



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 62, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2017

## Deck the Halls Parade December 16, 5PM

Westbury has many delightful traditions. The 19th Annual Deck the Halls Parade, which will be held on Saturday, December 16, at 5PM is one of these. Be prepared to be amazed! The theme is SPACE...a tribute to our beloved Houston, Space City. See Star Wars, Star Trek, the planets, the zodiac, constellations, astronauts, and tons of characters from favorites like Jetsons, Lost in Space, Teletubbies, Planet of the Apes, Flash Gordon, Battlestar Galactica, and many more! Traditional favorites will march alongside art cars, local businesses, civic organizations, bands, school, cultural and community groups, and more. Look for the Nativity characters, Santa, Hanukkah Harry, Pancho Claus, Kwanzaa King, Dun Che Lao Ren, and more.

This parade is a labor of love sponsored by the Mandell family. While this parade is not a WCC sponsored event, we are happy to advertise it and participate in it. The parade organizers hope residents on the route will light up their homes and yards for the parade. It is a great time to host a block party and get to know your neighbors. If you don't live along the route, find a friend who does, or make a new friend. Check out [www.deckthehallsparade.org](http://www.deckthehallsparade.org) for more information.

**Parade Route:** The parade lines up at 5505 Belrose in front of the old post office, marches down Burlinghall, then right on Ashcroft, around to and down Warm Springs, right on Atwell, and back to Belrose. If you are coming to watch, park on a side street and walk over to the parade route!



### WCC OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Closed: Dec. 20- January 2  
More info. on page 5

**Run-off Election—December 9**  
More information, see page 14

## Recycling Returns to Westbury

Westbury residents were very thankful to see recycling trucks return to the neighborhood the Friday after Thanksgiving. Recycling had been on hold since Harvey hit Houston in late August. Recycling is picked up every two weeks. The December recycle dates for Westbury are December 7 and December 21. Happy Recycling!

### Recycling Reminders

- NO Glass**
- NO plastic bags**
- Place trash cans at least 3 ft. apart**



### Heavy Trash and Yard Waste Update

At this time, the City has NOT resumed yard waste or heavy trash. We are hopeful these services will resume early in the New Year. Please follow Westbury Houston on Facebook for up to date news. The January *Crier* will have an update!

## WESTBURY HOLIDAY EVENTS

### “Frosty the Snowman” and “Greetings”

December 1-23

Company OnStage, 4930 W. Bellfort

For more information, see page 16

### Winter Fun, Snow Hill

Sunday, December 3, 3-5PM

Willow Waterhole

For more information, see page 21

### Houston Christmas Festival

Sunday, December 10, 7PM

Westbury United Methodist, 5200 Willowbend

For more information, see page 16

### Holiday Social Potluck

Wednesday, December 13, 11-1PM

Platou Community Center, 11655 Chimney Rock

For more information, see page 4

### YARD OF THE MONTH

HOLIDAY DECORATION JUDGING

**SAT., DECEMBER 16 & SUN., DECEMBER 17**



# IMPORTANT CONTACTS

## WCC OFFICE \*NEW ADDRESS

5322 W. Bellfort #100, Houston, TX 77035

Jennifer Edmondson.....WCC Office Manager

NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO DUES PAYING

WESTBURY RESIDENTS during office hours or by appt.

## OFFICE HOURS/CONTACT

Tuesday - Thursday .....9AM-1PM

Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and holidays

Telephone.....713-723-5437

Email.....westburycc@sbcglobal.net

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

Visit our website at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)

"Like" us on Facebook at Westbury Houston

## SECURITY

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

including suspicious activity, burglar alarms and vacation watch

Emergency.....911

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

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

## CITY OF HOUSTON

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

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

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

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

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

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

Houston Help & Information.....311

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

## CENTERPOINT ENERGY

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

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

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

Make sure to give pole number

## OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

County Commissioner 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

## 2018 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

If no contact information is provided, contact the WCC Office at [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net) or 713-723-5437

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

President.....Becky Edmondson

[wccpresident@westburycrier.com](mailto:wccpresident@westburycrier.com) or 713-443-3951

Vice President.....Cindy Chapman

Secretary.....Dan Vega

Treasurer.....Marcia Hartman

### DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Communications.....Katherine Wingfield

Community Relations.....Eugene Sirls

Deed Restrictions.....Jennifer Edmondson

[westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net)

Flood Control & Infrastructure.....Donna Strom

Greenspace Beautification.....Mat Funk

Membership.....Jeff Benavides

Security.....J K O'Brien

Volunteer Coordinator.....Robert Ellis-Montgomery

[robertsmontgomery@icloud.com](mailto:robertsmontgomery@icloud.com)

### SECTION DIRECTORS

Westbury 1.....Nancy Stewart

Westbury 2.....Susan Brock

Westbury 3.....Tony Robert

**Westbury 3.....VACANT**

Westbury 4.....Judy Overton

Westbury 4.....Gail Reaben

Westbury 5.....Virginia Livingston

[Westbury5E@westburycrier.com](mailto:Westbury5E@westburycrier.com)

**Westbury 5.....VACANT**

Westbury South.....Brandon Richard

**Parkwest 1.....VACANT**

Parkwest 2.....Jeffrey Weiss

[Jweiss@txchiro.edu](mailto:Jweiss@txchiro.edu)

Parkwest 3.....Lisa Placke

[parkwest3@westburycrier.com](mailto:parkwest3@westburycrier.com)

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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

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

Edited by.....WCC Publication Committee

Advertising.....713-723-5437/ [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net)

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

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

It's the Monday before Thanksgiving as I sit down to write my December president message. The year has flown. It was the end of summer and now, because of Harvey, it is suddenly 3 months later. Of course, the Houston Astros winning season also filled a lot of that time, too. So with Thanksgiving on my mind I just have to say how thankful I am to be able to say the "World Series Champion Houston Astros"! Westbury has had Astros connections; former Houston Astros Manager Phil Garner's dad was a long time Westbury resident as was Hall of Fame announcer, Gene Elston. Astros' players' children played at Westbury Little League. And, of course, thousands of devoted fans live here too! Can you tell I am one of them? Go 'Stros!

The recovery from Harvey continues and there are several articles in this month's *Crier* directed to those whose homes flooded. Look on pages 8 and 9. Please know that the Westbury Civic Club is actively advocating for Westbury. I am serving on a City Task force looking at Development and Fill as it relates to flooding. A Westbury resident, Elizabeth Stemas, who is an alum of Leadership Houston, asked me if I would speak about our Westbury flooding experience to the current Leadership Houston class. I had a chance to join representatives from the City and County to discuss Harvey and its implications. I also had a chance to tour Transtar, which was an eye opening experience; from both the traffic Transtar

as well as the Office of Emergency Management Transtar. We are in good hands.

This time of year when we give our thanks and celebrate the season, I am always reminded of how thankful I am for this neighborhood. When people find out I am a civic club president, even before they find out there are 5,000 homes, they shake their heads and tell me how sorry they are that I have this thankless job. I don't think they believe me when I tell them "don't be sorry; I have the best neighborhood full of wonderful friends and acquaintances." But it is true. My life has been so enriched by the hundreds and hundreds of you that I have met over the years.



