Celebrating 60 Wonderful Years of the Westbury Civic Club

# Westbury NOVEMBER 2016 **VOLUME 61, ISSUE**

**Make Your Voice Count! VOTE IN THE 2016** 

**ELECTION** 



For more information, see pages 10 & 11

# 2016 ELECTION

Your Decision. Your Vote. Westbury is respected as an area with high voter turnout. Keep up the Westbury tradition and VOTE!



WHERE TO VOTE, WHAT IS ON THE **BALLOT, & MORE, SEE PG 10** 



**HISD PROPOSITION 1 HAS TRICKY** WORDING THAT MAY CONFUSE **VOTERS. LEARN ALL ABOUT THE HISD** "RECAPTURE" PROPOSITION ON PG 11





2AM November 6



# **Fall White Elephant Sale**

COME SHOP OVER 50 GARAGE SALES IN ONE LOCATION!

# Sat., November 5 **8AM to Noon**

Westbury United Methodist Church Parking Lot, 5200 Willowbend

Parking is available at Št. John's Presbyterian or in the surrounding neighborhood. Rain date is Nov. 12.



# **HEAVY TRASH & HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**



# **NOVEMBER 10** TREE WASTE ONLY

Pick up for ALL of Westbury is Thursday, November 10

\*DO NOT PLACE TREE WASTE ON CURB **UNTIL 6pm NOVEMBER 4** 

December 8: Junk Waste Pick-up

#### THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

No trash or recycling on Thursday, November 24. Trash and recycling will be picked up on Friday,



November 25.

# **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, Su	nday, and holidays
Telephone	713-723-5437
Emailw	estburycc@sbcglobal.net
Deed Restrictionsw	estburycc@sbcglobal.net
	Monday - Thursday  Closed Friday, Saturday, Sur Telephone Emailw Deed Restrictionsw

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#### **SECURITY**

Pct. 5 Constables (WAP	)281-463-6666		
including suspicious activity, burglar alarms and vacation watch			
Emergency	911		
Houston Police Dept. Non-Em	ergency 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 Locke713-755-6111
Graffitiwww.braysoaksmd.org
Shopping Cart Removalwww.braysoaksmd.org
Brays Oaks Mgmt. District - Use "report a problem" link
Poison Control1-800-764-7661
Harris County Tax office713-368-2000
Harris County Appraisal District713-957-7800

#### 2017 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Treasurer	VACANT
Secretary	Dan Vega
Vice PresidentMai	cia Hartman
wccpresident@westburycrier.com or 713-4	143-3951
PresidentBecky	<sup>,</sup> Edmondson

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Community Relations	Cindy Chapman			
wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com				
Deed Restrictions	Jennifer Edmondson			
westburycc@sbcglobal.net				
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Donna Strom			
Greenspace Beautification	VACANT			
Membership	Jeff Benavides			
SecurityVACANT				
Volunteer & Event CoordinatorRobert Montgomery				
rmontgomery002@comcast.net				

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Westbury 2	VACANT		
Westbury 3	Tony Robert		
Westbury 3	Recy Dunn		
Westbury 4	Judy Overton		
Westbury 4	Eugene Sirls		
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Westbury5E@westburycrier.com			
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Westbury South	Sunny Davis		
Parkwest 1			
Parkwest 2	Jeffrey Weiss		
Jweiss@txchiro.edu			
Parkwest 3	Joe Niles		
parkwest3@westburycrier.com			

#### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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# President's Message

The Westbury Civic Club's 60th Anniversary celebration was a great success! I am thankful that so much historical data has been kept in the WCC office. Having 60 years of a monthly publication to read through is almost like time travel! We also have five scrapbooks of articles from the newspapers dating back to 1957. I am very thankful to the industrious people who read the newspapers in our early years and cut out every article that mentioned Westbury. The WCC in those early years had a huge job to ensure that Westbury received needed city services by lobbying for a fire station, a library, roads, schools, and more. They fought tax appraisals that they thought were coming too frequently and unfairly compared to other communities. They fought to bring new roads and then later had to fight to keep them at 4 lanes. They fought to keep Westbury as a residential community and to shut down businesses operating from homes - from beauty salons to garage sales.

I want to thank everyone who sent in pictures and stories and articles for our celebration. Thanks to you all, Jennifer Edmondson was able to create six incredible display boards. You can see them on page 13 In the future, we hope to have them on display. Westbury has a proud history. It is as viable today as it was when it was being newly marketed as a wonderful master-planned community in the 1950s for two reasons - the Westbury Civic Club and YOU!

A neighborhood is only as strong as the people who live in it and demand that it

and Annual Meeting.

be a great place to live. For 60 years, people have been stepping up to the plate and volunteering to make Westbury the best place it can be. I am so thankful that I have had a chance to work with some of those early leaders like Dabney Kennedy, Wally Davenport and Russell Shexnayder. And now I am thankful to be working with the new up-and-coming leaders for our area. I am so appreciative of the whole WCC board and our volunteers. Go team!

Thanks to the hundreds of you who came out to celebrate! It was so good to see a room full of people enjoying one another's company and visiting with all the groups that work to make Westbury special and unique. Pictures are on pages 12 & 13.

The Certificate of Recognition from Larry Green and District K summed it up well!

"District K commends and applauds Westbury Civic Club as they celebrate 60 years... During the past 60 years, the Westbury community grew and prospered and also experienced many changes and transformations. Through it all the WCC has consistently shown itself be a neighborhood filled with friendly, social-minded persons who care about their neighborhood; find the time to help one another; and to help the

neighborhood maintain its beauty, its vibrancy, and its character, all the while having an attitude of openness, diversity and willingness to change with the times. District K salutes the WCC on its 60th anniversary as a model for other neighborhoods through positively organized community collaboration, involvement and partnership."

Makes you proud to be a part of this great community, doesn't it? We have so much to be thankful for here in Westbury. Wishing you a very Happy Thanksgiving! **Becky Edmondson** 



Three generations of the Edmondson's live in Westbury! The younger two since birth!



