



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 5

MAY 2012

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Westbury Backyard Tour: Saturday May 5, see details to the right
- Check out page 9 for a cut-out 2012 Westbury Pool Schedule
- Willow Waterhole Discovery Walk, Sunday May 20, 7PM, see pg. 8
- WCC Board Meeting: May 16 7PM @ Westbury High School
- May's heavy trash is TREE WASTE ONLY

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Great Backyards of Westbury Tour

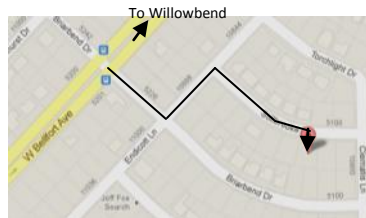
Looking for garden ideas? Curious about what other backyards look like? A beloved Westbury tradition continues in 2012. Enjoy this annual opportunity to peek "behind the fences" on a tour of dazzling Westbury backyards. Each garden on the tour will have docents to answer your questions. The cost is only \$10 to see six Westbury backyards plus a prairie wildflower easement. All proceeds will be used to benefit beautification and maintenance projects for Westbury greenspaces and esplanades.

When: Saturday, May 5 from 1 to 5 PM

Tickets: \$10 per person. Children under 10 are free accompanied by adult.

Where: Tickets may be purchased at 5111 Stillbrooke (77035).

Directions: From W. Belfort (between Chimney Rock and Willowbend) turn east on Briarbend; turn left on Endicott and take your first right onto Stillbrooke. Go to 5111 Stillbrooke. See map below.



Westbury resident Wanda Henao in her beautiful backyard



Westbury Residents Ken & Molly Kent in their backyard oasis

Westbury Pool Opens May 26

The Westbury neighborhood pool opens Saturday, May 26, for the Memorial Day Weekend. Since it's a holiday weekend, the pool will be open on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, from 1-6PM. The pool is typically open Tuesday-Sunday 1-8PM and closed on Mondays.

For the full summer pool schedule, see page 9.

The popular adult water fitness class will be starting June 5. **For more information regarding class times and registration, see page 9.**



METRO UPDATE: US90A light rail line on JUNE 5

METRO has completed their Environmental Impact Study and has narrowed the alternate routes for the Highway 90A rail line down to two choices as it runs through Westbury. Do not miss this very important meeting as METRO unveils the two options. These options could have a significant impact on Westbury in the coming years. Mark your calendars for June 5th at Westbury High School from 6 to 8 PM.

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Westbury Civic Club Office

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9:30AM— 1:30PM*, Closed Fridays

Address: 5322 W Bellfort Ste 107 Houston, TX 77035

Phone: 713-723-5437 **Office Manager:** Jennifer Edmondson

Email: Westburycc@sbcglobal.net

*The office is closed on all major holidays, weekends (follows HISD calendar)

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

District K Councilmember Larry Green

832-393-3016

District C Councilmember Ellen Cohen

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

**THE WCC DOES NOT
ACT ON
ANONYMOUS
COMPLAINTS.
PLEASE MAKE SURE TO LEAVE
YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION**

The WCC Office will be closed May 28th.

President's Message

Mayor Parker gave her State of the City speech in April and she had this to say:

"The state of our city is the strongest it has been for some years and our strength continues to grow. We are the job producing capital of the nation. We are one of only two North American cities ranked among the 40 fastest growing metropolitan economies in the world. We are the number one U.S. city for manufacturing."

This year, instead of budgets, I want to talk to you about faith. Whether you find your strength in God, in family, in friends or in your own two hands, Houston deserves no less than your vision, commitment and a leap of faith. We are working every day at the City of Houston to earn your confidence - your job is to have faith in Houston. The essence of Houston has always included an immense faith in the power of human Ingenuity and effort to change the natural world, the ability to confound conventional wisdom coupled with the unshakable belief that there is a better, brighter future before us and that we can and will rise to meet it if we join our efforts together."

