



BRAYS OAKS

MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER VOL. III, 2011

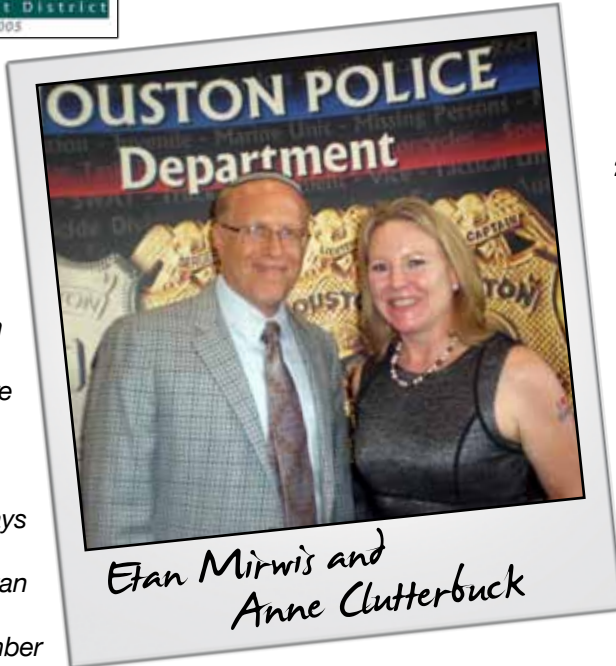
WWW.BRAYSOAKSMD.ORG



Overflowing with Good News!



On October 12 the new South Gessner Patrol Divison was dedicated in the District. On hand were city officials and other dignitaries including Brays Oaks District Chairman, Etan Mirwis and Council Member Anne Clutterbuck.



Etan Mirwis and Anne Clutterbuck

A message from Etan Mirwis,

Chairman of the Board *****

2011 was another year of significant progress in the District in all of our service areas. Our seven year journey of District revitalization was most evident when we were notified that the Houston Association of Realtors (HAR) had agreed to our request to use our District boundaries as a distinct geographic area. Why is this important one might ask? For that, a bit of background is needed. When talk of a District first came about seven years ago, the area we now know as the Brays Oaks District was commonly referred to as Fondren Southwest. Early this year we met with the HAR mapping team and presented our case that our community should be recognized as Brays Oaks and not included in the designation of Zone 20, Bellaire South. To our delight we were contacted by HAR in October and notified that our recommendations had been accepted as reflected on the map in the business section of this newsletter.

During the year we reported on the District expansion to include the remainder of the Braeburn Super Neighborhood and the entirety of the Westbury Subdivision. This change added a new board member, Ms. Cindy Chapman, who you will learn more about in this edition. The expansion will also require updates to our Service and Assessment Plan which was up for renewal in 2012. Through this expansion, new services and plans will grow over time and we invite all of our new community partners in Braeburn and Westbury to attend upcoming board and/or committee meetings and get involved in the District.

If I had to choose one word to express 2011's advances in Public Safety it would be "Watershed". Watershed in that it marked a clear division between the days and perception of Fondren SW and the rebirth and realization of the phoenix now established as Brays Oaks. In October we celebrated the grand opening of the South Gessner Patrol Station. We continue to expand our public safety program through creative collaboration and we have partnered with the County Attorney to create a unique partnership that assists us in prosecuting undesirable nuisance businesses who try and operate in the District. We also expanded our after school bus program to include Westbury Christian and the India House. The good news which began in July of 2010 when the Heart of our District - 77071 was named one of the "Top 10 Safest Zip Codes" in Houston continued through 2011 with crime at a six year low.

In environmental and urban design we created a new litter abatement program. In keeping with our promise to make this the best District in Houston, we recognized that additional services were required in terms of litter abatement and general cleaning of the public rights-of-way. In business development we have created the Relocation Houston Program which is an initiative to showcase the District and Houston as an ideal place to work and live. We have hired a professional consultant, Davis Consulting, to assist with this outreach program. As we move forward into 2012 our comprehensive strategy will be tracked to gauge successes of the programs developed.

We hope that you will enjoy reading of all of our successes in this 2011 year in review and look forward to sharing even more good news in the coming year. Our best wishes for a safe and wonderful holiday season and a blessed New Year.





Health Care

Houston offers the world-renowned Texas Medical Center which is less than 8 miles from the Brays Oaks District. It is the world's largest concentration of expertise in medical treatment and care, medical research and medical technology. Houston also offers the Harris County Hospital District and eight specific facilities ranked among the top 50 in the U.S.