District K City Councilman, Larry Green, presenting the WCC with a Certificate of Recognition

Sixty Wonderful Years Westbury Civic Club

October 2016 Motion made to donate \$500 to Westbury Baptist for their continued

Discussion about possible new WCC office space in the same building.

Discussion on Flooding in regards to Federal money and proposed detention and how that would help Westbury.

**Westbury Civic Club Board Notes** 

support of the Westbury Civic Club, especially the 60th Anniversary Party

Discussed the hiring of Pam Schertz CPA as Accountant for Westbury Civic Club

**NEXT WCC Board** Meeting Wed., Nov. 16, 7PM-9PM **Westbury Baptist** 

# **Platou Community Center**

11655 Chimney Rock Hours: Mon-Thurs 12PM—8PM; Fri 11AM-7PM Supervisor: 713-726-7107

# Westbury Martial Arts & Fitness

Mon. & Weds. 6-7PM
Kids of all ages can learn martial arts, fitness & conditioning, confidence, and self-defense.
Classes with WMA are a great way to become active in a fun

Classes with WMA are a great way to become active in a fun and safe environment. Please visit westburymartialartsandfitness.com or call 832-475-1554 for more information.

# All About Trees Family Fun Day Nov. 19, 10AM-2PM

Family fun days are back at the Platou Center! Come learn all about trees: how they grow, how many types, what types do we find in Westbury? We hope to see you there!

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

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



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.

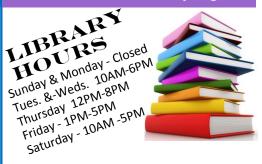
#### **TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY**

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

# Meyer Neighborhood Library

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



# WEEKLY EVENTS NOVEMBER 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 Time**

Thursdays, 3:30pm

# Special Library Events on page 19

Westbury Pool CLOSED UNTIL 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 NOVEMBER 2016
Sat. 5	Fall White Elephant Sale 8AM - Noon Westbury United Methodist—5200 Willowbend See page 1 for more information
Sun. 6	Daylight Savings Ends Set your clocks back one hour at 2AM
Tues. 8	2016 Election Day
Sat. 12	Rain Date for White Elephant Sale
Wed 16	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Salem Lutheran Church 4930 W. Bellfort 8:30AM
Wed. 16	Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting 7PM-9PM Westbury Baptist Game Room—10425 Hillcroft
Sat. 19	Audubon Society Bird Survey Meet at the Gathering Place parking lot—5310 S. Willow See page 20 for more information.
Sat. 19	Family Fun Day at Platou Platou Community Center11655 Chimney Rock Topic: All About Trees
Mon. 21	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow Speaker: Richard Rodriguez
Tues 22	SW PIP (HPD Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM Aramco Building by Hobby Lobby
Nov 21-25	WCC Office Closed
Thurs. 24	Thanksgiving

# Happy Thanksgiving

# **Planning Calendar**

Snow Day at Willow Waterhole —Dec. 5
Deck the Halls Parade –Dec. 17
HISD Winter Break - Dec. 19- Jan. 3

WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM

# Heavy & Recycling Trash Calendar

November 2016				
Thurs 10	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS		
Thurs 10	Heavy Trash- TREE WALL OF WESTBURY	ASTE ONLY		
Friday 25*	Regular Trash Pickup to Thanksgiving	moved due		
Friday 25*	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS		
	December 2016			
Thurs 8	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury	NO GLASS		
Thurs 8	Heavy Trash– JUNK N	WASTE		
Thurs 22	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.
- Tard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags
- Heavy trash can be placed starting at 6PM the Friday before pick-up
- MYARD WASTE is not considered tree waste. It is collected on regular Thursday trash day
- Call 311 for all trash guestions and complaints
- Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling
   Centers: <u>SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr</u>
   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 <a href="https://www.westburycrier.com">www.westburycrier.com</a> or <a href="https://www.houstontx.gov">www.houstontx.gov</a> for more trash and recycling information

# **City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule**

November	Tree Waste	December	Junk Waste
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# **HISD NEWS**

#### Parker Book Fair: November 7-11

Parker Elementary will be having their Scholastic Book Fair from November 7-11. Proceeds from the Fair benefit the Parker Elementary library. Parker Elementary is located at 10626 Atwell.



## **HISD Trustee Mike Lunceford Resigns**

HISD Trustee Mike Lunceford represents part of Westbury and also the nearby Meyerland Middle School for the Performing and Visual Arts, which serves many Westbury residents. After seven years of service on the board, including a term as board president, Trustee Lunceford has announced his resignation, which will be effective at the end of 2016. Due to the timing of the resignation, the remaining year of his term will be filled by appointment of the HISD Board. At print time, the process that will be used to fill the vacancy had not yet been announced.

Trustee Lunceford cited the challenges serving on the board while also commuting weekly to Midland for a job as an engineering manager. Additionally, he expressed some frustration with the contentiousness of the current board. As noted in the weekly SW News, "Basically, it was a culmination of things", said Lunceford. "It was the whole issue with the Kinders and the renaming of HSPVA. That should have been a joyous celebration that someone would donate \$7.5 Million. It's our stellar fine arts school, shouldn't it be good? It passed, but it should have been without any problems."

Ultimately the \$7.5 Million donation by the Kinder Foundation to HSPVA was approved by the board by a 7-2 vote; however, the board expressed concerns about renaming the school for a donor and fairness to other campuses.

Another recent controversy involved a possible relocation of the Bellaire High School campus to the former 28-acre Chevron campus in Bellaire. Bellaire High School is also in Lunceford's district. According to the *Houston Chronicle*, "The proposal would have used money allocated to build a new Bellaire High School to buy the Chevron campus and renovate the existing school. Money to build a new high school on the Chevron campus would have to come from a future bond election." Trustee Lunceford removed his support for the proposed Bellaire High School relocation on the day he submitted his resignation, saying that he did not have the support of the board and that there were too many unknowns at this time for the project.

Trustee Lunceford will be missed. He has had a good reputation as a Trustee for his deep analysis of budget proposals and financial issues and for his calm and amiable personality.

