



Westbury Crier

VOLUME 59, ISSUE 7

JULY 2013

HIGHLIGHTS:

- WCC Board Meeting: July 17 at 7PM at Westbury Baptist
- July's heavy trash is TREE WASTE ONLY. Pick up is JULY 11 for ALL of Westbury.
- Check out page 23 for Fun Activities for Kids
- Happy 4th of July!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Platou Schedule	4
Calendar of Events	5
Budget To Date	6
Westbury Pool	7
Westbury Park	8
Save on Water Bill	10
Dues Form	11
Crime/Security	13
Yard Parking	15
Westbury Storefront	16
Storefront Officers	17
Recycling News	18
Corral the Can	19
Nuisances	20
Ch. 42 Meeting	22
Summer Fun—Kids	23

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WCC Publication Committee
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Westbury Park Renovation Begins

Have you been by Westbury Park lately? If so, you have probably noticed the construction trucks! The Westbury Park renovation finally began on June 11. The site work being done now will include: the removal of the old playground equipment, grading of the park, excavation, installation of sidewalks, planting of trees, and building a picnic pavilion. According to the city, final plans will be approved for the playground equipment in July by City Council. The new playground equipment has an expected delivery and installation date



of September. Just in time for cooler weather!

The Westbury Civic Club and the Friends of Westbury Greenspaces committee have been keeping close tabs on this project and will be

meeting with city officials for final design tweaking. We want our new park to be the best park in SW Houston! For more information and ways you can help Westbury Park, see page 8.

Westbury Crier Wins National Award

The WCC is very proud to announce that the *Westbury Crier* has received a national honor from Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA). Winners of an annual NUSA newsletter competition were announced on May 23 at the 38th annual NUSA conference in Minneapolis. Awards were presented in two divisions of newsletters, electronic and printed versions. The *Westbury Crier* newsletter received a silver award for printed neighborhood newsletter! The Neighborhood Newsletter award highlights the importance of a vital

communication tool for neighborhood organizations, community groups and local governments.

The *Westbury Crier* is the product of a very dedicated publication committee. A very big thank you goes to Jennifer Edmondson, Cindy Chapman,



Barbara Haverkamp, Hazel Potvin, and Becky Edmondson for all their hard work. Without them the *Crier* would not be what it is today!

Single Stream Recycling Coming to ALL of Westbury!
see page 18 for information



Westbury Civic Club Board of Directors

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

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Community Relations	Cindy Chapman	wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com
Deed Restrictions	VACANT	wccdeedrestrictions@westburycrier.com
Flood Control & Infrastructure	VACANT	wccflood@westburycrier.com
Greenspace Beautification	Carlos Mata	wccmaintenance@westburycrier.com
Membership	Janie Schexnayder	wccmembership@westburycrier.com
Security	Leslee Cross	wccsecurity@westburycrier.com
Volunteer Coordinator	VACANT	wccvolunteers@westburycrier.com

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Westbury 3	VACANT	Westbury3E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 3	Ron Brown	Westbury3W@westburycrier.com
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Westbury 5	Virginia Livingston	Westbury5E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5	Genie Mitchell	Westbury5W@westburycrier.com
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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)

FREE NOTARY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL WESTBURY RESIDENTS

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Westbury Area Patrol Constable Dispatch
281-463-6666

HPD Non-Emergency
713-884-3131

Power Outages (Centerpoint)
713-207-2222

Westbury HPD Storefront
713-726-7126

Platou Community Center
713-726-7107

Poison Control
1-800-764-7661

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

District K Councilmember Larry Green
832-393-3016

District C Councilmember Ellen Cohen
832-393-3004

County Commissioner El Franco Lee
713-755-6111

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 665
likes on our Facebook
page, Westbury Houston?**

WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM

President's Message

News is often slow in the summer, but this has been a banner month. The *Westbury Crier* newsletter won a national award from Neighborhoods USA. Resident Russell Shexnayder won an Arbor Day award from Trees for Houston for his continued commitment to trees in Westbury and especially at the Willow Waterhole. Single Stream recycling (the big green rolling bins) is soon coming to the remainder of Westbury. **And, last but not least, Westbury was recently listed as one of the 25 best places to live in Houston.**

Houstonia Magazine is a new monthly magazine which they say "will deliver Houston in all its complicated glory". The June issue features on the cover "25 Hottest Neighborhoods - Best Places to Live Now." And guess what? Westbury is 5th on that list! They, of course, have to mention the decline of Westbury Square. But they go on to say that "these days, everyone seems to love Westbury, for its still reasonable prices... meanwhile two of the neighborhood's elementary schools ... are among the best in the city, completing Westbury's trajectory as one of Houston's most impressive comebacks".

For those of us who have lived here for a long time, I don't feel we were ever down and out. We may have been showing some wear and gone out of fashion for a while, but what many outsiders do not know is that Westbury has always had wonderful residents. Neighbors make a neighborhood, and Westbury has always been populated by a special class of people – people who care. The early "pioneers" who settled in one of Houston first suburban neighborhoods rolled up their sleeves and raised money for street lights, built the churches and synagogues that still serve our area, tended their yards, volunteered for community service, lobbied the City for streets, stop signs, parks, bus routes, and actively participated in the civic process. Many were transferred here in the 60s as the oil business boomed. The 80s brought more residents when the rest of the country faltered. We are still a mix of those early residents, mid-timers, and brand new residents...all of whom bring their special talents to Westbury. We now even have third generation families living in the neighborhood!

