WESTBURY IS A DEED RESTRICTED COMMUNITY. DEED RESTRICTIONS ARE ACTIVELY ENFORCED.



VOLUME 69, ISSUE 5

Westbury Pool Opening Summer 2024

After two summers of being closed, we are very excited to announce that the Westbury Pool WILL be open this summer! The City will have their grand opening event for the 2024 Aquatic Season at Westbury Pool on May 25. More details will be shared on the Westbury website, www.westburyhouston.com, and the Westbury Houston Facebook page.

Westbury Pool Opens May 25

The Westbury Pool will be open Saturday, May 25, for the Memorial Day Weekend. The pool WILL be open on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27. The pool will be open weekends only until June 11. As of press time, the City has not posted pool operating hours for 2024. For pool opening times, check out the Westbury Houston website or Facebook page. The pool opening times will be in the next Crier.

Water Fitness Classes Start June 7

The very popular water fitness classes are coming back to the Westbury Pool. The water fitness classes will be held every Wednesday and Friday from 6-7PM. You can start registering for the classes on May 20 at 8AM via the City website.



Westbury Pool 10605 Mullins Houston, TX 77096 713-723-2192

The Westbury Pool is a free, public pool operated by the City of Houston.

The Westbury Fooris a fre	c, pub
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Attention Westbury! The new Houston public library located in Westbury is finally opening on June 1, 10AM. The grand opening of the new Dr. Shannon Walker Neighborhood Library has long been anticipated by local residents. The library is over 22,000 square feet, with tons of books, 2 passport desks, a small café, tech-link space with podcast room and much, much more. THE Dr. Shannon Walker will be in attendance for the real grand opening of this very special library! We can't wait! We hope you all can come visit the new library this summer, starting June 1!

Online Owner Portal

Have you joined the new owner portal? We have over 700 owners already registered. This portal isn't just about paying dues and assessments. It is two-way communication. You can message us, submit house plans, ask questions and it will remain in your history. We can email you the Crier newsletter, security notices, surveys, etc.

Join today and get connected!



HEAVY TRASH May 2024 Thursday, May 9 TREE WASTE ONLY

> June 2024 Thursday, June 13 JUNK WASTE

July 2024 Thursday, July 11 TREE WASTE ONLY RECYCLING May 2024 Thursday, May 16 Thursday, May 30

> **June 2024** Thursday, June 13 Thursday, June 27

July 2024 Thursday, July 11 Thursday, July 25

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

WCC OFFICE

5322 W. Bellfort #100, Houston, TX 77035 Jennifer Edmondson......WCC Office Manager

> Westbury Civic Club Office Monday—Thursday—Appointment needed WCC Office Closed Friday–Sunday

CONTACT US

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

Visit our website at

www.westburyhouston.com "Like" us on Facebook at Westbury Houston

SECURITY

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

Report property crimes, suspicious activity, and	vacation watch
Emergency	
Houston Police Dept. Non-Emergency	713-884-3131
Southwest HPD Station	832-394-0400

CITY OF HOUSTON

District K CM, Martha Castex-Tatum	832-393-3016
District C Council Member, Abbie Kamin	832-393-3004
Deed Restriction Enforcement (City Legal)	832-393-6333
Platou Community Center	713-726-7107
Mayor's Citizen Assistance Office	832-393-0955
Houston Help & Information	311

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

CENTERPOINT ENERGY

Electric outage	713-207-2222
Suspected natural gas leak	713-659-2111
Street light repairs	

Make sure to give pole number

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

County Commissioner Rodney Ellis713-755-6111
County Commissioner Lesley Briones832-927-4444
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

2024 WCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Contact the Westbury Civic Club at 713-723-5437 or westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Cindy Chapman
wccpresident@westk	purycrier.com
Vice President	Marcia Hartman
Secretary	Lindsey Pollock
Treasurer	Becky Edmondson

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Deed Restrictions	Maggie Donovan
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Jennifer Edmondson
Greenspace Beautification	Mat Funk
Security	VACANT
At-Large 1	Reagan Dunkin
At-Large 2	Andrew Jefferson
At-Large 3	VACANT
At-Large 4	VACANT

SECTION DIRECTORS

Westbury 1	Travis McClelland
Westbury 2	VACANT
Westbury 3	Sylvia Rosales
Westbury 3	.Jonathan Hansen
Westbury 4	VACANT
Westbury 4	Becky Pate
Westbury 5	VACANT
Westbury 5	VACANT
Westbury South	Ryan Cowley
Parkwest 1	VACANT
Parkwest 2	Bob Droubi
Parkwest 3	Alan Hirshman

POSTED WCC BOARD VACANCIES CAN BE FILLED AT ANY REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Published by	Westbury Civic Club, Inc.
Editor-In-Chief	Jennifer Edmondson
Edited by	WCC Publication Committee
Advertising 713-723-543	7/ westburycc@sbcglobal.net

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WESTBURY IS A DEED RESTRICTED COMMUNITY. DEED RESTRICTIONS ARE ACTIVELY ENFORCED.

A MESSAGE FROM THE WESTBURY CIVIC CLUB PRESIDENT

This month let's chat about "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly," Westbury edition. I will start with The Ugly. The dilapidated and vacant Spring Village apartments, near Westbury High School, are an eyesore and unfortunately will continue to be so for several more months until the city demolishes them. The vacant buildings have attracted mischief and two fires have had to be put out by the fire department. The ugly situation attracted the news media and was featured on local television. Now, here is what I love about Westbury residents. Every single Westbury resident interviewed by the news reporter acknowledged that the buildings were a big problem, but then each person mentioned that they were looking forward to the future use of the property for greenspace and eventual stormwater detention. Despite the Ugly, each person was looking to the good that was coming in the future. Our local representative on city council, Martha Castex-Tatum, mentioned to me that she was impressed by the positive attitude of our Westbury residents, since she had anticipated the interviews would all be furious and highly negative.

