



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 7

JULY 2012

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- CHECK OUT THE FEATURE ARTICLE ON METRO LIGHT RAIL US90A ON PAGES 8 AND 9.
- Do you want a big green trash can? See pg. 11 for more info!
- WCC Board Meeting: July 18, 7PM @ Westbury High School
- July's heavy trash is TREE WASTE ONLY

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## New Westbury Park Coming Soon!

A new Westbury Park Playground is coming soon! See the playground designs pictured below. The existing playground equipment will be demolished by the city in a few months and construction of the new playground area will begin in late 2012. City taxpayer funds will purchase and install the play equipment; however, the city does not provide shade covers similar to what has been built at the nearby Godwin Park playground (see photo on page 12). A "Friends of Westbury Greenspaces" committee has been created to raise additional funds to purchase a shade cover similar to what has been built at Godwin Park. The neighborhood around Godwin raised money to build their shade structure, and we can do it, too! **Want to learn more? Continued on page 12.**



Toddler Playground (Ages 2-5)



Main Playground (Ages 6-12)

## METRO US90A Light Rail Alternatives Announced

Have you been wanting to know what METRO decided to do with light rail down US90A (Main)? Is your home affected? What is Westbury's position? When is light rail going to be built?

**For the answers to these questions and many more, turn to pages 8 and 9 for METRO Rail in Westbury: The Facts and The Opinions.**

## WCC Board Nominations: August 2 deadline

Elections for the Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors will be conducted in September. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, please contact the Westbury Civic Club office before 4 PM on the first Thursday in August (August 2) – the deadline specified in our bylaws. Parkwest 3 Director Joe Niles is chair of the Election Committee. Candidates may submit a statement, not exceeding 100 words in length, when submitting their nomination for office.

Please express your interest in running for the board of the Westbury Civic Club in writing, either by letter or by email (with subject line: WCC 2012 Elections). The email address for Election Committee Chair Joe Niles is [parkwest3@westburycrier.com](mailto:parkwest3@westburycrier.com) and the mail and physical address is Westbury Civic Club, 5322 W. Bellfort, Suite 107, Houston, TX 77035. If you have any questions, please contact the Westbury Civic Club office at 713-723-5437.

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## Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors

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

## Directors at Large

Communications	Melissa Denney	wcccommunications@westburycrier.com
Community Relations	Cindy Chapman	wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com
Deed Restrictions	VACANT	wccdeedrestrictions@westburycrier.com
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Ken Downey	wccflood@westburycrier.com
Greenspace Beautification	Carlos Mata	wccmaintenance@westburycrier.com
Membership	Janie Schexnayder	wccmembership@westburycrier.com
Security	Kevin Douglass	wccsecurity@westburycrier.com
Volunteer Coordinator	VACANT	wccvolunteers@westburycrier.com

## Section Directors

Westbury 1	Sylvia Rendon	Westbury1@westburycrier.com
Westbury 2	Austin Chen	Westbury2@westburycrier.com
Westbury 3	VACANT	Westbury3E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 3	Ron Brown	Westbury3W@westburycrier.com
Westbury 4	VACANT	Westbury4E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 4	Vicki Eldridge	Westbury4W@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5	Virginia Livingston	Westbury5E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5	VACANT	Westbury5W@westburycrier.com
Westbury South	Robert Capps	Westburysouth@westburycrier.com
Parkwest 1	William Grimsinger	Parkwest1@westburycrier.com
Parkwest 2	Peter Zografos	Parkwest2@westburycrier.com
Parkwest 3	Joe Niles	Parkwest3@westburycrier.com

## 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)

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## 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

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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**

**It is a violation of city ordinance to have a lawn that is over 9 inches long.  
Anyone can report to 3-1-1. Help Keep Westbury Beautiful!**

# President's Message

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July! I love this holiday. It is a reminder of all the sacrifices that were made in the hope of creating a better future. And what a future our founders have created for us! I bet they would smile to see us today celebrating across America in the simple ways of parades and fireworks and barbecues. It is easy to become complacent and to take our freedoms for granted.