# **Westbury High School News**

The very first fundraiser held to benefit the Westbury High School award-winning auto technician program was a big success. Watch for future opportunities to have your vehicles serviced at WHS at a reasonable cost, while also helping a wonderful training program for students at WHS. For more information, contact Mr. Robert Lyle, rlyle@houstonisd.org.



Congratulations to WHS for winning their homecoming football game 69-0! WHS will play rivals Bellaire HS and Lamar HS for their last two games of the football season.

WHS continues to heavily promote its new Fine Arts magnet program to recruit future students. For example, WHS hosted a well-attended Magnet School Choice Fair in September and they are busy visiting schools across the district. During the October 20 football game, the WHS Marching Band hosted the Meyerland Middle, Fondren Middle, Welch Middle School, and Parker Elementary band students- who all performed with the Westbury Marching Band. This night was dedicated to giving the feeder pattern schools an opportunity to get a taste of their zoned high school band.

Students from WHS will soon be serving as mentors and tutors for students at nearby Anderson Elementary School in a brand new partnership between the two schools. WHS students from the Ladies of Distinction, Gents Society, and National Honor Society organizations have already been signing up to participate.

Keep up the good efforts WHS!



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# HISD Superintendent Comes to Westbury

The new Houston Independent School District (HISD) Superintendent, Dr. Richard Carranza, visited Westbury High School (WHS) as part of his "Listen & Learn Tour". An enthusiastic audience filled the auditorium. Students, parents, and community members joined WHS principal Susan Monaghan and her staff along with the principals from Anderson, Parker, and Foerster and their staffs. To show off the newly reinstated Fine Arts program at WHS, the WHS Band and the Blue Diamond Dancers kicked off the hour long event. Dr. Carranza entertained the audience with his history and the consensus seemed to be that he will be a great leader for HISD, the largest school district in Texas. HISD Trustee Wanda Adams pledged her support and spoke about the ballot item that will affect HISD in November. (for more info on this ballot issue, see page 11)



WHS Band & Blue Diamond Dancers

Then Carranza invited people to ask questions or make comments. WCC President Becky Edmondson welcomed him to Westbury and told him that HISD has an incredible opportunity to support WHS and make it a flagship school. Howard Sacks, President of the Friends of Levitt Pavilion board, told him about the performance pavilion coming to the Willow Waterhole Greenspace and what that could mean to the Fine Arts program at WHS. Ralph Rieger, president of the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy and Board Chair of the Brays

Oaks Management
District (BOMD), told
him of the 290 acre
Willow Waterhole
facility adjacent to WHS
and the school
cross-country meets
that take place there.
Richard Rodriguez,
executive director of
BOMD, told him about
the bus program
provided to HISD for
afterschool programs
and activities. Kay

Griggs and Frank Staats, both from the Friends of WHS Foundation told of their support of the school by awarding over \$350,000 in scholarships over the past years and the other services provided to the school. Parents and PTO members expressed their concerns. A WHS senior,

Mahogany Thomas, talked about the needs of the WHS band for both uniforms and instruments.

Bill Burhans spoke about the public safety concerns of having two crime ridden and troubled apartments adjacent to the school and separating new ballfields from the school. On the morning of Sept 26, a man was murdered at the apartment complex at 5555 Gasmer. On August 27, a fire occurred at 5555 Gasmer and displaced dozens of families. On



HISD Superintendent, Dr. Carranza (2nd from left) with WHS teachers and staff

October 7, the day after this meeting, there was another shooting at the adjacent 5565 Gasmer apartment complex, causing the school to go into a lockdown situation for safety until the shooter was apprehended.

HISD had plans to acquire these properties as part of the 2012 HISD Bond program, and the HISD Board of Trustees voted to proceed with the two property acquisitions; however, they later voted against obtaining these troubled properties. Having a safe campus is imperative. The next school board meeting is Thursday, November 10, and we hope to have a group ready to speak to the school board about this very important issue. We also plan to meet with new Superintendent Carranza on this topic.



Howard Sacks, President of the Friends of Levitt Pavilion spoke about the Fine Arts possibilites

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# Greater S. Post Oak / W. Bellfort Civility Ordinance

After many complaints regarding aggressive panhandling, a petition effort started on October 4, 2016 to reduce panhandling on public sidewalks, especially in the area of South Post Oak. The petition effort is being led by a coalition of neighborhood groups, including the Westbury Civic Club; the coalition calls itself the GREATER SOUTH POST OAK/W. BELLFORT COALITION (Greater SPO/WB Coalition). The petition effort follows more than a year of work at the city and neighborhood levels to curtail aggressive panhandling.

The petition process requires at least 100 signatures by affected residents (owners

or renters) and at least 20% of the owners of the land area (which is the more difficult threshold to meet) be obtained within a 60 day period. Efforts to contact large landowners to get their commitment in advance for approval, began several months prior to the petition kickoff on October 4. Note that neither the city nor the county will sign the petition and these entities control a huge amount of land in our area, including: parks, community centers, esplanades, drainage features, streets, and city water/sewer pumping stations.

Residents of Westbury will notice that only part of Westbury is included in the

proposed area for the civility ordinance. Why? SPO has the highest traffic count in the area, the most panhandlers, and has had the most complaints, so the SPO corridor has been a primary focus. The other reason involves strategic planning to be able to meet the 20% land area requirement in a short period of time. If you live EAST of Chimney Rock in

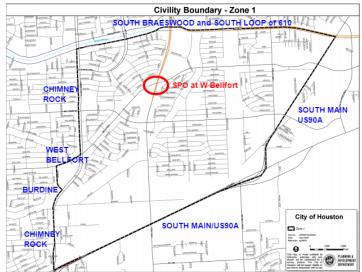
Westbury, then you are within the boundaries of the proposed civility zone and may sign the petition to ask the City to approve this civility zone. The petition form is on our website,

www.westburycrier.com. Return the petitions to the WCC Office, 5322 West Bellfort Suite 107 (mail slot at the office is available if you want to save a stamp).

