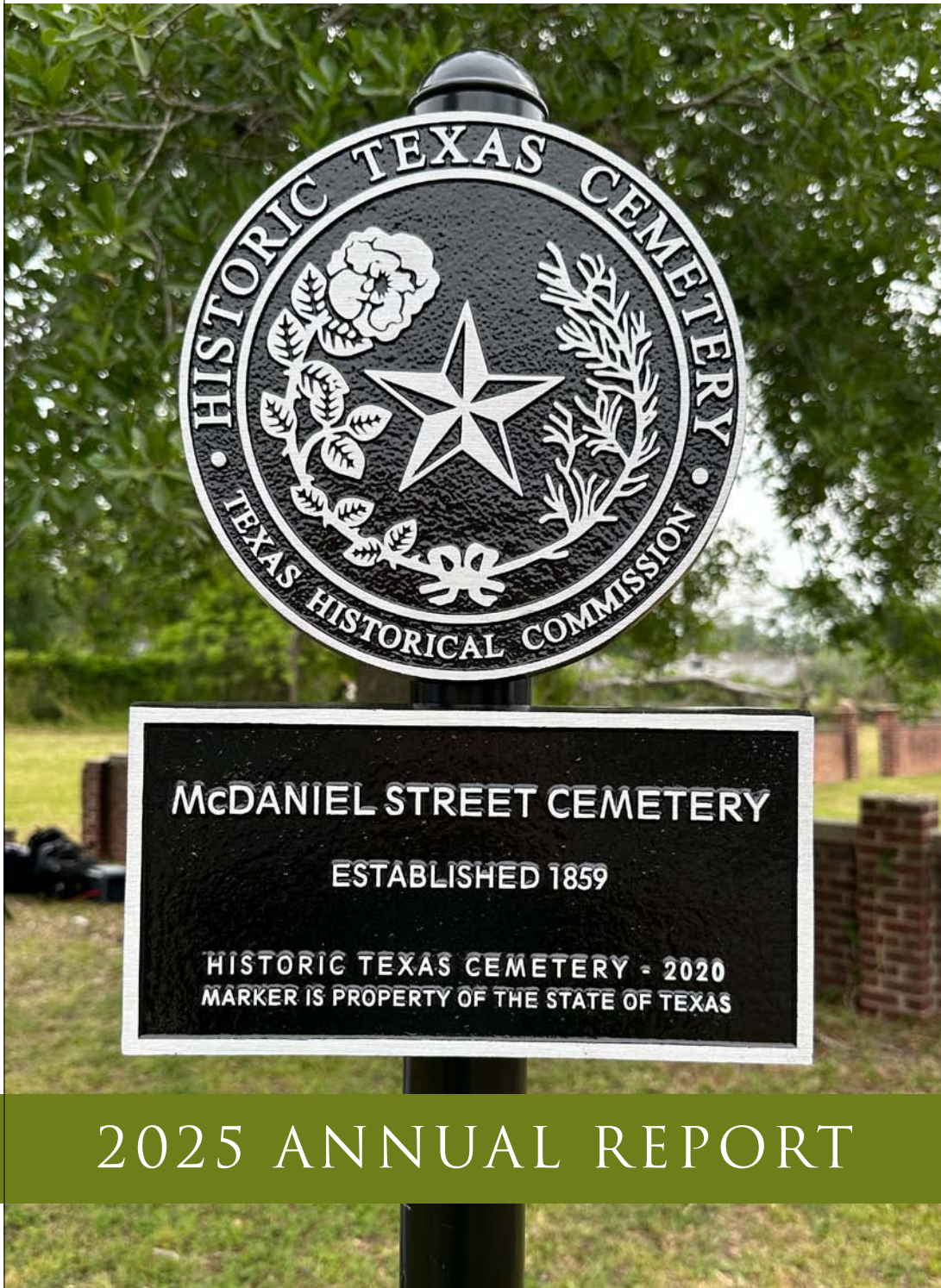


WESTCOTT,
CEMETERY ASSOCIATION



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

FROM THE *Board President*

DEAR FRIENDS AND FELLOW DESCENDANTS,

Our goal with this report is to highlight WCA’s dedication to preserving McDaniel Street Cemetery’s historic value in Houston’s northside community of Eastex-Jensen. In it we summarize our activities and financial performance throughout the year. All of this is made possible by you, our friends and fellow descendants.