When Dr. Leinhard spoke at the Willow Waterhole annual meeting, he told us that the city leaders put the train in the Houston logo before a train track even existed. That's the spirit I love about Houston and more specifically, Westbury. We don't have to be limited to what is or what has been, we can

envision the future and make it happen.

On the Westbury home front we have lots of good things happening. Our White Elephant sale took place in April. Our 7th annual backyard tour takes place May 5th. The music series Sunday in the park at the Willow Waterhole has been a great success. Harris County Flood Control has started work on another phase of the Willow Waterhole. The City will be creating a new playground at Westbury Park. The Westbury Community garden continues to grow. New water lines are about complete in Westbury 5 and a new project will begin at Hillcroft and S. Main. Homes are being remodeled and renovated. The rains have helped yards.

BUT...what about our commercial areas? For years we have all complained about the lack of economic commercial development and the sad state of much of Westbury's commercial property; let's work together to find solutions. If you work for a commercial entity that you'd like to see in Westbury, talk about your neighborhood. If you visit a restaurant or other commercial venture outside Westbury, encourage them to come to Westbury. What would you like to see in Westbury? Let's envision it and make it happen!

It's a good time to live in Houston. It's a good time to live in Westbury.

Becky Edmondson

Board Mtg. Notes

- Jose Pulido from METRO announced METRO Transit Academy & upcoming June 5 METRO meeting to discuss light rail
- Motion passed for WCC to sponsor HPD SW Substation April Officer of the Month for \$100
- WCC announced that the WAIC will join the "Friends of Westbury Greenspaces" effort.
- Monarch Landscaping replaced the annuals at Chimney Rock and W. Bellfort on April 21
- 4 Westbury South residents attended the meeting
- Updates were given on various meetings and upcoming events.

WCC Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 18
7PM-9PM
Westbury High School

2012 Westbury Civic Club Dues

***Please send this form in with your payment**

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

MANDATORY DUES PW 1 & PW2 PAST DUE

Thank You Westbury!

We greatly appreciate the residents who used the past *CRIER* issues to submit their 2011 dues. Here's a chance to submit your 2012 dues and help pay for our much needed Westbury Area Patrol.

Make checks payable to: Westbury Civic Club, Inc.

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

Online payment:
paypal.com—Send Money to westburycc@sbcglobal.net
Make sure to include your address or account number

Sending multiple payments?
 Circle your payment choice

2 payment of \$147.50

3 payments of 98.34

****Call the office for more payment options or questions**

Westbury Civic Club Membership	\$40	\$
Greenspace Beautification	\$25	\$
Westbury Area Patrol	\$230	\$
Subtotal	\$295	\$
Additional Contributions:		
Westbury Civic Club		\$
Greenspace Beautification		\$
Westbury Area Patrol		\$
Westbury HPD Storefront		\$
Total		\$

Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock
 Monday-Thursday 12—8PM ; Friday 9AM-6PM
 Acting Supervisor: Charles Herrigan 713-726-7107

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 Facebook

Stretching Exercise Class

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9-9:45AM
 Improve your flexibility by joining this non-strenuous exercise class.

Aerobics

Tuesdays and Thursdays
 6:30-7:30PM
 To register, call
 713-726-7107

Line Dancing Class

Mondays, 1-2 PM
 For more information,
 call 713-726-7107



TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Weight loss support group

Tuesdays, 5:45 to 7PM
 Drop in to preview the program or
 call Dorothy 713-723-4441 or
 Naomi 713-988-2233

FILL THE RECYCLE BINS AT CHIMNEY ROCK PARK

Put your cardboard boxes,
 newspapers, magazines, office and
 school materials into the bins and
 help raise money

**NOTE: THE PLATOU CENTER
 WILL BE CLOSED MAY 28
 FOR MEMORIAL DAY AND
 MAY 29 FOR VOTING**

Free Ballroom Dance Lessons

Easy to learn method and lots of fun!
 Advanced Class 6-7PM
 Beginner Class 7-8PM
 Call Marilyn 713-729-9425 for more
 information or to register

