



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 60, ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2015

## Cool Down with the Constables

Sat., August 8, 10AM to 1PM at Westbury Park

Over a year ago, the WCC started an outreach program called "Coffee with the Constables". It allows neighborhood residents a chance to meet the deputies and ask any questions they would like one on one. It's too hot for coffee so we are switching it up for August. Come to Westbury Park on Saturday, August 8, from 10AM to 1PM to meet the deputies of the Westbury Area Patrol, enjoy a sno-cone from Honey's Sno-Balls, and receive a free car seat check!



Deputy Kovar, with Harris County Precinct 5, will be performing free child car seat checks to interested residents. The WCC will be providing the first 60 Westbury residents each with a complimentary Honey's Sno-Balls. Just check in at the WCC table and receive your sno-ball ticket along with other goodies! WCC Board Members will also be on hand to answer any questions you might have.

## Constable Program at Risk: More Support Needed

The Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) has helped keep crime down in Westbury for the last 35 years. The same factors that led the Westbury Civic Club to contract with Harris County Precinct Five Constable Patrol in the 80's are with us today. Last year, due to the size of our neighborhood, Harris County required us to have a minimum of 4 deputies in our contract. Although this improved our coverage, it also increased our annual cost. The Westbury Civic Club used approximately \$34,500 from the Patrol savings account to cover the shortage last year. We cannot keep doing this. Too few residents are paying for this vital service!

We need at least 400 more members to pay their 2015 dues to keep the WAP patrol. **WE NEED 400 ADDITIONAL PAYING MEMBERS** to support our neighborhood security patrol. If you have already paid, we thank you. Please ask your neighbors to join, if they have not, and also consider making an additional contribution for security. If you haven't paid, now is the time to do so. If you can't pay the full amount now, send a donation or divide your contribution over several months. Every dollar helps! It's a matter of neighborhood safety!

Strong neighborhoods need strong neighborhood involvement. **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED.** The payment form is on page 15. Clip it out and attach it to your payment, and then mail it in or drop it off at the WCC office. If you want to pay by credit card, go to PayPal, and provide the email address for the WCC of [westburyccl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburyccl@sbcglobal.net) (don't forget to let us know your address and contact info).

Help Keep Westbury Safe! Don't wait, send your WAP payment TODAY!

**DUES FORM IS ON PAGE 15**

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Come let the kids play, cool down with a sno-cone, meet the Constables and maybe even meet a neighbor or two. Hope to see you at Westbury Park on Saturday, August 8 at 10AM!



**H** **HEAVY TRASH** for **T**  
**AUGUST** is **R**  
**JUNK WASTE.**  
**E** Pick-up for ALL of **A**  
**Westbury** is **A**  
**Thursday,** **S**  
**AUGUST 13** **H**  
*More info, see page 5*

**2016 WCC Board Nominations**  
**Deadline August 13**  
 For more information, see page 6

**Westbury Pool NOW OPEN**  
 City Pool

The Westbury Pool is open for the rest of August and Labor Day. **For the full summer pool schedule, see page 4.**

The pool is located at 10605 Mullins @ Willowbend (near Parker Elementary).

## Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors

President	Becky Edmondson	wccpresident@westburycrier.com
Vice President	Marcia Hartman	wccvp@westburycrier.com
Secretary	Daniel Vega	
Treasurer	David Cummins	westburytreasurer@gmail.com

## Directors at Large

Communications	Libby Mondello	
Community Relations	Cindy Chapman	wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com
Deed Restrictions	Jennifer Edmondson	wccoffice@westburycrier.com
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Jeff Benavides	
Greenspace Beautification	VACANT	
Membership	Kate Wilson	
Security	Leslee Cross	wccsecurity@westburycrier.com
Volunteer Coordinator	Stephanie Lester	westburystephanie@gmail.com

## Section Directors

Westbury 1	Meg Horner	
Westbury 2	Rocio Lara	
Westbury 3	Robert Montgomery	rmontgomery002@comcast.net
Westbury 3	Charlsey Porcarello	charlsey@swbell.net
Westbury 4	Eugene Sirls	
Westbury 4	Amanda Bess	
Westbury 5	Virginia Livingston	Westbury5E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5	VACANT	
Westbury South	Robert Capps	
Parkwest 1	William Grimsinger	
Parkwest 2	Jeffrey Weiss	jhweiss@yahoo.com
Parkwest 3	Joe Niles	Parkwest3@westburycrier.com

## Westbury Civic Club Office

**Office Hours:** Monday—Thursday 9:30AM-1:30PM\*, Closed Fridays

**Address:** 5322 W Bellfort Ste. 107 Houston, TX 77035

**Phone:** 713-723-5437      **Office Manager:** Jennifer Edmondson

**Email:** Westburycc@sbcglobal.net

\*The office is closed on all major holidays, weekends (follows HISD calendar)

**NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL WESTBURY RESIDENTS during office hours or by appointment**

## USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

**Westbury Area Patrol Constable Dispatch**  
**281-463-6666**

HPD Non-Emergency  
713-884-3131

Power Outages (Centerpoint)  
713-207-2222

Westbury HPD Storefront  
832-394-7520

Platou Community Center  
713-726-7107

Poison Control  
1-800-764-7661

Street Light Repairs (Give pole number)  
713-207-2222

**District K Councilmember Larry Green**  
**832-393-3016**

District C Councilmember Ellen Cohen  
832-393-3004

County Commissioner El Franco Lee  
713-755-6111

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

Report Graffiti—Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) [www.braysoaksmd.org](http://www.braysoaksmd.org)  
Use "Report A Problem"

## City of Houston 311 Hotline (for all Non-Emergency Issues)

Forestry Department, Hazardous Waste Disposal, Heavy Trash Violations and Questions, Neighborhood Nuisances, Parking Management, Solid Waste - Trash and Recycling, School Crossing Light Repairs, Water Main Break, and Sewer Repair, etc.

## Stay connected!

Are you one of the 1,443 likes on our Facebook page, Westbury Houston?

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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# President's Message

Civic vitality is on my mind this month. Looking back through my president messages, I have spent a lot of time talking about what makes a neighborhood a great place to live. At the NUSA 2015 conference Neighborhood Centers Inc., President Angela Blanchard said, "The measure of a good neighborhood is not who's there, but who's welcome." I think that speaks volumes as to why Westbury is such a successful neighborhood. For 60 years Westbury has retained its residential character and charm even though our commercial areas dimmed. The same young professionals that bought homes in the 1960s have seen their children and now their grandchildren buying homes in Westbury.

