



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 62, ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2017

Want to Join the WCC Board? Now is the time! WCC Board Nominations Deadline is August 10

Are you looking for a fun and exciting volunteer experience? If so, think about becoming a WCC board member. The WCC Board is very involved in the neighborhood from working hand in hand with the City and County on flooding and infrastructure to deed restriction violations to new construction review. The election for the Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors will be conducted in September at our 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 10), 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!



Please express your interest in running for the board of the Westbury Civic Club by letter or by email. If you send email, please use subject line of **WCC 2018 Elections**. Send email to westburycc@sbcglobal.net. The mailing address is our physical address of 5322 W. Belfort, Suite 100.



- ❖ All board members must be a listed Owner of Record for a property within 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 (name) 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 of home)."
- ❖ Candidates may submit a statement, not to exceed 100 words in length, when submitting their nomination for office.



August 9 - SURVIVING AN ACTIVE SHOOTER DEFENSE TRAINING

Wednesday, August 9, 7-8:30PM, Westbury Baptist Church, Room C109
Presentation by **Stephen Daniel**, Senior Community Liaison, HPD
See page 14 for more information

September 27 - WCC ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, September 27, 6-9PM, Westbury Baptist Church, Game Rm
Elect NEW WCC 2018 Board, Speakers, Door Prizes, and more! See next month's *Crier* for more information.

October 3 - National Night Out

Start planning your block parties now! See page 11 for more information about this exciting chance to get to know your neighbors.

October 28- Fall White Elephant Sale

Need to have a garage sale? Plan to have a booth at the next White Elephant Sale on October 28, 8AM-Noon at Westbury United Methodist. For more information, see page 11.



HEAVY TRASH SCHEDULE

August—JUNK WASTE

➔ Thursday, August 10

Sept. — TREE WASTE ONLY

➔ Thursday, Sept. 14

October —JUNK WASTE

➔ Thursday, October 12

DO NOT PLACE TRASH ON CURB UNTIL WEEKEND BEFORE HEAVY TRASH DAY

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

WCC OFFICE *NEW ADDRESS

5322 W. Bellfort #100, Houston, TX 77035

Jennifer Edmondson.....WCC Office Manager

NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO DUES PAYING

WESTBURY RESIDENTS during office hours or by appt.

OFFICE HOURS/CONTACT

Tuesday - Thursday (Summer).....10AM-1PM

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Telephone.....713-723-5437

Email.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net

Deed Restrictions.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net

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SECURITY

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

including suspicious activity, burglar alarms and vacation watch

Emergency.....911

Houston Police Dept. Non-Emergency..... 713-884-3131

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

CITY OF HOUSTON

District K Council Member, Larry Green.....832-393-3016

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

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

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

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

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

Houston Help & Information.....311

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

CENTERPOINT ENERGY

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

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

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

Make sure to give pole number

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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

Graffiti.....www.braysoaksmd.org

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

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

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

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

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

2017 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President.....Becky Edmondson

wccpresident@westburycrier.com or 713-443-3951

Vice President.....Marcia Hartman

Secretary.....Dan Vega

Treasurer.....VACANT

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Communications.....VACANT

Community Relations.....Cindy Chapman

wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com

Deed Restrictions.....Jennifer Edmondson

westburycc@sbcglobal.net

Flood Control & Infrastructure.....Donna Strom

Greenspace Beautification.....Mat Funk

Membership.....Jeff Benavides

Security.....J K O'Brien

Volunteer & Event CoordinatorRobert Montgomery

rmontgomery002@comcast.net

SECTION DIRECTORS

Westbury 1.....Nancy Stewart

Westbury 2.....VACANT

Westbury 3.....Tony Robert

Westbury 3.....Recy Dunn

Westbury 4.....Judy Overton

Westbury 4.....Eugene Sirls

Westbury 5.....Virginia Livingston

Westbury5E@westburycrier.com

Westbury 5.....VACANT

Westbury South.....Sunny Davis

Parkwest 1.....William Grimsinger

Parkwest 2.....Jeffrey Weiss

Jweiss@txchiro.edu

Parkwest 3.....Joe Niles

parkwest3@westburycrier.com

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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A Message from the Westbury Civic Club President

I hope you will indulge me in a trip down memory lane. In 2004, Westbury residents, Mark Sandlin and Ann Cahill, came to a WCC monthly board meeting with the news that Hillcroft was in the 2020/2025 Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan as a 6 lane Principal Thoroughfare. Upon hearing this, the WCC mobilized and began planning a transportation meeting. Mark Walker, a board member and in that year's Leadership Houston class, helped facilitate a great meeting that filled the Westbury High School auditorium with over 300 residents. Robin Holzer was the chair of a new non-profit, Citizens Transportation Coalition, designed to help give neighborhoods a say in their transportation decisions. Robin asked me to speak about Westbury's "Sense of Place". I was fairly new to this civic process and truthfully "clueless"! Westbury's Sense of Place? I really had to think about that. I walked out onto the Hillcroft esplanade by my house, between Bankside and Portal. WOW! It was 60 feet wide with a beautiful stretch of oak trees. I knew it was worth saving.

Fast forward 13 years...yes, 13 years and two fights later, there is an amendment currently before the City of Houston Planning Commission to permanently change Hillcroft (from Willowbend to South Main through Westbury) to its proper 4 lane designation. Many thanks to District K City Councilmember, Larry Green, for putting the amendment forward. On August 17, the Planning Commission will make its ruling. A hearing on the Hillcroft amendment was

held on July 20, you can read more about that on page 6.

I tell this story for a couple of reasons. I ran into Robin Holzer in the middle of July at a METRO meeting; 13 years later she is still a transportation advocate. This is one of the real strengths of this city; while it may take time to get things accomplished, people who care, stay engaged and stay involved. And eventually things get done. Call me Pollyanna, but I do believe I will live to see the day when Westbury Square is something other than a decaying eyesore. Really....



WCC President Becky Edmondson and Robin Holzer at METRO meeting, July 2017

I also tell this story because it's time to get new people on the WCC Board. When I answered the call for the Section Director vacancy for Parkwest 2 back in 2000, I really knew nothing about Westbury or Houston or Harris County or how government or neighborhoods worked. It

has been a great adventure of not only learning, but of meeting hundreds of people that I can call friends today. I urge you to get involved. Do you look around and wish things were different? Come to a board meeting, join a committee, become engaged. It's fun and fulfilling! And if you can't physically join the board, please go to page 17 and send in your dues if you haven't done so already this year.

Back in 1998, the Planning Department, after working more than a year with over 100 Westbury residents, published the "Westbury Revitalization Strategies". I picked this book up in 2001 and have used it as a guide on my civic journey. It has now been 20 years and is time to take a look back at what has been accomplished and a look forward to see what still needs to be done. A survey went out to all 5,000 homes back in August of 1995. The two page survey, now updated, will be included in the September *Westbury Crier*. However, for those of you with a computer, keep an eye on our Facebook page for a link to a Survey Monkey version coming soon! We will use your responses to start crafting a new revitalization strategy.