Westbury Quilting Bee

Tuesday, 10AM - 3PM
 Contact Janie at 713-721-5526

Games

Wednesday, 10 AM
 Contact Wally at 713-729-9310

Portable Projects

Thursday, 9:30- 11:30 AM
 Any kind of handiwork: knitting, crochet,
 needlepoint, card-making, etc.
 Contact Hazel at 713-729-4568

PLATOU CENTER SHOWCASE FRIDAY May 11, 1-3 PM

Join us at our open house which
 showcases the arts and crafts produced
 by those attending classes and activities
 at the center. See knit and crochet pieces,
 quilts, handmade pottery, jewelry,
 and cards. Refreshments will be served.

Programs at Platou Community Center
 develop because of community interest
 and a person(s) willing to take the lead
 to make a class happen. Call or visit the
 acting supervisor, Charles Herrigan, to
 discuss programs to enliven and
 enhance the Westbury community. Mr.
 Herrigan is eager to see the center fully
 scheduled.

Summer Enrichment Program

Open to families with children
 ages 6-13. Crafts, games, field
 trips, etc. Call Charles Herrigan at
 713-726-7107 for more
 information.

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5006 Creekbend
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 \$238,500

Call for Information on Featured Listings ♦ www.waynemurray.net

What's Happening in Westbury

May 2012 Events & Meetings Calendar

Sat 5	Westbury Backyard Tour 1-5PM Tickets \$10 available at 5111 Stillbrooke See page 1 for more details
Tues 15	Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:15-7:45PM 12501 Dunlap under the pavilion
Wed 16	WAIC/S.N. #37 Meeting 8:30-10AM Salem Lutheran— 4930 W. Bellfort Westbury Area Improvement Corp and Super Neighborhood #37
Wed 16	WCC Board Meeting 7PM– 9PM Westbury High School - 10911 Chimney Rock
Sat 19	Willow Waterhole Monthly Audubon Society Bird Survey 8AM Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot at 5310 S. Willow
Sun 20	Discovery Walk at Willow Waterhole 7PM Meet at Rafferty Circle off Ricecrest
Mon 21	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow
Tues 22	SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM Aramco Building—9009 W. Loop South
Sat 26	Westbury Pool Opens! Pool hours—1PM to 8PM. Pool will be open Monday 5/28 from 1-6PM
Mon 28	WCC Office will be closed for Memorial Day Please email westburycc@sbcglobal.net or leave a message at 713-723-5437

Planning Ahead Calendar:

June 5: METRO Meeting to discuss light rail expansion on US-90A

June 5: Adult Water Fitness begins at Westbury Pool

May 2012 Heavy Trash & Recycling Calendar

Thurs 3	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Tues 15	Heavy Trash— TREE WASTE ONLY (South of W. Bellfort)
Wed 16	Heavy Trash— TREE WASTE ONLY (North of W. Bellfort)
Thurs 17	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 31	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
JUNE	Heavy Trash— JUNK WASTE

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS
IF YOU HAVE MULTIPLE TRASH CANS, PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY ARE AT LEAST 3 FEET APART

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Houston, TX 77035

Important Trash & Recycling Information

- 🗑️ Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM Thursday
- 🗑️ Trash cans must be placed at least 3 feet apart
- 🗑️ Trash cans must be removed by 10PM Thursday
- 🗑️ Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- 🗑️ Yard waste **MUST** be in the correct biodegradable bags
- 🗑️ No heavy trash out before 6PM the Friday before pick-up date
- 🗑️ **YARD WASTE** is not considered tree waste and will not be collected 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
- 🗑️ Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers:
 - SW Trash Depository/Recycling Center 10785 Southwest Frwy**
Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM; Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste and Recyclables. Current utility bill needed.
 - Environmental Service Center 11500 South Post Oak**
Hours: Tues. & Wed. 9AM-3PM; 2nd Saturday 9AM-1PM
Accepts Hazardous Household Waste & Electronic Waste
- 🗑️ Refer to www.westburycrier.com for more trash and recycling information



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Help Keep Westbury Great!

