



# Westbury Crier

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2013

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Booths for the White Elephant Sale will be on sale for Westbury Residents on Sept 17.
- WCC Annual Meeting: Sept 18 at 7PM at Westbury Baptist
- September's heavy trash is Tree Waste Only. Pick up is Sept 12 for ALL of Westbury.

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## WCC Annual Meeting September 18<sup>th</sup>



the new 2014 Board, vote on by-law changes and win some great door prizes!

Refreshments will be provided.

Our District K Council Member Larry Green will be a speaker along with other candidates from the Nov 2013 election.

*Hope to see you there!*

**Door Prizes!**  
**Door Prizes!**  
**Door Prizes!**

The 2013 Westbury Civic Club (WCC) Annual Meeting will be held on September 18 at 7PM at Westbury Baptist Church, 10425 Hillcroft. Come hear the update on the Westbury Community Garden, meet



## HELP SAVE the 7 acre site of the Westbury Community Garden

What a difference a year makes. As readers of the *Crier* know, our September 2012 issue brought the news that the Houston Housing Authority (HHA) had plans to build a 250 unit Federal Housing Project on Hillcroft and on the 7-acre site that the Westbury Civic Club (WCC) leases from the HHA as home to the Westbury Community Garden (WCG). With assistance from the Houston Parks Board, negotiations to keep this seven acres as green park space, as it has been for the last 30 years, has progressed favorably. This means that the property will need to be acquired from the HHA and that means it is time to start fundraising.

*Continued, pg. 7*

## Westbury White Elephant Sale OCTOBER 26



See page 6 for more information, including booth prices and sale dates. Free trees will be given away at the event.

## Featuring TRICK OR TREE

## National Night Out October 1<sup>st</sup>

Plan your parties now! National Night Out is a fun event designed to celebrate neighbors & security. We encourage you to organize block parties or other events and to get to know your neighbors.



Register with the WCC Office by Sept. 18 or at the Annual Meeting to be entered in a drawing to win a WCC Pizza Party during your event. We will also arrange for HPD, WAP Constables, or the WCC Board to visit your party. See page 8 for more info.

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Westbury Civic Club, Inc  
Editor-in-chief:  
Jennifer Edmondson  
Edited by:  
WCC Publication Committee  
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## 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

## Directors at Large

Communications	VACANT	wcccommunications@westburycrier.com
Community Relations	Cindy Chapman	wcccommunityrelations@westburycrier.com
Deed Restrictions	Jennifer Edmondson	wccoffice@westburycrier.com
Flood Control & Infrastructure	Mike Hobbs	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

## Section Directors

Westbury 1	Sylvia Rendon	Westbury1@westburycrier.com
Westbury 2	Austin Chen	Westbury2@westburycrier.com
Westbury 3	Robert Montgomery	Westbury3E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 3	Ron Brown	Westbury3W@westburycrier.com
Westbury 4	Eugene Sirls	Westbury4E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 4	Vicki Eldridge	Westbury4W@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5	Virginia Livingston	Westbury5E@westburycrier.com
Westbury 5	Genie Mitchell	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)

**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 723  
likes on our Facebook  
page, Westbury Houston?

# WWW.WESTBURYCRIER.COM

# President's Message

What a difference a year makes. Last August we discovered the Houston Housing Authority (HHA) had plans to build a 250 unit Federal housing project on Hillcroft and on the 7 acre site that the WCC leases from the HHA. Needless to say, there is absolutely NO need for additional apartments to be built here. The adjacent apartment complex has hundreds of vacant units and there are thousands more vacant units in the Brays Oaks Management District. I haven't spoken to one person (outside the HHA) who thought this was a good plan or good use of our federal tax dollars.

With help from the Houston Parks Board, negotiations to keep this 7 acres as green park space (as it has been for the last 30 years) has progressed favorably. This means that the property will need to be acquired from the HHA and that means it is time to start fundraising. Our goal is to raise \$500,000. Does that sound like a really big number? Well, there are 5,000 homes in Westbury alone. While every home won't donate \$100, we've

had pledges of \$10,000 and \$1,000 from generous residents who support and believe in the mission of the Westbury Community Garden.

We want to increase our capacity next year for families learning to grow food sustainably. With support from Trees for Houston, we have plans to add a tree farm where we will be raising our own stock of trees for our parks, esplanades and residents. Other plans include new farmers from Plant it Forward Farms and having a farm stand and eventually a Farmers Market.

I hope each of you believe that this is an important investment in Westbury and in the future of our neighborhood. I know I am writing a check and I hope you will, too. Let's show everyone the power, solidarity and commitment that Westbury has to its future.

I hope you will come to our Annual Meeting this month on September 18<sup>th</sup>. It's an election year and we should have some candidates to

meet. Until I was on the WCC board, I never realized what a difference our local elected officials make to our quality of life here in Houston. We will be choosing a Mayor, City Council members, and a new school board trustee for our area. These are all important positions. We will also be awarding prizes from our Hidden Trash Can contest. We also have elections and bylaw revisions. If that isn't exciting enough, there will be door prizes!

In October, the Westbury Civic Club will be hosting another White Elephant sale and a Trick or Tree free tree event. The Willow Waterhole resumes family events this month with the Harvest Moon Festival. Check out page 17 for all the upcoming events. Life is good in Westbury!

Please encourage your friends and neighbors to donate to Save the Westbury Community Garden and preserve this seven acres as green park space.

Becky Edmondson

## Board Notes:

- ◆ Two residents were unanimously approved as new members of the WCC Board: Robert Montgomery, Westbury 3 Section Director and Mike Hobbs, Director of Flood and Infrastructure, see page 21 for bios.
- ◆ Several residents brought concerns to the board.
- ◆ 2 Super Neighborhood resolutions passed:
  1. The WAIC will be the lead organization to raise funds for the acquisition of the Westbury Community Garden with a memorandum of agreement with other organizations involved such as the Westbury Civic Club.
  2. The WAIC and the WCC agree with the concept of "fees in lieu of" in Chapter 9 that would go towards area and regional detention.



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 brought quality programming to Westbury youth etc. It's now our turn to really make a difference. Ensure that our 7 acre site stays green space or watch the HHA build a 250 unit federal housing complex on Hillcroft at Greencraig.



"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

## Stretching Exercise Class

Monday, Wed, Friday, 9-9:45AM  
Improve your flexibility by joining this non-strenuous exercise class. No registration required. Wear comfy clothes.

