



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 65, ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2020

## 2021 WCC Board Nominations August 13 Deadline



Elections for the 2021 WCC Board of Directors will be conducted on September 16 at the Annual Meeting. **All nominations must be received before 4PM on the second Thursday of August, which is August 13, 2020, the deadline specified in our bylaws.** Come join a great group of volunteers who strive to keep our neighborhood a great place to call home! The board does this in many ways from flood advocacy, esplanade beautification, park workdays, security enforcement of deed restrictions and much more!

Please express your interest in running for the board of the Westbury Civic Club by letter or by email. If you send email, please use subject line of "WCC 2021 Elections".

Email: westburycc@sbcglobal.net. Mail: 5322 W Bellfort, Suite 100, Houston TX, 77035. Call 713-723-5437 if you have any questions.

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

## HISD to Start School Year Virtually

On July 15, HISD made their much anticipated announcement about the 2020-2021 school year. All HISD students will start the school year virtually on September 8. In person learning will not start until October 19 at the earliest. When in-person learning begins, parents will still have a virtual option if they wish to keep their children at home. Schools are continuing to update and change their policies. Follow the HISD blog at [www.blogs.houstonisd.org](http://www.blogs.houstonisd.org) for updates and news. For more information about schools, see page 21.

## HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE.

*Are you prepared?*

Stay up to date by signing up for mobile alerts.

*City of Houston Alerts*

*Flood Gage Warnings*

*Power Outages*

Check out pages 12 & 13 for how to sign up for alerts, flood insurance information, weather sources for Houston.

## COVID-19 Cases Increasing in Houston

Cases of COVID-19 have been rapidly increasing in Houston. Almost 30,000 new cases have been reported since the last *Crier!* It is important to follow local orders and advice from trusted sources such as the Texas Medical Center (TMC). The TMC publishes updated data and charts everyday with number of cases, tests performed, hospital occupancy and more. Visit their website at [www.tmc.edu/coronavirus-updates/](http://www.tmc.edu/coronavirus-updates/) We all need to do our part to slow the spread.

TX Governor Abbott issued a mandatory mask order for the State of Texas due to the high spread of COVID-19 throughout the entire state.

See page 10 for helpful information about masks, testing, resources and more.

## Confirmed LOCAL Cases of COVID-19

(data from [publichealthharriscountytexas.gov](http://publichealthharriscountytexas.gov))

	77035	77096	Houston
4/23/20	54	59	2,975
5/21/20	108	85	6,188
6/24/20	334	183	16,253
7/27/20	748	492	45,145

## HEAVY TRASH

**August 2020**

Thurs., August 13\*

**JUNK WASTE**

**September 2020**

Thursday, Sept. 10\*

**TREE WASTE ONLY**

\*The City of Houston is running approximately 1-2 weeks behind schedule. See page 16 for trash update.

## RECYCLING

**September 2020**

Thursday, September 10

Thursday, September 24

**August 2020**

Thursday, August 13

Thursday, August 27

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## Support the WCC Today!

Westbury is a unique neighborhood. The WCC heavily relies on voluntary financial contributions from residents. (Only 463 homes out of 5,000 have mandatory assessments.) Westbury has historically had strong voluntary support because residents understood the great benefits of the WCC and our programs. However, contributions are lagging behind this year. COVID-19 presents a financial challenge to many families. Thank you to those that have paid their 2020 Dues. If you have not paid yet or would like to make an additional donation, the dues form is on page 7. You can now easily pay online at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com).

*Westbury is Wonderful*

# IMPORTANT CONTACTS

## WCC OFFICE

5322 W. Bellfort #100, Houston, TX 77035  
Jennifer Edmondson.....WCC Office Manager  
*NOTARY SERVICES are NOT available at this time.*

**\*\*\*The office is CLOSED to the public. NO visitors.**

## CONTACT US

WCC Office Telephone.....713-723-5437  
WCC Office Email.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net  
Deed Restrictions.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net  
WCC President.....wccpresident@westburycrier.com

**Visit our website at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)**  
**“Like” us on Facebook at Westbury Houston**

## SECURITY

**Pct. 5 Constables (WAP).....281-463-6666**  
*Report property crimes, suspicious activity, and vacation watch*  
Emergency.....911  
Houston Police Dept. Non-Emergency..... 713-884-3131  
Southwest HPD Station .....832-394-0400

## CITY OF HOUSTON

District K CM, Martha Castex-Tatum.....832-393-3016  
District C Council Member, Abbie Kamin.....832-393-3004  
Deed Restriction Enforcement (City Legal).....832-393-6333  
Platou Community Center.....713-726-7107  
Mayor’s Citizen Assistance Office.....832-393-0955  
**Houston Help & Information.....311**  
*For missed garbage pickup, water line breaks, potholes  
sewer repairs, dead animals, traffic signals, heavy trash  
violations, neighborhood nuisances, and other city services*

## CENTERPOINT ENERGY

Electric outage.....713-207-2222  
Suspected natural gas leak.....713-659-2111  
Street light repairs.....713-207-2222  
*Make sure to give pole number*

## OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

County Commissioner Rodney Ellis.....713-755-6111  
Graffiti.....www.braysoaksmid.org  
Shopping Cart Removal.....www.braysoaksmid.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

# 2020 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Contact the Westbury Civic Club at 713-723-5437 or  
[westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net).

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

President.....Cindy Chapman  
*wccpresident@westburycrier.com*  
Vice President.....Marcia Hartman  
Secretary.....Katherine Wingfield  
Treasurer.....Becky Edmondson

## DIRECTORS AT LARGE

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

## SECTION DIRECTORS

Westbury 1.....Franny Oxford  
Westbury 2.....Lindsey Pollock  
Westbury 3.....Jeff Benavides  
**Westbury 3.....VACANT**  
Westbury 4.....Eugene Sirls  
**Westbury 4.....VACANT**  
Westbury 5.....Virginia Livingston  
Westbury 5.....Donna Strom  
Westbury South.....Brandon Richard  
Parkwest 1..... Angie Furnari  
Parkwest 2.....Jeffrey Weiss  
Parkwest 3.....Lisa Placke

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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



Westbury Civic Club , Inc.

## *A Message from the Westbury Civic Club President*

Normally in my August message, I would express my wishes that everyone had a great summer and remind folks that school will be starting in a few weeks.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has brought big changes to our lives. Schools, teachers, and families are trying to figure out which solutions will work best for them during COVID-19. Some schools, including HISD schools, are delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. Other schools will start in August. Some students will be studying at home instead of at school. Please remember to respect school zones and be on the watch for students who may be studying at home or traveling to or from school.

The work on the Hillcroft bridge over Brays Bayou is ongoing. The Hillcroft bridge is closed, traffic detoured and both sides of Braeswood limited to one lane traffic through the area. This project is part of Project Brays and consists of elevating the bridge higher and modifying the intersections. Work started in July and should last 3 months. Anticipate traffic delays, but know the delay of school due to COVID-19 may reduce the traffic problems.

COVID-19 is also impacting Solid Waste trash collection. As of July 10, the department has been impacted by more than 600 workdays (not hours, but DAYS) due to COVID-19. Also, it seems that more

heavy trash is being generated due to more people being at home more hours. Heavy trash collection has been running a week or two behind schedule. Please be patient and understanding.

Nominations are currently being accepted for 2021 Westbury Civic Club Board. Elections are held at the September Annual Meeting and elections. Nominations are due no later than 4PM on the second Thursday of August (August 13, 2020) per the WCC by-laws. See page 1 for more information. WCC board meetings are currently being conducted online via a Zoom meeting. We are not sure at this time how COVID-19 restrictions will affect our Annual Meeting in September. We will have more details available in the September newsletter.

The WCC office continues to operate, but the office is closed to the public due to COVID-19 concerns. Please continue to contact the WCC Office by email (preferred) or by voicemail. As a reminder, the WCC Office should always be the first point of contact if you have questions or problems. This is important so that the WCC office has records which can be searched about issues or specific addresses. Certainly, feel free to send a copy of your email to the WCC Office to me at my WCC President email address, so that I am aware of your concerns or problems, but be aware, sending an email only to me personally will create a delay.

During the July WCC Board meeting, Sgt. Derkowski, from the Precinct 5 Constables, discussed that in June there was an abnormally high problem with items being stolen from vehicles and sometimes damage occurred to the vehicle during the thefts. Sgt. Derkowski requested that Precinct 5 activate additional patrols for our Westbury area, which was approved and enacted. As a result, some criminals were arrested and the number of burglaries of motor vehicles has dropped dramatically! Westbury pays for a certain number of Precinct 5 Constable patrol officers, and the additional services by the specialized task force were provided at no extra cost. In my opinion, this is a perfect example of why the Precinct 5 Constable Program is such an important and valuable service for our Westbury community. During these unsettling days of COVID-19, it is more important than ever that we feel safe in our own homes. The Precinct 5 Constable program is the most expensive program paid for by the Westbury Civic Club. If you have not yet contributed funds, please do so. If you have already contributed funds, please consider sending an extra payment. Information about sending a payment is on page 7.

