



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 65, ISSUE 9

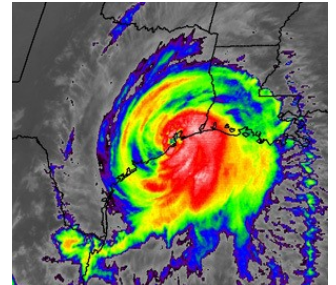
SEPTEMBER 2020

Westbury Civic Club
Annual Meeting &
2021 Board Elections
September 16, 7 PM
Streamed LIVE on Westbury
Houston Facebook page

The featured speaker is our District K City Council Member Martha Castex-Tatum. Questions can be submitted in advance to wccpresident@westburycrier.com by September 11. See page 6 for more info and the 2021 WCC board candidates.

Hurricane Season is Not Over

It is still hurricane season and September is historically the most active hurricane month for Texas. Being prepared and knowing what to do are key. There is no need to panic if you are prepared and have a plan. Pages 9-11 contain many helpful articles about storm prep, flood insurance, weather resources, and more.



Hurricane Ike in 2008 at landfall

It has been over a decade since the Galveston-Houston region has experienced a true hurricane. Yes, Harvey was a hurricane when it made landfall in Rockport, TX, but it was a tropical storm when it arrived in Houston, so wind was not our issue. The damage from a direct hit of a hurricane is very different than Harvey flooding. Hurricanes in Houston are typically major wind events that can cause long power outages.

Hurricane Ike in September 2008, made landfall in Galveston as a Cat 2 storm with 110mph wind (only 1 mph off a Cat 3). Wind measured at Hobby Airport was sustained 75mph with gusts to 80. Most of Houston saw sustained winds of 60mph and there were widespread power outages that lasted weeks. Westbury homes didn't have power for an average 2-3 weeks. There was no known flooding in Westbury homes during Hurricane Ike. Hurricanes hit hard and move out fast. It is important to not use Harvey as your comparison for hurricanes in Houston.

We live in a huge city close to the coast so there is different advice for certain areas. It is important to know where you live. Westbury is NOT in an evacuation zone. A long-time hurricane saying is "Run from the surge, hide from the wind". This means that the average Westbury homeowner should remain at home, inside sheltered in place, during the event. See page 11 for tips on what to do if a hurricane is coming.

Preparing for a storm that may or may not come can be very stressful. Some people might even be skeptical about preparing as we had a miss with Hurricane Laura, but this was a very narrow miss. Too many times storms shift and predicted tracks change.

Hurricane Ike was originally forecast to make landfall further South towards Corpus Christi. It was only 2 days before landfall that it became clear that Galveston-Houston were in for a direct hit.

When there is an active storm in the Gulf of Mexico, especially during August and September, you should always pay close attention to a trusted weather source on what is happening with the storm. Page 10 has a list of weather sources. If in doubt, go straight to the National Hurricane Center website, www.nhc.noaa.gov.



Hurricane Ike Actual Track

Flooding is still a concern with hurricanes. Any time it rains in Houston, we are concerned about flooding. Hurricanes can bring localized flash flooding with heavy rains bands so streets could flood. Properties that regularly flood during high rain events could flood, depending on the rate of rainfall. However, this is no different than any other major rain storm in the sense of flood risks. Page 10 gives the links the flood gages and how to look up that information.

Support the WCC Today!

Westbury needs your help today! The WCC voluntary 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 especially ones that paid after the last Crier. 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.

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HEAVY TRASH RECYCLING

September 2020
Thursday, Sept. 10
TREE WASTE ONLY

October 2020
Thurs., October 8
JUNK WASTE

September 2020
Thursday, September 10
Thursday, September 24

October 2020
Thursday, October 8
Thursday, October 22

The National Hurricane Center predicted 2020 would be a very active season. We hope you find these resources helpful. Make a plan, be prepared and stay safe.

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
“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 Station832-394-0400

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.

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

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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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Westbury Civic Club , Inc.

A Message from the Westbury Civic Club President

2020 has already been quite the year and we still have 4 more months. There have been disappointments, many challenges, and some bright spots. As I am writing this, the Houston region narrowly missed a hit by Hurricane Laura. September is the peak month of the hurricane season in Texas. Please pay careful attention to weather forecasts and update your preparations and supplies. Helpful resources are on pages 1, 9-11.

