



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 57, ISSUE 5

MAY 2011

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Backyard Garden Tour: Saturday, May 7
- Special METRO neighborhood action planning meeting May 16; See page 12
- Hot Topics—Redistricting / METRO US 90A Expansion
- May's heavy trash is TREE WASTE ONLY

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Dues Form 3
- Trash Facts 5
- Calendars 5
- Security Update 7
- Park Feature 9
- Platou News 11
- Hot Topics 12
- Neighborhood News 15

## Westbury in New City Council District K

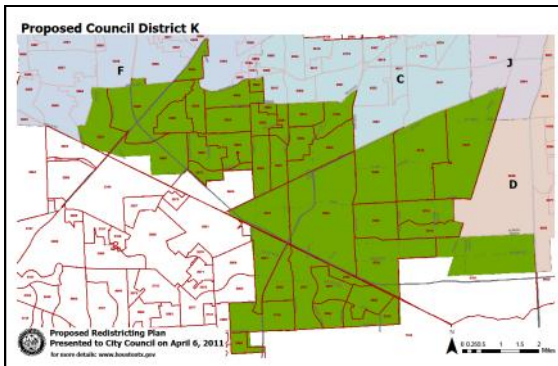
### What is Changing?

Effective for the November 2011 elections, two additional city council districts will be added and Westbury will be located in the newly created District K according to the preliminary map released April 6<sup>th</sup>. About 100 Westbury homes, located on the north side of Willowbend and west of Westbury United Methodist Church, will continue to be in District C due to their precinct boundaries.

The new District K will include residents from the following city Super Neighborhoods: Westbury, Brays Oaks, Fondren Gardens, Fort Bend (that section of Houston which is in Ft. Bend County), and the western portion of Central Southwest (south of US90A and west of Almeda).

### How is Westbury Affected?

District C and our new District K are the only city council districts in which no single ethnic group currently exceeds 50% of the population, thus we continue to be situated in a racially diverse



district. Based on voting age population, District K will be approximately 39% Hispanic, 44% Black, 12% White, and 5% Asian.

As proposed, Westbury will no longer be in the same council district as neighbors

Maplewood and Meyerland.

The Westbury subdivision has almost 5000 homes and a high rate of voter participation and civic engagement, so we anticipate that the Westbury area will have a strong influence in the new District K or whichever district it occupies.

It may be helpful that District K spans both sides of US 90A due to the many transit issues pending for the Southwest side of Houston which affect both sides of US 90A - railroad quiet zone,

location of future US 90A commuter rail route and stations, and transit issues related to north/south commuting patterns.

City Council lines do not change our police precincts.

**Redistricting Continued on page 12**

## Westbury Backyard Garden Tour

Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 7 from 1-5PM to take a walk through five beautiful and different Westbury backyards.

Westbury residents opening their gardens that day are Melissa Denney, Richard and Jean Tapia, Jean Anderson and Dave Cunningham, Stephen and Pamela Cook, Amos and Miriam Pacht, and Noreen Wright and Betsy Cross. You will see some amazing spaces filled with plants, interesting structures, water features and art. In addition, you can explore a special prairie wildflower planting on one of the drainage easements.

Tickets are only \$10 a person and will be on sale at 5723 Portal starting at 12:45PM **on the day of the tour**. There is no advance ticket sale. The tour will take place rain or shine. Wear comfortable shoes and be prepared to be delighted.



Jean Anderson & Dave Cunningham

Published by:  
Westbury Civic Club, Inc  
Editor: WCC Publication  
Committee  
Printing: Hutson Enterprises

## 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	VACANT	Westbury3W@westburycrier.com
Westbury 4E	John Cashin	Westbury4E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 4W	VACANT	Wesbury4W@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	VACANT	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:** Westburyccl@sbcglobal.net

\*The office is closed on all major holidays and weekends

**FREE NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL WESTBURY RESIDENTS**

## USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

**Westbury Area Patrol Constable Dispatch**

**281-463-6666**

HPD Non-Emergency

713-884-3131

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

Visit us online at

**[www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)**

“Like” us on Facebook

(Westbury Houston)

and follow us on

**[Twitter@westburyhouston](https://twitter.com/westburyhouston)**

# President's Message

April was a busy month for the Westbury Civic Club. Our Spring White Elephant sale is history. Thanks go to Jennifer Edmondson and to Jennifer Dunlap who worked to make it a success.

Meetings dominated much of the month. My thanks go to Cindy Chapman who is attending many of these. Just this week we attended the Super Neighborhood Alliance meeting; a BOMD board meeting, a Willow Waterhole meeting, the WAIC meeting; the Bayou Greenway Initiative meeting; the Civic Club meeting; the Southwest Houston 2000 meeting and finally the Crier publication meeting!

As our economy worsens, crime is on the upswing. A Westbury resident's home was broken into while she slept and her car was stolen by teenagers who might have thought twice if they had seen the Constables on patrol.

Please send in your dues to support this important program. We need to add more deputies. Any amount will help.

Our Hot Topics: Redistricting and METRO's Highway 90 Rail plan have filled our time. Be sure and check our website or Facebook page for updates as well as the articles included in this issue.

As always the board and other volunteers work hard to keep Westbury looking good. The secret to Westbury's success is you, our friends and neighbors. We would welcome your help too. Join us in making Westbury the cleanest greenest best neighborhood in Houston.

Hoping for rain!