Avoid Parking Tickets

It is a parking violation to park on the grass in your front or side yard in Westbury, per the "prohibited yard parking" city ordinance which Westbury successfully applied to opt into.

Here is a list of other common parking violations in residential areas and the associated parking fines, as published by the Houston Parking Management Department in 2011:

VIOLATION	FINE	>30 days
Parked blocking private driveway	\$40	\$65
Parked within 15 feet of fire hydrant	\$105	\$155
Blocking or parking on sidewalk	\$40	\$65
Parked on wrong side of street	\$30	\$55
Parked on street more than 24 hours	\$30	\$55
Parked within 20 ft of a crosswalk-intersection	\$40	\$65
Parked in a tow away zone	\$70	\$105
No parking anytime	\$40	\$65
Parked in a school zone	\$55	\$80
Parked more than 18" from right-hand curb	\$40	\$65
Commercial vehicle parked between 2-6AM	\$60	\$80
Parked large vehicles in residential district	\$60	\$80
Parking obstructing street	\$40	\$65
Trailer/Semi-trailer parked on street over 2 hours	\$60	\$80

Westbury's Great Places

What makes a neighborhood great? Jay Walljasper wrote a book, **The Great Neighborhood Book: A Do-it-Yourself Guide to Place Making**, which explains it. He says, "The smartest way to turn a neighborhood around is to first take a close look at what goes on there, watching out for what works and what doesn't in that particular place." He goes on to say, "You need to develop a vision. For a community vision to make sense and to make a difference, it needs to come from the people who live there, not from consultants or other outside professionals."

The big question is, of course, how do you begin to create the good places that every neighborhood craves? What process can you use to build places where people want to hang out? How many good places does a neighborhood need? Can you identify the most important places in our neighborhood? Think about the number of things there are to do in each of these places.

Here is your challenge: Think about Westbury for a minute and write down the ten most important places that are nearby — these are the spots you frequently go or recommend to others. Then name ten things you can do at that spot. Then in thinking about a vision for the future, what are the places you wish we had. Send your ideas to: westburygreen@gmail.com. We will print the results in upcoming Criers and we will have a prize for the most creative entries.

Make sure to "Like" us on Facebook at Westbury Houston. We have 314 "Likes" so far, are you one of them? Get trash reminders, ask questions, get security updates, etc!

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Security / Crime

Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37 * 30 days preceding April 23, 2011

	Single-Family Residential	Apartment/ Condominium	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	11	4	0	0	15
Theft	11	3	2	1	17
Auto Theft	2	1	0	0	3
Robbery	3	1	2	0	6
Assault	1	2	1	1 (WHS)	5
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	28	11	5	2	46

Single Family Residential Crime Locations (30 days preceding 4/23/12)

Block	Street	Crime
5900	Alvarado	Robbery
5800	Arboles	Burglary
12100	Atwell	Burglary
6000	Beaudry	Burglary
5900	Belrose	Burglary
5600	Burlinghall	Theft
5900	Dawnridge	Theft
11900	Dunlap	Theft
6000	Duxbury	Burglary
5500	Effingham	Theft
5600	Effingham	Burglary
11400	Endicott	Theft
5500	Ettrick	Burglary
5500	Ettrick	Burglary
6000	Ettrick	Theft
5800	Firenza	Theft
5800	Greencraig	Assault
11700	Hillcroft	Theft
12200	Hillcroft	Theft
10900	Mullins	Theft
5700	Portal	Auto Theft
5000	Redstart	Theft
5200	Warm Springs	Burglary
5700	W. Airport	Robbery
5900	W. Airport	Auto Theft
5100	W. Bellfort	Burglary
5900	W. Bellfort	Burglary
5900	W. Bellfort	Robbery