A challenge facing our community is our 2020 funding for our Westbury Area Patrol by the Harris County Precinct 5 Constables and the WCC office. We are behind in our fundraising for 2020 although we still must pay for rent and utilities and for our security patrol. It is a hard time to ask for money, and I understand that some of you might not be able contribute at this time. But if you can, we could use your support. We all want to keep Westbury a desirable and safe place to live. If you have already contributed, we thank you. If you have been meaning to send that check or send that payment online, but haven't gotten around to doing it yet, then TODAY is a good day to take action. A partial contribution is better than zero. Can you imagine what it would be like here in Westbury if we had to drop our security patrol service? HPD has an important role in fighting crime, but they are short-handed, so they must respond to the highest priority calls first. As a result, they don't do neighborhood patrols and the wait time for lower priority calls can be long (or perhaps never get a response).

Crime was unusually high in June, but was low in July. Don't you think the criminals noticed that Precinct 5 sent supplemental patrols to Westbury in July in response to the high crime in June?

The Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting and Elections will be held on Sept 16. A guest speaker will be Vice-Mayor ProTem, District K City Councilmember Martha Castex-Tatum, who represents most of Westbury. Due to COVID, this meeting will be held online. More info about the Annual Meeting and Elections is on page 6. I thank the new and returning board members who will be serving for the upcoming term. Two long-serving board members are stepping down from the WCC board this year: Virginia Livingston and Robert Montgomery-Ellis. Virginia has been a font of knowledge on green issues, is an original member of the Westbury Community Garden and has been a vigilant member of the board. Robert has been leading the Yard of the Month program and is notable for helping to post our large Westbury Community Garage Sale banner at recent White Elephant Sale events.

Some bright spots in our community are the ongoing efforts to make our corner of the world a better place. District K, the City of Houston, and the Harris County Flood Control District continue to seek ways to reduce the risk of flooding in Westbury and in Southwest Houston. Many of you have been making more use of the Willow Waterhole Greenway

during COVID, so take a look at our feature stories about WW in this edition. The hard-working folks at the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy (WWGC) have started a membership drive. I am a member and encourage you to join also. More information is on page 19. Your membership will keep you updated with news from WWGC and will help pay for future improvements. Another long-time community partner, the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC), has updated their website and is actively fundraising for projects to improve the Westbury area. More information about the WAIC is on page 15 and on their website (westbury37waic.org). Both of these fine non-profits are based right here in Westbury.

I will close by mentioning that the COVID impact on schools is ever-changing. Some students are already in class and others will start after Labor Day. Some students will be studying at home and others will be in school. Please pay attention to school zone signs and be watchful for students. Due to COVID, more people are at home during the day and are walking or running or biking, so this is another reason to drive carefully. One of the most common complaints is about speeding on our local streets. SLOW DOWN!

Stay safe,
Cindy Chapman

WCC Board Notes - August 2020

- ➔ The August Westbury Civic Club board meeting was held via Zoom and streamed live on Facebook.
- ➔ Public Safety—Sgt. Derkowski reported that crime was up in August. June had high crime but July was the lowest of the year. Pct. 5 Constables had a special task force in Westbury in late June and July. Much discussion about speeding concerns.
- ➔ Finances—Income still needed for WCC and for the Westbury Area Patrol by Precinct 5 Constables. Need to raise \$107,000 to meet budget. Cutting expenses. Mailout planned.
- ➔ WCC board approved a motion to spend up to \$750 on a new domain and website host to replace the outdated unsupported current website.
- ➔ Discussed ideas for Neighborhood Matching Grant
- ➔ The Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting will be held on September 16 via Zoom and streamed live on Facebook. See page 6 for more information.
- ➔ The next Westbury Civic Club board meeting will be on October 21 and held via Zoom and streamed online.