Please continue the safe practices of social distancing, wearing masks and frequently washing your hands. Ideally, we will beat COVID-19 following the health guidelines together!

Stay safe and healthy.

Cindy Chapman

### **WCC Board Notes - July 2020**

- ➔ The July Westbury Civic Club board meeting was held via Zoom.
- ➔ Sgt. Derkowski provided an update about the numerous car burglaries.. Precinct 5 set up a Task Force for additional night patrols in Westbury, leading to several arrests. The extra manpower working this task force was 111 hours.
- ➔ WCC has engaged a CPA to perform financial audit and file taxes
- ➔ HCFCD Updates—Hillcroft bridge closed due to bridge elevation. Work has begun on new detention near S Willow at SPO. Westbury lots recently purchased by HCFCD along Willow Water-hole Bayou will be mowed monthly, starting in August.
- ➔ WCC board approved a motion to adopt a Non-Discrimination Policy: "The Westbury Civic Club does not and shall not discriminate based on race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations."
- ➔ WCC approved the following motion regarding the new large traffic sign on Hillcroft— Motion to send a letter to the City of Houston and District K asking that the new sign on Hillcroft be moved to a more appropriate location and ask for more information and a speaker regarding the purpose of the sign.

I ❤️ Westbury

**"COME" TO  
THE NEXT**

*WCC Board Meeting  
August 19, 2020, 7PM*

**Streamed LIVE on  
Westbury Houston Facebook**



# Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

11655 Chimney Rock Rd  
713-726-7107 \* [platou@houston.tx.gov](mailto:platou@houston.tx.gov)



## Westbury Pool

**→ NOT opening for 2020 Season**  
The City of Houston announced that the City public pools and splashpads would NOT be opening in 2020 due to COVID-19.

- **Weekly Classes/Groups CANCELLED**
- **Playground, Swings & Basketball courts CLOSED**

The Platou Center is a location for Free Lunches for Children. Children must be in the car in order to receive lunch. Food will be placed in trunks. Drive thru only. 25 lunches available at each Community Center in the City of Houston.

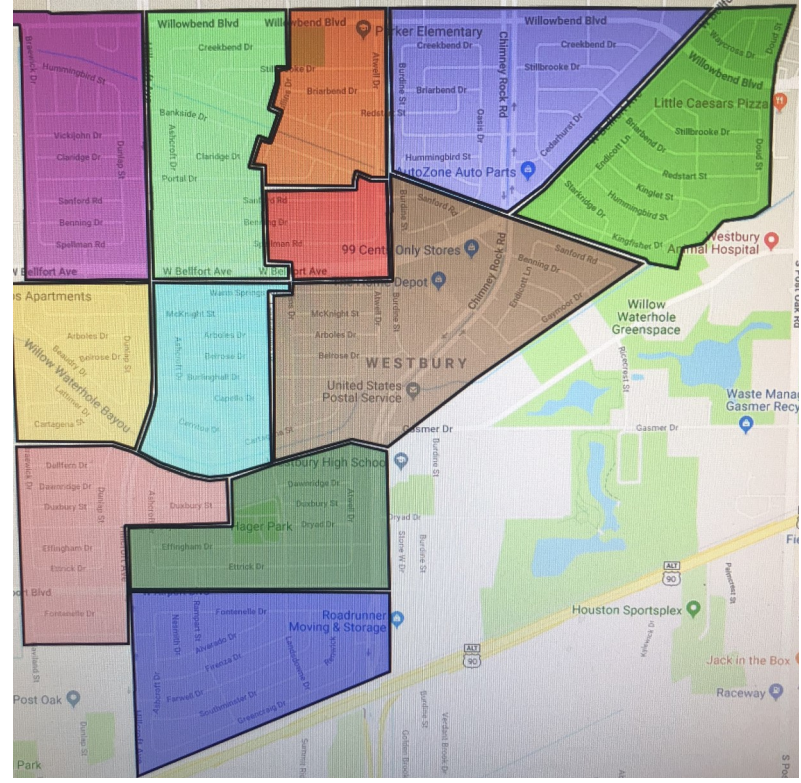
All activities, groups, and classes are cancelled at the Platou Center. The playground and basketballs courts are CLOSED in accordance to the Stay Home, Work Safe order. Please do not use the equipment.



## Meyer Library News

**→ Meyer Library on W. Belfort CLOSED Indefinitely; Replacement will be in Westbury**  
City Council approved the appropriation of funds authorizing BRAVE Architecture Inc. to perform design and construction phase services for the new Houston Public Library at 5505 Belrose in Westbury (Nov 2019). The new location will be at the site of the old Post Office in Westbury. Stay tuned to future editions of the *Westbury Crier* for more information about the new library. We expect public meetings to be held in 2020.

## Map of Westbury by Section



Westbury is the 2nd largest neighborhood in the City of Houston with 5,000 homes. One reason Westbury has remained such a viable and desirable neighborhood is because of the very active Westbury Civic Club. The WCC has been advocating and working hard for the neighborhood for over 60 years. We often refer to different sections when talking about current or upcoming city projects, crime, or events. This handy map can also be found on our website, [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com).

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

## Why hire one agent when you can have your own team?



Learn more at [www.pfrteam.com](http://www.pfrteam.com),  
or call us at (832) 297-9038.

**Licensed Realtors Angela Furnari & Lonnie Parker**  
Over 15 Yrs Combined Experience - Westbury Residents 10 Yrs



**CHAMPIONS RE GROUP** Parker Family Realty Team is a TREC registered team of the Champions RE Group brokerage, supervised by Brokers Adriana & Ignacio Osorio.



## August 2020 Calendar Events/Meetings

Thurs 13	Deadline for 2021 WCC Board Nominations See page 1 for more information	
Sat 15	Audubon Society Bird Survey	To Be Determined
Mon 17	Brays Bayou Association Meeting	To Be Determined
Wed 19	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Zoom Meeting—Live Stream on WAIC Houston Facebook	
Wed 19	WCC Board Meeting—via Zoom Live Stream on Westbury Houston Facebook	7PM
Tues	SW PIP Meeting	To Be Determined

## All About Trash

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



### Regular Household Trash

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

### Yard Waste

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



### Recycling in Westbury

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

<b>August 2020</b>	<b>September 2020</b>
Thursday, August 13	Thursday, September 10
Thursday, August 27	Thursday, September 24

## ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS

Hurricane Season is here.  
Keep Storm Drains Clear of Debris.  
Have Your Trees Trimmed Now!  
Get Flood Insurance TODAY!

## Heavy Trash Schedule

All of Westbury is on the same schedule for Heavy Trash. Pick-up is on the 2nd Thursday of every month. Odd months are TREE WASTE ONLY and even months are JUNK WASTE months.

<b>August 2020</b>	<b>September 2020</b>
<b>JUNK WASTE</b>	<b>TREE WASTE ONLY</b>
Thursday, August 13	Thursday, September 10

## PLANNING CALENDAR

September 7—Labor Day Holiday  
September 8—1st Day of HISD School\*  
September 16—WCC Annual Meeting & WCC Board Elections  
October 19—HISD returns in-person\*\*

\*HISD announced that all HISD students will start the school year VIRTUALLY on September 8, which is 2 weeks later than initial schedule.

\*\*HISD announced that in-person learning will start on October 19 at the earliest. This date is subject to change.

## Important Trash & Recycling Info

- 🗑️ Regular trash pickup is every Thursday.
- ♻️ Recycling is every other Thursday.
- 🗑️ Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.
- 🗑️ Yard waste is picked up on Saturdays.
- ♻️ Westbury is on Recycle Schedule A
- 🗑️ NO Plastic Bags in green recycling bins
- 🗑️ Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM each Thursday
- 🗑️ Trash cans must be removed by 10PM each Thursday
- 🗑️ Trash cans must be placed at least 3 feet apart
- 🗑️ Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- 🗑️ Yard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags with City logo
- 📞 Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- 🗑️ 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



## New Principal for Elrod Elementary

Michael Hutchins has been selected as the new principal of Elrod Elementary School. He has served as assistant principal for the last five years with HISD – two years at the middle school level, and three years at the elementary level. During his years as a teacher, Hutchins was nominated as Teacher of the Year and HAABSE (Houston Area Alliance of Black School Educators) Teacher of the Year. Hutchins received his bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice from Texas Southern University and went on to receive his Master of Education Administration from Texas Southern University.

The past principal, Ms. Curry, has been promoted within HISD. In her farewell email, she noted "It has been an honor to serve as your Principal for the last 5 years. Thank you for entrusting me with your students. We have made significant progress academically and our students have grown. We moved to an "A" Rating with 4 Distinctions this past school year."

Congratulations to Ms. Curry on her promotion and welcome to Mr. Hutchins. Some homes in Westbury 5 are zoned to Elrod, which has the only HISD elementary school magnet program focused on Medical Scholars (doctors, nurses, scientists).



