



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 57, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2011

- White Elephant Sale: Saturday, April 16
- Want to know more about Westbury's parks? Check out our new monthly park feature!
- Hot Topic— Metro Rail 90A Expansion
- March's heavy trash is TREE WASTE ONLY

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Dues Form	3
Trash Facts	4
Security	7
Park Feature	9
Platou News	11
Neighborhood News	13
White Elephant Sale	15

## A New Look for Westbury...

Thanks to a **Neighborhood Matching Grant** from the City of Houston, Westbury's stone marker signs were cleaned and the gardens reshaped and replanted to look nice for you, our residents. All six Westbury subdivision marker signs are now surrounded by new and improved garden beds. The designer, **Bright Landscaping**, worked with the healthy plants we have such as the wonderful knockout roses, hawthorns, and yaupon. They

added drought tolerant plants such as some crape myrtles, cactus, roses and soft yucca.

All the sign gardens are a bit different, but all clearly show

the **WESTBURY** name, the oak tree logo and the words **"a deed restricted community."** Rocks were placed in front of the signs to improve visibility. As spring approaches, the new look should get even better.



Watch for more improvements as the Greenspace team works to

**Keep Westbury Beautiful!**

## WOW...Westbury on the Web!

Have you ever recycled your **Crier** then remembered there was something important in there that you needed to know? Look no further, the **Crier** is now available online.

Have you ever forgotten when Heavy Trash is picked up or wondered who won Yard of the Month? Do you wonder who is on the Westbury Civic Club board of directors? Looking for a calendar of events, volunteer opportunities, deed restrictions, a vacation watch form or local greenspaces?

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It's all online at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)

## Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors 2011

President	Becky Edmondson	wccpresident@westburycrier.com
Vice President	Marcia Hartman	wccvp@westburycrier.com
Secretary	Phyllis Frye	wccsecretary@westburycrier.com
Treasurer	Pamela Schertz	wcctreasurer@westburycrier.com

## Directors at Large 2011

Communications	Melissa Denney	wcccommunications@westburycrier.com
Community Relations	Cindy Chapman	wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com
Deed Restrictions	Liz Klingensmith	wccdeedrestrictions@westburycrier.com
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Ken Downey	wccflood@westburycrier.com
Greenspace Beautification	Hazel Potvin	wccmaintenance@westburycrier.com
Membership	Janie Schexnayder	wccmembership@westburycrier.com
Security	Morgan Gaskin	wccsecurity@westburycrier.com
Volunteer Coordinator	VACANT	wccvolunteers@westburycrier.com

## Section Directors 2011

Westbury 1	Sylvia Rendon	Westbury1@westburycrier.com
Westbury 2	Shawn Thomas	Westbury2@westburycrier.com
Westbury 3E	Don Bryan	Westbury3E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 3W	Carlos Mata	Westbury3W@westburycrier.com
Westbury 4E	John Cashin	Westbury4E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 4W	VACANT	Westbury4W@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5E	Virginia Livingston	Westbury5E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5W	Sara Roberts	Westbury5W@westburycrier.com
Westbury South	Robert Capps	Westburysouth@westburycrier.com
Parkwest 1	William Grimsinger	Parkwest1@westburycrier.com
Parkwest 2	David Ebro	Parkwest2@westburycrier.com
Parkwest 3	Dorothy Rhoades	Parkwest3@westburycrier.com

## Westbury Civic Club Office

Office Hours: Monday—Friday 9:30AM to 1:30PM\*  
 Address: 5322 W Bellfort Ste 107 Houston, TX 77035  
 Phone: 713-723-5437  
 Email: Westburycc@sbcglobal.net  
 \*The office is closed on all major holidays and weekends

## USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

**Westbury Area Patrol Constable Dispatch**  
**281-463-6666**

Power Outages (Centerpoint)  
 713-207-2222

Westbury HPD Storefront  
 713-726-7126

Platou Community Center  
 713-726-7107

Poison Control  
 1-800-764-7661

Street Light Repairs (Give pole number)  
 713-207-2222

Councilmember Anne Clutterbuck  
 832-393-3004

County Commissioner El Franco Lee  
 713-755-6111

## City of Houston 311 Hotline

**(for all Non-Emergency Issues)**

Forestry Department  
 Graffiti  
 Hazardous Waste Disposal  
 Heavy Trash  
 Neighborhood Protection  
 Parking Management  
 Recycling  
 School Crossing Light Repairs  
 Water and Sewer Repair

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# President's Message

It has been an eventful first few months of the year. Jennifer Edmondson is our current Office Manager as we are performing a 90 to 120 day study of our office systems and procedures. I am looking forward to applying my 30 years of experience running a successful business to the civic club office.

Automation, coupled with the personal service you have come to expect, will serve the civic club members well as we begin our second 50 years. Our new management information system has been launched and will enable us to be more efficient in handling your questions and complaints once it is fully implemented. Our new website, [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com), has been launched and should put the information you need at your fingertips. We are also on Facebook and Twitter.

As we look to the future, it is also a time to look to the past. Although in existence since 1956, the WCC was incorporated in 1961. This is our 50th anniversary. While reorganizing the office last month, we discovered binders that hold every *Crier* issued since its initial publication in July 1956. Can you imagine the wealth of history

contained in these monthly newsletters spanning 55 years? Reading through them has been an eye opening experience. I am in awe of all those volunteers who gave their time and talent to make Westbury the neighborhood that it is today.

If you have an original owner still living on your block, thank them for the street lights on your street. Did you know it took years, but residents donated money block by block to pay the city to install the lights? Did you know that every sign, tree, plant or flower on the esplanades have been brought to you through the efforts of the WCC? Did you know that the WCC has lobbied for every City amenity in Westbury: i.e. parks, library, swimming pool, community center, roads, traffic lights, stop signs, etc. and lobbied against things we did not want: i.e. Non-desirable commercial property, train horns, illegal dumping, group home violations, and cell phone towers?

In honor of our 50th anniversary we will begin to feature a "This month in Westbury history" column. Meanwhile, your civic club will continue to watch over, watch out and work for Westbury.

-Becky Edmondson

## Board Notes

- Ken Downey attended the Metro meeting and discussed the Metro Rail 90A Expansion Plan
- Melissa Denney announced that Westbury is now connected with the launch of the website; Facebook page and Twitter account.
- Discussed CIP (Capital Improvement Projects) meeting agenda
- Enjoyed refreshments compliments of Jackie Murray & Weichert Realty

Join us for the WCC board meeting on Wednesday, March 16 @ 7PM at Westbury Baptist Church

## Thank You Westbury!

We greatly appreciate the residents who used the past *CRIER* issues to submit their 2011 dues. Here's another chance to submit your dues and help continue to make Westbury a great place to live.

### Westbury Civic Club Dues Form

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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Westbury Civic Club Membership	\$36	\$
Greenspace Beautification	\$25	\$
Westbury Area Patrol	\$234	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$295</b>	\$
<b>Additional Contributions:</b>		
Westbury Civic Club		\$
Greenspace Beautification		\$
Westbury Area Patrol		\$
Westbury HPD Storefront		\$
<b>Total</b>		\$