The next Ugly I will mention is the rundown Westbury Square shopping center, located in the commercial heart of Westbury. It is up for sale (again) with a new realtor. I have no idea if the owner will sell the property, but at least there is an opportunity for change. I talked to the realtor and told her the community would look forward to a quality development at the site. Another Ugly nearby is the former 99 Cent Store, which had fire damage just before the

entire chain went bankrupt and made the that we pay to the Constables for these decision to close all stores. That location had previously been a grocery store (H-E-B) and a pharmacy. Surely someone reading this article knows someone who has a fantastic idea to implement in that commercial space that would be an asset for our community. If so, speak up and let's get something in that empty space.

Now to the Bad, Sergeant Derkowski, who heads up our paid contract with the Harris County Precinct 5 Constables, informed the WCC of a spate of car burglaries in Westbury, all in a single night. Please make sure that you always report crime, no matter how small, to our Westbury Area Patrol Constables. We, as a community, are PAYING the Constables to patrol our city streets and major thoroughfares. Don't be shy about using their services. When you call in to report crimes, even small crimes, you are helping law enforcement to know when and where crime is happening. Law enforcement uses crime statistics to know when and where to patrol and when to add extra deputies. It is best to report crimes as soon as possible. Our Constables are fully certified law enforcement officers. They work closely with our local Houston Police Department, and any crimes that qualify are also entered by the Constables into the HPD crime database. The Constables have a LIDAR to detect vehicle speeds on our major roads to catch speeders, which has successfully been lowering the amount of speeding here in Westbury. Every month, the Constables have arrested drivers for Driving Under the Influence in Westbury; sometimes, these drivers also have drugs or guns in the vehicles. The monthly fee

services are the biggest expense of the Westbury Civic Club, and the cost will be going up on October 1. We really, really, really need for you to contribute to the Westbury Area Patrol so that we can continue to provide this important service for our residents. If we do not have sufficient funds, then we will have no other alternative than to cease the program and drop our contract when it renews in October. Since most of our residents have voluntary dues, any voluntary contribution is greatly appreciated and needed to continue this vital program.

I have saved the GOOD for last, since that is the fun stuff. The Dr. Shannon Walker Library in Westbury will be opening on June 1. I have confidence that our library location will be one of busiest and most popular branches in all of Houston. Make a point to drop by to see the new library and enjoy its services. In April, I attended the official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new trails at the Willow Waterhole that have been completed by Harris **County Precinct One Commissioner** Rodney Ellis around Westbury Lake. The new trails are amazing. My husband and I go frequently to walk and to do birdwatching over at Willow Waterhole and to enjoy peace and beauty while in nature. If you haven't been yet, then I encourage you to visit.

Summertime is approaching and schools will soon be out for summer vacation. I hope everyone has a fantastic summer here in Westbury!

Cindy Chapman

March 2024 Board Notes

Public Safety – Sgt. Derkowski from Harris County Precinct 5 Constables, Westbury said there has been an uptick in package thefts. The Constables arrested 7 people in January, 7 in February, and none so far in March, primarily for DWI.

•Guest Speaker, TX Rep Shawn Thierry, discussed the process to pass a bill in the Texas House. Some bills she worked on included: more punitive damages for financial scams, medical coverage for maternity increased to 12 months, silent panic alert technology, lower tax bills. There is a runoff election on May 28, with early voting May 20-24.

• Guest speakers: Richard Nyugen from Solid Waste, said they need more drivers. Candidate Lauren Ashley Simmons provided a summary of her background and is running for Texas House. Brian Pendleton from Precinct 4 encouraged people to provide comments about the Master Plan for Bayland Park.

◆WAIC (Westbury Area Improvement Corp), has been awarded \$7,000 for 2 Mini-Murals in Westbury. They are working to refresh the Westbury Revitalization Study from 1995.

April 2024 Board Notes

Public Safety – Sgt. Derkowski from Precinct 5 Constables provided security update. The Constables arrested a DWI suspect for drugs and guns. They have spent many hours doing traffic enforcement for speeding this year.

Guest Speaker – Martha Castex-Tatum, Mayor Pro Tem/ District K, announced library is opening on JUNE 1! Update on Spring Village Apts., events, and Q&A. See page 7.

- Guest Speaker Brian Norwood from Commissioner Ellis Precinct 1 – gave handouts. WCC thanked Precinct One for the new trails they built at Westbury Lake at Willow Waterhole.
- Treasurer Report a firm has been hired for annual financial review and WCC taxes. Monthly expenses are about 30,000. Most expensive cost is the contract with Precinct 5 Constables. The cost of the Constables is going up on October 1.
- Discussion about Community Outreach and branding.
- Board approved via email to write letter of support for Hillcroft Trail.

Platou Community Center at Chimney Rock Park

11655 Chimney Rock Rd 713-726-7107 platou@houstontx.gov



Supervisor— Dajai Tennard Email—Dajai.Tennard@houstontx.gov

Platou Center is open from 11AM—7PM, Monday—Friday

ACTIVITY CLASS SCHEDULE*

Senior Fitness — M/W/F, 9:30-10:15AM Table Tennis — M/F, 10:30AM-12:30PM Quilting — Tuesday, 9:30AM –1:30PM Senior Games — Wed, 10:30AM—12:30PM Chair Yoga — Thursday, 10-11AM Line Dancing—Thursday, 11AM-12PM

Summer Enrichment Program June 10- August 16, 2024

Summer camp for children ages 6-13. Hours are from 8AM—6Pm. Registration is required. Call the Platou Center for more information or look at HPARD website.