## Why Pay your Westbury Civic Club Dues?

The Westbury Civic Club (WCC) works on: reducing neighborhood blight, enforcing deed restrictions, improving economic development, and advocating for our fair share of the City's budget. We hold two semi-annual White Elephant Sales and host neighborhood events such as Keep Westbury Beautiful Day. We publish the award-winning Westbury Crier monthly. The WCC has one employee who works closely with our City Council Office and city departments to ensure timely responses to residents' complaints, like Solid Waste problems. We also continue to work diligently with the City and the County to find real solutions to flooding along Willow Waterhole Bayou. The WCC is a strong advocate for the City to continue on schedule with storm drain reconstruction projects in Westbury with ReBuild Houston. This project was to start in 2020 but was delayed due to Harvey. **Please pay your Westbury Civic Club dues of \$50.**

## Why Support the Westbury Area Patrol?

The largest program and biggest expenditure for the WCC is for the Westbury Area Patrol (WAP). The WCC has had a contract with Harris County Precinct 5 deputies since 1984. The WAP offers 24 hour coverage, vacation watches, home security checks, and alarm monitoring. The program provides high visibility, rapid response to emergency and non-emergency calls. Daily patrolling enables the deputies assigned to Westbury to become familiar with the neighborhood, thereby alerting them to "out of the ordinary" situations and ability to respond better and faster. WAP officers were instrumental in catching young criminals in Westbury South who were attacking and robbing elderly residents last year. Harris County Pct. 5 has a dedicated investigative unit that can be available if needed. The WCC has had to lower the number of deputies from 4 to 3 in 2019, and we could be in danger of losing the program if participation in this important program does not improve. Crime is increasing in Houston during this Covid-19 time, it is imperative that we keep our Constable patrol strong and active. **Please support the Westbury Area Patrol, \$285.**

# Virtual and in-person DOCTOR APPOINTMENTS

## We're still here for you

Even during these challenging times, Houston Methodist doctor offices are open and seeing patients who need our care. Though your appointment may not look like a typical appointment, our providers may see you via video visit, telephone or in person, when needed. Rest assured, we are taking every precaution to ensure we can safely see you and meet all your health care needs.

HOUSTON  
**Methodist**  
LEADING MEDICINE

[houstonmethodist.org/hereforyou](https://houstonmethodist.org/hereforyou)  
713.790.3333





# Why Support the WCC?

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

Westbury has historically had strong voluntary support because residents understood the great benefits of the WCC and our programs. However, contributions to the Westbury Civic Club and to the Westbury Area Patrol were down in 2019. By working together, we can meet the challenges head on and keep our neighborhood the jewel that it is.

The total amount for the **2020 Voluntary Dues is \$335**. That is less than a dollar a day! The Westbury Civic Club dues are \$50 for the year. The WCC suggests a contribution of \$285 for the Westbury Area Patrol (a paid contract with Precinct 5 Constables).

Read more about why you should support the WCC and the Westbury Area Patrol to the left.

## Why are Westbury Dues Mailed to a Dallas Address?

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

# **NEW** Pay your 2020 dues ONLINE at [westburycrier.com](http://westburycrier.com)

The WCC website has been improved so that you can now pay either by PayPal or by credit card directly from our website. If you have already paid, please consider sending an additional contribution for the WAP Constable Patrol. If you have been intending to pay, now is the perfect time to make a payment. The full recommended payment for the Constable Patrol program is \$285.

**Go to [westburycrier.com](http://westburycrier.com) then to the Dues and Assessments page.**

The available payment options on the selection menu are:

- ➔ WCC Dues — \$50
- ➔ WCC Constable — \$285
- ➔ WCC Dues + Constable— \$50 + \$285 = \$335
- ➔ Additional Donation of \$100 or more

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

If you want to pay an amount different than the options in the Shopping Cart on the WCC website, you can send a check to the address indicated on the Dues form below or you can use your PayPal account to send the amount you want by sending the money to our email address of [westburyc@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:westburyc@sbcbglobal.net). The WCC board continues to look at other ways to make paying the dues easier and more convenient.

During this challenging period, we know that some will not be able to contribute the amount you would like to pay for the Westbury Constable program. If you have the ability to send a payment, please help your friends and neighbors who may not be able to pay, so that the important service provided by the Westbury Constable program is able to continue. We would not ask unless it was important.

**Please help us keep our Westbury Constable Program patrolling on our streets. Pay your 2020 dues online TODAY!**

Please send this form in with your payment

## 2020 Westbury Civic Club Dues

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

<b>Make checks payable to:</b> <b>Westbury Civic Club, Inc.</b>	<b>Westbury Civic Club Dues</b>	<b>\$50</b>	\$	
<b>Mail to:</b> P.O. Box 975182 Dallas, TX 75397-5182	<b>Westbury Area Patrol</b>	<b>\$285</b>	\$	
<b>Online payment:</b> <a href="http://www.westburycrier.com">www.westburycrier.com</a> <a href="http://www.paypal.com">www.paypal.com</a> to email <a href="mailto:westburyc@sbcbglobal.net">westburyc@sbcbglobal.net</a>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$335</b>	\$	
Make sure to include your address	<b>Additional Contributions:</b>			
	<b>Westbury Civic Club</b>		\$	
	<b>Westbury Area Patrol</b>		\$	
	<b>Total</b>		\$	

**Thank you for supporting the Westbury Civic Club and our important programs. We can't do it without you! To contact the WCC Office, call 713-723-5437 or email [westburyc@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:westburyc@sbcbglobal.net).**

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

## ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1 & 2

Homes purchased in Parkwest 1 after Jan. 1, 1993 and Parkwest 2 after Jan 1, 1994 have mandatory assessments. **The 2020 Mandatory Assessments of \$246.75 were due 2/1/2020. Invoices have been mailed out.**

Payment plans can be set up for homes that have a past due balance. Please contact the WCC Office at 713-723-5437.

The WCC does NOT receive payments from escrow accounts or any other source. If you receive a Mandatory Assessment bill, it was due by 2-1-2020.

An attorney will be contacted for accounts past due.

# 2020 Budget To Date

*\*as of July 30, 2020*

General Income	2020 Budget	Actual Thru June
Mandatory/Assessments	90,000	85,560
Voluntary Dues	50,000	23,030
Donations Civic Club	2,000	1,654
Westbury Area Patrol Voluntary (Restricted)	217,500	117,189
Refinancing Fees	3,000	3,750
Transfer Fees	30,000	16,975
Resale Certificates	1,000	100
Interest Income	500	1,240
<b>Total General Income</b>	<b>394,000</b>	<b>249,498</b>
<b>Program Expenses</b>		
Crier Printing & Expenses	46,650	19,976
Crier Advertising Fees	-37,500	-7,615
Community Garage Sale Expense	2,000	0
Community Garage Sale income	-2,000	0
Programs & Hospitality	500	48
Greenspace	12,000	0
Water, Plants, Supplies & Equipment	5,000	0
Harris County Constable Fees (3 deputies)	259,000	127,732
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>285,650</b>	<b>140,141</b>
<b>General Expenses</b>		
Books, Subscriptions, Dues	500	31
Postage, Mailing Service	3,000	235
Printing & Copying	2,500	0
Supplies	750	639
Training & Education	1,000	0
Contributions to Ext Orgs	0	0
Bank & Pay Pal Fees	5,500	3,280
Computer Expense	2,500	3,384
Insurance	7,000	0
Payroll Expenses	60,000	23,847
Contract Services - Accounting/Legal	7,200	5,687
Facilities and Equipment	18,150	9,246
Conferences & Meetings	250	0
<b>Total General Expenses</b>	<b>108,350</b>	<b>46,349</b>
<b>Total: Program + General Expenses</b>	<b>394,000</b>	<b>186,490</b>

The WCC projected 2020 total budget is \$394,000. The board approves the budget each November. This has been our normal annual income and expense for the last 5 years. Well, that was pre-COVID. We thank all those who have paid their dues and assessments, but we have only collected \$249,500 through June 30. In 2019 we had collected \$329,000 by the end of May. We know many of us are struggling financially and emotionally with COVID-19 and the restrictions it has put on our lives. We need to collect another \$145,000 in the next few months to cover the WAP program and other expenses through the end of the year.

We've tightened our belt in a few areas like Crier costs, greenspace costs, program costs, and payroll. The best way to contact the office is email, westburyc@sbcbglobal.net.

Our biggest and arguably the most important expense is the Westbury Area Patrol (WAP) security control contract with the Precinct 5 Constable office. WAP consists of three deputies, one of whom is a sergeant. We have coverage in the morning, afternoon and night shift. The WAP Patrol contract is \$259,000 annually.

The General Expense category includes all of the items that go into operating the Civic Club. Operating an office and staffing it albeit remotely right now, insurance, professional fees (financial reviews, legal expenses), doing projects and programs (on hold), and deed restriction enforcement are some of the expenses. Advertising in the monthly newsletter offsets its printing costs.



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## Vision Zero Seeks Input

We encourage Westbury residents to help identify dangerous intersections and problem areas in Westbury and in Houston using an interactive "Vision Zero" map. Do you have suggestions how to improve a crossing location to make it safer? Are you aware of a dangerous location? Report it!