# What's Happening in Westbury

## March 2011 Events & Meetings Calendar

7	<b>Westbury Community Garden Monthly Meeting 6:15-7:45PM</b> Platou Center—11655 Chimney Rock Visitors welcome!
8	<b>Willow Waterhole Walk 11AM</b> Meet on Ricecrest between Gasmer and S. Willow For more information, see pg. 9
8	<b>Westbury Garden Club Meeting 7PM</b> 5719 Hummingbird For more information, call Hazel 713-729-4568
11	<b>Comment Deadline for MetroRail 90A Expansion</b> Mail comments to: Edmund Petry METRO PO Box 61429 Houston, TX 77208-1429
16	<b>WCC Board Meeting 7-9PM</b> Westbury Baptist Church 10425 Hillcroft ***PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A CHANGE OF LOCATION ***
19	<b>Willow Waterhole Monthly Audubon Society Bird Survey 8AM</b> Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot at 5310 S. Willow
21	<b>Booths for White Elephant Sale go on Sale 9:30AM-1:30PM</b> WCC Office— 5322 W. Bellfort Ste 107 For more information, see pg. 15
21	<b>Braes Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM</b> The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow Speaker: Anne Clutterbuck
28	<b>SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM</b> Aramco Building—9009 W. Loop South
31	<b>Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy Annual Meeting</b> Westbury High School—11911 Chimney Rock 7PM For more information, go to <a href="http://www.wwgc.org">www.wwgc.org</a>

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 16**  
It's almost time for the White Elephant Sale! Rain date is April 30  
Please see pg. 15 for more details

### STAY CURRENT AND INFORMED

The online calendar is current with up to the minute changes and additions at [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com) Don't want to visit the site all the time to get the latest announcements and volunteer opportunities? You can sign up for email updates.

You can also find us on [facebook.com/wesburycivicclub](http://facebook.com/wesburycivicclub) or follow us on Twitter @westburyhouston ([twitter.com/westburyhouston](http://twitter.com/westburyhouston))

## March 2011 Heavy Trash & Recycling Calendar

10	Curbside Recycling - All of Westbury
15	Heavy Trash—TREE WASTE ONLY (South of W. Bellfort)
16	Heavy Trash—TREE WASTE ONLY (North of W. Bellfort)
24	Curbside Recycling - All of Westbury
April	JUNK WASTE heavy trash

\*\*\*Please note: YARD WASTE is not considered tree waste and will not be collected by the city with heavy trash. It is collected on Westbury's regular Thursday trash day as long as it is in the correct recyclable bags

### IMPORTANT TRASH & RECYCLING INFORMATION

- ⇒ Trash needs to be out on the curb by 7AM Thursday
- ⇒ Trash cans must be removed from curb by 10PM and stored out of sight
- ⇒ No heavy trash out before 6PM of the Friday before
- ⇒ Remember we have 2 Trash Depositories & Recycling Centers nearby: **10785 Southwest Freeway**  
**11500 South Post Oak**
- ⇒ Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- ⇒ Refer to [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com) for more information

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# New Faces in the Westbury Civic Club



**Marcia Hartman** is the new Vice President. Marcia moved to Westbury from Friendswood in 1998 with her husband, Jim Smith, because they were attracted to the convenience of living in the inner city after years in the suburbs. In 2001, they merged their Bellaire-based insurance agency with well known Westbury agency, Bryan Calvin, and truly became "part of the neighborhood". Marcia has an MBA and has had years of experience working in accounting and insurance in and around the Houston area. She is active in the Westbury Community Garden and Westbury Garden Club and also volunteers her time at a downtown church.

**Melissa Denney** is the new Director of Communications. Melissa grew up in Crosby, a small town on the northeast outskirts of Houston. In 2003, after attending college at University of Oklahoma and a few years of living in Colorado, she and her husband purchased their Westbury home from her mother-in-law. Melissa's husband spent his teenage years here and is a graduate of Westbury High School. She works at a petroleum company as an IT project manager specializing in geographic information systems (GIS). In her spare time she gardens and participates in cycling events, running events, and sprint triathlons. She has also been a docent at several of the *Backyards of Westbury garden tours*.



**Jennifer Edmondson** is the new Office Manager. She is completing a full system and procedure review of the office and working to automate the office. Jennifer is a graduate of Texas Christian University. After years of working in retail management, she moved to the corporate world for 3 years as an office manager. She has been a stay at home mom to her son, Connor, for the past 2 years. Born and raised here in Westbury, Jennifer is excited to be working for her neighborhood.