I ❤️ Westbury

“COME”
TO THE

Westbury Annual Meeting

September 16, 2020, 7PM

WCC 2021 Board Elections and Guest Speakers

Streamed LIVE on Westbury Houston Facebook

Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

11655 Chimney Rock Rd
713-726-7107 * platou@houston.tx.gov



➔ **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**

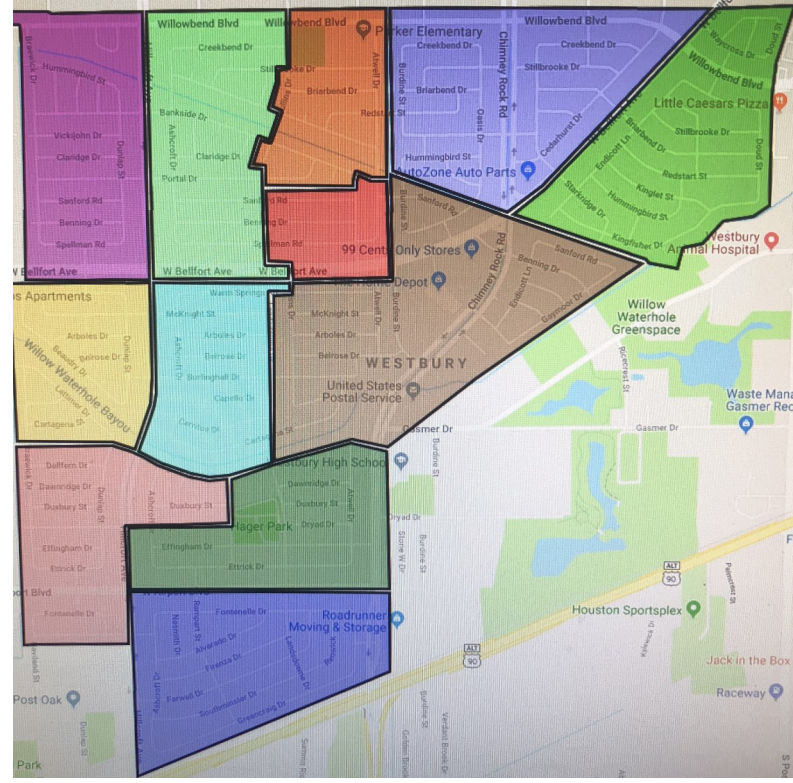
City Council approved the appropriation of funds authorizing BRAVE Architecture Inc. to perform design and construction phase services for the new Houston Public Library at 5505 Belrose in Westbury (Nov 2019). The new location will be at the site of the old Post Office in Westbury. Stay tuned to future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

Library Action Committee:

The WCC is starting a Library Action Committee, if you would like to join, please email westburycc@sbcglobal.net. This group will be limited in size and will meet via Zoom.



Map of Westbury by Section



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

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

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September 2020 Calendar Events/Meetings

Mon 7	Labor Day	
Tues 8	HISD 1st Day of Virtual School	
Wed 16	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Zoom Meeting—Live Stream on WAIC Houston Facebook	9:30AM
Wed 16	Westbury Annual Meeting—via Zoom Live Stream on Westbury Houston Facebook	7PM
Sat 19	Audubon Society Bird Survey	To Be Determined
Mon 21	Brays Bayou Association Meeting	To Be Determined
Tues 22	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.

September 2020

Thursday, September 10
Thursday, September 24

October 2020

Thursday, October 8
Thursday, October 22

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.

September 2020

TREE WASTE ONLY
Thursday, Sept. 10

October 2020

JUNK WASTE
Thursday, October 8

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 or www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS

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

PLANNING CALENDAR

October 19—HISD returns in-person*

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

October 13—October 30 — Early Voting for 2020 Election

November 3—2020 Election

PEROT PLUMBER

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Expert Plumbing Repairs
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Westbury Civic Club Annual Meeting & 2021 Board Elections

September 16, 7PM

Streamed LIVE on Westbury Houston Facebook page

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and uncertainty about social distancing rules, the WCC Annual Meeting and Elections on Wednesday, September 16, will be held online this year. The WCC has been holding our monthly meetings online since the pandemic began. The meetings are streamed live to our Facebook page, Westbury Houston.

District K City Council Member, Martha Castex-Tatum will be one of our guest speakers. We will collect questions in advance. Please send your questions to WCCPresident@westburycrier.com by 4 pm on Friday, September 11.

Thanks to our returning board members and to the new ones who have stepped forward to join the board. You are appreciated. All positions this year 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 WCC meeting. The names of candidates are listed below.

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 2020 or hereafter.

2021 WCC Board Nominations

Position	Nomination
President	Cindy Chapman
Vice President	Marcia Hartman
Secretary	Katherine Wingfield
Treasurer	Becky Edmondson
Communications	Lauren Figard
Community Relations	Tony Robert
Deed Restrictions	Ray Mora
Membership	Susan Brock
Volunteers/Events	VACANT
Infrastructure	Jennifer Edmondson
Security	Maria Cervantes
Greenspace	Mat Funk
Westbury 1	VACANT
Westbury 2	Lindsey Pollock
Westbury 3	Jeff Benavides
Westbury 3	Jonathan Hansen* (New)
Westbury 4	Eugene Sirls
Westbury 4	VACANT
Westbury 5	Kent Perschke* (New)
Westbury 5	Donna Strom
Westbury South	Brandon Richard
Parkwest 1	Angela Furnari
Parkwest 2	Jeffrey Weiss
Parkwest 3	Lisa Placke

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.**



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713-551-8100 westburychristian.org/admissions

THE PATH TO SUCCESS BEGINS *Here* 

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 are down in 2020. 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

NEW Pay your 2020 dues ONLINE at 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 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. 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 an extra 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 _____

Make checks payable to:
Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

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

Online payment:
www.westburycrier.com
www.paypal.com to email
westburyc@sbcbglobal.net

Make sure to include your address

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

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

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.

