



# 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

MAY 2022

## GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION

Willow Meadows Baptist Church

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 -- 7:30 PM

Greetings, Willowbend Neighbors,

It appears that the cold weather is finally over and Spring has truly sprung in our neighborhood. Lawns are looking green and lovely, most of the trees have leafed out and flowers are showing their colors. Speaking of trees and flowers, work has been completed for the landscaping around the two neighborhood monument signs. The plant material was carefully chosen to give us beauty along with appropriateness for our climate, affordability, and ease of maintenance. Keep an eye out for the improvements.

There's a great deal going on in and around our neighborhood these days. The City's Housing and Community Development Department is working to acquire 12.2 acres of land at 10301 Stella Link with plans to establish a mixed-income housing development for up to 240 single family homes. There's a great deal more information available at <https://houstontx.gov/housing/homes/stella-link.html>, including Virtual kickoff meetings on May 5<sup>th</sup>, May 17 and May 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:30pm – 6:30pm. Visit the website for more information.

Also, the City of Houston is beginning the redistricting process which will adopt new City Council District boundaries based on the results of the 2020 US Census. As part of this effort, Town Hall meetings on this process began on April 19<sup>th</sup>. The District K Town Hall meeting was held on May 4<sup>th</sup> at Fountain Life Center at 14083 South Main.

At Willow Waterhole the Gasmer Redevelopment Plan was presented at a community meeting on April 30. The plan demonstrates what's in the works for the 29-acre former Shell Technology Campus along Gasmer Drive. New hiking trails construction begins in May and the long wished for pier at Westbury Lake is coming soon. Willowwaterhole.org has more information on all these subjects and more. Take a look!

Last but certainly not least is the Willowbend Civic Club Annual General Meeting and election of new board members which will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup> at Willow Meadows Baptist Church at 7:30 P.M. Please plan to attend.

Best wishes to all.

*Wiveca Sonberg*

Willowbend Civic Club President

# WILLOWBEND CIVIC CLUB

## SLATE: OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, FY 2022-2023

<b>OFFICERS:</b>		
President	Mary Tysor	4517 Briarbend
Vice President	Tim Shanahan	4701 Tonawanda
Treasurer	Earl Fairbanks	4517 Stillbrooke
Corresponding Sec.	Mary Beckner	10609 Willowisp
Past President	Viveca Sonberg	4302 Waycross
<b>DIRECTORS:</b>		
	Russ Williams	4846 Briarbend
	Shane Poteet	4510 Stillbrooke
	Buddy Bell	4606 Stillbrooke
	Shannon Deese	4629 Willowbend
	Kathy Mays	10517 Willowgrove
	Charles Turner	4321 Waycross
	Rich Farley	4617 Creekbend
	Ron Kammerman	4318 Hazelton
	Terry Brandhorst	10610 Willowisp
	Angela Ritchey	4827 Stillbrooke
	Erik Nelson	10610 Willowisp

## WILLOWBEND YARD OF THE MONTH

<b>APRIL</b>		<b>MAY</b>	
10509 Willowisp	Donna Harkness	4826 Creekbend	Alexandria Hodge
4430 Hazelton	Michael Sackman	4501 Tonawanda	Jeffrey Pollock & Kevin Zahradnik
4422 Tonawanda	Carol Campbell	4402 Waycross	Mary & Everett Gorel
4710 Briarbend	Craig & Kathy Kennedy	4421 Creekbend	Arney Johnson
4807 Creekbend	Robert Adams	4831 Stillbrooke	Aracely Andrade
4713 Waycross	Richard & Kate Moore	4517 Willowbend	Tony Herbert