What type of information is being sought?

- Identify streets and intersections which make you feel unsafe when driving, walking, using a wheelchair, or riding a bike.
- Answer the one-question prompt at that location, "what concerns you the most about traffic safety in this area?"
- You can even upload a photo and add comments! (Optional, but highly encouraged).

**What is "Vision Zero"?** Vision Zero is an international movement for safe streets. Houston is one of more than 45 Vision Zero cities in the United States. They believe that everyone deserves safe, accessible streets and sidewalks. Houston is committed to ending traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2030. 1100 people lost their lives in traffic deaths in Houston between 2014 to 2018.

"Achieving safe and accessible streets for everyone requires us to shift how we think about moving around our city. People deserve to be safe on our streets whether they are driving, walking, biking, using a wheelchair, or riding transit. While everyone should travel safely, people make mistakes and we can design our streets to be forgiving so that those mistakes do not result in fatal crashes. Our streets support our livelihoods and we must commit to making them safer for everyone."

Traffic Safety has long been a concern in Westbury, where traffic deaths have been occurring with some regularity. Thirteen people are known to have lost their lives on Westbury streets. West Belfort has had 7 fatalities; Hillcroft had four, and Chimney Rock had two. This is a great opportunity to report problems or make suggestions to improve Westbury streets! If you see that a problem has already been reported, it is okay and even encouraged to add your own thoughts and to confirm that you agree it is a problem location.

Website? Find the interactive map and more information at [www.houstontx.gov/visionzero](http://www.houstontx.gov/visionzero)

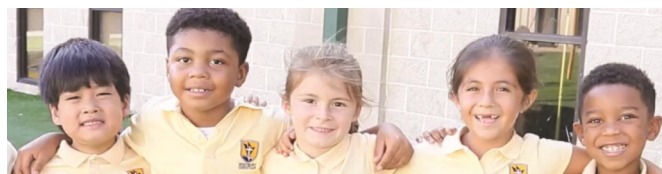
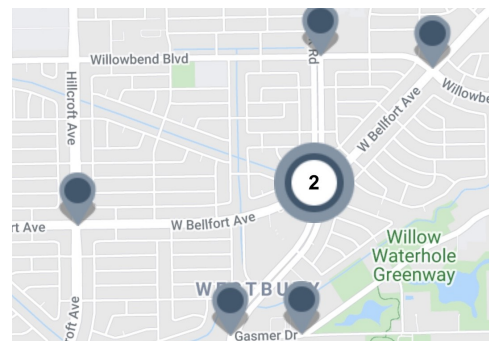


Feeling restless at home and wish you could safely visit some interesting spots around Houston? A new website was rolled out in July showing locations and information about hundreds of murals all over town. Use the map to find murals in the area you are interested in. If you click on the image of a mural, you will find additional details about that mural and artist. Information is being continually updated on the website.

<https://houstonymuralmap.com/>

This site is a crowd-sourced community resource, created by UP Art Studio, with website developer and photographer Alex Barber. Westbury residents might be familiar with the name UP Art Studio, since the Mini-Mural project was kicked off right here in Westbury, at the corner of Willowbend and West Belfort. The late District K Councilman Larry Green was passionate about bringing civic art to District K and sponsored the first Mini-Murals in Houston.

"This is the perfect time to discover the diversity of Houston's creative community and the growing number of murals and Mini-Murals, city-wide. Even better is that anyone can use this new digital map from the safety of home," said Theresa Escobedo of the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, City of Houston.



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713-551-8100 [westburychristian.org/admissions](http://westburychristian.org/admissions)

I ❤️ Westbury

THE PATH TO SUCCESS BEGINS *Here* 



# COVID-19 Information and Updates



## All About Face Coverings

There are many different types of face coverings or masks available. There are hospital grade N95, surgical masks, cloth masks, bandanas, and more. Where do you get them? Which provide the best protection without taking supplies away from first responders? What is the most comfortable? How many do I need?

Many grocery stores and gas stations are now carrying the basic surgical masks. They have been seen at Meyerland HEB. Retailers are starting to sell cloth masks, for example, Old Navy has adult and children sizes available. If you prefer local, check out Chic Tailor at Braeswood and Chimney Rock. There are several Westbury residents that are making masks as well, just ask your neighbors or check Facebook.

The best mask offering protection from COVID-19 is the N95, but authorities ask that those be reserved for first responders. So that leaves the surgical masks and cloth, either store bought or homemade. There are many debates around the effectiveness of these types. However, it is the belief of the CDC and the Texas Medical Center that they still help slow the spread, if we all wear them and do our part.

Cloth masks come in a variety of styles and layers. Look for masks that offer at least two layers of protection and preferably with a filter opening. Filters can be surgical masks or coffee filters, amongst other items. Elastic around the ears or tying around the back of the head are the most common types. Cloth masks should be washed regularly.

Consider having at least 3-5 masks per person in your household. More are likely needed as schools and businesses reopen, 2-3 daily depending on your level of exposure.

It is important to wear your mask properly. Make sure it fully covers your mouth and nose. There should not be big openings on the sides or bottom. Do not wear your mask on your chin.



## Playgrounds and Basketball Courts Still CLOSED

All the playgrounds, basketball courts, and swing sets are closed at all City and County parks. There are signs and caution tape at Westbury area playgrounds and swing sets. The City has removed the basketball goals at all the parks due to continued usage.

**Please stay off the park equipment.**



## Help for Homeowners during COVID-19

### Worried about Foreclosure?

Lone Star Legal Aid's "Foreclosure Prevention Project" helps individuals and families stay in their homes by fighting foreclosures. Foreclosures can occur for a range of reasons, including defaulting on a home loan, failing to pay property taxes, failing to pay homeowners association dues, failing to meet reverse mortgage requirements. Learn more at <https://lonestarlegal.blog/foreclosure-prevention-project/>

You can also apply for free legal help with fighting a foreclosure by calling 1-800-733-8394 or online at [www.lonestarlegal.org](http://www.lonestarlegal.org).

### Need Info about Mortgage Payment Relief?

Did you know that COVID-19 mortgage payment relief may be available for single-family homeowners? Learn more at <https://www.hud.gov/coronavirus/homeowners>

NOTE: If you can still make your mortgage payments, you should continue to do so.

### Worried about Eviction?

For additional resources on foreclosure, please visit our COVID-19 Evictions and Other Resources page <https://lonestarlegal.blog/covid-19-eviction-resources/>.



## How to Avoid Extra COVID-19 Testing Charges

Texans who want a test for COVID-19 can likely avoid unnecessary charges by taking a few steps first. If your doctor requests the COVID-19 test as medically necessary, you shouldn't be charged for it. That's federal law. To reduce your chances of facing extra costs:

- Call your primary care doctor before getting tested. Get your doctor's testing order and recommended testing site. The order makes the test possible at no cost to you.
- Ask the testing site if it has any charges or fees not covered by insurance.
- Do not authorize non-COVID tests at the same time unless your doctor orders them.
- Unless it's a medical emergency, avoid hospital or free-standing emergency rooms, which usually charge more.
- If you aren't paying with insurance, shop around on the web or by phone to compare testing charges and possible add-on fees.
- If you get a bill related to a COVID test, call your health plan to find out why. If you can't resolve the issue with your plan, call the TDI Help Line at 1-800-252-3439.

If you believe you have been excessively charged, call the Texas Office of the Attorney General at 1-800-621-0508. For more information on COVID testing in Texas, visit the Department of State Health Services website. For testing sites, including free sites, visit TX COVID-19 Test Collection Sites.



# All About Deed Restrictions & Nuisances

## Westbury is a Deed Restricted Neighborhood

ALL homes in Westbury have active deed restrictions. There are over 30 sets for the 9 sections and 5,000 homes in Westbury. Why do we have deed restrictions? To protect and maintain our neighborhood for the benefit of all residents. The City of Houston does not have any zoning or rules on where commercial business can be located. Deed restrictions help maintain our neighborhood as a neighborhood. All lots in Westbury must be residential usage.

When you bought your home, you should have received a copy of your deed restrictions. Certified copies of the deed restrictions can be obtained at the County Clerk office downtown for a fee. The WCC office has copies of the deed restrictions by section online at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com). You will need to know your legal address to know which set applies to you. An easy way to find your legal address is to look up your property on Harris County Appraisal District (HCAD) website, [www.hcad.org](http://www.hcad.org).

## Pet Safety & Nuisances

The WCC often receives complaints about barking dogs or dogs off leash. The complaints have increased since COVID-19 while more people are staying or working from home. Please be respectful of your neighbors. Be aware that many people are working from home and need quiet. Don't leave your dog outside to bark for hours. Don't let your dogs off leash as many more people are walking around the neighborhood. It is not only illegal but also very unsafe. Outside dogs must have access to water and shelter. It is extremely hot in August in Texas, make sure to be mindful of your pets.

Report Nuisances like long grass/weeds and visible trash directly to the City of Houston at 311. You can call 311 or email at [311@houston.tx.gov](mailto:311@houston.tx.gov).