*WCC President Becky Edmondson with Westbury residents Elizabeth Stemas and Franny Oxford at Leadership Houston Class XXXIV*

I'm also thankful for the City of Houston Solid Waste Department. On Sunday, November 19, I received a text message and a Facebook message from Sarah Rogers on Cartagena asking if we could help get heavy trash trucks back to her street as flood debris was piling up. Avoiding writing *Crier* articles, I hopped in my car and drove for the next hour while office manager, Jennifer, recorded the addresses where flood debris was on the curb. I forwarded that list of 119 homes Sunday afternoon and Monday morning the trucks were rolling! I hope that makes everyone in the flooded sections just a little bit more thankful at Thanksgiving.

And as the year comes to a close and many of us celebrate the holidays, I wish you a Merry Christmas, a Happy Chanukah, or a simple Happy Holidays and a very Happy New Year.

Wishing all of you the joys of the season!

Becky Edmondson



### **WCC Board Meeting Notes—November 2017**

- HISD Trustee, Wanda Adams, thanked Westbury residents for votes and her re-election as one of our HISD Trustees
- Sgt. Hernandez of Westbury Area Patrol, Harris County Constables, spoke about crime in the neighborhood. See pg 15 for more details.
- Foxy's alcohol permit is up for renewal in December. WCC voted via email to write a letter of protest on the pending alcohol license permit renewal. See page 13.
- Forming a plan review committee to meet on 2nd & 4th Thursday at 7PM at the WCC Office
- Motion for Lisa Placke to join the board as Parkwest 3 Section Director. Passed unanimously.
- Reminder that NO WCC board meeting in December. See you on January 17 at 7PM.

**NEXT WCC Board Meeting**  
Wed., January 17, 7PM  
Westbury Baptist 10425 Hillcroft



**Want to join the board?**  
**Come to our next meeting!!!**  
**Vacant positions are section**  
**directors for Westbury 3,**  
**Westbury 5, and Parkwest 1.**

# DECEMBER 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Platou Community Center  
11655 Chimney Rock Rd  
Houston, TX 77035  
Facility Manager:  
Jorge Sanchez, 713.726.7107  
Jorge.Sanchez@houston.tx.gov



**Platou Closed**  
December 22-25  
January 1

## MONDAY

<b>Stretching Exercise Class:</b> Improve flexibility in a non-strenuous exercise class.	9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	All Levels
<b>Line Dancing:</b> Fun cardio with a beat.	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	All Levels
<b>Table Tennis:</b> Open Adult and Teen ping pong.	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	All Levels

## TUESDAY

<b>Quilting:</b> Ms. BeeHaven Quilters Contact: Janie 713.721.5526	10:00 AM -2:00 PM	All Levels
<b>Table Tennis:</b> Open Adult and Teen Ping Pong.	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	All Ages
<b>TOPS:</b> Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Contact: Dorothy 713.723.4441 or Naomi 713.988.2233	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	All Levels

## WEDNESDAY

<b>Stretching Exercise Class:</b> Improve flexibility in a non-strenuous exercise class.	9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	All Levels
<b>Table Games:</b> Take a chance at Dominoes, Card Games, and More.	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	All Ages
<b>Table Tennis:</b> Open Adult and Teen Ping Pong	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	All Levels

## FRIDAY

<b>Stretching Exercise Class:</b> Improve flexibility in a non-strenuous exercise class.	9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	All Levels
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## Holiday Social Potluck

### December 13, 11AM—1PM

Open to all, everyone is invited. It is a pot luck lunch, so bring a dish to share! After lunch we will take a group picture and have a White Elephant Gift Exchange for fun. If you want to participate, bring a wrapped gift of something inexpensive, useful or edible. Joke gifts are okay, too.  
**Toys for Tots:** Please bring a new unwrapped toy. The toys will be delivered to Weichert Realtors to be delivered to Santa Claus. For more information, please call 713-726-7107.

## Come Escape the Holiday Stress with Family Fun Day at the Platou Center

**December 16, 11AM-1PM**

Play games outdoors & indoors. WHS students will be on hand to shoot baskets, fly kites, play ping pong and do puzzles.  
For more information, contact Jorge at 713-726-7107

## Meyer Library CLOSED

The Meyer library suffered damage from Harvey and will be closed until at least January 2018. Look in future *Criers* for more information.

# What's Happening in Westbury

## Events/Meetings Calendar DECEMBER 2017

Sun 3	Winter Fun, Snow Hill Willow Waterhole See page 21 for more information	3-5PM
Sun 10	Houston Christmas Festival Westbury United Methodist, 5200 Willowbend See page 16 for more information	7PM
Wed. 13	Holiday Social Potluck Platou Center, 11655 Chimney Rock See page 4 for more information	11AM-1PM
Sat. 16	No Audubon Society Bird Survey in December	
Sat 16	Family Day at Platou Center 11655 Chimney Rock See page 4 for more information	11AM-2PM
Sat 16– Sun 17	Holiday Judging—Yard of the Month Get your decorations out!!!	
Mon 18	Brays Bayou Association Meeting The Gathering Place—5310 S Willow	7:30PM
Wed 20	No WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting in December	
Wed 20	No WCC Board Meeting in December	
Tues 28	NO SW PIP Meeting in December	
Dec 20– Jan 2	WCC Office Closed	

Until further notice, the City of Houston is **NOT** picking up heavy trash or yard waste.



## Recycling in Westbury

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

### December 2017 Recycling

Thursday, December 7

Thursday, December 21

### January 2018 Recycling

Thursday, January 4

Thursday, January 18

## Important Trash & Recycling Info



- ♻️ Regular trash pickup is every Thursday. Recycling is every other Thursday. Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday.
- ♻️ Westbury is on Recycle Schedule A
- ♻️ NO Glass in the 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
- ♻️ 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.
- ♻️ GLASS: May be recycled at Westbury United Methodist, 5200 Willowbend, in the orange container near W. Bellfort.
- ♻️ Refer to [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com) or [www.houstontx.gov](http://www.houstontx.gov) for more trash and recycling information



## WCC OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS



**December 20– January 2:** WCC Office will be not be open during its normal hours. Please call before coming to the office to make sure someone is there.

Voice mail and email will be checked periodically.

Phone: 713-723-5437

Email: [Westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Westburycc@sbcglobal.net)

**Happy Holidays from the WCC Office!**

**Happy New Year!**

## Planning Calendar

HISD Winter Break

Dec. 25, 2017-Jan. 5, 2018



## 2017 Property Taxes Where Does the Money Go?

The Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector, Ann Harris Bennett, has mailed the 2017 Property tax statements. As always, this generates a lot of discussion, especially for those whose tax bill is not escrowed.

First, the good news is that there was no tax increase in the rate. In fact, a miniscule .00221 reduction was approved by City Council. For a home that's value remained at \$422,250, the tax bill had a decrease of \$8. What did increase for many was the appraised value. With a homestead exemption this value can only be raised 10% per year. For transparency, the tax statement shows the last five years valuations and tax.

