



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 60, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2015

CALL TO ACTION: HISD Board voted not to expand the campus as promised and is now backpedaling on the scope of work on the existing campus

The HISD 2012 bond included funds to improve the Westbury High School (WHS) campus, including new buildings, building renovation, and campus expansion. The "new Westbury" we were promised appears to have been nothing but an attempt to secure our support of the \$1.89 BILLION bond referendum.



FALSE PROMISES!
This is the yard sign that HISD passed out to encourage Westbury voters to support the 2012 HISD Bond.

**SEE PAGES 6 AND 7
FOR MORE INFO AND HOW YOU CAN HELP!**

Time for ACTION: HISD Breaks Promises Made for WHS. Neglect Continues.

Editorial by Becky Edmondson

The HISD 2012 bond advertised "a new Westbury". I have a clear picture of what that new Westbury could be. Overcoming perceptions of safety issues, coupled with creating an appealing campus, is paramount to pushing Westbury High School to the next level to become a school of choice for HISD students. HISD has an opportunity to create an incredible 21st century school at WHS with a regional athletic facility having access to the miles of trails at the nearby 300-acre Willow Waterhole Nature Reserve. Can you imagine the track and field and cross country events? Can you picture a high school adjacent to a 300 acre park with a performance pavilion? Can you imagine the Environmental Science programs that could be implemented? Can you imagine the performances at the upcoming Levitt Pavilion Houston for the music and drama departments? Can you picture those 20 dangerous Temporary buildings across Burdine from the main campus gone and that entire grade level of students actually housed in a real building? What do those shacks say? Welcome to Westbury, we have relegated you to the shacks. And shacks they are, as both students and teachers have fallen through the floors.



I am disappointed and shocked at the broken promises made by HISD for Westbury High School (WHS) and the long-standing shameful neglect of our local high school. Based on the support of Westbury voters for the 2012 HISD bond election and the more than 1,500 people who have signed a petition on Change.org about WHS, it is clear to me that the
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20th Annual Campfire & Trail Ride Horseshoes for the Heart

Campfire - Thursday, Feb. 26, 5PM-8PM
Westbury Little League
Trail Ride - Friday, Feb. 27, 8AM
For more info, see page 15



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More info, see page 5



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Westbury Civic Club Office

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9:30AM-1:30PM*, Closed Fridays

Address: 5322 W Bellfort Ste. 107 Houston, TX 77035

Phone: 713-723-5437 **Office Manager:** Jennifer Edmondson

Email: Westburycc@sbcglobal.net

*The office is closed on all major holidays, weekends (follows HISD calendar)

NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL WESTBURY RESIDENTS during office hours or by appointment

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Westbury Area Patrol Constable Dispatch
281-463-6666

HPD Non-Emergency
713-884-3131

Power Outages (Centerpoint)
713-207-2222

Westbury HPD Storefront
713-726-7126

Platou Community Center
713-726-7107

Poison Control
1-800-764-7661

Street Light Repairs (Give pole number)
713-207-2222

District K Councilmember Larry Green
832-393-3016

District C Councilmember Ellen Cohen
832-393-3004

County Commissioner El Franco Lee
713-755-6111

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

Report Graffiti—Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) www.braysoaksmd.org
Use "Report A Problem"

City of Houston 311 Hotline (for all Non-Emergency Issues)

Forestry Department, Hazardous Waste Disposal, Heavy Trash Violations and Questions, Neighborhood Nuisances, Parking Management, Solid Waste - Trash and Recycling, School Crossing Light Repairs, Water Main Break, and Sewer Repair, etc.

Stay connected!

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NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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President's Message

What a start to 2015! January was exceptionally busy with many challenges looming before us. As your Civic Club President, I always strive to have a positive attitude and handle situations with diplomacy. However January can only be summed up in two words: disappointing and annoying. You will read in the Crier about HISD reneging on possibly all or most of the promises made in the 2012 bond to Westbury High School. Very, very disappointing. You will read that the Southern Crushed Concrete matter is still undecided and that it is possible the state laws are so poorly written that the TCEQ cannot protect those who live near the SCC facility, nor the park, nor the water quality (see page 23). Again, very disappointing. You will read about Westbury Square still standing despite promises it would be demolished by the end of 2014.

Disappointing, but not surprising. You will read that the plan for the City to build a new library for our area has stalled and again seems mired in controversy. Annoying.

But these annoying and disappointing things are not under our direct control. The boards of the WCC, the WAIC and the Westbury Super Neighborhood lobby, listen and advocate for Westbury. We need YOU, too. This Crier has specific action items that each of you can do to join us as we work to get the "New Westbury" school we were led to believe was coming. If you don't have school-aged children, should you care? Yes, you should. Check your 2014 tax bill and you will see that depending on your property valuation and exemptions as much as 51.7% of your property tax goes

to HISD. HISD gets more of your property tax dollars than any other entity on the bill. As taxpayers we should be outraged at HISD's actions regarding WHS.

However, there is much to be happy about. The Westbury Civic Club has a board full of talented, dedicated residents working to make Westbury the best it can be. Our house prices are up and that tells me that we are a desirable, livable community. Swamplot.com reported that of 21 mainly Inner Loop neighborhoods tracked in a recent Houston Area Realtors report, Westbury led the increase in average sales price per square foot. Prices in Westbury were up 22 percent compared to an average increase of 11 percent.

The Willow Waterhole (WW) construction is ongoing and several grant requests to bring new amenities and programming are in progress. The Levitt Pavilion Houston will be a crowning jewel in this park and its completion is highly anticipated in 2017. Save the date for the Music Festival at the South Gazebo area of WW on April 25.

Construction begins this summer on a new building for Parker Elementary and its acclaimed music magnet program. A pre-construction meeting will be held in a few months. As another indicator of our neighborhood's growth, Parker says that zoned kids attending Parker increased from 40 to 50% this year, which is a huge increase attributed to more families with school-aged children moving into our area. Many young families are making Westbury home again and we want WHS to be ready as a school of choice for their children when they reach high school age.

Crime was down in Westbury this year and we are pleased to have a Sergeant and 3 deputies patrolling our streets. You will have received your invoice from the WCC and we ask that you please pay your dues. We can't pay for the WAP patrol without money!

2015 is going to be a great year, despite the disappointments and setbacks. Please join us as we work together. I am reminded of what our Texas Rep. Borris Miles often says: **Keep the fight; keep the faith; together we win.**

Becky Edmondson



Cindy Chapman, Mary Seymore, Becky Edmondson, Priscilla Bloomquist

**HAVE A QUESTION,
COMPLAINT, COMPLIMENT?
I WANT TO HEAR FROM
YOU! EMAIL ME
WCCPRESIDENT
@WESTBURYCRIER.COM**

**WCC Board Meeting
Wednesday,
February 18
7PM-9PM
Westbury Baptist**

It's time to pay your dues!