Volunteers made a big difference "back in the day", and they make a huge

difference today. About ten years ago, we began the Working on Westbury "WOW" campaign. This started around Hazel Potvin's kitchen table when she and I, Diana Lovelady, and Margaret Lyle sat down and said "What can we do to make a difference in Westbury?" We started the WOW walks, created a garden club, and surveyed the esplanades and parks. In the years since, the Westbury Civic Club and our volunteers have planted or given to residents over 5,000 trees; we lobbied successfully for single stream recycling; we have worked to improve all our parks and esplanades; created programming for our community center; created a great community garden; and have developed strong relationships with our community partners such as the City, the County, the State, METRO, Keep Houston Beautiful, Brays Oaks Management District and nearby communities. We have an army of volunteers in Westbury, all of whom contribute to what the *Houstonia Magazine* called a "most impressive comeback"! Thanks to all of you who choose to call Westbury home.

Together we do make a difference!

Becky Edmondson

Board Notes:

- ◆ New Constable to the WAP contract, Deputy Vo, was introduced at meeting
- ◆ Discussed Westbury HPD storefront and its usefulness
- ◆ Westbury Park Renovation update given
- ◆ Cindy Chapman reported on Chapter 9 (see page 9) and BOMD
- ◆ Section directors Niles, Mitchell, Rendon, Capps reported
- ◆ Thank you Jackie Murray with Weichert Realtors for providing cookies and water

WCC Board Meeting
Wednesday,
July 17
7PM-9PM
Westbury Baptist

Subscribe to SW News Online

The *Southwest News* is a valuable neighborhood weekly newspaper, but not all Westbury residents receive a paper copy delivered to their homes. This can be remedied by anyone who can receive email. Go to www.village-southwest-news.com to sign up to receive a weekly email with a link to the E-edition (electronic edition) of the newspaper. It will appear in your email on Tuesdays.

Southwest News reporter Michelle Leigh Smith has recently done articles about Westbury and Willow Waterhole. These articles explain in detail the activities that happen in our community and those who work to make the community better.



"Like" us on
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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

Summer Enrichment Program

The daytime children's Summer Enrichment Program has an enrollment of 50 children with three adult leaders who keep the children busy with tennis, basketball, indoor games, and crafts. On Tuesdays, the children enjoy a nature program, which will include at least one walk to Willow Waterhole this summer. On Wednesdays, the children get a chance to get wet at Marian Park Spray Park. Volunteers teach classes in crochet, cartooning, and clay.

Have a
Safe
and
Healthy
Summer.
Stay Cool
and
Well
Hydrated.

All Adult programs at the Platou Center are cancelled for the summer except Ballroom dancing, TOPS, and Portable Projects* (see below). On Monday August 12, the usual daytime and evening programs for adults will resume. The fall schedule will be published in the August Crier.

Free Meal Program

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



Don't forget you can recycle paper & cardboard at Chimney Rock Park! Money earned from recycled paper goes toward the Community Center.

TOPS- Take Off Pounds Sensibly: Weight Loss Support Group

Tuesdays 5:45-7PM. Drop in or call Dorothy at 713-723-4441 or Naomi at 713-988-2233

Ballroom Dance Class—Suspended for 6 weeks til mid August

*Portable Projects has moved to Bayland Community Center (6400 Bissonnet) for the summer. Thursdays from 10AM to Noon.

WE ARE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

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jackiem@waynemurray.net



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What's Happening in Westbury

Events & Meetings Calendar June 2013

June 29	Yard of the Month Judging in all sections of Westbury Have a nomination? Call 713-723-5437 What to judge a section? Call 713-723-5437
Thurs 4	Happy 4th of July! WCC Office Closed
Thurs 4	Westbury Pool Open 1-5 PM 10605 Mullins (Near Parker Elem.)
Tues 9	Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:30PM Pavilion at Community Garden— 12501 Dunlap
Mon 15	Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow Speaker on Habitat Restoration at Willow Waterhole
Wed 17	WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting NO Meeting in July
Wed 17	WCC Board Meeting 7PM– 9PM Westbury Baptist Church—RM C103 Open to all Westbury residents!
Sat 20	Willow Waterhole Monthly Audubon Society Bird Survey 7AM Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot—5310 S. Willow
Tues 23	SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM Aramco Building—9009 W. Loop South
Aug 3	Yard of the Month Judging in all sections of Westbury Have a nomination? Call 713-723-5437 What to judge a section? Call 713-723-5437

Look in upcoming Criers for information on the Westbury Park Playground Grand Opening Celebration!

Heavy Trash & Recycling Calendar

July 2013	
Thurs 11	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 11	Heavy Trash— TREE WASTE ONLY ALL OF WESTBURY
Thurs 25	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

August 2013	
Thurs 8	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
Thurs 8	Heavy Trash— JUNK WASTE ALL OF WESTBURY
Thurs 22	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury



Happy 4th
of July!