According to HAR.com the median appraised value in Westbury is \$208,021. The median sold price per square foot is \$159.92. Currently there are 93 homes for sale in Westbury with an average list price of \$300,000.

For Westbury South, median appraised value in 2016 was \$115,941. The median sold price per square foot is \$115.93. There are currently 5 homes for sale with an average list of \$254,760. You cannot buy a home in any part of Westbury under \$200,000.

For Parkwest, the median appraised value was \$256,538. The median sold price per square foot is \$143.15. There are currently 24 homes for sale with an average list of \$302,204.

Doing a spot check through Westbury, many homes had the full 10% increase in valuation; others were less than the 10% ; a few went down and some stayed the same. For homes with just a homestead exemption: a \$200,000 house with \$20,000 increase increased a little under \$400; a \$300,000 house with a \$30,000 increase about \$600. One of the complaints about the property tax is the inequity of the valuations. Those that protest every year have the lowest valuations; those that don't protest have the highest.

And before you start complaining and asking what does the City of Houston do with ALL that money you send them...be sure and check out your bill and see who actually gets your money. An average Westbury appraised home of 203,000, 43% goes to HISD, 24.8% to the City and 17.8% to the County.



Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

### Appraised Value \$311,000 - Who Gets My Money?

Taxing Jurisdiction	Exemption	Taxable	Tax Rate	Taxes	Pct
<b>Houston ISD</b>	<b>87200</b>	<b>223800</b>	<b>1.2067</b>	<b>2700.59</b>	<b>45</b>
Harris County	62200	248800	0.41801	1040.01	17.3
<b>Harris Cnty Flood Control</b>	<b>62200</b>	<b>248800</b>	<b>0.02831</b>	<b>70.44</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Port of Houston Authority	62200	248800	0.01256	31.25	0.51
Harris Cnty Hospital District	62200	248800	0.1711	425.70	7
Harris Cnty Dept. of Educ.	62200	248800	0.0052	12.93	0.21
Houston Comm. College	31100	279900	0.10026	280.64	4.7
<b>City of Houston</b>	<b>62200</b>	<b>248800</b>	<b>0.58421</b>	<b>1453.00</b>	<b>24.2</b>
VALUE: 311,000 APPRAISED				<b>6014.56</b>	

### Appraised Vale \$203,001 - Who Gets My Money?

Taxing Jurisdiction	Exemption	Taxable	Tax Rate	Taxes	Pct
<b>Houston ISD</b>	<b>65600</b>	<b>137401</b>	<b>1.2067</b>	<b>1658.02</b>	<b>43.4</b>
Harris County	40600	162401	0.41801	678.85	17.8
<b>Harris Cnty Flood Control</b>	<b>40600</b>	<b>162401</b>	<b>0.02831</b>	<b>45.98</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Port of Houston Authority	40600	162401	0.01256	20.40	0.53
Harris Cnty Hospital District	40600	162401	0.1711	277.87	7.27
Harris Cnty Dept. of Educ.	40600	162401	0.0052	8.44	0.22
Houston Comm. College	20300	182701	0.10026	183.18	4.8
<b>City of Houston</b>	<b>40600</b>	<b>162401</b>	<b>0.58421</b>	<b>948.76</b>	<b>24.8</b>
VALUE: 203,001 APPRAISED				<b>3821.50</b>	

### Appraised Value \$114,072 - Who Gets My Money?

Taxing Jurisdiction	Exemption	Taxable Value	Tax Rate	Taxes	Pct
<b>Houston ISD</b>	<b>47940</b>	<b>66762</b>	<b>1.2067</b>	<b>805.62</b>	<b>39.8</b>
Harris County	22940	91762	0.41801	383.57	18.9
<b>Harris Cnty Flood Control</b>	<b>22940</b>	<b>91762</b>	<b>0.02831</b>	<b>25.98</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Port of Houston Authority	22940	91762	0.01256	11.53	0.56
Harris Cnty Hospital District	22940	91762	0.1711	1.57	7.8
Harris Cnty Dept. of Educ.	22940	91762	0.0052	4.77	0.23
Houston Comm. College	11470	103232	0.10026	103.50	5.1
<b>City of Houston</b>	<b>22940</b>	<b>91762</b>	<b>0.58421</b>	<b>536.00</b>	<b>26.4</b>
VALUE: 114,072 APPRAISED				<b>2027.97</b>	

## Walmart Remodel Grand Re-Opening

On October 27, our local Walmart Neighborhood Market grocery store on Hillcroft hosted a grand re-opening after an extensive remodel. The produce and bakery departments have been redone. New paint and new lighting make the store look bigger and brighter. The pharmacy has been revamped. The beer and wine cooler has been expanded. Even the restrooms have been refreshed. The new store navigation signs ensure easier shopping.



Keeping in mind that this is a neighborhood market, store manager Kelly Oswald invited neighborhood leaders to attend: Cindy Chapman, representing the Brays Oaks Management District; Leslie Brown, President of the Maplewood South-North Association, Becky Edmondson, President of Westbury Civic Club; plus Bill Burhans and Howard Sacks from the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy. On hand were two local pastors to bless the event: Brandon Webb from Westbury Baptist and Father Hai from St Thomas More.



## Gratitude and Giving Dinner Attended by WCC

Cindy Chapman and Becky Edmondson were guests at a "Gratitude and Giving" dinner in November, hosted by the Santana Dotson Foundation and the Houston Police Department Southwest Division as the organizations paid homage to today's youth. The Lawson Middle school band provided the entertainment as hundreds enjoyed a delicious Thanksgiving feast at the Power Center prepared by renowned Chef Joseph.

Edmondson said, "It was nice to spend time socially with those who protect us every day. It was also great meeting their families." Captain Null, Lt. Manfree, Sgt. Ortiz and Officer Freeze and Officer Smart were at the event. The Southwest HPD division has already moved into their new building, although the grand opening hasn't taken place. Since the Beechnut HPD station was badly damaged by flooding and has been permanently closed, HPD moved in a little early to their new building while the construction work continues around them. Look for a grand opening announcement later in December for the new HPD Southwest station.



WCC President Becky Edmondson, HFD Captain Null, HFD Lt. Manfre, and WCC VP Cindy Chapman

## Dick n' Sons Floor Covering Center

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## Voice of Harvey, Jeff Lindner HCFCF Calming Spokesman

Almost everyone in Houston watched Jeff Lindner calmly give us the facts as Harvey ravaged our region. Jeff Lindner, Harris County meteorologist, was the guest at a recent neighborhood meeting. He had an informative slide show presentation where he said Harvey started much like the Memorial Day flood. But as they were coordinating with the National Weather Service just after midnight, seven inches fell in an hour. This would greatly overwhelm the drainage systems. Almost all of the Harris County flood control channels were approaching Tropical Storm Allison levels in 2001. And more rain kept coming.

