



# Willowbend Civic Club

PUBLISHED BIMONTHLY BY WILLOWBEND CIVIC CLUB  
WILLOWBEND IS A DEED-RESTRICTED NEIGHBORHOOD, SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY DUES. ESTABLISHED IN 1952  
WWW.WILLOWBENDCIVICCLUB.ORG INFO@WILLOWBENDCIVICCLUB.ORG  
EDITOR: MARY TYSOR - EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY WBCC BOARD MEMBERS

MARCH 2022

Greetings, Friends and Neighbors,

We are poised to move into spring despite the fact that as I write this, the temperature outdoors is in the low 40s. There is, however, an explanation for this: it's rodeo time in Houston! After 2 years without it, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is once again entertaining us and reminding us of our Texas heritage. But we may have forgotten during the hiatus that it is almost always cold and wet for the early part of the rodeo. So, bundle up and stay warm at the rodeo or, as Marvin Zindler used to say, whatever makes you happy.

Something I am happy about is the completed restoration of the neighborhood monument sign on the West-end of the Willowbend Boulevard. It was rebuilt thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Heang Lim and her family. But we are not yet finished with beautification. The flowerbeds around both monument signs will be replanted and freshened-up in general. Following that, and when it warms up, we will have a ceremony around the West-end monument to recognize Mrs. Lim and for the placement of the original plaque and a new one expressing the neighborhood's appreciation to The Lims.

Other items of interest: spring break is about 2 weeks away for HISD schools, so a little extra safety awareness is in for children celebrating being out of class for a few days.

Over at the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy change is in the air. In the Naturescape Garden area, the wooden sculptures by Philip James have been placed in the park area near the Dryden entrance. And, oh by the way, that parking lot is now paved! Along with the Brays Oaks Management District, the Conservancy is gathering input on uses for the newly acquired Shell Technology Center campus. MusicFest is scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup>. It's always fun so mark your calendars.

Lastly a bit of business: Willowbend Civic Club is proud to be a voluntary civic club with voluntary dues that are used for the Boulevard Esplanade mowing, the newsletter, the biannual neighborhood directory, and other services. If you haven't paid your 2021-2022 dues, please do so by scanning the QR code included in this newsletter. A couple of other suggestions: refresh yourself on the deed restrictions for your section of the neighborhood. Both a map of the neighborhood that marks the sections clearly and the deed restrictions for each section can be found on our website [www.willowbendcivicclub.org](http://www.willowbendcivicclub.org) under the Civic Club Information tab.

Get acquainted with your neighbors. It makes it easier to notice something or someone out of place. Keeping our neighborhood as safe as possible is a shared responsibility.

Blessings and best wishes to all.

*Vivica Sonberg*

Willowbend Civic Club President

# AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND MORE

## WILLOW WATERHOLE NEWS

### The Gasmer Drive Redevelopment Project Promises a Diversified Future for Willow Waterhole

(The following article draws information from a previous article published in the Brays Oaks Management District website.)

The Brays Oaks Conservancy is partnering with the Levitt Foundation, Friends of Levitt Pavilion Houston, Brays Oaks Management District, and the City of Houston in re-developing the former Shell property on Gasmer Drive. The Shell site sits next to Willow Waterhole making it ideal to integrate the two properties. The plan proposes to link public use spaces, including an outdoor entertainment complex, the Levitt Pavilion Houston, substantial parking, permanent bathrooms, a performance theater, a community center, and a detention pond. Levitt Pavilion Houston will be transformative in moving Willow Waterhole Greenway forward and serving as a catalyst for socioeconomic revitalization. Go to this link for more information on the role Levitt Pavilion Houston will fill in the new space. <https://www.levitthouston.org>

On Saturday, February 12, the master planning team held sessions to present its preliminary ideas and seek community input. In addition to serving as a detention area for flood waters, Ben Brewer, retiring executive director of the Brays Oaks Management District, stated that the district sees the property as “being re-purposed as a lifestyle center.” Some ideas suggested for use were movie nights, plays by theater groups, family reunions, weddings and quinceañeras as well as free concerts at the Levitt Pavilion.

The Brays Oaks Management District welcomes residents’ ideas for use of the expanded property at the Willow Waterhole Greenspace. The following link to the District’s website has been established for you to contribute your ideas for the design team. [https://lionheart.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8qaQWPpwkEI8Ggu](https://lionheart.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8qaQWPpwkEI8Ggu)

If you’re curious about the interesting history of why the Willow Waterhole Greenspace was developed, go to this website: <https://www.willowwaterhole.org/greenway-history>

## WILLOW WATERHOLE MUSIC FESTIVAL

The 9<sup>th</sup> annual MusicFest at the Willow Waterhole Greenway is back – a free, one-day festival featuring live music, Spring-themed activities, and great food - Saturday, April 9, 2022, starting at 11:00 AM.

