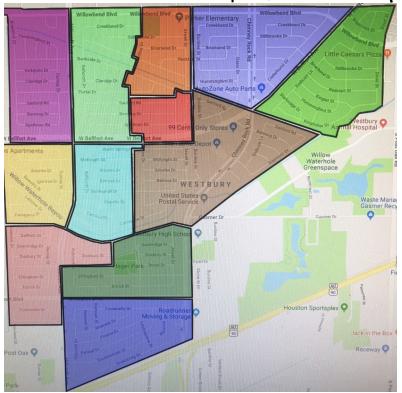
Holiday Schedule

July 4 — Independence Day, Open, 1PM-5PM September 6— Labor Day, Open, 1PM-5PM. This is LAST day for pool to be open in 2021.

Library News

*The Westbury Library Action Committee created an initial list of concerns and wishes/wants for the new library. The City is holding a public hearing on June 30 so we will have more information about the new library space in the August *Crier*. The Library Committee will be creating a survey so look on the Westbury Houston Facebook page for that link coming soon. The City is holding a poll to Name the new library. Vote before July 14 for your favorite name. There are 5 choices. More information, see page 16.

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.

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

What's Happening in Westbury

July 2021 Calendar Events/Meetings

| Sun 4 | Happy 4th of July! |
|-------------|--|
| Mon 5 | WCC Office Closed |
| July | WCC Office Closed |
| 13-26 | Emails will be checked during this time on a limited basis |
| Thurs 12 | JUNK WASTE HEAVY TRASH Pick-up All of Westbury |
| Sat 17 | Houston Audubon Bird Survey Willow Waterhole Meet at Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow |
| Sat 17 | WOW! Working on Westbury 8AM-9:30AM Willow Waterhole — meet at entrance on Dryad More information on page 17 |
| Wed 21 | WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Cancelled |
| Wed 21 | Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting Cancelled |

PLANNING CALENDAR

Sept. 15—WCC Annual Meeting
Oct. 30—2021 Music Fest
at Willow Waterhole

WCC Office Open by Appointment Only

Monday—Thursday, 9AM-1PM

Email westburycc@sbcglobal.net to set your appointment Notary services are available by appointment only.

The office will be closed July 13-July 26. Emails will be checked on a limited basis during this time.



All About Trash

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

Regular Household Trash

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

Yard Waste

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



Recycling in Westbury

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

July 2021

Thursday, July 1 Thursday, July 15 Thursday, July 29 August 2021

Thursday, August 12 Thursday, August 26

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.

July 2021
TREE WASTE ONLY
Thursday, July 8

August 2021
JUNK WASTE
Thursday, August 12

Important Trash & Recycling Info

- Regular trash pickup is every Thursday.
- Recycling is every other Thursday.
- Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.
- Yard waste is picked up on Saturdays.
- 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.
- ¶Yard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags with City logo
- Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- $\overline{\mathbb{I}}$ Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers:

<u>SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr</u> - **10785 SW Frwy** Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM;

Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste & Recyclables.

- Environmental Service Center 11500 S. Post Oak Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM. Accepts Hazardous Household & Electronic Waste.
- Refer to www.westburycrier.com or www.houstontx.gov for more trash &recycling info

Possible Deed Restrictions Update Westbury 5 (Only East of Hillcroft)

Recently some Westbury residents have expressed interest in updating their deed restrictions, so this is a good opportunity to do a bit of Q and A on the topic.

Q: Which sections of Westbury have updated deed restrictions? Only Parkwest 1 and Parkwest 2 have amended their deed restrictions and that happened more than 25 years ago in 1993 and 1994. Most of you have deed restrictions which have not been updated since the 1950s or 1960s. There are currently more than 30 sets of deed restrictions.

Q: How do I find out what my deed restrictions are? Deed restrictions are provided on the WCC website. You will need to know the legal address for your property. In some cases, additional information is available on the plat drawings at the WCC Office. The original plat drawings are on huge pieces of paper and are not online; however, the Section Map published online on the WCC website is a very close approximation of the plat map information. For the specific question about which houses are covered by what, we commonly refer to as "Westbury 5 East" set of deed restrictions, we have double-checked with the plat maps referred to in the deed restrictions to confirm that the Section Map provided on the WCC website matches the final plat maps for those specific homes.

Q: How are deed restrictions updated? It is a daunting and complex task. Luckily our deed restrictions automatically renew, so we do not have to worry about them expiring, but it is a huge legal effort to modify them. The deed restrictions state what percentage of owners need to approve changes.

Q: What are important considerations? Frankly, deed restrictions written more than 50 years ago, or even more than 25 years ago have gaps or weaknesses that would be helpful to modernize and improve. The Westbury Civic Club has accumulated decades of knowledge related to deed restriction enforcement issues and we have on retainer one of the finest legal teams in Houston with expertise in deed restrictions. We think it is vital that the WCC be involved in the deed restriction modification process. Since it is such a daunting task and takes so much effort to change deed restrictions, we also suggest that much thought and care be taken to consider longer-term issues and ability to enforce.

Join the 2022 WCC Board Nomination Deadline is August 12

Elections for the 2022 WCC Board of Directors will be conducted in September at the Annual Meeting. All nominations must be received before 4 PM on the second Thursday of August, which is August 12, the deadline specified in our bylaws.

Come join a great group of volunteers who strive to keep our neighborhood a great place to call home! The board does this in many ways from flood advocacy, esplanade beautification, park workdays, security, enforcement of the deed restrictions, and much more.

Please express your interest in running for the board of the Westbury Civic Club by letter or by email. If you send an email, please use the subject line of WCC 2022 Elections. Email westburycc@sbcglobal.net The mailing address is our physical address of 5322 W. Bellfort, Suite 100, Houston TX. 77035.