*No adult classes during summer enrichment program.

Westbury Pool Opens May 25

The Westbury Pool will be open for the Summer 2024 Season. The pool will open Saturday, May 25. The pool will be open weekends only until June 11.

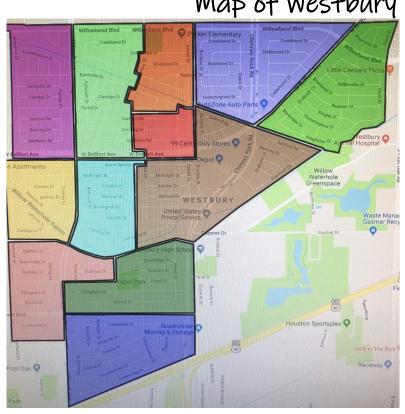
The popular water fitness class will start on June 7. Online registration opens on May 20 at 8am.

As of press time, the City of Houston has not released the 2024 summer pool hours. We will post the hours on our website and Facebook page, Westbury Houston.

Westbury Pool is a free, public pool operated by the City of Houston. The pool is located at 10605 Mullins

WESTBURY LIBRARY OPENING JUNE 1 More information on page 1





Map of Westbury by Section

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

Parkwest 1	198 homes
Parkwest 2	445 homes
Parkwest 3	311 homes
Westbury 1	543 homes
Westbury 2	530 homes
Westbury 3	853 homes
Westbury 4	834 homes
Westbury 5	501 homes
Westbury 5	150 homes
Westbury South	563 homes

What's Happening in Westbury

May 2024 Events & Meetings

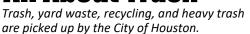
Thurs 9	Heavy Trash—Tree Waste ONLY	
Sat 11	Bayou City Community Market & Blood Drive Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft See page 9 for more information	9AM-1PM
Wed 15	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting Westbury Baptist Church	9:30AM
Wed 15	Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting Westbury Baptist, 10425 Hillcroft, Game Room	7PM
Sat 18	Audubon Bird Survey Willow Waterhole, 5310 S. Wilow See page 15 for more information	7AM
Sat 18	World Bee Day Celebration Westbury Community Garden, 12581 Dunlap See page 14 for more information	10-11:30AM
Sat 25	Bayou City Community Market Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft See page 9 for more information	9AM-1PM
Sat 25	Westbury Pool Opens See page 1 for more information	

June 2024 Events & Meetings

Sat 1	Shannon Walker Westbury Library Grand Open More information on page 1	ing 10AM
Sat 1	WCG Tomato Tasting 10:3A Westbury Community Garden, 12581 Dunlap See page 14 for more information	M-12:30PM
Wed 5	Last day of school for Houston ISD	
Sat 8	Bayou City Community Market Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft See page 9 for more information	9AM-1PM
Thurs 13	Heavy Trash - Junk Waste	
Sat 15	Audubon Bird Survey Willow Waterhole, 5310 S. Wilow See page 15 for more information	7AM
Wed 19	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting	9:30AM
Wed 19	Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting Westbury Baptist, 10425 Hillcroft, Game Room	7PM
Sat 22	Bayou City Community Market Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft See page 9 for more information	9AM-1PM

Follow Westbury Houston on Facebook for announcements, reminders, and updates

All About Trash



Regular Household Trash

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

Yard Waste

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



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

May 2024 Thursday, May 2 Thursday, May 16 Thursday, May 30

June 2024 Thursday, June 13

Thursday, June 27

Heavy Trash Schedule

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

May 2024 TREE WASTE ONLY Thursday, May 9

June 2024 JUNK WASTE Thursday, June 13

Important Trash & Recycling Info

Regular trash pickup is every Thursday. Recycling is every other Thursday. Heavy Trash is once a month, 2nd Thursday. Tard waste is picked up on Saturdays. Westbury is on Recycle Schedule A NO Plastic Bags in green recycling bins Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM each Thursday Trash cans must be removed by 10PM each Thursday Trash cans must be placed at least 3 feet apart Trash cans must be stored out of sight. Yard waste MUST be in correct biodegradable bags with City logo Call 311 for all trash guestions and complaints Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers: SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr - 10785 SW Frwy Hours: Wed.-Sun. 9AM to 6PM; Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste & Recyclables. Environmental Service Center - 11500 S. Post Oak Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM. Accepts Hazardous Household & Electronic Waste.

Refer to www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information

Support the Westbury Civic Club Pay your 2024 Voluntary Dues TODAY!

Westbury is a unique neighborhood with the majority of the 5,000 homes having voluntary dues. Only about 450 homes in Parkwest 1 and Parkwest 2 have Mandatory Assessments. The active participation of volunteers and yearly dues contributions help the Westbury Civic Club achieve our goal and remain active in the City of Houston. The total voluntary dues requested for 2024 is \$385. This includes the WCC Dues and Westbury Area Patrol.

PLEASE NOTE: All homes are subject to the deed restrictions whether the dues are paid or not. All sections of Westbury and Parkwest have ACTIVE deed restrictions.

How To Pay Your Dues/Assessments

There are several pays to pay your dues or assessments.

 Activate your NEW online portal and pay directly online either via credit card or bank account.
 *Once your account is activated (the WCC office must approve), you can view invoices, make payments, setup payment plans, make requests, view calendar and much more. Use the this handy QR to start your online account today!



5

2. Hand deliver* or mail a check to the WCC Office. 5322 W. Bellfort, Suite 100, Houston, TX, 77035 Make checks payable to the Westbury Civic Club *There is a drop slot located at the bottom of the WCC office door.

 Pay via PayPal. You may choose a specific amount or use the custom payment option to enter any amount or additional donation. You can find the link to our paypal page on our new website, www.westburyhouston.com.