## WILLOW WATERHOLE BIRD SURVEY

The Willow Waterhole conducts a bird survey every month year-round. Join this lively group and explore the wild side of our backyard. Meetings take place on the third Saturday of each month.

Meeting is at the Gathering Place, 5310 S. Willow Drive. October – March starting time: 8:00 AM. April – September starting time: 7:00 AM.

For more information about the Willow Waterhole please visit, [www.willowwaterhole.org](http://www.willowwaterhole.org), or contact them at [info@willowwaterhole.org](mailto:info@willowwaterhole.org).

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

### HELPFUL INFORMATION ABOUT ELECTRIC SERVICE

CenterPoint Energy maintains streetlights throughout our Willowbend area. To report a power outage, you may call 713-207-2222 or 800-332-7143, or view their Outage Tracker:

<https://gis.centerpointenergy.com/outagetracker/> for current electric outage information.

How to Report a Street Light Outage:

CenterPoint Energy's easy-to-use map makes it simple to report a streetlight issue or outage.

- Enter the streetlight number or address close to the streetlight
- Click the streetlight that is not working correctly
- Enter information about the issue

About Houston Street Lights:

CenterPoint Energy is converting the City of Houston's traditional streetlights to LED lights. The new lights may look a little different at first, but they are 50 percent more energy efficient, provide better visibility and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

### RED ELEMENTARY, OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL

S. C. Red Elementary is your neighborhood school. We have a STEM focus, which includes ancillary classes for science lab, math lab, and computer lab. We have also applied to become a STEAM magnet (A for Art) to seamlessly transition to our feeder middle school (Meyerland PVA). Principal Treviño has served as principal since 2018 and was recently named HISD's principal of the month! We have a full-time librarian (one of only 58 HISD schools), a special education program, aftercare program, and active PTO.

*U.S. News and World Report* ranked Red as one of the best elementary schools 2022.

Kindergarten round-up is April 13th! We invite the community to join us for Spring Fling, an outdoor event on Saturday, April 2, 11am - 2pm. Email [redpto@yahoo.com](mailto:redpto@yahoo.com) for more information about the school.

### OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION

**City of Houston Public Works** – responsible for streets, drainage, producing & distributing water, collecting and treating wastewater, and permitting and regulation of construction.

<https://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov/> - 611 Walker St, Houston, TX 77002 – 832.395.2500 – [publicworks@houstontx.gov](mailto:publicworks@houstontx.gov)

**Council Member Martha Castex-Tatum** – our District K council representative. Visit the website to sign up for the newsletter, and more information. <https://www.houstontx.gov/council/k/index.html>  
832-393-3016 - [districtk@houstontx.gov](mailto:districtk@houstontx.gov)

**Harris County Services** – <https://www.harriscountytexas.gov/> the Harris County website has an array of services, e.g., Commissioners Court, COVID-19, Jury Service, Property Tax, Voter Registration, etc. Visit their website for more information.

## WILLOWBEND YARD OF THE MONTH

Our Yard of the Month winners will be announced on the next newsletter.

We look forward to seeing new landscaping around the neighborhood this Spring. De'Von and Shannon are ready to judge.

Have ideas for us? Contact us at [Info@WillowbendCivicClub.org](mailto:Info@WillowbendCivicClub.org)  
For more information about your Civic Club, visit the website, [www.WillowbendCivicClub.org](http://www.WillowbendCivicClub.org)

Want to Pay Your Dues or Make a Donation?

Use this convenient QR code to pay!

The dues & patrol amount is \$130.00, which includes a \$5 service fee from PayPal.

Visit our website: [www.WillowbendCivicClub.org](http://www.WillowbendCivicClub.org) for more information.

(WBCC fiscal year: June 1 – May 31)

We appreciate your support!

 PayPal



Scan. Pay. Go.

We would like to build a service page for our neighborhood, Landscapers, Plumbers, Construction, Realtors, etc.  
Want to advertise with us? Contact us at, [WillowbendCivicClub@gmail.com](mailto:WillowbendCivicClub@gmail.com) for advertising fees.

### ANGELA RITCHEY, REALTOR®

Agent License #647139  
C. 832.930.3227 | O. 713.349.9700  
[Angela@AngelaRitchey.com](mailto:Angela@AngelaRitchey.com)  
[AngelaRitchey.com](http://AngelaRitchey.com)

5107 Bellaire Blvd., Suite 200  
Bellaire, TX 77401



Owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC.



COLDWELL BANKER  
REALTY



Advertisement

**CHANGE IS CHALLENGING!**

**NEW GLOSSY FORMAT!  
NEW IDEAS!**

**Thanks to new WBCC Newsletter  
Editor, Mary Tysor.**

**Beanie A.**

YOUR AD CAN GO HERE!

Ad size options:

Business Card Size, ¼ Page, ½ Page & Full Page

Contact us at: [WillowbendCivicClub@gmail.com](mailto:WillowbendCivicClub@gmail.com) for  
more information

The inclusion of advertising, logos or website links on this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement by WBCC.