We have a primary run-off election scheduled for July 31<sup>st</sup> and, of course, the big election in November deciding national and state wide leaders. It is very important to Westbury's future that we get out and vote. There may be a bond referendum in November for both Houston Community College (HCC) and the Houston Independent School District (HISD). We want HISD bond money spent in our neighborhood for new schools for both **Westbury High School** and **Parker Elementary**, both of which suffer serious building flaws. We want an HCC campus built to serve the needs of our corner of Houston. Your vote gives us POWER.

In this month's Crier you will read about METRO rail plans and how they WILL AFFECT WESTBURY. You'll read about the volunteers who give their time and talent to help beautify Westbury and improve our quality of life. The Platou Center, which we fought so hard last year to save, has over 70

children using it for day camp; the ballroom dancing class is in full swing with 68 participants. The city had to temporarily suspend the adult day programs to accommodate the children's summer program. Wouldn't it be nice if we had a community center large enough for both groups to use?

As mentioned last month, we are still campaigning to get single-stream recycling (the big green bins) expanded to the rest of Westbury. The mayor's proposed budget to add 30,000 new big, green bins across the city was approved by city council, but neighborhoods across Houston will be clamoring for them. Now is the time to speak up and contact the mayor and city council to request more bins for Westbury. Read more about it in this month's Crier on page 11..

All of us are busy with the needs of today, but we have the opportunity to help plan for the future by voting on these bonds, by making our opinions known about METRO rail, and by proactively working for our neighborhood.

Becky Edmondson

## Board Mtg. Notes

- Harris County District Clerk, Chris Daniel, spoke about the importance of responding to jury duty notices.
- Parkwest 3 section director, Joe Niles, was nominated to head the WCC Board Election Committee
- Phyllis Frye, Secretary of the WCC Board announced that after 9 years, she will resign from the WCC Board
- Ken Downey, Director of Flood Control and Infrastructure announced a pending conflict for serving next year
- Updates were given on various meetings and upcoming events.

**WCC Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, July 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 2012 dues.

**Make checks payable to: Westbury Civic Club, Inc.**  
**Mail to:**  
**P.O. Box 975182**  
**Dallas, TX 75397-5182**  
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 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	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$295</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Additional Contributions:</b>		
Westbury Civic Club		\$
Greenspace Beautification		\$
Westbury Area Patrol		\$
Westbury HPD Storefront		\$
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$</b>

# Platou Community Center

11655 Chimney Rock  
 Monday-Friday 8AM—7PM (Wednesdays open till 8PM)  
 713-726-7107

"Like" us on  
 Facebook

## New Supervisor at Platou Center

The City of Houston has hired Dan Reilly to be the new supervisor of recreation at our local city community center, the Platou Community Center, which is located right in Westbury on Chimney Rock near the Post Office. Reilly comes to us from Florida and has experience in community recreation work. His duties began on Monday, June 18. Reilly is in charge of the Children's Summer Enrichment Program, which has a registration of 70 children from the ages of 6 to 13. Sean Gay, a supervisor from Marian Park, is assisting this summer, along with another staff member, Janet Range, and a teen volunteer.

The only adult programs currently available during the summer months are:

### TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly)

Tuesdays from 5:45 to 7 PM in the small classroom. Call Dorothy at 713-723-4441 or Naomi at 713-988-2233

### Ballroom Dance Class

Wednesdays with Advanced Ballroom from 6 to 7 and Beginners from 7 to 8 PM. Call Marilyn at 713-729-9425

## Summer Enrichment Program

The Children's Summer Enrichment program continues through August 10 with lots of games, both inside and out, walks, and field trips. The children have already been on a tour of the Post Office and the Willow Waterhole Nature Reserve, and arrangements are being made for excursions to the Westbury Pool and other destinations. Lunch is provided daily.

All Adult programs are cancelled for the summer except Ballroom dancing and TOPS (see left). On Monday, August 14, the usual daytime and evening programs for adults will resume. The fall schedule will be published in the August Crier.



