

Essential Events



Movie in the Park

Oct. 16

Colonial Park Pavilion

Perfect for the impending season, "Hotel Transylvania" screens at 7 p.m. for free on a giant inflatable screen in this city-sponsored series. Refreshments can be purchased.

Essentials tip: Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and experience the closest thing you'll find these days to an old-fashioned drive-in movie.

West U Elementary Halloween Dash and Kids Fun Run

Oct. 17 (registration closing Oct. 14)

Starting line: 6104 Auden St.



5K & Kids Fun Run
Saturday, October 17, 2015

The course for this annual fundraiser for the West U Elementary School PTO is flat, fast and relatively straight — only six turns, winding through the city's shady streets. The 5K course is US-ATF-certified with an 8 a.m. start. The one-mile kids' fun

run launches at 8:45 a.m., followed by a costume contest at 9:15 and an awards ceremony at 9:45. More info and registration link: www.westupto.org.

Essentials tip: Walk or bicycle — or at least carpool — to the starting line. Parking is impossible.

West U Festival of the Arts

Oct. 17 • Community Building

West University's talented seniors will display and sell a variety of arts and crafts at the free West U Festival of the Arts from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Oct. 17 in the Community Building at 6104 Auden St.

Among the items for sale will be watercolors and oil paintings, handcrafted silver jewelry, crocheted blankets, handmade stationery, postcards, ethnic cookbooks, and gourmet handmade chocolates. The artists represented include members of the Watercolor Art Society of Houston and jewelry makers whose work is sold at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston.

More information or booth rental for a \$10 fee: call 713-662-5896.

Essentials tip: Think holiday stocking stuffers.

Full Moon Fest

Oct. 23 • Colonial Park

It's the third year for this popular festival taking notice of fall and Halloween and sponsored by West U Parks and Recreation. The fun starts at 5:30 p.m. at Colonial Park, 4130 Byron St. Among the activities are pumpkin decorating, face painting, and costume contests separated by age group. Carnival style food will be sold. There will

be book readings by special guests, and around 7 p.m., Movies in the Park will screen Monsters University. More info: 713-662-7429.

Essentials tip: Make like the Munsters or Addamses and dress up as a family.

Little Free Library Unveiling

Oct. 23

Colonial Park

West University will become the first city to install a Little Free Library since the movement began in 2009, to be unveiled during the Full Moon Fest on Oct. 23 in Colonial Park. Designed to look like West University Elementary School (in honor of the school's 90th anniversary this year), the Colonial Park Little Free Library will be a free-standing structure where neighbors of all ages can "take a book, return a book" and help spread the love of reading. The project has been spearheaded by local author Chris Cander in partnership with the city's parks department.

"When I first presented the Parks and Recreation Department with the idea of a single library, their overwhelming enthusiasm resulted in a plan for a library in each of the city's six parks," Cander says. Each of the Little Free Libraries will be designed to look like West University landmarks.

The first library, which will be approximately 4' x 3', is being built by local builder Fortitude Studios and underwritten by Roger Martin Properties. Other Press and Bright Sky Press are donating books by their authors to establish the initial inventory. From there, residents are welcome to stop by the library and take a book, and encouraged to return it—as well as contribute others—when they're finished. Acting as library steward, Cander will periodically monitor the stock, but the inventory will be mostly self-sustaining through active community book sharing. The Parks and Recreation Department has committed to maintenance for this and future libraries. A custom bookplate stamp will be available to personalize the books that move through the library and remind readers that all Little Free Library books are "always a gift, never for sale."

Essentials tip: Start thinking now of what books you can contribute, and be surprised at what you'll take away.

Boo Bash Carnival

Oct. 24

West U Elementary

Get ready for some spooktacular fun at West U Elementary School's annual Boo Bash fall carnival, running along University Boulevard in front of the school from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Activities for all ages include games and prizes, arts and crafts, inflatables, a bazaar, and carnival style food with a "sweet shop." Families can pre-purchase food and game tickets and wristbands through the West U PTO website, www.westupto.org, and they will be sold at the event.

Essentials tip: You don't have to be a WUES family to take part in this annual community tradition and support the neighborhood school. Enjoy!

