

September  
2022

RUNWAY 15

Save An  
Airport  
Quiet Flying  
is good business



WEST HOUSTON AIRPORT



Scott Cavalcante  
Editor

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Publisher



## Flight Patterns at West Houston Airport

There has been two prominent recent mid-air collisions in traffic patterns. One was at the North Las Vegas Airport and the other was at Watsonville Airport in California. I am familiar with both airports as I have flown in and out of each one. The North Las Vegas Airport is a towered airport. The controllers there are very careful to require perfect read backs of clearances and instructions.

In the North Las Vegas crash, a Piper Malibu Jet Prop ran into a Cessna doing touch and go's on an adjacent parallel runway. The controller made all the right calls by continuing to tell the Piper that he was landing on runway 30L. The read back by the Piper pilots (two pros on board) was always correct, but despite this, the Piper pilot lined up with runway 30R. As this occurred the Cessna was making its base leg into 30R for which he was cleared to land, when the Piper collided with the Cessna, killing all four occupants of both aircraft. This was a tragedy that should not have happened, but why did it? What was it that caused the Piper to line up with the wrong runway in daylight VFR weather conditions? Also, did the Piper have ADSB In? What happened to the information supposedly displayed on the GPS? Did the Piper get an alert? Maybe he only had out? Did the Piper review the approach chart and airport diagram before getting to the airport? Had he reviewed the chart, certainly he would have lined up with the correct runway. And why didn't his copilot speak up? All these are questions that we have no answers for.

The other crash occurred at a non-towered airport, Watsonville, California. A Cessna 340 going 180 kts. (including headwind), and bound and determined to make a straight in landing, called out his intentions over and over while a Cessna 150 was performing touch and go's in the left hand traffic pattern. Both planes made announcements and the Cessna 150 saw the Cessna 340 close to the last moment as he announced his go around. The Cessna 340 then plowed into the Cessna 150 from the rear at a higher speed than his landing gear extension speed! Why did this happen. One thing is for certain in this scenario is that the Cessna 340 pilot was going to make a straight in to the airport's active runway, no matter what. Did the 340 have ADSB in? Did he get an alert? We don't know this now, but maybe will have some answers next year.

At West Houston, we discourage straight in landings. We encourage working into the pattern and giving way to others already established in the pattern. I am also a believer in communication and having traffic verified both visually and on the GPS or other equipment available to you.

As this is written, the Airport intends to more often, remind pilots performing straight in's that they MUST give way to other aircraft in the pattern at IWS. Many times, when there is little or no traffic, particularly at night, a straight in can be safely accomplished. This also means communications and planning so that no other plane has to give way to such pilots that are intent on flying straight in.

Use of West Houston Airport means compliance with its rules and FAR's which state that pilots should follow the flow of traffic and that both straight in's and right patterns at airports with left hand patterns is not appropriate.

When making a straight in to West Houston, use the phrase "Straight in as traffic permits", or "Straight in but giving way to others in the pattern". Always be ready to abandon the straight in for a go around and entry into the pattern as depicted in the airport's approved "best practices" traffic pattern procedures.

Fly Safe and CAVU to you!

Woody Lesikar  
Airport Manager  
West Houston Airport

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West Houston Airport Frequencies: AWOS: 125.575, (281) 579-9820 Local Frequencies: Clnc 121.150 (281) 443-5844 ApcH 123.80  
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## "As The Beacon Turns" CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AeroVillas lots 8-12

• Financing Available



For More Information contact Woody Lesikar at

281-492-2130 [Woody@westhoustonairport.com](mailto:Woody@westhoustonairport.com)

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WEST  
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## FAA Safety Meeting Tuesday, September 27!! 7:00pm

### PRIVATE PILOT GROUND SCHOOL

#### CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION

Register by Sunday @ 7PM by calling us at 281-492-2130

Contact Brandon Carr, [aviation@carrfam.us](mailto:aviation@carrfam.us), once registered

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### 99's MEETING

Contact 99's for meeting information.

website [www.ninety-nines.org](http://www.ninety-nines.org). Carol Brackley—[carolav8@att.net](mailto:carolav8@att.net)

### CHECK FOR OPERATIONAL HOURS:

### COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE (CAF)

Museum open first and third Saturday of the month 10am-3pm. Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Contact email for tours and flight information at [rides@houstonwing.org](mailto:rides@houstonwing.org) or the hangar at 281-579-2131, [info@houstonwing.org](mailto:info@houstonwing.org). Volunteers and donations welcome.

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### Fuel Price Comparison for August

JET A	High	Low	Avg	AVGAS (100LL)	High	Low	Avg
Southwest Region	10.66	3.70	6.48	Southwest Region	9.90	4.60	6.99
West Houston Airport	6.25*	5.86*	6.06*	West Houston Airport	7.12*	6.61*	6.86*

\*With Volume/Weekend discount

Published on AirNav.com

## Employment Positions Available

West Houston Airport is currently hiring for the following positions. Part time or full time AVAILABLE. Excellent pay and amazing work environment. Interested candidates should inquire directly with the airport at (281) 492-2130

### Line Technician, Customer Service Representative

AIRPLANES:

*(Inventory changes quickly, contact us to verify availability!!)*

**2003 CESSNA 172S – Leaseback Available**  
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Call Woody Lesikar  
(832) 492-2130  
woody@westhoustonairport.com



# CONGRATULATIONS!! WEST HOUSTON AIRPORT STUDENTS!!!



IWS Based New Pilot: Jarrod Birdwell



IWS Based New Pilot: Kevin Green

  
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Brent Franks  
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E: sales@saviationgroup.com

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## CHARTER SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE FROM WEST HOUSTON AIRPORT!!!!

