



# BUTLER'S BRIDGE

WEST BEND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 2 | ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2016

## Butler's Bridge / West Bend Community Improvement Association Yard of the Month Guidelines

### OVERVIEW

Homeowners of West Bend CIA/"Butler's Bridge" will be sponsoring a perpetual, self-governed "Yard of the Month" program.

The purpose of the program is to recognize West Bend CIA / "Butler's Bridge" neighbors who demonstrate above-average efforts in maintaining their property, thereby contributing to the overall appearance of the community at large. There is a great award and the program is administered entirely by volunteers. All award winners receive an official "Butler's Bridge Yard of the Month" lawn-sign, to be placed on their property for the duration of their award month. If your sign becomes lost or damaged, please request a replacement by sending an e-mail to [WBCIA@yahoo.com](mailto:WBCIA@yahoo.com). Position of the sign should be prominent in the yard located midway between the street and the front of the house. The West Bend CIA / "Butler's Bridge" Yard of the Month group congratulates all "Yard of the Month" award selections and encourages all neighbors to join the efforts of these homeowner's in keeping their yards and homes beautiful.

### CONTEST GUIDELINES:

All current West Bend CIA / "Butler's Bridge" properties are automatically eligible by default.

- Award winners are selected based on the recommended judging criteria listed below.
- Recipients must reside in West Bend CIA / "Butler's Bridge".
- Key criteria include manicured yard, beautification, originality and creativity.

- The upkeep of the yard can reflect the efforts of the residents themselves or that of a professional landscaper or groundskeeper.
- An award duration term lasts a single calendar month and runs from the first day of the month to the last day of that same month.
- The same property cannot receive more than one award in the same rolling 12 month calendar period. At least 12 months must elapse between awards for the same yard.
- Recipients receiving awards in the middle of the month shall surrender their award at the end of that same month.
- More than one Yard of the Month recipient may be selected in a single month. In other words, multiple yards may be concurrently recognized.
- While an individual's home is being recognized as a West Bend CIA / "Butler's Bridge" "Yard of the Month" they are expected to maintain their yard in the same manner that allowed them to win the title.

### RECOMMENDED JUDGING CRITERIA

West Bend CIA / "Butler's Bridge" Yard of the Month candidates are judged solely on the total exterior appearance of their property and front yard as viewed from the street. General upkeep of the yard and property is paramount. Factors include the overall appearance, tidiness and neatness of the front of the property as evidenced by pruned, trimmed and shaped foliage, edged and defined lawns, borders & flower beds, and a visually appealing facade.

**LAWN:** Healthy grass with no bare spots or excessive weeds. Grass shall be mowed and edged, and grass around foundations and fences shall be trimmed. Debris (garbage, pet feces, etc.) shall be picked up and removed. A unified, simple and balanced landscape design. Neat and natural.

**LANDSCAPE & FLOWER BEDS:** Beds weeded and edged. Flowers deadheaded and dead plants removed. Trees and shrubs pruned. Natural areas cleaned. Beautification efforts including

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## Newsletter Subscription Options

This will be the Last Newsletter mail-out!

Please visit <http://www.peelinc.com/residentsNewsletterSubscriptions.php> to have an email sent to you with a link to a PDF of the newsletter.

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY

Emergency Situation .....	911
Constable Precinct 5 .....	281 463-6666
Sheriff Emergency & Non .....	713 221-6000
Harris County Sheriff (Store Front).....	281 564-5990
Harris County Sheriff (sub-station) .....	281 463-2648
Poison Control.....	800 764-7661
Crime Stoppers .....	713 222-TIPS

### EMERGENCY

AT&T (Repairs).....	800 246-8464
Center Point Energy (Electric).....	713-207-2222
Center Point Energy (Gas) .....	713 659-2111
Comcast (Cable) .....	713 462-9000
Mud #120 (Water).....	713 405-1750
Reliant (Electric) .....	713 207-2222
Street Light Repairs -need Pole# .....	713 207-2222
Trash (Texas Pride Disposal) .....	281 342-8178

### PUBLIC SERVICES

Local U.S. Post Office .....	281 920-9337
<i>12655 Whittington Dr, Houston, TX 77077</i>	
Toll Road EZ Tag.....	281-875-EASY (3279)
Volunteer Fire Dept.....	281 498-1310
Steve Radack ( <i>County Commissioner</i> ).....	713 755-6306
Animal Control.....	281 999-3191
Dead Animal Pick-up (Precinct 5).....	713 439-6000
Dead Bird Report.....	713 440-3036
Graffiti Clean-up.....	281 463-6300
Mosquito Control (Health Dept.) .....	713 440-4800
Mow the Bayou.....	713 684-4000

### SCHOOLS

Alief Independent School Dist. ....	281 498-8110
Alief Transportation (to report Bus).....	281 983-8400

### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Editor.....	Linda Hermon
WBCIAnewsletter@yahoo.com	
Publisher .....	Peel Inc.
Advertising.....	www.PEELINC.com

*(Continued from Cover)*

new flowers, new trees, new shrubs, etc. Plantings in scale with the surroundings and limited to a few different types of plants rather than too many which may confuse the eye.