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.

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. 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.

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. Send your SR Number to the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net

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 September 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.

**Copies of Deed Restrictions Available
Online at www.westburycrier.com**

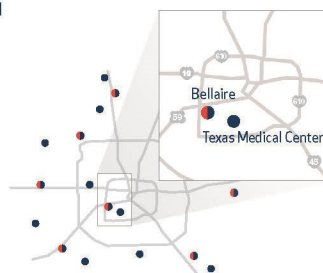
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Do You Have Flood Insurance?

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.

Westbury Residents Clean Storm Drains

Look at these great civic minded neighbors in Westbury 2 cleaning out their storm drain! There was a bush growing out of it. Take a picture of your cleanly swept curb line or clean storm drain and send to the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net.



We love to see Westbury residents taking action! Thank you to these wonderful neighbors for clearing their drain. If you are interested in adopting your storm drain, check out below or go to houstonadoptadrain.com. It is important to keep the storm drains clear of debris, so that water can flow properly during any rainstorm.

Name That Drain! Contest

Adopt-a-Drain is a city program allowing Houstonians to "adopt" and maintain stormwater drains near their homes or businesses. This program began in 2018 here in Westbury.

Adopters clear areas around the drains from leaves and debris, especially before storms. This volunteer effort helps reduce neighborhood flooding and saves tax dollars spent on maintenance.

A fun feature of the program involves participants personalizing and naming their adopted drains. The naming contest will overlap with the third anniversary of Hurricane Harvey and highlights one of the most effective ways for Houstonians to help with flood mitigation and resiliency in their own neighborhoods. To date, 1,456 drains have been adopted with 105,827 drains currently available.

Interested residents have until September 12th to adopt and enter their drain names at houstonadoptadrain.com



DID YOU KNOW?

- **WESTBURY IS A FLOOD ZONE**
- *Just 1 inch of water costs \$25K in damage*
- **Flood insurance is available to homeowners and renters**

Don't let a flood drown you in debt.
Stay afloat with Afloat®

713.540.8778

Andrea@StayAfloatTexas.com

ANDREA KAWAJA

AGENT / OWNER / WESTBURY RESIDENT

**Do you want your first flood to be with
 or without flood insurance?**

Get a quote with Afloat!®

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

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

National Hurricane Center

www.nhc.noaa.gov

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

Hype-free Weather Forecast

www.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.

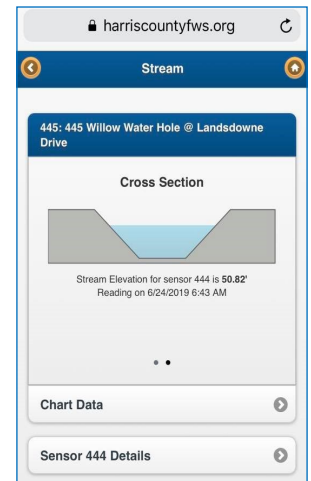
<https://www.centerpointenergy.com>

Flood Gage Warning Alerts

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

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

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



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



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 Houstonians 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/

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

Hurricane Preparation Tips

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

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

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



Long-term Hurricane Preparation Tips

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



Immediate Hurricane Preparation Tips

(This would ideally be done over several days leading up to landfall).

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

Meet the Chief of Staff for District K

Perdita "DiDi" Chavis joined the District K office on May 11 as Chief of Staff. She was selected from 58 candidates who applied for the position.

The District K community had a chance to meet DiDi via a Zoom video-conference meeting on May 29. DiDi was asked how to pronounce her last name. She responded that "Chavis rhymes with Davis". DiDi said that she likes "meeting and connecting with people".

While at District K, DiDi intends to "take pride to work effectively and efficiently" to implement the vision of District K. Among her priorities are following up to make sure that projects are meeting timelines. She applied to the District K position because it is rewarding to work in public service and she has been inspired by what District K has been doing.

