



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 59, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2014

Westbury Pool Open

The Westbury neighborhood pool, operated by the City of Houston, opened on Saturday, May 24, for the Memorial Day Weekend. The pool will be open weekends only until June 10. Once fully operational, the pool will be open Tuesday—Sunday 1-8PM and closed on Mondays. **For the full summer pool schedule, see page 6.**

The Westbury Pool will have two sessions of the popular adult water fitness class and a new Aqua Zumba class starting **June 17**. There will also be a **free children's learn to swim program**. **For more information regarding class descriptions, times and registration, see page 6.**

The pool is located at 10605 Mullins @ Willowbend (near Parker Elementary).

Parker Elementary New Building Design Concepts Revealed



Photo taken by Photographer Dave Einsel/HISD. Used with permission

The initial design concepts for the new Parker Elementary School were officially released during a Community Meeting at Parker on May 6. Construction is slated to begin the summer of 2015 and last for 14 months.

Check out page 23 for more information regarding Parker Elementary School's new building. Learn about this exciting process and all the upcoming improvements to the Parker campus.

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Funk & Soul at the Waterhole

Saturday, June 7 from 3PM-6PM

Three Funk and Soul Acts will perform at the Willow Waterhole on Saturday, June 7, from 3-6PM. A Funky Blast of Super-Coolness will be had by all! Performances will be by Jazz R' Boyz, Collective Hallucination featuring Ant Boogie and The Breakdown (Prince tribute).

Bands will be celebrating the music of Prince and the 30 year anniversary of the hit film "Purple Rain". Refreshments will be available for purchase. Bring your Favorite chair or blanket. This fun family event is sponsored by Brays Oaks Mgt. District and hosted by the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy. Performances will be held at the "South Gazebo" at Willow Waterhole, 5300 1/2 Dryad. Parking available off Dryad. For more information, visit www.wwgc.org



WCC Office Summer Hours
Mon-Thurs
8AM-Noon
Friday
Closed

*If you need to visit the office outside of the listed hours, please call 713-723-5437 and set up an appointment time.

FREE NOTARY SERVICE AVAILABLE DURING OFFICE HOURS

5322 W. Bellfort #107
Houston, TX 77035

Coffee With the Constables



The new WCC outreach program, "Coffee with the Constables" has been a great success! It allows Westbury residents to meet the constables who provide security in Westbury. The next coffee will be in Parkwest 1 at **5507 Briarbend** on Saturday June 14 from 8AM to 9:30AM.

Saturday, June 14 @ 8AM

Westbury Civic Club Board Meeting
JUNE 18 @ 7PM
Westbury Baptist
(Open to all residents/homeowners)

Heavy Trash for JUNE is JUNK WASTE
Pick-up for ALL of Westbury is Thursday, JUNE 12

Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors

President	Becky Edmondson	wccpresident@westburycrier.com
Vice President	Marcia Hartman	wccvp@westburycrier.com
Secretary	VACANT	
Treasurer	Pamela Schertz	wcc treasurer@westburycrier.com

Directors at Large

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Community Relations	Cindy Chapman	wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com
Deed Restrictions	Jennifer Edmondson	wccoffice@westburycrier.com
Flood Control & Infrastructure	VACANT	
Greenspace Beautification	Carlos Mata	
Membership	Kate Wilson	
Security	Leslee Cross	wccsecurity@westburycrier.com
Volunteer Coordinator	Stephanie Lester	westburystephanie@gmail.com

Section Directors

Westbury 1	Sylvia Rendon	Westbury1@westburycrier.com
Westbury 2	Rocio Lara	
Westbury 3	Robert Montgomery	
Westbury 3	Charlsey Porcarello	charlsey@swbell.net
Westbury 4	Eugene Sirls	
Westbury 4	VACANT	
Westbury 5	Virginia Livingston	Westbury5E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5	Genie Mitchell	
Westbury South	Robert Capps	
Parkwest 1	William Grimsinger	
Parkwest 2	Jeffrey Weiss	jhweiss@yahoo.com
Parkwest 3	Joe Niles	Parkwest3@westburycrier.com

Westbury Civic Club Office

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8AM-12PM*, 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)
NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL WESTBURY RESIDENTS during office hours or by appointment

WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM

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

Deed Restriction Enforcement (City Legal)
 832-393-6333

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

Stay connected!
Are you one of the 1,030 likes on our Facebook page, Westbury Houston?

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION
Published by: Westbury Civic Club, Inc
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Edited by: WCC Publication Committee
Advertising: Call 713-723-5437 or email westburycc@sbcglobal.net
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President's Message

I love Westbury! I was reminded of that sentiment when the *Houston Chronicle* called recently to do a story on Westbury. Did you read the two very positive articles that appeared in the Bellaire neighborhood section of the *Chronicle* on May 8th about Westbury and Westbury High School? As is often the case, the question of Westbury's "decline" and current "rise" is usually raised. The fall of Westbury Square may have contributed to a misconception in Houston that Westbury's neighborhoods went through a period of decline, but as readers of the *Crier* know, this perception is just not true. It dawned on me that there is a difference between a subdivision and a neighborhood. While the commercial heart of our subdivision is no more, our new heart is in our green spaces. From the great new playground at Westbury Park to the well used Hager Park; from the Platou Center and Chimney Rock Park; to the Westbury Community Garden and the Willow Waterhole; these spaces are our public heart and that heart is HEALTHY, LIVELY, and GREEN!

Look throughout this edition of the *Crier* for articles on the Westbury Pool schedule, another Music in the Park day at the Willow Waterhole and most

excitingly, news from the Westbury Community Garden. Can you believe that fresh organic produce will be for sale on the weekends from Plant It Forward Farms (PIFF) here in Westbury? We're taking "Going Green" to a whole new level. We recycle in record numbers, some residents harvest their rainwater, we "re-use" through our two White Elephant Sales, many of us garden in our yards and, by living close to the city centers, we reduce our carbon footprint. Westbury is definitely GREEN!

But what about the heart of our neighborhood? The heart of Westbury is its residents. **You** are the real reason Westbury, the neighborhood, has never declined. Many of our original residents stayed when there was flight in other parts of Houston to outlying neighborhoods. Some of us are still lucky enough to have these early pioneers as neighbors. They built homes "far" outside the city and established places of worship while the public infrastructure of roads, post offices, schools, and bus routes soon followed, along with merchants catering to this new phenomena of suburbia. It was a different time then, but that neighborliness of the sixties

and seventies still abounds today. I hope all of you live on a "good" street of neighbors and not on one with strangers. With so many homes changing hands and with our busy schedules, it is hard to find time to meet our neighbors. So many times those thorny issues between strangers can be fixed when you become neighbors. Your neighbor's visible trash bin may not be nearly as annoying if you know and like your neighbor. Once you are friends, then you might even come up with a friendly solution. One neighbor used to fret about the state of his neighbor's front yard until he realized that it was less stressful and time consuming to just mow it himself. Here is my summer challenge: get to know your neighbors. There are many ways to do this. In the "olden" days neighbors would bring cookies or baked bread to welcome a newcomer; that still works! Put a chair or bench out in the front yard and chat. Host an informal block party. It's summer; have a backyard barbecue and invite a few of the neighbors. Get to know one another! I think you will be glad you did.

Happy summer!