**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

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**5131 Torchlight**  
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*Local & National Coverage*



**11122 Endicott**  
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**10806 Moonlight**  
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**\$239,000**



**5047 Redstart**  
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**\$319,500**



**5007 Redstart**  
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**SOLD IN 11 DAYS!**



**5006 Creekbend**  
 3 bed/2 bath  
**\$229,000**

Call for Information on Featured Listings ♦ [www.waynemurray.net](http://www.waynemurray.net)

# What's Happening in Westbury

## July 2012 Events & Meetings Calendar

<b>Wed 4</b>	Happy Independence Day! WCC office will be closed
<b>Wed 4</b>	Westbury Pool open 1-5PM
<b>Mon 16</b>	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow
<b>Tues 17</b>	Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:30PM 12501 Dunlap under the pavilion
<b>Wed 18</b>	WCC Board Meeting 7PM– 9PM Westbury High School - 10911 Chimney Rock
<b>Sat 21</b>	Willow Waterhole Monthly Audubon Society Bird Survey 7AM Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot at 5310 S. Willow
<b>Tues 24</b>	SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM Aramco Building—9009 W. Loop South
<b>End of</b>	Yard of the Month Judging Get those yards beautiful! If interested in becoming a Yard of the Month judge, please call the WCC office at 713-723-5437. It's a great volunteer opportunity to do with a friend!

Want to stay connected? Want up to the minute updates? Want a voice and somewhere to complain? "Like" Westbury Houston on Facebook. We have 337 Likes so far. Are you one of them?

## "LIKE" WESTBURY HOUSTON ON FACEBOOK

### July 2012 Heavy Trash & Recycling Calendar

<b>Thurs 12</b>	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
<b>Tues 17</b>	Heavy Trash— TREE WASTE ONLY (South of W. Bellfort)
<b>Wed 18</b>	Heavy Trash— TREE WASTE ONLY (North of W. Bellfort)
<b>Thurs 26</b>	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
<b>AUGUST</b>	Heavy Trash— JUNK WASTE

### 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. Cur rent 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](http://www.westburycrier.com) for more trash and recycling information

### Westbury Pool 2012 Schedule

Questions? Call pool at 713-723-2192  
Address: 10605 Mullins (near Parker Elem.)

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

Wed., July 4—Pool OPEN 1-5PM

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

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

Adult Water Fitness Class Schedule—Wednesday & Friday  
6-7PM (Hydro-Flow), 7-8PM (Hydro-Fit)

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# Esplanade Work: Keeping Westbury Beautiful

## Recent Westbury Esplanade Work - Keeping Westbury Beautiful

Westbury has seven miles of esplanades. The city does basic mowing and the Westbury Civic Club has an agreement with the city which allows us to work on the esplanades to maintain and improve the esplanades. Over the past few years we have planted new trees and shrubs, mulched plants, renovated all the Westbury sign gardens, and revitalized the rose bushes. Carlos Mata, current Director of Greenspace Beautification, and his advisory committee have been working hard again this year to *Keep Westbury Beautiful*. Most of this work has been done by our landscaping contractor and some by volunteers.

### Target areas include the following:

**Chimney Rock** - southbound side approaching W. Bellfort. All of the oleanders were cut to the ground in order to give them a new start and make a uniform hedge. All the trees and shrubs, that were invading the area, were removed to allow the even row of oaks to flourish.

**Hillcroft** - from S. Main north to W. Bellfort. All the trees were pruned so that the mowers would have clearance and so that the young trees planted in 2006 will better grow into desirable tree shapes.

**Hillcroft Rain Garden**—Mulch from the tree trimming work was used to mulch this garden after it had been weeded by 25 young people as a community service project

**Hillcroft Wildflower Patch** - A group of gardeners from the community worked to cut down the Bermuda grass and cut back the wildflowers so they will continue to bloom. A nice neighbor (Mr. Jose) from Hillcroft joined in with his weed eater and made the job go faster.

**Seasonal Color Gardens at Chimney Rock and W. Bellfort.** The oleanders were cut back at these gardens which improved the look of the plantings. New flowers were planted earlier this year.

The Westbury Civic Club appreciates the many residents who help keep our esplanades in good shape and who report problems to the city. The City of Houston, though it only mows every three weeks, is doing a good job with litter removal, edging and judicious use of herbicides. Take a look as you drive by and thank our great volunteers for their efforts in identifying and organizing ways to improve our Westbury esplanades.