In the past, most flooding was in inches with maximum depths at waist deep. However, Harvey brought chest and neck deep water to the Hobby area when 15 inches of rain in three hours put water up to roof lines. By 10AM the next morning, all of Harris County and the surrounding region were experiencing widespread flooding. 80% of Dickinson was under water. Many of the channels reached the 500 year flood event stage. The water in the Willow Waterhole Bayou exceeded the 500 year water levels. Harvey was a record setting event.

Lindner also talked about the Transtar facility where 120 agencies and 600 staff worked for days to keep us advised and safe. They are still crunching data but at last count the 1,530 billion gallons of rainwater effected 4.7 million people, damaged 660,000 vehicles, 68,000 structures and 17,000 people had to be rescued. Harvey might have been a powerful storm but we are on the road to recovery and we are Houston strong!

**Harris County Judge Ed Emmett** presented his 15 point plan to reduce flooding in Harris County. WCC VP Cindy Chapman spoke with Judge Emmett after the meeting and briefly discussed Westbury's concerns with flooding.

The Westbury Civic Club looks forward to hosting Judge Ed Emmett and HCFCF Jeff Lindner at upcoming 2018 Civic Club meetings.



*LEFT PHOTO:  
WCC Vice President Cindy Chapman spoke with Judge Emmett about Westbury flooding concerns*

*BOTTOM PHOTO:  
HCFCF Jeff Lindner with WCC VP Cindy Chapman and Westbury resident Art Pronin*



## Disaster Case Management

About 700 homes in Westbury had some sort of Structural Flooding during Hurricane Harvey in August. But, flooding affects more than homes and property. The road to recovery can be frustrating and confusing. If you are frustrated and confused or feeling overwhelmed, then we strongly recommend that you consider applying for "Disaster Case Management". Disaster Case Management for Westbury residents is provided by Jewish Family Services (JFS) Houston. Here is an article from JFS Houston explaining what Disaster Case Management is and how to apply.

To reach the online intake form described in the article more easily, go to the JFS Houston website <http://www.jfshouston.org/> and then click on the button that says "Need Assistance? Complete this form!"

### What is Disaster Case Management?

*Information from Jewish Family Services (JFS) Houston*  
"Our disaster team was created to assist clients in recovery after a natural disaster. Rarely can our clients regain all that they have lost after a devastating event like Harvey; however, our staff strive to make them whole. They create a road to recovery and often begin by helping them find supportive housing, whether it be short-term while their house is being repaired or long-term because they were unable to repair their home. They provide them with resources to replace necessity items and basic furnishings through donations or discount services. They connect them with people or agencies that can help them to fight for the funding they need. They provide them with access to the support that is essential as they move through the emotional stages needed to become whole again.

If you (or someone you know) live in SW Houston or are Jewish (any where in the Greater Houston area) and were affected by Harvey and find yourself floundering or overwhelmed, please reach out to JFS through our online intake form.

If you have already applied and haven't received a call to set up an appointment with a case manager within 3 business days, email Morgan Zeringue at [mzeringue@jfshouston.org](mailto:mzeringue@jfshouston.org). As of Oct 25th, we have received 1,466 intake requests with more coming in daily. Our disaster case managers will continue to work to help you take your next step forward.

If you would like to support our efforts and have new items you would like to gift our clients, please reach out to: [dmailman@jfshouston.org](mailto:dmailman@jfshouston.org). If you would like to financially support our program, you can donate to the Federation's Harvey Relief Fund or to the JFS Harvey Assistance Fund."

## Unusual High Water Bills Reported After Harvey

The City of Houston and Houston Public Works take seriously the fact that some properties affected by flooding have received unusually high water bills. There are approximately 5,000 customer accounts that have water bills that are twice as much (or more) as the previous billing cycle. The Mayor is working with City Council and Houston Public Works to better understand how this happened and how to correct it. For updates, and steps you can take if you have experienced a high water bill related to Harvey, visit [houstonrecovers.org/highbills](http://houstonrecovers.org/highbills) or call 832-394-2455.



# Elevating your Westbury Home in the 100 Year Floodplain

Westbury has approximately 200 repeat flood homes that are located along the Willow Waterhole Bayou in the 100 Year Floodplain. These homeowners have some tough choices. Repair, raise, rebuild, or sell. Project Brays is unlikely to bring much relief to the homes along the Willow Waterhole Bayou. One way to remove a home from the path of the flood waters in the 100 year floodplain is to elevate it. Westbury has only seen two existing homes elevate since Memorial Day 2015 and 2 new builds that are both elevated. Since Harvey, 6 homes are in the process of elevating.

The Westbury Civic Club has worked with the City of Houston Floodplain Management Office (FMO) since 2015 to help residents navigate the permitting process. With five flood events in four years, the process with Harvey seems to be working more smoothly than in the past. It's logical that with repetitive flooding that, while waiting for city, county, state and federal projects, many residents are investigating other options such as home elevation. When we reached out to Jamailla Johnson, the COH Floodplain manager, she said, "Let's keep working together to make recovery go as smoothly as possible. Please let me know if there is anything our office can do to help your community." The following is not meant to alleviate your due diligence about the deed restrictions on your home or city regulations, but is intended to serve as a guide of issues to consider.

**ZERO NET FILL POLICY** is a city policy which requires that when you bring dirt or other construction materials into the floodplain on your lot, then you have to remove an equal amount of dirt or other construction materials. This policy ensures that the City maintains its floodplain storage; or doesn't further negatively impact it. There is typically not enough room on a residential lot to elevate a home with fill unless it needs only a small amount of elevation – say less than one foot.

**ATTACHED GARAGES** present a challenge for home elevation in Houston's floodplain where the City of Houston has a "zero-net fill" or mitigation policy. Due to the city "zero net fill policy", projects which include any type of site work, like filling and repaving a driveway, are required to have an engineered mitigation (cut and fill) plan approved by the City of Houston Floodplain Management Office (FMO). Elevating a garage can be accomplished, however, ramping up the driveway to reach that garage can be difficult considering this policy.

For this reason, here are various options used to address attached garages when doing home elevations:

- ⇒ Lift the garage and use it for living or storage space, not for car parking. Do not raise the driveway. However, first double check the deed restrictions for the property to see if your deed restrictions REQUIRE a garage.
- ⇒ Separate the garage slab from the home when elevating, leave the garage on grade, and address the change in roof line due to the house being higher than the garage.
- ⇒ Separate the garage slab from the garage walls and the rest of the home slab. Raise the garage walls and roof, leave the garage slab and driveway on grade. Extend the garage walls and reframe the garage doors.

**MATERIALS of CONSTRUCTION**  
Every home in Westbury has deed restriction requirements regarding materials of construction for the house exterior. This requirement may affect the material of construction used for skirting when the house is elevated.

**CONTRACTORS** Know and investigate your contractor. Some contractors are from out of town and unfamiliar with the City of Houston's Floodplain rules. Some contractors are pulling foundation repair permits rather than home elevation permits to avoid detailed plan review and inspections. This can be a dangerous short cut to take – it means that the home elevation project will not have a complete structural, plumbing, electrical and HVAC review or inspections. It also means that the home may not be adequately elevated or that it could be in violation of other City rules like mitigation, conveyance policy and planning department's building setback requirements for porches and ramps. Failing to work with the FMO on these home elevations could also jeopardize Increased Cost of Compliance Coverage (ICC) funding and substantial damage status release.