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

National Police Week May 14 - 18, 2012

The Houston Police Department (HPD) will observe National Police Week May 14 - 18, 2012, by hosting a series of public events to honor and recognize the men and women in blue who gave the ultimate sacrifice to protect and serve our city. On Wednesday, May 16, at 10 AM, HPD will host a Day of Prayer in front of HPD Headquarters at 1200 Travis, Houston 77002. On Friday, May 18, at 7 PM, the annual HPD Memorial Service will be held at the Houston Police Officers Memorial, 2400 Memorial Drive, Houston 77007.

Visit the HPD Museum, located in the lobby of HPD Headquarters at 1200 Travis, Houston 77002, to discover the history of Houston police. It is free and open to the public. To learn more about the museum, visit www.houstontx.gov/police/museum and for more information about HPD, visit <http://www.houstonpolice.org/>.

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Please call and report any suspicious behavior or people to the Westbury Area Patrol Constables. The dispatch number for WAP Precinct 5 Constables is

281-463-6666

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\$\$\$\$ Free Review of Prior Year Return \$\$\$\$

Pam Schertz, CPA

Small Business Accounting & Tax Services
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Houston TX 77035

281-974-2096

Willow Waterhole News

Discover Willow Waterhole Tour- May 20

Save the date on Sunday, May 20, at 7 PM for a Discover Willow Waterhole Tour. Since the weather is heating up, the start time has been moved to the evening this month.

Consider coming early and bringing a picnic supper for you and the family to eat before the tour begins. There are many spots to sit and eat near the Rafferty Memorial (park on Ricecrest between S. Willow and Gasmer). The Discovery Tour will start at 7 PM from the Rafferty Memorial. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

The April Discovery Walk was attended by 13 people on the morning of Saturday, April 14, 2012. Noreen Hoard, a native plant and wildflower enthusiast, identified numerous native plants flowering beside the trails during the walk. The tour group walked over to the nearby Bayou Trail and followed the trail to Willow Waterhole Bayou, admiring the new trail and plant labels and a bench, which were recently added as an Eagle Scout project.



Willow Waterhole Discovery Walk April 14, 2012



Troop 99 Works on the Willow Waterhole Bayou Trail

Our thanks go out to Troop 99 as a third Eagle Scout project from their troop was completed at the Willow Waterhole. In September of 2010, David Brill built the informational kiosk at the Rafferty Memorial and it has been a great asset. In 2011, Sam Nisley tackled the Willow Waterhole Bayou Trail. He cleared the trail that had become overgrown and neglected and a victim of illegal dumping. He also worked with an arborist to identify the trees along the trail. In 2012, Chris Mueller completed more work along the Willow Waterhole Bayou Trail and created signs to identify the trail and trees and built a bench at the end of the trail on the banks of the bayou.

Willow Waterhole – Concert Series

Guest artists for the March 2012 concert at Willow Waterhole were students from Johnston Middle School. The spring weather was sunny and mild as the audience was treated to a variety of musical performances of “great music in a beautiful setting” by choir, band, keyboards, and strings students.

The final concert for the spring was a joint concert in April by the Parker Elementary and Westbury High School Jazz Bands in honor of April being Jazz Month. Concert photos for the Jazz Concert will appear next month in the newsletter.



Johnston Middle School students perform for Westbury resident at Music in the Park at the Willow Waterhole in March 2012



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Westbury Pool

*10605 Mullins (corner of Mullins and Willowbend) * 713-723-2192*

Westbury City Pool Summer 2012 Schedule

Pool is open daily 1-8PM from June 2 to August 19, Closed on Mondays.

May 26— Pool Opens, 1-8PM

May 28 (Memorial Day)- Pool OPEN 1-6PM

Wed., July 4—Pool OPEN 1-5PM

August 25 - September 2— Pool open on Saturday and Sundays only, 1-8PM

September 3 (Labor Day) - Last day for the pool to be open! 1-6PM

Questions? Call pool at 713-723-2192

Address: 10605 Mullins (near Parker Elem.)