- *All board members must be a listed Owner of Record for a property in Westbury, Parkwest, or Westbury South.
- *Section Directors must be a listed Owner of Record of home that is in the section they wish to represent.
- *Candidates must submit interest to serve on the board by the deadline and must include the following statement filled out. "My name is ____ and I declare that I am eligible to be a Director or Officer of the Westbury Civic Club. I am the listed Owner of Record for ____ (street address)."
- *Candidates may submit a statement, not to exceed 100 words in length.
- *All candidates must include contact information including address, phone number, email, etc.

The deadline is August 12 by 4PM. If you have any questions, please contact the office at 713-723-5437.

YOUR HEALTH IS STILL IMPORTANT

While the pandemic isn't over yet, seeing your Houston Methodist doctor is still smart — and safe.

No matter what's going on in the world, taking care of your health should always be a priority. At Houston Methodist, our primary and specialty care doctors are available to provide expert care for you and your family — safely. And we are taking it one step further to protect you: Houston Methodist will require all employees and employed physicians to get a COVID-19 vaccine. See your doctor virtually or in person, or use Virtual Urgent Care for 24/7 on-demand video visits.

Schedule an appointment today. houstonmethodist.org/care-options





Why Support the WCC?

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

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

The total amount for the **2021 Voluntary dues** are \$360. That is less than a dollar a day! The Westbury Civic Club dues are \$60 for the year. The WCC suggests a contribution of \$300 for the Westbury Area Patrol (a paid contract with Precinct 5 Constables).

Why are Westbury Dues Mailed to a Dallas Address?

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

Please send this form in with your payment

You may choose any amount to

pay in any increment throughout

the year.

Here are a few examples:

2 payments of \$180 is \$360/yr

3 payments of \$120 is \$360/yr

4 payments of \$90 is \$360/yr

NEW ONLINE RESIDENT PORTAL COMING SOON

We have heard from our residents that they would like to have better options for communications with and payments to the Westbury Civic Club. We agree! We are excited to announce that the WCC is transitioning to a new property management software which adds some features that you residents have been requesting.

We will have a single portal where homeowners can make online payments, view payment history, view important documents, submit requests, and update contact information. The new system will make it easier for you to contact us, and for us to contact you and to be able to track your requests or concerns. There will be more payment options available, including the ability to set up auto-pay scheduled payments.

The office is currently working on the transfer of data and we should have the new system up and running for you soon. Future Criers will have detailed instructions on how to access and use the new system.

In the meantime for those of you that like to pay your dues early, please continue to use the dues form below or paypal.com. You can still pay your dues through our website, www.westburycrier.com.

Go to westburycrier.com then to the Dues and Assessments page.

The available payment options on the selection menu are:

- → WCC Dues \$60
- → WCC Constable \$300

2021 Westbury Civic Club Dues

- → WCC Dues + Constable \$60 + \$300 = \$360
- → Custom Amount—You can enter your own amount

Once you get to the payment page you can opt to pay with your PayPal account, or pay directly by credit card.

Pay your 2021 dues ONLINE at westburycrier.com

| Name(s) | DO NOT USE FOR 2020 DUES | | | |
|--|--|----------|-------|----|
| Address | | | | |
| Home Phone | | Cell | | |
| E-mail | | | | |
| Make checks payable to: Westbury Civic Club, Inc. | Westbury Civic Club Dues | | \$60 | \$ |
| Mail to: | Westbury Area Patrol | | \$300 | \$ |
| P.O. Box 975182 Dallas, TX 75397-5182 | | Subtotal | \$360 | \$ |
| Online payment: www.westburycrier.com | Additional Contributions: | | | |
| www.paypal.com to email westburycc@sbcglobal.net | Westbury Civic Club | | | \$ |
| Make sure to include your address | Westbury Area Patrol | | | \$ |
| Want to send your support in | | | Total | \$ |
| multiple payments? | Thank you for supporting the Westbury Civic Club | | | |

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.

ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1 & 2

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

The 2021 Mandatory Assessments of \$250.90 *Due Date Extension-4/1/21 due to mailing issues.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

Weather Wary in Westbury

Does rain make you nervous? Are you unsure on the weather forecasts? Does listening to the news weather reports make you panic? You are not alone. Houston weather over the past couple years has made us all very wary, if not scared, of storms.



Houston gets rain. The trick is to know where and how much. There are many good websites and apps available that can help guide you before rain events or during them. One good piece of advice is to look for warnings and alerts from the actual source, for example the National Hurricane Center. This is not a complete list but just one meant to help guide you and add to your storm preparations.

Harris County Flood Warning System www.harriscountvfws.org

This website is extremely helpful **during** a rain event. It shows real time bayou levels and rainfall amounts at gages that have been installed along the bayous. Gage 445 is located in Westbury on the Willow Waterhole Bayou at the Landsdowne bridge. Gage 440 is located on Brays Bayou at S. Rice. A new tool just introduced is the ability to sign up for Flood Alerts by gage. Another tool available on the website is a Flood Inundation real time map that can help residents make critical decisions regarding life and property during events. If you are ever curious about the rainfall amounts and rate, you can also look up historical data.

National Hurricane Center www.nhc.noaa.gov

If there is a chance of a named storm or there is a current named storm, the National Hurricane Center is your go-to source. During an active named storm, there will be multiple updates issued along with many different maps. These include the wind probability, the storm track cone, storm surge, tides, and many more.

Hype-free Weather Forecast www.spacecitvweather.com

This website is dedicated to covering Houston weather news and forecasting with accuracy and without hype. Space City Weather was founded in October 2015. This website isn't about making money or getting "hits", it is truly about providing residents and business owners a quality forecast to make informed decisions. Eric Berger and Matt Lanza provide the best forecast for Houston weather. You can also follow them on Facebook.