Important Trash & Recycling Info

- ♻️ Trash cans need to be on curb by 7AM Thursday
- ♻️ Trash cans must be removed by 10PM 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 go out 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. Current utility bill needed.
Environmental Service Center - 11500 S. Post Oak
 Hours: Tues/Wed 9AM-3PM; 2nd Sat 9AM-1PM. Accepts Hazardous Household Waste & Electronic Waste.
- ♻️ Refer to www.westburycrier.com or www.houstontx.gov for more trash and recycling information

City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule

January	Tree Waste	July	Tree Waste
February	Junk Waste	August	Junk Waste
March	Tree Waste	Sept.	Tree Waste
April	Junk Waste	October	Junk Waste
May	Tree Waste	Nov.	Tree Waste
June	Junk Waste	Dec.	Junk Waste

2013 Budget vs. Actual (thru May 2013)

WCC General Operation/Programs 2013

General Income	Budget	Actual
Transfer + Refinance Fees	29,400	12,190
Advertising— Crier	50,000	18,465
Interest Income	1,650	1,669
Mandatory Membership	15,000	13,792
Non-Mandatory Membership	44,000	34,411
Donations—Civic Club	3,000	747
Community Garage Sale	2,500	15
Total General Income	145,550	81,289

Expenses –Admin.	Budget	Actual
Insurance	6,350	781
Rent— Office	8,160	3,400
Telephone & Internet	1,200	626
Electricity	1,000	411
Salaries & Wages	32,500	14,228
Payroll Tax Expense	2,600	1,185
Taxes Personal Property	390	0
Banking & Paypal Fees	3,800	2,281
Equip. Maintenance & Repairs	400	0
Training/Meetings	2,000	1,142
Website— Maintenance & Hosting	2,000	330
Computer Hardware/Software	2,000	429
Postage—Regular	1,000	352
Office Supplies/Equipment	4,000	1,552
Professional Services	3,750	1,941
Total Expenses (Admin)	71,100	28,658

Expenses—Gen. Programs	Budget	Actual
Programs/HospitalityEvents	2,000	0
Deed Restriction Revision Project	10,000	0
Deed Restriction Enforcement	5,000	0
Crier— Prepare, print, distribute	45,000	18,568
Membership—Envelopes/Mailout	6,000	1,859
Community Garage Sale Expenses	2,500	511
Contributions to External Orgs.	1,500	800
Yard of the Month Program	2,400	0
Total Expenses (General)	74,400	21,738

Total Admin and General Expenses	145,550	50,396
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WCC Programs - Restricted Funds 2013

WAP Constable Patrol -Restricted Funds

WAP Income	Budget	Actual
Mandatory Assessments	48,000	52,391
Voluntary Dues	200,000	157,744
WAP Balance Forward	24,400	24,400
Donations to WAP	10,000	4,431
Westbury Garden Townhomes	9,600	3,900
Total WAP Income	292,000	242,866

WAP Expenses

Harris County Constable	292,000	91,360
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Greenspace Beautification— Restricted Funds

Greenspace Income	Budget	Actual
Mandatory Assessment	9,000	8,559
Voluntary Dues	39,667	16,977
Donations to Greenspace	1,000	915
Other (Grants)	1,000	0
Total Greenspace Income	51,667	26,481

Greenspace Expenses

Greenspace Expenses	Budget	Actual
Monthly Maintenance	21,000	0
Water and Watering	8,000	1,200
Other (supplies, labor)	2,500	8,516
Special Projects	15,000	10,715
WAIC 10% of Revenue	5,167	2,648
Total Greenspace Expenses	51,667	23,079

Bring A Friend!

BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE

(SNO-BALL MUST BE OF EQUAL OR LESSER SIZE)



Honey's Sno-Balls

Look for our new yellow van!
Located in Westbury Square Parking lot

COUPON EXPIRES JULY 31, 2013. NO DUPLICATES
ACCEPTED, MUST BE ORIGINAL FROM WESTBURY CRIER

RED

RIVER CONTRACTING

713-665-9500

WWW.REDRIVERTRADES.COM





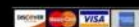

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RRC

Westbury Pool

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

Adult Water Fitness

Adult Hydro-Flow Training: Tues & Thurs 6-6:50PM

An integrative approach to water fitness training with light cardiovascular work, balance/core training, flexibility, and Ai Chi. Progressive rock and new age music is a part of the workout. Recommended for cross-training. Intensity: light.

Adult Hydro-Fit Power Training: Tuesdays and Thursdays 7-7:50PM

This class provides an athletic approach to water fitness training - with sports-specific drills, intense cardiovascular work, balance/core training, martial arts, and plyometrics. Improve your cardiovascular conditioning and muscular strength and endurance with minimal stress on your joints. Loud, rocking music is a part of the workout. Recommended for cross training. Intensity of exercise: moderate to hard.

Record Turnout at Water Fitness Class

Over 175 people showed up at Westbury Pool for the first day of the Water Fitness classes. Longtime instructor Louis Moore really motivates you to get active! It's not too late to start. These **FREE** classes are on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Water fitness is a great exercise for any age, any fitness level and any body type. See class descriptions and times in the blue box.