Please send in your support which:

1. protects your investment in your home by keeping Westbury a strong and vibrant neighborhood
2. protects your home and family with the Constable service
3. improves the look of our greenspaces
4. keeps the doors to your Civic Club office open

The dues form is on page 13.



Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock / Hours: Mon-Thurs 12PM—8PM; Fri 11AM-7PM
 Supervisor: Dan Reilly, Daniel.reilly@houstontx.gov or 713-726-7107

STRETCHING EXERCISE CLASS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
 from 9-9:45AM

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



MsBEEHAVEN QUILTERS

Tuesdays from 10AM to 2PM

For more information, contact Janie at 713-721-5526



GAMES *BRIDGE TABLE ADDED!

Wednesdays, 10AM to 12PM

For more information, contact Wally at 713-729-9310

Westbury resident, Dennis Pickering will be on hand to help out beginners. Contact Dennis at denp@hps.com.



PORTABLE PROJECTS

Thursdays from 9:30AM-11:30AM

For more information, contact Hazel at 713-729-4568

LINE DANCING

Mondays @ 12:30PM

For more information, contact Dan at 713-726-7107

Family Fun Day

Feb. 28
 10AM-2PM

Fun, free family event with games and painting clay tiles, which will then be put in the kiln! Hope to see you there.

Openings for Groups, Activities, or Programs and more!

Openings in the evenings from 6-8PM for any type of adult programs, games, sewing, crafts, projects or fitness. Call the Platou Center for more info. 713-723-7107

TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

A Weight Loss Support Group
 Tuesdays
 5:45-7PM

Drop in to preview the program or call Dorothy at 713-723-4441 or Naomi at 713-988-2233

Ping Pong Leagues

Adult league ping pong will be on Fridays from 11AM to 2PM. Child league on Wednesday evenings. Any age and skill level is welcome to compete. For any questions or more information, call Dan at 713-723-7107

After School Enrichment

Youths, ages 6 through 13, can register for After School Enrichment which provides guided activities, including time to do homework. Call Dan Reilly at 713-726-7107 for more information.

Meyer Neighborhood Library

5005 W. Bellfort

Phone: 832-393-1840 / www.houstonlibrary.org

February 2015 Events

Family Story-time : Every Wed. & Saturday at 10:30 AM

Adult Mystery Book Club
 Call the Meyer Library for info regarding the Adult Book Club.

HOURS

Monday: Closed
 Tuesday: 10AM-6PM
 Wednesday: 10AM-6PM
 Thursday: 12PM-8PM
 Friday: 1PM-5PM
 Saturday: 10AM-5PM
 Sunday: Closed

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What's Happening in Westbury

Events & Meetings Calendar February 2015

Feb. 2	Westbury High School PTO Meeting 7PM WHS Library—11911 Chimney Rock
Thurs 5	Westbury Meet & Eat at Teotihuacan @ 6PM 6579 W Bellfort Open to all Westbury residents
Sat 7	ECHOS Shred Day — 9AM—Noon 9600 S. Gessner More info on page 19
Mon 9	Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:30PM Platou Community Center— 11655 Chimney Rock
Tues 10	Zoned Kinder Parent Meeting— 8:30AM Parker Cafeteria— 10626 Atwell see page 19 for more information
Mon 16	WCC Office Closed
Mon 16	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow
Wed 18	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting 8:30AM Salem Lutheran Church— 4930 W. Bellfort
Wed 18	Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting 7PM Westbury Baptist Church—10425 Hillcroft
Sat 21	Audubon Society Bird Survey 8AM Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot—5310 S. Willow
Tues 24	SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM Aramco Building by Hobby Lobby
Fri 27	Trail Riders at Westbury Area Schools 8AM-Noon See page 15 for details
Sat 28	Family Fun Day at Platou Center 10AM -2PM

Planning Calendar

*Westbury PTO Meeting—March 2

*HISD Spring Break - March 16-21

*Jazz Fest - April 25

*WHS Gala - April 25

*White Elephant Sale - Date TBA,
usually in late April or early May



Happy Valentine's Day from the
Westbury Civic Club! We hope
you love living in Westbury!



RECYCLING AND HEAVY TRASH CALENDAR



February 2015	
Thurs 5	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 12	Heavy Trash— JUNK WASTE ALL OF WESTBURY
Thurs 19	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

March 2015	
Thurs 5	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 12	Heavy Trash- TREE WASTE ONLY ALL OF WESTBURY
Thurs 19	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

Important Trash & Recycling Info

- ♻️ 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
- ♻️ Heavy trash can be placed starting at 6PM the Friday before pick-up
- ♻️ YARD WASTE is not considered tree waste. It is collected on regular Thursday trash day
- ♻️ Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- ♻️ Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers: **SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr** 10785 SW Frwy / Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM; Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste & Recyclables.
- ♻️ **Environmental Service Center** - 11500 S. Post Oak Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM. Accepts Hazardous Household & Electronic Waste.
- ♻️ Refer to www.westburycrier.com or www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information

City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule

January	Tree Waste	May	Tree Waste
February	Junk Waste	June	Junk Waste
March	Tree Waste	July	Tree Waste
April	Junk Waste	August	Junk Waste

WHS—Time for ACTION

Time for Action Editorial, Continued from page 1

people of Westbury and southwest Houston want WHS to be a school equal to the best schools in HISD. At the January 2015 board meeting, the HISD Board of Trustees **reversed a unanimous vote** they made in November 2013 to acquire properties adjacent to the WHS for campus expansion. This expansion would make room for a regional athletic facility and bring Westbury into compliance with a Title 9 lawsuit that is pending against HISD for gender inequality in athletics at Westbury.

Quoted from the December 2013 Westbury Crier:

HISD Board Votes to Expand WHS Property

Great News! On November 14, the Trustees of the Houston Independent School District (HISD) voted to give "Authority to finalize negotiations for purchase and approval of resolutions for the initiation of eminent domain procedures, if necessary, for the acquisition of property to expand the **Westbury High School site**".

The property is to be used for a public purpose, including "additional grounds for public school building(s) and appurtenances or additions thereto, playgrounds, athletic fields, green space, and/or parks in connection therewith".

Instead of the promise to acquire two properties, now HISD says they will not do any campus expansion. Using and relying on specious assumptions, 5 of these 9 Trustees reversed their votes and turned their backs on promises made to voters in the 2012 bond election.

School of choice We want WHS to be a school of choice. In 2013, only 1859 of 4335 students (43%) zoned to WHS opted to attend. That means 57% of students zoned to WHS chose to go elsewhere. At

the board meeting Trustee Harvin Moore from River Oaks challenged me and said this was a flawed argument as Lamar, too, had many students opt out, but what he failed to mention were the 1700 plus students who transfer in!