I look forward to hearing your survey thoughts!

Becky Edmondson



Westbury Civic Club Board Notes July 2017

- ⇒ Discussed Brays Oaks Mngt District detention proposal at length. BOMD conducted engineering study to reduce the flooding issue to get a piece of the \$80M funding, see pg 9
- ⇒ Discussed Hillcroft amendment on MTFP. Hearing on July 20, see page 6 for more information.
- ⇒ Section directors reported on issues and concerns
- ⇒ Discussed upcoming security events and crime in the neighborhood
- ⇒ Budget to date will be published in the Sept 2017 Crier.
- ⇒ The next WCC Board meeting is Wed., August 16 at 7PM

NEXT WCC Board Meeting Wed., August 16, 7PM Westbury Baptist



Join the 2018 WCC Board
Nomination Deadline is August 10. See page 1 for more information on joining this fun group of volunteers!

Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock
 Hours: Mon-Thurs 12PM—8PM; Fri 11AM-7PM
 Supervisor: Jayla Godbolt, 713-726-7107
 Email: Jayla.godbolt@houston.tx.gov

Meyer Neighborhood Library

5005 W. Bellfort
 Phone: 832-393-1840 /
 www.houstonlibrary.org

ALL REGULAR SCHEDULED PROGRAMS AT THE PLATOU CENTER ARE SUSPENDED FOR THE SUMMER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED BELOW.

ACTIVITIES WILL RESUME IN LATE AUGUST WHEN SCHOOL BEGINS AGAIN. STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFO IN FUTURE CRIERS.

The next Family Fun Day will be in September.

Look in the September Crier for a complete list of classes, activities, and events being held at the Platou Community Center

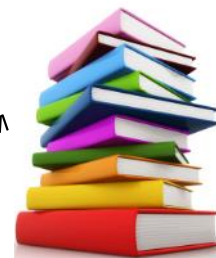
Family Fun Day will return in September.

See page 10 for information on future Platou programming and possible volunteer opportunities!



LIBRARY HOURS

Sunday- Closed
 Monday—11AM-6PM
 Tues. & Weds. 10AM-6PM
 Thursday 12PM-8PM
 Friday - 1PM-5PM
 Saturday - 10AM -5PM



AUGUST 2017 EVENTS

- Teen Craft**
Thursday, August 17, 6pm – 7pm
- Read With Paws-itive Pups**
Saturday, August 19, 10:30am – 11:30am
- Baby Playtime**
Tuesday, August 22, 10:30am – 11:15am
- Kids Craft**
Thursday, August 24, 3:30pm – 4:15pm
- LEGO Robotics**
Saturday, August 26, 10:30am – 11:30am
- Para Los Niños**
Tuesday, August 29, 4pm – 5pm
- Toddler Storytime**
Wednesday, August 30, 10:30am – 11:15am
- PreK Playtime**
Wednesday, August 30, 1:30pm – 2:15pm
- Pajama Storytime**
Thursday, August 31, 6:30pm – 7:15pm

STRETCHING EXERCISE CLASS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9-9:45AM
 Improve your flexibility by joining this non-strenuous exercise class. No registration required.
 Wear comfy clothes.



MOVED TO ST. THOMAS MORE SCOUT HOUSE FOR THE SUMMER, WILL RETURN TO PLATOU ONCE SCHOOL ON AUGUST 14

TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

A Weight Loss Support Group Tuesdays 5:45-7PM
 Drop in to preview or call Dorothy at 713-723-4441 or Naomi at 713-988-2233

NEW Adult Computer Class

Fifty Plus Computer Club
 Wed. August 9 & August 23, 4:30 – 5:30pm
 Sat. August 5 & Sat. August 19, 2 – 3pm
 Enhance your computer skills and learn how to operate in today's digital world.

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M-F 8-5 Thurs. 8-7 Sat. 10-4
 6 Months No Interest Financing

What's Happening in Westbury

Events/Meetings Calendar AUGUST 2017

August 7-11	WCC Office Closed	
Wed 9	Surviving an Active Shooter Meeting Westbury Baptist—10425 Hillcroft, RM C109 Speaker—Stephen Daniel, HPD See page 14 for more information	7-8:30PM
Thurs 10	Nomination Deadline for 2018 WCC Board See page 1 for more information	
Sat 12	WCG Fall Gardening Class S. Gessner HPD Station— 8605 Westplace See page 23 for more information	2-4PM
Wed 16	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Salem Lutheran Church—4930 W. Bellfort	8:30AM
Wed. 16	Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting Westbury Baptist Church—10425 Hillcroft	7PM
Thurs 17	WHS Back to School Bash Student Parking Area— Everyone Welcome See page 13 for more information	4-6PM
Sat. 19	Audubon Society Bird Survey Meet at the Gathering Place parking lot 5310 S. Willow—see page 20 for more information	7AM
Mon 20	Brays Bayou Association Meeting The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow	7:30PM
Tues 21	SW PIP (HPD Positive Interaction Program) Meeting Aramco Building—9009 W Loop South	7PM
Mon 28	First Day of School for HISD	

PLANNING CALENDAR

September 4 – Labor Day (WCC Office Closed)
September 27 – WCC Annual Meeting
October 3 – National Night Out
October 28– White Elephant Sale
October 28 – Invasive Fish Round Up

Heavy & Recycling Trash Calendar

August 2017		
Thurs 3	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS
Thurs 10	Heavy Trash– JUNK WASTE ALL OF WESTBURY	
Thurs 17	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS
Thurs 31	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS
September 2017		
Thurs 14	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS
Thurs 14	Heavy Trash- TREE WASTE ONLY ALL OF WESTBURY	
Thurs 28	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS

Important Trash & Recycling Info

- ♻️ Regular trash pickup is every Thursday. Recycling is every other Thursday. Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.
- ♻️ GLASS can be recycled at Westbury United Methodist, 5200 Willowbend in the orange bin.
- ♻️ 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 or www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information



Protecting Hillcroft as 4-Lane Road in Westbury

2017 MTFP Amendment

Since 2004 there have been several battles to protect and keep Hillcroft as a 4-lane road throughout Westbury, where Hillcroft is predominantly residential and where several hundred homes face the street and have driveways which connect to it. In the fall of 2016, more than 1,800 people signed a petition to keep a nearby residential section of Hillcroft as 4 lanes. Traffic studies indicate that Hillcroft does not need to have 6 lanes. Also, 6 lanes cause more noise, more traffic, more speeders, reduces greenspace, and has other negative aspects for the people who live and work nearby.