Becky Edmondson

## Board Notes

- METRO made a presentation on the US 90A Expansion Plan for light rail
- Board accepted the resignations of Carlos Mata and David Ebro. We thank them for all their service.
- Many Westbury South residents, specifically residents on Greencraig, attended the meeting to hear what METRO was presenting
- Thank you to Jackie Murray of Weichart Realtors for providing cookies and water.

Join us for the WCC board meeting on Wednesday, May 18 @ 7PM at Westbury High School

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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:  
 Westbury Civic Club, Inc.**

**Mail to:  
 P.O. Box 975182  
 Dallas, TX 75397-5182**

**Please send this form  
 with your payment**

**Online payment:  
[www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)  
 go to paypal.com**

Sending multiple payments?  
 Circle your payment choice

2 payment of \$147.50  
 3 payments of 98.34

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>		\$



# NCAA "68 Courts in 68 Days" Follow-up

As proudly announced last month, three Westbury parks were chosen by NCAA Houston to have their basketball courts refurbished as part of the "68 Courts in 68 Days" initiative. The WCC coordinated successful clean-up events on Saturday, March 26, at the three parks in preparation for the NCAA refurbishment. The work has been completed at Westbury Park and will be completed at Chimney Rock Park and Hager Park in the very near future. Our parks have been cleaned and look great. Thank you to all who participated and helped make it happen!

## Westbury Park

About 25 people showed up early Saturday morning, to clean the grounds. They witnessed the NCAA dedication and the affixing of its decals to the new basketball backboards. Participating were students and a teacher from Westbury Christian; Boy Scouts; basketball players from Parker Elementary and Johnston Middle School; Parker Elementary PTO President Melanie Rosen; and, of course, Jennifer McCleskey, whose nomination to the NCAA got this project going.



## Hager Park

Four new trees were planted and many bags of litter were collected at Hager Park in preparation for the NCAA improvements to the basketball court. There were volunteers from Westbury Christian; PW3 resident Joe Niles; three men who play basketball at Hager and several others including a family from the neighborhood. The court has been re-stripped. We are still waiting for Houston Parks and Recreation Department to install the donated backboards and nets. Once they are installed the NCAA decals will be applied. We will also approach the HPARD about getting a water fountain installed by the basketball court and another trash can in an effort to curtail the plastic bottle trash problem.



Hager Park

## Chimney Rock Park

Thanks go out to Westbury United Methodist Church which sent volunteers to the Chimney Rock Park on March 26, for a work day coinciding with the NCAA clean-up project. About 15 volunteers from Westbury United Methodist cleaned the property and filled over 100 bags with leaves. The park's sign garden was cleaned and planted with summer flowers. Four students and their teacher from Westbury Christian planted trees and helped. Thanks also to Ken Wallace, Platou Community Center Supervisor, for opening the building for the use of the volunteers. The basketball court was power washed and re-stripped. The park is ready for the new basketball backboards.



Chimney Rock Park



Westbury Park



**Carli Jacobsen**  
carlij@waynemurray.net

Specializing  
in residential and  
new home sales

Over 600 offices  
nationwide

Professional,  
honest, accessible

**We Sell More Because We Do More!**



**WAYNE MURRAY PROPERTIES**  
713-728-2300

Neighborhood  
Specialists

Worldwide Web  
Exposure

Residents  
of Westbury



**Jackie Murray**  
jackiem@waynemurray.net

**Call Today for a Price Trend Analysis of your Home!**



**5802 W. Belfort**  
3 bed/2 bath  
Parkwest 2  
\$159,900



**5818 Spellman**  
3 bed/2 bath+pool  
Parkwest 2  
\$268,500



**5430 Kinglet**  
3 bed/2 bath  
Westbury 2  
\$184,900



**10803 Burdine**  
3 bed/2 bath  
Westbury 2  
\$219,500



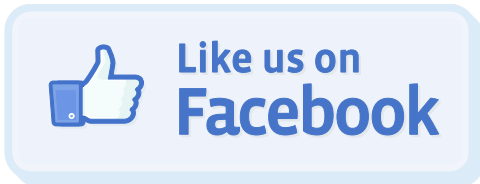
**5515 Kinglet**  
3 bed/2.5 bath+grrm  
Westbury 2  
\$325,000

**Call (713) 728-2300 for Information Regarding these Featured Listings in Your Neighborhood**

# What's Happening in Westbury

## May 2011 Events & Meetings Calendar

<b>Mon 2</b>	<b>Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:30-7:30PM</b> Community Garden under the pavilion—12500 Dunlap Open to the public
<b>Sat 7</b>	<b>Backyards of Westbury Tour 1-5PM</b> Tickets on sale at 5723 Portal the day of the sale See page 1 for more details
<b>Tues 10</b>	<b>Westbury Garden Club Meeting 7PM</b> 5719 Hummingbird For more information, call Hazel 713-729-4568
<b>Mon 16</b>	<b>METRO US 90A Community Action Planning Meeting 6:30PM</b> Westbury High School—11911 Chimney Rock
<b>Mon 16</b>	<b>Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM</b> The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow Speaker: Asst. Chief Thomas Munoz of HFD
<b>Wed 18</b>	<b>WCC Board Meeting 7-9PM</b> Westbury High School—11911 Chimney Rock Speakers: George Gaston, CEO Memorial Hermann SW and Menninger Clinic
<b>Sat 21</b>	<b>Willow Waterhole Monthly Audubon Society Bird Survey 7AM</b> Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot at 5310 S. Willow
<b>Tues 24</b>	<b>SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM</b> Aramco Building—9009 W. Loop South
<b>28-31</b>	<b>Yard of the Month Judging—Winners awarded June 1</b> Make sure your yards are ready!