The Westbury Civic Club has led the charge in keeping Westbury a viable and livable neighborhood. This month we are again asking you to pay your 2015 membership dues and to support the Westbury Area Patrol (WAP). For just pennies a day you can help make Westbury a safer, cleaner place to live. **Please write a check or pay via PayPal to support YOUR community. Don't wait, act TODAY.** We need at least 400 more paid members. Last year we had to dip into our WAP savings to pay for patrols, and this year we are even further behind in our income. We can't dip into savings year after year, or there will be no more savings to dip into.

I had the privilege of sitting on a panel for the Center for Houston's Future in July called *Strong Neighborhoods, Healthy Neighborhoods*. They had performed a study on civic vitality that was quite interesting. I think Westbury would have fared better in some categories. They

looked at *Political Participation* and found Houston's voting record near the bottom of the list of major US cities; only Dallas had lower voting percentages. Mayoral voting percentages have been under 15% the last ten years. We have a mayoral election coming up in November with many strong candidates. Westbury traditionally has fantastic voter participation, and let's continue the tradition again this year. I'd like to see Westbury precincts top the lists for voting percentages. Your vote **does** count. Who represents **YOU** at City Hall **does** matter. See page 8 for more information about the upcoming election.

July was a dry month, which was good for those recovering from the Memorial Day flood and hard on our greenspaces. The Westbury Civic Club has been working, and will continue to work, with the Harris County Flood Control District as well as the City of Houston to find permanent solutions to the flooding woes along the Willow Waterhole Bayou and the Braewick Ditch. I want to thank all the volunteers who have worked to assist those who did flood. A special thanks to our office manager, Jennifer Edmondson, for working diligently these past 60 days in support of those who flooded. Two FEMA workers visited the WCC office as the deadline approached and were so impressed with her knowledge that they said they wished they had a Jennifer in their home neighborhood advocating for them.

It is not just Jennifer to be thankful for here in Westbury. We have so many great civic-minded volunteers who give their time, talent and treasure. The men and women who serve on the WCC board attend meetings, work on our parks and esplanades, tend the community garden, work on creating a trail system, work on our schools, serve on related boards, CARE for pets, meet with law enforcement and more; all in an effort to make Westbury the best that it can be. But it doesn't end with the WCC board; all of our Westbury churches, schools and other non-profit groups are blessed with volunteers. All of you are why I was chosen to serve on the panel discussion about Civic Vitality; Westbury is a strong neighborhood because we have so many caring residents.

Remember one important way to support your neighborhood is by paying your WCC dues. Please send your dues into today!

Stay cool,

Becky Edmondson



Panel for *Strong Neighborhoods, Healthy Neighborhoods*

## Board Notes : July 2015

- More income is needed to pay for security patrol and other WCC programs. At least 400 more members need to make payments to be able to pay for the security patrol for rest of 2015.
- People who want to run for the WCC board in September need to notify WCC office and Elections Chair by August 13. At this time, there are several board vacancies anticipated. Any proposed changes to the bylaws also need to be submitted in August.
- Section Directors gave updates. Security Director noted increased property crimes in nearby Meyerland and changes in our patrol deputies. Much discussion about flooding and other infrastructure issues.
- Candidate for city council Laurie Robinson attended the meeting and spoke briefly.
- Status update on specific legal issues was provided in Executive Session. No action taken.
- Tapester's Grill provided samples and Weichert Realty provided cookies and water. Thanks!

**Westbury  
Civic Club  
Board Meeting  
Wednesday,  
August 19  
7PM-9PM  
Westbury Baptist  
10425Hillcroft**

# Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock  
 Hours: Mon-Thurs 12PM—8PM; Fri 11AM-7PM  
 Supervisor: Dan Reilly,  
 Daniel.reilly@houstontx.gov or 713-726-7107

# Meyer Neighborhood Library

5005 W. Bellfort  
 Hours: See box below  
 Phone: 832-393-1840 / www.houstonlibrary.org

**Adult programming will resume on August 10.**

**STRETCHING EXERCISE CLASS Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9-9:45AM**

*Improve your flexibility by joining this non-strenuous exercise class. No registration required.*

**MSBEEHAVEN QUILTERS Tuesdays, 10AM - 2PM**

*For more information, contact Janie at 713-721-5526*

**GAMES**

**Wed., 10AM to 12PM**

*For more information, contact Wally at 713-729-9310*

**PORTABLE PROJECTS**

**Thurs., 9:30AM-11:30AM**

*For more information, contact Hazel at 713-729-4568*

**LINE DANCING**

**Mondays @ 12:30PM**

*For more information, contact Dan at 713-726-7107*

**Ping Pong Leagues**

Adult league ping pong will be on Fridays from 11AM to 2PM. Child league on Wednesday evenings. Any age and skill level is welcome to compete. For any questions or more information, call Dan at 713-723-7107

**After School Enrichment**

HISD resumes classes on Monday, August 24. The 2015-2016 After School Enrichment program will begin at the Platou Center the following week. This is a **free** childcare program for children ages, 6 to 13, from 3PM to 6PM. After homework is completed, the kids play games, do crafts, and play outside. Sign up soon to hold a place for your child. Call Dan at 713-726-7107 for details.

**Summer Enrichment**

The Platou Summer program will run through August 14. It has been a great summer with approximately 40 kids attending. Thank you to the volunteers who make this a special treasured program, see page 19.

**TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY A Weight Loss Support Group**

**Tuesdays 5:45-7PM**  
*Drop in to preview the program or call Dorothy at 713-723-4441 or Naomi at 713-988-2233*

**August 2015 Events**

**New & Improved Story Times**

**Baby Story-time:** Every Tuesday, 10:30-11:15AM  
**Toddler Story-time:** Every Wed. & Saturday at 10:30 AM  
**Children's Story-time:** 3rd Saturday, 10:30-11:30AM

**Youth Arts & Crafts**

Thursdays, 4:30 –5:30PM  
 Come enjoy an afternoon of arts and crafts. Explore making collages, stencil art, painting, origami, making jewelry and much more.

**Adult Mystery Book Club**

Call the Meyer Library for more info.