Thank you to yard judges, De' Von and Shannon Deese

## BOULEVARD BEAUTIFICATION DONORS

Smith, Rhonda; Johnson, Pat & Sally; Vallatos, Gerasimos & Kitty; Reid, Mary Lou; Rath, Jim & Susan; Nichols, Monica & Tim Nisley; Novak, Luanne & Dave Johnson; Lawrence, Sandy; Switzer, Les & Hazel; Hunt, Thelma & Roger; Navarro, Pedro; Dover, Diane; Zura, John C. (Jack); Borski, Marsha; Baumgartner, Frank; Turner, Robert A.; Puccio, Raquel & Chris; Masters, Jeanine & Gary; Riehl, John, Shelley, & Noah; Swanson, S.J. & William; Reardon, Kathleen; Darden, Ramona; Melnick, Harry; Lobaugh, Lauren & Kurtis; Burnside, Lynda; Reitz, Sarah; Fowler, James & Jean Adams; Espinosa, Rudy & Mary; Deese, Shannon & DeVon; Peterson, Yvonne & Lisa; Seltzer, Dick; Shoenthal, Dan & Shellyn; Wallace, David & Sarah; Martinez, Oscar H. & Olympia R.; Gilliland, Sharon; Kendall, Lori; Weil, Judy & Barry Solomon; Larsen, Jeff & Mary Beckner; Gainer, Kenneth & Doris; Melnick, Harry

**THANK YOU!**

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Willowbend Blvd. neighbors, please ask your landscaping crews to not park on the esplanade or block the turn-around areas, additionally, please ask that the grass trimmings and debris are not blown to the boulevard.

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# AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND MORE

## THE GASMER REDEVELOPMENT

On Saturday, April 30, The Brays Oaks Management District held an open house at Westbury High School to present their Final Master Plan to repurpose the Shell building on Gasmer Drive. Lionheart in association with Natalye Appel & Associates Architects presented an impressive and ambitious project.

The Brays Oaks Management District 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.

Visit: <https://www.braysoaksmd.org/accountability/gasmer-drive-site-redevelopment/> to see the final Master Plan. For more information, call 346.516.2955.

## WILLOW WATERHOLE, THE PIER IS NEAR!

Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy is planning to build a pier on Westbury Lake in 2022. The pier was designed by Cobb Fendley and Associates in Houston, and it will be used for fishing and kayak/canoe launching, as well as environmental sampling by local schools. The pier will be built using the PermaTrak system which allows the water level to cover the pier during rain events. It will extend 46 feet from the edge of the lake and then make a 90 degree turn and extend another 32 feet. The surface width is 8 feet, and the entire structure will be surrounded by a safety railing. It will be ADA compliant with a concrete path from the top of the bank down to the water's edge. This is a \$200-250,000 capital expenditure and WWGC has raised over 80% of the funds required. This is very good news, but we also need your financial support now. No donation is too small and since we are so close to our goal every dollar will have an impact. The money we raise for this project will be matched by The Kinder Foundation.

To donate, you can go to [www.willowwaterhole.org](http://www.willowwaterhole.org) and click on Support, scroll down to Donate Now, select Capital Projects from the menu, and type in Pier. If you prefer, you may send your personal check to: WWGC, P. O. Box 35676, Houston, TX 77235-5676 with a notation of the Pier on the check. Check out this video for an animated version of the pier: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3ppg1HEYIs>

## 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).

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)

# HELPFUL INFORMATION

## MOSQUITO SEASON IS HERE!

They buzz. They dive bomb. They bounce on your screens. They sneak up on you and raise a welt. You never feel a thing until it itches like crazy. In short, they annoy the living daylights out of you. But worse, they may bring modern day plagues like Dengue Fever and Zika. Mosquito season is underway and will intensify during the upcoming summer months. Defense requires us to outsmart these pests and here's how:

1. DEET First spray insect repellent with DEET on exposed skin while outdoors.
2. DRESS Choose long pants and long-sleeve shirts as the weather permits.
3. DRAIN Check for and empty outdoor items that hold water, such as flower pots or old tires. Do this after each rain, at least once a week. Make a quick survey of your yard to see what innocuous thing might be a mosquito nursery. A child's toy? Half a tennis ball? A little plastic plant saucer that was tossed aside? A tiny habitat is all that's required for a mosquito to lay eggs. So stay on alert for standing water.

**Make a few simple changes. Get dramatic results!**

## RED ELEMENTARY, OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL

The Red Elementary PTO has established a scholarship program to help offset the cost of higher education for students that are part of the Red Elementary School community (former Red students or the children of current Red faculty and staff members). This year, the scholarship is in the amount of \$1000. Scholarship applications must be postmarked by May 20, 2022. Details are available on the PTO website:

<https://redelementarypto.membershiptoolkit.com/scholarship>

### 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 -- Statements will be going out this month)



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.

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