The reason that the topic of 4 versus 6 lanes keeps arising for Hillcroft is because the regional planning designation for future road projects lists Hillcroft as a P6 (6 lane) major thoroughfare. As a result, anytime a potential road project is considered for Hillcroft, then the starting design starts at 6 lanes.

Rather than fighting this battle over and over and over again, District K Councilman Larry Green had a better idea to proactively work to protect Hillcroft as a 4 lane road. Each January there is a process to propose changes (amendments) to the Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP) which lists Hillcroft as P6. CM Green and his Chief of Staff Donald Perkins initiated an amendment on behalf of the Westbury neighborhood proposing to change the designation for Hillcroft from P6 (6 lanes) to P4 (4 lanes). Although we could have submitted the amendment proposal ourselves, it is better to have the request submitted by a government agency.

The amendment proposal packages were first reviewed by the City Planning Department. Next, public comments were accepted at two Open House events, via online comments, and also at a Public Hearing held at the city Planning Commission on July 20. The Planning Commission will vote on August 17 and then its recommendations will be voted on by City Council.

Although we do not yet know whether the proposed amendment to change Hillcroft from P6 to P4 in the MTFP will be approved, we want to thank the many people who have supported and assisted in this effort to designate Hillcroft as a 4 lane road, now and in the future. THANK YOU for your help!

* CM Larry Green and Chief of Staff Donald Perkins –prepared and submitted the Hillcroft amendment

* Letters of support were written by the Westbury Civic Club and by 5 of our partners: Westbury Area Improvement Corporation, Westbury Super Neighborhood, Brays Oaks Management District, SWHouston2000, and Neighborhoods To Trails-SouthWest.

* 190 people submitted online comments in SUPPORT of the proposed amendment for Hillcroft. No other item on the agenda had this many people submitting online comments! A total of 395 comments were submitted for the 15 streets, so almost half of the comments were about Hillcroft!

* 4 people attended the July 20 Public Hearing to SUPPORT: Cindy Chapman (spoke), Bruce Krewinghaus (spoke), Virginia Livingston, and Beatrice Foots.



Left to Right: Virginia Livingston, Beatrice Foots, Bruce Krewinghaus, Cindy Chapman, and Donald Perkins



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Westbury City Pool Summer 2017 Schedule

June 5– August 13: Pool OPEN Normal Summer Hours Tuesday—Sunday 1-8PM; Closed Monday

August 14 - September 4: Pool open on Saturday and Sunday only, 1-8PM

September 4 (Labor Day): Last day for the pool to be open! 1-6PM

Questions? Call pool at 713-723-2192

Address: 10605 Mullins (near Parker Elem.)

Local Art Camp Run by Longtime Westbury Resident

If you are looking for a fun day camp for kids, entering 1st through 5th grades, Gerry and Greta's Art Camp Adventure might be the place! Gerry Melot is an artist who began teaching senior adults at the JCC over 20 years ago. She evolved to working at the JCC Art Camp for many years. She has lived in Westbury for 33 years. Greta has been a teacher for over 25 years and the kids' love her! Gerry and Greta began their Art Camp in 2009. The camp is very involved and the kids get one on one time and learn many techniques. This summer the main theme is Online Inspired Art. Each week has a theme and the kids come home at the end of the week with over 10 different amazing projects! Themes ranged from Pokemon Go to Twitter to Netflix.



Check out their website for more information.

<http://www.artcampadventures.com/>

July 31– August 4: Download (Children's books, music, and games) What do Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Picasso, and Mario all have in common? They all inspire creative ideas for this week's projects.



August 7–August 11: Artist Apps (Famous Artist and styles)

There are thousands of artists represented online and this week we will make art based on some of history's best.



METRO's Student Summer of Fun Pass is still good through Sept. 1. This pass offers K-12 students the opportunity to travel anywhere METRO goes...any time...any day...

FREE! Free travel is from June 1 to September 1.

After September 1, 2017, the Summer of Fun Pass automatically converts to your discounted METRO Student Q® Fare card which is coded with a 50 percent student discount. When you reload your card with money, you will automatically get half off the full fare, which means more savings for you!

For more information, <http://www.ridemetro.org/Pages/SummerFunPass.aspx> You can apply online, by mail, or in person. You will need either: a current school ID, or a report card, or a class schedule.

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Final Construction Phase of Willow Waterhole Detention Basins

The Harris County Flood Control District has begun the final phase of construction to complete the Willow Waterhole Stormwater Detention Basin. On May 23, 2017, Harris County Commissioners Court awarded an approximately \$11.7 million construction contract to low bidder Serco Construction Group LTD for this final phase of the basin project. Work on this phase began in June 2017 and is expected to be completed in August 2018.

The current construction project will involve expanding and deepening Compartments 1 and 6 of the basin (the two compartments north of South Willow Drive) by excavating more than 50,000 cubic yards of material; constructing inflow/outflow weirs to connect those compartments to the bayou; installing larger box culverts; adding two road crossings under South Willow Drive to interconnect various compartments; realigning and installing 7,750 square yards of concrete channel lining along the bayou; and adding a control structure.

For Westbury this work is ongoing on the Willow Waterhole Bayou behind the homes on Gaymoor and Kingfisher and along the pipeline easement that runs between Spellman and Kingfisher. The concrete *control structures* being added will help direct the flow of stormwater from the Willow Waterhole Bayou into the basin so that it functions most efficiently.

Construction equipment will access the work area via South Willow Drive as well as along the easements in Westbury where the work is being done beginning at the Chimney Rock and W. Bellfort intersection. The contractor will use heavy construction equipment such as dump trucks, backhoes and bulldozers. Motorists are urged to be alert to truck traffic when passing near construction access points. The project will require temporary closures and detours and other changes at the Chimney Rock and West Bellfort intersection, and along South Post Oak and South Willow Drive to allow for construction.

What is the Willow Waterhole basin?

The basin is part of the Brays Bayou Federal Flood Damage Reduction Project, known as Project Brays. Project Brays is a multi-year, \$480 million cooperative effort between the Flood Control District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Project Brays includes the widening of 21 miles of Brays Bayou from the Houston Ship Channel to Fondren Road and from West Houston Center Boulevard to State Highway 6; the replacement or modification of 32 bridges to accommodate channel modifications; and excavation of four stormwater detention basins that will hold a collective 3.5 billion gallons of stormwater. Project Brays information can be found at www.projectbrays.org.

The Willow Waterhole basin has been designed by the Flood Control District to enhance the environment. The compartments retain a permanent pool of water year-round and have been planted with thousands of wetlands plants to improve stormwater quality. The Flood Control District also has planted thousands of trees and native plants, which support the Flood Control District mission while also providing additional habitat for birds and other wildlife.