## STAY CURRENT AND INFORMED

Want to know upcoming events and up to the minute changes? Follow us on Twitter ([twitter.com/westburyhouston](http://twitter.com/westburyhouston)) and Like our page on Facebook (Westbury Houston).

The online calendar is current 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.

## IMPORTANT TRASH NOTICE:

**DO NOT PLACE HEAVY TRASH OUT ON STREET BEFORE ALLOTTED TIME. YOU WILL BE REPORTED TO THE CITY AND FINED.**

## May 2011 Heavy Trash & Recycling Calendar

<b>Thur 5</b>	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
<b>Tues 17</b>	Heavy Trash—TREE WASTE ONLY (South of W. Bellfort)
<b>Wed 18</b>	Heavy Trash—TREE WASTE ONLY (North of W. Bellfort)
<b>Thur 19</b>	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
<b>June</b>	Heavy Trash—JUNK WASTE

## Important Trash & Recycling Information

- 🗑️ Trash cans need to be out on curb by 7AM Thurs.
- 🗑️ Trash cans must be removed by 10PM Thurs.
- 🗑️ Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- 🗑️ No heavy trash out before 6PM the Friday before scheduled pick-up date
- 🗑️ 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
- 🗑️ Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- 🗑️ There are 2 Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers nearby: **11500 South Post Oak**  
**10785 Southwest Freeway**
- 🗑️ Refer to [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com) for more trash and recycling information



**FARMERS**

***One stop for all your insurance needs***

***Auto-Home-Life-Renters-Condo-Boat-RV***

***Flood-Motorcycle-Business***

**Peter Zografos**

5322 W. Bellfort #206  
**(713) 877- 8811**

[pzografos@farmersagent.com](mailto:pzografos@farmersagent.com)  
[www.farmersagent.com/pzografos](http://www.farmersagent.com/pzografos)



## Meadows Preschool



Creative, age appropriate learning experiences

Babies—Pre K.

**713.255.7025**  
[cwehmeyer@wmbc.org](mailto:cwehmeyer@wmbc.org)

**Meadows Preschool**  
*The Little School with a Big Heart*

4300 W. Bellfort  
Houston, TX 77035



# In and Around Westbury

## Willow Waterhole News

- ◆ **Zack Lopez** completed his Eagle Scout project by building an informational kiosk on Compartment 5. **Sam Nisley**, Troop 99 from St. Thomas More, completed his Eagle Scout project by clearing the overgrown trail beside the Gathering Place. What a difference these young men and their projects have made for park goers.
- ◆ The March bird survey brought 19 birders to the park where 40 species were recorded including a Crested Caracara. Forty-six species were seen during the April survey with a yellow-headed blackbird as the star. The total species for this survey to date is 153 species! You can get the details on ebird.org or at the Houston Audubon website.
- ◆ More than 50 people attended the very informative Spring General meeting where **David Hawes** explained the Brays Oaks Management District and their Parks Master plan. **Raouf Farid** of Project Brays gave an update on the Construction progress. Unfortunately, the Federal Government has not reimbursed the Harris County Flood Control for the work done to date and no new work can begin until the federal money is received. Visit [www.wwg.org](http://www.wwg.org) to find out how you can help by writing your representatives.

## Meet the The Menninger Clinic

The Menninger Clinic and Westbury Civic Club invite you to learn more about the construction of the new Menninger hospital on the 50-acre site, located at 12301 Main St. on the Loop-610 side of the intersection of Main and Post Oak Road at our May Civic Club meeting.

Menninger representatives will describe the building plans that are taking place as well as the 10-year plan for campus construction and the services that will be provided. Menninger is among the leaders in psychiatry (providing treatment to those who suffer from complex mental illness and addictive disorders) ranking in the top 10 for the past 20 years by *U.S. News & World Report* magazine. In addition, Menninger is a teaching hospital affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine.

Come meet our new neighbor, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 7PM at Westbury High School at our May Civic Club board meeting.

## BMH Construction

Time to get a jump on spring-time repairs!

*~no job is too big OR too small~*

[www.roofsremodelsrepairs.com](http://www.roofsremodelsrepairs.com)

*See our website for discount coupon*

**832-867-4031**

Insured - All Work Guaranteed

Exterior/Interior paint ♦ kitchens ♦ baths ♦ roofs ♦  
driveways ♦ tile work ♦ patios ♦ sheetrock repairs



*~Westbury resident for 20 years~*

*Brock and Foster*

RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

## Westbury Sales & Leasing

**Susan  
Brock  
Realtor®**



**(713)  
272-2000**

## Ralph Rieger, CPA

**You earned it... we help you keep it!**

- Personal & Business Taxes
- Audit Assistance Guarantee
- Accounting/Bookkeeper
- Maximum Deductions

Register for Quickbooks Seminars: [www.llu.com](http://www.llu.com)  
Introductory Classes: May 16, 6:15-9:30  
Intermediate Classes: May 17, 6:15-9:30

**We Give Personal Attention to Every Client**  
[www.RiegerCPA.com](http://www.RiegerCPA.com)

11415 Chimney Rock, Suite 201

713.729.1122

## Vonnie Cobb Realtors, Inc.



*Your  
Neighborhood  
Realtor for  
40 Years!*

Family owned and operated.  
Pictured Vonnie Cobb and  
Shannon Cobb.