DiDi has worked in public service for over nine years, and over twenty-nine years in executive management in the private sector. DiDi obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree in English/Creative Writing from the University of Houston-Victoria and is currently pursuing her Masters in Executive Public Administration at Texas Southern University. In addition to enjoying her work as a public servant, DiDi loves spending time with her daughter and family. DiDi volunteers with radio station KTSU.

We look forward to working with DiDi Chavis at District K.



Didi Chavis and CM Martha Castex-Tatum

All About Scams

The Southwest PIP meeting this month was presented by the BBB and was all about scams.

Phone scams: Did you know that 60% of all calls to mobile phones are fraudulent? Do not press anything during these calls. If they offer you an opt out, do not press the number. Just hang up.

Computer scams: The most common computer scam is the Tech support Scam and Pop ups. Never give access to your computer to anyone that contacts you this way or over the phone. Don't click on pop ups. And do not give them your credit card information!

Election Scam: While many of these scams are aimed at older folks, youth are being targeted too. "Congratulations you can vote. We can register you on the phone. Go get your social security number. Due to Covid voters are being registered over the phone". This is NOT TRUE: You CANNOT register to vote over the phone.

Don't take robo call political surveys that ask for ANY personal information. Do not contribute to campaigns in a robo call. Call the campaign offices directly.

If you have any questions, contact Jennifer Salazar at the BBB: Jsalazar@bbbhou.org

Be Aware of People Posing as City of Houston Employees

The District K office received a call that there were young men approaching homes in Fort Bend Houston neighborhoods claiming to be employees of the City of Houston Water Department.

Please note that City of Houston employees will always have on a COH uniform, have a picture ID, and be in City of Houston vehicle. City of Houston employees do not enter homes. If you are suspicious of people claiming to City of Houston employees or any other company, do not open your door and contact the company to verify service in the area and call the Constables.

Stay alert and stay safe.

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



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Donna Strom







Text or Call 713-859-5296
donna@camelothouston.com

Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood

July 28—August 27, 2020
Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

KEY

Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W
5600	Arboles	Burglary, Breaking & Entering	8/18	11AM	Westbury 3
10900	Ashcroft	Vandalism, Damage, Destruction	8/27	11PM	Parkwest 2
5700	Benning	Theft from Motor vehicle	8/16	9AM	Parkwest 2
11000	Braewick	Theft from Motor vehicle	8/15	8PM	Westbury 5
5200	Creekbend	Theft from Motor Vehicle	8/3	1AM	Westbury 2
5800	Creekbend	Vandalism, Damage, Destruction	8/17	4AM	Parkwest 2
11000	Crestmore	Theft from Motor Vehicle	8/8	11AM	Parkwest 2
5500	Dawnridge	Simple Assault	8/3	5PM	Westbury 4
6000	Dellfern	Simple Assault	7/30	8PM	Westbury 4
11600	Dunlap	Theft from Motor Vehicle	7/30	12AM	Parkwest 3
5800	Ludington	Drugs, Narcotics	8/3	4PM	Westbury 4
5800	Ludington	Drugs, Narcotics	8/6	4PM	Westbury 4
10900	Moonlight	Theft from Motor Vehicle	8/3	8AM	Westbury 2
5700	Southminster	Vandalism, Damage, Destruction	8/11	8PM	Westbury South

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

The crimes listed took place between July 28 and August 27. 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	0	3	1	0
Theft from Motor Vehicle	6	2	0	0
Burglary, Breaking & Entering	1	5	1	0
Robbery	0	0	3	0
Simple Assault	2	5	1	0
Shoplifting	0	0	9	0
Drugs, Narcotics	2	0	0	2
Vandalism, Damage	3	9	2	0
Auto Theft	0	1	1	0
Theft from Building	0	0	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	0	0	2	0
Theft of Vehicle Parts	0	4	1	0
Counterfeit, Forgery	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	14	30	21	2

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 great 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 yet sent in your 2020 WAP support, please consider doing so today. We are extremely behind in collections for 2020. 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!

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD EXPERT

WHO YOU WORK WITH MATTERS

BROCK *and*
FOSTER
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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.



NEW!



AVAILABLE!



PENDING!



AVAILABLE!

2020 Election

Election Day: Tuesday, November 3
Early Voting: October 13- October 30

Governor Abbot Extends Early Voting

Governor Greg Abbott issued a Proclamation on July 27 extending the early voting period for the November 3rd Election by nearly a week. Under this proclamation, early voting by personal appearance will begin on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, and continue through Friday, October 30, 2020. The proclamation also expands the period in which marked mail-in ballots may be delivered in person to the early voting clerk's office, allowing such delivery prior to as well as on Election Day.

