



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 61, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2016

Upcoming

EVENTS

➔ **Invasive Fish Round-Up**
Saturday, September 17

For more info,
see page 13.

➔ **5th Annual Harvest Moon Festival - FREE movie!**
Saturday, September 17



National Night Out

Tuesday, October 4

Register your block party with the WCC Office today.

For more information, see page 8.

Westbury Civic Club 60th Anniversary Party

Saturday, October 15, Westbury Baptist

Celebrate 60 years of the WCC. View historic photos, old *Criers*, t-shirts, food, DOOR Prizes! More information, see page 3.



Fall 2016 White Elephant Sale

Saturday, November 5, 8AM - Noon
Westbury United Methodist Church

Purchase your booth space in the WCC office starting September 14! This is the perfect opportunity to have that garage sale you have been wanting to have at your house but know you can't per long-standing policy of the Westbury Civic Club! Come early for your booth space. Booths sold out last year!

For more info regarding prices, dates, garage sale policy and more, see pages 10 & 11.



Mayor Turner Coming to WCC Annual Meeting on Sept. 21

The 2016 Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting will be held on September 21, from 6PM-9PM, in the Westbury Baptist Game Room at 10425 Hillcroft. A meet and greet will occur at 6PM, followed by the Mayor speaking at 6:30PM.

Door Prizes!

Mayor Sylvester Turner and our District K City Councilman, Larry Green, will speak about what the City is doing to help Westbury, specifically flooding, and upcoming CIP projects in our area. Come meet the new 2017 Board, and win some great door prizes!

Refreshments & promo items will be available. Hope to see you there!

**Wed. September 21
6PM-9PM
Westbury Baptist**

Stop, Have You Heard the News?

The subject of Hillcroft being expanded to 6 lanes has again surfaced. We are working closely with District K to get this 6 lane designation removed from the City Planning books. West Belfort and West Airport both share this same future six lane designation. You can read more on page 20 as to why we **MUST** protect the residential nature of our major thoroughfares. How can you help? There is an online petition at www.change.org by searching the word Hillcroft.



HEAVY TRASH SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 8

TREE WASTE ONLY

Pick up for ALL of Westbury is Thursday, September 8

OCTOBER 13: JUNK WASTE

***DO NOT PLACE TREE WASTE ON CURB UNTIL SEPTEMBER 3**



IMPORTANT CONTACTS

WCC OFFICE

5322 W. Bellfort #107, 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

Monday - Thursday.....9:00AM-1:00PM

Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and holidays

Telephone.....713-723-5437

Email.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net

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

Visit our website at www.westburycrier.com

“Like” us on Facebook at Westbury Houston

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 Gene Locke.....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

2016 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.....Leslee Cross

Secretary.....Dan Vega

Treasurer.....David Cummins

westburytreasurer@gmail.com

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Communications.....Libby Mondello

Community Relations.....Cindy Chapman

wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com

Deed Restrictions.....Jennifer Edmondson

westburycc@sbcglobal.net

Flood Control & Infrastructure.....Jeff Benavides

Greenspace Beautification.....Marcia Hartman

Membership.....VACANT

Security.....Kevin O’Brien

Volunteer & Event Coordinator VACANT

SECTION DIRECTORS

Westbury 1.....VACANT

Westbury 2.....Rocio Lara

Westbury 3.....Robert Montgomery

rmontgomery002@comcast.net

Westbury 3.....Matt Bruns

Westbury 4.....VACANT

Westbury 4.....Eugene Sirls

Westbury 5.....Virginia Livingston

Westbury5E@westburycrier.com

Westbury 5.....VACANT

Westbury South.....VACANT

Parkwest 1.....William Grimsinger

Parkwest 2.....Jeffrey Weiss

Jweiss@txchiro.edu

Parkwest 3.....Joe Niles

parkwest3@westburycrier.com

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Published by.....Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

Editor-In-Chief..... Jennifer Edmondson

Edited by.....WCC Publication Committee

Advertising..... 713-723-5437/ westburycc@sbcglobal.net

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

President's Message

September is "Emergency Preparedness Month". This issue will focus on our neighborhood's security and safety with articles answering these questions. Are you and your family prepared for an emergency? It makes emergencies a little less stressful when you already have a plan. Will you host or attend a National Night Out party? Knowing your neighbors is one of the best ways to "take a bite out of crime". Why does the Westbury Civic Club contract with Precinct 5? I can't imagine living in a neighborhood that didn't offer the extra peace of mind of having contracted peace officers patrolling my streets, being within minutes of my location, and working to get criminals off our streets.

Thank you to those who answered August's call to please pay the dues for the WCC and Constable Service. Thankfully, enough residents believe that having the Precinct 5 deputies patrolling our streets who can respond within minutes, who we can call with our possible silly suspicions, are important and a vital service that a GOOD neighborhood offers. For over 30 years, Pct. 5 has patrolled our streets. New signs advertising that we are patrolled by Pct. 5 will be installed in January throughout Westbury, after the new Constable is elected. Constable Phil Camus is retiring after many years of service.

Your WCC has been very busy this past month with several new challenges. The first is the threat that Hillcroft could be widened from 4 to 6 lanes; yes, that plan has again cropped back up. You can read about it on page 20 and participate in a

petition drive on www.change.org Within the first 24 hours, about 500 concerned residents had already signed the petition and many left important comments.

Occurring simultaneously was the city release of a Draft Action Plan and a public hearing held to discuss what the city wants to do with \$66 million of Flood Relief money coming in from the federal government (Housing and Urban Development) due to the Memorial and Halloween day floods that plagued Westbury and Meyerland as well as three other areas in Houston. The WCC was hard at work trying to insure that the Westbury homes in harm's way could be helped. Research, meetings, and more went into both of these issues. Cindy Chapman and I met in the Civic Club office with Steve Costello, the City's new Chief Resiliency Officer, to discuss our flood mitigation concerns. It was nice to meet in our office, with our various WCC awards hanging on the walls. Without a viable Civic Club representing Westbury over the past 60 years, we wouldn't be the neighborhood we are today. I may be holding the flag now, but 36 Presidents came before me and I know there is someone waiting in the wings to succeed me.

Due to the date of our annual meeting and the events at the Willow Waterhole the weekend of September 17, we decided to move the WCC 60th anniversary celebration to October 15. After a hot summer, I hope all of you are looking

forward to events around Westbury during our pleasant fall months. A fishing tournament at the Willow Waterhole looks interesting and fun. The Harvest Moon and Movie event promises to be fun for the whole family.

I would like to invite all of you to the WCC annual meeting, which will be on September 21 at 6PM at Westbury Baptist Church. This is the 60th Annual Meeting of the WCC, and we will have a special seating section for any original residents who can attend. If you are lucky enough to have an original resident on your street, why don't you volunteer to drive them to the meeting. The Westbury Area Patrol constable deputies will be there. Our District K Council Member Larry Green will be there. And we have a special guest speaker this year, **Mayor Sylvester Turner!**

Becky Edmondson

P.S. Our big anniversary celebration will take place in October, details to follow.



The Edmondson family recycling glass!