### WALKWAYS & DRIVEWAYS:

Walkways and driveways shall be clean (including trash containers or yard products removed from view). Area in front of curb free from debris and dirt. Evening appearance after dusk including accent lighting, safety lighting, visible interior lighting, etc.

AESTHETICS: Overall look of landscaping (formal versus informal, use of color and textures, garden art). Inviting look of front entryway (hanging baskets, pots, cleanliness etc.) Originality/creativity (any special touches of the owner i.e., yard art, bird feeders, etc.)

Summary note: While lack of strict adherence to the criteria above does not necessarily result in a disqualification, these principles offer general guidelines that should be recognized by the West Bend CIA / "Butler's Bridge" Yard of the Month program. WBCIA Yard of the Month is dedicated to improving the quality of living and appearance of our community. We encourage residents to take pride in their homes and neighborhood. In turn, we look to celebrate those who do a superior job in maintaining their yards in such a way that they enhance the overall curb appeal of the entire community. Yards of the Month are awarded at the beginning of each calendar month. Yards are judged on neatness, landscaping and color. All yards are eligible. If you feel you're yard is being overlooked, please send a voting e-mail with your name, address & phone number to wbcia@yahoo.com.

*Please check the website for updates. [www.ciaservices.com](http://www.ciaservices.com)*

## Board Meeting and Management

**C.I.A. SERVICES INC.**  
3000 Wilcrest Drive Suite #200 Houston, TX 77042

**Phone: 713 981-9000**  
**Hours: 9:00 am – 6:00 pm**

**[www.ciaservices.com](http://www.ciaservices.com)**  
**[customercare@ciaservices.com](mailto:customercare@ciaservices.com)**

## MONTHLY BOARD MEETING EVERY 2nd TUESDAY

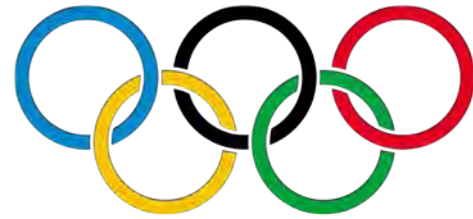
**7:00p - Executive Session**

**7:30p - Board Meeting**

**Butler's Bridge Pool**  
**3915 Summit Valley Dr.**  
**Houston, TX 77082**

## YARD OF THE MONTH

AUGUST 2016  
4027 SUMMIT VALLEY DRIVE



## 2016 Summer Olympics

The 2016 Summer Olympics, officially known as the Games of the XXXI Olympiad, and commonly known as Rio 2016, is a major international multi-sport event in the tradition of the Olympic Games due to take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from the 5th to 21st of August 2016. Record numbers of countries are participating in a record number of sports. More than 10,500 athletes from 206 National Olympic Committees, including first time entrants Kosovo and South Sudan, are scheduled to take part. With 306 sets of medals, the games will feature 28 Olympic sports — including rugby sevens and golf, which were added by the International Olympic Committee in 2009. These sporting events will take place at 33 venues in the host city and at 5 venues in the cities of São Paulo, Belo Horizonte, Salvador, Brasília, and Manaus.

A black and white advertisement for TexasDirectAuto.com. On the left, the text "EASY AS 1-2-3!" is written in large, bold letters. To the right, a small dog wearing a graduation cap and glasses is holding a sign that says "1-2-3!". Below the dog, a small apple is visible. At the bottom, the text "SELL US YOUR CAR!" is written in large, bold letters, followed by the website address "TEXASDIRECTAUTO.COM" in a smaller font. The entire advertisement is enclosed in a black border.

## THE GARDEN PARTY

### RANDY'S PROVEN THREE-STEP FLEA-ELIMINATION PROGRAM

This summer may be a tough one when it comes to insect control, due in large part to all the moisture and what will likely be unrelenting heat and humidity.

And that combination, I suspect, is going to bring a blow-up in flea and tick populations, starting around June.

So here are my long-standing tips on battling fleas, especially if you have pets. If you don't have pets — or small children playing on lawns — you can just have a pest control service apply insecticides, or you can do it yourself. Insecticides are not my first choice, though, because they need to be applied monthly to truly break the pests' egg cycle

But if you or a neighbor have pets, you've got to employ these proven steps to control the problem:

1. TREAT THE PET - Whether you use expensive veterinary prescription products like Sentinel (which also prevents heartworms), or nape-of-the-neck treatments such as Frontline or Advantage available over the counter, you have to treat the animal on a regular basis. Part of this step also includes bathing the animal as frequently as possible. Vacuuming a pet's fur is probably the most organic way

to treat. In the past, I've recommended diatomaceous earth, but veterinarian friends of mine warn against using it too much because it can dry out the animal's skin.