**Call us today for your  
FREE Market Analysis!  
713.664.1818**



*Professionalism with a Personal Touch*

[www.VonnieCobbRealtors.com](http://www.VonnieCobbRealtors.com) • 4842 Beechnut • Houston, Texas 77096

# Security / Crime

## Crime is Increasing! Have you paid your Patrol Dues? Here's why you should.

If your home is burglarized, how much will it cost you to fix a broken door and replace stolen items? How much time will it take to deal with police, insurance company, and to replace stolen items? How long will it take you to regain your peace of mind?

Having a constable security program may not prevent crime, but it deters criminals who are looking for easier places to commit crimes than in Westbury. The "Westbury Area Patrol" (WAP) constable program is the most expensive program operated by the Westbury Civic Club. It is also one of the most desired amenities and it is an amenity which surrounding subdivisions (Maplewood, Marilyn Estates, Meyerland, etc) provide to their homeowners. Do we want Westbury to be the easy place for criminals to do their misdeeds? Meyerland is half our size and has 7 constables. Westbury has only 3, yet 8 are recommended. Three constables are not sufficient to provide coverage for 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 52 weeks each year.

We need to raise another \$68,000 to be able to pay for our 3 constables through the end of the year. So far we have only raised enough money to pay for 2 of our three constables. At a minimum, we need another 300 - 400 voluntary supporters to pay for WAP through the end of the year to pay for our existing contractual obligation, not including additional money needed to hire more constables.

We thank the many Westbury residents who have already sent in their dues for 2011 using the form in the newsletter. **You have saved the WCC a good deal of postage with your cooperation. Thank you.** We urge those of you who are waiting for a dues letter to pay promptly and generously. We appreciate all contributions, large or small, to this important effort which benefits all Westbury residents.

### A Message from your Security Director:

As we enter into the summer months and the school year ends, please be mindful of your safety and the safety of your neighbors. Traditionally, crime statistics for theft and other crimes increases during the summer months when school is not in session. The Harris County Police Department and Precinct 5 Constable's Office are aware of these trends.

As you can see by the numbers on the table, crime is up in our neighborhood. Please be aware of your surroundings, know your neighbors and their vehicles, call the constables if you see anything suspicious.

This recent crime increase shows the need for more constables patrolling. Please support our Westbury Area Patrol and pay your dues.

### Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37 \* 30 days preceding April 20, 2011

	Single-Family Residential	Apartment/ Condominium	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	13	2	0	0	15
Theft	8	3	6	9	26
Auto Theft	0	4	1	0	5
Robbery	0	0	4	2	6
Assault	1	4	0	0	5
Rape	0	1	0	0	1
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>58</b>

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

## Support the Westbury Area Patrol Please pay your dues (see page 3)

<p><b>Water Heaters:</b> Regular &amp; Tankless</p> <p>Disposals</p> <p>Water Lines</p> <p>Gas Lines</p> <p>Drain Cleaning</p> <p>Under Slab Repairs</p> <p>Re-route kitchen &amp; laundry pipes</p>	<p><b>ASTRO PLUMBING</b></p> <p>Full Service Plumbing and Repair Specialist</p> <p><b>713-256-0017</b></p> <p>★ JOHNNY LEWIS ★</p> <p>WESTBURY RESIDENT</p>	<p>New Sewer Lines</p> <p>Hydrostatic Testing</p> <p>Remodeling &amp; Repairs</p> <p>Sinks</p> <p>Faucets</p> <p>New Drains under Bathroom</p>	
<p>M16312 ★ Since 1985</p>	<p>★ Senior Discounts</p>	<p>★ All Major Credit Cards</p>	<p>★ Fully Insured</p>

# Outdoors in Westbury

## Winter has Shifted to Spring in the Community Garden

There was hardly a hitch in moving from winter to spring vegetables. Walking through the garden in the middle of April, I saw small squash on some of the plants, baby okra nodding up through the soil, tomatoes plump on some of the plants, long bean vines half way up trellises, cucumber vines starting to climb, artichoke, pepper and eggplant plants announcing their presence and flowers showing their beautiful faces.

On another front, a garden expansion committee is gathering input on what kind of gardening ideas they would like to see happen. Some ideas are some farmer's rows for planting crops that do well outside of raised beds, an instructional garden for teaching gardening through classes and internships, a children's natural play area, a water catchment cistern off of the pavilion, an aroma/smell garden for young kids, a senior's garden with handicap accessible beds and shade area, painting the storage shed with a garden mural and planting vines to cover part of the shed, adding water spigots in the blackberry patch and E-beds, and finishing up the driveway. This all makes for exciting things in the garden and lots of opportunity for volunteers.

Come by anytime and visit the garden to see what is going on. There is no fence and there is almost always someone there. The next community garden meeting will be Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the garden pavilion, beginning at 6:30PM.



Before and After photos of the Westbury Community Garden site

### Yard of the Month

Yard of the Month has started. Nominate deserving neighbors. Keep an eye out for winner's signs. We will post May Yard of the Month winners in June's Crier.

Please look in future Criers about awards and prizes for Yard of the Month!

### Audubon Bird Survey

Willow Waterhole Monthly bird survey will be Saturday, May 21, at 7AM.

Meet at the Gathering Place  
5310 South Willow

### Garden Club

The Westbury Garden Club will meet on Tuesday, May 10 at 7PM at the home of Hazel Potvin, 5719 Hummingbird.

She will talk about staghorn ferns and show how to fasten them to be hung outdoors. There will be a cost of \$5 to buy a small fern to take home. Please call 713-729-4568 if you plan to attend.