Westbury Civic Club Board Notes August 2016

- ⇒ Sgt. Hernandez, Pct 5 Constable with Westbury Area Patrol spoke about crime in the neighborhood, services the Constables offer, and examples of what they do. More detail on page 14 & 15.
- ⇒ Hillcroft expansion threat explained. Motion made and passed: *The WCC supports Hillcroft as a four lane major thoroughfare (T4 Classification) through the residential sections from Bissonnet south to US 90A (Main).*
- ⇒ Explanation of the COH Action plan for 2015 Flood Recovery; 2 motions made and passed: **1.** *The WCC supports additional detention in the D-140 watershed to reduce structural flooding in Westbury along the Willow Waterhole Bayou (D-112) and the Braewick ditches (D-140-05-01 and D-140-05-02) where over 400 homes experienced structural flooding in 2015.* **2.** *The WCC supports local drainage projects along the Willow Waterhole Bayou and Braewick ditches.*

WCC 60th Anniversary Celebration!

Save the Date: October 15

Come celebrate all things Westbury! 60 years of history of the WCC displayed as well as booths from different neighborhood organizations. Check out the October *Crier* for more details. If you are interested in having a booth at the party, please contact the WCC Office at [Sixty Wonderful Years](mailto:SixtyWonderfulYears@westburycc@sbcglobal.net) 713-723-5437 or email [Westbury Civic Club](mailto:WestburyCivicClub@westburycc@sbcglobal.net) westburycc@sbcglobal.net

WCC Annual Meeting
Wed., Sept. 21, 6PM-9PM
Westbury Baptist

Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock

Hours: Mon-Thurs 12PM—8PM; Fri 11AM-7PM

Supervisor: 713-726-7107

Meyer Neighborhood Library

5005 W. Bellfort

Phone: 832-393-1840 /
www.houstonlibrary.org

Westbury Martial Arts & Fitness Mondays & Wednesdays 6-7PM

Kids, elementary through high school, can learn martial arts, fitness & conditioning, confidence, and self-defense. Get started with the "back to school" special of \$29.99/month. Classes with WMA are a great way to become active and learn an art form in a fun and safe environment. Classes start in September. Please visit westburymartialartsandfitness.com or call 832-475-1554 for more information.

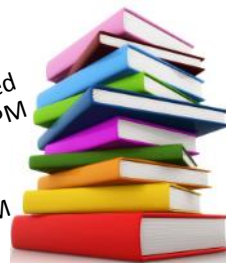
New Class Available at the Platou Center

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*

LIBRARY HOURS

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



WEEKLY EVENTS SEPTEMBER 2016

Baby Playtime

Tuesdays, 10:30am – 11:15am

Come for creative and collaborative play!
For children ages 0-18 months.

Toddler Storytime

Wednesdays, 10:30am – 11:15am

Stories, songs, activities that will help develop toddler's social, motor, and literacy skills. Intended for ages 18-36 months.

Preschool Playtime

Wednesdays, 1:30pm – 2:15pm

Creative, collaborative play experience that will help prepare your child for school readiness. Intended for ages 3-5 years.

Kids Craft

Thursdays, 3:30pm – 4:15pm

Bring your imagination and let's get crafting!
Create exciting projects at the library that you can show off at home. Geared for kids ages 5-10.

Special Library Events on page 12

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

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



MsBEEHAVEN QUILTERS -Tues., 10AM - 2PM

GAMES—Wed., 10AM to 12PM

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

LINE DANCING Mondays @ 12:30PM

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

Ping Pong Leagues—Wednesday & Friday

Open adult ping pong will be on Fridays from 11AM to 2PM.
Open adult and teen play on Wed., from 6-8PM.

After School Enrichment & Meal Program

Begins the first week of September. Hours are from 3PM-6PM.
Registration is now open.

Westbury Pool: 10605 Mullins

The pool will be open Labor Day weekend.
Saturday 1-8PM, Sunday 1-8PM, Monday 1-6PM.
The pool will re-open in May 2017.



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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 SEPTEMBER 2016

Mon 5	WCC Office Closed - Happy Labor Day!	
Wed 14	Booth Spaces on Sale for Westbury Residents Only WCC Office open from 9AM to 1PM See page 11 for more information	9AM
Wed 14	WCC Office OPEN LATE for Booth Space White Elephant Sale Spaces — WESTBURY RESIDENTS ONLY See page 11 for more information	
Sat. 17	Audubon Society Bird Survey Meet at the Gathering Place parking lot—5310 S. Willow See page 13 for more information.	7AM
Sat. 17	Invasive Fish Round-Up @ Willow Waterhole Willow Waterhole See page 13 for more information	
Sat. 17	Harvest Moon Fest @ Willow Waterhole 6-9PM 5300 Dryad - South Gazebo at Willow Waterhole FREE MOVIE, FREE POPCORN, for more info, see page 13	
Mon. 19	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow Speaker: Mike Turco; Topic: Subsidence	
Tues 20	Garden Master Plan Community Mtg The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow For info, see page 21	7PM
Wed 21	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Salem Lutheran Church 4930 W. Bellfort	8:30AM
Wed. 21	Westbury Civic Club ANNUAL Meeting Westbury Baptist Game Room—10425 Hillcroft Speaker: Mayor Turner & CM Green, see page 1	6PM-9PM
Tues 27	SW PIP (HPD Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM Aramco Building by Hobby Lobby	
Oct. 4	National Night Out See page 8 for more information.	

PLANNING CALENDAR

October 4 - National Night Out

October 15 - WCC 60th Anniversary Party

November 5 - White Elephant Sale

November 12 - Rain Date for White Elephant Sale

RALPH RIEGER, CPA

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11415 Chimney Rock rieger@riegercpa.com 713-729-1122

Heavy & Recycling Trash Calendar

September 2016

Thurs 1	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS
Thurs 8	Heavy Trash- TREE WASTE ONLY ALL OF WESTBURY	
Thurs 15	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS
Thurs 29	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS

October 2016

Thurs 13	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS
Thurs 13	Heavy Trash- JUNK WASTE ALL OF WESTBURY	
Thurs 27	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.
- ♻️ 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

City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule

September	Tree Waste	October	Junk Waste
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Flooding in Westbury

Steve Costello Speaks to Brays Bayou Association

The Brays Bayou Association (BBA) is a citizen-led organization that seeks to reduce flooding in the Brays Bayou watershed. The August meeting speaker was Steve Costello, the City of Houston "Chief Resiliency Officer," better known as the "Flood Czar". A packed room heard Costello describe the goals of this new position and what has taken place in the first 90 days of his tenure in this one man department. District K Councilmember Larry Green and District J Councilmember Mike Laster were at the meeting to listen to Costello and also to hear the concerns of their constituents.



CM Mike Laster, WCC President Becky Edmondson, and CM Larry Green

The top immediate goal is to complete the federal "Project Brays" quickly by reducing the projected completion date, which is years behind schedule. The challenge is that Harris County Flood Control Department (HCFCD) pays half and the federal government pays half; however, the federal government does not pay its money upfront. Instead, the federal government waits to reimburse its half of the cost after the work scope has been completed, and even worse, the federal reimbursement payments are often not timely. The Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) is currently owed over \$70 million in reimbursement from the federal government. Finding a creative way to help HCFCD fund current projects, while waiting for federal reimbursement, is a priority for the city, since many of those who flood along Brays Bayou are city residents.