Sign up NOW! Classes fill up fast! 2012 Summer Adult Water Fitness Classes

It's that time again! Louis Moore of the City's Parks Department has brought us the great news that we will have TWO, yes TWO, Adult Water Fitness Classes this summer at the Westbury pool. A new class, the "Hydro-Flow Training" class will focus on a light cardiovascular workout, balance core training, yoga and Tai Chi and is designed for individuals who prefer a "lighter" intensity class. And for those people who prefer a higher level of intensity, the Parks Department will offer a "Hydro-Fit Power" Training class as well. Enrollment is first come, first served. Space fills up fast as these classes are very popular. Last summer the "Hydro-Fit Training Class" at the Westbury Pool was in such high demand, the city decided to offer a second class directly after the first one in order to handle the high demand. Grab a friend and have some fun working out!

The Adult Water Fitness Classes will start on June 5 and run till August 10. Registration is available online at activenet11.active.com/houstonparks. You may be able to register at the pool once it opens, but beware, spaces fill up fast!

Adult Water Fitness Class Schedule

Hydro-Flow Training— Wednesday & Friday 6:00-6:50 PM

Hydro-Fit Power Training—Wed. & Friday 7:00-7:50 PM



Can you spot the WCC President in this photo?



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Westbury Parks

Westbury Park and new “Friends of Westbury Greenspaces”

Last month we reported the good news that updates are coming to Westbury Park through the City of Houston’s Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The city swimming pool at Westbury Park was improved several years ago during Phase One and Phase Two will soon begin. Several Westbury residents recently met with the Parks Department and Donald Perkins, Chief of Staff from District K, to review the plans. The old playground area will be demolished and new playground equipment will be installed this fall. Parents will be pleased to learn the rocks at the current playground will be replaced with a mulch surface.

This playground needs more shade. If you are familiar with nearby Godwin Park, then you have seen the playground shade covers which make going to that park more pleasant in our sunny, hot Houston climate. The city does not install options like shade covers or covered picnic areas, so the neighborhood around Godwin raised money to implement them. We want these things, too!

We are happy to announce the creation of the “Friends of Westbury Greenspaces”. This Friends group will operate under the auspices of our long-time partner, the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) 501(c)3 nonprofit. Donations will be tax deductible, as allowed by law. This year the project of the Friends of Westbury Greenspaces will be Westbury Park. The Parks department is working up the cost of the extras that we would like to see at Westbury Park and we will be kicking off the fundraising effort soon. Westbury residents Melanie Rosen and Bill Burhans have both stepped forward to work on this project.

Q: What is a greenspace?

A: It is a place in a city which has been set aside for parks, trails, playgrounds, gardens, natural areas, etc.

Q: Where do I send my donations?

A: We will let you know after we kick off our fundraising efforts in the near future.

Q: Why is the name “Friends of Westbury Greenspaces”?

A: The greenspaces/ parks in Westbury are owned by government entities and not by the Westbury Civic Club. We propose to select a project each year and raise the funds needed to complete it. These projects will be spread across the various greenspaces in Westbury over the coming years. In addition, we know how generous Westbury residents can be, so we want the donations to be eligible for charitable tax-deductions. We have a vision that we want all our parks and greenspaces to be attractive and welcoming.

Platou Community Center Update

Mark your calendars for May 11 for a special event at Platou Community Center where you can see some of the creations that have been made in the classes this past year. The **Showcase of Crafts** will be on Friday, May 11 from 1 to 3 PM.

Portable Projects members will show the many crocheted and knitted items they have made plus some jewelry will be on display. The Quilting Bee will have table runners, throws, and bed-size quilts to see. The Pottery Group will display their handmade work. Come to the Platou Center to see the wonderful work that has been done.