Fine Arts

In other examples of broken promises, HISD promised us a Fine Arts Magnet program at WHS since Parker Elementary and Johnston Middle have well-regarded fine arts magnet programs. However, **HISD canceled the fledgling WHS magnet program** with little notice in 2013.

Apartments

Trustees mentioned their concerns acquiring fully occupied apartment complexes. Does this look fully occupied to you?



Others made it sound as if this plan were simply a way to rid this area of apartments. This is just blatantly untrue. The WHS campus is surrounded by apartments. To the west are the Spring Village Apts with 132 units, across the street on Gasmer are the Piccadilly Place Apts with 176 units, to the south, Westbury Park Apts. with 156 units; and to the east are Silver Springs Apts. with 210 units, South Willow Wood Apts. with 168 units and Ranchwood Apts. with 224 units. Scattered throughout the Brays Oaks Management District are another 100 apartment complexes. Any displaced residents will not have to move very far.

Insufficient money allocated

Another argument by HISD is that the 11 million allocated was insufficient to purchase the properties. I believe this to be untrue also. They are now citing moving costs, legal costs, etc; but those should have been taken into account when the bond monies were being allocated. The appraisals done in 2013 by HISD were well within this budget. A recent sale of an apartment complex on Gasmer was reported at around \$17,000 a door.

Plans

For 30 years our community has been working on improving the WHS campus. Trustees intimated that there was no plan for the expansion property. Plans have been in place for years and the first two properties were taken by eminent domain in 2002 and 2010.

Worse News

It is becoming more and more clear that HISD did not budget enough money for the WHS renovation work they promised in the 2012 bond to build a school for 2300-2500 students. Even worse, HISD will not even tell us whether the money, which had been planned for WHS campus expansion, will stay with the school to benefit the WHS renovation budget.

HISD is not supporting WHS the way it needs to be. This is unacceptable to me, and should be unacceptable to everyone who is reading this editorial. We must not allow HISD to continue its long-standing pattern of neglect and broken promises for WHS. As taxpayers we give HISD the biggest percentage of our property tax dollars. They should be transparent and accountable.

Please make a pledge with me to **STAND UP FOR WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL** and take **ACTION** on behalf of WHS and for the students at WHS. Actions to help are listed on page 7-9.

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WHS—Call to ACTION

The WHS campus expansion voted FAILED

Editorial By Cindy Chapman

In a classic bait and switch, HISD has reneged on its promise to expand the WHS campus.

Even worse, the HISD Board of Trustees had previously voted in November 2013 to proceed with WHS campus expansion, so the Trustees negated their prior vote. Trustees Adams, Lunceford, Skillern-Jones, and Harris voted to keep the promises made by HISD and supported the wishes of the community, but the WHS campus expansion vote failed by a vote of 4 - 5.

Westbury and Maplewood precincts in Houston zoned to Westbury High School (WHS) have some of the highest voting rates in the city of Houston. In an effort to help the 2012 HISD Bond get voter approval, HISD made promises for the 2012 HISD bond election to acquire land next to Westbury High School for campus expansion.

HISD even kicked off the publicity for its bond program in front of WHS. Despite the fact that almost every other high school in HISD was scheduled to get an entirely brand-new building and WHS would only get a partial rebuild, voters zoned to WHS strongly supported the 2012 HISD bond program.

Why? Because they supported campus expansion and they understood that campus expansion would be good for WHS, not just this year, but 50 years from now. They were familiar with the challenges at Bellaire High School, a school that is land-locked on a small campus. They wanted WHS to have room to grow. Local leaders have been advocating to improve WHS and its surroundings for more than 20 years.

How do I feel about it? I am deeply disappointed. I do not trust HISD. I personally supported the HISD 2012 Bond election and encouraged others to do so. I do not like being lied to.

I want to thank Trustee Wanda Adams and Mike Lunceford, both of whom represent Westbury residents, for their support on this topic.

To HISD: as a community, we shall carefully monitor the pending WHS partial rebuild project and we shall insist that HISD provide the resources to WHS needed. They owe us, and we will NOT let them forget.

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ACTION Items to Show Support for WHS

DEMAND the best facilities and programs for WHS from HISD

SEND a letter of support or use the handy form on page 9

ATTEND an **upcoming Public Meeting** about WHS, time/date to be announced. Check Westbury Houston on Facebook for up-to-date announcements or www.westburycrier.com.

JOIN the WHS PTO (page 8)

MENTOR a WHS student (page 8)

SUPPORT the Friends of WHS Foundation Gala
<http://www.friendswhs.org>

ATTEND the February 2015 HISD Trustee Meeting on Thursday, February 12 at 5 PM

GO TO a WHS Athletic or Fine Arts Performances.

REPORT nuisance conditions near WHS to appropriate contacts (311, HISD police, Westbury HPD Storefront)

Regarding Westbury Manor Apartments (the property that HISD failed to approve to acquire by eminent domain), owner finally started demolition work in December of 2014 on a derelict, boarded-up building that faced WHS and which had been an eyesore for about 20 years.

Additionally, city inspectors in November ordered the owner to clean up trash and graffiti on the grounds of the apartment complex. In January of 2015, the Houston Department of Neighborhoods initiated a monthly driving tour in the Westbury Super Neighborhood to review and resolve issues. I was one of the people who participated in the January driving tour. We drove into the Westbury Manor complex and also reviewed the situation on the Dryad side of the Westbury Manor property, which faces the Westbury Little League fields.

On the Dryad side, the weeds along the public road are about 6 feet high and there is a hole in the fence that WHS students are using to get into the complex, among the issues observed.

Cindy Chapman is a current WCC Board member, Co-President of the Westbury Super Neighborhood and President of the non-profit Westbury Area Improvement Corporation, and past president of the WCC.

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WHS— Mentoring and PTO

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP the STUDENTS at Westbury High School?

Every school in HISD has a Shared Decision Making Committee (SDMC) for campus level planning and decision making to review the district's educational goals, objectives, and major district wide classroom instructional programs. Becky Edmondson serves on the SDMC for Westbury High School (WHS).

At the WHS January SDMC meeting, the principal shared the challenges of having the seniors pass all the required STAAR End of Course tests necessary for graduation, which are English I and II, Algebra, Biology and American History. WHS has tutorials scheduled for almost every weekend through the end of the school to help the hundreds of students who still have not passed all the tests.

I asked, what can we do as a community to help? He wants us in the school! He has set aside a special room for the PTO and Friends of WHS. It could be as simple as coming in once a week; attending a sporting event, mentoring, tutoring, etc.

How do I do this? Go online to HISD to register for the VIPS program. Fill out the very simple form and hit submit. Then all you have to do is go up to WHS and present your Driver's license to Mrs. Clemons.