Be Alert. Be Weather Smart.

Sign Up for Alerts from The City

Sometimes it is easy to become complacent with weather alerts, but emails, texts, and phone calls sent from the City Alert System can be extremely helpful on. 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.

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

Sign up for Flood Gage Warning Alerts

The regional Flood Warning System measures rainfall and monitors water levels in bayous, creeks, and rivers on a real-time basis to inform area residents of potential flooding conditions. This system relies on a network of 250 gage stations that have been strategically placed throughout a Harris and surrounding counties. Westbury has one of these gages located on the Willow Waterhole Bayou (#445). This information is available at

www.harriscountyfws.org.

You can now sign up for alerts on a specific gages near your home or work. You can receive default rainfall and water level alerts or create custom water alerts.

The Willow Waterhole Bayou at Landsdowne rises quickly and it's imperative to surrounding homeowners to know what is happening. It is important to remember that this gage will likely stay at a certain level (approximately 51-52ft) when flood waters are going over the weirs downstream at the Willow Waterhole detention basins.



Willow Waterhole Bayou (WWB) Gages

#445 – WWB at Landsdowne (Westbury)

#435 - WWB at Willowbend

Brays Bayou (BB) Gages

#440 - BB at Rice Ave.

#460 - BB at S. Gessner

#465 - BB at Beltway 8



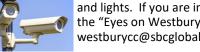
Westbury Flood Gage Explained

Westbury has a flood gage located on the Willow Waterhole Bayou at Landsdowne (gage 445). Once the Willow Waterhole Bayou reaches a certain level, the water will overflow the weirs into the basins at the Willow Waterhole complex. The Westbury flood gage (which is upstream of the basins) will read steady at this point, typically around 51.2-51.5ft. It is also at this same level, that the flood control system will show that flooding is possible in Westbury and the news will start reporting it as such. While this is technically true and flooding can happen anywhere, it is important to remember that we have the basins downstream. Watch the gage levels to really know. If the gage holds steady, it is likely water is flowing into the basins not homes. If the gage were to start rising again, flooding would be very likely in Westbury homes. The unknown factor is how full the basins are or will get once it starts raining. There is no gage or camera at the basins.

The gage in Westbury is set to only update when there is a change in water level. If we are in the middle of a rain event and the gage stops updating, while at a level of 51.2-51.5ft, it is likely the water is overflowing the weirs downstream.

Eves on Westbury

Do you wish you could see the detention basins and weirs at the Willow Waterhole? Do you want another way to monitor flooding? Let's get cameras! Join this new group to help get "Eyes on Westbury." This group will research camera options, contact HCFCD for access questions, fundraise if needed, look into other options with cameras



and lights. If you are interested in joining the "Eyes on Westbury" group, please email westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

Hurricane Preparation Tips

No one likes to hear that there is a possible direct hit of a major hurricane coming, but it is the reality of living so close to the coast. Knowing what to do and having a plan is extremely helpful. There is a chance every year that our storm will come, we just hope not. If a major hurricane is predicted to hit Houston, you need to prepare for the wind and rain during the storm itself and for the aftermath of no power for 2-3 weeks.

Should I stay or should I go now? The first decision ultimately is when to stay and at what point, if ever, do you leave. A longtime hurricane saying is "run from the surge, hide from the wind". If you are medically dependent on electricity and do not have a generator, you need to have a plan for a place to stay during and after the storm. Most residents can stay in their Westbury homes during a major hurricane. You hunker down and prepare for the wind (discussed to the right). Houston residents do not need to be on the roadways as those will be needed for coastal evacuations. The question is: do you stay in your home with no power after the storm, or do you leave town at that point? This decision will help with how you plan for buying food, water, gas, charcoal, etc. Some needs are for the storm itself and others are for the aftermath of no electricity for weeks.

The two lists on this page were created by Westbury residents and are meant to be a helpful guide. There are official hurricane prep lists available on all the major news channels websites, which are also helpful tools to help plan. Be prepared and be safe.



Long-term Hurricane Preparation Tips

- → Keep your trees trimmed. Wind is the biggest threat to Westbury in a major hurricane. Keeping your branches off your home, garage, fences, and power line is important.
- → Buy a portable gas generator. It is easy to get a generator when there isn't a storm aimed straight at us. They quickly become hot items. Plan ahead.
- → Measure your windows and have plywood stored in the garage to place over your windows when needed. Some new windows are hurricane strength but the original Westbury home windows are not.
- → Make a hurricane prep box containing flashlights, batteries, battery operated radio, candle, lighters, matches, etc., so it's already on hand.
- → Save a stash of empty water bottles to fill up for your freezer to make ice or cold water.
- → Copy important documents, place in sealable plastic bag, ready to take with you quickly.