## Line Dancing Class

\*start date TBA, call 713-726-7107 for more information  
Mondays, 1-2 PM  
Fun unique workout class.

## Nike Aerobic Hybrid Class

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

## 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



## After School Enrichment

HISD resumes classes on Monday, August 26. The 2012-2013 After School Enrichment program will begin at the Platou Center on the same day. This is a **free** childcare program for children ages, 6 to 13, from 3PM to 6PM. After homework is completed, the kids play games, do crafts, and play outside. Sign up soon to hold a place for your child. Call Dan at 713-726-7107 for details.



## Games

Wednesday, 10 AM to Noon  
New members are wanted!  
Contact Wally at 713-729-9310

## Ballroom Dance Class

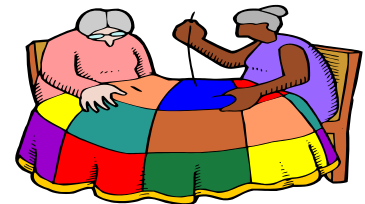
Wednesday  
Advanced Class 6-7PM  
Intermediate Class 7-8PM  
Call Marilyn 713-729-9425  
No partner required.

## \*Portable Projects

Thursday, 9:30AM to 11:30AM.  
For more information, call Genie Mitchell at 713-470-7969

## \*MsBeeHaven Quilters

Tuesday, 10AM to 2PM  
Call Janie at 713-721-5526 for more information



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



## \*WE ARE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD\*

We live and work in the neighborhood!



5710 Capello  
\$229,500



**JACKIE MURRAY**  
Cell: (713) 825-9179  
jackiem@waynemurray.net



Wayne Murray Properties

**Area Residents  
& Neighborhood  
Specialists**



**KENDYL MAURER**  
Cell: (281) 904-8199  
kendylm@waynemurray.net



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Another One Sold!!



6003 Yarwell  
\$269,900

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5310 Spellman  
\$314,500



5203 Kingfisher  
Another One Sold!!



Your Home Could Be Here!!!



5519 Cartagena  
Just Listed!!



6042 W. Bellfort  
Just Listed!!

# What's Happening in Westbury

## Events & Meetings Calendar September 2013

Sept 9	<b>WCC Office Closed</b> Email westburycc@sbcglobal.net
Tues 10	<b>Westbury Community Garden Meeting 6:30PM</b> Pavilion at Community Garden— 12501 Dunlap
Mon 16	<b>Brays Bayou Association Meeting 7:30PM</b> The Gathering Place—5310 S. Willow see page 19 for more information
Tues 17	<b>Booths on Sale for White Elephant Sale for WESTURY RESIDENTS ONLY</b> See page 6 for more information
Wed 18	<b>WAIC/Super Neighborhood #37 Meeting 8:30AM</b> Salem Lutheran - 4930 W. Belfort
Wed 18	<b>WCC ANNUAL Meeting 7PM– 9PM</b> Westbury Baptist Church—RM C103 Open to all Westbury residents! Booths for WES will be on sale
Sat 21	<b>Willow Waterhole Monthly Audubon Society Bird Survey 7AM</b> Meet at The Gathering Place parking lot—5310 S. Willow
Sat 21	<b>Harvest Moon Celebration 6-9:30PM</b> Willow Waterhole For more information, see page 17
Tues 27	<b>SW PIP (Police Positive Interaction Program) Meeting 7PM</b> Aramco Building—9009 W. Loop South
Mon 30	Booths on sale for White Elephant Sale open to non-residents see page 6 for more information
Oct 1	<b>National Night Out — see page 1 or 8</b> Organize a block party, meet your neighbors, have fun!
Oct 5	<b>Music in the Park—6:30-8:30PM</b> Willow Waterhole For more information, see page 17

**Planning Calendar:**  
**Oct. 19 - Halloween Movie Night**  
**Oct. 26 - White Elephant Sale**  
**AND Trick or Tree**

## Heavy Trash & Recycling Calendar

September 2013	
<b>Thurs 5</b>	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
<b>Thurs 12</b>	Heavy Trash— <b>TREE WASTE ONLY</b> <b>ALL OF WESTBURY</b>
<b>Thurs 19</b>	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury

October 2013	
<b>Thurs 3</b>	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
<b>Thurs 10</b>	Heavy Trash— <b>JUNK WASTE</b> <b>ALL OF WESTBURY</b>
<b>Thurs 17</b>	Curbside Recycling All of Westbury
<b>Thurs 31</b>	Curbside Recycling All if Westbury

## 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](http://www.westburycrier.com) or [www.houstontx.gov](http://www.houstontx.gov) for more trash and recycling information

**Annual Meeting**  
**Sept 18, 7pm**  
**Westbury Baptist Church**



## City of Houston Heavy Trash Schedule

Sept.	Tree Waste	Nov.	Tree Waste
October	Junk Waste	Dec.	Junk Waste



# White Elephant Sale

## Do You Need to Have a Garage Sale?

**Westbury White Elephant Community Garage Sale is October 26**

Yard sales, garage sales, estate sales, moving sales, etc. are NOT ALLOWED at residential properties in Westbury. This applies to ALL sections of Westbury and Parkwest. The Civic Club provides fall and spring community garage sale events to our members. The Fall Sale will be on Saturday, October 26 from 8AM to Noon at Westbury United Methodist. The rain date will be on November 2. The Civic Club will provide security and publicity for the sale. The Civic Club does NOT provide tables, chairs or shade.

**Booth space will go on sale Tuesday, September 17, for Westbury residents ONLY.** Booths will be on sale during the normal Civic Club office hours 9:30AM to 1:30PM. **Booths will be on sale before (6-6:30PM) and after (9PM) the Annual Meeting on Wednesday, September 18.** You must be a paid current member of the Westbury Civic Club to purchase a booth. This means you had to have paid your WCC membership dues of \$40. The booth price for Westbury residents will be \$20-\$25. Booths will go on sale to non-residents on September 30. The booth price for non-residents is \$60-\$65.

The Westbury White Elephant Sale allows residents the opportunity to sell unwanted items at a highly visible central location with security provided. Most crimes are crimes of opportunity, so the fewer non-residents that we invite down our streets on the weekends, the fewer weekday crime problems we have to contend with.