*Who's missing from this page? You! If you live in Westbury, contact the office if you are interested in volunteering or serving on the board.*

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**5422 Willowbend / Westbury**  
3/2/2 - Renovated & transformed w latest trends! Hardwoods, granite, new gas range, & recent windows!



**8106 Braesview/Braeburn Valley**  
4/2.5/2 - Sensational updates adorn this home! Stone tile floors, beamed ceiling, corner fireplace, & alley access!



**10814 Ashcroft / Parkwest**  
3/2/2 - Attractive traditional w hardwoods\*<sup>per seller</sup>, stone fireplace, & lrg yard! Kitchen w wood cabinetry!



**5910 Reamer / Robindell**  
3/2/2 - Updated with designer style! Wood floors thruout bedroom wing. Remodeled master & hall bath. Patio!



**8403 Braes River/Sharpstown**  
3/2/2 - New carpet & updt'd light fix- tures thruout. Newly installed smooth surface cooktop. Wood cabinetry.



**5734 Cartagena / Westbury**  
3/2/2 - Renovated! Natural stone flooring, granite, ss appl. package with gas cooktop! Built-ins & French doors!

## Westbury Residents have Questions...

### What can be done about unwanted flyers left on front porches ?

There is no law prohibiting the placement of these unwanted flyers. Our suggestion is to ask the companies that are paying for the distribution of the fliers to instead advertise in the *Crier*. You can contact the companies personally and refer them to the WCC office or you can collect their flyers and drop them off at the civic club office for us to make the calls. The office does not have to be open; flyers can be placed in the mail slot anytime. Be sure to put your address on the flyer so we know which section is getting the bulk of the junk.

### Why don't people throw away the free newspapers that are thrown unsolicited onto their yards?

This situation is an unfortunate aspect of human nature. Please pick up these newspapers (they provide a lot of information about local happenings) and put them in your recycling bin. Not only does leaving them as litter contribute to the trashy look of the neighborhood, they can be a signal to thieves that no one is around. Furthermore, it is a violation of city ordinances to leave visible trash in the yard. Our major streets of Willowbend and West Bellfort seem to be particularly hard hit and can give the whole neighborhood a "trashy" feel.

## KEEP WESTBURY BEAUTIFUL

BY PICKING UP THE TRASH IN AND  
AROUND YOUR YARD

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# Security / Crime

## A Message from your Security Director : Crime Alerts

As Director of Security, I receive crime alerts directly from a representative of the Precinct 5 Constable office. These are frequent updates that make us aware of any criminal activity that places the community at risk, usually within 24 hours of the incident. We can then pass that information along to Westbury residents via the **Crier**, email, or at civic club meetings.

However, we need your help. It is important that you report all incidents to the Constable's office or to the Houston Police Department. Unreported incidents do not generate crime alerts. It is important to report crimes so that crime trend data can be used to request additional security resources for our area. If you notice something in your area that you feel needs to be reported, please call the proper authorities. One of the benefits of contracting with the Constable's office for security is that we have specific deputies assigned to our Westbury community. If you have not paid your dues yet, please send them in. With enough participation we will be able to add more deputies.

If you have specific security issues or questions, please email me at [wccsecurity@westburycrier.com](mailto:wccsecurity@westburycrier.com) or contact the Westbury Civic Club office.

-Morgan Gaskin, Security Director

### Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37 30 days preceding February 21, 2011



	Single-Family	Apartment/	Commercial	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	5	3	0	0	8
Theft	15	6	1	0	22
Auto Theft	2	2	1	0	5
Robbery	1	2	2	0	5
Assault	3	1	0	0	4
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	26	14	4	0	44

\*Area bounded by: S. Post Oak, US 90/S. Main, utility easement north of Willowbend and drainage bayou west of Braewick

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# The Gardening Center

## How to Grow Fruits and Veggies in your Yard

Spring is in the air, which means planting time for both fruit trees and the spring vegetable garden.