Working on Chimney Rock



Hillcroft Rain Garden project



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# Crime/Deed Restrictions

## Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37\* 30 days preceding June 24, 2012

	Single-Family Home	Apt/Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	8	2	2	0	12
Theft	5	6	1	3	15
Auto Theft	0	2	0	0	2
Robbery	1	0	0	1	2
Assault	1	0	0	1	2
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>33</b>

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

### Single Family Residential Crime Locations (30 days preceding 6/24/12)

5900	Claridge	Theft
5800	Dyrad	Burglary
5800	Duxbury	Theft
5700	Hummingbird	Theft
5800	Farwell	Burglary
5800	FIrenza	Burglary
6000	Fontenelle	Burglary
11100	Hillcroft	Robbery
11600	Hillcroft	Burglary
12100	Hillcroft	Burglary
11900	Landsdowne	Theft
5800	Ludington	Assault
5500	W. Airport (2)	Burglary
5100	W. Belfort	Theft

## Deed Restriction Workshop

Office Manager Jennifer Edmondson along with WCC officers Becky Edmondson and Marcia Hartman attended a recent Deed Restriction Enforcement Workshop presented by the City of Houston's Legal Department. Westbury is a deed-restricted community, and all sections of Westbury, Parkwest, and Westbury South have active deed restrictions. A deed restriction is a covenant that affects the owner and tenants of real property and limits the use of properties within the subdivision. For your convenience, the WCC has copies of each set of deed restrictions available on our website.

Deed restrictions may be enforced by a property owner within a subdivision, a civic club or home owners association, or by the Houston Legal Department - which is authorized by the state to enforce certain deed restrictions. Since Houston does not have zoning laws, deed restrictions are used to limit (restrict) how property can be used.

Property restrictions which are enforced by the City Legal include:

1. Use of the property. For example, commercial vehicles stored or dispatched from a residential property violate restrictions requiring residential-only usage of property.
2. Setbacks for buildings or structures (these are fixed distances from property lines, street lines, or fence lines)
3. Lot size
4. Size, Type, or Number of structures on a lot

Some other common types of complaints are handled via City nuisance ordinances or parking ordinances, such as: grass over 9 inches, trash violations, inoperable vehicles, or vehicles parked on the grass. These are handled by contacting the city at 311.

Be a good neighbor and abide by your properties deed restrictions and the city's ordinances.

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# METRO Rail in Westbury: The Facts

The proposed US 90A/Southwest Rail Corridor is approximately nine miles of new construction of light rail line - starting at Missouri City and going through the **Westbury area** on the way to the Fannin South Rail Station, merging with the existing METRO Rail Red Line up to Wheeler Station. The proposed line would directly serve Reliant Park, the Texas Medical Center, Rice University, the Houston Zoo, Hermann Park, and the Museum District.

METRO continues to work on a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a proposed US 90A/Southwest Rail Corridor. METRO hosted four open-house public meetings in February 2011 to identify alternatives and transportation issues in the corridor. This was part of the federal "scoping process" and was used to determine which alternatives would be dropped from the study and which alternatives would continue for additional review and evaluation.

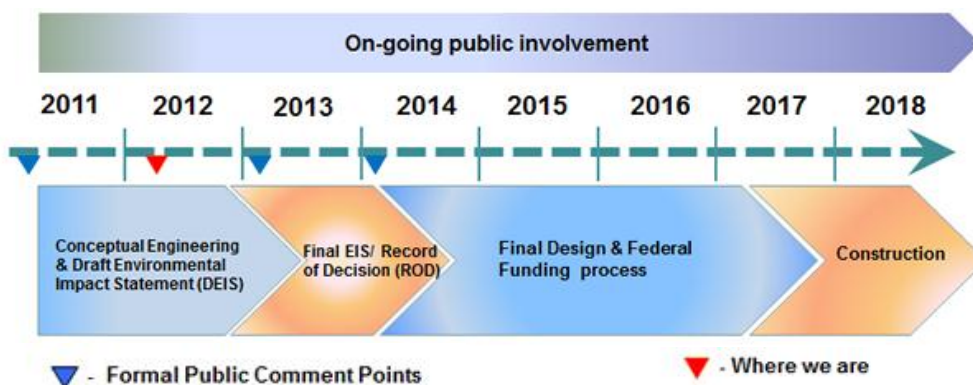
In June 2012, METRO hosted a series of public meetings to display which alternative routes will proceed forward for additional evaluation. One of these meetings was held at Westbury High School and over 70 persons attended the meeting. METRO sought public input regarding issues and concerns regarding the proposed routes under consideration.