Westbury Civic Club Voluntary Dues Form

Name

Address

Email

Phone

Included payment is for the following:

□ WCC Voluntary Dues - \$60

□ WAP Westbury Area Constable Patrol - \$325

□ Mandatory Assessments - \$290 (2024)

Extra Donation (please specify WCC or WAP)

Westbury Civic Club Dues - \$60

The WCC has been vital in keeping Westbury a desirable neighborhood over the past 60 years. The WCC helps maintain 7 miles of esplanades, issues the Westbury Crier monthly newsletter, enforces deed restrictions, provides community events and acts as a very important liaison with the City of Houston while advocating for Westbury. In a City the size of Houston, it is important to make sure you have someone representing you and your neighborhood. The WCC has done a good job of maintaining Westbury for over 60 years. Your contribution helps covers everything needed to operate and maintain the services we provide, this includes office rent, utilities, insurance, postage, printing, legal and professional fees, salary, etc. The WCC has one employee and all other work is done by Westbury board member volunteers, this allows us to keep our costs lower.

Westbury Area Constable Patrol - \$325

The WCC has a contract with Harris County, Precinct 5, Contract Deputy Program to patrol Westbury and provide 24-hour response. This program is referred to as the Westbury Area Patrol (WAP). The WAP currently consists of three Constables (2 Deputies and 1 Sergeant) that are assigned patrol Westbury daily. The Contract Deputy Program is designed so that even when a Westbury deputy is unavailable, the next closest Pct. 5 Constable will be dispatched. Several of our bordering neighborhoods (Meyerland, Maplewood, and Marilyn Estates) also participate in the Pct. 5 Contract Deputy Program, so deputies are typically nearby at all times.

The Harris County Pct. 5 Constables are certified peace officers, licensed by the State of Texas to enforce the laws of the State of Texas. The deputies are uniformed, armed and drive distinctively marked, emergency equipped, law enforcement vehicles. The Constables provide high visibility, rapid response to emergency and non-emergency calls, vacation watches, alarm monitoring, and home security checks. The WCC gets regular crime reports from our Sergeant to ensure that the WCC is kept up to date with crimes in our area.

2024 MANDATORY ASSESSMENTS

2024 Mandatory Assessments - \$290

Owners in Parkwest 1 and Parkwest 2 revised their deed restrictions in 1993 & 1994 to include Mandatory Assessments.

→ Properties in Parkwest 1 that have a new owner of record after the January 1, 1993, are subject to the Mandatory Assessment clause.
 → Properties in Parkwest 2 that have a new owner of record after the January 1, 1994, are subject to the Mandatory Assessment clause.

The Mandatory Assessments are due annually on February 1. The 2024 Mandatory Assessments are \$290. The WCC has launched our NEW online owner portal. This now makes it easy to view, track, and make payments online. The 2024 invoices for Mandatory homes will be mailed in January to the address on record. If you do not receive your invoice, please sign up for your new online owner portal (use the handy QR code to the left) to view a copy or email

westburycc@sbcglobal.net. If you have past due assessments and would like to set up a payment plan, please email the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

WESTBURY IS A DEED RESTRICTED COMMUNITY. DEED RESTRICTIONS ARE ACTIVELY ENFORCED.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WCC Monthly Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday of each month at 7PM Westbury Baptist Church Game Room Next Meetings—Wednesday, May 15 Wednesday, June 19

CONTACT THE WESTBURY CIVIC CLUB

WCC Office — westburycc@sbcglobal.net 713-723-5437

WCC President wccpresident@westburycrier.com

Owner Portal— Send general request through your account

Social Media— Facebook—Message Westbury Houston

WCC Office FAQ

House Plan Review - Form is online at www.westburyhouston.com. Submit plans and completed form to the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net

<u>Statement of Account</u> - Email the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net

<u>Resale Certificates</u> - Info and form is online at www.westburyhouston.com

Deed Restrictions, Policies, By-laws www.westburyhouston.com

Account Balance - Set up your PayHOA account today.

Join the WCC Board?

Come to the next meeting and join this great group of volunteers maintaining and making our neighborhood a great place! We welcome any Westbury homeowner to join! We need YOU!

Open Board positions*

At Large directors (two positions) Security director Westbury 2 Section Director Westbury 4 Section Director Westbury 5 Section Director Parkwest 1 Section Director *Must be the listed owner of record for your Westbury property in order to be on the WCC board. Section directors must live in the section representing.

Join the WCC Green Team today!

Work on keeping Westbury Green! Help maintain our esplanades and sign gardens, and much more! Sign up today, www.westburyhouston.com

District K CM Martha Castex-Tatum at April WCC Meeting

The majority of Westbury is represented by Martha Castex-Tatum, who is the city councilmember (CM) representing District K and who serves as Mayor Pro Tem (which means that she was selected by Mayor Whitmire and City Council to represent the Mayor at meetings or events when he is not available). Here are some of the main topics she discussed at the April Westbury Civic Club meeting.



NEW Westbury Library The new Dr. Shannon Walker Library in Westbury is scheduled have its GRAND OPENING on Saturday, June 1. 2024. The time has not yet been announced. Astronaut Dr. Shannon Walker has notified the city that she plans to attend the Grand Opening event. The director of the city library system has resigned and the

library system now has an interim director. Mayor Whitmire has mentioned that he would like to investigate combining library services with Harris County.