When "Project Brays" is complete, there will still be about 1,600 homes in harm's way in the Brays watershed, according to experts. Steve Costello and the city will continue to focus on these homes that will still be in risk by identifying and funding projects to reduce structural flooding as much as possible.

Westbury Flooding

Cindy Chapman and Becky Edmondson, both representing the Westbury Super Neighborhood, had an opportunity to sit down with "Flood Czar" Steve Costello for a meeting to look at the specific flooding issues facing Westbury. "We appreciate the time that Steve took to sit down with us and to look at maps and to discuss ways to mitigate the flooding in Westbury," said Chapman. Edmondson echoed those sentiments and added, "You couldn't ask for a more responsive and accessible City government than the one we have right now. Their time, attention and genuine interest in our issues is most appreciated."



Area residents gathered at the Brays Bayou Association meeting in August to hear Steven Costello speak about flooding issues in Houston

Do I Have to Mow THAT part too???

Did you know that city ordinance requires you to maintain not only your own lot but adjacent property?

City of Houston Municipal Code Section 10-451.10 describes yard maintenance responsibilities. In simplified terms,

- ❖ Residents are responsible for maintaining your entire yard within your property boundaries.
- ❖ Residents are also responsible for maintaining your yard out to the curblines of the street adjacent to your yard (for example, if your house is on a corner, then maintain out to the curb for both your front and side streets)
- ❖ If an adjacent property does not have a curblines (for example, a drainage easement or alley), then residents are responsible for maintaining the adjacent property for 14 feet beyond their property line.

This is why homeowners are responsible for maintaining the area between the sidewalk and the street. While we do not have alleys we do have adjacent easements. A big thank you to all who mow a portion of the utility easements that abut their back or side yards.

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Flooding in Westbury

Disaster Recovery Federal Funds for 2015 Floods

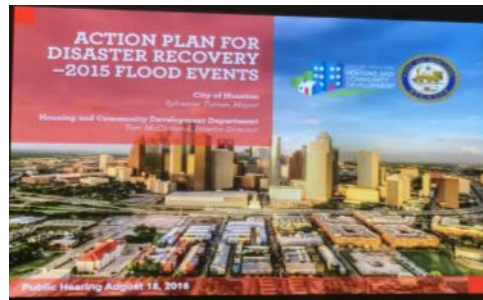
The City of Houston hosted a public hearing on August 18 to accept public input on their "Action Plan for Disaster Recovery - 2015 Flood Events". The City of Houston will apply for \$66,560,000 in federal funds, related to the declared 2015 federal disasters in Houston from major flooding events. The funds are intended for disaster recovery and reduction.

Houston residents were invited to comment on the draft action plan and to attend the public hearing. Westbury had over 400 homes flood in 2015 (flooding events happened on Memorial Day and on Halloween in 2015). Therefore, it was important for voices from Westbury to participate in the process.

Attending the meeting on behalf of the Westbury area were Becky Edmondson, President of the Westbury Civic Club and co-president of the Westbury Super Neighborhood, and Richard Rodriguez, the BOMD Executive Director. There were about 25 to 30 people who registered to speak at the hearing. Both Rodriguez and Edmondson spoke and their comments are part of the public hearing. District K Councilmember Larry Green asked residents from the Brays neighborhoods to stand and about a half dozen stood, including Westbury resident, Lisa Placke. Another hearing will take place, and then

the City will submit their application in early September 2016 for the federal funds.

In preparation for the public hearing, the non-profit Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC), the Westbury Civic Club (WCC), and the Westbury Super Neighborhood each approved unanimous motions regarding the proposed Action Plan: (simplified version) to support additional detention along the Fondren diversion channel to help mitigate flooding along the "Braewick Ditch" and the "Willow Waterhole Bayou". Another benefit of this proposed detention is that it would keep more water out of Brays Bayou, thus alleviating the flooding in Meyerland and other subdivisions downstream along Brays Bayou. Additionally, the WCC passed one other resolution: to fund storm water drainage projects in Westbury to replace the outfalls to the Willow Waterhole Bayou and to replace the aging, inadequate, and collapsed storm drains in Westbury.



BOMD Infrastructure Committee

The Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) has recently formed an Infrastructure Committee, which is using engineering consultants to study flooding issues in the area. The BOMD study has evaluated possible detention areas that would mitigate Westbury, Brays Oaks and Meyerland flooding. The engineering studies will be used to bolster funding requests for specific projects in the Federal Disaster Recover 2015 funds application.

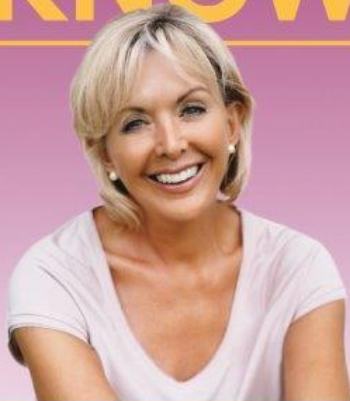
Westbury is included in the Brays Oaks Management District boundaries. Westbury resident Cindy Chapman serves on the board of the BOMD.

Thank You BOMD!

A big thank you to the Brays Oaks Management District

- ❖ for trimming the trees on Chimney Rock (from Westbury HS down to South Main)
- ❖ for assuming routine lawn mowing duties for the problem area where Burdine dead-ends at the West Bellfort storm drainage easement

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**MEMORIAL
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ADVANCING HEALTH

National Night Out 2017

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: OCTOBER 4

National Night Out is the perfect time to get together and meet your neighbors.

National Night Out is a national event designed to celebrate neighbors and to learn more about safe neighborhoods. We encourage all residents to organize block parties or similar events and spend some time getting to know each other better. The official NNO for Houston and Westbury will be conducted in the evening of October 4.

Please register your party with the WCC Office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net by September 21 or call 713-723-5437 to let us know the time and location of your NNO event. You may also register your party at the Westbury Annual Meeting on September 21. Why tell us? First, we will try to arrange for HPD, WAP Constables, or WCC board members to drop by your event. Also, we want to acknowledge your efforts in the next newsletter. We will have WCC promo items available for the first 10 parties that register with the WCC Office.

Register your event by September 21 to be entered in a drawing to win a WCC Pizza Party during your event.



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Register before
Sept. 21 for a
chance to win a
WCC pizza
party!



Are You a Good Neighbor?

(reprinted from October 1984 *Westbury Crier*)

Exert yourself a little bit and get to know your neighbors. A really good neighbor can be a great help in times of crisis. Make friends ...get to know them, their habits, their vehicles. Have a block party. Most of the time all it takes is a little effort on your part—most people want to know their neighbors. Good neighbors are a great crime deterrent.