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



ADT (new ad)

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Houston, TX 77035

Phone (713)729-1122
Fax (713)729-5431
E-mail: Rieger@riegercpa.com

**Westbury City Pool
Summer 2013 Schedule**

Now til August 18: Pool OPEN Normal Summer Hours Tuesday—Sunday 1-8PM; Closed Mondays

July 4: Pool OPEN, 1-5PM

August 24 - September 1: Pool open on Saturday and Sundays only, 1-8PM

September 2 (Labor Day): Last day for the pool to be open! 1-6PM

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

---Cut me out---

**Westbury Pool
OPEN
July 4th
1-5PM**

---Cut me out---

Westbury Park Renovation



The Westbury Park Renovation is moving along rapidly. The deconstruction started on June 11 (pictured on left). The framing of the new playground area and sidewalks are really starting to taking shape on June 20 (pictured below).

We want you to want to bring your family and friends to Westbury Park! There are still items that we would like to see added to the park in the future. After surveying nearby parks, members of the Westbury Park committee saw many possibilities. Soon after the current work is completed, the Westbury Civic Club is planning on having a Westbury Park Grand Opening Celebration and new committees will be formed. Look for more information in the next *Crier*.



Thank you again to all the Westbury residents and local business for their donations to the Friends of Westbury Greenspaces—Westbury Park. We have raised over \$18,000 that will be put initially towards the shade sails that will be installed over the playground equipment. We do not know the exact cost of the shade sails yet. See photo to the right for playground and shade sail drawing.



Main Playground (Ages 6-12)

If you would like to see the Westbury park master plan, come by the WCC office at 5322 W. Bellfort, Monday through Thursday 9:30AM-1:30PM.

Hager Park Committee Needed

With all the work at Westbury Park, we have naturally had several inquiries about Hager Park improvements. Are you interested in joining a Friends of Westbury Greenspaces— Hager Park Committee? If so, contact Jennifer at 713-723-5437 or westburycc@sbcglobal.net

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Flood Control & Mosquitoes



Mosquito Control



It's that time of year again. The mosquitoes are out full force! Mosquitoes are not only annoying but they can carry dangerous illnesses. The best way to keep down the number of mosquitoes is to not let them breed.

Mosquitoes can breed anywhere that water is left to stand or collect. If you look in the standing water, you may see little wiggling things. Those are baby mosquitoes (larva). Some examples of where water may be left standing include: pet water bowls, bird baths, low puddle areas, saggy gutters, and plant container saucers. What can each of us do to reduce the numbers of mosquitoes?

- ◆ Tip over all the water collectors in your yard and leave them turned over to discourage mosquitoes
- ◆ Don't allow standing water in saucers under a pot.
- ◆ Rinse and refresh bird baths and pet water bowls daily.
- ◆ If you collect rainwater to water your plants, be sure the container has a good screen cover to keep mosquitos out of the water.
- ◆ If you have a decorative pond in your backyard, check it for mosquito larva. Small fish called Gambusia (Mosquito Fish) can be added to eat the mosquito larva.
- ◆ Keep gutters in good repair.
- ◆ Get rid of old tires.

Public Comments for Drainage Design Manual

Chapter 9 is the chapter in the city technical design manual which deals with drainage issues when property is developed. Due to the changes in the Land Development Ordinance (Chapter 42) recently enacted by the city, neighborhood groups and flooding control advocates have been pushing for revisions in Ch. 9 to compensate for the higher amounts of impervious cover across the city anticipated due to the higher density of development newly allowed under Ch. 42.

As homeowners, one major concern is whether our risk of flooding will increase as more land is developed across Houston. Another concern is how the costs of flood protection are allocated – whether the costs are paid upfront by developers or whether the costs are transferred to existing property owners and homeowners via higher taxes to pay for drainage and flood control projects and any costs of flooding to our properties.

The draft of the revised document is scheduled to be released by the Public Works and Engineering Department on July 1. The WCC does not have a copy of the proposed design revisions at the time of newsletter publication; however, **public comments on this topic will be accepted at a Special Meeting on Chapter 9 to be held on July 17th @ 5:00 PM in City Council Chambers.**

**STORM DAMAGE?
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Saving Money on Your Water Bill

Save Money on your Water & Sewer Bill

It is almost painful to open the monthly city water bill and see the combined water, sewer, and drainage fees. **The city water and sewer fees went up by 8.9% this year** (3.6% due to the increase in city population + inflation from last year, and the other 5.3% because the original rate increase in 2010 is being implemented over several years instead of all at once). The bill for May 2013 reflected a full month of the rate adjustment enacted in April 2013. For example, the cost of 5,000 gallons of water in May was \$26 and the related cost of sewer was about \$30, with a total cost of \$56 dollars, not including the separate drainage fee which is based upon the amount of impervious surface on your property.

Reducing your water usage saves you money on both water and sewer fees because the sewer fee is based on your water usage.

The city says the annual rate adjustment of your water & sewer fees is intended to cover cost increases to provide safe, clean drinking water and to collect and treat wastewater. This fee includes operational costs as well as the costs involved in the repair and replacement of portions of the System's aging infrastructure.

The City of Houston offers a FREE service to monitor your daily water consumption. The Consumption Awareness Program (CAP) provides consumers with several tools to help better manage their monthly water usage and bill. This program includes weekly customized usage reports, weekly projected bill estimates, and alerts/notifications for high usage. You can sign up for this great program thru your online water account. One resident received a email warning for high water usage that ended up being caused by a faulty sprinkler timer.

Here are some other tips to help you conserve water in your garden. Much of Texas continues to suffer severe drought conditions, so wise use of water saves both money and a precious resource.