*New Home Construction in Westbury in the 100 Yr Floodplain. Home was built elevated and did NOT flood during Harvey*



*Original home located in the 100 year floodplain was elevated after Tax Day. It did NOT flood during Harvey*

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## WHS Reconstruction and Community Meeting

A Project Advisory Team (PAT) meeting was held at the end of October to bring the team up to date on the construction progress at Westbury High School (WHS). The new building should be ready for move in by March 2018. The temporary buildings then can be removed and the new tennis courts built.

Going forward, meetings to plan the new Fine Arts wing will begin after this current phase has been completed. The HISD board approved the 9 million dollar expenditure for a new/updated Fine Arts wing at Westbury High School, and the architect fee has been approved.



*NEW projected drawings of WHS entrance*

Following the PAT meeting, a community meeting was held in the WHS auditorium to bring the public up to date. Principal Susan Monaghan thanked Trustee and Board President Wanda Adams for all her support. Anderson Elementary Principal Vaughn thanked Wanda in verse. A presentation was made about WHS being an Aspire 180 school.

During the Question and Answer period, 3 parents stood to say how much their children currently love attending WHS. A moment of silence was held for Assistant Principal Ebony Lanier, who passed away unexpectedly at the age of 32.



*Community Meeting regarding WHS*

## Westbury Automotive Technology Students Attend SkillsUSA Fall Conference

Westbury High School Automotive technology students recently took part in the SkillsUSA Texas Chapter District 8 Fall Leadership conference. SkillsUSA chapters from high schools across the district attended the conference which was held November 10th at Aldine ISD's M.O. Campbell Educational Center.

The SkillsUSA annual conference gives students an opportunity to hone skills that will take them on to college or careers. Sessions were held which allowed students to work on their leadership and workplace skills, learn how to build professional resumes, develop interview skills, and SkillsUSA partners shared insights to help students prepare for college.

SkillsUSA mission is to empower its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens by focusing on developing students in three primary areas; personal skills, workplace skills and technical skills grounded in academics. It is a partnership of schools and communities working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. Students can become involved with SkillsUSA through their school's Career and Technical Education programs.

Westbury Automotive Technology teachers Mr. Antonio Melendez (far left) and Mr. Dennis Crosby (second from right) are pictured with the SkillsUSA Chapter at Westbury High School. Mr. Melendez wishes to acknowledge Principal Susan Monaghan and those members of the Westbury staff who were instrumental in providing this unique opportunity for our SkillsUSA students.



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## Juliet Stipeche, City of Houston Education Czar Spoke at SWHouston2000 Breakfast

SWHouston2000, a nonprofit community advocacy group, hosts a breakfast several times each year which features speakers of interest to the community. The Westbury Civic Club sponsors a table at each breakfast. The November breakfast speaker was Juliet Stipeche, a former Trustee for the Houston Independent School District and currently the "Education Czar" for the City of Houston as Director of the Office of Education Initiatives.

Stipeche noted that there are 16 different school districts located within the City of Houston and discussed some of the challenges facing our youth and young adults. How can concerned citizens help our youth? She suggests that all of us can help by finding ways to provide "social capital" – which does not have to involve money. She describes "social capital" as personal connections and social networks so that students feel connected and get broader exposure to their communities and to the world of work. One example could be providing part-time jobs or internships for young adults. Another example could be involving these young adults in volunteer activities.



## Parker Elementary Moving SOON!

The Parker Elementary Project Advisory Team (PAT) along with the teachers and administrators were treated to a walk thorough of the new building in November. The new school will be ready for move in over the Winter Break. The classrooms, band rooms and auditorium were taking shape. The teachers enjoyed seeing their classrooms and envisioning them complete.

The project has taken much more time than anticipated and nearby neighbors' patience is running thin. Worker's vehicles and other equipment have blocked trash pickup multiple times along Willowbend. Other residents have complained about trash and other debris strewn in the streets. Bottom line: Everyone will be happy when this new school is complete!



Parker PAT members, PE Teacher Lisa Turner (left) and WCC Vice President Cindy Chapman (right) are excited about the NEW Parker!

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## Donate to the WAIC through Amazon Smile

When customers shop on Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. Now your Amazon purchases can help your neighborhood! The Westbury Area Improvement Corp. is the non-profit organization that has Westbury's best interest at heart. WAIC is also the parent organization of Westbury Community Garden.

### Want to change your existing Smile charity to WAIC? It's easy.

1. Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
2. Go to "Your Account," then under "Shopping Programs and Rentals", select the option to "Change Your Charity." You can also point your mouse over the small arrow next to the charity you are currently supporting, then click Change.
3. Type Westbury Area Improvement Corp into the search and then click Select.



## Westbury Area Improvement Corporation

The Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) is a 501c3 nonprofit which serves the geographic area of the Westbury Super Neighborhood. The WAIC will not meet during the month of December. During the November meeting, HPD Officers Freeze and Smart gave a public safety update. Richard Rodriguez gave an update on services provided by the Brays Oaks Management District, including SEAL private security for retail centers. The Harris County Attorney's Office is pursuing action against Foxy's, a night club which meets the definition of a sexually oriented business. See below for more.

The board approved the slate of Officers and the board for 2018. The officers are: Cindy Chapman (President), David Roschke (VicePresident), Becky Edmondson (Secretary), and Marcia Hartman (Treasurer). The board also approved creating a Bylaws Committee to review and propose updates to the bylaws.



*SuperNeighborhood Co-Presidents Becky Edmondson and Cindy Chapman attended Gratitude and Giving Dinner along with HPD officers from the SW Division and Westbury Storefront*  
 Let to Right: Officer Ralph Freeze, Becky Edmondson, Sgt. Ortiz, Captian Null, Lt. Manfre, Cindy Chapman, Officer Freeze, Officer White

## Foxy's Commercial Update

The TABC license renewal for Foxy's, a night club on South Post Oak which meets the definition of a sexually oriented business, is being protested by the Brays Oaks Management District, the Harris County Attorney's Office, and many area community organizations, including the Westbury Civic Club, the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation, and the Westbury Super Neighborhood.

The protest submitted by the Harris County Attorney's Office notes, "Foxy's is well-known to law enforcement for having prostitution, violent assaults, and violations of sexually oriented business regulations." The Houston Police Department compiled statistics about criminal activity at Foxy's and recent examples documented for the protest include: arrests for prostitution by the Vice Department in August 2017 and February 2017, a shooting in the parking lot in May of 2017, and several fights.

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# Crime & Security



## HCC Run Off Election December 9

District IX Candidates:  
Pretta VanDible Stallworth  
Eugene "Gene" Pack

### Westbury Pct Voting Locations

Pct 291—Braeswood Assembly of God  
Pct 293—Anderson Elementary  
Pct 453—Anderson Elementary  
Pct 22—Forester Elementary

### Closest Early Voting Location

Fiesta at 8130 Kirby

### Early Voting Hours

Nov. 29 - Dec. 1—8AM-4:30PM  
December 2— 7AM-7PM  
December 4 - 5— 7AM - 7PM



## 30 Day Crime Statistics for Westbury SuperNeighborhood October 15-November 15, 2017

The Westbury Civic Club strives to provide accurate information. Due to the printing date of the Crier, crime statistics are always delayed. For crime alerts, follow Westbury Houston on Facebook or sign up for email alerts at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com).