So, have fun, make money, be safe and be a good neighbor.  
**Plan on having a booth at the Westbury White Elephant Sale!**



### IMPORTANT DATES

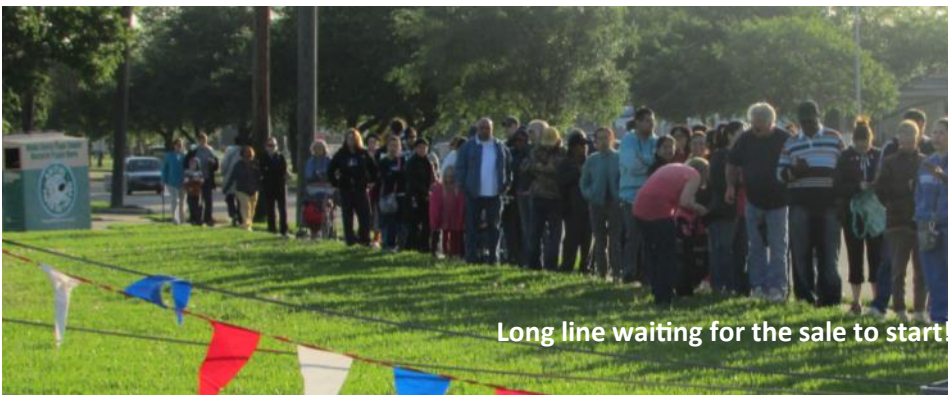
**Sept. 17**—Booths go on sale for Westbury residents

**Sept. 18**—Booths on sale before and after the Annual Meeting

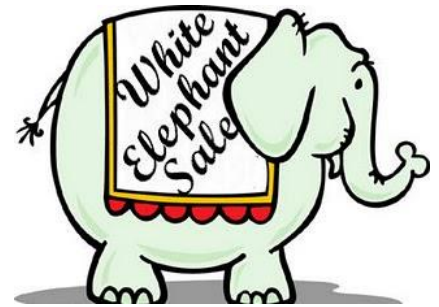
**Sept 30**—Booths on sale for non-residents

**Oct. 26**—White Elephant Community Garage Sale

**Nov. 2**—Rain Date



Long line waiting for the sale to start!



# Fall Westbury White Elephant Sale



**FARMERS**  
INSURANCE

*Auto-Home-Life-Renters-Condo-Boat-Flood  
Motorcycle-Business-Commercial Auto*

*I have access to five home insurance providers*

**Peter Zografos Agent**  
5322 W. Bellfort #206  
**(713)-877-8811**  
[pzografos@farmersagent.com](mailto:pzografos@farmersagent.com)  
[www.farmersagent.com/pzografos](http://www.farmersagent.com/pzografos)



## Office Space For Lease

**EMBRACE GREEN... NO MORE LONG COMMUTES... BE SMART!**

Free Wi Fi	Easy Access
Furnished and Unfurnished	Affordable Rates
Flexible Terms	Free Parking
Conference room	On-site manager/owner



ACROSS FROM CHASE @ 11415 CHIMNEY ROCK 713-729-1122

# Save Our 7 Acre Greenspace From Becoming A Federal Housing Complex

The goal is to raise \$500,000 to purchase the property located at 12501 Dunlap from the Houston Housing Authority. The HHA has been told that they have to either build on the land or sell it. Does \$500,000 sound like a really big number? If 5,000 people gave \$100 a piece, the goal would be met. Well, there are 5,000 homes in Westbury alone and we have supporters from all over Houston and beyond, this can be done!

The HHA has proposed buying property along Hillcroft and using it in addition to our 7 acre greenspace to build a 250 unit federal housing apartment complex. Immediately adjacent to the proposed housing site is a 940 unit low income housing complex with over 300 vacant units. Furthermore, there are thousands of vacant apartments available in the Brays Oaks Management District.

Despite the challenges faced from the HHA, the WCG continues to flourish. We want to expand the garden, create a tree farm with support from Trees for Houston. Other plans include farmers from Plant it Forward, a future farm stand and a Farmers Market.

You can help make these visions a reality. The Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) will be the lead organization to raise funds to purchase the land. The WAIC is a 501c3 non-profit which has partnered with the WCC in the past to make community improvements. For your convenience, you can send your **tax-deductible** donations to the Westbury Civic Club Office at **5322 W. Bellfort, Suite 107, Houston, TX 77035**. Checks should be made payable to: **WAIC-WCG; with a notation in the memo line - Westbury Community Garden.**

## NOW



**Possible Future if HHA retains the property**



## 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:	<b>GIVING CATEGORIES</b>	
Address:	Friend	\$50
	Contributor	\$100
Mailing Address for Donation receipt (if different)	Sustainer	\$250
	Sponsor	\$500
	Steward	\$1000
	Benefactor	\$5000+

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

**EW**  
**Foot Massage**

- ✦ Foot Reflexology
- ✦ Body Massage
- ✦ Pain Relief
- ✦ Chinese Taina

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Mon. - Sun.: 10am - 10pm

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- ◆ Drywall Repair
- ◆ Decks

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Great References

713.825.2486

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



# National Night Out 2013

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, is National Night Out (NNO). It's the perfect time to get together and meet your neighbors. If you have never heard of NNO, it is a national event celebrated in October here in Houston.

National Night Out is an event designed to celebrate neighbors and to learn more about safe neighborhoods. We encourage all residents to organize block parties or other events and spend some time getting to know each other better. The official NNO for Houston and Westbury will be conducted in the evening of October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Please contact the WCC office at westburycc@sbcglobal.net or call 713-723-5437 to let us know the time and location of your NNO event. Why tell us? First, we will try to arrange for HPD, WAP Constables, or WCC board members to drop by your event. Also, we want to acknowledge your efforts in the next newsletter. Register your event by September 18th to be entered in a drawing to win a WCC Pizza Party during your event.

Register before  
Sept. 18 for a chance to win  
a pizza party!



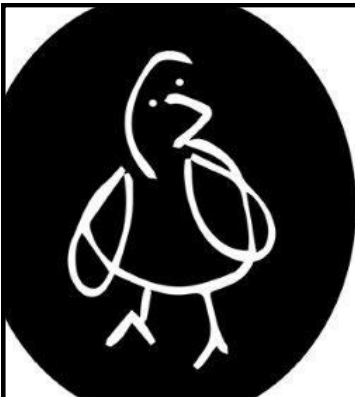
### Are You a Good Neighbor?