Carolyn Clemons
Parent Coordinator
Westbury High School
713-723-6015 ex# 448
cclemons@houstonisd.org

Challenge? I told Mr. Catchings that I thought we could enlist 50 volunteers. We have many empty nesters and retired

people in our community. I signed up today and now I am just looking for 49 other people who care about today's youth enough to do something other than pay lip service (or social media comments) to the problem. Won't you join me?

New committee. A new committee has formed under Community Relations in the Westbury Civic Club to explore more ways that we as a community can help not only Westbury but all other area schools as well. If you've got some extra time to help our students and school, we'd love to have you.

WHS PTO MEETINGS 2015

WHS PTO meetings are held at 7:00pm on the first Monday in the Westbury High School Library. Remaining dates for the school year are: 2/2, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4.

WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL PTO MEMBERSHIP

Membership level: (check one)

Type of membership: (check one)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Blue	\$10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Silver	\$25	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alumni	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold	\$50 and above	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent	<input type="checkbox"/>

Donations of ANY AMOUNT beyond your basic membership are graciously accepted and appreciated!

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email address: _____

Name and grade of Westbury student if applicable: _____

Please indicate below areas in which you would be willing to volunteer:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Tutoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fundraising for WHS and the PTO
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mentoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant writer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrichment speaker (area of expertise) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	On campus assistance: office help, field trip chaperones, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer skills
<input type="checkbox"/>	Telephone committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Language other than English: _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Baking/hospitality for teachers, staff, PTO meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Return completed this form and your check payable to Westbury High School PTO :

WESTBURY HIGH SCHOOL PTO; ATTN: PTO Treasurer 11911 Chimney Rock Houston, TX 77035

Please show your support by joining the WHS PTO.

I Stand With Westbury!

WCC Planning Action Against HISD

As we work with our representatives to determine the best course of action we are exploring many options. We will continue to work on the Project Advisory Team on the 40 million dollar piece of the promise. We are exploring more drastic options such as filing suit or filing an injunction against HISD should they become necessary. We are putting together a public meeting for February or early March that all of you should attend. In the meantime, you may write to the Board of Trustees (www.houstonisd.org) or use the handy clip out letter here. WHS has a great administration, wonderful teachers, a vigorous academic plan with AP courses required, and an incredible student body. Let's give them the campus they deserve and that we voted for in 2012.



Clip Out Support Letter

Dear President **Rhonda Skillern-Jones**,

I want HISD to honor the promises it made in the 2012 bond for a "new Westbury". \$40 million was allocated to create a school BUILDNG (replacing the T shacks) for 2,300 to 2,500 students and the entire remaining original building was to be replaced. The acquisition of the remaining adjacent properties should be completed as promised. Money allocated for the regional athletic facility should minimally create the infrastructure to be in compliance with gender equality.

Your Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City / State/ Zipcode: _____

Phone: _____

MAIL TO:

HISD Board President

c/o HISD Board Services
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Graffiti Abatement

Best Way to Report Graffiti for Abatement

Reporting graffiti to 311 seems to produce poor results. Several months after graffiti at Westbury Square was reported to 311, nothing had yet been abated. Consultation with the Department of Neighborhoods in January indicated that it would still take a while before city processes would result in the graffiti getting cleaned up at Westbury Square.

We now recommend a MUCH better option for graffiti. In the future, report all graffiti to the Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD), which has a contract with a graffiti abatement team. All other nuisance violations should be reported to 311, except graffiti. BOMD is much faster, plus they try to color-match with a similar color if they have to paint over the graffiti. The city uses whatever paint they happen to have.

Here are two ways to report graffiti to BOMD:

- 1) Go to their website <http://www.braysoaksmid.org> and select "Report a Problem" and then fill out the online form. This sends a message directly to the graffiti abatement crew and to the Director of Services of BOMD.
- 2) Send an email to the Director of Services at BOMD: RRodriguez@braysoaksmid.org with a description and location, plus your contact information if more information is needed.



In January, the graffiti in Westbury reported by the Westbury Civic Club to BOMD was abated one week after it had been reported. The crew painted over graffiti at Westbury Square, at Willow Waterhole, and on fencing in residential areas in Westbury.

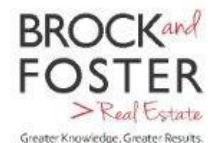
THANK YOU BOMD!

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3714 Covehill Dr	\$271,000	58 days
3718 Covehill Dr	\$264,000	35 days
4000 Covehill Dr	\$192,000	219 days
3801 Calypso Dr	\$190,000	63 days
3802 Covehill Dr	\$182,000	71 days
3803 Covehill Dr	\$171,000	71 days
3804 Covehill Dr	\$167,000	83 days

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Market Snapshot is brought to you by Brock & Foster. Susan Brock is a specialist in Westbury and the surrounding areas. With more than 12 years experience she offers an individualized experience that has earned her a five-star client experience rating. Susan is a licensed broker and REALTOR.®



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Crime/Security

Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37* 30 days January 22, 2015

	Single-Family Home	Apt/Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	6	5	0	0	11
Theft	3	6	8	1	18
Auto Theft	4	1	1	0	6
Robbery	0	3	0	0	3
Assault	0	2	1	0	3
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	13	17	10	1	41

*Area bounded by: S. Post Oak, US 90/S. Main, utility easement north of Willowbend and drainage bayou, west of Braewick

Block #	Street	Crime
5600	Arboles	Theft
11600	Ashcroft	Burglary
11300	Atwell	Auto Theft
12400	Atwell	Burglary
5900	Belrose	Auto Theft
5500	Briarbend	Auto Theft
5100	Creekbend	Burglary
6000	Duxbury	Burglary
5500	Ettrick	Burglary
12000	Hillcroft	Theft
11900	Landsdowne	Theft
6000	Ludington	Auto Theft
5700	W. Airport	Burglary

Single Family Residential Crime

Locations by block number, not exact address.

Stats for 30 days preceding January 22, 2015

Cocoa with the Constables

Hosting "Cocoa with the Constables" before the monthly January WCC board meeting was a big hit. Three of our deputies and Lt. Mitch Hutter attended. Residents had a chance to speak with each of them as well as board members.

Hutter reminded Westbury residents to: Call dispatch at 281-463-6666 to report suspicious people; use the vacation watch service provided by Precinct 5; and, take advantage of the Precinct 5 home security check. He also recommended that everyone put the Precinct 5 dispatch number in their cell phones with an easy access moniker such as 911constable or Aconstable.

He stressed the importance of all of us having eyes on the neighborhood. The Precinct 5 Neighborhood Crime Watch program, which is similar to HPD's Citizen on Patrol program, was also discussed. Additional details on setting up a community wide meeting will be coming soon.