Becky Edmondson

Board Notes— May 2014

- **BREAKING NEWS: HISD Trustee for District 9, Wanda Adams, was guest speaker. Adams spoke of WHS principal search, possible loss of WHS land acquisition, and budget concerns regarding magnet programs.**
- **Discussed a requested environmental permit by Southern Crushed Concrete for a concrete batch plant on Gasmer near WHS and the Willow Waterhole. A meeting will be held on May 28.**
- **The June Board meeting is Wednesday, June 18 at 7PM at Westbury Baptist**



Golden Boot award at the KHB Commissioner's luncheon, pictured Robin Blut of KHB and Jim Bates of Scotts Miracle-Gro with WCC President Edmondson

"Like" us on Facebook

Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock

Monday-Thursday 12PM—8PM; Fridays 11AM-7PM

Supervisor: Dan Reilly, Daniel.reilly@houstontx.gov or 713-726-7107

"Like" us on Facebook

All day time adult programming is suspended for June and July due to Summer Enrichment Program for youth. Some groups are meeting elsewhere. Please see schedule below.

Stretching Exercise Class —
Monday, Wed, Friday, 9-9:45AM
St. Thomas More Scout House, 10330 Hillcroft
Improve your flexibility by joining this non-strenuous exercise class. No registration required. Wear comfy clothes.

Games
Weds., 10 AM to 12PM
St. Thomas More Scout House, 10330 Hillcroft
Contact Wally at 713-729-9310 for more info

Portable Projects
Thursday, 10AM to Noon.
Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet
For more information, call Genie Mitchell at 713-470-7969

Adult programming will resume in August. Please see the August Crier for more information.

Summer Enrichment Program

Registration is NOW open! Program begins in June. Open to children ages 6-13. Hours are 8AM to 6PM. Call Dan Reilly at 713-726-7107 for more info.

Free Meal Program

Available for children 18 and under Monday thru Friday. For more Information, call Dan at the Platou Center at 713-726-7107

Effective Fat Loss Strategies June 23@ 6:30PM

Louis Moore (instructor of water fitness class at the Westbury Pool) will be conducting a 90-minute workshop on *Effective Fat Loss Strategies*. Louis said that he receives many questions each year from water fitness participants about how to lose weight. "I thought it would be more practical to give one presentation at the beginning of the summer. It will cover topics on insulin resistance, intermittent fasting (IF), nutrition principles, exercise principles, super foods, and sample workout plans designed for fat burning."

Don't forget to recycle your paper and cardboard at Chimney Rock Park!



STILL AT PLATOU!

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly
Weight loss support group
Tues, 5:45-7PM
Drop in to preview the program or call Dorothy at 713-723-4441 or Naomi at 713-988-2233

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kendylm@waynemurray.net



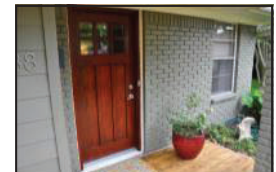
5934 Hummingbird
\$239,000



5802 Cerritos
\$295,000

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Just Listed!



5934 Sanford
\$264,500



5207 Spellman
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11631 Landsdowne
Just Listed!

What's Happening in Westbury

Events & Meetings Calendar June 2014

Thurs 5	Westbury Meet & Eat at Teotihuacan @ 6PM 6579 W Belfort Open to all Westbury residents
Sat 7	Funk & Soul at the Waterhole, 3-6PM 5300 1/2 Dryad. See page 1 for more information
Mon 9	Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:30PM Westbury Community Garden pavilion (Dunlap @ Fonmeadow)
Tues 10	Westbury Pool Opens for weekday use 1-8PM 10605 Mullins More information, see page 7
Sat 14	Coffee with the Constables @ 5507 Briarbend 8AM-9:30AM all Westbury residents are welcome More information on page 1 & 6
Mon 16	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow
Tues 17	Water Fitness Classes start at the Westbury Pool 10605 Mullins More information, see page 7
Wed 18	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting 8:30AM Salem Lutheran - 4930 W. Belfort Open to ALL Westbury residents
Wed 18	WCC Board Meeting 7PM Westbury Baptist Church Open to ALL Westbury residents
Sat 21	Audubon Society Bird Survey 8AM Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot—5310 S. Willow
Tues 24	SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM Aramco Bldg
July 3-4	WCC Office Closed

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS

- HURRICAN SEASON STARTS JUNE 1
- KEEP STORM DRAINS CLEAR OF DEBRIS.
- HAVE YOUR TREES TRIMMED NOW!

City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule

January	Tree Waste	July	Tree Waste
February	Junk Waste	August	Junk Waste
March	Tree Waste	September	Tree Waste
April	Junk Waste	October	Junk Waste
May	Tree Waste	November	Tree Waste
June	Junk Waste	December	Junk Waste

Planning Calendar

Meet & Eat—July 3
WCC Office Closed— July 3

RECYCLING AND HEAVY TRASH CALENDAR

June 2014	
Thurs 12	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 12	Heavy Trash— JUNK WASTE ALL OF WESTBURY
Thurs 26	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

July 2014	
Thurs 10	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 10	Heavy Trash- TREE WASTE ONLY ALL OF WESTBURY
Thurs 24	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

Important Trash & Recycling Info

- Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM each Thursday
- Trash cans must be removed by 10PM each Thursday
- Trash cans must be placed at least 3 feet apart
- Trash cans must be stored out of sight.
- Yard waste **MUST** be in correct biodegradable bags
- Heavy trash can be placed starting at 6PM the Friday before pick-up
- YARD WASTE** is not considered tree waste. It is collected on regular Thursday trash day
- Call 311 for all trash questions and complaints
- Nearby Trash Depositories and Recycling Centers:
SW Trash Depository/Recycling Ctr -10785 SW Frwy
Hours: Wed.—Sun. 9AM to 6PM; Accepts Junk Waste, Tree Waste & Recyclables.
- Environmental Service Center - 11500 S. Post Oak**
Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM.
Accepts Hazardous Household & Electronic Waste.
- Refer to www.westburycrier.com or www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information

Westbury Pool

10605 Mullins @ Willowbend (near Parker Elem.) 713-723-2192

Westbury City Pool

Summer 2014 Schedule

June 7– June 8: Pool open Saturday and Sunday, 1-8PM

June 10– August 17: Pool OPEN Normal Summer Hours Tuesday—Sunday 1-8PM; Closed Monday

July 4: Pool OPEN, 1-5PM

August 23 - August 31: Pool open on Saturday and Sunday only, 1-8PM

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

Questions? Call pool at 713-723-2192

FREE Water Fitness Classes

Stay in shape this summer and cool off at the same time! The city will once again offer **FREE** water fitness classes for adults at Westbury Pool this summer. These classes are very popular. There will be 3 classes this year. New this year to the Westbury Pool is Aqua Zumba! See below for class descriptions and times.

Online registration (<https://activenet011.active.com/houstonparks/>) began on May 19, or you can register with the instructor on class days, shortly before each class starts. The first day of class will be Tuesday, June 17, and the last day of class will be Thursday, August 8, at the Westbury Pool. If you have questions, call the city Adult Sports Office at (832) 395-7274.

Water fitness is a great exercise for any age, any fitness level and any body type. Wear appropriate swimwear, aquatic shoes are advised, and always bring a bottle of water for hydration.