The Airport Terminal has a Bulletin Board for Patrons to post their flight gear for sale—including headsets, portable GPS's, tow bars, etc. Feel free to utilize it!



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**Business / residential LOTS for SALE**  
  
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**281-492-2130**  
  
[woody@westhoustonairport.com](mailto:woody@westhoustonairport.com)



**West Houston Airport is seeking a qualified entity to operate a full service piston and turbine maintenance shop at IWS effective on January 1, 2023. Large hangar for operations. Must be customer oriented and able to handle Cubs to Citations.**  
  
**For More information, please contact Woody Lesikar at (281) 492-2130**

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All comments, complaints, and suggestions are welcome  
please send to: Woody Lesikar, Airport Manager,  
281-492-2130, woody@westhoustonairport.com  
www.westhoustonairport.com

## WEST HOUSTON AIRPORT TEAM

### Aviation Businesses:

<b>West Houston Airport (Since 1962)</b>	<b>Flight School, Pilot Supplies</b>	<b>Terminal Building</b>	<b>281-492-2130</b>	<b>www.westhoustonairport.com</b>
General Avionics (Since 1995)	Avionics Sales and Service	Hangar #1 White East	281-647-9600	www.generalavionics.com
Sky Aircraft Interiors	Aircraft Upholstery	Hangar #1 White West	281-682-4454	jenni@skyaircraftinteriors.com
Dr. Victor Arellano (Pilot) FAA Medicals (by appt. only)	15410 Ridge Park Dr., Houston, Tx 77095	281-855-2244(o)	281-460-2247(m)	www.tmauc.com
Dr. Fakhri Kalolwala MD (Pilot) FAA Medicals (by appt. only)	16125 Cairway Dr, Houston, TX 77084	832-786-8195		www.aqeeqinternalmed.com
Fast Freddy Mobile Detail	Aircraft Detailing	T-Hangar F2	281-330-9813	www.fastfreddymobiledetail.com
VT Aviation Academy of America (AAA)	Flight School	Hangar #2 East side	281 562-7195	www.vt-aaa.com
National Helicopter Solutions	Helicopter tours and charter	Hangar F13	281-795-9995	www.fly-nhs.com
Texas Biplane	Biplane Tours	Hangar G8	281-698-7524	www.texasbiplane.com

**AIRPORT CONTACTS:** P.O. Box 941789, Houston, TX 77094-8789, 18000 Groschke Rd., Houston, Texas 77084

Phone: 281-492-2130, Fax: 281-492-7028 email: info@westhoustonairport.com

SHELLY LESIKAR de ZEVALLOS, President, shelly@westhoustonairport.com

WOODY LESIKAR, Executive Vice President, Director of Aviation, Airport Manager woody@westhoustonairport.com

RICH WHITNEY, Compliance and Safety Officer, 7:30 am to 5:30 pm Mon thru Fri; rich@westhoustonairport.com \*x22

RENEE STRIPLING, CFO renee@westhoustonairport.com \*14

DON EUTON, AOPA Airport Representative, 281-391-7310,

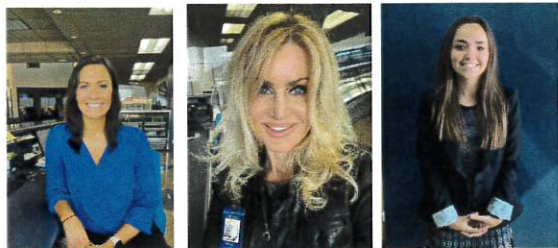
doehe@consolidated.net

- volunteer

Bill Heiam, President, West Houston Airport

Subdivision Owners Association, Inc.,

\* Denotes years of service



TAYLOR BRADBURY, Customer Service Representative\*\*  
KRISTY NOSKRENT, Senior Customer Service Representative\*  
GEORGIA WOOLSEY, Customer Service Representative



SCOTT CAVALCANTE, Certified Flight Instructor\*  
REESE WALKER, Certified Flight Instructor\*  
TAREK SHARIF, Certified Flight Instructor



CURTIS HATHAWAY,  
Chief Mechanic



**1st Shift**  
SEAN FRITSCHÉ, First Shift Supervisor\*8  
NOAH DEATON, Line Crew Technician  
AARON BOTHELO, Line Crew Technician  
JOEL RIOS, Line Crew Technician  
ROLAND GONZALEZ, Line Crew Technician



**Night Crew**  
ERIK DITTMAR, Line Supervisor,\*10  
DYLAN BAYLESS, Night Line Technician\*  
SAM TURK, Security \*21  
PHILLIP KMIEC, Chief Mechanic\*10



**2nd Shift**  
GRANT ORR, Weekend Supervisor\*\*\*  
LOGAN McMILLAN, Second Shift Supervisor  
JOSE VILLATORO, Line Crew Technician\*6  
ABRAHAMA CORTEZ, Line Crew Technician  
MATT KIDD, Line Crew Technician  
DOUGLAS PINO, Line Crew Technician  
JOSE MARTINEZ, Line Crew Technician