The proposed civility ordinance is simply one more tool that the Greater SPO/WB coalition is using to reduce aggressive panhandling, but it is neither a perfect nor a strong tool. In addition, at the community level, work is ongoing to find and fund ways to make affected intersections less conducive to panhandling. For example, in Westbury we are looking at the designs of the Willowbend/SPO and the West Airport/Hillcroft intersections. Additionally, the city continues to consider how to reduce the problem of aggressive panhandling on a city-wide level.

In the meantime, we repeat Mayor Turner's advice: **Don't give money to panhandlers.** Give your money to organizations that help the homeless.

Sign the Petition for "Civility Ordinance" for South Post Oak Area if you live in the designated area!



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# Flooding Concerns and HCFCD Projects

# Flooding in Westbury 2015 Disaster Recovery Federal Funds

There were two flooding events in 2015 which primarily affected the southwest area of Houston, including areas in Westbury, Meyerland, and other communities in the Brays Bayou watershed. These two events caused about \$546 Million dollars in impact in the Houston area. The city applied in September 2016 to the Department of Housing and Development (HUD) for \$66 Million dollars in federal funding for 2015 disaster recovery for "unmet needs" (needs not covered by other federal programs), especially unmet needs related to housing, drainage or detention infrastructure, or economic impacts. HUD requires that most of these funds be spent on housing or on behalf of neighborhoods in low to middle income areas.

The Infrastructure Committee of the Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) had already been working to identify future flood reduction projects to supplement the federal Project Brays program when the city called for ideas to submit for the 2015 Disaster Recovery federal funds. As a result, BOMD and District K CM Larry Green were able to submit to the city detailed engineering studies for a plan that would REDUCE flooding in the Brays Bayou watershed and in the Westbury/Meyerland areas by adding several NEW DETENTION sites upstream of the Westbury area. The proposed detention sites would also provide needed greenspaces in densely populated, low to middle income areas.

At the two public meetings held on this topic, there was strong advocacy for the BOMD plan by representatives from local civic organizations. At this time, the city is waiting to hear back from the federal government. If the federal government accepts the Houston proposal, then we will again need to strongly advocate for the funds to be spent on the BOMD proposal for new detention sites upstream of Westbury, since there will be many groups across the city that would also like to get these funds.

#### 42 Houston Homes To Be Elevated

Houston City Council unanimously approved an agreement between the City and the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for the administration of FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA). The TWDB has agreed to reimburse the City up to \$14,846,975 for the elevation of forty-two flood-prone homes.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE TO RESIDENTS in WB1 and WB3 who back up to HCFCD Easement

If you live on KINGFISHER in Westbury 1 or on SANFORD in Westbury 3 (see map), then please take notice that the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) will soon start work in the HCFCD right-of-way (ROW) easement behind your homes. This work will be part of the flood control efforts associated with Project Brays and the Willow Waterhole detention lakes.

First, surveyors will mark the easement right-of-way belonging to the Harris County Flood Control District with stakes. This is the ROW that begins at the corner of W. Bellfort and Chimney Rock and runs southeast back to the Willow Waterhole Bayou.

Please be aware that any structures, fences, or other items that are on the HCFCD easement will be REMOVED as needed for HCFCD to do its flood control work. Then, the area will be excavated and large box culverts will be added for storm water collection. Residents are urged to remove any personal belongings located in the HCFCD right-of-way easement prior to the start of construction.



For questions, please call the WCC Office at 713-723-5437 or contact HCFCD directly.

In response to the 2015 Memorial Day flood event, the City elected to submit a grant application to the annual FEMA call for the FMA grant program. The grant program makes funds available nation-wide to address the mitigation of flood-damaged properties that hold flood insurance policies through the National Flood Insurance Program.

Homeowners with properties designated by FEMA as Severe Repetitive Loss or Repetitive Loss, volunteered to participate in the program prior to the submission of the grant application. Depending on the National Flood Insurance Program loss history of each property at the time of the grant application, participating homeowners will be awarded between 75% and 100% of eligible home elevation project costs. The 42 homes have already been selected.



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# Election 2016—NOVEMBER 8

# ELECTION 2016

# **ELECTION DAY - TUES., NOVEMBER 8**

Your Decision. Your Vote. Westbury is respected as an area with high voter turnout. Keep up the Westbury tradition and VOTE!

READ ALL ABOUT THE HISD "RECAPTURE"

PROPOSITION 1 ON THE NEXT PAGE. PROP 1 HAS

TRICKY WORDING THAT MAY CONFUSE VOTERS.

## KNOW THE FACTS.

#### What is on the ballot?

\*This is a National, State, and County election. On the ballot are US President & Vice President, US House of Representatives, State representatives, Railroad Commissioner, TX Supreme Court Justices, District Attorney, County Attorney, Sheriff, County Commissioner, County Tax Assessor, Constables, and many different Judges. Additionally, there is a controversial item regarding HISD taxes and the state "Robin Hood" funding plan, HISD Proposition 1 "authorizing the Board of Trustees of Houston Independent School District to purchase attendance credits from the state with local tax revenues." See the next page for more information about HISD Prop 1.

#### When Can You Vote?

Early voting continues until November 4 from 7AM to 7PM.
Convenient sites to Westbury are Bayland
Community Center, Fiesta Mart on Kirby, and Hiriam Clarke
Multi-Service Center. Voting locations may change up until
Election Day. Visit www.harrisvotes.org for up to minute news.

#### Where Do You Vote?

Pct. 14: Westbury United Methodist, 5200 Willowbend\*

Pct. 22: Foerster Elementary, 14200 Fonmeadow Dr

Pct. 146: Platou Comm. Ctr, 11655 Chimney Rock

Pct. 281: Kolter Elementary, 9710 Runnymeade Dr

Pct. 453: Spanish Pentecostal Church, 5365 W. Airport

Pct. 291: Houston Christian Fellowship, 11122 Hillcroft

Pct. 403: Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft

Pct. 293: Andy Anderson Elementary, 5727 Ludington

Pct. 693: Braeswood Assembly of God, 10611 Fondren

\*NEW LOCATION FOR PRECINCT 14 THIS YEAR DUE TO PARKER ELEMENTARY CONSTRUCTION. MOVED TO WESTBURY UNITED METHODIST.