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2017 Westbury Civic Club Board

2017 Westbury Civic Club Board Member Ballot

WCC Officers		Section Directors	
President	Becky Edmondson	Westbury 1	Jack Waddill
Vice President	Marcia Hartman	Westbury 2	***VACANT***
Secretary	Dan Vega	Westbury 3	Tony Roberts
Treasurer	***VACANT***	Westbury 3	Recy Dunn
Directors		Westbury 4	Eugene Sirls
Communications	Matthew Bruns	Westbury 4	Judy Overton
Comm. Relations	Cindy Chapman	Westbury 5	Virginia Livingston
Deed Restrictions	Jennifer Edmondson	Westbury 5	***VACANT***
Flood Control/Infra	Donna Strom	Parkwest 1	William Grimsinger
Greenspace	***VACANT***	Parkwest 2	Jeffrey Weiss
Membership	Jeff Benavides	Parkwest 3	Joe Niles
Security	***VACANT***	Westbury South	Sunny Davis
Volunteers	Robert Montgomery		

To be eligible to run for election during the September 2016 Annual Meeting, candidates needed to submit their applications by the second Thursday in August. (This date has passed.) Requests for candidates were published in both the July 2016 and the August 2016 monthly newsletter.

All positions for the WCC Board are UNCONTESTED. As a result, in accordance with the WCC bylaws, no ballot needs to be mailed and no vote needs to be taken. Those persons in uncontested races are considered elected on the date of the Annual meeting. The names of candidates are listed to the left.

Any remaining vacancies on the board will be filled by vote of the WCC Board, from qualified members who express interest in published vacancies, at the next regular board meeting (October 2016 or thereafter).

We currently have 5 vacant positions on the board. Treasurer, Greenspace Director, Security Director, Section Director for Westbury 5, and Section Director for Westbury 2. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact the WCC at westburycc@sbcglobal.net or attend the next WCC board meeting to see what we do.



Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM

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Enjoy games and movies
in built-in 6.1 surround



Serve snacks on the large
kitchen counter space



Unwind in the guest bath's
luxurious spa tub



Sleep comfortably in the
spacious master bedroom



5926 Lattimer Dr

\$359,900

Call De Geurin Realty at

(713) 269-7003 to schedule a showing

WCC Policy on Garage Sales, Estate Sales, Yard Sales, etc.

For many years the Westbury Civic Club has had a policy that garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like are not permitted in Westbury. This long-standing policy has been announced in the monthly newsletter many times. In 2014, the board of directors of the Westbury Civic Club reviewed and approved a policy document regarding these sales to formalize the wording. (See policy in box to the right)

You will notice that the policy focuses on the deed restriction aspect of garage sales – nuisances (parking violations, traffic obstructions, and illegal advertising) and non-residential use of property. Many hundreds of homes in Westbury face major thoroughfares. This poses particular challenges related to parking and traffic if garage sales are conducted. In other Houston neighborhoods, it is sometimes common for homes on major thoroughfares to be used for ongoing sales; indeed, those highly visible homes are sometimes sought after by those who want to run a retail sales business from their home or yard. Over the years the WCC has shut down people selling Easter baskets, Mother's Day flowers, appliances, and other sales from highly visible Westbury yards. The City Legal Department has helped shut down certain garage sale businesses in Westbury.

Both the city and the state have rules which make it illegal to post signs on public right-of-way. These illegal signs are considered to be trash and visual blight. The city, the Brays Oaks Management District, and volunteers in Westbury all collect illegal signs. Last month WCC volunteers collected more than 30 illegal signs related to garage or estate sales.

Another important consideration regarding garage sales is Crime Prevention. A garage sale allows passersby to know whether you have children and the approximate age of your children. If residents open their garage doors for shade during a garage sale, then they allow passersby to see what is stored in the garage: tools, exercise equipment, and other valuable items. An estate sale or garage sale allows visitors to leisurely examine your security systems and those of those of your neighbors.

Reserve your space for the Fall White Elephant Sale, starting on September 14.

Don't violate the deed restrictions or be a nuisance to your neighbors. Consider taking part in the next White Elephant Sale on Saturday, November 5. Details are on the next page.



Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

WCC POLICY Garage Sales, Estate Sales, Yard Sales, and Moving Sales, etc.

Westbury Civic Club Policy: Garage Sales, Estate Sales, Yard Sales, Moving Sales

Purpose: The intent of this policy is to clearly convey the Westbury Civic Club restriction on garage sales, estate sales, yard sales or any other independent action of the kind.

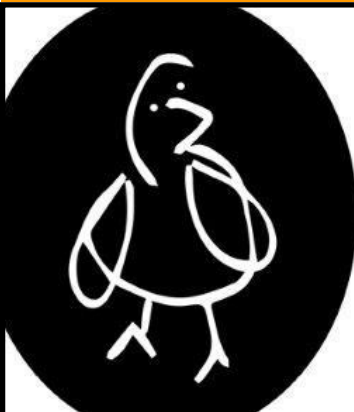
Definition: Garage, Estate, Yard or Moving Sale: The sale of personal property in, at, or upon any residential lot or home. This includes, with limitation, sales of personal property from the garage, driveway, yard, patio or house area of such premises.

Policy: Garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like are not permitted in Westbury.

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".

All sections of Westbury and Parkwest have deed restrictions that state the lots are to be used for single family or family residential purposes. The Westbury Civic Club considers garage, estate, yard, moving sales and the like to be commercial use of residential property.

Approved by the Westbury Civic Club Board, August 20, 2014



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

Boon Pet Care
is here for you!

As Westbury residents, we are committed to taking the very best care of our neighbors' loved ones.

Check out our website for pricing and details: www.booncare.com

Or contact us today: booncare@gmail.com or 713.936.2623

Fall White Elephant Sale

Do You Need to Have a Garage Sale?

Westbury White Elephant Community Garage Sale is November 5

The Westbury Civic Club (WCC) provides fall and spring community garage sale events to our members. The Fall White Elephant Sale will be on Saturday, November 5, from 8AM to Noon at Westbury United Methodist Church, 5200 Willowbend. The rain date is November 12.

Booth space will go on sale at 9AM-1PM on Wednesday, September 14 for individual Westbury residents ONLY*. The office will also be open from 5-7PM on September 14 for booth space purchase.

Booths may be purchased during normal office hours starting on September 15. Cash or check only.

You must be a paid current member of the Westbury Civic Club to purchase a booth. This means you must have paid your 2016 WCC membership dues of \$50. If you have not paid your dues, you must do so at the same time that you purchase your booth space. The

**Due to limited space and increased interest by homeowners, only individual homeowners may purchase booth space before October 11. Non-residents and ALL non-profit organizations and groups (including Westbury resident run) must wait until October 11. Violators of this policy may not be allowed to participate in the current and/or future White Elephant Sales. All non-profit organizations and groups must register under their organization name. No individual may purchase a booth for a group or organization unless doing so under that organization's name.*

booth price for individual Westbury residents will be \$20-\$25. Booths will go on sale to non-residents, groups, and non-profit organizations on **October 11**, if space permits, on a first come, first serve basis. The booth price for non-residents and groups is \$60-65. Cash or check only.

The Westbury White Elephant Sale allows residents the opportunity to sell unwanted household items at a highly visible central location with security provided. **The WCC provides location, security, bathrooms and publicity for the sale. The Civic Club does NOT provide tables, chairs, or shade.** Garage, Estate, yard, moving sales, etc. are not permitted at Westbury residences. See the previous page for the Westbury Garage Sale Policy.

So why not have fun, make money, be safe and be a good neighbor.
Plan on having a booth at the Westbury White Elephant Sale!