**Fruit trees:** Late March is the best time to get your potted fruit trees into the ground. Find a sunny, well-drained spot, with enough room to spread as it grows, and plant as a nice feature in your landscape. A raised bed or mound is ideal since fruit trees do not like wet feet. The easiest fruit trees to grow in our climate are figs, persimmons, pomegranates, kumquats and satsumas. You can get them at local nurseries in the Heights which carry the right varieties on the right rootstocks.

**Vegetables:** Did you know that some vegetables and herbs fit nicely into existing raised bed landscapes? Basils, mints, garlic chives, leeks, oregano, rosemary, thyme and even squash plants can be beautiful in a front yard mixed in with shrubs and flowering plants. March is the time to plant green beans, sweet and chile pepper plants, tomato plants, cucumbers, squash, and all the herbs mentioned above. It is also time for a few vegetables that take a little more space such as corn, cantaloupe and watermelon. Seeds and plants can be purchased at local nurseries and feed stores or ordered from Johnny's Selected Seeds or Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds.

To get some experience and knowledge, come to the Westbury Community Garden to talk and meet our gardeners. Take some courses at Urban Harvest. Sign up for the 'Hands-on Planting' ([www.urbanharvest.org](http://www.urbanharvest.org)) class that Urban Harvest will teach at the Westbury Community Garden in March.

-Ray Sher



Vegetables grown at the Westbury Community Garden by Wayne Slaikeu Fall 2010

### Community Garden

**Monthly Meeting- March 7**  
6:15-7:45PM @ The Platou Center  
Monthly meeting to discuss plans for the garden.

**Upcoming Work Days:**  
**Saturday, March 12 @ 9AM**  
**Sunday, March 27 @ 1PM**

Visitors welcome.

### Garden Club

**Wish you knew more about gardening and what to plant this spring?**  
The Westbury Garden Club will meet on Tuesday, March 8, 7-9 PM. We will talk about our favorite annuals and perennials and make plans for the gardens at W. Belfort and Chimney Rock. Meeting at home of Hazel Potvin, 5719 Hummingbird.

### Great Backyards of Westbury

As you are working in your backyard, cleaning it up and planting delightful things from the nursery, think about entering your garden in the upcoming **Great Backyards of Westbury Garden Tour** on Saturday, May 11 from 1 to 5PM. We have three gardens to show so far and need two more. Gardeners love to visit beautiful gardens again and again. We are not looking for the perfect garden. We are looking for interesting gardens that reflect the interest of the garden owner. Don't be shy. Call Hazel Potvin at 713-729-4568.

### Yard of Month

**READY, SET, MOW!**  
**Judging begins in May**

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# Willow Waterhole Greenspace

## Where and What in the World is the Willow Waterhole?

Spring has finally arrived and it is time to get outside. Over the next few months, we will feature a different Westbury park in each **Crier**.

Located just south of the Willow Waterhole Bayou from which it takes its name, the Willow Waterhole Greenspace is a 280 acre flood detention project of Harris County Flood Control with a park overlay managed by Houston Parks and Recreation. Scheduled to be completed in 2017, there is plenty of greenspace and nature to enjoy now. It is easily accessed by turning east onto Gasmer in front of Westbury High School. Turn from Gasmer onto Ricecrest or S. Clematis and park along the street. There are concrete and grassy trails plus big open grassy areas perfect for throwing a ball or Frisbee and slopes to climb. There are benches for sitting and tables for enjoying a picnic. There are even fish to catch and birds to watch.

Grab your kids and their bikes; grab your partner; grab your dog; grab a friend! Tell them you want to share the best kept secret in Houston.



Come Discover the Willow Waterhole....

### Willow Waterhole Walk

Tuesday, March 8, 11AM

Join us to check out the many varieties of wildflowers growing at the park. Meet on Ricecrest between Gasmer and S. Willow



Rafferty Memorial

## Activities for Kids

- ◆ Gather at the Rafferty Memorial under the giant oak tree and read *The Giving Tree*
- ◆ Make a nature book: Collect small items from nature like grass, leaves or flower petals and paste into a small book
- ◆ Go for an alphabet walk. Walk around and look for items in alphabetical order. "A" is for Ant, "B" is for Blue sky...
- ◆ Go for a texture walk: Find 5 soft things, 2 prickly things, 3 hard things ,etc.
- ◆ Bring-a-long: Bring a ball. Bring a magnifying glass. Bring a stroller or trike or bike. Fly a kite.