Housing

The Brays Oaks area excels at providing a broad range of very cost-competitive housing options with beautiful, multi-family housing complexes with first class amenities.; in fact Houston's housing costs are the lowest among the 27 metro areas with more than two million residents.

- Stable Deed Restricted Single Family Communities
- Over 17,000 Single Family Homes in the District
- Plans for New Single-family Residential Development
- Relocation Assistance through the Brays Oaks District

Relocation Houston, Destination BRAYS OAKS

The District is working on implementation of a new initiative to encourage relocation ideally in the District and Houston and our surrounding area in general. The initiative seeks to showcase the District as a destination where opportunity and affordability converge. Relocation Houston, Destination Brays Oaks will be the general concept that will evolve over time and highlight the many assets of Houston and our District.

Employment Opportunities

The Brays Oaks District's economy is very diverse with a mix of public and private employment, companies of all sizes and a very dynamic not-for-profit community.

- 8 miles from the Texas Medical Center - the Largest Employment Center in the City.
- Access to the Three Largest Major Highway Arteries in the City.
- The District's Advisory Committee has access to the Texas Medical Center's HR Director for Job Referrals.

Top Houston Medical Related Employers

Sharps Compliance Corp. | Memorial Hermann Healthcare | UT MD Anderson Cancer Center
Methodist Hospital System | US Oncology | Texas Children's Hospital

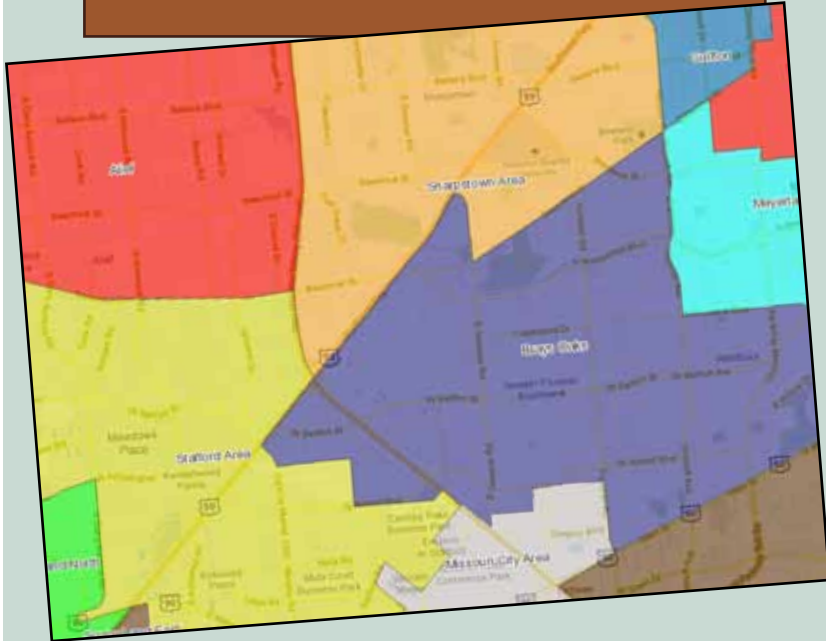
Other Employment Resources: www.medserv-hcms.com | www.jcchouston.org | www.indeed.com



Business & Economic Development

HAR RECOGNIZES Brays Oaks AS ITS OWN DESIGNATION

Early in 2011 the District team began working with the Houston Association of Realtors (HAR) on their new mapping system that was under development. HAR had as their chief goal to recognize areas in the region that had changed over time. With the rapid growth over the past ten years, there were so many new and revitalized areas that they felt clarification was needed. To that end the District hosted meetings of real estate professionals to work with HAR to assist with the reclassification. The District had long maintained that Brays Oaks should be its own designated area in the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) and not a part of Zone 20, Bellaire South. In October we were notified that HAR had accepted our recommendations and Brays Oaks will appear as its own designation in the near future and no longer be known commonly as Fondren Southwest. As a part of our rebranding efforts this is another significant step in the right direction or as our Chairman, Etan Mirwis said, *"absolutely awesome"*.