Voting locations may change up until Election Day. For sample ballots, locations, etc go to www.harrisvotes.org for up to minute news.



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# IMPORTANT: Confusing HISD Item on Nov. Ballot

#### **HISD Ballot Item Featured in Chronicle**

Here is a summary of what the *Houston Chronicle* had to say about the HISD "ReCapture" measure that is on the November ballot.

"...be warned - it is a trick question. The ballot is really asking whether HISD should submit itself to state recapture and send \$162 million in local property tax dollars to Austin. The correct answer is "NO," or "AGAINST. If this misleading ballot provision passes, HISD will not only be required to send \$162 million in local property tax dollars to the state next year. The district will also likely face higher annual payments for the foreseeable future under the state's broken school finance system."

"...in reality, the system robs from the poor and gives to legislators so that they don't have to raise state taxes. There's no guarantee that poor schools will receive a single extra dime if HISD pays up. How does this work? Simply put, the state keeps two bank accounts: one for general revenue and one for the recaptured Robin Hood sums. Every dollar that the state pays from Robin Hood frees up general revenue money that the state otherwise would have to spend to help poor schools. So instead of giving extra money to needy districts, any HISD money will essentially be spent on highways, border security or some other appropriation besides education."

"...By voting no, Houstonians will keep their money and instead authorize the commissioner of education to detach \$18 billion worth of commercial property from HISD and assign it to other school districts. This has never happened before, and such a radical move would give the Legislature an opportunity to rectify the situation. A "no" vote won't end the problem. However, it will give the Legislature the entire 2017 session to fix school finance in Texas and keep local taxpayer dollars in our HISD schools."



# Confusing Item about HISD on the November Ballot ("ReCapture")

Westbury is known for having among the highest voting rates in the City, so it

is important that voters in Westbury consider carefully the complicated issue of school funding in Texas and how this affects our local public schools in the Houston Independent School District (HISD). The ballot item is worded in a confusing manner, so please review and understand the issue, so that you aren't trying to figure out how to vote when you get in the voting booth!

Here is how the topic will be worded on the ballot, "Authorizing the board of trustees of Houston Independent School District to purchase attendance credits from the state with local tax revenues". Voters will be asked to vote either FOR or AGAINST(NO).

**Background:** HISD serves a huge number of urban students who are impoverished, or have limited English skills, or need assistance to reach their potential. Over 75% of HISD students are disadvantaged. Yet, amazingly, the not-so-brilliant State of Texas has determined that HISD has become too wealthy ("property rich", since schools are funded by property taxes) and will be subject to "recapture" (also known as the state "Robin Hood" funding plan which takes funding away from "wealthy" school districts).

**Vote For or Against?** When you read these choices, you will see that BOTH voting options have bad consequences for students in HISD. The Houston Chronicle advises to vote NO / AGAINST in November 2016, in the hopes that the state legislature will be forced to take action during the 2017 Texas legislative session.

# Explanation from HISD on Ballot Choices (Information taken from the HISD website)

#### **FOR**

- ⇒ If voters approve the measure, HISD will begin paying \$162 million next spring. The state will use this payment to fund public education in Texas.
- ⇒ If approved, the district will continue to make annual recapture payments for the foreseeable future. Voter approval will no longer be required for HISD to send an estimated \$257 million in 2017-18; \$308 million in 2018-19; and \$386 million in 2019-20. That's over \$1 billion going from HISD to the state in the coming years.

#### **AGAINST**

- ⇒ If voters don't approve the measure, HISD would then be subject to detachment of about \$18 billion worth of commercial property next July starting with the most valuable.
- ⇒ The Texas Education Agency will detach a portion of HISD's commercial property and reassign it to other school districts in Texas, where it will be taxed at those districts' rates. Those districts would likely impose taxes at a higher rate than HISD. HISD would lose that revenue from the business community, and the local share would possibly increase.





# Westbury 60th Anniversary Party

#### **Celebrating Sixty Wonderful Years of Westbury**

2016 marks 60 years for the Westbury Civic Club. We have been celebrating all year but the big party was on October 15. Over 200 people came out to see what makes Westbury so wonderful!

What a great way to celebrate 60 years! If a picture speaks a thousand words: Classic cars, genealogy, 60 years of history and a room full of friends! The WCC 60th Anniversary Party was a big success as we celebrated all things Westbury from classic cars to history displays to renewing friendships and meeting new friends and learning about all the great groups working to make life in Westbury wonderful.

Westbury's first classic car show took place in the parking lot. Triumph, Fords, VWs and an Edsel! Kids enjoyed carnival games and candy. We even had a cake to celebrate that was cut by Past President Dabney Kennedy.

Westbury received proclamations from the City of Houston, District K-Larry Green and TX State Rep Borris Miles.

Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan had the 1992 proclamation from the City when he was our Councilperson from 1988 to

Booths were set along the perimeter for groups that make Westbury so unique. We had Westbury Care, Geneaogly from the Metcalf's on behalf of the Clayton library, Neighborhood to Trails Southwest group, Company on Stage, Neighbors 4 neighbors, Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy, Platou Center, Westbury Community Garden, Pct 5, Westbury High School PTO, Trees for Houston's Barry Ward brought 60 trees and stayed for the entire event. we have been planting trees with them for over a decade.

The event was so special by ALL of you who attended. Louis Abercia won in the category of earliest resident, arriving in 1958; followed by Vivian Mills in 1960 and Lorraine Lovell; and many more. Past president, Dabney Kennedy, and the wives of two former presidents, Wally Davenport and Kevin O'Connor were in

attendance. On the political scene precinct chairs Priscilla Bloomquist and Vincent Sanders joined Art Pronin, President of the Meyerland Democrats.

The real highlight was the history. A big thanks to all who sent photos and other memorabilia. Jennifer Edmondson created 6 incredible display boards, two of them on the next page. The boards will be on display in the WCC Office soon.