**HOURS**

Monday: Closed  
 Tuesday: 10AM-6PM  
 Wednesday: 10AM-6PM  
 Thursday: 12PM-8PM  
 Friday: 1PM-5PM  
 Saturday: 10AM-5PM  
 Sunday: Closed

# Westbury Pool

10605 Mullins @ Willowbend (near Parker Elem)  
 Phone: 713-723-2192



**Westbury City Pool Summer 2015 Schedule**

**Aug 1– August 16:** Pool OPEN Normal Summer Hours Tuesday—Sunday 1-8PM; Closed Monday

**August 22 - Sept. 6:** Pool open on Saturday and Sunday only, 1-8PM

**September 7 (Labor Day):** Last day for the pool to be open! 1-6PM

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# What's Happening in Westbury

## Events & Meetings Calendar August 2015

Aug 3-7	WCC Office Closed
Sat 8	Cool Down with the Constables with Child Car Seat Checks Westbury Park from 10AM to 1PM For more info, see page 1
Thurs 13	Deadline for Nominations for the WCC Board. See page 6 for more information.
Sat. 15	Audubon Society Bird Survey 7AM Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot—5310 S. Willow
Mon. 17	Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:30PM Westbury Community Garden Pavilion - 12500 Dunlap
Mon. 17	Meet the Future Mayor—Mayoral Candidates Forum— 7PM Lovett Elementary—8814 S. Rice See page 8 for more information
Wed. 19	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting 8:30AM Salem Lutheran Church 4930 W. Bellfort
Wed. 19	Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting 7PM Westbury Baptist Church—10425 Hillcroft
Mon. 24	HISD First Day of School
Tues. 25	SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM Aramco Building by Hobby Lobby

**Welcome  
Back to  
School!**



**Planning Calendar**  
September 7—Labor Day  
September 16 - WCC Annual Meeting  
October 6 - National Night Out

**ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS**  
HURRICANE SEASON STARTED JUNE 1.  
KEEP STORM DRAINS CLEAR OF DEBRIS.  
HAVE YOUR TREES TRIMMED NOW AND LOOK  
INTO FLOOD INSURANCE! (30 DAY WAIT)



## RECYCLING AND HEAVY TRASH CALENDAR



August 2015	
Thurs 6	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 13	Heavy Trash— <b>JUNK WASTE ALL OF WESTBURY</b>
Thurs 20	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

September 2015	
Thurs 3	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 10	Heavy Trash- <b>TREE WASTE ONLY ALL OF WESTBURY</b>
Thurs 17	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

## Important Trash and Recycling Info

- ♻️ Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM each Thursday
- ♻️ Trash cans must be removed by 10PM each Thursday
- ♻️ Trash cans must be placed at least 3 feet apart
- ♻️ Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- ♻️ Yard waste **MUST** be in correct biodegradable bags
- ♻️ Heavy trash can be placed starting at 6PM the Friday before pick-up
- ♻️ **YARD WASTE** is not considered tree waste. It is collected on regular Thursday trash day
- ♻️ Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- ♻️ Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers: **SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr 10785 SW Frwy** / Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM; Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste & Recyclables.
- ♻️ **Environmental Service Center - 11500 S. Post Oak** Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM. Accepts Hazardous Household & Electronic Waste.
- ♻️ Refer to [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com) or [www.houstontx.gov](http://www.houstontx.gov) for more trash and recycling information

## City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule

July	Tree Waste	October	Junk Waste
August	Junk Waste	November	Tree Waste
September	Tree Waste	December	Junk Waste

## WCC News

### WCC Board Nominations: August 13 Deadline

The election for the Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors will be conducted in September at the Annual Meeting. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, please contact the Westbury Civic Club office before 4 PM on the second Thursday in August (August 13), the deadline specified in our bylaws.

WCC Vice President Marcia Hartman is chair of the Election Committee. Candidates may submit a statement, not exceeding 100 words in length, when submitting their nomination for office. Please express your interest in running for the board of the Westbury Civic Club in writing, either by letter or by email.

**By Letter:** The mailing and physical address is 5322 W. Belfort, Suite 107, Houston, TX 77035. Address the letter to the Elections Committee – Marcia Hartman

**By Email:** Use subject line: WCC 2015 Elections. Please send your email to Marcia (the Election Committee Chair) at [wccvp@westburycrier.com](mailto:wccvp@westburycrier.com), AND also send a copy of the email to the WCC office at [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net).

If you have any questions, call the WCC office at 713-723-5437.

### Westbury Annual Meeting

September 16, 7PM

### Westbury Baptist Church

2015 WCC Board Elections, Guest Speakers, and more!

**AWARDS! DOOR PRIZES!**

### National Night Out: Oct. 6

Mark your calendars for National Night Out on Tuesday, October 6. Register your block party or event with the WCC office and we will arrange for law enforcement to visit along with WCC Board Members. This is a perfect opportunity to meet those new neighbors who moved in down the street.

**Stay connected with what is happening in Westbury right now! "Like" our Facebook page, Westbury Houston, to stay updated on neighborhood issues.**

Other nearby neighborhoods also have Facebook pages that alert their residents of crimes; it's a good idea to follow them as well. Nearby neighborhoods on Facebook include Marilyn Estates, Meyerland, & Sharpstown.

"This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done."

-Anonymous

## \* NOW HIRING \*

Interested in working for the  
Westbury Civic Club?

**Flexible hours, close to home, great people!**

Part-Time Office Support Needed  
Approximately 10-15 hours a week.

Applicants must be:

- \*proficient in Microsoft applications and social media
- \*have good written and spoken communication skills (bi-lingual a plus)
- \*Willing to work special events as needed
- \*Clear background check

Interested applicants should send their resume to the Westbury Civic Club at [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net).

For more information or questions, call Jennifer at 713-723-5437

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# Willow Waterhole News

## Possible Dog Park at the Willow Waterhole

Several acres have been identified as a possible dog park site. We are looking for dedicated community volunteers to join our Park's exploratory Dog Park Committee. Fundraising experience is a definite plus. Email: willowwaterhole@gmail.com



## SUPPORT THE WILLOW WATERHOLE PARK BY BECOMING A MEMBER

The Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy (WWGC) invites individuals, families, and small businesses to support them in their effort to maintain and rejuvenate our 290+ acre park through free recreational events and environment improvement projects. Membership donations provide general operations funding to help maintain our park and programming; when you join, you become a partner in keeping the Willow Waterhole a beautiful urban green space.

### MEMBERSHIP LEVELS & BENEFITS

**Individual Level \$50** All membership levels include an invitation to exclusive members-only hikes and birding tours, VIP seating for certain events, a subscription to the WWGC newsletter, and eNews updates for a full year.

**Family Level \$125** Receive benefits listed above as well as a Willow Waterhole tote bag.

**VIP Level \$250** Receive benefits listed above as well as an invitation to the annual WWGC Members Day Celebration and "Birds of the Waterhole" card set.

**Sponsorship Level \$500** Receive benefits listed above as well as recognition on the WWGC web site and in printed promotional material, plus one embroidered polo shirt.

*The WWGC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and donations are fully tax deductible to the extent of the law.*



## Willow Waterhole Workday News

There has been a break from outdoor conservation workdays with the heat and schools being out, but that doesn't mean things aren't happening at Willow Waterhole

☀ Summer tours have been given to Mike Kubosh (City Councilman), Tom McCasland (running for At-Large position on City Council), Bill King (running for Mayor), Stephen Costello (running for Mayor), Mike Frankoff (Houston Fly Fisherman's Association), Joe Doggett (retired Chronicle Outdoors Writer), Bob Ellett (Salem Lutheran Church), Alice Best and Mark Webb (TPWD), and Rogene Calvert (running for At-Large position on City Council).