There are two alternative routes for the US90A/Southwest Rail Corridor light rail line. They both start in the vicinity of Cravens Road near Missouri City and differ in the two options for a light rail track through a new master planned community called Buffalo Pointe (see drawing on page 9).

**For both of these alternate routes, WESTBURY IS DIRECTLY AFFECTED. The alignment option is available in both alternative routes chosen by METRO.**

In Westbury our main concern is how the route effects us. METRO has two options for the Westbury Area.

1. The new light rail tracks would run adjacent to the northern edge of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) right-of-way (ROW) and south of the properties to the north. Approximately 50 acres of ROW would need to be acquired. In other words, the proposed light rail tracks would run somewhere between the existing heavy rail tracks and the homes in Westbury South (on Greencraig) which back up to the heavy rail tracks.
2. Hillcroft /Airport alignment option-- The light rail tracks would travel on the Hillcroft median and then turn onto West Airport and run east along the West Airport median across Chimney Rock until it again reaches the north side of the UPRR line. Additional right-of-way (ROW) would be needed at the northwest corner of the US 90A/Hillcroft intersection, the southeast corner of the Hillcroft/Airport intersection for the turn radii, and from Chimney Rock to the UPRR. A station could be possible on either Hillcroft or Airport.



The New METRO values feedback from the community. This interaction with the public will continue throughout the project along with public meetings, newsletters and website updates at major milestones of the project. Visit at [www.RideMETRO.org](http://www.RideMETRO.org).

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# METRO Rail in Westbury: The Opinions

The US90A/ Southwest Corridor Light Rail Line is an important issue that will affect the future of Westbury. The future, not tomorrow, or next year, maybe not even in ten years, but the future. These are the little decisions made in the past that people in the future look back and either think "Way to go!" or "What were they thinking?" Like small towns which find themselves routed off new highway construction and die a slow death, Westbury could become an isolated community without connections to light rail. Decisions need to be made in the coming weeks and coming months. If we wait until the project is funded, then it will be too late to affect how the project is implemented. The proposed design by METRO is being polished and adjusted **NOW**, even though the money may not be funded for many years to come.

If rail is to be a cornerstone of Houston's transportation network in the future, then any community not connected will definitely be affected. We want Westbury to be an important part of Houston's future. We are a neighborhood that has stood the test of time and has moved from being one of Houston's first suburban neighborhoods to still being a viable "close in" community 60 years later. What brought "settlers" out here in the 50s? Nice big lots and well-built brick homes which still attract new buyers with the added benefit of tree-lined streets and easy access to the Medical Center and downtown.

It is true that there will be a price paid. Light rail tracks will pass through Westbury when the US90A/Southwest Rail Corridor project is funded. Two potential Westbury routes are being studied by METRO, and these routes will directly affect some property owners and will indirectly impact many others. The homeowners who could be **directly affected** are the 54 homes on Greencraig which will have light rail tracks in their backyards, OR the 100+ homes on West Airport which will face a train running where the median used to be. All homes in Westbury South will be affected to some degree by either option.

What are some of the indirect impacts? Some residents will have their commutes made easier and parking expenses will be lower. Some will find that their commutes are made more difficult when trying to exit their neighborhood in Westbury South. Light rail down West Airport may affect how many lanes (or lane width) are available for traffic on West Airport and could affect access to Anderson Elementary School. Some residents may see their property values rise and others may not. The location of a Westbury area station has not yet been defined, but ease of access and lighting and noise and landscaping are issues to be considered regardless of where it is located.

We have created a survey to get your opinion. You can access it on our website or on Facebook. You may also pick up a copy in the WCC office. We will relay your thoughts to METRO and we urge you to relay your thoughts to them directly as well at [www.ridemetro.org](http://www.ridemetro.org).

**MAKE YOUR OPINION COUNT! TAKE THE METRO SURVEY AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM](http://WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM)**



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# ACTION NEEDED NOW

## Do You Want to Get Single-Stream Recycle Bins?

Only about half of Westbury have city-issued large green recycle bins. The WCC gets many requests from residents who want them too. A window of opportunity for more single-stream recycle bins has recently opened up, but many other communities across Houston will also want these bins. **NOW** is the time when you need to make your voice count. We want Westbury to be a "squeaky wheel" which will get attention from the city. We want some of those bins!