The cemetery, a witness to the passage of time through development and changing demographics, is a testament to a shared history. It is not just a relic of the past, it is a bridge to a promising future and a reminder of the resilience and strength that shapes the community today. The board believes that it is all our responsibility to restore this historic community anchor for generations to come.

WCA operated with gifts from individuals, a corporate match, and a foundation award received at year-end to be used in 2026. Major expenses included routine grounds maintenance, a focus on removing the rest of the trees lost to the 2024 derecho windstorm and Hurricane Beryl, and administrative and fundraising costs. There were no vision plan activities in 2025. For the first time in our eight-year history, WCA took on debt for the tree removal. Dr. Lopez Tree Landscaping Services offered generous payment terms to remove the 10 remaining trees before the start of the 2025 Hurricane Season and trim all the trees still standing in the cemetery. The board did not want to deplete the reserves in case another emergency occurred. Tree work was completed in late May. We are pleased to report that we were able to repay the balance owed Dr. Lopez Tree before the end of the year. WCA is financially stable but needs growth to support future vision plan initiatives.

Looking ahead, 2026 will be a year of transition as I complete my third consecutive three-year term as WCA’s president per our by-laws. WCA remains committed to maintaining transparency and fostering community involvement in our endeavors and we have a descendant successor in line to steer the way forward.

We appreciate your dedication and generosity throughout 2025. Thanks to your ongoing support, WCA can continue progressing toward our vision of becoming the sustainable nonprofit historic cemetery association we imagined when we began in 2018.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Sara'.

Sara Westcott Haynes, *Founding President*

Winter 2025

In January, the Ferguson family, descendants of **John Farmer**, gathered in the cemetery for a picnic.

John Farmer was a Harris County Treasurer. His tenure covered several terms from 1894 through 1906. He resigned as County Commissioner, Precinct 2, (1890-1893) to take on the Treasurer role.

His second wife was Lucy McDonald (married in 1879) with whom he is interred in the cemetery, sharing the headstone pictured in the Farmer cemetery.



Spring 2025

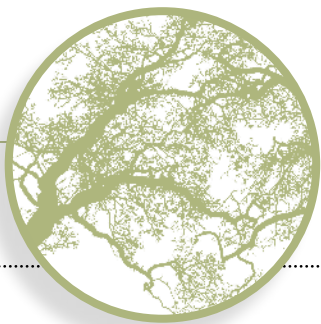
Annual Descendants Day

This year’s Descendants Day was another step in aligning WCA’s vision for the cemetery with the Eastex-Jensen community’s revitalization vision. It was a poignant reminder that we are witnesses to how the past influences the present and how it will shape the future.

Working with the Harris County Historical Commission and Greater Northside Chamber of Commerce, and planning committee members from Greater Northside Management District and Eastex-Jensen Super Neighborhood 46, the day was occasion to officially dedicate the Historic Texas Cemetery medallion and name plate, the next step, following WCA’s 2020 state designation, to help protect the cemetery.

Local, state, and federal officials or their representatives presented congratulatory documents to WCA. Volunteers Vann Vaughan and Quincy Harris installed the medallion and name plate during the week leading up to the Saturday event.

Descendants Day



Dr. Pamela Hernandez, president of Greater Northside Chamber of Commerce, addresses visitors.

State Representative Armando Walle has been supportive of the cemetery's efforts prior to WCA's founding, when Pastor David Smith of New Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church was leading the community's cemetery clean-ups.



Debra Blacklock-Sloan is the marker dedication chair with the Harris County Historical Commission.



Two of the original three WCA co-founders, siblings Gayle Roane and Perry Baraban.



Spring CONTINUED

Descendants Day



The Unveiling

Spring CONTINUED

Descendants Day



Houston Area Youth Council on Service volunteers supervised by WCA advisory council member Mister McKinney. Other youth volunteers were from the group Leading Ladies.