## HERE ARE SOME WATERING TIPS FROM LOCAL GARDENERS

1. Water once a week and water deeply
2. Avoid too much water & allowing it to run into the street
3. Plants in pots need water daily



**Geric L. Tipsword, Esq.**  
Texas Qualified Mediator

**\*Integrity \* Reliability \* Affordability**

**Family Law  
Contract Law  
Criminal Law**

**713.432.7884**

**www.TipswordLaw.com**



**The Tipsword Law Firm**

**INITIAL CONSULTATION IS FREE**



# Westbury Park

## Discovering Westbury Park

The City of Houston acquired Westbury Park in 1959. Located at 5635 Willowbend, the park is located next to Parker Elementary and is sometimes called "Parker Park" by longtime residents. The park contains a pleasant mix of mature trees, athletic amenities, and grassy spaces within its 5.94 acres. Picnic tables and benches are scattered throughout the park. The park is within easy walking or biking distance to Westbury residents and also has ample parking available on the adjoining residential streets. A Cub Scout house is located between Parker Elementary and Westbury Park on Willowbend.



Westbury Pool, located at 10605 Mullins on the west side of Westbury Park, is the only public swimming pool in the area and also boasts a splash playground area for young children. In 2007, the City of Houston spent more than a million dollars renovating Westbury Pool and improving drainage in the center of the park. The pool was resurfaced, the poolhouse was remodeled, a splash playground was added, a pool lift was provided so that disabled persons can get in and out of the pool without using stairs, and two long-needed shady areas with seating were provided. For the last three years, the City has provided an "AquaFit" exercise class at Westbury Pool, which has been one of the best attended classes in the city. Please check our website for class schedule/dates.

For sports enthusiasts, the park has two lighted tennis courts and a backboard, a baseball field, a multi-purpose (football or soccer) field, and two basketball goals popular with youth. Several swing sets are provided in the central part of the park. A playground for young children is situated on the south side of the park near Stillbrooke. This playground was built in 1994 after the Westbury community raised money for two years and with assistance from the Houston Parks Board. Many of the "medium-sized" trees at Westbury Park were planted in 1993 by community volunteers as part of the playground project fundraising and publicity efforts. During the fall of 2010, volunteers planted a variety of young trees at the park to replace some diseased trees and to provide new trees at the park.



## WESTBURY POOL OPENS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

**MILLION DOLLAR CLEANERS**  
**Dry Cleaner and Launderer**  
 Dry Cleaner    Laundry    Wash Dry Fold  
 Suede & Leather Cleaning    Alterations    Shoe Repair

**713-723-7510**

5503 Belrose Houston, TX 77035  
 In Westbury next to Old Post Office  
 Open Mon-Fri 7am-6pm \* Saturday 9am-2pm

**ALL TYPES IRRIGATION, INC.**

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
 Design • Drainage • Installation • Service  
 Commercial • Residential

**Emil Becker**  
 T.I.L. #4415  
 D.L. #126891

Office: (713) 726-1636  
 Fax: (713) 726-8322  
 Cell: (713) 819-2872

**Hill Home Improvement**

**Home Maintenance & Repair**  
**Bath & Kitchen Remodeling**  
**Carpentry, Painting & Drywall**  
**Decks, Fencing, & Pergolas**  
**Custom Cabinets & Shelving**  
**Siding & Pressure Washing**

**713.825.2486**

FREE  
ESTIMATES

**mrhill68@yahoo.com**

# Free Market Analysis

If you are thinking of selling your home or want to know the market value of your property, call **Larry Mercer** for a free Market Analysis.

## 713-826-7274

With 30 years of experience in the Houston real estate market, he will get the job done.

You may contact me by email at:

**Lmercer@flash.net**

Or visit my web site at:

**www.Larrymercer.net**



Neighborhood  
Specialist

# Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock \* Hours: Mon-Thurs 2-8 PM; Friday 2-6 PM \* www.houstonparks.org  
Ken Wallace, Supervisor 713-726-7107

## Stre-e-e-ting Exercise

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays  
9-9:45AM

Improve your flexibility by joining this non-strenuous exercise class. You will feel better.



## Aerobics

Tuesdays and Thursdays  
6:30 – 7:15PM

To register call 713-726-7107.

## TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Weight Loss Support Group

Tuesdays  
5:45-7 PM

Drop in to preview the program or call Dorothy 713-723-4441 or Naomi 713-988-2233

## Card Making

Tuesday, May 17  
12:30 – 2:30PM

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

## Games

Wednesdays  
10 AM

Come join in the fun.

Call Wally at 713-729-9310



## Portable Projects

Thursdays  
9:30 – 11:30AM

Bring handiwork and join the group for an enjoyable time working on projects and sharing ideas. Hazel 713-729-4568

## Dance Lessons

Wednesdays

Beginner 6-7PM

Advanced 7-8PM

It is a free class but you must register due to limited space.

Call Marilyn at 713-729-9425.



## Westbury Quilting Bee

2nd and 4th Monday of Month

May 9th and 23rd

10:30AM – 2PM

Call Janie at 713-721-5526



## Interested in starting some Children's Activities?

Call Jennifer 713-723-5437

Open for scheduled activities in the morning and early afternoon

# Plumbco 713-725-5025

MPL 36609

*For all your plumbing installations and repairs.*

**Gary Bloch • www.PlumbcoHouston.com**



# Hot Topic: Metro US 90A Expansion & Redistricting

## METRO US 90A Expansion Rail PLANS UNVEILED-WILL YOUR PROPERTY BE AFFECTED?

If you live along West Airport, Greencraig, or near Hillcroft south of W. Airport, or anywhere in Westbury South, come to an important meeting on May 16 at 6:30 PM at Westbury High School . Help us evaluate the proposed plans and formulate our neighborhood position. Don't just complain about the outcome...be a part of the decision making process. This meeting is open to all Westbury residents whether you are proponents or opponents to light rail in Westbury.