2. TREAT THEIR LAIRS - Treat areas of the yard where pets hang out or nap with synthetic or organic insect controls. "Manic organics" will burst an aneurysm at the mention of a chemical control where pets hang out, but safety labels on many insecticides like bifenthrin (one of the best all-around flea and tick insecticides) indicate that they're perfectly safe for the average pet as long as they don't eat the granules or treated grass. In any case, there are very few organic insect killers aside from cedar. Outdoor areas used by a mostly indoor dog or cat can be treated with the next step.

3. TREAT INSIDE - Even if your dog or cat is mostly an outside animal, you still have to keep an eye on inside carpet and furniture where they like to hang out. The best way known to treat inside is to vacuum, vacuum, vacuum. The more you vacuum, the more insects and eggs are sucked away. Treating carpet with diatomaceous earth before vacuuming is not a bad idea either. There are also insect-

*(Continued on Page 5)*

# WIRED

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(Continued from Page 4)

growth regulators designed for inside use that are odorless and will not stain anything. Nylar (RIGHT) may be the best known, but they all prevent fleas from procreating.

### Pros and Cons of Other Flea and Tick Controls

**Beneficial Nematodes** - Usually, in this part of the state, they are very expensive and really have no proven track record. Since they need a moist, friable soil to do their thing, I think people with improperly raised beds will waste their money applying them to clay soils. Those with organically enriched soils probably don't have insect problems because they have a healthy garden. Ironically, nematodes need a food source. So, if you eliminate fleas and their larvae, the nematodes will starve.

**Garlic Powder** - I have the recipe for a garlic treatment you can add to a dog's food. If the animal gets hot as it plays, however, the pet may smell like a garlic. But the recipe does work.

**Herbal Powders** - You can try pennyroyal, rosemary, lavender, thyme, etc., but be very careful because some animals are naturally repelled by these powders. Apply them to the wrong dog or cat, and you could drive them crazy. Plus, the jury is still out on them since there is really no empirical research proving their effectiveness.

**Diatomaceous Earth** - While this does work quite well on animals with fleas, if used too much, or applied to a pet with sensitive skin,

it can badly dry out the skin.

**Orange Oil** - Good to spray under decks, for example, as a natural insecticide. As a pet owner myself, I would be very leery of using it directly on the pet, however. There are a bunch of home remedies out there that recommend the product, but I worry that its acidic nature might produce adverse skin reactions.



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## POOL CLOSING FOR THE SEASON

Last Day is Monday, September 5th

## STORAGE OF TRASH AND TRASH RECEPTACLES

Though most people think of "Trash Day" as the day of the week on which their garbage is collected, many of us place our refuse on the curb the night before. But how early is too early to put out the trash?

The answer is, anytime before 5:00 PM the night before Tuesday and Friday is too early.

The storage of trash receptacles are to be stored out of view from the street at your earliest opportunity or at least no later than 24 hours after the trash has been picked-up.

Our community should never see trash at the curb on Saturday, Sunday, or Wednesday, and not before 5:00 PM on Monday and Thursday unless it is bundled tree limbs only. Grass clippings bagged by you or your lawn service need to be stored out of sight until trash day.



## WHISKEY FOUR CUSTOM APPAREL

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## HOUSTON CALENDAR OF EVENTS AUGUST

### Tuesday, August 4

Miller Outdoor Theater: Twelfth Knight

### Wednesday, August 5

Toyota Center: Free Community Job Fair

### Thursday, August 6

Museum of Natural Science: Terra Cotta Warriors

### Friday August 7

Woodlands Pavilion: Crue Fest 2

### Saturday, August 8

Toyota Center: Green Day in Concert

### Sunday, August 9

Hobby Center: The Wiggles Go Bananas!

### Monday, August 10

Participating Houston Restaurants: Houston Restaurant Week

### Tuesday, August 11

Baker Street Pub and Grill: Extreme Karaoke

### Wednesday, August 12

House of Blues: Our Lady Peace

### Thursday, August 13

Rockfish Grill: Houston Single Source Party

### Friday, August 14

Toyota Center: Jonas Brothers

### Saturday, August 15

George R. Brown Convention Center: India Fest

### Sunday, August 16

Laff Spot: Bob Zany

### Monday, August 17

The Health Museum: Facing Mars

### Tuesday, August 18

Minute Maid Park: Houston Astros vs. Florida Marlins

### Wednesday, August 19

Woodlands Pavilion: Def Leppard

### Thursday, August 20

Hobby Center: The Color Purple

### Friday, August 21

Museum of Natural Science: Mixers and Elixirs

### Saturday, August 22

Woodlands Pavilion: Lil' Wayne in Concert

### Sunday, August 23

Convention Center: Annual Houston Home Show

### Monday, August 24

Miller Outdoor Theatre: Family Night at the Movies: Stuart Little



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