NOTE: Westbury Pool will be closed for general swimming use during fitness classes

Adult Water Fitness Class Schedule & Descriptions

Adult Hydro-Fit Power Training:

Wednesday & Friday 6:10PM and 7:10PM

Louis Moore will teach his highly popular *Hydro Fit Power Training* class again for the 8th year at Westbury Pool with 2 different class times, either 6:10PM or 7:10PM. This class is an athletic approach to water fitness training with sports-specific drills, intense cardiovascular work, intervals, balance/core training, martial arts, and plyometrics. This is a great way to improve your cardiovascular conditioning and muscular strength and endurance with minimal stress on your joints. Loud, rocking music is a part of the workout. Intensity: moderate to hard.

NEW Adult Aqua Zumba:

Tuesday and Thursday 9-10AM

The city will be offering *Aqua Zumba* to help meet the needs of Westbury residents who prefer morning classes. This class combines high energy and Latin music with movement in the water, a combination that helps participants dance away their worries while staying in shape.

FREE Swim Lessons for Kids

The City of Houston will be offering a Learn To Swim program called *H2OSAFE* for youth ages 6 – 13 at the Westbury Pool. This class will consist of 3 instructional levels and will be held Tuesday – Friday from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. More information is available at the city aquatic department's website:

<http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/aquatics/h2osafe.html>



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M-F 8-5 Thurs. 8-7 Sat. 10-4
6 Months No Interest Financing

WCC Outreach

Trash at Hager Park (next to Anderson Elementary)

Public parks belong to ALL of us. We all need to work together to keep our public parks clean. We should not accept trashy conditions at our parks, and Hager Park in particular, seems to be having recurring problems with trash. Becky Edmondson and Cindy Chapman of the WCC recently toured the SPARK playground near Anderson Elementary with Kathleen Ownby, Director of the SPARK program, Donald Perkins with District K, and Dr. Roz Vaughn (Principal) and Guadalupe Valderaz (Asst. Principal).

Anderson Elementary has taken steps to keep the SPARK playground near the school cleaner. They have replaced the rusty trashcans, with big holes in the bottom, which were useless as trash containers. They are also emptying the trashcans more often and picking up trash which collects along their fence line.

However, most of the trash we observed at Hager Park and at the adjoining SPARK playground is NOT coming from the students at Anderson Elementary. Most of the trash is coming from adults and families. We adults are the problem, not the students!

We should not accept junky and trashy conditions at ANY of our public facilities. *When you visit a public park, please leave it cleaner than when you arrived. It is simple to bring a small bag and pick up a few pieces of trash while you are disposing of your own trash.* Call 311 if the city needs to empty trashcans or perform other services.

Coffee With the Constables

A new WCC outreach program, "Coffee with the Constables" was created to allow residents an opportunity to meet the constables who provide supplemental security in Westbury. This program has been a great success with our 4th coffee scheduled for Saturday, June 14. A big thank you to Eugene Sirs for hosting the May Coffee!

The Civic Club is hosting these events over the next several months in different sections of Westbury so that all residents have the opportunity to meet the valued members of the Westbury Area Patrol (WAP).

If you would like to host a coffee morning in front of your house, please email westburystephanie@gmail.com or call the WCC office with your contact info and address.

The WCC provides ALL the refreshments!

The next "Coffee with the Constables" will be on Saturday, June 14, at 5507 Briarbend. Parkwest 1 homeowners, Brian and Bonnie Bibeau, will be hosting the coffee at their home from

8AM to 9:30AM. Stop by and say hello!

**June 14 @ 5507 Briarbend,
8AM-9:30AM**

WCC Directors Go to School

Several directors of the WCC, and many other community leaders from District K, devoted a Saturday morning on April 26 at Westbury High School to attend a class organized by District K CM Larry Green called "Neighborhood 101: Legal Aspects of Running an Effective Civic Board". Attending from the WCC were: Cindy Chapman, Virginia Livingston, Marcia Hartman, Jennifer Edmondson, and Stephanie Lester.

The speakers were Sipra Boyd of the Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Harley law firm and Stephanie Ferrante of the Community Associations Institute. Ms. Boyd gave an overview of the state and federal laws which may affect civic associations and how these requirements interact with the governing documents of an association such as deed restrictions, bylaws, articles of incorporation, etc. The "empowerment clause" by the state of Texas provides the authority for a civic association to act when enforcing deed restrictions, so that if the deed restrictions say that a yard must be maintained, then the civic association has the authority to enforce that. There was discussion that many communities use city resources to address problems when the city is able to enforce, since this is an effective use of funds.



Summer Robotics Camps - Meyerland



9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

MONDAY - FRIDAY

AGES 6 - 11

\$275 PER SESSION

Session 1 • July 7th - July 11th

Session 2 • July 14th - July 18th

Session 3 • Aug 4th - Aug 8th

For Registration: 832.338.9808

deycohen@aol.com

Summer Fencing Camps - Meyerland

9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

MONDAY - FRIDAY

AGES 7 - 18

\$375 PER SESSION

Session 1 • June 14th - June 18th

Session 2 • July 21st - July 25th

Session 3 • Aug 4th - Aug 8th

Session 3 • Aug 11th - Aug 15th

For Registration: 832.338.9808

deycohen@aol.com



Farm Stand Coming to Westbury

Farm Stand Opening in Westbury

A farm stand selling freshly harvested, organic vegetables is opening at the Westbury Community Garden(WCG), right here in our own neighborhood! Two refugee farmers, who have been trained by Plant It Forward Farms, have large plots at the Westbury Community Garden. Alain and Sarment will be selling their organic, sustainably grown produce under the large outdoor pavilion at the Westbury Community Garden.



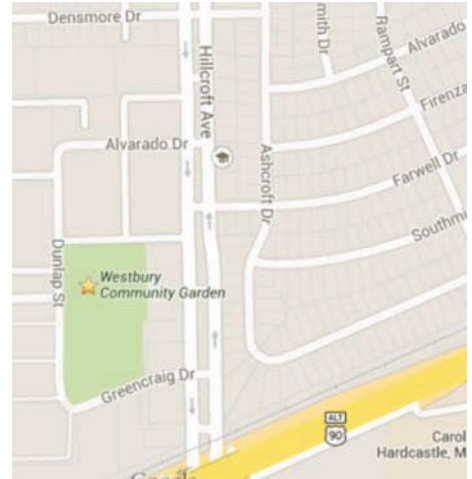
We invite everyone in Westbury and nearby communities to visit and support the farm stand. Produce always tastes best when just harvested. **The farm stand starts on May 31st and will be open every Saturday and Sunday.**

SATURDAYS – 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.
SUNDAYS – 10 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

Please let your friends, families and neighbors know, and encourage them to support this amazing effort at bringing freshly harvested, organic, grown on the spot produce, right here in Westbury. This could be the first step in having a full fledged farmer's market here in Westbury. However, we need to demonstrate that our community supports local food by buying it.

Plant It Forward also has a Farm Share Program (Community Supported Agriculture or CSA), where you can pay up front for a certain number of weeks, and in return receive a weekly bountiful share of the harvest coming from their gardens. It is a way to support them in their efforts, and to have priority in what they harvest. Please visit

<http://plant-it-forward.org/ourproduce/farm-share/> for more information. One of the pick-up locations is the Westbury Community Garden on Saturdays and Sundays. Contact the Farm Share Manager at kassy@plant-it-forward.org or 713-599-8445 if you have any questions.