With the start of school vacation in June, the Platou Center will alter its schedule to accommodate children signed up for Summer Enrichment. The Stretching Class will continue on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Quilting will take a break until mid- August. Other groups such as Games and Portable Projects will meet in the small classroom.

The Parks and Recreation Department has assured Westbury that our community center will not be closed anytime in the future. We do, however, need people in the community to use it and support it. Consider the possibilities for new classes, classes of design, in mid-August, early September. The schedule is open. Activities there happen because Westbury residents want them and support them.

Friends of Chimney Rock Park

Yard of the Month

Yard of the Month judging has started. May winners will be announced in the June Crier. Get your yards ready!

Judges are encouraged to consider a variety of gardening styles for awards since Westbury has a wide range of garden types. Trash violations and deed restriction violations disqualify a home from consideration.

If you have a yard or see a yard that you would like to nominate for Yard of the Month, call or email the address to the WCC office at 713-723-5437 or westburycc@sbcglobal.net.

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Left to Right: CM Jack Christie, Cindy, Chapman, Becky Edmondson

THE WESTBURY CIVIC CLUB WORKING FOR WESTBURY

WCC President Becky Edmondson, WCC Director Cindy Chapman, and City Council-Member (At-Large 5) Jack Christie, toured the city Environmental Service Center on S. Post Oak near South Main/US90A on April 18. They also visited a nearby recycling facility operated by Waste Management.

What did CM Christie hear from them? That Westbury residents who don't yet have single-stream recycle bins (the big 96 gallon green bins) want them and keep asking the WCC about getting them.

What did they learn during the tour that they did not know? Little plastic toys, like action figures or toys given away at fast food places, frequently jam up the machinery at the recycling center. Please don't toss those little plastic toys into your recycle bins.

HISD Student Experiments Make History on the SpaceX Dragon

On May 7, 2012 four Houston students will eagerly watch their experiments head to space aboard the SpaceX Dragon as it blasts off from Cape Canaveral to rendezvous with the International Space Station (ISS). Onboard the historic flight was precious cargo including two student experiments from Houston as well as two student-designed mission patches.

Twelve communities from across the U.S. participated in this year's Student Spaceflight Experiments Program (SSEP) Mission 1. The two projects selected from Houston were: Emily Soice from **Johnston Middle School** proposed "Hepatocyte Development in Bioscaffolds infused with TGFB3 in Microgravity" and the team of Michael Prince, Maxx Denning and Aaron Stuart from **Parker Elementary School** proposed "Will Vitamin C Help Preserve Bone Density in Microgravity?" Both schools also held an art contest to design a unique mission patch. Fifth grade student Christian Astorga designed the winning patch from Parker Elementary and the winning patch from Johnston Middle School was designed by eighth grader, Sebastian Beil.



JMS Student Emily Soice



Parker Elementary students Michael Prince, Max Denning and Aaron Stuart at Texas A&M preparing their experiment for flight.



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 <p>5807 HUMMINGBIRD 3/2/2 \$180,000 PARKVIEW</p>	<div style="background-color: #4b4b8b; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>JUST SOLD</p> </div> <p>5163 ARIEL 879 DUNLAP 5118 LYMBAR 5007 WILLOWBEND</p>	 <p>5538 BANKSIDE 3/2/2 \$179,500 PARKVIEW</p>	

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Spring 2012 Westbury White Elephant Community Garage Sale

Spring 2012 White Elephant Sale

April 21st was a beautiful day for the semi-annual White Elephant Community Garage Sale! When the sale opened there was a line of over 100 shoppers waiting to come in. Forty-eight “merchants” set up their wares and lots of treasures changed hands. The most unusual find of the day? A saddle!

Longtime participants Wayne and Merrill, who sell their beautiful, often exotic, plants, sold all of them. One booth reported sales of \$823. It takes a lot of work to make this event successful. The participants have to pack up and unload. The volunteers showed up at 5:30AM to start getting the parking lot ready.