2011 Real Estate Forum

On October 4th the District hosted a joint real estate forum along with the Greater Sharpstown and International Management Districts. The key note was Jesse Thompson of the Federal Reserve and a panel discussion of real estate professionals was also assembled from the Districts and Margie Dorrance of HAR. The program highlighted the strengths of each District and the on-going revitalizations underway. The event was held at the Junior League and is intended to be an annual event. A video of the event is at each of the Districts websites.

**For additional details on the next forum contact
Alice Lee, alee@hhcllp.com.**

overflowing with good news!

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.BRAYSOAKSMD.ORG



2012 BI-MONTHLY BREAKFAST SAVE THE DATES!!!

Tuesday January 10, March 13, May 8, July 10,
September 11, and November 13.
Annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast - December 13

**COME SAY GOODBYE TO ANNE CLUTTERBUCK
AT THIS YEARS ANNUAL VOLUNTEER
APPRECIATION BREAKFAST 12.01.2011**

PLEASE RSVP TO: JudyNMike@SBCGlobal.net



Holiday

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1ST. 2011 @ 7:30 A.M.

HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
MCNAIR HALL - CULTURAL ARTS CENTER
7502 FONDREN HOUSTON, TX 77074

Please Bring

TEDDY BEARS SIZE 6" -12"

TEDDY BEARS HAVE BEEN KEEPING CHILDREN
"SAFE FROM MONSTERS UNDER THE BED" SINCE 1901 -
AND WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE STILL SAFE IN 2011

or

CANNED GOODS/TOILETRIES FOR
BRAES INTERFAITH MINISTRIES
MONETARY DONATIONS WELCOME

Please

RSVP BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH. 2011 TO JUDY AT
JUDYNMIKE@SBCGLOBAL.NET

Entertainment provided by:
WESTBURY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

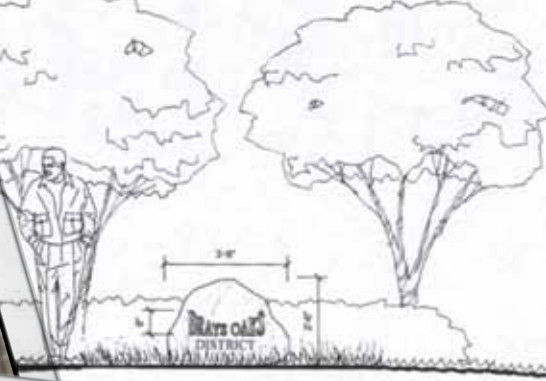


Thank you, Anne!
Council Member Anne Clutterbuck,
the community deeply appreciates
all of your hard work.



THANK YOU, ANNE
For your service to our community





Keeping the District Clean & Green

From VISION to REALITY

The District is very active in removing the visual blight caused by graffiti. Graffiti abated by the District is color matched and chronicled for HPD investigations. To date the District has abated over 1,300 individual incidents of graffiti. We are grateful to our community partners and residents who actively assist us in reporting incidents. We are also working closely with our graffiti abatement contractor and HPD to identify and prosecute the individuals responsible for graffiti in our District.

We encourage all residents and businesses to join in the effort to help us eradicate graffiti from the District by reporting to 3-1-1 or by going on-line to www.BraysOaksMD.org and reporting incidences via the "Report a Problem" button on the home page.

The District also provides funding for street light surveys which are performed bi-monthly with outages reported to CenterPoint Energy for repair. This year the District reported over 900 lights to CenterPoint for repair.



Litter Abatement

Recognition that the area needs to look the way it feels prompted Elaine Gaskamp, the District's Chair of the Environmental and Urban Design Committee, to request a new approach in the way the District handles its litter abatement. Acting on recommendation from the committee, the Board agreed to hire a contractor who would be solely dedicated to the District to handle: litter abatement, bandit sign removal, return of shopping carts to stores, and mowing of the under maintained public rights-of-way.

In just three months since their implementation the team has collected over 10,000 lbs of trash, mowed 400 rights-of-way, collected over 500 bandit signs and returned 48 shopping carts to their store of origin. The litter crew can be easily identified by the signature white service truck with the District logo on the driver and passenger doors.

overflowing with good news!

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Initiatives *****

“The District really has a lot to be proud of - old alliances and new partnerships have really made all the difference” says David Hawes, Executive Director of the Brays Oaks District. This year the District solidified its commitment to public safety by partnering with HPD by funding of mobile camera emplacements, running statistical analysis and identifying crime hot spots for targeted enforcement. We also committed resources to go after nuisance properties, keep at risk teenagers off the streets with our after school bus program and partnered with one of the longest running apartment safety coalitions in the City. These efforts in part contributed to the District receiving recognition for ***“Excellence in Public Safety”*** by Houston City Council's Public Safety Committee for 2011.