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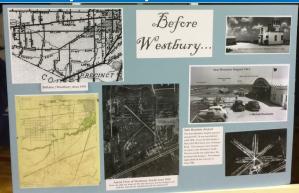


# Westbury 60th Anniversary Party



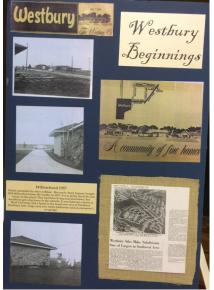
# WESTBURY CIVIC CLUB























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# Crime & Security

#### Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37\* 30 days October 15, 2016

	Single- Family Home	Apt/ Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	9	9	3	0	21
Theft	11	8	3	8	30
Auto Theft	3	5	0	4	12
Robbery	2	3	1	3	9
Assault	3	2	2	1	8
Rape	0	1	0	0	1
Murder	0	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	28	29	9	17	82

<sup>\*</sup>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 Oct. 15, 2016

	-	preceding Oct. 15, 2016				
Block #	Street	Crime				
5500	Arboles	Theft				
10700	Ashcroft	Burglary				
12400	Ashcroft	Theft				
5600	Bankside	Burglary				
10800	Braewick	Theft				
5800	Burlinghall	Theft				
5800	Burlinghall	Burglary				
5800	Cartagena	Theft				
5700	Claridge	Auto Theft				
5500	Duxbury	Theft				
5800	Duxbury	Robbery				
11100	Endicott	Theft				
5700	Firenza	Burglary				
5700	Fontenelle	Burglary				
11500	Gaymoor	Assault				
5200	Kingfisher	Robbery				
10600	Kirkside	Theft				
11500	Landsdowne	Theft				
5700	Ludington	Auto Theft				
6000	Sanford	Burglary				
5300	Spellman	Burglary				
5400	Spellman	Auto Theft				
5900	Vickijohn	Assault				
6000	Vickijohn	Theft				
5500	Warm Springs	Burglary				
5500	W. Bellfort	Burglary				
5700	Willowbend	Theft				
5900	Willwobend	Assualt				



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

#### **National Night Out 2016**

National Night Out (NNO) was held on Tuesday, October 4. 19 Nineteen neighborhood block parties throughout Westbury registered with the WCC Office. Registered parties received visits from Precinct 5 officers, HPD, WCC board members and others interested in meeting residents.

WCC board members Becky Edmondson and Marcia Hartman visited the first 10 parties that registered and delivered goodie bags containing logo shopping bags, cups and magnets. Precinct 5 deputies were out visiting as many of the parties as they could. Jeri Brown, Parent Engagement Coordinator at WHS, and her son visited many parties and sold WHS's PTO sign fundraiser -

"I Westbury" Some neighborhoods host big get-togethers, but the WCC has felt that knowing your closest neighbors is the best way to combat crime. Many of the block parties were annual parties. We thank these long-time party hosts for their commitment to security by bringing neighbors together. Some were brand new hosts and thoroughly enjoyed the Neighborhood Night Out experience.

Remember you don't have to wait for the annual NNO event to host a block party or a neighborhood event. The best way to combat crime is when we are all looking out for one another. Know your neighbors. Know their cars. Exchange contact information. And report anything suspicious to the WAP patrol!

The Falk family in Parkwest 3 were winners of the WCC pizza party. Congratulations!





Top: party on Beaudry in PW3—great crowd with good food (right photo).

Bottom: party on Oasis in W2

# 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.



# Westbury High School

## **Building a Family at Westbury High School**

By: Kent Perschke Westbury resident, and Westbury High School Geography teacher

When your staff becomes family, the kids become more than just a number. The new school year has started and you could feel the excitement amongst the staff. We saw friends, we saw respected colleagues and, more so, we saw an administration that was intact from the year before. There is the same principal, (Susan Monaghan) and ten of the eleven previous administrators have returned to help continue our transformation into the respected educational institution our kids and community deserve. Many more teachers returned this year than the previous year, which speaks to their dedication and shared vision of the strong administrative team. The school looked great, we were primed to plunge into whatever we need to do to help our student population grow into college ready, politically active, assets to the Westbury community.

We had a "Graduates within Reach" walk in the surrounding apartment complexes adjacent to the school on September 10 to make sure we don't let anybody miss out on the opportunities an education provides. Craig Zeno is in charge of that program, as well as heading up a staff in our Student Success Center dedicated to showing our children how to be leaders who make good decisions in their own lives, as well as to their peers so that we can all grow together. Ty Wall is focused on helping our kids succeed at the next level by heading up our National Honor Society, which sets high academic expectations and provides opportunities for volunteering within our Westbury Community. Our counselor, Erica Rose, helps facilitate career readiness, while she teams with the Houston Fire Department in our Linked Learning program that propels our students into a career of public service that starts right here at our Westbury Fire Station 48 on Chimney Rock.

We must be inspired and dedicated every day. The kids deserve it. Our community deserves it. We are close to starting the HISD budgeted renovations. The new baseball and softball fields, currently under construction, are being overseen by dedicated coaches as well. Coach Lauren Gustartis (softball) is involved with a lot of community activities while Coaches Chris Dusablon and Robert Lyle (baseball) also help make sure we have premier facilities for our student athletes. Just take a look at our improved campus football field thanks to the dedication of new Head football coach and Westbury alum Greg Wilson. We are doing the best we can to be the reflection of success our community deserves, and we invite anyone, who wants to be a part of the change in culture we are inspiring at Westbury, to come join us.

# Deck the Halls Parade December 17

The 2016 "Deck the Halls" Parade will be on Sat., December 17! The theme this year is Fairies. Invite all your friends and neighbors!

# Gift Market Nov. 26, 9AM-2PM

Westbury United Methodist Church. 5200 Willowbend Blvd., invites the community to its annual Good Gifts Market on Saturday, November 26th, 9am-2pm. The market features fair trade vendors whose efforts assist people in need both in the U.S. and abroad. Vendors will sell handcrafted items such as apparel, jewelry, quilts, and Christmas ornaments. The market will also include items that will assist the people of Haiti, which was struck recently by Hurricane Matthew. Vendors include Free the Captives, Community Cloth, She Has Hope, Westbury's Piecemaker Quilters, Haitian Artisans for Peace International, and more. PUCS Pop-Up Coffee Shop will sell refreshments, and KPFT's DJ Kumi will create a festive atmosphere with world music.

