



Willowbend Civic Club

PUBLISHED BIMONTHLY BY WILLOWBEND CIVIC CLUB
WILLOWBEND IS A DEED-RESTRICTED NEIGHBORHOOD, SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY DUES. ESTABLISHED IN 1953
WWW.WILLOWBENDCIVICCLUB.ORG INFO@WILLOWBENDCIVICCLUB.ORG
EDITOR: MARY TYSOR - EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY WBCC BOARD MEMBERS

APRIL 2024

Dear Residents,

It has been a pleasure to serve as Willowbend Civic Club President these past two years. I am grateful to the board members and volunteers who have been so generous with their time, talent, and dedication to serve our community.

Please note that a Nominating Committee has been established to propose a slate for open board positions for our upcoming meeting where an election will take place. If you would like to be considered for a position on the board, kindly send us an email by April 19th, at info@WillowbendCivicClub.org. The Nominating Committee members will be in contact with you.

If you would like to volunteer your time and talents with the Civic Club, please send us an email. The Civic Club would be grateful to hear from you.

Don't forget that our general meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. I am hoping to see you there!

Sincerely,
Mary Tysor

Our Commitment to Safety

By: J. Friedmann, Security Patrol Director for WBCC

The utmost priority for the Willowbend Civic Club is the safety of our residents and community. We work closely with Officer Thompson and his team of off-duty HPD officers to help protect the neighborhood. And, we also want to act on our learnings. For instance, as we look back on 2023 incidents, most occurred between the hours of 8 a.m. and noon, followed by the time period of 4 p.m. to midnight. Given this information, we will continue to work with the security team to ensure officers are patrolling during these time periods. Additionally, an evaluation of the data showed that 25% of incidents occurred on a Monday, with 20% taking place on a Sunday.

As we shared previously, the majority of our neighborhood incidents involve theft from vehicles parked on the street. We encourage you to please remember to secure your vehicle by locking the doors and closing the windows. Additionally, remain mindful to keep lawn and construction equipment secured when not in use.

If you notice suspicious activity, please email info@WillowbendCivicClub.org and we will notify our security officers to monitor.

Are you a new Willowbend neighbor? If so, send us an email at info@WillowbendCivicClub.org. We would love to meet you and bring you a New Resident Welcome Packet with information about our Civic Club and the neighborhood.

GENERAL MEETING
Willow Meadows Baptist Church
Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00 P.M.

OUR WILLOWBEND NEIGHBORHOOD

INTERVIEW WITH WILLOWBEND LONGTIME

RESIDENT: Jackie D. Rundstein

By: DJ Fomby

Jackie and I became neighbors in 2005. She is the last original resident of Willowbend 1, here since 1954. She is a civic-minded and welcoming neighbor who keeps an impeccable home and yard. Jackie recently shared her favorite memories of Willowbend and her thoughts on being a good neighbor:

DF: What makes a good neighbor? *JR: A good neighbor takes care of their property, respects your property and is friendly. They are courteous and willing to compromise about complaints*

Have you been a good neighbor? *I hope I've been those things, but I don't know that I have been, though. But people put up with me or have put up with me. And likewise, sometimes I've had to put up with what my neighbor was doing.*

Who were your most memorable neighbors? *Marcy and Edwin Geis. I had to return to work when my husband became disabled. Marcy and Edwin watched over our kids, especially our youngest. They helped us all in so many ways. They were so kind. Really lovely people.*

What were the early days in Willowbend 1 like? *Willow Waterhole ditch was an actual creek. There was no bridge; South Post Oak ended at the creek. Over our back fence, we could see the former rice fields where Westbury, a planned community, was being built. That was 'in 55. You went to Bellaire for groceries. The phone lines didn't extend out here until 1958.*

What are your favorite memories of Willowbend? *Children were everywhere. Waycross street was full of children, and most of them boys. There were very few girls; there were boys all over the place. The rule was that when the streetlights came on you MUST be home!*

How has the neighborhood changed or stayed the same? *I'm very hopeful when I see young families moving in with children. The COVID lockdown in one way was a blessing because it got people out of the house and the children outside. There were children on my street I didn't know existed! So, it's much, much friendlier [in the neighborhood] I think, than before. We know each other better as a result.*



Want to Pay Your Dues or Make a Donation?