WHERE IS THE GARDEN?

The Westbury Community Garden is located near Hillcroft and South Main (US 90A) in zip code 77035. The intersection of Greencraig and Hillcroft is the intersection closest to the railroad tracks at South Main.

Take Greencraig and follow it around the bend where it turns into Dunlap. The large blue roof of the June Hollingsworth Outdoor Learning Center, built by Leadership Houston, is readily visible.



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Westbury Community Garden News

WHAT IS "PLANT IT FORWARD FARMS"?

Plant It Forward Farms (PIFF) provides refugees with the tools, training, and business skills needed to become successful urban farmers.



A record number of new refugees are coming to Houston every year, many of whom have fled violence in their homelands and are starting new lives without the job or language skills needed to succeed. Plant It Forward Farms is helping these refugees become self-reliant entrepreneurs who can support their families and help our city grow.

WHAT IS A REFUGEE? Refugees are people who are forced to flee their home country due to a well-founded fear of persecution due to their race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion. Many spend years in refugee camps before making it to America. They arrive here, having placed their hope in the American dream. Some of these refugees are experienced farmers

How does PIFF work? Each farmer must have had prior farming experience, usually in their home countries, and must complete a rigorous 12 month training program to be certified as a Plant It Forward farmer. At the successful completion of the program, each farmer receives a mentor and an urban micro-farm to grow and sell their own produce under the Plant It Forward brand.

See previous page for more information on the Plant It Forward Farm Stand and farm share program at the Westbury Community Garden.

New Website for Westbury Community Garden

The Westbury Community Garden (WCG) has updated their website to make it more visually appealing and informative. The website also has photos and information about the garden. To learn more, check it out at <http://westburycommunitygarden.org> If you have any questions about the garden or would like to inform the webmaster about ways to improve the website, then use the Contact Us page on the website.

WWW.WESTBURYCOMMUNITYGARDEN.ORG



Become an important part of Westbury's history. Donate today to save our 7 acre site that is home to the Westbury Community Garden. Join the thousands of Westbury residents who in the past have donated their hard earned dollars to make a difference from: adding street lights, park and esplanade improvements, and bringing quality programming to Westbury youth etc. It's now our turn to really make a difference. We have faith that this project is worth doing -- protect this 7-acres of land as a public greenspace instead of yet another apartment complex built in SW Houston. To make donations by check, make the check payable to "WAIC – Land Acquisition", and then clip the donation form and mail it to the address indicated. To make a donation by PayPal or credit card, go to the WCC website (www.westburycrier.com) and click on the blue button "DONATE NOW – Secure donations through Network for Good". **Donations are tax-deductible.**

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Help Save Our 7 Acre Greenspace

Attached is my tax-deductible donation of \$ _____	Donations of any amount (small or large) are welcomed and appreciated!	
Name:	GIVING CATEGORIES	
Address:		
	Contributor	\$100
Email:	Sustainer	\$250
Mailing Address for Donation receipt (if different)	Sponsor	\$500
	Steward	\$1000
	Benefactor	\$5000+
	Other	

Checks should be made payable to WAIC – Westbury Land Acquisition
Send donations to the Westbury Civic Club,
5322 W. Belfort St., Suite 107, Houston, TX 77035

Crime/Security

Please Pay Your Security Dues

So far the WCC has collected \$191,000 for the Westbury Area Patrol, Harris County Constable Precinct 5. We need to raise an additional \$110,000 to cover the cost for 2014. **Approximately 500 more homes need to contribute towards the Westbury Area Patrol.**

Westbury Area Patrol Donation Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

I would like to make a donation to the Westbury Area Patrol.
Donation Amount \$ _____

Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37* 30 days May 21, 2014

	Single-Family Home	Apt/Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	8	5	1	0	14
Theft	4	11	5	1	21
Auto Theft	1	9	1	0	11
Robbery	0	1	1	1	3
Assault	1	2	1	0	4
Rape	1	0	0	0	1
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	15	28	9	2	54

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



Westbury Constable, Sergeant Hernandez, and Westbury Security Director, Leslee Cross at the Westbury White Elephant Sale, May 2014

Single Family Residential Crime Locations (30 days preceding 5/21/14)



**Westbury
HPD
Storefront
713-726-7126**

**WAP
Constable
Dispatch
281-463-6666**

Block	Street	Crime
12200	Ashcroft	Burglary
6000	Cartagena	Assault
5200	Creekbend	Burglary
5500	Dryad	Theft
5500	Dryad	Theft
6000	Dryad	Burglary
11400	Dunlap	Burglary
5500	Effingham	Burglary
5700	Etrick	Burglary
5800	Firenza	Theft
10600	Glenfield Court	Burglary
5000	Hazelton	Theft
11600	Hillcroft	Auto Theft
12300	Renwick	Rape
6000	W. Airport	Burglary

**HPD
Non-Emergency
713-884-3131**

Vacation Watch

Are you going out of town this summer? Don't forget to fill out a Vacation Watch form for the Constables. The form is available online at westburycrier.com, in the WCC office or a constable can bring one to your home if you call dispatch at 281-463-6666.

Water Heaters:
Regular & Tankless

Disposals

Water Lines

Gas Lines

Drain Cleaning

Under Slab Repairs

Re-route kitchen & laundry pipes

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Sinks

Faucets

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Westbury Area News



Summer Drama Camp
Company OnStage
 July 14-18 and July 21-25
 For more details, visit
www.companyonstage.org

Westbury Meet & Eat

Come out to Teotihuacan Mexican Restaurant at 6579 W. Bellfort every 1st Thursday of the month to meet Westbury residents. This event is open to anyone who lives in Westbury. Ask for the Westbury group.
June Meet & Eat: Thurs, June 5 @ 6PM
July Meet & Eat: Thurs, July 3 @ 6PM

Westbury Trading Group - Facebook

The Westbury/Meyerland/Bellaire Trading Group is a Facebook group that has over 1,600 members. It allows area residents to sell, trade, or buy items from other area residents. It was started by a Westbury mom who saw a need. Check it out today!

Links for Lost & Found Pets

- ☑ Nextdoor Westbury - www.nextdoor.com
- ☑ Westbury Lost and Found Pets Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/westburyhoustontexas>
- ☑ CARE - Contact the Lost and Found Pets committee leader at lisawild@yahoo.com. (Compassionate Animal Rescue Efforts is located in Westbury)

NEXTDOOR.COM Policy

Please remember that the Westbury Civic Club does NOT monitor Nextdoor.com nor can it receive or respond to messages from Nextdoor.com. Please report all problems, questions or concerns directly to the Civic Club.

The WCC can be reached at westburycc@sbcglobal.net, on Facebook (Westbury Houston), www.westburycrier.com, or at 713-723-5437. The WCC Office is located at 5322 W. Bellfort #107.

Remodeling your home? Adding On? Do you know your deed restrictions?

Did you know that the Westbury Civic Club can look over your proposed plans for free before you start construction? We want to avoid deed restriction violations before they happen. Did you know that Westbury 2, Westbury 3, and Westbury 5 have a 25 foot rear setback for the main structure? Did you know that there is a minimum percentage of brick that must be on your home? Did you know that you can't build in front of your building line? We want to help you! We want you to find out about possible violations before it costs you money and time. Several homeowners in the past couple years have had to tear down and/or modify their construction due to deed restriction violations.