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND CONTACTS

Westbury Area Patrol Constables

281-463-6666

Westbury HPD Storefront

713-726-7126

HPD Non-Emergency

713-884-3131

Brays Oak Management District (BOMD)

www.braysoakmd.org (report graffiti)

Coffee With the Constables

Returns in March! Look in the next Crier for more details. See page XX for review on the Cocoa with the Constables event in January!



"This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done."

SALEM ALIVE AT 60!

salemhouston.org

1955 - 2015

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church (across from Kroger) will be 60 in February. The congregation will celebrate with a neighborhood "Food Truck Saturday" birthday party on Saturday, Feb. 21, noon - 4 p.m. Some of Houston's best food trucks – including Koagie Hots, The Golden Grill, and Porch Swing Desserts– are coming! There will also be a Kidz' Zone with activities for children.

The community is welcome!

Meyer Library

Meyer Library Update– New Building?

The Meyer Branch Library opened in 1962 for the rapidly growing area of southwest Houston. Before the library was built, Westbury residents were served by a mobile library which came weekly to our neighborhood. According to the October 1960 Westbury Crier, the Westbury Civic Club had been actively urging for a branch library to be built in this section of southwest Houston for several years and felt a library would be a major asset to our community and other local communities.

Fifty years later in 2012, voters authorized the city to construct a replacement for the Meyer Library, which has foundation problems and is situated on a site too small for modern needs. The Meyerland Community Improvement Association (MCIA) invited John Middleton, City of Houston General Services Department, to speak at their January 2015 association meeting for an update on the Meyer Library status. Becky Edmondson and Cindy Chapman both attended after being invited by Jim Walters, MCIA President.

Mr. Middleton stated that the City is still looking for an appropriate site which ideally would be 2.5 to 3 acres in size. A Meyerland resident has proposed that MCIA sell their lot next to the library to increase the size of the library property. That would still be too small, so it was then suggested that the city ask whether library parking could be placed on the adjacent Centerpoint easement. Where would the MCIA office be located if this scenario proceeds forward? Some suggest that the City could provide library office space for the MCIA offices, but if they provide space for one neighborhood served by the library, would the city then provide office space for other nearby subdivisions, such as Westbury?

There are many questions and a lot of misinformation circulating. The library's current location has served all of us well for 53 years. Alternate nearby sites that could be suitable include as the old 77035 post office property on Belrose or on the Westbury High School campus. We are working closely with CM Larry Green and will continue to keep you informed.

Please Pay the 2015 Dues

A big thank you to all of you who pay your dues each year. Your participation is one of the reasons that Westbury has been listed as one of the top neighborhoods in Houston. Having a strong Westbury Civic Club advocating on behalf of the neighborhood, enforcing deed restrictions, providing security patrols, and beautifying our public areas is so vital to Westbury's future and your property values. Won't you become a part of it? The 2015 Voluntary Dues form is on the next page. Our voluntary dues plea letter should have arrived at your home by now.

The WAP patrol puts certified police officers in our neighborhood and on our streets. Their visibility (even if you think you do not see them, the criminal know they are around) coupled with their response time makes them an invaluable component of neighborhood safety. The Greenspace dues beautify our esplanades and parks; plants and waters trees; de-litters and mows common areas; and maintains our subdivision markers. Did you know that plantings on the esplanades slow traffic? Your Westbury Civic Club dues provide office space; an office manager; support for the volunteer board; support for residents; outreach projects, events, and produce the Crier.

Please write a check today. We need EVERYONE to pay their dues. It is unfair to the thousands of residents who do pay their dues for you to receive the benefits without paying for them. The work goes on in your behalf and Precinct 5 patrols by your home; please pay your fair share.

For just 80 cents a day you can protect your investment in your home. Remember working together we really can make a difference. If you have questions about payments, please contact us. **Dues form on page 13.**

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2015 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 2015 Mandatory Assessments is \$230.

The 2015 Mandatory Assessments were due by February 1, 2015.

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

Why do my dues go to Dallas?

Is this correct? Yes, this is correct! We have you mail your payments directly to our Bank processing center. This allows your payments to be processed immediately and saves our office manager hours of work.

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").

2015 Westbury Civic Club Dues

***Please send this form in with your payment**

Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 Home Phone _____ Work _____ Cell _____
 E-mail _____

**Make checks payable to:
Westbury Civic Club, Inc.**
Mail to:
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 Dallas, TX 75397-5182
Online payment:
 paypal.com—Send Money to
 westburycc@sbcglobal.net
**Make sure to include your
 address or account number**

Sending multiple payments?
 Circle your payment choice
 2 payment of \$147.50
 3 payments of 98.34
****Call the office for more payment
 options or questions**

Westbury Civic Club Membership	\$40	\$
Greenspace Beautification	\$25	\$
Westbury Area Patrol	\$230	\$
Subtotal	\$295	\$
Additional Contributions:		
Westbury Civic Club		\$
Greenspace Beautification		\$
Westbury Area Patrol		\$
Westbury HPD Storefront		\$
Total		\$

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Trail Riders

20th Annual Campfire and Trail Ride

Horseshoes from the Heart and the Los Vaqueros Rio Grande Trail Riders will hold their 20th annual Westbury Neighborhood Campfire on Thursday, February 26, from 5PM to 8PM, at the Westbury Little League Baseball field (5200 Dryad). The event is open to all residents of Westbury and the surrounding area. The event will include a campfire circled by trail ride wagons and horses, live music, and a native dance program by the Alabama-Coushatta Indians. Admission is Free. Food and drinks may be purchased at the event.

The Horseshoes From The Heart Foundation and the Los Vaqueros Rio Grande Trail Riders annual trail ride leaves Westbury Little League at 8AM on Feb 28 and winds through Westbury. The route will include stops at Anderson Elementary, Parker Elementary, St. Thomas More Parish School and Westbury United Methodist Preschool/Church.

All of the money raised at this event will go straight to the children of Horseshoes from the Heart. Hope to see you there!

If you have any questions about the organization, or how to donate to Horseshoes from the Heart please feel free to email us at horseshoesfromtheheart@gmail.com.