The crimes listed below took place between October 16 and November 15. They are in alphabetical order by street. The crimes are highlighted by type. Please see key below.

### Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes

12100	Ashcroft	Aggravated robbery with gun	11/4	3PM
10400	Atwell	Burglary out of Motor Vehicle	10/29	11AM
5600	Bankside	Aggravated robbery with gun	11/4	6PM
5700	Benning	Burglary	11/4	10AM
5900	Benning	Auto Theft (car)	10/24	11AM
11000	Braewick	Aggravated robbery with gun	11/10	4PM
5600	Cartagena—11 HOMES	Burglary	10/19	
5800	Cerritos	Burglary out of Motor Vehicle	10/16	7PM
11300	Chimney Rock	Robbery	10/30	10AM
6000	Duxbury	Aggravated robbery with gun	11/6	6AM
5700	Fontenelle	Theft	11/13	6PM
10700	Hillcroft	Theft	11/2	2PM
11800	Hillcroft	Burglary	11/11	10AM
12300	Hillcroft	Auto Theft	10/21	8PM
12300	Hillcroft	Burglary	11/2	10AM
5600	Hummingbird	Aggravated robbery with gun	10/31	4PM
5500	Ludington	Robbery	10/17	5PM
5800	Ludington	Burglary	10/30	2PM
5900	Ludington	Burglary out of Motor Vehicle	10/21	7PM
5700	Southminster	Theft of US Mail	11/12	7PM
5800	Southminster	Aggravated robbery with gun	10/18	9PM
5900	Vickijohn	Burglary out of Motor Vehicle	11/10	4AM
5700	Warm Springs	Burglary out of Motor Vehicle	10/29	3PM
5900	W. Bellfort	Burglary out of Motor Vehicle	11/8	7PM
5700	Willowbend	Burglary out of Motor Vehicle	11/6	8AM

### Crime in Commercial, Public Spaces, and Apartments

11500	Burdine	Burglary	11/12	4PM	Town homes
12100	Burdine	Auto Theft (Truck/Van)	11/1	6AM	Street by WHS
11000	Chimney Rock	Theft from Building	11/6	7PM	Commercial
11000	Chimney Rock	Theft of Metal	11/5	8AM	Commercial
11500	Chimney Rock	Aggravated robbery with gun	10/31	10AM	Home Depot550
5500	Gasmer	Aggravated robbery with gun	11/10	8AM	Apartments
5500	Gasmer	Auto Theft (car)	11/1	3AM	Apartments
12400	Hillcroft	Aggravated robbery with gun	11/8	6PM	Liquor Store
5200	S. Willow	Aggravated robbery with gun	11/1	4PM	Willow Waterhole
5200	S. Willow	Theft from building	11/6	10AM	Commercial

<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:lightcoral; border:1px solid black;"></span> Aggravated robbery with gun	<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:lightgreen; border:1px solid black;"></span> Auto Theft	<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:lightpurple; border:1px solid black;"></span> Burglary
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:lightblue; border:1px solid black;"></span> Burglary out of Motor Vehicle	<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:lightyellow; border:1px solid black;"></span> Theft	<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:lightgrey; border:1px solid black;"></span> Robbery

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

# ATTENTION: CRIME ALERT IN WESTBURY

There have been 5 "Assaults with a deadly weapon" aggravated robberies in Westbury driveways recently.

**What can you do?** MOST IMPORTANTLY PAY ATTENTION.

This is the time of year when crime increases due to shopping and holiday distractions.

**IF YOU ARE BEING FOLLOWED...IF A CAR IS BEHIND YOU...PASS UP YOUR HOUSE...CALL THE PCT. 5 DISPATCH NUMBER AND ASK FOR SOMEONE TO MEET YOU AT HOME.**

**BE AWARE. IF YOU SEE ANYTHING.....CALL IT IN.**

THEY ARE TARGETING WOMEN. SO LADIES, PUT YOUR PHONE DOWN, WATCH YOUR REARVIEW MIRROR, and CALL PCT. 5 IF YOU THINK SOMEONE IS FOLLOWING YOU IN WESTBURY. 281-463-6666

**What is law enforcement doing?** Both HPD and Pct. 5 have added extra patrols. HPD says unfortunately this increase in crime is being seen all over the city. They ask that you get as much detail as possible and to get video of the vehicle or crooks going down the street, if you or your neighbors have it.

**Is Crime increasing?** Crime was light in the 30 days period from Sept. 15 to Oct 15 2017 with just 8 crimes in our 5,000 single family homes reported to HPD. However, since mid-October crime has been on the increase.

Most disturbing are the Assault with a deadly weapon, 6 of them within two week period. SHOCKINGLY, people have been robbed at gunpoint in their driveways during these crimes.

11500	Chimney Rock	Aggravated Robbery with a deadly weapon (Home Depot)	31-Oct	10:00 AM
5600	Hummingbird	Aggravated Robbery with a deadly weapon (Residence)	31-Oct	4:00 PM
12100	Ashcroft	Aggravated Robbery with a deadly weapon (Residence)	4-Nov	2:00 PM
5600	Bankside	Aggravated Robbery with a deadly weapon (Residence)	4-Nov	6:00 PM
6000	Duxbury	Aggravated Robbery with a deadly weapon (Residence)	6-Nov	6:00 AM
6000	Portal	Aggravated Robbery with a deadly weapon (Residence)	10-Nov	4:30 PM

Both HPD and Pct. 5 have added extra patrols. But they need your EYES and cameras if you have them. If you have a camera facing the street where these aggravated robberies in driveways have occurred; HPD will come and obtain the video from you if the cameras have captured information about these five armed robberies. Please contact HPD if you have any information or evidence regarding these crimes.

Several people have noted a silver or gold Infinity G35 with paper plates usually with two or three black males in the vehicle. One of the men may be a lighter skinned Hispanic. All appear to be in their late teens to early twenties. More than one weapon has been brandished. One gun has been identified as a silver revolver; one gun has a laser pointer.

AGAIN IF YOU SEE ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS, CALL IT IN. 911 FOR AN ACTIVE CRIME. Call 281-463-6666 FOR THE WESTBURY AREA PATROL to report suspicious activity. Call 832-394-7520 FOR THE WESTBURY HPD STOREFRONT.

LET'S GET THESE CRIMINALS OFF OUR STREETS BEFORE SOMEONE GETS HURT.

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# Westbury Area News

## Company OnStage Holiday Shows

**Greetings by Tom Dudzick**

**December 1– 23, 2017**

**Fridays & Saturdays, 8PM**

**Sunday December 3, 2PM**

Andy brings home his Jewish atheist fiancé, Randi, to meet his very Catholic parents on Christmas Eve. With the inevitable family explosion comes an out-of-left-field miracle that propels the family into a wild exploration of love, religion, personal truth and the nature of earthly reality.