Spring Village Apartments

At the time of the April meeting there had been two fires at the vacant apartments, and the buildings and gates continue to be open. CM Martha Castex-Tatum said that she has discussed the ongoing problems with the Mayor, the city Housing Director, the fire department, and the police department. The city used federal funds to purchase the apartments for greenspace and future stormwater detention to alleviate flooding. Due to the ongoing problems and dilapidated state of the buildings, the city will board it up and fence it next week. The city is trying to expedite the contracts to be able to demolish the buildings. It is our understanding that there are three contracts involved: environmental monitoring, abatement, and then for demolition, and that the contracts may be ready for approval by City Council in early May. If all goes well, then the demolition may start this summer.

Willow Waterhole

The trails along Westbury Lake have been completed and are now open. The ribbon cutting was on April 13.

Infrastructure

The supply of paint for crosswalks had been on back order; now that the paint is back in stock, District K has submitted requests for several crosswalk locations across District K to be refreshed. Work on the Spellman Detention project by the City is starting soon.

Illegal **Dumping**

District K has 12 cameras it uses to monitor and cite violators for illegal dumping.

City Water Leaks

When asked about several long-time leaks in the Westbury area, CM Castex-Tatum noted that the locations were on the city work list, but not on the highest priority.

City of Houston Hiring Lifeguards

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department is hiring lifeguards for the summer 2024 season. There is a \$500 incentive bonus to work throughout the summer. Candidates must be 16 years old by May 31, pass a swim evaluation, have a government issued picture ID, and submit an online application.

More information is available at 832.395.7129 or www.houstontx.gov/parks/swimming.html

The Westbury Pool will be open for the 2024 summer season. See page 1 for more information.

KEEP WESTBURY BEAUTIFUL

It was another wonderful Keep Westbury Beautiful volunteer work day. A big thank you to Jennifer Edmondson and Laura Falk, who designed the Westbury Park butterfly garden 10 years ago for Keep Houston Beautiful Day 2014. Work done by volunteers each year on Keep Westbury Beautiful Day, under Jennifer's direction, keeps the butterfly garden growing and thriving.

We couldn't do this work without youthful workers. Many thanks to Jennifer Kuhleman for bringing the Bellaire National Honor Society students to work on the garden. We also had students from St. Thomas High School, Meyerland Middle School and a home-schooled student. These students worked to enhance the garden along with six WCC board members: Cindy Chapman, Marcia Hartman, Matt Funk, Jennifer Edmondson, Becky Pate, and Becky Edmondson. Tools were supplied by the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy, thank you Brett Byers and Bill Burhans.

The butterfly garden was weeded, trees trimmed, and new plants were added. Several pavers and a border were added to the front to help guide foot traffic on the pavers and let plants grow better. The whole park area was de-littered and the curb gutter along Stillbrooke, which was full of leaves and muck, was shoveled clean. Thank you to Tom Gwilliam, who picked up supplies to de-litter Hager Park.

Mayor Pro-Tem Martha Castex-Tatum presented a certificate of appreciation. The District K HOT team picked up the branches that had been trimmed. Alan Steinberg of Keep Houston Beautiful came by to say thank you.

And one final thanks to The Westbury Area Improvement Corporation for allocating \$500 to pay for the plants, mulch, dirt, and pizza.



MISSED TRASH PICKUP? OVERGROWN YARD WITH WEEDS OVER 9 INCHES NEXT DOOR? **VISIBLE TRASH/JUNK STORED ON** YOUR NEIGHBOR'S PROPERTY?

Report these issues to the City of Houston via 311.

You can call 311, email 311@houstontx.gov, report through the City website or use the 311 app.

If it is a long-time or chronic issue, please send the Service Request number to the WCC office.

















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17 & FREE ESTIMATES Tom Cao **Master Electrician** 713-392-5795 Lic #6260









8

Bayou City Community Market Westbury Baptist Church 10425 Hillcroft 2nd & 4th Saturdays each Month

The Bayou City Community Market is a new Texas certified farmers market and GoTexan affiliate, located in the parking lot at Westbury Baptist Church at 10425 Hillcroft. The market operates on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month from 9am to 1pm. The market is women and vendor owned and operated with a focus on serving the immediate community of Westbury and surrounding neighborhoods with the goal of becoming a community hub for our neighbors.



Saturday, May 11th, from 9am-1pm

Bayou City Community Market, in partnership with Westbury Baptist Church, will be hosting the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center mobile donor coach. The Blood Center will be onsite from 9am-1pm for blood donations. Successful donors will receive a free sling bag. Donors can sign up in advance for a spot to donate blood at https://tinyurl.com/BloodDriveMay11.

Saturday, May 25th, from 9am-1pm

The community drive of the day will be cleaning products for local schools.



Ongoing Community Drive – There is a book swap table set up for neighbors and the community. Bring a book, take a book.

The farmers market features local farmers, vendors and small businesses offering fresh local produce, fresh Wagyu beef, poultry, fresh chicken, farm eggs, jams & jellies, natural pet treats, farm products, local honey, fresh juices, gulf seafood, pickled and canned items, salsas & seasonings, nuts, gourmet popcorn, organic body care, handmade soaps, freeze dried candies, other food products and artisan goods, artisan breads, sweet baked goods & culinary delights such as BBQ, Cajun Food, Thai Food, Indian Food, Tamales, Fresh Salads, Birria Tacos, Specialty Churros, Fresh Barista served Coffee, Specialty roasted Coffee beans, Fresh-squeezed Lemonade, and more! Artisan products may include sewn products, clothing, artwork, handcrafted wood products, and garden items. The Bayou City Community Market is child and pet friendly (leashed pets welcome)!

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5510 Briarbend - 3/2/2•\$340's



5910 Dryad - 3/2/2•\$290's



5722 Stillbrooke - 3/2/2•\$340's



5819 Portal- 5/3/2•\$550's 6222 Queensloch - 4/2.5/2•\$620's HOUSTON • KATY • SUGAR LAND • THE WOODLANDS House Could Be Here?