**Westbury Community  
Action Planning  
Meeting for METRO  
US 90A Expansion  
Monday, May 16,  
6:30PM at  
Westbury High School**



Stay current  
and up-to-date  
by checking  
out our  
website,  
following us on  
Twitter, or  
Liking us on  
Facebook

**Metro Update:** Officials from METRO's Community Outreach department attended and spoke at the Westbury Civic Club Board meeting on April 20, 2011. METRO officials said there are six proposed routes for the light rail. Four of the six routes would be in Westbury. METRO is seeking community input on these options.

### Redistricting from page 1

Redistricting will not change our garbage routes (although, by virtue of a new Council district maybe we'll get the recycling cans we've been asking for). Infrastructure rebuilding is being handled through the new Renew program and the city is being mapped on a NEED basis not on a who do you know basis.

At this time, we do not know who intends to run for city council for District K or for District C. Westbury will continue to grow and prosper whatever the letter of our District.

### What is the Process?

The city is accepting public input until May 6<sup>th</sup> and several new plans have been proposed. Council will vote on a plan in mid May.

## 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.

### May 1957

◆ The new civic club officers were announced along with their employers: Texas Pipe Line Co., The Borden Company, City Traffic Department, Conoco, General Electric, J.S. Oshman, Rice Institute, Texas Co.

### May 1963

◆ All Parkview exchange telephone numbers will become capable of Direct Distance Dialing. The Southwestern Bell Telephone Company will show a color movie and answer your questions at the civic club meeting.

### May 1965

◆ Governor John Connally signs House Bill 105 allowing cities to enforce certain deed restrictions.

### May 1967

◆ An extension of the Civic Club telephone has been installed in the President's home and will be answered by his wife when there is no one in the Club office. Please allow 10 rings before hanging up. Please no calls after 9:30PM.



## Cyndi's Pet Sitting

Loving Professional Pet Care in your home since 1998.  
Walking, feeding, and medication.

**832-483-1204**

[cyndipetsits@yahoo.com](mailto:cyndipetsits@yahoo.com)



Mention this ad and get **10% off** your first visit.

## COMMERCIAL BUILDING SALE/LEASE

3 SUITES—1000 SQ. FT. EACH  
\$695 EACH OR \$1,800 FOR ALL

11530 BURDINE

(713)667-9281

[bba1214@hotmail.com](mailto:bba1214@hotmail.com)

# Brays Oaks Management District

## Brays Oaks Management District (BOMD) Expands into Westbury

### What is BOMD?

A Management District, sometimes called an Improvement District, is empowered to finance projects related to public transportation/mobility, community safety, beautification, economic development and related issues. Currently BOMD covers an area of about 9 square miles and is roughly bounded by US90A, Hillcroft, US59, and Brays Bayou. BOMD provides programs and services supplemental to those offered by the City of Houston and Harris County, **funded through 10 cents per hundred-dollar property value assessment on commercial property and apartment property ONLY.** No residential property or exempt property is assessed. A Westbury homeowner will NOT pay an assessment to BOMD.

BOMD was created in 2005 by an act of the Texas legislature and is governed by a board of directors consisting of commercial owners, apartment property owners, and civic leaders. BOMD, the Westbury Civic Club and other local community organizations have worked together on a wide range of projects including: advocacy for Willow Waterhole Park, improvements for Westbury High School, and the creation of a Parks Master Plan for Southwest Houston. To learn more about BOMD, visit their website at [www.braysoaksmd.org](http://www.braysoaksmd.org)

### Why is BOMD expanding into Westbury?

The boards of the Westbury Civic Club and the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation both unanimously endorsed an expansion of BOMD to include the entire Westbury Super Neighborhood. Additionally, communities in the Braeburn area have asked to join BOMD. The 2011 Texas legislature is anticipated to pass legislation approving the proposed expansion both eastward into Westbury and northward into the Braeburn area, which would increase the BOMD service area from 9 to 14 square miles. As noted in the endorsement letter sent by the WCC to BOMD:

“We believe that the Westbury Civic Club has many issues in common with BOMD. First and foremost, we are concerned that some of our Westbury area commercial properties are neglected or underperforming. This reflects poorly on our community. Other issues of common interest include: education, flood prevention in the Brays Bayou drainage system, crime reduction, improvements to multi-family housing, beautification, and parks.”



WESTBURY & AREA HOMES				
	\$225,000	\$159,900	\$224,900	\$235,000
	<b>5422 Willowbend / Westbury</b> 3/2/2 - Renovated, Hrdwds, Fresh Paint, Crown Molding, Granite, Tile Flrs, & Patio.	<b>5327 Willowbend / Westbury</b> 3/2/2 - Spacious Formals, Hardwood Floors, & Built-in Bookshelves/Desk!	<b>5803 Rutherglenn / Maplewood S</b> 3/2/2 - Raised Beamed Ceiling, Tile Flrs, Covered Patio & Large Yard!	<b>5714 Wigton / Maplewood S</b> 3/2/2 - Updated! Staggered Tile Flrs, Granite, SS Appl., Hrdwds, & Patio!
				