IMPORTANT DATES

September 14—Booths go on sale for individual Westbury residents. **WCC office open at 9AM (til 1PM) and open late from 5-7PM.**

September 15-October 10
Booths on sale to Westbury residents **ONLY** during normal office hours 9AM-1PM


October 11—Booths on sale for non-residents and non-profit organization and groups

November 5—White Elephant Sale, Westbury United Methodist, 8AM-Noon

November 12—Rain Date, check Westbury Houston Facebook for updates.




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Westbury Area News

Shell Gasmer Research Facility Questions

On July 17, 2016 the Houston Chronicle published a front-page feature article about reactive chemicals in the Houston area and mentioned the Shell Gasmer facility. James Menotti, Site Manager of the Shell Gasmer facility, has answered the questions that the WCC asked. Basically, the answer is - the chemical that was mentioned in the article is NOT used at the Shell site now.

Here is the pertinent information in the Houston Chronicle article: "The Shell Gasmer Prototype Facility, less than 2,000 feet from Westbury High and adjacent to Willow Waterhole Park, houses up to 50,000 pounds of potassium nitrate, used in fertilizers and a key part of black gunpowder. When combined with a reducing agent, it can explode. Like cumene peroxide, it can explode if it's heated or shocked. But, potassium nitrate didn't make the EPA's list. Shell Gasmer, like most other facilities, didn't respond to questions about its safety precautions."

Here is the Response from Shell Gasmer Site Manager, James Menotti.

"Shell Gasmer Prototype Facility commonly conducts pilot-scale research, development, test and evaluation work for oil and gas technologies. At times various chemicals are acquired and disposed of as part of regular business

and Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Environmental Protection Agency and additional Shell standard safety protocols are followed for tests, projects and experiments. There is currently no potassium nitrate onsite.

Shell Gasmer has a strict dedication to safety of people and the environment throughout its operations and remains committed to an honest and open dialogue with its neighbors."

Here are his answers to several questions that the WCC relayed from area residents.

- ⇒ Is it used at the Shell Gasmer facility? *We do not have these chemicals on site anymore.*
- ⇒ What do they process there? *Processes are limited to small pilot plant testing, These tests are conducted for experimental analysis, not to create any useable products.*
- ⇒ What do they store there? *Shell Gasmer is not a storage facility.*
- ⇒ Is that place abandoned? It looks vacant. *No, it is an active facility.*
- ⇒ Did they replace it with something similar, but a different name? *No.*

Meyer Library Special Events

See page 4 for hours, address, & more.

Let's Get Physical!

Sat., September 3, 10:30am - 11:15am

Get up and get moving! This program is designed to expose participants to a variety of physical activities and encourage physical health. This session's theme is Dance. Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes that you can move in.

Read with Paws-itive Pups

Sat., September 17, 10:30am - 11:30am

Come and read with our trained therapy dogs! Children are invited to read aloud their favorite books alongside canine companions to ease their reading discomforts and paws-itive-ly encourage them. Intended for school age children.

Para Los Niños

Tues., September 20, 4pm - 5pm

¡Bienvenidos! This parent workshop will teach strategies and activities to improve family literacy and parents' abilities to serve as their child's first teacher in a friendly, bilingual environment. This program is conducted by the Children's Museum of Houston.

Pajama Storytime

Thurs., September 29, 6:30pm - 7:15pm

Wear your pajamas and bring your bedtime friend as we soothe you into an evening storytime. All ages welcome.



St. Thomas More Parish School

Early Childhood Programs



- ◆ Accredited Preschool for 3 & 4 year olds
- ◆ Monday/Wednesday/Friday & Monday-Friday Classes
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 - ◆ Before & After School Available
- ◆ 2016-2017 Registration NOW OPEN



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LOVE provides security. LOVE gives a quality education. LOVE is a glimpse of God.

Harvest Moon Fest & Invasive Fish Round up: Sept 17

**1st Annual Invasive Fish Round-Up & Carp-A-Thon at the Willow Waterhole
September 17, 8AM—4PM**



The 1st Annual Invasive Fish Round-Up and Carp-A-Thon is part of the annual Harvest Moon Festival on September 17. The Fish Round-Up will have food trucks, a band, t-shirts, and prizes. There will be fly fishing and conventional division, fly casting competition, fly tying and casting clinics and an invasive species presentation. The entry fee is \$20 for adults. Kids under 12 and seniors fish free. Sign-in/registration is from 8-9AM. Lines in/out from 9AM-2PM. Weigh-In from 2-3PM. Casting competition (with demos & clinics) will be held at 3PM. Awards will be presented at 4PM along with band and food trucks. For more information, visit www.willowwaterhole.org.



HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 17

FREE MOVIE & POPCORN
Harry Potter & the Sorcerer's Stone

The 5th Annual Harvest Moon Festival will be held on September 17 at 6PM following the fishing tournament. The movie will start about 7:30PM.

This FREE event is fun for the whole family. Bring chairs and blankets.

FREE MOVIE 6PM-10PM

Audubon Bird Survey: Sat, Sept. 17, 7AM

Meet at the Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow

Both Houston Audubon and the Nature Discovery Center appreciate your effort, especially in the summer, to be part of this amazing survey team. Meet bright and early at 7 AM in the parking lot of the Gathering Place, 5310 South Willow Drive.

Since it is impossible to know exactly where it will rain at what time in the greater Houston area, someone will always be at the Gathering Place at start time and, if rained out, you can always enjoy breakfast at Annie's!

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5627 McKnight
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Crime & Security

Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37* 30 days August 15, 2016

	Single-Family Home	Apt/Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	4	1	2	0	7
Theft	10	11	4	6	31
Auto Theft	2	1	2	0	5
Robbery	0	3	1	1	5
Assault	2	1	0	1	4
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	18	17	9	8	49

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

Single Family Residential Crime

Locations by block number, not exact address. Stats for 30 days preceding August 15, 2016

Block #	Street	Crime
12400	Ashcroft	Theft
12600x2	Ashcroft	Theft
5900	Bankside	Theft
11700	Braewick	Auto Theft
6000	Dryad	Burglary
5800	Duxbury	Assault
11400	Endicott	Burglary
5800	Ettrick	Theft
5800	Ettrick	Burglary
5700	Firenza	Auto Theft
5800	Firenza	Theft
10900	Hillcroft	Theft
11600	Rampart	Theft
12400	Renwick	Theft
5200	Spellman	Assault
5700	W. Bellfort	Theft
5800	W. Bellfort	Theft
5700	Willowbend	Burglary

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Westbury Area Patrol / Constables
281-463-6666

Westbury HPD Storefront 832-394-7520
HPD Non-Emergency 713-884-3131

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. Sign up at www.constablepct5.com/vacation-watch/ If you want to request a Vacation Watch, but do not have access to a computer or internet, please call 281-463-6666 for assistance.

Crime in Westbury

A break-in occurred in Westbury on a Friday afternoon in August at about 1 PM. The thieves kicked in the back door. The home had an alarm that worked. The alarm company called HPD. The alarm certificate had expired and HPD did not respond until the homeowner made it home about 20 minutes later and called to report the break-in. An hour later HPD arrived.