RP25 Real Places



The week following Descendants Day, Sara Haynes, and preservation consultant, Steph McDougal, traveled to Austin to co-present a 75-minute workshop entitled “Cemetery Associations: Turning Your Vision into Reality” at the **Texas Historical Commission’s** annual conference. WCA was one of three historic cemetery associations presenting, each with a different focus.



Tree Work

In May, prior to the 2025 Hurricane Season, Dr. Lopez Trees trimmed all the trees in the cemetery after removing the rest of those lost in 2024.



Spring CONTINUED

Also in May, Sara Haynes attended the **Public Safety Roundtable in Eastex-Jensen**, organized by District H Councilmember, Mario Castillo. Pictured with CM Castillo are Sara Haynes, Roni Cabrera and Norberto Moreno of HTX Art in the Heart. Panelists were Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, State Representative Armando Walle, CM Letitia Plummer, CM Sallie Alcorn, CM Julian Ramirez, representatives from Harris County Sherriff's Office and Houston Police Department, Pastor David Smith, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, Greater Northside Management District and the PTO President at Coop Elementary.



Summer 2025



EASTEX JENSEN Superneighborhood 46



Thursday, July 24th
6:00 pm - 7:15 pm
2828 McDaniel St
(Iglesia Vision Global)

*Do you live, work or worship
in Eastex Jensen?*

- Connect with neighbors
- Updates from elected officials
- Help revitalize our community
- Voice your concerns



WCA participated in these
Superneighborhood 46
monthly meetings
throughout the year.

In August Sara Haynes,
represented WCA at the
**University of Houston
Downtown's (UHD)**
Community Partner
Resource Fair to assess
student interest in work
study internships.



WCA's member Lloyd Prince participated in a planning meeting
in late August for Eastex-Jensen Community's vision to create a
5-10 year planto help shape the future of the community.

Northside Festivals



Start your day with a fun Bike Tour and end it with a Free Festival full of food, art and music

Bike Tour Start:
UHD Science & Technology Building (315 N Main St)
Registration 8:30am
Bike Ride starts 9am

Festival :
St. Arnold's Brewing Company (2000 Lyons Ave)
11am-5pm

Enjoy
Local art market
Food & Drink Vendors
Music and entertainment
Family-friendly activities

Free Shuttle Service available to return to parking if you choose not to ride back!

Greater Northside

Free Admission all ages



Board members
Loida Casares and Sara Haynes
attended the **Greater Northside
Management District's**
annual Northside Festival
at St. Arnold's Brewery
in October.



The annual Día de los Muertos event at
**Dignity Brookside Funeral Home and
Memorial Park** on November 1, 2025.





Fall CONTINUED

Great news as 2025 comes to a close!



UHD approved WCA's work study internship application for student placement sometime in 2026.

The final board meeting of the year was held at **Dignity Brookside Funeral Home**. Pictured left to right are Daniel Moreno, Gayle Roane, Loida Casares, Sara Haynes, Juliana Dearman, and Lloyd Prince.

Sara announced the **SCI Foundation** award, a generous grant to support WCA's partnership with **Dignity Brookside Funeral Home** and **Memorial Park** for 2026 Descendants Day to be held April 25, 2026.