Immediate Hurricane Preparation Tips

- ☐ Fill all vehicles with gas.
- ☐ Buy gas for your generator if you have one. Fill up any extra tanks.
- ☐ Get extra cash.
- ☐ Make sure to have at least 2 weeks worth of all medicines. Get prescriptions filled if needed.
- ☐ Secure all items outside that can blow in the wind. Move patio furniture inside garage. Move potted plants to secure location. Secure or place your grills inside.
- ☐ Don't forget the kids items. Take off swings from swing set. Flip, disassemble, secure trampolines as they can fly. Lay basketball goals down on sides. Move all toys and bikes inside.
- ☐ Move your trash cans to your garage or secure them very well to a tree or post. Duct tape the lids shut.
- ☐ For major storms, put plywood over your windows. It is not recommended to tape your windows, as this can cause more dangerous shards of glass than if it were to break naturally.
- ☐ Freeze bottles of water to make ice that will extend life of your freezer or refrigerator. Make as many as possible as they can be used in an ice chest as well.
- ☐ Have flashlights and batteries. Buy extra batteries if needed. Having a battery operated lantern for main room or head flashlights for each person are handy. Kids might enjoy glow sticks.
- ☐ Have candles or oil lamps ready
- ☐ Get matches or lighters for candles, grill, or your gas stove.
- ☐ Have a battery operated radio so you can listen to alerts. Some new models have charging ports and special NOAA channel.
- ☐ Buy at least one week's worth of non-perishable foods. Suggested items include peanut butter crackers, bread, muffins, fruit with longer shelf life such as apples and oranges, snack bars, granola, beef jerky, trail mixes, applesauce, fruit cups and canned goods.
- ☐ Ensure you have enough pet food and supplies such as kitty litter for at least 2 weeks.
- $\hfill \square$ Buy charcoal or propane for your grill so you can cook outside if power goes out.
- ☐ Get extra water. (And wine!)
- ☐ Charge all devices and keep fully charged until power goes out. You can sit in your car later for some AC and charge your phone.
- $\hfill \Box$ Do all laundry. Wash sheets. Start with clean slate to minimize problems with heat and sweat.
- Wash all dishes.
- ☐ Fill bathtub or large buckets with water. If there is no City water available, you can use the stored water in your toilet to flush.
- ☐ Have a secure place in your house already planned and ready with a blanket and pillow and radio/phone. Ideally away from any windows. In many Westbury homes, that is likely your hallway, even if it has no doors, you can shut the individual bedroom doors that have windows so hallway is more secure.
- ☐ If you have kids, have them help with preparations and explain why you are preparing. It helps with anxiety to have a plan and be a part of it. Have them grab a book and a lovey if they have one.
- ☐ Clean storm drains and gutters in front of your home.

Water and Waste Water Fees Going UP

Every year, there is an annual cost adjustment in April to your city water and city wastewater bill to adjust for inflation. However, every five years the city studies whether to update or change the costs based on infrastructure obligations and future needs. In 2015, the city opted not to implement updates or make changes to the water rates. In June, Houston City Council approved a cost increase that will take effect on September 1 and these water and wastewater rates will increase every year over the next five years.

How will my bill change? The answer depends upon how much water you use each month. Those who use 3,000 gallons each month will see their bill increase by about \$5 each month. Those who use more water will pay more. If you use about 6,000 gallons per month, then your bill will go up by about \$10 each month. If you use 10,000 gallons then it will go up by about \$25 each month. The rate will continue to go up every year for the next five years. The city says that 59% of households use 3,000 to 4,000 gallons each month.

Why the need for this cost increase? Partly, because Houston has signed a Consent Degree with the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the state Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to pay fines and make improvements to the city wastewater system for the next 15 years. The City of Houston has consented to provide an estimated \$2 billion of additional work in improvements to upgrade Houston's aging wastewater system and keep up with Houston's rapidly-growing population. The goal of the consent decree is to protect the environment and human health and improve the wastewater system for generations to come. Houston Public Works (HPW) is responsible for three water plants and 7,000 miles of water lines, treating 146 billion gallons of water a day. Houston's wastewater system is one of the largest and most complex in the nation. HPW maintains 39 wastewater plants, 381 lift stations, 6,200 miles of gravity and force mains.

What is the difference between the Annual Automatic Adjustments in April and the Rate Increase scheduled for Sept 1? The annual automatic adjustment in April is required by bond holders. The rate update planned for September also addresses the rising cost of service, and also includes maintaining, replacing, and upgrading aging infrastructure, paying debts, and maintaining reserves.

ALL TYPES IRRIGATION, INC. OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE Design • Drainage • Installation • Service Commercial • Residential Emil Becker T.I.L. #4415 D.L. #126891 Office: (713) 726-1636 Fax: (713) 726-8322 Cell: (713) 819-2872

Conserving Water and Saving Money

Water is a precious resource across the globe. We are sometimes asked to conserve water during droughts, but with cost increases coming September 1 to our water bills, conserving water will mean conserving money also. You can conserve water at home every day. It's as easy as taking small actions like taking shorter showers, watering the lawn only when needed, and only running the dishwasher when it's full. There are local websites such as www.Watermyyard.org to help with better yard watering or www.smarteraboutwater.org if you want to engage your kids in water conservation. Go to www.gbwb.org to join the Galveston Bay Water Brigade and take the pledge.

Here are some water conserving suggestions:

- ◆ Test your toilet. Undetected internal leaks from tank to bowl could waste up to 100 gallons a day. Drop a dye tablet or food coloring in the tank yearly to see if the color of the water in the bowl changes color.
- Check & Repair Water Leaks. To check for leaks, turn off all water-using appliances and watch the water meter. If the meter is still moving, there is probably a leak. Repair the leak or call a plumber immediately. A 1/16-inch opening in your faucet could waste 100 gallons a day. Check for dripping faucets, showerheads, hoses, and sprinklers.
- Install Water Efficient Toilets, Showerheads, Faucets & Appliances. Look for the EPA's WaterSense label or ENERGY STAR certification.

Outdoors Conserving Suggestions:

- Plant a native garden. One-third of residential water use goes toward watering the lawn and garden. Native flowers, grasses, and bushes need less water, foster healthy soil and insect life, which attract birds and enhance overall biodiversity. Group plant with similar water needs together.
- Install a Garden Hose Timer. Garden hose timers can save a lot of water and money when watering outside. Add an automatic shut-off nozzle to the end of your hose.
- Water at Dusk or Dawn (or between 7PM and 5AM).
- Adjust sprinkler frequency and duration based on seasonal needs. Many people overwater their outdoor plants.
- Shut-off Sprinklers during Winter or after periods of heavy rains
- Install a rain barrel outside your home. Be sure to use a mesh screen to keep mosquitoes out or use "Mosquito dunk" once a month to keep the mosquitoes out.