CAMPFIRE: Thurs., Feb. 26, 5PM-8PM
Westbury Little League
TRAIL RIDE: Fri. AM , Feb. 27
Thru Westbury

2015 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo

February 27: Go Texan Day

February 28: Downtown Rodeo Parade

February 26-February 28: BBQ Cookoff

March 3-March 22: Rodeo + Shows

Check out www.hlsr.com for more information and details



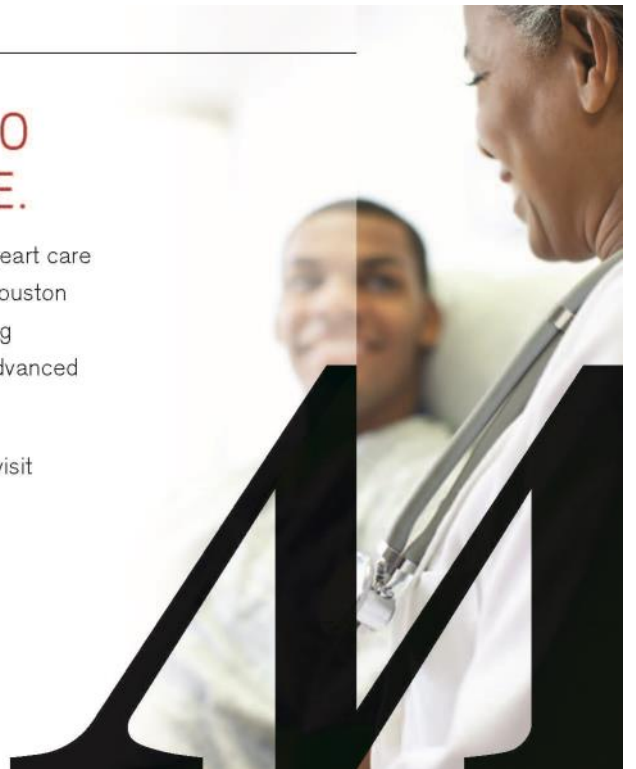
Show your Texas pride by wearing your favorite western attire all day on Friday, February 27 for Go Texan Day!

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“Green” News

Green Guru Visits Westbury

Who do you call when you need advice on green, sustainable living and working? Steve Stelzer, of course! Most people know him as the go-to person at the Green Building Resource Center for the City of Houston Public Works Department. As Program Director, he shares a wealth of green knowledge with the community.

Stelzer recently toured the Westbury Community Garden (WCG) with WCC President - Becky Edmondson, WAIC President - Cindy Chapman, and WCG Vice President - Virginia Livingston. He was quite impressed and excited to see the garden; he made several suggestions to further enhance and improve the garden.

Watch for future articles as his ideas become reality. In the meantime, he recommends the book, “The Soil Will Save Us” by Kristin Ohlson. Check out the services his department provides homeowners at www.codegreenhouston.org



Virginia Livingston and Steve Stelzer

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Outdoor Spring Yard Maintenance

Storm Sewer: You are responsible for cleaning up around the storm sewer drain and all along the street side gutters. Yard men with blowers can be seen almost every day in Westbury and one preferred method seems to be just blowing everything out into the street. This stuff doesn't disappear by magic and can end up plugging up storm sewers or blocking storm drain inlets, which means that YOUR home or your neighbor's home or a car you have parked at the street might get flooded during a heavy downpour. If you employ a yard service, ask them to sweep up your clippings and yard debris and put it into an approved disposal bag.

Trees: The best time to trim shade trees in Houston is just before spring growth. Homeowners can consult an arborist or one of many tree companies in Houston. For trees on city property between the sidewalk and street, contact the City Arborist or call 311. Professional tree trimmers know to remove tree waste immediately. For self-pruning residents, Westbury's next heavy tree/bush trimmings pick-up is March 12. Remember to not put the tree debris out until the Friday before pick-up, March 6.

Roses: February is the month to prune roses. Valentine's Day is a good way to remember.

Sidewalks: With all the rain recently, many sidewalks have accumulated muddy spots. Please be sure your sidewalk is clear of debris and slip hazards.

Spring gardens: Time to start preparing your beds for spring planting by removing weeds and over growth. Time to start your seeds for transplanting in March.



Westbury Civic Club, Inc.



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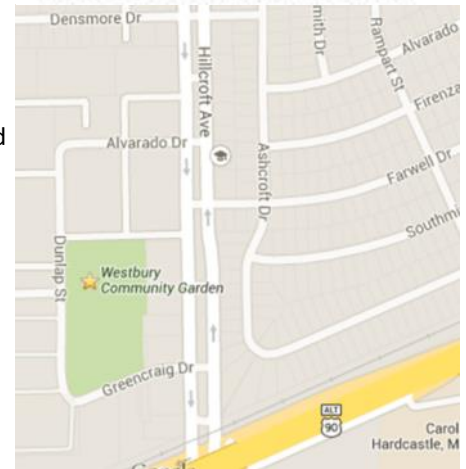
Westbury Community Garden

WCG Honors Dita Geary with Certificate

Last week the Westbury Community Garden said a formal goodbye to one of the founding members of the Garden, Dita Geary, who is moving out of the area. Dita has served the Garden in many roles since its beginning including President. Many gardeners count her as their mentor, because she was the first person they met at the Garden and a constant source of knowledge and encouragement in their gardening experience. At January's meeting, Dita was presented with a framed Certificate of Appreciation from the Garden, and toasted with a heartfelt round of applause for all she has contributed. In response she told everyone, "You know, I've lived a lot of places in my life. But I never truly understood the meaning of 'community' until I joined Westbury Community Garden!" Dita, we'll miss you. Thanks for everything!



WCG President, Marcia Hartman and Dita Geary



WHERE IS THE GARDEN?

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

Garden Beds Available March 1 marks the beginning of the WCG's gardening year, and beds are available. If you are interested in getting back to real gardening (do you remember the taste of sun-warmed tomatoes right off the vine?)—or want to try it for the first time—log on to www.westburycommunitygarden.org and sign up to get on the waiting list. The annual fee is \$60, and this includes water and fertilizer—a bargain when you consider the cost of organic veggies in the grocery store. Come join us and find out what "community gardening" is all about!"

Farm Stand at the Westbury Community Garden

A farm stand run by Plant It Forward Farms is open at the garden

Saturdays from 9AM to 5PM
Sundays 10AM to 6PM.

A farm share program is also available with pick up at the Garden. Visit www.plant-it-forward.org for info.



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Westbury Trail Network

Westbury Trail Network

Have you ever wished for a way to find a safe and convenient path to walk in our neighborhood that is easy on the joints, away from traffic, and free from high grasses and clutter? The Greenspace Committee (GC) has heard from several of you that this might be a nice addition to our existing sidewalks and esplanades; particularly if the path actually led someplace that you'd like to go. Based on some ad-hoc observations of where people now walk, we believe that the drainage easements that parallel Bankside and Kingfisher might be the start of such a trail system. Trail B extends from Hillcroft to the intersection of W. Belfort and Chimney Rock; while Trail C picks up on the opposite side of that intersection and runs to (and eventually across) Willow Waterhole Bayou.



The GC has been informally working to improve these trails for about the last year

by keeping a path mowed, de-littering, and hauling off any trees and brush that may block trail portions. Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) does mow the easements, but only 3 times a year.