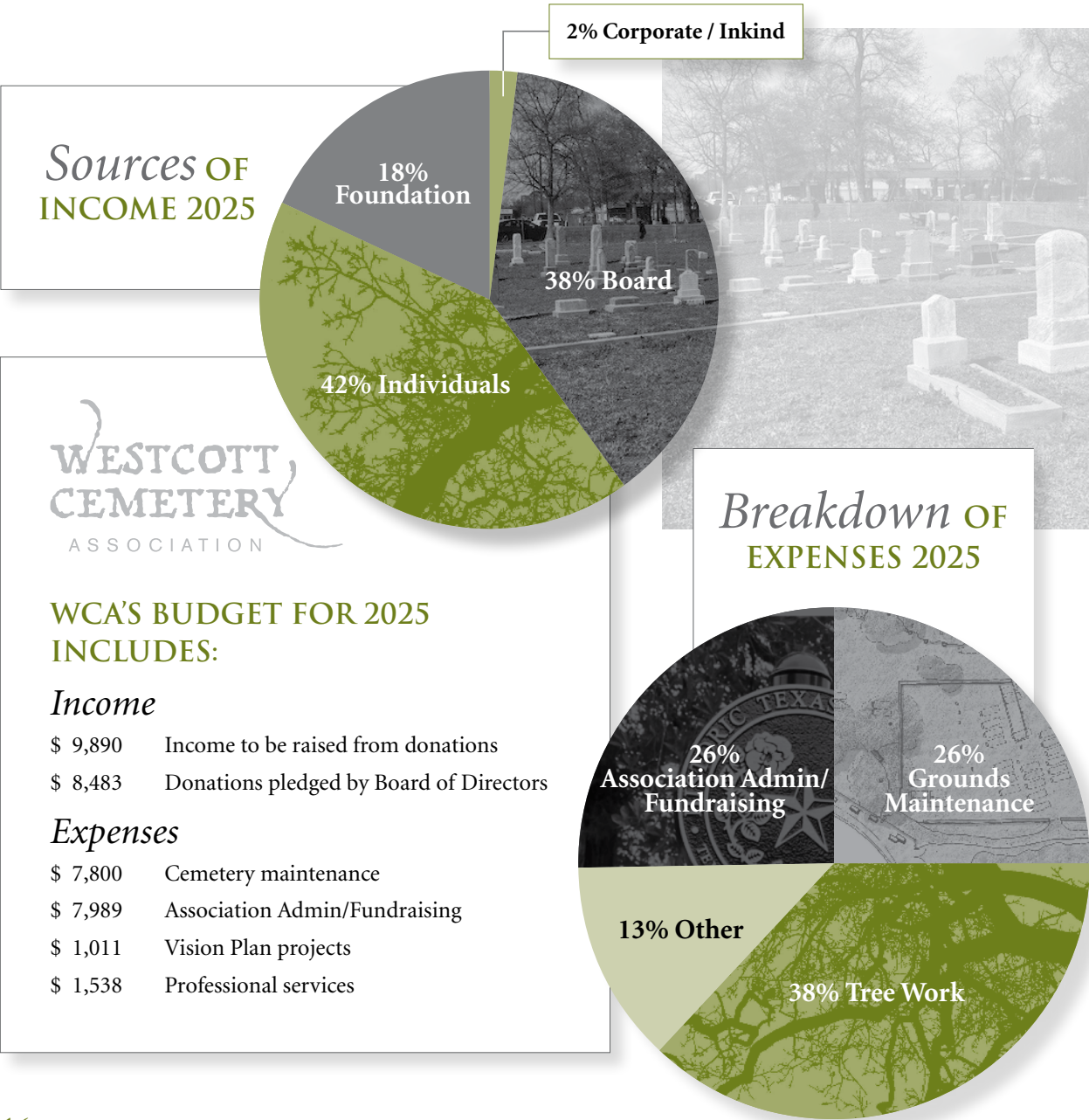


As the year ended, the board awarded **Dr. Lopez Tree Landscaping Services** the 2026 groundskeeping contract in appreciation for the generous payment terms and to begin the 2026 transition year. Quincy Harris, the longtime groundskeeper, has kindly offered to volunteer as needed. We appreciate Quincy's dedication to the cemetery, pictured here in December.

FINANCIAL *Summary*

WCA continues to maintain a positive bank account balance.