Garden and Lawn Water Saving Tips from the Texas Water Smart website

- ◆ Use a layer of mulch on the surface of beds
- ◆ Water only when plants look like they need it. Most plants die from over-watering, not under-watering.
- ◆ Water your plants deeply, but less frequently, to encourage deep root growth and drought tolerance.
- ◆ Use watering cans, whenever possible.
- ◆ Use drip irrigation or soaker hoses for shrubs and trees to reduce evaporation and apply water directly to roots
- ◆ Use a rain barrel or buckets to capture rainwater from your downspouts to water your garden
- ◆ Keep a bucket in the shower to catch water as it warms up or runs. Use this water to water plants.
- ◆ Water in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler
- ◆ Adjust your mower up at least one notch. A taller lawn holds moisture better.
- ◆ Adjust your watering schedule each month to match seasonal weather conditions.
- ◆ Set a kitchen timer when watering your lawn or garden to remind you when to stop.
- ◆ Use a licensed irrigator annually to check your sprinkler system and maintenance
- ◆ Make sure that your landscape and grass are still receiving about a ¼ inch of water per week.

Plumbco 713-725-5025

MPL 36609

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2013 Dues Form

Thank You
For
Your
Dues
Payments!

2013 Westbury Civic Club Dues

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this form in with
your
payment

Name(s) _____
Address _____
Home Phone _____ Work _____ Cell _____
E-mail _____

**Make checks payable to:
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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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Crime/Security

Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37* 30 days preceding June 18, 2013

	Single-Family Home	Apt/Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	5	3	0	1	9
Theft	14	4	8	1	27
Auto Theft	3	3	0	0	6
Robbery	0	1	0	3	4
Assault	0	2	0	0	2
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	22	13	8	5	48

*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 6/18/13)

Block	Street	Crime
11900	Ashcroft	Theft
12100	Ashcroft	Burglary
5800	Belrose	Theft
5700	Creekbend	Theft
6000	Densmore	Theft
11000	Doud	Burglary
5600	Duxbury	Theft
5800	Farwell	Burglary
5900	Fontenelle	Auto Theft
6000	Fontenelle	Auto Theft
12300	Hillcroft	Auto Theft
5100	Hummingbird	Theft
5200	Hummingbird	Burglary
10600	Kirkside	Theft
5700	Ludington	Theft
5800	Ludington	Theft
6000	Ludington	Theft
5900	McKnight	Theft
5000	Redstart	Theft
5200	Sanford	Theft
6000	Vickijohn	Burglary
5000	Willowbend	Theft

Welcome Deputy Constable Lyndon Vo! He's the newest deputy assigned to the Westbury Contract!



Wondering what's going on with all those sirens that you hear? Go to houstontx.gov/activeincidents and look up HPD and HFD Active Calls.

Don't Forget Vacation Watch

Going on Vacation? Don't forget to turn in a vacation watch form to the Constables. Forms are available at the WCC office or by calling dispatch at 281-463-6666. If desired, a deputy will pick up the form in person and meet the homeowner. You may also fax the request into the Pct. 5 office at 281-492-3540. This is a great service provide with our contract. Take advantage of it!

Welcome HPD Captain Octavio Pando

Every two years, the Houston Police Department reassigns captains to new patrol divisions as a way to expose officers to different roles and responsibilities. Recently, our Southwest HPD Patrol Division (the HPD station located on Beechnut) was assigned a new Captain, Octavio Pando.

Captain Octavio Pando has been with the Houston Police Department for 23 years. He has worked at several divisions throughout the department as an officer and as a sergeant. As a lieutenant, he was assigned to the Westside Division, the Central Division, and the Training Academy. As a captain, prior to arriving at his current assignment of Southwest Division, he was assigned to the Clear Lake Patrol Division and the Jail Division.

We thank outgoing Captain Milton Martin for his service and look forward to working with Captain Pando. The Westbury HPD Storefront reports to the Southwest HPD Patrol Division. If you are interested in learning more about the HPD Southwest division, then you are invited to attend the monthly PIP (Positive Interaction with Police) meetings which are listed in our newsletter calendar.





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Neighborhood
Specialist

Prohibited Yard Parking

No Parking Allowed on Front or Side Yard in ALL of Westbury

It is a violation of city ordinance to park any vehicle on the front or side yard of a residential property in Westbury.

Sec. 28-303. Parking of vehicles prohibited in certain residential areas
It shall be an offense for any person to park or to cause, suffer or permit the parking of a vehicle or equipment on any surface that is not an improved surface as defined in this article, within any front or side yard of a single-family residence in a residential area subject to this section.

After hearing numerous complaints about vehicles parked on the grass, in 2009 the City of Houston enacted an ordinance to allow communities to opt-in to an ordinance to regulate the practice of vehicles parked in the front or side yard. City Council noted that parking vehicles on the front or side yard has *“a negative effect on the aesthetics of single-family residential areas affected by such practices and the property values of residences in those affected areas”*. The Westbury Civic Club applied to the program, public notices were made as required, and a hearing was conducted. In November 2009, the Prohibited Yard-Parking ordinance went into effect in all parts of Westbury.

How are violations handled?