Your

37.2024 WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL GALA Support Local Schools

The Westbury High School Scholarship Gala, Dinner and Silent Auction returned for the first time since 2019. In its 23rd year, the Gala is hosted by the Friends of Westbury High School Foundation. The 2024 Gala celebrated 12 deserving Westbury High School seniors, each received \$3,000 scholarships. The WHS seniors receiving scholarships were: Elizabeth Bravo, Chelsea Romero Carino, Betsaida Coreas, Quan Ho, Xavier Johnson, Irais Luna, Iyinoluwa Ojo, Ana Rojas Pena, Renee Renteria, Logan Reta, Cesar Rodriguez Sosa, and Noa De Jesus Vazquez. Congratulations to these hardworking Westbury High School students!



Each year the Friends of WHS Foundation choose several school and community

members to honor in addition to the students. This year our District K Councilmember Martha Castex-Tatum was honored as the outstanding community member. She awarded a scholarship in honor of Shannon Walker to Irais Luna who plans to study Astro Physics. Former WHS Parent Engagement Liaison, Jeri Brown, was honored as a WHS faculty member. She awarded several of the Rising Star scholarships.

Two WHS Alumni were honored at the Gala, Rusty Howard and Fred Arnold, both were long time volunteers of the WHS Friends. Each had scholarships awarded in their memories. Former WHS English teacher, WHS tennis coach, and WHS principal, Chet Smith, was also remembered with a scholarship awarded in his memory.

The WHS Friends group thanks all the Westbury residents who donate their time, talent, and treasure! If you want to learn more about this group, visit www.friendswhs.org.

FRIENDS OF WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION Dedicated to Excellence at Westbury High School

PARKER ELEMENTARY AND WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL HOUSTON ART CAR PARADE





Parker Elementary School and Westbury High School both entered cars into Houston's Annual Art Car Parade. Super big shout out to Westbury High School, who won an award for their car, The Put More Stuff On It Award! AWESOME!!!

This is the first year that Westbury HS created an art car. WHS art teacher Victoria Tarkington was awarded an old car by Gillman Automotive Group to use for their art car. Seven WHS students worked on the winning art car, whose theme was "Adventures of Huskies at Willow Waterhole". The car featured a large husky school mascot sculpture, covered in mirrored surfaces and items to represent nature images of the school's neighbor, The Willow Waterhole. Congratulations to Ms. Tarkington and the WHS students that worked on the car. WHS art car award is pictured to the right.

The Parker Elementary art car had a space theme and an actual astronaut! THE Dr. Shannon Walker herself, namesake of the new Dr. Shannon Walker library in Westbury, joined students on the Parker Elementary art car trailer. The Parker art car featured a sculpture of a space shuttle.



Soccer Field for Westbury HS

A soccer field was part of the 2012 bond improvements for Westbury High School. The tennis courts were built on one portion of the open rectangle and the other half was slated to be a soccer field. However, the contractor left the field littered with concrete and rebar making the land unusable as a soccer pitch. Now seven years later, Bill Burhans, after many years of lobbying, finally found the contractor who agreed to clear the field. This happened last month. We appreciate not only Bill's efforts, but the contractor for doing the right thing.

Now we are ready for phase 2, which is to level the field and sod it. The estimate to do this phase is around \$55,000. We have identified a source that may contribute \$40,000; we've raised \$1,025 from the community and are starting a campaign to raise more.

The adjacent tennis courts, built as part of the bond, are beautiful. The boy's baseball field and the girl's softball field, both built with funds from that bond, are beautiful. We'd like to give soccer the same.

WHS is 70% Hispanic and it is wrong not to have a dedicated soccer field (pitch) for such a very popular sport. Especially given that the land was allocated for a soccer field.

If you would like to contribute to this effort to bring a proper soccer pitch to Westbury High School, please send your donation to Friends of Westbury High School Foundation, P O Box 31386 Houston, Tx 77231-1386



WWW.WESTBURYHOUSTON.COM



WESTBURY AREA NEWS Spring Creek Apartments

Did you see Miya Shay's piece on ABC 13 about the conditions at Spring Creek Apartments located in Westbury? Nearby neighbors will be glad when this eyesore, that has been the scene of two recent fires and many break-ins, is gone. The land will become greenspace and eventually much needed detention when the city begins the storm water reconstruction projects in that section of Westbury.

As of April 17, the City of Houston was in the process of completing three contracts on behalf of the Housing Department for the demolition of Spring Creek Apartments on Chimney Rock at Ludington. One is for environmental monitoring; one for abatement, and the final contract is the demolition. They anticipate these three contracts being on the agenda in early May.

Attention Master Naturalists and Gardeners

The City is making plans to plant on the 6 lots that they purchased along the Willow Waterhole Bayou. Would you like to be a part of this process? Email westburygreen@gmail.com

Drive Around Westbury Problem Areas

Representatives from the Westbury Civic Club and Westbury Super Neighborhood periodically do a drive around with a representative from the city to inspect problem areas and city violations in the Westbury area. We are fortunate to have Veronica Hernandez, from the City Mayor's Assistance Office, to participate with us in the drive-arounds. Veronica has years of experience working with the city. During the area tour, we looked at both residential and commercial locations.

We looked at some isolated locations that have had problems with illegal dumping. We looked at businesses that have had ongoing issues with trash on site, dumpster issues, or donation bin problems. We identified residential areas that had trash violations, unkempt yards with grass that exceeds allowable height by the city, and yards that had vehicles parking in the front yard in violation of the city Prohibited Yard Parking ordinance that is in effect in the Westbury area. Veronica took careful notes and photos and will work with city inspectors to follow up on the issues.