☀ First conservation workday in the Fall will be on September 13th at 12:00PM in conjunction with Salem Lutheran Church's annual day of services. They have selected Rafferty Wetlands area at Ricecrest for planting and mulching as needed. This is open to all volunteers. Meet at The Gathering Place 5310 South Willow.

☀ There are three Boy Scout Eagle projects in planning and approval stages: placing birdhouses at WW, putting in mileage markers on the Westbury Lake Trail, and landscaping.

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## Westbury Area Information

### Meet the Mayoral Candidates

#### Meet the Future Mayor—August 17 at 7PM

Seven mayoral candidates will attend an event hosted by the Brays Bayou Association and the Meyerland Community Improvement Association at Lovett Elementary at 7PM. The focus of the candidate event will be Brays Bayou watershed flooding.

#### Mayoral Debate—September 29

Several mayoral candidates will attend the debate hosted by the Super Neighborhoods of Southwest Houston and Southwest Houston 2000. The debate will focus on issues specific to Southwest Houston. A Candidate Meet and Greet will be held in the lobby prior to the event. Event will be held at Riceville Mt. Olive Baptist, 11539 S. Gessner.

**Election: Tuesday, November 3.**  
**Early Voting starts on October XX.**



### 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

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YOUR TIME  
ONLINE**



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# Important Information for Flood Victims

## Flooding in Westbury

Approximately 400 homes had structural flooding in Westbury on May 26. The flooding in Westbury occurs along the streets near the Willow Waterhole Bayou (WWB) and the Braewick Ditch south of West Belfort. The general consensus is that several issues exacerbated this flooding including lack of maintenance on the Willow Waterhole Bayou and the Braewick Ditch, an aging drainage infrastructure that needs replacing, general flow problems at Chimney Rock and the Fondren Diversion channels, and a very high amount of rain in a short period of time. The area that flooded is in the 100 year flood plain. Some homes in this area have flooded multiple times and some for the very first time.

It is our belief that if the 60 year old storm drainage system is replaced and the tributaries in our area are maintained that many of these homes that had never flooded will be safer in the future.

Residents in this area had been noticing that very little rain was causing severe street flooding when none had occurred before. There are strings of emails to Harris County Flood Control and to the City of Houston from multiple residents and from the WCC raising the red flag that something had gone wrong with the drainage system in this area.

One of the strengths of Westbury is that we have so many residents who have

been here for decades and know the area historically. We are also in touch with the Brays Bayou Association and our former Flood and Infrastructure director who have firsthand knowledge of historic flooding issues and causes and proposed solutions.

Members of the WCC board will be meeting with Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) in August on site at the WWB and Braewick Bayous to assess possible flow problems and discuss possible future projects that may be needed in our area. In April 2013, 100 of these same 400 homes also flooded. The WCC continued contacting the HCFCD about the condition of our bayous which needed maintenance before the 2013 flood. The current HCFCD project under way on our ditches was finally approved by Commissioner's Court in January of 2015 but sadly was not completed for May's rain event. This should alleviate some of the flooding issues. The work in the ditches north of West Belfort have been completed and none of the homes along that bayou experienced flooding in May 2015. The WCC continues to advocate for Westbury and our aging

## LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR FEMA ASSISTANCE AUGUST 27

Anyone that flooded should apply for FEMA assistance, even if you have flood insurance. FEMA can offer you funding for items that insurance does not cover such as living expenses.

infrastructure. We will have an update in the next Crier from HCFCD.

**Still need help? Not sure what to do next? Have a quick question about the permitting process? Call the WCC office. If we don't have the answer to your question, we will point you in the direction you need to go.**

**713-723-5437  
Westbury Civic Club**

**SHEMER GROUP RENOVATION**



**5251 Lymbar** Bellaire Area  
4/3/2 + Study \$659,750  
5251Lymbar.ZehLewis.Com

**NEW CONSTRUCTION!**



**5154 W Bellfort** Westbury  
4/5.5/2 + Study \$510,000  
5154WBellFort.ZehLewis.Com

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**5527 Ettrick** Westbury  
3/2/2 \$299,900  
5527Ettrick.ZehLewis.Com

**RECENTLY LISTED!**



**8805 Dunlap** Braeburn Terrace  
3/1.5/2 \$205,000  
8805Dunlap.ZehLewis.Com

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5506 Yarwell  
5754 Yarwell  
5406 Sanford  
5907 Kuldell  
5519 Ettrick

# Houston General Plan "Plan Houston"

## Houston General Plan ("Plan Houston")

On July 14, a public meeting was held by the Houston Planning Commission to discuss a draft General Plan to be called "Plan Houston". This was one of four city-wide meetings conducted. Houston has never had a General Plan before. A dozen members of the Planning Commission attended the meeting to hear comments from the public.

Becky Edmondson and Cindy Chapman attended the meeting, along with several Westbury residents. Kevin Douglass from Westbury expressed concern that a goal to "sustain infrastructure" should be high priority since people want to drive on good roads and lack of maintenance can make flooding worse. He noted that many areas, including Westbury, had recent flooding. Becky Edmondson said that the infrastructure in Westbury is more than 50 years old and that the city has neglected infrastructure needs. She noted that the proposed General Plan mapping tools are useful and suggested that HISD projects also be depicted as part of the General Plan information. Additionally, she requested that the Planning Coordinating Data Tools being developed be provided at the Super Neighborhood level.

Public comments from other speakers included: Add wording for the city to be "age friendly". Provide specific numerical goals for



## Houston's Draft Vision Statement

Houston offers opportunity for all. We celebrate our diversity of people, ideas, economy, culture, and places. We promote healthy and resilient communities through smart civic investments, dynamic partnerships, education, and innovation. Houston is the place where anyone can prosper and feel at home.

**Houston: Opportunity. Diversity. Community. Home.**

solid waste, including a goal for zero waste. Apartments should be required to have recycling programs. Bring more arts to families and to communities. Not enough sidewalks or good lighting for children to safely walk to school along certain busy roads. Better maintenance of storm water drainage would reduce street flooding. The city should do a better job to hold owners responsible for poorly maintained apartments. Need to help new refugees with limited English skills. Will air pollution be monitored?

The proposed General Plan is not a land use plan. As the population of the Houston region continues to grow, the idea is to become more strategic and proactive. Plan Houston has a draft vision, goals, policy directives, numerical performance indicators (112 are currently proposed), and an implementation plan. It is anticipated that the plan will be considered by city council sometime in the late summer or early fall timeframe. To learn more about the draft General Plan, go to website [www.houstontx.gov/planning/general-plan](http://www.houstontx.gov/planning/general-plan) More information will be added to the website in the coming weeks.