Construction on the Willow Waterhole basin originally began in 2004 on what are now 292 acres near South Main Street/U.S. 90A and South Post Oak Road. The basin is located on Willow Waterhole Bayou, a channel formally identified as

HCFCFD Unit D112-00-00. The basin's interconnected set of six compartments, when complete, will hold approximately 1,865 acre-feet, or nearly 608 million gallons, of stormwater that might otherwise flood homes and businesses. The basin site has already become a popular community asset, hosting numerous public concerts and events, and with park features, trails and a pavilion sponsored by other governmental entities and community organizations.

For more information on the Willow Waterhole Stormwater Detention Basin project, please visit www.projectbrays.org. To ask a question or comment on the project, please call Harris County Flood Control District's Project and Study Information Line at 713-684-4040 or the Project Brays Information Hotline at 713-316-4820.



Compartments 1 & 6 (pictured above) during April 2016 Floods were full and temporary weir worked to help water get out of the bayou. . Additional water will flow to other compartments once final work is complete. Bottom photo shows other compartment not full during the April 2016 Floods.





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Continuing to Fight to Get Additional Detention to Reduce Flooding

The City of Houston has received about \$80 million to address “unmet needs” due to two flooding events in 2015 which caused flooding in southwest Houston, including in Westbury. When \$80 million is available for spending, the competition is fierce to get some of those funds!

The Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) created an Infrastructure Committee in 2016 and hired an engineering firm to study the problem of flooding and to identify solutions which would reduce flooding. The study proposed that adding NEW detention in the general area near Fondren would reduce risk of structural flooding in Westbury, Meyerland, and other areas in the Brays Bayou and Willow Waterhole Bayou watersheds. A study by a second engineering company confirmed that the proposed new detention would reduce risk of flooding and would also remove several hundred homes from the 100-year flood risk zone.

Westbury and other community partners in southwest Houston attended hearings and sent letters in 2016 requesting the proposed new detention. In July of 2017, we and our community partners sent a second round of advocacy letters beseeching the city to add new detention to reduce risk of flooding. CM Larry Green has also been fighting very hard to try to bring these funds intended for “unmet needs” to reduce risk of future flooding. Our stance is that most of the flooding in 2015 happened in southwest Houston, so we believe that some of the funds should be spent to benefit residents of southwest Houston.

Commercial News

Last month we reported that a Trader Joe’s grocery store was a possibility for the vacant “Westbury Centerette” property near Chimney Rock and West Bellfort. We believe that there is strong community interest in a Trader Joe’s grocery store and Trader Joe’s is looking for new Houston locations, so recruiting efforts continue. However, according to website Loopnet.com, the plan for a new development called “Westbury Crossroads” indicates an Aldi grocery store is interested in the site. The grocery store will face West Bellfort. Additionally, the site plan shows a 3500 sq. ft. pad facing Chimney Rock is available as a ground lease for a second retail operation.

Some history: Aldi and Trader Joe’s are related companies. Their parent companies are based in Germany, although they now are operated as separate companies. Aldi Sud (South) came to the US in 1976 and operates as Aldi grocery stores. Aldi Nord (North) came into the US in 1979 and operates in the US as Trader Joe’s.

There is a new Aldi grocery store at Beechnut and Bissonnet if you want to check out the store. One thing you will notice is that a shopping cart requires a 25 cent deposit, which is returned when the cart is returned. Hopefully this practice will keep the carts in their parking lot and not spread throughout the neighborhood, as we see at other stores. Also, Aldi encourages the use of re-usable shopping bags. It is ecologically friendly.

Any store will only be as good as we DEMAND it to be. If this store comes, we will work diligently with their management to make it the best Aldi in town! The WCC still believes the Trader Joe’s would be a great fit for our community.

For Lease



If you would like a Trader Joe’s in Westbury, please request a store in 77035/77096 specifically at the corner of W. Bellfort and Chimney Rock. Go to www.traderjoes.com/contact-us/location-request



DON'T MAKE A MOVE WITHOUT SUSAN BROCK

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**Platou Community Center:
Possibilities, Volunteers,
and Ideas Needed**

The Platou Community Community Center is a valuable amenity and asset for the Westbury Community. It is well-utilized during the summer by a Children's Summer Enrichment program; however, the Friends of Chimney Rock Park/Platou Center are asking for YOUR ideas and YOUR help so that this amenity is used for maximum benefit for our community. Starting in the fall, afternoon slots will be newly available for use, and these hours might be perfect for youth groups! Other slots are also available on the calendar. Please email thoughts and ideas to the jayla.godbolt@houstontx.gov (supervisor) or Hazel Potvin, hazelnut856@yahoo.com.

Platou Background

The City of Houston Platou Community Center is located in the heart of Westbury at 11655 Chimney Rock, near the US Post Office. It is surrounded by Chimney Rock Park and occupies a former Water Department building, which was converted into an activity center in 1978. It has one large meeting room, a small classroom, the supervisor's office, handicapped restrooms, and regular restrooms. An adequate parking area in the park has several handicapped parking spaces. The supervisor is Jayla Godbolt. The center is named after Liev and Betty Platou. Both had been active volunteers in the Westbury community for decades.

Platou's Benefit to Westbury Area

The Platou Community Center is a good place for meetings and classes. During the summer, there is a popular Children's Enrichment program. After the summer ends, then the public can use the building for FREE during regular weekday hours (Noon to 8 PM, or by special permission in the mornings). The usual model is for a group with a special interest to form, request a date and time on the schedule with Jayla Godbolt, and then begin to meet. Scheduled classes are publicized in

the monthly Westbury Crier. All classes offered are open to the public and free.

Programs

Every summer, Platou Community Center serves our neighborhood with a Summer Enrichment Program. Fifty children ages 6 to 13 are enrolled in the Summer Enrichment Program under the direction of Supervisor Jayla Godbolt. This program runs five days a week from 8 AM to 6 PM until Friday, August 11. In the past, an AfterSchool Program was offered. Unfortunately, starting this fall, the Parks Department plans to drop the After School Enrichment Program at Platou, due to lack of use by families. Only two students have attended this year. Children will probably go to another park such as Godwin, where there is a sizeable After School Program.

On Monday, August 14, the adult programs will resume. Existing adult programs include Senior Stretching, Line Dancing, Quilting, Games, Table Tennis, and TOPS (weight management). All are volunteer-led, except the Line Dancing program is taught by the city. The current programs do not fill the time available to the public at the center. Now that the city will no longer offer afterschool classes at Platou Center, the afternoon hours are newly available for special interest groups. The afternoon hours might be perfect for youth groups such as Scouts who are looking for a place to meet or do activities!

Possible New Groups or Classes for Platou?

Here are some possible ideas of activities or groups which might be interested in using the Platou Center. Knitting, drawing, games, crafts, pottery (a working kiln is available), yoga, talks on special topics, classes on computer use, genealogy, chess, Country Western dancing, ballroom dancing, etc. A Girl Scout troop meets at the center during the school year. Other troops could meet. Special classes could be given. Short term classes are fine.