City council approved Mayor Parker's 2013 budget includes purchasing 30,000 new big recycle bins. Now, we need to convince the city that some of those bins should be designated for Westbury. If you want to get more bins for Westbury, then contact (either by phone or email) the mayor, the five at-large council members, and both District K and District C council members to tell them you want Westbury to have more single stream recycling bins.

Don't forget to provide your name and address when you contact your elected officials. Your elected officials notice when you speak up on an issue.

Mayor—Annise Parker  
[mayor@houstontx.gov](mailto:mayor@houstontx.gov) 713.837.0311  
 District K – Larry Green  
[districtk@houstontx.gov](mailto:districtk@houstontx.gov) 832.393.3016  
 District C – Ellen Cohen  
[districtc@houstontx.gov](mailto:districtc@houstontx.gov) 832.393.3004  
 At-Large 1 – Stephen Costello  
[atlarge1@houstontx.gov](mailto:atlarge1@houstontx.gov) 832.393.3014  
 At-Large 2 – Andrew Burks  
[atlarge2@houstontx.gov](mailto:atlarge2@houstontx.gov) 832.393.3013  
 At-Large 3 – Melissa Noriega  
[atlarge3@houstontx.gov](mailto:atlarge3@houstontx.gov) 832.393.3005  
 At-Large 4 – C. O. "Brad" Bradford  
[atlarge4@houstontx.gov](mailto:atlarge4@houstontx.gov) 832.393.3012  
 At-Large 5 – Jack Christie  
[atlarge5@houstontx.gov](mailto:atlarge5@houstontx.gov) 832.393.3017  
 Solid Waste, Chief of Staff—[Gary Readore, gary.readore@houstontx.gov](mailto:gary.readore@houstontx.gov)



## Community Service Opportunities

**Attention:** High School students, Middle School students, Scouts, anyone needing or wanting to do volunteer projects.

There are several ways you can volunteer in Westbury to help the community in July.

**Platou Community Center** - Children in the Summer Enrichment Program would love to do more crafts and learn to play board or card games. Or, if you are artistic, could you teach some drawing or painting. Do you like drama? Could you coach children to do skits? Call 713-726-7107 or visit the Platou Center at Chimney Rock Park, 11655 Chimney Rock, to talk to the supervisor.

**Willow Waterhole Greenway Park**— Trees there need mulching. Help in the cool of the evening for a few hours. Call or email Becky Edmondson for information. 713-443-3951 or [wccpresident@westburycrier.com](mailto:wccpresident@westburycrier.com)

**Westbury Esplanades**—The City of Houston will give free mulch but volunteers are needed to help spread mulch around trees. This is a job that should be done in the cooler evening hours for several days. Contact Becky Edmondson for information.

**Westbury Community Garden** - Many tasks are available. Contact the garden at [westburygreen@gmail.com](mailto:westburygreen@gmail.com)



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# Help Westbury Park

## Help Westbury Park get Shade Structures

The playground project was announced in May and several generous residents have contributed over \$1000 thus far. This is a good start towards the \$20,000 needed to install the shade covers. Playgrounds are attractive assets to our community and play structures with shade will encourage our kids or grandkids to exercise outside even in hot weather. Please consider making a tax deductible contribution. Many employers offer matching gifts for community projects such as this. All amounts are appreciated and donors contributing \$250 or more will have their names engraved on a plaque placed at the playground as a permanent thank you.

Checks should be made payable to the Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC)/Friends of Westbury Greenspaces. The WAIC is a 501(c)(3) organization which frequently partners with the Westbury Civic Club for improvement projects. Donations will be tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Mail donations to: WAIC/Friends of Westbury Greenspaces, 5322 W. Bellfort, Suite 107, Houston, TX 77035. If you would like more information about fundraising or would like to help with the effort, then please contact Westbury residents Bill Burhans ([burhans56@yahoo.com](mailto:burhans56@yahoo.com)) or Melanie Rosen ([rosenworks3@gmail.com](mailto:rosenworks3@gmail.com)).