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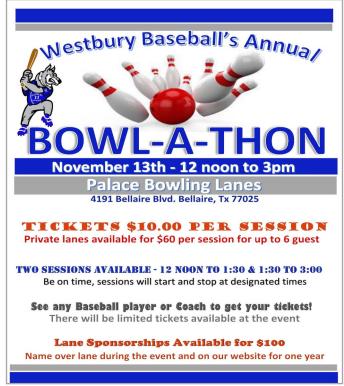


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# Westbury Area News

# **SWHouston 2000 Bi-Monthly Breakfast**\*DATE CHANGE DUE TO ELECTION

Due to a conflict with Election Day, the date of the SWHouston2000 November Breakfast has been CHANGED. **The NEW date will be November 15 (not on November 8).** Our Guest Speaker will be the Director of Neighborhoods, TaKasha Francis. For registration information, go to <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SWHouston2000/">https://www.facebook.com/SWHouston2000/</a>

**In Memoriam** Two longtime Westbury supporters passed away in October.

**Scott McCleskey** Scott grew up in Westbury, graduated first from Westbury High and then Houston Baptist University. He started his career in banking at Westbury National Bank while he was in high school and had a banking career that spanned more than 33 years. Scott was a longtime member of the Friends of WHS Foundation and was very active at Westbury Baptist Church with his family.

**Elaine Gaskamp** Elaine worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life of everyone in her community. She volunteered her time and talents to many organizations. She was a past-president of the Brays Oaks Super Neighborhood. She was a past-president of the Super Neighborhood Alliance. She advocated for neighborhood board participation in the Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) and served as a community representative board member from the time of the creation of BOMD until her death. She was instrumental in Westbury becoming a recognized Super Neighborhood.

# Company on Stage presents THE VELVETEEN RABBIT December 3 - 17, 2016

Story by Margery Williams, adapted for the stage by Thomas Olson. A boy receives a stuffed rabbit as a Christmas gift and comes to love him. When the boy becomes sick, the rabbit gives him love and makes the boy well. In return for his good deed, a fairy grants the Velveteen Rabbit life. This moving story has been beloved by countless children and adults for close to 100 years. This production is appropriate for all ages. Performances at 11AM and 1:30PM on Saturdays at St. John's Presbyterian Church, in McPhail Hall

#### **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., Nov. 3 @ 6PM

#### Links for Lost & Found Pets in Westbury

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





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

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

# 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.

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

#### 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

Please send this form in with your pays		By filling out this form, you are giving the WCC			
Name(s)				permission to	o send you
Address				DO not so	ell your
Home PhoneWork		Cell		information or give it out to other entities.	
E-mail				Circles	
Make checks payable to: Westbury Civic Club, Inc. Mail to:		Westbury Civic Club Dues*		\$50	\$
		Westbury Area Patrol		\$285	\$
P.O. Box 9753 Dallas, TX 75397			Subtotal	\$335	\$
Online payme		Additional Contributions:			
paypal.com—Send Money to westburycc@sbcglobal.net Make sure to include your		Westbury Civic Club			\$
address or account	•	Westbury Area Patrol (WAP)			\$
Want to send your s multiple payments? You	• •			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!



# Westbury Area News

See page 4 for hours,

address, & more.

# **Meyer Library Special Events**

#### **Creative Knitting**

#### Thurs., Nov., 10, 6PM-7PM

in English. Bring your own knit project or start a new one with us. Different patterns each month. All skills are welcome. Supplies not provided. Adults & seniors welcome.

#### **Storytime Fitness**

#### Sat., Nov. 12, 10:30AM - 11:30AM

Children go on a fun and whimsical adventure where active learning and literacy are not only fun but good for their health. Storytime Fitness includes books and DVD presentations that teaches the importance of nutrition and engages children in a 30 minute kid-friendly fitness activity.

#### **Houston Public Library's Improv Puppet (HIP) Theatre** Wed., Nov. 16, 4PM - 5PM

It's show time at HIP Theatre! Learning through play is fundamental to a child's education; our puppet theater offers children an engaging way to interact and explore their knowledge of the world and expand their vocabulary.

#### **Mystery Book Club** Thurs., Nov. 17, 1PM – 2PM

Do you enjoy reading and discussing books? Join us for a lively discussion.

#### Thurs., Nov. 17, 6PM - 7PM

Get your craft on at the library with other teens! Geared for teens ages 13-18.

#### **Read with Paws-itive Pups** Sat., Nov. 19, 10:30AM - 11:30AM

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

#### Para Los Niños

#### Tues., Nov. 29, 4PM - 5PM

¡Bienvenido! Come explore the library, all of its resources and our parent workshops that 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.



# **Fiesta Grocery Store Update**

Fiesta grocery store plans to renovate and to expand its store on Fondren at West Bellfort. The store will grow from 33,000 square feet to about 45,000 square feet by expanding into the adjacent, vacant former Anna's Linens location, according to the 10/19/2016 Houston Business Journal. Work will start after the holiday season. Changes will include signage, a smoothie bar, expanded international foods, and more apparel.

In addition, the entire shopping center will be renovated by owner Garrison Investments, which purchased the center in 2015.

The decision by Fiesta and Garrison Investments to make these retail investments near Westbury is a positive step. We encourage our residents to support our local businesses and restaurants as much as possible. WE know that we live in a great area, but many retailers do not yet realize this and continue to invest in areas more familiar to them,





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# Willow Waterhole News

#### The Schwartz Gazebo at Willow Waterhole

On the evening of October 17, a large crowd of luminaries and friends gathered at the Willow Waterhole for a ceremony honoring Bob Schwartz for his many years of community service and flood control advocacy. The lovely gazebo which overlooks "Westbury Lake" at the end of Dryad was renamed the "Schwartz Gazebo", and the city issued a proclamation for the event. Bob has represented the southwest area of Houston in many organizations and committees over the years, but he is perhaps best known for his advocacy on behalf of flood control projects for Brays Bayou and helping in the development of the Willow Waterhole Detention Project.