The key is volunteers. Most gatherings or groups at Platou are formed and led by volunteers. If a fee is charged for a class, then the class leader must pay a fee to the city for use of the building and the supervisor/city must approve in advance. There have had many volunteer-led groups, such as Greeting Card Making and Jewelry Making, where a fee was charged for materials, but the class was free. Another group that met regularly was Portable Projects which was a knitting and crocheting group. We have had a pottery classes and a drawing class. We have had a few computer classes through the outreach of the Houston Public Library. The goal is to have many activities and groups using the facility, so that the Westbury community receives the maximum benefit from this city amenity.

Friends of Chimney Rock Park.

Friends of Chimney Rock Park are volunteers who work hard to make the Platou Center and the park a wonderful amenity for our community. The eight people in this group are involved in programs at Platou such as quilting, line dancing, stretching, and the games group. The Friends advocate with the Parks Department and the Westbury community for the park and for Platou Community Center. They have been on hand when volunteer groups come to do community service in the park and they often personally take care of many needs that they see need doing. They have planted wildflowers, collected litter, and organized activities to make the park more inviting to the community.

We urge you to think about what you would like and what would help you at Platou Community Center in the coming year. We are going to keep pushing and asking to increase the use of the center. Please help. Please email thoughts and ideas to the supervisor at jayla.godbolt@houstontx.gov or to Hazel Potvin, hazelnut856@yahoo.com.

<p>Water Heaters: Regular & Tankless</p> <p>Disposals</p> <p>Water Lines</p> <p>Gas Lines</p> <p>Drain Cleaning</p> <p>Under Slab Repairs</p> <p>Re-route kitchen & laundry pipes</p>	<p>ASTRO PLUMBING</p> <p>Full Service Plumbing and Repair Specialist</p> <p>713-256-0017</p> <p>JOHNNY LEWIS</p> <p>WESTBURY RESIDENT</p>	<p>New Sewer Lines</p> <p>Hydrostatic Testing</p> <p>Remodeling & Repairs</p> <p>Sinks</p> <p>Faucets</p> <p>New Drains under Bathroom</p>
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Parker Elementary Construction Update

It is so exciting to drive by Parker Elementary and finally see brick going up on the walls.



The plan is for a temporary occupancy permit in November 2017 to allow furniture installation and limited adult occupancy. Movers are scheduled for December 2017, with early staging of music equipment and instruments by parents in late December. The move should be complete by January 6.



Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting

September 27, 6-9PM

Westbury Baptist Church Game Room

2018 WCC Board Elections, Door Prizes, Speakers and More!

We hope to see you there!

More details in the September *Crier*.

National Night Out October 3

Start planning your parties now! National Night Out is a great event designed to celebrate neighbors & security. We encourage you to organize a block party to get to know your neighbors.



Register your party with the WCC Office by Sept. 15 to be entered in a drawing to win a WCC Pizza Party during your event. We will also arrange for HPD, WAP Constables, or the WCC Board to visit your party.

Westbury Fall White Elephant Sale

Saturday, October 28, 8AM-Noon

Westbury United Methodist Church Parking lot

Rain Date: November 4.

Booths on sale for individual Westbury residents on Sept. 19.

Booths on sale for non-residents and groups on October 5.

More information in the September *Westbury Crier*.

Trick or Tree Event

October 28, 8AM-10AM at White Elephant Sale

See September *Crier* for more information



In-home repairs
Lessons



Office Space for Lease

Westbury Square Professional
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5322 W. Bellfort

Medical space and office space available. Great, well-maintained building in the middle of Westbury!

Owned by local resident!

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leasing information

Westbury High School Library Wish List

Can you imagine a school without a library or a librarian? Well that is what Westbury High School has endured for several years. WHS is pleased to announce that a new librarian has been hired who is anxious to bringing the library back to its former glory. One wish received!

The new librarian is Monica Babaian. She has been with HISD since 2012 as a Librarian/Technologist. She is a 2002 graduate of the University of Houston with a Masters in Library Science from University of North Texas. With certifications in programming, web development and Java Script she appears to definitely be a 21st century librarian. She brings to Westbury her commitment to HISD's College and Career Ready program. Mrs. B has been married for 17 years and has two children. When she is not in the library or improving her coding skills, she can be found in the natatorium with her kids, who swim year round. Let's show WHS and Mrs. B some love and order something from her wish list.



There is a Westbury Library Wish list on Amazon, showing the names of various books that would be great additions to the library catalogue. The following link is the site address for this list. https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/2DFXIPSY917G2/ref=cm_sw_em_r_g_wb

Thank you for any assistance you can give the WHS Library.

WHS Construction

Westbury High School current construction is continuing at a good pace. This construction is replacing 32 temporary buildings that had been added to the campus over the years plus a new entrance. Drive by and take a look!

Stay tuned to future Criars for more info.



Fine Arts Wing for Westbury High School

HISD School board president and our trustee for District XI Wanda Adams reported in April the good news that Westbury High School had been allocated an additional \$9.5 million for the new Fine Arts wing. Trustee Adams was instrumental in having the Fine Arts Program reinstated at Westbury. However at the PAT meeting in May, the construction services team knew nothing of this new development. We reached out to Trustee Adams and are happy to include an email she forwarded to us from HISD Officer of Construction Services, Derrick Sanders:

"President Adams, it has been brought to my attention that at the recent Westbury PAT meeting the program management firm overseeing the construction project relayed to the community they did not know of any extra funds allocated to the Westbury project. I understand this created panic and upset a number of people in your community and for that I want to apologize. Anyone that I send out to represent Construction Services should be properly informed in order to communicate with their respective communities about the status of their projects. I just want to state for the record that as a result of the Board approved realignment of funds, Westbury did received additional funds. The board approved an additional 6 million dollars be added to their budget and approved the remaining projected surplus of 3.5 million dollars stay in their budget (in lieu of being swept) for a total of 9.5 million available to incorporate a new Fine Arts wing. Again, I apologize for the confusion and as a result, for the next meeting I will make sure that a HISD employee is present at the next PAT meeting to answer any questions that the community may have."



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Westbury High School Presents

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

August 17, 4-6PM

Student Parking Area on Gasmer
at Westbury High School
EVERYONE IS INVITED

FREE Food

Bouncy Houses

DUNK TANK!

Test your skill on a principal

Prizes

Student Organizations

PTO Opportunities

Community Partners



Mayor's 7th Annual Back 2 School Fest Saturday, August 12

FREE: Backpacks, School Supplies, Immunizations, Vision Screenings, Dental Screenings, Other Free Services
Due to limited supplies, this event is open only to **pre-registered students** in grades K-5 who reside in the City of Houston and qualify for free or reduced cost lunch. To Pre-register, please call: 713-837-0311 or visit <http://www.houstontx.gov/btsf/registermystudent.html>

DISTRICT K - Back to School Event August 12, 10:30AM-3PM

Marian Park Community Center, 11000 S Gessner
City of Houston City Council District K is co-hosting a Back-to-School Community event on Saturday, August 12.