	\$169,000	\$275,000	\$249,900	\$244,900
	<b>5910 Reamer / Robindell</b> 3/2/2 - Updtd! Remodeled Bathrms, Wood Flrs in Bdrm Wing, & Covered Patio!	<b>5535 Queensloch/Marilyn Estates</b> 4/2/2 - Raised Ceiling, Wd Cabinetry, Smth Surface Cooktp, TerrazzoFlrs, & FP!	<b>9406 Brown Leaf/Maplewood S</b> 4/2/2 - Updtd! Travertine & Hrdwds, Granite, SS Appl, Cathedral Ceiling, & FP!	<b>9711 Braewick / Maplewood S</b> 4/2.5/2 - Updtd/Remodeled! Granite, Hrdwds, & Tile! Renovated Master Bath!
				
	\$162,000	\$109,900	Pending	
	<b>8607 McAvoy / Braes Timbers</b> 3/2/2 - Updtd! Rich Hued Flrs, Wrap Around Brkfst Bar, Cathedral Ceiling, & Corner FP!	<b>8403 Braes River / Sharpstown</b> 3/2/2 - Move In Ready! New Carpet, Updtdl Fixtures, Box Silled Windows, & Recent Roof!	6106 Lymbar 5611 Yarwell 5323 McKnight 7655 S. Braeswood	
	<p>For all of your Real Estate needs:  <b>JACKIE ZEHL &amp; TERESA LEWIS</b>  <b>713.854.6675 - 713.828.2096</b>                  email: <a href="mailto:tlewis.houston@att.net">tlewis.houston@att.net</a></p>			
	<p>COLDWELL BANKER UNITED REALTORS                  5111 BELLAIRE BLVD.                  BELLAIRE, TX 77401</p> 			



\$\$\$\$ Free Copy of Tax Return on CD \$\$\$\$  
\$\$\$\$ Free Review of Prior Year Return \$\$\$\$\$

## Pam Schertz, CPA

Small Business Accounting & Tax Services  
5322 West Bellfort, Suite 211  
Houston TX 77035

281-974-2096



- FULLY INSURED
- FREE ESTIMATES
- NEW ROOF & REPAIRS
- SIDING
- ATTIC INSULATION
- 5 YEAR WARRANTY

713-819-5537 www.legacyroofers.com

## Career Night Open House

Weichert, Realtors- Wayne Murray Properties



Make sure your first steps in  
Real Estate  
are in a **SUCCESSFUL** direction!

Tuesdays @ 7pm  
RSVP: 713 728 2300  
9708 Hillcroft



"We sell more because we do more!"

MEYERLAND  
WINDOWS & DOORS

Call today for a  
**FREE Estimate!**



Meyerlandwindows.com



713-960-6222

JELD-WEN  
WINDOWS & DOORS

# Dick n' Sons

Floor Covering Center

All Major Credit Cards  
Accepted

M-F 8:00-5:00  
THURS. 8:00-7:00  
SAT. 10:00-4:00

# 713.981.1900

6240 Bissonnet @ Hillcroft  
www.dicknsons.com

Purchase any carpet and your First Annual Cleaning is Absolutely Free!

**CARPET LAMINATE WOOD CERAMIC TILE VINYL!**

THERE'S JUST SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT A  
NEIGHBORHOOD FLOOR COVERING STORE....COME SEE WHY.  
SERVING WESTBURY FOR OVER 40 YEARS!



Mention this ad and  
receive 15% off any Cleaning Services

# Ca\$hBuyerNetwork.com

For A Cash Offer Within 24 Hours

Need To Sell Your House Fast?

Over 2000 Local CASH Real Estate Investors

One easy click/call:

# 1-888-CBN-1024

## G&D Remodel and Repair

Over 14 years of experience.

All Major Credit Cards Accepted



Carpentry, Siding, Fences  
Hardy Plank, Roofing  
Ceramic Tile, Floor Tile, Vinyl,  
Painting, Pressure Washing,  
Plumbing, Gutters

Install: Plasma TV, Counter Tops,  
Cabinet Doors, Windows, Ceiling  
Fans, Light Fixtures, Garbage  
Disposal, Stoves, Water Heaters,  
Filters, Ice Makers, etc.

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Excellent References

office (713) 771-2869 Free Estimates cell (713) 269-9414

## Townley Realty Company, AMO®

ACCREDITED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION®

Residential Property Management

713-660-8818 Leonard Townley, CPM®

leonard@townleyrealty.com

4102 Bellaire Blvd. Houston, TX 77025

The *Westbury Crier* is delivered to over 5,000 homes.

Do you own or work for a business near Westbury?

Do Westbury residents know about your business?

Contact the Westbury Civic Club office for  
advertising rates.

713-723-5437



# Neighborhood and Section News

## Esplanades

The WCC complained to the City of Houston about the grass conditions on Hillcroft. Mowing of all Westbury esplanades was done by the City during April 13-15.

## Westbury 5 West

Good news! The burned out home at Willowbend and Hillcroft has been demolished. This should please all of us who drive by or live near this longstanding eyesore.

## Parkwest 2

Our thanks go to David Ebro who served as Section Director for the last few years. David worked tirelessly on the Security Plus Deed restriction revision team and we thank him for all the time we gave to help make our neighborhood a better place to live. Peter Zografagos has volunteered to fill this spot and we will vote at the next meeting.

## La Peak Apartments

In April, HISD began to demolish the vacant and derelict LaPeak Apartments on Gasmer near Westbury High School. HISD purchased the property for a future campus expansion at WHS.

## Westbury 3W

Carlos Mata has stepped down from his section director position. We cannot thank him enough for all the effort he devoted to the Esplanade Green team and to his award winning West Bellfort esplanades. He was also the force behind the holiday home tour. Ron Brown has volunteered to fill this spot and we will vote at the next meeting.