The thieves took the usual things that they can carry away. Laptops, Play Stations, jewelry and whatever else they find quickly rifling through likely treasure filled drawers. HPD says if you have serial numbers or if your items are etched, they can check with pawn shops.

Here are a few takeaways:

- ❖ If you have an alarm, be sure your City of Houston alarm certificate is up to date.
- ❖ If you have an alarm and participate in the Westbury Area Patrol (pay money to support the Constables), have your alarm company call the Constables before they call HPD
- ❖ Record serial numbers. Have your belongings etched with numbers. This FREE service is available through our Pct. 5 Constable Service.
- ❖ Be sure your electronic devices are set so that they can be located if stolen.

September is National Preparedness Month: Are you prepared?

What if your home intruder alarm suddenly sounds in the middle of the night? What if you come home and find a break-in? Do you have the phone numbers you need handy? Are these numbers programmed in your phone? In your family's phones? If you have an alarm do the people in your home know how to hit the panic button?

Call 911

Call the Westbury Area Patrol dispatch – 281.463.6666

Call HPD non-emergency - 713.884.3131

“What’s the difference between a police officer, a sheriff, and a constable?”

The short answer is the uniform. The State of Texas makes no distinction between them. In fact, when defining who is a peace officer the state identifies sheriffs, constables, marshals, and police officers in that order. Besides organizational structure and some added duties, such as maintaining the county jail and serving court orders, there is no difference between them.

A longer answer is that the sheriff's department works in unincorporated parts of the county, not in the city limits. All three of these peace officers have arrest powers, unlike many private security guards.

Do you hear sirens? Go to <http://cohweb.houstontx.gov/ActiveIncidents/search.aspx>

Westbury Area Patrol Pct 5 Constables

Why did Westbury choose the Constable Patrol program? Back in 1980 when crime was on the rise and HPD response times were going up, neighborhoods began looking at ways to make the neighborhood safer. Parkwest 2 had the first contract for one deputy. The rest of Westbury saw the benefits and the program was expanded to include all of Westbury. Currently, Precinct 5 maintains 49 contracts, made up of 103 contracting neighborhoods and businesses. Our neighbors in Maplewood South/North, Meyerland and Marilyn Estates all contract with Precinct 5. Another advantage of this program is that criminals don't know where our neighborhood boundaries are and travel freely through our single family residential streets. With Pct. 5 patrolling in our adjoining neighborhoods, the sharing of criminal activity information has resulted in many arrests. Today, almost every desirable subdivision in Houston has a patrol service of some type. To the west of us, Constable Pct. 7 patrols the neighborhoods of the Fondren area. Pct. 1 patrols Braeswood Place and the museum area neighborhoods.

What do we get? The Precinct 5 Contract Patrol Program is designed to provide a highly visible, pro-active, crime prevention patrol function. The main objectives of this program are crime prevention and immediate police services to citizens in need.

How is this different from traditional police services? Typically, law enforcement agencies do not concentrate patrol efforts in a single area, units are spread out over larger districts. When a call for service comes in, the responding officer could very well be a considerable distance away. The officer may or may not be familiar with the area, more than likely has never met the complainant, and after completing the call will return to patrolling a district, often having no further connection to the call or complainant. In Westbury we have three assigned deputies and a sergeant (total number of contracted constable patrol officers is 4 for Westbury), who with few exceptions, such as assisting with nearby calls when needed, remain in our assigned contract area for their entire shift. This type of patrol offers several benefits that traditional patrols most often cannot match.

How does the Westbury Civic Club pay for the Precinct 5 constable contract?

Through monies collected from the residents of Westbury. All monies **paid** for the Constable service are used only for that program. The cost for the 4 officers in our contract for 2016 is \$316,925. We made a plea last month, as we do almost every August, as a reminder to residents to pay their dues. We thank those who answered the call. We have collected \$254,288 through June of 2016 and July and August brought in approximately another \$30,000. We will be fine this year due to our savings. In the years that we dropped from 4 to 3 deputies, we collected monies for about 3 and half deputies. Now that we are back to 4 deputies we are still collecting at that little-less-than-4 rate. However, to be good financial stewards of the security funds, it is desirable to raise enough money each year to be able to pay for that year's security costs. However, if we have to keep dipping into our security reserve funds to pay for the constable program, then eventually we will not have a reserve fund.



The WCC dues of \$50.00 go towards: greenspace (including a monthly maintenance contract for mowing and plantings); rent for the office and associated expenses of having an office space; deed restriction enforcement and legal fees, paying a part-time employee; some activities and programs; and insurance. Lastly, the advertising in the *Crier* pays for all the costs associated with the newsletter (printing, distribution, and the labor of the WCC Office Manager who puts the *Crier* together).

WAP Constable Calls

Below is the breakdown of top 10 calls for the month of July 2016 in the Westbury Contract for the Pct. 5 Constables and the Year to Date.

July WAP Stats

Contract Check (general patrol interactions)	302
Vacation Watch	158
Suspicious Vehicle/ Person	42
Local Alarms	20
General Disturbances (fireworks , etc.)	19
Information	18
Meet the Citizen/Officer	15
Animals	12
Welfare Check	10
Traffic	10
Other	54
Total	660

YTD Thru July 2017

Contract Check (general patrol interactions)	2,471
Vacation Watch	585
Suspicious Vehicle/ Person	399
Local Alarms	170
General Disturbances (fireworks , etc.)	115
Information	82
Meet the Citizen/Officer	154
Animals	51
Welfare Check	72
Traffic	165
Arson	2
Assault	7
Burglary	29
Other incidents	204
TOTAL	4,506

Westbury Area News

Parker Elementary School 2012 Bond Project Advisory Team (PAT) Meeting

The 32nd meeting of the Bond Project Advisory Team (PAT) for Parker Elementary met in August 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to review the status of the project and the finish boards for the project. Mr. Patrick Bridges, the project manager for Patriot Contracting, LLC, the general contractor constructing the new school, was introduced to the team.

Weather has been the biggest factor in the progress of the construction project. The building pad and pier foundations are complete. Work on the grade beams and under-slab utilities has started. Added rain will mean five days to dry out the building pad before large equipment can be put to work. The construction phase retention basin has been completed, and the storm connection to the street completed. The contractor's next goal is to get the bus lane paved, which will require about two weeks of dry weather to finish. The paving of the bus lane will allow concrete pumping equipment access to place the concrete slab.

Safety is the primary concern on the jobsite. The entire site is a hard hat zone and is not open to the public.

August 2017 is the expected completion and move in date!



Westbury Pool Swim Fest

Congratulations to the Westbury Pool swimmers who placed at the Houston Parks and Recreation Swim Fest on August 13, 2016! Eli Ellery, Gabriel Moore, and Marcos Moore each placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in both the 25 meter freestyle and 25 meter backstroke in their respective 6-8, 9-10, and 11 & up age brackets.

Huge thanks to Westbury Pool coaches Tico, Ryan, Alejandro, Luis, and Matthew.

Way to go Team 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.
September Meet & Eat: Thurs., Sept. 1 @ 6PM

Links for Lost & Found Pets in Westbury

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

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Text NEXT LEVEL to 49798 for the link to directly download our new app.