The City of Houston does not review deed restrictions when issuing permits. They require a signed affidavit acknowledging that the plans comply with your deed restrictions. This holds YOU, the homeowner, accountable for knowing and complying with your deed restrictions. We are here to help you. All deed restrictions are available online at westburycrier.com.



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CONCRETE WORK Driveways, Patios, Etc....



2014 Dues/Assessments

Mission of the WCC

The purposes of the Westbury Civic Club, Inc. (the "Club") are to improve the appearance of the Westbury area and promote the civic, cultural educational, health, and general welfare of the residents of the Westbury and Parkwest subdivisions in Harris County, Texas (collectively, the "Community").

ATTENTION: PARKWEST 1&2

Homes purchased in Parkwest 1 after Jan. 1, 1993 and Parkwest 2 after Jan 1, 1994 have mandatory assessments. As per the deed restrictions, the assessments may be increased by a percentage not to exceed the then most recently published annual percentage increase in the Consumer Index for all Urban Wage Earners, U.S. City Average. The new assessment for 2014 will be adjusted by 2.1%. The amount of the 2014 Mandatory Assessments will be \$227. The 2014 Mandatory Assessments are past due by February 1, 2014. Invoices have been mailed. If you are interested in a payment plan, please call 713-723-5437.

Benefits of Paying Your Dues

- Protects your investment in your home by keeping Westbury a strong and vibrant neighborhood.
- Keeps the doors of the Civic Club office open and staffed.
- Protects your home and family with the Westbury Area Patrol through Constable Precinct 5.
- Improves the looks of our esplandes, parks, and green spaces.
- Advocates for City services and infrastructure improvements
- Hosts two White Elephant Community Garage Sale events each year

For a more detailed explanation, check out the January 2014 *Westbury Crier* available online at westburycrier.com.

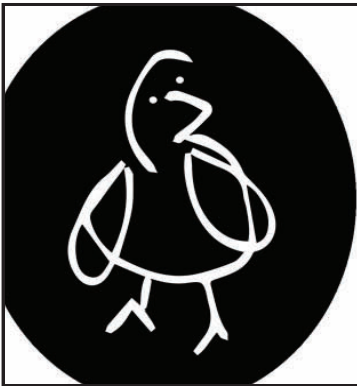
Why do my dues go to Dallas? Is this correct?

Yes, this is correct! We have you mail your payments directly to our Bank processing center. This allows your payments to be processed immediately and saves our office manager hours of work.



**WWW.WESTBURY
CRIER.COM**

2014 Westbury Civic Club Dues		*Please send this form in with your payment																													
Name(s) _____																															
Address _____																															
Home Phone _____	Work _____	Cell _____																													
E-mail _____																															
<p>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</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Westbury Civic Club Membership</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$40</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenspace Beautification</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$25</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westbury Area Patrol</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$230</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Subtotal</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$295</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Additional Contributions:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westbury Civic Club</td> <td></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenspace Beautification</td> <td></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westbury Area Patrol</td> <td></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westbury HPD Storefront</td> <td></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black;">\$</td> </tr> </table>	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		\$
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Westbury HPD Storefront		\$																													
Total		\$																													
<p>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</p>																															



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Free Market Analysis

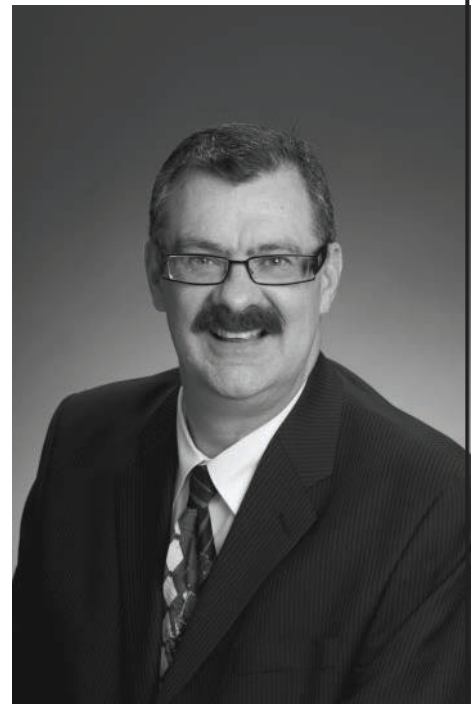
If you are thinking of selling your home or want to know the market value of your property, call **Larry Mercer** for a free Market Analysis.

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You may contact me by email at:
Lmercer@flash.net

Or visit my web site at:
www.Larrymercer.net



Neighborhood
Specialist

HISD District IX Education Summit

HISD Trustee Wanda Adams sponsored an Education Summit for HISD District IX on May 3. The summit was a very interesting event. According to Trustee Wanda Adams, there has been huge demographic growth in District IX. HISD will increase pay for teachers next year, but salaries are still below other school districts. To contact HISD Trustee Wanda Adams, email wadams2@houstonisd.org

A panel Discussion of Ten Education Advocates provided the following interesting information:

- Prisoners in jail read at a 4th grade level. If kids can't read, then they are at higher risk for going to prison. The state looks at students who failed 3rd grade to estimate the number of jail beds needed. It is important that a child be a fluent reader by the 3rd grade.
- There is a critical window of time (age 3 or less) when the brain develops language skills best.
- If your child attends daycare, demand to know what curriculum is being taught and that the children are learning.
- Education starts at birth, not at ages 4 or 5. HISD has more than 1,000 PreK classes.



WCC Board Member Cindy Chapman and HISD Trustee Wanda Adams at the Summit

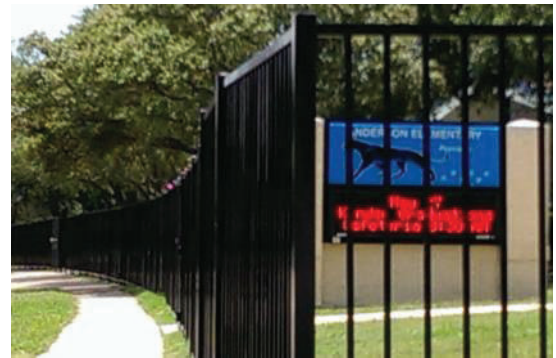
- Read at least 20 minutes every day with your child.
- Talk to your children one on one using complex and varied words. For example, instead of handing a cup to your child and simply saying "here", try using more complex phrases and words like, "I am pouring apple juice into your blue cup. My cup is yellow."
- In a child's life: 10% of his life is spent in school, 33% of his life is spent asleep, and 57% in activities outside of school.

HISD Budget Challenges

The state of Texas continues to contribute less and less funding to public education and to HISD. In 2008, Texas contributed 33.9% of the funding for HISD. In 2015 Texas will provide a mere 11.8% of the funding for HISD. To make matters even worse, the state considers Houston to be an affluent area, so incremental tax money resulting from higher property values here in Houston are being sent to other parts of Texas that are considered to be less affluent. Yes, you read that right, even though about 80% of students in HISD are low-income, the additional money due to our rising housing values will be sent to other school districts in Texas!

New Fence at Anderson Elementary

Have you recently driven by Anderson Elementary and noticed that something is different but you have been trying to figure out what is different? A new fence has been extended around the school, including the front entrance of the school and the part adjoining the SPARK playground.