Report yard-parking violations to the officers at the Westbury HPD Storefront at 713-726-7126. Since the officers do not work on weekends or in the evenings, photographs of violations are accepted to help document the problem. It is helpful to record the license plate and make/model of the offending vehicle. Also, please be aware that quirks in the ordinance mean that some practices that appear to be yard-parking violations are not enforceable. Photos below are examples of yard parking.



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Westbury HPD Storefront

The Houston Police Department operates the Westbury HPD Storefront, located at 5600 South Willow #116. The Westbury Storefront has been operating for many years. It was originally sited in Westbury Square and then at Westbury Hospital on Gasmer before being opened at its current location. The Westbury HPD storefront is open from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. It is a good idea to call ahead, 713-726-7126, just to verify that officers are there and not on a neighborhood call.



Residents can request home security inspections or file police reports at the storefront. Residents are welcome to drop by to get information. Currently there are three officers assigned to the storefront: Sgt. Tim Sutton, Officer John Ly, and Officer Ray Freeze. Each of the three officers are trained to serve on the “Differential Response Team (DRT)”, which means that they are trained to handle special problems or issues that regular patrol officers do not handle. They enforce city ordinances for both commercial and residential property. On the commercial side they inspect convenience stores, games rooms, fire codes, health codes, and food trucks, etc.

The officers at the Westbury HPD Storefront also handle certain types of residential complaints. For example, it is a city parking violation to park vehicles in the front and side yards of Westbury residential properties, and these complaints are handled by the Westbury HPD Storefront rather than by regular patrol officers. Why? Because neighborhoods had to apply

to be part of the “prohibited yard parking” ordinance, and it is difficult for regular patrol officers to know which neighborhoods do not allow vehicles to be parked in the yard. Additionally, the “Differential Response Team” training means that the officers at our Westbury HPD Storefront handle complex residential violations of city ordinances, beyond the routine types of violations handled by other city inspectors.

During HPD Week this year, our Officer Ly was awarded DRT Officer of the Year for his work on a home in Westbury that had become infested with roaches and rodents. He worked closely with the homeowner and, in the end, both the homeowner and the nearby neighbors are enjoying a better quality of life.

Donations help defray the cost of operating the location and volunteers help answer the phones. If you are interested in volunteering at the Storefront, call them at 713-726-7126 for more information.

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Westbury HPD Storefront



Meet the Westbury Storefront HPD Officers

Sergeant Tim Sutton (photo to right): 22 years with HPD (7 years with patrol, 10 years with the Specialized Tactical Team, and 5 years at the Westbury and Hiram Clarke Storefronts)



Meet the Storefront volunteers

Duane Coombs, Esther Bender, and Eva Quearry are the wonderful volunteers who donate their time by working in the Westbury HPD Storefront. If you are interested in volunteering at the Westbury HPD Storefront, then call the storefront to learn more.

Both Esther and Duane are retired from Exxon and through Exxon's VIP program their volunteer service earns a quarterly grant that brings in \$4,000.00 a year to the Storefront. This a great program that Exxon offers to their employees and Exxon volunteer grants have benefitted and funded many projects in Westbury from esplanade improvements to the community garden. Check with your employer to see if there are ways you can maximize your volunteer

Senior Officer John Ly (Right side): 15 years with HPD (9 years with patrol, 4 years with Gang Task Force, and 2 years at Westbury Storefront)

Senior Officer Ray Freeze (Left side):

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Address	Price	On Market	Days	Status
4848 Woodland	\$240,000	47 days	OK	Recently Sold
3 beds, 2 baths, 2057 sq. ft.	\$140 / S.F.			
3402 Wilshire Dr	\$180,000	108 days	OK	New Listing (14 days)
3 beds, 2 baths, 1657 sq. ft.	\$180 / S.F.			
4117 Whycross	\$259,900	44 days	OK	For Sale (15+ days)
2 beds, 2 baths, 1657 sq. ft.	\$157 / S.F.			
4006 Briarwood Dr	\$214,900	3 days	OK	
3 beds, 2 baths, 1757 sq. ft.	\$176 / S.F.			
1840 S. 13th St	\$237,000	44 days	OK	
3 beds, 2 baths, 1757 sq. ft.	\$130 / S.F.			
1714 S. 13th St	\$248,000	44 days	OK	
3 beds, 2 baths, 1757 sq. ft.	\$141 / S.F.			



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Recycling News

Single Stream Recycling for ALL of Westbury!

Houston is expanding its automated curbside recycling program to include 35,000 additional households, the city announced June 13. The good news is that now ALL of Westbury will be in the single stream recycling program as the 2,437 remaining homes which did not have those big, green rolling bins are included in this program expansion. "Since first implementing the initiative in 2009, residents have overwhelmingly been asking to be included in this program," Harry Hayes, director of the Solid Waste Management Department, said in a statement. "It's convenient because participants can place their unsorted recyclables, including glass, in one city-provided container with wheels that makes it easy to roll to the curb."

recyclables, no more having to take your glass containers to a recycling center, no more dragging those heavy bins to the curb, no more excuses!



commitment to recycling. Thanks to Councilmember Larry Green. And thanks to all the good recyclers in Westbury who showed their enthusiasm. We can show our thanks by being the BEST recycling neighborhood in Houston!

It is our understanding that the city will not bother to collect the small green recycle bins when they deliver the new, big rolling recycle bins. Those small green bins are great for yard work or chores, so re-purpose your old recycle bins and continue to use them!