The next phase might include stands of wildflowers and some signage explaining the trail system and significant flora and fauna along the way. If you'd like to get an idea of what we'd ultimately like to achieve, take a look at the section of the Bankside easement just east of Burdine. That's where Noreen Hoard and her neighbor Betsy Cross have landscaped some pocket wildflower gardens as well as a couple of benches for those of us who like to rest occasionally on our walks.

A later phase of the plan includes a bridge over the bayou that will allow access to the facilities at Willow Waterhole Park. The timing and funding of this will depend entirely on the priorities of HCFCD.

Hopefully, the effort resonates with many of you and might inspire you to ask "How can I get involved?" Here are a few ideas that you could help us with:

*Let us know any suggestions you might have to design and/or carry out the project. Tell us what portions you'd like to walk and where you'd like to go.

*Keep the piece of the easement next to your back yard mowed and free of trash and tree waste. Remember that there are both county and city ordinances that prohibit any illegal dumping in our public areas.

*Adopt a portion of an easement to mow and keep clear.

We are grateful to the several residents who have already helped with the project by maintaining their adjacent easement and by allowing us to use their property as a staging area for the monthly waste removal days by the City of Houston. If you'd like to get more involved, please contact Al Potvin (713-729-4568), who has been heading up the initial work on the project to date.



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Westbury Area News

NEXTDOR.COM Policy

Please remember that the Westbury Civic Club does NOT monitor Nextdoor.com nor can it receive or respond to messages from Nextdoor.com. Please report all problems, questions or concerns directly to the Civic Club. The WCC can be reached at westburycc@sbcglobal.net, on Facebook (Westbury Houston), or at 713-723-5437. The Office is located at 5322 W. Bellfort 107.

Westbury Volunteer Corps

Are you interested in getting more involved in your community? Do you need to fulfill volunteer hours for your school or Scout group? The WCC's Volunteer Corps needs you! Please email Stephanie Lester at westburystephanie@gmail.com to join this team of neighborhood volunteers. .

Zoned Kinder Parent Meeting @ Parker

It's time to register/enroll at Parker if you have a zoned Kindergarten student for 2015-2016. The visit/enrollment day will be February 10, 2015 at 8:30 am in the Parker Cafeteria. Learn about the school and its award winning Magnet program. For more information visit their website.

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.
February Meet & Eat: Thurs., Feb., 5 @ 6PM
March Meet & Eat: Thurs., March 5 @ 6PM

Paper Shred Your Personal Documents - ECHOS

If you are seeking an easy way to safely and securely shred your personal papers and documents, then bring those documents to ECHOS on Saturday, February 7, from 9AM until noon. The location is 9600 S. Gessner at Bissonnet, on the grounds of the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany. Your minimum donation of \$10 will support programs at ECHOS. Epiphany Community Health Outreach Services (ECHOS) is a non-profit 501.c.3 organization located in southwest Houston.

Westbury Trading Group - Facebook

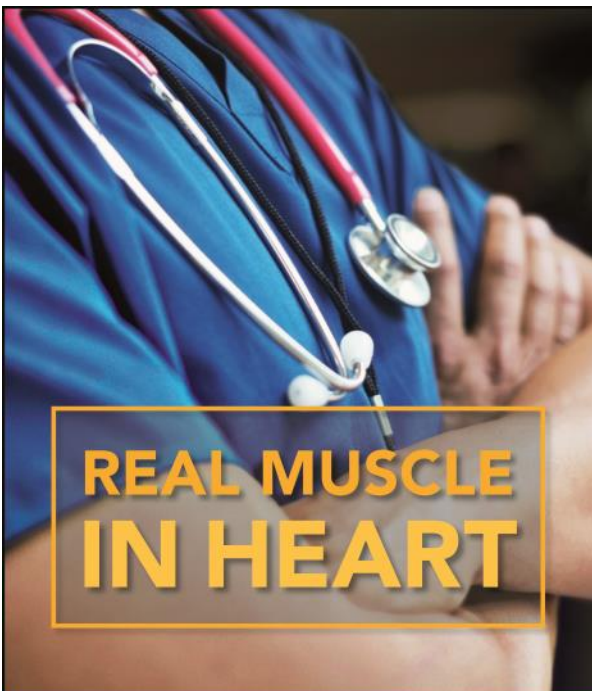
The Westbury/Meyerland/Bellaire Trading Group is a Facebook group that has over 3,000 members. It allows area residents to sell, trade, or buy items from other area residents.

Fondren Middle School at Bi-Monthly Breakfast

Save the date for the morning of Tuesday, March 10, 2014, to attend the Southwest Houston 2000 Bi-Monthly Breakfast Series, which features speakers of interest to southwest Houston. The topic will be Fondren Middle School (Fondren World School), which has recently added a middle school IB (International Baccalaureate) magnet program and has also implemented a Newcomers Academy, a school-within-a-school for immigrants or refugees with limited English skills. Speakers will be Newcomer Academy Director **Parisa Behzadi** and Principal **Monique Lewis**. Some Westbury residents are zoned to FMS and all are eligible to apply to the magnet program. To purchase tickets for the March 10 breakfast, go to <http://march2015-fondrenmiddleschool.eventbrite.com>

.Links for Lost & Found Pets

Nextdoor Westbury - www.nextdoor.com
 Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook-
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Willow Waterhole as a "Signature Park"

Howard Sacks, past president of the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy and current president of Levitt Pavilion Houston, made a presentation at the January 2015 Southwest Houston 2000 breakfast. He discussed the path forward to make Willow Waterhole into the third "Signature Park" in Houston.

In 2007, the City of Houston Master Parks Plan update recommended adding additional signature parks to join Memorial and Hermann parks. A signature park needs amenities that are metropolitan destinations.

What are Willow Waterholes' distinctive features?

They are water, birds, prairie, the Levitt Houston Pavilion and its convenient close in location.

Water? With 6 lakes covering much of the 280 acres there is water everywhere!



Birds? The Willow Waterhole is Houston's BEST metropolitan birding site with 192 species recorded to date by the Houston Audubon society's monthly bird survey.

Prairie? The Willow Waterhole east of South Post Oak was a pasture and never plowed. It retains the plant diversity of the Coastal Prairie like the Deer Park and Katy Prairies. The 15 acre prairie management area harbors over 300 species of plant life including endangered and rare plants.



Levitt Pavilion Houston? This national non-profit exists to strengthen the social fabric of America by building communities through music. Houston was chosen as the city for the ninth Levitt Pavilion and the Willow Waterhole as chosen as the site. Coming in 2017.

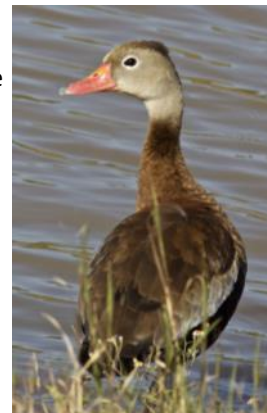
Request a speaker at www.willowwaterhole.org



Convenient location? Sure, it's why we chose to live here!