Indoor Water Conserving Tips

- Use your dishwasher. You use up to 27 gallons of water per load washing dishes by hand versus using as little as 3 gallons during a dishwasher cycle.
- Run the dishwasher and washing machine when full.
- Turn off the faucet while brushing teeth or shaving. This can save 8 to 10 gallons of water per day.
- Recycle unused water! Use a bucket to collect the water that runs while you are waiting for your shower to warm. Use this to water your plants or fill your pet's water bowl.

*Budget thru May 2021

Westbury Civic Club 2021 Budget to Date

| General Income | 2021 Budget | 2021 Budget to Date |
|---|-------------|---------------------|
| Mandatory/Assessments | 95,000 | 34,968 |
| Voluntary WCC Dues | 45,000 | 25,570 |
| Westbury Area Patrol Voluntary (Restricted) | 190,725 | 126,150 |
| Refinancing Fees | 5,000 | 3,225 |
| Transfer Fees | 35,000 | 15,225 |
| Resale Certificates | 1,000 | 650 |
| Interest Income | 1,500 | 0 |
| Total General Income | 373,225 | 205,788 |
| Program Expenses | | |
| Crier Printing & Expenses | 45,216 | 18,840 |
| Crier Advertising Fees | -45,216 | -11,720 |
| Community Garage Sale Expense | 2,000 | 0 |
| Community Garage Sale income | -2,000 | 0 |
| Programs & Hospitality | 2,000 | 579 |
| Water, Plants, Supplies & Equipment | 2,000 | 0 |
| Harris County Constable Fees (3 deputies) | 265,475 | 111,283 |
| Total Program Expenses | 269,475 | 117,982 |
| General Expenses | | |
| Books, Subscriptions, Dues | 100 | 0 |
| Postage, Mailing Service | 3,500 | 480 |
| Printing & Copying | 500 | 0 |
| Supplies | 500 | 0 |
| Training & Education | 1000 | 0 |
| Bank & Pay Pal Fees | 5,500 | 2443 |
| Computer & Software | 12,500 | 1,993 |
| Insurance | 5,000 | 0 |
| Payroll | 40,000 | 15,665 |
| Payroll Taxes | 10,000 | 4,837 |
| Contract Services - Accounting/Legal | 7,000 | 638 |
| Facilities and Equipment | 18,150 | 7,488 |
| Total General Expenses | 103,750 | 33,544 |
| Total: Program + General Expenses | 373,225 | 151,526 |

I **w** Westbury

Budget Explained

The Westbury Civic Club 2021 budget is \$373,225. The WCC board approves the budget each November. We thank all those who have paid their dues and assessments. Through May, we have collected \$205,787. We need to collect another \$167,000 in the next few months to cover the total budget through the end of the year.

We've tightened our belt in a few areas such as Greenspace, Crier, Programs, and Payroll. Our biggest and most important expense is the Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) security contract with the Precinct 5 Constable office. The WAP consists of three deputies, one of whom is a sergeant. We have coverage in the morning, afternoon and night shift. The WAP Patrol contract is \$265,475 annually.

The General Expense category includes all of the items that go into operating the Civic Club. Operating an office and staffing it, albeit remotely right now, insurance, professional fees (financial reviews, legal expenses), doing projects and programs (on hold), and deed restriction enforcement are some of the expenses. Advertising in the monthly newsletter offsets most of the Crier expenses. The best way to reach the office is to call 713-723-5437 or email westburycc@sbcglobal.net. If you have sent an email and did not receive a response, please re-send the email or try wccpresident@westburycrier.com.

We know many of you are struggling with the unexpected costs associated with the Covid pandemic. A special thank you to those who have paid extra this year. One resident sent in \$5,000 for the WAP patrol and another resident sent in a very nice email along with a \$1,000 payment. If you haven't paid your dues this year, won't you send them in now.





Support the Constable Program Pay your 2021 Dues!

Dues form is on page 7 WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

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



Keep an Eye on Elderly in Hot Summer Months

During the June WCC board meeting, Sgt. Derkowski of the Precinct 5 Constables office, mentioned that it is important to keep an close eye on our elderly neighbors during the summer hot weather. Some may not run their A/C often (or at all) to save money, or a failure of their A/C system could cause heat-related health issues. Be a good neighbor and help keep our elderly friends safe and healthy.

Update from Westbury Sgt. Derkowski

Precinct 5 Constables had traffic units patrolling on several Westbury major streets in June. These patrols are in addition to the regular patrol units on the Westbury security patrol contract.

Sgt. Derkowski had a training day on topic of Mental Health. He explained that Constable and Sheriff employees are all trained by the county on Mental Health issues. The Constables have access to a clinician via video to provide advice on dealing with mental health issues, which has reduced the time dealing with calls for service involving mental health.

There was a crime wave last year in Westbury at this time; crimes are down compared to last year.

Sgt. Derkowski would like to remind all residents that heavy trash and trash cans should NOT be placed in the street. They can create a hinderance to emergency vehicles. The debris can also flow into storm drains and block water from draining, and the flooding the street. Please place your trash cans and heavy trash on the strip of land that is between the street and sidewalk.

Vacation Watch

Going on a trip? Visiting family? 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 or by calling 281-463-6666 and requesting a deputy come by your house.

Trees along Property Lines

The WCC office gets many calls about tree disputes between neighbors. If you have a tree that grows into your neighbor's yard or over their house; it is well within their right to prune it away from their property. It would



be advisable to speak to your neighbor beforehand as they may want to trim it themselves. They might not even realize it has encroached onto your property.