School Starts in August

Most schools in Westbury start in August. Some private school start in mid-August and HISD starts on Monday, August 28. Make sure to follow all school zone signs and lights. The Constables and HPD will be patrolling the school zones.

No cellphone use in school zones.



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PARKWEST - \$320's
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PARKWEST - \$370's
11002 Ashcroft 4/2.5/2 + Mid Century Modern



WILLOW MEADOWS - \$390's
10322 Willowisp 3/2/2 + Updated + Granite Counters + Hardwoods



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Crime & Security

Westbury Constable Calls July 2017

Type	Count
Accidents	1
Alarm local	15
Alarm/Rep.	5
Animal	9
Assault	1
Burglary/Habitat	4
Burglary/Motor Vehicle	7
Contract Check	307
Discharge firearm	1
Dist/Family	3
Disturbance/Loud noise	1
Dist./other	2
Follow Up	3
Incident report	1
Information call	10
Meet the Citizen	23
Meet the officer	3
Neighborhood Check	1
Open Door/Window	2
Property found lost	3
Robbery/Aggravated	0
Stranded motor vehicle	1
Suspicious person	18
Theft/Other	2
Theft/Residence	1
Traffic hazard	1
Traffic stop	14
Vacation watch	76
Vehicle abandoned	4
Vehicle speeding	1
Vehicle stickered	1
Vehicle suspicious	23
Vehicle Stolen	0
Welfare check	4
Total	549

30 Day Crime Statistics for Westbury SuperNeighborhood June 15-July 15, 2017

	Commercial Property	Apartments	Public Areas	Westbury Homes	TOTAL
Theft <i>(Misc., Other, US Mail)</i>	7	1	0	4	12
Theft—BMV <i>(Burglary of items in Motor vehicle BMV)</i>	3	6	0	6	15
Auto Theft	0	2	0	2	4
Breaking & Entering <i>(Burglary of Habitation or Building)</i>	0	1	0	4	5
Robbery	0	0	1	0	1
Aggravated Assault w/ Deadly Weapon	0	3	0	1	4
Sexual Assault	0	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	10	14	1	17	42

Data from www.crimereports.com. This pulls crimes reported to HPD. Searched 30 Day period in Westbury neighborhoods. The WCC office is still working on getting complete up to date crime statistics for Westbury.

Crimes at Westbury Homes by Block Number June 15-July 15, 2017

Block #	Street	Crime
12400	Ashcroft	Theft—BMV
11100	Burdine	Breaking & Entering (Home)
5800	Burlinghall	Theft—BMV
5700	Capello	Breaking & Entering (Home)
10600	Doud	Theft—BMV
5900	Effingham	Theft—US Mail
6000	Etrick	Breaking & Entering (Home)
11900	Hillcroft	Theft—Other
5800	Ludington	Theft—BMV
10800	Moonlight	Theft—Other
11600	Mullins	Theft—BMV
12300	Rampart	Theft—Misc.
12400	Renwick	Attempted Auto Theft
5800	W. Airport	Auto Theft (Car)
5500	Willowbend	Agg. Assault w/ Deadly Weapon
6000	Willowbend	Theft—BMV



Don't forget Vacation Watch!

For residents who pay the WAP patrol dues, a special Vacation Watch may be requested from Pct 5. The form is available online. www.constablepct5.com/vacation-watch/ If you do not have access to a computer or internet, please call 281-463-6666 for assistance.

STAY SAFE WESTBURY!

The Westbury Civic Club is proud to announce Part 2 in a Home, Property & Personal Security Series for Westbury/Parkwest Residents.

SURVIVING AN ACTIVE SHOOTER DEFENSE TRAINING

Wednesday, August 9, 7-8:30 PM

Westbury Baptist Church, RM C109

Stephen Daniel, Senior Community Liaison, Houston Police Department, will provide empowering training to teach you to know what to expect and what to do to increase your odds of survival, should you find yourself in the face of an Active Shooter. Included topics: Active Shooter Profile, Police Response, "Run, Hide, Fight", Priority of Life Scale and Developing your own Survival Mind Set. Films will be presented. For ages High School & Up.

Westbury Area Patrol
281-463-6666
Westbury HPD
Storefront
832-394-7520
HPD Non-Emergency
713-884-3131

Ending Debtor's Prison: Bail Bond Reform

Recently elected Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg will be speaking on the topic of Bail Bond Reform at Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church on Sunday, August 27 at 4PM

Bail bond reform is sorely needed because people with money have a completely different experience than people who have no money. If two people are arrested for a similar misdemeanor crime, the individual with money will have a much more positive outcome than the individual who has no money to hire a lawyer and pay bail.

The person with no money will have possibly disastrous consequences because:

- ⇒ Poor people do not have the money to hire an attorney to represent them in their pretrial meeting with a judge. People with money hire an attorney to represent them with a more positive result.
- ⇒ Penniless people will be sent to jail if bail is required. Sometimes they are in jail for months before their trial, not due to anything related to their case.
- ⇒ People sent to jail to wait for their trial are likely to lose their job, their car, their housing, and possibly their children and their health.
- ⇒ Due to the fear of losing their children and their jobs, many poor women declare themselves guilty even if they are innocent. This means they get to go home to their children until their trial. If they go to jail, will their children end up in CPS?

This system creates a debtor's prison where people are imprisoned because they are poor. None of these people have been found guilty of anything. This unjust system has recently been declared unconstitutional in a federal court.

Keeping people in jail who are not dangerous and have not been judged guilty is not only unjust, it is also expensive for taxpayers. To learn more about how our bail bond system works, to ask questions, to hear recommendations for how the system should change, come to Salem on August 27, at 4PM, to hear District Attorney Kim Ogg's views on this topic.

This event is free. To attend the dinner following the presentation (\$5 suggested donation), please RSVP to office@salemhouston.org or call 713-723-3509. Salem Evangelical Lutheran is located at 4930 W. Bellfort. For more information call Sharon Kovar at the church office at 713-723-3509.

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Panhandlers and Crime at SPO at W. Bellfort

District K Councilmember Larry Green and his staff organized a meeting on July 20 to discuss the Greater South Post Oak Civility Ordinance and the current status of panhandlers and crime with neighborhood and police representatives. The area of focus was the intersection of SPO and West Bellfort. Three different policing organizations sent high level representatives.

- ⇒ Houston Police Department: Asst. Chief Wendy Bainbridge, Captain Brenda Null, Lt. Julie Manfre, and Officer Rossan Smart
- ⇒ Precinct 7 Harris County Constables: Lt. Davis and Lt. Anil Sharma
- ⇒ METRO Police Department: Chief Vera Bumpers and Captain Carl Clark

HPD has been in the education phase, but is now in enforcement phase. The Greater SPO Civility Ordinance is a tool, but for permanent solutions HPD needs details (like Videos or License plates of vehicles involved with crimes) to help them build the legal case for the more serious crimes that are causing concerns.