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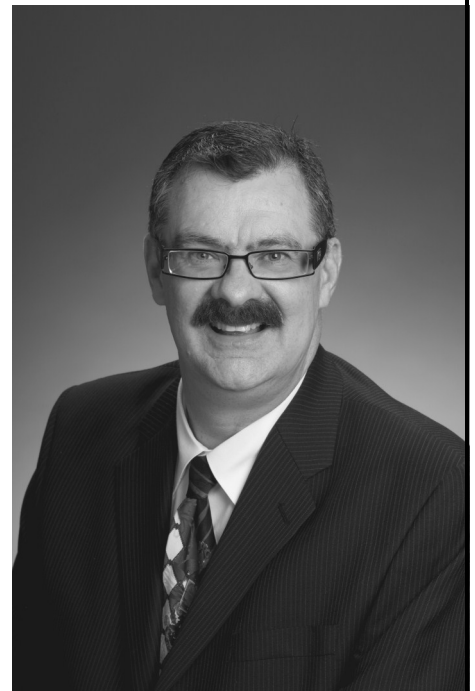
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# Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock \* Hours: Mon-Thurs 2-8 PM; Friday 2-6 PM \* [www.houstonparks.org](http://www.houstonparks.org)  
Ken Wallace, Supervisor City of Houston Parks and Recreation Dept. 713-726-7107

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Dorothy 713-723-4441 or  
Naomi 713-988-2233

## Card Making

Tuesday, March 15  
12:30 – 2:30 PM

Call Betty 713-729-9110 to  
Reserve your packet. (\$2.00 fee)

## Games

Wednesdays  
10 AM

Come join in the fun.

Wally at 713-729-9310



## Portable Projects

Thursdays  
9:30 – 11:30 AM

Bring handiwork and join the group  
for an enjoyable time working on  
projects and sharing ideas.

Hazel 713-729-4568

## Dance Lessons

Wednesday, March 16

Advanced 7-8 PM

New Beginner Ballroom 6-7PM

It is a free class. You must register  
because there is a limited space. You do  
not need a partner.

Call Marilyn at 713-729-9425.



## Westbury Quilting Bee

2nd and 4th Monday of Month

March 14 and 28

10:30 AM – 2 PM

Janie at 713-721-5526

## Interested in starting some Children's Activities?

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# Hot Topic: METRO Rail 90A Expansion

## METRO Rail on South Main? Will Westbury have a Rail Station?

Metro is seeking comments on its proposed plan to build a commuter/light rail line from Missouri City, near the Intersection of Beltway 8 and 90A, to the Fannin Station at the bottom of the Main Street line with the possibility of going all the way to the Medical Center and Herman Park. This line will not begin construction until 2017 but it is important that residents who will be impacted by the proposal speak up as early as possible during Metro's consideration of the current options. The information can be found at the following link. [www.ridemetro.org/](http://www.ridemetro.org/)

The map shows five possible rail lines along 90A at the southern border of the Westbury Super Neighborhood.

The expansion of rail routes will happen in Houston, but we have the ability to speak up and have our voices heard.



Metro is in the planning part of the process right now and actively seeking community input. As Houston's population is expected to grow, this commuter line can provide great access for the Westbury community to the rest of Houston in the future. Speak up and let's ensure that this project evolves in a way that works for Westbury as well as for Houston as a whole. You can let them know your thoughts using the form at [www.metro-solutions.org/go/inquiry/1068/](http://www.metro-solutions.org/go/inquiry/1068/) until March 11.

## This Month in Westbury History

The first *Westbury Crier* was published in July 1956. We have 55 years of monthly history at our fingertips. Here are some headlines and stories from the past.