### Sec. 6-4. - Running at large of domestic animals or fowl prohibited.

(a) The running at large of domestic animals or domestic fowl is hereby declared to be a nuisance. It is unlawful for an owner to permit any animal or fowl to run at large. Running at large or to run at large means an animal that is allowed to go on public or private property **without its owner or a person having direct physical control over the animal**; the terms include any animal that is staked, tied or hobbled in any manner as to allow the animal to access public streets or sidewalks. (Note – ok if the animal is at an off-leash site established for that purpose.)

### Sec. 30-3. - Noisy animals and birds.

The keeping of any animal or bird that causes or makes frequent or long and continued sound that unreasonably disturbs, injures, or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace, or safety of ordinary, reasonable persons of normal sensibilities and ordinary tastes, habits, and modes of living who reside in the vicinity thereof is hereby prohibited and declared to be unlawful regardless of whether the sound so created by said animal or bird is within the permissible levels specified in section 30-5 of this Code.

## Updating Westbury Deed Restrictions

### Deed Restriction Revision Action Group Formed

**UPDATE**—Thank you to all the residents who reached out about joining the Revision Action Group. The group will meet via Zoom in August to get started. Look in future *Criers* for more information.

Westbury's deed restrictions are old and need to be updated. While they are still active and still have validity, they are slowly losing their original meaning in today's legal climate. There are many reasons to update the deed restrictions. It is no longer 1958. How people live and use their homes is different in 2020. While it is nice that no one can hang a visible clothes line in their front yard, I am sure the residents of Westbury 5 East of Hillcroft would like the option to build a 2 story home. They are the ONLY section that cannot. With home elevations and new home construction on the rise, a better set of deed restrictions and guidelines are needed.

The Westbury Civic Club worked with residents in Parkwest 1 and 2 in the 1990s and successfully updated and modernized their deed restrictions with changes such as allowing two story homes, three car garages, and mandatory assessments. This process can be long and frustrating. Later deed restrictions revisions over the years have stalled, failed, and fizzled out.

It is time to seriously think of Westbury's future. 2020 is the time to move Westbury forward and update our aging deed restrictions. The first step is to get a group of active residents who are dedicated to seeing the process all the way through. This group will first meet to get their bearings, then start to break down the choices of how to tackle a massive deed restrictions revision for 5,000 homes. Even Parkwest 1 and 2 need to be updated, despite the changes made in the 90s. We will do surveys, in the *Crier* and online, and hold several public meetings to get feedback from residents.

### Garage Sales, Yard Sales, & Estate Sales are NOT Allowed in Westbury

#### Why are Garage Sales a Problem?

All sections of Westbury and Parkwest have deed restrictions that state "no noxious or offensive trade or activity shall be carried on upon any lot nor shall anything be done thereon which may be or become an annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood".

Garage, Estate, yard, moving sales and the like draw substantial traffic and contribute to: hindering the flow of traffic on major thoroughfares; impeding access to homes by emergency vehicles or residents due to parking congestion; parking violations on city streets or esplanades; parking violations from vehicles parked on front yards; and, parking violations from blocking public right-of-way on sidewalks.

Furthermore, advertising materials for Garage, Estate, yard, moving sales and the like contribute to: visual blight, trash along public streets, and violations of the city sign ordinance.

The Westbury Civic Club considers Garage, Estate, yard, moving sales and the like to be "an annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood".

**Copies of Deed Restrictions Available Online at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)**

## Weather Wary in Westbury

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



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

### Harris County Flood Warning System

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

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

### National Hurricane Center

[www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)

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

### Hype-free Weather Forecast

[www.spacecityweather.com](http://www.spacecityweather.com)

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

**Be Alert. Be Weather Smart.**

## Sign Up for Power Outage Alerts

A helpful alert service about Centerpoint power outages is Power Alert Service (PAS) which can notify you, friends and family of a power outage, its restoration progress, and when the electricity comes back on.

Thanks to upgrades, you can send alerts to up to five text, five emails and five phone numbers.

<https://www.centerpointenergy.com>

## Do You Have Flood Insurance?

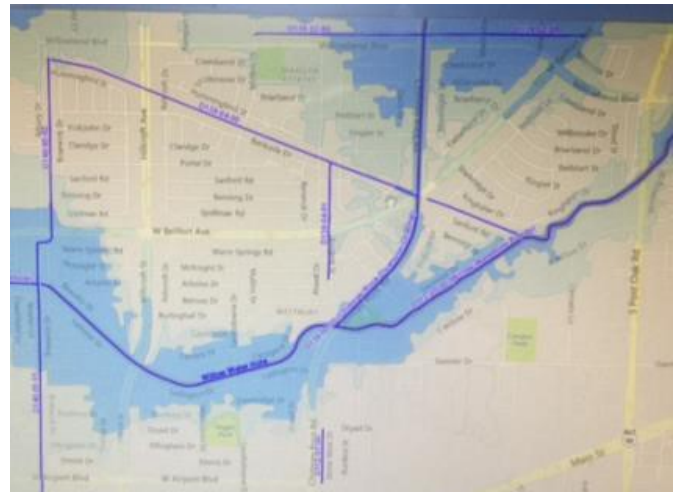
While the majority of Westbury is not in the 100 or 500 year flood plains, floods can happen anywhere given the right circumstances. Only 15% of the structures that flooded during Harvey had flood insurance. Did you know the record for rainfall in a 24 hour period is held in nearby Alvin, Texas? 44 inches! The good news is that if you are not in a flood plain, then you can buy peace of mind for just a few hundred dollars a year.

The Harris County Flood Control District advises that EVERY HOME in Harris County should have flood insurance, whether or not you live in a mapped flood plain. The current flood plain maps do not fully warn where flooding might occur. Homeowner's policies do not include flood coverage, and because no insurance company wanted to write an unprofitable line of business, the federal government stepped in. In 1968, Congress created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which offers flood insurance to homeowners, renters, and business owners.

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

If you don't have flood insurance, ask your insurance agent for a quote. Make sure that you check the coverages and understand EXACTLY what you are purchasing. If you don't have an insurance agent, then look for one online at the FEMA site. Put in your address and it will give you a local agent. <https://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart>

**PLEASE NOTE— You cannot purchase flood insurance when a named storm in the Gulf of Mexico. Once purchased, there is a 30 day waiting period before coverage takes effect.**



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



## Sign Up for Alerts from The City



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

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

More information is available at [www.houstonemergency.org/alerts/](http://www.houstonemergency.org/alerts/)

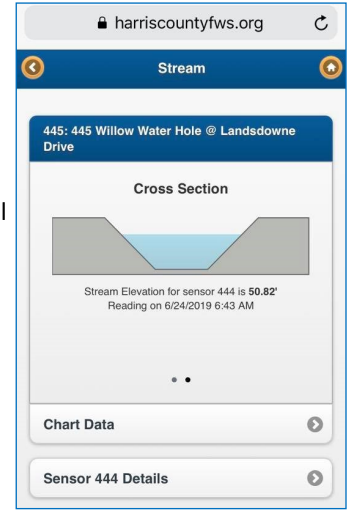
Register for emergency alerts through email, text message, voice call, or mobile app push notification. You may download the Everbridge app free of charge from the Apple or Android app store. Most alerts are geo-targeted; subscribers with loved ones around the city may register up to five physical addresses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

## Sign up for Flood Gage Warning Alerts

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

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

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



Alert received on June 24

### Willow Waterhole Bayou (WWB) Gages

- #445 – WWB at Landsdowne (Westbury)
- #435 – WWB at Willowbend

### Brays Bayou (BB) Gages

- #440 – BB at Rice Ave.
- #460 – BB at S. Gessner
- #465 – BB at Beltway 8



## When it Rains in Houston

If you would like to understand Houston's flooding problem, there is a 15 minute film produced back in 1979 that is as timely today as it was 41 years ago. The film is part of the Texas Archive of the Moving Image.



This film, narrated by actor Carle Bensen, presents Houstonians with a comprehensive look at their city's flood control infrastructure, put in place to deal with the heavy rains typical to the area. Due to natural factors such as a flat, low-lying topography and high clay content in the soil, as well as rapid urbanization, Houston has a history of flooding, and flood control projects, dating back as far as 1908. The film educates viewers about flood control systems in place, discussing strengths and weaknesses of the flood drain, storm sewer, bayou, channel, and pond system. It also recounts the physical and economic damage caused by flooding in the 1970s, the consequence of failure to continue to implement flood control improvements. In the end, the film is a plea to get back to the plan, urging the public to take action by voting on bond and tax allocations for drainage projects, and contacting their public officials to support the issues. Part of the TAMI library via the Patrick S. Coakley, Jr. Collection.

The film is available at [http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php?title=When\\_it\\_Rains&p=video1&b=0](http://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php?title=When_it_Rains&p=video1&b=0).