**Frosty the Snowman by Rob Howard**

**December 2 – 23, 2017**

**Saturdays, 11AM & 1:30PM**

**Sunday, December 10, 2PM**

Frosty faces a dilemma. How can he and his new young friends save the job of train station manager, Mr. Bucket, if the station closes down? But when the Musical Menagerie comes to town, Frosty is offered a starring role which would have fame, fortune and all the ice cream he can eat! It's Magnificent Max versus true friendship and a magical hat! What will Frosty do?

## Houston Christmas Festival

**Sun., December 10, 7PM**

Westbury United Methodist, 5200 Willowbend  
Houstonchristmasfest.com

Come enjoy an evening concert of your favorite seasonal music featuring classic Christmas carols with adult and children's choirs, orchestra, and urban gospel music by Houston's own Grammy nominated Tamar Davis from NBC's *The Voice*.

## Remodeling your home? Adding On? Do you know your deed restrictions?

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

## Links for Lost & Found Pets

Nextdoor Westbury -

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

Westbury Lost and Found Pets

Facebook

Westbury CARE- Contact at [westburycare@gmail.com](mailto:westburycare@gmail.com) or at [www.westburycare.com](http://www.westburycare.com), Compassionate Animal Rescue Efforts is located in Westbury.



## Westbury Meet & Eat

Come out to Teotihuacan Mexican Restaurant at 6579 W. Bellfort every 1st Thursday of the month to meet Westbury residents. This event is open to anyone who lives in Westbury.

**November Meet & Eat: Thurs., December 7, 6PM**

**December Meet & Eat: Thurs., January 4, 6PM**

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# 2017 Dues/Assessments

## ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1&2

Homes purchased in Parkwest 1 after Jan. 1, 1993 and Parkwest 2 after Jan 1, 1994 have mandatory assessments.

**The amount of the 2017 Mandatory Assessments is \$233.50. The 2017 Assessments are due by February 1, 2017.**

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

## Mission of the WCC

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

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

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

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

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

Please send this form in with your payment

## 2018 Westbury Civic Club Dues

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

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 4 payments of \$83.75 is \$335/yr  
 5 payments of \$67 is \$335/yr  
 12 payments of \$28 is \$336/yr

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

\*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.

# Westbury Wins Mayor's Proud Partner Award

In 2017 Keep Houston Beautiful participated in 417 cleanup or beautification projects with over 9,000 volunteers. Each year participants are asked to submit their projects for consideration of an award at the Mayor's Proud Partner luncheon.

The Westbury Civic Club "Green Team" of volunteers has won a Mayor's Proud Partner award for our "Keep Westbury Beautiful Day" in 2017. The WCC "Keep Westbury Beautiful Day" is held in conjunction with the Keep District K Beautiful and the Keep Houston Beautiful Day events in the springtime. Volunteers worked at Westbury Park, Chimney Rock Park, and on our public esplanades in Westbury. A Westbury project has garnered recognition almost every year since 2005! WCC Greenspace Director Mat Funk accepted the award on behalf of the WCC.

In addition, the Prairie Garden at Willow Waterhole Greenway created in spring 2017 was recently selected to receive the Mayor's Certificate of Recognition Award. Bill Burhans of Westbury represented the Native Plant Society and the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy in accepting the award. Working on this project were Hazel Potvin, Janie Schexnayder, Diana Lovelady, Noreen Hoard, Karen Schubert, Jackie Heidorn, and Brett Byers.

But that's not all. District K won three awards for their work throughout the District. They had projects for Arbor Day, Keep District K Beautiful Day, and for a Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower planting day.

The Westbury Civic Club Green Team shares this award not only with all the volunteers, but also with Westbury residents who pay their dues which help fund the incidental expenses of these work days. Thanks to all the volunteers from around the neighborhood and also our youth volunteers from Sharpstown HS, Westbury HS, Bellaire HS, and Meyerland PVA Middle School! Special thanks to the Westbury Civic Club "Green Team" for organizing and coordinating this event!



Butterfly garden in October 2017



Garden area in 2015 before WCC work!

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## Yard Care Tips

- ⇒ Reduce the amount you water the lawn significantly in the Fall. As a general rule, your lawn only needs water every 5-7 days.
- ⇒ Overwatering in the Fall can lead to plant disease.
- ⇒ If there is a large amount of rain in the forecast, there is no need to water the lawn.
- ⇒ Mulch your garden, it reduces loss from evaporation and protects the soil and roots.
- ⇒ Avoid over-fertilizing the lawn.
- ⇒ Check your sprinkler system frequently for leaks.
- ⇒ Plant a vegetable garden.



## Do You Know What Your Lawn Service Is Doing With Your Leaves?

The leaves are falling. Hundreds, maybe even thousands, of Westbury residents employ a lawn service to handle their lawn chores. Do you know what your lawn service does with the lawn cuttings and leaves accumulating at the gutter? We receive regular reports from your neighbors that your crew just blows the leaves out into the street; or across the street or down the street. All of these will end up down the storm sewers.

**Please ask your lawn service to BAG your leaves.** Wouldn't it be even greater if they used a broom and actually swept up the debris instead of polluting the air with particulates and decibels of noise? Maybe they won't revert back to the days of the broom; but they could and should bag your leaves and clippings and not blow them into the street.

## Sod Webworm Control

Are sod webworms devouring your grass? Sod webworms are small caterpillars that eat grasses. The University of Florida notes that "Excessive fertilizing is a leading cause" of outbreaks and advises that keeping your grass healthy with proper fertilization, watering, and mowing can decrease problems with sod webworms.

Native Nurseries in Florida notes that if you over-fertilize, then you might as well post a sign on your yard that says "Sod Webworm Buffet". They mention that mowing grass too short can cause problems with webworms. They advise using Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*), which kills caterpillars but not other insects, and to spray at night if using a liquid.

The Texas A&M Extension Office makes the following recommendations:

The need for sod webworm control can be determined by close examination of the grass. If three to four sod webworm larvae are found within a 6-inch-square section of dying sod, then chemical treatment is recommended. Larvae are most active on cloudy days or at night. Insecticides can be applied in either spray or granular form. Spray solutions can be applied with a garden hose sprayer or compressed air sprayer. Watering the lawn before application will aid penetration into the turf.

Granular insecticides are easier to use and generally provide more thorough coverage. This type of insecticide can be

applied with a fertilizer spreader.

Following application, the lawn should be watered for about an hour to wash the granules into the matted turf. Use insecticides containing acephate (Orthene®), bendiocarb (Dycarb® or Turcam®), carbaryl (Sevin®), or the microbial insecticides *Bacillus thuringiensis* ssp. *Kurstake* (B.t.k.) and ssp. *Aizawai* (B.t.a).

Children and pets should be kept off treated turf until insecticide has been watered and turf has dried. Follow directions on insecticide labels and observe all safety precautions. Pesticides should be stored out of reach of children and pets.