May 28 - Primary Runoff Election

The primary runoff for candidates, who will be on the November ballot, is scheduled for May 28. The Senate District 15 seat is a run off between Molly Cook and Jarvis Johnson. Texas House of Reps District 146 is in a run-off between incumbent Democrat Shawn Thierry and challenger Lauren Ashley Simmons. Visit harrisvotes.org to find more information.

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Infrastructure Updates

You may have noticed a flurry of infrastructure activity in Westbury. District K has paid for crosswalks across the District to be refreshed with new paint, including several locations in Westbury near schools and bus stops. Thank you, Mayor Pro Tem Martha Castex-Tatum of District K!

The City Public Works Department has been busy working on a local stormwater drainage improvement project in Parkwest 2, with an intent to improve street drainage in the area of Rampart and Willowbend and Ashcroft. The city is installing larger drainage inlets at the street curbs, larger underground drainage piping, and revising the channel connection. This area has long had a problem with slow draining water after rainfall. We look forward to seeing some improvements.

The city has also started construction of a new stormwater detention site upstream of the Westbury area, located on West Bellfort between Hillcroft and Fondren, along the "Fondren Diversion Channel". The city is using federal funding for this work. After completion by the city, the detention site will be maintained by the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD). This will be a dry bottom detention site, meaning it is designed to hold water after rainfalls and will not routinely hold water .

The HCFCD has been making good progress on new detention along Brays Bayou, downstream of Westbury, on North Braeswood at the site of the former Meyer Grove apartments. This detention site is designed to always contain water at the lowest level.







The Harris County Constable Program *An Editorial by Becky Edmondson*

Did you see my picture on the front page of the Houston Chronicle on March 24, 2024? The Chronicle was doing a series of articles about the Harris County Constable program. Back in 2020, the Harris County Commissioner's Court was talking about cutting the Constable patrol program. Commissioners court was packed with people protesting this move and the idea was tabled. It is now an issue again with talk of making the program so expensive that many neighborhoods will no longer be able to afford it. This past month Commissioners Court approved a 6.6% increase which will take the cost of the Constable's program beginning in October to \$300,000 a year for Westbury.

This attack on the Constable program is a real danger to neighborhoods across the city that rely on these deputies. HPD is woefully understaffed. Precinct 5 deputies are on our streets every day. They are responding tophone calls, working traffic, visible law enforcement. For even what HPD deems "low priority calls," the Constables are minutes away, not hours away.

Here in Westbury the Constables respond to hundreds of calls a month. Won't you please pay your dues so that we can keep this very important program? If you sign up through PayHOA, you can easily set up a regular monthly payment. Have questions about the owner portal? Contact the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net.



Security & Crime Update

Sgt. Derkowski reported multiple Burglary of Motor Vehicles (BMV) in late April. If your car is targeted, please call the Pct. 5 dispatch, 281-463-6666, and report it so they will know where to concentrate their patrols. When Pct. 5 takes a report they also send it to HPD, and it will get a HPD case number.

Items Stolen – Wallets stolen from unlocked vehicles. Airpods and Beats were some of the visible items stolen from locked cars that had windows were broken.

In late April, the string of BMVs were along Hillcroft from Willowbend to West Bellfort and west of Hillcroft on Carlotta and Willowbend.



Crime Statistics for Westbury SuperNeighborhood Crime in Westbury Single Family Homes—March 16—April 15, 2024

-				-	- / -	-	
Block	Street	Crime	Date	Time	Section of W	Theft from Motor Vehicle	
10700	Checkerboard	Theft—Other	4/15	4pm	Westbury 2		
5800	Dryad	Auto Theft	3/20	8pm	Westbury 4	Auto Theft	
5700	Ettrick	Auto Theft	4/12	1am	Westbury 4		
5700	Fontenelle	Burglary, Breaking & Entering	3/24	5pm	Westbury South	Drugs,	
11300	Gaymoor	Aggravated Assault	4/9	9pm	Westbury 3	Narcotics	
5700	Greencraig	Simple Assault	4/2	10am	Westbury South	Aggravated	
5800	Greencraig	Simple Assault	3/19	5pm	Westbury South	Assault	
12000	Hillcroft	Simple Assault	3/25	1pm	Westbury 4	Burglary	
12400	Landsdowne	Aggravated Assault	4/5	3pm	Westbury South]	
12400	Landsdowne	Theft from Motor Vehicle	3/22	2am	Westbury South	Simple Assault	
6000	Ludington	Simple Assault	4/2	12am	Westbury 4	Theft—other	
5500	McKnight	Auto Theft	4/1	6am	Westbury 3		
5900	Portal	Theft from Motor Vehicle	4/8	2am	Westbury 5	The crimes listed took	
5600	Sanford	Disorderly Conduct	3/22	2pm	Westbury 5	place between March 16 and April 15.	
5700	Sanford	Auto Theft	4/2	8pm	Parkwest 2	They are listed in	
5900	W. Airport	Drugs, Narcotics	4/4	1pm	Westbury 4	alphabetical order by street. The crimes	
5200	W. Bellfort	Theft—Other	4/11	12pm	Westbury 1	are color coded by crime	
5900	W. Bellfort	Burglary, Breaking & Entering	3/27	9am	Westbury 5	type. Please see key above.	