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YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD EXPERT

# NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO SELL

## Westbury/Parkwest Annual Report 2019 by the Numbers

Average List Price **\$303,591**  
Average Sale Price **\$279,174**  
Average Days on Market **97**  
Average Sale was **94.5%** of asking price  
**231** homes sold in 2019

### Current Numbers:

**91** active homes for sale (\$159,000 - \$550,000)  
**38** homes under contract (\$179,000-\$595,000)  
**107** homes sold in 2020  
**70 homes sold since pandemic began!**

### Susan Brock

Master Certified Negotiation Expert  
Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist  
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### Lyonel Anderson

REALTOR  
Director, S&E



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Disclaimer: If your property is currently listed with a real estate broker, please disregard. It is not our intention to solicit the offering of other real estate brokers. Listed by Brombacher & Co, CitySide EXP, Jerry Fullerton. 100% Sold by your neighborhood expert, Brock and Foster.



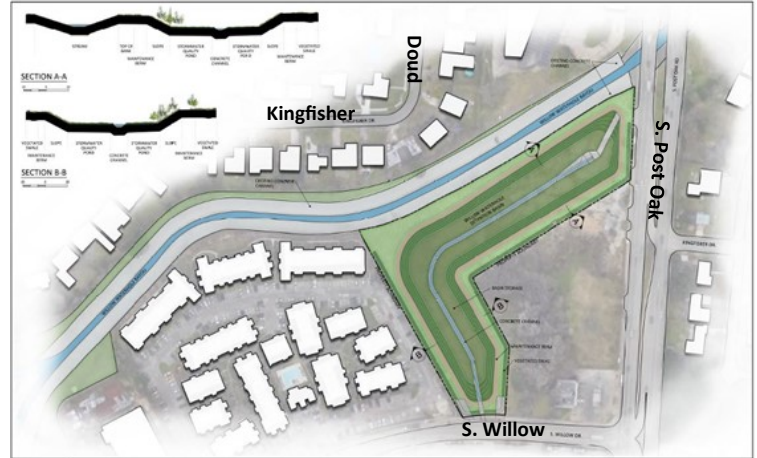
## NEW Stormwater Detention Basin Along Willow Waterhole Bayou

Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) is set to begin construction on a new stormwater detention basin located in the Westbury Super Neighborhood. The new basin is off the Willow Waterhole Bayou near S. Post Oak behind Westbury 1 homes. The purpose of the new basin is to reduce the risk of flooding in the vicinity of the basin. The project is expected to take three months to complete. The new basin will hold approximately 17.6 acre-feet (nearly 5.7 million gallons) of stormwater during heavy rain events. It is very close to the Willow Waterhole detention basins that were completed as part of Project Brays.

*"This is an exciting project! Anytime we have the ability to reduce the risk of flooding of homes and businesses, we are improving the quality of life for our residents. This area*

*deserves the relief this project will provide after repeatedly flooding over the past several years. The construction of this detention basin is a testament of the power of partnerships and community engagement,"* said City of Houston Vice Mayor Pro-Tem Martha Castex-Tatum. The Westbury Civic Club was the first to raise concern over a potential plan to densely fill the property right up to the current bayou. HCFCD raised concerns about easements and access. The proposed residential development did not receive needed variances. HCFCD and the City worked together with the owner of the property to purchase it for flood control.

*"After years of historic flooding, Harris County is on the path to providing equitable flood protection, which will help keep families out of harm's way during the next flood. The need is particularly felt along Brays Bayou, where more homes flooded than in any other corridor in Harris County during Harvey,"* said Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis. *"Moving forward with projects like Willow Water Hole Bayou will provide meaningful, long-overdue improvements that will give families along Brays Bayou peace of mind."*



### HCFCD To Start Mowing Their Property in Westbury

As we have mentioned before, the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) has purchased several Westbury single-family residential properties which have flooded in the past. All of these purchased properties are located immediately next to the Willow Waterhole Bayou. HCFCD has demolished the homes and has scraped small depressions (swales) on each site. In the future, these sites will be used as part of Westbury street drainage improvement projects by the city.

#### HCFCD Owned Lots in Westbury

- 5747 Cartagena
- 5638 Ludington
- 5915 Beaudry
- 5730 Ludington
- 11507 Braewick



The WCC has received many complaints about the condition of these properties. We reached out to find out the plan. HCFCD has provided confirmation that these demolished homesites in Westbury are scheduled to be mowed in the July mowing cycle and will be mowed each month after that (during the growing season) by their maintenance team. The new addresses in Westbury have been added to their online mowing app. They explained that there is typically about a 30 to 60 day lag from the time a home is demolished by HCFCD and when the property is added to their mowing program.

### Bridges Under Construction on Brays Bayou

The Hillcroft bridge over Brays Bayou continues to be closed for the reconstruction project. As a part of Project Brays, this bridge is to be reconstructed in an effort to reduce flooding along Brays Bayou. The project will raise and modify the existing bridge to have four 11-foot wide lanes, including a left-turn lane, and 10-foot sidewalks on both sides of the bridge.

Coming next will be the work on both the Chimney Rock and the South Rice bridges. Both of these current bridges will be demolished and replaced with higher, longer, and wider bridges. This will increase the channel's capacity, allowing for more flood waters to flow throughout Brays Bayou. The plan is for segments of the bridges to remain open to commuter and pedestrian traffic during the construction period, with temporary lane closures to the North and Southbound lanes as the bridges are being reconstructed. Construction will begin on both of these late this year, or early 2021, and is scheduled to last approximately one year.

Community meetings will be held before construction on Chimney Rock and S. Rice begin and preliminary meetings with adjacent and affected Civic Clubs and HOAs have already begun. The WCC appreciates HCFCD's (Harris County Flood Control Department) accessibility and outreach.

<https://www.projectbrays.org/all-segments/segment-4/>



## Trash Delays

Heavy trash and yard waste continue to be picked up behind schedule. More trash is being placed at the curb as Houstonians work from home. However, the root of the heavy trash problem is the severe staffing shortage in Solid Waste caused by COVID-19. As of July 10, 70 SWD employees had been referred for testing and/or quarantine and 21 have tested positive. To that date, the department had lost more than 600 employee workdays which, as we know, has created service issues.

A Westbury resident sent us the great suggestion that we try to voluntarily restrict the amount of junk and tree waste that we put out for the next few months. Piles of tree and junk waste in Westbury often sit on the curb for 3 weeks or more and can be hazardous to traffic and drainage when they fall into the street. Be aware that whatever items are put out could sit there for several weeks, so take care to secure the pile to ensure it doesn't migrate into the street.

We do have a nearby alternative— take your junk or tree waste to the Southwest Neighborhood Depository at 10785 Southwest Frwy. You can use the depositories four times per month. Each user must provide either a Texas Driver's License and current utility bill or city property tax receipt for proof of identity.

## Rest in Peace Ed Zilton

The Deputy Assistant Director of Solid Waste, Ed Zilton, passed in July. The Westbury Civic Club worked closely with Ed and we will miss him. He was conscientious and kind and worked hard to ensure that we had the best trash service possible. With all the flooding in Westbury that generated tons of heavy trash, Ed was always first on the street making sure that it was being picked up. Ed loved his job and serving the community and we, the community, loved him back. Our deepest sympathy to his family and his co-workers.



## City Employees Continue to Serve During COVID-19

We thank the thousands of city employees who have been working on behalf of the public as essential workers during COVID-19. As of July 21, here is how city employees have been affected.

### Houston Municipal Employees (excluding HFD and HPD)

- 286 positive cases

### Houston Police Department

- Of 190 officers quarantined, 142 have tested positive for COVID-19, and 48 others are waiting for test results.
- Two hundred thirty other officers who tested positive for the virus have returned to work.

### Houston Fire Department

- 162 firefighters in quarantine
- 38 have tested positive
- 189 HFD firefighters have contracted the virus; 151 are back at work
- No fire stations have been closed due to lack of staffing



## Receive City of Houston Neighborhood Updates by phone!



COVID-19 updates - Neighborhood services - Community meetings - Seasonal notifications - Public service activities

**Options:**

- Voicemail, text or both
- English or en Español

**1**

Call 3-1-1 or 713-837-0311

**2**

Tell them you would like to subscribe to "Neighborhood Updates"

**3**

Give them your name, address, zip code and phone number

"Neighborhood Updates" is an initiative of the City of Houston Department of Neighborhoods in partnership with the Houston Office of Emergency Management and Houston 3-1-1, a division of the Administration and Regulatory Affairs Department. To unsubscribe, call 3-1-1.



Department of Neighborhoods



HELP & INFO



CITY OF HOUSTON  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT











# Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood

June 25—July 28, 2020

## Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

### KEY

Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W
5800	Arboles	Auto Theft	7/3	8PM	Westbury 3
11900	Ashcroft	Auto Theft	7/3	5AM	Westbury 4
6000	Beaudry	Simple Assault	7/2	12PM	Parkwest 3
5700	Cartagena	Theft from a Motor Vehicle	7/3	9PM	Westbury 3
6000	Dellfern	Aggravated Assault	7/3	8PM	Westbury 4
5800	Duxbury	Theft from a Motor Vehicle	7/2	11AM	Westbury 4
10600	Endicott	Theft from a Motor Vehicle	7/14	7PM	Westbury 1
12000	Landsdowne	Theft from a Motor Vehicle	7/21	8PM	Westbury 4
5900	Lattimer	Theft from a Motor Vehicle	7/3	2PM	Parkwest 3
5800	McKnight	Auto Theft	7/6	12AM	Westbury 3
12400	Mullins	Theft from a Motor Vehicle	7/3	3AM	Westbury 4
5500	Warm Springs	Burglary, Breaking & Entering	7/6	10AM	Westbury 3

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

The crimes listed took place between June 24 thru July 28. They are in alphabetical order by street. The crimes are highlighted by type. Please see key above.