(reprinted from October 1984 *Westbury Crier*)

Exert yourself a little bit and get to know your neighbors. A really good neighbor can be a great help in times of crisis. Make friends ...get to know them, their habits, their vehicles. Have a block party. Most of the time all it takes is a little effort on your part—most people want to know their neighbors. Good neighbors are a great crime deterrent.



Photos from  
various 2012  
National  
Night Out  
Parties.



Are you looking for a reliable dog walker or pet sitter  
for while you are at work or on vacation??

**Boon Pet Care**  
is here for you!

As Westbury residents, we are committed to taking the very best care of our neighbors' loved ones.

Check out our website for pricing and details: [www.booncare.com](http://www.booncare.com)

Or contact us today: [booncare@gmail.com](mailto:booncare@gmail.com) or 713.936.2623



# Proposed By-Law Changes

The following are the proposed additions, changes, deletions to the Westbury Civic Club By-laws. The vote on the by-laws is at the Annual Meeting on September 18. An absentee ballot is available on page 10. A Proxy form is available on page 11.

8.1 ADD Wording as shown in quotes to explain how notice for special meetings will be done, and to add alternate methods for notices allowed by state law for all meetings:

Notice of all regular **“or special meetings”** of the Club, both of Membership and of the Board of Directors shall be published in the Official Publication **“or mailed to the property owner not later than the 10th day or earlier than the 60th day before the date of the meeting. Notice may also be posted on any Internet website maintained by the Club or other Internet media at least 72 hours before the start of the meeting; or may be sent by e-mail to each owner who has registered an e-mail address with the association at least 72 hours before the start of the meeting. It is the responsibility of the owner to register a current e-mail address.”**

8.14 ADD NEW section as shown to require holding open meetings in accordance with state law, which has been the practice by the WCC for many years:

**Regular and special board meetings shall be open to the public, with the exception that the board may adjourn and reconvene in closed executive session in accordance with state law. Following an executive session, any decision made in the executive session shall be summarized in general terms and placed in the meeting minutes.**

9.1.1 CHANGE timing when notice for annual elections shall be published from the July to the **AUGUST** newsletter.

9.1.2 CHANGE timing when applications to run for election are due at the WCC office from the first to the **SECOND** Thursday in August to allow time for the August newsletter to be distributed. For example, this year the first Thursday was on August 1<sup>st</sup>

10.4 CHANGE timing when the board shall print an interim budget from June to **JULY**, to allow half-year budget report can be published.

12.2 DELETE this entire section which states the specific names of WCC publications: The “Westbury Crier” shall be the official publication of the Club. The domain [www.westburycrier.com](http://www.westburycrier.com) shall be the official web site of the Club.

13.2 CHANGE the timing when proposed by-law amendments are due at the WCC office from the first to the **SECOND** Thursday in August.

16 Special Provisions - These changes are intended to reflect current practices where the WCC improves, maintains, and beautifies various public spaces, and also to allow added flexibility for current or future projects. The WCC currently leases land used by the Westbury Community Garden.

DELETE old 16.1: Notwithstanding any contrary provisions of these by-laws or Texas law, the Club may not purchase real property without prior authorization by the membership of the Club.

NEW 16.1: **The Club may improve, beautify and maintain parks, parkways, esplanades, rights of way easements, and other public areas.**

NEW 16.2: **The Club may acquire by gift, purchase, or otherwise own, hold, enjoy, lease, operate, maintain, and convey, sell, lease, transfer, mortgage, or otherwise encumber, dedicate for public use, or otherwise dispose of real or personal property in connection with the business of the Club.**

NEW 16.3: **The Club may borrow money for the purpose of carrying out the Club’s affairs, if the Directors deem such advisable.**

# Plumbco 713-725-5025

MPL 36609

***For all your plumbing installations and repairs.***

**Gary Bloch • [www.PlumbcoHouston.com](http://www.PlumbcoHouston.com)**

# Absentee Ballot

## ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR

Westbury Civic Club

ANNUAL MEETING

September 18, 2013 at 7 PM at Westbury Baptist Church

### INSTRUCTIONS

Complete this form to cast your vote for the meeting specified below. Mail, deliver, or email this ballot for receipt by 5:00 p.m. on the business day prior to the meeting.

**Mail/Deliver:** 5322 W. Bellfort #107 Houston, TX 77035  
**Email:** [westburycc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westburycc@sbcglobal.net) (with Subject: Absentee Ballot)

### BYLAWS AMENDMENT

*By casting your vote via absentee ballot you will forgo the opportunity to consider and vote on any action from the floor on these proposals, if a meeting is held. This means that if there are amendments to these proposals your vote will not be counted on the final vote of these measures. If you desire to retain this ability, please attend any meeting in person. You may submit an absentee ballot and later choose to attend any meeting in person, in which case any in-person vote will prevail.*

It is proposed that the Bylaws be amended to: revise certain due dates, add alternate means of notifying about meetings, clarify meeting requirements, delete requirements for specific names for our website or publication, and provide better flexibility for the Board related to current or future Greenspaces or projects. More details are provided in the September 2013 newsletter on page 9.

- FOR proposed Bylaws Amendment  
 AGAINST proposed Bylaws Amendment

### SIGNATURE

Your signature is required under the law. Only the tabulators of the ballots will see your votes and they are not allowed to disclose the details of any ballots.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Water Heaters: Regular & Tankless Disposals Water Lines Gas Lines Drain Cleaning Under Slab Repairs Re-route kitchen & laundry pipes	<b>ASTRO PLUMBING</b> Full Service Plumbing and Repair Specialist <b>713-256-0017</b> ★ JOHNNY LEWIS ★ WESTBURY RESIDENT	New Sewer Lines Hydrostatic Testing Remodeling & Repairs Sinks Faucets New Drains under Bathroom
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# Proxy Form

## Summary of Proposed By-law Changes

- Open Meetings** – Add New Section 8.14 to add a requirement to hold open meetings, as required by state law. Create a companion policy with more details about open meetings.
- Meeting Notices** – Revise section 8.1 to clarify that meeting notices for both regular and special meetings are to be published in the Official Publication. Add alternate means of notification allowed by state law – mail, email, or website or other internet media.
- Elections & Nominations** – Change date nominations are due from 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in August. Change month to publish call for nominations from July to August. The board is also considering adding some section director positions.
- Budget** – Change timing to publish an interim spending report from June to July, so that a half-year report of spending can be published in the newsletter
- Publications** – Delete references to specific names for our publication or website.
- Amendments to ByLaws**– Change deadline to propose by-law amendments from the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday to 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, which will match the revised deadline for nominations.
- Special Provisions** – Replace Section 16.1 with 3 new items intended to provide the WCC board with better flexibility related to current and future greenspaces or other projects. One proposed provision says that the board may improve, beautify and maintain various types of greenspaces and public areas (activities which we have been doing for years). The second proposed provision lists a number of verbs related to real or personal property that the WCC would be authorized to do, for example: acquire, lease, operate, maintain, sell, convey, transfer, dedicate for public use, etc. The third proposed provision would allow the WCC to borrow money, if the board recommends such action.