Election Workers Needed in Harris County

The Harris County Clerk's Office is looking for election workers to staff more than 800 voting centers that will be open for the November 3, 2020 General Election. Election workers are also needed three weeks prior to the election to work at approximately 100 voting centers during the Early Voting period, October 13-30.

To serve as an election worker, you must be a registered voter in Harris County, have transportation to and from the polling location, and be able to attend training. Bilingual election workers are needed and encouraged to apply. Students 16 years of age and older can apply to work as student clerks. All of these positions are paid. If you are interested in becoming an election worker, Harrisvotes.org or call 713-755-6965.

Westbury resident Priscilla Bloomquist, a long-time election worker and current Precinct 0453 chair, had this to say, "I am the Democratic Precinct Chair for Precinct 0453; that comprises all of Westbury South, part of Westbury 4, and most of the Willow Waterhole Greenspace. I have been your Presiding Election Judge and worked every local election for more than 25 years, in at least 16 different locations in and around our precinct. Those of you who have voted with me all these years know what fun it has been to find out where we are voting every year! But the scavenger hunt has come to a close. With county-wide voting centers now in place in Harris County, voters can vote anywhere in the county in which they reside. I still hope to see many of you at Westbury High School though.

To me, being an Election Worker is one of the most rewarding jobs you can do to serve your community. Especially this year, with all the pandemic precautions we must take, you will be thanked many times over for your service. You will be exhausted, but it's a good feeling knowing you did your part to help voters cast their ballots in this very important election."

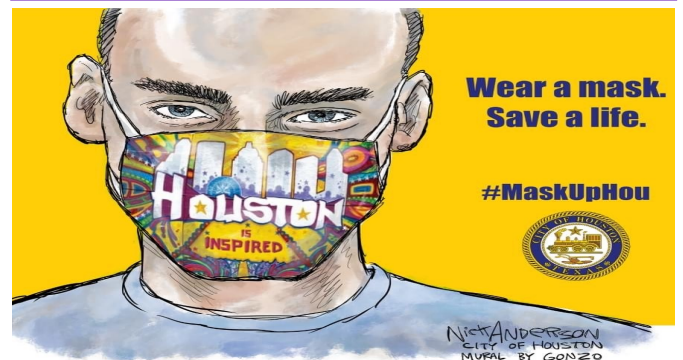


WAIC Announces NEW website

The 501c3 non-profit Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) is our community partner, dedicated to making improvements in our immediate area. As a local non-profit, they understand our community and its needs. The WAIC board of directors has representatives from the Westbury Civic Club, Westbury area residents, local businesses, non-profits, schools, and other organizations. The monthly WAIC meeting also serves as the seat of the monthly Westbury Super Neighborhood #37 meeting, which is attended by representatives from District K, METRO, HPD, Precinct 5 Constables and other governmental organizations.

You can learn more about the WAIC at their new website at www.westbury37waic.org/

The WAIC has been fundraising for the Westbury Community Garden since its inception 10 years ago. The WAIC is currently raising funds to make improvements to the mowed trails in the Westbury area. We hope you've seen and even taken a walk down the mowed trails along our drainage ditches and bayous that longtime resident and volunteer Allen Potvin has been mowing for years now. Consider making your tax deductible donation this month. There is a link to donate on their website and a donate button on their Facebook, WAICHouston. Thank you for helping make Westbury a great neighborhood!



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**



Links for Lost & Found Pets

- Nextdoor Westbury - www.nextdoor.com
- Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook
- Houston Cares - Contact at <https://houstoncares-rescue.org/>

HOUSTON
CARES
ANIMAL RESCUE

Westbury Yard of the Month Winners

August Winners

Parkwest 1
Mike Odell
5515 Redstart

Parkwest 2
Emily & Will Merrell
5726 Stillbrooke

Parkwest 3
Michelle Guthrie
6018 McKnight

Westbury 1
Keith Hüge
5202 Briarbend

Westbury 2
Bob Hergenroeder
5454 Stillbrooke

Westbury 3
Laura Wiggs & Susan Lillys
5806 Arboles

Westbury 4
N. Galven
5702 Ludington

Westbury 5
Jason & Stephanie Bates
5622 Sanford



Thank you Robert!
A big thank you to long time WCC Board member, Robert Ellis-Montgomery, for heading up the Yard of the Month program. Thank you for all your years of hard work and driving around the neighborhood. We will really miss you.