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Southwest

ADVANCING HEALTH

Westbury School Rankings

The Children at Risk organization has released its annual rankings of schools. The original list published in the Houston Chronicle on April 27 had a significant error in the calculations; therefore, the revised rankings from Children at Risk are provided in the chart. Children at Risk began ranking high schools in 2006 to draw attention to the problems with dropouts. They now rank schools of all levels with a goal to “generate conversations about how schools and districts are performing overall in creating college-ready students”. If you wish more information, the website is <http://childrenatrisk.org/> Children at Risk notes that: *“As there are many excellent schools in Texas, the grading process was very stringent. Indeed, schools receiving “C” grades are often above average on indicators. In our minds, “A” schools are the best schools in the state; “B” schools are excellent schools that any parent should be proud to send their child to; “C” schools are good schools performing at the average level; “D” schools need significant improvement; and “F” schools are highly concerning.”*

Westbury is so large that our homes are zoned to 6 different elementary schools, 3 middle schools, and 2 high schools. We have some fantastic schools, some good schools, and some schools that still need to get better. We have public schools, private schools, and charter schools. If you don't have young children or your children attend private school, then why should you care about our local public schools? Good public schools benefit our reputation and our property values, and from a longer-term view, good schools are vital to the future of our city and our nation. Our children deserve great schools, each and every child.

As can be seen in the chart to the right, several of our schools are more challenged than others. **Anderson Elementary** has been making steady progress and is now a good school as ranked by Children at Risk. As we announced a few months ago, Anderson will be phasing in a dual language program starting next year. Dual language programs are becoming increasingly popular in Houston, and this new dual language program is an exciting opportunity for students at Anderson Elementary to become proficient in two languages.

Fondren Middle School has been in transition and has had problems for many years. This year, Fondren Middle finishes its initial year as a new International Baccalaureate (IB) campus. An IB program is a rigorous program which will allow a student to transfer to a high school with an IB program (such as Bellaire and Lamar) and, if completed, will allow the student to receive an internationally recognized diploma in addition to a regular diploma.

School Rankings from “Children at Risk”

School	2014 Houston Area Rank	2014 State Rank	Letter Grade
Kolter Elem	22	60	A+
Parker Elem	88	350	A
Elrod Elem	531	2630	C-
Anderson Elem	554	2766	C-
Tinsley Elem	642	3279	D
Foerster Elem	752	4004	F
TOTAL Schools	814	4359	
Pin Oak Middle	11	30	A+
Johnston Middle	130	606	B
Fondren Middle	342	1946	F
TOTAL Schools	363	2062	
Bellaire High	40	261	B+
Westbury High	148	1173	F
TOTAL Schools	157	1193	

Westbury Area School rankings

Westbury High School has also had struggles, but we notice encouraging signs. For those students who take rigorous courses, WHS has had a good reputation for its advanced classes. One problem has been that many students were not taking or capable of taking rigorous classes. However, more and more students are taking the difficult Advanced Placement (AP) exams and are joining the National Honor Society. WHS has an “F” rating from Children at Risk, but at the same time, *this year WHS was ranked by the Washington Post as one of the top 500 most challenging high schools in the entire nation.* The Washington Post ranking is based upon ratio of number of AP tests taken and the number of students at the high school, and this is the first time that WHS has been in the top 500 ranking. This year over 1500 AP exams were taken by students. Every year for the past 4 years, the number of students who qualify for the National Honor Society has increased, which is a good sign that a culture change has made steady progress at WHS.

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Westbury High School News

Westbury High School says Goodbye to Principal

WHS Principal Andrew "Tim" Wainwright came to Westbury High School in July of 2010. We are saddened to see him leave, but we owe him many thanks for his dedication to WHS over the last four years. We wish him the very best as he moves on. A new principal has not yet been named. Public input meetings about the principal selection process were held at the end of May. Below is an excerpt from his farewell letter.

"The past four years have been the most valued years in my career. But I will list some of our collective achievements for us all to consider. I am very proud of the work we have done over the past four years. Specifically: The graduation rate at Westbury HS has increased 15% over the past four years. The dropout rate at Westbury HS has decreased by 4% over the past four years. The attendance rate at Westbury HS is up and holding steady at almost 92% over the past four years. Student In-School-Suspensions, Out-Of-School-Suspensions and DAEP referrals have all decreased this year at Westbury HS. Westbury HS was ranked 377 in The Washington Post's list of Most Challenging Schools in the Southern United States. Our first top 500 appearance since the Washington Post has ranked schools. The number of AP Exams at Westbury HS had increased to over 1500 exams. The number of students who qualify and apply and are admitted to the National Honor Society increases every year.

We began this year with the concept of becoming Westbury 2.0. And while we may not have achieved everything we wanted to achieve in regards to Westbury 2.0 the short list of achievements above reveals that we are doing great work and Westbury HS is on its way to emerging as a great school in HISD. I look forward to monitoring Westbury's continued progress in the years to come.

In closing, I want all of you to remember and hold true to our Westbury 2.0 Mantra. At Westbury High School Every Student is Valued Every Day is Vital and Graduation is Essential.

BREAKING NEWS: The campus expansion for WHS, which HISD promised our community in the 2012 Bond Referendum, is at risk. Funding is in danger of being reallocated. Please stay tuned for more information and how you can help. The HISD Board will vote in June on the budget.

Westbury High School in the News

The Houston Chronicle had an article about WHS on May 6, in the Bellaire neighborhood section. The article interviewed Principal Wainwright who said the school is preparing to join the Houston Independent School District's Power Up program, which will assign each student in the school a laptop to use during the school year. Westbury is slated for a partial re-build through HISD's 2012 bond package. Planning is scheduled to begin in 2016, and construction probably will be completed in 2018. Wainwright had some exciting ideas about what that school design could look like, including an athletic facility that doubles as a neighborhood center and a library connected to the Houston Public Library system for the community. He also would like an auditorium or meeting space that outside groups can use, a clinic that is open to the public on nights and weekends, and a Houston Police Department or Harris County Sheriff Department storefront. We agree with his statement that that the campus could be a central hub for southwest Houston and certainly for Westbury.

WHS Band Invited to Strahan Induction

The Westbury High School Band has been invited to play at the Pro Football Hall of Fame Induction for Michael Strahan. Strahan attended Westbury High School and played football for the Rebels!

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Market Snapshot is brought to you by Brock & Foster. Susan Brock is a specialist in Westbury and the surrounding areas. With more than 12 years experience she offers an individualized experience that has earned her a five-star client experience rating. Susan is a licensed broker and REALTOR.®

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Westbury (and Surrounding Areas) Home Values

HOME PRICES UP IN WESTBURY!

Anybody who has been noticing the flurry of remodels underway in Westbury would not be surprised that house values are UP again this year in Westbury. After holding steady for a while, values in Westbury South are now moving up rapidly with an astonishing 53% INCREASE in median price last year! Other parts of

Westbury / Parkwest had increases of 10% or 11%.

It is our belief that the stockpile of bank foreclosures resulting from the recent economic recession, which have kept values down, have finally diminished across all parts of Westbury. House "flippers" are now active in all parts of Westbury and are refurbishing homes to sell for a profit. We note that a house which has been remodeled by a "flipper" has been

purchased at a lower price and then resold at a higher price, so both prices may be reflected in the price values.