## Nominations for 2014 WCC Board

President—Becky Edmondson  
 Vice President—Marcia Hartman  
 Treasurer—Pamela Schertz  
 Secretary—BJ Turner  
 Community Relations—Cindy Chapman  
 Greenspace— Carlos Mata  
 Security—Lesley Cross  
 Deed Restrictions— Jennifer Edmondson  
 Westbury 1—Sylvia Rendon  
 Westbury 4—Eugene Sirls  
 Westbury 4—Vicki Eldrigde  
 Westbury 5—Virginia Livingston  
 Westbury 5—Genie Mitchell  
 Westbury South—Robert Capps  
 Parkwest 1—William Grimsinger  
 Parkwest 3— Joe Niles

**VACANT: Director of Communications, Director of Membership, Director of Volunteers, Director of Flood & Infrastructure, Westbury 2 Section Director, Westbury 3 Section Director, Parkwest 2 Section Director**

### ASSIGNMENT OF PROXY FOR

**Westbury Civic Club  
 ANNUAL MEETING**

**September 18, 2013 at 7 PM at Westbury Baptist Church**

#### INSTRUCTIONS

Complete this form only if you want someone who will attend the meeting to vote on your behalf as he or she deems worthy. You must write that person's name on the line below. Give this form to that person to carry to the meeting.

#### ASSIGN PROXY

I, the undersigned, appoint, direct and authorize \_\_\_\_\_, or his/her designee, as my agent and proxy to vote and otherwise represent me on any business at the meeting specified above and any adjournment or rescheduled meeting thereof with the same effect as if I were present. This Proxy may be revoked by me at any time, prior to the conclusion of the voter registration portion of the meeting, upon receipt by the Westbury Civic Club of a written revocation of Proxy signed by the undersigned.

#### SIGNATURE

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_



# Neighborhood & Area News

**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.

**WMBC Block Party**  
All Westbury neighbors are invited to attend the second annual Willow Meadows Baptist Church block party on Friday, September 20, from 6:30 until 8PM at the corner of West Bellfort and Green Willow. This fun event will have something for everyone: face painting and an Inflatable bounce house for the kids, music provided by the WMBC Worship Band, and great food provided by James Coney Island and Cue's Burgers. In addition, the Shearn Elementary Folklorico dancers and choir will be performing. Tours of the church facility and information about a variety of church programming will also be provided. For more information, please call 713-723-2870 or log onto [www.wmbc.org](http://www.wmbc.org).

**Westbury Centerette Update**  
The Westbury Centerette properties bounded by West Bellfort, Moonlight, Chimney Rock and Cedarhurst were sold in May of 2013. This is the group of vacant buildings near AutoZone on W. Bellfort. Several officers of the WCC and WAIC have been in contact with the new owners as the conditions on the property have significantly worsened with high grass, trash, graffiti, broken windows and unsecured entrances. The positive news is that the new owners have said they will get this cleaned up and better yet that within two months they will be ready to let us know the plans for this three acre site. They said the neighborhood will be pleased with their plans. We welcome the Wu family to Westbury and wish them much success in bringing this prime retail spot in Westbury back to life.

**Don't Text & Drive**  
One of the Westbury pool lifeguards was in a car wreck with a teen that was texting while driving. Her leg was broken in the accident. Safety first!



**GO TEXANS!**



**Westbury Area Improvement Corporation (WAIC) News**  
Many of you have heard that long time resident Dabney Kennedy, President of the WAIC and VP of the WWGC has had health issues. He is recovering and was able to attend the August Super Neighborhood meeting. It was wonderful to see him. We wish him a speedy recovery. Dabney is a force of nature and has done so much for Westbury over the decades serving in so many organizations. Please keep Dabney and his family in your thoughts and prayers. In the meantime, Cindy Chapman, was appointed as Acting President of the WAIC.

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Address	Price	On Market	Status
4822 Brookwood	\$240,000 (\$140 / S.F.)	47 days	OLD
15822 Willowood Dr	\$165,000 (\$80 / S.F.)	138 days	OLD
4111 Waycross	\$209,900 (\$137 / S.F.)	44 days	OLD
4806 Brookwood Dr	\$314,900 (\$175 / S.F.)	3 days	NEW LISTING
4806 Brookwood Dr	\$237,200 (\$101 / S.F.)	44 days	OLD
4206 S. On Star	\$240,000 (\$132 / S.F.)	36 days	OLD



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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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# 2013 Dues Form

## 2013 Westbury Civic Club Dues

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

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

**Thank You  
For  
Your  
Dues  
Payments!**

**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**

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>

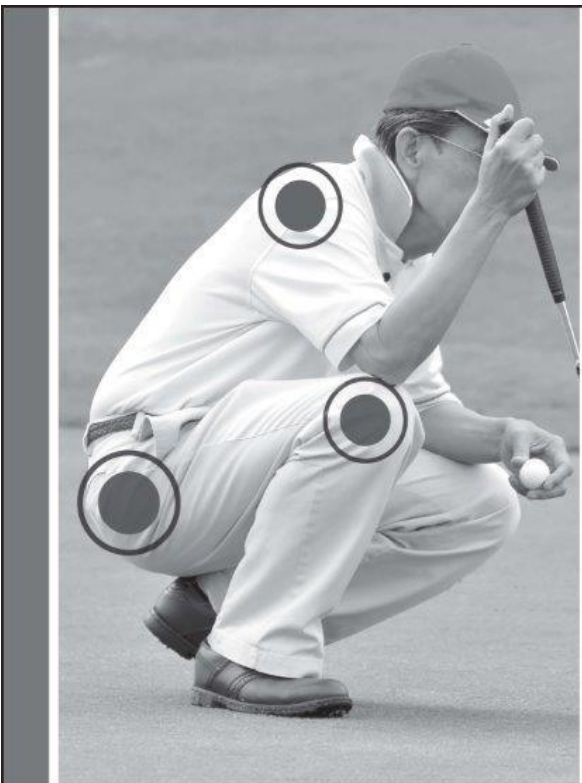
Sending multiple payments?  
Circle your payment choice

2 payment of \$147.50  
3 payments of 98.34

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

**Why do my dues go to Dallas? Is this correct?** Yes, this is correct!

We have you mail your payments directly to our Bank Lockbox. This allows your payments to be processed immediately and saves our office manager hours and hours of work.