If you are interested in being a yard of the month judge or the new lead, please email westburyc@sbccglobal.net.

Thank you Robert for all the years of judging Westbury yards!!!!



The Backyard Naturalist—

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

Last month I asked for pictures of Westbury backyard gardens. One resident sent in this great picture of her backyard quarantine garden! Thank you Kari! We love seeing pictures like this!

My Westbury Quarantine Garden

by Kari Arnold, Westbury resident

Inspired and encouraged by our neighbors, Bert and Diana Gonzales (members of the Westbury community Garden) this is our quarantine garden.

We have wanted to grow vegetables and herbs for years and current events helped provide the time to make it happen. So far we have harvested 3 cantaloupes, 5 cucumbers, 1 hot banana pepper and loads of green onions, celery leaves, dill and basil. An unexpected value of the garden is that we seem to have created an oasis for bees, lizards and frogs - our backyard is just teeming with life now!



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Over 15 Yrs Combined Experience - Westbury Residents 10 Yrs



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

Honey Fundraiser Success

Thanks to everyone who helped the Westbury Community Garden by supporting their fall Honey fundraiser. Donors who contributed at least \$10 to the garden received a bottle of organic honey in appreciation. Or, donors could opt to “adopt” individual honey bees. The fundraiser will be used for garden projects, including creating an apiary site at the garden, plus related supplies.



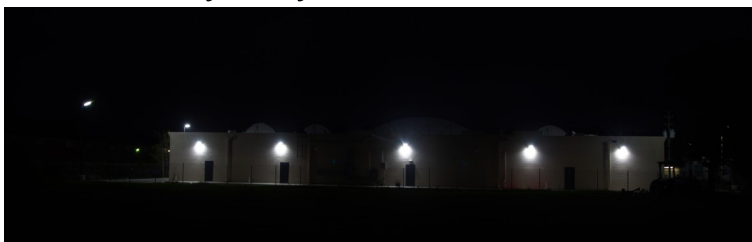
Valero Store Changes Lighting

When a new Valero convenience store and gas station was built on Hillcroft near the Westbury Community Store, the impact of the new lighting was immediately noticeable. It was bright, full of glare, and cast light far onto the garden site. The lighting situation was undesirable at the garden because of astronomical activities sometimes held at the garden at night, the glare was bright, and because the bright light could be detrimental to night-time pollinators.

After discussions, the Valero owner made an agreement with the gardeners. If the garden would purchase different lighting, then the Valero owner would pay an electrician to replace the light fixtures. These photos show the difference in the new lighting, as would be observed by the human eye. The new lighting provides better visibility at the building, has less glare, no longer casts light far onto the garden site, and uses about 1/3 of the electrical power wattage (electrical cost) than the original lighting did.

Congratulations to both the Valero owner and the gardeners for finding a win-win solution that benefited both of you. Sometimes the brightest light is not the best light for the situation.