The event was hosted by Howard Sacks (Past President of the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy) and Charles Goforth (President of the Brays Bayou Association). Rabbi Adrienne Scott of Congregation Beth Israel opened the event with a prayer. Current city councilmembers Ellen Cohen (Mayor Pro-Tem), Larry Green, and Mike Laster, plus former CMs Steve Costello, Anne Clutterbuck, and Vince Ryan attended and spoke. Other speakers included: Joe Turner (Director of Houston Parks and Recreation), Joseph Lee (for Harris County Commissioner Gene Locke), Jeremy Brown (for Texas State Senator Rodney Ellis), Gary Zika (Harris County Flood Control District), Robert Rayburn (Bayou Preservation Association), Ann Lee

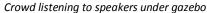
(founding president of the Brays Bayou Association), Karen Cullar (former grant writer for the city and county), and Richard Rodriguez (Executive Director of the Brays Oaks Management District).

The Bob Schwartz Gazebo
at Willow Waterhole Greenway

Congratulations, Bob!









Gazebo at Willow Waterhole, 5300 Dryad Refreshments will be available from PUCS More information in the next *Crier*.

#### Audubon Bird Survey: Sat, Nov. 19, 8AM

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 8AM 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!

Top left: City CM Laster, City CM Cohen, City CM Green speak at ceremony for Schwartz Gazebo

Right: Bob Schwartz
Bottom: beautiful cake for
celebration







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# Boy Scout Projects @ Willow Waterhole

#### Scout Restores Kiosks

Kevin Williams, of New Faith Bible Church Troop 601, recently completed his Eagle project at Willow Waterhole Greenway on October 7. Kevin rebuilt the wood frames and replaced the Plexiglas and hardware on three information kiosks. He also repaired the wood shingle roof on one of the kiosks.

Kevin used carpentry skills in measuring, designing, cutting, and assembling the wood frames. He conducted fundraising to purchase the materials needed. He led other scouts in the site installation of the frames, Plexiglas, hardware, and in painting. The kiosks were originally built by scouts from Troop 99 and after eight years of exposure to the elements were in need of restoration.

Bill Burhans, Conservation Director of the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy, served as a project advisor to Kevin. "The kiosks are a very important amenity at Willow Waterhole, the bulletin boards contain maps, information on upcoming events, Audubon Society bird counts, and the history of the Greenway."





Scout Kevin Williams restored the kiosks at the Willow Waterhole along with some friends.

# **Eagle Scout Transforms S. Clematis Circle**

Mitchell Mezyk, a scout with St. Thomas More Troop 99, completed a landscaping transformation of the traffic circle on South Clematis Lane near Gasmer Drive on September 24. The site is on the banks of "Levitt Lake" opposite where the future music pavilion is planned and is an entry point into the Willow Waterhole Greenway. This is the second traffic circle project on Clematis transformed by Eagle Scouts. Both sites were weedy and potholed. Below are the before and after photos, and it is now features a beautiful low-maintenance xeriscape.

Mitchell spent one day preparing the site: mowing, killing weeds, and leveling. The second day, he and his fellow scouts from Troop 99 planted a live oak tree, put down weed block, spread crushed granite, and placed boulders around the circle. Mitchell and his father made a trip to Fredericksburg to get the boulders. The tree was donated by Trees for Houston, and the crushed granite by the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy. Mitchell raised funds to purchase weed killer, weedblock, additional crushed granite, and lunch for the troop.



Before and after photos of the traffic circle on Clematis



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# Keeping Westbury Beautiful



**Keep Westbury** Beautiful Day



The Westbury Green Team led by Marcia Hartman and Bill Burhans made Westbury a little more beautiful on a cool, sunny Saturday in October. Westbury was lucky to have so many volunteers on hand! Becky Edmondson and New Green Team member Mat Funk oversaw the work at Westbury Park on the butterfly garden with a team of 10 Memorial Mob (MMOB) students. Westbury residents Christina Lacen and Katie Hale pulled weeds and tied up the jasmine. A dozen new butterfly plants were planted. Preston Buck and his two young sons Elliot and Kyle picked up trash and filled a trash bag where water bottles and bottle caps were plentiful. Marcia Hartman and Bill Burhans, accompanied by resident Ray Mora, led two teams from the MMOB picking up trash and trimming trees down West Bellfort. Two truckloads of trimmings! Bill and Karen Schubert led a team to plant and mulch six red buds on Hillcroft. Eugene Sirls led a group at Hager Park. They re-adjusted existing tree supports and anchor straps, and added new supports and straps, picked up trash, and pruned four trees. By noon the work was done and all the workers reunited at Westbury Park to enjoy pizza, compliments of the WCC, and water from Jackie Murray and Kendyl Maurer of Weichert Realtors.



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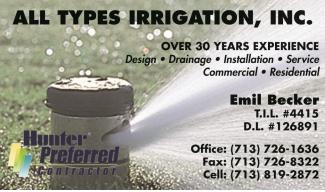
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# Westbury Greenspace News

# Yard of the Month



October Yard of the Month Winner Westbury 3

# October Winners

Parkwest 1: 11102 Atwell - Sylvan Schurwanz

Parkwest 2: 10907 Ashcroft - Louis & Angie Villagomez Westbury 2: 10926 Cedarhurst - Westbury Residents Westbury 3: 11407 Landsdowne - Kim & Audrey Yust

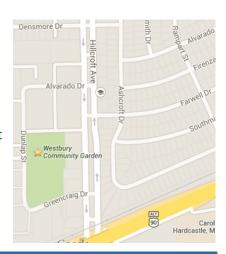
Stevenson

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



# **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.





# **Farm Stand Hours**

Saturday: 10AM - 3PM Sunday: 11AM - 3PM

Sanaay: 117 avi Si ivi

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