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## FAQ

### What's happening at Westbury Square and the Westbury Centerette?

The Westbury Square properties and the Westbury Centerette property continue to be in limbo. Owners of commercial property are under no obligation to tell others their plans and often they like to keep them under wraps. We have reported the high grass at the Centerette to the owners and they responded that they will clean up the site.

The Westbury Square proposed plans have generated a lot of press. According to owner, Mr. Alfred J. Antonini, plans are moving forward to demolish the existing buildings. We have been told that demolition will happen "soon". As to the sale and the final plans, they are still pending as we go to print. Any proposed re-plat of the property has not yet shown up on the city's weekly plat report.

### Brays Bayou Association

September 21 at Gathering Place at 7:30PM Topic will be ReBuild Houston. Rob Lazaro with ReBuild Houston will be speaking.

### HELP KEEP HOME VALUES UP

- ◆ Keep your home/fences in good repair.
- ◆ Maintain a mowed and edged yard.
- ◆ Now is a perfect time to tackle those big projects!
- ◆ Do NOT put out Heavy Trash before the acceptable date. The next JUNK WASTE heavy trash date is AUGUST 13. Junk Waste may be put on the curb starting AUG 8.

**HAVING A CLEAN AND TIDY HOME APPEARANCE INCREASES THE VALUE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD OVERALL. THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR HOMES ON MAJOR STREETS AS THEY ARE VISITORS' FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF WESTBURY.**

### "What in the world is being built on Willowbend?"

The WCC has received dozens and dozens of phone calls and emails about a house being constructed on Willowbend near West Belfort, as many people have been concerned that it is a commercial building and not a house. The owner did submit plans for a single-family residence to the Westbury Civic Club. We contacted him and asked him if he would respond to this question. He graciously submitted the following information:

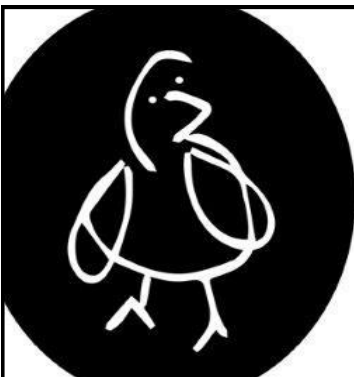


According to the builder and the homeowner, "this is a SINGLE family residence (not a duplex or commercial building) which will comply with the deed restrictions of Westbury Section 1 as to use and type of construction. Once it is complete, all the corrugated sheet metal panels visible on street will be covered by bricks. This is about 60% of exterior wall area, more than the 51% required by the deed restrictions. The architecture style of the home is mid-century contemporary. The reason of using the metal structure is to allow for expansive rooms and contemporary styling. The building permit the homeowner obtained from the city of Houston is for a single family dwelling. No commercial usage will be allowed. The builder submitted the renderings to show the look of the finished home from the street."

\*note from the WCC: These will not be traditional bricks, but polished concrete block. The deed restrictions for that section allow for brick, masonry and Austin stone.



*West facing side of home*



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Or contact us today: [booncare@gmail.com](mailto:booncare@gmail.com) or 713.936.2623

# Westbury Area Improvement Corporation

## Tax-Deductible Way to Improve Westbury

Some of you may be wondering how to contribute funds to improve our Westbury community in a way that is tax-deductible. The answer is simple - Donate to the WAIC!

The mission of the non-profit Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) is "to improve the quality of life for those who live, work, learn, or play in the Westbury community. This will be done by promoting the civic, cultural, educational, and general welfare of residents, workers, students, and visitors to the Westbury Super Neighborhood in Houston, Texas." The WAIC, founded in 1991, is a non-profit, 501c3 organization (EIN 76-0354758) as determined by the Internal Revenue

Service. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The WAIC receives grants, matching grants, and volunteer grants for the benefit of our community. Did you know that every year volunteers at the Westbury HPD Storefront generate donations from their corporation that benefit our HPD storefront? Did you know that the donations for the shade structure for the new playground at Westbury Park (next to Parker Elementary) were handled by the WAIC? The WAIC also handles the funds for the Westbury Community Garden.

Some of the programs or projects approved for funding by the WAIC this year include:

**Westbury High School** – Rewards for students attending extra study sessions. PTO membership.

**Keep Westbury Beautiful** – Plants for Westbury Park. Signage for future workday events.

**Willow Waterhole Park** – MusicFest sponsor. Contesting a pending environmental permit application nearby.

**Neighborhoods USA Conference** – Westbury tour expenses. Sponsor attendee from WAIC.



June WAIC Meeting at Salem Lutheran

### WAIC Donation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to make a donation to the WAIC in the following area:**

- Westbury Community Garden
- Westbury HPD Storefront
- Parks and Greenspaces
- Education & Outreach
- Greatest Need

**Donation Amount, made payable to the WAIC:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail checks to 5322 W. Bellfort #107 Houston, TX 77035**

Yes, I would like to receive email updates from the WAIC

## CARING FOR THE COMPLETE ATHLETE, FROM START TO FINISH.

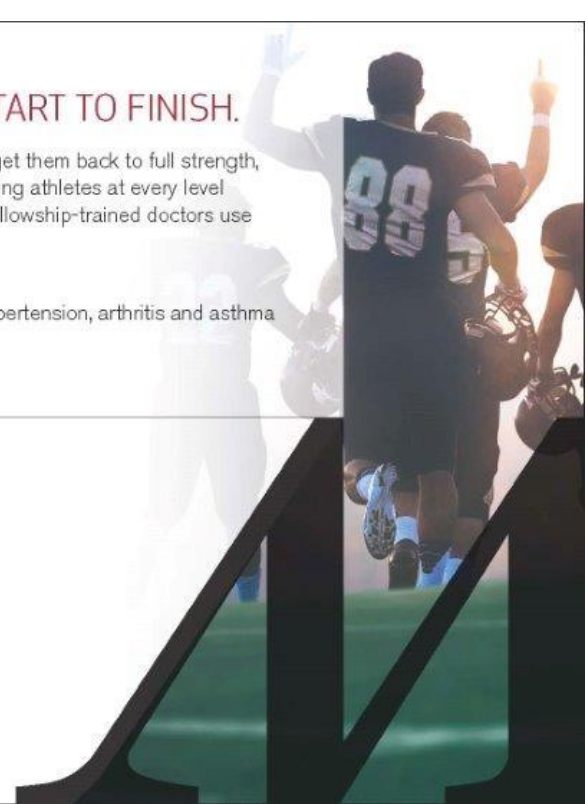
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## Neighborhood Partners

### The Company OnStage: Keeping the Arts Alive in Southwest Houston

Since 1978 years, The Company OnStage has had one mission – to provide high-quality, affordable theater in Southwest Houston and the opportunity for anyone in the community to participate in all aspects of production. Now that mission is in jeopardy. With the possibility of the demolition and redevelopment of Westbury Square into a townhome complex, The Company OnStage faces losing their home of 33 years.