### March 1957

- ◆ **Westbury Little League** "strikes out" for funds and coaches: 60 interested youngsters reported and they hope to field 4 teams once sponsors are found.
- ◆ **Westbury Methodist Church** starts Bond Placement for a church to be built on Willowbend. They currently meet at Bellaire High School.

### March 1962

- ◆ City council approves plans for 3 **city pools**: Sunnyside, Northline and **Westbury**.
- ◆ **Paving Projects**: Chimney Rock is scheduled to open south of Beechnut. Plans are to **extend Hillcroft across Brays Bayou in 1963**.
- ◆ Residents pay \$36 per dwelling to raise money for street lights. Street lights are to be turned on soon in Fontenelle area, which is the first completely lighted area in Westbury South.
- ◆ **Willow Waterhole Bayou** to be dredged to promote better drainage for our area.



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# Neighborhood and Section News

## Parkwest 2

Thanks to an alert resident, a cement contractor was caught dumping his (left over) concrete along the banks of the Hummingbird ditch. This, of course, is illegal and he was forced to remove it. Please report all illegal dumping.

## Westbury 5 West

Good news! We have been advised by our Mayor's Community Liaison that the owner of the burned out home at Willowbend and Hillcroft had obtained a dangerous building demolition permit but was granted an extension until March 31 to demolish the home. This should please all of us who drive by or live near this longstanding eyesore.

## ALL Sections Neighborhood Notice

Reports of barking dogs, junk vehicles, businesses operating out of homes, commercial vehicles and trash violations are regular complaints called into the Civic Club Office. Please be a good neighbor and be considerate of how your actions affect your neighbor. There is enough stress in our lives these days without having to come home to an annoying situation. If you receive a letter from the civic club regarding an infraction, please take it in the spirit of neighborliness and correct the situation.

## Westbury 3

On a beautiful warm Saturday morning in February, the Westbury Green Team, greatly assisted by 30 students, planted forty live oak trees along Burdine across from Westbury Square. Trees for Houston provided tools. These trees finally replace the trees that Westbury volunteers planted years ago only to have them mowed down by inattentive mowers.

## Westbury South

The City of Houston, in an effort to make our streets safer and to control traffic speed, replaced the Yield signs in Westbury South with new STOP signs. Do you have Yield signs in your section that you feel should be replaced with Stop signs? Please email or call the civic club office with the street name of the intersection.

## Railroad Quiet Zone

According to the City of Houston, the first comment period has been completed and some things were done by Union Pacific to help with the paperwork. The Alternative Safety Measure Application for South Main/Westbury will be submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration next week ( Feb 10, 2011). The FRA has 60 days to review and provide a decision to the city. What does that mean? If all goes well then in 6 months or less we should have a quiet zone. But in the meantime, if you feel that the noise is excessive we can ask for an investigation. We will need dates and times to pass to the investigator.

## Westbury Square Update

The property is still for sale, however, the sales contract has expired. There is a court hearing scheduled in March regarding this property. Check our website for actual dates. [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)

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# White Elephant Sale

## Ready to Have a Garage Sale?

It's time for the Spring Westbury White Elephant sale. Garage sales, yard sales and estate sales are NOT allowed at Westbury residences. The civic club provides spring and fall community sales events as a service for our members. The civic club will provide security and publicity for the sale. Booths will go on sale March 21 for Westbury residents only. You must be a current member of the Westbury Civic Club. The price of a booth will range from \$15 to \$25.

One of the main benefits of having an off-site community sale is safety. Since most crimes are crimes of opportunity, the fewer non-residents we invite down our streets on the weekends, the fewer weekday crime problems we'll have to worry about.

So, have fun, make money, be safe, and be a good neighbor. Plan on having a booth at the Westbury White Elephant Sale.



## Important Dates to know for the White Elephant Sale

March 21—Booths go on sale at WCC office

April 16—White Elephant Sale

April 30—Rain Date



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