Mobile Surveillance Cameras

The District began the use of mobile cameras in January of 2010. Since that time, the District has been able to track major reductions in crime in and around the areas where they have been deployed. Mobile surveillance cameras have proven to be an excellent deterrent and investigative tool for our local law enforcement officers. The units have a self-contained digital video recorder (DVR) which local law enforcement can access and retrieve data to aid in their investigations. The District has plans to expand this program next year and will deploy extra cameras this year near the commercial shopping corridors to help protect and deter crime during the holiday season.



HPD Partnership

Early on the District understood the need to partner with the Houston Police Department by aiding in the dissemination of notifications of community related events. The District assists HPD by notifying the community of Police Interaction Program (P.I.P) events and promotion of HPD's Blue Star Program. In 2011, a joint venture between the District and HPD's Hot Spot team resulted in the capture and prosecution of a prolific graffiti tagger whose defacements had cost the city and neighboring districts over \$30,000 in abatement expenditures. With the addition of an Assistant County Attorney contracted to the District the management district is building a coalition of State, County, and City law enforcement agencies working in tandem with one another to address nuisance properties in the community. With this coalition at work, 2012 looks to be a year that will set its own benchmarks.

Crime Mapping /Analytics

The District receives a monthly report of all crimes committed in the community each month. This data is filtered via a Geographical Information System (G.I.S.) and used to identify high crime properties and crime trends. This data is extremely useful and helps aid in the allocation of resources and tracking the impact of proactive crime prevention measures.

Apartment Cluster Committee Meetings

The District's Multi-Family Initiatives are a holistic approach to improving our apartment communities featuring components to exchange tenant information, pro-active crime prevention and featured guest speakers who address the concerns of our multi-family communities. This year the District partnered with local public safety icons, Perry Radoff and Ruth Hurst, to address crime in the District's multi-family communities. Ruth Hurst has been chairing the apartment cluster meetings for 17 years and has welcomed the participation of the District in her efforts. These apartment cluster meetings are open for membership to all multi-family property owners and managers in the community. To learn more contact Ruth Hurst at RTOPSY1815@aol.com or Richard Rodriguez at rrodriguez@braysoaksmd.org.

After School Bus Program

Since 2009, the District has provided after-school bus service for the two middle schools in the District (Fondren and Welch). Services to Westbury Christian were added this year. The District funds after school bus services for children who would like to stay for after school enrichment but lack transportation. This aides the District's refugee population and latch key apartment residents by providing transportation for participating after school enrichment courses. The program was further expanded in 2011 to the India House to provide transportation from Bell, Milne and Valley West Elementary. Buses from these schools take children to the India House to participate in after-school enrichment activities.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.BRAYSOAKSMD.ORG

overflowing with good news!



CERT training is designed to help prepare you, your family, and neighbors in the event of disruptions and potential hazards before and after disaster strikes when emergency personnel are not available.

For more information on Harris County Citizen Corps please go to our website at: www.HarrisCountyCitizensCorps.com

FREE

Community Emergency Response Team Disaster Preparedness Training

MANUAL AND STARTER BACKPACK KIT PROVIDED

SATURDAYS, 9AM TO 12PM
January 14, 2012 through March 10, 2012

NO CLASS Feb. 11, 2012

HPD Gessner Substation
8605 Westplace Drive
Houston, TX 77071

To Sign Up Contact:

Bob Goodmark,
braysoakcert@att.net

For more info about CERT contact

Marni Rosen,
CERT Coordinator -City of Houston
832-393-0920 or
marni.rosen@houstontx.gov

THIS TRAINING CAN HELP SAVE LIVES AND PROTECT PROPERTY.



HARRIS COUNTY
CITIZEN CORPS

Taught by professional first responders and geared to the public

CLASSES COVER: Free 24-hour training in eight 3-hour sessions
Weekly Topics Include:

- General Disaster Preparedness
- Fire Safety
- Fire Suppression
- Basic Medical Operations
- Disaster Psychology
- Mock Search and Rescue Drill

National Night Out 2011



There were plenty of events in the District to celebrate National Night Out on October 4th of this year. ***“The importance of the community participating in the fight against crime cannot be stressed enough”*** states Brays Oaks Director of Services, Richard Rodriguez. These types of activities are supported every year by our super neighborhoods and the community at large. Brays Oaks community members have long recognized the importance of getting involved in the community. National Night Out in Texas will be October 2, 2012 and it's never too soon to begin planning for activities.