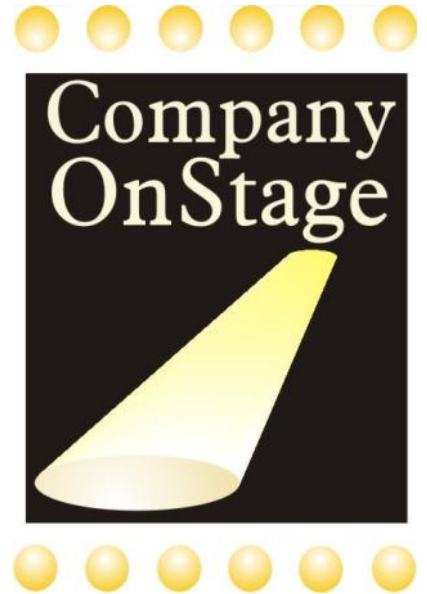
“We certainly recognize the need for something to be done about the area,” says Kathryn Noser Hartzog, President of the Board and Westbury native, “and while we are happy about the prospect of improvements, we also wish the plan included keeping the theater.” The Company OnStage has been producing up to 10 shows a year, including an evening series for adults and a children’s theater series. Now, they are looking for a new home.

The support from the community has been outstanding, according to Hartzog. “We’ve received a lot of calls and emails from people who have space or who have offered their support. The response has given us hope for great things to come. Sometimes one door has to close before you even recognize the room has windows.”

While Hartzog is not ready to make any announcements about a location, she is excited about the prospects for the future, “I grew up going to shows at The Company OnStage and now I take my kids to COS shows. For me, this is a labor of love. The Board of Directors is dedicated to keeping the theater going strong. We look forward to entertaining Westbury residents for many years to come.”

To find out how you can help, or if you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution in support of the theater, log on to [www.companionstage.org](http://www.companionstage.org).

[www.companionstage.org](http://www.companionstage.org)



### Thank You, Jim Bates

Jim Bates, President of U.S. West Region & Latin America of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and the Chairman of the Houston Clean City Commission (HCCC) from 2010-2014, was honored at a going away reception. He is retiring and will be moving away from Houston. He touched so many communities in Houston, including ours. Jim Bates and Scotts Miracle-Gro were early supporters of the Westbury Community Garden, providing funds, materials, and volunteers.

Pictured: Becky Edmondson, representing District K on the HCCC, presents Jim Bates with a Keep Houston Beautiful plate from the Council District representatives. District K Council Member Larry Green looks on.



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# Crime/Security

## Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37\* 30 days July 20, 2015

	Single-Family Home	Apt/Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	2	4	0	0	6
Theft	8	6	2	1	17
Auto Theft	3	0	0	0	3
Robbery	0	1	0	1	2
Assault	0	0	1	0	1
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29</b>

\*Area bounded by: S. Post Oak, US 90/S. Main, utility easement north of Willowbend and drainage bayou, west of Braewick

### Single Family Residential Crime

*Locations by block number, not exact address. Stats for 30 days preceding July 20, 2015*

Block #	Street	Crime
10900	Atwell	Burglary
6000	Benning	Theft
5800	Farwell	Theft
11500	Gaymoor	Theft
5700	Greencraig	Burglary
6000	Hummingbird	Auto Theft
5700	Ludington	Theft
5600	Stillbrooke	Theft
5600	W. Airport	Auto Theft
5900	W. Airport	Auto Theft
5900	W. Airport	Theft
5000	W. Bellfort	Theft
5600	Willowbend	Theft

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS & CONTACTS

**Westbury Area Patrol / Constables**  
281-463-6666

**Westbury HPD Storefront**  
832.394.7520

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

**Brays Oak Management District (BOMD)**  
www.braysOakmd.org  
(report graffiti)

## Westbury HPD Storefront

**\*ATTENTION: NEW PHONE NUMBER for Westbury HPD Storefront 832.394.7520**

It is with mixed emotions that we in Westbury bid farewell to Officer John Ly who has done such a good job for us here in Westbury. He will be going downtown to HPD headquarters to become an investigator. We will miss him, but we wish him all the best on his promotion! Officer Amber Vick will be his replacement, joining Sergeant Tim Sutton at the HPD Westbury Storefront which is located at 5600 S. Willow # 116 (near Westbury Hospital).

## WAP Patrol Security Report

We have been assigned 2 new deputies to our WAP contract. If you see them, say hello to Deputy Dean from Corpus Christi and Deputy Thacker.

The Meyerland Area has had a rash of break-ins and robberies recently. There could be a correlation to the ongoing construction projects from flooding repairs.

**Report any suspicious activity immediately. 281-463-6666**

## LOCK YOUR CARS; SECURE YOUR VEHICLES AND VALUABLES

Crimes of opportunity lead the list of summer time crime. Car windows broken at parks, schools, pools and shopping centers as enterprising criminals drive around looking into car windows for things of value to steal.

Thefts at gas stations continue to occur all over Houston and our area is not immune. There have been several reports at the Krogger gas station on W. Bellfort. Be sure to **keep your car locked** and your purse OUT of sight and out of easy reach through a car window.

## Don't forget Vacation Watch!

For Westbury residents, who pay the WAP patrol dues, a special Vacation Watch may be requested from Pct 5. The form is available online. Sign up is available on their website. If you want to request a Vacation Watch, but do not have access to a computer or internet, please call 281-463-6666 for assistance. If you are a flood victim and have vacated your home during remodeling, please call in a Vacation Watch.

Do you hear sirens? Go to

<http://>

[cohweb.houstontx.gov/](http://cohweb.houstontx.gov/)

[ActiveIncidents/Search.aspx](http://cohweb.houstontx.gov/ActiveIncidents/Search.aspx)



# 2015 Dues/Assessments

## ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1&2

Homes purchased in Parkwest 1 after Jan. 1, 1993 and Parkwest 2 after Jan 1, 1994 have mandatory assessments.

**The amount of the 2015 Mandatory Assessments is \$230. The 2015 Assessments were due by February 1.**

If you have any questions or did not get your invoice, please contact the WCC office at 713-723-5437 or email westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

**Late statements will be sent in July.**

**Mission of the WCC**  
*The purposes of the Westbury Civic Club, Inc. (the "Club") are to improve the appearance of the Westbury area and promote the civic, cultural educational, health, and general welfare of the residents of the Westbury and Parkwest subdivisions in Harris County, Texas (collectively, the "Community").*

## Why Should I Pay My Dues? What are the Benefits?

- Protects your investment in your home by keeping Westbury a strong and vibrant neighborhood.
- Keeps the doors of the Civic Club office open and staffed.
- Protects your home and family with the Westbury Area Patrol through Constable Precinct 5.
- Improves the looks of our esplanades, parks, and green spaces.
- Advocates for City services and infrastructure improvements
- Hosts two White Elephant Community Garage Sale events each year
- Organizes community get togethers such as Coffee with Constables and National Night Out

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

Yes, this is correct! We have you mail your payments directly to our bank's processing center. This allows your payments to be processed immediately.