YEAR	INCOME	EXPENSES	NET INCOME	BALANCE
2025 Budget	\$20,879	\$29,532	\$(8,353)	\$2,368
2025 Actual	\$28,270	\$33,073	\$(4,599)	\$6,442
2026 Budget	\$18,613	\$18,697	\$113.49	\$6,358



2025 *Honor Roll*



WESTCOTT, CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Corporations

Hearst Corporation

Descendants

Jan Adams
Perry Baraban
Penny Dunn
Laura and Todd Figura
Sara W. Haynes
Daniel Moreno
Gayle H. Roane
Laura Westcott

Foundations

SCI Foundation

Individuals

Anonymous
Gina Biondo
Jane Borochoff
Suzanne and Dubb Brooks
Loida Casares
Joe Cooper
Katherine Feser

Catherine and Keith Frazier
Marcia Gatlin
Tom Gegeny
Amy and Hart Goodrich
Leslie Holland
Raymond Holland
Bob Ittner
Betty Key
Marian Luntz
Judy and Jeff Lyman
Steph McDougal
Lona Leigh McManus
Margaret O'Donnell and Rick Herrman
Leigh Sinclair
Perla and Justin Steen
Cindi Tharpe
Anibeth Turcios
Susan Williford
Nina Zilkha

In-Kind

Anonymous
Quincy Harris
Iglesia Vision Global

OFFICERS



Sara W. Haynes is WCA's founding board president and is currently serving her third and final three-year term in this role. Her connection to the cemetery is through her maternal grandfather's Westcott mother and grandparents. Sara formed WCA as a nonprofit in 2018 with her two surviving siblings. She graduated with a B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin, completed the Nonprofit Executive Certificate program at University of Houston, and is a graduate of Leadership Houston's XXV Class. She has more than 30 years of volunteer and professional experience in the nonprofit sector in Houston, particularly with start-up organizations. Sara's final year leading WCA concludes on 12.31.26.

Loida Casares has served as WCA's secretary since 2019 and was re-elected for a final three-year term in December 2024. She spent her formative years living next door to her father's barbershop on Jensen Drive near Bennington in the early 1970s. After her family moved to the Bonita Gardens neighborhood, Loida's interest in the cemetery grew. She is an active volunteer with several nonprofits and is passionate about restoring the cemetery. Loida is the strategic account manager at the Houston Chronicle, a Hearst newspaper. 2026 is Loida's final year on the board per the by-laws.



Daniel Moreno was elected to a three-year term on the board in December 2024. A fifth-generation Houstonian, Daniel was raised in a small neighborhood near the Tidwell and Airline area. He holds a degree from the University of Houston's Conrad N. Hilton Hospitality Program. His career includes leadership roles at River Oaks Country Club, Texas Corinthian Yacht Club, and The Petroleum Club of Houston, all of which are governed by boards of directors. He is currently the General Manager and Chief Operating Officer at The Briar Club in Houston. When Daniel was growing up, his maternal great-grandmother, Mary Gertrude Abbott, would often take him to the cemetery to visit the grave of her father, Charles Abbott. Many other relatives are also buried there. Daniel is the designated successor to lead WCA.

DIRECTORS



Penny Dunn grew up in the Crosstimbers neighborhood, where her family lived for generations. She has many relatives buried in the cemetery. As a young person, she attended the graveside services of her great-great grandmother Montgomery. Penny taught at Sam Houston High School while raising eleven children. She volunteered with Historic Hollywood Cemetery for many years. Over the years as she visited our cemetery, she witnessed its beauty decline. Penny joined the WCA board in 2022 and was re-elected for another three-year term beginning in 2025.



Lloyd Prince was born and raised in the Eastex-Jensen neighborhood, not too far from the cemetery, and graduated from Sam Houston High School. As a young man, he worked offshore in the oil and gas industry. Twenty-five years ago, his family built the Prince Boxing Complex on Jensen Drive. Lloyd is an amateur genealogist who has researched his family history and the Westcott family history. He periodically volunteers with Oak Park Cemetery.

2025 Advisory Council

- Juliana Dearman
- Mister McKinney
- Peter Patout
- Gayle Roane
- Nina Zilkha

Representatives of the following community organizations also serve on the Advisory Council:
Greater Northside Management District
Houston Northeast Community Development Corporation
Super Neighborhood 46

**Historic McDaniel Street Cemetery in Eastex-Jensen
is located at the curve of McDaniel Street and Schuller Road.**



**WESTCOTT
CEMETERY**
ASSOCIATION

713.906.7784

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www.westcottcemeteryassociation.org