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

Visit our website: www.WillowbendCivicClub.org for more information.

(WBCC fiscal year: June 1 – May 31)

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 21st – Neighborhood Clean-Up Event

On April 21, 2024 Precinct 287 Civic Association will be having a Trash Pick-up along the Drainage Ditch (Bayou) area on the East side of S. Post Oak Road, between Kingfisher and Stillbrook.

Volunteers will meet at 2:00pm at the corner of Kingfisher and Waxwing. The City of Houston has offered to provide trash bags, gloves, and safety vests. Bottles of water will be provided for all volunteers. Please let us know if you have any questions, email us at: info@WillowbendCivicClub.org.

WILLOWBEND YARD OF THE MONTH

THE FIRST OF THE YEAR JUDGING OF THE YARDS WILL TAKE PLACE SOON. STAY TUNED!

** If you would like to nominate a yard for Yard-of-the-Month, send us an email: info@WillowbendCivicClub.org **

BE SURE THAT YOUR HOME ADDRESS NUMBER IS VISIBLE FROM THE STREET.
THIS IS HELPFUL FOR OUR YOM JUDGES AS WELL AS EMS AND PATROL.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

It's Spring And Urban Critter Babies Abound

By: DJ Fomby

The emergence of tiny urban critters on our streets, in our yards and local parks can be cause for wonder and delight. But were you to encounter a baby urban animal up close, would you or our children know how to behave? Would you know what to do? Here is a very brief guide for common encounters:

- **Observe from a Distance:** Watch baby animals from afar to avoid frightening them, disturbing them or their parents.
- **Avoid Feeding:** Let baby animals rely on natural food sources to prevent dependency on humans.
- **Walk On By:** If you find a healthy but out-of-place young'un, e.g. a fledgling on the ground, a young rabbit alone, a small opossum wandering, etc leave it alone unless obviously endangered. Its parent will return or maybe watching nearby.
- **Cautiously Assist:** Should you find an young animal or baby bird that has fallen out of the nest and seems unharmed, it's ok to place the baby in nearby bushes nestled inside of a cap or wrapped in a soft article of clothing for parent retrieval
- **Contact Wildlife Rescue:** If you encounter a infant (eyes closed, little fur or few feathers) or a hurt baby animal, seek help from the local wildlife rescue organizations listed under Resources
- **Educate Others:** peaceful coexistence with our urban animal neighbors is possible when we educate ourselves about the wildlife that enriches our suburban lives

RESOURCES:

The websites of these organizations may answer your questions about how to best assist wildlife, whether infant, juvenile or adult:

- Houston Humane Society Wildlife Center: 713/468-8972 9AM-5PM, M-F; 9AM-3PM S-S
- The Wildlife Center of Texas (SPCA): 713/861-9453 9AM-6PM Daily
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Rehabilitates to help truly wild animals/birds : <https://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/rehab/>

WILLOW WATERHOLE NEWS

UPDATE: The Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy continues to work with the Engineer and Contractor to finish the trails around Prairie Lake. The construction is going well, and they are about 60% complete on the total contract that includes some work West of SPO. The engineers and construction crew reported a concern of some people, and people with unleashed dogs, walking through the construction site and around equipment. Please remember to respect all signs and steer clear of the construction areas. Also, please be courteous and keep your dog on a leash. Thank you!



We would like to build a service page for our neighborhood, Landscapers, Plumbers, Construction, Realtors, etc. Want to advertise with us? Contact us at, info@WillowbendCivicClub.org for advertising fees.

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