*****Remember to allow at least 3 feet between your black and green rolling trash bins on collection day to allow sufficient room for the robotic arms to pick up the bins*****

Parts of Westbury were included in the pilot program in 2009 and more Westbury homes were added during two subsequent program expansions. We have been asking for these additional bins for a long time and applaud the city's commitment to recycling. No more sorting

It really is easy to recycle with one large rolling bin!

Thanks to everyone who wrote letters, emailed, or called the City in support of expanding recycling to all of Westbury. Thanks to Mayor Parker and Director Hayes for their

The city will discontinue the Recycle Bank Program on June 30, 2013 in order to finance the distribution of more bins. Residents have one year, until June 30, 2014, to redeem their points.



You can also recycle your cardboard and paper items at the Chimney Rock Park!



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Corral Those Cans!

Hidden Trash Can Contest



Send us a picture of your "hidden" trash can solution to enter our contest. Tell us a little bit about your design and an estimated cost to build it. Be sure to include your address and a way to contact you. Cash prizes will be awarded in several categories from elaborate to simple, and from innovative to functional. First place is \$100! The plan is to judge them in August, so get your entry in. We have gotten several great entries!

You can't win if you don't enter! Send your entries to the Westbury Civic Club office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net with a subject line of "Trash Can Contest" by 11 PM on August 25, 2013. If you don't have access to email, then snail mail us or come by the office with the requested information.

Now that all of Westbury will soon have two large rolling trash cans (one for trash and the second for recyclables), it will become even more important to store your trash cans out of sight. First, it is a violation of City Ordinances (Nuisances) to leave trash out where it is visible, including your trash cans. It detracts from the beauty of our yards and streets. More importantly it really annoys your neighbors.


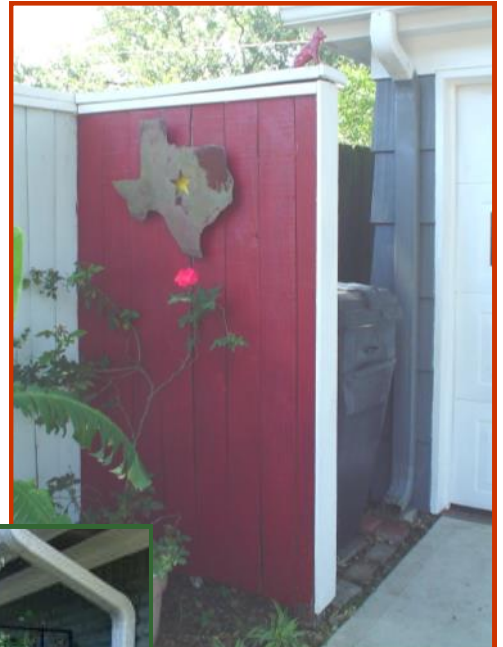
Ordinance Sec. 10-451. Nuisances
Pull right

"Trash Facts" – Solid Waste Department
Containers must be removed from the curb-line and/or public view by 10:00 p.m. on the day of collection and stored in a secure location.

So what can be done? There are many ways to store your cans out of sight. You can put them behind your fence or in the garage. but that doesn't work for everyone. Since Westbury has so many talented residents, we have started a **Hidden Trash Can Contest**. You can still enter through August 25th and the winners will be announced and prizes awarded at our September Annual meeting. See details on the side panel.

Here are some pictures of creative ways your neighbors have found to Corral their Cans. One wonderful Westbury neighbor even built one for his next door neighbor.

We look forward to your entries!



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Neighborhood Nuisances—Keep Westbury Beautiful

Christmas in July!?!?!?

No, not really. Please take down your Christmas lights if you have not already done so. Truthfully it just looks tacky and annoys your neighbors.

Storage Pods

We have all seen the big storage pods people use to move or store belongings. It's a great invention. It's also a deed restriction violation to store the pod on your property in front of your building line and in public view. Offsite storage is available, please utilize it.

Weeds / Overgrown Lots

Most of Westbury's lawns are beautiful, however, some people are mowing challenged. If this applies to you, please get out and mow your lawn! Yards must be kept under 9". That is actually quite high. If you don't have a lawnmower, ask a neighbor or hire a service. Overgrown yards are a violation of City Ordinance and the deed restrictions.

Keep Westbury Beautiful!

Signs, Signs, and More Signs

Do you drive down a street and think all the homes are for sale only to find the signs are advertisements for roofers, landscapers, contractors, etc.? The only commercial signs allowed by your DEED RESTRICTIONS are a For Sale sign for a house being sold. Signs advertising the business of contractors working on your home are not allowed. Please ask contractors not to place them in your yard. If they are there now, please remove them. If you love your contractor so much that you want to spread the word, then ask them to advertise in the *Westbury Crier* or spread the word through social media.

By state law, political signs are allowed to be displayed for a period of time during election periods.

Both state law and city ordinances forbid unauthorized signs from being posted on public property. This means signs are not allowed on public easements or on items located in the public easements (trees, posts, poles, etc). Signs illegally posted on public property are considered to be trash and may be collected by anyone. The WCC Office Manager collects signs almost daily (as seen in the photo to the left) as do many other volunteers with the Westbury Civic Club along with the BOMD.