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URGENT CARE

2016 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 2016 Mandatory Assessments is \$233.50. The 2016 Assessments are due by February 1.

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

Mission of the WCC

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

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

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

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

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

Please send this form in with your payment

2016 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.

THE LARRY MERCER TEAM



Are you curious about the value of
your home in today's market?
Call the area specialists today!
Call The Mercer Team!

Platou Community Center

Summer Enrichment Program

For the third summer, children in the Summer Enrichment Program at Platou Community Center took part in Art Week where they got to work for an extended time each day on a big art project. This year the theme was "Architecture."

Working in groups of two or three, the children designed buildings. They chose from a year's collection of all kinds of boxes from Amazon mailing boxes, cereal boxes, foil boxes to tubes and tissue boxes. Once the boxes were taped together, the children painted them and added windows, doors, and names to their buildings. Pipe cleaner people climbed all over the buildings. They also painted watercolor backgrounds and cut out building silhouettes. A small weaving project was also done.

Art Week is made possible by the involvement of community members: Karen Schubert, Diana Lovelady, Janie Schexnayder, Lynn Dahlberg, Julie Fordes, Hazel Potvin, Keddy Outlaw and Art teacher, Gigi Spence.

Parents got to view the Architecture Project in a temporary gallery set up at the Platou Community Center. *Thank you to all that make this program possible!*



Photos taken of "gallery" after Art Week

Platou Supervisor Leaving *We will Miss You, Dan Reilly*

We regret to announce that Dan Reilly, the Platou Center Supervisor for the last five years, has resigned his position effective August 26. He and his family will be moving back to Florida to be closer to grandparents, aunts and uncles.

Dan has done an outstanding job at the community center. He has helped boost the use of the building both for scheduled use and occasional use. The after school programs have thrived and the Summer Enrichment Programs have been outstanding, making sure that the children had fun and got along well together.

We are very thankful to have worked with Dan and seen the good use of Westbury's community center. We wish him and his wife Anna well as they settle down and seek new jobs in his home state.

Company OnStage Announces 40th Season

Sleepy Hollow October 8-29, 2016

The Velveteen Rabbit December 3-17, 2016

Pied of Piper of Hamlintown Jan. 21- Feb. 11

Cinderella March 11- April 1, 2017

The Jungle Book May 6-27, 2017

The Adventures of Robin Hood June 17-July 15

Season tickets are now available. Each booklet contains 12 tickets that can be used for any of the 6 shows in the 2016-2017 season. Performances are held at St Johns Presbyterian Church. More information at www.companyonstage.org



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Hillcroft Expansion

Hillcroft Expansion Back on the Books

A meeting was held on August 10, by concerned citizens that live in neighborhoods along HILLCROFT to discuss the Hillcroft Reconstruction Project (CIP#N-1000012). This project is to reconstruct Hillcroft and improve drainage between Beechnut and Bissonnet, 2 great and necessary improvements. However, because the Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP) that the City produces has Hillcroft classified as a principal thoroughfare (P-6) these improvements are being designed with Hillcroft being expanded to six (6) lanes.

Residents at the poorly attended Public Works July meeting were told this six lane expansion would eventually extend all the way to S. Main (Hwy 90) and even to Beltway 8. This news was the catalyst that brought together residents from Robindell/Braeburn Terrace, Meyerland, Maplewood, Maplewood South/North and Westbury to voice their concerns over this proposed principal thoroughfare through our residential neighborhoods. This expansion issue came up in 2004 and again in 2007 and then District C CM Anne Clutterbuck supported keeping Hillcroft a 4 lane thoroughfare. We were all surprised to be facing this issue yet again.

The good news is that we will all be working together to protect our neighborhoods quality of life.

Reasons for street reclassification

We believe Hillcroft should be reclassified from a Principal thoroughfare (6 lanes) to a Major thoroughfare (4 lanes).

***Six lanes are more dangerous.** Vehicles will go faster and have more opportunities to change lanes. With a 50% increase in lanes (from four to six) it will be much more difficult to cross as a pedestrian, as a neighborhood bicyclist, or as a car trying to make a left turn out of a subdivision.

***Over 200 homes front Hillcroft and have driveways that exit into Hillcroft.** There are 200 between Willowbend and South Main. **Hillcroft is a residential street.**

***Six lanes will travel even faster than the current 4.** Speeding is already a problem. In the last 12 months in Westbury in the short stretch from W. Belfort to Ludington there have been 4 traffic fatalities; 3 in two separate single car accidents and a pedestrian.

***Six lanes will be louder.** These are residential neighborhoods. This is a concrete road. Concrete is LOUD, and you propose to increase it by 50%.

***Six lanes will destroy a beautiful esplanade through beautiful neighborhoods.** At a minimum there are over 400 trees and hundreds of shrubs and flowers planted through the sweat equity, design work, and money from Westbury and its residents as well as through city matching grants. More than one project on Hillcroft has received a Keep Houston Beautiful award.

***Six lanes will add to our flooding woes** by destroying our esplanades and removing trees. These neighborhoods all have severe flooding issues. Homes along Hillcroft experience structural flooding. Greenspace absorbs water and the hundreds of mature trees on our esplanades hold water. Adding more concrete and removing greenspace is a just bad idea.

***Six lanes aren't needed.** The 4-lanes are currently adequate based on existing traffic volumes ranging between 15,000 and 17,000 Average Daily Traffic between Willowbend and South Main St. With the adoption of the Complete Streets Policy, the City says they no longer build roadway just based on the MTFP number-of-lanes classification. But here we are faced again with the six lane threat.



What is the Westbury Civic Club doing?

As soon as we heard that expansion was planned, we emailed District K. They corresponded with Planning and hopefully will ask for an amendment to the MTFP next year to reclassify Hillcroft through our residential neighborhood in K from a principal street to a major thoroughfare.

Hillcroft is not a principal thoroughfare and for the most part the only people travelling on Hillcroft are people who live in or near here. For people further afield, Hillcroft will never be the easiest or preferred route to US59 or the Westpark Tollway or 610. We support Fondren and South Post Oak (SPO) as our principal north/ south thoroughfares.

We are also working closely with all the neighboring subdivisions to the north of us. Together we represent 10,000 single family homes that do not want to see our residential neighborhoods destroyed.

We created an online petition that is available at change.org by searching the word "Hillcroft" or via link at www.westburycrier.com.



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Westbury Community Garden — 12581 Dunlap Houston, TX 77035



Community Meeting for Garden Master Plan You are invited!



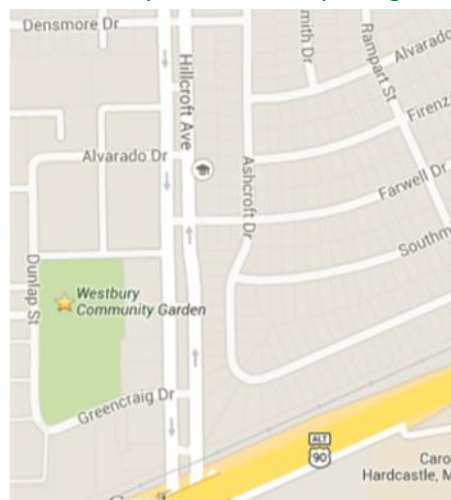
The Westbury Community Garden is excited to announce that a second community meeting will be held on September 20, to review the current status of the garden’s Master Plan Process and to get comments from the public and from persons who use the garden. Come see the preliminary design ideas and let our architects from Asakura-Robinson know what you like and what you don’t like about the different options.