Dangerous Trees

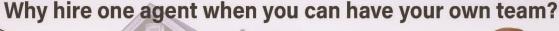
Do you have a dangerous tree on your property? Please have it removed before it damages your property or someone else's. We recommend that if your neighbor has a tree that you feel could endanger your property to put them on written notice if they are unwilling to take care of the problem. Please be a good neighbor!

Street Trees

All the trees located on City Easements are protected. Did you know all the trees located in front of your sidewalk belong to the City of Houston? Most Westbury property lines begin behind the sidewalk. If you witness the removal of a city tree from a street easement, please call 832-395-7200 immediately to report it so the City can minimize tree loss. This phone line is monitored 24 hours a day.

Tree Stump Grinding

Has the City removed a tree from the right of way in between the sidewalk and street in front of your home? Call 311 to request tree stump grinding.





Learn more at www.pfrteam.com, or call us at (832) 297-9038.

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Crime Statistics for Westbury SuperNeighborhood May 21—June 25, 2021

Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

| Block | Street | Crime | Date | Time | Section of W |
|-------|--------------|---------------------------------|------|------|----------------|
| 11100 | Burdine | Aggravated Assault | 5/23 | 4AM | Westbury 3 |
| 11100 | Burdine | Simple Assault | 6/27 | 12PM | Westbury 3 |
| 11400 | Braewick | Simple Assault | 6/26 | 10PM | Parkwest 3 |
| 5800 | Cartagena | Simple Assault | 5/22 | 1PM | Westbury 3 |
| 6000 | Dellfern | Theft—other | 6/13 | 1AM | Westbury 4 |
| 5900 | Densmore | Simple Assault | 6/13 | 1PM | Westbury 4 |
| 6000 | Densmore | Simple Assault | 6/13 | 8PM | Westbury 4 |
| 6000 | Dryad | Theft—other | 6/19 | 10AM | Westbury 4 |
| 5700 | Fontenelle | Driving Under the Influence—DUI | 5/29 | 8PM | Westbury South |
| 5200 | Kingfisher | Simple Assault | 5/19 | 11PM | Westbury 1 |
| 10800 | Kit | Burglary, Breaking & Entering | 5/28 | 7AM | Westbury 2 |
| 5900 | Ludington | Theft—other | 6/13 | 12PM | Westbury 4 |
| 5500 | Warm Springs | Burglary, Breaking & Entering | 5/18 | 3PM | Westbury 3 |
| 5600 | Warm Springs | Simple Assault | 5/31 | 9PM | Westbury 3 |
| 5900 | Warm Springs | Theft—other | 6/1 | 10AM | Parkwest 3 |
| 6000 | W. Airport | Theft from Motor Vehicle | 6/23 | 6PM | Westbury 4 |
| 5200 | W. Bellfort | Burglary, Breaking & Entering | 5/27 | 4PM | Westbury 2 |

| Crime Type | Homes | Apts./ TH | Comm./ Business | Park/ Public |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Aggravated Assault | 1 | 10 | 1 | 2 |
| Theft from Motor Vehicle | 1 | 7 | 0 | 3 |
| Burglary, Breaking & Entering | 3 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Simple Assault | 7 | 23 | 2 | 2 |
| Shoplifting | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 |
| Drugs, Narcotics | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Vandalism, Damage | 0 | 15 | 0 | 1 |
| Auto Theft | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Theft from a Building | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Theft of Vehicle Parts | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Disorderly Conduct | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Driving Under Influence DUI | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Theft—Other | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 17 | 74 | 22 | 11 |
| IOIAL | 1/ | /4 | 22 | 11 |

Prevent Sewer Lines from Clogging Up

As a reminder, the City Public Works Department advises that only 3 items should be flushed down your toilets: Pee, Poo, or Toilet paper. Nothing else. Do NOT flush wipes even if they say flushable. Tips for your drains—

KEY

Theft from Motor Vehicle
Auto Theft
Property Crime
Burglary
Assault, Simple or aggravated
Robbery

The crimes listed took place between April 26, 2021 and May 21, 2021.

> They are in alphabetical order by street.

The crimes are highlighted by type. Please see key above.

Pct. 5 Constable Dispatch Westbury Area Patrol **281-463-666**

HPD Non-Emergency **713-884-3131**



SUMMER CAMP

a t

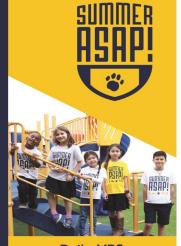
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June 1 - July 30, 2021 9 weeks total with 3-week tracks available in Sports, STEM and Art



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^{*} Use a sink strainer to prevent food scraps, hair, and other items from going down the drain.

^{*} Use a paper towel to wipe grease from pots, pans, plates, and utensils before washing. Throw the paper towel in the trash.

^{*} Pour grease into a disposable container, Cool it, then Toss it into the household trash (black bin)

Local Neighborhood News

Exciting Flood Control NewsCity Purchased Flood Prone Apartments on Chimney Rock at Ludington

Last month, the City of Houston finalized the purchase of The Spring Village Apartments in Westbury. The 6.5 acre site is located on Chimney Rock at Ludington, on the banks of the Willow Waterhole Bayou. The apartments have flooded many times.

Over the next 10 months, the apartment residents will work with a housing counselor on their relocation plans. Once all residents have been relocated, the complex will be taken down and the land will be dedicated and maintained in perpetuity as open greenspace, recreational, or for floodplain management.

Protecting homes in this area of Westbury, that have flooded repeatedly, continues to be a priority for the Westbury Civic Club and the City of Houston. This brings us one step closer. Thank you to CM Martha Castex-Tatum for advocating for this project. This is a very exciting purchase towards better flood control in the Westbury area plus additional greenspace.