Here is the data from the Annual Home Price Survey published on May 4, 2014, in the Houston Chronicle. This survey compares the changes in MEDIAN values (half sold for more and half sold for less) from 2012 to 2013. Westbury is THE neighborhood to live in!

Subdivision Name— alphabetical order (Southwest area)	Number of Homes in Subdivision	# of Homes Sold in 2012	# of Homes Sold in 2013	Median Price per square ft 2012	Median Price per square ft 2013	% Change in median 2012-13	% Ave. Annual Change in median 2009-13
Barkley Square South	249	12	9	112.97	151.41	34	14
FondrenSW - Northbrook	243	9	14	66.64	60.94	-9	-5
FondrenSW- Northbrook Village	254	9	7	24.67	19.77	-20	-31
Maplewood North	182	9	13	114.36	141.68	24	9
Maplewood South	1,170	56	75	103.89	129.19	24	20
Maplewood	524	29	19	125.73	162.07	29	21
Marilyn Estates	438	19	26	111.62	152.96	37	25
Meyerland	2,283	108	120	150.21	166.92	11	12
Stones Throw	134	4	3	47.21	66.47	41	23
(Westbury) Parkwest 1-3	956	49	52	105.95	116.05	10	24
Westbury - Sections 1-5	3,395	133	186	102.33	113.62	11	23
Westbury South	572	13	28	45.23	69.40	53	7
Willowbend	731	34	56	123.68	154.05	25	17
Willow Meadows	810	37	48	117.23	163.74	40	40

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KEEP THOSE HOME VALUES UP

- ◆ **Keep your home and fences in good repair.**
- ◆ **Maintain a mowed and edged yard.**
- ◆ **Now is a perfect time to tackle those big projects!**
- ◆ **Do NOT put out Heavy Trash before the acceptable date.**

The next JUNK WASTE heavy trash date is June 12. Junk Waste may be put on the curb starting June 7.

HAVING A CLEAN AND TIDY HOME APPEARANCE INCREASES THE VALUE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD OVERALL, THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR HOMES ON MAJOR STREETS AS THEY ARE VISITORS FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF WESTBURY.

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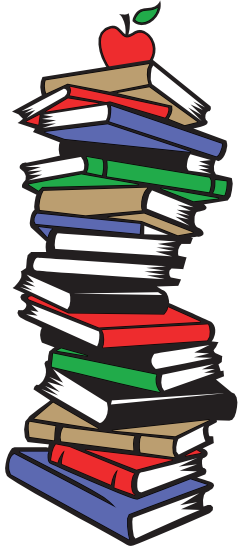
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Meyer Neighborhood Library

5005 W. Bellfort



JUNE 2014 LIBRARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

-All Programs are FREE and open to the public-

CHILDREN PROGRAMS

Wednesday, June 4 @ 10:30AM—Happy the Clown

This exciting clown show includes magic tricks, delightful jokes, tons of fun, games, contests and lots of audience participation.

Wednesday, June 11 @ 10:30AM—All About Turtles

Presented by turtle conservation expert Debbie Leppelt: live specimens on exhibit during the program!

Wednesday, June 18 @ 10:30AAM—Crocodile Encounter

This is an educational and up-close look at various reptiles, including tortoises, snakes, iguanas, alligators and crocodiles!

Wednesday, June 25 @ 10:30AM—Mad Science

Saturdays @ 10:30AM—Storytime

Interactive storytime featuring books, songs and fingerplays

ADULT PROGRAMS

Thursday, June 19 @ 1-2PM-

Meyer Mystery Book Club

Book is "The Devil's Feather" by Minette Walters

Wednesdays @ 2PM—

Yarn People

Knitting, crocheting, and conversation



Cory Eckert recently joined the Houston Public Library team as the manager of the Frank Express and Meyer Neighborhood Libraries. Cory received her Bachelor's of Arts in Creative Writing and Comparative Mythology from the University of Redlands (Redlands, CA) and her Master's in Information Resources and Library Science from the University of Arizona.

This year, Cory was named one of Library Journal's 2014 Movers and Shakers for a training method she innovated which is now used at library conferences across North America. She was also a part of the team at Octavia Fellin Public Library in Gallup, New Mexico, that was awarded the Institute for Museum and Library Service's 2014 National Medal. During her time in Gallup she instituted a Teen Film Festival, reinvented the Summer Reading Program and built a Navajo Language Learning Center in her branch. Her blog, the Storytime Underground, receives 5,000 hits per month and the connected Facebook group has more than 1,200 members. She is looking forward to all the exciting ways she can help Meyer and Frank serve their neighborhoods in the best way possible.

Homework Help

Free online tutoring services are available on the Houston Public Library (HPL) at www.houstonlibrary.org. Live Online Homework Help is available for kindergarten to adult learners. Get help with science, math, writing, social studies, reading and much more. Live tutor chat help is available Monday - Sunday, 2pm-11pm. All other services are available 24/7. Services can be accessed through library computers, at home, or anywhere remotely with an Internet connection. A valid HPL Library Card (Power Card) is required.

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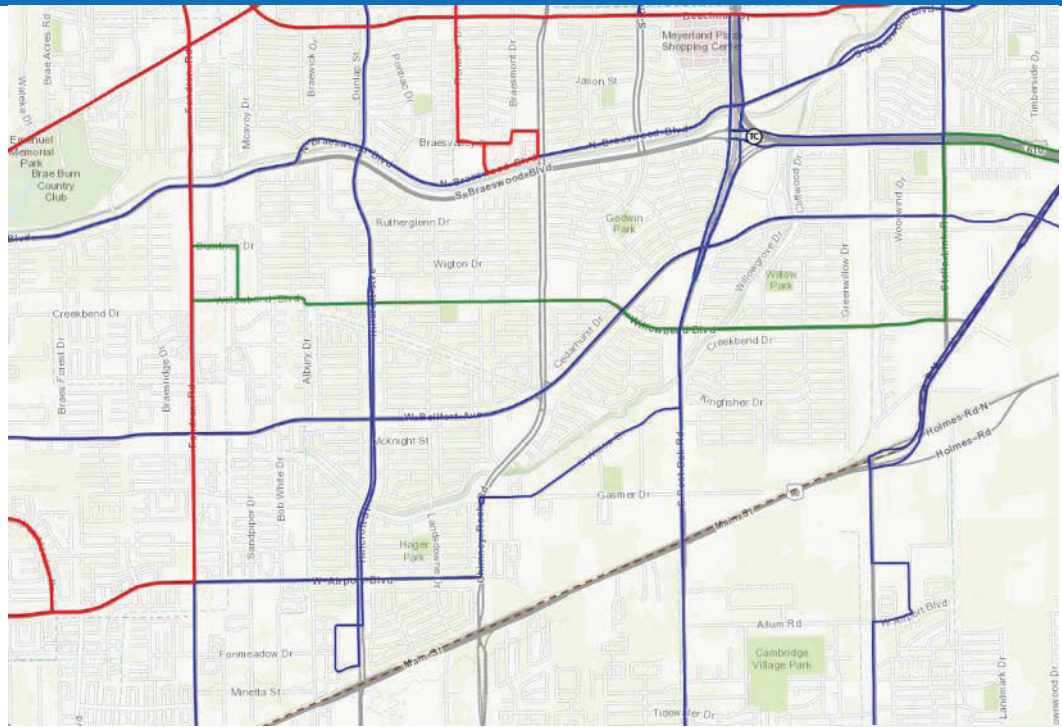
METRO: Proposed Route Changes

METRO Proposes Major Changes to Bus Routes

As part of a “re-imagining process”, METRO has evaluated all bus routes in the city and proposes major changes. These changes are now in the comment period. Jose Pulido from METRO will be the guest speaker to review the proposed changes at the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) meeting scheduled for June 18 at 8:30 AM at Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church at 4930 W Belfort Ave, Houston, TX 77035 (across from the Kroger’s store).