## Crime by the Numbers

Crime Type	Homes	Apts./TH	Comm./Business	Park/School
Aggravated Assault	1	9	1	1
Theft from Motor Vehicle	6	5	3	2
Burglary, Breaking & Entering	1	2	5	0
Robbery	0	3	0	0
Simple Assault	1	16	3	0
Shoplifting	0	0	7	0
Drugs, Narcotics	0	0	0	1
Vandalism, Damage	0	8	1	1
Auto Theft	3	3	2	0
Theft from Building	0	0	1	0
Disorderly Conduct	0	0	0	0
Theft of Vehicle Parts	0	2	1	0
Counterfeit, Forgery	0	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>5</b>

## Constables Hard at Work

The Westbury deputies of the Pct 5 Westbury Area Patrol have been working hard. As we reported last month, Westbury had an abnormally high amount of car break-ins and other property crimes. The Westbury Sergeant asked for extra patrols and a special task force to work Westbury. Their hard work and visibility has paid off! Crime in the single family homes in Westbury went from 49 crimes in June down to 12 in July. This is good news. Please continue to lock your vehicles and report suspicious behavior and people to the Constables dispatch at 281-463-6666. If you have not sent in your 2020 WAP support, please consider doing so today. We are extremely behind in collections for 2020 so we need all the support we can for this amazing much-needed program. The dues form is on page 7.



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

Support the Constable Program

Pay your 2020 Dues!

Dues form is on page 7

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TODAY!**

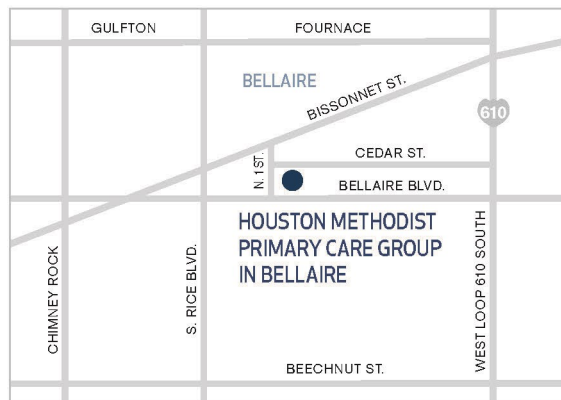
SAFELY SEEING NEW AND EXISTING PATIENTS VIRTUALLY AND IN PERSON

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### SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

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Bellaire, TX 77401

[houstonmethodist.org/pcg/bellaire](http://houstonmethodist.org/pcg/bellaire)  
713.394.6638



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MD, MPH**  
Family Medicine



**Anjali  
Kohli, MD**  
Internal Medicine



**Margaret  
Manus, MD**  
Internal Medicine



**Bhuvana  
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# FILL OUT YOUR 2020 CENSUS TODAY

How many people live here in the Westbury neighborhood? How do we find out? The government does a population count every ten years, called a "census", and this is a census year. Every residence should have received an official Census Bureau census request by mail in mid-March with detailed information on how to respond to the 2020 Census. There are three ways to respond to the 2020 Census. Online, phone, mail. It is VERY quick and easy.

**Why respond?** It's important that the count be correct because it affects funding, schools, voting districts, developers and others who rely on the data to make decisions.

Ten years ago, it is estimated that zip code 77035 was "under reported" by 24%. Zip code 77096 was "under reported" at 12%. It is very important for Westbury, the City of Houston, and our state that as many people as possible here in Westbury get COUNTED. Do your part today and fill out your 2020 Census.

## Links for Lost & Found Pets

- Nextdoor Westbury - [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)
- Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook
- Houston Cares - Contact at <https://houstoncaresrescue.org/>



## District K Census 2020 Update

The City of Houston's response rate is now at 52.3%. The latest Census report shows 8 Houston city council districts (E, K, C, G, D, A, F and B) have response rates higher than 50%. The City of Houston still lags behind Harris County, TX and the national average, but districts K, E, D, C and G are still outperforming the rest of the state. The overall self-response rate in the US increased from 61.6% to 61.8% between June 22 and June 28. Most residents of Westbury live in District K, which improved from 56.5% to 57%.



Find your own census tract to see how your neighborhood is performing. To view an interactive map, visit: [januaryadvisors.com/census-2020-houston-response-rates/](http://januaryadvisors.com/census-2020-houston-response-rates/)

It's not too late! You can still complete the census today! It has never been easier to respond on your own, whether online, over the phone, or by mail, all without having to meet a census taker. Hundreds of thousands of temporary census takers will use smartphones to follow up with households that don't respond. Say YES to Census 2020. To complete your census, go to [www.my2020census.gov](http://www.my2020census.gov) or call 844-330-2020 to complete over the phone.

## You can track response rates in Westbury at 2020census.gov.

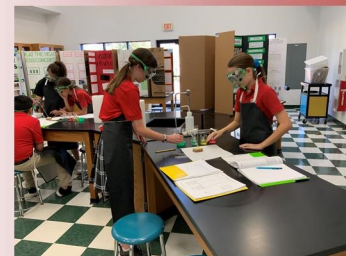
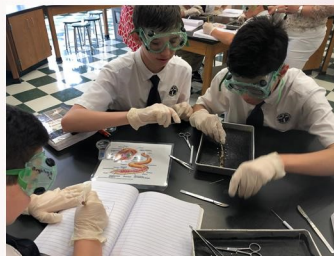
Location	Census Tract	Pct.
Westbury 1	4206	71.4%
Westbury 3 & 4 Westbury South	4221	67.6%
Westbury 4	4223.02	64.3%
Westbury 5	4224.03	61.2%
Parkwest 1 & 2 Westbury 2 & 5	4220	77.6%
Parkwest 3	4224.04	36%

\*Data as of July 28, 2020



## St. Thomas More Parish School

5927 Wigton Dr.  
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713-729-3434



Register NOW for 2020-2021!  
**VISIT US FOR A TOUR!**  
**CALL 713-729-3434**

For more information, visit our website,  
[www.stthomasmore-school.org](http://www.stthomasmore-school.org)

St. Thomas More Parish School is conveniently located in the Maplewood S/N neighborhood in Southwest Houston.

### Grades PreK 3—8th Grade

- Core Curriculum
- STREAM program - Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, and Math
- Hands-on learning
- Extended Care (before/after school) is available.
- Visit our website [www.stthomasmore-school.org](http://www.stthomasmore-school.org) for more information.



# Westbury Yard of the Month Winners

## July Winners

### Parkwest 1

Brett & Meredith Rycroft  
10707 Atwell

### Parkwest 2

Barbara Szopa  
5727 Stillbrooke

### Parkwest 3

Sandra Barillas  
6015 Cerritos

### Westbury 1

The Wiley Family  
5018 Hazelton

### Westbury 2

Colin & Marysia Gillan  
5434 Willowbend

### Westbury 3

Robert Malone  
11507 Gaymoor

### Westbury 4

Victor Stubblefield  
11931 Atwell

### Westbury 5

Sharon & Nicholas  
Papadopoulos  
11011 Renwick

### Westbury South

Homeowners  
5718 Alvarado



Parkwest 1 July 2020 Winner



Westbury 3 July 2020 Winner

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

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

Email WCC Board member Robert Montgomery at robertsmontgomery@icloud.com. He will forward the nominations to the correct judge for your section.



Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

## The Backyard Naturalist—Vegetable Gardening

*Written by Becky Edmondson, Certified Master Naturalist, Galveston Bay Area Chapter*

Backyard natural habitats are wonderful, but why not plant a vegetable garden this fall? Growing your own food is not only practical, but brings joy and pride. "Victory gardens" were vegetable, fruit, and herb gardens planted at private residences and public parks during World War I and World War II. In wartime, governments encouraged people to plant "victory gardens" not only to supplement their rations, but also to boost morale.

The COVID-19 pandemic has inspired many people to plant gardens in this same spirit. Fall in Houston is a great time to plant lettuce, peas, dill, parsley, onions and even cherry tomatoes. Lettuce is easy to plant as a border in an existing bed. Or better yet, why not build a small raised bed and find out how easy it is to do.

If you have children at home, creating a raised bed can be a math project as well as a science project. Have them help measure the space and calculate the number of blocks needed. How many bags of soil? They can learn to calculate volume. An added bonus is that reluctant veggie eaters often like to eat what they grow!