Visit www.natw.org to learn more.

Organize your own community group!





Parker Elementary CHORUS to Represent Houston

Parker Elementary, a Houston Independent School District (HISD) magnet school for music has been selected to perform at the Texas Music Educators Association conference, in San Antonio, February 2012. The Parker Advanced Chorus, under the direction of Marianna Simpson, was chosen for this honor and it will follow in the footsteps of past Parker Chorus which were selected by audition for this conference.

The Parker chorus is part of a 33-year music program at Parker Elementary School, located in the Westbury community at 10626 Atwell. Parker has served as a model music program for HISD. In addition to chorus, Parker's music program includes Suzuki Strings, Band, Guitar and Piano. Parker has an ethnically diverse student population of over 800 students, 625 of which receive specialized music instruction, thanks to



Chorale Director - Marianna Simpson

considerable efforts of parents and faculty, who raise funds to help support the music program. Parker is a Title I school with a high percentage of low-income families. The music program was recognized as a National GRAMMY® Signature School in 2002.

The chorus students are working to raise \$13,000, to send the 75 member chorus and 25 chaperones to the conference in San Antonio. They are seeking help from the community through individual donations, corporate sponsorships and various fundraising events.

For more info., please contact Jason Spencer at the HISD press office at 713-556-6393 or Carol Kehlenbrink, Parker Magnet Coordinator at 713-726-2122.



HBU

HOUSTON BAPTIST
UNIVERSITY

HBU Athletics

Huskies

Following a campus visit by conference officials earlier this month, HBU has accepted an invitation to join the Southland Conference. Conference competition in all existing sports, except men's soccer, will begin in 2013-2014. This move will also allow the Huskies to take to the football field for the first time in the fall of 2014.

HALL OF FAME COACH BOBBY BOWDEN HONORED BY HEISMAN WINNER CHARLIE WARD

Sunday, October 16, Heisman trophy winner, former NBA player, and current head coach of the Westbury Christian School varsity football program, Charlie Ward, honored Hall of Fame Coach Bobby Bowden with the 2nd Annual Tribute to Excellence award. This year's event, attended by over 300 guests was emceed by former Houston Rockets head coach Jeff Van Gundy.

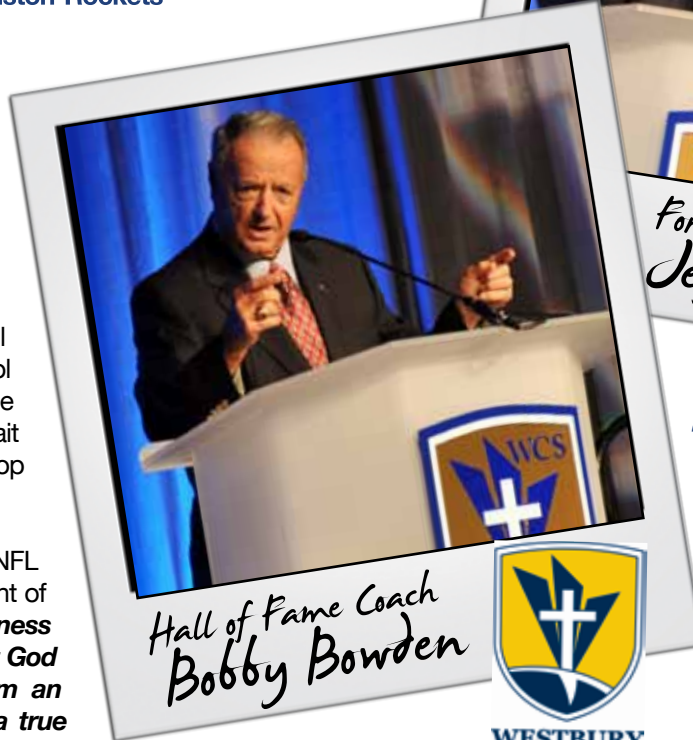
The Charlie Ward Tribute to Excellence recognizes individuals of distinction, commitment and faith. It is in conjunction with Westbury Christian School fundraising efforts to assist with the purchase of facilities, previously owned by the Westland YMCA, which administrators hope will soon house Westbury Christian School athletics. "I am very excited about the new athletic complex, and I cannot wait to utilize the space to further develop WCS athletes," said Ward.