There will be more opportunities to see this presentation, which includes a video and slide show. Time, date and location will be announced later.

Gary Zika, Project manager, reported that the basins are 80% complete and that 2017 is still the projected completion date.



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Willow Waterhole Events & Workdays

Willow Waterhole Workday – Westbury and St. Thomas High School

Twenty students from the Westbury High School National Honor Society and JROTC, along with two from St. Thomas High School worked at the Willow Waterhole Park on Saturday, January 17. The group accomplished three projects:

- Δ Constructed a fence around a recently planted wildflower prairie to ensure that the area is not mowed or trampled.
- Δ Raked leaves and cleared brush from the Willow Waterhole Bayou Nature Trail by The Gathering Place on S. Willow Drive.
- Δ Moved 15 cubic yards of mulch and pruned trees by the main gazebo at Dryad.

Once again these hard-working students were led by WHS National Honor Society Advisor Ms. Jennifer Kuhleman and ROTC Chief Cindy Frank from WHS. Local residents Russell Schexnayder, Bill Burhans, and Wayne Mitchell provided planning and direction for the projects. The next community service day is planned for February 14 from 9AM to 12PM. Everyone is invited to help. We will rendezvous at The Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow Drive 77035.



SAVE THE DATE

Willow Waterhole Music Fest Saturday, April 25

Mark your calendar! The Willow Waterhole annual Music Festival will be held on April 25, 2015, at the South Gazebo area of Willow Waterhole. The festival will feature both student and professional performing groups in a beautiful outdoor setting.

Look in future *Criers* for more information.



Willow Waterhole
Greenspace Conservancy

Audubon Bird Survey Saturday, February 21, 8AM

Meet at The Gathering
Place 5310 S. Willow
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City, County, & State

Monthly Inspections with COH Mayra Hypolite, Dept of Neighborhoods

The WCC office has traditionally worked in partnership with inspectors from the Department of Neighborhoods to abate nuisance conditions. Effective in January 2015, this partnership has stepped up to a higher level. Each month, we will now have a meeting and a driving tour with Mayra Hypolite, who is a liaison between the Department of Neighborhoods (DoN) and the Mayor's Office. In January, Jennifer Edmondson and Cindy Chapman with the WCC discussed specific addresses with conditions which have been challenging to resolve. This discussion was followed by a driving tour. These issues will receive a higher priority because they are being followed by the mayor's liaison with DoN.

Community Breakfast Hosted By TX Rep Borris Miles

The Honorable Texas State Representative Borris Miles hosted a breakfast for leaders and precinct chairs in District 146 the weekend before the State legislature opened the 2015 session. Among those attending were WCC President Becky Edmondson, WAIC President Cindy Chapman, plus Precinct Chair Priscilla Bloomquist. It was an informative meeting and there was open discussion about topics the legislature will discuss this year.

Miles' constituent liaison Mary Seymore attends the WAIC and WCC meetings each month and takes our concerns back to him. He stood with us for the Garden, for Westbury High School, for the Willow Waterhole and in opposition to Southern Crushed Concrete. We urge you to contact his office if you have concerns or questions on items before the legislature this year.



Harris County Flood Control Update

The widely anticipated Harris County Flood control work on our drainage easements and bayous has begun! Work began on the ditch that runs between Hummingbird and Bankside in early January. From the looks of the excavation at Braewick it appears that flooding in the area should be greatly reduced now that water can actually enter the ditch from the culverts that were full of mud and permanently submerged.

The three channels in our area that will be repaired are:

1. The section of HCFCU Unit D112-00-00 also known as Willow Waterhole Bayou, between Landsdowne and Braewick.
2. The section of HCFCU Unit D139-04-00, from Atwell to Braewick. (photo below)
3. The section of HCFCU Unit D140-05-02, from Willowbend to Braewick



The contractor for the maintenance repair work is Salem Group, Inc., D.B.A. Complete Concrete. The work is projected to last 170 working days. The cost of the contract is \$435,825. HCFCU Project ID # Z100-00-00-X170.

To comment or ask a question on project activities, call HCFCU's Project and Study Information Line at 713-684-4040 or email ProjectCommunications@hcfcd.org



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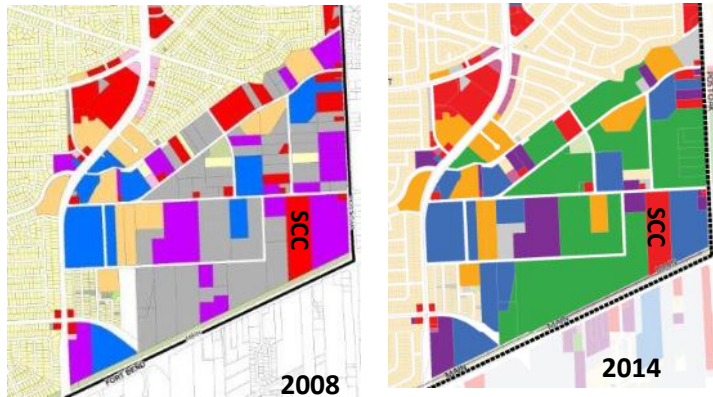
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Commercial Property Update

Land Use Maps for Westbury SN (zoomed in to the Willow Waterhole area)



Update - Southern Crushed Concrete Environmental Permit Application

Southern Crushed Concrete (SCC) has applied for an air permit for a concrete batch plant at 5001 Gasmer next to the Willow Waterhole Conservation Reserve. As reported in January, an administrative hearing was conducted in December to determine which nearby residents will be considered a “party” due to proximity (within 440 yards) to the proposed plant site. Due to conflicting maps and information presented to the judge about where the plant will be sited, the judge agreed to allow additional time for nearby residents to apply to become a “party” while he reviewed the conflicting information. As of January 21, the judge had not yet issued his ruling. Those who are named as a “party” by the judge will be eligible to request a contested environmental permit hearing.

The WCC, the WAIC, and the Westbury Super Neighborhood Council will continue to monitor and stay involved in the process since the proposed site will affect Westbury area residents, local students, and visitors to the Willow Waterhole Conservation Reserve.

Commercial Property Updates

“Westbury Centerette”

We have no new information about the vacant “Westbury Centerette” property. The property owner plans to build a 2-story facility, which would be designed for and leased to LA Fitness. It is our understanding that the next step is the relocation of utilities in the middle of the property.

Westbury Square

According to the City of Houston, the remaining dangerous buildings were to be demolished by the end of 2014. WCC President Becky Edmondson recently contacted the property owner, Al Antonini, to get an update as to why those buildings are still standing. Antonini says the property is currently under contract for sale and that is why it has not yet been demolished. The prospective owner would construct around 125 townhomes on the site.

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