September 20, 7PM, The Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow

The Master Plan for the Westbury Community Garden continues to develop. On June 6, the Asakura-Robinson team met the gardeners for a site visit. The first community meeting was held on June 21. A site analysis report was presented to the Master Plan Steering Committee on July 27. On August 18, the Steering Committee reviewed preliminary design concepts from the architects and provided a refined list of project goals and parameters to the team (see photo).

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.



Star Party at the Garden

The Westbury community garden was the site of a fabulous Star Party hosted by the Houston Astronomical Society. Over 100 visitors enjoyed the cooler night time temperatures and a chance to see the night sky from a different perspective. The Houston Astronomical Society made it all possible with its members bringing out four telescopes. The astronomers were so knowledgeable and the subject matter was fascinating. Visitors saw the moon, of course, as well as Saturn, Jupiter and Mars, the red supergiant star, Antares, and other stars.



LOCAL FARM STAND

Buy Fresh, Locally-Grown Veggies

You can buy fresh locally-grown veggies, right here in Westbury on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Westbury Community Garden. Plant It Forward Farms provides Houston with fresh, local produce by helping refugees grow their own urban farm businesses. Each farmer is trained to farm using organic methods and to sell their produce through farmers markets, farm stands, restaurants, and farm shares. Get to know our farmers and learn about organic gardening. We offer the freshest produce available in Houston. All of our produce is grown within city limits and without the use of chemicals or pesticides.



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Keeping Westbury Beautiful

Have you noticed how much trash and litter are on our city streets, freeways, esplanades, and parks?

Becky Edmondson attended and represented District K at the Houston Clean City Commission annual meeting for Keep Houston Beautiful. They talked trash, education, and beautification. She thanked her fellow Commissioner from Txdot for the cleanup on the 610 entrance from South Post Oak, and showed him a few recent pictures of the accumulating trash. He said he would report it. Trash on our roads and freeways is a continual problem all over the city. Millions of tax payers' dollars are spent cleaning up litter on our streets, esplanades, and parks.

What can we do to make a difference in this trashy problem? Maybe we can't fix some adults, but maybe we can fix the next generation. For those of you with kids, take them to a park with a sack and teach them what happens when you litter. Try "Take 5". It's a game a friend of mine plays where her kids grab 5 pieces of trash from the parks they visit as they leave.

Her kids no longer turn a blind eye to litter, and I'm pretty sure they will never grow up to be litterers!

What can you do when you see someone littering? I watched a woman throw a cup and then her fast food wrapper right out onto South Post Oak. Another woman on Hillcroft dropped the entire McDonald's bag out into the street! No need to confront these trashy folks. Txdot has a great app called Litterer. <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/litterer/id882082348>. When you see litter thrown or flying out of a vehicle, intentionally or accidentally, take down the following information—license plate number, make and color of vehicle, date and time, location, who tossed the litter, and what was tossed---- right into the Report a Litterer app. TxDot compares the information through the Department of Motor Vehicles registration database, and when an exact match is located, they send the litterer a "Don't Mess with Texas" litterbag along with a letter reminding them to keep their trash off of our roads.

"What do you do to try to keep your corner of Houston a little cleaner or greener or more beautiful?" was a question posed on social media? "I take a bag when I walk my dog". "I take a bag when I walk." "I pick up bandit signs from the esplanades." "I teach my children/grandchildren by example."

Where would we be without all of you walking our streets, parks and even esplanades picking up trash? Living in a much trashier neighborhood! Thanks to all of you who Keep Westbury Beautiful and litter free!



Keep Storm Drains Clean & Clear

If you have a storm drain inlet in the street in front of your home, check it regularly. You should remove any debris including newspapers, twigs and leaves from the grates. Also, look inside and see if you have standing water. If your storm drain is full of water and if has NOT rained recently, report to 311 for storm drain cleaning and maintenance.

Please keep the curb line in front of your house free of leaves by raking and bagging them weekly. It is Fall and the trees will be losing their leaves soon. Our storm sewers are filling up with them because some homeowners are not keeping their curbs clean. Remember if you use a yard service to tell them not to blow your leaves or debris out into the street. The debris should be bagged or composted. This will help get the storm water on its way more quickly. It is important for storm water to be able drain freely and as quickly as possible.



Glass recycling is available in Westbury, thanks to a partnership with the city of Houston's Solid Waste department and Strategic Materials. Strategic Materials (SMI) is working with industry partners and local communities to cover the cost of glass recycling drop off boxes at a total of ten locations throughout Houston with the goal of continuing to expand the program.

The container is in the parking lot of the Westbury United Methodist Church located at 5200 Willowbend. Access from Cedarhurst is always open. The gate on W. Bellfort is sometimes closed. Bring your CLEAN glass jars and bottles only (no lids or other materials, glass ONLY). **The goal is to fill the container each week!**



Westbury resident recycling her glass in the new container at Westbury United Methodist!

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Westbury Greenspace News

Eagle Scout Project at Willow Waterhole

Ben Brown is a scout with Wheeler Avenue Troop 242. For his Eagle project, Ben completed a landscaping transformation of a traffic circle on Clematis Lane near the Varnett School. The site is an entry point into the Willow Waterhole Greenway. The circle was a weedy and potholed mess, on August 13 it became a beautiful xeriscape.

Ben was responsible for project planning, fund raising, and leading fellow scouts from his troop and classmates from Strake Jesuit in completing the work. The circle now has a large Live Oak tree surrounded by crushed granite and a boundary of moss rock boulders.

Bill Burhans, Conservation Director, commented "we are so pleased Ben chose a project which benefits the Willow Waterhole Greenway, the Clematis site was badly in need of improvement. It now provides visitors with a totally different view when approaching the entrance and also helps with the efficiency of the Varnett School carpool line. The master plan for the Greenway designates this site as a major trailhead leading to the future Levitt Pavilion and as a parking area. Ben's and the troop's efforts are highly appreciated."

After completion of the work Ben said. "I am happy to have taken on this challenge for my Eagle project, it was an opportunity to improve Willow Waterhole while it is in the early stages of development. I look forward to coming to the Greenspace in the future and feel proud about the community service performed. I would like to thank all those who helped me complete the project."



Clematis Lane **BEFORE & AFTER** Eagle Scout Project



Yard of the Month



August Yard of the Month Winner Westbury 5

August Winners

- Parkwest 1:** 5603 Bankside— Craig Vinson
- Parkwest 2:** 5718 Spellman—Richard Hoffman
- Parkwest 3:** 6010 McKnight—Martha Kontos
- Westbury 2:** 5327 Stillbrooke—David Powell & Lucy McLaughlin
- Westbury 3:** 5611 Cartagena—Cindy Jenkins
- Westbury 5:** 5531 Spellman—Celene & Harold Chasen

To nominate your yard or a neighbor's yard for Yard of the Month, please e-mail Robert Montgomery at rmontgomery002@comcast.net.

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