Lighting Before & After



Before—Original lights installed



After—New lights installed



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

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◆ Sheetrock Repair

◆ Fancy Texture

◆ Stain

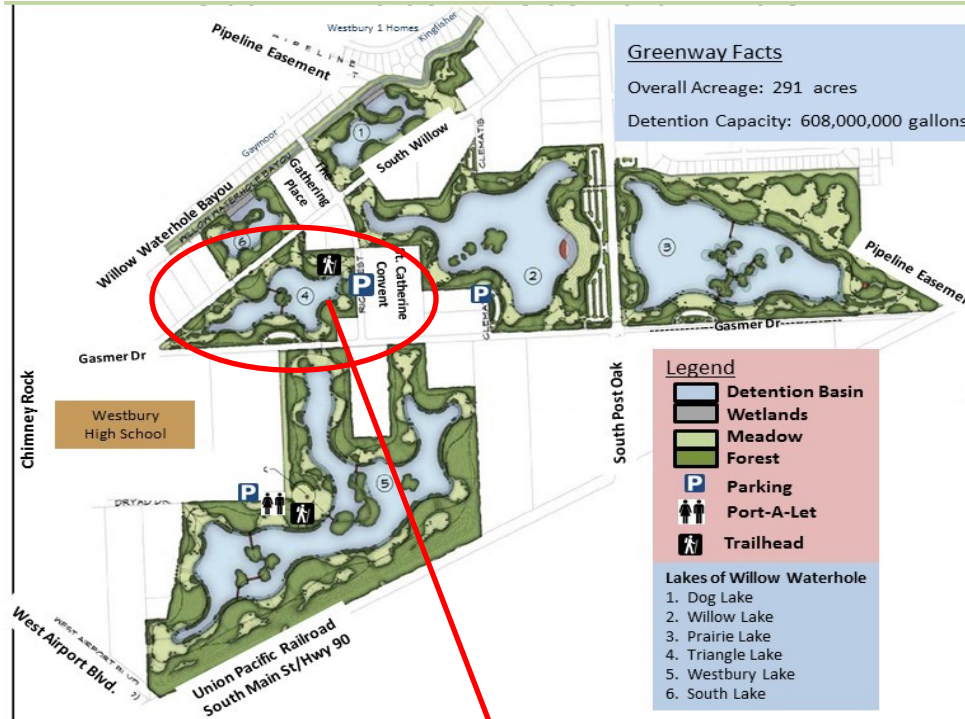
◆ Walls

◆ Faux Finishing

Explore the Willow Waterhole

Map of Entire Willow Waterhole Greenway

Destination:
TRIANGLE LAKE



Greenway Facts
Overall Acreage: 291 acres
Detention Capacity: 608,000,000 gallons

A. Parking
Ample street parking is available at 11350 Ricecrest. There is handicap parking with ramp access to wide sidewalks.

B. Rafferty Memorial Oak
A huge live oak tree surrounded by large granite blocks that makes a great shaded meeting place.



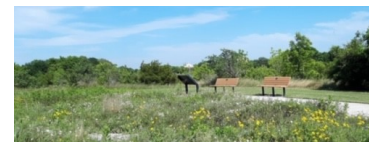
C. Arboretum Trail
A shady 300-foot crushed granite trail that weaves through a wetlands area with more than 100 native plants and trees. Benches and plant/tree sign markers are located on the path.



D. Birding Center
A chimney swift tower habitat and bird information kiosk is connected by a crushed granite trail to the Rafferty Memorial Oak. This area is the site where members of Audubon Society convene monthly after bird surveys: species are tallied, and counts are displayed in the kiosk.

E. Dabney Kennedy Scout Pavilion
A nice small shaded pavilion that makes for a great resting places while out walking the Waterhole. There is a picnic table. The Pavilion is named in honor of Dabney Kennedy, a community leader and fifty-year resident of Westbury. It recognizes scouts who have completed their Eagle and Gold Award projects at the Willow Waterhole.

F. Pocket Prairie
A native prairie plant garden with sidewalks and benches throughout the area. The blooms change with the season and shows the wide variety of native plants in Houston.



Triangle Lake at the Willow Waterhole

The Willow Waterhole has 6 "lakes". The "Triangle Lake" is located between S. Willow and Gasmer with Ricecrest along the side. The map below is labeled with the amenities found at this lake. Read all about these great amenities to the right. The yellow line on the map indicates a trail that is paved. You can easily get to Westbury Lake or Scout Lake from the trail. *Go Explore the Willow Waterhole!!!*



Confirmed LOCAL Cases of COVID-19

(data from 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
8/26/20	1,102	700	62,097

MusicFest Cancelled

The Annual MusicFest in April was cancelled due to COVID-19. The Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy had re-scheduled for October, however, the planning committee has decided to cancel the event due to planning uncertainties. The committee is excited to move forward and plan a wonderful 2021 MusicFest.

G. Outdoor Classroom
A beautiful large oak tree surrounded by granite blocks on the edge of the lake makes a great setting for classes or just to let the kids climb.



Support the Willow Waterhole Today!

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.

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

Consider joining as a member of the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy. More information can be found at www.willowwaterhole.org/membership.

"Please join me in becoming a member of the WWGC, a jewel in our neighborhood. Let's make it even better!"

**-Cindy Chapman
WCC President**

the **HELP IMPROVE**
WILLOW WATERHOLE GREENWAY!

**PROVIDE VITAL SUPPORT FOR:
CAPITAL PROJECTS,
CONSERVATION, and
COMMUNITY EVENTS**

BECOME a MEMBER of the
WILLOW WATERHOLE GREENSPACE CONSERVANCY TODAY!

**FOR INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP:
www.willowwaterhole.org/membership**

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:
membership@willowwaterhole.org**

"Less flooding... more greenspace"

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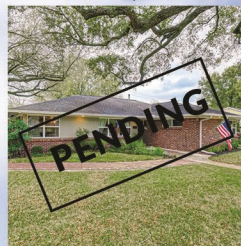
10922 Endicott Ln
3/2/2 • \$340's



10710 Mullins
3/2/2 • \$310's



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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