If someone seems intoxicated on alcohol or drugs at the intersection, call the HPD non-emergency line.

METRO – For problems at the bus stops at this intersection, call 713.615.4000 for the Non-Emergency Dispatcher. Or there is an App called MPDConnect.



Local police agencies meeting with neighborhood representatives in July about S. Post Oak and W. Bellfort intersection

Westbury Area Patrol 281-463-6666
Westbury HPD Storefront 832-394-7520
HPD Non-Emergency 713-884-3131


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Westbury Area News

Emergency Registry (2-1-1 Registry)

The State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) is a FREE registry that provides local emergency planners and emergency responders with additional information on the needs of residents in their community. Registering yourself in the STEAR Registry at 2-1-1 DOES NOT guarantee that you will receive a specific service during an emergency; however, you are more likely to receive services if you're registered. It also provides responders with info so that they can reach out to you after events.

⇒ **Who Should Register?** People with Disabilities. People with access and functional needs such as: People who have limited mobility, People who have communication barriers, People who require transportation assistance, People who require personal care assistance.

⇒ **How do you register?** Call 2-1-1 and let them know that you want to register for STEAR. Registration is VOLUNTARY. Required information is: Name, address, phone number, and primary language. Additional questions include: Emergency contact information, caregiver information, pets, transportation assistance for home evacuation, communication barriers, Disability or Functional or Medical Needs.

⇒ **How long will my information be kept?** Your information will be kept for 1 year. You should re-register after that time period.

⇒ **What if I move or do not need assistance?** Contact 2-1-1

⇒ **Will I be evacuated during an emergency such as a hurricane?** No. Each local government uses the information in different ways.

Remodeling your home? Adding On? Do you know your deed restrictions? Did you know that the Westbury Civic Club can look over your proposed plans for free before you start construction? We want to avoid deed restriction violations before they happen. Did you know that Westbury 2, Westbury 3, and Westbury 5 have a 25 foot rear setback for the main structure? Did you know that there is a minimum percentage of brick that must be on your home? Did you know that you can't build in front of your building line? We want to help you! We want you to find out about possible violations before it costs you money and time. Several homeowners in the past couple years have had to tear down and/or modify their construction due to deed restriction violations. **The City of Houston does not review deed restrictions when issuing permits.** They require a signed affidavit acknowledging that the plans comply with your deed restrictions. This holds YOU, the homeowner, accountable for knowing and complying with your deed restrictions. We are here to help you. All deed restrictions are available online at www.westburycrier.com. If you have any questions, contact the WCC Office at 713-723-5437 or westburyc@sbcbglobal.net.

Links for Lost & Found Pets

☑ Nextdoor Westbury -

www.nextdoor.com

☑ Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook

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



Westbury 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 3, 6PM

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

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2017 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 2017 Mandatory Assessments is \$233.50. The 2017 Assessments are due by February 1, 2017.

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

Mission of the WCC

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

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

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

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

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

Please send this form in with your payment

2017 Westbury Civic Club Dues

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

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

**Make checks payable to:
 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**

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

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

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

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

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



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EMAIL: TheMercerTeam@yahoo.com

www.larrymercerteam.com

On July 25, 2013 all of Westbury was brought into the single stream recycling plan. Four years into the program, are you recycling correctly?

What Items go in my recycling trash can?

Newspapers, Magazines, Catalogs, Phone Books, Cardboard (flattened), Aluminum and Tin cans (rinsed & drained), Plastic Containers #1-5 and #7 (rinsed & drained)



What Items CANNOT go in my recycling trash can?

Plastic bags, trash bags, items with food on it such as pizza boxes or paper plates, styrofoam packaging, grass clippings or tree branches. Motor oil cannot be placed inside cart. The City will pick up motor oil in a closed screw-top container when properly placed beside can.

Where can I store my recycling trash can? Out of sight! City of Houston ordinance states that all trash cans must be out of public view. This means you cannot put the trash can in front of your garage or house or on your porch. The cans must be in the backyard, in the garage or placed behind something that blocks it such as plants or a trellis. Check out the 2017 Hidden Trash Can Contest to the right.

When can I put my recycling trash can out? Recycling trash cans can be placed on the curb starting at 6PM every other Wednesday. Pickup for all of Westbury is every other Thursday. Trash cans must be removed by 10PM on Thursday.

Where on the curb do I place my trash cans?

The green recycling trash can must be placed at least 3 ft. away from the regular black trash can. If your cans are placed directly next to one another the trucks CANNOT pick them up with their robotic claw.



TRASH CAN PLACEMENT EXAMPLES



RECYCLE OFTEN.
RECYCLE RIGHT.

Hidden Trash Can Contest

Send us a picture of your "hidden" trash can solution to enter our contest. Tell us a little bit about your design and an estimated cost to build it. Be sure to include your address and a way to contact you. Cash prizes will be awarded at the Annual Meeting in September in several categories from elaborate to simple, and from innovative to functional. First place is \$100! The plan is to judge them in August, so get your entry in.

You can't win if you don't enter! Send your entries to the Westbury Civic Club office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net with a subject line of "Trash Can Contest" by 11 PM on August 25, 2017. If you don't have access to email, then mail us 5322 W. Bellfort Suite 101 or drop it through our office mail slot.

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Audubon Society Bird Survey

Saturday July 15 , 7AM, Meet at the Gathering Place

The Willow Waterhole Bird Survey was started in June 2007 and is held on the third Saturday of each month (no survey in December). During the 2-hour count, the number of species identified can range from around 30 in summer to over 50 in the winter.

The survey begins in the parking lot of the Gathering Place at 5310 South Willow Drive.



Great Day Houston and www.visitHouston.com hosted the "Pack Your Bag" Challenge at the Willow Waterhole again this year. Dozens of people showed up to participate in the fun.

Thank you Great Day Houston and visitHouston.com!!



Brays Bayou Association Meeting Notice

Monday, August 20, 7:30PM

The Gathering Place
5310 South Willow

The Brays Bayou Association's purpose is to help reduce flooding in the Brays Bayou watershed. Westbury is located within the Brays watershed. The BBA was formed after rains flooded over 1,800 homes in 1983. The rain in 1983 was NOT a hurricane. The BBA holds monthly meetings with a range of speakers to keep the neighborhood informed of drainage/flooding concerns in our area.



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For the location nearest you, visit memorialhermann.org/schedulenow



ADVANCING HEALTH

Keep Westbury Beautiful

The WCC office, as well as board members, has been receiving calls and emails about trashy conditions around Westbury. Each one of you can help. First, keep your property tidy; yard mowed; bushes trimmed; house repairs made and trash cans stored out of view.