[www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com)

## Astronaut to Speak with Area Students

**Astronaut Shannon Walker** grew up in Westbury and attended Parker Elementary, Johnston Middle School, and Westbury High School. In May, she will be speaking with students from all three schools at JMS. She is the only astronaut who is a native of Houston.

## Commercial Building Update 12540 Hillcroft (Olympia Market site)

In March, the City ordered the property owner to clean the property and make repairs. The owner has not done so and has appealed the order. The WCC has contacted the Mayor's Citizen Assistance Office to review the situation.

## Westbury Square Update

The court case where the property owner is appealing a 2008 city order to repair or demolish certain buildings at Westbury Square has been postponed until November 2011.

## Braes Bayou Association

Asst. Chief Thomas Munoz of the City of Houston Fire Department will be the speaker at the meeting on May 16 (See Page 5 for meeting details) Many residents and business owners are concerned about personal safety, the ability to move about during a flood event, and loss of property. Chief Munoz offers another perspective with his experience with the U.S. Coast Guard, with Hurricane Katrina, and responsibilities for providing emergency services during time of storm and flood.



**WHEN YOU WANT THE JOB DONE RIGHT THE FIRST TIME!**



**Leak Detection Experts**



OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE



**CALL NOW - FREE ESTIMATES FOR HOMEOWNERS**

**FINANCING AVAILABLE**  
\*WAC



**713.722.7765**

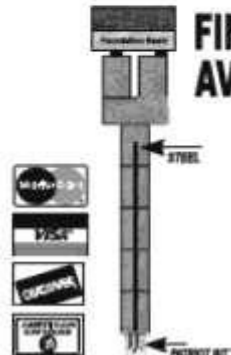
Se Habla Español • Senior Citizen Discounts

[www.asamerican.com](http://www.asamerican.com)



## FOUNDATION REPAIR & PLUMBING SPECIALIST

- ❖ Exclusive Ameri-Link System
- ❖ Lifetime Transferable Warranty
- ❖ FHA/VA Approved
- ❖ Licensed & Fully Insured
- ❖ Warranties Available on Existing Piers
- ❖ City Permits & Inspections
- ❖ Hydrostatic Testing
- ❖ Sewer Reroutes
- ❖ Tunneling Experts
- ❖ Leak Detections
- ❖ Gas Leaks & Repair



**SINCE 1975**

**Westbury/Parkwest Specialist!**

30 yr  
Westbury  
Residents



Buy  
Sell  
Lease

**Tony and Charlseay Porcarello  
Gilda Sprung**

Tony: 713-898-1546 [tporcarello@yahoo.com](mailto:tporcarello@yahoo.com)

Charlseay: 713-898-1484 [charlseay@swbell.net](mailto:charlseay@swbell.net)

Gilda: 713-349-7262 [gilda@gildasprung.com](mailto:gilda@gildasprung.com)



Visit us on the Web @  
[www.porcarello.com](http://www.porcarello.com) or [www.gildasprung.com](http://www.gildasprung.com)

**ASTRO PLUMBING**

“YOUR PROFESSIONAL PLUMBER”  
BEST PRICES ♦ FREE ESTIMATES ♦ SENIOR DISCOUNT

CALL JOHNNY  
C: 713-256-0017

JOHN LEWIS  
M16312

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

**DAVID J. CROWLEY**  
**ATTORNEY AT LAW**

Wills

Probate

Juvenile Law

P.O. BOX 310218  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77231

**713-721-2300**

PROUDLY SERVING WESTBURY FOR 35 YEARS



**Legal Eagle  
CONTRACTORS**

**713-723-8850**

Come see our Showroom at  
5008 Locust Street  
at South Rice, Bellaire

Visit our web site at:  
[www.legaleaglecontractors.com](http://www.legaleaglecontractors.com)



**Dan Bawden, President**  
Certified Graduate Remodeler Graduate Master Builder Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist Certified Green Builder

Top BBB Award Winner - Five Times  
Texas Remodeler of the Year - Three Times  
Houston Remodeler of the Year

**Design and Build  
Kitchens ★ Baths ★ Additions**

Texas Registered Builder # 4301

*Westbury's favorite remodeler  
for over 25 years!*



**Now Available!**  
**Westbury Office Space**

To view the suite,  
phone Don Bryan at 713-723-9353.

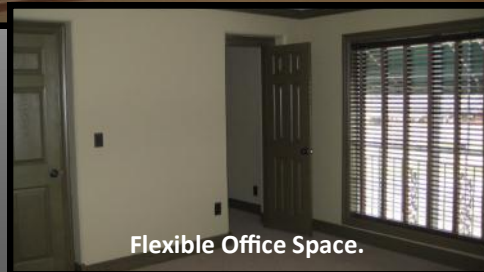
3,000 square-foot 2nd-floor office suite with easy in-and-out lot parking and quick access to the Beltway and the Loop. You won't find a more pleasant or convenient office location in Westbury.



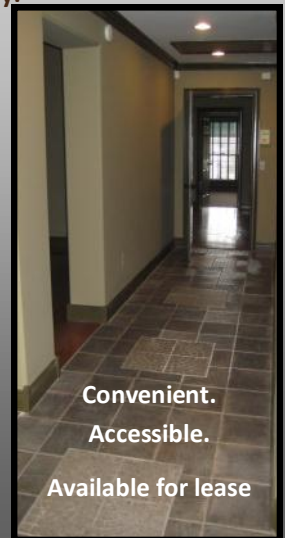
Located on second floor  
of office complex



Recently refurbished.



Flexible Office Space.



Convenient.  
Accessible.

Available for lease