Coach Bowden follows legendary NFL coach Tony Dungy as the 2nd recipient of this award. ***"Coach Bowden's willingness to help kids grow into the men that God has called them to be makes him an equally deserving candidate, and a true representative of 'excellence,'"*** Ward said.

Under Coach Bobby Bowden's direction and with Charlie Ward at quarterback, Florida State lost only two games, with the 1993 Seminoles winning the coveted National Championship. Both men were inducted in to the College Football Hall of Fame in 2006, and currently, Charlie leans on Bowden's lessons in leadership as he directs his athletes at WCS. Westbury Christian School is a private, college preparatory, fully accredited, culturally diverse school offering unique educational opportunities for pre-k, elementary, middle and high school students. The school is located at 10420 Hillcroft at Willowbend. For more information contact Phylis Frye in the Admissions Office at 713-551-8100.



*Former Rockets Coach
Jeff Van Gundy*



*Hall of Fame Coach
Bobby Bowden*



WESTBURY CHRISTIAN
EST. 1973

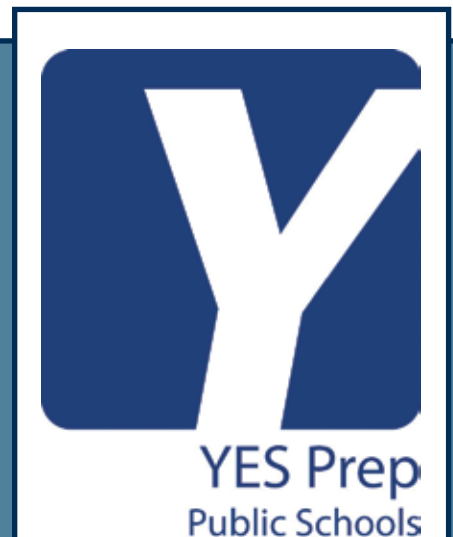
"As I lead the young men of the Westbury Christian School football team, I am dedicated to demonstrating the same example Coach Bowden constantly displayed in the five years I was privileged to play under his direction at Florida State. I am honored for the opportunity to recognize his efforts though this event, provide more opportunities for enrichment and spiritual growth for members of the Brays Oaks community, and assist the student athletes of Westbury Christian School."

Community Partners Spotlight
{YES Prep}

YES PREP BRAYS OAKS IS HIRING!

YES Prep Brays Oaks is looking for our country's strongest leaders to help us transform a city by preparing 10,000 students for college graduation.

To see a list of Job titles and apply online please go to:
<https://YesPrep.Schoolrecruiter.net>





Welcome to our newest District Board of Directors member:
 Cindy Peden Chapman currently is Director of Community Relations for the Westbury Civic Club (WCC), one of the largest subdivisions in Houston with almost 5000 single-family homes, and served as WCC President from 2008-2010. While she was President, the WCC won awards two years in a row from Keep Houston Beautiful for volunteer projects which improved Westbury esplanades. The WCC also won awards from Keep Houston Beautiful and the national Keep America Beautiful for creating the Westbury Community Garden on vacant land leased from the Houston Housing Authority.

Chapman also serves on the board of park advocacy group Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy and on the boards of two local civic advocacy organizations with both residential and commercial members: the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation and SWHouston 2000. She earned a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from Clemson University and a master's degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of South Carolina before moving to Houston with her husband, also a chemical engineer, in 1988.

"Westbury has recently been annexed into the Brays Oaks Management District, so I am honored to serve as an ambassador from the Westbury area on the board. Since the management district has been an immediate neighbor to the Westbury Super Neighborhood, I have worked with them on many common interests in the past. It is exciting to join the board in time to participate in the development of the district Service Plan for 2013 and beyond."

Chapman is sponsored on the BOMD board by Westbury Square Professional Building/ BryanCalvinSmith Insurance.