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## Wildflower Seeds at Willow Waterhole

Jed Aplaca, Natural Resources Manager for the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, led a project to spread wildflower seeds at the Willow Waterhole Greenway on the south bank of Westbury Lake, facing Hwy 90A / S. Main. Jed was assisted on November 4 by Kelly and Julie - also from HPARD, and Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy members Vincent Marsalis, Brett Byers, Ralph Rieger, Paul Shaw, and Bill Burhans. Imagine driving on Hwy 90A in the future and seeing the bluebonnets and Indian paintbrushes! Wildflower seeds are sown somewhere within the 300 acres of the Willow Waterhole Greenway every year.



## Dow Chemical Celebrates Conservation Day

November 15th was Dow Chemical Conservation Day at the Willow Waterhole Greenway. Over 100 employees from their locations in the U.S., Canada, Spain, and Brazil came out to work -- spreading 25 cubic yards of mulch to trees, planting over 100 native understory plants in a tree grove, trimming trees, and trail maintenance. Keep Houston Beautiful and the Willow Waterhole Conservancy hosted the event. Bill Burhans, who coordinated the event, had this to say, "We are so thankful for all the volunteers who are improving the Greenway; they make it more beautiful for our community."



## Willow Waterhole Winter Fun

**Sunday, December 3, 3 -5PM**

Come join the fun of playing in one ton of snow! Come ride thrilling snow slides of 50, 35 and 15 feet! Cool Runnings Jamaican Grill and PUCS food trucks will be on hand with food and drink for you to purchase.

This event is sponsored by three of our fine elected friends who were there for us during Hurricane Harvey and wanted to do something special for the community. We thank HISD Trustee Wanda Adams, City Council Member Larry Green and Senator Borris Miles.

Parking will be on both Gasmer and Dryad. To learn more, visit [www.willowwaterhole.org](http://www.willowwaterhole.org)

## Take County Park Smart Survey

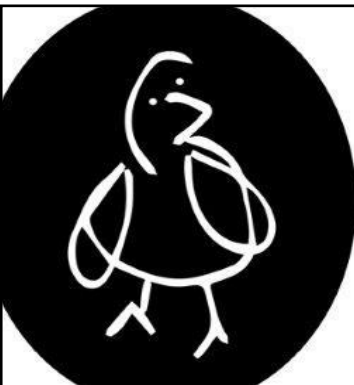
The Willow Waterhole is located within Pct 1. Do you want more amenities at the Willow Waterhole? Learn more on page 22.

<https://www.parksmartprecinct1.com/>

## Audubon Society Bird Survey

**Saturday, January 20, 8AM**

**Meet at the Gathering Place** The Willow Waterhole Bird Survey was started in June 2007 and is held on the third Saturday of each month (no survey in December).



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Willow Waterhole  
**Winter Fun**

December 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
 3pm - 5pm Sunday

Willow Waterhole Greenway  
 5300 Dryad



Willow Waterhole  
 Geoscape Conservancy

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**Larry V. Green**

*Houston City Councilman District K*

**Senator Borris Miles**

Cool Runnings Jamaican Grill &  
 PUCS food available for purchase!

Parking from both Gasmer & Dryad

To learn more visit: [WillowWaterhole.org](http://WillowWaterhole.org)

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## Take County Park Survey

### What Do You Want At Willow Waterhole Greenway Park?

When we think of parks, we normally think of our city parks like Westbury Park and Hager Park. But Westbury is located in Precinct One in Harris County and the county operates parks, too. "Park-Smart Precinct 1" is a new effort by our County Commissioner Rodney Ellis to expand access to high-quality parks and trails for Precinct 1. Precinct 1 wants its parks and trails to:

- ➔ Provide fun and safe outdoor experiences
- ➔ Increase equitable economic opportunity
- ➔ Promote better community health
- ➔ Improve air and water quality and help reduce flooding

Precinct 1 has prepared a survey for residents to take online. This survey will help Precinct 1 find out more about what is working well with their parks and what they need to improve. They want to make sure they understand what they can do to help people use parks and trails more often. The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Everyone who signs up using the "participate" button on [www.parksmartprecinct1.com](http://www.parksmartprecinct1.com) will have a chance to win a \$50 gift card from REI.

There are no Precinct 1 trails in our area. The Willow Waterhole Greenway in Westbury is owned by Harris County for flood control purposes and is part of Precinct 1. It is our only county park in Westbury.

Please consider taking the survey. The link is below. **Let County Commissioner Rodney Ellis know what you desire for the Willow Waterhole!**

<https://www.parksmartprecinct1.com/>

## WCG T-shirt Fundraiser

Westbury Community Garden (WCG) will begin a capital campaign in 2018 to raise funds for infrastructure improvements at the garden (new roadways, parking areas and drainage).

Help us get a jump start on fund-raising by ordering a "I support WCG" t-shirt for \$25 at the link below.



Place your pre-order from Nov. 15 – Dec. 5. Shirts go into production Dec. 6 for delivery around Dec. 20. "Tomato Road" fundraising artwork by Susan Idlet. Each style (uni-sex and women's) is available in 3 colors and in a wide range of sizes.

<https://www.customink.com/fundraising/westbury-community-garden-tomato-road>

Don't need a t-shirt? Donations by check may be paid to Westbury Community Garden and mailed to:  
Westbury Area Improvement Corp. (WAIC)  
5322 W. Bellfort Ave. Suite 100 Houston, TX 77035

**Westbury Community Garden thanks you for your support!**

## Sharpstown NHS Students Work at Garden

The Sharpstown National Honor Society came to the Westbury Community Garden for a Saturday day of service. These amazing young men and women led by Jennifer Kuhleman enjoyed a beautiful day working at the garden. They weeded the aisles and cleaned beds. They worked the compost piles. The gardeners appreciated their youth and their enthusiasm.



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**Westbury Community Garden News**

**New Garden Partnership**

Sometimes gardeners produce more food than they can eat or even share with friends. The Westbury Community Garden reached out to the ECHOS program about adding fresh produce to their normal stores of dry and canned goods. The Epiphany Church Health Outreach Services (ECHOS) runs a food pantry. They are a Houston Food Bank hub. They are excited and willing to partner with the garden to offer nutritious organic food to their clients.

**Urban Harvest's 22nd Annual Harvest Celebration**

November 11 was the 22nd Annual Urban Harvest Fall Festival. This year the celebration was held at the Westbury Community Garden. Good food and good door prizes along with excellent gardening information from guest speaker, Dany Miliken, were enjoyed by all! To learn more about Urban Harvest, go to [www.urbanharvest.org](http://www.urbanharvest.org).



**Plant It Forward Farm Stand  
NOW Open at Westbury Community Garden  
Saturday hours will be 12- 2PM**

Purchase fresh, seasonal produce direct from the farm! Your purchase directly supports Plant It Forward's efforts to provide resettled refugees with urban farming business opportunities in Houston. Plant It Forward Farm Stand accepts cash, credit, debit, and SNAP at this location!



**WHERE IS THE GARDEN?**

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

**JOIN the garden TODAY at [www.westburycommunitygarden.org](http://www.westburycommunitygarden.org)**



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