Our thanks go out to all who help make this such a success and to Westbury United Methodist for the use of their parking lot and St. John’s Presbyterian for the use of theirs for parking. And, of course, thanks to Jennifer Edmondson for coordinating all the details.



Top: Long line of shoppers waiting for the sale to begin
Middle: Hundreds of shoppers came out to shop the booths
Bottom: Spring 2012 White Elephant Sale



Westbury UMC garage sale May 5

Westbury United Methodist Church invites the local community to a garage sale on Saturday, May 5, from 8 a.m. until noon, with all proceeds going to help rescue orphans in Haiti. The sale will be held in the church’s gym area. Items for sale will include furniture, clothing, household décor, toys, books, workout equipment and much more. Cash Only. Organizers of the sale hope to raise enough money to build a safe house for orphaned children in Ferrier, Haiti. For \$6,000, Haitian leaders and pastors can construct a safe place for children to live, grow and be educated.

Below: Happy shoppers waiting for the sale to begin



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Westbury Backyard Tour

May 5

1-5PM

Neighborhood and Area News

Rotary Club Gives Parker \$10,000

The Rotary Club of Houston gave a check for \$10,000 to the Parker PTO on April 13. Rick Slemaker, a Member of the Board of Directors the Rotary Club of Houston presented the check to Principal Dr. Drew Houlihan and PTO President Robyn Perry. Slemaker prefaced the presentation speaking about the importance of education and music in Texas schools. He noted the number of times he's had Parker performers play at the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston. He knows a performance by Parker students will be top notch. In light of the Texas Legislature budgeting less money for education, the \$10,000 was meant as gesture of "voting with dollars to support Parker Elementary."

METRO Leadership Program

METRO has a new leadership program to train advocates about transit. The purpose of the Transit Academy is to enhance awareness about METRO, create partnerships with the community and to develop transit advocacy in the Houston region. Participants will take their new knowledge and put it to use by designing individual action plans that they will implement in their community. The METRO Transit Academy will offer seven Wednesday evening sessions, from 6 to 9 PM starting on June 6, 2012 until July 25th. Applications for the June 6, 2012 session should be submitted no later than May 15, 2012. This is a free program. For more information regarding the METRO Transit Academy, please contact Metro at jose.pulido@ridemetro.org.

My City Maps and Apps

Houstonians now have access to a wealth of information at their fingertips through a new online portal for data and geographic information with My City Maps and Apps. My City can be found online at <http://mycity.houstontx.gov/home/> or from the City of Houston homepage at www.houstontx.gov.

My City can provide insight into evacuation routes, flood information, land use and planned improvements. Citizens can access mapped information such as aerial imagery, council districts, parcel addresses, permitting, street maps, utility services and much more. Additionally, citizens can find their heavy trash pick-up schedules and view crime data in their neighborhood.

Name that Book Competition

The Johnston Middle School Name That Book team placed 1st at the preliminary competition and placed 4th in the District Finals. Team members Jonah Levine, Pamela Banner, Gabi Klein, Karyn Barentine, Jackson Hardin, Safa Nazlee, Gabe Theis, Olivia Simmons, and Chloe Sims read over 240 books to prepare for the competition. The Name That Book contest, coordinated by the [HISD](http://www.hisd.org) Department of Library Services, serves to acquaint HISD students with classic literature as well as contemporary award-winning books, representing a variety of genres.

Austin Chen is the new Section Director for Westbury 2. Austin, his wife Sahel and their two sons have lived in Westbury for two years. Austin got his BS, MS and PhD degrees in mechanical engineering from Georgia Tech and currently works in the oil and gas industry. He enjoys playing music, sports, and photography. Sahel has degrees in history, political science, and business administration. Together, they share a love for mid-century modern architecture which brought them to their Westbury home.

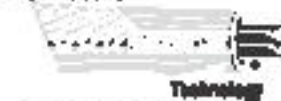


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