Music in the Park

2012 Dates!

- * February 19, 2012
- * March 25, 2012

@ Willow Waterhole Conservation Reserve



SUNDAY MUSIC IN THE PARK

Guest Performing Artists: Westbury High School Jazz Band
 Refreshments will be served.
 Bring your favorite chair or blanket.
 To learn more, visit www.wwgc.org

Honoring Dr. Terry Grier

Superintendent, Houston Independent School District

Sunday, November 6, 2011
 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Willow Waterhole Conservation Reserve
 South Gazebo at Willow Waterhole
 apx. 5300 Dryad behind Westbury H.S.
 Rain out at Westbury High School

Hosted by:
 Willow Waterhole
 Westbury Area Improvement Corporation
 Friends of Westbury High School Foundation
 Westbury Civic Club

Sponsored by:
 BRAYS OAKS



art: Christopher Zider
 design: Cracked Fox.com

JOIN US FOR A Holiday Shopping Night



To Support
ECHOS

DATE: Tuesday, December 13

TIME: 6-8:00 p.m.

PLACE: Ten Thousand Villages

2424A Rice Blvd. in Rice University Village

713-533-1000 for directions

15% of the sales will be donated to ECHOS

Enjoy visiting with friends, while shopping for unique handmade gifts.

Nationally recognized for our commitment to social responsibility, Ten Thousand Villages creates opportunities for artisans around the globe to earn a fair wage. Artisans use this income to pay for food, education, healthcare and housing for themselves and their families.

MISSION

Ten Thousand Villages' mission is to create opportunities for artisans in developing countries to earn income by bringing their products and stories to markets through long-term fair trading relationships.



www.houston.tenthousandvillages.com

Save the Dates

BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT

Monday, January 16, 2012 *Martin Luther King holiday*
9am - noon at ECHOS 9600 S. Gessner @ Bissonnet
Immunizations and vision screenings for children up to 18

SHRED AND RECYCLE DAY

Saturday, February 4, 2012 9am - noon at ECHOS

GARAGE SALE!

Saturday, February 11, 2012
8am - 11 am at ECHOS
We will begin accepting donations
Monday, November 28, 2011
Call 713.270.0369 for donation times.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.BRAYSOAKSMD.ORG



Brays Oaks Management District

www.BraysOaksMD.org

10103 Fondren Rd., Ste. 301
Houston, Texas 77096

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District Board of Directors

- Position 1 – Ms. Starla Turnbo
- Position 2 – Ms. Audrey Ingram
- Position 3 – Mr. Charles F. Meyer
- Position 4 – Mr. Mehmet Okumus
- Position 5 – Mr. Rene Joubert
- Position 6 – Mr. Etan Mirwis
- Position 7 – Mr. Alan Goodlow, Sr.
- Position 8 – Ms. Elaine Gaskamp
- Position 9 – Mr. Cary P. Yates
- Position 10 – Mr. Greg Glenn
- Position 11 – Mr. George O. Nwanguma

District Meetings

* District meetings are held at the District offices

**unless otherwise noted*

Marketing and Business Development
2nd Wednesday - 12:00 (noon)

Business & Economic Development 1st Thursday –
8:00 a.m.

Public Safety and Security 2nd Wednesday – 9:00 a.m.

Landscape and Beautification Committee 2nd
Wednesday – 11:00 a.m.

District Offices & Staff

District offices are located in the Bray Oaks Towers at
10103 Fondren Rd., Suite 301, Houston, TX 77096

David Hawes - Executive Director
DHawes@BraysOaksMD.org

Richard Rodriguez - Director of Services
RRodriguez@BraysOaksMD.org | 713.595.1221

Natali Lacasa - Assistant Director of Services
NLacasa@BraysOaksMD.org | 713.517.7504

Gretchen Larson
- Director of Marketing & Business Development
GLarson@BraysOaksMD.org | 713.595.1215

Ray Lawrence - Director of Economic Development
RLawrence@BraysOaksMD.org | 713.595.1235

Good News!

US90A Railroad Quiet Zone

Design approved and construction to begin soon.

The city has informed the Becky Edmondson, President of the Westbury Civic Club, that the federal government has approved the design for a proposed US90A railroad Quiet Zone, to be located between S. Post Oak and the Ft. Bend County Line.

Community Meetings

Super Neighborhood #36 1st Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.

- Braeswood Assembly of God
10611 Fondren Road Houston, TX 77096

Brays Oaks CERT 2nd Monday - 7:00 p.m.
10810 Braesridge Dr.

Apartment Cluster 2nd Tuesday - 11:30 a.m.
10101 Fondren, Suite 100

HPD's Apartment Positive Interaction Program
4th Thursday - 11:00 a.m.
10101 Fondren, Suite 100