## Stop suffering from joint pain.

Join us as experts in neck and back, shoulder, hand and wrist, hip and knee treatment lead in-depth discussions about bone and joint health and the latest techniques to alleviate pain. You will also have the opportunity to learn more about our Spine Program and the Total Joint Replacement Program at Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital.

### Joint Pain Seminar

**Foot & Ankle/Hand & Wrist**  
Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 2:30 p.m.

**Shoulder/Knee & Hip**  
Wednesday, Oct. 2 at 2:30 p.m.

**Back/Knee & Hip**  
Thursday, Sept. 26 at 2:30 p.m.

**HBU's Bradshaw Fitness Center**  
7731 Southwest Freeway  
Houston, TX 77074

The event is free but space is limited. To register, call 713.222.CARE (2273).

**For a physician referral with a  
Memorial Hermann Southwest-  
affiliated joint pain specialist,  
call 713.456.5348.**

[memorialhermann.org/southwest](http://memorialhermann.org/southwest)

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# Crime/Security

## Crime Statistics for Westbury Super Neighborhood 37\* 30 days preceding August 19, 2013

	Single-Family Home	Apt/Condo	Commercial Property	Public Areas	Totals
Burglary	8	4	2	0	14
Theft	12	8	7	4	31
Auto Theft	1	7	0	0	8
Robbery	2	6	1	0	9
Assault	1	3	1	0	5
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>67</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 8/19/13)

Block	Street	Crime
12400	Ashcroft	Theft
12400	Atwell	Auto Theft
5900	Bankside	Theft
5700	Belrose	Theft
5200	Benning	Robbery
11700	Braewick	Assault
5700	Cerritos	Theft
11000	Doud	Burglary
5600	Dryad	Burglary
6000	Ettrick	Burglary
5800	Greencraig	Burglary
5700	Hummingbird	Burglary
11800	Landsdowne	Theft
12100	Landsdowne	Theft
5600	Ludington	Burglary
6000	Ludington	Burglary
10600	Mullins	Theft
10700	Mullins	Theft
5500	Redstart	Theft
5700	Southminster	Theft
5400	Willowbend	Burglary
5300	W Belfort	Theft
5800	W Belfort	Theft
5900	W Belfort	Burglary



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

## Security Updates and Information

There is a new WAP Precinct 5 Constable assigned to our contract. His name is Deputy Farasheah and he will mostly be working the overnight shift.

National Night Out will be a good time to meet the officers of Precinct 5 as well as our HPD storefront officers.

Harris County has recently updated their computer system and some addresses are not showing up in our contract. We had several instances last month where people called in and dispatch rerouted their calls to HPD. Be sure and specify that you are calling from Westbury and that the address is in Westbury. If you don't have an exact address you can use a hundred block address, such as in the 5200 block of Willowbend.

"Like" our Facebook page, Westbury Houston, to stay updated on neighborhood issues. Other nearby neighborhoods also have Facebook pages that alert their residents of crimes, it's a good idea to follow them as well. Nearby neighborhoods on Facebook include Marilyn Estates, Meyerland, & Sharpstown. Or subscribe for notification emails at our website, [westburycrimer.com](http://westburycrimer.com).

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281-463-6666**

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Neighborhood  
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# Willow Waterhole



Willow Waterhole  
Greenspace Conservancy

## Upcoming Events at Willow Waterhole Conservation Reserve

Activities are presented by the Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy and sponsored by the Brays Oaks Management District. For more information about location or parking, refer to the website [www.wwgc.org](http://www.wwgc.org) closer to the event date.

### Harvest Moon Festival—Sat., September 21, 6–9:30PM

Family activities resume at Willow Waterhole for the fall. Kids and “kids at heart” will enjoy a horse-drawn hayride and riding on a miniature train. **FREE.** Or enjoy an evening stroll at Willow Waterhole as the harvest full moon peeks above the horizon at dusk. The event also includes a Dinner + Movie. Dinner is available from Tejano Salsa with dessert from Honey’s Snowballs. Movie will be *Fly Me Home*.

### Music in the Park—Sat., October 5, 6:30-8:30PM

This popular **FREE** event is back! Music in the park starts with an evening with Ricardo Sweatt Rodriguez, an internationally acclaimed Acoustic Fusion Solo Guitarist. Bring the kids and enjoy an nice evening at the Willow Waterhole.

### Halloween Movie Night – Sat., October 19, 8–9:30 PM

Kids and adults will enjoy a movie that will be announced in the October *Crier* projected on an outdoor screen. **FREE.** Prizes will be offered for the best Halloween costumes. Bring your own chairs or blankets. Popcorn and water will be provided.

### Music in the Park—Sun., November 17, 4-6PM

Come out for an late afternoon of Al’s All Stars, Al Campbell’s hand-picked band from local magnet music programs. **FREE.** More information in upcoming *Criers*.



## TRICK OR TREE

Mark your calendars for October 26<sup>th</sup> as the WCC will be hosting its free tree giveaway again! The giveaway will be held at the White Elephant Sale at Westbury United Methodist from 8AM to Noon. More information will be posted in the October issue of the *Crier*.

Many thanks to Trees for Houston for making this popular event possible again. The WCC has given away over 3,500 trees since 2006.

The tree species listed below will be available in 5 gallon size.