Westbury 5 residents Joe and Marcie Nolan were the first donors for the new structure to be built at the Westbury Park playground. Marcie is shown holding the edition of the Westbury Crier announcing the project. They presented their check to Bill Burhans (left), Friends of Westbury Greenspaces committee member.

## Waiting List for Westbury Community Garden

The Westbury Community Garden will be constructing more raised garden beds this fall and will have openings for new gardeners. If you would like to be added to the waiting list for the new garden beds, please email the following information to [westburygreen@gmail.com](mailto:westburygreen@gmail.com): full name, phone number, email address, plus comments or questions.

The annual cost is \$60 per bed. Gardening training and assistance will be available for all new gardeners. Beds will be allotted based on a first-come, first-served basis – so don't delay in signing up for the waiting list.



Godwin Park, example of existing shade structures above playgrounds

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# Keep Westbury Beautiful!

## How to keep our neighborhood looking its best

One thing we are asked constantly is to help keep Westbury looking its best. In fact, it is one of our purposes! Creating an attractive "welcome to my neighborhood" appearance doesn't have to cost much, if anything at all. Here are some things that will help *Keep Westbury Beautiful*.

- ◆ Mow yard regularly
- ◆ Weed flower beds
- ◆ Prune trees and shrubs
- ◆ Edge sidewalks and curbs
- ◆ Clean gutters
- ◆ Keep fences repaired
- ◆ Fix broken windows and screens
- ◆ Remove hurricane masking tape and boarding
- ◆ Park boats/campers behind house/garage
- ◆ Don't park on the grass in your yard
- ◆ Remove furniture and appliances off the porch & front yard
- ◆ Use only outdoor furniture outdoors
- ◆ Pick up trash; don't store trash where it is visible
- ◆ If you have an elderly or disabled neighbor, then take turns maintaining yard
- ◆ Offer to loan tools to neighbor who needs them.



## Yard of the Month May Winners

- Parkwest 1:** 10806 Atwell - Leane & Thomas Fowler
- Parkwest 2:** 5814 Portal - Marcia Livingston
- Parkwest 3:** 6003 Arboles - Lisa Placke & Danny Kranvek
- Westbury 3:** 5722 Capello - Robert Brooks
- Westbury 4:** 11927 Dunlap - Alan Moehle & Brent Leafgreen
- Westbury 5:** 5931 Sanford - Floyd & Doris Rosenbaum
- Westbury South:** 5718 Alvarado - Juan Villagomez

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# MEMORIAL HERMANN

# Neighborhood and Area News

## Fuddrucker's Coming Soon

A Fuddrucker's restaurant will be opening at the former Chili's site near S. Post Oak at W. Bellfort in Meyer Park.



Drew Houlihan, Principal at Parker Elementary, has been promoted to another job at HISD. A school search committee has interviewed several candidates. We will feature the new principal in a upcoming *Crier*.

## Improving Westbury Schools

The board of the non-profit, 501c3, Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) voted to write a letter to HISD regarding the upcoming bond referendum: We want a new building for Parker Elementary and we want to expand campus acreage and replace part of the building which is inadequate at Westbury High School.

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## Ron Hodge

To those of you who do not know him, Ron is a man of action, a man who rolls up his sleeves and gets to work when a job needs doing. Most recently, Ron volunteered to help when students from YES Prep charter school did a Clean Up Event at Willow Waterhole Nature Reserve. Ron delivered tools and supplies with his pickup truck, and then ferried the supplies and mulch to work sites across the large nature reserve.



## Russell Schexnayder

Over the years, Russell has served Westbury in many capacities. Russell currently serves on the board of the non-profit 501c3 Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC), and regularly attends monthly meetings of the Southwest Houston 2000 and the Brays Oaks Management District. Russell is widely credited as being the "father of the Willow Waterhole", since he pushed and prodded to get the Harris County Flood Control District to create the stormwater detention lakes near Westbury to reduce flooding along Brays Bayou. Russell is also a man of action. Russell routinely collects trash at Willow Waterhole. Russell was also the Project Leader who planned and organized the work for the Willow Waterhole site during the recent YES Prep charter school Clean Up event. In addition to shoveling loads of mulch on the day of the event, Russell has single-handedly continued to move mulch that the kids did not have time to move.

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