## 2015 Westbury Civic Club Dues

**\*Please send this form in with your payment**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

**Sending multiple payments?**  
 Circle your payment choice

2 payment of \$147.50  
 3 payments of 98.34

**\*\*Call the office for more payment  
 options or questions**

Westbury Civic Club Membership	\$40	\$
Greenspace Beautification	\$25	\$
Westbury Area Patrol	\$230	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$295</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Additional Contributions:</b>		
Westbury Civic Club		\$
Greenspace Beautification		\$
Westbury Area Patrol		\$
Westbury HPD Storefront		\$
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$</b>



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# Westbury Area News

## Westbury Wine Lovers Raise Their Glasses

It started out as a simple question on social media, "Are there any wine lovers in the area who would like to get together for some informal dinners and wine?" The response was amazing, with dozens of enthusiastic wine lovers chiming in with their approval.

So began the Westbury Wine Lovers group in the Spring of 2014 on Nextdoor.com. The group meets once a month on the 2nd Thursday. August's get together will be at RUSSO'S - New York - PIZZERIA at 4870 Beechnut (across from Meyerland).

No membership fees, no forms to fill out. JUST FUN. NO WINE SNOBS ALLOWED!

## Russo's New York Pizzeria on August 13 at 6:30PM

## 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.

**August Meet & Eat: Thurs., August 6 @ 6PM**

**September Meet & Eat: Thurs., September 3 @ 6PM**

**Westbury Civic Club  
NOW Hiring  
a Part-Time Employee  
For more information, see page 6**

## Links for Lost & Found Pets in Westbury

- Nextdoor Westbury - [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)
- Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/westburyhoustontexas?fref=nf>
- CARE- Contact at [westburycare@gmail.com](mailto:westburycare@gmail.com) Compassionate Animal Rescue Efforts is located in Westbury) or at [www.westburycare.com](http://www.westburycare.com)

## Yard of the Month Help Needed

Judges needed for Yard of the Month. Contact Robert Montgomery at [rmontgomery002@comcast.net](mailto:rmontgomery002@comcast.net)

## HEB on S. Braeswood Update

The HEB on S. Braeswood is currently closed due to the flood in May. The WCC was told in early June that plans had not been finalized for that store. HEB will either close that location or remodel it with reopening occurring in October. You can email HEB customer service to find out their plans or request that they remodel and reopen the HEB.

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# Congressman Al Green

in conjunction with  
**Community Health Choice** and **HISD**  
presents



## GREEN LIGHT TO HEALTHY LIVING



Saturday,  
**August 22, 2015**

**10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**  
**Westbury High School**  
**11911 Chimney Rock Rd.**  
**Houston, TX 77035**

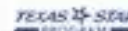
**FREE Stomp  
Out Stroke  
Screenings**



**FREE bicycle  
drawing!**  
Must be  
present to win.

### A FREE Health Fair

- **FREE** blood pressure, glucose, dental exams, Fit-Flu-free colon cancer screening program, and more!
- **FREE** eye exam & glasses on site  
No cost to qualified families. Parents must be present to sign consent form.
- **FREE** immunizations  
Must have child's shot records.
- **FREE** assistance with Medicaid or CHIP applications, renewals, and recertifications
- **FREE** prizes and giveaways!
- **FREE BACKPACK**  
stuffed with school supplies!  
First 150 school-age children. First-come, first-served.



# Summer Enrichment at the Platou Center

## 2015 Summer Enrichment Program at Platou Center

Platou Community Center has held Summer Day Camp for an average of 40 children per day ages 6 to 13 over the summer. Led by Destiny McFarlin and her team of teen volunteers and Supervisors Dan Reilly, Jo Ann Johnson, and Nelson Ayala, the children have had lots of opportunities to play indoor games while cooling down from outdoor games and tennis lessons. On Wednesdays, "Mr. Dan" takes the children to the Windsor Village Community Center swimming pool. Fridays usually mean an afternoon activity designed by the children, such as a glow in the dark party, dancing, or outside water fun with water balloons and hoses. Vans are available to take the children to programs at museums and other parks. Lunch and snacks are provided.

In addition, volunteers from Friends of Chimney Rock Park and Willow Waterhole Park have been providing a "Nature Nuts" program on Tuesday mornings. The children decorated their own T-shirts, and learned about trees and Texas wildflowers. Guest programs have come from the Audubon Society (live birds), Katy Prairie Conservancy (nocturnal life), Bellaire Nature Discovery Center (skeletons), and Bayou Land Conservancy (Watersheds).

For the second year, Friends of Chimney Rock Park and the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) sponsored ART WEEK. Led by Art Teacher, Gigi Spence, and assisted by adult and youth volunteers, the children produced paper-mache animal hats, tiny clay birds, city scenes in watercolor, mock Chihuly glass out of water bottles, and decorated CD disks. The children had an art show to display their creations for their parents.



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**Your Market** 2012 at 1:37 PM.

- Average Days on Market: 76
- Selling vs. Asking Price: -5%
- Asking and Sold Prices: \$189,500 median sold price
- Number of Homes for Sale: -17% homes for sale decreased

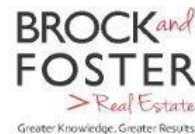
Have a Question? Get in touch, I'm happy to help. [Email me](mailto:Email me) or call 713-272-2000

Address	Price	Days on Market	Status
3285 Cambridge Dr	\$282,000	88 days	COLO
7304 S. 24th St. 2012 sq. ft.	\$187,500		
View Details   Show On Map			
5704 Cambridge Dr	\$264,000	37 days	COLO
4 beds, 2 baths, 1910 sq. ft.	\$124,500		
View Details   Show On Map			
5047 Cambridge Dr	\$152,000	219 days	COLO
3 beds, 2 baths, 1800 sq. ft.	\$94,000		
View Details   Show On Map			
5400 Cambridge Dr	\$400,000	67 days	COLO
5 beds, 4 baths	\$40,000		
View Details   Show On Map			
5400 Cambridge Dr	\$902,500	75 days	COLO
5 beds, 4 baths	\$102,500		
View Details   Show On Map			
5400 Cambridge Dr	\$177,000	83 days	COLO
5 beds, 4 baths	\$24,000		
View Details   Show On Map			

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Market Snapshot is brought to you by Brock & Foster. Susan Brock is a specialist in Westbury and the surrounding areas. With more than 12 years experience she offers an individualized experience that has earned her a five-star client experience rating. Susan is a licensed broker and REALTOR.®



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## School Updates

### Parker Elementary Construction Update

The Parker Elementary Project Advisory Team (PAT) met on July 22. Groundbreaking for the new Parker Elementary School building is currently anticipated for December 2015, although the start date for construction will depend on how long it takes for city permits to be issued.