- Bald Cypress
- Bur Oak
- Nuttall Oak
- Persimmon
- River Birch
- Swamp Chestnut Oak
- Sweet Gum
- Sycamore



## Be Part of The Willow Waterhole Greenspace

**Volunteer**  
Help with a project  
Donation of time

**Member**  
A small donation  
and stay abreast  
with current  
activities/events

**Sponsor**  
Provide a  
gift/endowment to  
help implement the  
vision

Volunteer   
  Member   
  Sponsor

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete your commitment form and send your tax-deductible contribution to:  
Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy  
PO Box 35676  
Houston, Texas 77235-5676  
[www.WWGC.org](http://www.WWGC.org)    <https://www.facebook.com/willowwaterhole>

**2013 Calendar of Events**

*Houston Audubon Society*

- Willow Waterhole Bird Survey
- 3rd Saturday of the month
- Where: Gathering Plaza on S. Willow
- Next Survey: Sat 7am Aug 17, 2013

*Harvest Moon Fest - Sat Sept 21*

- Horse-drawn Hayride, Miniature Train, Evening Stroll, Free popcorn, cookies, bottled water
- MOVIE: Fly Me Home
- DINNER: Tejano Salsa and Honey’s Snowballs

*Music in the Park - Sat Oct 5 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm*

- An evening with Ricardo Sweatt Rodriguez
- Acoustic Fusion Solo Guitar

*Halloween Movie Night*

- Sat Oct 19 from 8 to 9:30 pm
- Movie and Costume Contest

*Music in the Park - Al’s All Stars*

- Sun Nov 17 from 4 to 6 pm
- Al Campbell hand-picked band from local magnet music programs



# Westbury Greenspaces



## August Yard of the Month Winners

### Parkwest 1

10919 Atwell - Scott and Melissa Elder

### Parkwest 2

5730 Sanford - Bill Gage & his beloved late wife Marie

### Parkwest 3

6046 Warm Springs- Robert & Sarah Osborne

### Westbury 1

5135 Torchlight - Wayne & Cindy Patterson

### Westbury 2

5450 Briarbend - Jimmy & Thereze Hester

### Westbury 3

5715 Burlinghall - David Oster

### Westbury 4

5607 Dawnridge - Westbury Resident

### Westbury South

5707 Greenraig - Jean Speights

## Westbury Park Update

Phase 1 of the Westbury Park reconstruction is almost complete! Concrete work, drainage, a picnic pavilion, benches, and picnic tables have been installed. The playground equipment is in the process of being ordered and then installed and according to the Houston Parks Department is "about 8 weeks away". How that translates to "real" time is anyone's guess. However, from the looks of Phase 1 it will be fabulous and worth the wait.

The Friends of Westbury Greenspaces committee is planning a Grand Opening Celebration at Westbury Park. Plans are underway and it should be a wonderful event. Look in future editions of the *Crier* for more information.



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# Community Partner: Brays Bayou Association

## Brays Bayou Association

This month's community partner is the Brays Bayou Association (BBA). Their purpose is to help reduce the risk of flooding in the Brays Bayou watershed. Westbury is located in the Brays watershed, which is one of the 22 watersheds in the county.

Brays Bayou Association was formed in 1984, after Hurricane Alicia caused flooding in the Brays Bayou watershed damaging 1,800 homes. The BBA has a close relationship with the flood control district. It was instrumental in getting a drainage study that eventually led to Project Brays and the creation of the Willow Waterhole. Bob Schwartz and

Russell Shexnayder were there in 1984 and are still active today. Bob is the president of the organization and it was Russell who conceived the idea of the Willow Waterhole detention area.

The majority of flooding we see in Westbury is from water that is trying to get into the bayou, not from the bayous or ditches leaving their banks. Enlarging the city's storm drains won't help if the bayous don't have the capacity to take the water. One way to slow down storm water is to build detention ponds that will hold it until the bayous are ready.

The Brays Bayou Association has been asking the City of Houston for years to consider buying land for future use as a mitigation bank, which would help reduce risk of flooding in the watershed.

Mitigation banks work by slowing detaining the water flowing into the bayous, reducing the chances of flooding. In addition to the Willow Waterhole, there is the 17-acre former Meyer Tract at Braeswood and 610, developed by the City of Houston, to help alleviate flooding in that area.

The Westbury Super Neighborhood passed a resolution in August to support the "fees in lieu of" creating detention on lots under 15,000 square feet in Chapter 9 of the City's Public Works manual with the funds being used to create regional detentions areas. We have a need for a large mitigation bank to the west of us to alleviate the flooding from too much water trying to get to the Willow Waterhole bayou.

## Upcoming BBA speakers

*All meetings will be held the third Monday at The Gathering Place (5310 South Willow) at 7:30PM. Meetings are open to all that are interested. BBA Contact: Bob Schwartz, 713-723-7230.*

**Commissioner Precinct 3 Steve Radack**  
**Monday, September 16, 7:30 PM**



Commissioner Radack explain how Commissioner's Court works, how citizens can convey needs and concerns, and what if anything can be done to advance "Project Brays" in these days of limited funding both at the local and federal level

**Carl Woodward, P.E., CFM, Watershed Management Department Manager**  
**Monday, October 21, 7:30 PM**

A recent article in the Houston Chronicle discussed the potential impact of the Biggers-Waters Act passed in 2012, which addressed matching flood insurance premiums with real risk of flooding. As part of TSARP (Tropical Storm Allison Recovery Project), Harris County flood plains were remapped. Homeowners designated deeper into the flood plains, and those newly designated in a mapped flood plain regions, found their flood insurance costs higher. Due to recent hurricane events, FEMA is in the hole by \$26 billion. The Biggers-Waters Act enacted last year was passed to bring rates more in line with risk. The Harris County Flood Control District partners are working closely with FEMA to supply local flood plain data to be used for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Mr. Woodward will discuss the District's periodic efforts to update the floodplain data. He will address what triggers an update and what is involved.



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## Did You Know?

### Did You Know Part of Westbury is Built on a Former Airport?

On July 1, 1956 the privately owned Sam Houston Airport closed for business. The airport office and hangars were located between US90A, W. Airport, Chimney Rock, and Hillcroft. This is now Westbury South. Here is a photo (top right) posted on Facebook by the 1940 Air Terminal Museum which depicts the airport office building. The photo dates back to approximately 1950 and was provided by Gordon Cragg.

The informative website <http://www.airfields-freeman.com> says that Sam Houston Airport was built sometime between 1937 and 1943. Here is a photo of hangars located near the railroad tracks in 1947. A 1945 directory describes the airport as having 640 acres.

Some of the runways extended up into Westbury 4, north of West Airport. The land owned by the airport extended past Willow Waterhole Bayou on the north.