Crime by the Numbers

Crime Type	Homes	Apts./ TH	Comm./ Business	Park/ Public
Aggravated Assault	2	5	0	0
Theft from Motor Vehicle	2	3	4	0
Burglary	2	2	0	0
Robbery	0	0	2	0
Simple Assault	4	11	4	1
Shoplifting	0	0	3	0
Drugs, Narcotics	1	0	2	0
Vandalism, Damage	0	4	4	0
Auto Theft	4	9	0	0
Theft of Vehicle Parts	0	2	1	0
Theft—Other	2	4	2	0
Theft from Building	0	0	2	0
DUI	0	0	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	1	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	0	1	0	0
Arson	0	1	0	0
Pick-Pocketing	0	0	1	0
Embezzlement	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	18	42	26	1

BANOU CIT Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center *'Unity* Free Sling Bag for Successful Westbury Baptist Church Bayou City Community Donors! Market SAT, May IIth, Saturday, May 11 9:00 am - 1:00 pm 10425 Hillcroft St, Houston, 9am-Ipm 77096 FREE SLING BAG FOR ALL SUCCESSFUL DONORS! Scan Below To Sign Up: 10425 Hillcroft St., Houston, TX 77096 **动注的** WESTBURY BAPTIST 回教育研究 CHURCH PARKING LOT Appointments preferred. Walk-ins welcome lood recipier Gulf Coast Regional EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D. BayouCityCommunityMarket.com



SW HPD Station 832-394-0400

Westbury Area Patrol 281-463-6666 , HPD Non-Emergency 713-884-3131

KEY



8TH ANNUAL TOMATO TASTING FESTIVAL SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 10:30 – 12:30 WESTBURY COMMUNITY GARDEN PAVILION

Attention all tomato lovers and growers, you don't want to miss this popular neighborhood fundraiser event at Westbury Community Garden! The 8th annual tomato tasting will be held on Saturday, June 1, from 10:30AM to 12:30PM.

For a \$15 donation, participants receive a Tomato Scorecard and may sample over 25 varieties of tomatoes of all shapes, sizes and colors in a blind taste test. Make notes and choose your favorites in the cherry, plum, saladette, and slicer categories, and then vote for your favorite tomatoes. Tomato growers will be on hand to share pro tips that will help you choose which varieties you want to grow next year.

In addition to tasting lots of tomatoes, the event will feature fish bowl raffles where participants may win garden tools, yard art, restaurant gift cards, gourmet items, and much more. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 12 tickets for \$10.



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.







10:00-11:30 May 18th

Experts share how to save the bees 🐳

Enjoy Food, Shopping, and More!

vureach@westburycommunitygarden.com for details

World Bee Day Celebration May 18, 10-11:30AM

World Bee Day will be celebrated at the Westbury Community Garden on Saturday, May 18, 10-11:30AM.

Honeybees will be on display in a plexiglass observation hive. There will also be some large sized high resolution photos of bees at work. Children will be able to try on a bee suit.

There will be various honey and beeswax items for sale.

- *Infused Hot Honey
- *Baklava
- *Persian Baklava cake
- *Beeswax lip balm in
- *plastic-free tubes
- *Honey-Almond soap





Photo—Mark Mulligan, Houston Chronicle

Willow Waterhole More than Just Flood Control TRAILS * BIRDS * WILDFLOWERS

Visit the Willow Waterhole TODAY! The main Westbury Lake trails and gazebo are easily accessible via the new parking lot at the end of Dryad near Westbury High School.

www.willowwaterhole.org

New Trails Completed Ribbon Cutting

A ribbon cutting was held on April 13 to celebrate the completion of new trails at Westbury Lake in the Willow Waterhole Greenway. In attendance on a beautiful morning were representatives from the: Harris County Precinct One Commissioner's Office, Harris County Flood Control District, Harris County Engineering Department, District K Councilmember's Office, Houston Parks and Recreation Department, SPARK Parks, Brays Oaks Management District, Westbury Civic Club, Westbury High School, Neighborhood to Trails Southwest, and the Conservancy.

In 2017, the Commissioner's Office launched their Park Smart Program. The Program's mission was to identify underserved areas in the Precinct and make investments to create equitable accessibility to parks and greenspaces. The Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy attended public meetings and put forth proposals to the Commissioner's Office for an investment in trails at the Greenway.

In early 2021, Commissioner Rodney Ellis announced a \$2.7M investment to build 3.5 miles of trails at Westbury Lake in the Greenway, and in 2022, the construction contract was approved by Commissioner's Court. Construction started in July 2023 and was recently completed.

In late 2021, the Kinder Foundation announced a \$4M grant to the Conservancy for accessibility projects at the Greenway. With the two leading investments, the Conservancy launched their Discover your Greenway Capital Campaign. As of today, public and private investments total \$12M and accessibility projects include eight miles of trails, four new parking areas, safer street crossings, a pier, and development of a native coastal prairie preserve.



Westbury Lake Trails Named in Honor of Greenway Major Contributors

SHANLEY TRAIL – Kevin Shanley was a renowned Principal Landscape Architect/CEO of the SWA Group and designed the landscape at the Greenway. He advocated for a new concept to the Harris County Flood Control District that stormwater detention should be combined with usable greenspace. The beautiful curvilinear shorelines, islands, topography changes, and overlooks are a result of his designs.

ELLIS ISLAND TRAIL - Harris County Precinct One Commissioner Rodney Ellis supported the \$2.7M project for 3.5 miles of new trails constructed in 2023 at Westbury Lake. The Commissioner's Office is recognized as a leading advocate for accessible greenspace in underserved neighborhoods and investing in flood control infrastructure.

CULLAR TRAIL - Karen Cullar was an assistant director in the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and in 2003 obtained a \$750,000 grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to build one mile of trails and two gazebos and bridges. The grant was a catalyst for getting the City's involvement in the development of the Greenway.



Audubon Society Monthly Bird Survey @ the Willow Waterhole

Saturday, May 18, 7AM Saturday, June 15, 7AM Meet at the Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow For more info., visit houstonaudubon.org/





SUPPORT THE Westbury Civic Club Pay your 2024 Dues!



Activate your online owner account to pay your dues or assessments.