Preparations for the future construction site on still on-going: certain structures near the middle of the site demolished, some interior trees removed, and safe pathways constructed for students. Plans are to create off-site parking for construction workers and teachers on the CenterPoint Energy easement north of Willowbend. Parents and buses will

continue to park on the street. The Cub Scout house on Willowbend will be demolished later this fall, but the school will temporarily provide a storage shed. The new school will have a community room available for meetings by scouts or other community groups.

Project scope continues to be cut for budget reasons. Kathleen Ownby from the SPARK (School Park, see [sparkpark.org](http://sparkpark.org)) program met with the Parker team at the July meeting to discuss possible school amenity enhancements that might qualify as SPARK projects (must be accessible to the public on weekends and from 5:30 PM until dusk). A separate



*Parker Elementary Demolition Begins with the T-buildings!*

meeting will be held to discuss possible SPARK projects. Although SPARK would provide some financial assistance, the school and community would need to raise most of the money. For example, the entry plaza at Johnston Middle School was a recent SPARK project. All SPARK projects feature public art.

### Westbury High School Preliminary Plans to be shown on August 20

The Westbury High School Project Advisory Team (PAT) met in July. Much discussion centered on new athletic facilities for baseball and softball, as this work will have to be completed before ground can be broken for the new building. The new building will be built upon the existing baseball field which necessitates the new fields being completed first. There will be a baseball field and a softball field built on vacant land owned by HISD on Gasmer, about 3 blocks from the main Westbury High School (WHS) campus. The WHS campus is out of compliance for Title 9 (equity in sports), so the campus needs to add a softball field. Tennis courts will also be added at the campus. The funds for additional sports facilities are outside of or "in addition to" the 40 million allocated in the 2012 bond for the school. The fields for baseball and softball should be completed by the end of the year.

If you are interested in seeing the preliminary plans for WHS, please note that Westbury High School will be having their second annual "Back to School Bash" on August 20th from 6:30 to 8PM. The new plans will be available for the community to view. If you are interested in WHS or how HISD plans to spend the 2012 bond money, come out to the "Back to School Bash" on August 20.



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# Neighborhood Nuisances—Keep Westbury Beautiful

## Christmas in August!?!?!?

No, not really. Please take down your Christmas lights if you have not already done so. Truthfully it just looks tacky and annoys your neighbors.

## Storage Pods

We have all seen the big storage pods people use to move or store belongings. It's a great invention. It's also a deed restriction violation to store the pod on your property in front of your building line or blocking the sidewalk. You cannot park it in the street either, no matter how convenient that seems. Offsite storage is available, please utilize it.

## Weeds / Overgrown Lots

Most of Westbury's lawns are beautiful, however, some people are mowing challenged. If this applies to you, please get out and mow your lawn! Yards must be kept under 9". That is actually quite high. If you don't have a lawnmower, ask a neighbor or hire a service. Overgrown yards are a violation of City Ordinance and the deed restrictions.

## Signs, Signs, and More Signs

Do you drive down a street and think all the homes are for sale only to find the signs are advertisements for roofers, landscapers, contractors, etc.? The only commercial signs allowed by your DEED RESTRICTIONS are a For Sale sign for a house being sold. Signs advertising the business of contractors working on your home are not allowed. Please ask contractors not to place them in your yard. If they are there now, please remove them. If you love your contractor so much that you want to spread the word, then ask them to advertise in the *Westbury Crier* or spread the word through social media.

By state law, political signs are allowed to be displayed on private property for a period of time during election periods.

Both state law and city ordinances forbid unauthorized signs from being posted on public property. This means signs are not allowed on public easements or on items located in the public easements (trees, posts, poles, etc). Signs illegally posted on public property are considered to be trash and may be collected by anyone. WCC Volunteers along with the City of Houston and BOMD pick up signs daily along Westbury's streets. The pile of signs to the right was collected in 45 minutes in one morning



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## Green News in Westbury



### Mosquito Control



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

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

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



**Westbury 5  
Yard of the Month  
Winner**

### July Yard of the Month Winners

**Westbury 1**  
5107 Briarbend

**Westbury 3**  
Rob Malone & Cris Benitez  
11507 Gaymoor

**Westbury 4**  
11827 Dunlap

**Westbury 5**  
Linda Anselmo  
11002 Braewick

**Parkwest 1 & 2**  
Tom and Evelyn Ballard  
10918 Ashcroft

**Parkwest 3**  
Robert & Sandra Parry  
11610 Braewick

**Westbury South**  
12318 Renwick

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# Westbury Community Garden

## Million Pollinator Garden Challenge

The butterfly gardens on either side of the front walkway at the Garden are always a profusion of color. These beds contain many native plants. Some are habitat/food source plants for caterpillars and others are nectar and pollen sources for butterflies, bees and other pollinators. This collection of Texas natives earned the garden a certification by the North American Butterfly Association. Westbury Community Garden has also joined the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge and you can, too!

The Million Pollinator Garden Challenge (MPGC) is a nationwide call to action to preserve and create gardens and landscapes that help revive the health of bees, butterflies, birds, bats and other pollinators across America.

Pollinators Gardens Should:

- \*use plants that provide nectar and pollen sources
- \*provide a water source
- \*be situated in sunny areas with wind breaks
- \*create large "pollinator targets" of native or non-invasive plants
- \*establish continuous bloom throughout the growing season
- \*eliminate or minimize the impact of pesticides

If your garden qualifies as a pollinator habitat, register on [www.millionpollinatorgardens.org](http://www.millionpollinatorgardens.org) and "Bee" counted! If you need plant choices, visit the Westbury Community Garden.



## Farm Share Program

Plant It Forward Farms has started registration for the next Farm Share Season, starting in July 2015. The WCG Pavilion is a pick up location.



### HOW MUCH DOES IT COST\*?

25-week season, July 2015 - January 2016: \$625  
 50-week season, July 2015— June 2015: \$1200

- \*3% discount for paying in full
- \*additional fee applies if paying by credit card
- \*additional delivery fee applies at some locations

### Learn more about PIF

Farm Shares at the Plant

-It-Forward.org website.



## WHERE IS THE GARDEN?

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

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**5303 Briarbend**  
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**12421 Mullins**  
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