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# Neighborhood News Part 2

## Local Street Repairs

Street repairs are coming soon to some areas in Westbury 1, Westbury 2, Westbury 3.

Many streets in Westbury are in need of repair. We are happy to announce that Public Works has advised that 10.51 miles of streets will receive a pavement treatment.

These streets have had too many layers of asphalt laid over the years and it will be scraped down and the overlaid with new asphalt. This will improve storm water capacity of the streets and will make it easier to back out of driveways.

We thank the City and Public Works and look forward to the day when all of our streets will be repaired. Major thoroughfares such as Hillcroft are handled as CIP Projects.

Door hangers with dates for the street overlay work will be distributed to the residents 72 hours to one week prior to work commencing. The work is expected in Spring of 2014.

## Welcome New Board Members

### Westbury 3 Section Director: Robert Montgomery.

Robert moved into Westbury seven years ago after discovering its great location, affordability and wonderful diversified neighbors. He moved here from the Washington, DC area, but had lived in Houston off and on since 1979. He is a former promoter on concert tours, but now is self employed in the oilfield business. Robert lives with his partner Larry and is looking forward to getting married as soon as they legally can. In addition to being a section director, Robert also judges several sections for Yard of the Month!



### New Director of Flood & Infrastructure: Mike Hobbs

Hobbs and his wife Pam have been residents of Westbury since 1987. Earlier this year Hobbs retired from 26 years with the City of Sugar Land. During that time he held the positions of Capital Improvements Manager, Assistant Director of Public Works and Director of Public Works. His last project with the City was as project director for the new Sugar Land Skeeters minor league baseball stadium. Hobbs has a total of 35 years experience in municipal government public works. He attended Sam Houston State University and is a veteran of the US Army having served in Viet Nam in 1969-1970.

## Westbury Pool

Thank you Westbury Pool for another great summer! A special thank you to the hard-working underappreciated lifeguards. The Westbury Pool is lucky to have some great dedicated special lifeguards that go above and beyond. Thank you to Louis Moore for another great summer of water aerobics. Thank you for adding another class to our pool! We can't wait till next year. Thank you to all of the Houston Parks and Recreation Department who helped make this summer such a success, especially Mr. Jefferson.



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# Johnston Middle School Awarded Grant

On August 20, the Consulate-General of Japan in Houston hosted a reception to welcome the 2013 Houston-Chiba Youth Exchange students, followed by a ceremony to present Johnston Middle School (JMS) with the Japan Foundation "Grant for Japanese-Language Courses," in the amount of \$28,000.

The evening began with a video conference with the Mayor of the City of Chiba, the Honorable Toshihito Kumagai. The four Japanese junior high school students; their chaperone, Ms. Yumi Kanke; host families; representatives from the Japan-America Society of Houston; Houston city officials; and Acting Consul-General of Japan Takahiko Watabe participated in the conference where the students introduced their hosts to Mayor Kumagai and shared some of their experiences since arriving in Houston.

At the reception's opening, Acting Consul-General Watabe's remarks expressed his appreciation to the Japan-America Society of Houston (JASH) for their long-standing support of the Houston-Chiba Youth Exchange and proclaimed the exchange "one of the most meaningful traditions created to

strengthen and deepen the sister-city friendship between Houston and Chiba." In alternating years the program has sent Houston students to Chiba, and welcomed Chiba students to Houston for over three decades. JASH President, Mr. JJ Naoki, and JASH Executive Director, Ms. Patsy Brown thanked the host families, Post Oak School Middle School, and JMS for their contribution to the continued success of the exchange.

The second half of the ceremony focused on Johnston Middle School (JMS), the recipient of the \$28,000 Japan Foundation "Grant for Japanese-Language Courses." JMS has been the bridge for Japanese language programs at Kolter Elementary and Bellaire High School and a leading player in the Houston-Chiba Youth Exchange for over 25 years. Acting Consul-General Watabe praised the students and staff for their commitment and gave his

best wishes for the continuation of the Japanese language program at JMS.



Next, Principal Wenden Sanders spoke thanking the Japan Foundation, JASH and the consulate for their support and expressing his personal commitment to continue the program.

The Acting Consul-General presented the Japan Foundation Grant check to Principal Sanders, Johnston Middle School faculty and representatives from the Houston Independent School District.



## Congratulations Johnston!

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# News for You!

## Laws, Ordinances and Deed Restrictions

Sometimes it is confusing to figure out who is responsible for enforcing the rules.

### State Laws

The Houston Police Department (HPD) and the Precinct 5 Constables (WAP) enforce state laws such as speeding and crimes against people or property.

### City Ordinances

**\*BARC**—Bureau of Animal Regulation and Control (BARC) enforces animal ordinances such as loose dogs, chickens and roosters in residential areas.

**\*HPD**—Houston Police Department enforces the parking ordinance that makes it illegal to park in your front yard in Westbury.

**\*DoN**—The Department of Neighborhoods enforces nuisance violations of city ordinance/codes for violations such as high grass, overgrown lots, visible storage of trash, and dangerous buildings.

**\*WAP**—Precinct 5 Constables CANNOT enforce any city ordinance.

### Deed Restrictions

Each residential lot in Westbury/Parkwest have active deed restrictions. Deed restriction violations are legal issues and can be enforced by the City of Houston legal department, any property owner within that set of deed restrictions, and the Westbury Civic Club.

## Update Your CitizensNet Record

There are 59 topics of interest and more than 1,600 neighborhood associations (civic clubs and home owners associations) in CitizensNet. To help us send information about topics of most interest to you, as well as information relating to your neighborhood and neighborhood association, please take a moment to sign up for CitizensNet or to change or update or email address.

Visit the City of Houston website [www.houstontx.gov](http://www.houstontx.gov) for more information.

## Join the Houston 9/11 Heroes Run

**Saturday, September 7, 2013**

The Houston Airport System, Houston Fire Department, Houston Police Department and City of Houston Mayor's Office are once again hosting the 9/11 Heroes Run. This annual 5K run will be held at Ellington Airport, on Saturday, September 7, with the opening ceremony beginning at 7:30AM and the run beginning at 8AM.

Registration for the 5K is \$30 for individuals, \$100 for a family of four (must include one adult and children must be under 21 years of age). Join in the run to raise awareness and honor the fallen. For more information or to register online, visit <http://www.911heroesrun.org/>.

## School is Back in Session.

Remember **NO CELL PHONE USE** in school zones.

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