What can you do about a house and yard that is unkempt?

For grass over 9 inches; trash visibly stored on driveways, along the side of the house; or junk vehicles: **call 311**. The more 311 complaints that are phoned in, the more inspectors will be assigned to our area. If you know the resident, there may be other ways to handle the situation. Is your neighbor elderly, ill or just plain overwhelmed with life in general? Maybe they just need a helping hand. I know many a helpful neighbor has mowed many a neighbor's yard! Do your neighbor's trash cans sit for weeks without being emptied? Offer to push theirs out when you take yours out. This is why knowing your neighbor is so important. Host a National Night Out party on your block in October and get acquainted.

What can be done about cars parked in the street?

Talk to your neighbor about your concerns. Call the Pct. 5 Westbury Area Patrol and have them look at the situation.

Why is there litter on our esplanades/ medians? What can be done?

The City of Houston mows our esplanades and de-litters before they mow. However, they only mow every two to three weeks, so a lot of litter can accumulate from the uncaring slob who throw out their trash for someone else to pick up. Westbury has many walkers and several pick up trash along their routes. One such walker is Westbury 1 resident, Steve Goldberg who walks and picks up trash in his section. Esther Bender does the same trash collection in Westbury South. The Greenspace team members care for the esplanade tips and all the sign gardens.

Would you like to combine your daily exercise with making Westbury a little cleaner?

A proposal has been made to create an **esplanade brigade** with a team of people who would walk together in teams of at least two and clean up the esplanades in Westbury (Hillcroft, Willowbend, Chimney Rock, West Airport, West Bellfort). If walking while improving your neighborhood and building new friendships sounds like something you would be interested in doing, please contact Steve Goldberg at sgoldberg124@comcast.net.

Of course, anyone can pick up litter anytime they see it. You don't need to be part of an organized effort to do your part. Just imagine if everyone picked up a piece of trash every day, what a difference that would make.

Why do we need clean esplanades?

Neat and clean entrances to our neighborhood create a sense of pride. Visitors to Westbury and the surrounding areas will see the medians and create a "first impression" of the area. People are less likely to litter in clean areas. Keeping the esplanades clean enhances Westbury's positive image. Think property values.

Help Keep Westbury Beautiful!



Trash in the esplanade on Willowbend

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Westbury Yard of the Month

If you would like to nominate a home for Yard of the Month, please email the address to Robert Montgomery at rmontgomery002@comcast.net. If you are interested in becoming a Yard of the Month judge, please contact Robert Montgomery or the WCC Office.



July Yard of the Month

Westbury 1

5242 Hummingbird—Westbury Resident

Westbury 2

5502 Creekbend—Paige Wermuth & Dan Berry

Westbury 5

5531 Sanford—Mark Faulk

Parkwest 1

5630 Hummingbird—Eawat Amish

Parkwest 2

5703 Sanford—Eugenia Mauer

Parkwest 3

5919 Arboles—Rodney Berger

Summer Yard Care

Summer is upon us and our grass is really growing. Let's talk mowing.

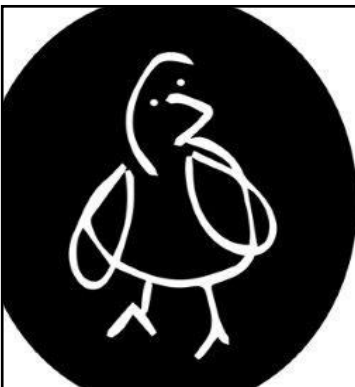
Sweep or Blow? We receive regular complaints about lawn services blowing yard clippings into the street. Where do they end up? In our storm sewers. If you employ a lawn service, please tell them DO NOT BLOW YOUR CLIPPINGS into the street.

How tall should your grass be? Grass over 9 inches is in violation of city ordinance and should be reported to 311. Remember to increase the height setting on your lawn mower as the summer days get hotter lawns should not be cut too short.

Can I park on my grass? It is a violation of city ordinance to park any vehicle on the front or side yard of a residential property in Westbury.

Pocket Prairie at Westbury Community Garden

Enjoy at walk at the "pocket prairie" at the Westbury Community Garden where liatris, passion vine, and other native flowers are in bloom attracting butterflies and dragonflies. The 2-acre "pocket prairie" is visible from the Greencraig and Dunlap sides of the garden site.



Are you looking for a reliable dog walker or pet sitter for while you are at work or on vacation??

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Westbury Community Garden News

Fall Gardening Class – August 12, 2-4PM

*Learn great gardening tips for the Fall!
See below for more information.*



Fall Gardening Class: August 12, 2-4PM

Sponsored by Westbury Community Garden

**Class Location: S. Gessner Police Station Meeting Room,
8605 Westplace at S. Gessner**

This great class on Saturday, August 12, from 2-4PM, will be a great opportunity for beginning gardener and experienced gardener alike. Gardening experts **Ray Sher** and **Gary Edmondson** will cover the basics of gardening and tricks to great production. **RSVP if you want to attend.**

You will learn about best tasting and most productive veggie varieties to grow, fertilization, composting, pest management, watering techniques, weed control, and more. There will be a lot of time for questions. Experienced Westbury Community Gardeners will share their knowledge and wisdom to help make you a better gardener.

Seating is limited. RSVP- <http://westburycommunitygarden.org/?event=2017-fall-gardening-class>

Meet the Fall Gardening Class Instructors

Gary Edmondson is a long time organic gardener. Early on at Urban Harvest, he was the Community Garden Director for 12 years and helped develop many community gardens throughout the Houston area.

Following that, he was the Urban Harvest Education Director where he developed and taught many organic gardening classes, as well as designed and implemented an education program that included over 100 classes per year. He teaches numerous organic gardening classes including Growing Organic Vegetables, an in-depth 5 month gardening class. He also was one of the trainers for Plant It Forward Farms farmers.



Ray Sher is also a long time organic gardener, who has regularly taught gardening and permaculture classes for over 30 years. Ray established the Urban Harvest fruit tree sale, and was the coordinator of the sale for many years. He helped start Plant It Forward Farms and taught the farmers organic farming techniques for four years. Ray was one of the founders and designers of the Westbury Community Garden.

WHERE IS THE GARDEN?

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

JOIN the garden TODAY at
www.westburycommunitygarden.org



3D ZIKA DEFENSE

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM ZIKA WITH THE 3 Ds.



DRAIN

- > Once a week, empty items that hold water such as flower pots, toys, trash or old tires.
- > Keep your yard trimmed and tidy.
- > Help your neighbors drain standing water.



DRESS

- > As weather permits, dress in long pants and long sleeve shirts.
- > Make sure doors and window screens are in good repair.
- > Use air conditioning when available.



DEET

- > Spray insect repellent with DEET on exposed skin.
- > Follow label instructions; reapply as needed.
- > Use a mosquito net to protect babies in a stroller or car seat.

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