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Session 3 • June 24th - June 28th

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Neighborhood & Area News

Audubon Society Bird Survey

Saturday, July 20 at 7AM
Meet at The Gathering Place
parking lot at 5310 S. Willow.
Bring your binoculars and good
shoes for walking. Come
prepared to see many species
of birds.

Remodeling your home? Adding On? Remember, please let the Westbury Civic Club office look over your proposed plans before you start construction.

We want to avoid deed restriction violations before they happen, and without a doubt you would like to find out before wasting money on construction that later has to be modified or demolished. Obtaining a city construction permit requires your written acknowledgment that the plans comply with your deed restrictions.

WCC Board Nominations: August 1 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 and the mail and physical address is 5322 W. Bellfort, Suite 107, Houston, TX 77035. If you have any questions, please contact the Westbury Civic Club office at 713-723-5437.

Happy
4th of
July!



Santoyo Tree Service Helps Willow Waterhole Trees

Mr. Santoyo of Santoyo Tree Services (pictured below) has delivered four loads of mulch to the Willow Waterhole in the last 6 weeks containing about 40 cubic yards in total. The pile of mulch in the picture is about 5 or 6 cubic yards. The mulch is free, green and uncured. This is win-win situation as Santoyo does not have to pay a disposal charge and the Willow Waterhole doesn't have to pay for mulch! Thanks to Russell Shexnayder, winner of a Trees for Houston Arbor Day award 2013, and Carlos Mata, our Greenspace director, for this great partnership.



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WCC Members Attend Ch. 42 Meeting

WCC Directors Marcia Hartman and Genie Mitchell, WCC Office Manager Jennifer Edmondson plus Evelyn Mica from the Westbury SuperNeighborhood attended a District K meeting hosted by Councilmember Larry Green in June. This meeting was facilitated in conjunction with the City of Houston Planning and Development Department to inform civic leaders about the tools available to help protect their residential character as part of the adoption of Chapter 42, the City's Land Development ordinance.

Fortunately, ALL residential lots in Westbury and Parkwest are already protected by deed restrictions specifying minimum lot sizes and building lines ("building lines" define the distances that a structure must be located from property boundaries). The Westbury Civic Club works with the city Legal Department to enforce violations to these type of deed restrictions. Deed restrictions are enforceable for ALL properties in Westbury and Parkwest, regardless of whether assessments are mandatory or voluntary.

The District K council office has compiled 95% of all deed restrictions within its District. The council staff is reviewing the documents for language pertaining to minimum lot size and building line. The District K office will personally contact any civic associations to notify them if the language within their deed restrictions is sufficient or if they should make an appointment with the Planning Department to pursue the Special Minimum Lot Size/ Building Line application.



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Gamerroom/Bonus Room



5810 Willowbend \$335,000
Parkwest
3/2/2 + Florida Room



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6103 Rutherglenn PENDING
Maplewood South
4/2.5/2



9011 Carlota PENDING
Robindell
3/2/2



4418 Waycross St PENDING
Willowbend
3/2/2



5539 Hummingbird PENDING
Parkwest
3/3/2 + Gamerroom



SOLD
5527 Dumfries ★
6050 Lymbar ★

5734 Birdwood ★
4410 Cheena ★

6114 Lymbar
5119 Cheena

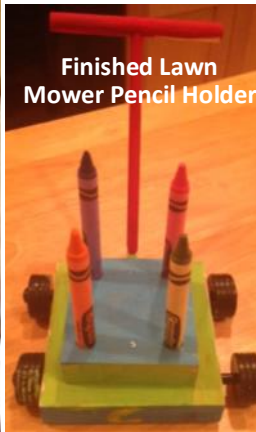


Summer Fun for Kids!

Home Depot Free Kids Workshop: July 6

Every Home Depot offers a Free Kids Workshop on the first Saturday of every month from 9AM to Noon. Kids ages 5-12 receive a free apron and commemorative pin with the project of the day. July's workshop is a surprise craft brought to you by Home Depot and Despicable Me 2. The June craft was a fun lawn mower pencil holder. And for those of you that prefer

Lowe's, they also offer a free Kids Workshop.



Westbury Home Depot is located at 11500 Chimney Rock

Go Explore the Willow Waterhole

Grab some water, the kids, and head to the Willow Waterhole. You can walk, run, or ride bikes around the main path. Park along Gasmer and head towards the big gazebo on the South side across the street. The path around the compartment goes all the way around and even down into the bottom. Even when it's hot hot hot, there's a great breeze over the water when you walk down in the water compartment. The kids will love the 2 bridges and wildlife. There are ducks, birds, turtles, and maybe more! More info go to wwgc.org



Water, Water, Water!!!

Summer is here and that means the heat is also here in full force. Any activity involving water is always a hit with the kids plus it's a great way to cool down! Here are some area pools and splash pads:

- Westbury Pool—FREE—Open everyday but Monday. For full schedule, see pg 6. There is a water slide and a small spray pad for the kids.

- Bellaire Family Aquatic Center— non-residents pay \$10 (Age 3-59), \$8 (60+), 2-0 is Free
- Houston Zoo—splash pad inside zoo (included with zoo ticket)
- Hermann Park— FREE—splash pad located in park is a great way to cool off

Don't see your favorite place on the list, call the office and let us know! We are always on the look out for fun!



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