The site of the Spring Village Apartments is outlined below in red. The Willow Waterhole Bayou is immediately north of this property.







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Federal Inquiry into West Houston Mail Theft Complaints—includes Westbury Post Office

Last month the *Crier* reported several incidences of mail theft occurring. We are glad that this problem is getting the attention that it needs. US Representative Lizzie Fletcher has asked for a federal investigation into persistent mail theft problems in Houston. Westbury residents, if you have had problems with mail theft related to the Westbury area Post Office, please contact the office of your local US Representatives (either Rep. Lizzie Fletcher or Rep. Al Green) to let them know the details.

The phone numbers for their local offices are provided below. If you prefer to contact them by email, you will need to go to their websites, since they have a filter to accept emails from their constituents. We have included below the press release issued by Rep. Fletcher to provide more information about why she is asking for a federal inquiry.

Rep. Lizzie Fletcher (Houston Office): 713-353-8680

She represents residents of Westbury 1, Westbury 2, the part of Westbury 3 that is east of Chimney Rock or north of West Bellfort, the part of Westbury 5 that is east of Hillcroft, Parkwest 1, and Parkwest 2.

Rep. Al Green (Houston office): 713-383-9234

He represents residents of Westbury 3 that is south of West Bellfort and west of Chimney Rock, Westbury 4, the part of Westbury 5 that is west of Hillcroft, Parkwest 3, and Westbury South.

June 8, 2021 WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Lizzie Fletcher is calling for a federal investigation into "persistent cases of mail theft" in her West Houston district. The Houston Democrat urged the Postmaster Inspector General to probe the issue, writing in a letter that her office has received more than 100 complaints about stolen and lost mail, mailbox break-ins and washed checks since 2019, with a "substantial increase" in complaints during the second half of last year. In one case, a check worth \$22,000 was stolen, Fletcher wrote.

Fletcher's request for an investigation notes that a recent audit found the North Houston Processing and Distribution Center, where all mail in Houston stops on its way to its final destination, reported the most delayed mail in the nation from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. "Many of my constituents rely on the USPS for life-saving medications, stimulus checks, tax refunds, and correspondence with loved ones in this challenging and isolating time," Fletcher wrote. "Houstonians cannot wait for meaningful changes at the North Houston P&DC nor should they have to continue without remedy as mail is stolen and accessible services are removed."

Fletcher specifically requested a probe of three post office locations: USPS Post Office Ashford West on Whittington Drive, USPS Post Office Westbury on Chimney Rock Road and the USPS Post Office Julius Melcher Station on Timmons Lane.

"To date, we have received more than 100 complaints for these three post offices and five others," she wrote. "The continuation of these types of complaints are indicative of a larger problem with the mail system in Houston."

June Yard of the Month



Confirmed LOCAL Cases of COVID-19

(data from publichealthharriscountytx.gov)

| Westbury 1 |
|----------------|
| 11014 Endicott |
| Billo Gill |

Westbury 2 5515 Kinglet Fred & Carter Mayer

Westbury 4 5718 Ettrick Stephanie Dromgoole

Westbury 5 5527 Spellman Cyrus & Kabiri Mehrangiz

Parkwest 3 5911 Beaudry Westbury resident

Nominate your home or a neighbor's home for Yard of the Month, email westburycc@sbcglobal.ne







| | 77035 | 77096 | Houston |
|----------|-------|-------|---------|
| 4/23/20 | 54 | 59 | 2,975 |
| 5/21/20 | 108 | 85 | 6,188 |
| 6/24/20 | 334 | 183 | 16,253 |
| 7/27/20 | 748 | 492 | 45,145 |
| 8/26/20 | 1,102 | 700 | 62,097 |
| 9/26/20 | 1,255 | 817 | 72,684 |
| 10/26/20 | 1,360 | 894 | 82,999 |
| 11/23/20 | 1,504 | 1,026 | 93,988 |
| 12/20/20 | 1,779 | 1,240 | 110,445 |
| 1/26/21 | 2,238 | 1,659 | 150,091 |
| 2/23/21 | 2,613 | 1,943 | 170,667 |
| 3/29/21 | 2,752 | 2,069 | 182,440 |
| 4/25/21 | 2,837 | 2.126 | 189,585 |
| 5/19/21 | 2,863 | 2,152 | 192,238 |
| 6/28/21 | 2,842 | 2,153 | 192,674 |



Stay connected with what is happening in Westbury RIGHT NOW!

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Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

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VOTE for the New Library Name

The City is holding a poll to find out your favorite name for the new Westbury library that will be built on Belrose. The poll is open for voting until July 14. There are 5 options for the new name. They are listed below.

- 1. Belrose Library
- 2. Donald Perkins Library, in honor of the late chief of staff for District K City Council office who served the city for years and advocated for the library.
- 3. Shannon Walker, Ph.D. Library, in honor of the astronaut, a secondgeneration Westbury former resident currently serving as commander of the **International Space Station**
- 4. Westbury Community Library
- 5. Willow Waterhole Library

FIND THE POLL AT HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/VGWBBP6CJH28ZJO9A

Reminder about Trash Placement

As a reminder, city streets and city sidewalks are intended to be available for the public to safely use. When placing your trash cans or Tree Waste or Junk Waste outside to be collected by the Solid Waste Department, please make sure that you place these items so that they DO NOT OBSTRUCT streets or sidewalks. A city ordinance defines that trash is supposed to be placed between the edge of the street pavement and then 3 feet toward your residence. In Westbury, that basically means that you should place your trash between the street and the sidewalk.