The WCC and WAIC are still evaluating the proposed changes. One obvious change which is proposed by METRO is that the Chimney Rock bus route will no longer provide service through all of Westbury.

“The purpose of the METRO Re-imagining Plan is to take a fresh look at the METRO service area (given our existing transit facilities and level of financial resources) and design a regional transit system from the ground up with a



“blank-slate’ approach”.

METRO states that: Service frequency was key in developing the better network. Right now, less than 30 percent of METRO riders have access to routes that run at least every 15 minutes seven days a week system. Under the draft plan, the number increases to 73 percent.

The draft plan also includes simpler, straighter routes, updated route numbering to help customers better navigate the system and better maps.

For more information, please go to www.transitsystemreimagining.com/

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—

15 to 30 Minute Routes

—

30 to 60 Minute Routes

—

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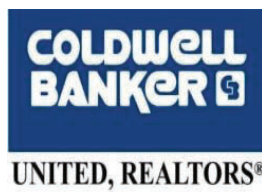
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Westbury Area News



MAY YARD OF THE MONTH

Westbury 1
Violeta & Cristian Coarfa
5207 Stillbrooke

Westbury 3
Teri & Bob Flemming
5827 Cartagena

Westbury 4
Ann Williams
11908 Ashcroft

Westbury 5
Lloyd & Doris Rosenbaum
5931 Sanford

Westbury South
V. Austell
5806 Firenza

Parkwest 1
John & Nichole Bode
10914 Mullins

Parkwest 2
Teena Goldstein
10702 Landsdowne

Parkwest 3
Rita Puente
6023 Beaudry

Westbury High School National Honor Society Induction & Recognition Ceremony

The Westbury High School chapter of the National Honor Society held its annual Induction and Recognition Ceremony on April 23 in the Atrium at Westbury High School. A total of 43 students from the sophomore, junior, and senior classes were selected for membership by the faculty council. Selection for membership was based on the four core virtues of the National Honor Society; Scholarship, Character, Service and Leadership. Students who met the 3.5 grade point average Scholastic requirement were invited to apply for membership in March. Eligible students completed the application process and were then evaluated based on the remaining virtues of Character, Service, and Leadership by the faculty council.


The NHS Recognition Ceremony followed. A total of 15 graduating students from the senior class were recognized for their commitment to upholding the four core virtues of the National Honor Society; Scholarship, Character, Service and Leadership. The recognized seniors have actively participated in a year-long campus paper recycling program, monthly service at the Westbury Place; a local retirement facility, as well as intermittent volunteer opportunities with the Westbury Civic Club, Willow Water Hole Greenspace Conservancy, the Easter Seals, and local area schools.



If you are interested in being a yard of the month judge for Westbury Sec 2, please email westburystephanie@gmail.com

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White Elephant Sale SPRING 2014

Spring 2014 White Elephant Sale Was a Great Success!

Anticipation for the Spring sale was at an all time high. The WCC office sold out of booth spaces faster than it ever has in recent years and there was even a waiting list for spaces! The weather on May 3 was beautiful and the goods were plentiful. There were over 50 “garage” sale booths set up in the parking lot of Westbury Methodist Church. Hundreds of shoppers came out to the Spring 2014 White Elephant Sale. The entry line at 8AM was longer than ever! Thank you to all the volunteers who help make this event possible. And a special thank you to Westbury United Methodist Church and St. John’s Presbyterian for the use of their parking lots. **The next White Elephant Sale will be in the Fall of 2014.** Look in future Criers for more info.



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Parker Elementary Design Concepts Unveiled

Parents, students, and the general public were all invited to attend a community meeting on May 6 to learn more about the future new Parker Elementary school building. The audience sat with great anticipation as Principal Lori Frodine and Trustee Wanda Adams greeted the crowd and introduced the 6 students who participated in the student focus group about the pending new school. The students were commended for their thoughtful and eager comments.

The HISD project team noted that the project is now in the conceptual design phase and that the Parker PAT (project advisory team consisting of teachers, staff, parents, and community members) had spent many hours defining the needs for the school building. This meeting was the first of the 3 community meetings that will be held for the project and is intended to solicit feedback from the community while the project is still in conceptual design. The final community meeting will be held right before construction starts.

The architectural design is being handled by Brave Architects. Fernando Brave noted that they love designing schools and that this project is especially interesting due to needs of the magnet

program offered at Parker Elementary. Architect Christian Slater lives in Westbury and said he is excited to work on a neighborhood project.

The architects showed photos of the existing school and its current site and reviewed some of the issues that were considered while developing the conceptual design.

First, they noted that the current school must be operational during the entire construction process. They also would like to preserve as many of the large trees as possible on the site and the Habitat Garden, noting that saving these features will preserve the outline of the old school building wings and maintain elements of the school history. The school faces Atwell and the PAT prefers to keep an Atwell address for the school.

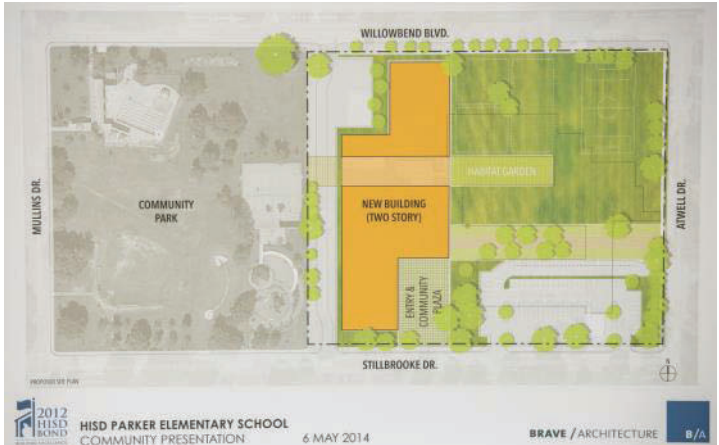


Photo taken by Photographer Dave Einsel/HISD. Used with permission

They propose to maintain the connections between the school and the adjoining park and to better hide from view the less attractive service and mechanical functions of the school.

The conceptual design proposes a new 2-story school with about 132,000SF of interior space. The new building would be aligned north/south at the back end of the existing site. After the old school has been demolished, then the new school play areas will be located between the school and Atwell (in the front of the new school). A new road, parallel to the park fence line, is proposed for school buses and delivery trucks to use. A construction lay-down area will be built on the north side of the existing building near Willowbend, and the construction areas will be fenced off to keep students safe. The new building will face Atwell (and keep the Atwell address), but the office will be closer to Stillbrooke. A new parking lot would take drop-off traffic from either Atwell or Stillbrooke.



Photos taken by Photographer Dave Einsel/ HISD. Used with permission.

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