### How to Build Your Backyard Garden *inspired by Urban Harvest and the WCG*

Using cinder blocks, layout a space at least 2 feet wide and as long as you want, making sure it doesn't slope too much as the rains will wash the soil to one end. Once the blocks are in place, and tightly together and level (scrape out soil below to level), lay down 6 to 8 sheets of newspaper or cardboard along the bottom of the bed as a weed barrier. Then add garden soil. Now it's time to plant!

Building a raised garden is an easy project and can be done in an afternoon. Just drive to Home Depot and have them help load the bricks and soil into your car. Once your raised garden bed is done, send pictures of your garden to the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net. We would love to run them in an upcoming issue of the *Crier*. The picture to the right is of a Westbury backyard garden after it was first laid down.



Eggplants from the backyard of WCC Office Manager, Jennifer Edmondson





## 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 mosquitos?

- ◆ 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 mosquitos 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.

## Braeswood Farmer's Market

Are you looking for an alternative to grocery stores? Looking for fresh vegetables or eggs? Come to the Braeswood Farmer's Market at Chimney Rock and South Braeswood on **Saturdays from 9AM-1PM** or **Wednesday evenings from 4-8PM**.

**Wednesday  
4PM-8PM**

**Saturday  
9AM-1PM**



## HISD to Start 2020-21 School Year Virtually

A typical August would mean back to school for most kids in Texas. The *Crier* would be full of back to school reminders. However, 2020 is anything but a typical year. The Houston Independent School District (HISD) made their much anticipated reopening plan announcement for the 2020-2021 school year on July 15. All HISD students will begin the school year VIRTUALLY on September 8. In-person instruction will not begin until October 19, at the earliest. Parents will be allowed to continue virtually learning if they wish. Uniforms will not be required at any HISD school this school year.

The decision to begin the 2020-2021 school year virtually and delay the start of school two weeks was based on the health and safety of students, teachers and staff. Houston is experiencing high community spread of COVID-19. School reopening for face to face instruction is a heavily debated hot topic on all levels. Federal, state, county, city, school district, school, and each individual family all have a different opinion.

More information on HISD's reopening plans can be found on the HISD blog at <https://blogs.houstonisd.org/news/> Several organizations are offering virtual learning centers for children of essential workers.

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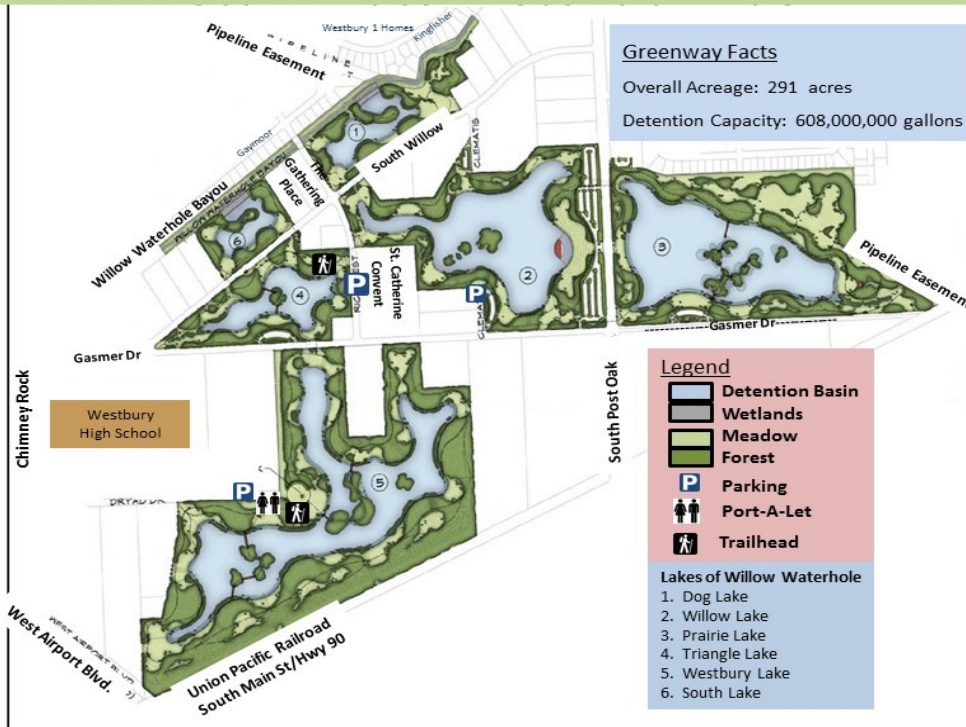
Office: (713) 726-1636  
Fax: (713) 726-8322  
Cell: (713) 819-2872



# Explore the Willow Waterhole

The Willow Waterhole park is a popular spot in Westbury. It is a flood detention project combined with a neighborhood commitment to conserving the greenspace and making the Willow Waterhole into a true destination. The Willow Waterhole has miles of walking trails, amazing birding, cross country events, a popular annual MusicFest, and much, much more. The thousands of hours of hard work by so many volunteers has really transformed the area into the wonderful, pleasant, peaceful park/natural habitat. Summer is hot in Houston but fall is just around the corner. Starting next month, the *Crier* will run a several month feature on all the different areas of the Willow Waterhole. More and more people are using the facility due to COVID-19, social distancing, and working from home.

## Map of Entire Willow Waterhole Greenway



Flags at the Schwartz Gazebo at Westbury Lake



Walking nature trail at Triangle Lake

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10710 Mullins  
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10607 Hillcroft  
 3/2/2 • \$310's (mother-in-law suite)



5510 W. Bellfort  
 4/2/2 • \$380's



5202 Briarbend  
 3/2/2 • \$330's

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## Honey Fundraiser at the Garden

The Westbury Community Garden (WCG) is celebrating bees all month long with our Honey Bee Fundraiser. This fundraiser will support the installation of docile Italian bee colonies to help pollinate our vegetable gardens, orchards, the Plant-It-Forward Farms and our Westbury Pocket Prairie, as well as vegetables, flowers and trees in a three mile area around the neighborhood.

Receive a 16 ounce jar of Humming Bee Honey for a \$10 donation to the WCG. Humming Bee Honey is a Houston honey processor that gets its honey from pristine areas of the Yucatan. The honey is certified organic which is hard for honey as bees forage widely.

Place orders at [fundraising@westburycommunitygarden.org](mailto:fundraising@westburycommunitygarden.org). You can use paypal online or pay cash and pickup at the locations below.

## Honey Fundraiser

Get a 16 oz jar of Humming Bee Honey for \$10 donation.



**Westbury Community Garden**  
**12501 Dunlap**

- Friday, August 7, 6-8PM
- Thursday, August 13, 6-8PM
- Saturday, August 22, 9-11AM
- Saturday August 29, 9-11AM

**Alternate Location**

- Braeswood Farmer's Market, old HEB on Chimney Rock  
→ Wed., August 12, 4-8PM, WCG table

## Garden Receives Two Grants

Congratulations to the Westbury Community Garden for successfully applying for and being awarded two Texas Urban and Rural Conservation grants from the US Department of Agriculture. One grant is for Pollinators. The other grant is for Community Gardens. Project timelines will start September 1 and must be finished by August 31, 2021.

The Garden continues to apply for grants to improve the garden site or to improve garden operations. If you have any leads or connections to assist the garden with funding, please contact Virginia at [wcvirginia2@gmail.com](mailto:wcvirginia2@gmail.com) or Debbie at [debbie@digiroo.com](mailto:debbie@digiroo.com).

## Native Prairie at the Westbury Community Garden

Did you know the Westbury Community Garden (WCG) site has a registered native prairie area nearby that you can visit? Master Gardeners and prairie lovers, Noreen Heard and Hazel Potvin, recently trimmed and mowed one trail through the WCG prairie. The prairie area is full of purple and yellow flowers and quite pretty. The yellow flower is partridge pea, which is adding nitrogen to the soil. The purple flower is liatris. It takes two to three years to get a mature liatris plant because it grows from a corm.

You are welcome to visit. Walk the trail and look for other flowers in the prairie, too. The prairie area at the garden site is located along Greencraig, between Hillcroft and Dunlap.



Native prairie and trail at 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.



## Like "Westbury Community Garden Houston" on Facebook

## Pine Needles Needed

Got Pine Needles? Westbury Community Garden needs them! If your pine needles have to go, bag them in the cheaper black bags rather than compostable bags and arrange for pick up by contacting George at [gtrejsek@att.net](mailto:gtrejsek@att.net) or Hazel at [hazelnut856@yahoo.com](mailto:hazelnut856@yahoo.com).





# YES! TO CENSUS 2020

**YES TO OUR CHILDREN.  
YES TO STRONG SCHOOLS.  
YES TO THE FUTURE.**



Every 10 years the census is used to determine how much funding will be disturbed based on population. These dollars support everything from medical benefits to higher education grants to disaster recovery.

**Your responses to the census are important! And they cannot be shared with anyone. In fact, they are even protected by laws from other branches of the government.**

Fill out the census online at [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov).

The census only takes 10 minutes to complete. Don't undercount our community by not participating.

**Say YES to the Census 2020!**

**[2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov) | 1.800.923.8282**

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