Although all of us have been annoyed and aggravated about the delayed or missed collection of heavy trash that has happened multiple times this year, it is not okay to put your trash in the street. This can cause safety issues. Constable Sgt. Derkowski has asked us to remind you that trash items (cans or stuff) placed in the street can be hard to see at night, and it can cause cars to swerve around into the other lane at any time. Please be considerate and help keep Westbury sidewalks and streets safe.

Additionally, rainfalls in Houston can be intense. Heavy rains can move a trash bin or heavy trash that has been improperly placed in the street, and could then push it toward the street storm drains, where it might block the flow of water into the drainage system. You might think that is impossible, but during heavy rains in the past, all sorts of items have been observed floating down streets that should not be

Dabney Kennedy Recognized

Former Westbury Civic Club President, Dabney Kennedy, received Boy Scouting's highest honor, the Silver Buffalo Award, in June. He is the 18th recipient in the Sam Houston Area Council, following in the footsteps of others like John Glenn, Scott Carpenter, Neil Armstrong, David Weekley, Nelson Block, and Dan Ownby.

The Boy Scouts of America recognized Dabney for his 65 years of service to Scouting and his 50 years as a community leader in Westbury. After serving on the WCC board, Dabney went on to lead the non-profit Westbury Area Improvement Corporation and was a founding member of the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy.

Previously, Willow Waterhole honored Dabney for his service to Scouting and community by naming the pavilion at 5311 South Willow in his honor. The pavilion recognizes the Scouts who have completed their Eagle or Gold award projects at the WWG.



Peggy and Dabney Kennedy

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Working on Westbury @ Willow Waterhole

WOW Workday — Litter Pick-up

Come join us at the Willow Waterhole for another workday at Westbury Lake on Saturday, July 17, 8-9:30AM. The WAIC, along with the WCC, is hosting monthly regular workdays in Westbury greenspaces. This workday will again focus on litter pick-up at Westbury Lake. The WAIC will provide trash bags and grabbers. WCC board member Tony Robert will host this cleanup.

What: Working on Westbury (WOW) Workday

When: Saturday, July 17, 8-9:30AM

Where: Westbury Lake—meet at the gazebo, 5300 Dryad

Thank you to all the volunteers that came out in the June heat to pick up trash! We really appreciate ALL of you!













Willow Waterhole News

Cross Country Returns to the Waterhole

The Willow Waterhole is a popular location for cross country meets. Four cross country meets have been scheduled for this fall. The first meet at the Willow Waterhole will be Incarnate Word Academy on August 14.

New Trails Coming Soon

All of Westbury is located within Harris County Precinct One, represented by Commissioner Rodney Ellis. Several years ago, Pct. One began an extensive community outreach program to look at its park system which includes 26 parks totaling 3377 acres with 26 miles of trails. You may have attended one of the public meetings held in our area. From the input gathered at those meetings and the resulting advocacy, the Willow Waterhole Greenspace is pleased to announce that the County will be constructing trails around Westbury Lake. The bid packages for that project will go out this month to build 2.5 miles of trails.

Audubon Bird Survey is BACK! Saturday, July 17, 7AM

Meet at the Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow, to help survey the many types of birds located in the Willow Waterhole Greenway. The 2-hour bird count usually ranges from 30 species in the summer to over 50 in the winter.

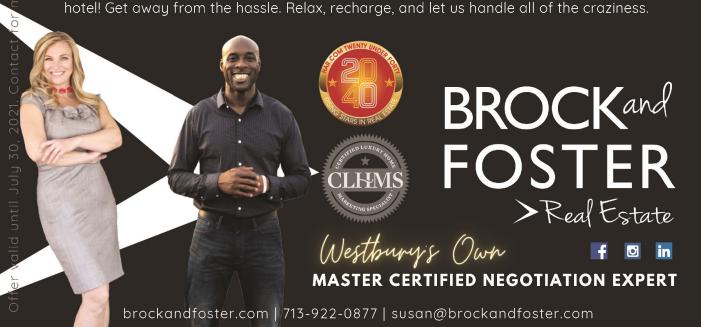




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Westbury Community Garden News

Plant It Forward Farms Open House

Plant It Forward Farms (PIFF) hosted an open house at the Westbury Community

PLANT Garden (WCG) for World Refugee day in June. For 10 years, PIFF has empowered IT FORWAI refugees to develop sustainable urban



farming businesses that produce fresh, healthy food for our community. They secure land, train and mentor farmers, and facilitate sales to local markets. The Westbury Community Garden is currently home to three PIFF farmers.

When the community garden was envisioned back in 2009, the planners knew it would be diverse, but PIFF helped expand that vision with the inclusion of refugee farmers. To all of you that read the Crier that helped make the WCG all that it is today, we give you our heartfelt thanks. This peaceful, green oasis is a thing of beauty that has been lovingly nurtured these past 11 years by a devoted group of gardeners. If you haven't been out to visit the garden recently, come on out! There is much to see from the 65 raised beds, 3 acres of farm land, an acre of native prairie, an apiary, pollinator beds, beds of native water smart plants and a giant cabbage! On Sundays there is even a PIFF farm stand from 11 AM to 3 PM where Farmer Sarment offers ready-harvested produce as well as harvested to order service. (see below)





Farm Stand at Westbury Community Garden

Plant it Forward Farms will be operating a new weekly Farm Stand in Westbury! Take the opportunity to purchase fresh produce from your local neighborhood farmer, Farmer Sarment.

Sundays— 11AM-3PM

https://plantitforward.farm/ purchaseourproduce/#farmstand



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WHERE IS THE GARD

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.



Like "Westbury Community Garden Houston" on Facebook

Visitors are welcome to drop by the Westbury Community Garde, BUT please remember to only LOOK. Do not pick fruits, vegetables, herbs or flowers that are being grown at the garden.

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